

8. **REAPPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN ADVISORY GROUP INDEPENDENT CHAIR (A6121/EF)**

Purpose of the report

1. This report seeks approval for the reappointment of the independent chair of the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group.

Recommendation:

2. **1. That Members reappoint Dianne Jeffrey as chair of the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group for the duration of the next National Park Management Plan 2018-23.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. The National Park Management Plan (NPMP) is the overarching strategic document and central to the future of the National Park. We have a statutory requirement to produce a NPMP and review it every five years. The Advisory Group and Chair have no legal status or executive roles but act in an advisory capacity.

Background

4. The Authority has worked with an Advisory Group to develop and monitor the delivery of the NPMP since 2007. This group is made up of partners who represent a broad range of interests within the Peak District National Park. Partners have been chosen to provide a voice for the themes within the vision framework. In 2011, the Authority appointed an independent chair for the group to demonstrate the partnership approach and for them to be an advocate for the NPMP. Please see minute reference 54/11 for the Terms of Reference and Operating Arrangements of this group. As per the terms of reference for the group, the purpose of the group is to:
 - Provide a forum for the on-going review of implementation of the Peak District National Park Management Plan through shared monitoring of delivery of its actions;
 - Help to drive implementation of the plan by advocating the importance of national park outcomes and providing advice and recommendations to any relevant delivery partner to help shape further actions for delivery;
 - Identify issues from a range of sector view points that potentially impact on the national park.
5. Since 2011/12 the group has been chaired by an independently appointed chair; Dianne Jeffrey. Dianne has a wealth of experience that she brings with her in the role of chair, as outlined in the following short biography:

Dianne Jeffrey is chairman of the Age UK Group, the country's largest charity helping everyone to make the most of later life. She also chairs Age International which helps older people in developing countries to improve their income, escape poverty, receive the right kind of healthcare and survive emergencies. Dianne, who founded and chairs the Malnutrition Task Force, has recently been asked by the Department of Health to lead a Panel working on the standards of hospital food in England.

Dianne served on the Heritage Lottery Fund regional committee from 2007-2013, is now

a trustee of the Devonshire Educational Trust at Chatsworth and also serves as chairman of the Peak District National Park Management Plan Advisory Group. She is a former vice chair of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Board.

Dianne was Pro-Chancellor and chairman of the board of the University of Derby from 1999 until 2011. She has served as an NHS Trust chairman for 13 years and chairman of the NHS Confederation from 2000 – 2003. She is a former chairman of Anchor Trust, England's largest Registered Social Landlord for older people.

Dianne is the founder chairman of Digital Outreach Ltd, which helped vulnerable people through the digital TV switchover, and the roll-out of the 4G network.

Dianne was appointed High Sheriff of Derbyshire in 2002/3 and is now an appointed Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Derbyshire. Dianne was commissioned Hon Colonel of the Derbyshire Army Cadet Force, Mercian Regt. in 2004. Dianne was appointed CBE in the Birthday Honours in 2011. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Derby in 2012 and an Honorary Doctorate from Sheffield Hallam University in 2014.

6. Dianne Jeffrey's period in the chair covers the period of the existing plan (2012 to 2017) and now needs to be reviewed. In October 2016, the NPMP Advisory Group supported the proposal to reappoint Dianne as chair of the group. They agreed that having an independent chair clearly demonstrates that the NPMP is a plan for a range of partners operating across the Peak District National Park, not just the Authority. We are now seeking Member's approval to continue Dianne Jeffrey in the chair position for the next plan period.
7. Dianne Jeffrey's highlights of her key achievements as chair of the NPMP Advisory Group are as follows.

The NPMP Advisory Group has met on a regular basis to consider and comment on progress of the NPMP 2012-17. This has tended to be shaped around the 4 themes in our vision and highlights key achievements and issues that have arisen during this time. Our information has been drawn from previous Performance and Escalations reports, and the group have always actively engaged in these discussions. It is worth pointing out that attendances at our thrice-annual meetings has always been close to 100% - must be some sort of a record. The NPMP Advisory Group is now enthusiastically participating in the drawing up of, and consultation for, the next NPMP.

Our group consists of the 12 leading stakeholder/partners who are crucial to the successful implementation of the Plan. However we are conscious that a number of other local organisations and bodies have a great part to play so we try to involve the wider stakeholder group by inviting them to a conference. We have held at least one conference per year since our inception, and I refer to just two of these below.

1. National Park Management Plan conference on the 8th October. 2015. The event really demonstrated that we have some amazing heritage features across the park and helped highlight key issues that need to be addressed. The day concluded with a key message to take forward and for delegates to champion:

'It is the mosaic of features that is at the heart of what is special about the cultural heritage of the Peak District, and they would have greater impact if packaged, protected and valued collectively. There is a need to improve understanding of the wealth of cultural heritage features and the important role cultural heritage can play in economic growth and the sustainability of the landscape. In order to do this there is a need for getting people involved in enjoying, understanding and supporting cultural heritage in appropriate ways.'

The resulting information and workshop outputs are being used to drive the cultural heritage aspect of the forthcoming NPMP, and as a tool to drive change and engage with new audiences.

2.The Authority hosted a Travel Summit in March 2015 as part of its National Park Management Plan. The Secretary of State for Transport, Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin attended to give the keynote address. Some of the outputs from the summit have informed a update of the Peak District National Park Authority's Sustainable Transport Action Plan 2012-17. Comment from your Chairman "I thought the "day" went very well indeed and the energy in the room was amazing."

8. **Proposals**

To reappoint Dianne Jeffrey as chair of the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group for the duration of the National Park Management Plan 2018-23.

Next Steps

9.

As per the 'Terms of Reference and Operating Arrangements' the NPMP Advisory Group will be updated over the coming months with members of the group . This is to ensure that the group reflects the priorities of the updated NPMP. Any update to the 'Terms of Reference and Operating Arrangements' will be presented to Authority at an appropriate time.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

10. **Financial:**

There are no direct financial implications for the reports presented with this paper. In terms of the update of the NPMP, this has a budget associated with it. This includes the expenses that the Authority provides to the chair of the NPMP Advisory Group.

11. **Risk Management:**

Any risks associated with the project are monitored by the Project Board. There are no risks that need to be brought to the attention of Authority.

12. **Sustainability:**

Implementing the NPMP directly contributes to the sustainability of the National Park.

Background papers (not previously published)

None

Appendices

None

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date:

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