



## North York Moors National Park Authority

### Core Policy A – Delivering National Park Purposes and Sustainable Development

This policy is taken from the **Core Strategy and Development Policies** document which is a key part of the **Local Development Framework**. The Local Development framework consists of several different documents to guide future development in the National Park whilst ensuring that its special qualities are conserved and enhanced.

#### Core Policy A – Delivering National Park Purposes and Sustainable Development

The Local Development Framework seeks to further the National Park purposes and duty by encouraging a more sustainable future for the Park and its communities whilst conserving and enhancing the Park's special qualities. Priority will be given to:

1. Providing a scale of development and level of activity that will not have an unacceptable impact on the wider landscape or the quiet enjoyment, peace and tranquility of the Park, nor detract from the quality of life of local residents or the experience of visitors.
2. Providing for development in locations and of a scale which will support the character and function of individual settlements.
3. Maintaining and enhancing the natural environment and conditions for biodiversity and geodiversity.
4. Conserving and enhancing the landscape, settlement, building features and historic assets of the landscape character areas.
5. Applying the principles of sustainable design and energy use to new development.
6. Enabling the provision of a choice of housing that will meet the needs of local communities in terms of type, tenure and affordability.
7. Strengthening and diversifying the rural economy and providing tourism based opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the Park's special qualities.
8. Enabling access to services, facilities, jobs and technology whilst minimising the environmental impacts of transport.

#### Applicants should refer to:

- Planning Policy Statement 1 – Delivering Sustainable Communities
- Planning Policy Statement 7 – Sustainable Development in Rural Areas
- Circular 12/96 (for major developments)
- Regional Spatial Strategy – Policies YH2, YH6, RR1

#### For further reference:

- North York Moors National Park Management Plan

#### Sustainability Appraisal

*This policy will have a positive contribution towards meeting sustainability objectives through seeking to protect the environment whilst also meeting social and economic objectives.*

- 5.1 The designation of the North York Moors as a National Park reflects the quality of its diverse landscape and spiritual and cultural assets such as the sense of remoteness and tranquility, distinctive skills, dialects and customs. However, the Park is also home to around 25,000 people whose needs to live, work and access services and facilities must be addressed whilst safeguarding its special qualities.
- 5.2 Sustainable development is an important principle in achieving the National Park's twin purposes of conservation and enjoyment of its special qualities and fostering the social and economic well being of the Park's local communities which is carried out through these purposes. The purposes and duty together with sustainability principles also underpin the objectives in the Management Plan for which the Local Development Framework will seek to deliver the spatial elements. Core Policy A sets out the key principles of achieving sustainable communities in the Park whilst pursuing its purposes and social and economic duty.
- 5.3.1 The Park is not expected to be a location for major development schemes. Planning Policy Statement 7 and Circular 12/96 set out the considerations that will be applied in assessing proposals for major development in National Parks. There is no precise definition of 'major development' but an indication that it includes proposals raising issues of national significance. The guidance indicates that major development should only take place in exceptional circumstances and where it can be shown to be in the public interest. Examples of development that might be classed as major include mineral workings, waste disposal facilities, larger energy generating schemes, water storage reservoirs, high voltage electricity transmission schemes, large scale military development and larger road schemes.

*For further information please refer to the complete **Core Strategy and Development Policies** document in the planning section on the website.*