



NPA/21/016

## Dartmoor National Park Authority

30 April 2021

# Changing Lives, Nurturing Nature – revised application to the Green Recovery Challenge Fund 2021

Report of the Strategic Planning and Projects Manager

**Recommendation:** That Members support a revised and updated application to the 2021 round of the Green Recovery Challenge Fund and approve the allocation of up to £22,000 from Authority reserves as match funding for the bid.

## 1 Background

- 1.1 The Green Recovery Challenge Fund (GRCF) is a short-term (circa 18 month) competitive fund to kick-start environmental renewal while creating and retaining a range of jobs in England. The fund has been developed by Defra and its Arm's-Length Bodies, including Natural England, the Forestry Commission, and the Environment Agency. The National Lottery Heritage Fund is distributing and monitoring this government money. The fund was launched in autumn 2020 with a £40m total and a second round has been announced for 2021, also of a total £40m.
- 1.2 The Green Recovery Challenge Fund is open for applications at two grant levels: £50,000 to £250,000 and £250,000 to £2m.
- 1.3 Applicants must contribute at least 5% cash value of the proposed project costs for all grants over £250,000. Projects must deliver against one or more of three outcomes:
  - Nature conservation and restoration, including ecosystem restoration and species recovery.
  - Nature-based solutions, particularly for climate change mitigation and adaptation; and
  - Connecting people with nature.
- 1.4 Members will recall that the Authority led an application for the first round of this fund in partnership with the National Trust, South West Lakes Trust and Woodland Trust. This application was submitted at the end of October 2020, in December 2020 we heard that our application had been unsuccessful.

## 2 Introduction

- 2.1 In early March this year, prior to the GRCF second round opening, we were contacted by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, in their capacity as administrators of the GRCF, providing constructive feedback and encouraging resubmission. The fund is competitive, so while this encouragement does not guarantee future success, we were informed that we had come close to securing funding in round one.
- 2.2 Our partners are keen to proceed with a 're-application' and the project proposals will be as valid in 2022 as they were when first proposed. The Authority submitted an Expression of Interest (EOI) for a revised version of our 2020 application on 23 March this year. On 6 April we were told we had successfully cleared the EOI round and can proceed with a full application, the deadline for application is 14 May 2021.

## 3 The proposed projects

- 3.1 Overview and case for investment:  
The project proposals deliver across the National Park (DNP) including Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Area for Conservation and National Nature Reserves. A focus on land managed by the partnership (over 350km<sup>2</sup>) and continued collaboration on Natural England and Forestry England estates.
- 3.2 Young people will continue to be impacted by the coronavirus pandemic beyond 2020/21 outbreak. We have an opportunity to implement an innovative but tried & tested approach enabling graduates to gain practical experience and mentoring across 4 organisations: preparing them fully for future long-term employment in the sector.
- 3.3 Visitors to Dartmoor increased significantly during 2020, with an estimated 1 in 5 being new to the National Park. This is welcome brought the volume of visitors in some areas and the behaviour of a minority of visitors did cause environmental and community impacts. Through this bid we aim to encourage our new visitors to return regularly and become future champions for enjoying the National Park in a responsible manner.
- 3.4 Dartmoor National Park Management Plan review (2020) highlighted the need to identify Nature Recovery Areas (NRA) to realise our ambitious, collective vision for nature on Dartmoor. We now need to establish comprehensive baseline data and work with communities to develop opportunity mapping and focus delivery.
- 3.5 Proposed activities:

**Appoint 4 Conservation and Access Trainees:** providing formal training and practical skills for graduates to enable move into full time employment.

**Appoint 3 Engagement Rangers:** increasing the partnership presence during key visitor times (evenings and weekends).

**Nature Recovery:** Complete condition assessment and opportunity mapping for pilot NRA's to underpin work to expand, connect, restore and enhance priority habitat.

## **Project Management and Evaluation**

### 3.6 Timescale:

- A decision on the successful awards should be forthcoming in late July 2021.
- We would recruit Engagement Rangers for a January 2022 start with a 12 month contract.
- We would recruit Trainees for a 1 April 2022 start with a 12 month programme.
- The NRA assessment would be procured after grant award, allowing for at least a year long programme.
- The deadline for completion of work, reporting and claims would be 31 March 2023.

## **4 Financial Implications**

4.1 The overall project value is £435,153 – in order to meet the minimum match funding requirements, the Partnership will need to provide £22,000 cash contribution towards the delivery of the project, the remaining £413,153 being provided by the GRCF grant.

4.2 We are discussing match funding with partners but Members are asked to support an allocation of up to £22,000 from our Match funding reserve to underpin the bid and allow us to submit the application.

## **5 Risk**

5.1 COVID19 may restrict opportunities for face-to-face engagement and mentoring/training of trainees – we have risk assessments to mitigate this and new experience of delivering both engagement and training activity remotely if required, Trainees and Rangers have flexible programmes which could continue around restrictions. A robust plan of delivery under C-19 restrictions is a requirement for applications to this fund and is being developed in some detail with partners.

## **6 Conclusion**

6.1 This GRCF proposal represents an opportunity to develop new initiatives for 2022 and expand and widen the impact of some existing initiatives. As well as the opportunity to attract an additional investment of over £400k for Dartmoor, the proposal includes further close collaboration with partner organisations within the National Park, especially relating to visitor engagement supporting a more efficient and closely aligned approach which we hope can be sustained into the future.

James Sharpe



NPA/21/017

## Dartmoor National Park Authority

30 April 2021

# Dartmoor Local Plan – draft modifications

Report of the Head of Forward Planning and Economy

**Recommendation:** That Members agree the draft Proposed Modifications for public consultation, and delegate authority to the Chief Executive (National Park Officer), in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to agree the final complete list of Modifications prior to publication.

## 1 Introduction

1.1 The Local Plan was submitted in September 2020 to the Secretary of State and an Inspector was appointed to carry out the examination of the Plan. This report describes the next steps in the local plan examination and seeks Member agreement to publish a proposed list of modification to the Plan for public consultation.

## 2 The Local Plan examination hearings

- 2.1 The purpose of the Examination of the Local Plan is to determine whether it satisfies legal requirements under the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act and associated Regulations, whether the Authority has complied with the Duty to Co-operate and whether the Local Plan is 'sound'. The Inspector identifies a number of Matters and Issues that need to be considered during the Examination, hearing sessions then enable the Inspector to explore these Matters and Issues further with the Authority and other participants, considering relevant representations made and any additional statements.
- 2.2 On the examination web site<sup>1</sup> there are a number of additional documents provided by the Authority at the request of the Inspector, these are requested and provided during the hearing programme or shortly after in order to address particular points of detail or clarity arising from discussions.
- 2.3 11 hearing sessions took place between 2 and 12 March 2021 via Microsoft Teams. Those who had submitted representations at the final draft stage (Regulation 19) had the opportunity to participate. The hearings were live broadcast via YouTube and as a result public viewing was notably higher than at typical 'in person' hearings.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/living-and-working/business/planning-policy/local-plan-review/local-plan-examination>

- 2.4 The Inspector starts from the basis that the Authority has submitted a ‘sound’ Plan. DNPA requested that the Inspector may make modifications<sup>2</sup>, as necessary, to address any deficiencies in the soundness and legal compliance of the Dartmoor Local Plan. This is the standard approach taken in examinations, and effectively means that parts of the Plan identified as unsound, can be modified to make the Plan sound, and therefore the Authority can move to adopt it.
- 2.5 The tests of soundness form the foundation of the examination. Paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states “...Plans are ‘sound’ if they are:
- a) **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 areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development;
  - b) **Justified** – an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;
  - c) **Effective** – deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground; and
  - d) **Consistent with national policy** – enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in this Framework.”
- 2.6 It is important to note that any deficiencies in the Duty to Co-operate cannot be modified retrospectively, making this a pre-emptive test which can mean some examinations do not then proceed any further. For this reason, it is normally the first matter addressed at Local Plan hearings; the Dartmoor Local Plan hearings proceeded after the Duty to Co-operate discussion.

### 3 Examination Process post-hearings

- 3.1 A list of proposed modifications to the Plan were identified through the hearing sessions, these are set out in detail in Appendix 1 and an overview is provided below. The next steps in the examination process are as follows:
- i. The publication of Post-Hearings note: This note, prepared by the Inspector, provides an overview of the modifications discussed at the hearings and provides the Authority with a clear direction in respect of the changes needed in order for the Plan to be found sound. Most modifications were identified before or during the sessions, though some arise where the Inspector has not reached a view during the sessions, but directed a change having considered the matter further.
  - ii. The preparation of a draft list of Proposed Modifications: This is the current stage we are at.
  - iii. The appraisal of the draft Proposed Modifications: In the same way as the draft stages of the Plan were subject to appraisal (Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Viability Appraisal etc) so any changes to the Plan would also need to be assessed and altered if necessary prior to publication for consultation.
  - iv. Public consultation on the proposed modifications: The Authority would publish the Proposed Modifications for public consultation. We would publish both a list (as at Appendix 1) and a track changes version of the Local Plan – in order to clearly understand the modifications in context, and the implications of the

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<sup>2</sup> Under Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)

proposed changes. Importantly, consultation is only in respect of the proposed modifications – it is not an opportunity to re-open debate on matters that the Inspector has considered (at this stage by not have directed changes) to be sound.

- v. The Proposed Modifications and consultation responses, together with a summary of the consultation are provided to the Inspector. The Inspector considers these and will then write her final Report on the Examination of the Local Plan. This will direct the Authority on the changes necessary for soundness. If the Authority chooses not to accept those changes the Plan should not be adopted, if the changes are accepted the Plan is considered sound and can be adopted.

3.2 Subject to Members agreement to the draft Proposed Modifications at this stage, it is anticipated these can be appraised and reviewed and a public consultation for 6 weeks could take place before the summer holiday period.

#### **4 Draft Modifications**

4.1 The full breadth of the Local Plan was explored at the hearing sessions, with a number of matters being explored in more detail and subject of in depth discussion with the Inspector and participants. The hearings were led for DNPA by the Head of Forward Planning and Economy, with a significant portion of discussion being addressed by the Senior Policy Officer and support from the Assistant Policy Officer. The Authority was supported in a number of sessions by consultants (in particular around environmental appraisal, housing numbers and viability, and site appraisal), appointed during the Plan preparation process to inform more specialist areas of work and called upon during hearings to explain or defend evidence.

