

Public Document Pack

Peak District National Park Authority

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Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire. DE45 1AE



Our Values: Care – Enjoy – Pioneer

Our Ref: A.1142/2741

Date: 25 November 2021



NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting: **Programmes and Resources Committee**

Date: **Friday 3 December 2021**

Time: **10.00 am**

Venue: **Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, DE45 1AE**

SARAH FOWLER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Link to meeting papers:

<https://democracy.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=2392>

AGENDA

- 1 **Roll Call of Members Present, Apologies for Absence and Members Declarations of Interest**
- 2 **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 1st October 2021** *(Pages 5 - 8)* 5 mins
- 3 **Urgent Business**
- 4 **Public Participation**
To note any questions or to receive any statements, representations, deputations and petitions which relate to the published reports on Part A of the Agenda.

FOR DECISION

- 5 **Review of Occupational Safety and Health Policy 2022 (JW)** *(Pages 9 - 24)* 10 mins
Appendix 1
Appendix 2

FOR INFORMATION

- 6 **Annual Report of the Due Diligence Panel (RC)** *(Pages 25 - 26)* 10 mins

FOR DISCUSSION

- 7 **National Parks England Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks - A Peak District National Park Update (SLF)** *(Pages 27 - 38)* 20 mins
Appendix 1
- 8 **Peak District National Park Nature Recovery Prospectus (SLF)** *(Pages 39 - 50)* 20 mins
Appendix 1

FOR DECISION

- 9 **Peak District National Park Wooded Landscapes Plan (RWT)** *(Pages 51 - 90)* 20 mins
Appendix 1

FOR INFORMATION

- 10 **Notes of the Climate Change Member Steering Group Meeting held on 6 October 2021** *(Pages 91 - 96)* 5 mins

Duration of Meeting

In the event of not completing its business within 3 hours of the start of the meeting, in accordance with the Authority's Standing Orders, the Committee will decide whether or not to continue the meeting. If the Authority decides not to continue the meeting it will be adjourned and the remaining business considered at the next scheduled meeting.

If the Committee has not completed its business by 1.00pm and decides to continue the meeting the Chair will exercise discretion to adjourn the meeting at a suitable point for a 30 minute lunch break after which the committee will re-convene.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (as amended)

Agendas and reports

Copies of the Agenda and Part A reports are available for members of the public before and during the meeting on the website <http://democracy.peakdistrict.gov.uk>

Background Papers

The Local Government Act 1972 requires that the Authority shall list any unpublished Background Papers necessarily used in the preparation of the Reports. The Background Papers referred to in each report, PART A, excluding those papers that contain Exempt or Confidential Information, PART B, can be inspected on the Authority's website.

Public Participation and Other Representations from third parties

In response to the Coronavirus (Covid -19) emergency our head office at Aldern House in Bakewell has been closed. However as the Coronavirus restrictions ease the Authority is returning to physical meetings but within current social distancing guidance. Therefore meetings of the Authority and its Committees may take place at venues other than its offices at Aldern House, Bakewell. Public participation is still available and anyone wishing to participate at the meeting under the Authority's Public Participation Scheme is required to give notice to the Head of Law to be received not later than 12.00 noon on the Wednesday preceding the Friday meeting. The Scheme is available on the website <http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/looking-after/about-us/have-your-say> or on request from the Democratic and Legal Support Team 01629 816352, email address: democraticandlegalsupport@peakdistrict.gov.uk.

Written Representations

Other written representations on items on the agenda, except those from formal consultees, will not be reported to the meeting if received after 12 noon on the Wednesday preceding the Friday meeting.

Recording of Meetings

In accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 members of the public may record and report on our open meetings using sound, video, film, photograph or any other means this includes blogging or tweeting, posts on social media sites or publishing on video sharing sites. If you intend to record or report on one of our meetings you are asked to contact the Democratic and Legal Support Team in advance of the meeting so we can make sure it will not disrupt the meeting and is carried out in accordance with any published protocols and guidance.

The Authority will make a digital sound recording available after the meeting which will be retained for three years after the date of the meeting. During the period May 2020 to April 2021, due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation, Planning Committee meetings were broadcast via Youtube and these meetings are also retained for three years after the date of the meeting.

General Information for Members of the Public Attending Meetings

In response to the Coronavirus (Covid -19) emergency our head office at Aldern House in Bakewell has been closed. The Authority is returning to physical meetings but within current social distancing guidance. Therefore meetings of the Authority and its Committees may take place at venues other

than its offices at Aldern House, Bakewell, the venue for a meeting will be specified on the agenda. Also due to current social distancing guidelines there may be limited spaces available for the public at meetings and priority will be given to those who are participating in the meeting. It is intended that the meetings will be audio broadcast and available live on the Authority's website.

This meeting will take place at Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, DE45 1AE.

Information on Public transport from surrounding areas can be obtained from Traveline on 0871 200 2233 or on the Traveline website at www.travelineeastmidlands.co.uk

Please note there is no refreshment provision available.

To: Members of Programmes and Resources Committee:

Chair:	Mr Z Hamid
Vice Chair:	Prof J Haddock-Fraser

Mr J W Berresford	Cllr C Farrell
Cllr C Furness	Cllr C Greaves
Cllr A Gregory	Cllr Mrs G Heath
Cllr A McCloy	Cllr C McLaren
Cllr V Priestley	Miss L Slack
Cllr P Tapping	Cllr D Taylor
Ms Y Witter	Cllr B Woods

Other invited Members: (May speak but not vote)

Mr R Helliwell

Constituent Authorities
Secretary of State for the Environment
Natural England

Peak District National Park Authority
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MINUTES

Meeting: **Programmes and Resources Committee**

Date: Friday 1 October 2021 at 10.00 am

Venue: Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, DE45 1AE

Chair: Mr Z Hamid

Present: Prof J Haddock-Fraser, Mr J W Berresford, Cllr C Farrell, Cllr C Furness, Cllr C Greaves, Cllr A Gregory, Cllr A McCloy, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr V Priestley, Cllr P Tapping, Ms Y Witter and Cllr B Woods

Apologies for absence: Cllr Mrs G Heath, Miss L Slack and Cllr D Taylor

23/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 30 APRIL 2021

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 30th April 2021 were agreed as a correct record subject to the insertion at minute 10/21 of the words North Lees Heritage between the words Stanage and Action Group.

24/21 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

25/21 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 6

Cllr McCloy declared that as Chair of National Parks England and also the NPE's Climate Change Sub Group, he had been involved in drawing up the delivery plan for Climate Leadership.

26/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public had given notice to make representations to the committee.

27/21 NATIONAL PARK ENGLAND DELIVERY PLAN FOR CLIMATE LEADERSHIP (EF)

The Head of Information and Performance Management introduced the report which updated Members about National Parks England's delivery Plan for Climate Leadership in National Parks. The Chief Executive confirmed that further updates on the 3 other NPE Delivery Plans would come to the committee as follows:

- December 2021 Nature Recovery
- January 2022 National Parks for All
- April 2022 Future of Farming

The Climate Change Member Steering Group and the National Park Management Plan and Corporate Strategy Member Task and Finish Group were confirmed to be coordinating their work in order to put climate change at the front and centre of the National Park Management Plan.

The Head of Information and Performance Management confirmed that National Park Authorities have begun to work together to establish a baseline of carbon emissions for their National Park. This Authority's target is to achieve net zero by 2050 at the latest.

Members requested a figure for the budget and staff time currently being dedicated to Climate Change. The Chief Executive confirmed that there is not a simple answer to this as the work was embedded across the Authority, but she would research a "ball park" figure. The Authority was also working with partners to encourage sustainable transport by endeavouring to influence neighbouring developing Local Authority's Bus Service Improvement Plans, to take visitors into consideration as well as commuters. The CEO requested that Local Authority Members raise this with their constituent authorities.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved and seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

To note how the Authority is currently taking forward National Parks England's Delivery Plan for Climate Leadership in the Peak District and how it is informing our future National Park Management Plan

28/21 NATIONAL PARK CONSUMPTION BASED CARBON FOOTPRINT (EF)

The report was introduced by the Head of Information and Performance Management. The report informed Members about the context, purpose and progress with the current consumption based assessment of the Peak District National Park's carbon footprint, which is being undertaken by Small World Consulting.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved and seconded.

Members noted that a large proportion of the emissions in the National Park come from Hope Valley Cement Works. The CEO advised that she would check with the Environment Agency what measures they take in respect of requiring/encouraging carbon mitigation measure at the cement works.

The Head of Information and Performance Management confirmed that the information from Small World Consulting will provide evidence to underpin the National Park Management Plan review, and that all efforts are being made to ensure that their findings arrive in time for this.

The motion to approve the recommendation was put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

To note the work currently being undertaken by Small World Consulting to develop a consumption based carbon footprint for the Peak District National Park that is consistent with other National Park Authorities.

29/21 CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REPORT 2020/21((A595/MF)

The report, which detailed the Authority's progress towards its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050, was introduced by the Corporate Property Team Manager.

He also confirmed the following

- That the figures did not take into account the carbon generated in taking climate change mitigation measures, e.g. in renovating buildings or replacing fleet vehicles, because this information was not currently readily available.
- That the Authority was working with Peak District EQM (Environmental Quality Mark) to get information on Scope 3 emissions on Authority land.
- That the Authority was working on a communication plan for this work which would include case studies being put on the Authority website.
- The data included travel by Members

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved and seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

That the environmental performance data detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, is considered and adopted as the detail supporting the position on the Authority's operational environmental performance over the 2020/21 reporting period.

The meeting adjourned for a short break at 11.17am and reconvened at 11.25am

30/21 DEFRA NATURE FOR CLIMATE FUND PROJECT (CD)

The report, which detailed the proposal to extend peatland restoration works in the Dark Peak and South Pennines, working through a grant delivered from the climate for Nature Fund, was presented by the Head of the Moors for the Future Partnership (MFFP) and the MFFP Programme Manager.

Officers explained that the priority order of sites was decided based on a variety of factors including staff capacity, and coordination with the Partnership's other works. The works proposed in this report were ambitious but Officers were confident that they could be done within the timescale set. DEFRA were supportive of the scale of the proposals. The Partnership's work covers land in the jurisdiction and ownership of many councils and other bodies, and this enables an approach which is more coordinated than when all these organisations work separately. Whether these Authorities could make a greater contribution to the work of the Partnership was currently being investigated.

Officers also confirmed that bidding for funds can be a difficult and time consuming process, so additional income sources have been found, e.g. the Partnership also had funding agreements with water companies who invest in restoration work because of carbon and biodiversity benefits, which improve drinking water provision.

Cllr Woods left the meeting at 12.15 and Ms Witter left at 12.40

A request was made by the CEO for Members to encourage their constituent Authorities to look at nature based solutions to issues such as carbon, health and flood defences and how they might financially support this important peatland restoration work.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved and seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. To support the application to the Nature for Climate Fund Peatland Capital Grant scheme for a Discovery grant and further applications up to a ceiling of £8m of funding for the project to operate to the end of the 2025 – 2026 financial year.

2. Specifically:

- **Approval of acceptance of up to £935,000 from the Nature for Climate Fund in respect of the initial Discovery grant bid with acceptance of the grant offer delegated to the Head of Moors for the Future Partnership in consultation with Head of Law and Chief Finance Officer**
- **Support of further Discovery and Restoration bids to the Nature for Climate Fund and acceptance of funding from the fund, and match funding (if successful) up to a ceiling of £8 million (including the initial Discovery grant bid) to operate further projects within the scheme to the end of financial year 2025/26 (i.e. 31 March 2026)**
- **Acceptance of Discovery and Restoration grant offers from the Nature for Climate Fund from Defra delegated to the Head of Moors for the Future Partnership in consultation with the Head of Law and Chief Finance Officer**
- **Acceptance of new partnering agreements to deliver the projects within the fund delegated to the Head of Moors for the Future Partnership in consultation with the Head of Law and Chief Finance Officer**
- **The Authority may, subject to compliance with its procurement standing orders, enter into contracts in order to spend funds and deliver the required outcomes of the grant agreements**

31/21 NOTES OF MEETINGS OF THE MEMBER CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP HELD ON 21 APRIL AND 13 JULY 2021

RESOLVED:

To note the notes of the meetings of the Member Climate Change Task Group held on the 21 April and 13 July 2021.

The meeting ended at 12.30 pm

5. **REVIEW OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH POLICY 2022 (JW)**

Purpose of the report

1. The Authority's *Occupational Safety and Health Policy*, a document required by law, is reviewed annually so that changed circumstances are taken into account and improvements made wherever possible. Members are asked to approve the new *Occupational Safety and Health Policy (2022)*.

Recommendations

2. **That the revised *Occupational Safety and Health Policy (2022)* be approved as Authority policy from 1 January 2022.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. It is a legal requirement to have a suitable occupational safety and health policy setting out the Authority's intentions, organisation and arrangements to deliver occupational safety and health. The *Occupational Safety and Health Policy (2022)* satisfies that requirement.

Background

4. The Authority's *Occupational Safety and Health Policy*, is reviewed annually to ensure it is up-to-date with both the Authority organisation and arrangements to deliver occupational safety and health and with current legislation.

The style and principle content of the *Occupational Safety and Health Policy (2022)* was substantially updated in 2018 and remains largely unchanged for 2022.

During the previous year many significant changes in working practices and patterns have emerged due to the coronavirus pandemic. These have been managed as they have happened, taking account of the associated official *Working Safely* guidance as that has evolved. The Authority has completed a wide range of risk assessments for COVID-19 for all operational workplaces and for all employees and volunteers, including those working from home. Supporting guidance, including regular wellbeing updates and advice, have also been provided. As the Authority returns to more normal working arrangements, a full review of changes, with respect to the implications for future changes to *Occupational Safety and Health*, will be conducted by the OSHA. This review is likely to recommend further changes to our arrangements and this will need to be reflected in a further revision of our Policy in 2022.

5. This document has been prepared by the Occupational Safety and Health Adviser (OSHA).

Proposals

6. The new *Occupational Safety and Health Policy (2022)* should be ratified as Authority policy for adoption from 1 January 2022, pending the completion of the review discussed at 4 above.

7. **Financial**

There are no obvious additional costs involved.

8. **Background papers** (not previously published)

9. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Minutes (draft) of the Health and Safety Committee 14 October 2021.
Appendix 2 - Final DRAFT *Occupational Safety and Health Policy (2022)*.

10. **Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date**

Jon Wayte (OSHA), HR , 25 November 2021

DRAFT MINUTES

DRAFT MINUTES

Meeting ID	2877
Committee	Health and Safety Committee
Date	14/10/2021
Attendees	Mark Anderson (Committee Member) Sue Beswick (Committee Member) Joanne Cooper (Committee Member) Andy Farmer (Committee Member) Matt Freestone (Committee Member) Chris Fry (Committee Member) Neil Hanshaw (Committee Member) Martin Hill (Officer) Rebecca Knighton (Committee Member) Rachel Mora-Bannon (Committee Member) Rosie Olle (Committee Member) Theresa Reid (Committee Member) Geoff Smith (Committee Member) Felicity Stout (Committee Member) Natalie Webster (Committee Member) Ruth Crowder (Secretary) Democratic Services (Monitor) Karen Harrison (Secretary) Belinda Wybrow (Secretary) Jon Wayte (Officer) Amy Brittain-Carlidge (Secretary)

Item ID	16953
Item Title	Apologies for absence
Summary	

Item ID	17440
Item Title	Attendance at Health & Safety Committee
Comment	The Committee agreed to revisit attendance at the committee and revise the list to include instructions to send a representative if not able to attend.

Item ID	16954
Item Title	Minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2021(attached)
Summary	The minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2021 were approved as a correct record.

Item ID	16955
Item Title	Matters Arising
Summary	<p>25/21 - Members of the Committee were asked to continue to promote and encourage the use of COVID-19 self-test kits.</p> <p>28/21 - The Doodle Poll for the ISOH Managing Safety Course had not yet been set up.</p> <p>Action: Jon Wayte to send out all staff email encouraging use of COVID-19 self-test kits.</p>

Item ID	17261
Item Title	Health & Wellbeing Report (HR)
Summary	<p>Nat Webster provided an update on Health and Wellbeing.</p> <p>The number of all staff emails had been reduced over the summer as restrictions lifted. Resilience support will continue to be provided along with support as staff continue to return to the work place.</p> <p>Since the beginning of this year the sickness levels have returned to those pre-Covid. There are several staff on long term sickness leave with stress and this is a big factor in the numbers when calculating the average. Anxiety and Stress are the main causes of sickness absence across the Authority which is similar to the pattern nationally.</p> <p>Support continues to be provided for individuals and teams and HR will continue to send out the emails with support advice but less frequently.</p> <p>HR are using the lessons learnt to refresh the Health and Wellbeing policy and are considering a staff survey later in the year.</p> <p>Staff are being encouraged to have flu jabs and can claim up to £12 towards the cost. Over 50% of the workforce are over 50 and entitled to free jabs.</p> <p>Occupational Health are continuing to be available for phone consultations.</p>

Item ID	17259
Item Title	Covid Update - returning to offices and workplaces
Summary	<p>Jon Wayte provided the update.</p> <p>Despite a rise in daily infection numbers the 'R' number had still been less than one prior to children returning to School.</p> <p>Core message is to continue to take precautions including hand washing,</p>

mask wearing and avoiding crowds.

The Authority still had a good stock of lateral flow test kits and staff should be encouraged to use one weekly. The stock was stored in interview room 1.

Action:

Jon will continue to distribute out to sites when he is visiting and send an all staff email re the location of kits to collect.

Jon is involved in discussions with individuals concerned regarding retuning to the office.

Statistics are not available on the number of staff using the kits but other National Parks are following similar precautions and risk assessments.

The carbon monoxide monitors purchased to show the effectiveness of ventilation through open windows and the impact of the number of people in rooms have worked well with no need yet for the introduction of further measure as the readings on the monitors have been good.

Staff had been asked to spend 40% of their time in the office but it was not clear how many staff were complying with this request.

Matt Freestone confirmed that more staff were now in Aldern House and were being encouraged to open windows and stick to their zone once in the building. Those who do need to move between different zones were asked to use common sense to reduce contact between staff.

The Moorland Centre was now open and staff their liaising with Chris Dean regarding numbers in the office.

No particular issues had been reported at Aldern House. An intercom was due to be installed on the main doors to reception to reduce the need for staff to be on the reception desk, once the intercom had been installed a date would be set to re open the building to the public.

Action:

Matt would check for the installation date and let H&S Committee know.

Jon confirmed that there were no obstacles to re opening and CBST were looking at the impact this would have. Visitor Centres were all now open.

Item ID	17260
Item Title	OSH Training
Summary	<p>The OSH training was up and running and Jon was finalising dates for the training. A Doodle Poll would be sent out with dates to all those who need to attend including members of H&S Committee. A refresher and full Managing Safely courses had been purchased, dates were expected to be in December 2021.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>All - Nominations for any managers the courses would be suitable for should be sent to Jon.</p>

Item ID	16956
Item Title	Safety information and legislation update
Summary	DVLA have requested changes to towing trailers – no longer need specialised training when towing up to 3 ½ tons. The Authority would continue to train all those who need to tow trailers for H&S reasons.

Item ID	16957
Item Title	Safety Representative's/Staff Committee reports
Summary	A Staff Committee representative was not at the meeting to provide an update.

Item ID	16959
Item Title	Service Reports
Summary	<p>Neil Hanshaw provided an update for Field Staff. Not much had changed but more face to face meetings were occurring for field staff. Briefing centres were all now back in use with some using staged return with reduced capacity. Volunteer numbers not yet back to pre Covid levels.</p> <p>Geoff Smith confirmed that Cultural Heritage were now holding face to face meetings and had introduced a spreadsheet to monitor number in the office to ensure safety. The team had continued site visits throughout.</p> <p>Matt Freestone confirmed that numbers in Aldern House had increased on 19 July but not much since then. Property Team had reduced the number of site visits and handed the management of the sites back to the staff based there.</p> <p>Theresa Reid – HR continue to raise the profile of health and safety and are keen to ensure all services are represented on the H&S Committee with a</p>

	substitute sent if the usual representative unable to attend. HR were dealing with some employee relations issues.
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Item ID	16960
Item Title	Any other business
Summary	<p>Tree Safety – Issues with trees with underlying issues such as Ash dieback which posed a high H&S risk. Teething issues with getting the right information on the right data record. The survey of tree stock had continued during lockdown and tree planting continued.</p> <p>Issues regarding reports of issues reaching the appropriate officers. Discussions with Anna Badcock and Sue Fletcher were continuing regarding visitor experience staff liaising and attending a day course regarding identifying issues, possible early 2022.</p> <p>Ash Dieback a continues to be an issue. A future local forum was planned with local councils next year.</p> <p>Field Staff – Neil confirmed that some staff had now completed chain saw training for dealing with smaller trees but caution was advised re any Ash trees. Chain saw refresher training was being carried out.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>Neil to discuss with Andy Farmer re including advice on Ash Dieback on refresher course.</p>

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Care

We care for the Peak District National Park, the people we work with and all those we serve. It is at the heart of everything we do.

PART I

Our Occupational Safety and Health Policy: Statement of intent

It is our intent to:

- demonstrate an ongoing and determined commitment to improving occupational safety and health throughout our organisation
- comply with the requirements of health and safety legislation as a minimum
- exceed the guidance of the Health and Safety Executive and that of other relevant regulatory bodies, wherever practicable

Principles

1. AWARENESS: All of our people and the people we work with, will have good awareness and understanding of occupational safety and health hazards and risks that may affect them and others

1.1 Occupational Safety and Health Policy statement.

Adequate resources will be provided to ensure all our people and others we work with are aware of this policy and are committed and supported to achieve its' effective implementation.

