Consultation Statement

Regulation 18 Part 1

New Forest National Park

Local Plan Review 2024 - 2043

October 2025

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1. Introduction

1.1 The New Forest National Park Authority is undertaking a review of the local planning policies covering the National Park – currently within the New Forest National Park Local Plan 2016 - 2036 (adopted August 2019). This review is in response to changes in national policy and the experiences of applying the adopted planning policies for the past five years. However, it is important to emphasise that many key aspects of national planning policy, guidance and law relating to National Parks remain unaltered from the time the adopted Local Plan was prepared, examined and adopted. Therefore, the Authority is undertaking a partial review of the Local Plan rather than preparing a new Local Plan.

1.2 The revised Local Plan will form a key part of the statutory 'development plan' for the National Park and will continue to guide decisions on planning applications submitted within the Park. The Local Plan will set out detailed planning policies and allocations that seek to deliver the two statutory National Park purposes and related socio-economic duty, together with the newly introduced (December 2024) Protected Landscape Duty, which requires the relevant authorities to 'seek to further' the statutory purposes.

1.3 This Statement is a record of the consultation undertaken to date during the Local Plan-making process, as required by the Government's Planning Regulations. It set out who has been invited to make representations on the Local Plan, summarises the main issues raised and how they have been taken into account during the development of the Local Plan. The Statement covers the Regulation 18 consultation on the strategic scope and extent of the review, published as a 'Strategic Direction of Travel' in January 2025. It reflects the requirements of the Authority's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (2023).

2. Purpose of the Local Plan

2.1 Throughout its recent planning reforms, the Government has reaffirmed the importance of having an up-to-date Local Plan in place that conforms with national planning policy. National planning policy indicates that local plans are likely to require reviewing every five years or so.

2.2 The Government's *National Parks Vision and Circular* (2010) recognises the importance of the planning system in the delivery of the two National Park purposes, and for this reason the Environment Act 1995 makes national park authorities the sole planning authorities for their areas. This covers development control, planning enforcement, minerals and waste planning and planning policy.

3. Initiation of the need for a Review

3.1 As the existing New Forest National Park Local Plan was formally adopted in August 2019, the National Park Authority was required to assess whether the policies in the Plan require updating by August 2024. Planning authorities can legitimately conclude that an adopted local plan remains fit for purpose and

consistent with the most up-to-date national planning policy. Similarly planning authorities can also conclude that following their assessment the local plan requires a partial review of specific policies, but that other sections do not need to be reviewed.

3.2 Officers used the toolkit prepared by the Planning Advisory Service to assist in undertaking a review of New Forest National Park Local Plan policies to assess whether they need updating (either in full or partially). This was reported to the Authority Meeting on 21 March 2024 (report AM 675/24 refers), where it was agreed to commence a partial review of the adopted Local Plan. The annex to the report included a comprehensive assessment of the existing Local Plan parameters and a commentary as to whether a partial or full review would be required, where it was concluded a partial review should be commenced.

3.3 The Authority's Local Development Scheme was then accordingly updated to set out the timescale for the Local Plan review, which was subsequently approved at the Authority Meeting on 25 July 2024 (report AM684/24 refers). This included two consultations under Regulation 18, one in quarter 4 of 2024/5 and the other in quarter 3 2025/6. This timetable has been met to date.

4. Purpose of this Statement

4.1 This Statement of Consultation has been prepared to comply with Regulation 22 (1)(c) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. It sets out how the Authority (New Forest National Park Authority) has undertaken community participation and stakeholder involvement in the production of the New Forest National Park Local Plan Review in accordance with Regulation 18, the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Local Development Scheme (LDS) in place at the time. The statement sets out how this engagement has shaped the plan in terms of the main issues raised through the consultations and how these have been dealt with.

4.2 Before the Authority can submit the Local Plan Review to the Secretary of State for examination, it must comply with the requirements of Regulation 22(1)(c). This requires a statement setting out:

a) Which organisations and persons the local planning authority invited to make representations under Regulation 18;

b) How they were invited to make their representations;

c) A summary of the main issues raised;

d) How those issues have been taken into account;

e) If representations were made pursuant to Regulation 20, the number made and a summary of the main issues raised; and

f) If no representations were made pursuant to Regulation 20 a statement of that fact.

4.3 This statement has therefore been prepared to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of Regulation 22 (1)(c) and that consultation on the preparation of the Local Plan Review has been undertaken in accordance with the relevant Regulations and the adopted SCI.

Duty to Cooperate

4.4 The "Duty to Cooperate" was introduced by Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). Section 110 of the Localism Act (2011) sets out the requirements of the duty to cooperate as per Section 33A, in relation to the planning of sustainable development. It places a legal duty on Local Planning Authorities, County Councils and prescribed public bodies to engage constructively, actively, and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of a local plan in the context of strategic cross boundary matters.

4.5 Engagement has taken place to date with both neighbouring local authorities and prescribed bodies. Further details are set out in the Duty to Cooperate Statement that will be published with the draft Local Plan for consultation.

5. Regulation 18 Part 1 Consultation

Publication

5.1 The Authority meeting on 23 January 2025 agreed to the publication of the Strategic Direction of Travel document for consultation, outlining the key matters considered to be in scope for the review, as well as those areas of the adopted Local Plan that remain consistent with the latest national planning policy. Report AM702/25 refers.

5.2 The consultation commenced on 4 February 2025 until 18 March 2025. All statutory and general consultation bodies as set out in planning legislation, together with numerous local interest groups (see Appendix 1 for full list) were notified of the commencement of the consultation and given details of where and when documentation could be inspected and how to respond, the comment form is set out at Appendix 2, in addition:

- A public notice was issued and was published in both Lymington Advertiser & Times on 7 February 2024 for one week (Appendix 3).

- Articles were also included in the New Forest publication 'Park Life' https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/publications/, in both the autumn/winter 2024 and spring/summer 2025 editions (Appendix 4). Park Life is produced twice yearly in conjunction with the Lymington Times, there were 20,500 autumn/winter copies. Of these, 12,500 get distributed with the Lymington Times and 8,000 copies get distributed by National Park Authority rangers to attractions. There were 22,500 spring/summer copies, with 12,500 distributed with the Lymington Times, and 10,000 to attractions. A digital version is also available on the National Park website.

- New Forest enews letter - nearly 27,000 people are subscribed to this. Newsletters containing articles in relation to the local plan consultation were sent in February and March 2024 (Appendix 5);

- A press release was issued on 3 February to 416 outlets including local and national media and community magazines (appendix 6). It was also available to view on the Authority's website where it had nearly 300 views: Planning for the future of the New Forest National Park: Have your say on the Local Plan Review - New Forest National Park Authority

- 18 social media posts were published across Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and X, which had a reach of 72,055 people, and 4,415 engagements (people liking, commenting, sharing, clicking links etc). Average engagement rate of 6.1% which is well above local gov average of 1.1%, the top tagged publishes posts are set out at Appendix 7.

5.3 At the same time a 'Call for Sites' was also undertaken, by inviting local communities, landowners and developers to put forward sites they wish to be considered for residential, employment, Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople and other uses (including environmental mitigation) within the National Park.

5.4 The Strategic Direction of Travel document and other supporting information – including the 'Call for Sites' process - was available for inspection at our office at Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington, SO41 9ZG during normal office hours; and online at www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/LocalPlan2025.

5.5 In addition a number of public drop-in events were held across the National Park to enable people to speak to planning staff and find out more about the Local Plan review:

- Bramshaw Village Hall, SO43 7JE, Monday 24 February, 2pm – 7pm
- Hyde Memorial Hall, SP6 2HU, Tuesday 25 February, 1.30pm – 6.30pm
- Brockenhurst Village Hall, SO42 7RY, Monday 3 March, 2pm – 7pm
- Lyndhurst Community Centre, SO43 7NY, Friday 7 March 2pm – 7pm

Drop in consultation event at Brockenhurst Village Hall

5.6 Specific presentations providing an update on the local plan were also given to the following, as well as regular updates to the parish quadrant meetings:

- Youth Board meeting, 20 February 2025
- New Forest Consultative Panel presentation, 6 March 2025
- New Forest Access Forum meeting, 10 March 2025

Responses to the Regulation 18 Part 1 Consultation

5.7 During the consultation period, the Authority received detailed responses from 81 different organisations, groups and individuals as set out below:

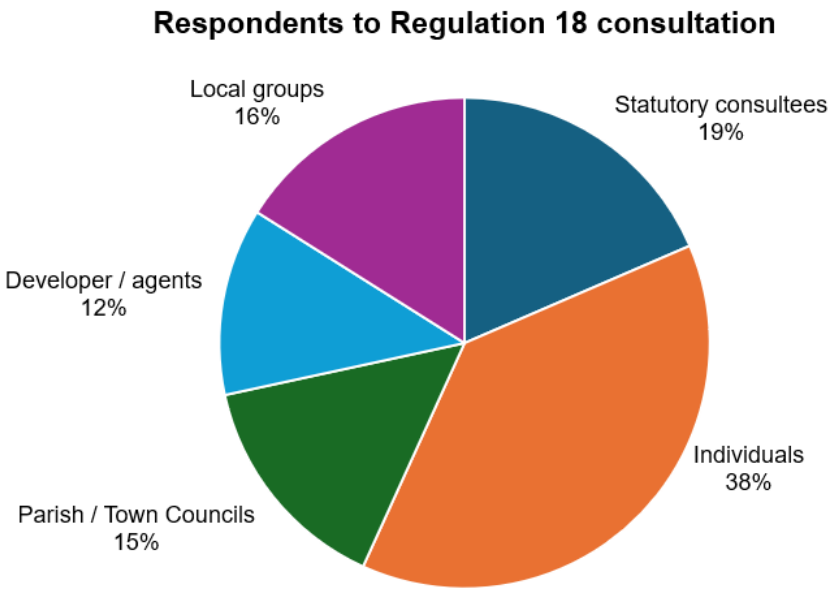
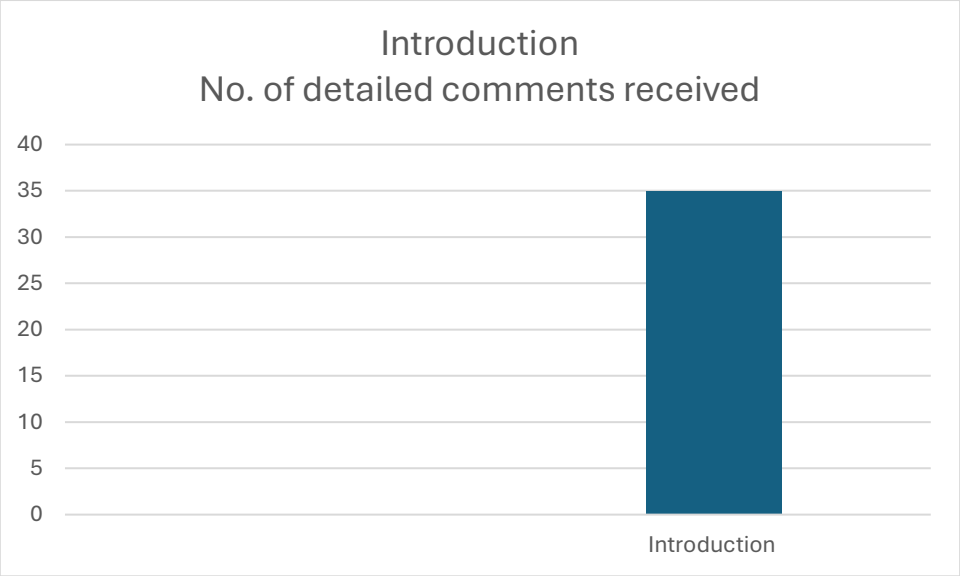


Figure 1: Breakdown of responses received.

5.8 Given the Strategic Direction of Travel Document sought views on a series of high-level questions (see comment form at Appendix 2), rather than presenting revised local plan text and policies for comment, the feedback was also more general and cross-cutting in nature. This does however provide the Authority with a steer as to how to progress the Local Plan Review and which matters to give greater emphasis to.

