

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.1142/3370

Date: 2 November 2023



NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting: **National Park Authority**

Date: **Friday 10 November 2023**

Time: **11.00 am**

Venue: **Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell**

PHILIP MULLIGAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call of Members Present, Apologies for Absence and Members Declarations of Interest**
2. **Minutes of previous meeting held on 29 September 2023** *(Pages 5 - 10)*
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.
5. **Chair's Briefing** 5 mins
6. **Chief Executive Report (PM)** *(Pages 11 - 14)* 5 mins
7. **Risk Management Policy (A91941/SG)** *(Pages 15 - 24)* 15 mins
Appendix 1
8. **Authority Progress Report - Mid Year (Decile1) 23-24 (EF)** *(Pages 25 - 30)* 5 mins
Appendix 1
9. **South Yorkshire Statement of Common Ground (BJT)** *(Pages 31 - 94)* 10 mins
Appendix 1
10. **Member Appointment to Outside Bodies (SLF)** *(Pages 95 - 98)* 10 mins
11. **Annual Report on Member Learning and Development (RC)** *(Pages 99 - 114)* 10 mins
Appendix 1
Appendix 2
12. **Amendment to Part 7 of Standing Orders - Delegation of Powers to the Chief Executive(s) (RC)** *(Pages 115 - 116)* 10 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 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

Since the Coronavirus restrictions have eased the Authority has returned to physical meetings. However, meetings of the Authority and its Committees may still take place at venues other than its offices at Aldern House, Bakewell when necessary. 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 816362, 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 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 makes an audio visual broadcast and recording available after the meeting. From 3 February 2017 the recordings 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, Authority meetings were broadcast via YouTube and these meetings are also retained for three years from the date of the meeting.

General Information for Members of the Public Attending Meetings

Since the Coronavirus restrictions have eased the Authority has returned to physical meetings. However, meetings of the Authority and its Committees may still take place at venues other than its offices at Aldern House, Bakewell when necessary, the venue for a meeting will be specified on the agenda. 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 visually broadcast via YouTube and the broadcast will be available live on the Authority's website.

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

Aldern House is situated on the A619 Bakewell to Baslow Road. Car parking is available. Local Bus Services from Bakewell centre and from Chesterfield and Sheffield pick up and set down near Aldern House. Further 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 that there is no refreshment provision for members of the public before the meeting or during meeting breaks. However, there are cafes, pubs and shops in Bakewell town centre, approximately 15 minutes walk away.

To: Members of National Park Authority:

Chair: Mr K Smith
Deputy Chair: Mr J W Berresford

Cllr M Beer	Cllr P Brady
Cllr M Buckler	Cllr M Chaplin
Cllr C Farrell	Cllr P G Fryer
Cllr N Gourlay	Cllr C Greaves
Cllr A Gregory	Prof J Haddock-Fraser
Cllr B Hanley	Ms A Harling
Cllr A Hart	Cllr L Hartshorne
Cllr Mrs G Heath	Cllr I Huddleston
Cllr D Murphy	Cllr A Nash
Cllr C O'Leary	Cllr Mrs K Potter
Cllr V Priestley	Cllr K Richardson
Miss L Slack	Dr R Swetnam
Mr S Thompson	Cllr J Wharmby
Ms Y Witter	Cllr B Woods

Constituent Authorities
Secretary of State for the Environment
Natural England

Peak District National Park Authority
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 Web: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk
 Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire. DE45 1AE



MINUTES

Meeting: **National Park Authority**

Date: Friday 29 September 2023 at 11.00 am

Venue: Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell

Chair: Mr K Smith

Present: Mr J W Berresford, Cllr M Beer, Cllr P Brady, Cllr M Buckler, Cllr M Chaplin, Cllr C Farrell, Cllr P G Fryer, Cllr N Gourlay, Cllr C Greaves, Cllr A Gregory, Prof J Haddock-Fraser, Cllr B Hanley, Ms A Harling, Cllr I Huddleston, Cllr A Nash, Cllr C O'Leary, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr V Priestley, Cllr K Richardson, Miss L Slack, Dr R Swetnam, Mr S Thompson, Ms Y Witter and Cllr B Woods

Apologies for absence: Cllr A Hart, Cllr L Hartshorne, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Cllr D Murphy and Cllr J Wharmby.

75/23 ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

76/23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF 7TH AND 28TH JULY 2023

The minutes of the last National Park Authority Meetings held on the 7th and 28th July 2023 were approved as correct records.

77/23 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

78/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Five members of the public were present to make representations to the Meeting.

79/23 CHAIR'S BRIEFING

The Chair of the Authority provided the following verbal update to Members:

- The advert for the recruitment for a Head of Resources was sent out at the end of August, with interviews to take place on the 18th October.
- Suzanne Fletcher had been interviewed and appointed as Head of Landscape and Engagement.

- He had attended the Chatsworth Country Fair with the Deputy Chair on the 1st September.
- Together with the Deputy Chair he had undertaken the CEO staff appraisal on the 5th September.
- Attended a Cultural Landscape Meeting which reviewed progress on various issues and included a presentation on artificial intelligence in the countryside, which could be a possible future topic for a Member Forum.
- Participated in the Members Annual Tour on the 15th September to the Warslow Estate, which looked at issues and activities on the estate. Thanks to Officers and staff involved with organising the day in particular Suzanne Fletcher, Chris Manby and the Moors for the Future Staff.
- Attended a meeting at Aldern House with Councillors from Derbyshire Dales. A Member/Officer Working Party will take this forward on the issues raised.
- Assisted with interviews on the 28th September for the Head of Assets & Enterprise and an appointment offer has been made.
- Attending the funeral of Paul Hamblin, Executive Director of NPE on October 3rd on behalf of the Authority. Paul was very supportive of National Parks and our condolences go to his family.

80/23 CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (PM)

The Chief Executive's report gave an update to Members on recent meetings with stakeholders, partners and other organisations.

RESOLVED:

To note the report.

81/23 DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SAFER ROADS SCHEMES (A5004 LONG HILL AND A5012 VIA GELLIA TN)

The Transport Policy Planner presented the report to Members to inform them on the proposed Derbyshire County Council Safer Roads Scheme on the A5004 Long Hill and the A5012 Via Gellia, and whether to formalise or withdraw the current holding objections to each scheme which had been submitted by Officers to both schemes, and which are still in existence.

The Transport Policy Planner introduced the report and informed Members that the A5004 Long Hill Scheme holding objection could be lifted as the remedial works proposed could be accommodated in the landscape with minimal impact but the A5012 holding objection would remain as it couldn't be successfully mitigated.

The following spoke under the public participation at meetings scheme:

- Mr Robin Heath, Whitehall Centre
- Mr Kevin Parkes & Mr Gary Thompson – Derbyshire County Council, Highways

Members agreed that a solution to reducing the speed by road users was needed, but it was considered that a more detailed discussion was needed. Members were concerned that cameras and the associated infrastructure would be obtrusive and that the proposed urbanisation in the landscape would be significant as well as the negative effects on dark skies. There was also concern that by introducing restrictions onto these 2 roads the

problems would move to other roads, so we should look at other ways of working more with the Police and enforcement, and be more proactive than reactive.

A motion to amend recommendation 1 to formalise the holding objection on the A5004 Long Hill Scheme on the basis of objections to proposals regarding Old Road near to the Whitehall Residential Centre, and to amend recommendation 3 to note ongoing negotiations between officers and representatives of Derbyshire County Council and the Department for Transport on the A5004 Long Hill and A5012 Via Gellia schemes, in order to try and reach a mutually agreeable solution, was proposed, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That Members approve formally objecting to the A5004 Long Hill scheme on the basis of objections to proposals regarding Old Road and to negotiate what can be done.**
- 2. That Members approve formally objecting to the A5012 Via Gellia scheme on the basis that the treatments at Grange Mill cannot be sufficiently mitigated.**
- 3. That Members note ongoing negotiations between officers and representatives of Derbyshire County Council and the Department for Transport on the A5004 Long Hill and A5012 Via Gellia schemes, in order to try and reach a mutually agreeable solution. That if an agreeable solution can be found, Members approve delegating removing the formal objections to the Head of Planning in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair.**

Cllr Chaplin left the meeting at 12:05pm

82/23 PROGRAMMES & RESOURCES COMMITTEE PROGRAMME PLAN FOR 2023-24 (EF)

The Interim Head of Resources introduced the report to Members which was to review and approve the programme themes for the Programmes and Resources Committee (P&R) for 2023-24. It was agreed by Members in July 2022 that the programme themes would be aligned with the four emerging National Park Management Plan Aims, which were Climate Change, Landscape & Nature Recovery, A Welcoming Place and Thriving Communities.

The Interim Head of Resources reported that there had been good progress across the four themes over the past year, so the proposal was that the approach would continue whereby the 4 programme themes would be presented to the Programmes & Resources Committee over the next year 2023/24.

The following spoke under the public participation at meetings scheme:

- Mr Roger Savory- spoke with regard to enforcement issues at Cressbrook Dale. The Chair had to stop him part way through his speaking allocation as the speech was not relevant to the issues in the report. The Chair stated that allocation for speaking on the enforcement issues at Cressbrook Dale would be available at the Planning Committee.

- Ms Clare Gamble – spoke with regard to Cressbrook Dale linked to the report in the context of nature recovery
- Mr John Oxspring – spoke with regard to Cressbrook Dale linked to the report in the context of nature recovery

Members queried if public speakers were asked what they are going to speak on when they are giving notice to speak. It was noted that for Planning Committee speakers are asked to confirm if they are speaking in support or against an application but not for other items. The current public participation scheme states that speeches should be relevant to the report being considered.

Members noted that the Climate Change theme had already been discussed at the last Programmes & Resources Committee in September, and the Thriving Communities theme would look at the progress that had been made on delivering objectives.

Cllr Brady, Chair of Planning Committee, stated that the Authority's public participation scheme needed to be reviewed as it was currently too restrictive.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. Members agreed the four programme themes aligned with the National Park Management Plan aims and the forward work plan for the Programmes and Resources Committee meetings for 2023-24:

- Climate Change (1st September 2023)
- Landscape and Nature Recovery (1st December 2023)
- Welcoming Place (19th January 2024)
- Thriving communities (26 April 2024)

83/23 APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM MONITORING OFFICER (PM)

The Chief Executive introduced the report to Members to appoint the Customer and Democratic Support Manager as Interim Monitoring Officer from the 1st October 2023 until the new Authority Solicitor starts, when they then become the Monitoring Officer which will hopefully be in 3 months time.

The Democratic Services Manager was previously appointed as the interim Monitoring Officer but due to the agreed organisational changes the Democratic Services Manager post had been disestablished. The appointment of the temp appointment of Monitoring Officer ensures that the Authority continues to operate within required legislation.

Members asked whether a further report would be brought to Authority in due course to make the new Authority Solicitor the Monitoring Officer when they start, but the CEO reported that this would not be necessary as the Authority had already agreed it as part of the organisational changes.

RESOLVED:

To appoint the Customer and Democratic Support Manager as interim Monitoring Officer from 1 October 2023 until the new Authority Solicitor becomes the Monitoring Officer following further implementation of the organisational changes.

84/23 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN ANNUAL REVIEW LETTER 2022/23 (JO)

The Democratic Services Manager introduced the report which provided details of the Local Government and Social Care (the Ombudsman) Annual Review of complaints for the period April 2022 to March 2023.

Concern was expressed regarding the lack of updates for members of the public on planning and enforcement issues so they are aware of how things are progressing. The CEO stated that communications were made but it was not always possible to do this due to legal proceedings, but that we do assure them that things are progressing.

An amendment to the recommendation was moved and seconded to include that a report be made to a future meeting on the operation of the public participation scheme at formal meetings of the Authority. This was agreed.

The recommendation as amended was moved, seconded put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Annual Review Letter 2022/23 at Appendix 1 of the report.

2. That a report on the operation of the public participation at meetings scheme be brought to a future Authority meeting.

85/23 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES - NONE RECEIVED

No reports had been received.

86/23 EXEMPT INFORMATION S100(A) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 13 to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, paragraph 3 "information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

87/23 EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE 28TH JULY 2023

The exempt minutes of the last National Park Authority Meeting held on the 28th July 2023, were approved as a correct record.

The meeting ended at 12.45 pm

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6.. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (PM)

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

Since my last report on 29th September I have continued to meet with stakeholders, partners and organisations based in and around the National Park Authority including:

- National Parks UK Chairs Forum in the Lake District
- Cllr Tom Hunt – Leader Sheffield City Council
- Maxwell Ayamba & Maxine Greaves (Sheffield Environmental Movement)
- Collaboration day with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust
- Peak Resort - Chesterfield
- The donor providing support to keep visitor centres open
- English National Parks Chairs and CEOs in the New Forest
- Hartington Village Trail 10th Anniversary
- The Derbyshire Culture, Heritage & Tourism Board
- Cllr Barry Lewis & Cllr Caroline Renwick Derbyshire County Council
- Great North Bog Strategic Management Board
- National Parks Partnership – AGM hosted in the Peak District
- Leader & CEO Chesterfield Borough Council
- Council of Europe visit
- Jo Dille, Visit Peak District & Derbyshire
- Peakland Environmental Farmers Group farm visit
- One of the Authority's tenant farmers Neil Richardson on his farm
- Peak District Environmental Quality Mark 20th Anniversary celebration

More information on some of these meetings and connections is below. A number of Members and staff helped in attending many of these meetings and events, I haven't named everyone but the support is very valuable and greatly appreciated.

National Park UK CEO & Chairs Forum

The forum was held in the Lake District at the end of September with the site visits being really useful. Race to Zero was one main focus of discussion. There remains a strong commitment to joining Race to Zero across all National Parks and the discussion resulted in some clear next steps. Another focus was supporting colleagues in leading on our work on climate change and nature recovery with other relevant international bodies, such as the World Protected Landscapes Forum.

Maxwell Ayamba & Maxine Greaves

I recently met in Sheffield with the inspiring Maxell Ayamba from Sheffield Environment Movement who made me think about how we could further build the confidence and capacity of people from diverse backgrounds to not just visit but to volunteer with us or work for the Authority. I know our engagement team are doing some great work in this area and I'd like to see what more we could do in recruitment of staff and volunteers to better reflect the diversity of the communities who live around the Park.

PDNPA & Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

Following on from a number of collaboration meetings between the leadership teams of both organisations, there was a wider collaboration day where 54 of us gathered to walk and learn more about the local environment around Hartington. The spirit of collaboration, the connections, the contacts and the commitments made were all fantastic to witness. The joint vision for our two organisations is “A wilder Peak District that transforms expectations of what a British landscape can be and where people are inspired to connect more with nature.” A useful set of guiding principles for working together were also discussed.

Peak Resort

Myself and Brian Taylor, Head of Planning were invited along to the Peak Resort on the edge of Chesterfield which is progressing well thanks to the resilience and determination of its visionary creator, Rupert Carr. It will become an important new eastern gateway to the Park, with sustainable travel options. Getting visitors and residents into and around the Park in a sustainable way is a huge challenge that is at the heart of our National Park Management Plan just as is the challenge of encouraging visitors from diverse communities into the Park.

Hartington Village Trail 10th Anniversary

I attended the 10th anniversary celebration of the Hartington Trail, in my local village. Rose Clarke, one of our Engagement Rangers, has worked with the local community and school to first initiate and now celebrate this great local attraction. It is a micro initiative with big impact that nicely recognises the cultural heritage and local environment of a very historic area.

Council of Europe Visit

Our Council of Europe Diploma for Protected Areas is due for renewal in March 2024, which is why we had an on-site appraisal visit a couple of weeks ago. The appraisal was carried out by two representatives from Spain and Austria and I hadn't realised how rare the award was. The European Diploma for Protected Areas is awarded by the Council of Europe in recognition of “natural and semi-natural areas and landscapes of exceptional European importance for the preservation of biological, geological and landscape diversity and which are managed in an exemplary way. The award was established in 1965 and is awarded to the place, not the National Park Authority. The Peak District National Park was one of the first 3 Protected Areas in Europe to be awarded the Diploma, in 1966. There are currently 67 Diploma-holding areas throughout Europe, with 5 in the UK, the other 4 being: *Minsmere Nature Reserve*, *Beinn Eighe NNR*, *Purbeck Heritage Coast*, *Fair Isle National Scenic Area*. After the site visit our European colleagues will write up a report for the Council to review in spring and make a decision on re-awarding the Diploma.

Peakland Environmental Farmers Group (PEF)

I attended a meeting and farm visit with a number of PEF representatives, who presented a picture of the ambitions the PEF have for the conservation. It was also a great opportunity to discuss how we can build better relationships and support the PEF group.

Peak District Environmental Quality Mark 20th anniversary celebration

The Authority was well represented at this event, having initiated the project 20 years ago and currently still housing the EQM scheme in its now independent guise. It was wonderful to meet a number of businesses who have held the award for many years and the latest batch of committed businesses to receive their certificate. The EQM scheme is a great success story for the Authority and is going from strength to strength with the ability to now make awards nationally.

Staffing headlines

In recent weeks a new Head of Assets & Enterprise has been appointed. Hannah Turner will be joining us from Savills in January.

Our new Authority Solicitor, Erica Ives, will be joining us from Irwin Mitchell in January.

We will be hosting the new UK National Parks Comms function and have appointed Meg Orpwood-Russell from the Yosemite Conservancy, as the new Communications Director. Meg will also be starting in January.

We were unable to appoint a new Head of Resources at the first attempt but have made some changes to the role and are trying again.

I intend to produce updated organisational charts for Members, including names, which will show the top three tiers of management. This will be sent to you shortly.

We are currently consulting on a preferred new set of pay grades following the restructure and earlier commitment to review staff pay. This should be coming to Members at the beginning of December.

National Park Management Plan headlines

There is now delivery, oversight and engagement structure in place for monitoring and delivering the NPMP. In December we plan to convene the 'Delivery Group', which will ensure that the NPMP is delivered and remains relevant to partners. In the spring we will convene the 'Partnership Group', which will oversee and review delivery of the NPMP at a strategic level, with senior representatives acting as champion and ambassadors for the National Park. We will then convene the wider 'Stakeholder Forum' which will be an online opportunity open to all partner and stakeholder organisations to keep them engaged with the Management Plan.

It is also proposed that the Governance Working Group be reconvened to review a number of governance issues to ensure we have the right level of Member, Officer and public input and that our systems and committees are set up in the most effective way. We need to ensure Members and Officers are making decisions at the appropriate points. I want to bring high quality summary information to Members so that Members can fulfil their strategic decision-making role. I want us to be clearer with Members on what the big issues are and get their input on these.

Government headlines

- At the time of writing we are still awaiting the governments response to the national Landscape Review.
- I will be attending the launch of the new National Landscapes (new name for AONBs) in mid-November.
- A new historic building grant is being made available.
- We are waiting for confirmation of additional funding for protected landscapes to be able to buy land where water quality improvements can be made. Although there would be short timescales for this it is possible we will be in a position to make an application for an area to help consolidate our Warslow Moor estate.
- Our annual grant review meeting with Defra is due to be held on 22nd November.
- We will be hosting a visit of Toby Perkins, Chesterfield MP, who has recently picked up the shadow brief for rural affairs.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Phil Mulligan, CEO, with input from Victoria Peel, Executive Support Officer,
31st October 2023

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7. **RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY (A91941/SG)**

1. **Purpose of the report**

This report asks Members to approve the revised Risk Management Policy.

Key Issues

- The Risk Management Policy has been reviewed and revised following the Authority organisational changes.
- Changes have been made to the Risk Management Policy in terms of roles and responsibilities of reporting.
- The supporting documents (Risk Register Template and Risk Scoring System) have been reviewed and no changes are proposed.

2. **Recommendation**

1. **That the updated Risk Management Policy in Appendix 1, is approved.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. Risk management contributes to our Authority Plan aim of Enabling Delivery. Monitoring service level and corporate risks is part of our approach to overall risk management and enables mitigating action to be taken in consultation with staff and Members where needed.

Background Information

4. As a Best Value Authority under the Local Government Act 1999 we have a duty to seek continuous improvement in the way in which we exercise our functions and deliver our services, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
5. In discharging this overall responsibility, the Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which include arrangements for the management of risk.
6. The Authority approved and adopted a Code of Corporate Governance in February 2017 which is consistent with the CIPFA/ SOLACE (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy/ Society of Local Authority Chief Executives) Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government (minute reference 5/17).
7. One of the seven core principles in the Code of Corporate Governance is *Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management*, which includes a supporting principle of *Managing risk*.
8. The Risk Management Policy represents the Authority's underlying approach to risk management. The Authority's Risk Management Policy was last revised and approved by Members in May 2021 (minute reference 39/21).

Proposals

9. Members are asked to review and agree the revised Risk Management Policy, as detailed in Appendix 1.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

All work covered by the risk policy is undertaken within existing service budgets.

Risk Management:

10. The policy forms the foundation of the Authority's approach to risk management.

Sustainability:

11. No issues have been identified.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

12. No issues have been identified.

13. Climate Change

No issues have been identified.

14. Background papers (not previously published)

None

15. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Risk Management Policy

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Simon Geikie, Senior Strategy & Performance Officer, 2nd November 2023

**Peak District National Park Authority
Risk Management Policy (October 2023)**

Purpose of this Document

1. This Risk Management Policy (the policy) supports one of the core principles in the Authority's Code of Corporate Governance (approved at Authority, May 2009) of 'Taking informed and transparent decisions which are subject to effective scrutiny and managing risk'.
2. The policy explains the Authority's underlying approach to risk management and documents the roles and responsibilities of:
 - Members;
 - Chief Executive Officer and Heads of Service (Senior Management Team);
 - Finance Manager (Section 151 Officer);
 - Team Leaders / Managers (including Multi Year Project Managers and Strategic Partnership Lead Officers);
 - Strategy and Performance Team; and
 - other key parties.

It also outlines key aspects of the risk management process, and identifies the main reporting procedures.

