

Making the most of your consultation opportunities

All of these actions will feed directly into Defra's official consultation process and will add weight to your personal response.

- Attend at least one public consultation meeting for the 3pm or 7pm formal consultation presentation and Q&A – the results of this will be an official record which the NPA will have to feed back to Defra
- Send your personal response to Defra on the 6 key questions A-F found on pages 1 and 2 of their consultation document. You can always add further comments if you wish.
- Send a copy of your personal response to the Town, District and County Councils within the National Park, asking them to include your views in their own official response. Always ask for an acknowledgement of your submission in your covering letter. See separate list of contact details.
- Do the same for your Parish Council. (The list of consultees only includes Devon Association of Parish Councils and Norfolk Association of Parish & Town Councils)
- **Most importantly: Please complete our online survey - the statistics from this will form the basis of the ONE VOICE official response to Defra. [Click here](#) to complete the survey.**
- There are over 34,000 residents in the NFNPA – each person in your household is eligible to take part in this consultation and our online survey – there is no age limit
- If you have a friend or neighbour who can't attend the meetings or doesn't have access to a computer – ask Defra (0117 372 8086) or NFNPA (01590 646600) to post them a hard copy of the consultation documents – let's keep them all busy and in work!

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Where to send a copy of your response

Here is a list of other organisations you may wish to send copies of your response (see bullet point 3 above.). Decide whom you wish to send a copy to from the many listed - we don't expect you to contact all of them; just those who you think are appropriate. Please remember to attach your covering letter and ensure you have asked for an acknowledgement.

This is not an exhaustive list and we would be happy to provide further information should you wish.

The following are either wholly or partly within the New Forest National Park: -	
New Forest District Council Town Hall Avenue Road Lymington SO41 9ZG	Test Valley Borough Council Beech Hurst Weyhill Road Andover, Hampshire SP10 3AJ
Wiltshire County Council Wiltshire Council County Hall Trowbridge Wiltshire BA14 8JN	Hampshire County Council The Castle Winchester Hampshire SO23 8UJ
Parish Councils: -	
Click here to find details of your Parish Council	
Defra List of Consultees	
Click here to see the full list of Defra's Consultees	

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**Consultation on the Governance arrangements for the National Parks and the Broads
9 November 2010 – 1 February 2011**

NFNPA Statements – Spin Vs Reality

“Spin”	Reality
<p>“The Authority, who is leading the consultation locally on behalf of the Government, has arranged the following events across the New Forest for people to learn more about the review and pick up a copy of the Government’s consultation document”</p>	<p>During discussions with the NFNPA in October, One Voice was told that the ‘consultation document’ would be in the form of a questionnaire and were asked to reconsider launching our own online survey because it was likely that both would include the same or similar questions. We agreed not to launch our survey in the light of this information. (NFNPA were supplied with a copy of the draft survey questions in a meeting in August).</p> <p>On the day of the consultation launch we asked David Illsley where the questionnaire was to be found on Defra’s website – his reply was that the questionnaire was actually points A – F on the 1st and 2nd pages of the consultation document! In no way do these 6 points come close to the comprehensive One Voice Survey – so it will now be launched as originally planned.</p> <p><u>The statistics from our survey will form the basis of the ONE VOICE official response to Defra.</u></p>
<p>“As well as making material available for people to read and discuss with Authority officers and members, a formal presentation and question and answer session will be held at 3pm and repeated at 7pm at each venue on these dates”</p>	<p>It is likely that outside of the 2 formal presentation sessions at each venue the rest of the time will be a ‘Promoting the Park’ exercise similar to the recent ‘drop-in’ sessions on previous consultations, which, from feedback we have received, were known to have a very low turnout.</p> <p>We strongly recommend that members of the public try to attend the 3pm or 7pm formal part of the meetings.</p>
<p>“In line with this Act, the New Forest National Park Authority currently has 22 members, consisting of 12 members appointed by the local authorities with land in the National Park (Hampshire County Council, Wiltshire Council, New Forest District Council and Test Valley Borough Council); four members appointed by the Town and Parish Councils within the National Park; and six appointed by the Government through an open recruitment process”</p>	<p>Excluding the 6 Defra appointees, the remaining 16 members are not directly elected by residents to serve specifically on the NPA membership committee. Yes, these people have gone through an election process – but for a very different purpose. Once appointed to the NPA there is no mechanism for residents or communities to deselect them as you would in all other democratic processes if you chose to at the next elections. The NFNPA have omitted to say that their members wear a combined total of 86 “other hats” outside of their NPA commitments, nor have they stated how many of these members actually live within the Park.</p>
<p align="center">Red Herring / Confusion</p> <p>The NFNPA have added another paragraph to their original Governance Review web page: “Linked to the governance review the National Park Authority is also interested in hearing your views on its future work priorities” and offering their own questionnaire for you to complete.</p>	<p>The Remit of Defra’s consultation document does not refer to Corporate Priorities of NPAs. This may be a ‘piggy-back’ exercise by the NFNPA in readiness for the probability that NPAs will in the future be responsible for Economic Development within their Parks.</p> <p><u>See this House of Commons written answer from Richard Benyon</u> - on the same day he launched the Review.</p>

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