

# **FOREWORD**

The fifth year of the 2018 – 2023 Peak District National Park Management Plan has been full of change and we close this period of reporting with enthusiasm for the next plan period and optimism as we build on previous successes. The rhythm of life across the landscape of the park has returned to a 'new normal' following the turmoil of the previous few years. I am extremely proud of the progress within this Management Plan period and extend my sincerest thanks to all the partners involved in delivery.

Moorland restoration work has continued as the Moors for the Future partnership successfully delivered activities on 551 ha of degraded blanket bog and blocked erosion in over 11,000 gullies to the equivalent distance of circa 55km. Encouraging visitor enjoyment and engagement has been further boosted this year with a pilot of multi-lingual signage at Bloor Pastures and downloadable interpretive content at Stanage North-Lees Estate, plus an additional six 'Miles without Stiles' routes have been completed.

The following report provides detail on the overall progress on implementing the Peak District National Park Management Plan 2018-23. I am extremely proud of the partnership work which has contributed to the successful delivery over the past two plan periods, and after 10 years the Advisory Group, of which I am the Independent Chair, has come to a close with the end of this plan. I wish the Peak District National Park Authority and all the delivery partners all the best as they strive to achieve the ambitious aims outlined in the next National Park Management Plan (2023-28).

Yours sincerely

Dianne Jeffrey

Independent Chair of the Peak District National Park Management Plan Advisory Group

# INTRODUCTION

The National Park Management Plan provides the framework that encourages everyone to work together to achieve national park purposes. It is not a plan for an individual organisation or group but a plan for the place. It is, therefore, a partnership plan. It is the single most important strategic document for the Peak District National Park. It shares with everyone what the main issues and priorities are. It then sets out how, together, we are going to tackle those issues over the next five years.

The Management Plan 2018-23 was organised around six main themes known as Areas of Impact, which were in turn broken down into a series of intentions.

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

This document provides a look back over the last five years to report key activity in the Areas of Impact as detailed above.

# AREA OF IMPACT 1:

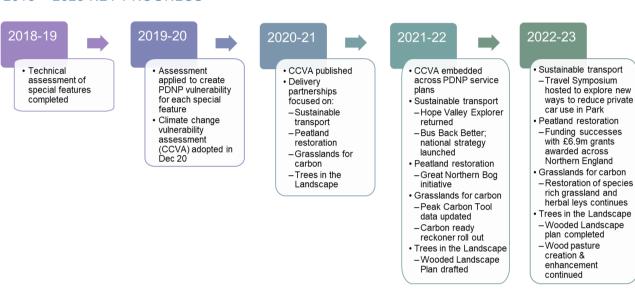
# PREPARING FOR A FUTURE CLIMATE

# INTENTION 1.1: REDUCE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE SPECIAL QUALITIES

### **ACTION**

To reduce the effects of climate change on the special qualities, we will know which special qualities are most affected by climate change, and focus action on reducing these impacts. We will undertake a climate change vulnerability assessment on the special qualities of the National Park & produce a mitigation/adaptation plan setting out priority actions.

### 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS



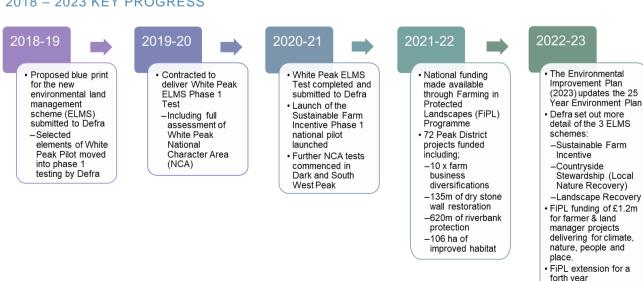
# AREA OF IMPACT 2:

# **ENSURING A FUTURE FOR FARMING AND LAND MANAGEMENT**

# INTENTION 2.1: SECURE FUNDING FOR FUTURE LAND MANAGEMENT TO BENEFIT ALL

# **ACTION**

To secure funding for future land management to benefit all, we will seek to create an ideal future farming and land management payment scheme in the Peak District National Park which helps to conserve and enhance the special qualities.



