

# Public Document Pack

**Peak District National Park Authority**

**Tel: 01629 816200**

E-mail: [customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk)

Web: [www.peakdistrict.gov.uk](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk)

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



Our Ref: A.1142/2863

Date: 24 September 2020



## NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting: **National Park Authority**

Date: **Friday 2 October 2020**

Time: **10.00 am**

Venue: **Webex - Virtual Meeting**

**(Joining instructions will be sent to Authority Members separately)**

SARAH FOWLER  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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In response to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) emergency restrictions, all meetings of the Authority and its Committees will take place using video conferencing technology.

You can watch our meetings live on YouTube using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/peakdistrictnpa/live>

Members of the public who have given notice may still speak at this meeting for three minutes. Please call 01629 816352 for more information.

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**Link to meeting papers:**

<https://democracy.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=2398>

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## AGENDA

**1. Roll Call of Members Present, Apologies for Absence and Members Declarations of Interest**

Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary, personal or prejudicial interests they may have in relation to items on the agenda for this meeting.

**2. Urgent Business**

**3. Public Participation**

To note any questions or to receive any statements, representations, depositions and petitions which relate to the published reports on Part A of the Agenda.

## FOR INFORMATION

**4. Authority Chair's Update** 5 mins

**5. Chief Executive's Report (SLF) (Pages 5 - 8)** 5 mins  
Appendix 1

## FOR DECISION

**6. DEFRA Green Recovery Challenge Fund for England - Great North Bog Proposal: The Deep Peat Project (Pages 9 - 18)** 25 mins  
Appendix 1

**7. Exempt Information S100(A) Local Government Act 1972**  
The Committee is asked to consider, in respect of the exempt item, whether the public should be excluded from the meeting to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information.

**Draft motion:**

**That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 8 to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, paragraph 1 "information relating to any individual" and paragraph 3 "information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).**

## PART B

**8. Proposed Management Restructure (SLF) (Pages 19 - 28)** 60 mins  
Appendix 1

## 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 Authority 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 Authority 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. These are also available 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. Therefore all meetings of the Authority and its Committees will take place using video conferencing technology. Public participation is still available using a telephone connection. Anyone wishing to participate at the meeting under the Authority's Public Participation Scheme is required to give notice to the Director of Corporate Strategy and Development 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 816362, email address: [democraticandlegalsupport@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto: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 12noon 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 uses an audio sound system to make it easier to hear public speakers and discussions during the meeting and to make a digital sound recording available after the meeting. From 3 February 2017 the recordings will be 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. Therefore all meetings of the Authority and its Committees will take place using video conferencing technology.

**To: Members of National Park Authority:**

Chair: Cllr A McCloy  
Deputy Chair: Mr J W Berresford

Mr J W Berresford	Cllr J Atkin
Cllr W Armitage	Cllr P Brady
Cllr M Chaplin	Cllr D Chapman
Cllr C Farrell	Cllr C Furness
Cllr A Gregory	Prof J Haddock-Fraser
Mr Z Hamid	Ms A Harling
Cllr A Hart	Cllr Mrs G Heath
Mr R Helliwell	Cllr I Huddleston
Cllr B Lewis	Cllr C McLaren
Cllr Mrs K Potter	Cllr V Priestley
Cllr K Richardson	Miss L Slack
Mr K Smith	Cllr P Tapping
Cllr R Walker	Mrs C Waller
Cllr G D Wharmby	Ms Y Witter
Cllr B Woods	

Constituent Authorities  
Secretary of State for the Environment  
Natural England

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5. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT (SLF)**

1. **Purpose of the report**

To up-date members of key items since the previous Authority meeting

2. **Recommendation**

1. **For members to note the report**

3. **Key Items**

**Praise for Castleton and Bakewell Visitor Centres:** Our Castleton and Bakewell Visitor Centres have been awarded the Trip Advisor 2020 Traveller’s Choice Award. It was previously known as the ‘Certificate of Excellence’ and our Derwent Visitor Centre won that in 2019. We’ve had a number of really positive reviews across all visitor centres about our friendly and helpful staff, our good social distancing measures and on the merchandise ranges and the eco-friendly and sustainability ethos with regard to product sourcing. It is fantastic when customers take the time to provide positive feedback and seek out staff to congratulate them in person. My thanks to the team who have worked hard to help our visitors feel safe and welcome, keep the doors open and provide excellent customer service whilst maintaining centres and displays to an exceptional standard during unprecedented times – and it shows in the excellent customer feedback and sales figures.

