

14. OUTSIDE BODY AND CONFERENCE FEEDBACK REPORT

Name of Body	National Parks England (NPE)
Date of Meeting	29 January 2020
Member in attendance	Andrew McCloy
Supporting Officer	Sarah Fowler
Issues raised at the meeting of significance to the Authority	
1.	<p>NPE priorities: The Lead National Park Officer reported that Defra had not yet confirmed the final budget settlement for National Parks covering the year ahead, but early indications were giving some cause for concern. Directors agreed to continue making the case for National Parks and building political support. Going forwards, NPE's focus will be on four priority topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the Government's Nature Recovery Network and Strategy supports our wildlife ambitions • Achieving priorities for ELMs and rural development • Enabling National Parks to be loved and enjoyed by everyone • Showing leadership on climate change <p>Three key mechanisms were put forward to aid their delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influencing the Glover Review and subsequent Government response • Influencing Spending Review 2020 • Building the case for strengthened S62 and duties on National Park Management Plans
2.	<p>Climate Change: It was agreed to establish a Chairs' Climate Change working group to provide a high-level steer on how National Parks collectively should coordinate their approach to tackling climate change. This will include developing a more effective narrative for Defra and others to show how National Parks are delivering on national targets and strategies. I have been appointed to chair this new NPE working group.</p>
3.	<p>Communications: A draft communications strategy for NPE was agreed that will focus on improving how we get across our key policy messages and the work of National Park Authorities. An agency (Coast Communications) has been engaged to deliver this. Amongst other things, the Strategy sets out why NPE exists and our mission:</p> <p><i>National Parks England brings together the nine English National Park Authorities and the Broads Authority, to provide a strong, collective and expert voice at a national level. We shape policy by drawing on our extensive experience, facilitating discussion, sharing knowledge, cultivating partnerships, and testing innovative solutions to some of the biggest challenges facing society.</i></p>

Issues on which the views of Authority Members are sought	
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Relevant documents such as reports and hyperlinks	
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1.	For more details about NPE and its work go to: https://www.nationalparksengland.org.uk/home
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