

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.1142/4722

Date: 31 October 2024



NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting: **National Park Authority**

Date: **Friday 8 November 2024**

Time: **10.00 am**

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

PHILIP MULLIGAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 27 September 2024** *(Pages 5 - 8)*
- 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. Members Declarations of Interest**

FOR INFORMATION

- 6. Chair's Briefing**
- 7. Chief Executive Report (PM)** *(Pages 9 - 12)*

FOR DECISION

- 8. Authority Progress Report - Mid-Year (Decile 3) 24-25** *(Pages 13 - 18)*
Appendix 1
- 9. Local Development Scheme Update** *(Pages 19 - 42)*
Appendix 1
- 10. Sheffield City Council Statement of Common Ground (BJT)** *(Pages 43 - 46)*
- 11. Boardroom Apprentice Programme** *(Pages 47 - 50)*

FOR INFORMATION

- 12. Report from the Chair of Programmes & Resources Committee - Verbal Update**
- 13. Report from the Chair of Planning Committee - Verbal Update**
- 14. Reports from Outside Bodies - None Submitted**

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The Local Government Act 1972 requires that the Authority shall list any unpublished Background Papers necessarily used in the preparation of the Reports.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

Please note that meetings of the Authority and its Committees may 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 Customer and Democratic Support Team 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 Customer and Democratic 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 Customer and Democratic 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. These recordings will be retained for three years after the date of the meeting.

General Information for Members of the Public Attending Meetings

Please note meetings of the Authority and its Committees may 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: K Smith
Deputy Chair: J W Berresford

M Beer	Ms R Bennett
P Brady	M Buckler
M Chaplin	Prof J Dugdale
C Farrell	C Greaves
A Gregory	L Grooby
B Hanley	A Hart
L Hartshorne	Mrs G Heath
I Huddleston	D Murphy
A Nash	C O'Leary
K Potter	V Priestley
K Richardson	K Rustidge
Dr R Swetnam	S Thompson
J Wharmby	Y Witter
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 27 September 2024 at 12.00 pm

Venue: Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell

Chair: K Smith

Present: J W Berresford, M Beer, Ms R Bennett, P Brady, M Buckler, M Chaplin, Prof J Dugdale, C Farrell, C Greaves, A Gregory, L Grooby, B Hanley, Mrs G Heath, I Huddleston, D Murphy, A Nash, C O'Leary, K Potter, V Priestley, K Richardson, K Rustidge, Dr R Swetnam, S Thompson and Y Witter

Apologies for absence: A Hart, L Hartshorne, J Wharmby and B Woods.

78/24 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 26 JULY 2024

There was an amendment to the title of Minute number 73/24 to correct the spelling of Independant Persons to Independent Persons.

The minutes of the last meeting of the National Park Authority held on 26 July 2024 with the above amendment were approved as a correct record.

79/24 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

80/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present to make representations to the Committee.

81/24 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Members Declarations of Interest.

82/24 CHAIR'S BRIEFING

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

- Along with the Deputy Chair attended weekly briefings with the Chief Executive
- Attended two Planning Committee Meetings and 2 sets of Site Visits
- Attended one Programme and Resources Committee meeting

- Along with the Chief Executive met with Jon Pearce MP High Peak
- Chairs and Vice-Chairs meeting with the Chief Executive on current issues
- Met with the Executive Director of National Parks England
- Attended the Local Plan Steering Group in August
- Visited the Chatsworth County Fair and met with Lord Burlington and the new Mayor of the East Midlands Combined Authority
- Met with representatives from Derbyshire County Council to discuss the content and delivery of the National Park Management Plan
- Attended part of the Wider Management Team meeting at Over Haddon
- Attended the Planning Training for Members
- Along with the Chief Executive, the Deputy Chair and other members of staff attended the National Park Annual Conference held in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

83/24 CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (PM)

There were no further updates to the report, however the Chief Executive did explain why the report mentioned the National Park UK Communications unit, how the PDNPA was heavily involved and the focus of the communications unit.

Since the paper had been written the Landscapes Working Group had been formed and will be taking forward the ideas for a bid to be submitted to the new National Lottery Heritage Fund 'Landscape Connections' programme.

RESOLVED:

To note the report.

84/24 LANDSCAPE AI - PRESENTATION

The Strategy and Performance Manager gave a presentation on the subject of Landscape AI and the project undertaken by the Senior Data and Research Analyst. The justification for the project and the methodology were presented to the team along with the next steps.

The Team were thanked for the presentation and the fascinating work in this area. It was noted that the main barrier to further development is funding and that with further funding it would be possible to develop this for other protected landscapes. Members enquired as to the intellectual property rights of the work and whether there were any income generating opportunities available. The Authority Solicitor confirmed that she would review this and confirm the Authority's position. It was noted that in the future it may be possible to add in parameters linking to climate change and the team are working closely with universities who have access to more funding. The Chair mentioned that the Sheffield Centre Archaeological Society, along with the University of Sheffield and the Yorkshire Archaeological Society are planning an Aerial Photography Conference next year and if there was an opportunity here to showcase the project.

85/24 ANNUAL COMPLAINT PERFORMANCE & SERVICE IMPROVEMENT REPORT

The Authority Solicitor introduced the report, confirming that a positive report had been received from the Ombudsman, that there had been no maladministration, nor any issues which had needed to be reported to the Information Commissioner.

There were no comments or questions from Members.

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

RESOLVED:

That the complaint, information request and data handling statistics detailed within the reports and appendices be noted.

86/24 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF PROGRAMMES & RESOURCES - VERBAL UPDATE

The Vice-Chair of the Programmes and Resources Committee gave a verbal update on the work of the committee from the last meeting where the following topics were discussed:-

- A couple of themes were covered at the last meeting the first being the Climate Change Aims incorporating the Race to Zero to get to Net Zero by 2040 instead of 2050 and how to measure the indirect emissions and the adaption needed to manage climate change.
- The Carbon Management plan annual update was given
- Occupational Safety and Health and the under-reporting of incidents was discussed at the last meeting
- Also looked at Insurance Renewal
- Knowle House Farm tenancy has now been let with a focus on environmental management and education and hopefully a visit there for members next summer.

87/24 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF PLANNING - VERBAL UPDATE

The Chair of the Planning Committee had circulated a paper to Members prior to the meeting detailing the recent work of the Planning Committee.

There were no questions from Members.

RESOLVED:

To note the report.

88/24 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES - NONE SUBMITTED

No reports had been submitted.

The meeting ended at 12.55 pm

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7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (PM)

1. Purpose

To up-date Members of key items since the previous Authority meeting and to give an update on corporate risks.

2. Context

For this CEO report I am going to focus on giving an update on national issues.

As part of National Parks England (NPE) we have access to senior Defra officials and through NPE we have ongoing dialogue with government. From our discussions the messaging we are getting is that government is looking for National Parks to be greener, wilder and more accessible. We know that government is focused on accessibility but this means more than physical access, there is also a concern for socio-economic access and there may be a Green Paper on access to nature coming in the near future.

There is also talk of a new land use framework, which is something that would be helpful.

There is clear talk of addressing National Park governance to make it more representative and efficient. In reality this is likely to mean looking at the size of National Park boards and possibly addressing diversity. Messages have been sent back to government that whilst many boards are large and not very diverse, it is not governance issues that really hold National Parks back from delivering more, it is the poor funding settlement we have. That said, it is sensible for us to be thinking about ways in which we could get on the front foot and try to influence any potential governance changes that may be initiated by government. There is a planned Member Forum discussion on this coming up.

There has been slow progress with the guidance on the new duty to further the purposes of National Parks. It is now expected that guidance will be out before Christmas. There are also positive noises about the potential for extending the power of competence that National Parks have, which would help enable more creative income generation. The government are looking at what levers can be used to help get more non-government funding into National Parks.

It is now clear we are going to get a one year funding settlement, following the budget. The departmental budget will be confirmed after the budget and then Defra will go into a business planning phase, at the end of which we should know our grant for April 2025 to March 2026. We are, however, only likely to find out what this annual grant will be in March or even April of next year. Immediately after the budget the Treasury will start working on the comprehensive spending review for agreeing a three-year settlement from 2026 onwards. The messages we are hearing are that effort is going in to protecting what we have rather than getting any increase. This is disappointing if not worrying but it does reflect the state of finances across government. NPE effort is now going into trying to get the best possible one-year settlement as a good settlement is both needed for the year ahead and because whatever that settlement is, it is likely to form the basis of the following three-year settlement.

