

OP2

Hi Kerry

At the EIP yesterday I promised to send the Inspector a copy of the agreement we had with the Peak District National Park in respect of the housing contribution that would come forward in the Derbyshire Dales part of the National Park over the course of the Derbyshire Dales Local Plan period 2013-2033.

The Council's Duty to Co-operate Statement, which can be downloaded using the following link, sets out in various places, including Page14, and Appendix 4 – Memo of Understanding clearly indicate that the best estimate agreed for the delivery of housing number was 400 homes over the plan period or 20 per annum – this amount is reflected in the calculation of housing need included within the Derbyshire Dales Local Plan.

<http://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/images/documents/L/Local%20Plan%20Examination%20Library/SD07%20DTC%20Statement%20FINAL%20December%202016%20Full%20Document.pdf>

Furthermore on Page 245 in a letter to the District Council from the National Park Authority dated 9th May 2016 the Authority clearly articulates their position:

***“The figure of 400 has been carefully worked out taking into account our intelligence of sites most likely to come forward during the plan period. Reference to this figure will helpfully show the agreed quantum anticipated in the National Park area. As you will know the National Park operates an exceptions approach to housing development in order to reflect the statutory purposes and duty of National Park designation. As such it is not possible for the Authority to plan for a different figure with any degree of certainty, be it high or lower. Monitoring consistently reveals that fluctuations take place within housing commitments reflecting, for example, changing economic cycles, government spending programmes and the speculative nature of larger redevelopment opportunities driven by our conservation and enhancement purposes.*”**

However, the figure also reflects the fact that since the adoption of the Core Strategy in 2011, work to establish capacity for development in the larger villages in the National Park, plus adopted neighbourhood plans, suggests that there may be marginally less scope for new housing on some sites than was evident in 2011.”

The inference from Mr Fullilove that the District Council could have chosen a higher figure for the level of provision within the National Park is therefore disingenuous and not an accurate reflection of the agreement reached between the two planning authorities.

I trust that meets with the Inspectors satisfaction. Please do not hesitate to contact if he requires any further clarification on this or any other point.

Kind Regards

Mike Hase
Policy Manager