**Peak District Birds of Prey interim report:** In its 2020 Interim Report, the [Peak District Bird of Prey Initiative \(BOPI\)](#) has announced encouraging breeding successes for several raptor species in the moorland areas of the Peak District, thanks to collaboration between landowners, gamekeepers and raptor workers during COVID-19. It has been a year which saw both peregrine falcon nests and numbers of fledged young double from 2019 numbers within the Initiative study area of the Dark Peak uplands. There remains no room for complacency, as occupied territories remain below target for several key species. However, the increase in nesting success by peregrine, goshawk and merlin is an encouraging sign for the future. Several incidents of bird of prey poisoning, egg and chick theft and shooting across the Peak District National Park this year are currently under police investigation. My thanks to the team who have worked hard to support collective action to tackle illegal persecution of birds of prey and restore populations to sustainable levels. There is, of course, still more to be done in this area to achieve the outcomes we want.

**Monsal Trail temporary Closure:** Sections of the Monsal Trail will be closed from Monday September 28, for two weeks, on Monday to Friday only. The closure is necessary for safety reasons whilst essential work takes place in the old railway cuttings and at the tunnel entrances. The whole of the Monsal Trail will be open at weekends which is when the route receives its highest numbers of visitors. During the weekday works people can still use the Trail as far as the closed sections. The work is an essential part of our asset maintenance along the trail so we avoid any potential long-term damage that would put trail users at risk or risk a much longer closure of the Trail.

**Kick start scheme:** The government’s [Kickstart](#) scheme has been set up to fund 6 month job placements for young people (aged 16 - 24) currently on universal credit. It is designed to give young people opportunity to develop skills to find long term employment and provides 100% funding for relevant minimum wage for 25 hours per week plus minimum NI and auto enrolment contributions. These roles must be new jobs and individual employers can only apply directly if they are creating more than 30 jobs. We have agreed to work across the UK National Parks to support a potential collection application that reaches the minimum of 30, our element is likely to offer roles for 4-6

ranger experience and engagement posts from March – September 2021. These would be additional posts funded by the KickStart scheme.

**Discover England Fund:** We have been awarded £158k from the Discover England Fund to continue work with the English National Park Experience Collection between now and 31 March 2021. [HOME: English National Parks Experience Collection](#). This funding will help us: sustain the relationships we've built with the international travel trade to support business contracting their product; reinvigorate the experiences in the Collection and support a more domestic and sustainable offer; and, seek opportunities for revenue generation to maintain the collection through a domestic-ready booking platform. The Peak District National Park Authority is the accountable body and will be working nationally and locally with individual sustainable tourism officers in the National Park Authorities. My thanks to the National Park Authorities supporting the project and offering cash match support.

**Working with AONBs and Natural England on nature recovery:** National Parks England is working with Natural England and the National Association of AONBs to develop a strategy for nature recovery in national landscapes. This is at the early stages of development and aims to connect the NPE wildlife delivery plan (see appendix 1) with the NAAONB Colchester declaration, with Natural England's National Nature Reserve network to help form the backbone of the nation's Nature Recovery Network.

#### 4. Appendices

Appendix 1: National Parks England Wildlife Delivery Plan

#### Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Sarah Fowler, Chief Executive, 24 September 2020