Government is looking for multiple benefits from spending, which is something we know National Parks deliver. NPE are therefore making the case to government around five 'missions' that tie in with the Labour Party missions that have been widely used. NPE are making a case for a positive funding settlement based around the role National Parks play in the following missions:

- Climate resilience and adaptation
- Nature recovery

- Diving sustainable economic growth
- Access to nature
- Health, wellbeing and future generations

Various National Park CEOs are leading on building each of these cases. I am leading on the climate mission and will work with the officer group that covers climate and energy. There is a need for haste in this work so we are expecting to develop just a core message and vision for each mission.

Aside from the above focus on national engagement to get the best possible funding deal for National Parks, there has also been national engagement between National Park CEOs and CEOs/leaders of the main land holding national environmental NGOs. This work resulted in a joint letter being sent to the Secretary of State from NPE and these major NGOs. This has landed well with government as officials are pleased to see there is joint working and a single voice. It has also helped with building relations with these NGOs and getting them to accept the important role National Parks play in nature recovery. This should help avoid a repeat of some of the less helpful comments made by some of these NGOs around implicating National Park Authorities in the poor state of nature within National Parks. At a local level we have just convened a similar retreat for the regional leaders of environmental NGOs which was very successful in relationship building and identifying core issues to work together on.

Natural England recently held a parliamentary reception to celebrate the 75th anniversary of National Park legislation which I attended. This was an excellent networking opportunity and there were very clear messages by Steve Reed, Marian Spain and Tony Juniper about the important role National Parks play.

Finally, it is worth noting the National Parks UK bi-annual conference has now taken place. The focus of this conference was landscapes for everyone. It was an inspiring, if at times challenging, event where there were clear calls for National Parks to do more for diverse audiences and be more inclusive in their staffing and governance. The insights and learnings from this conference have helped inform the paper that Members will be discussing about governance at the Member Forum.

Below is a list of some of the meetings attended recently:

- Moors for the Future Green Financing in the Uplands Conference
- Jo Dilly, Managing Director of Peak District & Derbyshire
- CEO Roadshow at Bradfield (met with Olivia Blake MP)
- Changing Places opening at Millers Dale
- Stephen Vickers, CEO The Devonshire Group
- English National Park Officer Group (ENPOG) Meeting
- UK National Parks Conference, Newcastle
- Hosted Defra's visit to the Peak District
- Chatsworth Strategic Planning Meeting
- John Whitby MP
- National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Landscape Connections working group meeting
- CEO Roadshow in Kettleshulme
- Chris Henning – Executive Director of PLACE, Derbyshire County Council
- Environmental NGO Retreat at Longshaw
- ENPOG & NPE Board meetings in person London
- Natural England Parliamentary Reception, London
- CEO Roadshow, Holme

3. Proposals

3.1 None

4. Recommendations

1. For Members to note the report

5. Corporate Implications

a. Legal
None

b. Financial
None

c. National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan
None

d. Risk Management
None

e. Net Zero
None

6. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

7. Appendices

None.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Phil Mulligan, CEO, 31st October 2024

Responsible Officer, Job Title

Phil Mulligan, CEO

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8. AUTHORITY PROGRESS REPORT – MID YEAR (DECILE 3) 24-25**1. Purpose**

1.1 For Members to review the digital Progress Report of the Authority Plan. This report, published online at <https://reports.peakdistrict.gov.uk/appprogress/> tracks progress over the last six months of year two of the five year Authority Plan (Decile 3: April 2024 – September 2024). As part of the mid-year process, this report will also provide Members with an update of the Corporate risk register 24/25 for review and approval.

2. Context

2.1 The digital format Authority Progress Report is updated every 6 months, resulting in 10 decile reports over the 5-year Authority Plan (2023 - 2028). The presentation of progress information in this format to Members, facilitates more effective scrutiny of key issues and actions, enabling Members to see the strategic overview easily. Corporate risk information is provided so that Members can review the mid-year position and see how risks are being managed corporately.

**3. Proposals
Mid Year (Decile 3)****3.1 Authority Plan Targets:**

- 7 of the 8 Enabling Delivery Aim Objectives (A-H) Targets are green, indicating that if performance is consistent over the remainder of the year, the Authority will achieve its targets for Year 2.
- 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 24/25, so the target will not be reported on this year.

3.2 Key Action Progress:

- There are 28 key actions to be progressed during 24-25. At mid year 25 of these are on schedule where quality meets expectations (green).
- 3 actions are experiencing a delay in schedule and / or have a lack or incorrect mix of resource allocated (amber):
 - Delivery of net income targets is tracking slightly below budget.
 - The external funding bids programme is delayed after two unsuccessful attempts to recruit to the Grant Development and Bid Writing Officer.
 - Warslow Moors Whole Estate Plan will now be prepared in 2025.
- No actions at this reporting point are experiencing significant delay (red).

3.3 Corporate Risk Register status (Appendix 1):

- The overview at mid year is that two risks have increased in significance from amber to red, seven risks have reduced and will be monitored at service level, therefore have been removed from the corporate risk register and one risk has been removed completed.
- Two risks escalated to high risk:
 - **Obj D: DEFRA grant agreement and funding (Ref: 24/25 C)**
Uncertainty around the new government ‘direction of travel’ and expected changes to funding for departments. If a flat cash settlement or decrease in core grant is announced, it could have a significant impact on the Authority.

- **Aim 3: Negative impact of users in the National Park (Ref: 24/25M)**
This risk escalation, previously labeled ‘people management’, now reflects the increasing scrutiny around ‘user management /pressure’ and the Authority’s focus to collect evidence which will attempt to evaluate the impact of users on the landscape and special qualities.
- Seven risks moved off corporate risk register:
 - **Obj A: DLUHC Revision of planning performance standards (Ref: 24/25A)**
Current performance is on track and the planning service expects to be able to meet any future changes in performance standards.
 - **Obj G: Core IT systems maintenance and development (Ref: 23/24K)**
Mitigation is working in other key areas and sufficient cover in database and business systems is now in place.
 - **Aim 2: Expansion of permitted development rights (Ref: 24/25Q)**
Development of this nature are not currently significant in the park, evidence gathering will continue.
 - **Obj E/H: Asset Management capacity (Ref: 23/24E)**
Ongoing prioritisation of work being managed and recruitment is being prioritised, risk will remain until vacancy is filled.
 - **Aim 3: Active Travel England Project delivery & development risk (Ref: 24/25J)**
A cross-department service team has been created with Planning HofS oversight. The ATE project is progressing within expected delivery parameters.
 - **Obj A: Planning enforcement backlogs (Ref: 23/24J)**
Overall number of outstanding cases reduced from 640 (end March 23) to 528 (end March 24). Enforcement backlog work continues.
 - **Aim 4: Local Plan review delay (Ref: 23/24G)**
Still waiting for new local plan regulations to be produced and the overall process to be clarified, however the current workflow is continuing and overall project delivery will be adjusted to suit.
- One risk removed completely:
 - **Obj G: NPMP and Authority Action Plan delivery risks (Ref: 23/24B)**
The Information Manager post has been disestablished and the Strategy and Performance Team restructured to ensure capacity at the required levels of responsibilities.

4 Recommendations

1. **The digital Authority Progress Plan Report (Decile 3) 2024/25 is approved.**
2. **The Corporate risk register summary (Decile 3) 2024/25 provided in Appendix 1 is reviewed and the status of risks accepted.**

5. Corporate Implications

a. Legal

Pursuant to sections 5 and 11A of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, the Authority must deliver to the statutory purposes and statutory duty, respectively, when carrying out its work. Monitoring the Authority’s progress against the aims and objectives set out in the Authority Plan will enable appropriate scrutiny and safeguard legal compliance.

The Authority Plan is compliant with the Authority’s duties in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion. Specific projects undertaken in pursuance of delivery of the aims and objectives will individually identify and address any adverse equality impacts on a case by case basis for consideration prior to approval.

b. Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report. All expenditure associated with the Authority Plan is allocated through setting the 2024-25 budget and specific approvals outside of this report.

c. National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan

This is a mid-year progress report to monitor delivery against the Authority Plan. The digital report presented to the National Park Authority provides Members with further information on delivery to each of the Objectives (A-H) under the Enabling Delivery Aim.

d. Risk Management

Horizon scanning and monitoring of corporate risks enables the Authority to take appropriate action to negate or minimise that risk.

e. Net Zero

This report doesn’t directly contribute to meeting net zero. However, actions under Objective H (Climate Change), aim to reduce the Authority’s greenhouse gas emissions, so it provides Members with further information on what is being delivered to help achieve net zero for the National Park.

6. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Mid Year 2024/25 Corporate Risk Register summary.

Responsible Officer, Job Title and Publication Date

Emily Fox, Head of Resources, 31 October 2024

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Sarah Rowley, Data, Strategy & Performance Officer, 31 October 2024

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2024/25 Mid Year Corporate Risk Overview – Ref Table – Appendix 1

Overall risk level	Risk factor	Likelihood	Impact
Red	Obj D: DEFRA grant agreement and funding (ref: 24/25C) (see also 24/25D)	High	High
Red	Obj E: Injury/Loss of life & property damage due to unsafe trees (ref: 22/23E updated start of year 24/25).	High	High
Red	Aim 1: Influencing ELMs/Area of NP land safeguarded (ref. 20/21B updated start of year 24/25)	High	High
Red	Aim 2: Risk to nature recovery delivery in the white peak (ref. 24/25H)	High	High
Red	Aim 2: National scale new infrastructure Impact - CO2 Pipeline (ref: 24/25M)	High	High
Red	Aim 3: Negative impact of users in the National Park (ref: 24/25M)	High	High
Amber	Obj D: DEFRA Targets and Outcomes Framework based performance monitoring (ref: 24/25D)	Medium	High
Amber	Aim 1: Failure to deliver the PD Nature Recovery Plan (ref. 20/21D updated start of year 24/25)	Medium	High
Amber	Aim 2: Sustainable Moorland Management (ref: 23/24I)	Medium	High
Amber	Aim 2: (Putative) New Rights of Way/Open Access legislation (ref: 24/25O)	Medium	High
Amber	Obj D/E: UK Government department & agencies capacity to support Protected Landscape purposes (ref: 24/25E)	High	Medium
Amber	Obj G: LURA “Duty to seek to further” risk to partnership working and NPMP delivery (ref: 24/25F)	High	Medium
Amber	Aim 2: ELMs Test and Trial outcomes (ref: 24/25I)	High	Medium
Amber	Aim 3: Rights of Way deterioration and reduction in funding (ref: 24/25L)	High	Medium
Amber	Obj C/D: Extended absence of a HoS or senior officer (accepted permanent generic risk)	Medium	Medium
Amber	Obj D: Failure of large-scale bids (ref: 24/25 G)	Medium	Medium
Amber	Aim 2: Private finance for landscape and nature recovery (ref: 24/25N)	Medium	Medium
Amber	Aim 4: East Midlands Combined Councils Authority priorities (ref: 24/25K potential impact on all NPMP Aims)	Medium	Medium

2024/25 Corporate Risk Matrix

24/25 Corporate Risk Register

Impact	High	AMBER (closely monitor)	AMBER (manage and monitor)	RED (significant focus and attention)
	Med	GREEN (accept but monitor)	AMBER (management effort worthwhile)	AMBER (manage and monitor)
	Low	GREEN (accept)	GREEN (accept/review periodically)	GREEN (accept but monitor)
		Low	Med	High
		Likelihood		

IMPACT	High	<p>Obj D: DEFRA Targets and Outcomes Framework based performance monitoring (Ref: 24/25D)</p> <p>Aim 1: Failure to deliver the Peak District Nature Recovery Plan (Ref: 20/21D updated start of year Q2 24/25)</p> <p>Aim 2: Sustainable Moorland Management (Ref: 23/24I)</p> <p>Aim 2: (Putative) New Rights of Way/Open Access legislation (Ref: 24/25O)</p>	<p>Obj D: DEFRA grant agreement and funding (Ref: 24/25 C) (see also 24/25D) (escalated from AMBER MxH)</p> <p>Obj E: Injury/Loss of life & property damage due to unsafe trees (Ref: 22/23E updated start of year 24/25).</p> <p>Aim 1: Influencing ELMs/Area of NP land safeguarded (Ref: 20/21B updated start of year 24/25)</p> <p>Aim 2: Risk to nature recovery delivery in the white peak (Ref: 24/25H)</p> <p>Aim 2: National scale new infrastructure impact CO2 Pipeline (Ref: 24/25P)</p> <p>Aim 3: Negative impact of users in the National Park (Ref: 24/25M) (escalated from AMBER HxM)</p>	
	Medium	<p>Obj C/D: Extended absence of a HoS or senior officer (accepted permanent generic risk)</p> <p>Obj D Failure of large-scale bids (Ref: 24/25 G)</p> <p>Aim 2: Private finance for landscape and nature recovery (Ref: 24/25N)</p> <p>Aim 4: East Midlands Combined Councils Authority priorities (Ref: 24/25K potential impact on all NPMP Aims)</p>	<p>Obj D/E UK Government departments and agencies capacity to support Protected Landscape purposes (Ref: 24/25E)</p> <p>Obj G: LURA "Duty to seek to further" risk to partnership working and NPMP delivery (Ref: 24/25F)</p> <p>Aim 2: ELMs Test and Trial outcomes (Ref: 24/25I)</p> <p>Aim 3: Rights of Way deterioration and reduction in funding (Ref: 24/25L)</p>	
	Low			
		Low	Medium	High
		LIKELIHOOD		

9. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME UPDATE**1. Purpose**

1.1 To seek the Committee's approval of the revised Local Development Scheme.

2. Context

2.1 The Authority is legally obliged to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme that specifies the local development plan documents.

3. How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3.1 A Local Development Scheme is required under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). National Planning Practice Guidance states that it must specify (among other matters) the documents which, when prepared, will comprise the Local Plan for the area. It must be made available publicly, including on the website, and kept up-to-date.

4. Background Information

4.1 A Local Development Scheme was last published in 2022 and is out of date. An updated Local Development Scheme is at Appendix 1. It describes the current suite of development plan documents and outlines a broad timetable for their review.

4.2 The current development plan documents for the Peak District National Park are:

- Core Strategy (2011)
- Development Management Policies (DMP) (2019)
- Policies Map
- Made Neighbourhood Plans (Holme Valley, Dore, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Leekfrith, Bradwell, Brampton, Whaley Bridge.)

4.3 The Authority is currently undertaking a review of its Local Development Plan, which will result in combining the Core Strategy and DMP into one Local Plan, along with the adoption of an updated Policies Map. The timeline for this is:

- 2024 statutory consultation on issues and options
- 2025 statutory consultation on preferred options and/or draft plan
- 2026 submission to Secretary of State

4.4 The following adopted Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance are not formally part of the development plan, but are material considerations in planning decisions. These will remain in force until they are replaced.

- Design Guide (2007) and Technical Supplement (1987)
- Alterations and Extensions (2014)
- Shop Fronts (2014)
- Climate Change and Sustainable Building (2013)
- Agricultural Developments (2003)
- Transport Design Guide (2019)
- Residential Annexes (2021)
- Conversion of Historic Buildings (2022)
- Bonsall Design Statement (2003)

- Loxley Valley Design Statement (2004)

4.5 In accordance with any revised Government guidance about plan-making, SPDs and Design Codes we will review existing supplementary planning documents. Information may be brought into policy, remain as SPD, form part of a Peak District Design Code or become technical guidance. The review will also identify ‘gaps’ in existing guidance that we will seek to address. It may include for example: space between buildings; details, finishes and materials; contemporary design; climate change and sustainable building; biodiversity and green infrastructure.

4.6 We will continue to give advice and assistance to councils currently writing Neighbourhood Plans and to any others that designate new Neighbourhood Areas. The parish councils currently being supported are:

- Hartington Town Quarter Parish (Derbyshire Dales)
- Saddleworth (Oldham)
- Great Hucklow and Foolow parish councils (Derbyshire Dales)

4.7 All updates to the LDS are summarised in the table below:

Edits:	Paragraph:
Website Link updated	1.1; 1.3
Date change	1.2
Amended to include Reg 18 consultation	2.1
NPPF date of publication	3.1
NPPF Paragraph references updated	3.2; 3.3; 3.4; 3.5.
Neighbourhood Plan dates amended for adoption of Whaley Bridge and Brampton	3.16
Amended to include SPD update	4.2
National Park Management Plan adopted 2023	5.1
Updated hyperlinks	7.1; 7.2; 7.3.
Amended to latest AMR	8.2
Dates amended on timetable	Appendix 1 of LDS
Amendment to include possible changes in government guidance (SPD Update).	Appendix 1 of LDS
Local plan review date amended to 2026.	Appendix 3

5. Recommendation

5.1 That the updated Local Development Scheme at Appendix 1 be approved.

6.