1.2 Communication and consultation.

There will be active open communication and consultation between all our people and others we work with. Occupational safety and health will be integrated into our communications, wherever appropriate.

1.3 Management roles and responsibilities.

Roles and responsibilities for occupational safety and health will be defined, as necessary, within job descriptions and routinely included in service plans.

The Management Team, comprising the Chief Executive and Heads of Services, will ensure that:

- adequate resources are provided for occupational safety and health

- occupational safety and health is adequately assessed, controlled and monitored
- our people are actively involved on matters that affect occupational safety and health

1.4 Hazard identification.

We will identify our occupational safety and health hazards. We will inform our people and others we work with, as appropriate, of these workplace hazards.

We will require our contractors and working partners to identify occupational safety and health hazards that may impact on our work activities.

2. COMPETENCE: All our people and working partners have the competence to undertake their work with minimum risks to occupational safety and health

2.1 Occupational safety and health training.

All our people will be adequately instructed and trained on the occupational safety and health issues that affect them, and the safe working practices that should be followed.

We will ensure, as far as is practicable, the occupational safety and health competence of our contractors and others we work with.

2.2 Behaviour and culture.

The Management Team will demonstrate leadership in occupational safety and health, including undertaking tours to ensure that occupational safety and health issues are identified, assessed and managed. Systems will be in place and people will be empowered to raise occupational safety and health concerns with all levels of management.

2.3 Risk assessment and management.

We will assess the risks associated with occupational safety and health hazards in the workplace. All our people will be informed of the occupational safety and health hazards and risks that affect their work. We will take action to prevent, reduce or control risks to an acceptable level and reduce the potential for incidents and accidents. We will require our contractors and working partners to identify, assess and control occupational safety and health risks that may impact on our work activities.

3. COMPLIANCE: Our work activities achieve compliance with legislation, and our people are empowered to take action to minimise occupational safety and health risks

3.1 Incident investigation.

We will report and investigate accidents, incidents and near misses to drive improvement in our occupational safety and health management. Any lessons learned will be used to take corrective action to prevent recurrences.

3.2 Measuring performance.

We will actively and openly, review and report on our occupational safety and health performance against agreed objectives and targets. Action plans will be developed to support the delivery of these objectives and targets.

3.3 Occupational safety and health management system.

We will implement management systems to ensure we:

- comply with health and safety legislation as a minimum
- continually improve our occupational safety and health performance, wherever practicable adopting recognised best practice

3.4 Contractor improvement.

We will engage and collaborate with our contractors, as far as is practicable, to ensure their:

- occupational safety and health capability and competence fulfil our expectations
- occupational safety and health performance is monitored and reviewed
- work activities have minimal occupational safety and health impacts on our activities

4. EXCELLENCE: PDNPA is recognised for excellence in the way it manages occupational safety and health

4.1 Developing innovative practices.

We will constantly encourage, develop, review and share “occupational safety and health good practice” both internally and externally.

4.2 Influencing people we work with.

We will only work with others who are willing to meet and achieve our occupational safety and health expectations. We will engage and influence working partners to drive improvements in occupational safety and health.

4.3 Work-related health.

We will assess our occupational health risks. All our people will be informed of the occupational health risks that affect their work. We will take action to prevent, reduce or control occupational health risks to an acceptable level and reduce the potential for ill health, including assessing all our people’s fitness for work. Health surveillance will be conducted, as necessary.

PART II

5. Delivering our policy

Our policy will be delivered by:

- generating a culture that does not tolerate threats to occupational safety and health
- ensuring the involvement of all our people and all of the people we work with
- all Services and Teams implementing suitable management systems and processes in the workplace

5.1 Organisation and arrangements for implementing the Authority's Occupational Safety and Health Policy

Roles and responsibilities for Authority Members, managers, those with special responsibilities for occupational safety and health and for all staff are clearly stated in job descriptions.

5.1.1 Authority Members

Authority Members have a duty to ensure that occupational safety and health is effectively managed throughout the organisation. Having delegated authority to deal with occupational safety and health matters to the Management Team, Members ensure that there are in place comprehensive corporate occupational safety and health arrangements through the scrutiny of reports at the Programmes and Resources Committee.

5.1.2 Management Team responsibilities

Management Team shall ensure that all operations are compliant with relevant regulatory frameworks and legislation.

- (a) The Chief Executive is responsible for providing leadership to Heads of Service. The Authority's Management Team, which comprises the Chief Executive and the Heads of Service, is responsible for setting the strategic direction of occupational safety and health management, ensuring delivery and for monitoring and reviewing occupational safety and health performance.
- (b) The Chief Executive (or Deputy) shall commission investigations in the case of work-related accidents that involve a fatality, specified injury, occupational disease or dangerous occurrence, as defined in the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) on advice from the OSHA.
- (c) The Management Team shall receive an annual report on safety performance from the Occupational Safety and Health Adviser (OSHA) and conduct an annual review of this Policy.

- (d) The Head of People Management will act as Management Team lead on health and safety, including Chairing the Authority's Health and Safety Committee.
- (e) Heads of Service shall allocate appropriate resources to enable Team Managers and the staff allocated to each service to discharge their occupational safety and health responsibilities.
- (f) Heads of Service shall be responsible for putting the Authority's policy arrangements into practical effect to manage workplace risks for their service(s). Though this may in practice be devolved to other staff and services, the responsibility will remain with the Head of Service.

5.1.3 Team Managers

Team Managers are responsible for the day-to-day operational occupational safety and health management of their team members and others working with or for them, including volunteers. Key Team Manager safety management tasks include:

- (a) Ensuring that all those at work and volunteering are given sufficient information, appropriately supervised and/or trained and are suitably competent, for the tasks they are expected to undertake.
- (b) Where necessary, the production, maintenance and use of suitable and sufficient risk assessments and/or work instructions.
- (c) Ensuring that all safeguards and safety procedures identified by risk assessments and by other relevant documents, such as manufacturers operating instructions, are properly used and followed.
- (d) Ensuring that an incident report form is completed and received for any significant incident, including accidents, near misses and any incident involving violence at work.
- (e) Considering, for all reported incidents received, whether any further action is necessary and for these incidents complete an incident investigation report. Completed reports are sent to a Head of Service/Management Team as necessary, for comment.
- (f) Ensuring appropriate arrangements are put in place for dealing with emergencies.
- (g) Ensuring that work to be carried out by any other people that we work with is organised and managed so that risks to Authority staff and others are reduced to the lowest practicable level.

5.1.4 All Employees, Volunteers and Authority Members

All Employees, Volunteers and Authority Members are responsible for the day-to-day operational safety management of themselves and others working with them, for risks that they create or have control over. This means that:

- (a) All those at work, volunteers and Members shall co-operate with managers so that the Authority is not prevented from carrying out its legal obligations.
- (b) All safeguards, safety procedures and other controls identified by risk assessments are complied with.
- (c) Any accident, near miss or violent incident shall be reported promptly to the appropriate line manager using an official incident report form.

5.1.5 Role of the Occupational Safety and Health Adviser (OSHA)

The Authority has one professional, part-time OSHA who is responsible to the Head of People Management. The role of the OSHA includes:

- a) The provision of competent advice in respect of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) to the Authority, its officers and staff.
- b) The introduction, maintenance and continuous development/improvement of suitable corporate systems and processes to ensure key statutory obligations are met in respect of OSH.
- c) The production, presentation and ratification of an annual OSH report providing evidence of the Authority meeting its statutory obligations, making continuous improvements in OSH management, identifying lessons learned and actions taken in the previous year and planning for further improvements.
- d) Carrying out premise and service OSH inspections and audits identifying any matters requiring attention, giving advice and assisting in the completion of those actions where appropriate.
- e) Assisting line managers in the preparation and review of specific risk assessments, on request.
- f) Supporting the provision of OSH training as necessary/appropriate.
- g) Conducting incident/accident investigations as directed by the Authority and its officers.

5.1.6 Role of Safety Representatives

Safety Representatives play a key role in promoting and supporting good occupational safety and health management. Safety Representatives are all

members of the Health and Safety Committee and represent all areas of the Authority and its staff. The role of Health and Safety Representatives includes:

- a) Participating as a member of the Health and Safety Committee and attending meetings of the committee, as required.
- b) Promoting good occupational safety and health practice.
- c) Acting as a point of contact for all staff, volunteers and members for all matters concerning occupational safety and health.
- d) Encouraging and monitoring incident and near miss reporting and initiating further incident investigation, where necessary.
- e) Monitoring and reporting on working practices to line managers in accordance with a forward work programme agreed by the Health and Safety Committee.
- f) Reporting all activity performed and findings to the Health and Safety Committee (Representatives Service reports).

PART III

6. Governance arrangements

6.1 A Health and Safety Committee is constituted under the Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations 1977. It includes

:

- Head of People Management (Chair of the Committee)
- UNISON Accredited H&S Representative*
- A Staff Committee Representative
- Occupational Safety and Health Adviser
- Safety Representatives from all principle Services

**To be confirmed for 2022*

The Committee, which has both consultative and performance management roles, shall routinely meet quarterly.

At the spring meeting, the Committee shall:

- (a) Receive and review the Occupational Safety and Health Annual Report for the previous year. This report shall include performance information.
- (b) Agree and set strategic objectives for the following year. This to include occupational safety and health training and system developments such as significant new OSH documentation including generic risk-assessments and associated guidance, specific safety-management plans, safe working procedures and other guidance.

- (c) Consider any occupational safety and health matters raised by UNISON, Staff Committee and Safety Representatives.

At the autumn meeting, the Committee shall:

- (d) Receive, review and agree the Occupational Safety and Health Policy to be implemented the following year.
- (e) Receive an update on progress with meeting strategic objectives (see 6.1b above).
- (f) Consider any occupational safety and health matters raised by UNISON, Staff Committee and Safety Representatives.

The constitution of the Committee allows for the co-option of other members of staff and specialists, as necessary.

The Committee may convene a meeting at any other time, as necessary, to be arranged by mutual consensus.

- 6.2 Management Team receives, reviews and approves the Occupational Safety and Health Annual Report and the Occupational Safety and Health Policy, following the respective Health & Safety Committee meetings, for implementation the following year. Management Team may also receive reports of safety matters escalated to them for action and incident investigations sponsored by members.
- 6.3 Programmes and Resources Committee receives, for notification and endorsement, the Occupational Safety and Health Annual Report and the revised Occupational Safety and Health Policy for implementation the following year. Programmes & Resources Committee receives such reports on behalf of the Authority.

6. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DUE DILIGENCE PANEL 2020/21 (RC)

1. Purpose of the report

To inform Members' of the items considered by the Due Diligence Panel over the last 12 months.

Key Issues

- The Panel have considered one item during the past 12 months and this is detailed in the report.

2. Recommendations

1. To note the item considered by the Due Diligence Panel over the last 12 months, as set out in paragraph 9 of the report.
2. To note that the Panel reviewed the financial register of sponsorships and donations, the in-kind register of sponsorships and donations and the staff benefits register in June and October 2021

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. This work contributes to achieving the Authority's outcomes to be an agile and efficient organisation and to be a National Park loved and supported by diverse audiences.

Background Information

4. The Due Diligence Panel was set up as part of the Authority's Policy on working with Businesses, Organisations, Individuals and Groups of Individuals on Sponsorship Philanthropy and Legacies agreed at the Authority meeting on 3rd October 2014
5. Since then the role and decision making of the Panel has been updated twice and checklists for Officers to use for prospective proposals produced. The role and decision making outcomes of the Panel are:
 1. To confirm whether it is appropriate to develop a relationship which has a financial value of £5000 or more (actual or in kind) with the proposed interested party (or parties)
 2. To confirm sufficient material has been provided to make a judgement or to refer back to the proposer if more information is needed
 3. To advise if mitigation action is required in light of risks identified by the proposal or the Panel in order for development of the relationship to proceed
6. In accordance with the agreed policy all decisions made below the £5000 threshold are:
 - a) Recorded through the finance system where a financial transaction is made – with a report being made every six months by the Head of Finance to the Due Diligence Panel for review.
 - b) Reported to Democratic and Legal Support Team for recording on a register where the transaction is an in-kind transaction with a report being made every six months to the Due Diligence Panel for review

7. In 2019 the Panel agreed to split the in-kind register to show items that were just of benefit to staff as a separate register and this has also been reviewed every six months.
8. The Panel began meeting in November 2015 and holds quarterly meetings but can be convened as necessary. The current members of the panel are the Monitoring Officer (as Chair), Head of Engagement, Chief Financial Officer and Mr James Berresford (with Ms Annabelle Harling as Deputy Member).

Proposals

9. The Committee is asked to note the item that has been considered and decided on by the Due Diligence Panel in the past 12 months:
 - Offer of £67,367 legacy left to be used by the Authority as capital, income or both.
10. The Committee is also asked to note that the Panel carried out the half yearly review of the financial and in-kind registers of sponsorship and donations and the staff benefits register in June and October 2021.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

11. Any financial risks of individual proposals are considered as part of the Due Diligence process.

Risk Management:

12. Any risks related to individual proposals are considered as part of the Due Diligence process and addressed accordingly.

Sustainability:

13. Any sustainability issues of individual proposals are considered as part of the Due Diligence process and addressed accordingly.

Equality:

14. Any equality issues of individual proposals are considered as part of the Due Diligence process and addressed accordingly.

15. Climate Change

Any climate change issues of individual proposals are considered as part of the Due Diligence process and addressed accordingly.

16. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

17. Appendices

None.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Ruth Crowder, Democratic and Legal Support Team Leader, 24 November 2021.

7. NATIONAL PARKS ENGLAND DELIVERY PLAN FOR WILDLIFE IN NATIONAL PARKS – A PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK UPDATE (SLF)

1. Purpose of the report

To inform Members about National Parks England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks, what this means for the Peak District National Park and how it fits with our National Park Management Plan and the review currently taking place.

Key Issues

- The Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks has been devised by National Parks England (NPE) and the ten English National Park Authorities to drive action in nature recovery in response to the 25 Year Environment Plan.
- The Authority will deliver its commitments to the Delivery Plan through our Corporate Strategy and National Park Management Plan (NPMP). Both include commitments for the Authority, alongside our partners, for an enhanced diverse, working and cherished landscape which enhances the special qualities, in particular by ensuring a future for farming and land management and working at an even bigger landscape scale.
- The Delivery Plan is part of our evidence base for the current review of the NPMP and Corporate Strategy.
- There is significant interest in and publicity about the need for nature recovery and the prevention and mitigation of climate change (e.g. natural solutions to carbon sequestration and flood risk mitigation). A variety of terms are in use e.g. rewilding, wilder, nature friendly, making space for nature and nature recovery and these terms can mean different things to different people. At the same time there is substantial interest and activity from a wide range of partners. So, the Authority has a convening role to bring all partners together to share existing data and to develop one Nature Recovery Plan for the Peak District National Park (PDNP).
- Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs), a statutory requirement under the recently passed Environment Act will be developed and will support nature recovery. It is likely that the 'responsible authority' will be based at a county or unitary authority level so potentially split six ways for the PDNP. However, ultimately it will be the Secretary of State who decides who the responsible body will be. The Authority is working towards one Nature Recovery Plan for the PDNP which could stand on its own as a Local Nature Recovery Strategy or be split in different ways e.g. County, National Park, National Character Areas.

2. Recommendations(s)

- 1. To note how the Authority is currently taking forward National Parks England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in the PDNP and how it is informing our future NPMP.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. The UK Government Vision and Circular for National Parks (2010)

The vision for English National Parks and the Broads includes that by 2030 they should be places where "wildlife flourishes and habitats are maintained, restored and expanded and linked effectively to other ecological networks. Woodland cover has increased and all woodlands are sustainably managed, with the right trees in the right places. Landscapes and habitats are managed to create resilience and enable

adaptation”.

4. Nature recovery is central to National Park Authority objectives and the Delivery Plan for Wildlife will contribute in the following ways:
 - A Renewed Focus on Achieving the Park Purposes:
 - Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Parks
 - Leading the way in adapting to, and mitigating, climate change:
 - The Authorities have a role as exemplars of sustainability in enabling the natural environment to adapt to predicted changes (and being resilient to unpredictable events), in supporting the delivery of ecosystem services and in developing more resilient infrastructure (such as rights of way that are less vulnerable to flood damage).
 - The Parks themselves will be threatened by climate change and the Authorities must ensure that they protect the public assets which the Parks represent.
 - The Authorities should lead the way in sustainable land management to prevent further carbon loss from soils and to encourage carbon storage in trees and fens (including peatlands and other habitats such as semi-natural grasslands).
 - Secure a diverse and healthy natural environment, enhance cultural heritage and inspire lifelong behaviour change:
 - Manage landscape, heritage and improve quality of place
 - Biodiversity, valued, safeguarded and enhanced
 - Protecting and enhancing soils in our most valued landscapes
 - Promoting and delivering agri-environment schemes and food security
 - Improving public understanding of the natural environment and the benefits of outdoor recreation.
 - Promoting opportunities for people to experience the natural environment and seek to inspire a lifelong commitment to enjoying, understanding and caring for the natural environment.
5. **The National Park Management Plan.**

The Delivery Plan for Wildlife will be able to contribute to maintaining and enhancing all seven Special Qualities and in particular: Special Quality 1 - Beautiful views created by contrasting landscapes and dramatic geology, Special Quality 2 - Internationally important and locally distinctive wildlife and habitats, Special Quality 4 - Landscapes that tell a story of thousands of years of people, farming and industry, Special Quality 6 - An inspiring space for escape, adventure, discovery and quiet reflection and Special Quality 7 - Vital benefits for millions of people that flow beyond the landscape boundary.
6. It will also be able to contribute to Areas of impact: 1 – Preparing for a future climate, 2 - Ensuring a future for farming and land management, 3 - Managing landscape conservation on a big scale, 5 - Encouraging enjoyment with understanding and 6 - Supporting thriving and sustainable communities and economy.
7. Emerging findings from the initial NPMP review consultation has placed nature recovery as one of the top concerns from those who responded.
8. **The Corporate Strategy.**

The National Parks England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks will be able to contribute to many of the outcomes and Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) in particular:

A sustainable landscape that is conserved and enhanced: -

 - Distinctive landscapes that are sustainably managed, accessible and

properly resourced - KPIs 1, 2 and 3.

- High quality habitats in better condition, better connected and wildlife rich through nature recovery networks – KPI's 4, 5, 6 and 7. By the end of 2020/21 the KPI 4 target for restoration activities on 600 hectares of degraded blanket bog has already been exceeded; the KPI 5 target of sustaining 5,000 hectares of non-protected species-rich grassland is being achieved; the KPI 6 target of 100 hectares of new native woodland being created is behind with only 36 hectares having been created but more sites in development; the KPI 7 to restore breeding pairs of birds of prey in the moorlands to at least the levels present in the late 1990's also remains behind target.

9. **The Peak District Landscape Strategy.**

The PDNP contains an amazing variety of landscapes shaped by variations in geology and landform and the long settlement and use of these landscapes by people. The Landscape Character Assessment shows how the landscapes of the National Park and its surrounding area has been divided into a series of Regional Character Areas representing broad tracts of landscape which share common characteristics. Within each Regional Character Area, a number of Landscape Character Types have been defined based upon the pattern of natural and cultural characteristics. The 2009 version establishes a baseline audit of the current character of the landscape and provides a framework for the measurement of future landscape change. The strategy is currently under review and will be brought forward for members consideration shortly. Please note that the proposed Wooded Landscape Plan which is also to be considered by Members at this meeting will form part of this strategy but has been developed in advance to help ensure that the right tree is planted in the right place for the right reason.

10. **The Landscapes Review.**

At the time of this report being sent to Members the Government's response to the recommendations of the Landscapes Review is still awaited although this is considered to be imminent.

Background Information

11. **National Park England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks.**

In December 2020 NPE published a suite of four interconnected Delivery Plans which set out how the parks will protect and enhance the natural environment, how they will become leaders in tackling the climate emergency, how they will support thriving communities where sustainable farming and land management deliver a wide range of public goods, and set out their vision to support the health and wellbeing of the whole nation. The Landscapes for Everyone Delivery Plan includes "Inspiring more people to care more about nature and National Parks".

12. The NPE's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks is one of these four delivery plans and is shown at Appendix 1. The vision for nature recovery is:

13. "National Parks sit at the heart of the nation's nature recovery network; we are places where wildlife flourishes, habitats are maintained, restored, and expanded, and where everyone can experience nature and wildlife at their best. Strong local partnerships in each National Park will deliver 20% of the government's nature recovery target on 10% of the land, saving/sequestering 330,000 tonnes of CO2 per year".

14. The vision will be achieved by working together, and at scale, to transform nature's recovery in National Parks.

15. There is commitment to developing a nature recovery programme for National Parks

that:

- Identifies zones to deliver concentrated habitat enhancement and improved functionality
- Prioritises species to be safeguarded and re-introduced
- Increases tree cover and restores peatlands, grasslands, heathlands and other habitats, with the principle of right habitat, right place, right reason
- Provides nature-based solutions to climate change resilience
- Restores soil structure and health to improve function (carbon storage and water management)
- Implements long-term invasive non-native species control programmes
- Establishes buffer zones and green and blue infrastructure corridors linking National Landscapes, National and Community Forests, and urban areas to create a genuine national network where everyone can access and experience nature and wildlife at their best.