# 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.



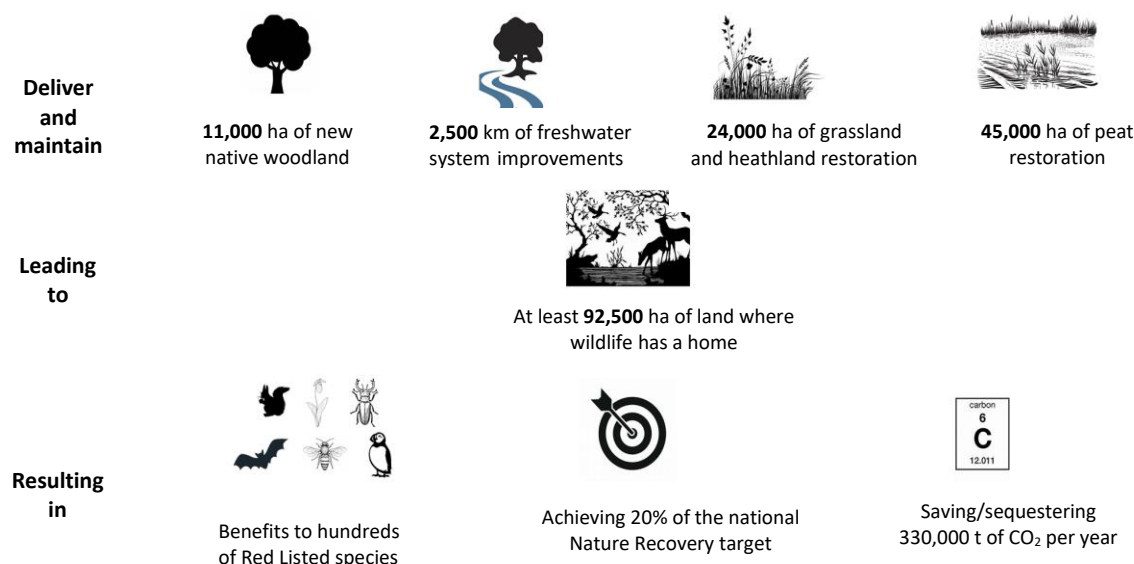
**Nature Recovery vision** - National Parks sit at the heart of the nation's nature recovery network; we are places where wildlife flourishes, habitats are maintained, restored, and expanded, and where everyone can experience nature and wildlife at their best. Strong local partnerships in each National Park will deliver 20% of the government's nature recovery target on 10% of the land, saving/sequestering 330,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> 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 statutory 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 of 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.

## **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 priority areas for funding within ELMS - with priorities within each National Park agreed at a local level, within a national framework, and informed by National Park Management Plans. NPAs to 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 Nature Recovery Networks

### ***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, with resources to ensure it is regularly and robustly assessed.
- 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 to be a priority for the Nature for Climate Fund and Green Challenge Fund.
- 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 partnership's 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.



6. **DEFRA GREEN RECOVERY CHALLENGE FUND FOR ENGLAND - GREAT NORTH BOG PROPOSAL (CD)**

**THE DEEP PEAT PROJECT**

1. **Purpose of the report**

This report puts before Committee the proposal to accept funds from the Green Recovery Fund. An expression of interest has been submitted to the fund, for a project to establish peat depth / value assessment across the 7,000sq km Great North Bog Area. This is expected to employ 18 people directly for 16 Months. It will provide conclusive data on the amount of Upland peat across the North of England, the carbon it contains, its age and the plant material, which has formed it. This will provide / retain jobs and will provide the currently missing baseline of value the landscape contains. This will evidence future natural capital income proposals with our surrounding industry.

**Key Issues**

- **Moors for the Future Partnership (MFFP), through the Peak District National Park Authority and its partners have, for over 17 years, led and delivered landscape-scale peatland restoration on the most degraded upland landscape in Europe. The Partnership has been successful in attracting a large amount of investment (circa £40m) into the landscape from a variety of sources, and through its expertise and collaborative approach has brought about a landscape-scale change in the condition of the region's peatlands.**
- **We are lacking a solid baseline of value for the upland peat across the North of England which is required if we are to encourage large business to engage with future funding. This project will go some way to providing that.**
- **There are posts at risk in this authority and across our partners, this will provide short term employment for people with hill skills which may ease that difficult situation.**
- **The Defra Green Recovery Challenge Fund for England has been released, administered through the National Lottery Heritage fund. This is open to Partnership bids which must be led by one organisation and must include at least one environmental charity. Other not-for-profit organisations (e.g.: Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Parks, local authorities, non-environmental charities, universities) could lead a partnership and may receive grant funding. However, a substantial proportion of the project funding must be used by one or more environmental charities to deliver the project on the ground. This proposal meets these requirements.**
- **In August 2020 Authority approved an externally funded support project to set up The Great North Bog. This included the statement *"In the following phase 2021 to 2025 we believe there will be further funds forthcoming to develop business and joint working on a variety of project items."* This is the first of those expected items.**
- **Even with acknowledgement of the significant past achievements, it is vital to recognise that there remains a need for further investment into the landscape in order to bring the peatland habitats into favourable**

condition (Active Blanket Bog), particularly at the southern end of the Pennine chain, in the Peak District. Works completed to date have put peatland on a positive trajectory towards this aspiration. However, evidence shows that without further intervention this impressive feat is only temporary and there is a real danger that it will revert to its previous state. Further work is now urgently needed to build on the achievements made thus far.