Corporate Implications

a. Legal

Pursuant to section 15(1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Authority has a statutory duty to prepare and maintain a scheme to be known as the Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS must specify the local development documents which are to be development documents; the subject matter and geographical area to which those documents relate; whether any of those documents are to be prepared jointly with any other local planning authorities; and the timetable for the preparation and revision of the documents. The Authority is also advised to have regard to the National Planning Policy Framework and the National Planning Practice Guidance.

b. Financial

None.

c. Equality and Diversity

Issues associated with equality, diversity and inclusion are fully considered in the local plan-making process.

d. Risk Management

Approving the updated Local Development Scheme will avert risks associated with publicising out-of-date information.

e. Sustainability

Sustainability issues are fully considered in the local plan-making process.

f. Climate change

Climate change issues are fully considered in the local plan-making process.

7. Background papers (not previously published)

The current [Local Development Scheme](#) to be replaced.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Peak District National Park Authority Local Development Scheme.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Ellie Faulder, Communities Policy Planner, 31st October 2024.

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LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

September 2024 – December 2026

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This and other Local Development Plan documents can be made available in large copy print, audio recording or languages other than English. If you require the document in one of these formats please contact the Policy and Communities Team, Peak District National Park at the address above or email policy@peakdistrict.gov.uk

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

September 2024 - December 2026

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for the Peak District National Park (PDNP). The LDS is a project plan, which effectively forms the Authority's planning policy work programme for the period from September 2024 to December 2026. The LDS is publicly available from the National Park Authority or via the Authority's website at [Local Development Scheme](#).
- 1.2 An LDS is required under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). Paragraph 3 of the National Planning Practice Guidance¹ (NPPG) states that it must specify (among other matters) the documents which, when prepared, will comprise the Local Plan for the area. It must be made available publicly and kept up-to-date. It is important that local communities and interested parties can keep track of progress. Local planning authorities should publish their Local Development Scheme on their website.
- 1.3 The National Park approach to spatial planning is underpinned by a close relationship to the broader [National Park Management Plan](#) (NPMP). In addition, both the Local Development Plan and the NPMP pay close regard to the strategies prepared by constituent authorities that share the area of the National Park.

2 Progress since the previous Local Development Scheme

- 2.1 Since the publication of the last LDS in 2022, the Authority has continued its review of the Core Strategy and the DMP document with the intention of combining the two documents. This process is now at Regulation 18 consultation stage. A timeline for this review can be found in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 In addition, since the last LDS the Authority has formally made (adopted) three Neighbourhood Plans in Dore, Holme Valley and Leekfrith, as well as adopting three Supplementary Planning Documents on the topics of Transport Design, Residential Annexes and the Conversion of Historic Buildings (please see full list in Fig.1 below).

3 The various elements of the Local Development Plan

National

- 3.1 A new version of the National Planning Policy Framework was published in July 2021 and is supplemented by the website based NPPG, updated on an ongoing basis. The Authority must have regard to the NPPF and NPPG when preparing its Local Plan.

¹ [Plan-making - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

- 3.2 Para. 225 of the NPPF outlines that plans should not be considered out of date simply because they were adopted prior to the publication of the NPPF (as is the case for the Core Strategy) but para. 224 outlines that plans may need to be revised to take the NPPF into account.
- 3.3 Para. 225 of the NPPF clarifies that due weight should be given to relevant policies in existing plans according to their degree of consistency with the framework. A detailed policy-by-policy analysis was undertaken and in February 2013 the Authority confirmed that the Core Strategy is consistent with the framework. The DMP was found at examination to also be consistent with the Framework.
- 3.4 Para. 182 and footnote 63, provide the principle guidance in relation to National Parks confirming that *“great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in all these areas, and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads.”*
- 3.5 Para. 183 outlines that permission should be refused for major development in the national park, other than in exceptional circumstances and where it is in the public interest. Para. 217 (a) confirms that as far as is practical local planning authorities should provide for the maintenance of landbanks of non-energy minerals from outside National Parks.
- 3.6 Notwithstanding the provisions of the NPPF the Authority has a statutory requirement to pursue the twin purposes of National Park designation as laid down in the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act and as amended by the 1995 Environment Act² which are to:
- a) conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area; and
 - b) promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public.
- 3.7 Whilst ongoing efforts are made to ensure consistency with national planning policy, the National Park Authorities retain sufficient independence to defend the integrity of the national parks’ statutory purposes. On occasion this has led to the family of national parks, through its association body National Parks England, to seek a different approach.

Local

- 3.8 The planning policy documents which form the Local Development Plan provide spatial policies and guidance for achieving the statutory purposes of the National Park where this affects the use and development of land.

² [Environment Act 1995 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://legislation.gov.uk)

3.9 Development Plan Documents (DPDs) (including Neighbourhood Plans) are statutory planning documents subject to independent examination, principally by the Planning Inspectorate.

3.10 As shown in Fig.1 below, the DPDs for the Peak District National Park currently consist of the Core Strategy (2011), the Development Management Policies (DMP) (2019), the Policies Map and any Neighbourhood Plans that have been made (adopted).

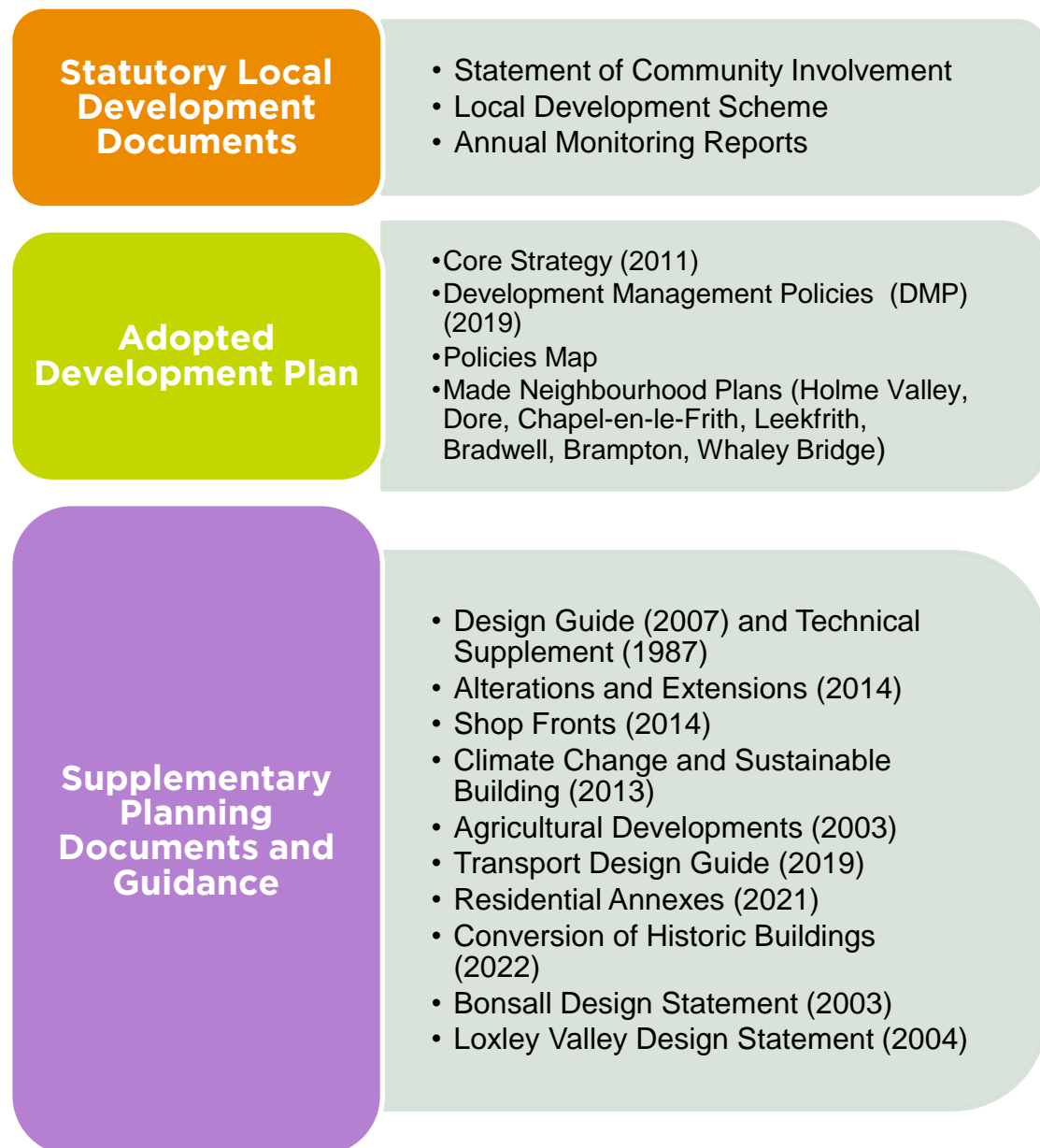


Fig 1. Peak District National Park Local Development Plan documents

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) and Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

