

## CONSULTATION ON CORE STRATEGY

### Sheet 1

### Vision and Objectives SPRING 2007



## Peak District National Park Authority

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**Your comments and views on this options paper are welcomed up to 29 June 2007.** Enquiries can be directed to Brian Taylor, Policy Planning Manager on 01629 816 303. This report is also accessible from our website located under [www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/plansandpolicies.htm](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/plansandpolicies.htm) .

**We are happy to provide this information in alternative formats on request where reasonable.**

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## What is the Core Strategy?

The documents which we used to call the Development Plan are changing. The current Structure Plan (1994) and Local Plan (2001) are being replaced by The East Midlands Regional Plan and the Peak District Local Development Framework (LDF).

For planning purposes the National Park sits wholly within a sub-region of the East Midlands region so the East Midlands Regional Plan contains policies which affect the National Park and other surrounding towns in Derbyshire.

At the local level, the Core Strategy will be the key document in the Peak District National Park LDF. It sets the strategic context for other development plan documents; all other local development documents must conform to it. It will contain the policies to guide the sustainable development of the National Park for at least 10 years from when it is adopted.

Core Strategies must be prepared with stakeholders, integrated with other strategies and provide an effective basis for addressing the needs of the area.

The Core Strategy should comprise:

- Characteristics of the area
- Key issues, problems and challenges
- A vision and objectives
- A spatial strategy
- Core Policies
- A monitoring and implementation framework to ensure delivery of these policies

### The Characteristics of Area and the Key Issues, Problems and Challenges

Over the last 2 years the Authority has undertaken substantial engagement with public bodies, business and the local community. Two key documents to arise through this process have been "[Help Shape the Future](#)" produced in May 2005 and the [National Park Management Plan](#), adopted December 2006. These show the development of the many debates on issues and policy options and offer a useful overview of the characteristics, key issues, problems and challenges currently facing the Peak District.

#### The Vision:

This vision builds on the statutory purposes of National Parks as defined in the Environment Act 1995 and is shared with that developed and adopted in the Peak District National Park Management Plan. This vision seeks to reflect the current global and local issues that present both challenges and opportunities for this special area.

*Our vision is for a conserved and enhanced Peak District where the natural beauty and quality of the landscape, its biodiversity, tranquillity, cultural heritage and the settlements within it continue to be valued for their diversity and richness*

*Our vision is for a welcoming Peak District where people from all parts of our diverse society have the opportunity to visit, appreciate understand and enjoy the National Parks special qualities.*

*Our vision is for a living, modern and innovative Peak District that contributes positively to vibrant communities for both residents and people in neighbouring urban areas, and demonstrates a high quality of life whilst conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the National Park.*

*Our vision is for a viable and thriving Peak District economy that capitalises on its special qualities and promotes a strong sense of identity.*

**We feel that the same vision should apply to both the key strategy documents for the National Park. Do you agree? Or do you feel it should say something else?**

## Spatial Objectives

Spatial Objectives have been written which reflect the strategic outcomes developed and adopted in the National Park Management Plan. These have been drafted to emphasise the land-use dimension of the Core Strategy but it is intended to closely mirror the broad direction already established in the NPMP.

<b>Spatial Objectives</b>	<b>National Park Management Plan strategic outcomes</b>
1.1 Climate change	<b>Climate Change and Natural Resources</b>
Policies and decisions on development recognise the role the National Park plays in global terms by conserving and enhancing a high quality landscape, including wildlife and cultural heritage by locating and designing new development in ways which reduce the carbon footprint and ensuring that the most beautiful and lasting impression is left by the distinctive rural character of the area.	<p>By 2011 climate change is being addressed and the natural resources of the National Park are being managed sustainably so that we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce our adverse impact on climate change, and future generations are better able to manage, mitigate and adjust to the changes that are starting to take place</li> <li>• are better placed to hand on a diverse, healthy and resilient natural environment to future Generations</li> <li>• retain and improve the National Park's natural resources as the basis for our survival, well-being and prosperity.</li> </ul>
1.2 Natural Beauty	<b>Natural Beauty</b>
Development will be sited and designed so to never compromise the natural beauty of the Peak District landscape and that all development should seek to contribute to the gradual enhancement of that landscape.	<p>By 2011 the natural beauty of landscapes means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they are still attractive places to live in and visit and are assets to communities and the economy</li> <li>• there is a clear characterisation of the whole of the landscape and it is conserved and enhanced in accordance with that characterisation.</li> </ul>