- It is proposed that the Authority through the Moors for the Future Staff team will provide the lead partner and will deliver the project outcomes over the MFFP working area. Agreements will then be entered into with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and North Pennines AONB who will deliver the outcomes to the North. Collaborating on a bigger national story of upland peat across the North of England will create a better fit into national policy such as the 25 Year Environment Plan, the new England Peat Strategy and the new Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy. It will enable a better placement of bids into the Nature for Climate Fund and future strategic lottery bids.

## **2. Recommendations(s)**

That the Authority supports the proposed delegated function to accept (if the bid is successful) Funds from The Green Recovery Fund (National Lottery Heritage Fund) and enter into delivery arrangements with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and North Pennines AONB for the delivery of the project.

Specifically:

1. That the Authority supports the delegated function for the Head of Programme Delivery to accept funds from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and other funders should the opportunity arise, to a maximum of £3 million, in consultation with Director of Conservation and Planning, Head of Finance and Head of Law for the delivery of the Deep Peat Project.
2. That the Authority supports delegated function for the Head of Programme Delivery in consultation with Director of Conservation and Planning, Head of Finance and Head of Law to enter into arrangements with the other two Partnership leads, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and North Pennines AONB (Durham County Council), and, if necessary, tendered contracts to deliver works.

### **How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?**

The strategic fit of Deep Peat is fully integrated within the MFFP 20/21 Operational and the MFFP interim Business Plan 2020-2021. It is relevant to the Peak District National Park Management Plan delivery aims mainly through giving the MFFP a greater ability to evidence and lever funds, specifically to support :

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 3: Undeveloped places of tranquillity and dark night skies within reach of millions

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

Special quality 7: Vital benefits for millions of people that flow beyond the landscape boundary

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

4: A National Park for everyone

5: Encouraging enjoyment with understanding

6: Supporting thriving and sustainable communities and economy

In addition; for many years the value of ecosystem services benefits has been well known. One of the difficulties in fully capturing this benefit has been the need to work on a genuine landscape scale and collect evidence on this scale - which this project will. It will also create greater collaboration between the major partners in this field whilst maintaining the Authority as an innovative leader.

This project will also provide evidence to improve connections with other North of England initiatives such as the Northern Powerhouse and the Northern Forest.

## **Background Information**

**It is widely recognised that healthy peatlands are vital in helping tackle the climate and biodiversity crises. There is missing information to help assess that state of health. This project will help provide that information, this will help with all the following points:**

Peatlands are the UK's rainforests, storing vast amounts of carbon. Restoring them will also reduce carbon emissions released by damaged peat and enable it to sequester more in the future, understanding this requires the evidence which this project will provide.

A healthy peatland slows the flow of water from the hills, reducing the risk of flooding and the impact of storm water, directly benefitting towns and major cities downstream.

The Great North Bog provides drinking water to 15 million properties in the area. Eroding peatlands discolour water, increasing the cost of water treatment. Restoration reduces the costs of providing safe drinking water.

Healthy peatlands support a wide range of wildlife. Restoration will help to reverse the trend of decline in upland species, such as curlew and golden plover (identified in the State of Nature 2019 report). Healthy peatlands are resilient and ecologically diverse habitats that provide benefits for people and nature. Restoring the Great North Bog will increase local contractors' skills and capacity, benefitting rural economies.

The peatland restoration programmes of northern England have developed a vision to match the scale of this ecological challenge, and the evidence this project will help support that.

Background to the Great North Bog in which this project proposal is set. This is an ambitious peatland restoration initiative being developed by the North Pennines AONB Partnership, the Yorkshire Peat Partnership and the Moors for the Future Partnership. It is a landscape approach to restoration across nearly 7,000 square kilometres of upland peat in the Protected Landscapes of northern England, which currently store 400 million tonnes of carbon. Damaged peat in the Great North Bog releases 3.7 million tonnes of carbon annually. The programme aims to develop a working partnership to deliver a 20-year funding, restoration and conservation plan to make a significant contribution to the UK's climate and carbon sequestration targets.

In the last two decades, the three leading peatland programmes have restored about 1100km<sup>2</sup> (YPP – 323km<sup>2</sup>, NPAONB – 350km<sup>2</sup>, MFFP – 454km<sup>2</sup>). This is a great start but despite this massive effort it is still less than 20% of the total area and, with a climate and biodiversity emergency, now is the time to pool our skills to make a revolutionary change in the rate of restoration of England's upland peatlands.

