

10. MEMBER APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES (SLF)

1. Purpose of the report

To appoint the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming, as a representative for the Authority, to the Board of the Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the Steering Group of the Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery.

Key Issues

- The NPMP vision includes the Peak District National Park (PDNP) being exemplary in its response to nature recovery and that its special qualities and resilience as a living landscape should be significantly enhanced.
- The 25 Year Environment Plan 2018 set out the framework and vision for what we will do to improve the environment within a generation. The Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) 2023 revises the original plan and sets out the plan to deliver the ten goals with the “apex” goal of thriving plants and wildlife. Specific Protected Landscape targets continue to be in development.
- There are six Responsible Authorities for Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) which cover the Peak District National Park. Recent guidance sets out the role of National Park Authorities as a Supporting Authority. The Responsible Authorities have subsequently developed their approach including differing ranges of meetings such as boards, steering groups, working groups etc. The Responsible Authorities for Derbyshire and Staffordshire require Authority Member representation. All Responsible Authorities require a range of National Park Authority officer engagement and support.

2. Recommendations

- 1. To appoint the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to:**
 - **the Board of the Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy**
 - **the Steering Group of the Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy**
- 2. To delegate appointment of the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority.**
- 3. That attendance at meetings of these bodies and/or events are approved duties for the payment of travel and subsistence allowances as set out in Schedule 2 of the Members’ Allowances Scheme.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

- 3.** As approved duties, appointments should only be made to Outside Bodies which help to deliver the Authorities Statutory duties, support National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan aims and objectives and contribute to the Authority’s work with stakeholders and partners. These appointments will contribute to a number of our policies and legal obligations:
 - The 30 by 30 target through which the Government has agreed to conserve

(protect) 30% of land by 2030

- National Parks England (NPE) Delivery Plans for both Wildlife and for Environmental Land Management in National Parks.
- All seven of the [special qualities](#), and Aim Two [Landscape and Nature Recovery](#) including the three objectives with their targets and headline delivery; and the [Authority Plan](#) Aim two actions
- The Landscape Strategy 2023 was approved by Members at the Authority meeting in December 2022. It describes what is special about the Peak District landscapes, sets out the issues affecting the landscape and provides management guidelines to address the issues, conserve and enhance the landscape (minute reference 99/22)
- The Peak District Nature Recovery Plan is being developed with constituent Local Authorities and key partners and will complement the six county-based LNR's. Once completed the Nature Recovery Plan will sit as part of the NPMP and the revised Local Plan. The Nature Recovery Plan will be the key document to inform input to the emerging LNRs

4. Background Information

5. LNRs are a new system of spatial strategies for nature and the environment required by law under Sections 104 to 108 of the Environment Act 2021. On 30 June 2023 the government published a Policy Paper on LNRs, which outlines what LNRs will look like, how they will be prepared and who can be involved. Statutory Guidance on what LNRs should contain was published by Defra in March 2023. LNRs are expected to be completed in 12-18 months, so should be in place by the end of 2024.
6. LNRs will be prepared by “Responsible Authorities”. Responsible Authorities were appointed on 30 June 2023. The Peak District National Park will be covered by six LNRs (please see the table below).

County	Responsible Authority	Other Peak District Supporting Authorities
Cheshire	Cheshire West and Chester Council	Cheshire East Council
Derbyshire	Derbyshire County Council	Derbyshire Dales District Council, High Peak Borough Council, North East Derbyshire District Council
Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester Combined Authority	Oldham Borough Council
South Yorkshire	South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	Barnsley Council, Sheffield City Council
Staffordshire	Staffordshire County Council	Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
West Yorkshire	West Yorkshire Combined Authority	Kirklees Council

7. As set out in Section 105 of the Environment Act 2021, the Peak District National Park Authority is a “Supporting Authority”. The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023 set out how Responsible Authorities should

engage with Supporting Authorities.

8. Proposals

9. It is proposed to appoint the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to the Board of the Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy, the Steering Group of the Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery. This will contribute to the delivery of the landscape and nature recovery aims of the NNPMP and the Authority Plan through the incorporation of the Peak District Nature Recovery Plan into the six future LNRs.

10. It is also requested that delegation to make future appointments of the Member Champion for Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming to any other body or event requiring Member involvement within the context of nature recovery be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority, to ensure consistency

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

11. No significant direct costs will arise. Members appointed to outside bodies can claim travel and subsistence when attending meetings and events but any costs arising from the proposals in this report can be met from the current revenue budget.

Risk Management:

12. No issues.

Sustainability:

13. No issues.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

14. No issues.

Climate Change

15. No issues.

Background papers (not previously published)

16. None.

Appendices

17. None.

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

Suzanne Fletcher, Head of Landscape and Engagement, 2 November 2023.