5.9 The following schedules summarise the key matters covered by the responses and how they have been taken into consideration in progressing the Local Plan Review.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Introduction
This part of the document sets the context for the local plan review in terms of National Planning Policy, timetable, duty to cooperate and further planning reforms.	



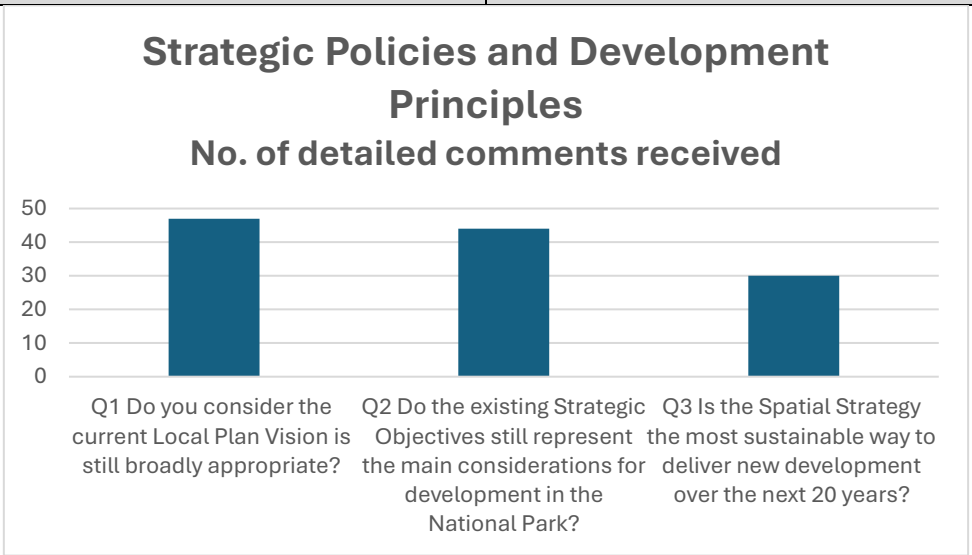
Key Matters/Issues from Regulation 18 Part 1 consultation responses	NPA response
Role of Parish Councils in Planning	
Concern that Parish Councils will have a diminishing role in planning, and current Local Plan is 'top-heavy' with too many conflicting ambitions.	The lower tier of local government in terms of town and parish councils will not be affected structurally by Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). They also have the opportunity to prepare their own Neighbourhood Plans which become part of the development plan once made, so retain a positive role in planning. Town and parish councils remain statutory consultees in the plan-making process and the Authority actively engages them through the parish quadrant meetings.
Preference for in-person engagement meetings with Parish Councils during LP review.	Comment is noted and the Authority engages parish councils through the quadrant meetings, as well as holding 4 public drop-in sessions during the consultation. The importance of local groups and their role in establishing local views within the Local Plan is highly valued regardless of how the responses are received.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Introduction
External Influences on Local Plan preparation	
Concern and uncertainty surrounding position of NPA amongst changes enforced through devolution/LGR. Particularly around 'Duty to Cooperate' and ensuring the NPA engages with neighbouring authorities and bodies who are under significant housing pressures.	At this stage the details relating to LGR/devolution are not yet fully formed and the clear Government guidance is to progress with local plan preparation. Planning reforms are also to be introduced which will change the way planning policy is prepared, however details are yet to be confirmed and the Government has stressed the need to progress with local plans. The NPA has set out a local plan timetable to be able to progress its review under transitional arrangements, with submission for examination by December 2026. The Duty to Cooperate currently remains a legal requirement of plan making and the NPA is aware of the need for ongoing engagement with the prescribed bodies, particularly with regard to the environmental constraints of the NP and housing needs and will publish a Duty to Cooperate Statement of Compliance in due course.
Uncertainty around national planning i.e., national development management policies, nature restoration fund.	The Government has stated National Development Management Policies will be published, but their scope has not been confirmed. There is no indication of a firm timescale for consultation and publication.
New Protected Landscapes Duty	
Include strengthened duty for public bodies to further the purposes of the NP within the introduction of the revised Local Plan.	The new Protected Landscape Duty was introduced in December 2024 and requires the relevant authorities to '*seek to further*' the statutory purposes of protected landscapes, through the preparation of development plans and associated assessments. The Authority acknowledges the need for the revised Local Plan to reflect the new duty. The revised Plan will, where

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Introduction
	relevant, link with the Local Nature Recovery Strategies, the National Park Partnership Plan and other relevant strategies to help deliver the statutory Park purposes.
Topic specific comments	
Consider allocating Gypsy & Traveller sites for stopping / additional pitch provision (this rep was concerning a site outside the National Park).	The Authority is in the process of collating additional evidence on the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and will consider the need to identify and allocate additional sites if required.
Support for larger scale renewable e.g., solar farms, wind turbines	Given the landscape character of the national park and that large areas are designated for the protection of internationally important nature conservation sites, it is not considered appropriate for larger scale renewables to be supported. The Local Plan now includes a specific chapter on Climate Change and existing Policy SP14 (now SP10) refers to support for small scale renewable projects.
Increased development pressures include recreational pressures, suburbanisation, impact on tranquillity and dark skies.	The revised Local Plan refers to the adopted recreation mitigation strategies covering the National Park. Policy SP15 Tranquillity (now policy SP22) includes reference to Dark Skies.
Concern too many developers are reducing affordable housing provision by varying planning conditions.	The approach to affordable housing is retained based on evidence in the updated New Forest Housing Needs Assessment and the emerging Whole Plan Viability Assessment. National policy is clear that development viability is a material planning consideration.
Climate emergency / socio-economic pressures within the NP need more weight within the Local Plan	A specific chapter on climate change is included in the revised Local Plan to highlight the importance of this topic. Throughout the revised document reference to the Authority's socio-economic duty are included.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Strategic policies and development principles
This section refers to the local plan vision and objectives and overarching strategic policies and seeks to ensure these remain relevant and reflect latest national policy and guidance.	
Brief summary of: (i) the existing planning policy position in the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan (2019) (ii) the headlines from the self-assessment of compatibility (PAS template)	**Policy SP1** sets out how sustainable development will be supported in the NFNP. The Plan policies in the round set out a sustainable pattern of growth for the NFNP within the context of the statutory National Park purposes and related duty. **Policy DP2 General development principles** **Policy SP3 Major development in the National Park;** planning permission should only be given in exceptional circumstances. The LP contains 32 strategic policies covering housing, employment, and the natural & built environment. **Policy SP4** sets out the overall spatial strategy for the Plan area. **Policy SP1** In meeting the principles of sustainable development (UN Goals) more focus should be put on planning for health and wellbeing, climate change action and habitat improvement. Whilst several policies are still fit for purpose, many would benefit from updating in light of the revised NPPF and revised evidence. Since adoption of the current Local Plan the Solent Freeport has been designated, part of which (Fawley Waterside) is within the National Park.
Evidence base	Strategic Housing Needs Assessment Call for Sites Employment Needs Assessment Settlement Hierarchy review

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Strategic policies and development principles



Key Matters/Issues from Regulation 18 Part 1 consultation responses	NPA response
Natural Environment	
More detail needed regarding the importance of commoning in creating the NPA's unique landscape. Recognise strengthened landscape duty.	Throughout the revised Local Plan where relevant, there are references to commoning and its importance to the Special Qualities of the National Park. There are also references to the strengthened landscape duty.
Include detail on coastal erosion within the National Park. The Environment Agency request reference to the 'Hurst Spit to Lymington Flood and Coastal Risk Management Strategy'. Environment Agency note that protection of groundwater resources is not recognised as a key issue or mentioned within the consultation document - site allocations should provide suitable assessments of such risks alongside remediation strategies	The Natural Environment chapter refers to the issue of coastal erosion and change. New Policy (SP21 Coastal Change Management Area) specifically refers to the southern coast between Hurst Spit and Lymington. Policy SP7 'Safeguarding and improving water resources' specifically includes reference to groundwater, in addition to site allocation policies where this matter is relevant.
Link is needed to government's 30x30 target and the role National Parks have in supporting delivery.	There is specific reference to the 30x30 project in addition to numerous references in the Natural Environment Chapter to nature recovery and the two

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Strategic policies and development principles
	nature recovery strategies covering the New Forest National Park.
Concerns regarding cumulative impact of large extensions / outbuildings on the landscape.	Comment noted – policies on outbuildings and extensions have been updated, albeit it is acknowledged the role that the provision of outbuildings and extensions can have to enable the area to respond to development needs rather than new build properties.
Policy DP12 Flood Risk highlighted as out of date, and additional policy on SUDs should be implemented.	Policy DP12 (now SP8) has been updated in light of a revised SFRA 2024 and Policy DP8 (now SP7) has been updated and expanded to refer to SuDS and other matters relating to safeguarding and improving water resources.
Transport	
Conflict between pedestrian/cyclists going 'off-route'; Prioritise active travel and reduce local journeys made by car; Consider impact of increased car ownership, in terms of parking, traffic management, air pollution, congestion around businesses.	Revised Chapter 10 (Transport and Access) reflects the new and updated Local Transport Plans adopted by both Hampshire County Council (2024) and Wiltshire Council (2025) with a strong focus on sustainable transport and reducing dependency on the private car. Policy DP62 (previously SP54) transport infrastructure has been amended to focus on reducing the need to travel.
Transit site for Gypsy & Travellers.	As part of the Local Plan Review an updated Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment has been undertaken and concludes that there is a need for additional formal public transit provision in the national park at this time.
Housing	
Affordable housing needs of local communities i.e., stopping second homes, visitor tax, reducing air bnbs.	The updated New Forest Housing Needs Assessment (2025) acknowledges the issue of second homes in the National Park. However, the ability of local planning authorities in England to address the issue of second homes is limited and reforms would be

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Strategic policies and development principles
	required at a national level of enable this.
Affordability of housing for commoners.	Policy SP29 (now SP43) supports the provision of new housing for commoners. Other policies in the Local Plan Review also refer to opportunities for the conversion of buildings to affordable accommodation for commoners, in addition to agricultural and forestry workers.
Consider allocation of 'smaller' settlements to relieve pressures on the 4 defined villages.	As part of the Local Plan Review the existing settlement hierarchy has been reviewed and identified three additional villages that offer potential to meet local needs and sustain local services
Recognise that sites, including Previously Developed Land (PDL), and other areas of disturbed despoiled or degraded land can contribute towards economic, environmental, social benefits.	Noted, the review includes reference to brownfield sites, albeit there are a limited number in the National Park, in recognition of the role such sites can have in offering development opportunities.
Consider self and custom build policy.	In recognition of the number of entries on the Authority's self and custom build register, the Local Plan Review includes a new policy (SP46 Self and Custom Build House Building) on this matter.
Sustainable Construction	
Greater policy weight should be given to zero carbon homes; endorse net zero / carbon neutral development; sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and rainwater harvesting (grey-water). Environment Agency refer to the need to require water efficient development as the National Park is classed as at 'serious water stress'. Southern Water request alignment with their T100 target based on a maximum water capacity use of 100 litres per person per day.	The Plan now includes a specific chapter on Climate Change. The Authority is not seeking to adopt net zero standards for development as part of the review. This is due to several factors, including (but not limited to) the emerging Future Homes Standard (FHS). Policy DP8 (now SP7) has been updated and expanded to refer to SuDS and other matters relating to safeguarding and improving water resources, including limiting water use to 100 litres per person per day.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Strategic policies and development principles
Support development, including critical infrastructure, that supports decarbonisation of the UK economy to meet national target of net zero by 2050.	See above comments on net zero.
Address conflict between maintaining local vernacular and the need to enable buildings to adapt/become sustainable and promote sustainable living.	The Authority has significantly amended the revised Local Plan with regard to the Built Environment, and included extracts of the Design Code for the National Park, in recognition that supplementary planning documents could be deleted from the planning policy toolbox in due course. Therefore, the Plan refers to maintaining local distinctiveness and residential character.
Biodiversity	
Consider BNG policy above minimum.	The Local Plan Review introduces a new policy (SP13 Biodiversity Net Gain) and refers to developments achieving a minimum of 10% BNG or higher.
Refer to 'natural capital and ecosystem services' within policy rather than accompanying text to give greater weight.	The revised Plan includes reference to natural capital in policy, in addition to reference to ecosystem services being a benefit of the natural capital.
Need to address increasing recreational impact from rising visitor numbers.	The Natural Environment chapter has been substantially updated and amended to refer to the various recreation mitigation initiatives in place with regard to recreational pressure on protected sites, in addition to Nature Recovery Strategies.
Health / Wellbeing	
Hampshire County Council and others have requested that the Local Plan Review includes more detail on health and wellbeing of local community in regard to the ageing population, isolation, access to services, health and leisure facilities.	General references to health and wellbeing have been added to the local plan Vision and Objectives. There is also reference to the ageing population, with regard to suitable accommodation.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Strategic policies and development principles
Capitalise on the benefits nature has for local communities i.e., the Natonal Park provides many opportunities for locals to engage with the natural environment; vision should be amended to support our 'natural health service'. Feed into other strategic plans made since 2019 (e.g., Net Zero with Nature, LTP4).	The Local Plan Review includes numerous references to natural capital, the benefits for health and well-being and when discussing sustainable development refers to 'Natural Health Service'. Where relevant the Local Plan Review refers to other plans and strategies.