To restore the remaining damaged peatlands in the Great North Bog, the partners are seeking blended investment from both public and private sector sources of approximately £200 million over 20 years. Once restored, the Great North Bog will safeguard the increased carbon it stores and will avoid annual carbon losses estimated at 3.7 million tonnes per year. The restoration of the Great North Bog will leave a living, national legacy of a functioning ecosystem providing vital services for future generations.

This proposal here will be a major foundation of evidence to achieve this.

## **Proposals**

The three existing partnerships across the North of England already have a significant ability to deliver at a large scale and pace. This project would establish 3 small survey teams. One based in the North Pennines and Northumberland National Park employed and managed through the North Pennines AONB Partnership. One based across Bowland the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors employed and managed through the Yorkshire Peat Partnership and one based across the West Pennine and South Pennine moors and the Dark Peak employed and managed through the Moors for the Future Partnership.

### **Over the project delivery timeframe these three small teams will;**

- Establish the peat depth of the whole 7,000 Km of upland Peat across the great North Bog area.
- Carry out Mass Density analysis and so establish the carbon stored across the whole of this landscape.
- Carry out analysis of the original plant content which has formed the peat to help indicate its restoration plant assemblage.
- Carry out a date assessment and if possible historical climate information
- Provide employment and science / project management career experience to at least 18 individuals.

- Provide progress on all the relevant KPI's of those three sponsoring organisations
- Provide an external corporate overhead to support core functions.

### **Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?**

#### **Financial:**

The Partnership has a history of sound financial management; income control (including draw down of funding and claims) is of great importance and overseen by the Programme Office Manager. Regular updates are held with the Chief Finance Officer with monitoring of cash flow to ensure the 'books' are balanced.

It is anticipated that this project will have a value (dependant on bidding negotiations) of a little under £2m with the project time running across 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years. Probable start 1 December, finish 31 March 2022. Full information on start and completion times will be available when the scheme is fully detailed.

The present costings are based on PDNPA pay scales as a guide. This may be slightly different across each of the three sponsoring partners. The National Lottery Heritage Fund has previously advised that it will not cover corporate overhead costs of organisations such as National Park Authorities, so officers are looking at ways in which this can be covered. However, the 6 proposed staff employed through the MFFP would bring into the Authority an externally-funded corporate overhead of £51,264.

Members will note the draft estimation of costs supporting the bid is less than the £3m ceiling of approval being requested. Experience has shown that these projects often have opportunities to attract further funds. As such, some headroom is being proposed.

<b>Task</b>	<b>Estimated Time spent over 16 month period</b>	<b>Estimated Costs @16 months £</b>
<b>Programme Managers</b> Strategic, technical, and line management time. For each of the 3 Partnership leads.	45 days (15 days for each PD)	<b>£16,626.00</b>
<b>3 Project Managers</b> Three posts across each of the partnership areas. Recruit and line manage the team. Drive the project forwards. Deal with land access and organising volunteer support.	Full time for 16 months (@ PA unit cost including all on costs of £56,791)	1 post £75,721.28 so <b>£227,163.84</b>
<b>15 Project Officers</b> 5 officers in each partnership area. Carry out field work. Process and record field work. Supervise volunteers.	Full time for 16 months (@ PA unit cost including all on costs of £53,576)	1 post £71,434.56 so <b>£1,071,518.40</b>
<b>Transport and accommodation costs</b>		<b>£100,000.00</b>
<b>Communications activities:</b> Produce public facing results and information material. Stakeholder engagement.		<b>£100,000.00</b>
<b>Specialist site Equipment &amp; PPE</b>		<b>£18,000.00</b>

<b>Specialist Equipment and Science support</b> Particularly to assess standards compliance and more technical support such as mass density analysis	£300,000	<b>£300,000.00</b>
<b>Volunteer &amp; casual support costs</b> T&S and training costs for casuals / volunteers and training people acting as buddy support for project officers		<b>£150,000.00</b>
<b>Draft Total over 16 months</b>		<b>£1,983,308.24</b>

### **Risk Management:**

The MFFP staff team produce a Programme Progress Log four times a year which identifies approvals and financial values of projects - with issues identified through a Red/Amber/Green assessment - and includes brief summaries of progress highlights. Income and Expenditure of projects and programme team are also monitored by the Partnership's Operational Management Group at its quarterly meetings.