16. There is commitment to working through our strong local partnerships, to co-create the plans with farmers, landowners and communities. So, we achieve sustainable change that supports the community in their role as custodians and identifies investment in nature recovery to help support viable farm businesses. These nature recovery programmes will form the backbone of our future NPMPs.

17. National Park Nature Recovery Prospectuses.

As a first step following on from the completion of the Delivery Plan for Wildlife a Nature Recovery Prospectus for each National Park was developed with funding support from Natural England. The prospectus is seen as a high-level initial step to help influence government and as a starting point for further discussions with partners and other key stakeholders. The PDNP Nature Recovery Prospectus is the subject to a separate report to this committee.

18. National Parks England Wildlife Delivery Business Plan.

The next step under the NPE Wildlife Delivery Plan is to develop and promote a business plan which capitalises on the opportunities and overcomes the barriers to delivery. This will use the powerful story and ambition that the English National Parks have to form the backbone of nature recovery in England. The vision is for National Parks to be national beacons for a sustainable future, where nature and people flourish.

19. Existing environmental protection and land ownership.

Only 33% of the national park is protected by designations (Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation). The English National Park model is that they are privately owned and whilst this Authority does own about 5% of the land in this National Park the remaining 95% is privately owned. Environmental Non-Government Organisations (eNGOs) such as the National Trust, which owns approximately 12% of the National Park, do have generally aligned nature recovery ambitions to the Authority. However, a high proportion of this land is already designated. To deliver nature recovery the work already done to improve our most important SSSI sites will need to be built on by improving the protection and management of those high-quality sites that do not have statutory protection; increasing the number and area of high-quality habitats; and encouraging measures in the wider landscape to make more intensively managed landscapes more wildlife-friendly.

20. The need for the delivery of integrated and balanced public goods to be properly rewarded.

As already identified in the current NPMP and Corporate Strategy the delivery of public goods does need to be properly rewarded and for the moment the mainstream funding for this is national agri-environment schemes.

21. The 25 Year Environment Plan and the more recent Agricultural Transition Plan set out the Government's intentions to revolutionise the support system for farming and land management by looking to reward the delivery of public goods. Nature recovery will deliver for all six public goods albeit to a varying degree: thriving plants and wildlife; adaptation to and mitigation of climate change; reduction in and protection from environmental hazards; beauty, heritage and engagement with the environment; clean and plentiful water; and clean air.
22. The PDNP landscape does provides opportunities for farmers and land managers to diversify their income streams such as providing educational access, camping sites etc, subject to any required consents. Delivery of nature recovery will provide further opportunities for diversification and for the wider rural economy but this is within the context of a changing support system.
23. The Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) which in essence pays farmers and land managers for the area of land they manage will be phased out over a seven-year period ending in 2027. Current agri-environment schemes will also be phased out and replaced with the proposed Environmental Land Management (ELM) approach from 2024 onwards. ELM will consist of three schemes Sustainable Farming Incentive, Local Nature Recovery and Landscape Recovery. These schemes will need to properly reward and incentivise farmers and land managers for the public goods they deliver if nature recovery is to be secured. ELM is due to start at the end of 2024, and in the meantime, in protected landscapes, landowners are being encouraged to transition to farming that delivers more public goods (including wildlife) through the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme.
24. Other sources of funding particularly through the private sector will increasingly provide more funding opportunities. However, exactly how public and private funds will be blended and work in a complimentary way rather than in competition and without duplication or double funding is yet to be fully worked through and agreed.

25. Local Nature Recovery Strategies

Local Nature Recovery Strategies will soon be produced to cover the entirety of England with no gaps or overlaps. There are two main outcomes of these LNRS's, the first being a set of maps which indicate areas of high nature value with areas which present opportunities to create/expand these habitats, the second being accompanying descriptions of these sites with a statement of biodiversity priorities within the strategy area.

26. Five pilot schemes for LNRS's were completed earlier this year, one of these schemes was Greater Manchester Combined Authority. The goal of these pilots was to determine a best practice and identify obstacles to the anticipated nationwide roll out of LNRS's following the passing of the upcoming Environment Bill. The Park collaborated with GMCC during the process of preparing the pilot LNRS and is in a position to continue working together on our own Nature Recovery Plan. The key findings of these pilot schemes included:
 - Early collaboration with partners and relevant stakeholders which is to be maintained throughout the process with a high level of transparency (this has already begun with the PDNP Nature Recovery Plan)
 - Good and accessible data is essential to the preparation of LNRS's

- Consistencies across boundaries are to be prioritised
- A delivery plan/framework within the strategy is sought by some stakeholders

27. The Environment Bill became an Act on the 9 November 2021 and gives the Secretary of State the power to determine what area each LNRS should cover and to appoint a 'responsible authority' to lead its production and publication. It may be that the PDNP itself is not designated as a responsible authority for the production of a LNRS and this will instead be split across six separate responsible authorities (County Councils/Unitary Authorities) which presents the risk of six disjointed LNRS's being applied within the National Park boundaries. To pre-empt this, work on a plan for the PDNP as a whole has been commenced with close collaboration with County Council's etc to be a key component. Building consensus and ultimately delivering a more cohesive plan for nature recovery within the PDNP and extending beyond its boundaries. Nature recovery within the PDNP should be ambitious in relation to other LNRS's, as the nature recovery delivery plan envisages achieving 20% of national nature recovery goals within National Parks, making up 10% of the land. National Parks England has responded to the government's recent LNRS consultation.

Proposals

28. As Programmes and Resources Committee Members will be aware from the report in October 2021 it has been agreed that the progress towards delivery of the four NPE Delivery Plans will be overseen by this committee. The Authority is already undertaking many activities, both on our own and in partnership, that assist in meeting the nature recovery ambitions.

29. The summary below updates Members on the key wildlife and nature recovery related activities we are focussing our resources on:

30. Influencing

- The work of the Authority's Officers at national stakeholder meetings representing both the English National Park Authorities and the PDNPA.
- Delivering one of the ELM Tests and Trials and the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme for Defra. Learnings from both will feed into the design of the ELM schemes.
- Existing Landscape scale partnerships – Moors for the Future, South West Peak Landscape and the White Peak Partnerships.
- Peak District Land Manager's Forum which brings a representative range of farmers, land managers, land owners and organisations together to consider issues and opportunities.
- Moorland Management Group which is working on five key topics – resilient sustainable moorland, visitor engagement, fire risk, moorland birds, rural and wildlife crime.
- The review of the Landscape Strategy together with the Wooded Landscape element of the strategy.
- The Authority's own land demonstrates environmental land management.

31. Delivering

- The work of the Authority's farm advisers with farmers and land managers brokering the national agri-environment schemes and the Authority's own small-scale Land Management Grant scheme.
- Existing Landscape scale partnerships – Moors for the Future, South West Peak Landscape Partnership and the White Peak Partnership.
- A range of smaller-scale projects such as the invasive species project.
- Completion of the Environmental Land Management Test and Trial for Defra and the continuing small-scale White Peak practical field trials.

- The Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme which is delivering under the four themes of climate, nature, people and place.
- The proposed Woodland Trust Partnership extending and growing the arrangements for small-scale woodland creation using Nature for Climate funds. Please note it is proposed to bring a report to Members in January 2022.
- The Authority's own land is also one of the key delivery mechanisms for nature recovery. (Also delivers through influencing).

32. Regulatory

- Regulatory work including planning (including Biodiversity Net Gain),
- Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations advice and support.
- Land management consultations e.g. for felling Licences, Section 156 disposals (sale or lease of Water Company land).

33. Partners also continue to deliver in a wide range of ways for nature recovery for example:

- Sheffield Moors Landscape Partnership.
- Sheffield Lakeland Landscape Partnership led by Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust with a range of complimentary projects.,
- Derwent Catchment Partnership
- The Ravine Woodland Project - a partnership project led by Natural England to mitigate the impacts of Ash Dieback on the internationally designated Ash woodlands of the Peak District dales.
- NE is working towards a greater understanding of how Biodiversity Net Gain can be used to deliver our collective ambitions for nature recovery on the White Peak plateau. They are also working with Severn Trent Water (STW) on specific projects where STW is providing funding for Nature Recovery.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

34. Current activities led by the Authority as described above are funded but progress will need to be kept under review particularly as the continuation of programmes and projects increasingly rely on full cost recovery which is not always available from key funders e.g. National Lottery Heritage Fund. So, further or reallocated resources may be required for priority nature recovery activities and delivery mechanisms.

35. An assessment of the Rural Development Programme total annual funding coming in to the PDNP in 2014/15, when the coverage of land in agri-environment schemes was at its highest (87%), amounted to £30 Million. This figure includes BPS (approximately 66 %), agri-environment schemes and other funding for productivity and diversification on farms. Current estimates of the cost of nature recovery in line with the Nature Recovery Prospectus indicate that at least £30 Million a year will be needed to deliver nature recovery in the PDNP. Continuity and further provision of local bespoke advice and guidance through trusted advisers will also be required.

Risk Management:

36. The greatest risk is if farmers and land managers, who own the majority of the PDNP, do not engage with and deliver nature recovery. If future ELM schemes do not sufficiently reward farmers and land managers for the public goods they deliver, there is unlikely to be sufficient uptake to deliver nature recovery. Whilst the public purse, through national environmental schemes, is currently the mainstream source of funding for nature recovery in the medium to longer term private sector funding and Biodiversity Net Gain are likely to play an increasingly significant role and may be able to offer greater incentives.

37. Continuing uncertainty about the future detail of and level of payments for ELM coupled with the growing impact of the BPS reductions will result in farm and land management businesses seeking ways to remain resilient and sustainable. Some land managers may choose or feel they have no option but to try and replace lost BPS payments through increasing agricultural production e.g. increasing stock numbers or through diversification. Whilst such changes could be positive they may also have associated negative landscape, environmental and biodiversity impacts. Influencing ELM design, ELM payment levels and how public and private funds will be blended together in a way which delivers nature recovery remains key.
38. There is also a risk that all partners may not engage but to date there does seem to be a collective will to develop one Nature Recovery Plan for the Peak District. Whilst this is being developed the Authority and partners will continue to deliver their programmes and projects for nature recovery.

Sustainability:

39. Our work on wildlife and nature recovery directly improves the sustainability of the Peak District landscape

Equality:

40. There are no direct implications for equalities in the activities contained within this report

41. Climate Change

1. How does this decision contribute to the Authority's role in climate change set out in the UK Government Vision and Circular for National Parks?
 - a. **Educators in climate change**
Delivering to NPE's Wildlife in National Parks Delivery Plan will help enable the Authority to be educators in climate change through the maintenance, enhancement, restoration, expansion and increased connectivity of its habitats.
 - b. **Exemplars of sustainability**
Delivering to NPE's Wildlife in National Parks Delivery Plan will enable the Authority to demonstrate how nature recovery can lie at the very heart of developing a strong economy and sustaining thriving local communities
 - c. **Protecting the National Park**
Delivering to NPE's Wildlife in National Parks Delivery Plan will help enable the Authority to protect the special qualities of the National Park in particular special quality 2: Internationally important and locally distinctive wildlife and habitats.
 - d. **Leading the way in sustainable land management**
Delivering to NPE's Wildlife in National Parks Delivery Plan will help enable the Authority to lead the way in sustainable land management.
 - e. **Exemplars in renewable energy**
Delivering to NPE's Wildlife in National Parks Delivery Plan will help ensure that proposals for renewable energy are not at the expense of other special qualities such as biodiversity and cultural heritage.
 - f. **Working with communities**
Delivering to NPE's Wildlife in National Parks Delivery Plan will involve the Authority working with communities and in particular the farming and land management community.
2. How does this decision contribute to the Authority meeting its carbon net zero target?
Land management for nature recovery will have positive carbon emissions, sequestration and carbon storage in soils and vegetation implications for the land in its ownership. The Authority may wish to take this into consideration in its own carbon net zero assessments.

3. How does this decision contribute to the National Park meeting carbon net zero by 2050?
Land management for nature recovery will have positive carbon emissions, sequestration and carbon storage in soils and vegetation implications across the PDNP.
4. Are there any other Climate Change related issues that are relevant to this decision that should be brought to the attention of Members?
The need for a more sustainable approach to transport in and across the National Park in terms of the impact of vehicles in terms of carbon emissions and on the fabric of the landscape.

42. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

43. Appendices

Appendix 1 - National Parks England Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Suzanne Fletcher, Head of Landscape, 24 November 2021

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Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks

This document is one of a suite of 4 inter-connected plans devised by the ten English National Park Authorities to drive action in nature recovery in response to the 25 year Environment Plan.



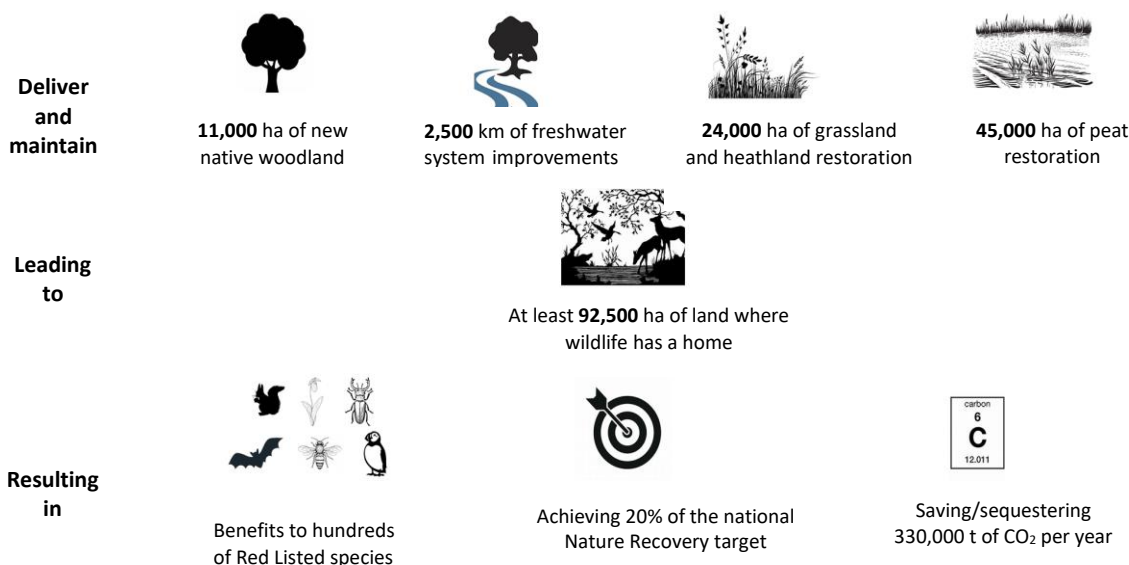
Nature Recovery vision - *National Parks sit at the heart of the nation's nature recovery network; we are places where wildlife flourishes, habitats are maintained, restored, and expanded, and where everyone can experience nature and wildlife at their best. Strong local partnerships in each National Park will deliver 20% of the government's nature recovery target on 10% of the land, saving/sequestering 330,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year.*

We will work together, and at scale, to transform nature's recovery in National Parks. We commit to developing a nature recovery programme for National Parks that:

- Identifies zones to deliver concentrated habitat enhancement and improved functionality
- Prioritises species to be safeguarded and re-introduced
- Increases tree cover and restores peatlands, grasslands, heathlands and other habitats, with the principle of right habitat, right place, right reason
- Provides nature based solutions to climate change resilience.
- Restores soil structure and health to improve function (carbon storage and water management)
- Implements long-term invasive non-native species control programmes
- Establishes buffer zones and green and blue infrastructure corridors linking National Landscapes, National and Community Forests, and urban areas to create a genuine national network where everyone can access and experience nature and wildlife at their best.

How will we do this: we commit to working through our strong local partnerships, to co-create the plans with farmers, landowners and communities. So we achieve sustainable change that supports the community in their role as custodians and identifies investment in nature recovery to help support viable farm businesses. These nature recovery programmes will form the backbone of our future National Park Management Plans.

This will deliver in the first 10 years, as a minimum:



Our programme to achieve the vision

Working at a landscape scale is a strength of National Park Authorities. We don't own much of the land, only around 10%, so we regularly work with farmers, landowners, the community and many other bodies across the entirety of National Parks. With a breadth of collective expertise - ecologists, planners, environmental scientists and rangers - we know our landscapes in depth, and we know the impacts that climate change and biodiversity loss are having on them. This gives our local partnerships many of the answers to nature recovery. We will work together and with Natural England and the National Association for AONBs to place these targets and our work across protected landscapes at the heart of the nature recovery network – making us more than the sum of our parts. We also need the policies, funding and collaboration to support delivery, both locally and nationally. We will monitor progress against this Plan and undertake a light-touch review each year.

How can you help?

Champion nature recovery in national landscapes with us:

- Ministers to champion National Parks at the heart of the national nature recovery network
- Defra to strengthen the role of National Park Management Plans, so they are the local nature recovery strategies for National Parks, and back their implementation with stronger legal status.
- Partners to collaborate with us to agree a joint and supportive approach to get more wildlife in National Landscapes.

Policies and powers to support nature recovery:

- National Parks to be identified as priority areas for funding within ELMS - with priorities within each National Park identified and agreed at a local level, within a national framework, informed by National Park Management Plans which will play a formal role in determining how those national and local priorities can be delivered. NPAs have a key role as 'environmental brokers' – linking buyers (public and private sector) of environmental goods with potential providers (landowners, managers and farmers).
- The National Peat Strategy and English Tree Strategy to fully recognise the need for positive action in National Parks and to adopt the Forestry Commission definition of *the Right Tree in the Right Place* for this work and the environmental principles proposed by the National Park Authorities for their development.
- A strengthened 'section 62' duty to be included in the Environment Bill to place on all public bodies a clear duty to help *deliver* the nature recovery network as set out in the NPMP, and further legislation to create powers to promote and protect nature in National Landscapes on a par with built heritage or road transport
- Defra to support devolution bids that give powers to expedite local delivery of the Nature Recovery Network

Provide underpinning evidence and insights for nature recovery:

- Defra, National Parks and AONBs to develop a common template for assessing the state of nature and natural capital in our National Landscapes which is regularly and robustly assessed, with resources to help this work.
- Natural England to carry out a review into the losses and gains in wildlife across the country, and work with us to establish opportunity maps with clear goals for the reinstatement of past losses of habitats and species, taking account of the impacts of climate change.
- Natural England to develop with the local Management Plan partnerships a set of Nature Recovery indicators, representing the key nature conservation attributes in each National Landscape.

Funding for nature recovery in our national landscapes:

- External funding grants to support collaborative work that delivers nature recovery targets.
- Delivery of the ambitious targets outlined for National Parks above are a priority for the Nature for Climate Fund and Green Challenge Fund so support from these funds catalyse the delivery of these objectives.
- All future Government grants for nature recovery in National Parks to include a check that the work is consistent with the nature recovery aspirations in the local partnerships adopted Management Plan.

Nature recovery at landscape scale:

- National Park Authorities have been involved in some of the biggest landscape management schemes in the country over the past 10 years. We will work across our national landscapes on large scale collaborative 'Net Zero With Nature' projects on an even bigger scale – starting with the 'Great North Bog' and the SW Peatland Partnership.

8. PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK NATURE RECOVERY PROSPECTUS (SLF)

1. Purpose of the report

To inform Members about the Peak District National Park's Nature Recovery Prospectus 2021 – 2031 and how it fits with National Parks England Delivery Plan for Wildlife, our National Park Management Plan and Local Plan and the reviews currently taking place.

Key Issues

- The Peak District National Park's (PDNP's) Nature Recovery Prospectus is one of ten, one for each of the ten English National Parks. These nature recovery prospectuses set out the high-level ambitions under National Parks England's (NPE's) Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks.
- The Authority intends to use the PDNP Nature Recovery Prospectus as the starting point for developing one Nature Recovery Plan for the PDNP, working locally with landowners, environmental Non-Government Organisations (eNGOs), farmers, land managers and other stakeholders.
- The proposal is to use the one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan as the nature recovery element of the next National Park Management Plan (NPMP) and the Local Plan.
- As discussed in the earlier report on NPE's Delivery Plan for Wildlife it is still not clear whether Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) will be at a County or other level. So, the PDNP's one Nature Recovery Plan will also need to stand on its own as a LNRS or be split in different ways e.g. County, National Park, National Character Areas.

2. Recommendations(s)

1. **To note how the Authority is currently taking forward the Peak District National Park's Nature Recovery Prospectus in the Peak District National Park and how it is informing our future National Park Management Plan and Local Plan.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. The UK Government Vision and Circular for National Parks (2010)

The vision for English National Parks and the Broads includes that by 2030 they should be places where: "wildlife flourishes and habitats are maintained, restored and expanded and linked effectively to other ecological networks. Woodland cover has increased and all woodlands are sustainably managed, with the right trees in the right places. Landscapes and habitats are managed to create resilience and enable adaptation".

4. The National Park Management Plan.

The PDNP Nature Recovery Prospectus and the future one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan will be able to contribute to maintaining and enhancing all seven Special Qualities and in particular: Special Quality 1 - Beautiful views created by contrasting landscapes and dramatic geology, Special Quality 2 - Internationally important and locally distinctive wildlife and habitats, Special Quality 4 - Landscapes that tell a story of thousands of years of people, farming and industry, Special Quality 6 - An inspiring space for escape, adventure, discovery and quiet reflection and Special Quality 7 - Vital benefits for millions of people that flow beyond the landscape boundary.