<table>
<tr><th>Strategic Direction of Travel - Section</th><th>The natural environment</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">The focus for this part of the local plan is the rich and varied landscape that lies behind the designation of the National Park and the need to ensure both the statutory purposes and associated duties are supported through the local plan. Given the numerous high-level designations that cover over half of the park area, this section of the plan expresses key matters such as climate change impacts and biodiversity net gain.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Brief summary of:

(i) the existing planning policy position in the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan (2019)

(ii) the headlines from the self-assessment of compatibility (PAS template)</td><td>Policy SP5 this is a lead policy for the Local Plan given the extent of protected sites within the National Park. Policy SP6 focuses on the natural environment and Policy SP7 on landscape character, Policy SP9 on Green Infrastructure and DP10 on open Space.

With an increasing focus on climate change Policy DP8 refers to limiting water usage to 110 litres a day per person and the use of SuDS with regard to safeguarding and improving water resources; Policy SP11 refers to mitigation and adaptation, DP12 Flood Risk, DP13 coastal development and SP14 Renewable energy.

Reflecting one of the New Forest’s defined special qualities Policy SP15 covers the matter of tranquillity.

With the declaration of a nature and climate emergency there is a need to review policies in this chapter and emphasise climate change matters in the context of a National Park.

Updated evidence will inform policy amendments and the need for any additional policies.

Review existing evidence on suitable renewable and low carbon energy sources in the National Park.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Evidence base</td><td>Habitat Regulations Assessment</td></tr>
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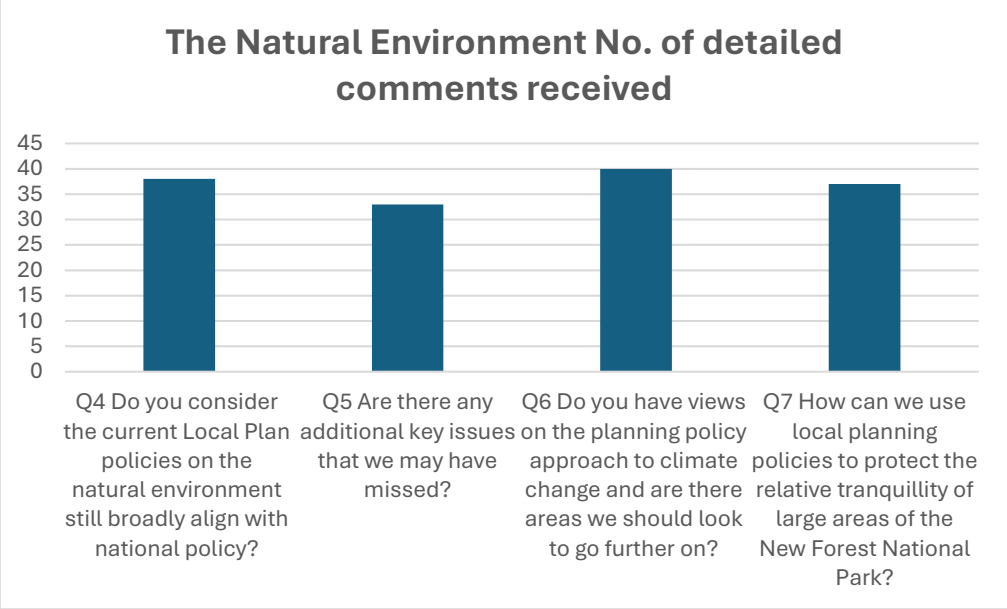
Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	The natural environment
	Sustainability Appraisal Strategic flood risk assessment Playing pitch strategy/study



Key Matters/Issues from Regulation 18 Part 1 consultation responses	NPA response
Climate change	
Strengthening policy to set higher energy efficiency standards for development - namely to adopt carbon neutral / net zero development i.e., development must offset carbon emissions or address carbon impact on site. Addressing flooding risks associated with climate change from all sources of flooding in particular surface water. Southern Water refer to the need to reduce the volume of surface water entering the sewer network through adaptation. Requests for new development to include requirements for:- rainwater harvesting, SUDs, whole-life carbon	See above responses to the matters of net zero; sustainable construction, SuDs, flood risk. Given the limited amount of development to be planned in the National Park through the Local Plan Review, it is necessary to take a proportionate approach and policies requiring specific provision of proposal to mitigate and adapt to climate change have been subject to specific viability assessment to ensure the requirements expressed in planning policy do not prohibit sites being brought forward and implemented for development.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	The natural environment
assessment, passive haus design, EV, heat pumps, solar panels etc Advocating for community energy projects / larger renewable projects (larger than household applications for solar panels across residential/agricultural buildings where there is no impact)	
The Environment Agency advise that the updated SFRA will be key to identifying areas at risk of future flooding. Need to consider all forms of flooding and to follow the flood risk sequential approach when identifying land for development.	The updated SFRA has informed the emerging spatial strategy and identification of sites to be allocated in the Local Plan Review and is referenced in the new chapter on Climate Change and revised Policy DP8 Flood Risk.
Replacement dwelling policy; more emphasis needed on the benefits of retaining/ reusing existing buildings/structures (where viable) to minimise the carbon footprint. Proposals should evidence carbon footprint of project and how they will mitigate carbon impacts.	Comments noted – the policy seeks to ensure replacement of existing dwellings is managed, in recognition that the site already had the benefit of a residential use. The Local Plan Review should be read as a whole and other policies throughout the plan will also apply to applications for replacement dwellings where relevant.
Adopt whole building approach to historic buildings and recognise the contribution heritage assets (and their settings) can make towards tackling climate change e.g., retrofitting/refurbishment.	Policy SP16 (now SP23) has been amended to refer to the adaption of historic buildings to reduce carbon emissions and secure sustainable development.
Biodiversity	
Natural England recommends that a BNG policy is adopted above 10%. Other LPAs have adopted 20%, 25%, 30%. Natural England advise that a holistic approach to addressing the biodiversity crisis (to encapsulate natural capital, BNG, Nature based-solutions, etc) may be needed. South Downs has termed this 'Regenerative Design'.	The Local Plan Review introduces a new policy (SP13 Biodiversity Net Gain) and refers to developments must achieve a minimum of 10% BNG or higher, this is expressed in the context of a viability assessment and the need for developments to not only meet BNG requirements but other local plan requirements in addition.
Environment Agency support a BNG target being included in the LPR and	The supporting text to new Policy SP13 refers to the aquatic environment.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	The natural environment
reference to the aquatic environment in improving water quality etc. Swift Brick policy (two bricks per dwellings) is advised. Increasing enforcement of conditions on temporary campsites; concern permission is not being enforced Stronger tree protections, particularly TPOs. Consequences for developers cutting down trees. Although this would have viability issues for developers masterplanning.	New policy SP13 specifically refers to the installation of bird bricks (2 per new dwelling, and extensions) Comments noted, however the Local Plan Review is about setting revised and updated planning policy in the context of the NPPF and local plan regulations. With regard to temporary campsites two Article 4 Directions were introduced in 2022 and 2024 requiring 28 day 'pop up' campsites to now require planning permission and for recreational impacts to be assessed to meet the requirements of the Habitat Regulations.
Tranquillity	
Strengthened policy on tranquillity to implement 'Dark Skies' standard. This is a resourcing issue – South Downs had a designated Officer.	Policy SP15 Tranquillity (now SP22) has been amended to include reference to dark skies and the need for proposals to demonstrate opportunities to reduce light pollution. It is acknowledged this is a more general approach to that adopted by other national parks, reflecting the resources available in the New Forest National Park.
Sustainable Transport/active travel	
Improved cycle routes between villages; low carbon traffic zone management schemes; Reducing speed limit; Parking on periphery of National Park, in proximity to walking/cycling routes	Chapter 10 Transport and Access has been updated and revised to focus more on active travel and reflect the outputs of the Local Transport Plans in terms of reducing the need to travel/use private cars as reflected in Policy DP62 Transport Infrastructure. The issue of speed limits lies outside the scope of the Local Plan review and car parking standards are included as an annex to the Plan in association with new development. However the Local Plan Review has no scope to control indiscriminate parking.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	The natural environment
Increased recreational impact from increasing visitor population	
Designate dog-free zones	Whilst it is acknowledged that access to protected sites by pets may cause a detrimental impact, in terms of the Local Plan Review the Habitats Regulations Assessment will test whether the land use planning policies and proposals in the Plan would affect the integrity of the National Park's internationally designated sites. It assesses a range of potential impacts on the designated sites including the recreational impacts from new households and visitor accommodation, water quality impacts on the Solent Coast and River Avon designations, 'urban edge' impacts such as cat predation and the effects on habitats adjacent to developments. Policy SP11 reflects the emerging conclusions of the latest HRA and ensures that development complies with the Habitats Regulations. This is reflected in updated supporting text to policy SP11.
Health and well being	
Signposting to the benefits of nature for health and wellbeing; a focus on nature as a means to improve health is being pushed by central government through the National Design Code and Healthy Streets Guidance.	The Local Plan Review includes numerous references to natural capital, the benefits for health and well-being and when discussing sustainable development refers to 'Natural Health Service'.
Commoners grazing land	
Addressing pressure on backup grazing land	The Local Plan Review sets out a modest level of development. None of the proposed housing site allocations are on land that has been for commoners back up grazing. The Local Plan also includes criterion relating to the protection of back up grazing land and cross references the latest evidence base.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	The natural environment
Update local plan/policy to reflect emerging strategic documents/national standards	
LNRS (Hampshire / Wiltshire) Water efficiency (Southern Water Target) LCWIP Hampshire Catchment Management Plan January 2025 update of the Environment Agency's 'National Assessment of flood and coastal erosion risk in England Environment Agency South East and South West River Basin Management Plans (updated 2022) Southern Water's Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan for the New Forest NFNPA Adopted Design Guide Government proposals to move away from SPDs; concern abandoning Parish led documents (e.g., Village Design Statements) will prevent local communities from being heard Consider incorporating the Natural England Green Infrastructure Framework (NEGIF)	The Local Plan Review will refer where relevant to new guidance and strategies produced by third parties and in particular statutory agencies in support of the policy approach presented.
Self and custom build policy	
Advised to adopt Self & Custom Build that sets out criteria for development and endorses Self & Custom Build development.	In recognition of the number of entries on the Authority's self and custom build register, the draft Plan includes a new policy (SP46 Self and Custom Build House Building) on this matter.

<table>
<tr><th>Strategic Direction of Travel - Section</th><th>Protecting and enhancing the historic and built environment</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Not only is the National Park recognised for its landscape and habitat designations this is also accompanied by a unique historic, cultural and archaeological heritage. Challenges for the Local Plan Review relate to the need to respond to climate change and conservation of the built environment.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Brief summary of:

(i) the existing planning policy position in the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan (2019)</td><td>Policy SP16 sets out the criteria for considering development proposals affecting nationally, regionally and locally important designated and non-designated heritage assets including historic landscapes and archaeological sites.

