

7. **NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2018/19**

1. **Purpose of the report**

This report provides Members with monitoring information for the end of the first full year of the Peak District National Park Management Plan 2018-23.

**Key Issues**

- Section 66 of 1995 Environment Act requires National Park Authorities to produce and update a National Park Management Plan every 5 years.
- At the end of our first full year of the National Park Management Plan, an annual monitoring report for 2018/19 has been produced, which forms appendix 1 to this report.
- Progress has been made against most of the intentions identified with in the National Park Management Plan with 24 delivery actions being shown as 'green' on the quarterly performance table. One action is show as red and one action is shown as amber. Which are as follows:

Intention 3.1: Establish monitoring at a landscape scale. We will have agreed and established a system of monitoring at a landscape scale encompassing landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage.

Targets

Establish the objectives of monitoring in 2018. Red.

Produce a robust methodology for monitoring in 2019. Amber.

2. **Recommendations**

1. **That Members approve the National Park Management Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19.**
2. **That Members note the addition of actions relating to events management as part of the Peak District National Park Management Plan 2018-23 delivery plan.**

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

Requirement to produce and update the National Park Management Plan

Section 66 of 1995 Environment Act requires National Park Authorities to produce a National Park Management Plan which 'formulates policy for the management of the relevant Park and for the carrying out of its functions in relation to that Park' and should reflect national park purposes. This should be updated at least every 5 years.

The UK Government vision and circular 2010 for the English National Parks and the Broads states that 'Park Management Plans are the over-arching strategic document for the Parks and set the vision and objectives which will guide the future of the Park over the next 10 to 20 years. The Park Management Plans are for the Parks and not just the Authorities. They should be supported by clear strategies with evidence of significant 'buy-in' from key partners and stakeholders, including communities, land

owners and land managers. The Government expects public agencies and authorities' active within or bordering a Park to cooperate in the development of the Park Management Plan and the achievement of the Management Plan objectives.'

This means the National Park Management Plan is not a plan for the work of the National Park Authority, or of any one organisation, but about what can be achieved by everyone with an interest in the National Park and its future. The plan is therefore a partnership plan reflecting ambitions across the whole National Park and reflects the input of numerous organisations.

Through Our Corporate Strategy 2019-24, the National Park Authority delivers its contribution to the National Park Management Plan.

#### 4. Background

The Peak District National Park Management Plan 2018-23 was adopted by Members on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (ref 21/18).

The plan focuses on six areas of impact:

- 1: Preparing for a future climate
- 2: Ensuring a future for farming and land management
- 3: Managing landscape conservation on a big scale
- 4: A National Park for everyone
- 5: Encouraging enjoyment with understanding
- 6: Supporting thriving and sustainable communities and economy

The Areas of Impact are further broken down into 15 Intentions. 4 of the 15 Intentions were scheduled to achieve specific actions in year 1 of the plan 2018-19, as follows.

Intention 2.2 Ensure that the management of upland moors delivers environmental, social and economic benefits. Action: Complete bird survey to confirm population trends.

Intention 3.1 Establish monitoring at a landscape scale. Action: Establish the objectives of monitoring in 2018.

Intention 3.3 Maintain existing landscape partnerships. Action: Start planning for the water industry's Asset Management Plan 7 delivery in 2020-2025.

Intention 5.2 Ensure shared responsibility. Review and develop current arrangements for event management in the Peak District. Action: Specifically convene a partner meeting to discuss the issues in 2018

Where the traffic light system for the assessment of performance is used, it indicates the following :

- **Green** – the delivery action was achieved or is on schedule to be achieved in the future.
- **Amber** – the delivery action is at risk of not being achieved on schedule.
- **Red** – the delivery action was not achieved.

Not all the delivery actions have specific targets for delivery in the first year of the management plan, however where useful progress has been made it is still included in the quarterly updates for information and to monitor long term progress.

## 5. Proposals

That Members approve the annual monitoring plan 2018/19 and note the addition of actions relating to events management as part of the Peak District National Park Management Plan 2018-23.

### Progress reporting

Progress has been made against most of the intentions identified for the first year of the National Park Management Plan with 24 delivery actions being shown as 'green' on the performance table. One action is shown as red and one action is shown as amber. The delayed actions occur under:

Intention 3.1: Establish monitoring at a landscape scale. We will have agreed and established a system of monitoring at a landscape scale encompassing landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage.

#### Targets

Establish the objectives of monitoring in 2018. Red.

Produce a robust methodology for monitoring in 2019. Amber.

### Additional Actions

In response to Intention 5.2 Ensure shared responsibility, a partners' workshop was successfully delivered with the objective of improving events management in the Peak District National Park. Following the workshop, a group has been established to start implementing the following actions:

- Improve Pre Event Communication
- Overhaul the events notification system to make it more effective and efficient
- Develop Peak District specific best practice guidelines to aid event's organisers
- Work with Natural England to improve the consents process
- Seek evidence of the extent of community and environmental impact within the National Park.

These five actions will be added to the National Park Management Plan – Delivery Plan and monitored through the Advisory Group.

The attached appendix 1 presents the Peak District National Park Management Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2018-19. This summarised progress for the year against each of the intentions.

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

### Financial:

The delivery plan elements of the NPMP that the Authority is responsible for will be funded through the usual service plan mechanisms.

### Risk Management:

The greatest risk to the delivery of the NPMP is ensuring that there is support from partners and stakeholders, especially the elements of the delivery plan where their contributions are essential. This risk has been mitigated by liaison with partners and

stakeholders throughout the delivery of the NPMP and monitored by the Advisory Group.

Please note that the National Park Authority is the Sponsoring Partner in 16 of the 26 delivery actions. Therefore ten of the delivery actions are led by external bodies and all of the delivery actions require the cooperation of multiple partners to be successful.

**Sustainability:**

National Park Management Plans are subject to the EU Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) which is delivered via a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), and are also subject to the Habitats Regulation and require a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA). The SA and HRA were undertaken prior to the adoption of the NPMP

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

None

**Appendices**

1. Peak District National Park Management Plan 2018-23 Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19

**Report Author**

Matt Mardling, Senior Strategy Officer, 16 May 2019