4.2 Key areas of discussion (please note this is not an exhaustive list) at hearings were:

- The robustness of the environmental appraisal process, in particular around landscape evidence
- Major development – ensuring the approach is consistent with national policy
- Housing numbers – how they were derived, whether they meet the need of the wider Housing Market Areas, whether they should be expressed as indicative or a ‘requirement’.
- Housing delivery – 5 year lands supply, and the spatial distribution of housing numbers to meet the needs of communities across the National Park, how this had been derived and how it will be delivered
- Sustainable construction – how to respond to this issue in the context of emerging government policy
- Design – whether statements in the supporting text should be within policy (this principle arose in other areas, too)
- Biodiversity net gain – how to respond to this issue in the context of emerging government policy
- Historic environment – policy amendments in response to a late representation from Historic England
- Space and accessibility standards in new housing – whether appropriate evidence supports the policy requirements
- Gypsy and traveller accommodation – the deliverability of a criteria-based approach (i.e. not allocating sites) and appropriate evidence to demonstrate need as part of applications

- Low impact development – the requirements for where it may be located, evidence to support applications and the use of temporary permissions
- Transport – whether the Local Plan gives appropriate consideration to rail
- Parking standards - whether the evidence supports the policy requirements
- Economic development – the strategy for economic development and the evidence which supports the policies
- Use Classes – changes needed to Use Class references which have been superseded by government change to the Use Class Order
- Minerals and energy development – ensuring policies are clear and align with the language of the major development policy
- Sites – how sites were identified, the evidence used to arrive at the final allocated sites, and whether sites meet the identified need.
- Sites – the non-deliverability of the Holne Road site in Buckfastleigh and the need to identify a suitable replacement site as a modification
- Monitoring – ensuring monitoring arrangements are robust and ensure that mechanisms exist to respond to issues such as non-delivery of housing

4.3 The complete draft proposed modifications to the Plan are set out in Appendix 1. The discussions above, and the Authority’s responses to comments received at Regulation 19 (final draft) stage have led to proposed modifications. Members are referred to the complete list, but those of particular note are:

1. Alterations to the wording of the Major Development Policy (1.5) to ensure it is consistent with the NPPF terminology
2. The consolidation of the policies on Sustainable Development (1.2), and the Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development (1.3), in order to avoid repetition of the NPPF
3. Alterations to move supporting text into the Design Policy (1.6) in order to ensure it is given appropriate weight
4. Amendments to the supporting wording of the sustainable construction policy (1.7) to ensure reference to emerging policy changes in this area
5. Amendments to the biodiversity, and biodiversity net gain policies (2.2 and 2.3) to ensure consistency with NPPF and up to date reference to net gain with reference emerging legislation in this area.
6. Amendments to the historic environment policy (2.6) and supporting text to ensure consistent terminology and application of policy weight around the historic environment
7. Amendments to the strategic policy on meeting housing need (3.1) to provide more assurance that a housing figure will be met and monitored appropriately in the context of delivery across the Plymouth and Exeter Housing Market Areas.
8. Amendment to section 3.1 to ensure reference to staircasing (restrictions which limit buying all of a shared ownership property) is consistent with legislation
9. Amendments to policies which require removal of permitted development rights, to ensure this is not overly restrictive
10. Amendments to ensure policies reflect the new government Use Class Order, this includes new references to the term ‘active uses’ where the consolidated use class means we can no longer distinguish between certain uses
11. Amendment to minerals policy (6.1) and renewable energy policy (6.6) to ensure the policies are clear and align with the Major Development policy
12. Minor amendments to allocation policy text for accuracy or consistency
13. The removal of the allocation at Holne Road (Proposal 7.5) due to non-deliverability, to be replaced with a suitable equivalent alternative to meet housing need at Buckfastleigh [please note further detail on preferred site options

is not included here as evidence is still being considered, and the consideration of this under the current pre-election period for local government elections]

## **5 Consultation**

5.1 Consultation on the Proposed Modifications will take place before the main summer holiday period (i.e. during June/July), enabling officers to review and summarise the response, and send this to the Planning Inspectorate over the summer. Consultation will take place in accordance with the Authority's adopted Statement of Community Involvement. Given likely sustained restriction on public events and meetings the consultation will take place largely online. Importantly, the consultation is only on the Proposed Modifications to the Plan, it is not a consultation on elements of the Local Plan which are unchanged from the submitted (Regulation 19) Local Plan.

## **6 Financial Implications**

6.1 This report seeks the agreement of Proposed Modifications to the Local Plan for public consultation; it has no direct financial implications. The draft Proposed Modifications will be subject of appraisal undertaken by external consultants though this has already been contracted and budgeted for.

6.2 Members have been appraised previously of the significance of final steps in respect of accepting the Inspector's recommendations and adopting the Plan (described at 3(v) above). If the modifications directed by the Inspector's Report are not accepted the Authority will need to return several steps in the process of Local Plan review at significant financial cost and time delay.

## **7 Conclusion**

7.1 This report appraises Members of the Local Plan examination process, the key matters discussed at the hearings, and the draft Proposed Modifications required in order to ensure the Plan can be made sound and can be adopted.

7.2 The Local Plan examination is considered to be proceeding well. The key Matters and Issues raised at hearings were all anticipated areas of discussion and it is considered that these were robustly explained and defended where necessary. The extensive (though proportionate) evidence in the form of the Topic Papers is considered to have paid dividends, ensuring there is a clear evidence-based narrative behind the Local Plan. The Proposed Modifications are not considered to be significant in the broader context of the Local Plan and are considered typical of the level of change required for soundness at this stage in plan-making.

7.3 The report seeks Members' agreement to publish the draft Proposed Modifications for consultation. It asks that Members delegate Authority to the Chief Executive (NPO) in consultation with the Chair to agree the final list of Proposed Modifications for consultation. This is because they may be subject to minor changes following appraisal, and because a final decision on the proposed alternative housing site in Buckfastleigh is not identified in this report.

Dan Janota

### **Appendix 1 – Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications**

20210430 DJ Dartmoor Local Plan – draft modifications





## Dartmoor Local Plan (2018 - 2036) Examination

### Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications v4 (MMs) (ED34)

1. The Dartmoor Local Plan (2018 – 2036) was submitted to the Secretary of State on 22 September 2020.
2. As part of the examination process a number of proposed Main Modifications (MMs) have been identified by the Authority, at this stage. A Main Modification is an amendment which is considered necessary to make the Local Plan sound or legally compliant, addressing issues raised during the examination process.
3. This schedule identifies the proposed Main Modifications. These Main Modifications will be considered by the Planning Inspector, and additional Main Modifications may be identified during the examination process. The need for updated Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, and public consultation would be addressed prior to these being taken forward.

Ref	Section/Policy (Paragraph/part)	Main Modification	Reason
MM01	Page 10 ('Planning Policies' Inset Box)	The planning policies in the Local Plan are what we use to decide planning applications, all development in the National Park should comply with them <u>development plan as a whole.</u>	To ensure the plan is consistent with legislation, in particular section 38(6) of the 2004 Act.
MM02	Section 1.1 (Para 1.1.4)	<del>The Duty is secondary to National Park purposes and p</del> Pursuing the duty should be compatible with and not undermine the purposes.	To ensure soundness and correct reference to the Duty as it appears in the 1995 Environment Act.
MM03	Section 1.2 (The Vision)	'Dartmoor's natural resources are conserved and there are opportunities for innovation in the way in which we live and work which allow us to achieve and maintain an environmental, social and economic balance, <del>and M</del> <u>minimiseing</u> our contribution to climate change <u>and adapting to it.</u> '	To ensure the Local Plan references both the need to minimise our impact on climate change and adapt to it.

ED34 – Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications v4 (April 2021)

	Section 1.3 (Figure 1.2, part 7)	'Avoid <u>adverse</u> impact on flood risk'	To ensure the policy wording does not inadvertently discourage positive impacts on flood risk.
	Strategic Policy 1.2 (2)	In Dartmoor National Park all proposals should pursue sustainable development. <u>When considering development proposals the Authority will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.</u> Development is sustainable where it:	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 11
	Strategic Policy 1.2 (h)	'avoids development which <u>has an adverse</u> impacts upon flood risk...'	To ensure the policy wording does not inadvertently discourage positive impacts on flood risk.
MM04	Strategic Policy 1.3(2)	<del>Strategic Policy 1.3 (2) Presumption in favour of sustainable development 1. When considering development proposals the Authority will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. It will always work proactively with applicants to jointly find solutions which allow proposals to be approved wherever possible, and secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area. 2. Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be regarded as sustainable development and approved without delay, unless material planning considerations indicate otherwise. When considering whether a development proposal is sustainable or not, account will be taken of the sustainable development goals set out in Strategic Policy 1.2. 3. Where there are no policies relevant to the application, or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision, the Authority will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise, taking into account whether:</del> a) any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework taken as a whole; or b) specific policies in that Framework indicate that development should be restricted.	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(f)
MM05	Strategic Policy 1.4 (2) (Part 2b)	'to maintain employment sites and give opportunities for new or improved <u>small-scale</u> employment sites where appropriate opportunities exist'	To ensure consistency with Strategic Policy 5.1.