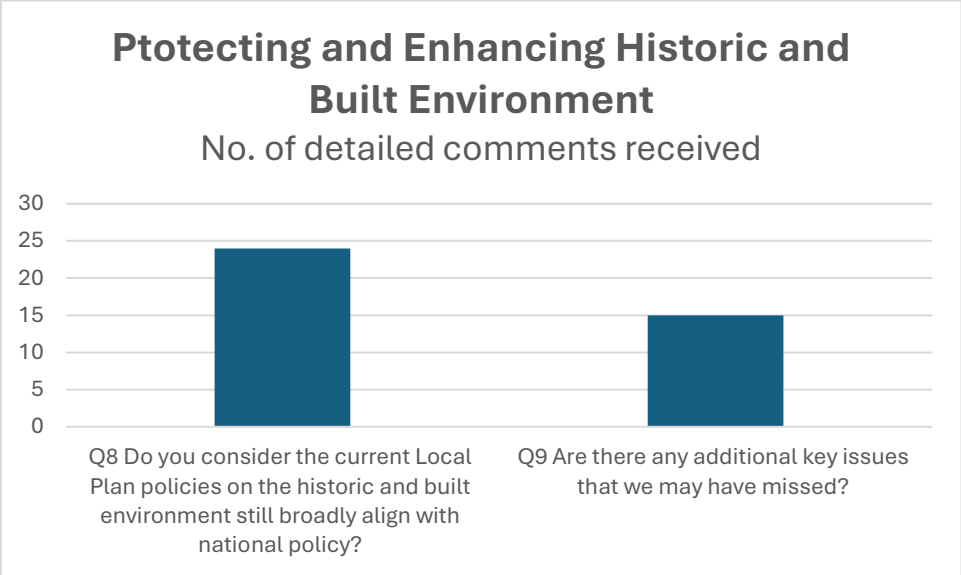
Policy SP17 states that development which would erode the local character of the National Park or result in a suburbanising effect will not be permitted.

Policy DP18 emphasises that new development is required to achieve the highest standards for new design, with a number of specific criteria including sustainable construction principles and good environmental practices.</td></tr>
<tr><td>(ii) the headlines from the self-assessment of compatibility (PAS template)</td><td>The policies remain broadly aligned with national policy as they set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.

Greater reference could be set out on considerations for appropriate future uses for those heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats.

Include reference to the National Design Guide and the National Model Design Code, which have been prepared since the Local Plan was adopted.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Evidence base</td><td>The ongoing update of the Authority’s list of locally important heritage assets.</td></tr>
</table>

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Protecting and enhancing the historic and built environment
	Historic England have signposted many of their advice notes on energy efficiency, climate resilience and retrofitting of historic buildings which set out good practice for local plans and development management.



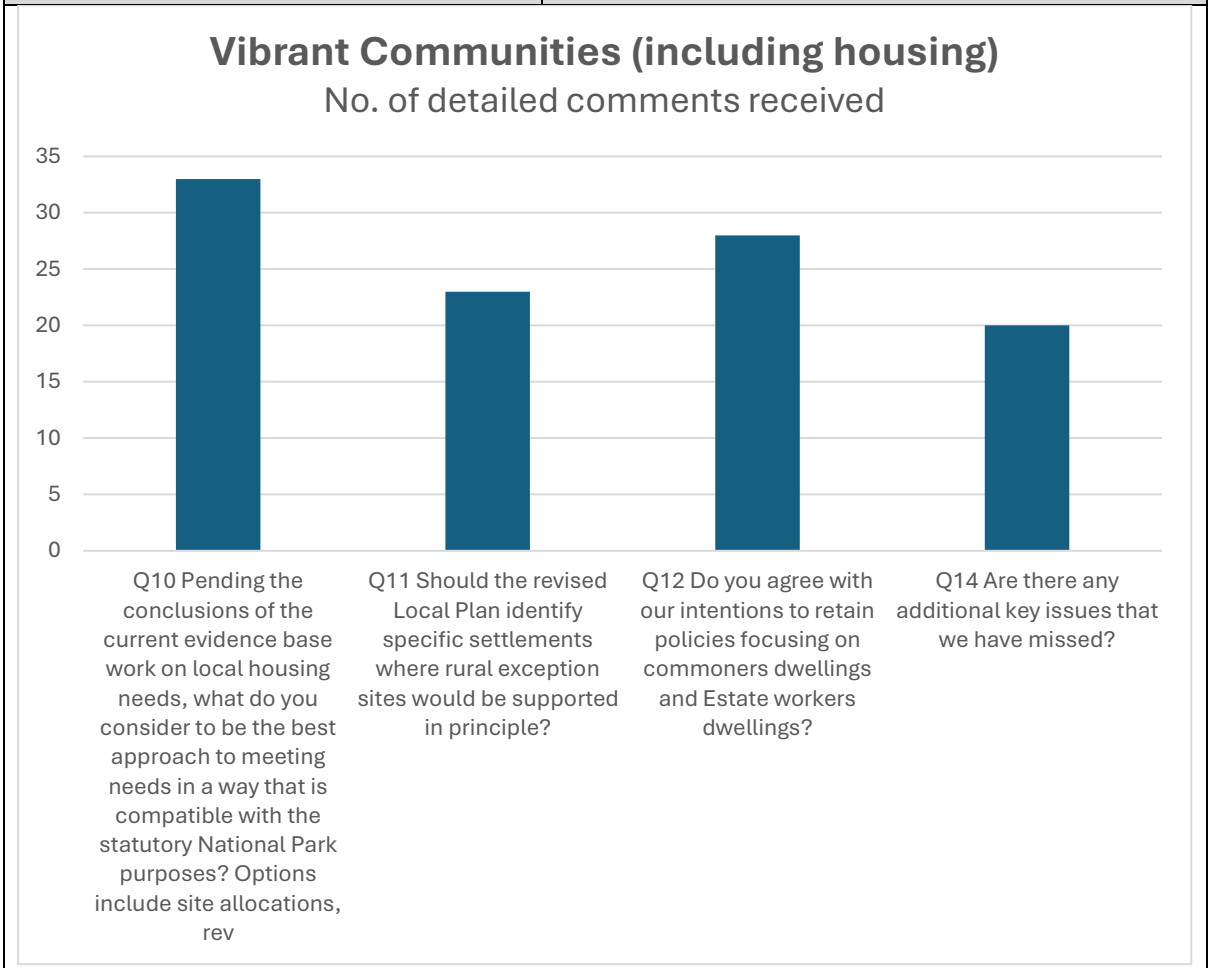
Key Matters/Issues from Regulation 18 Part 1 consultation responses	NPA response
Built Environment – general	
Many respondents state that the climate and nature emergency should be addressed in the chapter on the built environment, both in terms of the impacts on the Park's heritage assets, and the design considerations, including support for sustainable construction.	The draft Local Plan includes a focused chapter on climate change, which has a policy on sustainable construction, in addition to various references throughout the document. Aspects of the Design Guide have been included in the draft Local Plan.
Several respondents also raised concerns about the future status of existing supplementary planning documents, including the Authority's Design Guide, as Government has signalled the intention to phase them out.	In the knowledge of the potential phasing out of SPD's the Authority has specifically included elements from the Design Guide in the draft Local Plan document.
Historic Environment	
Historic England has stated that there is scope to delineate more clearly between our strategic approach to the	The policies have been amended in light of comments received from Historic England, so that there is now a strategic

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Protecting and enhancing the historic and built environment
historic environment and the needs for development management.	policy SP23 (The Historic and Built Environment) and a specific policy on Heritage (DP24).
Historic England commented on the role of heritage in climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the contribution made by buildings to carbon emissions. A whole-building approach is recommended for historic buildings, regarding energy efficiency and climate resilience.	The supporting text has been amended to refer to heritage statements including reference to any climate change mitigation or adaptation measures that could impact on heritage assets.
The Plan should also consider the appropriate approach to coastal erosion and heritage at risk.	The matter of coastal erosion is reflected in the Natural Environment Chapter – policy SP20 Coastal Development and new policy SP21 Coastal Change Management Area.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Vibrant Communities (including housing)
This section addresses housing needs for a range of communities, in the context that in National Parks the extent of development should be limited.	
Brief summary of: (i) the existing planning policy position in the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan (2019)	**Policy SP19** sets out the housing requirement in the New Forest National Park between 2016 – 2036. This equates to 40 dwellings per annum and the policy sets out the various sources of new housing **Policy SP20** sets out the local connection requirement for specialist housing for older people (Use Class C2) **Policy SP21** sets out the restriction on the size of net new dwellings (100 m^2) to ensure new housing needs the identified local need for smaller dwellings **Policies SP22 – SP26** allocate sites for a total of circa 300 net new dwellings in the period to 2036 **Policies SP27 – SP28** sets out the policy approach to the provision of affordable housing within the defined villages, on the site allocations and on rural exception sites **Policies SP28 – DP31** support housing for commoners, Estate workers and agricultural workers as an exception to the general policy of restraint **Policy SP33** allocates a site for gypsy and traveller use and sets out the criteria against which applications for further sites will be considered against **Policies DP34 – DP37** are development management policies guiding small-scale residential development (extensions, replacement dwellings etc) **Policy SP38** sets out the approach to infrastructure provision and developer contributions **Policy SP39** supports local community facilities in line with the National Park Authority's socio-economic duty **Policies DP40 – DP41** relates to retail development within and outside the Defined Villages An updated assessment of housing need arising within the National Park will be required, having regard to the Government's

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Vibrant Communities (including housing)
(ii) the headlines from the self-assessment of compatibility (PAS template)	new standard method for calculating the 'policy off' housing need and guidance for National Parks. This will also need to consider the needs of various groups/demographics. Updated Whole-Plan Viability Assessment will be required to consider the impacts on development from local planning policy requirements. A new Housing Land Availability Assessment should be undertaken to explore the potential for further site allocations in the National Park. The adopted Local Plan does not include a planning policy on self & custom build development and the Register in the National Park is growing. The retail policies are out of date and will need to be revised to reflect changes in the Use Classes Order. The detailed development management policies for residential development would benefit from being reviewed in lights of the experience of applying them for the last 6 years, appeal decisions and legal challenges.
Evidence base	New Forest Housing Needs Assessment Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) Rural services update Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA)

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Vibrant Communities (including housing)



Key Matters/Issues from Regulation 18 Part 1 consultation responses	NPA response
Demographics	
The revised Local Plan must respond to the demographics of the New Forest and reverse the declining population seen between 2011 – 2021	The updated Housing Needs Assessment provides the evidence to inform the Local Plan Review and acknowledges that the declining population is being driven by the ageing population with a higher number of deaths than births and that these losses are not being sufficiently offset by levels of net in-migration. National planning policy recognises the need for small-scale, sustainably located development within national parks to support the socio-economic well-being of their communities, and the quantum of new development proposed

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Vibrant Communities (including housing)
	under the revised Local Plan is predicted to off-set the decline.
Second homes and holiday lets	
The revised Plan should look to address the increase in second homes and short term holiday lets through the planning policy tools that are available.	The updated Housing Needs Assessment acknowledges the issue of second homes in the national park. However, local planning authorities currently have very limited powers to address the issues of second homes and further changes would be required at the national policy level to enable the issue to be tackled fully.
Self and Custom Build	
Appropriate self-build development should be explicitly supported in the revised Plan. The same weight of protection should not apply across the National Park	In recognition of the number of entries on the Authorities self and custom build register, the draft Local Plan includes a new policy (SP46 Self and Custom Build House Building) on this matter. However, such proposals must comply with other policies in the draft Plan in terms of appropriate locations for new development etc.
Homes for specific groups	
Planning policy support for commoners' dwellings should be retained	Agree – the draft Plan includes references to commoning and draft policy SP43 refers to enabling new commoner's dwellings.
The revised Local Plan should identify further sites for gypsy & traveller use	The outputs of the updated GTAA identify the need for gypsy and traveller pitches. The draft Local Plan includes a criteria-based policy and consideration will be given to site allocation as the draft Plan is revised.
The National Park Authority should undertake a specific assessment of the older persons housing need within the National Park	The updated Housing Needs Assessment includes details of the ageing population within the national park and the draft Local Plan responds to this through Policy SP29 Specialist Housing for Older People (Use Class C2), and specific site allocations at land at Calpe Avenue Lyndhurst (new Policy SP35) and Brighton Road, Sway (policy SP37 to meet this need.
Consideration should be given to allowing an element of open market housing on rural exception sites to	The updated viability assessment concludes that an element of open market housing on rural exception sites is not necessary to