Underlying Approach to Risk Management

3. The following key principles outline the Authority's approach to risk management and internal control:
 - a. Members have responsibility for overseeing risk management within the Authority as a whole;
 - b. An open and receptive approach to mitigating risk problems is adopted by Members;
 - c. The Management Team supports, advises and implements policies approved by Members;
 - d. The Authority makes prudent recognition and disclosure of the financial and non-financial implications of risks in line with its risk appetite;
 - e. The Chief Executive, Heads of Service, Finance Manager, Team Leaders / Managers are responsible for encouraging good risk management practice within their designated managed area; and
 - f. Key risks will be identified and closely monitored on a regular basis.

Statement of the Authority's Risk Appetite

4. The Authority will use risk management to achieve its objectives through proactively managing its exposure to risk. It will seek to recognise risk and mitigate the adverse consequences but recognises that, in pursuit of its vision and objectives, it may choose to accept an increased degree of risk in certain circumstances. It will do so, subject always to ensuring that the potential benefits and risks are fully understood before developments are authorised, and that sensible measures to mitigate risk are established.

Role of Members

5. Members' role in the management of risk is to:
 - a. Set the tone and influence the culture of risk management within the Authority, including;
 - Determining whether the Authority is 'risk taking' or 'risk averse' as a whole or on any relevant individual issue (the Authority's risk appetite)
 - Determining what levels of risk are acceptable and which are not, on the advice of the Management Team, and setting the standards and expectations of staff with respect to conduct and probity
 - b. Approve major decisions affecting the Authority's risk profile or exposure;
 - c. Monitor the management of significant risks twice yearly to reduce the likelihood of unwelcome surprises or impact;
 - d. Satisfy themselves that the less significant risks are being actively managed, with the appropriate controls in place and working effectively;
 - e. Annually review the Authority's approach to risk management and approve changes or improvements to key elements of its processes and procedures as part of the Annual Governance Statement. (This Code of Corporate Governance annual review is led by the Monitoring Officer, includes the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority, is audited by the External Auditor and approved by the Authority).

Role of the Chief Executive Officer and Heads of Service (Senior Management Team) and Chief Finance Officer

6. Key roles of the Management Team are to:
 - a. Set the overall culture of risk management in the Authority;
 - b. Take overall responsibility for the administration and implementation of the risk management process within the Authority;

- c. Identify and evaluate the significant risks faced by the Authority for review by Members (the Corporate Risk Register);
- d. Provide adequate information in a timely manner to Members and its committees on the status of risks and controls;
- e. Annually review the Authority's approach to risk management as part of the annual review of the Code of Corporate Governance which is led by the Monitoring Officer and recommend changes or improvements;
- f. Review and monitor the risks identified in their respective services by Team Managers and Lead Officers (via the Service Risk Registers) including consideration of risks from working with strategic and major delivery partnerships, and escalate risks to the Corporate Risk Register as considered appropriate;
- g. Annually review the Authority's uninsured and insured risks.

Role of the Chief Finance Officer (statutory responsibility)

- 7. The role of the Chief Finance Officer is to:
 - a. Help ensure the effective governance of the Authority by supporting the development of risk management and reporting frameworks and ensuring risks are fully considered;
 - b. Lead on the implementation and maintenance of a framework of financial controls and procedures for managing financial risks ensuring robust systems of risk management and internal control;
 - c. Help promote arrangements to identify and manage key business risks including safeguarding assets, risk mitigation and insurance.

Role of Heads of Service, Team Leaders / Managers including Multi Year Project Managers and Strategic Partnership Lead Officers where the Authority is the accountable body.

- 8. Key roles are to:
 - a. Take overall responsibility for the administration and implementation of risk management within the Service / Team / Partnership;
 - b. Identify and evaluate the significant risks faced in the Service / Partnership;
 - c. Provide adequate information in a timely manner to Management Team on the status of risks and controls;
 - d. Manage significant risks within the policy guidelines;

- e. Propose escalation of service risks to the Corporate Risk Register as considered appropriate in consultation with the relevant Head of Service.

Role of Heads of Service, Team Leaders / Managers including Multi Year Project Managers and Strategic Partnership Lead Officers where the Authority is not the accountable body

- 9. Key roles are to:
 - a. Undertake an initial risk assessment for the partnership, on an annual basis review the risks of the partnership association and involvement to the Authority and incorporate any identified risks into the Service Risk Register.
 - b. Every six months review the partnership risks on the Service Risk Register and discuss with the Head of Service any risks that should be escalated to the Corporate Risk Register.

Role of the Strategy and Performance Team

- 10. Key roles of the Strategy and Performance Team are to:
 - a. Take day to day responsibility for the administration and implementation of the risk management process;
 - b. Support The Chief Executive, Heads of Service, Chief Finance Officer, Team Leaders / Managers to manage and monitor risks;
 - c. Facilitate the process of consideration of risks onto the Corporate Risk Register every quarter;
 - d. Report the Corporate Risk Register to the Authority at Q2 and Q4 as part of six-monthly Authority Plan reporting process;
 - e. Cascade new and escalated risks to the Authority at Q1 and Q3;
 - f. Support the Senior Management Team in the annual review of the Authority's approach to risk management.

Monitoring and Evaluation of this Policy

- 11. This policy will be monitored and evaluated annually as part of the Authority's annual review of the Code of Corporate Governance, led by the Monitoring Officer and reported to Authority with any recommendations for change.

APPENDIX 1: Supporting documentation to the Authority's Risk Management Policy

Key Components of the Authority's Risk Management System

A. Identification of Risk

a. The Corporate Risk Register

The Authority manages risk at a corporate level through the Corporate Risk Register which is compiled by the Management Team and approved by Authority. It helps to facilitate the identification, assessment and ongoing monitoring of risks significant to the Authority. The document is formally appraised annually, but every quarter emerging risks are reviewed and added as required, whilst current risks are assessed to determine whether the level of risk has been managed down sufficiently to remove the risk from the register. Every six months (at Q2 and Q4), the Corporate Risk Register is presented to Authority. At alternate six months (Q1 and Q3), new and escalated risks are reviewed and cascaded to Authority through an informal process. Improvement actions are also monitored through Authority.

b. Service Risk Registers

Heads of Service develop and use these registers to ensure that significant risks in their service are identified, assessed and monitored. The document is formally appraised annually by the Chief Executive as part of the service planning process and allows for significant risks to be escalated to the Corporate Risk Register. Risks are added or removed as appropriate and improvement actions to address risks are monitored with Management Team through the six-monthly performance meetings. This allows any emerging significant risks to be escalated to the Corporate Risk Register during the year.

c. Major project / partnership risk registers

A risk register (following the template for the service risk register) is completed for all major projects which are monitored on a quarterly basis by the project team in consultation with the respective Head of Service. If there is a significant risk (red), the project will be put on the Service Risk Register.

As stated in the Partnership Policy, the lead officer for each major or strategic partnership will undertake an initial risk assessment of the partnership which is reviewed annually and discussed with the respective Head of Service. If there is a significant risk (red), it will be placed on the Service Risk Register.

d. Insurance risks

The Authority decides on uninsured and insured risks as part of its annual review of insurance arrangements.

B. Monitoring of Risk

a. Six-monthly monitoring

Comprehensive six-monthly reporting (at Q2 and Q4) is designed to monitor key risks and their controls. Decisions to rectify problems, if appropriate, are made at regular meetings of:

- i) the Senior Management Team and Authority for corporate risks,
- ii) Heads of Service for service level risks (at the six-monthly performance meetings),
- iii) Multi Year Project Managers and Strategic Partnership Lead Officers for major project risks.

At alternate six months (Q1 and Q3), new and escalated risks are reviewed and cascaded through an informal process.

More frequent monitoring may be adopted depending upon the nature of the project.

b. Annual review

An annual review is conducted to:

- i) support the development of the subsequent year's risk registers (both corporate and service levels) and
- ii) review the effectiveness of our risk management strategy as part of the Annual governance Statement.

C. Reporting

a. Authority

The Authority Committee receives six-monthly reports on risk and responds to any emerging issues. In addition, the committee receives the Annual Governance Statement. The committee is therefore well-placed to monitor and scrutinise the Authority's system for the management of risk.

b. Six-monthly Performance Meetings

Senior Management Team and other staff, as needed, meet every six months to progress and consider issues relating to risk as part of this meeting and decisions to rectify problems, if appropriate, are made.

D. Assurance

a. Internal Audit Programme

Internal audit monitors the effectiveness of our internal control systems including our management of risk and reports to Authority three times per year.

b. External audit

The External Auditors assess the Authority's arrangements to achieve economy, efficiency and effectiveness in our use of money, time and people against criteria specified by the National Audit Officer. This includes assessing whether the Authority has adequate arrangements in place for risk management and internal control as part of giving their value for money opinion as reported in the annual governance report from the External Auditors.

c. Other external assessments

We will consider feedback received as part of our ongoing assessment of risk.

d. Annual Insurance Report

Senior Management Team approves annually the insurance arrangements in place to mitigate risks inherent in the Authority's portfolio of property and equipment assets, vehicle operations and potential liabilities arising from officer and member actions.

E. Support

a. Skills and Training

Heads of Service are responsible for ensuring that staff who have responsibility for risk management are familiar with the Authority's risk policy and have the appropriate skills and training to undertake their role.

b. Toolkit

A toolkit of documents that support the management of risk are provided and are included as follows:

- i. Risk Register Template
- ii. Risk Scoring Guide (defining likelihood and impact levels).

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8. AUTHORITY PROGRESS REPORT - MID YEAR (DECILE 1) 23-24 (EF)

1. Purpose of the report

For Members to review the new digital Progress Report of the Authority Plan. This report, published online at <https://reports.peakdistrict.gov.uk/approgress/> tracks progress over the first six months of the five year Authority Plan (decile 1: April – September 2023).

Key Issues

- This is the Authority progress report at decile 1.
- The Authority Plan has 54 actions, 36 are on target, 12 a delay and 3 really off course – these are explained fully at paragraph 11 of this report.
- There have been a lot of risk movements, these are explained at paragraph 12 of this report.

2. Recommendation(s)

1. That the digital Authority Progress Plan Report (decile 1), which can be viewed here: <https://reports.peakdistrict.gov.uk/approgress/> is reviewed and any actions to address issues agreed.
2. That the Corporate risk register (Mid Year) provided in Appendix 1 is reviewed and the status of risks accepted.

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. Performance and risk management contributes to Objective G in our five year Authority Plan; monitoring progress and strategic interventions for 2023/24 is part of our approach to ensuring we are progressing against our Authority Plan and, if needed, mitigating action can be taken to maintain and improve performance or to reprioritise work in consultation with staff and Members.

Background Information

4. The new digital format Progress Report replaces the very long paper based reports Members used to receive on our Corporate Strategy. The new digital format was presented to Members at the September 2023 Members' Forum. The format has taken on board comments from Members to reduce the amount of information so that the information presented to Members facilitates more effective scrutiny of key issues and actions by using more graphics and enabling Members to see the strategic overview easily.
5. This Progress Report site will be updated every 6 months, resulting in 10 decile reports over the 5-year Authority Plan (2023 – 2028). These decile reports will track progress and report on challenges over half year and annual cycles. The half year updates will replace the traditional quarter 2 report whilst the turn of year report will present a summary of progress for the previous year. All the information required as part of the statutory Performance and Business Plan Process is therefore captured in one site, which is paper free, accessible for screen reader technology and will show progress as it builds over the whole of the Authority Plan period. In the next decile (six month period) we will also review and reassess the success criteria we are using for some of our actions to adjust and tighten these up.
6. The Progress Report contains a brief commentary for progress on each objective.

These are bought together into an overall Chief Executive's commentary in the Executive Summary.

7. The Authority's risk management policy and supporting documentation was approved by Authority in May 2021 (minute 39/21) and is reviewed annually as part of the Authority's review of the Code of Corporate Governance. A separate paper to seek approval to update the risk policy due to the impact of organisational change is being presented to the same Authority meeting as this one. In line with these arrangements, Appendix 1 shows the status of the corporate risks.
8. Information is given so that Members of the Authority can review the performance of the Authority and the risks being managed corporately.
9. For completeness, the information Members used to receive on complaints will be reported annually as part of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Annual Review Letter. Any complaints that are escalated to the Ombudsman between the annual report will be reported to Members within the Chief Executive's reports that are presented to Authority committee.

Proposals

Mid Year (decile 1)

10. **Authority Plan Targets** at mid year:
 - Members are asked to review and agree the digital Authority Progress Plan Report which can be viewed here: <https://reports.peakdistrict.gov.uk/approgress/>
 - 7 of the 8 Enabling Delivery Aim Objective (A-H) Targets are green, indicating that if performance is consistent over the remainder of the year, the Authority will achieve these targets.
 - The target set for Objective F (Governance) is marked as 'no action at this stage' (grey). There is no internal or external audit on governance in 2023/24, so the target will not be reported on this year.
11. **Key Actions Progress** at mid year:
 - There are 54 key actions to be progressed in 23-24. At mid year 36 of these are on schedule where quality is meeting expectations.
 - 12 are experiencing a delay in schedule and / or have a lack or incorrect mix of resource allocated. Some of the key actions relate to the following projects:
 - Local Plan
 - Pre-application advice service (Planning)
 - Internal Staff Communication Plan
 - Asset Management Plan - use of disposals toolkit
 - One Peak District Nature Recovery Plan including maximising Biodiversity Net Gain opportunities
 - Landscape Enhancement Initiatives
 - Warslow Moors Estate development
 - A Volunteer programme to extend reach and appeal to underserved communities
 - 3 are experiencing a significant delay:
 - The Planning service has been focused on meeting the national targets which it is successfully doing, however, the review and update of the Local Enforcement Plan is still being affected by capacity issues.
 - Reviewing financial net income targets has been delayed due to the organisational changes taking priority. Existing targets remain in place and will

be reviewed 24/25.

- The Authority's independent action to contribute to the NPMP Objective 4 by bringing together moorland owners and managers to develop and implement resilient and sustainable moorland management requires a fresh approach following learning outputs for the private sector Moorland fire risk assessment pilot.
- 3 key actions are reflected grey, no action at this stage. It is expected that 2 of these actions will commence in the second half of the year, however the Member Climate Change Steering Group successfully embedded climate change into the National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan, so it ceased on 31 March 2023, therefore the associated key action detailed in Objection H (Climate Change) is redundant.

12. **Corporate Risk** status at mid year (appendix 1):

- Members are further asked to review the Corporate Risk Register status in Appendix 1 and agree the proposed changes.
- There is significant positive movement in our risk profile and no new risks have been identified at the mid year assessment.
- We have reduced the significance of four high risks (high likelihood/high impact - red).
 - **Obj A: Not meeting national planning performance standards (ref: 22/23C)**
Our mitigation has worked well and performance now meets the targets due to the focus and hard work of the teams involved. We anticipate this risk will be low by the end of the year.
 - **OC 4: Unexpected loss/sudden absence of staff (23/24D)**
The uncertainty due to the organisation change process has reduced. This risk has been reduced in likelihood and is anticipated to be lower by March 2024.
 - **Aim 2: Derwent Valley reservoir expansion (23/24H) has reduced in likelihood from High to low (red to amber).**
The proposed project driving this risk is no longer a current priority for the water companies. Due to the scale of the proposed scheme it remains a significant risk in terms of high impact/permanent damage to the Special Qualities of the Park.
 - **WP – Engagement service capacity to deliver NPMP (23/24F)**
The uncertainty around the capacity of this service area is now reduced. Service planning for 2024/25 will complete the service capacity review as part of the organisation change process.
- Of the remaining high (red) risks three are direct corporate risks associated with our Authority Enabling Delivery Aim
 - **Obj A: Not clearing enforcement backlogs (ref: 23/24J)**
The plan to address the backlog is now in place. The risk will remain high until vacant posts are filled.
 - **Obj E: Injury/Loss of life & property damage due to unsafe trees(ref: 22/23E updated start of year 23/24).**
A budget 'slippage' allocation was secured and a business case has now been approved for additional resources. The risk will remain high until assessment and removal of dangerous trees is completed.
 - **Obj G: Core IT systems maintenance and development (ref: 23/24K)**
Significant progress been made on individual elements captured in this risk. The residual risk remains very high however as the delay around the ASSURE planning system remains beyond our control. This is critical to planning service process improvement.
One high risk is associated with the Authority Organisational Change process
 - **OC 2: NPMP and Authority Action Plan Delivery risks (23/24B)**
This risk remains in place until service planning for 2024/25 is complete and permanent senior management team members are in post.

- Two high risks are associated with the National Park Management Plan delivery and Special Quality condition.
 - **CC1/CC11: Influencing ELMs/Area of NP land safeguarded (ref. 20/21B updated start of year 23/24)**

National Park Authorities (NPA's) are active in the stakeholder process and PDNPA are running an ELMs test and trial on the role of NPA's as conveners for the programme. The final decision rests with DEFRA/Government on the shape and scale of ELMs.

- **Aim 2: Road network improvements along the A628 corridor (ref. 21/22D updated start of year 23/24)**

PDNPA now regarded as a key consultee. Due to budgetary constraints, the current focus of the scheme within the National Park is on resilience and safety. Despite this the threat of the bypass/rebuild scheme remains.

- There have also been movements of amber risks
- **Obj E/H: Asset Management capacity (23/24E)**
The appointment of a permanent Head of Service, an approved business case for a Rural Estate Manager and work on market incentives for the Building Surveyor vacancy is beginning to mitigate the impact on capacity.
- **OC 1: Reputational risks (23/24 A)**
This risk was added to the register as a result of the organisational change process. With the staff changes now complete and the generous donor support for visitor services the risk from organisational change is now low.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

13. This report gives Members an overview of the achievement of targets in the first half of the year and includes ICT, financial, risk management and sustainability considerations where appropriate. There are no additional implications in, for example, Health and Safety.

Risk Management:

14. As above

Sustainability:

15. As above

Equality:

16. As above

Climate Change:

17. There are no climate change implications of this paper.

Background papers (not previously published)

18. None

Appendices

19. Appendix 1 - Mid Year 2023/24 Corporate Risk Register status

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Emily Fox, Interim Head of Resources, with input from Phil Mulligan (CEO) 2nd November 2023

Appendix 1: 2023/24 Corporate Risk Register at Mid Year.

IMPACT	High	<p>Aim 2: Derwent Valley reservoir expansion (23/24H)</p>	<p>Obj A: Not meeting national planning performance standards (ref: 22/23C)</p> <p>OC 3: Statutory process risks (23/24C)</p> <p>OC 4: Unexpected loss/sudden absence of staff (23/24D)</p> <p>CC 14: Failure to complete the plan to achieve Nature Recovery (ref. 20/21D updated start of year 23/24)</p> <p>Obj 4: Moorland Management Group (23/24I)</p> <p>MFPP: core funding deficit (ref. 21/22C updated 23/24)</p>	<p>Obj A: Not clearing enforcement backlogs (ref: 23/24J)</p> <p>Obj E: Injury/Loss of life & property damage due to unsafe trees (ref: 22/23E updated start of year 23/24).</p> <p>Obj G: Core IT systems maintenance and development (ref: 23/24K)</p> <p>OC 2: NPMP and Authority Action Plan Delivery risks (23/24B)</p> <p>CC1/CC11: Influencing ELMs/Area of NP land safeguarded (ref. 20/21B updated start of year 23/24)</p> <p>Aim 2: Road network improvements along the A628 corridor (ref. 21/22D updated start of year 23/24)</p>
	Medium		<p>Obj C/D: Extended absence of an HoS or senior officer (accepted permanent generic risk)</p> <p>Obj D: Financial exposure: Moors for the Future Partnership (20/21A updated start of year 23/24)</p> <p>Obj E/H: Asset Management capacity (23/24E)</p> <p>Aim 3: Engagement service capacity to deliver NPMP (links to OC2 & OC4) (23/24F) (reworded risk 23/24F)</p>	<p>Obj 10: Local Plan review delay (23/24G)</p>
	Low	<p>OC 1: Reputational risks (23/24 A)</p>		
		Low	Medium	High
LIKELIHOOD				

OC = Organisational Change risk, Obj = Objective risk(Authority lettered/NPMP numbered), CC = Climate change action risk, Aim 'X'= Independent NPMP action risk. MFPP = Moors for the Future Partnership risk

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9. SOUTH YORKSHIRE STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND (BJT)

1. Purpose of the report

To seek Authority approval to become a joint signatory to the Joint Regional Statement of Common Ground prepared for the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority.

Key Issues

- **Under the new Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023, Local Planning Authorities are legally obliged to work with cross boundary authorities to seek to align policies. A ‘Statement of Common Ground’ can be an effective tool in achieving this.**
- **A Joint Regional Statement of Common Ground (‘the Statement’) has been prepared for the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority. The local authorities that are either directly engaged in the Statement or identified as key stakeholders are requested to approve the statement and become signatories.**

2. Recommendation

- 1. That the Authority approves the Statement (Appendix 1) and that the Chair of the Authority signs it.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. The requirements for a Statement of Common Ground are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Policy Guidance.
4. The new Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 requires cross boundary local planning authorities to work closely to achieve aligned policies. The new Act brings greater flexibility to allow alignment to be achieved, e.g. through the examination process.