MM06	Section 1.5 (Para 1.5.4)	...If an alternative location is technically and financially viable, applicants will be expected to pursue that option, <del>even if the location within the National Park is more financially advantageous.</del> <u>Where an alternative location outside the National Park is not being pursued a detailed appraisal of alternative options should be submitted....</u>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 172
	Para 1.5.5 (Definition of Major Development)	For the purposes of this policy development, <del>the Authority will</del> <u>is considered development</u> to be Major where its <u>nature</u> , scale <u>and setting</u> , <del>character or nature</del> has the potential to have a significant adverse impact on the National Park's Special Qualities.	To ensure consistency with NPPF footnote 55.
	Strategic Policy 1.5	In deciding whether a proposal is 'Major Development' the Authority will consider whether the development, by reason of its <u>nature</u> , scale <u>and setting</u> , <del>character or nature</del> has the potential to have a significant adverse impact on the Special Qualities of the National Park....  ...(a) the need for the development, including <u>any national considerations</u> <del>need</del> and the development's contribution to the national economy...	To ensure consistency with NPPF footnote 55.  To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 172.
MM07	Section 1.6 (Para 1.6.5)	The following design principles set out our expectations for the design of all new development:  Character <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <del>Encourage development with a clear and distinctive character that respects local character, vernacular and materials</del></li> <li>● <del>Encourage development which contributes to the National Park's cohesive and vibrant communities</del></li> </ul> Promote quality and variety of accommodation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <del>Ensure architectural taste or style is not imposed without clear reason and innovative design, including contemporary design, is encouraged</del></li> <li>● <del>Refuse planning permission for poor design</del></li> </ul> Environmental sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <del>Achieve efficient use and protection of natural resources (promote a fabric-first approach, maximise energy efficiency, minimise the use of non-renewable resources, minimise the generation of waste and avoid pollution)</del></li> </ul>	To reflect changes to Policy 1.6

	<p><del>Enhance biodiversity</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>● Encourage creation of new habitat</del></li> <li><del>● Design to allow migration and future adaptability</del></li> </ul> <p><del>Access and Movement</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>● Ensure ease of access to new development and existing services through inclusive design, well-located and permeable development with adequate parking</del></li> </ul> <p><del>Promote sustainable means of travel and easy access</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>● Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively, and proposals do not prejudice the delivery of future development</del></li> </ul> <p><del>Community safety</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>● Ensure attractive and safe public spaces and security through natural surveillance</del></li> </ul>	
Policy 1.6 (2) (Parts 1 and 2)	<p>1. All development <del>should</del> <u>will</u> create a strong sense of place <u>with a clear and distinctive character</u> by reinforcing local character, respecting Dartmoor's vernacular, and maintaining and enhancing townscapes, street patterns and frontages and their relationship with the landscape. <u>Planning applications exhibiting anything less than good design will be refused.</u></p> <p>2. Decisions on design matters will <u>ensure that development has been</u> informed by the following principles and supplementary design guidance:</p> <p><b><u>Character</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>● Encourage development which contributes to the National Park's cohesive and vibrant communities</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Promote quality and variety of accommodation</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>● Ensure architectural taste or style is not imposed without clear reason and innovative design, including contemporary design, is encouraged</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Environmental sustainability</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>● Achieve efficient use and protection of natural resources (promote a fabric-</u></li> </ul>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)

		<p><u>first approach, maximise energy efficiency, minimise the use of non-renewable resources, minimise the generation of waste and avoid pollution)</u></p> <p><b><u>Enhance biodiversity</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Encourage creation of new habitat</u></li> <li>● <u>Design to allow migration and future adaptability</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Access and Movement</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Ensure ease of access to new development and existing services through inclusive design, well-located and permeable development with adequate parking</u></li> <li>● <u>Promote sustainable means of travel and easy access</u></li> <li>● <u>Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively, and proposals do not prejudice the delivery of future development</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Community safety</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Ensure attractive and safe public spaces and security through natural surveillance</u></li> <li>● <u>Ensure development is designed for the prevention of crime, fear of crime and disorder</u></li> </ul>	
MM08	Section 1.6 (Para 1.6.12)	<p><del>Government policy limits the levels of energy efficiency Local Planning Authorities can require in new buildings, up to an equivalent of Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4, this is a sustainability standard withdrawn by Government in 2015. This policy seeks to maximise the energy efficiency of all new buildings by requiring an improvement over building regulation standards. In 2020 the Government consulted on the Future Homes Standard which, if introduced, would raise efficiency standard beyond the requirements of this policy.</del></p>	To ensure the policy references emerging national policy which may affect implementation of this policy.
MM09	Policy 1.8 (2)	<p>'c) introduce levels of noise, vibration, lighting, odours, fumes or dust that would adversely affect human health <u>or quality of life</u>; <b>and/or</b></p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM10	Policy 1.9 (2)	<p>1. Development must be <u>suitable for its proposed use taking account of ground conditions and any risks arising from land instability and contamination.</u> <del>appropriate for its location.</del> Development on sites which may have or are suspected to have a higher level of risk through contamination or</p>	To ensure consistency with NPPG paragraph 16(d) and 178.

		stability, or involve hazardous installations or substances, will only be approved, where:	
MM11	Chapter 2 (Strategy)	Proposals affecting heritage assets, including designated and nondesignated assets, must respect their significance and demonstrate how the historic environment will be conserved and/or enhanced. <u>Development will be encouraged where it will deliver significant enhancement and opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of Dartmoor’s cultural heritage</u>	To ensure the Plan includes criteria encouraging positive outcomes for the historic environment.
MM12	Section 2.3 (Para 2.3.6, bullet 5)	‘disturbance of nocturnal fauna...’	To ensure the supporting text references that all fauna, not just nocturnal fauna, can be disturbed by light pollution.
	Section 2.3 (Para 2.3.6, new bullet)	‘...American skunk cabbage; <del>and domestic cats and dogs hunting wildlife;</del> <u>and prolonged dry, wet or extreme weather events associated with climate change.</u> ’	To ensure the supporting text references the impact of climate change on biodiversity.
	Section 2.3 (Para 2.3.18, part 2)	<b>‘Minimise</b> adverse impacts and then <b>Mmitigate</b> remaining adverse impacts by providing on-site enhancements, such as habitat areas or biodiversity features, or by changing work practices and timings to ensure <del>no adverse impact on</del> <u>net gain of biodiversity</u>	To ensure the supporting text correctly references the mitigation hierarchy.
	Section 2.3 (Para 2.3.18, part 3)	‘... <b>compensate</b> for losses by providing off-site enhancements <del>which represent a net gain over the existing.</del> ’	To ensure the supporting text correctly references the mitigation hierarchy.
	Section 2.3 (Table 2.1)	‘Parkland and aged, <del>and veteran</del> <u>and ancient</u> trees’	To ensure the policy provides sufficient protection to ancient trees, consistent with national policy.
	Strategic Policy 2.2 (2) (Part 1)	‘Development must conserve <u>and/or</u> enhance <u>all</u> Dartmoor’s biodiversity and geodiversity <del>and result in no net loss.</del> ’	To ensure the policy is consistent with Policy 2.3 which seeks biodiversity net gain.
	Strategic Policy 2.2 (2) (Part 2 a) ii)	3. For the exceptional circumstances test to be met, applicants must demonstrate that: <del>a) there is no less harmful option available with regard to, in order of preference:</del> i) <del>avoiding adverse impacts altogether,</del>	To ensure the requirements for designated biodiversity sites and identified habitats are distinct from those requirements that apply to all biodiversity.

		<p><del>ii) minimising adverse impacts and mitigating any unavoidable impacts on-site, or</del></p> <p><del>iii) where adequate on-site mitigation measures are not possible, provide off-site compensatory measures which represent a net gain over the existing; and</del></p> <p><del>ba) for internationally protected sites or species (e.g. SACs) and other sites affecting their wider natural network, including candidate SACs, the development must be of overriding public and environmental interest and compensatory measures must be provided to protect the overall coherence of the site and its wider network, and maintain its species population at favourable conservation status in its natural range; or</del></p> <p><del>eb) for nationally protected sites (e.g. SSSIs) or species, the development must result in benefits which clearly and significantly outweigh its adverse impact on the site or its wider natural network; or</del></p> <p><del>ec) for locally protected wildlife sites (e.g. CWSs), Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) and the Dartmoor priority habitats and species listed in Table 2.1 the development must result in benefits which significantly outweigh its adverse impact on the site; or</del></p> <p><del>ed) for Dartmoor priority habitats listed in Table 2.1 which are of non-functional size and not irreplaceable, development must not have a significant adverse impact on the integrity of the local natural network.</del></p> <p><u>4. All development with the potential to have adverse impacts on biodiversity must demonstrate that:</u></p> <p><u>a) there is no less harmful option available with regard to, in order of preference:</u></p> <p><u>i) avoiding adverse impacts altogether,</u></p> <p><u>ii) minimising adverse impacts and mitigating any remaining unavoidable impacts on-site, or</u></p> <p><u>iii) where adequate on-site mitigation measures are not possible and as a last resort, provide off-site compensatory measures which represent a net gain over the existing.'</u></p>	
MM13	Section 2.3 (Para 2.3.24)	'Strategic Policy 2.3 ensures that development with the potential to impact on habitats and biodiversity makes a proportionate contribution to biodiversity enhancement. The policy must be applied after the strategic biodiversity policy	To ensure biodiversity net gain is applied to both protected and

		(Strategic Policy 2.2), which protects designated sites and priority habitats from harmful development. This policy then ensures that loss of <u>protected and unprotected habitat</u> is appropriately compensated for.'	unprotected habitat, consistent with national guidance.
	Section 2.3 (Para 2.3.30)	'Financial contributions in-lieu will also be considered acceptable where on or off-site provision is proven not possible or <del>undesirable</del> the Authority is satisfied...'	To ensure the allowance for off-site net gain is fairly assessed.
	Policy 2.3 (2) (Part 1)	1. Development <del>with the potential to impact on biodiversity</del> will be required to contribute towards biodiversity enhancement.	To ensure net gain is applied in a manner consistent with national guidance.
MM14	Section 2.6 (Para 2.6.2)	<u>2.6.3 Designated and Non-designated</u> heritage assets are recorded by the Authority on the Historic Environment Record (HER): a live, searchable and publically accessible database of historic sites, buildings and features known to exist in the National Park. There is always the potential for the discovery of new assets. Potential heritage assets will be assessed against Historic England's significance criteria, discussed in paragraph 2.6.3, to decide whether they should be protected as designated or non-designated assets. <u>Evidence prepared to inform decisions, or acquired during or after development should be made available to be added to the HER.</u>	To ensure the role of the HER is correctly described in supporting text.
	Section 2.6 (Para 2.6.3)	2.6.3 Understanding a heritage asset's significance is essential to assessing the impact of a development. Historic England describes significance as consisting of four values in <u>Conservation Principles (2008)</u> and significance may be found in all or just one of these values: ...  <u>The NPPF refers to significance as being the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest, which may be: archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives from the physical presence of a heritage asset and from its setting.</u>  Glossary: Significance (for heritage policy): The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. <u>Significance can also be assessed using the four values of evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal based on Historic England's Conservation Principles (2008).</u>	Consistency with Historic England guidance.
	Section 2.6 (Para 2.6.7)	All applications proposing development affecting a heritage asset must include an <del>Assessment of Significance</del> <u>Statement of Heritage Significance.</u>	To ensure terminology is consistent with Historic England guidance.



