

8.8 Lighting Assessment

Background

One of the identified special qualities of the National Park is a landscape mostly free from intrusive development including light pollution. The Local Plan (para 2.33) states “Exmoor is one of the few areas of southern England that are still relatively free from mass sources of artificial light pollution. The experience of the night sky is a valued quality of Exmoor and an important part of the wilderness experience.”

Policy LNC2 of the Local Plan seeks to restrict external lighting associated with new developments to those which are essential in the interests of safety. If one of the special qualities of the National Park is to be maintained and enhanced, development proposals should take account of the need to control lighting and for them to be incorporated into the detailed design at an earlier stage to minimise their wider impact.

Requirements.

Development proposals should include a lighting assessment where any external lighting is to be provided. Again this can be very simple if only limited lighting is proposed. The details and design of the lighting should be set out in the application details together with hours of operation (if appropriate), intensity of light, beam orientation and any cowls to ensure that lighting is directed on to the ground and not into the night sky. The proposed lighting shall be shown on the elevations and lay out plan.