It will also be able to contribute to Areas of impact: 1 – Preparing for a future climate, 2

- Ensuring a future for farming and land management, 3 - Managing landscape conservation on a big scale and 6 - Supporting thriving and sustainable communities and economy.

Emerging findings from the initial NPMP review consultation has placed nature recovery as one of the top concerns from those who responded.

5. The Corporate Strategy.

The PDNP Nature Recovery Prospectus and the future one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan will be able to contribute to many of the outcomes and Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) in particular: -

A sustainable landscape that is conserved and enhanced: -

- Distinctive landscapes that are sustainably managed, accessible and properly resourced - KPIs 1, 2 and 3.
- High quality habitats in better condition, better connected and wildlife rich through nature recovery networks – KPI's 4, 5, 6 and 7.

6. The Local Plan.

The current Local Plan includes policies in order to encourage biodiversity net gain. The review of the Local Plan will seek to link net gain to a full nature recovery plan for the PDNP.

7. The Peak District Landscape Strategy.

The Peak District Landscape Strategy is currently being reviewed to ensure that it supports changes in our landscapes for nature recovery in a way that enhances rather than detracts from its special qualities. The Wooded Landscape Plan which is subject to a separate report to this committee also sets out to do the same and in particular ensure that the right tree is planted in the right place for the right reason.

Background Information

8. National Park England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks.

The earlier report on National Parks England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks has already set out much of the background to the PDNP's Nature Recovery Prospectus so only key points have been summarised below.

National Parks England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks vision for nature recovery is: "National Parks sit at the heart of the nation's nature recovery network; we are places where wildlife flourishes, habitats are maintained, restored, and expanded, and where everyone can experience nature and wildlife at their best. Strong local partnerships in each National Park will deliver 20% of the government's nature recovery target on 10% of the land, saving/sequestering 330,000 tonnes of CO2 per year".

9. National Park Nature Recovery Prospectuses.

As a first step following on from the completion of the Delivery Plan for Wildlife a Nature Recovery Prospectus for each National Park was developed with funding support from Natural England. The prospectus is seen as a high-level initial step to help influence government and as a starting point for further discussions with partners and other key stakeholders.

10. The Peak District Nature Recovery Prospectus.

Please see the PDNP Nature Recovery Prospectus at Appendix 1. So far, the prospectus has been shared with a number of key partners and stakeholders and is to

be shared further with farmers and land managers through the Peak District Land Managers' Forum and other opportunities.

11. Existing environmental protection and land ownership.

As reported in the earlier report only 33% of the national park is protected by designations (Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation). To deliver nature recovery the work already done to improve our most important SSSI sites will need to be built on by improving the protection and management of those high-quality sites that do not have statutory protection; increasing the number and area of high-quality habitats; and encouraging measures in the wider landscape to make more intensively managed landscapes more wildlife-friendly.

12. Proper rewards for the delivery of public goods.

Environmental Land Management schemes from 2024 onwards will need to properly reward and incentivise farmers and land managers for the public goods they deliver if nature recovery is to be secured. Other sources of funding particularly through the private sector will increasingly provide more funding opportunities. However, exactly how public and private funds will be blended and work in a complimentary way rather than in competition and without duplication or double funding is yet to be fully worked through and agreed.

13. Local Nature Recovery Strategies

LNRS's will soon be produced to cover the entirety of England with no gaps or overlaps. As the PDNP itself may not be designated as a "responsible authority" for the production of a LNRS this responsibility may be split across six separate responsible authorities (County Councils). To pre-empt the risk of up to six potentially disjointed, work on a plan for the PDNP as a whole has commenced with close collaboration with CC's and other stakeholders a key component.

Proposals

14. The proposals for using the PDNP Nature Recovery Prospectus and developing one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan are set out below:

- A dedicated Nature Recovery Officer has been employed by the Authority for one year to work with key partners to develop the one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan.
- A project plan for the development of the one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan is being developed with key partners and will include principles to guide the process, the aims, a time plan with outputs.
- The PDNP Nature Recovery Prospectus will continue to be used as a high-level start for wider discussions on nature recovery.
- The recently cleansed and sorted local ecological data held by the Authority together with ecological data held by key partners will be used to help create a baseline of habitats and wildlife in the PDNP. This will add to the ecological data available nationally. This baseline will show where the habitats and species are, their condition and populations.
- The model for nature recovery in terms of the Lawton principles – making our network of sites better, bigger, more and joined up will be developed and set out the priorities for:
 - Protecting what we have while improving its quality with better management
 - Increasing the size of wildlife sites
 - Enhancing connection by creating new wildlife corridors or stepping

- stones
 - Creating new sites
 - Creating more opportunities for wildlife by improving the wider environment including through buffering wildlife sites.
- It is proposed to use the one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan as the nature recovery element of the revised NPMP. It will also be embedded into the spatial maps of the Local Plan to further drive nature recovery through changes to land-use and as part of new development proposals.
- Once developed it is envisaged that the PDNP Nature Recovery Plan will continue to evolve and be updated.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

15. The proposals for the development of the PDNP Nature Recovery Plan as described above are funded but progress will need to be kept under review. Further dedicated resources may be required to complete the one PDNP Nature Recovery Plan and for priority activities and delivery mechanisms.

Current estimates of the cost of nature recovery in line with the Nature Recovery Prospectus indicate that at least £30 Million a year will be needed to deliver nature recovery in the National Park. Continuity and further provision of local bespoke advice and guidance through trusted advisers will also be required.

Risk Management:

16. There is a risk that all partners may not engage but to date there does seem to be a collective will to develop one Nature Recovery Plan for the Peak District. Whilst this is being developed the Authority and partners will continue to deliver their programmes and projects for nature recovery.
17. If the future ELM schemes do not sufficiently reward farmers and land managers for the public goods they deliver then it is unlikely that there will be sufficient uptake to deliver nature recovery. Whilst public purse is currently the mainstream source of funding for nature recovery in the medium to longer term private sector funding and Biodiversity Net Gain are likely to play an increasingly significant role and may be able to offer greater incentives.
18. Continuing uncertainty about the future detail of and level of payments for ELM coupled with the growing impact of the BPS reductions will result in farm and land management businesses seeking ways to remain resilient and sustainable. Some land managers may choose or feel they have no option but to try and replace lost BPS payments through increasing agricultural production e.g. increasing stock numbers. Such agricultural intensification may have associated negative environmental and biodiversity impacts. Influencing ELM design, ELM payment levels and how public and private funds will be blended together in a way which delivers nature recovery remains key.

Sustainability:

19. Our work on wildlife and nature recovery directly improves the sustainability of the Peak District landscape

Equality:

20. There are no direct implications for equalities in the activities contained within this report

21. **Climate Change**

1. How does this decision contribute to the Authority's role in climate change set out in the UK Government Vision and Circular for National Parks?
 - a. **Educators in climate change**
Delivering the PDNP's Nature Recovery Prospectus will help enable the Authority to be educators in climate change through the maintenance, enhancement, restoration, expansion and increased connectivity of its habitats.
 - b. **Exemplars of sustainability**
Delivering to the PDNP's Nature Recovery Prospectus will enable the Authority to demonstrate how nature recovery can lie at the very heart of developing a strong economy and sustaining thriving local communities
 - c. **Protecting the National Park**
Delivering to the PDNP's Nature Recovery Prospectus will help enable the Authority to protect the special qualities of the National Park in particular special quality 2: Internationally important and locally distinctive wildlife and habitats.
 - d. **Leading the way in sustainable land management**
Delivering to the PDNP's Nature Recovery Prospectus will help enable the Authority to lead the way in sustainable land management.
 - e. **Exemplars in renewable energy**
Delivering to the PDNP's Nature Recovery Prospectus will help ensure that proposals for renewable energy are not at the expense of other special qualities such as biodiversity and cultural heritage.
 - f. **Working with communities**
Delivering to the PDNP's Nature Recovery Prospectus will involve the Authority working with communities and in particular the farming and land management community.
2. How does this decision contribute to the Authority meeting its carbon net zero target?
Land management for nature recovery will have positive carbon emissions, sequestration and carbon storage in soils and vegetation implications for the land in its ownership. The Authority may wish to take this into consideration in its own carbon net zero assessments.
3. How does this decision contribute to the National Park meeting carbon net zero by 2050?
Land management for nature recovery will have positive carbon emissions, sequestration and carbon storage in soils and vegetation implications across the PDNP.
4. Are there any other Climate Change related issues that are relevant to this decision that should be brought to the attention of Members?
None.

22. Background papers (not previously published)

None

23. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Peak District National Park Nature Recovery Delivery Prospectus 2021-2031.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Suzanne Fletcher, Head of Landscape, 24 November 2021.






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Peak District National Park Nature Recovery Delivery Prospectus 2021-2031

This prospectus has been produced by NPE to demonstrate the scale of what could be achieved for nature recovery in each of our National Parks, working locally with landowners, farmers, land managers and other stakeholders, as part of a nationwide collaboration.

It sets out an ambitious but realistic programme for nature recovery in Peak District National Park over the next 10 years. This is in response to the challenges for nature recovery set out in [the 30 by 30 target by government](#); the [25 Year Environment Plan](#) and the [Landscape \(Glover\) Review](#), and follows the [NPE Wildlife Delivery Plan](#) principles and approach.

Peak District National Park Nature Recovery Delivery Ambition 2021-2031 ¹					
Habitat type		Amount in ha	Create	Manage for 10 yrs	Total
Woodland 	New native woodland planting Manage existing woodland Create wooded pasture and scrub	4000	£8.8m	£10.2m	£19m
Peat 	Blanket Bog restoration including revegetation, rewetting and sphagnum inoculation	8233	£22m	£5.3m	£27.3m
Species Rich Grassland 	Improve by good management 5000ha Create new species rich grassland 5000ha	10000	£2m	£47m	£49m
Rivers² 	Water courses restored to be naturally functioning. Existing wetlands and ponds retained and enhanced, new ponds and wetland created	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Total 	At least 22233ha of new wildlife habitat	22233	£32.8m	£62.5m	TOTAL £95.3m

¹ Costings for the opportunities are indicative, and have been based on the best available information at the present time (Feb 2021), References for Countryside stewardship rates used are given and a multiplier of 2x for creation and 1.5x for management have been used to replace BPS.

² Specific details of works to rivers to allow natural flows, floodplains and wetlands that reduce downstream flooding and protects soils, habitats and people are not yet available.

Peak District National Park 10 year Wildlife Delivery Ambition

Create and maintain.....



4000 ha of new native woodland



10000 ha of grassland and heathland restoration



8233 ha of Peat Restoration



At least **22233**ha of new wildlife habitat



.....using these methods.....

- Nature Based Solutions for flood, water quality and climate mitigation and adaptation,
- Catchment plan based targeting/vulnerability mapping,
- Whole estate / Farm plans,
- Farm networks and collectives working together across large areas
- Invasive species control programmes
- Local community action
- Targeted species programmes
- Land purchase



...with these partners....

- Land owners, farmers and land managers
- Business and private sector
- Charitable trusts, community organisations
- [Nature Peak District Local Nature Partnership](#)
- [The White Peak Partnership](#)
- [Sheffield Moors Partnership](#)
- [Peak District Land Managers Forum](#)
- [PDNPA Farm advice service](#)
- [Moors for the Future Partnership](#)
- [South West Peak Landscape Partnership](#)
- [The Great North Bog Peat Partnership](#)















...combining a range of funding and resources.....

- Environmental Land Management,
- Net Zero finance,
- Green Challenge Fund,
- Biodiversity Net Gain,
- Water Environment Grant,
- Project Grant funding, eg National Lottery,
- Gifts in kind,
- Carbon offsetting and investment,
- Private finance,
- Nutrient Neutrality (Water)
- Land purchase

National Parks England Nature Recovery Delivery Prospectus

Illustrative opportunities map

The Peak District National Park

-  Opportunities to retain and improve core nature areas (SSSI)
-  Opportunities to create new habitat and increase diversity (SSSI plus 1 km buffer)
-  Opportunities to enhance connectivity and join up habitats
-  Opportunities beyond the National Park boundary
-  Wider connections for people and nature
-  Green Belt
-  National Park boundary
-  Community Forest
-  National Trails
-  River Catchments (WFD Operational)
-  Rivers
-  Urban Areas



Further information

The vision for nature in the Peak District

The Peak District will sit alongside other protected landscapes at the heart of the nation's Nature Recovery Network, contributing to the conservation of biodiversity nationally and globally. Natural processes and land management work in harmony so that wildlife flourishes; habitats are maintained, enhanced, restored, expanded and connected; ecological systems are healthy and resilient; local communities benefit from and contribute to a rich and diverse natural environment; and everyone can experience nature and wildlife at its best.

Examples of habitats and species for nature recovery in PDNP

These are some examples of key target species and habitats, for both management to improve the quality of existing habitats but also to create new areas of habitat and connectivity.

Habitat types: blanket bog, upland heathland, species rich grassland (calaminarian, calcareous, acid, hay meadow, 'wax cap grasslands'), rush pasture, wood pasture, upland oakwood, upland mixed ash wood, rivers and streams

Key species: water vole, otter, mountain hare, brown hare, waders, birds of prey, woodland bird assemblage, ring ouzel, dipper, great crested newt, white-clawed crayfish, bilberry bumblebee, Jacob's ladder, globe flower, maiden pink, Killarney fern, Derbyshire feathermoss, grassland fungi assemblage

Targeted habitat connectivity: restoring rivers corridors and riparian habitats; connecting moorland and in-bye land; expanding habitats from the limestone dales; and the need for habitat connectivity to facilitate the movement of species to beneficial climate locations.

Key opportunities for links beyond the PDNP boundary

- Pennine bridleway National trail
- Pennine Way National Trail
- The Great Northern Forest (community forest made up from White Rose Forest, Greenwood, Pennine Edge forest, South Yorkshire Forest) surround the PDNP to the north east and north west.
- Moorland Line³ continues north between PDNP and Yorkshire Dales NP, Nidderdale AONB and Forest of Bowland AONB
- Proposal for South Pennines Park (Pennine Prospects)⁴
- National Forest and Forest of Mercia to the south of PDNP

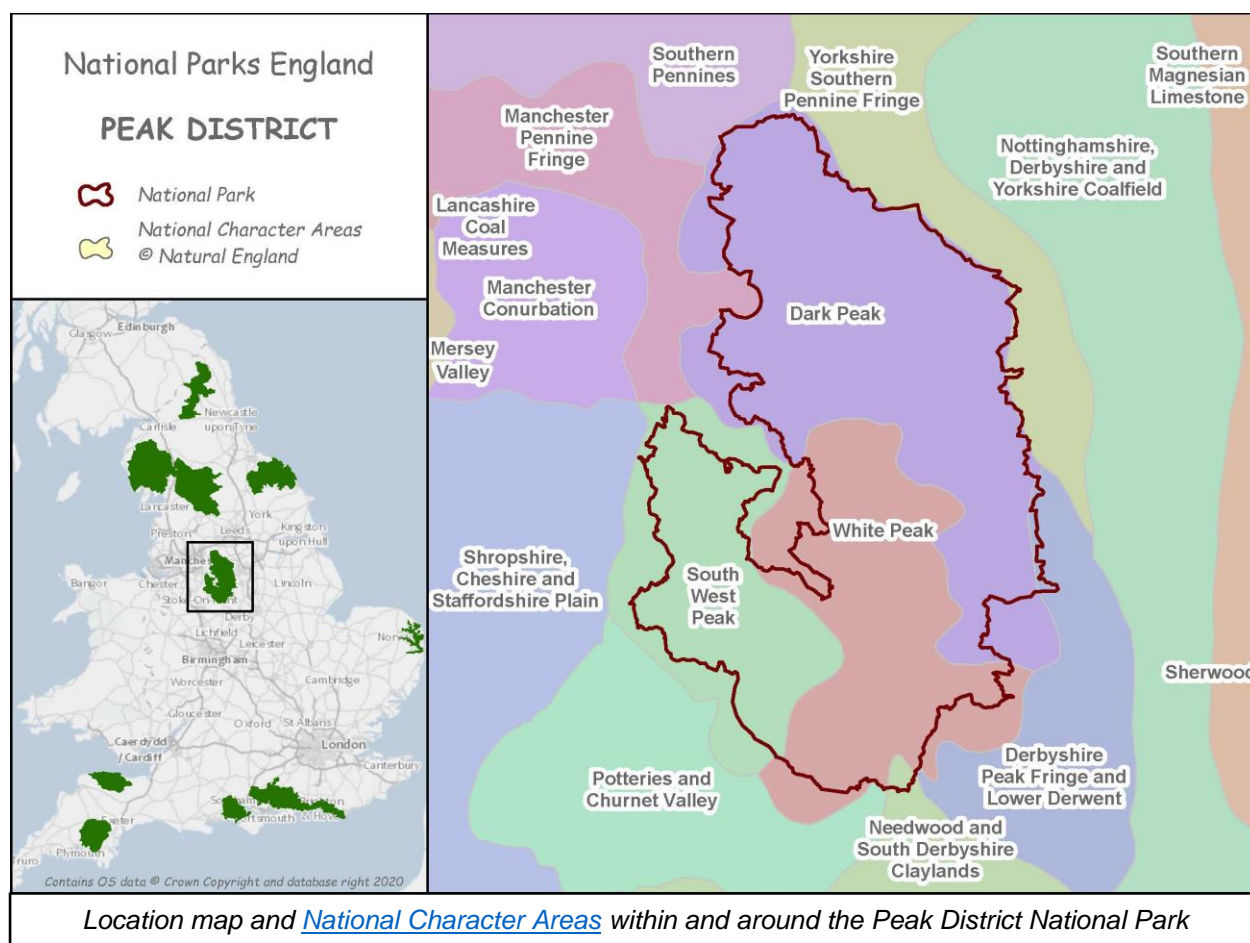
³ The Moorland line was first drawn in 1992 (subsequently updated in 2007) and is used by Government to establish which areas of England's LFA are designated as moorland and non-moorland for administrative purposes; the line is used to differentiate between payment levels under various support schemes, including the Basic Payment Scheme in which areas above the moorland line receive a lower payment.

⁴ [Pennine Prospects | Working In And For The South Pennines](#)

- Partnership work beyond NP boundary, exploring opportunities for green and blue infrastructure (GI) links; Great North Bog⁵ peat restoration programme

Peak District National Park Character

The Peak District lies at the southern end of the Pennine hills, where the wildlife and habitats of the north-west uplands mingle with those of the south-eastern lowlands. The National Park sits at the heart of the country, and is one of the most visited areas in Britain; surrounded by large urban populations such as Manchester and Sheffield. The three distinct



landscapes offer the most accessible upland areas in Britain. The White Peak comprises gently rolling grassland with characteristic drystone walls, a patchwork of hay meadows, ponds and lead mine remains. Across the plateaux are limestone dales with fine ash woodlands, flower-rich grasslands, limestone cliffs, rivers and streams. To the north and east is the Dark Peak with large expanses of internationally important moorlands, also culturally significant as the founding place of National Parks in the UK. The moors are fringed by diverse grasslands and dissected by steep valleys or cloughs, some open and others clothed in oak woodland. In the South West Peak, the landscape comprises a more intimate mosaic of moorlands, flower and fungi-rich grasslands, woodlands and rivers, with field boundaries a pattern of drystone walls and hedgerows. All three landscapes have been formed by the combined influences of geology, climate and the activities of people over several millennia.

⁵ [the Great North Bog \(moorsforthefuture.org.uk\)](https://moorsforthefuture.org.uk/)

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9. PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK WOODED LANDSCAPES PLAN

1. Purpose of the report

To seek approval for a draft Wooded Landscapes Plan for the Peak District, providing internal and external guidance on opportunities for increasing tree and shrub cover, based on landscape character.

Key Issues

- **Compliance with national and local policy**
- **Ensuring that the overarching principles (Section 6) and the priorities for each Landscape Character Type (Section 7) are appropriate.**

2. Recommendations(s)

- 1. To adopt the Wooded Landscapes Plan, subject to any further amendments arising from outstanding consultation responses acceptance of which is delegated to the Head of Landscape in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Programmes & Resources Committee.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

National Park Management Plan

- 3. The Wooded Landscapes Plan will help guide an increase in tree and shrub establishment in the Peak District, delivering the National Park Management Plan intention of “identifying the most beneficial tree planting which can occur in the National Park.” It will also contribute to maintaining and enhancing all seven Special Qualities and in particular: Special Quality 1 - Beautiful views created by contrasting landscapes and dramatic geology, Special Quality 2 - Internationally important and locally distinctive wildlife and habitats, Special Quality 6 - An inspiring space for escape, adventure, discovery and quiet reflection and Special Quality 7 - Vital benefits for millions of people that flow beyond the landscape boundary.**

Corporate Strategy

- 4. In doing so it will contribute to KPI 2 (Natural Beauty Conserved and Enhanced), KPI 3 (Increase the amount of carbon captured) and KPI 6 (increase the area of new native woodland). It will also help safeguard and enhance biodiversity, cultural heritage and people’s enjoyment and wellbeing.**

The Landscape Strategy

- 5. In addition to contributing to National Park Management Plan and Corporate Strategy objectives, the Wooded Landscape Plan has been written as a stand-alone part of the Authority’s Landscape Strategy, providing more detailed guidance on increasing tree and shrub cover in the National Park. Please note that the current Landscape Strategy is under review but this element has been brought forward so that the Authority and its partners are clear about where more trees are wanted.**

Background Information

- 6. The Plan has been produced to fulfil the National Park Management Plan intention referred to above, and members’ request to produce a woodland planting strategy.**
- 7. The Authority has limited ability to directly influence tree/shrub establishment. The Plan**

is therefore written as a plan for the place, in the same vein as the National Park Management Plan, and has been subject to consultation with a wide range of external bodies, notably Natural England, Historic England, the Forestry Commission, the National Farmer's Union, the Moorland Association, RSPB, Small Woods Association, Country Landowners' Association, the Wildlife Trusts and two local private estates. Natural England has already provided comments but has requested additional time to provide further comments on what they consider as an important plan for the National Park.