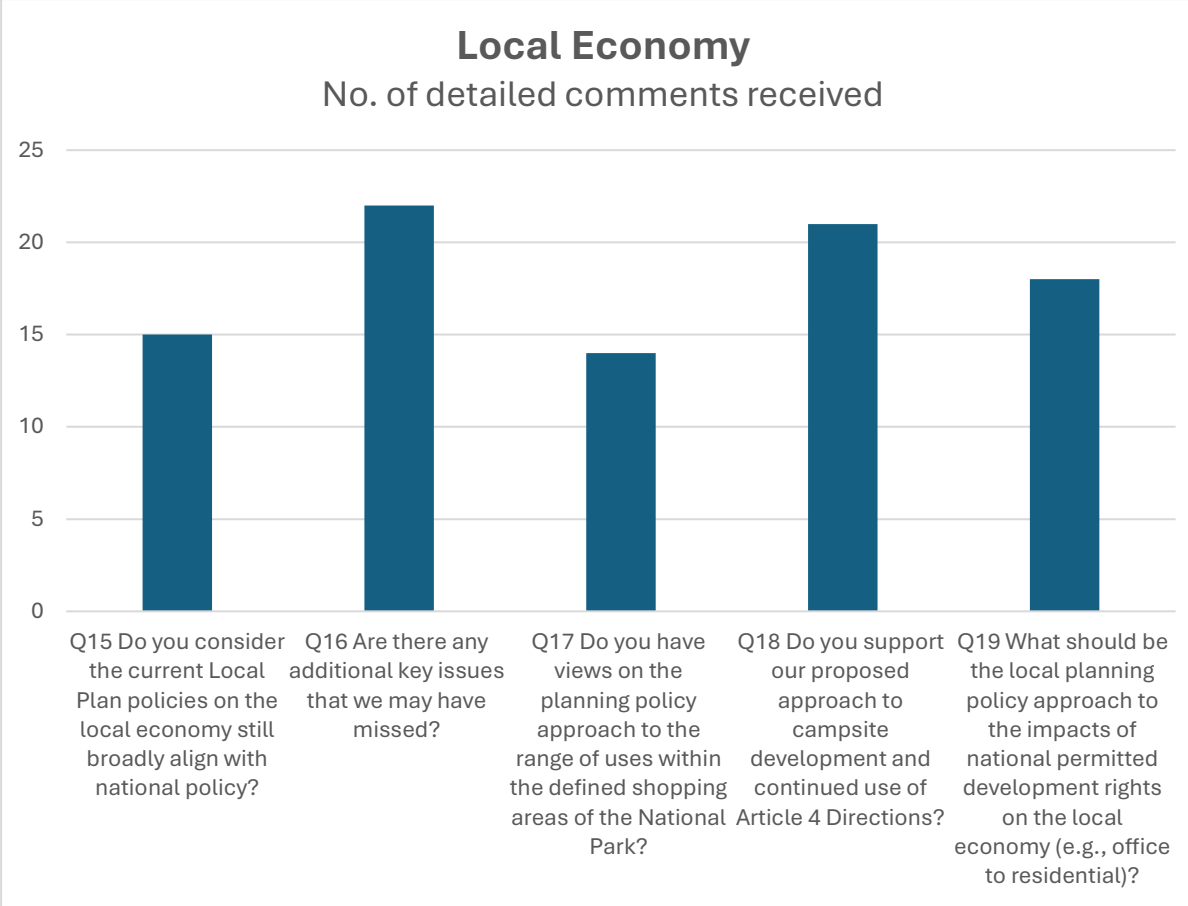
Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Vibrant Communities (including housing)
incentivise more sites to come forward	make them deliverable in the New Forest National Park
Size and mix of dwellings and extensions	
The policies controlling replacement dwellings and extensions need tightening up to prevent people building bigger properties than the policy intends Planning policy limits should be placed on the size of residential outbuildings	The planning policies on replacement dwellings (now DP49), extensions (DP50) and outbuildings (DP51) have been reviewed, edited and included in the draft Plan.
It may be appropriate to specify dwelling sizes to meet the known demand for one and two-bedroom units Objections to current Policy SP21 and a call for the size limit on net new dwellings to be increase to 150 square metres (from 100 square metres)	The existing local plan includes a policy limiting new dwellings to 100 sqm (Policy SP21) has been carried forward as part of the Local Plan Review (now Policy SP30) in response to the finite land resource for development and the need to target new development towards meeting the identified local housing needs for smaller dwellings. The 100sqm limit has been in place since 2019 and the approach is supported by the data set out in the Government's Technical housing standards – nationally described space standard (2015), which confirms that 100 square metres enables provision of a family-sized 3 bed dwelling or a modest 4 bed (5 person) dwelling
Extensions and outbuildings should be built to the highest sustainability standards and should be required to deliver BNG	National policy specifies what forms of development trigger the need for BNG and the Local Plan cannot change this.
Site Allocations and alternatives	
Emphasis should be placed on the identification and re-use of previously developed land (including sites on the brownfield land register) and other sites, such as former mineral workings, that may have potential to support growth	Throughout the draft Local Plan there are references to the re-use of previously developed land – however development of such sites needs to comply with other development plan policies where relevant, in particular the spatial strategy for the national park, which focuses new development within defined villages.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Vibrant Communities (including housing)
As part of the SEA/SEA process, alternative options to the settlement hierarchy should be considered. This should include additional 'defined villages'; an additional tier of settlements; and development adjacent to settlements outside the National Park	The settlement hierarchy has been reviewed as part of the Local Plan Review and the draft Plan proposes the addition of other suitable settlements to the definition of defined villages. The SEA/SA has assessed reasonable alternatives as part of the LPR process.
The HRA of the Local Plan Review should consider the approach to development within 400m of the New Forest's designated sites. Natural England states that the Local Plan should be screened under Regulation 105 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) at an early stage so that outcomes of the assessment can inform key decision making on strategic options and development sites.	The Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) is an integral piece of evidence for the Local Plan Review that informs the identification of sites for development. Urban edge impacts are considered as part of the HRA which highlights the challenges in mitigating urban edge effects.
Southern Water request to be consulted on planning applications for development to enable them to comment in relation to an 'up to date' assessment of the network capacity etc	Noted
It is essential that any consideration of further housing site allocations in the National Park takes full account of the two statutory Park purposes	Agree, new sites proposed for allocation have been assessed against a number of factors through the Strategic Land Availability Assessment and SEA/SA and HRA processes and are those deemed to be most suitable for development.
Other matters	
The Local Plan Review will need to set out an updated policy position on the land adjacent to the former Fawley Power Station (policy SP26)	Since adoption of the local plan in 2019, the situation at Fawley Power Station has changed. A previous planning application on the site for its redevelopment was withdrawn on the basis that it was not viable, on this

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Vibrant Communities (including housing)
	basis Policy SP26 is proposed to be deleted as part of the Local Plan Review. The National Park Authority remains committed to supporting the positive regeneration of the previously developed land at the former Fawley Power Station and acknowledges the benefits the site's Freeport Tax Site status brings in attracting employment-led development to the site, through a new strategic allocation Policy SP5.
The Local Plan Review should include a bespoke Whole Estate Plan policy which provides support for the production of such plans	The matter of whole estate plans has been raised by other representations. Accordingly, the Authority has made amendments to policy SP3 Major development in the National Park to include reference to Whole Estate Plans.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	**Local Economy**
Policies in the local plan play a key part in the delivery of the Authority's duty to foster the socio-economic well being of local communities.	
Brief summary of: (i) the existing planning policy position in the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan (2019)	**Policy SP42** sets out the small-scale level of employment development appropriate in the National Park steered broadly towards the four defined villages. **Policy SP43** seeks to retain existing employment sites, with some redevelopment for a mix of uses on existing sites in the defined villages. **Policy DP44** sets out the criteria for consideration of the redevelopment of employment sites across the National Park **Policy DP45** permits the limited extension of existing non-residential buildings **Policy SP46** sets out criteria supporting sustainable tourism development allied to the National Park's purposes and special qualities **Policy DP47** permits the relocation of holiday parks and campsites from sensitive areas **Policy SP48** sets out criteria for development supporting land-based businesses **Policy DP49** permits the appropriate re-use of buildings outside defined villages to support the rural economy **Policy DP50** sets out criteria for the consideration of new agricultural and forestry buildings **Policies DP51, DP52 & DP53** set out criteria for horse-related development
(ii) the headlines from the self-assessment of compatibility (PAS template)	The policies remain broadly aligned with national policy The strategic approach in the adopted Local Plan to rely on windfall development for employment uses rather than allocating sites will need to be reviewed in light of an updated evidence base The Article 4 direction on pop up campsite use has been implemented since the Local Plan was adopted and the relevant policies will need to be reviewed accordingly

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Local Economy
Evidence base	Employment Needs Assessment Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA)



Key Matters/Issues from Regulation 18 Part 1 consultation responses	NPA response
Article 4 Direction	

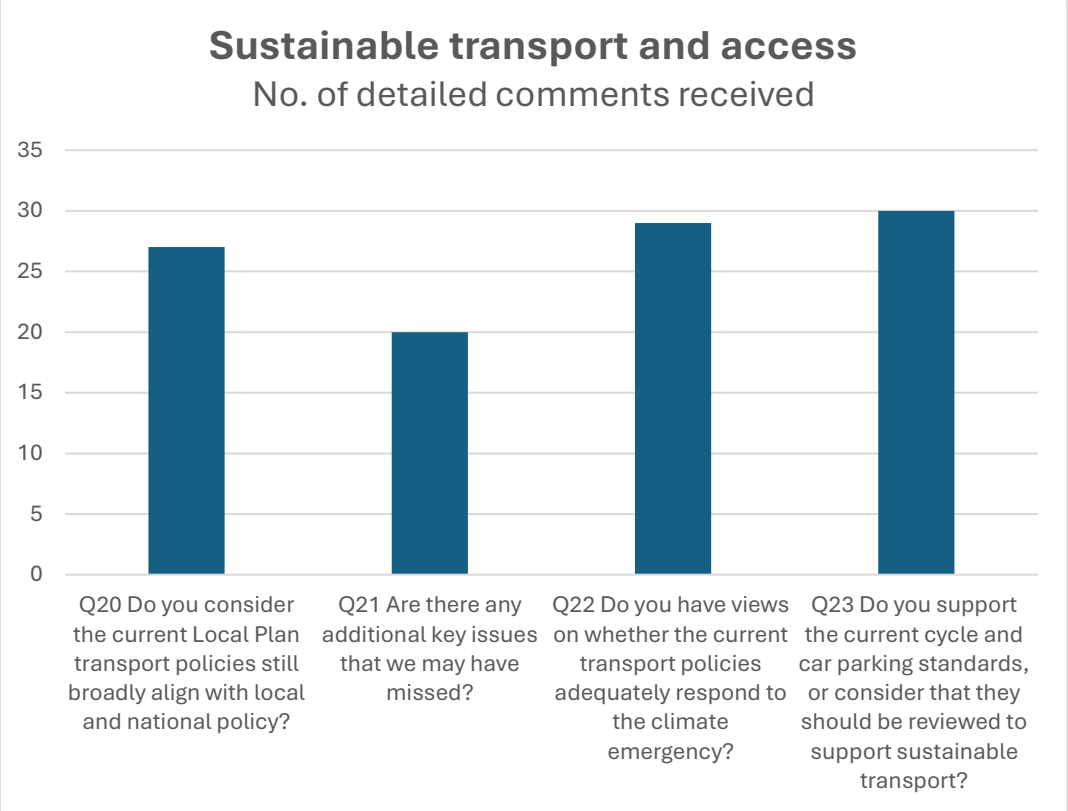
Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Local Economy
Whilst there are concerns about intensification of leisure and tourism uses, there is broad support for the Authority's approach to campsites and continued use of an Article 4 Direction Policy is too restrictive and should be more flexible to allow development of campsites – particularly in less sensitive areas	The two Article 4 Directions were introduced in 2022 and 2024 following consideration of the range of concerns raised regarding the detrimental impacts of uncontrolled camping uses in the New Forest. It is considered that the Article 4 Directions help manage temporary camping uses, while also ensuring people can visit and enjoy the New Forest National Park.
Climate Change	
Energy and environmental businesses should be welcomed	The draft Local Plan sets out a positive strategy for maintaining and improving business floorspace (policy SP53) without being prescriptive to the nature of uses. The Use Classes Order makes it challenging to prescribe certain types of business.
Local economy policies should take account of the climate change agenda Encourage businesses that are climate friendly	Policies in the draft Local Plan should be read as a whole, therefore proposals for economic activities will be assessed as appropriate against other policies in the Local Plan including those relating to climate change.
Commoning and Land Management	
Focus on exploiting natural assets of the national park to create business opportunities	The draft Local Plan sets out a positive strategy for maintaining and improving business floorspace (policy SP53) without being prescriptive to the nature of uses. Policy SP55 focuses on The Land Based Economy in addition to other policies covering New agricultural and forestry buildings, re-use of farm buildings.
Promote and protect businesses that are linked to the rural economy farming, forestry	See above