1.3 Biodiversity	<b>Biodiversity</b>
<p>Ecological assets of the Peak District will always be conserved when making decisions on new development in the National Park and all development should seek to contribute to the gradual enhancement of biodiversity in line with the objectives of the Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>	<p>By 2011 dynamic partnerships have achieved outcomes for biodiversity and begun to tackle the challenge of climate change having especially:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reached the Public Services Agreement target of 95% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest in target condition by 2010</li> <li>• increased the quality and quantity of Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and species, especially moorland restoration and condition status</li> <li>• increased distinctive White Peak wetland and farmland habitats, and key Local Biodiversity Action Plan species</li> <li>• identified ways of reducing the extent of climate change and reducing its adverse impact on biodiversity.</li> </ul>
1.4 Cultural Heritage	<b>Cultural Heritage</b>
<p>The cultural heritage of the Peak District will always be conserved when making decisions on new development in the National Park and all development should seek to contribute to the gradual enhancement of the area's cultural assets in line with the objectives of the Cultural Heritage Strategy.</p>	<p>By 2011 people, communities and organisations have worked together to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deliver outcomes of the Cultural Heritage Strategy</li> <li>• conserve and enhance distinctive characteristics of landscape and settlements, especially in the White Peak.</li> </ul>
1.5 Mineral Extraction	<b>Mineral Extraction</b>
<p>Opportunities will be taken through the application of strategic planning policies and through the wider influence of the Authority to gradually reduce the visual impact of mineral working in accordance with the overall aim of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Peak District.</p>	<p>By 2011 the impact of mineral working on the special qualities of the National Park and on communities has been reduced because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there are fewer quarries</li> <li>• those quarries that remain are worked to the highest modern environmental standards with established operating end-dates and restoration schemes</li> <li>• there is an agreed definition of 'national need' for mineral working.</li> </ul>

<p>1.6 Traffic, travel and accessibility</p>	<p><b>Traffic, Travel and Accessibility</b></p>
<p>Opportunities will be taken to gradually reduce the impact of traffic across the National Park.</p> <p>Greater encouragement will be sought for more sustainable means of travel, acknowledging the reasonable use of the car in rural areas.</p> <p>Greater understanding of the access needs of all residents and users will be sought, including the implications for the location of homes, services and job opportunities.</p> <p>Transport needs will be commensurate to the scale of need and capacity of the area and the relationship of National Park communities to major conurbations outside the Park boundary.</p>	<p>By 2011 highways, transport infrastructure and services have been improved because they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• meet the needs of residents, visitors and surrounding areas</li> <li>• increase the proportion of visitors using methods of travel other than private cars</li> <li>• reduce the adverse environmental impacts of travel on the special qualities of the National Park</li> <li>• enable more sustainable travel patterns that lead to a reduction in the levels of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere, especially by supporting public transport.</li> </ul>
<p>1.7 Recreation and Tourism</p>	<p><b>Recreation and Tourism</b></p>
<p>The ability to access and enjoy the National Park will be improved in ways which contribute to the sustainable management of the area by seeking to increase the scope for active recreation in ways which do not compromise the valued characteristics of the area.</p>	<p>By 2011 all people, especially those from disadvantaged communities, children and young people, and the elderly should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• feel welcome in the National Park</li> <li>• have the opportunity to participate in diverse recreational activities that enhance the quality of their lives.</li> </ul> <p>By 2011 the number of people staying overnight in the Peak District, and the sustainability of tourism experiences, is increased especially resulting from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increased quality of tourism services</li> <li>• a wider range of tourism products based on, and compatible with, the special qualities of the National Park</li> </ul>
<p>1.8 Promoting better understanding of the National Park</p>	<p><b>Understanding the National Park</b></p>
<p>More and better opportunities will be sought to improve the understanding of the National Park.</p>	<p>By 2011 there is increased understanding of the special qualities of the Peak District National Park amongst target groups so that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• feel welcome in and know that they are in the National Park</li> <li>• understand why it is a special place</li> <li>• have the opportunity to influence decisions that affect them and respect each other's needs</li> <li>• have the opportunity to make a personal contribution to sustainable management of the National Park.</li> </ul>

1. 9 Fostering sustainable communities	<b>People and Communities</b>
<p>That in pursuing the primary aims of the National Park a sustainable approach to fostering the well being of the Park's communities will be secured which facilitates the provision and safeguarding of accommodation, services, community support, leisure and transport needs of local people at the most appropriate scale and distribution and in the most resource efficient means possible.</p>	<p>By 2011 communities around the National Park are more cohesive with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more opportunities for children and young people, and the elderly</li> <li>• reduced inequality</li> </ul> <p>and communities within the National Park have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• better access to services</li> <li>• more affordable homes for those who need them.</li> </ul> <p>By 2011 communities are better able to shape their own futures with more objectives for the National Park and its communities being met by the voluntary sector, volunteering and community activity and enterprise.</p>
1. 10 Fostering a sustainable rural economy	<b>Economy</b>
<p>That in pursuing the primary aims of the National Park a sustainable approach to fostering the well being of the local economy will be secured which facilitates the provision and safeguarding of new and existing employment opportunities which seek to build on and benefit from the strong rural character of the area by ensuring high quality products in ways which understand and respond to the environmental sensitivities of the area.</p>	<p>By 2011 prosperity has been improved by businesses, social enterprise and the public sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• working together</li> <li>• raising productivity</li> <li>• capitalising on their location in a special and distinctive environment</li> <li>• developing a sustainable economy.</li> </ul>

**Do you agree with these spatial objectives or do you think other matters should be considered?**