8. Ash Dieback is now widespread in the Peak District and is likely to have a significant impact on our wooded landscapes in the future. Whilst measures are underway, through the LIFE in the Ravines project led by Natural England, to mitigate the impact in the ash woodlands of the limestone dales, the Wooded Landscapes Plan will help guide mitigation elsewhere, such as replacement of field boundary trees.
9. National Park England's Delivery Plan for Wildlife in National Parks sets out the high-level ambitions for nature recovery across the ten national parks. One of the Peak District National Parks' contributions to this target, as set out in the Peak District Nature Recovery Prospectus, is 4,000 hectares of new native woodland creation by 2031. The Wooded Landscapes Plan will help inform delivery of this target to best effect.
10. The Plan is based on a number of key principles:
 - Landscapes have continuously evolved, and change should be seen as acceptable provided the overall environmental quality of the area is maintained or enhanced.
 - Woodland currently covers approx. 8.35% of the Peak District, significantly lower than the national average of 13%. There is therefore considerable scope for an increase in tree and shrub cover, providing potential increased range of public goods such as natural beauty, carbon capture, biodiversity, economic, flood risk, water and air quality, wellbeing and amenity benefits.
 - The realisation of those benefits, however, depends on ensuring the benefits outweigh any potential negative impacts on existing features of environmental (nature and culture) importance, i.e. "the right tree in the right place for the right reason".
 - These benefits can be realised not only by "closed-canopy woodland", but also by a wide range of measures to increase tree/shrub cover such as wood-pasture, parkland, copses, shelterbelts, scattered trees/shrubs, boundary and in-field trees, riverside trees, village trees, scrub and hedgerows. These options can extend the potential benefits of increased tree/shrub cover into areas where closed-canopy woodland may not be appropriate or economically viable, and allow wooded landscape creation to complement other land uses.
 - Different landscapes will be better suited to accommodating different types of increase in tree/shrub cover. The Plan therefore draws on the existing Landscape Character Types identified in the Landscape Strategy and tailors recommended priorities for tree/shrub establishment to each of these distinctive landscape types.

Proposals

11. The proposal is that the Authority adopts the draft Wooded Landscapes Plan at Appendix 1 as a policy document, subject to any final amendments being agreed with

the Chair and Vice-Chair of Programmes & Resources Committee.

12. The Plan will then provide a framework to influence any direct work the Authority undertakes with regard to increasing tree/shrub cover, including planning policies to achieve net gain in tree/shrub cover, collaborative and externally funded projects and management of the Authority's landholdings. It will also be used to influence and inform landowners and partner organisations, both at a strategic and individual case level, to ensure tree and shrub establishment is carried out to maximum effect in the Peak District.
13. The intention is to produce a simplified leaflet version based around illustrations as a guidance document for landowners/managers.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

14. Whilst increasing tree/shrub cover will have significant financial implications, this will largely be achieved through existing and future incentive schemes for landowners. This is a strategic guidance document aimed at influencing implementation of such schemes, and as such there are no significant financial issues for the Authority.

Risk Management:

15. The primary risk is of individual schemes not complying with guidance in the Plan. This is mitigated by the external consultation that has been carried out. In addition, the Authority is likely to be consulted on the majority of woodland creation schemes in the National Park, offering the opportunity to encourage compliance.

Sustainability:

16. The Plan will help ensure that tree and shrub establishment schemes in the Peak District are implemented in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Equality:

17. There are no significant equality issues.

18. Climate Change

Woodland creation and an increase in tree/shrub cover will benefit carbon capture and provide individual landowners with an opportunity to contribute towards climate change mitigation. The Plan will help ensure that such proposals are designed with other environmental considerations in mind, and to maximum effect.

19. Background papers (not previously published)

The Peak District Landscape Strategy.

20. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Draft Wooded Landscapes Plan

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Rhodri Thomas, Natural Environment & Rural Economy Team Manager, 23 November 2021

rhodri.thomas@peakdistrict.gov.uk

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The Wooded Landscapes Plan: increasing tree and scrub cover in the Peak District National Park landscapes (2022 – 2032)

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1. Introduction

The **Wooded Landscapes Plan** forms part of the Peak District Landscape Strategy and Action Plan and provides strategic direction on future wooded landscape creation and management in the Peak District National Park over the next 10 years.

Wooded landscapes can support increased biodiversity, help to mitigate the effects of climate change, store flood water, enhance landscape character, and provide places where people can increase their physical and mental wellbeing through the enjoyment of nature and their relationship with the natural environment.

Woodlands, trees and scrub are an important component of landscape and scenic diversity and as features of local distinctiveness. Elements of wooded landscapes can also enhance the composition of other landscape features and add visual definition to geological features.

The **aim of the Wooded Landscapes Plan** is to facilitate an increase in tree and scrub cover for the delivery of a range of public goods within the National Park landscape.

Tree and scrub cover should be seen as part of a **landscape ‘mosaic’ of different habitats and land covers**. Increasing tree / scrub cover should not be seen as mutually exclusive with other habitats; for example, it is not a case of pastureland **or** trees, but pastureland **with** additional tree cover (where appropriate).

The term **‘wooded landscape’** is therefore used throughout this document to cover the full potential range of tree and scrub cover forms in the landscape - not just closed-canopy woodland but also forms such as wood/scrub-pasture, parkland, copses, shelterbelts, individual trees, linear tree features, hedgerows, areas of scrub, commercial woodland and ‘agro-forestry’.

This Plan aims to demonstrate **where the different elements of wooded landscape creation can be realistically achieved** while complementing other land uses within the park.

There are a number of existing published detailed guidance documents for woodland creation (such as the UK Forestry Standard). This Plan **does not aim to duplicate guidance and policies within these existing documents**, but to provide **additional specific landscape principles and guidance appropriate for the landscapes of the Peak District National Park**.

Relevant existing guidance includes:

Create woodland: overview

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-woodland-overview#woodland-creation-quick-guides-and-case-studies>

The UK Forestry Standard: The governments' approach to sustainable forestry [The UK Forestry Standard \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/444444/the-uk-forestry-standard.pdf)

Design techniques for forest management planning

[Design techniques for forest management planning.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/444444/design-techniques-for-forest-management-planning.pdf)

Tree Species and Provenance guidance

<https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/tree-species-and-provenance>,

Forest Research tool for selecting native species appropriate to particular sites- [Ecological Site Classification Decision Support System \(ESC-DSS\) - Forest Research](https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/tree-species-and-provenance)



2. The objectives of the Wooded Landscapes Plan

The plan will:

1. refine **landscape policy** towards woodland creation and management and help define the National Park Authorities vision for 'wooded landscapes' within the Peak District. It will identify key issues and opportunities / drivers affecting the creation of wooded landscapes in the National Park and provide policy guidance and support.
2. provide a **strategic framework** to inform and guide wooded landscape creation schemes at a landscape scale which take into account landscape character.
 - it will provide **guidance** (based on principles of landscape character) to inform wooded landscape **scheme design** by landowners/managers.

This is detailed in **Section 7**.

- it will provide a **vision** to **inform, guide and promote partnership working** to deliver wooded landscape creation within the Peak District, including a framework for how wooded landscapes might contribute to the development of Nature Recovery Networks.

This is detailed in **Section 3**.

3. define and help to deliver **KPI6** (native woodland creation) and **KPI2a** (Net enhancement of Natural Beauty) in the National Park Management Plan and Corporate Strategy. It will help to deliver future corporate targets for 'woodland creation' and increased tree cover that complements other land uses and enhance the landscape character of the National Park.
4. Outside the national woodland creation and agricultural support schemes, it will inform the implementation of local schemes aimed at the creation of small scale wooded landscape features. Such schemes currently include the PDNPA Grant and the Woodland Trust/PDNPA Small Woodland Creation Scheme.

3. A 'Wooded Landscape' vision for the Peak District National Park

We want to provide future generations with a healthier, sustainable and better-connected wooded landscape, while simultaneously restoring and/or enhancing the landscape character of the National Park. This is informed by our understanding of how the landscape in the Peak District has evolved over time and how we would like to see the landscape continue to evolve in the future.

A **wooded landscape** is not one composed solely of woodland. A 'wooded landscape' is one that can include blocks of woodland / plantation, but also one which has more open characteristics but contains wood pasture, scrub, scattered trees, parkland, hedges and boundary trees as part of a 'mosaic' of woody elements in a wider land use, such as farmland or moorland

Supporting woodland, trees outside woodlands and scrub creation is a key part of enhancing the mosaic of habitats and land uses that make up the landscape. It is important that these should be the **'right places with the right trees'** and that wooded landscape creation does not compromise other important habitats, species, cultural heritage sites and landscapes or public access.

At the same time, these new and inspiring **wooded landscapes can complement and support agriculture, positive moorland management and peatland restoration** objectives. We aim to **promote and support the creation of new wooded landscape mosaics that complement other land uses and enhance landscape character and quality**. We aim to achieve this by increasing the priority for appropriately-located wooded landscape creation in our landscape policy, providing design guidance to landowners and we will work with partner organisations and stakeholders to facilitate wooded landscape enhancement.

This plan forms landscape policy guidance and provides a **framework for delivery of positive land use change**, based on the principle of working with landscape character, not against it. It has the starting point that **wooded landscapes are positive features, and many areas of the park can support greater levels of tree cover**.



Image: Joe Bawden



Image: Steven Bell

4. Background

The importance of trees and woodland in the landscape

We are at a time of unprecedented interest in woodland and woodland creation. There is increasing recognition of the significant contribution that trees and woodland make to a wide range of public goods including carbon sequestration and storage, natural flood management, improvements to water quality, biodiversity, natural beauty/landscape character and for human health and well-being. The global pandemic has resulted in the recognition of the role our landscapes play in society's health and wellbeing.

How has the landscape evolved over time?

The high levels of forest clearance that we are seeing in the tropics currently occurred in the UK over a relatively long period in prehistory. Woodland clearance began at the end of the Mesolithic era and increased during the Bronze Age to its probable height in the early Iron Age. Rackham estimates that about half of England had ceased to be 'wildwood' by 500BC and there is convincing evidence that woodland manipulation began in the Mesolithic period and woodlands would have been heavily exploited by people during that period. It is worth noting that the common perception of 'wildwood' is of continuous tree cover – it is likely that 'natural' forest cover at this time was likely a more open mosaic of woodland, wood-pasture, scrub and grassland rather than dense closed-canopy woodland. Similarly, it is likely that large areas of natural moorland existed and that these would not look like the managed grouse moors we are familiar with today.

By 1086 only about 15% of England was defined 'woodland'. However, Rackham reports that Derbyshire at Domesday was 26% woodland. 22% of this was Silva Palustris (wooded pasture) with 2% Silva minima (underwood, mostly in the White Peak) and another 2% unpastured woodland (possibly remnants of wildwood?) with large areas in Longdendale. The post-Domesday landscape was likely a mosaic of meadows, pasture, heath, coppice woods, wood-pasture and woody commons/wastes, with areas of managed productive woodland. Wood pasture was valued as part of this land cover mix as it provided both grazing and wood production.

Subsequently, wood pasture / woody commons were gradually lost from the landscape with the Georgian and Victorian eras having the greatest loss (Rackham, 2003). Since then, tree cover has continued to be lost on a piecemeal basis and now the UK is one of the least wooded countries in Europe, with only 13% woodland cover nationally, compared with about 32% in Germany and 31% in France.

What is the current level of tree cover in the Peak District?

The landscape we see today is dynamic and has changed considerably over time, primarily in response to how we have managed – and continue to manage - land. The modern Peak District landscape is a patchwork of fragments of semi-natural habitats mixed with extensive areas of modern land uses.

There is 12,005ha of woodland cover (as defined by Forestry Commission National Forest Inventory) within the Peak District National Park as of March 2017. Of the overall 1,437km² area of the park, woodland therefore covers approx. **8.35%**. This is significantly lower than the national average of 13% and the average for all English National Parks of 16.7%.

Of the English National Parks, the Peak District has the lowest woodland cover of any of the parks except the Yorkshire Dales. For comparison, the Lake District National Park has 12.6% and the North York Moors 22.2% woodland cover.

While the Peak District contains many areas of deep peat (which are not suitable or appropriate for woodland creation) and some 'cultural' landscapes within the park are more open (such as the 'open moors'), other landscape types could support significantly more trees without damaging their cultural, landscape or agricultural value, while providing significantly greater 'public goods'.

5. Opportunities / forces for change

There is increasing recognition that modern land management systems are not delivering their potential full suite of public goods. As of the time of writing this plan, the details of new systems of agricultural support for the UK farming and land management sector are still unclear but it may provide the opportunity for a more integrated land use system which encourages wooded landscape creation as one of its 'public goods'.

The desire to plant trees and create woodland is rising up the national political agenda. This is reflected in several recent key policy documents and is starting to be backed up by government funding:



- **A Green Future: Our 25 Year Environment Plan to Improve the Environment** (Defra, 2018) which is looking to improve the way land is managed, including designing and delivering a new Environmental Land Management scheme, increasing tree planting by creating new forests, and incentivising extra planting on private and the least productive agricultural land where appropriate. It includes a target of planting 180,000 hectares of woodland in England by the end of 2042;
- **Land use: Policies for a Net Zero UK** (Committee on Climate Change, 2020) which identifies that 20% of agricultural land should be released by 2050 for actions that reduce emissions and sequester carbon, such as afforestation and agro-forestry.
- **England Trees Action Plan 2021-24** (Defra, 2021) sets out policy priorities to deliver the government's ambitious tree planting commitment of planting 30,000 hectares of trees a year across the UK by 2025. The plan focuses on expanding, protecting and improving woodlands, and how trees and woodlands can connect people to nature, support the economy, combat climate change and recover biodiversity. This will ensure that trees are established and managed for the many benefits they provide for people, the economy, the climate and nature itself.

Policy actions include: encourage National Parks to include net zero and tree establishment targets in their statutory management plans; support for catchment partnerships and utility companies to deliver on the strategy; targeted support for landowners to deliver woodland creation and agroforestry.

Funding to deliver trees: The **England Woodland Creation Offer** (EWCO) is a flagship new grant scheme for farmers and landowners that supports the creation of a range of woodland types and sizes, including through natural colonisation, and from applications of small areas of land from 1 hectare upwards. The grant will cover standard capital costs for tree planting (up to a per hectare cap), as well as rewarding farmers and landowners for providing public and/or wider environmental benefits.

Woodland creation schemes that clearly demonstrate they will deliver environmental or social benefits can receive additional contributions, for example where they will support nature recovery, provide new public access, or reduce flood risk.

The **Woodland Carbon Code** (WCC) is the UK's voluntary carbon standard for woodland creation projects. It provides reassurance about the carbon savings that woodland projects may realistically achieve. This government-led scheme provides:

- a high quality, robust voluntary carbon standard
 - a transparent UK Woodland Carbon Registry
 - robust science to predict and monitor carbon sequestration
 - independent validation and verification of projects
- **Nature Recovery Network policy paper** (Defra, 2020) includes an objective to support work to increase woodland cover, as part of an ambition to establish a national network of wildlife-rich places.
 - **Landscapes Review** (Defra, 2019) called for radical new approaches to biodiversity loss and climate change. This recognised that trees play a vital role in combatting climate change, acting not only as a carbon sink, but offering a myriad other benefits, like habitat connectivity, biodiversity improvement, help with preventing soil erosion, and reducing flood risk. It identified that *'the pace needs to step up'* for increasing tree cover in protected landscapes. It also recognised that *'new woodland should make use of appropriate trees, allowed to regenerate naturally, with respect for the landscape and look and traditions of the places in which they grow'*.
 - **The Northern Forest** is an initiative led by the Woodland Trust covering an area from the Mersey to the Humber and encompassing a wider 'halo' of interest which includes the northern section of the Peak District. The aim is to plant 50 million trees by 2032 which would provide a timber industry, leisure opportunities and environmental benefits.
 - **National Character Area Profiles** are produced by Natural England and are a natural subdivision of England based on landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity rather than administrative boundaries. The Peak District is covered by three NCAs (The White Peak, Dark Peak and South West Peak). These profiles have provided a valuable background to this strategy and to the wider Landscape Strategy, which includes this action plan.
 - **The development of the Sustainable Farming Incentive, Local Nature Recovery & Landscape Recovery schemes** by Defra. The SFI will reward farmers for producing public goods on their land – farmers will be paid to carry out a set of actions, which will include farm woodland, increasing hedgerows and riparian buffering. The Local Nature Recovery and Landscape Recovery schemes will pay for actions that support nature and landscape recovery, such as large-scale woodland creation and restoring wilder landscapes.

Within the Authority, woodland creation is one of our identified targets in the Corporate Strategy:

- **KPI 6 'At least 400ha of new native woodland created by 2024' and '2,000ha by 2040'**
- Tree cover and woodlands also implicitly play a role in **KPI 2a 'Net enhancement of natural beauty'**.

What do these policy 'drivers' mean for the landscapes of the Peak District?

This national policy and local policy shift focused on land use change is taking place against a backdrop of:

- **uncertainty for farmers and land managers** (with the development of a new system of farming and land management support moving towards a public benefits model that covers a wider range of ecosystem services);
- **climate change** mitigation and adaption (developing resilient habitats and the potential for carbon sequestration); and
- the ongoing impact of **tree diseases**. Ash Dieback *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* will significantly adversely affect the population of ash trees within the park over the next 10 years. Other tree

diseases, such as *Phytophthora ramorum* are starting to have significant effects on other species, such as Larch.

Within the next 10 years there may be:

- continuing landscape evolution as a result of climate change
- pressure for agricultural intensification in some areas (which could lead to the further loss of trees and scrub)
- the extensive loss of ash woodland, farmland, roadside, village and townscape ash trees due to Ash Dieback. Larch will likely also be significantly affected by *Phytophthora ramorum*. New pests and diseases may potentially affect other tree species
- increasing opportunities to accommodate 'wooded landscape' creation opportunities as part of the Sustainable Farming Incentive scheme
- increasing opportunities to accommodate woodland as part of woodland creation schemes to mitigate and offset carbon emissions.
- reduction in intensity of agricultural management in some areas

6. General wooded landscape principles in the Peak District

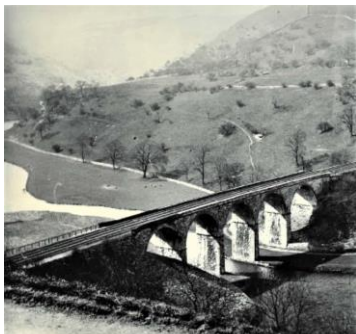
Principle 1: a 'wooded landscape' is more than just 'woodland'

A wooded landscape is not one composed solely of woodland. A 'wooded landscape' is one that can include blocks of woodland / plantation, but also one which has more open characteristics but contains wood pasture, scrub, scattered trees, parkland, hedges and boundary trees as part of a 'mosaic' of woody elements in a wider land use, such as farmland or moorland.



Historically, the overall level of 'woodland' has not significantly changed in the last 1000 years. While some areas of the Peak District have greater tree cover than in other historic periods (the change in tree cover Monsal Dale over the last 100 years is a good example), what has changed significantly over a longer period of human history is a general reduction in the level of tree cover in the wider landscape, and the subsequent erosion of diversity and ecological interest.

Landscape character has evolved over time – what we see in the landscape now is not what we would have seen 100 years ago or 500 years ago – or 100 years in the future. Change in landscape character over time is inevitable. The key question is do we want to try to retain the character of the landscape as it is now (at least in certain key areas), or will we just accept the fact that the landscape will continue to change?



Monsal Head 1905



Monsal Head: present day

Given the landscape is not static, and elements within the landscape will shift and change over time, how do we want to see the landscape change? Can we guide and positively influence that change?

Principle 2: future landscapes and landscape character

Where change respects or enhances the overall character or diversity of the landscape this should be welcomed.

For example, in the moorlands increased areas of scattered trees and scrub - in appropriate locations - would potentially be dynamic, forming intricate habitat mosaics with other non-woodland habitat types. In other cases, wooded landscape creation or large areas of new woodland may alter the character of the landscape – this may be inappropriate in some circumstances, but may be positive in many others.

Principle 3: the ‘right place’ – enhanced wooded landscapes can be an essential and positive element of landscape character and value

The creation, diversification and enhancement of wooded landscapes will often strengthen and enhance existing landscape character and help to reverse the historic - and ongoing - fragmentation of field boundaries and loss of tree and woodland cover.

Trees are important in the landscape for a number of reasons – the ‘right reason’.

Principle 4: increased tree cover in the landscape can deliver multiple public goods

Increasing wooded landscapes, trees and scrub cover in targeted areas can deliver multiple public goods, including landscape enhancement, climate change mitigation and adaptation, water quality and flood mitigation, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, human health and wellbeing benefits, livestock welfare, economic benefits and scenic enhancements. Increasing tree and scrub cover can contribute to enhanced ‘Nature Recovery Networks’ in the Peak District.