Background Information

5. The Statement updates and replaces the previous Statement which covered the former Sheffield City Region (SCR) geography. An area of the Peak District National Park falls within the western area of the Region.
6. The local authorities directly engaged in the Statement are:
 - Bassetlaw DC
 - Barnsley MBC
 - Bolsover DC
 - Chesterfield BC
 - Derbyshire Dales DC
 - City of Doncaster Council
 - North East Derbyshire DC

- Rotherham MBC
 - Sheffield City Council
7. Other key stakeholders and signatories to the Statement are:
- South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority
 - Nottinghamshire County Council
 - Derbyshire County Council
 - **Peak District National Park Authority**
8. The Statement acknowledges the Peak District National Park Authority Management Plan (para 1.7) and that the National Park plays a key role in the Region with regard to special qualities that reflect the importance of its landscapes, wildlife and cultural heritage (para 3.3).
9. The key strategic matters identified in the Statement are:
- Energy and Climate Change.
 - Housing.
 - Employment.
 - Transport.
 - Natural Environment.
 - Waste
 - Digital Connectivity.
10. One key area of policy divergence has been identified with respect to Transport objectives. At para 4.4.16 the Statement seeks to:
11. ***Help to bring forward the national and pan-northern interventions agreed through the SCR Transport Strategy where remaining relevant or consistent with policy.***
12. Owing to long standing objections to major road building along the A628 corridor, officers have expressed concerns on this point to the Joint Officer Group. However, in an attempt to find a positive way of allowing the National Park Authority to sign up to the Statement the following caveat has been offered:
13. ***(with the exception that the Peak District National Park have long-standing objections to major road building improvements along the A628 corridor and do not support the Mottram Moor link road and Hollingworth to Tintwistle bypass).***
14. Officers consider that this helps to clarify the different position the Authority needs to hold in order to drive objectives for landscape, nature and carbon reduction.

Proposals

15. Subject to the agreement of members to the suggested amendment above that the Authority can give its overall approval to the Statement of Common Ground and to become a signatory to the document alongside the local authorities and key stakeholders listed in this report.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

16. None

17. **Risk Management:**
Signing up to the Statement of Common Ground provides a strong basis for agreement on cross boundary planning issues which provides evidence of joint working for future examination of Authority policies.
18. **Sustainability:**
The Statement recognises and aligns well with the revised National Park Management Plan for the National Park.
19. **Equality:**
Issues associated with equality, diversity and inclusion are fully considered in the local plan-making process.
20. **Climate Change**
The Statement of Common Ground recognises the objectives of the National Park Management Plan in this area and well aligned to support its aims.
21. **Background papers (not previously published)**
None
22. **Appendices**
Appendix 1 - South Yorkshire Joint Regional Statement of Common Ground

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Brian Taylor, Head of Planning, 2nd November 2023

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JOINT REGIONAL STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

MAY 2023



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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground provides a record of agreement on cross boundary, strategic planning matters and has been produced by the signatory authorities to demonstrate how Local Plans are prepared on the basis of an agreed understanding of the issues facing the Region (as outlined in Chapter 3, for the purposes of this Statement 'Region' refers to the former Sheffield City Region area).
- 1.2 The local authorities directly engaged in the Statement are:
- Bassetlaw DC
 - Barnsley MBC
 - Bolsover DC
 - Chesterfield BC
 - Derbyshire Dales DC
 - City of Doncaster Council
 - North East Derbyshire DC
 - Rotherham MBC
 - Sheffield City Council
- 1.3 Other key stakeholders and signatories to the Statement are:
- South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority
 - Nottinghamshire County Council
 - Derbyshire County Council
 - Peak District National Park Authority
- 1.4 This Statement fulfils the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and has been developed in accordance with the Government's Planning Policy Guidance. It updates and replaces the previous Joint Statement of Common Ground agreed in October 2020, which covered the former Sheffield City Region (SCR) geography.
- 1.5 An explanation of the key strategic matters and where we agree on these is set out in the following sections, with more detailed information in the Annex along with technical issues and links to the evidence base we have developed and continue to maintain.

1.6 Other Statements of Common Ground have also been agreed, or are being prepared, by authorities in the former SCR Region¹. This includes Statements of Common Ground for:

- The Doncaster Local Plan (March 2020) covering several strategic matters relating to the Local Plan.
- North East Derbyshire District Council, Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Derbyshire County Council and Highways England (Oct 2018) covering M1 J30 & Treble Bob Roundabout.
- Bolsover and Mansfield District Councils (August 2018) covering Gypsy and Traveller unmet need, housing needs, Junction 28 and 28 and development in Pleasley.
- North Derbyshire and Bassetlaw (May 2018) on the Housing Market Area.
- Sheffield and North East Derbyshire (May 2018) on Green Belt.
- Bolsover and North East Derbyshire (May 2018) on the former Coalite Works.
- Bassetlaw and Mansfield (December 2018) covering Gypsy and Traveller unmet need, housing need and distribution, Welbeck Colliery site and A60 corridor.
- Derbyshire Dales District Council is preparing an updated SOCG as part of the review of the Local Plan.
- Nottinghamshire and Bassetlaw, Sheffield, Rotherham, and Doncaster in respect of Waste Planning issues related to the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan (2024, forthcoming).
- Bassetlaw and others (November 2022) on the A1 corridor logistics assessment property market area.
- Bassetlaw and Rotherham (November 2022) on the Bassetlaw Local Plan.
- Sheffield Local Plan – in preparation – to be completed prior to Local Plan being submitted for examination.

1.7 In addition, the Peak District National Park Management Plan 2023-2028² has high level buy in from Sheffield City Council and all constituent authorities across the National Park area. The Management Plan sets out an ambitious 20 year vision for the Peak District National Park and provides principles and priorities for partnership action working through its vision, aims, objectives and delivery plan.

1.8 This Region-wide Statement of Common Ground has been prepared in light of existing work, in order to avoid duplication or conflict, and enable a more streamlined approach for the planning authorities in South Yorkshire and the former SCR area in the future. It will be reviewed annually by the signatories

¹ Not all signatories to this regional Statement of Common Ground are party to or signatories of the other Statements of Common Ground listed.

² <https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/looking-after/strategies-and-policies/national-park-management-plan>

involved. This process will also allow other signatories and strategic matters to be added as appropriate.

- 1.9 Throughout this Statement the wider regional context is recognised where appropriate (for example, the two Strategic Economic Plans prepared by SYMCA and D2N2); however, there is an emphasis on South Yorkshire for some issues where this reflects the core of activity or co-operation.

2. Key Signatories

.....
for and behalf of Bassetlaw District Council

.....
Signature

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Title

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for and behalf of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

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Signature

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Title

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for and behalf of Bolsover District Council

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Signature

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for and behalf of Chesterfield Borough Council

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Signature

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for and behalf of Derbyshire Dales District Council

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Signature

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Title

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for and behalf of City of Doncaster Council

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Signature

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Title

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Signature

**for and behalf of North East Derbyshire
District Council**

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Title

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**for and behalf of Rotherham Metropolitan
Borough Council**

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Signature
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Title

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for and behalf of Sheffield City Council

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for and behalf of Derbyshire County Council

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Signature
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Title

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**for and behalf of Nottinghamshire County
Council**

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Signature
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Title

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**for and behalf of Peak District National Park
Authority**

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Signature
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Title

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**for and behalf of South Yorkshire Mayoral
Combined Authority**

.....
Signature
Mayor.....
Title

3. Strategic Geography

- 3.1. This Statement of Common Ground covers the former Sheffield City Region area. In 2021 the Combined Authority changed its name from “Sheffield City Region” to the “South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority” to better reflect the organisation and the communities it serves. This also recognised Government’s decision to change the geographies of Local Economic Partnerships and the agreement of a Devolution Deal and funding to SYMCA only covering South Yorkshire. However, the constituent and non-constituent members of SYMCA remain unchanged³, and the former SCR area continues to be an appropriate strategic level for co-operation for spatial planning. For the purposes of this Statement references to ‘the Region’ refer to the former SCR area.
- 3.2. The Region covers two cities, several large towns, thriving smaller towns, other semi-urban areas and a rural surrounding area. Ten local authorities are responsible for preparing Local Plans (see Figure 1, page 8) - four metropolitan districts of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield; five district councils of Bassetlaw, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Derbyshire Dales; and North East Derbyshire. An area of the Peak District National Park also falls within the western area of the Region and is a planning authority in its own right. Derbyshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council are responsible for preparing minerals and waste local plans for their areas.
- 3.3. The National Park plays a key role in the Region, but also much more widely with special qualities that reflect the importance of its landscapes, wildlife and cultural heritage⁴.
- 3.4. Research conducted by the OECD⁵ in 2012 (updated 2019) into functional urban areas highlights the limitations of existing administrative boundaries and strong relationships among several urban cores within the UK. The work concludes that most of the former Sheffield City Region is a functional urban area, with a rural fringe which is also important to its economic, social, cultural and environmental functioning. This is further supported by the ONS⁶ which highlights five main travel-to-work areas within the Region as well as overlaps with five others.

³ Constituent members of SYMCA are Sheffield, Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Councils. Non-constituent members are Derbyshire Dales, North East Derbyshire, Chesterfield, Bassetlaw and Bolsover Councils.

⁴ The Environment Act 1995 sets out the purposes of National Parks and commitment to their special qualities <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/25/contents/enacted>

⁵ See OECD’s Functional Urban Area Definitions here: <http://www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/functionallurbanareasbycountry.htm>

⁶ See ONS’s Travel-to-Work Areas: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/articles/traveltoworkareaanalysisingreatbritain/2016>

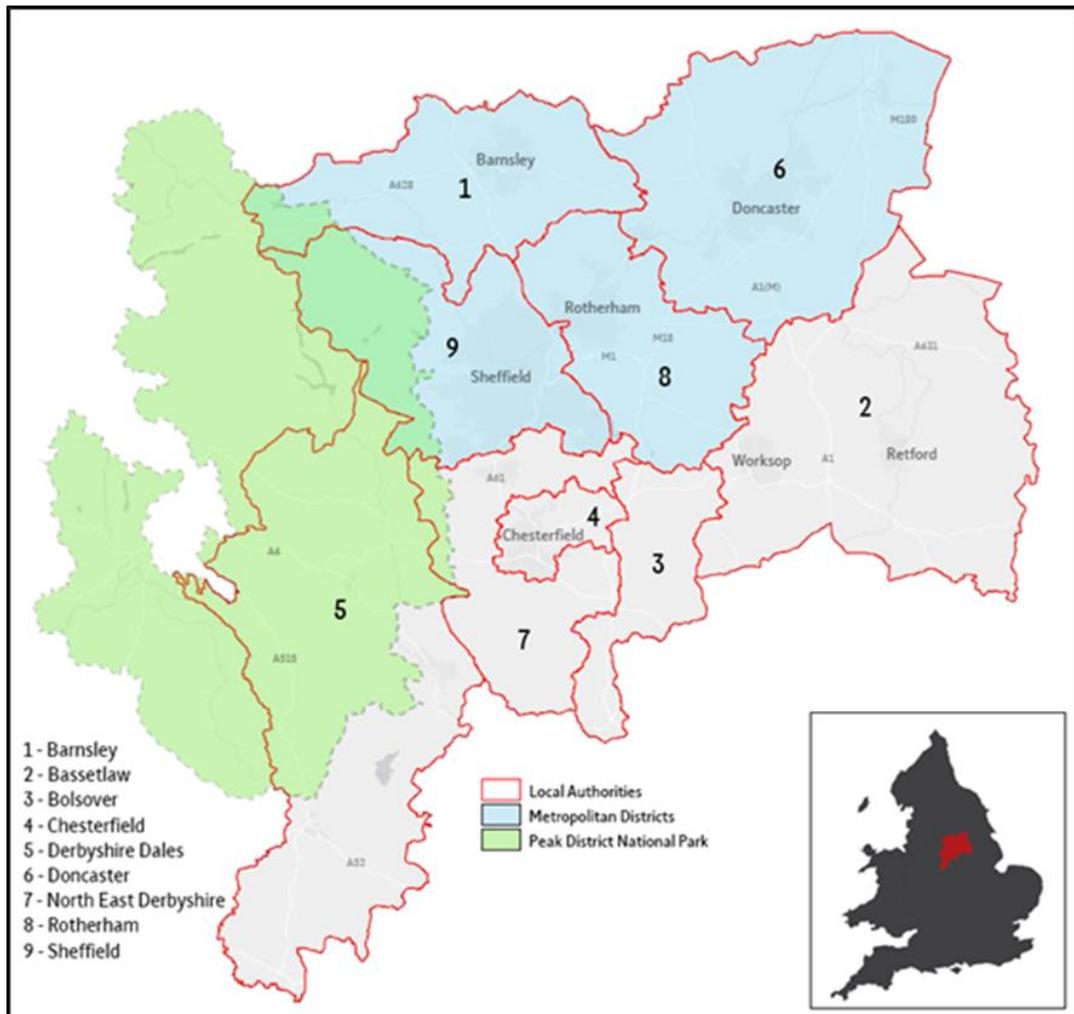


Figure 1: The Statement of Common Ground area

3.5 These relationships are also reflected in the retail, housing, transport and cultural linkages across the Region⁷. For example:

- There is overlap between retail catchments with joint working on retail important in ensuring appropriate land/property provision and retail/leisure demand relative to transport networks.
- Housing markets across the Region share some commonalities with most areas being more affordable than the national average, although this can mask areas of real need, especially for households with the lowest incomes.
- The proximity of major urban areas and the relative ease of commuting between them for work (as demonstrated by travel-to-work flows and journey times) demonstrate strong linkages within the Region.
- Administrative boundaries that cover the Region demonstrate the complexity of geography but also the commonalities. The NHS has several Integrated Care Partnerships and Boards within the Region demonstrating historical but also demographic commonalities. Other Government Agencies work across a

⁷ Further evidence was collated in the SCR LEP Review Geography Proposal (September 2018) which is available on request from SYMCA

broader geography (e.g. Homes England covers the North East, Yorkshire and The Humber as well the East Midlands).

- The Region’s cultural geography and green and blue infrastructure has never been assessed in its totality but there are clear linkages. These include the Peak District National Park, the West and South Yorkshire Green Belt and the canal and river networks as well as several historic and cultural assets, and some significant areas with high biodiversity value.

3.6 However, relationships between areas don’t stop at the Region’s boundary and we are committed to working with all neighbouring areas. For example, the area is closely related to the West Yorkshire region (particularly Barnsley) and also overlaps with the D2N2 LEP⁸ (in Bassetlaw, Bolsover, Chesterfield, NE Derbyshire and Derbyshire Dales). These relationships have fostered close partnership working, producing some innovative projects on shared priorities as well as wider collaboration with other areas through the initiatives like Northern Powerhouse⁹.

⁸ Following the Government’s review of Local Enterprise Partnerships and the removal of overlapping geographies, a joint statement was prepared outlining the intended collaboration between the Sheffield City Region (as it was known at the time) and D2N2 LEPs across the shared Functional Economic Area. The purpose of the collaboration was to develop shared approaches where there is a clear rationale to do so, and where the impact of doing the activity will exceed the economic benefits of separate endeavours. A number of areas of activity were specified where there would be ‘Strategic Collaboration’. This included Spatial Planning, although there were no specific actions defined.

⁹ For example, through the Department for International Trade’s Northern Powerhouse trade missions

4. Key Strategic Matters

- 4.1 The local authorities of Bassetlaw; Barnsley; Bolsover; Chesterfield; Derbyshire Dales; Doncaster; North East Derbyshire; Rotherham and Sheffield together with the upper tier authorities of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire County Councils, the Peak District National Park Authority and SYMCA work together at a regional scale on planning matters of shared strategic significance.
- 4.2 Together, we have agreed that this Statement of Common Ground should focus primarily on the following strategic matters:
1. Energy and Climate Change.
 2. Housing.
 3. Employment.
 4. Transport.
 5. Natural Environment.
 6. Waste; and
 7. Digital Connectivity.
- 4.3 Spatial planning has a vital role to play in enabling and encouraging the transition to a competitive and resilient low-carbon society that also supports the environment and human health and wellbeing¹⁰. This Statement acknowledges, as an overarching imperative, the role of the planning system in responding to the challenges of the climate change crisis and the need to reduce carbon emissions in order to meet national, regional and local net zero carbon targets. It recognises that tackling the climate emergency, supporting sustainable development and transport solutions and delivering environmental improvements and a net gain in biodiversity are cross-cutting and cross-boundary in nature.
- 4.4 In addition, current working arrangements on several other strategic matters are summarised in this Statement in order to illustrate the range of shared interests being progressed. These are developing and will continue to be reviewed in future updates of this Statement. They include:
- Green Belt.
 - Minerals Planning.
 - Peak District National Park; and
 - Health.

¹⁰ The Climate Crisis: A Guide for Local Authorities on Planning for Climate Change. TCPA & RTPI. January 2023.

4.1 Planning for Energy and Climate Change

- 4.1.1 In June 2019, The Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 was signed into force by the UK Government committing by law to achieve 100% (net zero carbon) reduction in emissions by 2050.
- 4.1.2 Climate change is a cross cutting topic and strategic planning has a key role to play in achieving sustainable development and tackling and adapting to climate change. A number of the topics covered in this Statement are instrumental in reducing and mitigating the effects of climate change, in particular biodiversity and natural environment and transport. This includes influencing where new housing, employment and other development is located which in turn affects the need to travel and access to more sustainable travel modes. As such, as well as the agreements set out below, there will be agreed actions in other chapters in this document which will contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- 4.1.3 SYMCA and 8 out of the 12 authorities which signed up to the existing Joint Statement of Common Ground have declared a climate emergency and established targets for reducing carbon emissions. The Peak District National Park also has a high priority towards carbon reduction in its National Park Management Plan.

Authority	Date Climate Emergency Declared	Target date Council activities where applicable	Target date Whole area
SYMCA	November 2019		2040
Barnsley	September 2019	2040	2045
Chesterfield	July 2019	2030	2050
Derbyshire Dales	May 2019	2030	2050
Doncaster	September 2019	None	2040
North East Derbyshire	July 2019	2030	
Rotherham	October 2019	2030	2040
Sheffield	February 2019	2030	2030
Nottinghamshire	May 2021	2030	

Energy

- 4.1.4 As above, SYMCA and the four South Yorkshire local authorities have all declared climate emergencies and put in place targets for reducing carbon emissions.
- 4.1.5 SYMCA's Energy Strategy¹¹ outlines how the region could achieve its ambition to be at net-zero carbon emissions by 2040, ten years before the goal set by

¹¹ <https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/getmedia/423b1606-ad2b-4261-93b0-f712b7fef6e8/SCR-Energy-Strategy.pdf>

Government. The target was set following the declaration of a Climate Emergency in South Yorkshire in November 2019¹².

- 4.1.6 The zero carbon and energy strategies of the four South Yorkshire authorities are summarised at Table 10 in the Annex.

Whole Life Carbon

- 4.1.7 Whole life carbon emissions relate to the carbon emissions associated with a building over its entire lifetime arising from materials, its construction and its use. Traditionally it has mainly been operational emissions that have been assessed. In order to be able to monitor and assess whether we are meeting our net zero targets, we will work towards securing the assessment of whole life carbon emissions for major developments.

Future Homes Standard

- 4.1.8 The Government has brought in the Future Homes Standard, which from 2025 will require CO₂ emissions produced by new homes to be 75-80% lower than homes that are built to the 2023 Building Regulations standards. Homes will need to be zero carbon ready with no retrofit work required to benefit from the decarbonisation of the electricity grid and the electrification of heating. The intention is to future proof new homes for low carbon heating systems and meet higher standards of energy efficiency.
- 4.1.9 The Government has also set higher performance targets for non-domestic buildings (Future Building Standard), which will have to be 'zero carbon ready' by 2025. This involves uplifting minimum energy efficiency standards, uplifting minimum standards for new and replacement thermal elements (i.e. walls, floors, roofs) and controlled fittings (e.g. windows, roof-lights and doors).
- 4.1.10 The existing Building Regulations and future revisions are a crucial element in achieving zero carbon development. Local authorities will ensure new development meets these standards as a minimum and encourage higher standards where possible.

Flood Risk in South Yorkshire

- 4.1.11 Since the devastating flooding in November 2019 across South Yorkshire, SYMCA and the four local authorities have worked with partner organisations to respond to the flood risk and climate emergency in South Yorkshire on a catchment scale.
- 4.1.12 The Connected by Water Action Plan¹³ is a vital part of this response, setting out the actions SYMCA, South Yorkshire local authorities and our partners are developing and delivering now and in the coming years. It strengthens our capacity to plan and act together to ensure we are building a climate resilient future for the communities of South Yorkshire.

¹² SCR Mayoral Combined Authority Board meeting, 18 November 2019. Minute item 15.

<https://governance.southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=137&Mid=173&Ver=4>

¹³ <https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/Connected-by-water>

Based on the above, the current position is that we:

- Work towards contributing to the national target of being net zero by 2050 alongside local targets and targets in SYMCA and local climate emergency declarations.
- Collaborate where appropriate to accelerate progress towards a carbon neutral Region, reflecting in local plans or supplementary planning documents such as the SYMCA energy strategy and renewal plan, where appropriate.
- Liaise with neighbouring authorities regarding cross boundary impacts of specific sites, to identify and agree appropriate mitigation measures where required.
- Local planning authorities will seek to encourage higher standards than the Building Regulations in force at the time of the development, where practicable and economically viable to do so.
- Local planning authorities will work towards seeking whole life carbon assessments (covering both operational and embodied carbon) where appropriate.
- Local Planning Authorities in South Yorkshire have agreed to work together on a catchment wide basis to reflect the natural geography of the region and seek consistency in respect of permitted run off rates for greenfield and brownfield developments.
- Partners in South Yorkshire will work together to develop and deliver flood risk benefits through the planning system on a catchment scale, consistent with the Connected by Water Action Plan.
- Local Planning Authorities in South Yorkshire have agreed to work together to develop and support the implementation of the Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan.