# AREA OF IMPACT 2:

# **ENSURING A FUTURE FOR FARMING AND LAND MANAGEMENT**

INTENTION 2.2: ENSURE THAT THE MANAGEMENT OF UPLAND MOORS DELIVERS ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & ECONOMIC BENEFITS

### **ACTION**

To ensure that the management of upland moors delivers environmental, social & economic benefits; we will seek to restore populations of birds of prey to at least the levels present in the late 1990s, with the addition of hen harrier as a regularly successful breeding species.

# Focusing on:

- 1. Fire risk
- 2. Visitor engagement
- 3. Resilient sustainable moorland
- 4. Moorland birds

Regular monitoring of progress against these areas of focus is carried out in partnership between Natural England, the Moorland Association and the National Park Authority. There is also an annual up-date on progress and agreement on the focus for the future year's activity with moorland owners, agents and keepers.

# 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS

# 2018-19



- Development of wildfire mitigation zones
- Work commenced on Countryside Code guidance for visitors
- Collaboration between interested parties over moorland management including use of burning which continues to be a sensitive issue
- Birds of Prey Initiative continued for another year
- Breeding Bird survey data analysis by The British Trust for Ornithology

# 2019-20



- Fire Risk Map updated with proven accuracy
- #PeakDistrictProud campaign launched
- 10 x Long Term Management Plans signed up to by landowners
- National communications delivered to moorland owners re legislation and restrictions on burning of heather on blanket bog
- Improvement in upland bird occupancy
- Reduction in wildlife crime

# 2020-21



- Wildfire Plan template approach in development
- Countryside Code reviewed and updated
- The England Peat Restoration Fund team in place
- Burning License now required via Defra to restrict blanket bog burning
   MFFP historic
- MFFP historic restoration map near completion
- Birds of Prey Initiative report showed relatively good year
- 6 incidents of illegal bird of prey persecution

# 2021-22



- Fire Operations Group launched to draw up fire plans and raise awareness of wildfire issue
- Countryside Code released in 21 (17 website) languages
- MFFP moorland restoration map completed
- Final Birds of Prey Initiative report published:
- extremely good year for short-eared owls
- for snort-eared owls

  -Peregrine falcons
  failed to repeat
- nesting success

   Illegal persecution continue to be an issue

# 2022-23

- Collaboration with moorland owners and managers has focused on prevention and mitigation of moorland fire, with continued liaison on the following issues:
- visitor managementmoorland birds
- -sustainable, resilient, moorland management,
- -rural and wildlife crime
- Birds of Prey initiative has continued with varied breeding success – current approach is under review

# AREA OF IMPACT 3:

# MANAGING LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION ON A BIG SCALE

# INTENTION 3.1: ESTABLISH MONITORING AT A LANDSCAPE SCALE

### **ACTION**

We want to work with partners to help us to understand how and why the landscape is changing, whether changes are positive or not and how we should address the changes to conserve and enhance the Special Qualities of the Peak District National Park.

### 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS

#### 2022-23 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 Discussions and Programme of · Proposals to move Full interpretation Landscape strategy of landscape monitoring research themes outlined including: agreement of draft research 2023 has been completed objective to explore programme forward • Further exploration landscape stalled up to programme in -Land Cover monitorina Covid19 and progress Cranfield Uni of a semi-automated -Landscape restricted partner Stakeholder Quality availability and access to land and workshop to project commenced approach to assess -Public Perception landscape change explore partnership using automatic classification of -Built facilities using aerial imagery approach Development Partnership with Cranfield University land-cover and · Use of repeat detail -Recording areas of known change land-cover change: landscape progressed and through the use of photographs to -Climate Change funding is being automatic assess changes -Landscape segmentation and (landscape description unit machine learning for land cover metrics Landscape Assessment every photographs) classifications 5 years to monitor Funds are being and measure sought to extend progress research into 22/23

# **AREA OF IMPACT 3:**

# MANAGING LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION ON A BIG SCALE

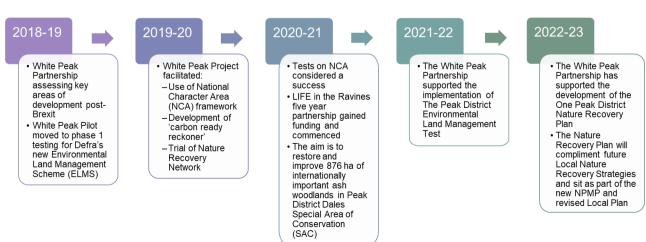
# INTENTION 3.2: DEVELOP A WHITE PEAK PARTNERSHIP

# **ACTION**

The White Peak Partnership has been key to the delivery of Intention 2.1 securing funding for future land management for the benefit of all.

