

Peak District Local Access Forum

Date: 11 June 2025

Item:

Title: Tourism Charter

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Purpose of the Report

The purpose of the report is to update and seek involvement in the Tourism Charter for the Peak District National Park.

Background

In May 2025, the Authority approved a Tourism Charter in response to the volume and pattern of visitation and the impact on the area's communities, its natural environment and cultural heritage assets, as well as the achievement of net-zero targets. The Tourism Charter is set out in Appendix 1.

Tourism Charter

Through the Charter, the Authority aims to work in partnership to understand and identify areas to influence use of the National Park to achieve better experiences for visitors and positive outcomes for communities, nature and the landscape. When there is sufficient partner support for the Charter, the Authority will convene partners to develop an action plan for working to achieve the aims of the Charter.

Recommendation:

- 1) To note the Tourism Charter and to provide input as it progresses.**

Appendix 1- Peak District National Park Tourism Charter

Why a Charter is needed

The Peak District National Park is loved and visited by millions of people every year. The National Park was created for everyone to enjoy. The special qualities of the National Park provide awe and inspiration with stunning views, unique rock formations, dramatic landscapes, historic settlements and important wildlife, all of which tell the story of the nation over thousands of years. But increasing visitor pressure, often associated with vehicle emissions, congestion and parking issues at some of the National Park's most popular locations is causing harm to the very features, habitats and communities that people have come to enjoy.

Those who care for and manage the National Park are now seeking to work in partnership to help manage these pressures. This Peak District National Park Tourism Charter has been created to align partners in working together to limit or mitigate the negative impacts of user pressure whilst seeking to improve the experience visitors have.

Through this Charter, partners commit to identifying and understanding the impact of increasing visitation in certain areas of the National Park and to work together to find solutions that reduce or mitigate any negative effects. Partners signing this Charter will work together to identify actions that promote responsible visitor behaviour and achieve positive outcomes for communities, nature and the landscape.

The purpose of the Charter is:

To make the National Park a welcoming place for all visitors and users whilst seeking to deliver new approaches to management and attract investment to help secure the National Park's special qualities for future generations.

Delivering the Charter

The Charter will be delivered through partners agreeing high level outcomes and targets for managing the impact of visitor pressure. Partners will develop an action plan and seek resources to deliver specific projects and initiatives that help reduce the negative effects stemming from increased visitor pressure.

Tourism delivers many economic and social benefits for individuals, communities and businesses but partners recognise that certain locations are feeling the strain. Partners will therefore work together to better understand the volumes, patterns and impacts of those using the National Park. This will inform overall objectives and actions and, where appropriate, inform the development of area-based management approaches to reduce negative impacts in key locations.

Work to address the impact of private vehicle use and ensuring consistent communications messages that inform and reinforce responsible behaviour will be key aspects of delivering the Charter's objectives.

Charter signatories

The partners listed below have signed up to this Peak District Tourism Charter: [List]