

Dartmoor National Park Authority

Local Plan Review 2018 – 2026

Examination in Public

Further Statements on behalf of E&JW Glendinning Ltd Respondent 005

Day 1. 2 March 2021 - Matter 2

Matter 2 Vision, spatial strategy and planning applications

Representation 2 (on page 20 of the list of representations). We do not wish to add anything further to what has been stated in respect of this representation

Representation 4 – Reference to ‘*national need*’ in Policy 1.5

The DNPA has declined to make any change in response to the first part of this representation re ‘national need’, referring to ‘similar’ wording in the recently adopted North York Moors NP Local Plan.

The wording in the equivalent policy in the NYMLP is subtly different, because it says ‘*which can include*’ whereas the DNPLP policy simply says ‘*including*’.

See below with relevant text highlighted:

Strategic Policy D - Major Development

Proposals for major development shall be refused except in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated that they are in the public interest. Demonstration of exceptional circumstances and public interest will require justification of:

1. The need for the development which can include a national need and the contribution of the development to the national economy;
2. The impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy which includes that of the National Park;
3. Whether, in terms of cost and scope the proposal can viably and technically be located elsewhere outside the National Park in a place that would avoid conflict with the National Park’s statutory purposes; or that the need for it can be met in some other way;
4. The extent to which any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities can be moderated.

.....

Source: NYMLP

Most other National Park Local Plans use the words ‘*national considerations*’:

Brecon Beacons, Yorkshire Dales, South Downs, Snowdonia, New Forest, and Exmoor. The Peak District refers to “*rigorous consideration of the criteria in National policy.*”

The only National Parks which don’t refer to ‘National Considerations’ are Pembrokeshire (which has a strange interpretation of ‘Major development’), and the Lake District. Both of these plans were adopted in 2010, before the introduction of the NPPF.

This representation requests that Policy 1.5a) of the Dartmoor LP should state:

“....

a) the need for the development, including in terms of a national considerations need and the development's contribution to the national economy;”

Nevertheless in respect of the second changes sought in this representation, we are pleased to see that the policy has been changed to include specific reference to the Local Economy.

Representation 5 re Use of the word ‘pursue’ in para 1.5.4.

The DNPA has declined to change this paragraph, claiming that the word ‘pursue’ in this context means that ‘*an alternative option should be looked into, researched and reported on*’.

This is not consistent with the dictionary definition of ‘pursue’ see below; nor is it consistent with the sense in which the DNPA uses the word ‘pursue’ in relation to its Purposes.

The sentence should be rephrased to make the correct meaning clear thus:

“If an alternative location is technically and financially viable, applicants will be expected to ~~pursue that option, even if the~~ fully explain why a location within the National Park is more financially advantageous required”

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‘If an alternative location is technically and financially viable, applicants will be expected to fully explain why a location within the National Park is required.’

Dictionary definitions of ‘pursue’:

‘to seek to attain or accomplish (a goal) over a long period’

Or *‘to continue or proceed along (a path or route)’*

Or *‘to follow someone or something, usually to try to catch him, her, or it’.*