Risks, Issues and Dependencies of the programme of projects are monitored weekly and reviewed quarterly alongside the Programme Progress Log.

Our health & safety log is reviewed weekly.

The application for funding proposed within this report is within the expertise of MFFP. As such the risk of the work not delivering the required results, is considered to be low.

As part of this recommendation, the MFFP Programme Management team has undertaken an impact assessment of the resource requirements of delivering this project. This has been in consultation with the MFFP teams and Head of Programme Delivery. The continuation of adequate capacity in light of ongoing commitments on other projects will remain the responsibility of the MFFP Programme Managers.

Elements of the project will be delivered by The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and the North Pennines AONB acting as delivery partners through partnership agreements. This is a potential area of risk which is currently being explored with the Legal Service along the lines of previous similar delivery arrangements with partners.

### **Sustainability:**

This proposal fits within the context of the Moors for the Future Partnership interim Business Plan 2020-2021. Undertaking additional projects for our partners, building on current work, is a key part of our business model and has allowed immense improvements to the landscape and conservation of the Dark Peak and beyond. Creating synergies between projects is a key component of the sustainability of the Moors for the Future programme.

Protection of the peatlands of our core work area is a key part of protecting land based carbon, which internationally has the potential to have a huge impact on climate change. In addition, the ecosystem service benefits of our blanket peat work is well known, reducing the risk of flooding, improving water quality and improving the landscape, so highly valued for recreation.

The revegetation and conservation of peatlands is a vital role in reducing erosion, enhancing the quality of the landscape and transforming a source of carbon into a carbon sink. Our work, to date, is avoiding the loss of circa 62,000 tonnes loss per annum of CO<sub>2</sub>. This project will allow a better understanding of the importance of that avoided loss.

In addition, the moorland fires and drought conditions have shown how the upland landscape needs to be in the best ecological condition to withstand the shocks and stresses of a changing climate in order to deliver positive benefits for the downhill, downstream and downwind communities in places such as Manchester. Understanding the value of the peat body will illuminate the true threat of those shocks and stresses.

### **Equality:**

There are no equality issues arising from this report.

### **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?

Whilst the context of this matter is much wider than the boundary of the Peak District National Park, the benefits from the GNB initiative are likely to be more productive to the southern end of the Pennine Chain. This is largely due to the much higher degree of benefit to climate change when dealing with the most degraded rather than slightly degraded land and due to the much larger population, which surrounds the southern end of this landscape.

The potential for reduction in carbon emissions in degraded peat is higher in the Peak District National Park as the peat is more degraded and vulnerable to damage due to the much larger population, which surrounds the southern end of this landscape. This project will better quantify that value.

#### **a. Educators in climate change**

- The Blanket bog landscape of England is still very much out of sight and out of mind to the majority of the public. The issue needs to be told in a bigger story in order to capture more of the public imagination and drive behaviour change, particularly around fire prevention and litter prevention. Being part of a bigger story across the North of England does just this and is likely to be more successful at individual behaviour change.

#### **b. Exemplars of sustainability**

- This is exactly what this initiative will do. It will make a step change happen in fully valuing 7,000 square kilometres of upland peat landscape, 92% of the upland peat in England showing its increasing importance to ecosystem services delivery.

#### **c. Protecting the National Park**

- See above point

#### **d. Leading the way in sustainable land management**

- This will set the most degraded of England's upland peat in the priority context across the whole upland peat landscape

