

PROGRAMMES AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE CLIMATE CHANGE MEMBER STEERING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. THE STEERING GROUP: COMPOSITION AND REPORTING PROCEDURES

- a) The Steering Group will usually comprise a maximum of six Members, including the Member Champion for Climate Change, that are appointed at the Authority's Annual General Meeting.
- b) The Member Champion for Climate Change will assume the role of Chair of the Steering Group. In the absence of the Member Champion, the Group will agree a Chair (by majority if required).
- c) The Steering Group does not make formal decisions however, it can make recommendations (which are agreed by a Group majority) to be considered by the Programmes and Resources Committee
- d) The Steering Group will invite input and advice from officers and Members as appropriate to support the operation of the Group.
- e) The Steering Group's priorities will be determined on an annual basis by the Steering Group and approved by the Programmes & Resources Committee or Authority.

The Group will act as an advisory body reporting to Programmes and Resources Committee, to develop the Authority's thinking and response to climate change. The Group does not make any formal decisions as these reside with the Programmes and Resources Committee and the Authority. The scope of influencing is defined as to the Authority, the National Park and wider.

Reporting lines are to the Programmes and Resources Committee and meetings of the Steering Group can be a mixture of formal and informal. There is no requirement to publish agendas or make meetings open to the public. Transparency will be achieved by the requirement for the Steering Group to report on its findings and for all recommendations to be formally approved by the Programmes and Resources Committee.

Although there is no budget established for this Steering Group, attendance at formal meetings of the Group is classified as an Approved Duty for appointed Members to allow the payment of travel expenses.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Steering Group has been created to consider and provide recommendations, including the use of resources, relating to the following areas of interest and key strategic issues:-

Contextual analysis

Enabling the Authority fully to understand the climate change issues it is facing, including the opportunities and risks in the transition to net zero environment.

Target setting

Enabling the Authority to set sufficiently ambitious climate change related targets for the Authority and the National Park.

Ensuring monitoring of performance against targets.

Implementation

Ensuring the Authority's implementation plans clearly set out the actions it will take to achieve the targets that have been set.

Influencing

Ensuring the Authority is leading the way and influencing its key stakeholders, communities, businesses and visitors to address the barriers to achieving further reductions in emissions in order to achieve the targets set.

The scope of influencing is defined as to the Authority, the National Park and wider.

3. NEED FOR THE GROUP

Climate change is the greatest long-term threat to our upland landscapes. It has the potential to change the features that make up the National Park's natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage. Climate change will modify the Peak District National Park's special qualities and alter the opportunities for the public to enjoy them.

Responsible and inventive management can help to mitigate the effects of climate change by creating and maintaining resilient landscapes. Resilient landscapes consist of fully functioning ecosystems that allow nature, the landscape and people to adapt to climate change.

The National Park is a living and working landscape, where people have shaped it for thousands of years. We will engage with communities and visitors to balance their needs whilst reducing the impact of climate change on the National Park. This will be through initiatives in the National Park Management Plan and Corporate Strategy.

The Member Steering Group will:

- Provide a focus for the Authority's response to climate change.
- Provide a strategic oversight of the Authority's climate change vision, outcomes and actions.
- Allow Members opportunities to shape the development of activities, including influencing, undertaken by the Authority to respond to climate change.

It is noted that the Member Local Plan Review Steering Group (LPRSG) will consider planning policy relating to climate change. The Climate Change Steering Group will therefore make any planning policy related suggestions to the LPRSG, as and when appropriate.