4.2 Planning for Housing

The Collective Housing Needs of the Region

- 4.2.1 All Local Planning Authorities in the Region are planning to ensure that their own housing needs are met within their Local Authority boundaries, where this is consistent with national planning policy. Based on adopted annual Local Plan targets, emerging Local Plan targets and local housing need figures, there is no significant shortfall in housing supply and no re-distribution of unmet need required in the Region. The overall level of housing growth being planned for is enabling economic growth targets in existing and emerging Local Plans to be delivered, supporting the aspirations of the SYMCA Strategic Economic Plan.
- 4.2.2 Using the Government's standard methodology, the assessment of Local Housing Need (LHN) across the Region would be 6,200 (net) new homes per annum¹⁴, which informs developing Local Plans or plans being reviewed. Housing requirement targets in adopted and emerging Local Plans currently total 6,466 new homes per year. This means the Region are currently planning for around 266 homes per year more than the standard housing need figure.
- 4.2.3 Rotherham's Core Strategy is subject to a partial update, which is programmed for consultation in late 2023 (Reg 18). If LHN is used to inform Rotherham's target the figure will be 566 homes per year. In addition, the draft Sheffield Local Plan (Reg 19 stage) sets a housing target of 2,040 homes per year, which is 978 below the LHN figure for Sheffield of 3,018. This reflects the additional 35% urban uplift as applied to Sheffield's Local Housing Need figure by Government, which has a significant impact on the regional figure. This uplift is catering for household growth arising from people moving to Sheffield from elsewhere in the UK or from abroad (i.e., it is not locally generated). Taken together, these changes mean that the Region would be planning for around 6,072 homes per year, which is 128 homes less than the standard housing need figure. This represents a change since the previous Statement of Common Ground, being slightly below the Government's LHN requirements¹⁵.
- 4.2.4 Table 1 in the Annex provides a local authority breakdown of local housing need figures and Local Plan housing requirement targets.

Housing Delivery

- 4.2.5 All Local Planning Authorities are currently working to maximise the delivery of new homes in their area and across the Region.
- 4.2.6 The number of new homes completed in the Region has risen steadily over recent years, rising from 5,350 in 2015/16 to a high of 8,212 in 2019/20, albeit with a dip during 2020/21 as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, completion of

¹⁴ Correct as at 1. April 2022. Based on increase household projections for 2022-2023 and affordability ratio for 2021. Full guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-development-needs-assessments>

¹⁵ The previous 2019-based calculations identified that Local Plans were planning for 6,311 – 6,659 homes per year, equating to 922 – 1,270 homes per year above a combined regional Local Housing Need of 5,389 homes per year.

7,143 new homes in 2021/22 shows how the Region has recovered to reach the second highest level of completions since 2015/16. Table 2 in the Annex provides a local authority breakdown of net housing completions, which represents the total of all new homes added to the housing stock in the Region, including conversions and change of use. For accuracy and consistency, this is based on figures provided annually by local authorities to Government through the Housing Flows Reconciliation returns¹⁶, which are used to calculate performance against the Housing Delivery Test (HDT) - a key feature of the Government's push to increase housing delivery.

- 4.2.7 Overall, annual housing delivery in the Region is now broadly in line with Local Plan targets and local planning authorities will continue to monitor the rate of new housing completions within the Region.
- 4.2.8 Monitoring of completions by house type and size is not available consistently across all the Region's authorities and is therefore not included in this Statement of Common Ground. Similarly, other housing issues such as tenure and provision for specific groups like Gypsies and Travellers, students or armed forces personnel are better addressed at the Local Planning Authority level and so are not covered within this Statement.

Housing Land Supply

- 4.2.9 All Local Planning Authorities in the Region are currently working to ensure that a housing land supply of at least five years is available within each local authority area, which in turn will result in a 5-year supply across the Region as a whole. The most recent monitoring suggests that there is in excess of a 5-year deliverable housing land supply across the Region, rising to a supply in excess of 8 years if compared to the combined Local Housing Need figure.
- 4.2.10 Table 3 in the Annex provides details of the full local authority published 5-year housing land supply position and publication dates of data. Due to the variation in publication dates, some positions will have since changed. We will continue to monitor land supply in relation to Local Plan requirements.
- 4.2.11 We will work collaboratively to anticipate and respond to long term requirements and opportunities, including exploring sustainable housing growth opportunities arising from proposed major improvements to strategic transport infrastructure.

Housing Market Areas

- 4.2.12 Figure 2 below shows the extent of different Housing Market Areas defined across the Region and used to understand housing needs and demands at a local level. It illustrates the complexity of our housing market geography as well as the close relationships between areas, particularly in the south of the region. It is recognised that Housing Market Areas can operate differently for different groups, and that there is some overlap. These more complex relationships will be addressed through

¹⁶ See fuller explanation at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dwelling-stock-data-notes-and-definitions-includes-hfr-full-guidance-notes-and-returns-form>

local assessments and discussions between neighbouring districts wherever necessary.

- 4.2.13 In some cases, where Local Plans are adopted with housing requirements above the Local Housing Need assessment figure, this may contribute towards wider regional growth ambitions. This would require separate agreements between individual authorities (there are no such agreements in place at present within the Region) and would only apply in situations where new homes and areas of jobs growth do not result in unsustainable commuting patterns and where the new homes are not required to balance the jobs growth in an individual local authority area.

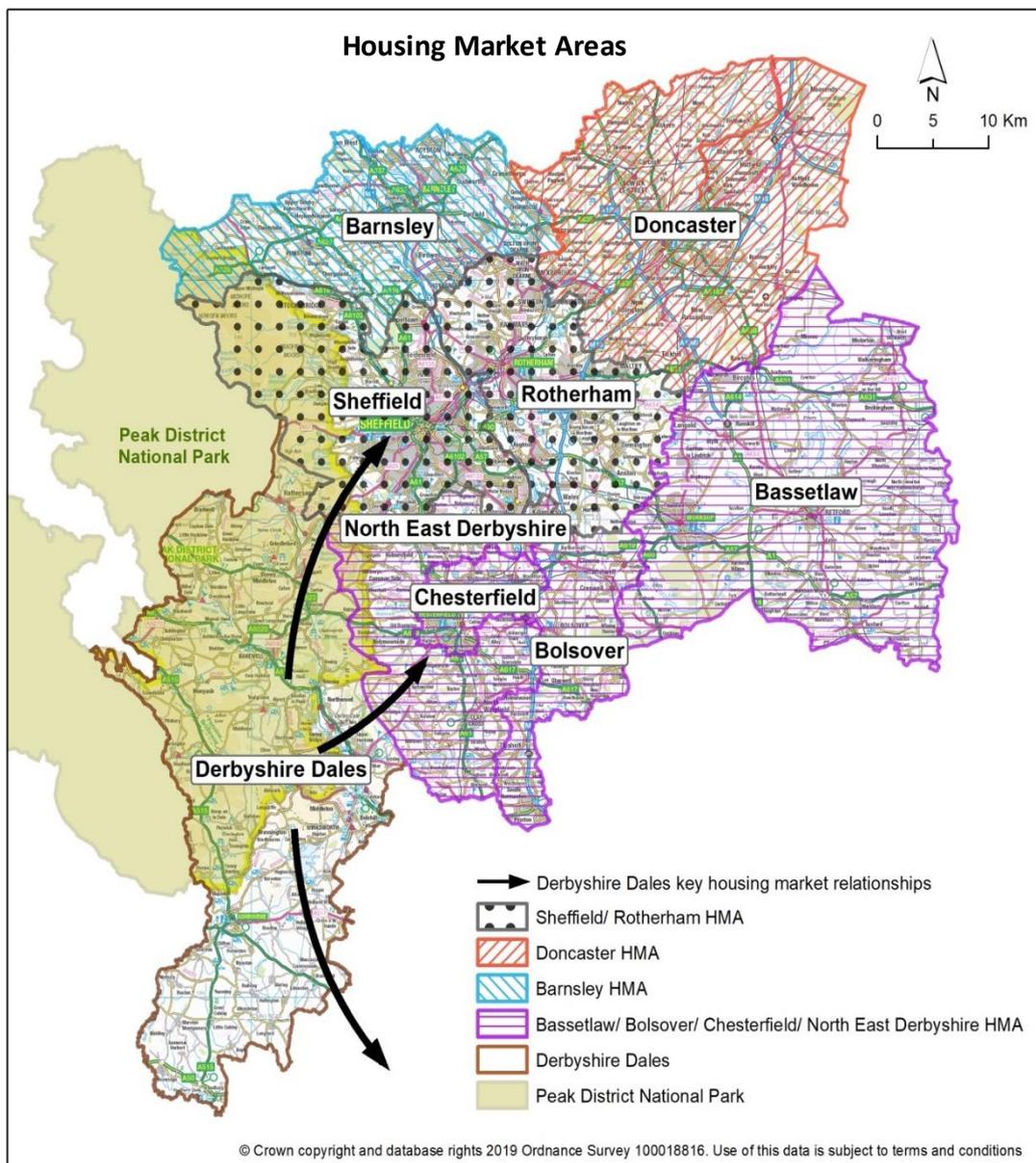


Figure 2: Housing Market Areas

Based on the above, the current position is that:

- Each Local Planning Authority plans for their own housing need within their own Local Authority boundaries, taking account of national planning policy, housing market geographies, individual local authority economic growth targets and agreements between individual authorities as necessary.
- Through Local Plans, we ensure that the quantum of housing required to deliver growth ambitions across the Region is being met.
- Through Local Plans, agree Housing Market Areas in the Region and understand the relationships between these.
- We will use the plan making system to maximise delivery of sustainable housing development.
- Monitor housing delivery on an annual basis, as a minimum, to ensure that housing growth continues to meet identified local need and support growth ambitions across the Region.

4.3 Planning for Employment

Employment Targets

- 4.3.1 The SCR Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) agreed in 2014, sought to create 70,000 new jobs and 6,000 new businesses across the former City Region (between 2015 and 2025). This informed preparation of Local Plans across the region.
- 4.3.2 Following the refocusing of the Mayoral Combined Authority on South Yorkshire the latest SEP, agreed in 2021, provides a strategy to 2041. This aims to deliver 33,000 extra people in higher level jobs across South Yorkshire, although it moves away from specific job targets for individual districts. Its vision is to grow an economy that works for everyone; developing inclusive and sustainable approaches that build on our innovation strengths and embrace the UK's 4th Industrial Revolution to contribute more to UK prosperity and enhance quality of life for all.
- 4.3.3 The strategy for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire to 2030 is set out in 'Vision 30', the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership's SEP. This seeks to deliver a high-value economy, prosperous, healthy and inclusive, and one of the most productive in Europe. The D2N2 Recovery and Growth Strategy 2021 seeks to support low carbon growth; promote productivity, particularly around employment and skills; business growth and innovation; and endorse connectivity and inclusion, including integrated infrastructure and place shaping.
- 4.3.4 Local Plans in the Region are at different stages of preparation and cover differing plan periods. They are being, or have been, prepared drawing on relevant and robust evidence to accommodate jobs growth. Table 4 in the Annex sets out the headline jobs figures being planned for in the adopted or emerging Local Plans.

Employment Land Supply and Major Growth Areas

- 4.3.5 Each place within the region plays an important role in the economy and contributes to our economic ambitions. The roles of different places and their contribution to the regional economy are defined in each Local Plan. Key points from these plans are summarised in Table 7 in the Annex to this Statement.
- 4.3.6 Working across these places and the different roles they fulfil, key locations have been identified where growth will be supported through investment and infrastructure measures.
- 4.3.7 In South Yorkshire the SEP identifies eight Major Growth Areas which are:
- Sheffield and Doncaster City Centres and the town centres of Barnsley and Rotherham
 - Gateway East¹⁷

¹⁷ The owners of Doncaster Sheffield Airport began winding down aviation services in October 2022 arguing that its operation was commercially unviable. The City of Doncaster Council and SYMCA continue to explore all appropriate legal remedies in order to secure aviation operations at Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

- Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District (AMID)
- Doncaster Unity
- Goldthorpe in the Dearne Valley

4.3.8 In Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, the Local Industrial Strategy supports the growth of cities, towns and economic corridors to improve quality of place and economic prosperity in the wider region. Key locations are:

- Chesterfield and Worksop town centres
- Markham Vale
- A61 Corridor



Figure 3: Indicative location of Key Urban Centres and Major Growth Areas

4.3.9 Local Plans will help to drive employment in these urban centres and growth locations, ensuring that an appropriate supply of employment land is available for economic growth and that the infrastructure needed to deliver this is recognised and capable of being funded.

4.3.10 Table 6 in the Annex summarises the employment land requirements from each of the Local Plans in the region.

4.3.11 A high-level appraisal of strategic employment sites across the former Sheffield City Region was undertaken in 2020, with a particular focus on strategic sites of 5 ha or more. It provides a coherent, joined up understanding of current employment land across all nine districts which will inform the decisions of individual planning authorities.

Functional Economic Market Areas and Travel to Work Areas

- 4.3.12 The geography of commercial and industrial property markets needs to be understood in terms of the requirements of the market, location of premises, and the spatial factors used in analysing demand and supply – often referred to as the Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA).
- 4.3.13 However, patterns of economic activity vary from place to place and there is no standard approach to defining a FEMA. Instead, the extent of a FEMA needs to be defined on the basis of a number of factors such as travel to work pattern; flows of goods, services and information; service markets for consumers; administrative boundaries; catchment areas for cultural facilities; and the transport network.
- 4.3.14 Based on this approach, Local Planning Authorities across the region define a FEMA for their own local plans, which are summarised at Table 8 in the Annex. Each Local Planning Authority is individually responsible for identifying employment needs and employment land supply in their local plans to meet their District’s economic needs and growth priorities.
- 4.3.15 The definition of the FEMAs is not always straightforward and there can often be overlaps. At the regional scale there are strong links between the different market areas and travel to work patterns. The previously adopted regional Statement of Common Ground recognised that it is reasonable to consider the whole of the former Sheffield City Region as a Strategic FEMA; which would sit above the local FEMAs defined in Local Plans. We continue to adopt this position in this updated Statement.
- 4.3.16 We acknowledge, however, that logistics including large scale warehouse and distribution (logistics) uses over 100,000sq ft have a larger than local property market area¹⁸ which may not align with the boundary of the Region and the strategic FEMA. Considering opportunities for large scale logistics would require separate agreements between individual authorities within an evidenced property market area.
- 4.3.17 Considering the Region as a strategic FEMA within the boundary of the Region will ensure that together we can offer the optimum supply of land to address large scale strategic or inward investment growth requirements that would otherwise be above and beyond the indigenous needs of any one district. This approach will provide further assistance to work already undertaken to plan infrastructure and help support closer integration between policy areas such as planning and transport. It would not prejudice the work done by any individual district in developing their Local Plans.
- 4.3.18 Pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic data indicates that in total, 88% of the working people who live in the Region also work within the Region; looking at this pattern from the other perspective, nearly 9 in 10 people whose job is in the

¹⁸ It is also recognised that logistics uses may have larger market areas which extend beyond the boundaries of the Region as defined for the purposes of this Statement, and which individual authorities will need to take into account.

Region also live here¹⁹. In short, the great majority of residents work locally or commute between districts within the Region for work. These internal commuting flows are set out in Figure 4.

4.3.19 At the same time, there are also important links between the region and employment opportunities in Leeds, Wakefield, Derby and the Amber Valley-Ashfield-Mansfield corridor. The extent of these external commuting flows is illustrated in Figure 5.

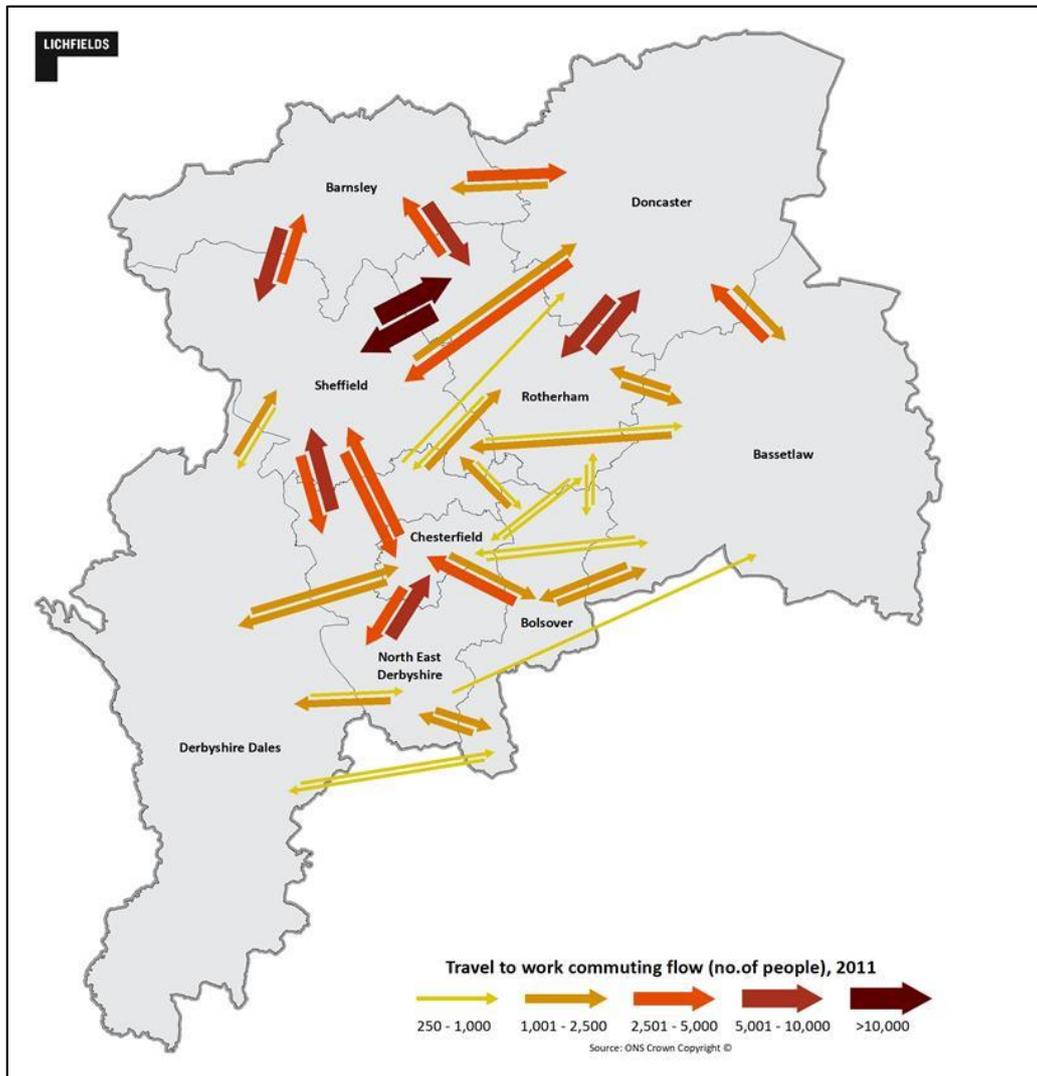


Figure 4: Travel to work commuting flows²⁰

¹⁹ Based on 2011 TTWA data (published by ONS in 2015), analysed by Lichfields (2019)

²⁰ Based on 2011 TTWA data (published by ONS in 2015), analysed by Lichfields (2019)

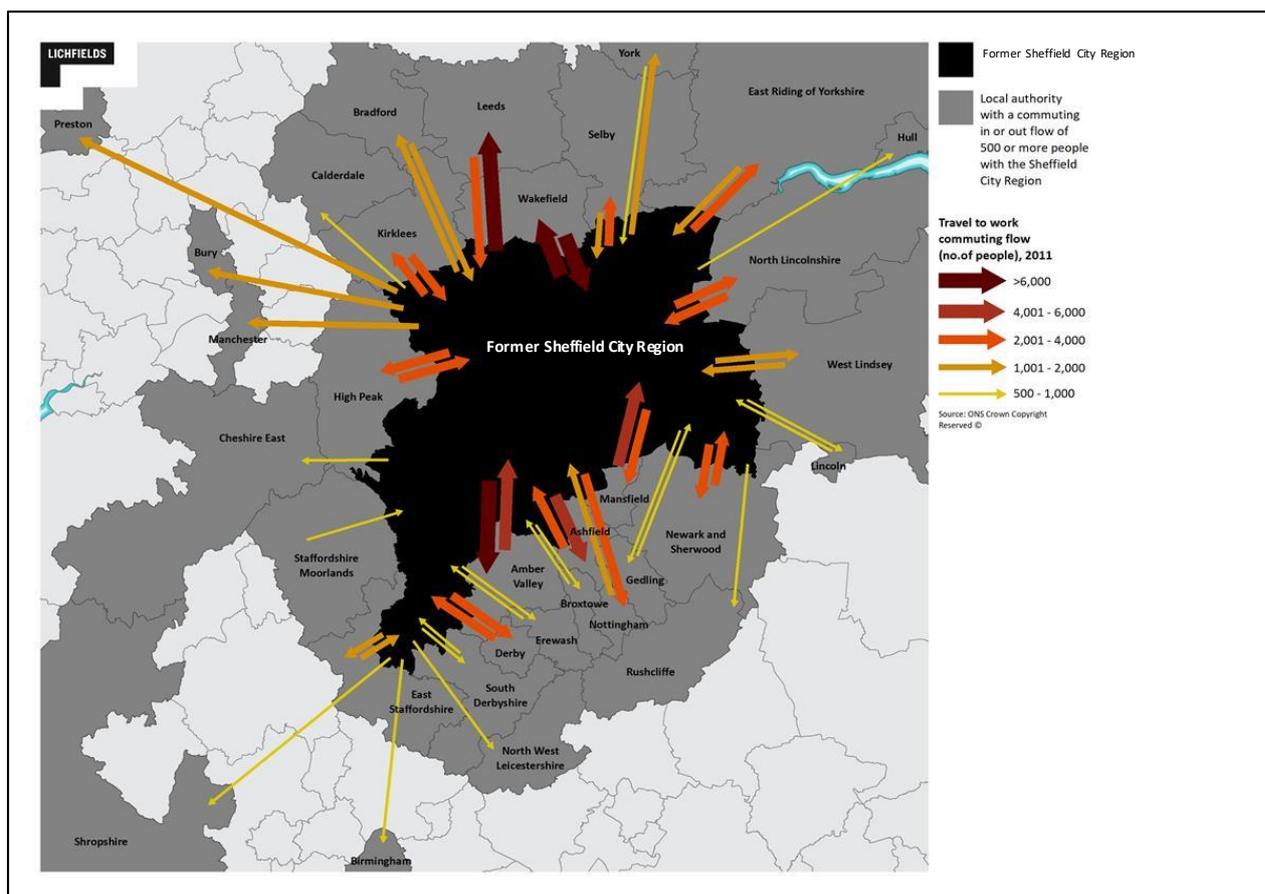


Figure 5: Travel to work commuting flows between the former Sheffield City Region and neighbouring areas

4.3.20 The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic led to major changes in commuter travel patterns. Travel to workplaces declined sharply due to a shift to working from home, being furloughed or in some cases because of job losses. Research suggests that latent demand for permanent flexible working arrangements, including working from home and hybrid office-home working, have been unlocked by the pandemic²¹. Understanding the long-term impacts of changing working and commuting patterns on local and regional economies will be important; particularly in respect of office floorspace supply and demand, impacts on city and town centres and other major growth areas.