Example: wooded landscapes as part of nature recovery

The concept of “wilder” landscapes in appropriate locations, where trees and scrub are likely to form a more significant but dynamic component of the landscape, should be welcomed. Opportunities should be sought to develop landscape-scale transitions from wet valley-bottom woodland, through wooded valley slopes to scattered scrub and open moorland on the highest ground, where appropriate.

Plan open space in new and existing woodland to create and enhance networks of open-ground habitats. Ensure wetland features such as springs, flushes and bogs are protected, and take opportunities to restore degraded features. Develop graded edge habitats; thin woodland edges to create a diverse and convoluted structure and a transitional zone between habitats.

insert wooded landscape / nature recovery images

Example: wooded landscapes as a vital part of catchment management

Wooded landscape enhancements can provide and maintain buffer areas along watercourses, creating valuable new habitat, reducing surface water flows and improve water quality.

- Catchment woodland which can intercept, slow, store and filter water in the headwaters, particularly clough woodlands, can help reduce flood peaks, flood flows and flood frequency.
- A cross-slope woodland is a woodland which is planted across hill slopes. It intercepts the flow of water as it runs down the hill reducing rapid runoff and encouraging infiltration and storage of water in the soil.
- Interventions such as large woody debris dams can have an impact in terms of trapping sediment and modest attenuation.
- With respect to the wider agricultural landscape, hedgerows can perform a natural flood management function by intercepting rainfall, slowing overland runoff and increasing infiltration. Planting new hedgerows across slopes in appropriate locations / restoring historic hedgerow boundaries still evident in the landscape can enhance NFM and water quality benefit by intercepting and temporarily storing overland flow.

insert wooded landscape / catchment management images

Example: wooded landscapes as part of climate change mitigation

The need to plant trees in response to climate change has been articulated at both an international and national level. If woodland is managed in a sustainable way, it performs a vital role both as carbon store and sink. A new native woodland can capture 300-400 tonnes of CO² equivalent per hectare by year 50 (Forestry Commission, 2017). The Woodland Carbon Code is the UK standard for afforestation projects planted for climate change mitigation. Landowners can approach a project development group as a broker between landowners and companies wishing to acquire carbon credits and be paid for the carbon the woodland stores.

Managed woodland can also supply products used in place of energy-intensive construction materials which is likely to be fundamental to net zero building construction in the future.

insert graph / figure of carbon storage volumes

Much of the current Peak District landscape is farmland or managed moorland, with scattered pockets of remnant semi-natural habitats. It is a cultural landscape which is full of evidence of our relationship with the landscape throughout prehistory, history and modern times.

Principle 5: wooded landscapes elements are a valuable part of a wider sustainable land management system

Enhancement of wooded landscapes should form part of a sustainable land management system capable of supporting the farming and land management sector and enhancing climate resilience while protecting the existing network of habitats, species, access and cultural heritage features.

It is important to note that **wooded landscapes are not mutually exclusive with other land uses**. Sustainable land management that delivers multiple benefits is not one of **‘trees or’**, but one of **‘trees and’**. Increased tree cover can co-exist with agricultural landscapes, historic features, access and recreation, moorlands and remnant habitats.

insert image of trees on moorland

Given the high proportion of the Peak District which is farmland or managed moorland, and the likely national financial incentives for different land use management methods, encouraging the creation of wooded landscapes on farmland while **balancing food production, carbon storage, biodiversity and an enhanced landscape with farm / land use economics will likely be a key issue in the future**.

insert series of images of trees on farmland

Principle 6: support for well-designed and located increases in tree cover on agricultural land

Increasing tree cover in agricultural landscapes – either as a well-located economic crop (through small scale productive forestry) or as complimentary wooded landscape elements (such as field corner planting or trees along linear features) – can deliver ‘public goods’ and are vital for managing and enhancing landscape character.

This is concerned with additional trees as part of farm enterprises, and is not about replacing farmland with forestry – increased tree cover forms part of the **‘trees and’** not **‘trees or’** scenario. Additional wooded landscape elements on productive farmland can take 3 forms:

1. Gapped up / widened hedgerows, additional hedgerow trees, creation of shelterbelts, low density wood pasture on marginal grazing land, planting on around farm buildings, field margins and along ditches and streams
2. Planting on whole/part fields (for example, where EWCO / WCC woodland or small-scale productive forestry responds to field pattern and landform)
3. ‘true’ agroforestry, where trees become part of an integrated inter-cropping system.

Within the largely pastoral landscape of the Peak District, there is great potential for increasing tree cover through the increased use of shelterbelts and hedgerows. Increased hedgerow planting – or doubling the width of existing hedgerows and incorporating more hedgerow trees – could make a significant contribution to an increased level of tree cover in the landscape, while balancing increased public goods with agricultural productivity.

There is also significant scope to re-establish wood/scrub pasture on grazing land. An expansion of wood/scrub pasture (trees growing at a very low density within agricultural grasslands) would deliver significant ecological and landscape benefits within the Peak District. The biggest potential carbon reduction benefits are likely to be through tree establishment (woodland or wood-pasture) on more intensively managed land, coupled with extensification. Some land managers may choose this route on parts of their landholdings where there is sufficient financial incentive, and we should look to promote/support this option.

Elements of 'Wooded landscape' creation can play an important role in connecting habitats throughout the farmed landscape and will have direct biodiversity impacts as well as adding to the scenic value of agricultural land. Increased tree cover can also provide wooded settings / screening for farm buildings and in river valley landscapes riparian woodlands and buffer strips can provide 'slowing the flow' measures and increased flood storage.

In addition to other public benefits, increased farmland tree cover can also help provide 'risk management' against climate change and extreme weather events (for example by providing livestock shelter or reducing soil erosion). Increased tree cover can be integrated with management practices such as pollen and nectar strips, margins/buffer strips on watercourses, field corners and hedge planting.

The promotion and expansion of tree cover will hopefully form part of the future Sustainable Farming Incentive scheme and could potentially become a key element of land use change as part of the Government's agenda to deliver 'public goods'.



However, there are areas where wooded landscape creation may not be appropriate – where trees and wooded landscape creation is not in the **‘right place’**.

In addition to agricultural production, the National Park contains a wide range of open habitats important for the wildlife they support, the jobs they provide and the wider ecosystem services they deliver. These include farmland and moorlands providing habitat for wading birds, peatlands which essential for storing carbon and species-rich grasslands.

Sometimes these different priorities can come into conflict and the **‘right place’** for wooded landscape creation is reflected in the principle below:

Principle 7: managing potential conflicts with Ecology, Access or Cultural Heritage priorities in the landscape

The PDNPA support the natural regeneration and appropriate creation of new wooded landscape elements where the impact on other sensitive elements of the landscape (including species, habitats, cultural heritage and access) can be managed.

Ecology

Wooded landscapes should generally not be created on species-rich grassland or moorland priority habitats in good ecological condition and which form part of the nature recovery network. For example, the vast majority of species-rich grasslands and meadows have been lost over the past century in the UK as a result of agricultural intensification. While agriculture continues to be the main threat, the remaining fragments of unimproved and semi-improved grasslands can be vulnerable to poorly located woodland creation projects.

However, an increase in tree and scrub cover may be acceptable on some sites of wildlife importance alongside appropriate management and where it is compatible with existing interest. Where there are

existing guidelines these must be respected (e.g. SSSI Common Standards Monitoring: max. 10% cover of native trees and scrub on blanket bog, max. 20% on upland heath).

Important habitats for populations of priority (national or local) species must be protected and incorporated into any woodland design, but may also mean increased tree and woodland cover is fundamentally not appropriate in some areas. As an example, 'hotspot' areas that support key active populations of wading birds would not generally be considered appropriate for increased tree and woodland cover without sensitive design. As outlined in the UK Forestry Standard, there is a general presumption against forest establishment on deep peat soils. This is particularly the case for raised bogs and blanket bogs.

Conversely, existing ecology may support wooded landscape creation objectives – for example, some areas of open habitat may support relic woodland species (e.g. bracken stands with bluebells, cloughs with woodland ferns or wetlands with wet woodland species).

Access

The principle of maintaining public access to the landscape is important.

Any temporary fenced enclosures should respect existing access routes and not compromise existing public access - public rights of way should not be obstructed. On public rights of way and other identified routes, a suitable stand-off should be provided to reduce the encroachment of over-hanging branches and leaf litter.

The cumulative impacts of fencing should be monitored and potentially fencing may not be appropriate if fences are already numerous in the area.

Wooded landscape creation opportunities should be designed to not interfere with / block vantage points and iconic views.

In terms of designation, as long as low density scattered scrub planting is proposed, wooded landscape creation would not interfere with the 'open character' of land designated under the CROW Act.

Cultural Heritage

Wooded landscape creation should be designed and managed to take account of the historical character and cultural values of the landscape.

Where heritage features or historic landscapes are designated or are assessed as being significant, very careful consideration must be given as to how the heritage assets can be incorporated into creation proposals, and how the assets can help inform the design of the proposals.

In some cases it will not be possible to design a wooded landscape scheme which respects and protects significant heritage features, and in these cases protection of designated heritage features would generally take priority over wooded landscape creation.

Different landscapes with the Peak district contain both a range of environmental conditions and a range of different characters. Tree/scrub species should be selected to be appropriate for both. There is also a need to consider future threats to tree health by encouraging a range of species in woodland planting to increase resilience.

Principle 8: species selection – the 'right tree'

New wooded landscapes should include a diverse range of tree and/or scrub species. Single species dominance should be avoided, with multiple species being specified to build resilience to future tree diseases / climate changes.

Defra has published a Tree Health Resilience Strategy (2018) to improve the extent, condition, diversity and connectivity of our trees, woods and forests, and enhance protection to minimise the risk of new threats occurring. The strategy promotes four environmental goals to build resilience:

- 1: Extent: a continued increase of trees, woods and forests
- 2: Connectivity: enhancing the linear forest and matrix of trees within other habitat settings
- 3: Diversity: increasing the genetic diversity and increasing the structural diversity of our treescape
4. Condition: encourage healthier trees and thriving woodlands and forests.

Important considerations for species selection are soil type, site conditions, exposure, moisture, disease tolerance. Useful tools for species selection, provided by the Forestry Commission, are the [Ecological Site Classification Decision Support System](#), which matches key site factors with the ecological requirements of different tree species and woodland communities, and the [Climate Matching Tool](#), which 'gives an indication of the climate that trees are likely to experience in the future' in the UK.

Where planting (as opposed to promoting natural regeneration through a change in management – see **Principle 13** below) is proposed, the most appropriate species and establishment method should be considered in the design of schemes. **A list of appropriate tree/scrub species for use in different situations in different landscape types within the park is included in section 7 below.**

Commercial conifer / broadleaf plantations may be considered in limited locations, as can woody bio-energy crops. The principles in the UK Forestry Standard should be adopted for all new plantation woodlands and conform with Environmental Impact Assessment regulations where appropriate.

Some Landscape Character Types may be able to more successfully accommodate commercial forestry than others without diminishing the quality of the landscape, e.g. locally native species should predominate in unenclosed landscapes but other species - particularly ones that have been widely planted in the past such as Beech and Sycamore - may be acceptable in more managed landscapes.

The landscape we see today is a function of its past uses and how it is used today. Positively managing and understanding what we have and how we have got to where we are - and planning for what we pass on to future generations - is vital.

Principle 9: ancient and veteran trees

Ancient and veteran trees are particularly valuable for their cultural heritage, their contribution to the landscape and the amount of species they are able to support, hosting thousands of types of plants, fungi, invertebrates, birds and mammals. Mapping ancient and veteran trees helps us to better protect these bastions of biodiversity, landscape history and cultural heritage. To this end, the Woodland Trust has produced an open access, interactive and participatory [Ancient Tree Inventory](#). Using this inventory, data can be accessed on these significant ancient, veteran, heritage trees and notable trees within the Peak District National Park and, working with landowners, **promote their sustainable management.**

Promote the creation of new managed woodlands and lone or hedgerow trees – the **ancient woodlands and veteran trees of future generations.**



Images: Steven Bell

While expanding tree cover through planting will be important, in most situations the most effective way of delivering public goods will be through ensuring the **continuity and enhancement of existing tree cover through positive and active management** (which may include felling and replanting and the repair of boundary walls) and the **encouragement of natural regeneration**.

Principle 10: sustainable management of existing trees/scrub/woodland

Sustaining existing woody assets which already make significant contributions to the ‘public good’ will be essential to ensure that the plan can deliver additional value and benefits (by increasing total levels of tree cover).

- Generally, existing woodland, trees and scrub (including hedgerows) should be sustainably managed to maintain their condition with the aim of achieving a high diversity of structure, age and species.
- Restore PAWS sites to a semi-natural state.
- encourage under-managed woodland to be brought into profitable and sustainable management, including opportunities for local woodland products and wood fuel supplies.
- encourage the maximisation of carbon sequestration through efficient management, consistent with timber production outputs.
- Positive hedgerow management should include laying and the promotion of hedgerow trees.

The landscape impacts of commercial forestry operations (such as rotation age, felling and restocking) need to be considered. Clear felling in particular can have a dramatic impact on important and sensitive views.

Principle 11: Landscape management of commercial forestry

Restoration of Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) should be a priority to re-establish their species and habitat diversity.

Consideration should be given to the re-shaping and diversification of existing conifer plantations to create softer outlines that respond to topography including an increased broadleaf component, a range of stand structures, the retention of veteran trees, the incorporation of scrub and open ground along cloughs and watercourses and scrub margins.

We encourage the consideration of alternatives to clearfell systems, such as continuous cover forestry, where suitable sites and species combinations allow and where management objectives are compatible. This is particularly important in visually sensitive views and on sites with high landscape value.



Top: poor design of forest blocks, not responding to landform and character (source: UKFS)

Bottom: geometric felling coupes again not responding to the landscape (source: UKFS)

Principle 12: encouraging natural regeneration

Natural regeneration is our preferred approach to wooded landscape creation, though it is acknowledged that regeneration (as opposed to 'planting') may be difficult to achieve and can be difficult to fund.

In some areas, to allow regeneration to take place, a change of management practice is required – to allow scrub to naturally regenerate in places while allowing some areas to turn into woodland as part of a process of natural succession.

It may be possible to adopt a 'hybrid approach' (assisted regeneration) whereby natural regeneration is supplemented by some planting to diversify species composition, or to 'kick-start' the process of natural regeneration where a seed source is largely absent.

While we would like to see natural / assisted regeneration to be the primary means of wooded landscape creation, we recognise that this will not be possible in many cases. Planting is therefore likely to be the predominant means of creation. Given that, traditional tree planting methods can have their own issues (in terms of sustainability of plastic guards, establishment maintenance and the visual impact of lines of stakes/guards).

Principle 13: tree planting establishment

The use of plastic tree guards in the park should be minimised where possible, and ideally biodegradable alternatives should be used if needed. Mycorrhiza of local provenance and biodegradable mulch mats can be used to aid tree establishment.

When planning new woodland it is crucial to consider what pests (such as deer) are present in the area and what protection (or management protocols) needs to be put in place. Deer fencing may be required in some areas but should only be used where deer numbers would severely affect establishment and the fencing would not have a disproportionate impact on the landscape. As ongoing squirrel and deer control may also be required, the PDNPA will support a collaborative approach to managing deer grazing across the park where appropriate.



Tree guards on a planting site



Natural scrub regeneration

Individual or groups of trees within and around settlements contribute significantly to the setting of settlements and help accommodate built form into the landscape. Groups of trees on settlement boundaries can help link settlements - and people - to the wider landscape. Within settlements, trees play an important role in 'bringing the countryside into town'.

Principle 14: trees and settlements, farmsteads and new development / GI / Biodiversity Net gain

Trees in/on the edges of settlements should be protected. New developments should result in no net tree/ shrub loss and should include tree planting / woodland creation (for example as street trees or 'green infrastructure') wherever possible and appropriate in terms of landscape character.

insert images of new development with good tree/landscape structure

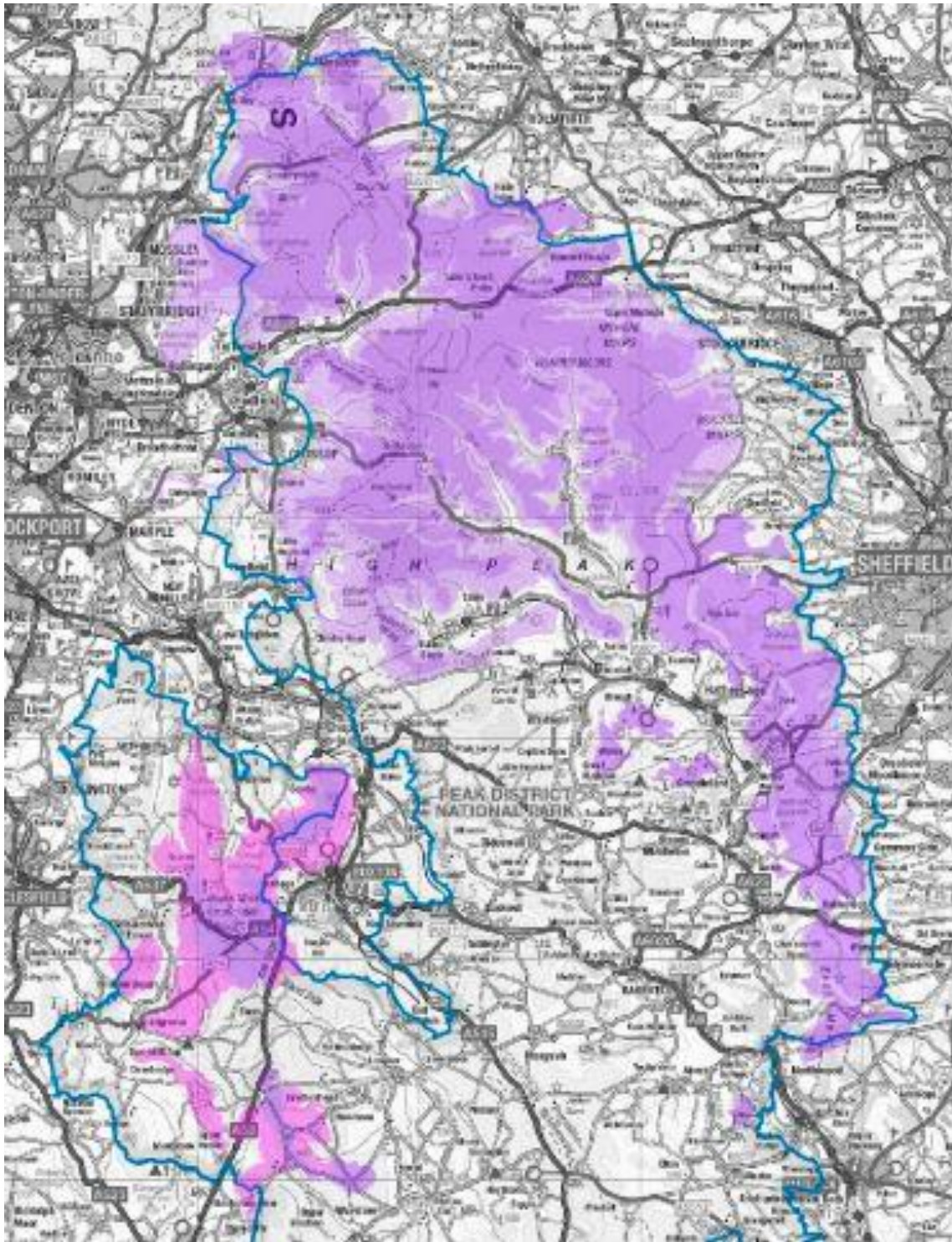
7. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND WOODED LANDSCAPE PRIORITIES IN THE PARK

Moorland Landscapes

This character area is located in the Dark Peak, Eastern Moors and South West Peak LCAs. It is comprised of the **Open Moors, Moorland Slopes & Cloughs and Moorland Hills & Ridges** LCTs. These LCTs have been grouped based on their similar landscape characteristics and potential for wooded landscape creation.

DRAFT

Link to online map



The moorlands – despite being important cultural landscapes – are not entirely natural landscapes. They have been heavily modified and expanded through historic climatic changes, historic industrial pollution and historic/prehistoric woodland clearance. They have subsequently been significantly influenced by subsequent management activities including drainage, grazing and burning. This has created their open - and relatively treeless - character but has also caused vegetation loss and erosion, the gullyng of underlying peat, negative impacts on water quality and the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Existing wooded landscape character of the Moorlands

The high moors are generally an open landscape with expansive views and relatively limited tree cover. Where there is tree cover, it consists primarily of scattered scrub and small trees, with some clough woodland in the shallow incised valleys on the moorland tops and the occasional conifer plantation. In some areas, most notably lower-lying moorland in the South West Peak and Eastern Peak District Moors, patches of willow scrub and areas of open birch woodland can occur within the mosaic of more open moorland.

The fringes of the open moor are generally steep hill slopes and ridges with numerous cloughs. Scattered trees and patches of scrub and woody heath often occur within the cloughs, with larger native clough woodlands in some areas. The slopes below gritstone edges vary significantly, with some being open and valued for the dramatic views of the rock faces, others being extensively wooded with birch or oak woodland or, less commonly, coniferous plantations.

Fragmented linear trees are found along some watercourses and lanes with occasional groups of trees around farmsteads. Thorn bushes mark the course of some former hedgerows and there are occasional patches of willow scrub. There are occasional sizeable blocks of commercial forestry and mixed plantations and small mixed plantations elsewhere.

