

## **SECTION 3 – EVIDENCE BASE**

### **Paragraph numbers below refer to the paragraph numbers in Section 3 – Evidence Base – of the Discussion Paper**

Comments on paragraph 3.2

This paragraph recognises the difficulty in calculating the need for housing within a small area such as an AONB but nevertheless recognises that there is a requirement for carrying out that calculation.

This seems to suggest that because there is an obligation objectively to assess housing needs, that obligation has to be applied to areas such as AONBs even though it is not really appropriate to do so.

Certainly the methodology used seems fairly rough and ready and not to be relied upon to produce an accurate result, or at least not sufficiently accurate to displace the considerable obligations which exist requiring a Local Authority to resist development in an AONB.

Question 2 – If there is a statutory obligation on Councils to identify housing requirements within an AONB area then, short of changing the law, Councils will have to comply, but more sophisticated market research methods ought to be employed.

Question 3 – This question does not seem appropriate to be answered by people not trained in the gathering and analysis of sophisticated data.