

7. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE LANDSCAPES REVIEW: CONSULTATION RESPONSE (AGM)

1. Purpose of the report

This report seeks Member approval to submit a response to the consultation on the Government response to the Landscapes review.

Key Issues

- **The Government has issued its response to the Landscapes review and commenced a consultation period with regard to their response.**
- **Responses to the consultation must be submitted by 9 April 2022.**

2. Recommendations

- 1. That Members support the consultation response shown in Appendix 1.**
- 2. That any changes needed to the consultation document as a result of the Authority meeting are delegated to the Interim Chief Executive in consultation with Chair of the Authority.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. As Members will be aware, the recommendations arising from the Government response, if implemented, could make fundamental changes to the policies and legal obligations of the Peak District National Park Authority.

Background Information

4. In January 2018 the government published a [25-Year Plan for the Environment](#). It set out an approach to protect landscapes and habitats in England and committed to undertaking a review National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).
5. The review, led by Julian Glover, was initiated in May 2018. The review aimed not to diminish the character or independence of designated landscapes, or to impose new burdens on them and the people who live and work in the areas they cover. Instead, its purpose was to ask what might be done better, what changes could assist them, and whether definitions and systems - which in many cases date back to their original creation are still sufficient.
6. The review team carried out visits and meetings in many parts of England, and visited the Peak District National Park on 18-19 October 2018 followed by a public consultation period in late 2018 which the Authority agreed a response to (see Authority meeting minute number 42/18). We also worked with the 9 other National Park Authorities in England, through National Parks England (NPE), to draft a submission to the call for evidence from NPE.
7. The Landscapes Review report was issued in September 2019 (available to view [here](#)) and made 27 proposals whilst focusing on 5 areas:
 - Landscapes Alive for Nature and Beauty
 - Landscapes for Everyone

- Living in Landscapes
- More Special Places
- New Ways of Working

8. The Government published their response to the Landscapes review on 15 January 2022 (available to view [here](#)) and stated that their response to some of the proposals in the review will require changes to legislation, subject to securing parliamentary time, to implement. The Government is seeking public views on support for these proposed legislative changes, and their potential effects on different groups and interests via a consultation process. They are also interested to hear any wider views on other aspects of their response to the review.

Proposals

9. Responses to the questions contained in the Government consultation on their response to the Landscapes review have been drafted following the Member Forum discussion held on 28th January 2022 and are shown in Appendix 1. The overall consultation response will be subject to a full discussion at the Authority meeting on 18 March 2022.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

10. None

Risk Management:

11. None

Sustainability:

12. None.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

13. Where data is provided the Authority monitors its membership against the 9 protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010. The current profile data suggests that younger people, women, people from BME communities and disabled people are underrepresented in the current Authority membership.

Climate Change:

14. No issues to consider.

15. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

16. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Peak District National Park Authority: Consultation on the Government response to the Landscapes review – Draft consultation response

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Andrea McCaskie, Interim Chief Executive, 10 March 2022