Based on the above, the current position is that:

- Local planning authorities will plan for their own employment land needs within their own Local Authority boundaries, taking account of alignment with housing growth proposals, Functional Economic Market Areas and agreements between individual authorities as necessary.

²¹ <https://post.parliament.uk/the-impact-of-remote-and-flexible-working-arrangements/>

- Employment growth in the Key Urban Centres and Major Growth Areas will be supported.
- The delivery of employment land will be monitored, and Local Planning Authorities will ensure an appropriate supply of land in line with growth ambitions.
- The loss of employment land to other uses, in particular residential use, will be monitored.
- We will share local evidence as appropriate and strengthen our collective evidence base, particularly in respect of changing working and commuting patterns.
- We will continue to work collaboratively to achieve the economic ambitions of the SYMCA and D2N2 SEPs and other growth strategies within the Region, developing our evidence and understanding the operation of a strategic FEMA at the regional scale.
- Local Planning Authorities will seek to maintain an adequate supply of land for logistics uses across the Region as a whole (recognising the larger than local property market area)

4.4 Planning for Transport

Transport Strategy

- 4.4.1 The SCR Transport Strategy²² sets goals and policies for South Yorkshire but recognises the importance of the wider regional economic geography. It was adopted by SYMCA in January 2019 as a basis for supporting the economic aspirations of the Region. Importantly, the Strategy also looks beyond the immediate boundaries of the region to include interventions that benefit the wider Northern Powerhouse and Midlands Connect sub-national areas, as well as the rest of the UK.
- 4.4.2 Further detail is set out in the following plans, supporting the Transport Strategy:
- SYMCA Bus Service Improvement Plan²³ (2021)
 - SCR Integrated Rail Plan (2019)
 - SCR Active Travel Implementation Plan (2020)
- 4.4.3 Taken together, the Strategy is intended to ensure all parts of the Region are well-connected, with journey times that connect every neighbourhood to a regional hub in 15 minutes; a regional hub to another regional hub in 30 minutes; and all regional hubs to a major centre in 75 minutes²⁴.
- 4.4.4 As separate Local Transport Authorities, both Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire have their own Local Transport Plans, covering parts of the region outside of South Yorkshire. These both emphasise the importance of cross boundary working, and have objectives aligned with the SCR Transport Strategy as set out in the table below.

SCR Transport Strategy goals	Derbyshire LTP3 objectives	Nottinghamshire LTP goals
<i>Residents and businesses connected to economic opportunity</i>	<i>Supporting a resilient local economy. Promoting equality of opportunity.</i>	<i>Improve access to key services, particularly enabling employment and training opportunities</i>
<i>A cleaner and greener Sheffield City Region</i>	<i>Tackling climate change. Improving quality of life and promoting a healthy natural environment.</i>	<i>Minimise the impacts of transport on people's lives, maximise opportunities to improve the environment and help tackle carbon emissions</i>

²² See full strategy on the SYMCA website at <https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/explore/transport>

²³ On-line at https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/SheffieldCityRegion/media/PDF-library/Transport%20pdfs/37770_Bus-Service-Improvement-Plan_FINAL.pdf

²⁴ The Transport Strategy defines a neighbourhood as the closest built up area to your home; it defines 11 regional hubs in SCR which are economic centres that people need to access quickly and easily for work, health services, education, shopping and leisure.

SCR Transport Strategy goals	Derbyshire LTP3 objectives	Nottinghamshire LTP goals
<i>Safe, reliable and accessible transport network</i>	<i>Contributing to better safety, security, and health</i>	<i>Provide a reliable, resilient transport system which supports a thriving economy and growth whilst encouraging sustainable and healthy travel</i>

4.4.5 Since the development of the SCR Transport Strategy and its supporting plans, a number of significant changes in national and regional transport policy have taken place, including:

- New national strategies in respect of active travel²⁵ and buses²⁶;
- The national Transport Decarbonisation Plan²⁷ and Net Zero Strategy²⁸;
- The updated regional Strategic Economic Plan²⁹ and Renewal Action Plan³⁰;
- The Integrated Rail Plan for the North³¹, and the South Yorkshire Post-IRP Positioning Plan;
- The recently agreed East Midlands Devolution Deal; and
- A new national Park management Plan seeking low carbon sustainable visits to the National Park.

4.4.6 The changes will be reflected in in the preparation of the new South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, to be in place for Spring 2024. A new Local Transport Plan will also be prepared for the new East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority. These changes are also likely to require the renewal of the implementation plans set out at paragraph 4.3.2 above.

4.4.7 We will work closely together on all relevant aspects of the SCR Transport Strategy, transport strategies in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and with Local Plans where relevant and planning decisions particularly helping to deliver priorities around economic growth, housing, health, air quality and decarbonisation:

- Growth: improved transport network connectivity and greater capacity are vital in enabling economic growth, both in the region and across the wider North of England.
- Housing: transport contributes to meeting our housing targets by helping to unlock new development sites and provide more sustainable modes of travel for residents.

²⁵ Gear Change, Department for Transport (2020)

²⁶ Bus Back Better Department for Transport (2021)

²⁷ Transport decarbonisation plan (DfT, 2021)

²⁸ Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener DfT, 2021

²⁹ [SCR SEP Full Draft Jan 21-\(accessible\).pdf \(southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk\)](#)

³⁰ <https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/getmedia/bf2c27b2-a5c7-4ac5-ac64-b4f8798df095/Sheffield-City-Region-Renewal-Action-Plan-Document-Final.pdf>

³¹ Integrated Rail Plan for the North and Midlands, DfT, 2021

- Decarbonisation: transport accounts for 38% of territorial emissions in the region, and prompt, well targeted action will be required to reduce carbon emissions as fast as possible in the lead-up to achieving Net Zero at 2040 – in particular for the most significant contributors in respect of medium- and long distance car travel and freight (see paragraph 4.3.12).
- Health and Air Quality: provision for more active travel like walking and cycling as well as public transport alongside development enables more sustainable choices to be made, benefitting health and air quality

National and pan-northern interventions

4.4.8 The SCR Transport Strategy, and subsequent documents, define a number of transport interventions that will have a national and pan-northern impact as they are progressed by SYMCA and partners such as Transport for the North, neighbouring authorities, the National Highways, Network Rail, public transport operators, businesses and Government.

4.4.9 Local Plans in the SCR Transport Strategy area will seek to support the following:

- Maintenance and improvement of bus services in the region, including working with LTAs in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire in respect of services running across Local Transport Authority boundaries.
- Major rail improvements: including faster and more frequent services to Leeds and Manchester.
- Local rail improvements, such as new stations at Rotherham Mainline, and accessibility improvements at local railway stations.
- Securing the long-term future of the tram / tram-train network: including the enhancement of services and supporting infrastructure and improving connectivity to and the accessibility of tram stops.
- Integrated and smart travel programme: with multi-modal, integrated ticketing and real time information.
- Strategic Road Network improvements: which will increase connectivity between the region and neighbouring regions as well as movements within the region itself.

4.4.10 Information in Table 9 of the Annex lists these national and pan-northern interventions. Together they will improve the region's links other Northern towns and cities as well as with the East Midlands region. It will, therefore, be particularly important to work closely with bodies such as Transport for the North, Midlands Connect, Network Rail and National Highways so that people can commute between city regions more quickly and easily, ensuring the right people have access to the right jobs in as sustainable a manner as possible.

Local Interventions

- 4.4.11 Each part of the Region has its own transport priorities and several local transport authorities have (or are developing) their own Local Transport Strategies, aligned to regional strategies, which are also used to inform Local Plans. At the Regional scale, the SCR Transport Strategy identifies 11 key regional economic centres that need reinforcing with transport infrastructure and 20 priority transport corridors.
- 4.4.12 We will work together and with SYMCA and other partners to seek to deliver improvements to transport corridors and enhance the strategic transport network with a combination of walking, cycling, bus, tram, bus rapid transit, heavy rail and tram-train.

Transport and climate change

- 4.4.13 Transport, and in particular road transport, is a major driver of carbon emissions – accounting for 39% of territorial emissions in the Region in 2019. Road transport was responsible for 97% of these emissions. Initial baselining work reveals, within the Region:
- 50% of transport emissions come from cars, 23% from heavy goods vehicles, and 16% from vans;
 - 78% of car emissions result from trips exceeding 10 km (6 miles) length, despite only accounting for 45% of trips;
 - 55% of car emissions, and 65% of road transport emissions, result from trips to or from destinations outside of the region. 26% of car emissions, and 32% of road transport emissions, have no origin or destination in the region at all i.e. are simply passing through. (There will be a similar effect for other regions, where trips to or from our region pass through others without stopping).
 - Only 22% of car emissions, and only 16% of road transport emissions, relate to trips where both origin and destination lie within the same district.
 - Around 90% of trips to the National Park take place by private vehicle.
- 4.4.14 The above baseline position highlights the importance of working with regional and national partners to tackle the medium- and long-distance trips that are disproportionately responsible for carbon emissions – likely through a combination of travel demand reduction, destination shift, mode shift and shift to zero emission vehicles.

Strategic Testing Tools

- 4.4.15 Since 2017, authorities across the Region have been assessing transport proposals using a region-wide computerised model of transport networks and demand (SCRTM1). This model is due to be updated in the coming years, to reflect changed travel patterns following the Coronavirus pandemic; this process will also see a review of how the model is used to ensure scheme appraisal reflects latest policy.
- 4.4.16 We will use these Region wide models alongside local transport models, including in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, to ensure a complementary hierarchy of

modelling is applied. Working at different scales, from strategic interventions of major schemes to micro-simulation of individual sites or junctions, this will ensure the impacts and value for money of projects are understood in a clear, consistent way.

Based on the above, the current position is that we:

- Acknowledge carbon emissions are predominantly driven by medium- and long distance transport, both passenger and freight, and so development and transport impacts may not be fully accounted for in an individual area's territorial emissions – and agree to ensure cross-boundary impacts of development and transport interventions are fully considered and mitigated for.
- Support the development and adoption of new Local Transport Plans for South Yorkshire and the East Midlands by Spring of 2024.
- In South Yorkshire, the development and adoption of new implementation plans to reflect the new Local Transport Plan, covering bus, rail, tram, walking, cycling and private traffic (including freight and shift to zero emission vehicles) in an holistic and co-ordinated manner.
- Support, in the interim, the implementation of policies in the SCR Transport Strategy, but being flexible to adapt to shifts in national, regional policy since that strategy was drafted.
- Help to bring forward the national and pan-northern interventions agreed through the SCR Transport Strategy where remaining relevant or consistent with policy (with the exception that the Peak District National Park have long-standing objections to improvements along the A628 corridor and do not support the Mottram Moor link road and Hollingworth to Tintwistle bypass).
- Work together to improve connectivity, particularly within and around the 20 regional transport corridors defined in the Transport Strategy.
- Support the safeguarding and delivery of critical transport routes (both existing and new) and collaborate across boundaries to make the best use of inter-regional rail, tram, road and water transport networks.
- Secure financial contributions (for example, through S106 obligations, Community Infrastructure Levy, or Land Value Capture) wherever appropriate to help leverage funding for relevant transport interventions, particularly for public transport and active travel measures.
- Apply a complementary hierarchy of transport models to understand and assess the impact of local plans, projects and proposals on the transport network at appropriate scales.

4.5 Planning for the Natural Environment

4.5.1 All authorities within the Region recognise the importance of conserving and enhancing the natural environment and are taking a range of actions as a result, both within and outside of the sphere of influence of the planning system. In addition, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Councils have declared nature or biodiversity emergencies which are complementary to climate emergency declarations, and which point towards the development of further actions and activities.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies

4.5.2 The Environment Act 2021 sets out the requirement for the preparation of Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS). A LNRS is a tool that is designed to drive more coordinated action to help nature and establish a Nature Recovery Network. As identified in the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, the Nature Recovery Network will be a national network of wildlife rich places. The aim is to expand, improve and connect wildlife rich areas across our towns, cities and countryside, to help deal with the challenges of biodiversity loss, climate change and wellbeing. The LNRS will map the most valuable existing habitats for nature, map specific proposals for creating or improving habitats for nature and environmental goals as well as agreeing priorities for nature's recovery.

4.5.3 Within the Region:

- SYMCA has provisionally³² been appointed to be the Responsible Authority for the development of South Yorkshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- Nottinghamshire County Council has provisionally been appointed to be the Responsible Authority for the development of Nottinghamshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- Derbyshire County Council has provisionally been appointed to be the Responsible Authority for the development of Derbyshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- The Peak District National Park is also producing a single plan for Nature Recovery to cover the whole of its statutory geography which overlaps these areas.

4.5.4 The Responsible Authorities, supported by partners, including local authorities and Local Nature Partnerships will develop the LNRS, including setting targets for nature recovery in the region. The delivery of the LNRS will then be monitored and reported as a requirement of the Environment Act.

Natural Capital

4.5.5 Natural capital can be defined as the world's stocks of natural assets which include geology, soil, air, water and all living things. It has been shown that the loss of

³² Subject to the cost of the responsibility being met by Government funds

biodiversity and the degradation of natural capital has consequences for the long-term welfare of people and the sustainability of economic systems³³. It is therefore vital that an understanding of natural capital plays a role in shaping planning policy and decision making.

- 4.5.6 A natural capital assessment for the whole of South Yorkshire was commissioned by the SYMCA in 2021. The assessment identifies the existing natural capital assets, the baseline habitat level biodiversity, the flow of ecosystem services they provide, the monetary value of the resulting benefits – currently estimated at £550million per year and the opportunities to restore existing habitats and to create new ones to enhance biodiversity and deliver greater multiple benefits.
- 4.5.7 The evidence from the natural capital assessment will be used to help inform the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for South Yorkshire. It can also be used to inform many other cross cutting policy areas within the planning service, including issues such as open space provision, enhancing health and wellbeing, improving air quality, delivering flood alleviation, improving water quality and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Biodiversity Net Gain

- 4.5.8 The Environment Act 2021 also means that from around November 2023 most new developments will be legally required to demonstrate a minimum 10% net gain in biodiversity and achieve those gains for 30 years post development. By November 2023, all Local Planning Authorities will need to be able to assess Biodiversity Net Gain Plans submitted with planning applications and determine if they are legally compliant.
- 4.5.9 Authorities can help prepare for mandatory biodiversity net gain by setting locally-specific planning policy and guidance, such as within Local Plans or Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), that provides additional direction on how development should approach biodiversity net gain. While each of the authorities is at a different stage in preparing for mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain and in plan-making, there are benefits to authorities in coordinating their approaches to Biodiversity Net Gain. Rotherham has consulted on a draft Biodiversity Net Gain SPD and intends to bring this forward in 2023. Doncaster already has a Local Plan Policy requiring a minimum of 10% biodiversity gains from development. It has also recently adopted a Supplementary Planning Document on Biodiversity Net Gain that sets out guidance for developers on the standards of information that need to be provided to support planning applications and includes a biodiversity offsetting compensation payment that can be used in certain circumstances. The calculation of such offsetting contributions may need to be different in other areas, but a consistent approach to data requirements and the % net gain requirements could potentially be developed.

³³ Dasgupta, P. (2021) The economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review. (London: HM Treasury).

4.5.10 Biodiversity Net Gain will be an important mechanism for delivering opportunities identified in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The wording of new planning policy should require offsite BNG delivery to use identified strategies, including the Local Nature Recovery Strategy to determine the 'strategic significance' score that is part of the Biodiversity Metric. This will help to ensure that BNG contributes to wider nature recovery plans and to ensure that the correct habitats will be delivered in the most strategic places.

Based on the above, the current position is that we:

- Will work together to develop and agree Local Nature Recovery Strategies for South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, including those parts of the Peak District National Park, and to drive their delivery.
- Will use the maps, priorities and targets within the agreed Local Nature Recovery Strategies to inform any reviews of Development Plan documents, policies, guidance and site allocations in order to maximise opportunities for nature recovery.
- Continue to share learning on Biodiversity Net Gain across the Region and aim to develop locally-specific planning policy, either within Local Plans, Supplementary Planning Guidance or advice notes that:
 - Sets a consistent net gain % requirement for all of South Yorkshire.
 - Ensures data submitted to assess biodiversity net gain is of a consistently high standard across the region and that the necessary ecological expertise is available to each authority for net gain assessments to be verified.
 - Encourages the use of the LNRS in determining strategic significance in the Biodiversity Metric, in order to incentivise delivery of opportunities identified in the LNRS.
- Use the findings of the South Yorkshire Natural Capital Assessment to help shape new development plans, including planning policies and site allocations.
- Support the necessary collection and management of data on biodiversity net gain and nature recovery delivered through planning, by ensuring Local Records Centres are adequately equipped to be able to monitor and facilitate the reporting of habitat changes, as well as meet the increasing demand for data to support planning services and users.
- Undertake a review of the South Yorkshire Natural Capital Assessment at a future point in time (approx. 5-10 years) to update ecosystem service flow (physical and monetary) modelling, based on an updated habitat baseline.

4.6 Planning for waste

Current Position

- 4.6.1 Waste management is a cross boundary strategic planning matter requiring coordination and cooperation between waste planning authorities. Government guidance stipulates that planning authorities should work jointly and collaboratively to collect and share data and information on waste arisings. This reflects the ‘duty-to- co-operate’ requirement set out in the Localism Act 2011.
- 4.6.2 Waste Planning policies for Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham are currently contained within the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham (BDR) Joint Waste Plan (Adopted 2012). Waste Policies for Sheffield are contained within the Sheffield City Council’s 2009 adopted Core Strategy. Waste policies in both these plans are in need of a review to take account of amendments in national policy and the government’s changing approach to waste, which is diverging away from a linear model to a circular economy model. The waste needs evidence in the BDR Plan is also very out of date, however an updated WNA has been produced for South Yorkshire (see paragraph 4.6.5).
- 4.6.3 Waste planning policies for other districts in the Region are set out in:
- Saved policies contained within the Derby and Derbyshire Waste Local Plan (adopted 2005).
 - The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Core Strategy (Adopted 2013) and saved policies within the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan (adopted 2002).
 - The Peak District National Park Core Strategy (adopted 2011) and Development Management Policies (adopted 2019).
- 4.6.4 Districts in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire are working with their respective County Councils to prepare or update county wide waste plans, ensuring these coordinate with plans in South Yorkshire. Work is progressing to prepare new Waste Local Plans in Derby and Derbyshire (to guide development until 2038) and Nottinghamshire and Nottingham (to guide development until 2038). In the Peak District National Park, a new Local Plan is being prepared which will guide development to 2044.
- South Yorkshire Waste Needs Assessment (June 2022)**
- 4.6.5 Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield agreed to produce a Joint Waste Needs Assessment which was completed in June 2022. It identifies each authority’s waste facilities, and requirements, both separately and as a whole. The Waste Needs Assessment identifies where South Yorkshire’s waste capacity gaps are, which means we now have a starting point to determine what facilities are needed moving forward.

4.6.6 Jointly, the Waste Planning Authorities of South Yorkshire produce just under 3 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of various types of waste as set out in figure 7 below. Forecasts indicate that waste arisings could increase to just over 3.5 Mtpa by 2041.

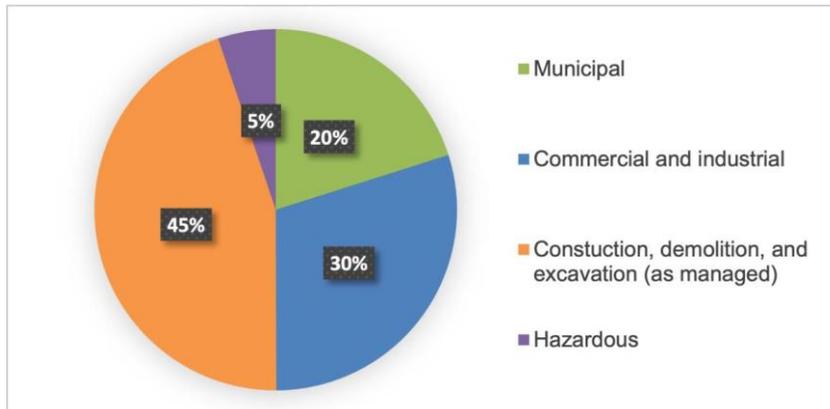


Figure 6: Estimated waste arisings for South Yorkshire

4.6.7 Non-hazardous waste produced in South Yorkshire is currently managed via a range of management methods, achieving a total recovery rate of around 93%. Forecasts indicate that South Yorkshire could achieve a total recovery rate of over 95% by 2030.

4.6.8 A significant amount of residues from treatment processes are also produced from facilities located within South Yorkshire, from treatment of waste arising from both South Yorkshire and from waste imported into South Yorkshire (estimated at just over 0.300 Mt and 0.400 Mt respectively for 2020).

4.6.9 South Yorkshire does not produce low-level radioactive waste from the nuclear industry. A very small amount of low-level radioactive waste is produced from the non-nuclear industry from South Yorkshire³⁴. In addition, agricultural waste and wastewater are also produced.