- 3.11 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) give more detailed advice on how to comply with the policies contained in DPDs. They will be subject to full public consultation but will not be subject to independent examination.
- 3.12 The adopted Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance are not formally part of the development plan, but are material considerations in planning decisions. These will remain in force until they are replaced.
- 3.13 A list of all SPDs and earlier Supplementary Design Guidance (SPG) can be found in Fig. 1.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 3.14 Neighbourhood Plans offer local communities (via a Neighbourhood Forum or Parish/Town Council) the opportunity to prepare locally specific policies that can become part of the local development plan. They must be in general conformity with strategic policies and meet other basic conditions.
- 3.15 At the time of writing the Authority is currently supporting communities across the National Park in bringing forward their local aspirations to neighbourhood plan status. Seven plans have already been formally made (adopted) in Holme Valley, Whaley Bridge, Brampton, Dore, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Leekfrith and Bradwell. The current list of designated neighbourhood areas is as follows:
- Holme Valley (Kirklees) – plan made 2021
 - Dore (Sheffield) – plan made 2021
 - Leekfrith (Staffordshire Moorlands) – plan made 2021
 - Bradwell (Derbyshire Dales) – plan made 2015
 - Chapel-en-le-Frith (High Peak) – plan made 2015
 - Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside (High Peak)
 - Bakewell (Derbyshire Dales)
 - Whaley Bridge (High Peak)
 - Hartington (Derbyshire Dales)
 - Saddleworth (Oldham)
 - Brampton (North East Derbyshire)
 - Great Hucklow and Foolow (Derbyshire Dales)

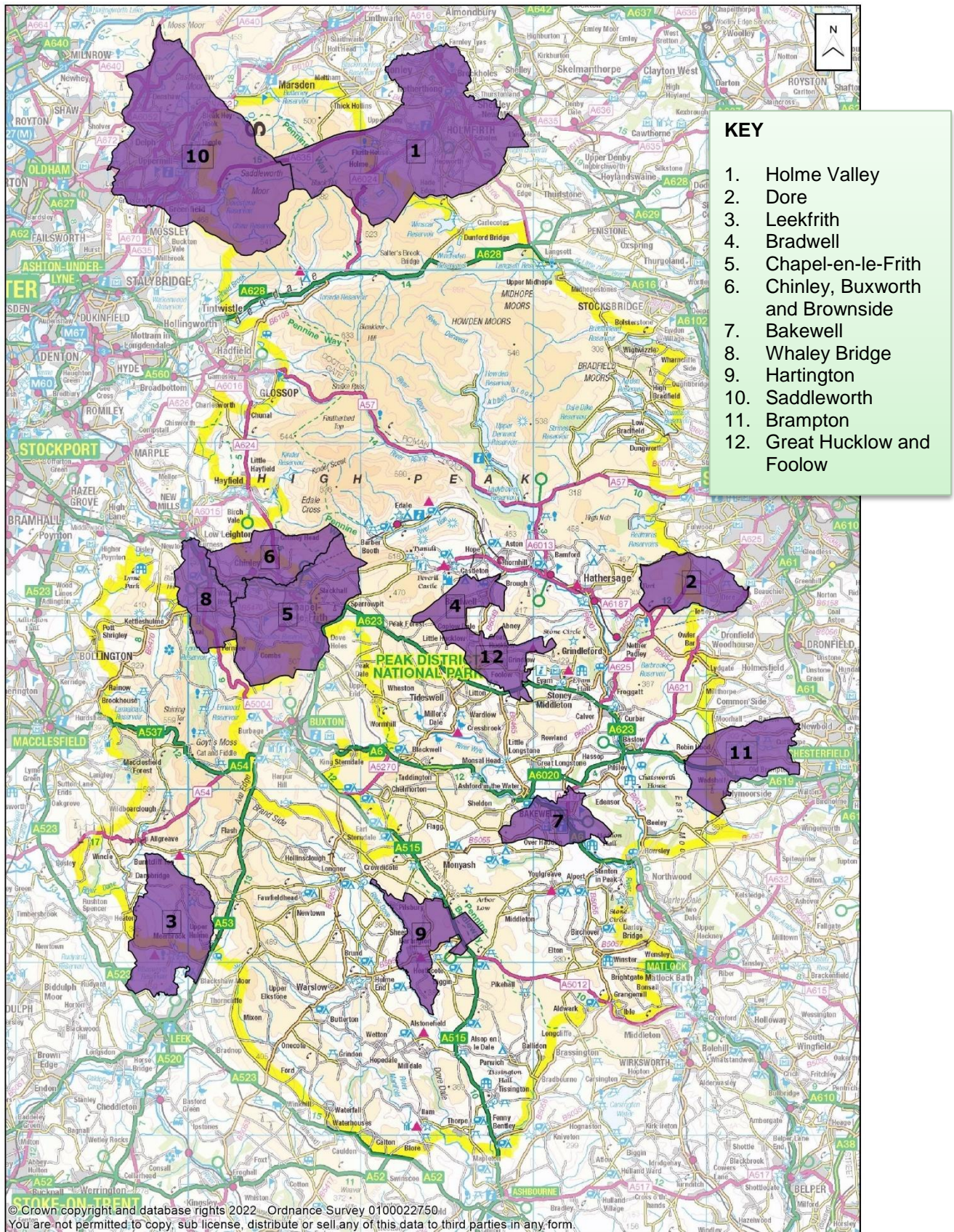


Fig 2. Neighbourhood Plan areas across the Peak District National Park

3.16 The Community Policy Planner based within the Policy and Communities Team continues to maintain long-term support for community-level work.

4 Plans we are working on

- 4.1 The Authority is currently undertaking a review of its Local Development Plan, which will result in combining the Core Strategy and DMP document into one Local Plan document, along with the adoption of an updated Policies Map. Please see Appendix 1 for further information on timelines.
- 4.2 Local planning authorities await further guidance on the role and nature of SPDs within the new plan-making system proposed to be implemented in 2027. The National Park Authority is currently reviewing all its SPDs alongside the local plan review so that a decision can be made about whether the information should remain as SPD, be incorporated into policy, form part of a new Peak District design code or be technical guidance.
- 4.3 We will continue to give advice and assistance to the parish councils currently with Neighbourhood Plans as referenced in para. 3.16, and to any others that designate new Neighbourhood Areas.

5 Relationship to National Park Management Plan

- 5.1 The current National Park Management Plan (NPMP) (2018-2023) provides a vision for the future of the Peak District, to be achieved in partnership with all agencies and stakeholders with an interest in the Park. The NPMP is being reviewed and is adopted. The new Local Plan will be aligned to the NPMP.
- 5.2 The NPMP also sets out the Special Qualities of the PDNP. The current Local Plan policies aim to conserve and enhance these special qualities. The new Local plan will continue to do this.

6 Duty to Co-operate

- 6.1 The Authority maintains regular dialogue with all of the constituent and adjoining authorities that make up the PDNP as displayed in Fig. 3 below. Although regional authorities no longer exist, regions as a geographical and statistical entity do still exist so are shown for illustrative purposes.