	Policy 2.6 (2) (Part 2)	<p>1. All development must conserve and/or enhance heritage assets and their settings. <u>Great weight will be given to the conservation of designated heritage assets. All proposals should avoid harming an asset's significance, and where harm is justified, it should be minimised.</u></p> <p>2. All applications affecting designated and non-designated heritage assets must be supported by an <u>Assessment of Significance/Statement of Heritage Significance.</u></p> <p>3. The change of use, extension or alteration of heritage assets, <u>including development in their settings,</u> will only be permitted where:</p> <p>a) for designated heritage assets, any harm <u>to significance is less than substantial, justified and</u> clearly outweighed by the development's public benefits...</p> <p>4. The <u>substantial harm, whole or partial loss of heritage assets, including development within its setting,</u> will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances...</p> <p>5. Where <u>substantial harm to whole or partial</u> loss of a heritage asset is permitted the applicant will be required to undertake a detailed record of the asset <u>and provide this to the Dartmoor HER.</u></p> <p>6. Where an application could affect existing or potential archaeological interests the application must be supported by <u>sufficient information to understand their significance and the impact of the proposal.</u> This may include a method statement detailing the assessment, evaluation or excavation works necessary to <u>inform the decision, or ensure its protection.</u></p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d) and 185 in particular
MM15	Section 2.6 (para 2.6.17)	Any proposals of a low, medium or high impact will be refused where they <u>would harm heritage significance do not conserve the heritage asset, and all proposals will be encouraged to achieve enhancement.</u>	To ensure consistency with Policy 2.6 (2)
	Policy 2.7 (part 5)	Permitted development rights will <u>normally</u> be removed to control the character and appearance of the converted building and its setting.	To ensure sufficient flexibility consistent with paragraph 53 of the NPPF.
MM16	Policy 2.8 (2) (Part 1 (a))	'the public benefits clearly outweigh the harm of departing from <del>the</del> <u>adopted development plan planning policies.</u> '	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM17	Section 2.7	Move section 2.7 to section 2.5	To improve the structure and readability of the plan, ensuring

			consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
Section 2.7 (Para 2.7.1)	'Dartmoor's upland peat is a significant carbon store, <u>restoration of eroded peat and careful management of its water environment can</u> plays an important role in <u>minimising/offsetting</u> our impact on climate change. <u>Functioning peatlands can also assist us adapt to climate change, including by reducing wild fire risk and helping water security for us and the environment.</u>		To ensure the role of upland peat is fully described.
Section 2.7 (Para 2.7.3)	'The Local Plan will ensure that flood risk is taken into account in all new development, managing risk by directing land uses to the most appropriate locations. <u>All sources of flooding will be taken into account, including water courses, surface and ground water flooding.</u> Development should not take place where it would have an unacceptable level of flood risk, or where it would increase flood risk elsewhere by, for example, reducing flood storage, impeding the flow of flood water or increasing run-off. <u>Devon County Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority responsible for managing local flood risk on Dartmoor and a statutory consultee for major development. The Environment Agency's Flood Zone map and Devon County Council's Surface Water Flooding map are used to identify the potential for flood risk.'</u>		To ensure sources of flood risk and how they are identified are fully described.
Section 2.7 (Para 2.7.4)	'The purpose of the FRA is to <u>demonstrate the flood risks to and from a proposed development, it will also help inform the flood risk</u> <del>provide a basis for applying the sequential test to flood risk</del> , which steers new development to areas with the lowest probability of flooding. <u>It should also be noted that not all developments have equal flood vulnerability, for example caravans, mobile homes, emergency services, and hazardous installations are considered more vulnerable than dwellings<sup>21</sup>.</u>  [Footnote] See National Planning Practice Guidance for further guidance: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-and-coastal-change">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-and-coastal-change.</a> '		To ensure the role of FRA is correctly described.

	Policy 2.9 (2)	<p><del>3. In exceptional circumstances, where development which does not satisfy the sequential test demonstrates there are no suitable locations of lower flood risk, development will be permitted in flood risk areas when:</del></p> <p><del>a) there are no suitable locations of lower flood risk;</del></p> <p><del>ab) the development is demonstrated to provide wider benefits which outweigh flood risk;</del></p> <p><del>bc) there will be appropriate flood protection for the lifetime of the development, taking account of the vulnerability of its users; and</del></p> <p><del>cd) the development will not increase flood risk elsewhere, and where possible, will reduce flood risk overall.</del></p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d) and 157 in particular
MM18	Strategic Policy 3.1 (Part 1)	<p><del>1. This Local Plan will seek to meet an indicative housing delivery figure of makes provision for approximately 1,125 homes (65 homes each year after adoption) to be delivered across the National Park over the period of this Plan in order to meet the identified needs of local communities. It will do so by identifying opportunities for housing delivery on allocated sites, windfall sites, and rural exception sites. A trajectory at Appendix E illustrates the expected rate of housing delivery over the plan period. The Monitoring Framework will assess whether delivery is meeting local needs for Dartmoor and whether the overall housing requirements for the Plymouth and Exeter Housing Market Areas are being met.</del></p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF, and in particular paragraphs 65, 73 and 75
	Strategic Policy 3.1 (Part 6)	<p><del>6 ... Section 106 legal agreements will include a cascade to ensure properties do not remain empty for an unreasonable period of time and a mortgagee in possession clause to ensure mortgageability. On rural exception sites in Villages and Hamlets, shared ownership housing will be restricted to 80% staircasing.</del></p>	To ensure consistency with the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 and NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM19	Section 3.1 (Para 3.1.11)	<p><del>3.1.11 The use of section 106 legal agreements is critical for securing affordable housing into the future, and provides communities with assurance that new affordable homes will continue to be available to meet local housing need. Equally, Section 106 legal agreements must be carefully worded to ensure they are flexible; an overly restrictive agreement can mean a so development or property cannot be financed and homes are not left empty. therefore prevent the development from going ahead.</del></p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Section 3.1 (Para 3.1.12)		To ensure consistency with the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008.

		<p><u>3.1.12 All parishes in Dartmoor National Park are in Designated Protected Areas (DPA) (footnote - Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 Paragraphs 300 - 302) where statutory protections are also in place to ensure an ongoing supply of rural affordable housing. Within the DPA process it is possible on individual schemes for a Registered Provider to seek a waiver from these protections, including those that limit the amount of equity that a resident of a shared ownership home can buy, known as 'staircasing'. Dartmoor National Park will consider applications for such waivers on individual sites through the DPA waiver process where applicable and with the agreement of relevant local authority and Homes England. Where schemes are not funded through Homes England consideration will be given to a waiver with the agreement of the relevant local authority.</u></p> <p><del>Staircasing on shared ownership properties, where the owner of a shared ownership home buys a larger share of the property, is one such issue. In a rural area, the owner would not normally be allowed to buy the whole property (or 'staircase' to 100%) to ensure the benefit of the affordable home remains in the community. However some lenders are not currently supporting such restrictions. As such, in order to enable development to come forward, 100% staircasing will be allowed in Local Centres and Rural Settlements where this is supported by Homes England. A section 106 legal agreement provides for a right of pre-emption, where the Housing Association and/or Local Housing Authority have the right to buy the property before it is offered on the open market. It also requires that, where someone does acquire 100% of a shared ownership property, a local occupancy restriction remains on the property in perpetuity.</del></p>	
MM20	Section 3.8 (Para 3.8.9)	<p><u>It is an important element of policy to ensure that residential extensions are subservient to the original dwelling and respect its original architecture. In most cases this can be achieved by following</u> <del>To ensure the National Park retains high standards of design residential extension will be expected to follow these basic design principles:</del></p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM21	Policy 3.8 (2) (Part 4)	<p>Permission for a replacement home will <u>normally</u> be subject to a condition removing permitted development rights in respect of extensions.</p>	To ensure the policy complies with National Policy, in particular paragraph 53 of the NPPF.

MM22	Policy 3.9 (2) (Part 3)	<p>3. Where the above is satisfied, permission will be granted subject to the following:</p> <p>a) an occupancy condition requiring the dwelling only be used by a rural worker;</p> <p>b) a legal agreement tying the dwelling and any other relevant dwellings to the holding; and, <u>normally</u></p> <p>c) a condition removing permitted development rights.</p>	To ensure the policy complies with National Policy, in particular paragraph 53 of the NPPF.
MM23	Policy 3.10 (2) (Part 3)	<p>3. Where the above is satisfied, permission will be granted subject to the following:</p> <p>a) an occupancy condition requiring the dwelling only be used for the needs of a rural worker;</p> <p>b) a condition tying the annexe to the associated dwelling; and, <u>normally</u></p> <p>c) a condition removing permitted development rights.</p>	To ensure the policy complied with National Policy, in particular paragraph 53 of the NPPF.
MM24	Section 3.10 (Para 3.10.2)	<p>3.10.2 The most recent Gypsy and traveller Accommodation Assessment (<u>GTAA</u>) for Devon<sup>26</sup> indicated a very low level of need for Dartmoor National Park. Given this, it is not appropriate for this Local Plan to identify a pitch target for Gypsy and traveller sites. Instead a criteria based <u>policy</u> is set out below which enables suitable sites to come forward where a need is identified through an up to date GTAA, and/or appropriate local information on needs. ...</p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Section 3.10 (Para 3.10.3)	<p>3.10.3 Sites for Gypsy and traveller accommodation should be within or adjoining a Local Centre or Rural Settlement. Where <del>it is demonstrated that need exists, and that</del> no suitable site is available within or adjoining a Local Centre or Rural Settlement, a site outside but well-related to the settlement may be acceptable. Suitable sites for Gypsy and traveller accommodation (and for Low Impact Development), which are well-related to a settlement must:</p>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Policy 3.11 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>take a sequential approach, considering previously developed land first, <u>and flood risk...</u></li> </ul> <p>...d) take a sequential approach to the use of previously developed land and <u>not be located in areas of high</u> flood risk, consistent with other policies in this Local Plan....</p>	To ensure the supporting text considers flood risk.