Wooded Landscape priorities for the Moorland landscapes

Increase appropriate native woodland, scrub and scattered tree cover as part of an enhanced moorland landscape mosaic. In tandem with other moorland management operations (such as re-wetting) this will achieve a stronger ecological network, reduce habitat fragmentation and increase the resilience of the moorlands to environmental change / wildfires.

Look to retain extensive core areas of largely open moorland, with increasing tree/shrub cover on lower ground and around the moorland periphery.

promote flexible land management operations, including less intensive grazing regimes and a reduction of burning, to allow a more diverse range of habitats and vegetation types and structure to develop (including scrub and trees), thus enabling habitats to respond to climate change effects and species to move into more suitable locations.

Maintain open views of iconic features (e.g. Stanedge Edge), but consider opportunities for increasing scattered tree/scrub cover and small groups of trees. Consider the encouragement of denser woodland/scrub on other less dramatic slopes.

Woodland creation / tree planting is considered inappropriate on deep peat areas, upland flushes of particular ecological importance, blanket bogs, active wader hotspots and areas of particular archaeological importance and sensitivity.

It should be noted that increased wooded landscape elements should form **part of a wider management strategy for moorland management**, including re-wetting etc.

M1 Extending and linking clough woodland upslope (in the Slopes and Cloughs and into the Open Moors) through creation in unwooded cloughs and extending existing clough woodlands further upstream, particularly where relic woodland species occur. This could be achieved through a mix of planting and regeneration (through stock exclusion).

If areas are planted, regularity in shape and layout should be avoided – planting design should include natural and organic shapes, with varied densities, open space and scrub edges to allow transition into adjoining open habitats. In general, tree and scrub spacing should be less dense as it extends higher up the clough slopes. Planting should be restricted to locally native species (see species list).

- M2** Rolling less-dense woodland, scrub and scattered trees over the top of cloughs onto the edges of less-sensitive open moorland areas where appropriate, generally through natural regeneration (fencing) or a reduction in management intensity.
- M3** Creating or supporting the **regeneration of low density scattered scrub** (to aid peat stabilisation) **surrounding sensitive blanket bogs**
- M4** Creating or supporting the **regeneration of scrub and scattered trees** (to aid slope stabilisation) on **eroded slopes or slipped areas of peat**
- M5** **Creating, expanding and linking areas of existing fragmented woodland on the moorland fringes and valley sides.** This could be achieved through increasing tree cover in areas of low-value habitats or areas of uneconomic former pasture.
- **Dense bracken stands and species-poor acid grassland** may be able to accommodate denser tree cover (where there are no other significant constraints). The bracken needs to be controlled to prevent the saplings being out-competed and once trees become established the canopy will start to 'out-shade' and suppress the bracken.
 - Areas of low-quality open wetland habitat, such as **species poor rush-dominated areas** may be able to support the development of scattered wet clough/open woodland or willow scrub
 - **Upland heath** may be able to accommodate additional limited tree/scrub cover
- M6** **Diversifying and managing existing conifer plantations** in line with Principle 11 (Section 6).
- M7** Ensuring that **moorland and clough woodlands are appropriately managed**, which may include the absence of any active management, to deliver the full range of ecosystem services available.
- M8** **Promote natural flood management measures** (such as woody debris dams in watercourses) in existing clough woodlands, planted clough woodlands and areas fenced off from grazing.

Appropriate moorland tree/scrub species

Woodland / clough woodlands (M1, M5 & M6)	Trees: sessile oak, sycamore, field maple, silver/downy birch, rowan, scots pine Scrub layer/margins: hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, guelder rose, holly Wetter sites: willow (goat, grey, white), bird cherry, alder Density: 600 – 1,200 stems per ha
Scattered trees and scrub (M2)	Sessile oak, silver/downy birch, rowan, willow (goat, grey, white), hawthorn Density: 600 – 900 stems per ha
Scrub (M3 & M4)	Silver/downy birch, rowan, hazel, hawthorn, willow (goat, grey, white) Density: 300 – 600 stems per ha



Moorland landscape 'before'

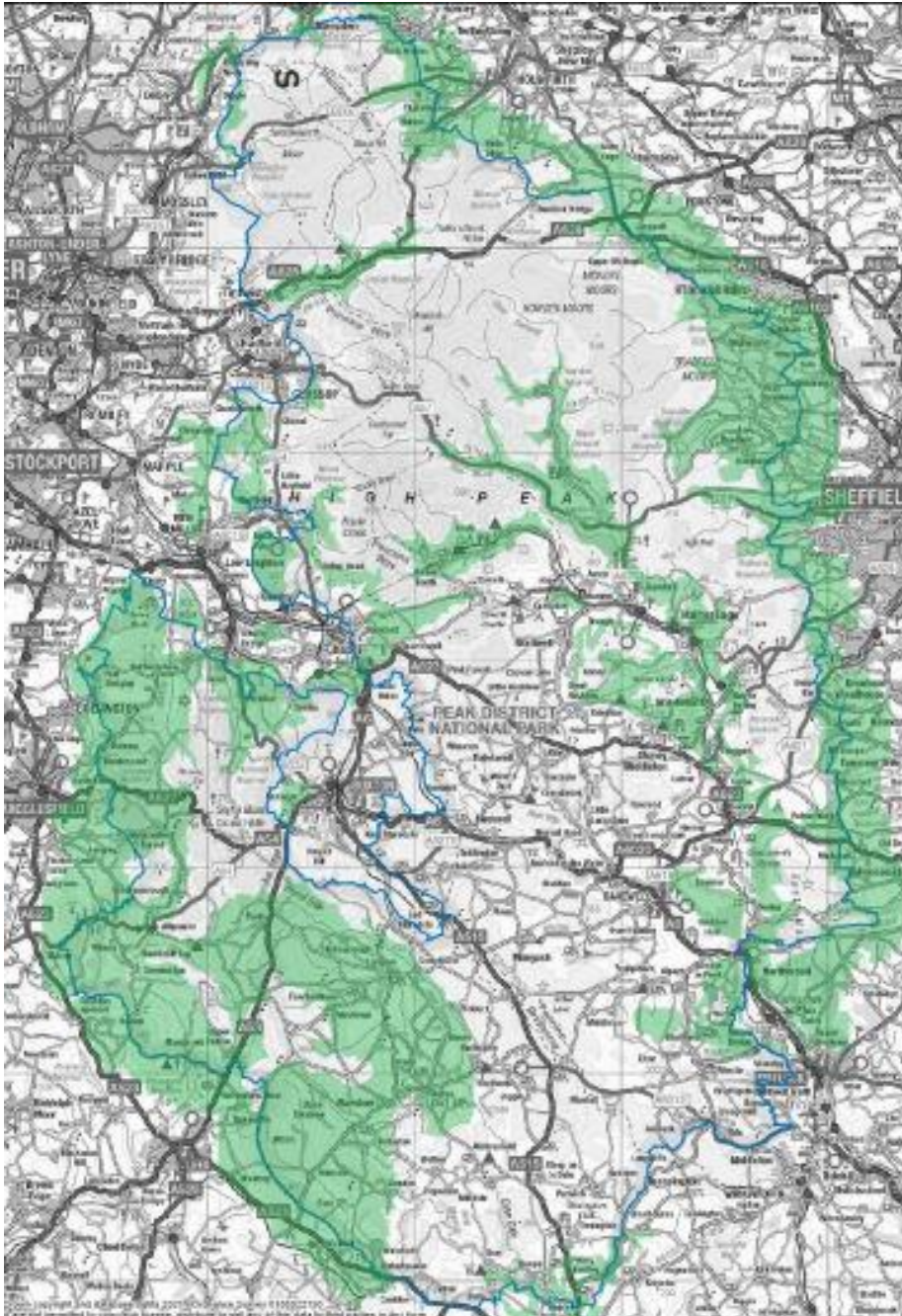


Moorland Landscape 'after'

Upland landscapes

This character area is comprised of landscapes on the fringes of the moorlands and is located within the Dark Peak, Dark Peak Western Fringe, Dark Peak Yorkshire Fringe, Derwent Valley and South West Peak LCAs. It is comprised of the **Enclosed Gritstone uplands**, **Densely enclosed Gritstone Uplands**, **Upper Valley Pastures**, **Upland Pastures**, **Slopes and Valleys with Woodland**, **Reservoir Valleys with Woodland** and **Gritstone Village Farmlands** LCTs. These LCTs have been grouped based on their similar landscape characteristics and potential for wooded landscape creation.

Link to online map



Existing wooded landscape character of the Uplands

In the **Enclosed and Densely Enclosed Gritstone Uplands** LCTs, the level of existing tree cover is relatively low - there are occasional broadleaf tree groups, generally adjacent to farmsteads and along field boundaries and small patches of thorn scrub and woodland on rough ground. There are also broadleaf shelterbelts and occasional blocks of 19th or 20th century coniferous woodland. Small areas of relic

broadleaf woodland and scrub occur occasionally where small gullies/cloughs occur within the enclosed farmland. There are numerous linear tree features associated with watercourses, boundaries and tracks, and some areas of small and medium sized coniferous plantations.

The **Slopes and Valleys with Woodland** LCT is generally an undulating pastoral landscape, with a strongly wooded character, defined by hillside woodlands, wooded cloughs, scattered trees along field boundaries and watercourse trees. 20th century plantation woodlands are often planted on slopes above reservoirs, some of which are extensive, such as Macclesfield Forest.

In the **Upland Pastures and Upper Valley Pastures** LCTs, tree cover is generally well represented due to the scattered hedgerow and watercourse trees. Tree cover is generally densest adjacent to watercourses and associated cloughs. Scattered trees also exist adjacent to settlements and along field boundaries. There are scattered ancient woodlands throughout such as around the western side of Shire Hill, Glossop; these further contribute to the wooded nature of the landscape. Most woodlands are broadleaved and contain species such as oak, ash and sycamore. There are some coniferous plantation woodlands, for example around Dovestones Reservoir in the north of the area.

The **Reservoir Valleys with Woodland** LCT is a landscape of generally steep sided valleys, often dominated by large reservoirs. It is extensively wooded, mostly recent conifer plantations, some of which were planted on the site of cleared ancient woodlands. In places, patches of ancient semi-natural woodland are now linked by the areas of plantation woodland to create a heavily wooded landscape.

The **Gritstone Village Farmlands** LCT is a generally open landscape with trees confined to small groups around settlements and as mature trees within field boundaries. On higher ground (for example around Abney), the walled landscape is generally devoid of tree cover, while on lower-lying ground (for example around Birchover), boundary trees and hedgerows are an extensive and significant feature.

Wooded Landscape priorities for the Uplands

Land use in the uplands is primarily pastoral and opportunities should be taken to **enhance, link and create wooded landscape elements and areas of woodland** where possible. Linear tree features and shelter belts should be enhanced and linked, areas of wood pasture should be expanded and restored, areas of woody scrub/heath should be created and linked and small-scale, appropriately located productive forestry on economically marginal grazing land should be supported where appropriate.

- U1** At a landscape scale, **increase and connect wooded landscapes** (broadleaf woodland, scrub/woody heath and wood pasture) **along valley sides and ridges** through planting or regeneration. This should ideally link to existing woodland/scrub where possible and enhance the connectivity between existing semi-natural woodland blocks. This could be achieved through increasing tree cover in areas of low-value habitats (such as bracken areas or less diverse acid grasslands) or areas of uneconomic former pasture.
- U2** At a landscape scale, **extending clough woodland upslope** (into the Moorland landscapes) through creation in unwooded cloughs and extending existing clough woodlands further upstream, particularly where relic woodland species occur.
- U3** At a landscape scale, **creating, expanding and linking areas of existing fragmented woodland on the moorland fringes and valley sides**. This could be achieved through increasing tree cover in areas of low-value habitats or areas of uneconomic former pasture.
 - **Dense bracken stands and species-poor acid grassland** may be able to accommodate denser tree cover (where there are no other significant constraints). The bracken needs to be controlled to prevent the saplings being out-competed and once trees become established the canopy will start to 'out-shade' and suppress the bracken.
 - Areas of low-quality open wetland habitat, such as **species poor rush-dominated areas** may be able to support the development of scattered wet clough/open woodland or willow scrub

- Upland heath may be able to accommodate more limited tree/scrub cover

U4 Diversification of existing conifer woodlands to create a more semi-natural structure and composition and the **restoration of Planted Ancient Woodland** sites (PAWS). These are woodland sites which contain evidence of former ancient woodland, or for which there is recorded evidence of former ancient woodland, and which have subsequently been planted with coniferous or broadleaved trees.

U5 At the **farm scale**, support the **expansion** of well-designed and located **wooded landscape elements** (which respect existing field pattern, landform, remnant habitats and historic features and the condition/layout of field boundaries) **in the largely pastoral farmed landscape** units, through:

- the expansion of **wood/scrub pasture** on marginally economic grazing land
- extending and linking **linear native tree/scrub cover** (along field boundaries, lanes, ditches & watercourses)
- Increasing **scattered tree/scrub cover** - along boundaries, field corners and watercourses. This can include extending clough woodlands upslope (into the moorland fringes)
- Extending and linking **linear tree cover and restoring relict hedgerows** in valley bottoms and up valley sides
- Manage **existing historic shelterbelts** and planting and maintain **drystone enclosures**.
- Creating **new small woodlands set within the existing field pattern** that link and connect existing wooded elements.
- In larger-scale areas of landscape (larger scale in terms of field size, topography &/or existing wooded elements), **larger-scale woodland establishment**, particularly of native broadleaf, which links and connects existing wooded landscape features may be appropriate. Other woodland types (non-native broadleaves, mixed or conifer plantations) may be acceptable if appropriately sited and designed
- Extending and linking **valley-side riparian woodland, linear tree cover, scrub, hedgerows and scattered trees**, particularly along watercourses
- Increasing **tree cover associated with farmsteads/new farm building/small clusters of built form and promote new trees as part of planning decisions**.

U6 Individual trees or groups of trees within/on the boundaries of settlements contribute significantly to village character and landscape setting and should be protected, positively managed and promoted as part of the planning process, aiming to secure a net increase in trees within/around settlements.

Appropriate upland tree/scrub species

Woodlands (U1, U2, U3 & U4)	Trees: sessile oak, rowan, silver/downy birch, sycamore, field maple, scots pine Scrub layer/margins: cherry, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, guelder rose, holly Wetter sites: willow (goat, grey, white), bird cherry, alder Density: 600 – 1,200 stems/ha
Boundary / infield trees (U5)	sessile oak, sycamore, birch, rowan, field maple
Wood / scrub pasture (U5)	sessile oak, sycamore, birch, rowan, field maple, hawthorn, alder (wetter sites) Density: 6 – 25 stems per ha
Scrub / hedges (U1 & U5)	Field maple, birch, rowan, cherry, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, guelder rose, holly Density: 300 – 500 stems per ha / 7 whips per lin m (hedge planting)



UPLAND LANDSCAPE 'BEFORE'

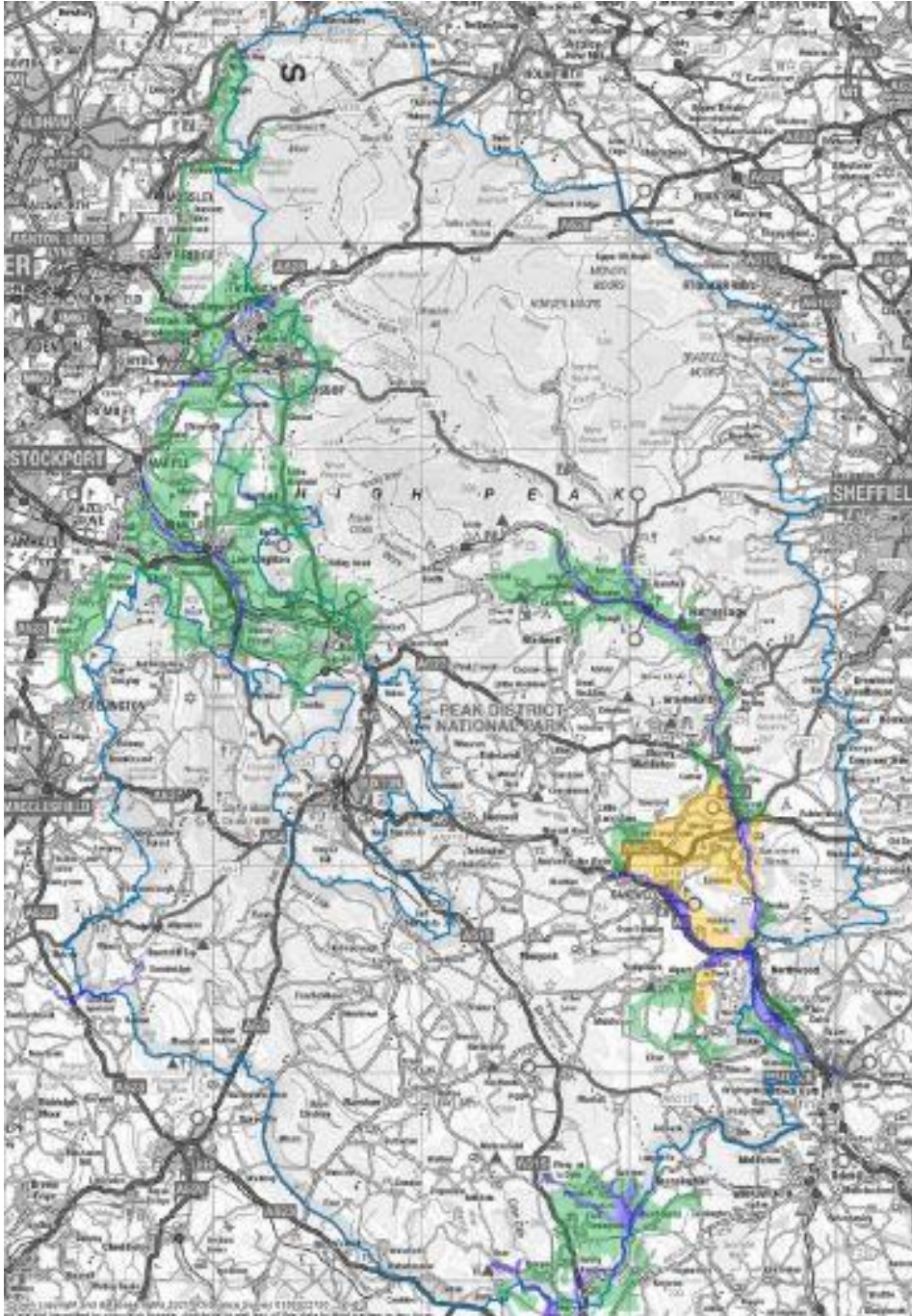


UPLAND LANDSCAPE 'AFTER'

Transitional lowland landscapes

This character area is located primarily within the Derwent Valley LCA and is comprised of the **Riverside Meadows, Estatelands, Valley Farmlands with Villages, Valley Pastures with Industry** and **Village Farmlands on Shale Ridges** LCTs. These LCTs have been grouped based on their similar landscape characteristics – these are lower lying, transitional landscapes between the uplands and limestone landscapes to the north and west and the rural lowlands of Derbyshire to the south and east.

link to online map



Existing woodland character in the transitional lowland landscapes

The **Village Farmlands on Shale Ridges** LCT is a small scale, settled pastoral landscape associated with gently rolling uplands and small to medium sized fields and strip fields, enclosed by hedgerows. This is an enclosed landscape where views are often filtered through densely scattered hedgerow trees in field

boundaries. Tree cover is largely dominated by boundary trees, shrubs and hedges, which are an extensive and characteristic feature within much of this area, and there is linear tree cover along parts of the Tissington Trail. Woodland is generally scarce, and confined to small broadleaf or mixed plantations.

The **Riverside Meadows** LCT are pastoral landscapes, generally characterised by a meandering river channel in a relatively flat floodplain. Despite the agricultural nature of these landscapes, they generally appear to have a well-wooded character. River banks are often densely lined with alder and willow which creates an intimate landscape where views are filtered by watercourse trees and framed by the adjacent wooded slopes. In places there are small copses of willow carr and poplars.

The **Estatelands** LCT are generally a mix of estate woodlands, pasture (with some veteran trees), historic plantation coniferous woodlands, discrete linear shelter belts and scattered mature boundary trees. There are significant areas of parkland, most notably at Chatsworth but also at Haddon, Thornbridge, Stanton and Hassop, which are an important component of the landscape in this area. Linear tree cover along the Monsal Trail also contributes to the relatively wooded 'feel' of this LCT.

Add Valley Farmlands with Villages and Valley Pastures with Industry LCT descriptions

Wooded Landscape objectives for the transitional lowland landscapes

Land use is primarily pastoral and opportunities should be taken to **enhance, link and create wooded landscape elements and areas of woodland** where possible. Linear tree features and shelter belts should be enhanced and linked, areas of wood pasture should be expanded and restored, areas of woody scrub/heath should be created and linked and small-scale, appropriately located productive forestry on economically marginal grazing land should be supported where appropriate.

The Riverside Meadows can support an increased appropriate native woodland creation as part of an enhanced riparian landscape mosaic (with scrub, linear/scattered trees, wood pasture and wet woodland) on pastoral farmland and remnant habitats. Wooded areas and linear tree cover along the valley floor and up lower valley sides can link upslope into adjacent Upland LCTs.

Protect and enhance estate landscapes, veteran trees and the setting of historic features. Consider extension of parkland landscapes through increased establishment of field and boundary trees on adjacent enclosed land. Ensuring the longevity and continuity of the landscape through positive management of the tree stock in parklands and along the trails, and creating conditions for the development of 'future veterans'.