#### **e. Exemplars in renewable energy**

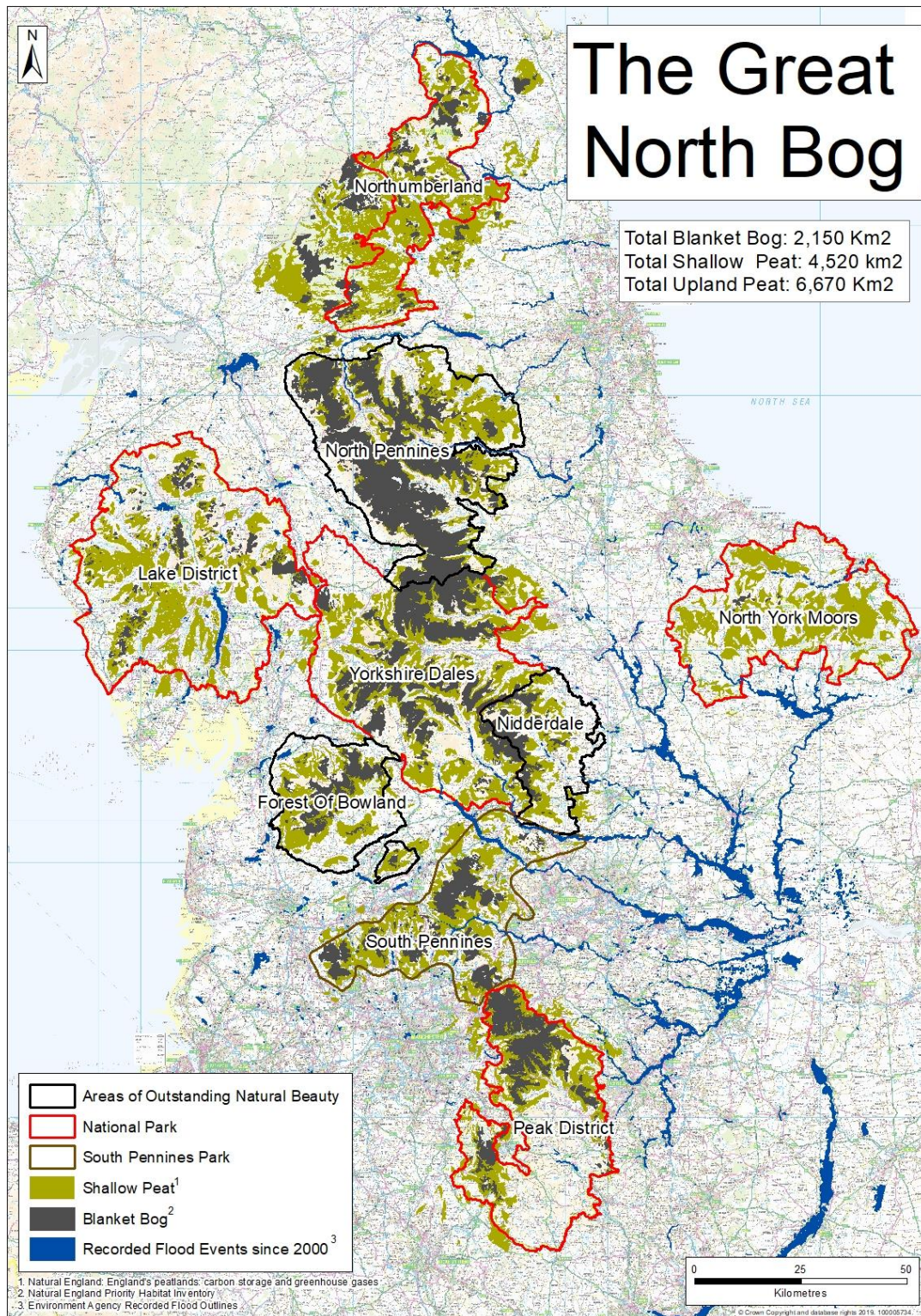
- This is not a renewable energy solution but it does have a relationship with energy in that it will value the resource that, in time if restored, will provide a continual means of sequestering carbon produced by the creation and use of energy.

- f. Working with communities
      - There are future opportunities for individuals to balance their own negative effect on the environment through the practical help in volunteering and through contributing funds.
  2. How does this decision contribute to the Authority meeting its carbon net zero target?  
(Not applicable)
  3. How does this decision contribute to the National Park meeting carbon net zero by 2050?  
A rough calculation has been made that the poor condition of the upland Peat of the North of England is losing 3.7m tonnes of carbon a year, a bigger share of this loss is in the southern reaches of the Pennine chain. The objective of this project, for which approval by committee is sought, is to develop and refine this data.
  4. Are there any other Climate Change related issues that are relevant to this decision that should be brought to the attention of Members?  
Preventing the loss of carbon from the upland peat of the North of England and bringing this into an active condition is the biggest and easiest way of preventing terrestrial carbon loss nationally. This project will help value that existing carbon store.
3. **Background papers (not previously published)**
- None
4. **Appendices**
- Appendix 1 - Great North Bog Plan

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

Chris Dean, Head of Programme Delivery - Moors for the Future Partnership.  
24 September 2020





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