Appendix 5
Local occupancy criteria

An occupying household is required to comply with one of the following criteria, at the point of occupancy:

i) Existing residents of the National Park establishing a separate household, purchasing a property for the first time, downsizing to a more manageable home, or requiring more space for a growing family.
ii) A head of household who is or whose partner is in or is taking up full-time permanent employment or self-employment, within the National Park (or in another part of a parish split by the National Park boundary). Where a person is employed in a business that operates in multiple locations, their employment activities should take place predominantly inside the National Park.
iii) A household that has a child at a school within the National Park.
iv) Householders currently living permanently in a dwelling which is either shared (but not self-contained), overcrowded, or is otherwise unsatisfactory by environmental health standards and which is within the National Park (or in another part of a parish split by the National Park boundary).
v) Elderly or disabled persons requiring sheltered or otherwise more suitable accommodation who already live permanently within the National Park (or in another part of a parish split by the National Park boundary).
vi) Persons having to leave tied accommodation within the National Park (or in another part of a parish split by the National Park boundary).
vii) Former residents of the National Park (or of another part of a parish split by the National Park boundary) whose case is accepted in writing by the National Park Authority as having a need to return to the National Park.

Notes

- If, after a period of 12 weeks, a qualifying household is not forthcoming, then the area will be widened by substituting ‘National Park’ with ‘area of the National Park and constituent district council’.
- The categories set out in criteria i), iv), v) and vi) will apply only to persons who have resided permanently in the National Park for the preceding three years. Category vii) will apply to residents who have resided in the National Park for a minimum of 10 years.
- Prospective households will have their attention drawn to the occupancy restriction and, in particular, its effect on the valuation of their property and the potential delay this may cause to its subsequent sale or re-occupancy.
- All local occupancy restrictions will be secured through a Section 106 agreement. The National Park Authority’s legal costs of preparing household occupancy agreements will be met by the applicant.
- The National Park Authority will encourage existing occupancy-restricted dwellings to upgrade to these, more flexible criteria.
- Occupation will be as a principal or main residence and not as a holiday home, second home or short term let accommodation.