The White Peak Project tested the following:

- Use of a National Character Area framework to deliver public goods and the 25 Year Environment Plan in language accessible to land managers.
- Development of a 'ready reckoner' to show the public goods being delivered e.g. carbon.
- Trial of a nature recovery network.



# AREA OF IMPACT 3:

# MANAGING LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION ON A BIG SCALE

# INTENTION 3.3: MAINTAIN EXISTING LANDSCAPE SCALE DELIVERY

### **ACTION**

To maintain existing landscape scale delivery we will develop a clear long term vision, plan and have funding in place for the Dark Peak and South Pennines to 2050. We will develop a clear future plan and funding to develop and continue landscape scale delivery on the South West Peak.

# 2018 - 2023 PROGRESS

#### 2022-23 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 · Planning for water MFFP successes: · MFFP successes: · MFFP successes: MFFP restoration: -20,000 gully blocks installed industry's Asset -5200 bags of brash -28.6 ha of bare peat - activities on 551 ha Management Plan 7 (AMP7) cut transported to stabilised of degraded blanket stabilize ground bog -1036 ha of \_12km<sup>2</sup> of -3 submissions progressed by MFFP -11,000 gully blocks installed (Circa 55 km of grips and / or 5300 gully blocks installed to raise the water table Sphagnum moss sphagnum moss planted planted -10,000 dams / gully blocks installed -Great North Bog project formed –UU, Yorkshire Water Services & -1024 ha of sphagnum gullies blocked) moss planted covering 7,000 -Flood and Coastal -15 km of drip edges Severn Trent km of upland peat -27 ha of bare peat reprofiled for stability Frosion Risk Management (FCERM) strategy and AMP7 Water business across the North revegetated –1.75 km of footpath restored plans fast tracked -108 ha of invasive of England by Ofwat for delivery South West Peak MFFP engaged 13,000 people at 35 events rhododendron plants Landscape programme work continues removed AMP7 arrangements with Severn Trent Partnership closes South West Peak Landscape Partnership -Planning towards AMP8 in progress after 5 year programme of works Water moved into full programme review delivery phase approved, delivery Planning started for Great North Bog continued with additional funding of £56k secured project

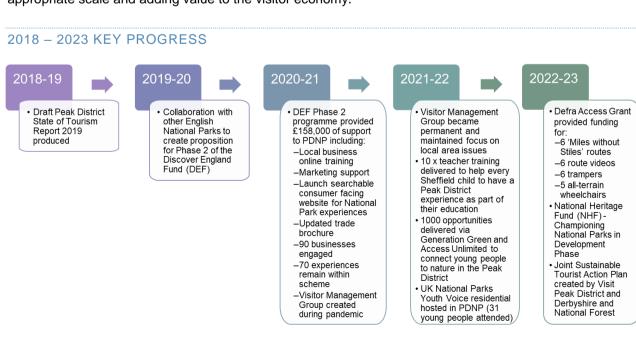
# AREA OF IMPACT 4:

# A NATIONAL PARK FOR EVERYONE

# INTENTION 4.1 AND 4.2: OVERCOME PHYSICAL AND PERCEIVED BARRIERS TO ACCESS

### **ACTION**

By 2023 we will be encouraging a wider range of people to enjoy the Peak District National Park at an appropriate scale and adding value to the visitor economy.



# AREA OF IMPACT 5:

# **ENCOURAGING ENJOYMENT WITH UNDERSTANDING**

# INTENTION 5.1: BALANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENJOYMENT WITH CONSERVING A FRAGILE ENVIRONMENT

### **ACTION**

To balance opportunities for enjoyment with conserving a fragile environment we provided a refreshed Countryside Code underpinning a Peak District brand which all relevant partners could promote equally and consistently. #PeakDistrictProud (#PDP) shares the positive ways in which people can help care for the national park; from taking home your litter and avoiding BBQs, to keeping your dog a lead. The initiative also help to foster a sense of community belonging and association with the place for local businesses and residents.