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Local Economy
Encourage traditional activities	
Request for supportive policies for commoning including protection of back up grazing land	Policy SP55 specifically includes criteria a) ii) relating to maintaining a supply of land available for back up grazing.
Whole Estate Plans	
Local plan should refer to the use of whole estate plans	Amendments to Policy SP3 Major development in the National Park, now includes reference to Whole Estate Plans.
Tourism	
Support for tourism in so far as it supports the rural economy	Support noted
Need reference to short term holiday lets and second homes and the impact these can have on the locality	The updated Housing Needs Assessment (2025) acknowledges the issue of second homes in the national park. However, changes would be required at a national level – such as amendments to the Use Classes Order – to enable local planning authorities to have greater control over the use of C3 dwellings.
Loss of Employment sites	
The loss of employment sites to residential conversion under permitted development rights is a concern. The Local Plan should explore how Article 4 Directions could be used to mitigate this issue in key employment areas.	Monitoring of losses over the period 2016 – 2024 has shown 39 new residential units have been created. There has still been a net gain in employment floorspace in the National Park since the creation of the new permitted development rights. An Article 4 Direction is an option that could be used in future if monitoring indicates an increasing level of losses. The rights do also enable the delivery of additional residential units in an area of significant housing need.
National permitted development rights should not apply within the National Park	This is a matter expressed in national Government policy and falls outside the remit of the Local Plan Review.
Support the permitted rights as they provide greater flexibility to adapt office/business properties to residential where a building may otherwise be redundant.	Support noted.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Local Economy
Solent Freeport	
Local plan needs to refer to the opportunities offered by the Freeport	Since adoption of the last Local Plan in 2019, the Solent Freeport has been designated, part of which (Southampton Waterside) falls within the National Park. This is reflected in changes to Chapter 3 of the draft Local Plan on 'Strategic Policies and Development Principles
Retail	
Local shops and facilities should be encouraged by all means	The draft Plan includes Policy DP58 (Loss of local retail facilities) to seek to retain local shops and services both within the defined villages and other settlements within the National Park. Policy DP59 also allows for new small scale convenience stores outside of settlement boundaries subject to meeting the specified criteria,
Other Matters	
Need reference to superfast broadband	Draft Policy SP62 allows for infrastructure for radio, broadband and other telecommunications / information technology will only be permitted where it is of a scale and design appropriate to the National Park and helps meet the digital needs of local communities and businesses.

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Sustainable transport and access
Transport infrastructure through the National Park is broadly good with a number of strategic roads and rail links. There are adopted Local Transport Plans in place for both highway authorities. A key challenge for the local plan is to reduce the impacts of traffic on the special qualities of the National Park.	
Brief summary of: (i) the existing planning policy position in the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan (2019)	**Policy SP54** sets out considerations for further development of the strategic transport infrastructure in the National Park. **Policy SP55** promotes safer access and more sustainable forms of transport within the National Park, through support for improvements to public transport facilities and encouragement of walking and cycling.
(ii) the headlines from the self-assessment of compatibility (PAS template)	Managing growth in sustainable locations, and this is reflected in our current spatial strategy where new development is focused on the four most sustainable settlements in the National Park, which have the broadest range of community facilities, employment opportunities and transport links. There is now greater emphasis on sustainable transport modes, particularly active travel by cycling and walking, than when the Plan was adopted in 2019, and this will need to be reflected in our policies. The relatively limited level of small-scale development anticipated within the National Park over the next 20 years is unlikely to require major infrastructure changes. There may be implications for transport infrastructure in the National Park arising from redevelopment of major sites outside the National Park

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Sustainable transport and access
	boundary or on strategic road networks through the Park.
Evidence base	Hampshire County Council's Local Transport Plan 4 adopted in 2024 Emerging New Forest LCWIP



Key Matters/Issues from Regulation 18 Part 1 consultation responses	NPA response

Strategic Direction of Travel - Section	Sustainable transport and access
Policies should reflect the climate and nature emergency in the approach to transport. Explore policy options to address the climate emergency such as the use of Quiet Lanes, restricted road access options or low emission zones. Lack of emphasis on low carbon transport. Consideration should be given to aligning sustainable transport policies within the Local Plan with the emerging Movement and Place Framework, as described on page 62 of the LTP4 (HCC) Strengthen policies supporting active travel to reflect policy changes since adoption of the Local Plan in 2019. Including greater connectivity of cycle routes and footpaths, and better and safer active travel infrastructure Design of transport infrastructure should reflect the locally distinctive character and the special qualities of the National Park.	The Authority is not the highway authority for the National Park area and therefore has limited capacity in terms of transport infrastructure. However, the spatial strategy of the Plan will continue to steer development to the most sustainable and accessible locations, in accordance with the revised settlement hierarchy. Opportunities to maximise active travel and links to the LCWIP will be taken, acknowledging the nature of the national park in terms of transport infrastructure and access to public transport.
The revised Plan needs to address the problems of traffic congestion and injuries to wildlife and commoners animals.	Comment noted – however, the spatial development strategy focuses new development in the most sustainable locations and the new site allocations will be required to be assessed for traffic impacts etc. Injury to commoners' animals is noted but this falls outside the remit of the land use planning system. The Authority works with partners to reduce animal accidents, with deaths as a percentage of stock turned out at a historic low.
With regard to the current car and cycle parking standards, these should be examined to reduce reliance on the private car or at least support greater use of low carbon hybrid / electric cars	Noted

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – List of groups and organisations consulted during the Regulation 18 Part 1 Local Plan Direction of Travel consultation (February – March 2025)

Mining Remediation Authority
Historic England
Natural England
Environment Agency
Marine Management Organisation
National Highways
National Grid
Bournemouth Water
Wessex Water
Southern Water
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board

Dorset Council planning
Southampton City Council
Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Council
Wiltshire Council - planning
Wiltshire Council - transport
Wiltshire Council - estates team
Hampshire County Council - planning
Hampshire County Council - transport
Hampshire County Council - countryside services
Hampshire County Council - Property services
New Forest District Council
Test Valley Borough Council

Sir Desmond Swayne
Sir Julian Lewis
Christopher Chope
Caroline Nokes
John Glen

Ashurst & Colbury Parish Council
Beaulieu Parish Council
Boldre Parish Council
Braemore Parish Council
Bramshaw Parish Council
Bransgore Parish Council
Brockenhurst Parish Council
Burley Parish Council
Copythorne Parish Council
Denny Lodge Parish Council
East Boldre Parish Council
Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley Parish Council
Exbury & Lepe Parish Council
Fawley Parish Council
Fordingbridge Parish Council
Godshill Parish Council
Hale Parish Council
Hordle Parish Council
Hyde Parish Council
Hythe & Dibden Parish Council
Landford Parish Council
Lymington & Pennington Town Council
Lyndhurst Parish Council
Marchwood Parish Council
Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council
Milford on Sea Parish Council
Minstead Parish Council
Netley Marsh Parish Council
New Milton Town Council
Redlynch Parish Council
Ringwood Town Council
Sopley Parish Council
Sway Parish Council
Totton & Eling Parish Council
Wellow Parish Council
Whiteparish Parish Council
Woodgreen Parish Council

Action Hampshire
Age Concern Hampshire
Associated British Ports
Bournemouth International Airport Ltd
Calshot Activities Centre
Campaign for National Parks
CPRE Hampshire
Christchurch Bicycle Club
Community First New Forest
Country Land and Business Association SE
Country Land and Business Association SW

Cranborne Chase & West Wilts Downs National Landscape
ExxonMobil Chemical Ltd
Federation of Small Businesses
Friends, Families and Travellers
Fordingbridge Society
Forestry England
Forestry England
Friends of Brockenhurst
Friends of the New Forest
Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Hampshire Association of Local Councils
Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society
Hampshire Constabulary - Designing Out Crime officer
Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service (New Forest Group)
Hampshire Gardens Trust
Hampshire Outdoor Centres
Hampshire Scouts
Homes England
Lepe Country Park
Lymington & District Chamber of Commerce & Industry Limited
Lymington Harbour Commissioners
Lymington Society
Jackson Planning
National Farmers' Union
National Farmers' Union
National Grid
National Trust
National Trust Hants & IoW
Network Rail
Network Rail
New Forest Access Forum
New Forest Business Partnership
New Forest Centre
New Forest Commoners' Defence Association
New Forest Equestrian Association
New Forest Friends of the Earth
New Forest Hounds
New Forest Runners Club
New Forest Sports Council
Go New Forest
New Forest Transition
New Forest Trust
Ramblers Association (New Forest Branch)
Ringwood Society
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
Sandy Balls Estate
Sandy Balls Holiday Village
The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain Central Office
The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain Western Office
Solent LEP
Solent Forum
Solent Protection Society
Southampton Airport
Sport England
SSE
Swindon & Wiltshire LEP
The Caravan Club Ltd
Tourism South East
Verderers of the New Forest

Wild New Forest
Wilts & Dorset Bus Co Ltd
Wiltshire Association of Local Councils
Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
UK Youth
New Forest Transition CIC
Ringwood Actions for Climate Emergency (RACE)
Minstead Green Group
Greener Brockenhurst
ECO Sway
Conservation Connection New Forest South
Cadland Estate
Bisterne, Pylewell & Sowley Estates
Exbury Estate
Somerley Estate
Hamptworth Estate
Beaulieu Estate
Hinton Admiral Estate
Pylewell Estate
Meyrick Estate

Appendix 2 - Comment Form

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK

New Forest National Park Authority Local Plan Review
February 2025

Comments Form

Consultation on Scope of the New Forest National Park Local Plan Review

(Reg 18 Part 1)

This comments form relates to the review of the emerging Local Plan for the New Forest National Park following the adoption of the previous document in 2019. The consultation period will be open for 6 weeks from **Tuesday 4 February 2025 until Tuesday 18 March 2025.** Before completing this form please take the opportunity to read the Direction of Travel' document (702/25) available here: New Forest National Park Authority Meeting 23/01/25 - New Forest National Park Authority and returning it to the Policy Team by email via policy@newforestnpa.gov.uk.

Or by post to:

Policy Team
Lymington Town Hall
Avenue Road
Lymington
SO41 9ZG

Comments need to be received by 5pm Tuesday 18 March 2025

To keep up to date on this consultation and others relating to the local plan review please visit our consultations page here: Consultations - New Forest National Park Authority.