MM25	Section 3.11 (Para 3.11.5)	"... it must meet the criteria described in 3.9.53."	To correct a paragraph reference
	Section 3.11 (Para 3.1.7. first bullet)	'...land use activities proposed are capable of supporting the needs of the occupants <u>within a reasonable period of time and no more than 5 years from first occupation.</u> '	To ensure there are measurable tests for this type of development.
	Policy 3.12 (2) (Part 1)	<u>1. Low impact residential development will be permitted where:...</u> 'h) the proposal demonstrates a business plan and sufficient land is available which can provide for the livelihood and substantially meet the needs of all residents on the site <u>within a reasonable period of time and no more than 5 years from first occupation.</u> '	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Policy 3.12 (2) (Part 2)	<u>2. Where the above is satisfied permission will first be granted:</u> <u>a) for a temporary period of up to 6 years; and</u> <u>b) subject to the condition that at five years from the development's first occupation a Monitoring Report is submitted to the Authority reporting on how the requirements of this policy have been achieved.</u>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Policy 3.12 (2) (Part 3)	<u>3. Following the grant of temporary permission, permanent permission will only be granted where the Authority is satisfied the policy requirements have been satisfied and can continue to be satisfied into the future.</u>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM26	Section 4.3, Table 4.3, column 1	Use (Class) <u>A1 and A2 Shops and financial and professional services (Class E)</u> <u>A3 and A4 Café, restaurant, pub or drinking establishment (Class E)</u> <u>C1 Hotel (Class C1)</u> <u>B1 Office and light industrial (Class E)</u> <u>B1a Office: 1 lorry space/1000m2</u> <u>B1b/c Light industrial: 1 lorry space</u> <u>B2 Industrial (Class B2)</u> <u>B8 Storage and Distribution (Class B8)</u>	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
MM27	Section 4.3 (para 4.3.17)	<u>In 2019 the Government consulted on amending Building Regulations to require charging point provision on all new residential and non-residential buildings. Were these proposals introduced it would supersede this policy's</u>	To ensure the policy references emerging national policy which may affect implementation of this policy.

		<u>requirements for new buildings, however the requirements for car parks would continue to apply.</u>	
MM28	Section 4.3 (All)	Move to end of section 5.3	To improve structure and readability ensuring consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM29	Section 5.2 (para 5.2.1)	The Local Plan encourages appropriate business and employment development. This policy sets out the locations where non-residential business (Class <u>E and B</u> uses), tourism and other employment development will be acceptable.	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
	Section 5.2 (para 5.2.2)	Office, light industrial and home-based enterprise development are generally the most appropriate <u>Class B business</u> uses in the National Park. New general industrial (Class B2) and warehousing (Class B8) uses are more likely to impact on the National Park's Special Qualities.	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
	Section 5.2 (para 5.2.6)	A town centre first approach is taken for proposals involving main town centre uses over 150m <sup>2</sup> , see Strategic Policy 5.2. Offices (Class <u>EB1a</u> ) and tourism uses are main town centre uses and best located within the town centres of Local Centres and Rural Settlements.	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
MM30	Section 5.2 (para 5.3.7)	<u>Loss of shops (Class A1-4) main town centre uses from Town Centres</u> will be considered in accordance with Strategic Policy 5.3, loss of other employment uses will be considered in accordance with Strategic Policy 5.1.	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
	Policy 5.2 (Part 3)	3. Proposals outside town centres which could have a significant adverse impact on a town centre <u>and have a gross internal floorspace of 150m<sup>2</sup> or more</u> will be required to submit an impact assessment.	To ensure the requirements for impact assessment are clearly expressed in policy.
MM31	Section 5.2 (para 5.3.8)	<del>Shopping and other active uses</del> Active uses <u>in Town Centres</u>	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended

		<p>Dartmoor's main shopping areas are located in the Local Centres . These areas are generally successful, but some suffer from high turnover and there is a trend towards declining margins and provision of visitor-orientated services rather than those for residents. In main shopping areas this policy protects shops, financial and professional services, food, drink and drinking establishments (Class A1-4) and allows for change of use between them, except where the proposal involves loss of the last general store, shop or pub. This approach ensures active uses are retained, but allows flexibility for the high street to respond to changing consumer preferences.</p> <p><u>The 2020 COVID pandemic and increasing popularity of internet shopping has put significant strain on the high street. In September 2020 the Government responded to this and long-standing calls for greater flexibility by changing the Use Class Order and combining many previously distinct town centre uses into one use class (Class E). This change means that changes between retail, restaurant, office, light industrial, clinic, health centre, indoor recreation and other uses do not generally require planning permission, unless conditions on a planning consent control approved uses. This change significantly effects how local planning policies operate to protect and enhance town centres, for example it is not now possible to protect retail as a distinct use from other town centre uses. It is hoped these changes will support the high street make the changes it needs to be successful.</u></p>	<p>pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020</p>
	<p>Section 5.2 (para 5.3.9)</p>	<p><del>In the Rural Settlements and Villages and Hamlets services are more limited, many only have one shop and pub. For this reason policy is focussed on avoiding the loss of the last general store, shop or pub and changes of use will only be permitted where at least 6 months continuous marketing evidence demonstrates there is no demand. After which other Class A, B1a, C1 or D uses should be considered, this recognises the contribution they can make to increasing footfall and improving the vibrancy of a centre. Residential conversions will only be permitted after a further 6 months marketing evidence demonstrates no demand for any Class A, B1a, C1 or D uses.</del></p> <p><u>The planning system still has a role to play in ensuring Dartmoor's Town Centres remain vibrant and active uses are not lost in favour of higher value residential uses. This policy therefore protects main town centre uses in Dartmoor's Town Centres, allowing change of use only where a thorough marketing exercise demonstrates no demand.</u></p>	<p>To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020</p>




	Section 5.2 (para 5.3.10)	<p><del>To make premises easier to let, permissions for new Class A uses will have conditions attached which allow them to be used for a variety of other acceptable main town centre uses.</del></p> <p><u>This policy also seeks to protect the last shop, general store or pub in any of Dartmoor's classified settlements. Helping ensure these important public services remain available for communities.</u></p>	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
	Strategic Policy 5.3	<p><del>Strategic Policy 5.3 (2) Shops and other active uses</del> <u>Protecting Active Uses in Dartmoor's Settlements</u></p> <p>1. <del>Within the main shopping areas of Local Town Centres permission will be granted for changes of use within Class A1-4 main town centre uses provided they do not adversely affect neighbouring uses, particularly their amenity.</del></p> <p>2. Permission will not be granted:</p> <p>a) <del>within the main shopping areas of Local Town Centres, for a proposal that converts Class A1-4 main town centre uses to other uses; or</del></p> <p>b) <del>within a classified settlement, for a proposal that involves the loss of the last general store, shop or public house; unless evidence submitted demonstrates the property has been offered for sale, rent and/or lease on the open market for the existing use or, in the case of main shopping areas in Local Town Centres, Class A1-4 main town centre uses for a continuous period of at least 6 months, at a realistic price.</del></p> <p><del>3. Where the case for a change of use is accepted under Part 2 of this policy other Class A, B1a, C1 and D uses should be considered first. A conversion for residential or other uses will only be permitted where evidence submitted demonstrates the property has been offered for sale, rent and/or lease on the open market for Class A, B1a, C1 or D uses at a price which reflects those uses, for a further continuous period of at least 6 months.</del></p>	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
MM32	Section 5.4 (Para 5.4.11)	'For both tented campsites and touring caravan sites there can be an issue with pitches being used for the long term <del>siting</del> or storage of <u>unoccupied</u> tents, yurts, wigwams or caravans.'	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Section 5.4 (Para 5.4.12)	'Camping pods, shepherd huts and other structures which are permanently or seasonally sited on the land <u>can</u> have a similar impact...'	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Policy 5.6 (Part 2c)	'suitable historic buildings are used first in accordance with <u>Strategic Policy 2.6 and/or Strategic Policy 2.7</u> '	To ensure references are correct.

MM33	Section 6 (Strategy)	<p>...maximise the use of recycled materials and secondary aggregates <u>as far as practicable</u>...</p> <p>...<del>Small scale</del> Renewable energy development which meets the energy demands of a single property or local community will be encouraged where it is <u>not Major Development and</u> does not harm the National Park's Special Qualities or environment. <del>Large scale renewable energy development, including wind and solar farms, is not appropriate in the National Park...</del></p>	To reflect agreed policy amendments.
MM34	Section 6.1 (Para 6.1.4)	' <del>Large scale</del> Minerals development <u>that is considered to be Major Development, as defined in Strategic Policy 1.5,</u> can have a significant and irreversible impact and is not considered appropriate in the National Park other than in exceptional circumstances. The environmental impact of minerals operations has improved significantly in recent years, though, and where existing infrastructure and mitigation is in place the extension of existing operations can be the most efficient and reasonable approach to sustaining a source of minerals.'	To reflect agreed policy amendments.
	Policy 6.1 (1) (Part 1)	'1. <del>Large scale</del> Minerals development <u>that is Major Development, as defined in Strategic Policy 1.5 (2),</u> will not be <del>allowed</del> approved other than in exceptional circumstances, <del>and where it can be demonstrated that the proposal is in the public interest. In assessing proposals DNPA will consider:</del>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Policy 6.1 (1) (Part 2)	2. The <del>small scale</del> expansion of existing quarries, or extension of time for minerals operations, will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the socioeconomic benefits of the development outweigh any impact upon the National Park's Special Qualities.	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Policy 6.1 (1) (Part 4a)	<b>a)</b> all reasonable mitigation must be provided for in the proposal, in order to minimise <u>any negative</u> environmental and socioeconomic impacts; <b>and</b>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
	Policy 6.1 (1) (Part 4b)	<b>b)</b> the proposal must be consistent with <del>other relevant policies in this Local</del> <u>the Plan as a whole.</u>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)