### 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS

#### 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 Peak District Multi-lingual visitor Partner Workshop Workshop held as New national Countryside Code officially launched by part of National signage piloted at Bloor Pastures agreed and Ambassadors planned for . Trust's Peoples scheme launch summer 2019 to Landscape Project Natural England and Multi-lingual Peak District kick start refresh of Countryside Code \_#PeakDistrictProud Natural Resources Wales downloads available for new interpretive Communicators (#PDP) campaign formulated Forum continued to Peak District meet curating early content at Stanage Communicators Forum formed to assist with spring content for North-Lees Estate -Builds on core Peak District message 'respect, protect and enjoy' nesting birds and lambing season Communicators Community #PeakDistrictProud Forum continued to volunteering and litter collections organised create online website includes 5 translations of the content for #PeakDistrictProud post lockdown Countryside Code campaign, website New alert system introduced to inform visitors when an area was reaching capacity - first weekend of operation was seen by 720,000 people

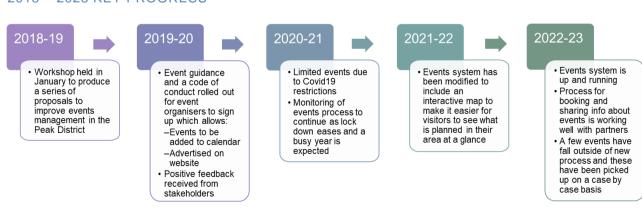
### AREA OF IMPACT 5:

# **ENCOURAGING ENJOYMENT WITH UNDERSTANDING**

### INTENTION 5.2: ENSURE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

### **ACTION**

To ensure shared responsibility we will review and develop the current arrangements for events management in the Peak District.



# AREA OF IMPACT 5:

# **ENCOURAGING ENJOYMENT WITH UNDERSTANDING**

INTENTION 5.3: DEVELOP AN AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE BENEFITS OF THE PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

### **ACTION**

Utilising the valuable work of Inspired by the Peak District and the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark, consider a revised approach to the promotion of the peak District brand so we establish a provenance which is coherent and effective at promoting the link between business development, the special qualities and the unique offer of the Peak District National Park.

### 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS

#### 2022-23 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 Progress stalled during COVID-19 No further actions Group discussions on how Partnership · Initiative is delivered against formed to promote continuing and this intention this the link between Group could lockdown contributing towards the Local Plan BD, the special qualities and the influence Local Industry with a review by seeking to unique offering of the PDNP focus on 'Clean, understand the landgreen productivity linked to a high use needs for new · Two meetings were business in quality of life and use 'positive held in 2019 in settlements on farms and other January and May to focus on the planning powers; opportunities that policy and delivery allied with a may be available proactive enabling through the adaptive of economic development in the role from District re-use of traditional Councils buildings National Park

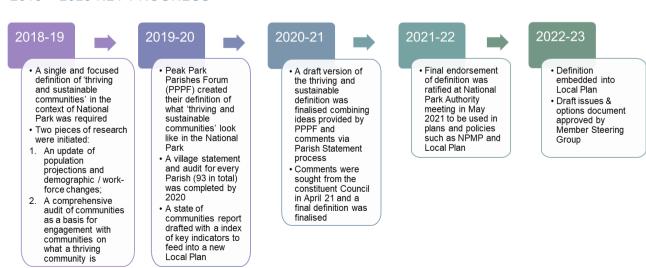
# AREA OF IMPACT 6:

# SUPPORTING THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMY

INTENTION 6: SUPPORTING THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMY

# **ACTION**

To support thriving and sustainable communities and economy, we will first define what is meant by thriving and sustainable communities, in the context of the National Park Management Plan. This has now been completed and will be used to develop the National Park Authorities approach to supporting community development and help to inform the production and update of parish statements.