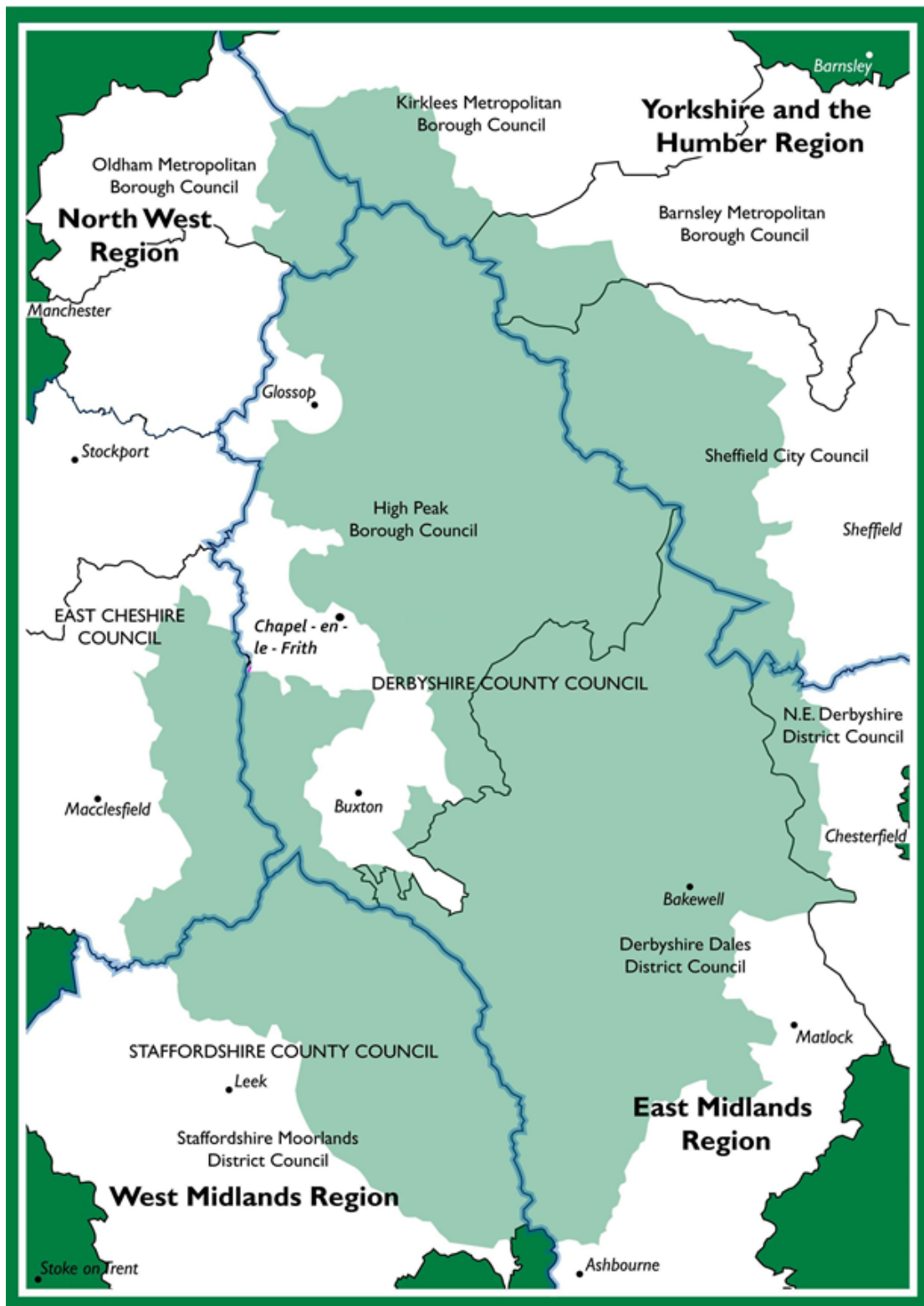


Fig 3. Local Administrative Context Showing Constituent and Neighbouring Authorities

6.2 Various methods are used to satisfy the legal duty to cooperate under the Localism Act 2011. In addition to formal consultation on plan making, the following are examples of the varied forms of joint work that take place on cross boundary strategic planning matters:

- Regular meetings with planning colleagues of constituent and adjoining authorities under the banner of the Duty to Cooperate
- A formal memorandum of understanding with High Peak Borough Council on cross boundary policy and delivery matters
- Wide range of jointly commissioned evidence studies at District and County levels
- Attendance at Planning Policy Officer Group meetings for Derbyshire
- Cross boundary engagement on Neighbourhood Plans
- Discussions with partner organisations through the National Park Management Plan partnership and its various forums
- Joint Aggregates Assessment with Derbyshire County Council.

7 Managing the evidence base

- 7.1 The LDP draws on a range of evidence from within and outside the Authority, including jointly-commissioned studies. All evidence informing the current review of the Local Plan is publicly available [here](#).
- 7.2 The evidence that informed the Core Strategy is publicly available [here](#) and DMP evidence [here](#).
- 7.3 [Annual Monitoring Reports](#) assess performance of policy and are a valuable source of evidence for plan review.

8 Monitoring and Review

- 8.1 An Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) describing the implementation of the local development scheme and the extent to which policy objectives are being achieved, has been produced on an annual basis up until 2016/17. For the period 2017-19 a reduced version of the report has been produced, which covers housing and cases contrary to policy.
- 8.2 The latest AMR covers the period 2016/17-2022/23' [MONITORING-REPORT-2024-with-amends-Planning-Committee-July-2024.pdf](#)

9 Management process and resources

- 9.1 The Policy and Communities Team is responsible for preparing and writing the Local Development Plan. Advice from other specialist officers is sought at key stages, typically from the Minerals, Cultural Heritage, Landscape, Ecology and Strategy and Performance Teams.
- 9.2 The Policy and Communities Team Manager is responsible for programme management, working with the Head of Planning. Managers are aware of areas of risk and uncertainty, and have appropriate contingencies. Regular programme management meetings link the Planning Service with the Authority's broader Policy, Land Management and Rural Development functions.

- 9.3 A local plan review member steering group works closely with the Policy and Communities Team. The Chair and Vice Chair of Planning Committee, the Authority Chair, and various lead members are represented.

Appendix 1: Local Development Scheme summary timetable

Document title	Status	Role and content	Geographical coverage	Chain of conformity	Pre-production survey and involvement	Date for pre-submission consultation	Date for submission to Secretary of State	Proposed date for adoption
Revised Statement of Community Involvement	LDD	Describes how stakeholders and the community will be involved in plan-making and planning applications.	Whole National Park	N/A		2028	2028	2028
Revised National Park Local Plan Parts 1 and 2 combined	DPD	Setting the Spatial Vision and objectives, along with Core Policies as part 1 and detailed development management policies as part 2 with any proposals set out in accompanying Policies Map	Whole National Park	Consistent with Statutory National Park purposes and National Planning Policy	From 2020 to 2023	2026	December 2026	2027
Revised Policies Map/ Local Plan	DPD	Illustrates the spatial application of local plan policies & proposals on an Ordnance Survey base map. Prepared with DPDs which identify policy areas or have site allocations.	Whole National Park	Consistent with DPD	From 2023	Jan 2024	2025	2026
Neighbourhood Plans	DPD	Policies to manage development, exploring settlement capacity, opportunities for affordable housing, businesses and community facilities as well as seeking opportunities to conserve and enhance and features of local value.	Parishes across the National Park.	To conform with the DPD and national planning policy	On-going from Jan 2013	On-going with communities at different stages	On-going with communities at different stages	On-going with communities at different stages

Annual Monitoring Report	N/A	Sets out progress in producing DPDs & SPDs and implementing policies, action needed to meet targets, and any changes needed.	Whole National Park	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
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Possible Future Supplementary Planning Documents

Local planning authorities await further guidance on the role and nature of SPDs within the new plan-making system proposed to be implemented in 2027. The National Park Authority is currently reviewing all its SPDs alongside the local plan review so that a decision can be made about whether the information should remain as SPD, be incorporated into policy, form part of a new Peak District design code or be technical guidance. The review will also identify any current gaps in guidance, for example:

- Additional design guidance to address ‘gaps’ in existing guidance to cover: new housing, space between buildings; details, finishes and materials; contemporary design; and climate change and sustainable building.
- Barn conversions
- Biodiversity net gain
- Development on farms

Appendix 2: Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance

Document title	Type	Status	Description	Conformity
Conversion of Historic Buildings	SPD	Adopted July 2023	Guidance for converting historic buildings providing a level of detail necessary to interpret national guidance in the context of the protected landscape.	Supplements CS L1 & L3 and DMP policies DMC5, DMC7 & DMC10
Residential Annexes	SPD	Adopted Feb 2020	Sets out the legal complexities surrounding ancillary residential accommodation and how it differs from incidental accommodation. Outlines when a condition or S106 would be used to prevent severance.	Supplements DMP policies DMC5, DMC10, DMH5, DMH7 and DMH8.
Transport Design Guide	SPD	Adopted June 2019	Provides further detail to transport design policy within the national park.	Supplements CS T3 and DMP policy DMT3.
Detailed Design for Alterations and Extensions	SPD	Adopted July 2014	Sets out the guidance in 2 parts firstly the approach to alterations dealing with changes to door and window openings, rainwater goods, the addition of rooflights, and on-site parking, and improvements to non-traditional houses. The second part deals with extensions, looking at a general design approach to ensure they fit well with their host buildings. Porches, garages and conservatories are discussed separately.	Supplements CS GSP3 and DMP policy DMC3.
Detailed Design for Shopfronts	SPD	Adopted July 2014	Sets out the approach to creating good shop fronts in the National Park. It covers aspects such as design, signage and lighting.	Supplements CS GSP3 and DMP policies DMC3, DMS4 & DMS5.