Your Details

Title: ……..……

Name: ……..

Organisation: .....
(where relevant)
.....

Tel No: ……...…

Address: ……..……

……..……

……..……

Postcode: ……..……

E-mail: …..……

……

*If you are completing this form as an agent, please make this clear and ensure contact information is correct.

DATA PROTECTION

We will process personal data in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. Your response(s) will be used to inform subsequent reports to inform the Local Plan Review process and anonymised comments may be shared online, on our website, or within material documents as part of this process. However, your personal data will not be published and will be redacted from public facing documents, this includes personal email addresses home addresses and personal phone numbers.

More details on how we hold personal information can be found at: http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/privacyandcookies. Should you require any further information about how your details will be used or stored and/or would like to access any information we hold about you, please email our Information & Data Protection Officer at: dpo@newforestnpa.gov.uk.

Please note that all information held by public authorities is subject to the Freedom of information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and may be disclosed upon request.

Feedback

Would you like us to keep your contact details so we can inform you about the next stages in the progress of preparing the Local Plan?

☐	☐	**Yes**	**No**

Please write your comments in the sections provided below

*Before providing us with your comments, please ensure you have read and consulted the 'Direction of Travel' Document.

1. Introduction	
n/a	Please comment below:

2. Strategic policies & development principles	
Q1	Do you consider the current Local Plan Vision is still broadly appropriate? Please comment below:
Q2	Do the existing Strategic Objectives still represent the main considerations for development in the National Park? Please comment below:
Q3	Is the Spatial Strategy the most sustainable way to deliver new development over the next 20 years? Please comment below:

3. The natural environment	
Q4	Do you consider the current Local Plan policies on the natural environment still broadly align with national policy? Please comment below:
Q5	Are there any additional key issues that we may have missed? Please comment below:
Q6	Do you have views on the planning policy approach to climate change and are there areas we should look to go further on? Please comment below:
Q7	How can we use local planning policies to protect the relative tranquillity of large areas of the New Forest National Park? Please comment below:

4. Protecting and enhancing the historic and built environment	
Q8	Do you consider the current Local Plan policies on the historic and built environment still broadly align with national policy? Please comment below:
Q9	Are there any additional key issues that we may have missed? Please comment below:

5. Vibrant Communities (including housing)	
Q10	Pending the conclusions of the current evidence base work on local housing needs, what do you consider to be the best approach to meeting needs in a way that is compatible with the statutory National Park purposes? Options include site allocations, revisions to the Defined Village boundaries and other alternatives that will be tested through the Sustainability Appraisal/SEA process. Please comment below:
Q11	Should the revised Local Plan identify specific settlements where rural exception sites would be supported in principle? Please comment below:
Q12	Do you agree with our intentions to retain policies focusing on commoners' dwellings and Estate workers' dwellings? Please comment below:
Q13	What is the best policy approach to protecting the character of the National Park from incremental change from proposals for replacement dwellings, extensions to dwellings and outbuildings? Please comment below:
Q14	Are there any additional key issues that we have missed? Please comment below:

6. Local economy	
Q15	Do you consider the current Local Plan policies on the local economy still broadly align with national policy? Please comment below:
Q16	Are there any additional key issues that we may have missed? Please comment below:
Q17	Do you have views on the planning policy approach to the range of uses within the defined shopping areas of the National Park? Please comment below:
Q18	Do you support our proposed approach to campsite development and continued use of Article 4 Directions? Please comment below:
Q19	What should be the local planning policy approach to the impacts of national permitted development rights on the local economy (e.g., office to residential)? Please comment below:

7. Sustainable transport and access	
Q20	Do you consider the current Local Plan transport policies still broadly align with local and national policy? Please comment below:
Q21	Are there any additional key issues that we may have missed? Please comment below:
Q22	Do you have views on whether the current transport policies adequately respond to the climate emergency? Please comment below:
Q23	Do you support the current cycle and car parking standards, or consider that they should be reviewed to support sustainable transport? Please comment below:

Appendix 3 – Public Notice

Published in the Lymington Times & New Milton Advertiser on 7 February 2025.

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK

CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF THE NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK LOCAL PLAN

The New Forest National Park Authority is reviewing its adopted Local Plan (2019), which guides decisions on planning applications within the National Park area and helps to deliver the statutory National Park purposes. A revised Local Plan is necessary to ensure the area is covered by an up-to-date local policy framework that complies with the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024).

The consultation period runs from **4 February to 18 March 2025**. The New Forest National Park Local Plan Review 'Direction of Travel' document sets out the scope of the review and invites feedback. This document and other supporting information – including the 'Call for Sites' process we are running concurrently – is available for inspection at our office at Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington, SO41 9ZG during normal office hours; and on our website at www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/LocalPlan2025.

As part of the consultation we are holding the following public drop-in events across the National Park to enable people to speak to our planning staff and find out more about the Local Plan review.

- **Bramshaw Village Hall, SO43 7JE, Monday 24 February, 2pm – 7pm**
- **Hyde Memorial Hall, SP6 2HU, Tuesday 25 February, 1.30pm – 6.30pm**
- **Brockenhurst Village Hall, SO42 7RY, Monday 3 March, 2pm – 7pm**
- **Lyndhurst Community Centre, SO43 7NY, Friday 7 March 2pm – 7pm**

Representations on the Local Plan Review 'Direction of Travel' document and submissions to the 'Call for Sites' process should be made either:

- Online via the response form available on the NPA website
- By email to policy@newforestnpa.gov.uk
- By post to Policy Team, New Forest National Park Authority, Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington, SO41 9ZG

Representations received will inform the preparation of a draft revised New Forest National Park Local Plan, due to be published for further consultation in late 2025.

Recruitment

Lineage Deadline: Wednesday 10.30am
01425 613384
classifieds@advertiserandtimes.co.uk

Situations Vacant

NEW MILTON ADVERTISER & LYMINGTON TIMES

MEDIA SALES EXECUTIVE
(Field Sales Role)

This is a Full-Time Position Office/Field Based
You MUST have a full UK driving licence

We are looking for a proactive, creative sales expert, with excellent business acumen and negotiation skills, who has a proven record in developing valuable partnerships. You'll be presenting exciting fresh media initiatives to your existing client base to retain and build long term profitable relationships. A big part of this role will also be the autonomy to develop new business relationships. You'll have the ability to drive sales, by understanding decision makers needs fully and using marketing audience data, to present credible ideas and solutions to produce inspired bespoke creative media campaigns. You'll be responsible for meeting monthly sales targets and KPIs by demonstrating our reputable products and services across print and digital to elevate their business potential and making their advertising successfully stand out.

You'll be part of a supportive New Milton based sales team to share ideas and best practice, as well as managing your own time effectively out in the field. Effective, influential communication is key in this role, along with excellent personable customer relations skills and good knowledge of digital systems to generate campaign bookings and for completing sales. You'll be regularly visiting both existing clients and pitching new, to ensure campaigns and recommendations are on track to deliver the agreed objectives and ROI.

Advertiser and Times brings you all the Latest News, Sport, Leisure, Business and Lifestyle News from across New Milton, Lymington and New Forest.

We offer a competitive salary with good bonus potential and additional benefits including life assurance, pension.

If this role inspires you, and you feel you'll play a successful part, then we'd love to hear from you.

If you have all of the above, we would love to hear from you. Email your covering letter and CV to carol.shearer@advertiserandtimes.co.uk

ILIFFE MEDIA

LYMINGTON INFANT SCHOOL HIRING A SITE MANAGER!

We are seeking someone who is cheerful, enthusiastic and self-motivated to join our friendly and supportive team

Responsibilities in brief include the following:

- Maintaining clean, safe and secure school premises, which includes buildings and grounds
- Carrying out routine maintenance and refurbishment, minor repairs, handyperson activities and oversight of agency cleaners
- Promoting health and safety around the school
- All other aspects of site management, such as supervising external contractors and site use planning.

More details, please visit
https://www.lymington-infants.schools.uk/Join-Our-Team/

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Salaries are competitive and negotiable. Full training provided. Please send your CV and a covering letter by email to: (Strictly no agencies)

recruit@thebedshop.co.uk

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to place a classified advertisement

Public Notices

Deadline Wednesday 10.30am
01425 613384
classifieds@advertiserandtimes.co.uk

Public Notices

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (LOCAL PLANNING) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 – AS AMENDED

REGULATION 18 CONSULTATION NOTICE REVIEW OF THE NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK LOCAL PLAN

The New Forest National Park Authority (NFNA) is reviewing its adopted Local Plan (2019), which guides decisions on planning applications within the National Park area and helps to deliver the statutory Park purposes. The NFNA considers a revised Local Plan is necessary to ensure the National Park is covered by an up-to-date local policy framework that complies with the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024).

Pursuant to Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), the NFNA is required to notify consultees and interested parties about the subject of the Local Plan and invite them to make representations about what a Local Plan ought to contain.

The consultation period runs from 6 February to 16 March 2025. The New Forest National Park Local Plan Review 'Direction of Travel' document sets out the scope of the review and invites feedback. This document and other supporting information – including the 'Call for Sites' process we are running concurrently – is available for inspection at our office at Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington SO41 9ZG during normal office hours, and on the NFNA website at www.newforestnp.gov.uk/LocalPlan2025.

As part of the consultation we are holding the following public drop-in events across the National Park to enable people to find out more about the Local Plan review:

- Brockenhurst Village Hall, SO42 7QE Monday 24 February, 2pm – 7pm
- Hyde Memorial Hall, SP6 3HD Tuesday 25 February, 1.00pm – 6.00pm
- Brockenhurst Village Hall, SO42 7RH Monday 3 March, 2pm – 7pm
- Lyndhurst Community Centre, SO43 7NY Friday 7 March 2pm – 7pm

Representations on the Local Plan Review 'Direction of Travel' document and submissions to the 'Call for Sites' process should be made during the six-week consultation period:

- Online via the response form available on the NFNA website
- By email to policy@newforestnp.gov.uk
- By post to Policy Team, New Forest National Park Authority, Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington, SO41 9ZG

Representations received will inform the preparation of a draft revised New Forest National Park Local Plan, due to be published for further consultation in late 2025.

NOTICE UNDER THE TRUSTEE ACT 1925 Re: The Estates of Michael Russell Brawley (Deceased) and Rosemary Ellen Brawley (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925, SECTION 27 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any persons having a claim against or an interest in the estates of **Michael Russell Brawley**, late of 14 Nelson Close, Ringwood, Dorset, BH24 1EL, who passed away on **1st May 2024**, and **Rosemary Ellen Brawley**, late of the same address, who passed away on **19th July 2024**, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before **7th May 2025**, after which date the executors will proceed to distribute the estates having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Dated: **7th February 2025**
Executor: Jason Brawley, 21 Kimbrel Road, Fleet, Hampshire, GU51 5LF

Brockenhurst Parish Council

Notice of Memorial Safety Inspections

Notice is hereby given that Brockenhurst Parish Council intends to carry out a periodical safety inspection of the Memorial Structures in the Parish Cemetery in accordance with the Council's policy and the Ministry of Justice Guidance. Any memorial found to be unsafe and considered the most serious category will be marked with a red sticker and will be a dangerous safety hazard. Inspections will be carried out from when contacted, 7th February 2025 to up to two months.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH CLERK:
Brockenhurst Parish Council, 11A Brockenhurst Business Park, BH42 3AB
clerk@brockenhurstpc.gov.uk 01590 623993

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK

Statutory Notice of Planning Applications: 20/01/2025 to 26/01/2025
Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

24/01/0ABLDC - Alterations to Grid Shed, new window, internal alterations. Application for Listed Building Consent - Ordnance Barn, SWAY ROAD, BROCKENHURST, SO42 7RA

23/00001/FULL - Alterations to landscaping, a gazebo, multi-stems (single per stem) horse chestnut, temporary formation of two earth bund for a period of up to two years (Description of three existing shrub species (one tree) - SORREL HILL FARM, Sorrel Hill, Fritham, FRITHAM FOREST HILL, FORDS HILL, POMERONDEBEE, SP6 3FE

23/00241/ONL - Application under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 and section 90(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for Elec. replacement electricity cables - MR Lees (Mr M R) 2 Hill Closed

24/01/0LFULL - Use of land and buildings on a temporary campsite for 60 pitches for 56 days per year - Lane Ranch, Lyndhurst, Hants, SO43 7FE

Share Ahead, Executive Director Strategy & Planning, New Forest National Park Authority, Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington SO41 9ZG. Tel: 01590 646600

Public Notices

JOSEPHINE GAGAN (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of White Rock Nursing Home Chestnut Avenue, Barton on Sea, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 7BG, who died on 24 10 2024, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 24.04.2025, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

MOORE BARLOW
48 High Street, Lymington,
SO41 9AG

LYMINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Lymington Community Association
New Street, Lymington SO41 9BG
Inside Forest Magistrates Court, CT48755

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Lymington Community Association will be held on Monday 5th March 2025, in the Stable Hall, The Lymington Community Centre, New Street, Lymington. The meeting will commence at 7.00 pm for a 5.00pm start.

