

260721 – Item 8 - DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK – LOCAL PLAN SCOPING CONSULTATION

Decisions Required:

- To note the launch of the Scoping Consultation.
- To agree that the Planning Committee will draft and submit the Council's representation before the deadline, due to there being no August Council meeting.
- To agree any initial issues or priorities the Planning Committee should consider when preparing the response.
- To agree to publicise the consultation to parishioners via the website/noticeboard/social media.

Correspondence received:

Dear Parish Councillors

I'm writing to inform you that Dartmoor National Park has launched the Local Plan Scoping Consultation, and we would very much welcome your input. The attached Notice sets out details of how you and your parishioners can engage with this.

The consultation is an early opportunity for communities, organisations, businesses and other interested parties to help shape the matters the new Local Plan should address and the way the Authority engages people during plan preparation.

There will be further opportunities to comment as the Local Plan progresses. We recognise that the timing during the summer period may be challenging for some Parish Councils however, this early consultation is required within a tight program. To help engagement, we will also be holding dedicated engagement events for Parish Councils later in the year, giving further opportunities to discuss local issues and priorities in more detail. Further information on these events will be shared at the Dartmoor Forum.

The Authority is seeking views on:

- the vision for the new Local Plan;
- the scope and content of the new Local Plan, including how well the current Local Plan is performing;
- how the Authority should engage with people throughout the plan-making process, and what could be improved.

The Scoping Consultation is open for six weeks. Representations must be received by the Authority **no later than Sunday 23 August 2026**.

The preferred way to respond is by completing the [online consultation survey](#).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Dartmoor National Park Authority

Forwardplanning@dartmoor.gov.uk

www.dartmoor.gov.uk

Local Plan 2026 Scoping Consultation

What is the Local Plan?

The Local Plan sets out the policies used to determine planning applications. It guides the scale, type and location of development in the National Park and shapes how development should be designed. Its purpose is to balance the needs of local communities with the conservation and enhancement of this nationally important landscape.

Why review the Local Plan?

We are legally required to review the Local Plan every five years to ensure its policies are effective. Since adoption, national planning policy has evolved, with a greater focus on housing delivery.

The Government is also introducing National Development Management Policies (NDMPs), which will carry the same weight as local policies. As these are not yet finalised, their full implications are unclear and will be considered later in the plan making process. It is likely the new Local Plan will contain fewer policies, avoiding duplication of national requirements.

What are we consulting on?

This scoping consultation seeks your views on:

- Developing the Local Plan vision - covered by questions on page 2 - 8
- Scope and content of policies -covered by questions on page 9 - 16
- How we engage with you - covered by questions on page 17

What happens next?

Your views will play an important role in shaping the preparation of the Local Plan. By sharing your ideas and priorities, you will help us identify which policies need to be reviewed, what new issues the new Local Plan should address, and what evidence is needed to support its development.

Following this consultation, we will publish a Consultation Statement explaining what we heard and how your feedback has influenced the preparation of the Local Plan 2026 and our Engagement Strategy. This will be published ahead of the next stage of consultation in June 2027.

For an overview of the key stages of the local plan preparation and timings [click here](#).

Stay involved

At the end of the survey there is the opportunity to sign up for further updates.