

## ANNEX 1

### Summary of Findings from the Spatial Strategy Workshop for consideration as part of the Members Workshop on the 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Around 70 participants took part in the recent Spatial Strategy Workshop held at Losehill Hall. The aims of the workshop were to achieve:

- Improved understanding of the emerging Landscape Strategy and the potential for this to inform the spatial distinctiveness of the LDF Core Strategy
- Improved understanding of key issues across the varied Peak District landscapes and create a basis for the development of spatial vision and objectives.
- Detailed discussion on Core policy 'refined options' with reference to key questions:
  - Do they represent a reasonable and appropriate set of options in the NP context
  - Are there any gaps or areas which deserve greater/lesser emphasis
  - Is there any particular spatial emphasis that should be applied (i.e. areas of particular focus for a policy response)

Two breakout sessions were held, firstly to gain views on the emerging spatial objectives for the National Park by identified landscape character areas, and secondly detailed discussion across a range of 7 core policy areas covering:

- Landscape
- Settlements
- Climate Change
- Housing
- Economy
- Minerals
- Transport

#### Headline Responses from Detailed Discussions

##### Landscape

- Key debate over the degree to which strict protection from new development should apply (i.e. application of Natural Zone) and the scope for greater information on landscape character to be embedded as landscape guidelines in our key strategy documents.
- The need to view development not just as a threat but as having the potential for enhancement.
- Recognition of the many drivers for change outside the control of spatial planning.

##### Settlements

- Need for better recognition of the role of smaller settlements
- Question the degree to which a settlement hierarchy can be employed when most settlements are very small
- Need to consider ease of service delivery and the fact that planning cannot solve all the problems only help to create a favourable framework within which delivery bodies can operate
- There was general support for village plan work to establish best place for new development at a village scale (given the strong conservation requirements).
- Group generally agreed that capacity of settlements is important in a National Park and this has to clearly inform the options. The Authority needs to say where we believe there is and isn't capacity as well as considering the sustainability of development in a particular settlement in a particular location.

## Climate Change

- Thought that climate change should be clearly defined as a cross cutting theme.
- Good development of the options but need for more clarity in the issues and options
- Topic needs to embrace carbon reduction agenda, rather than be overly focussed on renewables
- What scope is there for larger scale technology?
- Support for greater emphasis on applying the energy hierarchy in the National Park
- Clear need to cross relate infrastructure such as renewables to our LCA approach and design SPD
- Support the range of options presented for considering the scope for on-site renewables and energy efficiency.
- Need for greater subtlety and understanding of the impact of climate change on Land Management, Biodiversity and Air Quality.

## Housing

- Agreement with broad principles across housing options.
- No fundamental disagreement except for practicality of moving towards / increasing the supply of stock achieved through buy back as opposed to new build but no objection in principle to the idea.
- Supported the option that we should only seek to meet housing need up to the point where this might harm the primary purposes of the NP.
- Careful need to consider capacity, character and role of settlements in close conjunction with delivery of housing policy.

## Economy

- Agriculture can't support the rural economy alone.
- Debate around the degree to which business developments in the NP landscape could stand alone or retain a supportive link to NP purposes.
- Need to retain a flexibility for business development across a range of settlements
- Support for the range of options relating to allocating and safeguarding sites for employment use with the need to identify scope for increasing quality and offering scope for a wider range of employment uses.
- Need to consider the full scope for privately developed tourism business/hubs to be developed. Not just about NPA managed sites.
- Need for a range of accommodation of different value. There is a particular shortage at the higher value end of the market.
- Eco tourism could be referred to in a new option but this needn't be exclusive and could be added to other options.
- Must think about affordable housing potential as a competing aim in the conversion of traditional buildings
- Need a new option to give scope to existing caravan/campsites to improve/upgrade quality.
- Scale is important. Need degrees of sensitivity, but they shouldn't be closed sites e.g. like Centre Parcs. Need to reflect the enjoyment of the NP.

## Minerals

- Is allocation a potential option for fluorspar ( if national need view from Govt is resolved and taking current reserves into account)?
- 'Exceptional circumstances' is too vague as a term. Who decides on what is an exception?
- What about extending the life of a quarry?
- Policy should allow development of replacement plant at existing sites where environmental improvement results. (Part of gradual reduction of impact)

- Feeling that the Safeguarding options as presented are very black and white, e.g. an option 3 could be to safeguard particular minerals: Everything but limestone aggregate could be safeguarded, including buffers and exclusion of environmental designations.
- Cultural Heritage should be flagged up as a key cross cutting issue, re buffers and provision of stone for conservation purposes.
- Support for options on ROMPS/EIA's/Consolidation
- Support for options on afteruse/restoration. Landscape and biodiversity are key cross cutting issues.

#### Transport

- All options relating to the 'do nothing' scenario should be removed as not reasonable options.
- Need for more walking and cycling options for both commuter and recreation purposes
- Transport offers some key cross cutting opportunities with, e.g. Climate Change, Minerals, Economy and Housing
- Support for options supporting the reduction of speed limits across the NP
- Acknowledged conflicts between intercity connectivity, road safety, trade issues and impacts on the environment. Need options that seek a wider understanding of alternatives and understanding of impacts on both NP purposes and climate change.