MM35	Section 6.1 (Para 6.1.9)	The purpose of a Minerals Safeguarding Area is to ensure that the ability remains to extract a minerals resource, by ensuring that non-minerals development does not take place where it may sterilise or constrain <del>potential future minerals operations</del> working...	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 204(c)
	Section 6.1 (Para 6.1.10)	6.1.10 In considering proposals for non-mineral use of these areas we will take into account opportunity for prior extraction (where reasonable and feasible), potential non-sterilising land uses, or may decide not to grant permission where development may prejudice future minerals <del>extraction operations</del> .	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 204(c)
	Section 6.1 (Para 6.1.11)	6.1.11 The following <u>summarises</u> areas are identified on the Policies Map as Minerals Safeguarding Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linhay Hill Quarry</li> <li>• Meldon Quarry</li> <li>• Yennadon Quarry</li> <li>• Blackenstone Quarry</li> <li>• Merrivale Quarry</li> <li>• Prison Quarry</li> <li>• <u>Lee Moor Quarry complex</u></li> </ul>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM36	Section 6.3 (Para 6.3.5)	<del>'Small scale r</del> Renewable energy development which meets the energy demands of a single property, business or local community <del>can be achieved on Dartmoor without impacting</del> is unlikely to have an impact on the National Park's Special Qualities.'	To reflect policy amendments.
	Policy 6.6 (2) (Part 1)	'1. <del>Small scale r</del> Renewable energy development will be encouraged where it does not harm the National Park's Special Qualities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) landscape character, taking into consideration the cumulative impact with other development;</li> <li>b) biodiversity, geodiversity, and heritage significance; c) tranquillity, dark night skies and residential amenity, taking into consideration noise, lighting, movement, odour and vibration; and</li> <li>d) air, soil and water quality.</li> </ul>	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d) and 172

		<p>2. <del>Small-scale</del> Renewable energy development should not impact on flood risk or soil stability. Utility connections, such as cables and pipes, should be placed underground.</p> <p>3. <del>Large-scale</del> Renewable energy development <u>that is Major Development, as defined in Strategic Policy 1.5, will not be approved other than in exceptional circumstances.</u></p>	
MM3	Policy 7.1(2)	1. Settlement boundaries shown on the inset maps define the area of the settlements within which development will be permitted where it is consistent with <del>policies in</del> this Local Plan.	To ensure the plan is consistent with legislation, in particular section 38(6) of the 2004 Act.
MM38	Proposal 7.8(2)	Proposal 7.8 (2) An area of land at the Crannafords employment area, Chagford, is allocated for business and employment uses ( <b>non-main town centre uses</b> ) ( <del>mixed B class uses</del> ).	To ensure policy is consistent with changes made to the Use Class Order.
MM39	Proposal 7.11 (2)	An area of land at Forder Farm is allocated for residential development of around <del>25-30</del> homes, of which not less than 45% must be affordable housing to meet identified local needs.	To reflect existing outline planning permission.
MM40	Proposal 7.19(2) (Part 2 (b))	Provide a link to the <del>Drake's Trail</del> <u>Princetown cycle trail</u> ; <b>and</b>	To correct references.
	Proposal 7.19(2) (Part 2 (c))	Include delivery of appropriate highway improvements to access <del>Plymouth</del> <u>Dousland Road</u>	To correct references.
MM41	Policy 7.20(2)	Special constraints will apply to development proposals within <del>the original</del> <u>this historic residential core</u> of Yelverton	To ensure consistency with NPPF paragraph 16(d)
MM42	Proposal 7.21 (2) (Part 1 (b))	b) Commercial uses comprising principally business and industrial uses ( <del>B1, non-main town centre Class E, B2 and B8</del> ), <del>financial and professional services (A2)</del> , and assembly and leisure uses ( <del>non-main town centre Class E and F2</del> ). <u>Any main town centre uses should be of a scale and use commensurate with Buckfast and its local highway network.</u>	To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020
	Proposal 7.21(2) (Part 2(a))	provide a level of employment which <u>is not less than</u> <del>offsets the loss of the previous</del> employment <u>use space</u>	To ensure the proposals are consistent with Strategic Policy 5.1

MM43	Policy 7.24(2)	Within the South Zeal Conservation Area, development will not be permitted where this would <u>cause harm to, or loss of</u> <del>destruction or adversely affect</del> the significance or setting of burgage plots,	To ensure consistency with local and national policy.
MM44	Section 7 (Map 7.12)	 <p>Map 7.12 Billatord Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Settlement Boundary</li> <li>■ Listed Building</li> <li>■ Flood Zone 2</li> <li>■ Flood Zone 3</li> <li>--- Public Right of Way</li> <li>■ National Park Boundary</li> </ul>	To ensure consistency with the method for determining settlement boundaries.
MM45	Appendix A (3 – Housing)	<u>Overall housing delivery within the Plymouth and Exeter HMAs consistent with the monitoring framework for the HMAs.</u>	To ensure effective monitoring of housing delivery across the HMAs.
	Appendix A	Insertion of housing trajectory as shown at Appendix 1.	
MM46	Glossary	<b>Assessment of Statement of Heritage Significance:</b> A report required to be submitted in support of an application which has the potential to affect a heritage asset. It reports the sum of the cultural and natural heritage values of a place (i.e. its significance) and assesses how the proposals will affect them, positively or negatively.	To ensure consistency with Historic England’s guidance.
MM47	Glossary	<b>Heritage asset:</b> ... Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets, such as listed buildings and scheduled monuments, and <del>un</del> non-designated assets identified by the local planning authority.	To ensure consistency with NPPF.
MM48	Glossary	<b>Habitable Floorspace:</b> ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Areas in the roof space and mezzanine areas converted for use with permanent access and a <del>maximum</del> ceiling height of at least 1.8m <u>at its highest point</u></li> </ul>	To ensure clear interpretation.

MM49		<p>The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) puts uses of land and buildings into various categories known as 'Use Classes'. These use classes are referred to in the policies of this plan and are provided here for reference purposes. The Order is periodically amended.</p> <p><b>Class A</b></p> <p><b>A1 Shops</b> – <del>Shops, retail warehouses, hairdressers, undertakers, travel and ticket agencies, post offices, pet shops, sandwich bars, showrooms, domestic hire shops, dry cleaners, funeral directors and internet cafes.</del></p> <p><b>A2 Financial and professional services</b> – <del>Financial services such as banks and building societies, professional services (other than health and medical services) and including estate and employment agencies. It does not include betting offices or pay day loan shops – these are now classed as “sui generis” uses (see below).</del></p> <p><b>A3 Restaurants and cafés</b> – <del>For the sale of food and drink for consumption on the premises - restaurants, snack bars and cafes.</del></p> <p><b>A4 Drinking establishments</b> – <del>Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments (but not night clubs) including drinking establishments with expanded food provision.</del></p> <p><b>A5 Hot food takeaways</b> – <del>For the sale of hot food for consumption off the premises</del></p> <p><b>Class B</b></p> <p><b>B1 Business</b> – <del>Offices (other than those that fall within A2), research and development of products and processes, light industry appropriate in a residential area.</del></p> <p><b>B2 General industrial</b> - <del>Use for industrial process other than one falling within class B1 (excluding incineration purposes, chemical treatment or landfill or hazardous waste).</del></p>	<p>To ensure consistency with changes to the Use Class Order, as amended pursuant to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020</p>
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		<p><b>B8 Storage or distribution</b> - This class includes open air storage.</p> <p><b>Class C</b></p> <p><b>C1 Hotels</b> - Hotels, boarding and guest houses where no significant element of care is provided (excludes hostels).</p> <p><b>C2 Residential institutions</b> - Residential care homes, hospitals, nursing homes, boarding schools, residential colleges and training centres.</p> <p><b>C2A Secure Residential Institution</b> - Use for a provision of secure residential accommodation, including use as a prison, young offenders institution, detention centre, secure training centre, custody centre, short term holding centre, secure hospital, secure local authority accommodation or use as a military barracks.</p> <p><b>C3 Dwellinghouses</b> - this class is formed of 3 parts:</p> <p><b>C3(a)</b> covers use by a single person or a family (a couple whether married or not, a person related to one another with members of the family of one of the couple to be treated as members of the family of the other), an employer and certain domestic employees (such as an au pair, nanny, nurse, governess, servant, chauffeur, gardener, secretary and personal assistant), a carer and the person receiving the care and a foster parent and foster child.</p> <p><b>C3(b)</b> up to six people living together as a single household and receiving care e.g. supported housing schemes such as those for people with learning disabilities or mental health problems.</p> <p><b>C3(c)</b> allows for groups of people (up to six) living together as a single household. This allows for those groupings that do not fall within the C4 houses in multiple occupation definition, but which fell within the previous C3 use class, to be provided for i.e. a small religious community may fall into this section as could a homeowner who is living with a lodger.</p>	
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		<p><b>C4 Houses in multiple occupation</b> - small shared houses occupied by between three and six unrelated individuals, as their only or main residence, who share basic amenities such as a kitchen or bathroom.</p> <p><b>Class D</b></p> <p><b>D1 Non-residential institutions</b> – Clinics, health centres, crèches, day nurseries, day centres, schools, art galleries (other than for sale or hire), museums, libraries, halls, places of worship, church halls, law court. Non residential education and training centres.</p> <p><b>D2 Assembly and leisure</b> – Cinemas, music and concert halls, bingo and dance halls (but not night clubs), swimming baths, skating rinks, gymnasiums or area for indoor or outdoor sports and recreation (except for motor sports, or where firearms are used).</p> <p><b>Class E</b></p> <p><u>E(a) Display or retail sale of goods, other than hot food takeaway</u>  <u>E(b) Sale of food and drink for consumption (mostly) on the premises</u>  <u>E(c) Provision of:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>E(c)(i) Financial services,</u></li> <li>• <u>E(c)(ii) Professional services (other than health or medical services),</u> or</li> <li>• <u>E(c)(iii) Other appropriate services in a commercial, business or service locality</u></li> </ul> <p><u>E(d) Indoor sport, recreation or fitness (not involving motorised vehicles or firearms)</u>  <u>E(e) Provision of medical or health services (except the use of premises attached to the residence of the consultant or practitioner)</u>  <u>E(f) Creche, day nursery or day centre (not including a residential use)</u>  <u>E(g) Uses which can be carried out in a residential area without detriment to its amenity:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>E(g)(i) Offices to carry out any operational or administrative functions,</u></li> <li>• <u>E(g)(ii) Research and development of products or processes</u></li> <li>• <u>E(g)(iii) Industrial processes</u></li> </ul>	
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Class F

