

Corporate Outcome I: The Peak District is a living, modern and innovative area with vibrant and cohesive communities by ...

- 1. Using planning and influencing powers to help create more sustainable communities and a better environment (Priority level 2)*
- 2. Influencing the provision of local services and better access to these for communities (Priority level 2)*
- 3. Reviewing the Local Development Framework (LDF) affordable housing policy and encouraging an appropriate level of affordable housing (Priority level 2)*

National Park Management Plan monitoring systems are now in place and are published annually as an Annual Report, showing 88% of actions on target and 4 actions complete by the end of 07/08.

Whilst the major elements of the Local Development Framework continue on schedule, including key consultation periods, some milestones have not been met, namely a couple of evidence studies conducted by outside contractors. Remedial work is underway and will not significantly affect the overall process.

The Authority had an expected level of influence on the new High Peak and Derbyshire Dales Accessibility Partnership Strategy and Action Plan during the year.

During 2008/09 we gave planning permission for 7 affordable housing dwellings. We worked with Parish Councils, the Rural Housing Enabler together with District Housing Authorities to identify local needs and locate suitable sites. Our decisions on affordable housing are determined in accordance with national, regional and local policy such that over 70% of appeals relating to affordable housing are dismissed.

Looking ahead to 2009/10

Our targets for 2009/10 are to keep the Local Development Framework process on track such that the Core Strategy is submitted to government in February 2010 and to continue to monitor progress on the National Park Management Plan through production of the Annual Report.

Key actions for 2009/10:

- *Ensure Local Development Framework policies are based on sound evidence and stakeholder engagement, including those for Affordable Housing (L1) PIP 1.1a/4, PIP3.9b/1*
- *Produce the National Park Management Plan Annual Monitoring Report (L2) PIP1.1c/1*
- *Seek ways of improving the data collected for the National Park Management plan (L2) PIP 1.1a/3*
- *Ensure the Local Development Framework is submitted with appropriate legal advice (L2)*
- *Undertake appropriate enforcement action against unlawful development (L2)*
- *Develop key partnerships on affordable housing PIP 3.9b/2*

Affordable Housing activity

The Authority works with individuals, parish councils and constituent councils to identify housing needs and make appropriate provision in places and ways which help to conserve the landscape and built environment of the National Park. There is a policy basis to permit local needs affordable housing which is carefully related to need, both at the time of the grant of permission and in the future, with appropriate legal control. This is an essential function of the planning service given that the National Park is an area of housing restraint where there is no permission for open market housing apart from relatively rare exceptional cases involving the enhancement of the local environment. Given these policies and the high price of housing the provision of housing at prices local people can afford is essential to the maintenance of sustainable local communities.