By order of the Chairman of Trustees
Norman Browne

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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Appendix 4
Extract from Park Life autumn/winter 2024/2025

New Forest National Park Local Plan due for a review

Cameron's Cottage renovations, RSPB Franchises Lodge nature reserve Picture: Moorhouse Architecture

Our planning policies are in place to protect the National Park's special qualities, to guide new development that meets the needs of our local communities and to enhance the New Forest's built environment.

The New Forest National Park Local Plan sets out a suite of policies used to guide planning decisions within the National Park. It includes the scale and location of new development and measures to conserve the local distinctiveness of the area.

The National Park Authority is now starting work on a partial review of the New Forest National Park Local Plan – which was adopted in August 2019 following several years of evidence gathering, public consultation and independent examination.

The plan is key to decision-making on planning applications submitted within the National Park and needs to be kept up-to-date, taking any new reforms to the planning system into consideration.

The first formal step will take place in early 2025 and will include a public consultation. Following further rounds of public consultation and supporting evidence base work, the plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination in late 2026.

Find out more at www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/localplan.

Extract from Park Life spring/summer 2025

Planning for the future of the New Forest

The New Forest National Park Local Plan – an essential document that guides decisions on new development within the National Park – is currently being reviewed.

The Local Plan is aimed at meeting local needs yet conserving what makes the New Forest such a special place.

It includes a set of planning policies based on evidence, national guidelines, and input from those who live and work in the area.

Earlier this year the National Park Authority invited feedback on the planning policy areas proposed as being 'in scope' for review. These include supporting appropriate renewable energy proposals that don't conflict with the statutory National Park purposes; conserving and enhancing the relative tranquillity of significant parts of the New Forest National Park; and considering the scope for new residential development to meet local needs.

An aerial view of Lyndhurst. The Local Plan guides decisions on new development within the park

Following this public consultation, a draft revised Local Plan is being prepared.

Later this year, communities, residents, landowners, parish councils, businesses, developers and interest groups in the New Forest National Park will all be invited to comment on the new draft.

Significant parts of the current Local Plan are consistent with national planning policy and the legal framework for national parks, so will remain unchanged.

The New Forest National Park is home to 34,000 residents and has a rich built heritage, with over 600 nationally listed buildings. More than 50% of the National Park is designated as being of international importance for nature conservation – the highest proportion of any planning authority in the country.

The review of the Local Plan will ensure the right level of protection continues for these special landscapes.

Steve Trow, Chair of the Planning Committee at the New Forest National Park Authority, said: 'The current National Park Local Plan was adopted in 2019 following extensive consultation and independent examination, and we are now updating it to ensure it stays relevant and effective.

'Over the past five years, national planning policy has undergone significant changes, particularly in areas such as the climate and nature emergencies and meeting local housing needs. This partial review is an opportunity to positively address these areas and establish the best possible planning policy framework for the National Park.'

The National Park Authority receives and determines over 500 full planning applications every year. These decisions are based on local planning policies that consider the protected landscape, built and cultural heritage, special qualities, local economy, and the needs of the people living within the National Park.

To find out about the next chance to have your say on the Local Plan, keep an eye out in the local press, sign up to the National Park email newsletter at www.newforestnpa.gov.uk or follow @newforestnpa on social media.

Appendix 5

Extracts from enews letter issued in February and March 2024

Feb:

Have your say on our Local Plan

We've started work on reviewing the current New Forest National Park Local Plan and we are inviting you to share your views.

The Local Plan is an essential document that guides new development within the National Park, aimed at meeting local needs yet conserving what makes the New Forest such a special place.

Residents, landowners, parish councils, businesses, developers and interest groups in the New Forest National Park are all invited to comment. The six-week public consultation runs from 4 February – 5pm on 18 March 2025.

Please submit your comments via our online form.

We will also be holding consultation drop-in events over the next few weeks. More details can be found on our website here.

Find out more

March:

Local Plan: last chance to have your say

Our Local Plan review consultation ends on 18 March.

The Local Plan is an essential document that guides new development within the National Park, aimed at meeting local needs, yet conserving what makes the New Forest such a special place.

It includes a set of planning policies based on evidence, national guidelines, and input from those who live and work in the area.

This is your chance to input on the planning policy areas proposed as being 'in scope' for review.

Have your say on the Local Plan

Appendix 6 – Press release

Planning for the future of the New Forest National Park: Have your say on the Local Plan Review - New Forest National Park Authority

Planning for the future of the New Forest National Park: Have your say on the Local Plan Review

PUBLISHED ON: 3 FEBRUARY 2025

The New Forest National Park Authority is inviting people to share their views on development within the New Forest National Park.

An initial six-week public consultation on the review of the National Park Local Plan starts on 4 February and ends on 18 March 2025.

The Local Plan is an essential document that guides new development within the National Park, aimed at meeting local needs, yet conserving what makes the New Forest such a special place. It includes a set of policies based on evidence, national guidelines, and input from those who live and work in the area.

The New Forest National Park is home to 34,000 residents and has a rich built heritage, with over 600 nationally listed buildings. More than 50% of the National Park is designated as being of international importance for nature conservation – the highest proportion of any planning authority in the country. The review of the Local Plan will ensure the right level of protection continues for these special landscapes.

Steve Trow, Chair of the Planning Committee at the New Forest National Park Authority said: ‘The current National Park Local Plan was adopted in 2019 following extensive consultation and independent examination, and we are now looking to update it to ensure it stays relevant and effective.

‘Over the past five years, national planning policy has undergone significant changes, particularly in areas such as the climate and nature emergencies and meeting local housing needs. This partial review is an opportunity to positively address these areas and establish the best possible planning policy framework for the National Park.’

The National Park Authority receives and determines over 500 planning applications every year. These decisions are based on local planning policies that consider the protected landscape, built and cultural heritage, special qualities, local economy, and the needs of the people living within the National Park.

Much of the current Local Plan continues to reflect national planning policy and the legal framework for National Parks, so will remain unchanged. At this stage in the Local Plan review process the National Park Authority is inviting feedback on the local planning policy areas it feels are ‘in scope’ for review.

These include supporting appropriate renewable energy proposals that don’t conflict with the statutory National Park purposes; conserving and enhancing the relative

tranquillity of significant parts of the New Forest National Park; and considering the scope for new residential development.

The National Park Authority is also running a 'Call for Sites' exercise alongside the Local Plan consultation, asking people to put forward sites to be considered for development through the Local Plan review. This will further support local housing and employment needs.

Communities, residents, landowners, parish councils, businesses, developers and interest groups in the New Forest National Park are all invited to comment on the Local Plan review.

Please submit your comments between 4 February and 18 March 2025:

- **Online at www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/LocalPlan2025**
- **By post to: Policy Team, National Park Authority, Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington SO41 9ZG**
- **Or email policy@newforestnpa.gov.uk.**

You can also discuss the review of the Local Plan with National Park Authority staff, and give your views at these public drop-in events:

Monday 24 February: Bramshaw Village Hall, 2pm – 7pm

Tuesday 25 February: Hyde Memorial Hall, 1.30pm – 6.30pm

Monday 3 March: Brockenhurst Village Hall, 2pm – 7pm

Friday 7 March: Lyndhurst Community Centre, 2pm – 7pm.

Feedback from this initial consultation will inform a revised draft Local Plan, which is due to be published for further public consultation in late 2025.

The revised draft New Forest National Park Local Plan will be submitted to the Government for independent examination and is due to be formally adopted by the National Park Authority in 2027.

-Ends-

Appendix 7 – Social Media

Items posted on

- @NewForestNPA
- newforestnpa
- New Forest National Park Authority
- New Forest National Park Authority
- Green Halo Partnership

Key stats:

Impressions	Engagements	Engagement Rate (per Impression)
72,055 –	4,415 –	6.1% –

Post Link Clicks
587 –

Top posts:

New Forest Na...
Tue 2/4/2025 12:51 pm ...

📢 Have your say on developm
National Park. Our Local Plan re
today. The Local Plan is an esse

Total Engagements	**2,388**
Reactions	240
Comments	37
Shares	46
Post Link Clicks	394
Other Post Clicks	1,671

New Forest Na...
Thu 2/13/2025 5:30 pm ...

Come and talk to us! We're inv
review of our Local Plan, which
decisions in the New Forest Na

Total Engagements	**1,181**
Reactions	254
Comments	8
Shares	30
Post Link Clicks	81
Other Post Clicks	808

New Forest Na...
Fri 3/14/2025 7:18 am G...

Local Plan: Last chance to have
Plan review consultation ends
Plan is an essential document t

Total Engagements	**303**
Reactions	141
Comments	1
Shares	7
Post Link Clicks	24
Other Post Clicks	130

New Forest Na...
Sun 2/23/2025 7:44 pm ...

Don't miss these drop-in sessic
of the Local Plan with National
Monday 24 February: Bramshav

Total Engagements	**139**
Reactions	17
Comments	1
Shares	24
Post Link Clicks	26
Other Post Clicks	71

newforestnpa
Sun 2/23/2025 7:44 pm ...

Don't miss these drop-in sessic
of the Local Plan with National
Monday 24 February: Bramshav

Total Engagements	**123**
Likes	120
Comments	0
Shares	2
Saves	1

New Forest Na...
Fri 2/28/2025 7:04 pm G...

There are still two drop-in sessi
discuss the review of the Local
Authority staff: Monday 3 Marc

Total Engagements	**65**
Reactions	10
Comments	0
Shares	4
Post Link Clicks	5
Other Post Clicks	46

newforestnpa
Tue 2/4/2025 12:55 pm ...

📢 Have your say on developm
National Park. Our Local Plan re
today. The Local Plan is an esse

Total Engagements	**57**
Likes	55
Comments	0
Shares	0
Saves	2

newforestnpa
Thu 2/13/2025 5:30 pm ...

Come and talk to us! We're inv
review of our Local Plan, which
decisions in the New Forest Nat

Total Engagements	**41**
Likes	41
Comments	0
Shares	0
Saves	0

New Forest Na...
Tue 2/4/2025 12:55 pm ...

📢 Have your say on
development in the New
Forest National Park. Our Lo...

Total Engagements	**24**
Reactions	7
Comments	0
Shares	2
Post Clicks (All)	15

New Forest Na...
Thu 2/13/2025 5:30 pm ...

Come and talk to us! We're inviting views on the review of our Local Plan, which guides...

Total Engagements	**21**
Reactions	**10**
Comments	**1**
Shares	**2**
Post Clicks (All)	**8**

newforestnpa
Fri 2/28/2025 7:04 pm G...

There are still two drop-in sessi discuss the review of the Local Authority staff: Monday 3 Marc

Total Engagements	**20**
Likes	**19**
Comments	**0**
Shares	**0**
Saves	**1**

New Forest Na...
Fri 2/28/2025 7:04 pm G...

There are still two drop-in sessions where you can discuss the review of the Lo...

Total Engagements	**17**
Reactions	**4**
Comments	**0**
Shares	**1**
Post Clicks (All)	**12**