Climate Change and Sustainable Buildings	SPD	Adopted March 2013	Encourages high sustainability standards in all new development, gives guidance on renewables and low carbon technologies and issues of water and flood management.	Supplements CS policies CC1, CC2, CC4, CC5
Peak District Design Guide	SPD	Adopted January 2007	Sets out design principles for new development, encouraging high quality modern design that reflects the Peak District building tradition.	Supplements CS GSP3 and DMP policy DMC3.
Loxley Valley Design Statement	SPG	Adopted 2004	Extract from design statement prepared by Loxley Valley Design Group.	Supplements DMP policy DMC3.
Agricultural developments in the Peak District National Park	SPG	Adopted 2003	Sets out guidance on the most appropriate ways for future agricultural development, particularly with regard to new agricultural buildings.	Supplements CS policies GSP1, DS1, E1 & E2 and DMP policy DME1.
Bonsall Village Design Statement	SPG	Adopted 2003	Extract from village design statement produced by Bonsall Village Group.	Supplements DMP policy DMC3.

Appendix 3: Profiles for documents in the Local Development Scheme

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Document details	What is its role and content?	The document describes how stakeholders and the community will be involved in the LDF and planning applications. It also shows links between the LDF & National Park Management Plan.
	Status	LDD
	Chain of conformity	N/A
	What area does it cover?	The Peak District National Park.
Timetable	Previous version adopted	May 2012
	Draft SCI consultation	May 2018
	Revised SCI adopted	July 2023 to review again for 2028
Production	Which department will lead the process?	Policy and Communities Team.
	What resources are required?	Assistance from the Marketing and Communications Team.
	How will its production be managed?	Local Plan Review Member Steering Group will consider draft and agree final submission. Authority Committee approves final document.
	How will stakeholders be involved?	Formal written consultation, media, Parish Councils, stakeholder meetings on request.
Post production	Monitoring and review	The document will be reviewed every 5 years. Next review due by 2023

CORE STRATEGY

Document details	What is its role and content?	The document sets out the vision, objectives & spatial strategy (including Key Diagram) for the National Park, and the primary policies for achieving the vision.
	Status	DPD
	Chain of conformity	Consistent with national planning policy.
	What area does it cover?	The Peak District National Park.
Timetable	Adopted	October 2011
Production	Which department led the process?	Policy and Communities Team
	What resources were required?	The document was prepared using existing resources.
	How was its production managed?	LDF Project Board and Member Plans Review Task Team involved at all stages; Authority agree key options document and final submission document.
	How were stakeholders involved?	Formal written consultation, media, leaflets & brochures, exhibitions, stakeholder meetings, work with young people, Parish Councils, newsletter (detail included in SCI).
Review	When will the document be reviewed?	The Authority is currently undertaking a full Local Plan review which will replace this strategic document by 2026.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Document details	What is its role and content?	The document contains policies to ensure that development meets certain criteria and contributes to the achievement of the Core Strategy.
	Status	DPD
	Chain of conformity	To conform with the Core Strategy and national planning policy.
	What area does it cover?	The Peak District National Park.
Timetable	Adopted 2019	May 2019
Production	Which department led the process?	Policy and Communities Team
	What resources were required?	The document was prepared internally using existing resources.
	How was its production managed?	Policy Management Group and Lead Member Representatives involved at all stages; Authority agreed final submission document.
	How were stakeholders involved?	Formal written consultation, online engagement, media, leaflets & brochures, exhibitions, stakeholder meetings, Parish Councils, bulletins and newsletter (detail included in SCI).
Review	When will the document be reviewed?	The Authority is currently undertaking a full Local Plan review which will replace this Development Management document by 2026.

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10. SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND (BJT)

1. Purpose

For members to note the ongoing actions taken by the Authority to sign up to a Statement of Common Ground in relation to the Habitat Regulations Assessment Appropriate Assessment (HRAAA) supporting the Sheffield Local Plan.

2. Context

2.1 Sheffield City Council published a HRAAA in January 2023. This was consulted on alongside the Publication (Regulation 19) Draft Sheffield Plan. The Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) did not make any representations on the Draft Plan or the HRAAA at that stage, but had commented on early draft policies. An Addendum to the HRAAA was published in September 2023 to address concerns raised by Natural England. The HRAAA and Addendum were submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the Publication Draft Sheffield Local Plan (Regulation 22 stage) in September 2023.

2.2 A further Addendum to the HRAAA was submitted in April 2024 to address a number of concerns raised by Natural England.

2.3 As part of the Duty to Cooperate, work on a Sheffield Plan Local Authorities Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) continued during 2023 and early 2024. The other local authorities in Sheffield City Region were asked to comment on various drafts of the SoCG and, as part of that process, the PDNPA raised concerns about the conclusions in the HRAAA. These concerns were conveyed to the City Council in an email dated 3rd April 2024.

2.4 The PDNPA's primary concern was that the HRAAA underestimated the potential impacts of the Sheffield Plan, specifically the impact that the rise in population linked to housing growth would have on visitor pressure in the National Park. The PDNPA's view is that the increase in recreational pressure will have an adverse impact on the integrity of the South Pennine Moor Special Area for Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA).

2.5 The final version of the SoCG was published on the Examination website on 2nd May 2024. It was, however, not possible to reach agreement with Sheffield City Council in advance of the SoCG being submitted. Paragraphs 4.8 and 4.9 of the SoCG state that:

2.5.1 4.8 The Peak District National Park Authority does not agree that the HRAAA provides a satisfactory evidence base to identify likely significant effects, as the HRA methodology is flawed and the impacts have been underestimated.

2.5.2 4.9 The Peak District National Park Authority does not agree that the mitigation measures set out to offset recreational pressure are sufficient. This is on the grounds that there is no evidence that creation of accessible natural green spaces as set out will mitigate the negative effects in respect of additional recreational pressure and wildfire risk on the protected sites in a national park context.

2.6 In responding to these concerns Sheffield City Council has now agreed to make amendments to the HRAAA and has engaged positively in other measures to mitigate the impact of the Sheffield Plan. The following paragraphs set out the agreements that have been drafted between Sheffield City Council and the Peak District National Park Authority and that will form the basis of a new SoCG in order to secure the progress of the Sheffield Local Plan through its examination process.

Recreational Pressure on the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA

2.7 In updating the HRAAA, Sheffield City Council acknowledges that, when considering the Sheffield Plan, individually or in combination with other local plans, it cannot be concluded beyond reasonable doubt that the achievement of the conservation objectives for the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA would not potentially be undermined due to recreational pressure. Mitigation is therefore considered necessary to avoid an adverse effect on the integrity of the European site.

Securing appropriate mitigation measures

- 2.8 Sheffield City Council and the PDNPA agree that the September 2024 update to the HRAAA identifies an appropriate range of mitigation measures that are necessary to reduce and manage recreational pressure on the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA. The pressures are linked to population growth within Sheffield arising from proposed development in the Sheffield Plan.
- 2.9 Both parties agree that a Mitigation Delivery Plan will be produced to identify and cost the mitigation measures. A modification is proposed to the supporting text of Policy GS5 of the Sheffield Plan to make this clear. These measures will be subject to refinement through further discussions between the signatories of the SoCG, Natural England and other implementing partners. Sheffield City Council will lead on the preparation of a Mitigation Delivery Plan which will be completed no later than 12 months after the date of adoption of the Sheffield Plan.
- 2.10 Both parties agree that modifications to policies NC15 and T1 of the Sheffield Plan are also necessary to help secure appropriate mitigation measures:
- 2.11 Modifications to Policy NC15 ‘Creating Open Space in Residential Developments’ should assist in securing the provision of alternative natural greenspace which can help to deflect visitor pressure away from the European sites.
- 2.12 Policy T1 ‘Enabling Sustainable Travel’ should identify the need to encourage sustainable travel choices between urban Sheffield and the Peak District
- 2.13 The Mitigation Delivery Plan will include an agreed funding plan to ensure adequate delivery of appropriate mitigation measures, whilst ensuring that the scale of developer contributions are at a level that will not undermine the conclusions of the Whole Plan Viability Assessment (VI01-VI03). It has also been agreed that Sheffield City Council will secure proportionate developer contributions towards mitigation measures from development comprising 10 or more new dwellings. Both parties agree that the scale of developer contributions per dwelling will be at a level that will not undermine the conclusions in the Whole Plan Viability Assessment (VI01-VI03). A further modification to Policy DC1 in the submitted Sheffield Plan is therefore proposed to make it clear what will be expected of developers. Policy GS5 should also include a cross reference to Policy DC1.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 Sheffield City Council has now published a further update to the HRAAA which takes into account new evidence on the Peak District National Park’s recreational zone of influence. A new SoCG has therefore been proposed and drafted that reflects the conclusions in the revised HRAAA and sets out a number of modifications to the Sheffield Plan that both parties agree should be made.
- 3.2 In November 2019, Authority Committee approved a protocol by which delegation was granted to the Chief Executive of the Authority to approve Statements of Common Ground, subject to consulting with the Chair of the Authority and the Chair

of Planning before doing so, with the Members being informed of the Statements of Common Ground as they are agreed (Minute reference 67/19).