4.6.10 Of total waste arising attributed to South Yorkshire, around a third was exported to other Waste Planning Authorities. The majority of which was received at facilities for treatment and recovery, disposal (mainly non-hazardous (including stable non-reactive hazardous waste landfill), and processing in preparation for reuse and recycling (including composting and inert recycling).

4.6.11 Waste management facilities within South Yorkshire reported receiving a significant amount of waste imported from other Waste Planning Authorities; around three times that exported from South Yorkshire, meaning that the South Yorkshire Waste Planning Authorities are a net importer of waste. Not all waste can be managed within the boundary of the Waste Planning Authority from within which it arises

³⁴ A survey undertaken by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in 2008, Data Collection on Solid Low Level Radioactive Waste from the Non-nuclear Sector, indicated that South Yorkshire produced 31.33m3 of low activity low level radioactive waste from the nonnuclear industry.

due to contractual arrangements and other factors such as the need for specific treatment processes (e.g. hazardous wastes). There will normally be some movement of waste into and out of Waste Planning Authorities; this is reflected by the position of seeking net self-sufficiency. With a broader movement of Waste Planning Authorities also seeking to increase their waste management capacity in line with net self-sufficiency movements are expected to reduce in the future, although some movements will still occur.

- 4.6.12 Waste arisings forecast up to 2041 and future needs (incorporating relevant targets) are summarised in Table 6 and Figure 8 in the Annex. In addition, some residual waste will be produced as an output from waste treatment processes. This means that there may be a need for additional capacity to push these residual wastes up the waste management hierarchy, but also a need for some disposal to landfill (albeit the least preferred option) where further recovery of such residues is not possible.
- 4.6.13 Overall, South Yorkshire is making good progress towards achieving net self-sufficiency for waste management. Existing facilities provide for more than sufficient capacity with regards to net self-sufficiency for preparation for reuse and recycling, treatment and energy recovery, and soil treatment over the reporting period, and inert recycling up to 2025. When viewed in terms of total arisings and existing capacity South Yorkshire currently provides waste management capacity that exceeds total arisings; the majority of this capacity is associated with facilities for preparation for reuse and recycling, treatment and energy recovery.
- 4.6.14 Capacity gaps have been identified for composting, inert recycling, inert recovery, and non-hazardous (including stable non-reactive hazardous wastes) landfill, as well as hazardous recovery and treatment and hazardous landfill.
- 4.6.15 There is potential, dependant on the scale of the individual facilities and processes employed, for the following facilities to be provided within the South Yorkshire area: composting (or other biological treatment processes), inert recycling, and inert recovery associated with restoration (e.g. colliery or mineral extraction sites). In addition, given the significant amounts of residues arising from treatment processes (from facilities located within South Yorkshire), facilities for further recovery and treatment of residues may support the waste management hierarchy and further diversion of waste from landfill.
- 4.6.16 The appropriateness of South Yorkshire to accommodate extensions to existing non-hazardous landfill or additional capacity for hazardous recovery and treatment would need to be determined on a site-by-site basis and in compliance with adopted development management policies. Some of the future needs for such capacity is likely to continue to be met at facilities outside of the South Yorkshire area. No strategic or Duty to Co-operate matters have been identified in relation to the principle or continuation of such movements. Ongoing monitoring of waste movements and continued working with relevant Waste Planning Authorities regarding strategic waste planning matters will be necessary to ensure that wastes

are managed, and that any necessary capacity planned for, appropriately. Table 7 in the Annex provides a summary of South Yorkshire waste arisings and future needs up to 2041.

Based on the above, the current position is that:

- We will share and monitor cross boundary waste planning information.
- We will seek to achieve the maximum degree of self-sufficiency possible in net waste movements.
- The South Yorkshire authorities will aim to:
 - Plan jointly to meet South Yorkshire’s Waste Needs.
 - Work collaboratively to produce a Joint South Yorkshire Waste Local Plan (JWLP) and prepare a joint/individual Local Development Scheme(s) (LDS) to reflect agreed timescales in individual authority LDS updates.
 - Prepare a JWLP Memorandum of Understanding.
 - Review policies in both the BDR Waste Plan and Sheffield Core Strategy (Waste Chapter).
 - Review current waste plan site allocations and determine need.

4.7 Planning for Digital Connectivity

4.7.1 Fast, reliable digital connectivity can deliver economic, social and well-being benefits for communities. To deliver high quality, reliable digital infrastructure that works across the UK, Government has set a target of a minimum of 85% gigabit capable coverage by 2025 but will seek to accelerate roll-out further to get as close to 100% as possible³⁵.

4.7.2 Local Bodies (groups of Local Authorities) have been working to increase coverage of Superfast Broadband in their areas. The Local Bodies in the region are:

- ‘Superfast South Yorkshire³⁶’ which covers Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield.
- ‘Digital Derbyshire’ which includes Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire, Bolsover, Derbyshire Dales.
- ‘Better Broadband For Nottinghamshire’ which includes Bassetlaw.

Current generation digital connectivity technology

4.7.3 Overall, large parts of the Region are well served by current generation digital connectivity technology such as superfast broadband (fixed line broadband that is capable of download speeds of 30Mbps) and 4G (cellular broadband with average download speeds from 16 to 33Mbps). This is not the case in more rural parts such as Derbyshire Dales where 4% of premises receive less than 10Mbps.

4.7.4 The take-up of superfast broadband in areas where the Superfast South Yorkshire programme has invested has increased from 18% to 75%, Enterprise Zones and business parks in South Yorkshire were amongst the first in the country to access wholesale full fibre broadband; and business development programmes have helped local SMEs understand how digital can sustain and grow their business as well as enabling them to access support for connection charges and innovation projects. At the same time, Sheffield City Centre now benefits from one of the best public access Wi-Fi networks. Overall South Yorkshire now has 99% coverage of superfast broadband.

4.7.5 As the Region develops and grows there will be an increased demand for high speed, ubiquitous connectivity, especially in more rural areas. However, both superfast broadband and 4G technologies are incapable of meeting future demands for speed, capacity, reliability, and responsiveness.

4.7.6 Alongside increased demand by 2025, analogue telephone services accessed by the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) will be switched off as telecoms infrastructure is upgraded to digital connectivity. The copper-based telecoms network, used for analogue telephone services will be retired, with digital Voice

³⁵ National Infrastructure Strategy. 2020. HM Treasury.

³⁶ Superfast South Yorkshire is transitioning to become the team which delivers the South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy

over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology taking over and people using their broadband connections for telephone services

Next generation digital connectivity technology

- 4.7.7 The next generation of digital connectivity technology is gigabit-capable networks and 5G cellular networks. Gigabit-capable broadband provides a download speed of at least 1 gigabit per second (or 1000 megabits per second). It is at least twenty times faster than the current average broadband speed in the UK. Gigabit-capable networks are often delivered through fibre optic infrastructure – flexible glass cables, though a range of different infrastructure types can deliver broadband at this speed. 5G uses a new radio interface that enables much higher radio frequencies to be used allowing faster connections, lower latency, and greater capacity.
- 4.7.8 5G is being rolled out by operators across the region; however, is likely to remain a largely urban phenomenon with mobile network operators concentrating on upgrading macro sites (infrastructure covering large geographic areas such as monopoles, rooftop sites & lattice towers). Small cell deployment is anticipated in areas of high demand as the rollout progresses.
- 4.7.9 Coverage of gigabit broadband in South Yorkshire is 68.56% as of Q2 2022/23³⁷. Coverage in Nottinghamshire stands at 76.98%³⁸ and in Derbyshire coverage is 45.15%³⁹.
- 4.7.10 The Government’s Project Gigabit will deliver support to hard-to-reach parts of the UK towards the cost of gigabit-capable broadband. It will bring full fibre broadband to some of the most rural parts of the region, targeting properties with the slowest speeds that would have otherwise been left behind by commercial plans.
- 4.7.11 BDUK conducted an Open Market Review and Public Review in 2022 to understand from suppliers if there were any current or planned investment over the next three years in broadband infrastructure across South Yorkshire. 80,777 premises were flagged as having no gigabit network infrastructure with none likely to be developed within 3 years. An intervention area will be confirmed where Project Gigabit support will be directed.
- 4.7.12 The South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy (2021) sets out how we intend to accelerate the development of ‘gigabit capable’ digital infrastructure and 5G networks across the whole of South Yorkshire and includes proposals for public interventions to support achieving this strategic ambition.
- 4.7.13 In response to recent government consultation, building regulations have been amended to compel gigabit-capable broadband in new build home, with the new requirements being introduced in December 2022⁴⁰.

³⁷ See current coverage at <https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/south-yorkshire>

³⁸ <https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/E10000024>

³⁹ <https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/E10000007>

⁴⁰ Section1 (page 2) of " Approved Document R Volume1: Physical infrastructure and network connection for new dwellings"

Based on the above, the current position is that we:

- Support the implementation of Project Gigabit and the digital infrastructure elements of adopted Local Plans.
- Help to bring forward a range of local and regional interventions to improve digital connectivity, improving speeds and addressing gaps in provision.
- Support local communities to utilise the BDUK Gigabit Voucher Scheme to accelerate the roll-out of gigabit capable infrastructure across South Yorkshire and the wider Region.
- Create a supportive planning framework for digital connectivity, including consistent planning conditions that encourage developers to provide infrastructure for at least one, but ideally multiple gigabit capable broadband providers.

4.8 Planning for other Strategic Matters

4.8.1 All nine Local Planning Authorities in the Region commit to work together at a regional scale on other issues where we have a common interest and cross boundary work is required. These are defined around the following areas, with further information and evidence highlighted where this is available :

- Green Belt: Local Planning Authorities in the Region have agreed a common assessment method for reviewing Green Belt and will adopt this where appropriate to ensure a consistent approach.⁴¹
- Minerals: Local Planning Authorities in the Region have agreed to share evidence on minerals planning, working closely together and with Derbyshire County Council who are currently updating their own Minerals Plans, and Nottinghamshire County Council who adopted a Minerals Plan in 2021. This includes evidence from Local Aggregates Assessments, exploring the benefits of undertaking joint assessments.
- Peak District National Park: Local Planning Authorities and other public bodies recognise the statutory purposes of the Peak District National Park and the special qualities which make it unique, and have regard to these purposes when undertaking their own functions. The Park's Management Plan⁴² sets out these qualities, alongside areas of focus for management, so that they can be properly respected in decision making.
- Local Planning Authorities recognise the health and wellbeing challenges facing many areas of the Region and agree to share evidence to ensure that Local Plans are effective in addressing those challenges. This will be in terms of the provision of health services as well as tackling the wider determinants of health such as sub-standard housing, air pollution, social isolation and lack of access to green space. There will be an emphasis on creating environments that are conducive to people being able to be physically active as part of their daily life.

⁴¹ See detailed explanation at <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/sites/default/files/docs/planning-and-development/sheffield-plan/Proposed%20Sheffield%20City%20Region%20Combined%20Green%20Belt%20Review.pdf>

⁴² See <https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/looking-after/strategies-and-policies/national-park-management-plan>

5. Governance Arrangements

- 5.1 This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared by the Heads of Planning Group, which brings together senior planning managers across all nine local planning authorities as well as from Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire County Councils.
- 5.2 The Group meets on a bi-monthly basis and has responsibility for preparing the Statement of Common Ground alongside other pieces of collaborative work including the preparation of new evidence and developing a shared planning approach on some service issues. The Heads of Planning Group will ensure that the Statement is consistent with local planning practice and is reviewed on an annual basis⁴³ and updated as necessary in order to reflect any changes to local practice or arrangements at the regional scale.
- 5.3 Progress and oversight for the Statement and other joint planning work in South Yorkshire is the responsibility of the SYMCA Housing and Infrastructure Board, which includes Cabinet Portfolio Holders from local districts as well as representatives from the South Yorkshire LEP. Derbyshire Dales, North East Derbyshire, Chesterfield, Bassetlaw and Bolsover Councils all also remain as non-constituent members. The Housing and Infrastructure Board is accountable to the MCA and LEP through wider governance arrangements established for SYMCA⁴⁴.

⁴³ The next review of the Statement of Common Ground will be within one year of the date of adoption, or earlier should the Heads of Planning group identify the need for this.

⁴⁴ A full account of SYMCA Governance arrangements is available in the Assurance Framework at <https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/mayoral-combined-authority-procedures>

Annex

Table 1: Regional housing needs

	2022 Annual Local Housing Need figure (A)	Local Plan target (B)	Difference (B - A)	Local Plan Status
Barnsley	864	1,134	+270	Adopted January 2019
Bassetlaw	279	288	+9	Reg. 22 stage
Bolsover	216	272	+56	Adopted March 2020
Chesterfield	228	240	+12	Adopted July 2020
Derbyshire Dales	230	284	+54	Adopted December 2017
Doncaster	554	920	+366	Adopted September 2021
North East Derbyshire	247	330	+83	Adopted November 2021
Rotherham	564	958*	+394	Adopted 2014/2018**
Sheffield	3018	2,040***	-978	Reg 19. January 2023
Region total	6,200	6,466 ****	266	

* Rotherham's Core Strategy is subject to a partial update, which is programmed for consultation in late 2023 (Reg 18).

** The Rotherham Local Plan is made up of a Core Strategy (adopted in 2014) and a Sites and Policies document (adopted 2018).

*** Net annual housing requirements set out in the Publication Draft Sheffield Plan (January 2023).

**** The Peak District National Park Local Plan does not establish a housing target for the National Park; however nominally around 40 homes per year are approved in the Peak District National Park area and these are counted as part of the delivery in constituent Council areas.

Table 2: Regional net completions*

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Barnsley	706	850	1,009	988	1052	590	594
Bassetlaw	338	462	551	434	694	777	766
Bolsover	325	290	248	291	439	446	537
Chesterfield	206	123	110	212	304	276	379
Derbyshire Dales**	157	281	308	411	435	423	258
Doncaster	1,170	1,057	1,173	1,327	1,213	761	1,190
North East Derbyshire	431	282	396	189	436	465	555
Rotherham	585	599	471	422	556	566	1,090
Sheffield	1,432	2,248	2,304	1,976	3,083	1,850	1,774
Region total	5,350	6,192	6,570	6,250	8,212	6,154	7,143

*All data collected directly from the Housing Flows Reconciliation figure used to calculate the Housing Delivery Test (except for Derbyshire Dales where Annual Monitoring Report data is used)⁴⁵. Includes new build completions, change of use from non-residential to residential and conversions from one to multiple dwellings. In some instances, figures may differ from those reported independently by Districts due to further analysis.

** Note discussions with MHCLG concluded that an additional 76 completions should be included in the Derbyshire Dales Housing Delivery Test for 2015/16 and 2017/18, representing completions within the Peak District National Park area. This takes the three year total for the district to 674.

⁴⁵ See <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/housing-delivery-test>

Table 3: Regional housing land supply*

Local authority	Annualised (net) requirement	Total (net) 5-year supply	Supply in years	Date of publication
Barnsley	1,376	7,637	5.6	Dec-21
Bassetlaw	293	3,962	13.5	Apr-22
Bolsover	286	2,739	10.07	Dec-20
Chesterfield	252	2,249	8.9	Oct-21
Derbyshire Dales	316	1254	3.96	Apr 22
Doncaster	906	6,342	7.0	Feb-23
North East Derbyshire	347	2,405	6.94	Jun-22
Rotherham	566	5,358	9.5	Sept 21**
Sheffield	3,169	11,506	3.63***	Jan-23
Region total	7,511	43,452	5.79	

* Figures taken from the most recently published 5-year supply statements, which allow for any backlog in delivery over recent years. As such annualised requirement figures may vary from Local Plan requirements set out in Table 1.

** Taken from published evidence for The Pitches Sports Club site, Rotherham appeal decision (APP/P4415/W/21/3278557).

***Does not include all proposed allocated sites in the Publication Draft Sheffield Plan (January 2023).

Table 4: Job Figures being planned for in Local Plans

Local authority	Job target	Annualised average equivalent (rounded)
Barnsley	28,840 (2014-2033)	1,518 per year
Bassetlaw	9,735 (2020-2037) (Publication Local Plan, August 2021)	573 per year
Bolsover	A baseline jobs growth of 3,000 used in SHMA for OAN. No specific target set in Local Plan (2014-2033)	158 per year
Chesterfield	5,200 (2018-2035)	306 per year
Derbyshire Dales	A need for 1,700 additional jobs calculated in employment land availability assessment. No specific target set in Local Plan (2013-2033)	85 per year
Doncaster	Growth of 27,100 jobs being planned for. No specific targets set in Local Plan (2015-2035)	1,355 per year
North East Derbyshire	3,000 (2014-2034)	150 per year
Sheffield	43,350 (2022 - 2039) based on the annual jobs growth for Sheffield set out in the previous SEP (2014)	2,550 per year
Rotherham	12,000 – 15,000 (2013-2028)	800 – 1,000 per year
Total	116,125 – 119,125	7,495 – 7,695 per year

Table 5: Employment Land requirements in Local Plans

Local authority	Employment Land
Barnsley	297 ha (2014-2033)
Bassetlaw	63 ha minimum (2018-2035)
Bolsover	92ha (2015-2033)
Chesterfield	At least 50ha (2018-2025) 52.3ha supply identified within the Plan Period, including 4ha of land at Staveley Works that can come forward dependent on final form of HS2 phase 2b Infrastructure Maintenance Depot (although upto 30ha of land could be available).
Derbyshire Dales	At least 24 ha (2013 – 2033) Evidence to support the emerging Local Plan Review suggests that in the region of 13.7ha – 15ha of employment land may be required for the period 2017- 2040
Doncaster	481 ha (2015-2035)
North East Derbyshire	43 ha (2014-2034)
Rotherham	235 ha (2013-2028)
Sheffield	Evidence to support the emerging Local Plan suggests that around 217.6 ha of land is required to meet employment needs over the period 2022 to 2039.

Table 6: Summary of South Yorkshire waste arisings and future needs up to 2041 (million tonnes per annum)

			Indicative total waste management capacity needs				
			2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Total waste arisings			2.890	3.230	3.375	3.481	3.592
Non-hazardous waste management							
Preparing for reuse and recycling	Materials recycling	Forecast arisings	0.785	0.876	0.933	0.984	1.026
		Existing capacity	1.789	1.789	1.789	1.789	1.789
		Capacity gap	1.005	0.913	0.856	0.805	0.763
	Composting	Forecast arisings	0.105	0.109	0.114	0.119	0.123
		Existing capacity	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.086
		Capacity gap	-0.019	-0.023	-0.028	-0.033	-0.037
	Inert recycling	Forecast arisings	0.204	0.247	0.259	0.260	0.260
		Existing capacity	0.312	0.188	0.188	0.158	0.158
		Capacity gap	0.108	-0.060	-0.072	-0.102	-0.102
Treatment and other forms of recovery	Treatment and energy recovery ^A	Forecast arisings	0.736	0.775	0.816	0.862	0.909
		Existing capacity	1.702	1.702	1.702	1.702	1.702
		Capacity gap	0.966	0.927	0.886	0.840	0.793
	Soil treatment	Forecast arisings	0.062	0.075	0.079	0.079	0.079
		Existing capacity	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.128	0.128
		Capacity gap	0.148	0.135	0.131	0.049	0.049

Other recovery	Inert recovery ^B	Forecast arisings	0.643	0.797	0.845	0.845	0.845
		Existing capacity	0.449	0.170	0.045	0.045	0.045
		Capacity gap	-0.194	-0.627	-0.800	-0.800	-0.800
Non-hazardous waste disposal							
Disposal - Non-hazardous landfill	Forecast arisings	0.192	0.177	0.150	0.143	0.147	
	Existing capacity	0.300	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	
	Capacity gap	0.108	0.023	0.050	-0.143	-0.147	
Hazardous waste management							
Recovery and treatment	Forecast arisings	0.140	0.152	0.161	0.172	0.185	
	Existing capacity	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.154	
	Capacity gap	0.014	0.002	-0.007	-0.018	-0.031	
Disposal - Hazardous landfill	Forecast arisings	0.015	0.011	0.012	0.013	0.014	
	Existing capacity	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
	Capacity gap	-0.015	-0.011	-0.012	-0.013	-0.014	

A - Treatment and energy recovery refer to Anaerobic Digestion, Energy from Waste, and other physical/chemical treatment processes.

B - Available data indicates that, within South Yorkshire, inert waste that may elsewhere be disposed of to inert landfill is recovered through deposit of inert waste to land for beneficial purposes such as restoration of mineral extraction sites with extant planning permission. In addition, inert materials will be required for engineering and restoration of non-hazardous landfill sites (estimated at 0.070 Mtpa up to 2025, 0.110 Mtpa 2025-2027, and 0.030 Mtpa 2028-2033); further reducing inert recovery capacity gaps.

A small amount of waste (<1%) is disposed of through incineration without energy recovery and at restricted landfill (associated with a specific industrial process and not receiving other waste types, located within the factory curtilage).

