

Authority Plan Programme Year 4: 2026-27

Enabling delivery Aim: The Authority is inspiring, pioneering and enabling in delivering the National Park vision		
Objective A (Planning): To achieve national performance standards for planning applications by type dealt with in a timely manner Target: Percentage of applications determined in timescales: a) major applications 13 weeks, b) minor applications 8 weeks, and c) other applications 8 weeks		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Implement Local Enforcement Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement Cases: 80% of new enquiries investigated within 30 days; 120/150 breaches resolved following investigation per year. 	Head of Planning & Conservation
Review and adopt updated Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PINS advisory visit by April 2026; Draft accepted at July Authority; Reg 19 consultation by Summer 2026 and submit for examination by December 2026. 	Head of Planning & Conservation
Review, reinstate and provide pre-application advice service	Meet expected fee income targets for 2026/27: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre application fees £90k 	Head of Planning & Conservation
Objective B (Access): To achieve timescales and follow processes for the statutory functions under Countryside and Rights of Way Act and Town and Country Planning Act Target: Meet 100% of timescales and processes		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Maintain PDNP managed footpaths to national standards	% Rights of way ease of use equals or exceeds national average annually.	Head of Assets & Enterprise

Objective C (People): To have highly engaged, healthy and inclusive staff and volunteers		
Target: Maximum of 9 days per year sickness level per staff member and staff engagement score to be at least 60% (2023 baseline)		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Promote Equality, Diversity to make our working environment more inclusive	Meet the requirements of the public sector equality duty. Publish in Performance & Business Plan (June 2026).	Head of Resources
Promote and implement Health, Safety and Wellbeing	Performance reported annually.	Head of Resources
Update, promote and implement our offer on how we invest in people	Embed an action plan that strengthens practices in line with IIP Gold standards.	Head of Resources
Enhance volunteering to deliver objectives	National Park family indicators reported annually at year end: - Total number of volunteering days - Value to PDNPA (£) - Number of days attended by under-represented groups	Head of Resources
Objective D (Financial Resilience): To be financially resilient and provide value for money		
Target: To have a deliverable Medium Term Financial Forecast and achieve value for money in all internal and external audit reports		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Review and update the Medium Term Financial Forecast (MTFF)	MTFF projections used to set balanced budgets annually and expenditure profile monitored quarterly.	Head of Resources
Ensure financial processes meet public sector value for money standards/thresholds	Unqualified VFM opinion by the External Auditor annually.	Head of Resources
Set and deliver net income targets	Quarterly budget monitoring at Resources Committee shows on track to achieve annual income targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning fees (ex. pre application): £320k • Car parks: £896k • Toilet income: £174k • Other income generating assets (ex. visitor centres & cycle hire): £780k 	Head of Resources
Develop external funding bids programme	Full cost recovery for all externally funded projects and on track to corporate overhead where possible.	Head of Resources

Objective E (Assets): To have best practice arrangements in place for the Authority's assets Target: To implement and maintain the Authority's Asset Management Plan		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Visitor Centre and Cycle Hire Review	By March 2027: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and deliver new revenue opportunities to support a financially sustainable business model in the medium term and beyond end of Business Change Manager post Successfully letting of retail space Grow cycle hire income and provision (Millers Dale or ancillary sites) 	Head of Assets & Enterprise
Asset enhancement projects in this year/decile	Complete by March 2027: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drystone walls safety work across trails networks Ongoing trails structures and resurfacing work Agricultural buildings repairs on Warslow Estate 	Head of Assets & Enterprise
Review National Park Authority headquarters needs and aspirations	Aldern House Site Feasibility Assessment completed by December 26.	Head of Assets & Enterprise
Manage disposals and acquisitions to respond to estate plans and new opportunities	Meet targets in Asset Management Plan. Report to Programmes & Resources annually.	Head of Assets & Enterprise
Warslow Moors Whole Estate Plan development	New postholder in role to commence April 2026. Plan complete by December 2026.	Head of Assets & Enterprise
North Lees Estate Plan development	Pre-development fund secured by September 2026. Instruction of feasibility by March 2027.	Head of Assets & Enterprise
Progress opportunities for new car parking provision	Progress reported annually to Resources Committee.	Head of Assets & Enterprise

Objective F (Governance): To have best practice governance arrangements in place Target: All internal and external audits relating to governance are rated as providing substantial assurance or equivalent		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Review our Code of Corporate Governance and produce Annual Governance Statement	Report to Authority November 2026.	Head of Resources
Training and support Members to fulfil their role and make informed decisions	Report to Authority July 2026: - Member training attendance (100%) - Induction participation (100%) - Members survey results	Head of Resources
Provide efficient and high-quality legal and governance support and guidance across the Authority including in its statutory functions	Report to Authority November 2026: - No judicial review - No maladministration charges - No Ombudsmen complaints upheld	Head of Resources
Review of Standing Orders to create a new Authority Constitution	Progression in line with the work programme of the Governance Review Working Group. Completion of Part 5 (Rules of Procedure) of the proposed new Constitution.	Head of Resources
Objective G (Information and Performance): To have best practice IT access controls, security arrangements, performance and risk arrangements in place Target: IT access controls, security arrangements, performance and risk to be rated at least reasonable assurance in all Audit reports		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Provide high quality customer and business support for the public and across the Authority	Carry out customer survey programme. Performance monitored annually.	Head of Resources
Ensure security services and controls are fit for purpose and that all users are compliant with the measures	100% compliance (training/records/breaches). Reported annually.	Head of Resources
Coordinate performance and risk management of the National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan 2023-28 and develop future plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authority Plan performance monitored at half year and year end (Decile 7, 8) NPMP monitored annually (May 2026) 	Head of Resources

Whole Organisation Communications Plan (internal to external)	Communications Plan ways of working developed and implemented.	Head of Resources
Appropriately source, store, process and make information accessible	Continue the file digitisation project within agreed timeline and budget.	Head of Resources
Objective H (Climate Change): To reduce the Authority's greenhouse gas emissions Target: Achieve a further 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the 2017/18 baseline		
Action	Critical Success Factor	Responsible Officer
Implement and keep up to date the Authority's Carbon Management Plan (CMP2)(Report annually)	New carbon reduction projects identified on an annual basis and plan monitored annually.	Head of Assets & Enterprise