3.3 In this context, and at the time of writing, the new SoCG had not yet been signed. Officers are liaising with counterparts at Sheffield City Council in order to finalise the text and arrange the sign off process for the new SoCG in accordance with our protocol. An update on progress will be provided at the Authority meeting.

4. Recommendations

1. **That the summary of the terms of the new Sheffield Plan Local Authorities Statement of Common Ground outlined in this report be noted.**
2. **That the continuing work of officers to sign up to the Sheffield Plan Local Authorities Statement of Common Ground on behalf of the Peak District National Park Authority be noted; and**
3. **That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning to finalise and approve the Mitigation Delivery Plan on behalf of the Authority.**

5. Corporate Implications

a. Legal

Pursuant to section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (applied by section 4A of the Town and Country Planning Act 199), Sheffield City Council and the Authority have a duty to co-operate with each other in relation to the planning of sustainable development, particularly in relation to the preparation of development plan or other local development documentation. In addition, paragraphs 24 to 27 of the National Planning Policy Framework places a duty on local planning authorities to co-operate with each other to address strategic issues relevant to their areas.

b. Financial

No direct implications. Officers are hopeful the interventions sought from this process will influence the operation of future Community Infrastructure Levies derived from development in the Sheffield Local Plan area. Detailed will be secured through the planned mitigation delivery plan. This could provide a stream of funding which would directly mitigate recreational impacts, e.g. through improvements to footpaths, gates, styles, signage, etc.

c. National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan

Signing up to the agreement supports the partnership approach to recreation management outlined in the NPMP.

d. Risk Management

Once established the principles and recognition of visitor impact arising from neighbouring strategic plans can be replicated across other cross boundary plans as they emerge. The report also describes a further process and time for agreeing the detail of a mitigation delivery plan, so officers are confident we can secure an appropriate and sound mechanism for future management.

e. Net Zero

The agreement strengthens the ability for users of the National Park to participate via active travel means as opposed to use of private vehicle. Well managed and sustainable access to the National Park will support our aims to reduce carbon.

6. Background papers (not previously published)

None

7. Appendices

None

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Brian Taylor, Head of Planning, 31/10/2024

11. BOARDROOM APPRENTICE PROGRAMME

1. Purpose

For Members to consider the opportunity for the Authority to become a Host Board as part of the Boardroom Apprentice programme. Becoming part of the programme may help the Authority to increase diversity of its membership.

2. Context

2.1 The Boardroom Apprentice scheme is a 12 month board learning, development and placement programme which aims to give interested persons practical experience of what being a member of a board involves. Host Boards are from various organisations including public sector arms length bodies, Government departmental boards, voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations. The host board provides the practical experience of taking part in meetings whilst the programme operators support this with 8 learning days to increase knowledge and understanding of relevant topics including governance, communications and partnerships.

2.2 The host board is expected to provide a Board Buddy as a mentor for the apprentice and to provide additional support beyond the meetings to help the apprentice grow and develop in their role. The payment of travel expenses for the apprentice is encouraged.

2.3 Apprentices have to apply for places and then a selection panel of former Boardroom Apprentices undertake the selection process to match them with host boards. Host boards are not involved in the selection process. There are opportunities throughout the programme where current host boards are invited to contribute to other panel discussions and share their experiences

2.4 Defra has recently been promoting this programme and encouraging National Park Authorities (NPA) to take part. Loch Lomond and the Trossachs NPA have been a host board during 2024 and other NPAs are also considering taking part. However, some NPAs have considered this programme and decided co-option of Members would work better for them. For example, Yorkshire Dales NPA has currently decided to recruit 2 co-opted Young Members instead of joining the Boardroom Apprentice programme for 2025 but may reassess this in the future. The co-option of Members to this Authority is also being investigated at present as another possible way of adding diversity to the membership.

2.5 There would be a time commitment for the Authority Member who is appointed as a Board Buddy to support the apprentice as they would be expected to meet regularly to discuss meeting papers before meetings and afterwards to consider their participation in and experience of the meeting, together with regular reviews of how the placement is working for both the apprentice and the host.

2.6 Due to the timescales of the programme for prospective hosts to apply to take part during 2025 an application has already been made for the Peak District NPA subject to confirmation by the Authority. As part of the Host application we have stated that we are looking to have an increased diversity and inclusivity of Members and to have a wider diversity of skills and knowledge available to us. If the Authority decides not to support the application it will be withdrawn.

3. Proposals

3.1 It is proposed that the Authority supports the application to become a host board for a Board Room Apprentice for 2025. If the Authority is matched with a suitable apprentice the Authority would also need to agree to support the apprentice by inviting them to attend all Authority and Programmes and Resources Committee

meetings as a non-voting Member, by providing a Boardroom Buddy (mentor) and by paying travel expenses incurred by the Apprentice for attending the meetings.

3.2 It is not proposed to invite the Apprentice to Planning Committee meetings, even without voting rights, as they would not be a Member appointed by official process and would not have taken part in our Planning training for Members so there could be more risk relating to decisions made by the Planning Committee.

4. Recommendations

- 1. That the application to become a Host Board for a Boardroom Apprentice for 2025 is agreed.**
- 2. That it is agreed to support any matched Apprentice by inviting them to attend meetings of the Authority and the Programmes and Resources Committee as a non-voting member. This is subject to satisfactory completion of a Memorandum of Understanding, signing up to the Members Code of Conduct, compliance with Standing Orders and completion of a register of interests.**
- 3. That a Member is selected as a Boardroom Buddy to mentor any matched Apprentice.**
- 4. That any matched Apprentice would be eligible to claim for the payment of travel and subsistence allowances as set out in Schedule 2 of the Members' Allowances Scheme when attending meetings of the Authority, Programmes and Resources Committee and any training or other events as necessary is agreed.**

5. Corporate Implications

a. Legal

A detailed memorandum of understanding (MOU) would be signed between the Host Board and the Boardroom Apprentice. This would be sent to the Host Board in advance of the Boardroom Apprentice commencing. The MOU includes an information sharing agreement, confidentiality and reflects directly back to the host board's code of practice and standard operating procedures. The Authority may also ask the Apprentice to sign a non-disclosure agreement as they would have access to some Authority confidential information as part of their role. The Apprentice would be under the same obligations as Members of the Authority and would be expected to sign up to the Authority's Member Code of Conduct, comply with Standing Orders and complete a register of interests.

b. Financial

There is no fee for the Authority to become a Host Board however, the Apprentice programme encourages the payment of travel expenses for Apprentices so the cost of this would vary based on where an Apprentice needed to travel from. Other costs would include provision of an iPad and costs of any extra training or events which the Authority may identify as being appropriate for the Apprentice to attend. Members' costs are usually covered by the Customer and Democratic Support budget so any expected increase in costs would need to be considered in budget setting.

c. National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan

The proposal fits with Objective 8 of the National Park Management plan as a possible way for young people and underserved communities to be involved in shaping policies. It also fits with the Authority Plan Objective F to have best practice

governance arrangements in place as a possible way to aid diversity of the membership.

d. Risk Management

There is a risk having a Member not appointed by the usual mechanisms, however this is mitigated by the Apprentice not having voting rights at meetings and having a Member appointed as a Board Buddy to mentor them. Also, the Apprentice will be required to sign up to the Member Code of Conduct and complete a register of interests.

e. Net Zero

This does not contribute to net zero but may enable wider provision of views on net zero proposals by the Authority.

6. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

7. Appendices

None.

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