

NAME OF COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	8 October 2013
REPORT TITLE	National Park Governance Review
Report of	Head of Corporate Services
WARDS AFFECTED	All

Summary of report: To agree a suitable response to the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) following their invitation to express our views on changes to composition and size of the proposed Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) structure to take effect from April 2014.

This report has been deemed to be urgent in light of the deadline for responses being before the next scheduled meeting of Council.

Financial implications: There are no financial implications of note arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that a response be sent to DEFRA as follows:

1. That West Devon Borough Council agree with the proposal to reduce membership from 22 to 19;
2. That West Devon Borough Council agree with the proposed mix of membership for Dartmoor National Park Authority; and
3. That West Devon Borough Council agree to the reduction of their members on the DNPA from three members to two members.

Officer contact: Jan Montague, Head of Corporate Services
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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The background and issues for consideration are set out in the attached letter from DEFRA. The recommendations set out above mirror the responses requested from DEFRA.

2. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

2.1 It is a Council responsibility to approve appointments to external organisations.

3. RISK MANAGEMENT

3.1 The risk management implications are shown at the end of this report in the strategic risks template.

Corporate priorities engaged:	All
Considerations of equality and human rights:	Not affected by this report
Biodiversity considerations:	Not affected by this report
Sustainability considerations:	Not affected by this report
Crime and disorder implications:	Not affected by this report
Background papers:	None
Appendices attached:	Appendix A: Letter from DEFRA re National Parks Governance Review

STRATEGIC RISKS TEMPLATE

No	Risk Title	Risk/Opportunity Description	Inherent risk status				Mitigating & Management actions	Ownership
			Impact of negative outcome	Chance of negative outcome	Risk score and direction of travel			
1		Failure to respond in time to the consultation will result in the views of WDBC not being heard	1	1	1	↓	By taking the report as an urgent item to Council it will enable the views of WDBC to be included	Head of Corporate Services

Direction of travel symbols ↓ ↑ ⇄