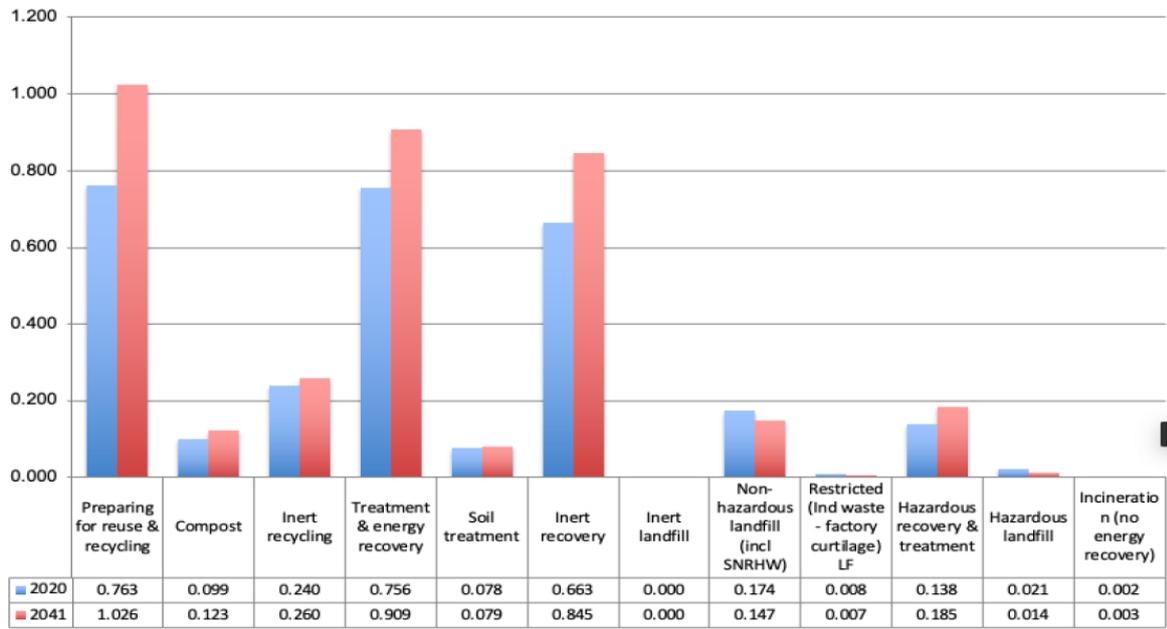


Figure 7: Comparison of management methods for waste arisings from within South Yorkshire 2020 and 2041 (million tonnes)

Table 7: Summary of economic role of places

Local Plans across the region describe the economic role of each area.

Barnsley

Barnsley has a growing economy, creating an M1 economic corridor, thriving town centre and some outstanding cultural heritage. In terms of current sectors, evidence from Mott Macdonald (2016) identified a higher proportion of employees in manufacturing and construction than comparator areas including the national average. In contrast, Barnsley has lower proportions of IT and finance professionals and a higher proportion of jobs in public administration, health and education (29% compared to a national average of 26%).

Bassetlaw

Bassetlaw's accessibility is the basis for an expanding economy, with a growing economic corridor stretching along the A1, direct access to the East Coast Main Line and close proximity to the M1 attracting business and investment.

The evidence and the D2N2 LEP recognise the role the District can play in developing identified growth sectors: creative and digital technologies; construction, particularly modern methods of construction; renewable energy and low carbon energy production; engineering and civil engineering; and the visitor economy. The logistics sector is also recognised as being well-positioned to integrate with other sectors. The Local Plan capitalises on the District's locational advantage by promoting locations able to provide a continuous and diverse supply of employment land within proximity to the Main Towns and local labour supply. This includes land accessible to the A1/A57, which also provide strategic connectivity to the M1, the wider East Midlands region and South Yorkshire.

Doncaster

Doncaster has a high quality urban centre with attractive retail opportunities within an expanding mixed-use offer. Doncaster's multi-modal connectivity offers access to major conurbations and coastal ports whilst the Doncaster-Sheffield Airport (should it re-open) and iPort areas provide an international gateway with growing engineering and logistics business base. The National College for Advanced Transport and Infrastructure and the new University Technical College are part of a growing vocational education offer.

Doncaster's Economic Strategy 2030 seeks to create a regenerative and inclusive economy for thriving people, places and the planet. By 2030 the aspiration is to have an economy which improves the living standards for all with a more resilient and productive economy, which is also green and regenerative. There are four Sectors of Opportunity: health and care; engineering and manufacturing; creative and digital; and culture. Four 'niches' are also included which will help provide highly productive and innovation-led growth: rail; green technology; future mobility; and advanced materials.

Rotherham

Rotherham has developing strengths in new economic sectors, as part of the region's wider regeneration agenda, with a particular specialism in manufacturing. The adopted Core Strategy identifies the priority of safeguarding this manufacturing base and targeting several priority sectors including Creative and Digital Industries; Advanced Manufacturing and Materials; Environmental and Energy Technologies; Construction Industries; Business, Professional and Financial Services; and Low Carbon Industries. The Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP) in the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District lies in Rotherham.

Bolsover

Bolsover is a rural area, with the need and ability to accommodate significant economic growth in key settlements, taking advantage of access to the M1. In the Bolsover Economic Development Needs Assessment (2015) competitive sectors identified were: Wholesale and Retail; Manufacturing; Transport & Storage; Construction; Information & Communication (knowledge-based activity); and Energy & Water.

North East Derbyshire

North East Derbyshire is a predominately rural area with the population concentrated in four towns, and the potential for growth along the A61. It has close links with Sheffield and Chesterfield. Key sectors are Digital and Creative Industries; Advanced Manufacturing; Food and Drink; Construction and Environmental Industries; and Health and Care.

Derbyshire Dales

The Derbyshire Dales economy is based on thriving micro businesses and SMEs with manufacturing the largest employment sector. Pay in the Derbyshire Dales is amongst the lowest in the former Sheffield City Region and England. Businesses in the Dales want to grow but can't find the space locally, and provision of new employment space in the district is the highest priority.

Chesterfield

Chesterfield is a key market town and the sub-regional economic centre for Northern Derbyshire, with a high quality urban core and opportunities for further growth in the Staveley and A61 corridors. Along the M1, Markham Vale is an area recently developed with plans to establish itself as a major employment hub, supporting activity elsewhere in the City Region. The area includes Enterprise Zone sites.

Chesterfield's key sectors are Public administration ; Wholesale/retail; Financial and business services and Manufacturing.

Sheffield

Sheffield is the fourth largest city in England and a major centre of engineering, creative and digital industries, with a wide range of culture and retail facilities. Sheffield City Centre will be the primary office location in the region, providing a high proportion of the region's jobs in business, financial and professional services, higher education and health and wellbeing

services. The retail and leisure offer in the City Centre is expected to grow through the Heart of the City 2 development but will be complemented by that provided at Meadowhall and by other built leisure facilities in the Lower Don Valley.

The Lower Don Valley and Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (in the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District) are important employment areas, focused on advanced manufacturing. The area includes an Enterprise Zone at Sheffield Business Park.

Sheffield's key sectors are Advanced Manufacturing and Health.

Peak District National Park

Quarrying, agriculture, and tourism are the mainstays of the Peak District National Park economy. Agricultural businesses account for a third of businesses, with over 87% of the Peak District being farmed. The DEFRA agricultural census indicates that there are over 3,000 farm businesses in the Peak District.

Market towns and local businesses benefit from the National Park's strong rural and visitor economies; tourism alone generates over £1.5 billion for the economy each year. One in five jobs (3,944) within the Peak District National Park are within accommodation and food services.

Between 2016 and 2020 employment in the arts, entertainment, recreation and other services industry grew by nearly a quarter (24%), providing an extra 747 jobs.

The majority of local business units within the Peak District are classified as micro-businesses (employing fewer than 10 people). The rural economy is interdependent with the urban employment centres nearby. About half of the working population travels to jobs outside the National Park, and non-residents fill about 4 out of 10 jobs in the National Park.

Table 8: Summary of Functional Economic Market Areas within the Region

Local Plans across the Region define their Functional Economic Market Areas in line with national planning guidelines.

Barnsley	Part of a wider area of a single Sheffield and Leeds City Region FEMA.
Bassetlaw	The general FEMA is broadly self-contained, with links to the former Sheffield City Region and north Nottinghamshire and north east Derbyshire.
Bolsover	A wide FEMA made up of Amber Valley; Ashfield; Bassetlaw; Chesterfield; Mansfield; and North East Derbyshire DC authority areas.
Doncaster	Defines a standalone FEMA along its own administrative boundary.
Derbyshire Dales	Is divided between surrounding areas, with the southern part of the District in a wider Derby focused FEMA; the Northern area in a Sheffield focused FEMA; and the central part of the district falling in an overlap with influences from Sheffield, Chesterfield and Derby.
NE Derbyshire and Chesterfield	Share an employment market and FEMA.
Sheffield and Rotherham	Share a single FEMA, consistent with a single travel to work area.

It is recognised that large scale warehouse and distribution (logistics) uses over 100,000sq ft have a wide property market area covering the whole of the Region⁴⁶.

⁴⁶ It is also recognised that logistics uses may have larger market areas which extend beyond the boundaries of the Region as defined for the purposes of this Statement, and which individual authorities will need to take into account.

Table 9: SCR Transport Strategy: national and pan-northern interventions

The following schemes are being progressed by our partners or are included in Transport for the North's initial investment programme for a start by 2027. As such they form a baseline for the Region's interventions.

MAJOR RAIL IMPROVEMENTS

- HS2 – the Region supports the principles of high speed rail services across the North to the rest of the UK, radically reducing journey times and providing enhanced connectivity beyond the HS2 network. The Government's Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) in November 2021, is committed to deliver two HS2 trains per hour between London and Sheffield in 87 minutes. SYMCA wants these trains extended to Leeds.
- Hope Valley line capacity improvements – initial capacity improvements are underway to allow a frequency of three fast trains in addition to one stopping train per hour and freight trains. Currently the third fast train is not committed.
- Sheffield to Leeds – improvements to Sheffield station and the Dearne Valley Line towards Leeds to allow the extension of the HS2 trains, including two new stations in South Yorkshire at Rotherham and Dearne Valley, along with journey time and reliability improvements on the Hallam line via Barnsley.
- Doncaster to Leeds – capacity, journey time and reliability enhancements, including capacity enhancements at Doncaster station.
- South Trans Pennine Line – capacity and journey time improvements between Doncaster and Cleethorpes
- East Coast Main Line power upgrade and capacity improvements to allow 140mph running and improve journey times between Doncaster and London.
- Improvements to allow wider/higher freight trains on the Doncaster to Immingham route
- Electrification of the Midland Mainline to Sheffield to support other major rail investment programmes, as committed to in the Government's Integrated Rail Plan for the North and Midlands.
- Barrow Hill Line – potential reopening of existing freight line for passenger use under the Restoring Your Railways programme, providing direct passenger services between Clay Cross, Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire and Sheffield.

INTEGRATED AND SMART TRAVEL PROGRAMME

- Multi-modal, integrated, contactless ticketing
- Enhanced real time customer information
- Smart ticketing on rail

STRATEGIC ROAD NETWORK IMPROVEMENTS

- Trans Pennine upgrade programme – a package of improvements including –
 - Mottram Moor link road granted a Development Consent Order by the Secretary of State on 16th November 2022 and is due to commence in 2023; and,
 - the A616/A61 Westwood roundabout (completed)
- A1 Redhouse to Darrington – upgrade to motorway standard
- A1(M) Doncaster bypass – widening to a three-lane motorway
- Hollingworth to Tintwistle bypass and capacity improvements on the M67, M60 and M56, which are both outside of the Region but included due to the benefits they can bring to the Region.
- A1 junction improvements with A46 in Bassetlaw.
- Chesterfield Staveley Regeneration Route (CSRR), providing bypass to north of A619 in Chesterfield, linking A61 and M1 Junction 29a.

Table 10: Summary of South Yorkshire authorities' zero carbon and energy strategies

Barnsley

In October 2020 the Council approved a Strategic Energy Action Plan, which identifies four Zero Carbon Community Aims. These will be delivered via five themes and it will align with the 17 United Nations' Development Goals.

Community Goals will be delivered by focusing on delivering projects based on the following Five Themes:

1. Energy Efficiency: To reduce the overall demand for energy in Barnsley across residential, commercial and industrial sectors and improve public health outcomes.
2. Renewable energy: To generate and/or source local energy needs from zero carbon and renewable sources by around 2045.
3. Sustainable Transport: A complete transition to fossil fuel free local travel by around 2030.
4. Resource Efficiency: Use resources; materials, land and food in a sustainable way.
5. Decentralised Heating: In order to provide local resilience and empower communities too heat and light homes through local zero or low carbon generation rather than by centralised natural gas supply.

In July 2022 the Council approved an urban design and sustainability strategy for Barnsley Town Centre prepared by Urbed. This strategy considers urban design issues and also looks how the town centre can move towards being zero carbon. The overarching theme of 'Sustainability Interventions' sits above six other themes: Retail; Culture; Work; Housing; Greenspace and Connections. These are then followed through into a proposed spatial strategy and a list of suggested interventions.

Doncaster

The Doncaster Local Plan was adopted in September 2021 and has a suite of climate change related policies. In 2012 Aecom carried out a Renewable and Low Carbon energy study on behalf of Doncaster. This provides evidence to support Local Plan policy 58 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy.

The study looked to see how policies could be delivered in a sustainable, carbon efficient way and that site allocations and detailed policies incorporate appropriate requirements for carbon reduction through energy efficiency and renewable and low carbon energy generation associated with development. The study:

- Examined the current and future energy demand from the existing housing and non-domestic building stock, as well as the energy requirements from new build delivered through the growth strategy set out in the Core Strategy.
- Provided an updated audit of the current renewable energy provision in Doncaster.

- Built on the Yorkshire and Humber Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Study (2010) to assess the potential technical capacity of renewable and low carbon energy in Doncaster.
- Balanced technical potential with delivery appetite.
- Provided policy recommendations.

Rotherham

Rotherham has developed an annual climate change action plan with actions identified under seven themes: Energy, housing, Transport, Waste, Built and Natural Environment, Influence and engagement.

This action plan supports the Council's established targets of:

- The Council's carbon emissions to be at net zero by 2030 (NZ30)
- Borough-wide carbon emissions to be at net zero by 2040 (NZ40)

Annual targets have also been set based on the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research's carbon budget calculations. The aim is to develop a portfolio of realistic actions based on scientific evidence, as well as reflecting local political, economic and social priorities. Wherever possible, actions will be drawn from examples of best practice both nationally and internationally. The Council will endeavour to address both mitigation actions (which will address the causes of climate change) and adaptation actions (which will address the impact of climate change).

This programme also aims to work in a complementary way with the declared nature crisis and will be expanded to include actions for recovery and enhancement of Rotherham's biodiversity.

Sheffield

The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research has written a report that establishes a 'carbon budget' for the city (updated October 2022). It recommends that Sheffield must not exceed a budget of 15.2 million tonnes of carbon emissions over the next 20 years. At current rates of energy consumption we will use this budget in less than 5 years from 2022.

The Council has a ten point plan which sets the framework for action for the transition to Net Zero. It is based on the evidence in the Pathways to Zero reports developed for the city by consultants Arup and Ricardo which identify the actions that needs to be taken for the city to become carbon neutral by 2030. As well as taking immediate action, Sheffield is in the process of developing route maps on the key areas for decarbonisation.

The ten point plan for climate action is to:

1. put climate at the centre of our decision-making
2. be proactive in finding ways to resource the action that is needed
3. act in a way which supports social justice

4. work towards reducing Council emissions to net zero by 2030
5. work to bring the city together to make the changes we need
6. work with the city to develop route maps for the areas where change needs to happen
7. work with and support people, businesses and organisations to take the action that is needed
8. work to build the skills and economy we need for the future
9. work to ensure we have the planning and infrastructure we need for the future
10. prepare the city to adapt for a changing climate

Peak District National Park

Climate Change aims and objectives are set out in the Peak District National Park Management Plan.

The overarching aim is that the Peak District National Park is more resilient and net-zero by 2040 through its exemplary response to climate change. Supporting objectives relate to lowering greenhouse gasses significantly, sequestering and storing substantially more carbon and reversing damage to nature, biodiversity and cultural heritage.

Headline targets are that:

- By 2028 there will be a 25% reduction in total greenhouse emissions in the Peak District National Park.
- By 2028 there will be a 2,878 tonnes net decrease in carbon emissions from moorlands.
- By 2028 we will secure funding for four measures that increase the resilience of existing habitats and species, cultural heritage and the built environment.

Glossary of abbreviations

4G - Fourth generation wireless mobile telecommunications technology with average download speeds from 16 to 33Mbps

5G - Fifth generation wireless mobile telecommunications technology which delivers higher peak data speeds, ultra-low latency, greater connectivity and increased network capacity.

BDUK – Building Digital UK, the Government programme to deliver superfast broadband and local full fibre networks.

BNG – Biodiversity Net Gain. Under the Environment Act 2021, all planning permissions granted in England (with a few exemptions) will have to deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain from November 2023.

D2N2 – the Local Enterprise Partnership for the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire area.

FEMA – Functional Economic Market Area, the spatial level at which economies and markets operate.

FLUTE – Forecasting Land Use, Transport and Economy, a forecasting model used across South Yorkshire.

HDT – Housing Delivery Test, an annual measurement of housing delivery across relevant plan making authorities.

HS2 – High Speed 2, the new rail line proposed between the south and north of England.

LEP – Local Enterprise Partnership, a partnership between local authorities and businesses to set economic priorities for an area and negotiate growth deals with Government.

LIS – Local Industrial Strategy, strategy to promote the coordination of local economic policy and national funding streams and establish new ways of working between national and local government, the public and private sectors.

LNRS – Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which will establish priorities and map proposals for specific actions to drive nature’s recovery and provide wider environmental benefits.

LTA – Local Transport Authorities

MCA – Mayoral Combined Authority, a corporate body enabling two or more local councils to collaborate and take collective decisions, established with a directly elected Mayor.

MHCLG – the former Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government which is now called Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

NHS – National Health Service

NPPF – National Planning Policy Framework, sets out the Government’s planning policies and how these are expected to be applied.

OECD – Organisation for Economic Collaboration and Development, an international organisation set up to promote world trade and stimulate economic progress.

ONS – Office for National Statistics, executive office of the UK Statistical Authority responsible for collecting and publishing statistics related to the economy, population and society of the UK

PSTN - Public Switched Telephone Network, closing on 31 December 2025 as part of a switch to a fully digital network

S106 - Section 106 legal agreements between Local Authorities and developers; which are linked to planning permissions

SCR – the former Sheffield City Region geography and Partnership

SCRTM1 – Sheffield City Region Transport Model version 1, a model of transport networks and demand across for the SCR area.

SEP – Strategic Economic Plan, setting out the LEP/MCA plan to transform the economy, create jobs and encourage new businesses.

SYMCA – the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority

TTWA – Travel to Work Area, a geography created by the ONS to approximate labour market areas.

VoIP - a system that uses an internet connection to make and receive calls.

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10. MEMBER APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES (SLF)

1. Purpose of the report

To appoint the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming, as a representative for the Authority, to the Board of the Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the Steering Group of the Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery.

Key Issues

- The NPMP vision includes the Peak District National Park (PDNP) being exemplary in its response to nature recovery and that its special qualities and resilience as a living landscape should be significantly enhanced.
- The 25 Year Environment Plan 2018 set out the framework and vision for what we will do to improve the environment within a generation. The Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) 2023 revises the original plan and sets out the plan to deliver the ten goals with the “apex” goal of thriving plants and wildlife. Specific Protected Landscape targets continue to be in development.
- There are six Responsible Authorities for Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) which cover the Peak District National Park. Recent guidance sets out the role of National Park Authorities as a Supporting Authority. The Responsible Authorities have subsequently developed their approach including differing ranges of meetings such as boards, steering groups, working groups etc. The Responsible Authorities for Derbyshire and Staffordshire require Authority Member representation. All Responsible Authorities require a range of National Park Authority officer engagement and support.

2. Recommendations

- 1. To appoint the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to:**
 - the Board of the Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy
 - the Steering Group of the Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- 2. To delegate appointment of the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority.**
- 3. That attendance at meetings of these bodies and/or events are approved duties for the payment of travel and subsistence allowances as set out in Schedule 2 of the Members’ Allowances Scheme.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

- 3.** As approved duties, appointments should only be made to Outside Bodies which help to deliver the Authorities Statutory duties, support National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan aims and objectives and contribute to the Authority’s work with stakeholders and partners. These appointments will contribute to a number of our policies and legal obligations:
 - The 30 by 30 target through which the Government has agreed to conserve

(protect) 30% of land by 2030

- National Parks England (NPE) Delivery Plans for both Wildlife and for Environmental Land Management in National Parks.
- All seven of the [special qualities](#), and Aim Two [Landscape and Nature Recovery](#) including the three objectives with their targets and headline delivery; and the [Authority Plan](#) Aim two actions
- The Landscape Strategy 2023 was approved by Members at the Authority meeting in December 2022. It describes what is special about the Peak District landscapes, sets out the issues affecting the landscape and provides management guidelines to address the issues, conserve and enhance the landscape (minute reference 99/22)
- The Peak District Nature Recovery Plan is being developed with constituent Local Authorities and key partners and will complement the six county-based LNR's. Once completed the Nature Recovery Plan will sit as part of the NPMP and the revised Local Plan. The Nature Recovery Plan will be the key document to inform input to the emerging LNRs

4. Background Information

5. LNRs are a new system of spatial strategies for nature and the environment required by law under Sections 104 to 108 of the Environment Act 2021. On 30 June 2023 the government published a Policy Paper on LNRs, which outlines what LNRs will look like, how they will be prepared and who can be involved. Statutory Guidance on what LNRs should contain was published by Defra in March 2023. LNRs are expected to be completed in 12-18 months, so should be in place by the end of 2024.
6. LNRs will be prepared by “Responsible Authorities”. Responsible Authorities were appointed on 30 June 2023. The Peak District National Park will be covered by six LNRs (please see the table below).

County	Responsible Authority	Other Peak District Supporting Authorities
Cheshire	Cheshire West and Chester Council	Cheshire East Council
Derbyshire	Derbyshire County Council	Derbyshire Dales District Council, High Peak Borough Council, North East Derbyshire District Council
Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester Combined Authority	Oldham Borough Council
South Yorkshire	South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	Barnsley Council, Sheffield City Council
Staffordshire	Staffordshire County Council	Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
West Yorkshire	West Yorkshire Combined Authority	Kirklees Council

7. As set out in Section 105 of the Environment Act 2021, the Peak District National Park Authority is a “Supporting Authority”. The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023 set out how Responsible Authorities should

engage with Supporting Authorities.

8. Proposals

9. It is proposed to appoint the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to the Board of the Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy, the Steering Group of the Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery. This will contribute to the delivery of the landscape and nature recovery aims of the NNPMP and the Authority Plan through the incorporation of the Peak District Nature Recovery Plan into the six future LNRs.