T1 **Increasing and linking areas of riparian woodland** on the lower valley sides and valley floors, in combination with other 'slowing the flow' measures, would strengthen landscape character while providing substantial amenity and flood prevention benefits to downstream communities.

T2 In the **Riverside meadows LCT**, promote and support increased appropriate native woodland creation as part of an enhanced riparian landscape mosaic (with scrub, linear/scattered trees, wood pasture and wet woodland) on pastoral farmland and remnant habitats.

- Extending and linking **valley-bottom riparian woodland, linear tree cover, scrub, hedgerows and scattered trees**, particularly along watercourses.
- Extending and linking **linear tree cover and restoring relict hedgerows** in valley bottoms and lower valley sides. upslope into adjacent Upland LCTs
- Creation of **new areas of wet woodland, riparian and floodplain woodland** on the valley floor and lower valley sides.
- **Management and restoration of existing** wooded areas.
- Encourage **natural flood management measures** where appropriate, such as natural floodplain woodland and 'slowing the flow' measures e.g. coarse woody debris in watercourses.

- T3** in the **Estatelands LCT**, promote the protection and enhancement of estate landscapes, veteran trees and the setting of historic features. Consider the extension of parkland landscapes through increased establishment of field and boundary trees on adjacent enclosed land. Ensuring the longevity and continuity of the landscape through positive management of the tree stock in parklands and along the trails, and creating conditions for the development of ‘future veterans’.
- Manage **existing estate woodlands and historic plantations** and maintain **enclosure boundaries**.
 - Opportunities for new additional parkland trees**. There is a need to manage these trees to ensure a balanced age structure while seeking opportunities to ensure the sustainability of the parkland landscapes. Retain old and veteran trees and initiate phased replacement planting and felling when required. Retain trees as standing and fallen deadwood habitats and landscape features wherever possible.
 - Expand/create areas of scrub and scattered trees** to complement and enhance the wildlife value of existing ancient and veteran trees.
- T4** At the **farm scale** in the wider transitional lowland landscapes, support the **expansion** of well-designed and located **wooded landscape elements** (which respect existing field pattern, landform, remnant habitats and historic features and the condition/layout of field boundaries) **in the largely pastoral farmed landscape** units, through:
- the **expansion of wood/scrub pasture** on marginally economic grazing land
 - extending and linking linear native tree/scrub cover** (along field boundaries, lanes, ditches / watercourses)
 - Increasing scattered tree/scrub cover** - along boundaries, field corners and watercourses
 - Restoring relict hedgerows** in valley bottoms and lower valley sides
 - Create riparian native woodlands and productive woodland** of appropriate species, including cross-contour shelterbelts
 - Increasing **tree cover associated with farmsteads/new farm building/small clusters of built form** and **promote new trees as part of planning** decisions
 - Larger-scale woodland establishment**, particularly of native broadleaf, which links and connects existing wooded landscape features may be appropriate. Other woodland types (non-native broadleaves, mixed or conifer plantations) may be acceptable if appropriately sited and designed.
- T5** **Individual trees or groups of trees within/on the boundaries of settlements** contribute significantly to village character and landscape setting and should be protected, positively managed and promoted as part of the planning process, aiming to secure a net increase in trees within/around settlements.

Appropriate transitional lowland tree/scrub species

Woodlands (T1, T2, T3 & T4)	Trees: Sycamore, field maple, sessile/pendunculate oak, rowan, birch Scrub layer/margins: crab apple, birch, rowan, cherry, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, guelder rose, holly Density: 600 – 1,200 stems/ha
Riparian woodlands (T1, T2 & T4)	Willow (goat, grey, white, crack), bird cherry, alder, downy birch, hawthorn, hazel, blackthorn, guelder rose Density: 600 – 1,200 stems/ha
Boundary / infield trees (T4)	Sessile / pendunculate oak, sycamore, birch, rowan, field maple, beech (away from buildings/footpaths/roads)
Wood / scrub pasture (T4)	SL/LL lime, sycamore, field maple, sessile/pendunculate oak, hawthorn, alder (wetter sites), rowan/birch (higher sites) Density: 6 – 25 stems per ha
Scrub/hedges (T2 & T4)	Field maple, birch/rowan (higher sites), crab apple, cherry, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, guelder rose, holly Density: 300 – 500 stems per ha / 7 whips per lin m (hedge planting)



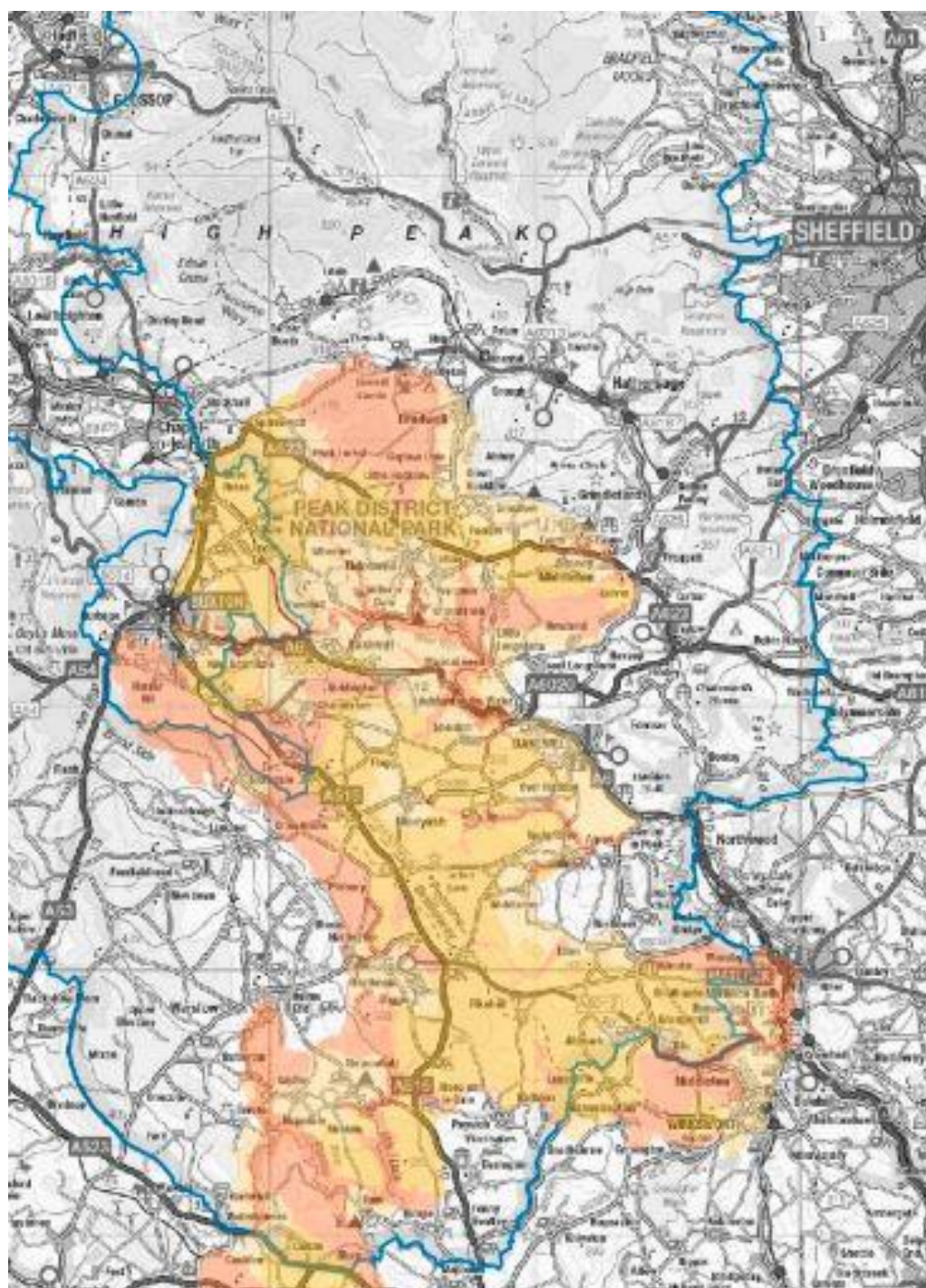
Transitional Lowland Landscapes 'before'



Transitional lowland landscapes 'after'

Limestone landscapes

This character area is located within the White Peak LCA and is comprised of the **Limestone Village Farmlands, Limestone Plateau Pastures, Limestone Hills and Slopes** and **Limestone Dales** LCTs. These LCTs have been grouped based on their similar underlying limestone geology.



Existing woodland character of the limestone landscapes

In the Limestone Village Farmlands and Plateau Pastures LCTs, tree cover is largely restricted to small groups of trees and a scattering of trees along boundaries around village margins and farmsteads, often creating quite intimate rural scenes. Individual and groups of linear boundary trees are important landscape features in localised areas e.g. along existing and historic transport routes. In places, larger coverts and occasional belts of sycamore, beech or ash trees, often planted on abandoned lead rakes, provide a stronger sense of enclosure. These linear or rectangular shelter belts are a distinctive feature of

the White Peak landscape. Elsewhere the landscape is often more open, but even here more distant views are typically framed by surrounding hills, or rising ground.

The Hills & Slopes is a fairly exposed landscape with relatively limited tree cover and open views to distant skylines. In some more sheltered areas with deeper soils, there are small plantations and tree groups associated with farmsteads.

The Dales are often steeply sloping with limestone outcrops and extensive tracts of largely native semi-natural woodland and scrub intermixed with limestone grassland. In some smaller dales this is an intimate, secluded landscape where views are tightly controlled by landform and tree cover, in others the dales are more open.

Wooded Landscape objectives for the Limestone Landscapes

In the White Peak, the limestone villages and dales are an important focus for many visitors to the National Park, and wooded landscape creation opportunities should be used to strengthen their character and setting to ensure this focus can continue into the future. The key aim is to **increase appropriate types of tree cover while protecting and managing the distinctive and valued historic character of the settled, agricultural landscapes.**

The promotion of trees and wooded landscape creation on farmland (including scrub, linear/scattered trees, wood-pasture and woodland) should be part of an overall objective to enhance the 'landscape mosaic' in this largely pastoral landscape, while maintaining historic field patterns. In particular, opportunities should be taken to extend and connect wooded landscapes (native woodland, scrub, parkland, wood-pasture and boundary trees) over dale brows, and to re-establish a natural gradation, in places, from wet valley-bottom woodland through daleside woodland to native woodland on the limestone plateau.

In the Dales, opportunities for wooded landscape creation are more limited because of the extent of high quality open habitats, but wooded landscape creation should be part of an enhanced landscape mosaic (including grassland, scrub, linear/scattered trees and woodland), while protecting the internationally important grasslands and cultural heritage features.

- L1** At a landscape scale, **increase and connect wooded landscapes** (broadleaf woodland, scrub and wood pasture) **through the plateau, on dale sides and along hills and ridges** through larger-scale planting/regeneration schemes or productive woodland initiatives. These should ideally link to existing woodland/ scrub where possible and enhance the connectivity between existing semi-natural woodland blocks. This could include the **expansion of native daleside woodland, scrub and wood-pasture over the dale brow** over the tops of the Dales and onto the improved grasslands in adjacent limestone village farmland and plateau landscapes. The visual integrity of historically important landscapes such as strip fields and the settings of village conservation areas should be maintained.
- L2** At a landscape scale, **protect, manage and enhance linear tree cover, groups of trees associated with farmsteads and scattered trees** (which are important landscape features). Positive management should ensure a balanced age structure while seeking opportunities to extend and replace boundary trees.
- L3** At a landscape scale, **manage traditional plantation woodlands** (linear or rectangular shelterbelts and groups of trees around farmsteads and settlements, and on the site of old lead mine workings). These are often not managed and suffering from dereliction. Opportunities should be sought to ensure their continuity and enhance their diversity by increasing species diversity, diversifying age structure, retaining dead wood and enhancing the shrub layer. On sites of historical importance historic features should be safeguarded and enhanced by retaining open areas where appropriate.

- L4** **Individual trees or groups of trees within/on the boundaries of settlements** contribute significantly to village character and landscape setting and should be protected, positively managed and promoted as part of the planning process, aiming to secure a net increase in trees within/around settlements.
- L5** At the **farm scale**, support the **expansion of** well-designed and located **wooded landscape elements** (which respect existing field pattern, landform, remnant habitats and historic features and the condition/layout of field boundaries) **in the largely pastoral farmed landscape** units, through:
- the **expansion of wood/scrub pasture** on marginally economic grazing land and along the tops of the dales
 - extending, linking and creating **linear and scattered native tree/scrub** cover (along field boundaries/corners, lanes, ditches/watercourses)
 - **Manage existing historic shelterbelts and planting** and maintain **drystone enclosures**.
 - **Create small native woodlands and productive woodland blocks or wood pasture** (within the existing traditional field pattern) in the Limestone Villages Farmlands LCT
 - Increasing **tree cover associate with farmsteads/new farm building/small clusters of built form** and **promote new trees as part of planning decisions**
 - In the Limestone Plateau Pastures LCT (larger scale in terms of field size, topography &/or existing woodland), **larger-scale woodland establishment**, particularly of native broadleaf may be appropriate. Other woodland types (non-native broadleaves, mixed or conifer plantations) may be acceptable if appropriately sited and designed.
- L6** **Maintain and enhance the existing woodlands** (many of which are neglected or would benefit from enhanced management). Ash dieback is becoming an increasing issue in these woodlands and it is likely that a high proportion of canopy trees will die off over the next decade. A variety of mitigation measures, in particular diversification of the existing woodlands with appropriate native species, will be required.
- L7** The **creation of areas of scrub and wet woodland along watercourses and dale bottoms**, as part of an overall landscape mosaic.

Appropriate limestone tree/scrub species

Woodlands	Trees: SL/LL lime, wych elm, sycamore, field maple, sessile/pendunculate oak, rowan, whitebeam, yew (not on margins) Scrub layer/margins: crab apple, cherry, wild service tree, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, guelder rose, holly Wetter sites: willow (goat, grey, white), bird cherry, alder Density: 600 – 1,200 stems per ha
Boundary / infield trees	SL/LL lime, sycamore, field maple, sessile/pendunculate oak, beech (away from buildings/footpaths/roads)
Wood / scrub pasture	SL/LL lime, sycamore, field maple, sessile oak, hawthorn, alder (wetter sites) Density: 6 – 25 stems per ha
Scrub / hedges	Field maple, birch, crab apple, cherry, wild service tree, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, guelder rose, holly Density: 300 – 500 stems per ha / 7 whips per lin m (hedge planting)



Limestone landscapes 'before'



Limestone landscapes 'after'

APPENDIX 1: UKFS 'Forests and Landscape' Summary

UKFS Guidelines on Forests and Landscape

The table below introduces factors important for forests and landscape. The Guidelines that follow provide more information on how to comply with the UKFS Requirements, grouped by the factor headings.

Factor	Importance for landscape
Landscape context	
Landscape character	An appreciation of landscape character helps determine the capacity of a landscape to accommodate new forests and their design with respect to the key landscape characteristics of a particular area.
Landscape and visual sensitivities	Within a valued landscape, new forests, woodlands and trees can have a significant impact on its recognised qualities and on how people experience it.
Historic context	Forests, woodlands and individual trees are key landscape components that can be integral to historic character, but new ones can also detract from historic character if sited or managed inappropriately.
Designed landscapes	Designed landscapes and their woodlands and trees are a valued art form and an important part of the cultural heritage of the British Isles.

Forest design principles	
Shape	The shapes of forests and woodlands within the landscape can be the most striking visual features: both the overall shape, and the patterns of species and felling coupes within.
Landform	In hilly or mountainous areas, landform is usually the dominant and most obvious landscape influence for forest and woodland design.
Pattern of enclosure	In lowland areas, where landform is subdued, field patterns are usually the dominant and most obvious landscape influence for forest and woodland design.
Scale	Scale describes the relative size of visual elements as seen by the viewer. Generally, the scale of forest and woodland shapes should reflect the scale of the landscape.
Diversity	Diversity refers to the number of different elements in a design. Diverse forests are usually more visually appealing, but the level of diversity should be appropriate to the situation.
Unity	Unity is achieved when forests or woodlands integrate well with other features and look as though they belong in the landscape. Unity also applies to the integration of the various elements within a forest design.
Spirit of place	Spirit of place is a term used to describe the intangible qualities, such as wildness, tranquillity and cultural associations, that make a location special or unique.

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3	<p><u>Progress with the National Park Management Plan Review</u></p> <p>The Members Forum will receive a report on progress in the review in November. The headlines in terms of climate change are as follows. Climate change is a central theme that has come out of the review to date. The evidence base includes the CCVA, state of the park, public consultation report and leaders' visioning event.</p> <p>Key points emerging so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action around climate change is an underpinning requirement for landscape protection. • The public consultation report indicates that residents' and visitors' results are very similar for climate change and climate change is one of the potential areas of focus for the next plan that received a lot of support. • The leaders' visioning event provided support for action related to climate change. <p>The group are hoping to get a steer from the CCSG regarding frameworks for measuring greenhouse gases following the results of the SWC report becoming available</p>	
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4.	<p><u>Ensure our work on climate change aligns to and delivers on the National Park England Delivery Plan on Climate Leadership</u></p> <p>A discussion was undertaken regarding both the carbon emissions and socio-economic benefits of the Hope Valley Cement Works. This acknowledged emissions from cement production are a national and international issue. It was noted that the cement works generates the largest source of carbon emissions in the National Park.</p> <p>There was a discussion around the Authority having a dedicated climate change officer and the importance of determining the current full time equivalent of officers employed by the Authority was stressed, along with the need for the necessary resource to delivery management plan actions.</p> <p>(DC) Suggested a meeting between members of the steering group, Authority officers and DDDC to discuss synergies.</p> <p>(PT) – Noted that the NPE Leadership Plan does not seek to influence commerce and small business, which he felt, was an omission. A discussion followed regarding the need to work with whoever is best placed to take action and influence business.</p>	DC
5	<p><u>Assist with shaping and interpreting the results of the Small World Consultancy National Park carbon emission benchmarking</u></p> <p>Preliminary findings were shared with the group to illustrate the format in which the results of the assessment will be presented. The consultants are due to report between October and December and are aware of our NPMP review time constraints. It was noted that constituent authorities and delivery partners may be interested in the findings of the assessment and it should be made widely available.</p>	

6	<p><u>Gain an understanding of the barriers that need to be overcome to widen the scope of carbon accounted for in our Carbon Management Plan. The wider scope is both emissions associated with the land that the Authority owns and manages directly or through tenancies, and scope 3 external goods and services.</u></p> <p>The Carbon Management Plan annual report for 2020/21 was presented to the October Programmes and Resources. A summary was provided to the group, with two main points; Scope 2 has reduced significantly due to improved utility supply agreements but travel remained surprisingly high due to travel around the park during lock down. The land-based emissions are still not included but they are intended to be included in the future, as we have the ability to measure these.</p>	
7	<p><u>Continue to ensure that we effectively and efficiently communicate appropriate climate change matters with visitors, residents, Members and staff.</u></p> <p>Deferred to the next meeting, as it is being taken forward as part of a wider communications plan for the Authority.</p>	MM
8	<p><u>Understand how the National Park's constituent councils are dealing with climate change and establish if there are synergies. Gain an awareness of key climate change community groups in the National Park</u></p> <p>There was a discussion regarding the most effective method of engagement with constituent councils. It was suggested that it may be more effective to work with key officers in constituent councils where the linkages are the strongest.</p> <p>(DC) – Suggested it may be possible to extend a planned meeting between Moors for the Future, Greater Manchester Combined Authority and West Yorkshire Combined Authority to include a representative of the Steering Group.</p> <p>At a parish level, it was suggested that it is best to work through the existing active community groups.</p>	DC

9	<p><u>The Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill.</u></p> <p>The Bill states that the government should increase its ambition to address climate change by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking action to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. • Acknowledging the UK's carbon footprint includes consumption based emissions emitted abroad and by aviation. • Protecting the natural world. • Establishing a citizens' assembly to recommend measures for inclusion in a new Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy. <p>The Bill's second reading is scheduled to take place on Friday 29 October 2021.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the potential for the Authority to support the Bill and what mechanisms were necessary to achieve this.</p>	
10	<p><u>Essential members training</u></p> <p>Due to the nature of the training session it is to be offered face-to-face at Aldern House. The preferred dates are either the 28th Jan and 4th Feb.</p> <p>Action: MM to confirm with the training provide and progress.</p>	MM
11	<p><u>DONM and AOB</u></p> <p>9.00 16 December 2021</p> <p>8:30am 3rd March 2022</p> <p>The next agenda to include: communications, Small World Consulting's report and an update on climate change elements of the management plan review.</p> <p>(JHF) – Attended a university symposium on the off-setting of international students travel emissions.</p>	MM

Summary of Actions

Approach Andrew McCloy for an update on NPE intentions at COP26 if known. (MM)

Circulate carbon literacy and behavioural change information. (KS)

A meeting between members of the steering group, Authority officers and DDDC to discuss synergies. (DC)

Communications, Small World Consulting and climate change elements of the Management Plan review to be included on the next agenda. (MM)

A meeting between Moors for the Future, Greater Manchester Combined Authority and West Yorkshire Combined Authority to include a representative of the Steering Group. (DC)

Confirm the Members training date and progress. (MM)

Future Meetings:

9:00am 16th December
8:30am 3rd March

Distribution:

***All invitees
Andrew McCloy
James Berresford
Management Team
Democratic Services***