Frequently Asked Questions

What is a local plan?

A Local Plan is a statutory document used to guide new development and determine planning applications. It essentially ensures that any new development is co-ordinated, reflects the goals of local communities and the National Park purposes:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage; and
- To promote opportunities for the public understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Parks

Why is it being reviewed?

Government guidance states that succinct and up-to-date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area and a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities.

Therefore, it is important that we keep our Local Plan up-to-date and consistent and National Planning Policy.

What period will the new plan cover?

The new Local Plan will shape future development as we manage change in the National Park to 2045.

Why does the National Park have its own plan?

The Peak District National Park Authority is the *local planning authority* responsible for planning policy within the National Park.

What topics does it cover?

The document will cover the following topics:

- Our Spatial Strategy

- Landscape, Biodiversity and Nature Recovery

- Cultural Heritage and the Built Environment

- Climate Change and Sustainable Building

- Recreation and Tourism

- Housing

- Shops, Services and Community Facilities

- Bakewell Town

- Business

- Farming

- Travel and Transport

- Utilities

- Minerals and Waste.

Do I have to answer every question?

We appreciate that every topic might not be important to you, but please get in touch with your responses even if it's just on one area of importance!

What area does it cover?

The area covered is the whole Peak District National Park.

Why am I consulted?

Public consultation is a legal requirement.

All local plans must be in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Government Guidance.

The National Planning Policy Framework states that plans should:

'c) be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between planmakers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees;'.

Where can I look at the evidence that supports the Local Plan?

Our evidence base can be viewed at: Local Plan Review: Peak District National Park

How can I have my say?

There are many ways to have your say, be it online, via email, or in person at one of our consultation events.

You can contact your local Parish Council, too, or visit a local library!

Please visit https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/planning/policies-and-guides/the-local-plan/regulation-18-consultation to read and have your say.

Is there a time period?

Our consultation officially begins on the 7th October and runs for 8 weeks.

Consultation will close 11:59pm on 29th November.

What happens next?

Government advice states that plans such as ours that are being prepared under current plan-making rules, must be submitted by December 2026.

We will collate all the responses and write a report of consultation which will be available in due course following the consultation. We will then decide on whether we consult again on issues (to repeat this regulation 18 stage) or move towards preparing a draft plan and regulation 19.

The regulation 19 stage takes into account previous consultation feedback, along with the evidence base documentation produced to support the production of the revised Local Plan. The plan will then be submitted to the secretary of state, and then examination in public by independent examiner.

What happens to my responses?

Your responses will help to shape the New Local Plan.

Your responses will be stored and reviewed in due course for the purposes of the New Local Plan Issues and Options document.

What happens to my personal data?

Please see our Privacy Notice that sets out the personal information that we will collect, the legal basis for this and how this information will be stored and used.