

Matter 3 - Overview of Soundness

Q2 and Q3: Our representations on Policies DMC1 and DMC10 highlight our concerns that these policy do not actively harnesses the special qualities of the Park as a decision-making tool, but rather regards them as contextual. This is exacerbated by the muddling of the terminology in the DMP between 'special qualities' and 'valued characteristics'. We have recommended that the special qualities should be complemented by a place-based approach to the characteristics and needs of particular locations, to ensure that development can be shown to have a positive and relevant impact.

Q4 and Q5: The key issue here is that restricting is justified on the basis of preventing the loss of business premises, agricultural buildings and community facilities to residential conversions, all of which may have significant economic and social impacts.

Q6: We would prefer to see greater clarity on this matter.

Q7: Additional background text would not be sufficient. Please refer to our representations on Policy DMH1. The quality, size, and tenure of housing are all absolutely fundamental to any decision as to whether new houses contribute positively to the local community and to the Park as a whole, and this should be enshrined in the policy.