**F1 Learning and non-residential institutions – Use (not including residential use) defined in 7 parts:**

- **F1(a)** Provision of education
- **F1(b)** Display of works of art (otherwise than for sale or hire)
- **F1(c)** Museums
- **F1(d)** Public libraries or public reading rooms
- **F1(e)** Public halls or exhibition halls
- **F1(f)** Public worship or religious instruction (or in connection with such use)
- **F1(g)** Law courts

**F2 Local community – Use as defined in 4 parts:**

- **F2(a)** Shops (mostly) selling essential goods, including food, where the shop's premises do not exceed 280 square metres and there is no other such facility within 1000 metres
- **F2(b)** Halls or meeting places for the principal use of the local community
- **F2(c)** Areas or places for outdoor sport or recreation (not involving motorised vehicles or firearms)
- **F2(d)** Indoor or outdoor swimming pools or skating rinks

**Sui Generis**

Certain uses do not fall within any use class and are considered 'sui generis'. Such uses include: betting offices/shops, pay day loan shops, theatres, larger houses in multiple occupation, hostels providing no significant element of care, scrap yards, petrol filling stations and shops selling and/or displaying motor vehicles, retail warehouse clubs, nightclubs, launderettes, taxi businesses, and casinos, hot food takeaways, public houses, wine bars, drinking establishments, venues for live music performance, cinemas, concert halls, bingo halls and dance halls.

DRAFT

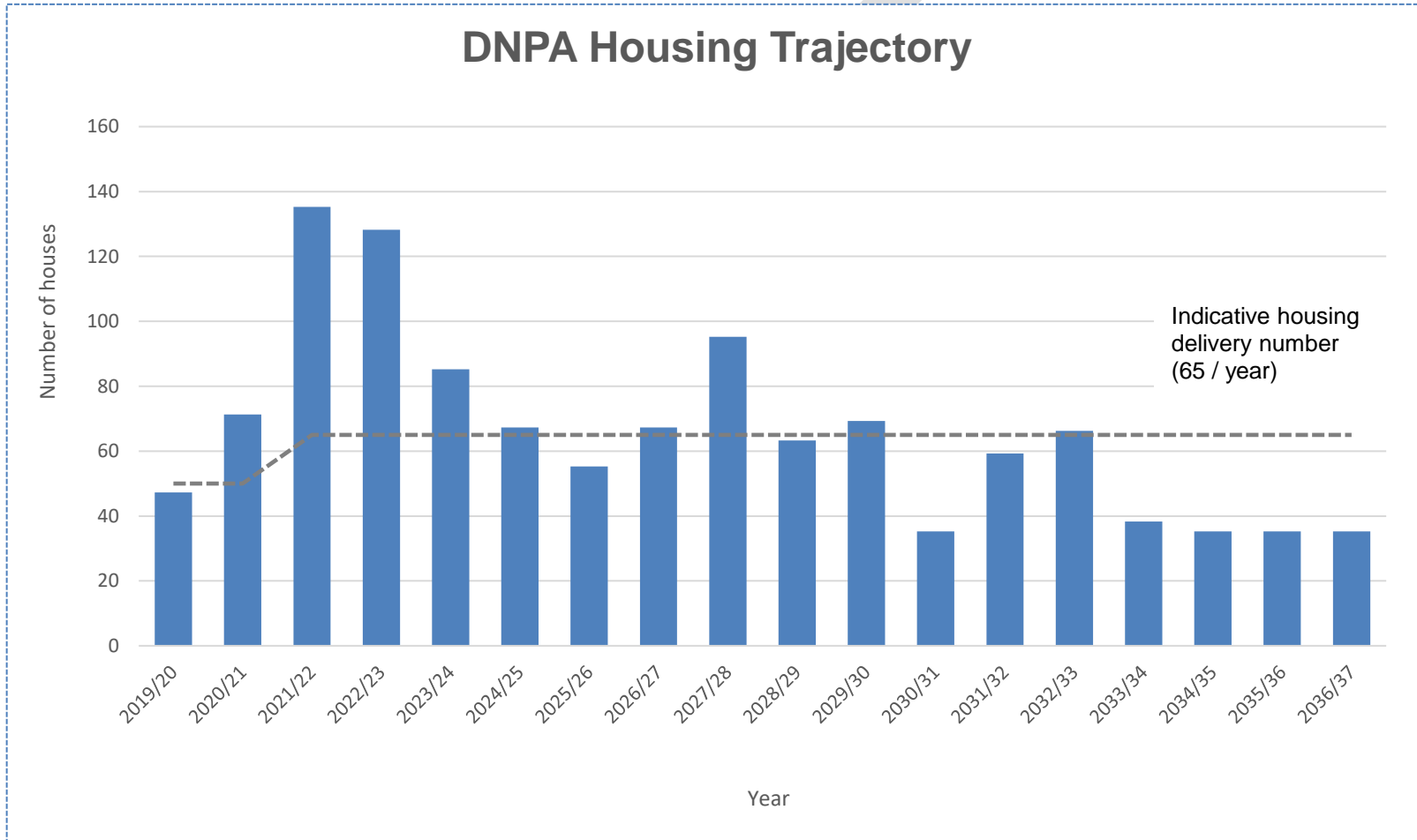
Appendix 1

Appendix B - Housing Trajectory

Settlement	Site	Year																		Total
		19/ 20	20/ 21	21/ 22	22/ 23	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	30/ 31	31/ 32	32/ 33	33/ 34	34/ 35	35/ 36	36/ 37	
Ashburton	Outdoor Experience, Chuley Rd				12	10														22
	Tuckers, Chuley Rd	12	11																	23
	Longstone Cross			12	16	12														40
Buckfast	Kenwyn						12	5												17
	Axminster Carpets						12	20	8											40
Buckfastleigh	Barn Park			12	14															26
	Holne Rd				12	16														28
	Glebelands	3																		3
Chagford	Bretteville Close	25	25	25	13															88
	Lamb Park				12						12	12								36
Cornwood	Church Park			10																10
Horrabridge	New Park								12	23										35
Mary Tavy	Down's Garage				12	7														19
Moretonhampstead	Forder Farm				12	13														25
	Thompson's Haulage Depot			12	14															26
	Betton Way												12	6						18
South Brent	Fairfield		12	24																36
	Palstone Lane (a)			7	8															15
	Palstone Lane (b)										12	22								34
Yelverton	Binkham Hill							12	25	4										41
	Elfordtown												12	25	3					40
Widecombe-in-the-Moor	Adj Brookland Cottages			6																6
Local Centres	Projected Windfall	0.4	11.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	7.4	14.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	305
Rural Settlements and Villages and Hamlets	Projected Windfall	0.8	4.8	0.8	0.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	131
Open Countryside	Projected Windfall	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	125

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>13</b> <b>5</b>	<b>12</b> <b>8</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1,189</b>
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Notes: Windfall rates are calculated on the basis of the average of past completions on unidentified sites over the last Local Plan period, 2007/8 to 2018/19.





NPA/21/018

## Dartmoor National Park Authority

30 April 2021

# Supporting the Economic Recovery on Dartmoor

Report of the Head of Communications and Fundraising and the Head of Forward Planning and Economy

Recommendation: That Members note the content of the report and the work undertaken to support the economic recovery on Dartmoor.

## 1 Background

- 1.1 2020 was a difficult year for many Dartmoor businesses, tourism providers and communities. Undoubtedly the most challenging year many Dartmoor businesses have faced since the Foot and Mouth outbreak in 2001.
- 1.2 In May 2020, 70% of businesses which responded to our Covid Business Survey said they had either reduced or ceased trading. 96% of tourism and leisure business and 79% of retailers told us that the lockdown had a negative or severe negative impact on their business. It is estimate that there are around 2,500 business on Dartmoor with 0-9 employees. A lot of these are sole traders. 31% of working age people on Dartmoor are self-employed, which is almost twice the England average.
- 1.3 By the time of our third survey (October) many businesses had become accustomed to adapting to the changeable environment, moving business online where they could, capitalising on local custom and 'staycations' through a summer boom. Even a good summer did not make up for the impact of the spring lockdown for most though, and the subsequent periods of closure impacted particularly on those face-to-face business which are unable to operate online.
- 1.4 We are just emerging from our third lockdown, which understandably will have added further severe economic pressures to businesses on Dartmoor.
- 1.5 The impact of an economic downturn hits small business with limited resilience very hard, and this can soon knock on through a community, as outlets, suppliers or business partnerships struggle.
- 1.6 The Government roadmap provides a route back to some kind of 'normality', with a measured approach to hopefully provide the opportunities for the economy to slowly recover.

- 1.7 With ongoing restrictions on travel abroad and consumer confidence still low on overseas travel, there is the potential for the National Park to be very busy over the summer season with a 'staycation boom' predicted. However busy with regard to volume of visitors might not necessarily equate to footfall in local towns, businesses and hospitality venues. It also has the potential to create a mini 'boom' over the summer months followed by flat shoulder months either side of this.
- 1.8 Through some of the work we have already delivered and by developing new initiatives and opportunities we hope to ensure that we not only extend the tourist season, but also provide ongoing, regular local footfall through businesses, providing much needed support for what has been a very difficult year.

