



YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park Authority

“PUBLIC QUESTION TIME”

Members of the public have an opportunity to ask questions or make statements at meetings of the National Park Authority and at its Committees and Sub-Committees. (This is over and above the facility to speak on planning applications at Planning Committee meetings).

The Public Question Time period will be at the beginning of each meeting open to the public, normally immediately after the Minutes of any previous meeting have been agreed, and will be limited to no more than 15 minutes in total of questions and answers.

Questions may be asked or statements made that relate to any matters that are within the remit of the Authority or of that Committee or Sub-Committee – they do not just have to relate to items on the agenda of that particular meeting.

Any speaker will be limited to **three** minutes' maximum speaking time.

Questions and/or statements will be taken in the order they were received.

Supplementary questions will only be allowed, at the discretion of the Chair, for the purposes of clarifying an earlier question.

If answers cannot be provided on the day, a written reply will be provided at the earliest opportunity.

How to ask a question or make a statement

1. Submit your question or statement to the Chief Executive by no later than 12 noon of the working day before the meeting. You can do this in person at the National Park Office in Bainbridge; by telephone (0300 456 0300); by email (secretariat@yorkshiredales.org.uk) or by post (Chief Executive, YDNPA, Yoredale, Bainbridge, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 3EL);
2. Please include your name, address and contact telephone number (and, where applicable, details of the organisation you represent);
3. Please make sure your submission will not take more than 3 minutes to read out (as a guide – about 300 words long).

EXCLUSIONS

No questions can be accepted which relate to matters which would normally be dealt with in “Private” session (because they relate to exempt or confidential information), for example:

- legal actions
- financial and business affairs of other organisations
- individual members of staff
- Trade Union negotiations

No questions can be accepted where there is a statutory procedure in place for public consultation, for example:

- Development control matters (although the Authority has a procedure that allows the public to speak at Planning Committee Meetings in support of, or against, planning applications)
- Public Rights of Way Orders etc

No questions or statements are allowed at Planning Committee meetings on any “live” planning cases.