# AREA OF IMPACT 6:

# SUPPORTING THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMY

# INTENTION 6.1: IMPROVE ACCESS TO SERVICES

### **ACTION**

To improve access to services we will work with providers to improve broadband and mobile connectivity across the National Park in line with the UK's Next Generation Access (NGA) standards.

# 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS

# 2018-19



- Meeting held in January 2019 with Digital Derbyshire and Derbyshire Dales District Council to discuss continued roll out of broadband and mobile connectivity in line with UK's Next Generation Access (NGA)
- National Park supported Abney broadband link via community fund

# 2019-20



- Interactive maps of detailed coverage information provided based on postcodes for
- -Derbyshire -Staffordshire
- Further meeting with Digital Derbyshire held Oct 19

# 2020-21



- Coverage improving across the National Park, still difficulties in isolated areas
- Shared Rural Network Programme launched by Government (2020)
- Proposals extend permitted development to facilitate installation of masts to improve rural mobile and broadband coverage
- Heads of Planning for National Parks and National Parks England met with Mobile UK to discuss concerns and implications over potential landscape impact

# 2021-22



- approached National Park to explore sites designated as 'Not Spots' within Park
- Working alongside Derbyshire Broadband to overcome landscape issues and deliver sustainable service to Glossop and surrounding areas

# 2022-23

- Digital Derbyshire 64% take-up for Phase 2 of Shared Rural Network Programme
- Project Gigabit launched including Broadband Voucher Scheme enabling people in rural areas to access funding to cover costs of installation to their doorstop

# AREA OF IMPACT 6:

# SUPPORTING THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMY

# INTENTION 6.2: SUPPORT THE PROVISION OF LOCALLY NEEDED HOUSING

To support the provision of locally needed housing we will work through the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group Housing Sub-Group to address the local need for appropriate housing in the National

# 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS

# 2018-19



### · High Peak Borough Council identify capacity via Strategic Housing Land Assessmen Report

- During this year applications were approved for:
- -33 new build affordable houses
- –3 agricultural worker's dwellings
- -18 additional 'open market' houses

# 2019-20





- Scoping phase open to gather evidence for next Local Plan review
- Noted that shared cross boundary planning is required to make effective use of resources
- During this year applications were approved for:
- -4 new build affordable houses
- –2 agricultural worker's dwellings
- -56 additional open market houses

# 2020-21



COVID-19 affected planning applications - no information available for this vear

# 2021-22

- Cross boundary planning issues still need addressing with constituent authorities
- National Park Authority working with Derbyshire Dales District Council and High Peak Borough Council to determine housing

# 2022-23

- Different planning policy approaches for affordable homes being tested in the Local Plan issues and options consultation
- Consultants (Lichfields) undertaking Park-wide review of housing need and population forecasts to guide:
- -I ocal Plan and Management Plan actions on housing
- -Settlement strategy and environmental capacity
- Planning policy approach for the next plan period (2005-2040)

# AREA OF IMPACT 6:

# SUPPORTING THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMY

INTENTION 6.3: ENABLE LOCAL BUSINESSES TO THRIVE IN A WAY THAT IS COMPATIBLE AND WHEREVER POSSIBLE ENHANCES THE SPECIAL QUALITIES OF THE PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

### **ACTION**

To enable local businesses to thrive in a way that is compatible and, wherever possible, enhances the special qualities of the Peak District National Park, we will assist the development of businesses in conjunction with relevant bodies. Linking business support, grant aid, planning and economic development.

# 2018 - 2023 KEY PROGRESS

#### 2018-19 2019-20 2021-22 2022-23 2020-21 Planning service was maintained during COVID-19 prioritising business Regular meetings continue between Joint presentation from EQM and National Park Regular meetings • Processing evidence agreed starting in Sept 2018 to understand how planning policy organisations between: Officers delivered should respond to as part of Business Peak District's –Business Peak critical applications the pressures and District Work commenced opportunities for programme of talks to increase local -High Peak on Riverside businesses and farm Business Park in Bakewell and new Borough Council businesses arising understanding of -Derbyshire process/issues bridge access in A6 County Council -climate change Evidence gathering –Marketing Peak District and -biodiversity net continues in advance of Local Plan reviews gain Derbyshire -changing agricultural subsidy -Local Enterprise Partnership

email: NPMP@peakdistrict.gv.uk