## **2 Developing the existing offer**

### **Visitor Centres at Postbridge, Princetown and Haytor**

- 2.1 During the past year our Visitor Centres have experienced the same levels of 'revolving door' closures as all the non-essential businesses on Dartmoor, closing each time there has been a lockdown.
- 2.2 However, despite this, we successfully completed the extension to Postbridge Visitor Centre and our ambition remains to use it as a catalyst to support getting people to stay longer and spend more in the area. The new centre provides state of the art interpretation that we hope will increase visitor dwell time in the area, year-round, to the benefit of the local and wider Dartmoor community. We want to increase the number of people passing through the Centre, significantly improve their experience and increase their length of stay so that they contribute more to the local economy.
- 2.3 Though the Moor than meets the eye project, several new and improved accessible walking trails are now available from the centre and in the wider area. This improves the visitor offer for tourists arriving looking for 'things to do', our visitor centre staff only happy to help them with ideas and suggestions. Hopefully after a long walk, then needing to seek refreshments in local food and drink establishments in the area.
- 2.4 Our longer-term plans for Postbridge and our other centres, include providing a range of regular events and activities that will provide an opportunity to build on this dwell time all year round, benefitting the local businesses with an increased spend and consequently improve the local economic multiplier.
- 2.5 All our centres support local suppliers through the popular Dartmoor Range of artisan gifts and produce. We will be further developing this range and if restrictions allow, inviting suppliers to our Princetown summer fair to promote their businesses.

### **Enjoy Dartmoor magazine**

- 2.6 Every year we give local business the opportunity to advertise in Enjoy Dartmoor. Last year we sold all the allocated advertising space to local businesses and produced the magazine which came out just ahead of the first lockdown.

- 2.7 Unfortunately, we were unable to distribute the magazine as fully we would have normally done as many of the outlets were closed due to the pandemic. This meant that the businesses that supported the magazine through advertising did not receive the coverage they would have normally enjoyed.
- 2.8 This year to thank our regular advertisers for their support and to give them the opportunity to promote themselves to visitors, in what has the potential to be a very busy summer, we offered them half price advertising.
- 2.9 This was exceptionally well received by our advertisers who thanked us for supporting them and again we filled all our allocated advertising space.

### **The Dartmoor food and drink trail**

- 2.10 Dartmoor has many excellent food and drink suppliers, providing high-quality produce sustainably. This includes produce straight from the farm gate through to village shops and specialist retailers that source Dartmoor products.
- 2.11 Last year through the Hill Farm Project we developed an online map and directory on our website to highlight the local suppliers and outlets. The local suppliers and businesses featured could either support local deliveries, or produce could be purchased through their local town or village retail outlet.
- <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/living-and-working/local-food-and-drink-map>
- 2.12 Local suppliers, at a time when online deliveries were difficult to obtain, helping some of the most vulnerable. It also highlighted to the wider local population what a great resource we have on our doorsteps for sustainably reared and produced food.
- 2.13 We will continue to develop and promote this map through our social media channels.

## **3 Engagement initiatives**

### **Moor Otters**

- 3.1 The Moor Otters public arts trail was due to launch in 2020, but because of the pandemic was postponed until this year. The view being it would be a good way to support the economic recovery on Dartmoor.
- 3.2 The trail will go live once restrictions have been lifted enough for all the businesses involved with hosting an otter to welcome visitors. If the Government roadmap continues as planned this will be 28<sup>th</sup> May.
- 3.3 The trail was developed with a number of aims including:
- Provide an art-based visitor attraction;
  - Engage with new audiences, particularly hard to reach groups;
  - To generate a minimum of £60k for conservation and access projects through donations, sponsorship and auction bids;
  - Increase footfall to Dartmoor businesses – measured by a 10% rise in footfall in our three visitor centres;

- Promote our key messages and generate a greater understanding of the special qualities of Dartmoor;

- 3.4 Tourism and visitor numbers are expected to be high this summer, new audiences are expected along with our existing ones.
- 3.5 The Moor Otters trail will provide the opportunity to give our expected rise in visitors something to do while they are here, increasing the footfall through our businesses. We have provided businesses with a 'toolkit' to ensure they can maximise the opportunity its presents when the trail is live, but also on the run up to the trail going live.
- 3.6 We are also using the trail to engage with our new audiences on the special qualities of Dartmoor – each otter plinth has a fact about Dartmoor and a QR code linking to more detailed information about the trail and the wider National Park on our website.
- 3.7 Following the launch announcement, we have received some excellent publicity and feedback. We have been promoting the otters and their locations on our dedicated Facebook page and hope the feelgood factor will provide people with a positive experience of Dartmoor and our businesses with much needed footfall.
- 3.8 The project will be evaluated once complete against its aims with a business survey sent out to gauge success. This will then form the basis of an Authority report to Members.

### **WeAreDartmoor social media campaign**

- 3.9 Through lockdown, people have turned to their local businesses for support. For some that might have meant finding new places to shop, getting to know new people in their community, and a new found value of what is on their doorstep.
- 3.10 Businesses across Dartmoor told us through our first 2020 business survey they need the support of their local communities and visitors more than ever. They were keen to stress that for them, the worst was (and may still be) far from over, as many faced a shortened season, reduced capacity, and loss of contracts or suppliers.
- 3.11 During the summer of 2020 we launched the #WeAreDartmoor campaign to reinforce the 'buy local' message by showing the faces behind Dartmoor's business. Its aim to clearly link local businesses with the people who own it, run it, or work there, and the benefits to Dartmoor communities, and the National Park as a whole, that come from buying local. It sought to encourage people to think about the benefits of using local businesses; this may be customers, but equally may be another business looking for a supplier, collaboration, or outlet.
- 3.12 Through this campaign we want Dartmoor businesses, and customers, to join us on social media to celebrate the people behind their local businesses, and to show how businesses and communities are standing together to support each other.
- 3.13 We received very positive feedback from the campaign (and indeed the concept was later adopted by Exmoor National Park). It is still running, and we will consider with local business whether it could be reinvigorated for a further season.



## **4 New initiatives and opportunities**

### **New opportunities at Okehampton Station**

- 4.1 The re-opening of the rail line and provision of regular services between Exeter and Okehampton later this year, provides excellent opportunities for sustainable tourism links to Dartmoor.
- 4.2 To maximise those opportunities, we have been working with the project management team at GWR on the provision of an unmanned 'micro' visitor centre in the main station building. This will be fully fitted out with interpretation and visitor information along with our Enjoy Dartmoor magazine for visitors.
- 4.3 The prospect of using this 'gateway' to the north moor for the provision of tourist information, interpretation, cycling and walking routes is an excellent way for businesses, particularly on that side of the National Park make the most of this exciting opportunity. We have also been in discussions with the Dartmoor Railway Supporters Association to provide them with training alongside our visitor centre staff, to enable them to provide some voluntary support to the unmanned centre when they are available.
- 4.4 The economic benefits of opening up the line are huge for the whole of Dartmoor and the wider north Devon and Cornwall area. We are very grateful to GWR for giving us the chance to maximise this for Dartmoor businesses.

### **Dartmoor Community Support Network**

- 4.5 In response to the national emergency, DNPA launched a Coronavirus Community Support Grant (CCSG) early last year. It provided upfront grants for initiatives aimed at building community resilience. Funding recipients ranged from care organisations to community groups and all of them worked throughout the pandemic to ensure those most in need were able to get vital supplies including food, medicines, healthcare and emotional support.
- 4.6 Recipients of the grant, and respondents to the 2020 Business Surveys, told us they would welcome an improved opportunity to network, and work collaboratively on Dartmoor.
- 4.7 In December 2020 it was confirmed we were successful in a bid for a £10,000 grant from The Prince's Countryside Fund (PCF), the principle aim of the project being establishing a new Dartmoor Community Support Network which will help foster community resilience; so places continue to respond to, recover from, and withstand adverse situations.
- 4.8 The network will offer practical training, networking opportunities, events and professional support. It will link new community groups with established ones, promote local goods and services and give organisations more opportunities to identify new markets and share best practise.
- 4.9 It will also look at how the public, private and third sectors can work together in ways that benefit people who live and work on the moor. The project is supported

by three existing community initiatives: Chagfood CIC, a community-supported market garden; NED Care, a Dartmoor-based social enterprise set up to provide support and personal care; and The Seed CIC, a community wholefood shop and café.

- 4.10 The network has now had its first meeting, and a Steering Group is being established to lead the project, which will run until January 2022.

### **Broader Collaboration**

- 4.11 Officers continue to engage with collaborative work with partners on economic recovery. This includes the

- County and District Councils – through the Devon Recovery Group led by the County Council and including a broad range of partners, outputs including the completion of a recovery Prospectus which establishes shared priorities and opportunities for collaboration and funding. The Devon Recovery Group overlaps with, and feeds information into the LEP (below)
- Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (HotSW LEP) - with engagement with the HEROG (HotSW Economic Resilience and Opportunities Group) and Rural Productivity Working Group which act as a conduit for information and intelligence with government and are developing joint initiatives and projects through an understanding of shared priorities for rural recovery.

### **Opportunities for new initiatives**

- 4.12 Linked with the above, DNPA is exploring other projects and initiatives which will support economic recovery. With limited internal capacity a collaborative or project funded approach will be key to developing and delivering these potential areas of work. They include:

- Further development of the of the Community Support Network – in particular opportunities to expand the scope of the project, and a need to ensure it is sustainable beyond the life of the PCF funding.
- Branding and buy local initiatives – there is a desire from the business community to develop this area further, for example through development of local ‘made in’ branding or local loyalty schemes.
- Broadband and mobile network – feedback from the business surveys continues to highlight weaknesses in superfast broadband availability and gaps in mobile coverage. Officers are engaged locally (Connecting Devon and Somerset) and nationally (Shared Rural Network) in seeking to understand and address coverage ‘not spots’.
- Skills and training – there is a need to address skills and training in particular sectors in order to improve productivity and competitiveness, including as the impact of Brexit and Covid upon the workforce and labour market is better understood.
- Future funding – there is currently a range of government funding opportunities which the Devon and LEP groups are exploring and pursuing. Beyond this there is also the need to identify how DNPA may benefit from the future Shared Prosperity Fund, and other charitable project funding opportunities.

## **5 Conclusion**

- 5.1 Members are invited to note this report, which sets out the key areas of work DNPA is delivering and engaging with in supporting the economic recovery. Through the pandemic we have seen significant behavioral change in local and national consumer activity, shifts in personal priorities and a will to capture those changes which have been positive and 'build back better' as lockdown continues to ease.
- 5.2 We will continue to pursue project and initiatives as resources allow, building upon the increased level of engagement with businesses through local network development. We will listen to businesses and use our communications resource to continue to develop opportunities to support them, to ensure our communities thrive as we emerge from the pandemic.

Samantha Hill & Dan Janota