10. It is also requested that delegation to make future appointments of the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority, to ensure consistency

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

11. No significant direct costs will arise. Members appointed to outside bodies can claim travel and subsistence when attending meetings and events but any costs arising from the proposals in this report can be met from the current revenue budget.

Risk Management:

12. No issues.

Sustainability:

13. No issues.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

14. No issues.

Climate Change

15. No issues.

Background papers (not previously published)

16. None.

Appendices

17. None.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Suzanne Fletcher, Head of Landscape and Engagement, 2 November 2023.

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11. ANNUAL REPORT ON MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT (RC)

1. Purpose of the report

This report sets out the Member learning and development framework and the proposals for the next annual programme of Member learning and development events (January to December 2024).

Key Issues

- Provision of learning and development opportunities for Members assists them to improve their effectiveness and fulfil their role as a Member.

2. Recommendations

- 1. To agree the Member learning and development framework (Appendix 1 of the report) and the events programme for January to December 2024 (Appendix 2 of the report).**
- 2. To continue to record Member learning and development activities in terms of hours and include personal learning and development by Members outside of events organised by the Authority, with the target of 20 hours per Member in every 12 months.**
- 3. To review the Member the tools used in the learning and development framework, the learning and development events programme and target hours for learning and development.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. This work contributes to achieving the Authority Plan's aim to be inspiring, pioneering and enabling in delivering the National Park Vision. The Authority aims to help Members to develop appropriate skills, knowledge and behaviours to improve effectiveness and fulfil their role as a Member of the Authority and to ensure that processes are in place to support this within a framework of good governance and continuous improvement.

Background Information

4. Member training and development has evolved over the past few years and has included the introduction of targets per Member for learning and development, personal development plans, annual self-assessments and a 'buddy' scheme for new Members. The Authority also signed up to working towards the achievement of the East Midlands Regional Member Development Charter.
5. Full details of the current Member training and development practices and current performance are presented as a framework document and this is attached at Appendix 1. This framework pulls together initiatives and arrangements previously agreed by the Authority.
6. An annual learning and development programme is produced each year and the sessions included within it aim to support Members in meeting their learning and development responsibilities. The programme is split into 3 sections covering essential learning and development, new Member induction and optional learning and development topics.

7. At the annual Authority meeting in July this year Cllr Becki Woods was re-appointed as Member Champion for Member Learning and Development. Cllr Woods has been the Member Champion or Representative for Member Learning and Development for the previous 4 years.

Proposals

Member Learning and Development Framework

8. The current proposed Member learning and development framework is attached at Appendix 1 for Members to agree current practices and performance levels.
9. The framework sets out the arrangements we have in place for developing Authority Members. It also highlights the tools we use to capture learning and development needs and makes sure that they are included in the annual programme. These include personal development plans, annual self-assessments and the biennial Members' survey.
10. The section on performance demonstrates the take up of these tools is limited. Currently 30% of Members have a personal development plan (the same as the previous two years) and 73% have completed a self-assessment (an increase of 41% from the previous year). 30% of Members achieved the target of 20 hours learning and development in the year (7% increase from the previous year).
11. Although the response to the self-assessment forms have increased this year the Chair has indicated the need to review the forms to enable more useful information to be gathered from Members.
12. In approving the framework and this year's learning and development plan Members are encouraged to make full use of these tools so we can develop an informed programme.

Learning and Development Programme

13. The proposed learning and development events programme for 2024 is attached at Appendix 2 for Members to agree. Following consultation with the Chair and Deputy of the Authority and the Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committees they have accepted the proposals for 2024 but have requested a review of the learning and development events offered and the individual Member target hours for learning and development, to take place before the 2025 programme is drafted.
14. The current programme includes a list of optional learning and development opportunities that can be delivered in a variety of ways. The topics offered have been reviewed and aligned with the aims of the National Park Management Plan and the Authority Plan. Members are encouraged to choose up to 3 options from this list that they are interested in pursuing during the forthcoming year. In choosing from the programme Members are asked to have regard to issues identified in their self-assessment and their personal development plan, while being realistic about what is achievable in a year.
15. Members are asked to submit their optional choices for 2024 to the Customer and Democratic Support Team by 15 December 2023. Arrangements for providing the optional elements will then be considered and progressed.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

16. Member development costs are funded by the Members budget and include funding for all training including attendance at National Parks UK conferences and workshops and the external facilitation of Member personal development plans.

Risk Management:

17. The main risk is failure to enable Members to develop appropriate skills, knowledge and behaviours to improve effectiveness and fulfil their role. The Authority has provided development opportunities for Members for many years. The proposals in this report are part of continuous improvement in our approach but proportionate to the resources available.

Sustainability:

18. There are no issues to highlight.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

19. Training and development opportunities available are open to all Authority Members.

Climate Change

20. Arrangements for provision of training will take account of any impacts on our carbon footprint and aim to minimise these including minimal travel to sites, use of web-based training and virtual meetings. An essential Member training session on climate change was added to the 2022 training programme and is to be continued in 2024.

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

None.

22. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Members Learning & Development Framework

Appendix 2 – Members Learning & Development Events Programme 2024

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Ruth Crowder, Customer and Democratic Support Manager, 2 November 2023.

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PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Peak District National Park Authority is committed to investing in lifelong learning and development for all its Members. The Authority recognises the contribution that such an investment can make in supporting Members in their roles as leaders within the organisation and the wider community. The ongoing development of Members is a key element of the organisational development of the Authority.
- 1.2 The Authority has therefore signed up to the East Midlands Regional Member Development Charter and is working towards achieving the standards required. In recent years progress in achieving the full award has been restricted due to budget pressures limiting the amount of staffing resource available to support the programme, however the Authority has continued to maintain the standard and use opportunities to improve when they arise.

2.0 The East Midlands Regional Member Development Charter

- 2.1 The East Midlands Development Charter for Members was developed around a national template adapted to reflect the culture of the region and the needs of the local authorities within it and was updated in 2020. The Charter sets out a process for accreditation and a framework of standards of good practice for Authorities to achieve.
- 2.2 The aim of the Charter is to make sure that Members have the knowledge, skills and attributes to fulfil their roles now and in the future in line with the Authority's corporate outcomes. The purpose of the Charter is therefore to act as a vehicle to improve the corporate performance of the Authority through the development of its Members.
- 2.3 A summary of the criteria for the current Charter is set out in Appendix A.

3.0 Our General Approach

- 3.1 One of the key principles for Member Learning & Development at the Authority is that Members are asked to take individual responsibility for their own training and development and identify their needs. The following tools are available to help Members do this:

A personal development plan for new Members

- 3.2 As part of the induction process all new Members are provided with the opportunity to meet with an external facilitator to identify their learning and development needs and produce a personal development plan.
- 3.3 Once completed the plan is considered by the Customer and Democratic Support Manager or Senior Advisors who will consult with the individual Member on how to deliver their plan.
- 3.4 After their first year as a Member individual Members will take on responsibility for updating their plan as part of the annual self-assessment process.

Annual Self-Assessment

- 3.5 It is currently a requirement from The Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs ('Defra') that the performance of all 'National' Secretary of State Members is measured and they complete a self-assessment. However, Parish Members and Local Authority Members are encouraged to complete their own self-assessment annually as this tool is useful in:
- Assisting individual Members in developing and updating their personal development plan.
 - Helping Officers to identify learning and development needs to inform the annual learning and development plan.

Members Survey

- 3.6 Once every two years the Authority carries out a survey of Members. The questions in the survey are structured around the following areas:
- Strategic and external leadership
 - Governance and scrutiny
 - Contributions and self-development
 - Communication
 - Community engagement
- 3.7 Once the survey has been completed the results are analysed and issues identified. In some cases the issues identified can be resolved through providing further learning and development opportunities. Where this is the case they will be incorporated into the annual learning and development plan.
- 3.8 The Members Survey due to be undertaken during 2018 was held in abeyance as a result of the creation of the Member led Governance Review Working Group. It was agreed that the bi-annual Survey would be held after the Group had completed its review so that feedback could be gained from the wider membership of the initiatives introduced by the Group and adopted by the Members of the Authority. Although it was anticipated that the next Members Survey would be conducted at the end of 2020 this was put back to 2022/23. The survey has taken place this year and the results are currently being analysed.

4.0 Our current arrangements for Member Learning and Development

New Member Induction

- 4.1 The effective induction of new Members is a crucial element to making sure that all Members are able to contribute to the work of the Authority as soon as possible after their appointment. However, we need to make sure that we strike the right balance of providing what is needed but avoiding an overload of information. We also have to recognise that Members also have other significant commitments outside of the Authority.

4.2 With this in mind the following induction arrangements have been agreed:

a) Compulsory elements			
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Delivered by</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Duration</i>
An introduction to the Peak District National Park Authority (Strategy)	Chief Executive and Chair of the Authority	Within 3 weeks of appointment	1.5 hours
And			
Getting started as a Member – An Introduction to the role of a Member and necessary processes	Customer and Democratic Support Manager	Within 3 weeks of appointment	1.5 hours
Planning Training Induction:			
Read the Introduction to Planning Information pack and complete the on-line knowledge test and	Head of Planning and Customer and Democratic Support Manager	Within 8 weeks of appointment	4 hours
Observation of a meeting of the Planning Committee			3 hours

b) Optional elements but highly recommended			
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Delivered by</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Duration</i>
Allocation of an experienced “buddy” Member	Facilitated by Customer and Democratic Support Team	Within 3 weeks of appointment	To be agreed by the new Member and their buddy
Produce a personal learning and development plan with assistance from an external facilitator.	Arranged by Customer and Democratic Support Team	Within 6 months of appointment	2 hours
Attend a national new Member induction event.	Bookings arranged by Customer and Democratic Support Team	Within 18 months of appointment	2 or 3 day residential or virtual event

Annual Learning and Development Event Programme

4.3 Each year the Authority will approve the Member Annual Learning and Development Event Programme. Reporting in November allows us to incorporate any issues identified in new Member personal development plans and from the self-assessments completed by other Members. However, from 2024 it is planned to report earlier in September.

4.4 The Learning and Development Plan will be divided into three sections:

Essential	Core events for all Members to attend
New Member Induction	Events for new Members to attend
Development	Optional learning and development topics for Members to choose from with delivery tailored to interest

4.5 As there is a limit to the financial resources available for supporting Members in attending external courses and workshops individual requests for support will only be considered if it is clear that the event will help to meet needs identified in that Member's self-assessment or learning and development plan.

Performance

4.6 The following aspects are measured to give guidance on how these arrangements are working. These aspects are reported the Authority meeting as part of the annual learning and development report.

	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
Member participation in essential training events	57%	54%	72%	60%	57%
Members with a personal development plan in place	30%	30%	30%	24%	27%
Members who completed a self-assessment form.	73%	32%	30%	47%	30%
Members who felt objectives were met at L&D events	72 – 100%	*Data not available	*Data not available	72 – 100%	72 – 100%
Members who rated workshops as good	72 – 100%	*Data not available.	*Data not available	70 – 100%	70 – 100%
Target of 20 hours learning and development per Member obtained	30%	23%	*0%, however 43% obtained 16 hours	17%	10%

*Data information and participation in events affected by Covid-19 pandemic and continuing effects during 2020-22.

It is recognised that there are many ways that Members may be developed including training at other authorities and self-development such as personal research. These activities should be captured in individual self-assessments so that they can contribute towards the 20-hour target.

East Midlands Member Development Charter Standards (Updated October 2020)

1. Commitment to Member Development and Support

- 1.1 Political and managerial leadership is committed to the development of Members.
- 1.2 The Authority actively promotes democratic participation, publicises the role of councillors as community leaders, and proactively engages with under-represented groups.
- 1.3 The Authority is committed to ensuring equal access to learning and development for all Members.
- 1.4 The Authority has a designated resource and budget for Member development which is adequate to meet priority development needs.

2 Strategic approach to Member development

- 2.1 The Authority has a Member Development Strategy in place.
- 2.2 The Authority has a structured process for regularly assessing Members' individual learning and development needs based on focused objectives.
- 2.3 The various Member roles are clearly defined and outline how they contribute to the achievement of Authority and community objectives
- 2.4 The Authority has a structured process for assessing current and future leadership and executive team development needs.
- 2.5 There is a Corporate Member learning and development plan in place.

3 Learning and development is effective in building skills and knowledge

- 3.1 Investment in learning and development is regularly evaluated and improvements implemented
- 3.2 Learning shared with other Members and, where appropriate, with Officers and stakeholders to encourage capacity building and a culture of learning across the Authority and externally.

Dates have been set for the following learning and development events and attendance for all Members of the Authority is essential or desirable.

ESSENTIAL LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT					
Course Event/Title	Date	Duration	Type	Current Lead	Notes
Climate Change	23/02/2024	3 Hours	Development	Information Manager	
Annual Members' Tour	21/06/24	Approx 7 hours	Development	Customer and Democratic Support Manager	Includes planning issues
Planning Training	20/09/2024 and 18/10/2024	4 hours	Progressing Business & Development	Head of Planning	All Members must attend one of the sessions to participate in decisions relating to planning matters and gain a better understanding of the development management issues facing the Authority in its role as Planning Authority for the National Park.
Member Workshop - People Management and Finance	11/10/24	3 hours	Progressing Business	People Manager and Finance Manager	First of two workshops regarding planning Authority finances.
Member Workshop - Finance	15/11/24	3 hours	Progressing Business	Finance Manager	Second of two workshops regarding planning Authority finances.

The following learning and development events are designed specifically for new Authority Members and form part of the Induction process

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION						
Course Event/Title	Attendance	Date	Duration	Type	Current Lead	Notes
<p>An Introduction to the Peak District National Park Authority (Strategy)</p> <p>and</p> <p>Getting started as a Member – An Introduction to the role of a Member and necessary processes</p>	Essential for new Members only	To be confirmed – usually in June	3 hours in total	Development	Customer and Democratic Support Manager	<p>Meeting with Chief Executive and Chair of the Authority for new Members</p> <p>and</p> <p>Introduction to Committee procedures, codes, protocols and processes for new Members plus handover of IT equipment.</p>
National Parks UK New Members Induction	Desirable – for Members appointed within the last 18 months	Usually held between September and November each year	15 hours residential	Development	Customer and Democratic Support Manager	The session is an annual event, hosted by different National Parks and all new Members are encouraged to attend. This year it is being held from 8 th to 10 th November 2022, organised and hosted by Northumberland NPA.

The final section lists areas for learning and development that have been identified by Authority Members as development needs. **All Members are invited to look down the list and email democraticandlegalsupport@peakdistrict.gov.uk with their choice of up to three topics that they would be interested in participating in by Friday 15 December 2023.** The method of delivery will depend upon the number of Members who express an interest, (in this section a date is only given where a session has already been organised).

OPTIONAL LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT CHOICES – SPLIT INTO FOUR AREAS:

DEVELOPING SKILLS				
Course Event/Title	Estimated Duration	Type	Current Lead	Notes
<p>A number of online development skills courses are available these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing your priorities • Resilience • Meeting Skills • Plain English • Conference call etiquette • Questioning Techniques • Equality and Diversity • *National Park Induction 	<p>Various</p> <p>20 – 60 minutes per module</p>	<p>Development</p>	<p>Customer and Democratic Support Senior Advisor</p>	<p>These are facilitated by ELMS modules (online learning system).</p> <p>*Note the induction module is aimed at new staff but includes information useful to new Members.</p> <p>Please contact the Democratic and Legal Support Team if you have a request which is not listed.</p>

GOVERNANCE PERFORMANCE & SCRUTINY

Course Event/Title	Estimated Duration	Type	Current Lead	Notes
Code of Conduct and Role of Authority	2 hours	Learning	Customer and Democratic Support Manager	Provided by in-house small group sessions or 1-1 sessions or may be considered for a larger workshop if interest is great
National Park Management Plan, Authority Plan and Business Planning	2 hours	Learning	Information Manager	Provided by in-house small group sessions or 1-1 sessions or may be considered for a larger workshop if interest is great
National Park Finance and Financial Planning	3 hours	Learning	Finance Manager	Provided by in-house small group sessions or 1-1 sessions or may be considered for a larger workshop if interest is great
Dealing with Complaints	1 hour	Learning	Customer and Democratic Support Manager	Provided by in-house 1-1 sessions or small group sessions

STRATEGIC & EXTERNAL LEADERSHIP

Course Event/Title	Estimated Duration	Type	Current Lead	Notes
National Parks UK Conference	In 2022 this was held over 3 days.	Development	Customer and Democratic Support Manager	Attendance agreed in consultation with the Chair of Authority – 3 Members plus Chief Executive. This session is an annual event hosted by different National Parks and this year it was held on 27-29 September, organised and hosted by Exmoor NPA

IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY (LINKED TO NPMP AND AUTHORITY PLAN AIMS)

Course Event/Title	Estimated Duration	Type	Current Lead	Notes
CLIMATE CHANGE				
Moors for the Future	3 hours	Learning	Moors for the Future Partnership Manager	Can only be provided if sufficient Members interested i.e.not available as individual sessions. A walk across the Nature for Climate funded site at Snailsden and a discussion of the challenges and opportunities of bringing large moorland estates to a resilient condition and how the Authority can best work with partners to achieve this.
Transport Issues in the National Park	2 hours	Learning	Head of Planning and/or Transport Policy Planner	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions.
Approaches to Climate Change	3 hours	Progressing Business	Information Manager and/or Policy & Communities Manager	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions.
LANDSCAPE AND NATURE RECOVERY				
Land Management and Nature Recovery	2 - 3 hours	Learning	Head of Landscape and Engagement and/or Land and Nature Manager	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions. Includes learning about land management, key habitats, species and landscapes. May also involve the opportunity to accompany an ecologist or farm advisor visit.
Archaeology, Historic Buildings and Tree Conservation in the National Park	3 – 5 hours	Learning	Cultural Heritage Manager/Conservation Officer/Tree Conservation Officer	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions. Includes the chance for site visits, including when possible visit to archaeology excavation site, listed buildings, conservation areas and forestry sites.

Course Event/Title	Estimated Duration	Type	Current Lead	Notes
WELCOMING PLACE				
The Role of Rangers	3 hours	Learning	Head of Landscape and Engagement and/or Ranger Team Manager	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions. May involve shadowing opportunity.
Engaging Diverse Audiences	2 hours	Learning	Head of Landscape and Engagement and/or Engagement Manager	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions. Includes understanding the different tools and health and well being interventions used to engage young people and communities.
THRIVING COMMUNITIES				
Affordable Housing	2 hours	Learning	Head of Planning and/or Policy & Communities Manager	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions.
Approaches to Engaging Communities	2 hours	Learning	Policy & Communities Manager	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions.
ENABLING DELIVERY				
Access and Rights of Way	2 hours	Learning	Engagement Ranger Team Leader Access and Rights of Way	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions.
Management of Authority Assets	3 hours	Learning	Head of Assets and Enterprise	Provided by in-house 1-1 or small group sessions. Includes an outline of the scope of the Authority's assets, current asset management arrangements and approach to developing an asset management plan.
PDNPA Volunteering Masterclass	2 hours	Learning	People Team Manager and/or Volunteer Manager	Can only be provided if sufficient Members interested ie not available as individual sessions. Aim of session: To give an overview of our volunteering strategy, the volunteer journey and to demonstrate how our volunteering offer in the PDNPA can add enormous value to our work and meet the needs of new audiences.

12. AMENDMENT TO PART 7 OF STANDING ORDERS – DELEGATION OF POWERS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (RC)

1. Purpose of the report

The Authority's Standing Orders are periodically reviewed to make sure they incorporate legislative changes, changes to the organisation and to reflect on their operation. This report proposes an amendment to the Delegation to the Chief Executive in Part 7 of Standing Orders identified following the recent organisational changes.

Key Issues

- **Delegation to make minor changes to Standing Orders and Authority Policies to take account of approved changes in job titles and changes to legislation, if those changes do not have significant effect on operational matters was delegated to the Head of Law in consultation with the Chair of the Authority by the Authority in October 2013.**
- **The Head of Law post was disestablished as part of the recent organisational changes approved by the Authority. Therefore, the report asks for a change to Part 7 of Standing Orders to give the delegation to the Chief Executive instead.**
- **The Chief Executive may then delegate this authority to another Officer providing any such delegation is recorded in writing. These delegations are published in Part 7B of Standing Orders.**

2. Recommendations

- 1. To amend the Scheme of Delegation to the Chief Executive set out in Part 7 of Standing Orders to authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority, to amend Standing Orders and Authority Policies to reflect any approved changes in job titles and changes to legislation if those changes do not have a significant effect on operational matters.**
- 2. The Standing Orders are otherwise confirmed.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

- 3. The Authority has a duty to keep its constitutional documents up to date and agree appropriate delegations to Committee and Officers to make sure delegations are made efficiently and at the appropriate level.**

Background Information

- 4. At its meeting on 4 October 2013 the Authority approved delegation to the Head of Law, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, to amend Standing Orders and Authority Policies to reflect any approved changes in job titles and changes to legislation if those changes do not have a significant effect on operational matters (Minute No 52/13).**
- 5. However, the Head of Law post has now been disestablished as part of the recent organisational changes and as this delegation is specific to that post it is requested that the delegation is now given to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority, instead. This will enable the necessary changes needed**

to Standing Orders following the organisational changes to be completed.

Proposals

6. As the post of Head of Law has been disestablished it is requested that delegation to amend Standing Orders and Authority Policies, to reflect any approved changes in job titles and changes to legislation if those changes do not have a significant effect on operational matters, be given to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

7. There are no issues.

Risk Management:

8. The delegation requested will enable the Authority to continue to operate effectively and efficiently when minor changes to Standing Orders are required.

Sustainability:

9. There are no issues.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

10. There are no issues.

11. Climate Change

There are no issues.

12. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

13. Appendices

None.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Ruth Crowder, Customer and Democratic Support Manager and Interim Monitoring Officer, 2nd November 2023

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