

Peak District Local Access Forum

Date: 3 June 2026

Item: 7

Title: Access for All

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Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Access for All programme.

Background

Defra's Access for All programme provides capital funding for the removal of barriers to access 'to make Protected Landscapes more accessible for people of all ages and abilities and from all socio-economic backgrounds, to make them what Glover called, "places for everyone"'. To date, £0.54 Million of funding has been provided.

2025/26 Delivery

The expenditure in Year 4 of the programme, is set out in Appendices 1 and 2 and includes

- Surfacing, gates, viewing areas, and route information
- A changing place, outdoor classroom, resting places, and information/guides
- Fast charging e-bikes, inclusive cycles, and volunteering equipment

Future Delivery

In 2026/27, funding will be continuing at £255.9k and has been indicated to continue at that level for the two years following. Some of the items identified include:

More Miles

- New Miles without Stiles routes
- Films and sensory and audio trails

More Places

- Developing facilities at accessibility hubs
- Accessibility guides

More Mobility

- Inclusive cycle-hire equipment and for volunteers.

Recommendation

- 1. That the report is noted.**

Appendix 1 - Access for All Funding 2025/26

What is involved?

Defra's Access for All Programme provides funding to the Peak District National Park to make it more accessible for people of all ages, abilities and needs, to help bring the benefits of spending time in nature to everyone.

In 2025/26, capital funding of £255.9k for improvements to infrastructure and information was provided. The funding is for assets created or acquired, not maintenance.

Why is it important?

The funding provides the financial support to allow focus on the development of accessibility hubs and accessible routes. This provides the places, facilities, equipment, and information needed to build confidence in accessing the special qualities and amazing experiences of the Peak District National Park.

Who is involved in delivery?

The project lead is the Access and Rights of Way Officer. The project team involves Property, Trails, Cycle-hire, Countryside Maintenance and Projects Team, and Rangers. It includes inputs from Peak Park Conservation Volunteers, and IT.

What's been delivered in 2025/26?

- A Changing Place and proposed Miles without Stiles route at Trentabank
- A proposed new Miles without Stiles and tramper route at Derwent Dam
- Accessibility improvements for enjoying nature at Torside and Minninglow
- Accessible gates and bus stop improvements
- An accessible woodland and outdoor classroom at Brunts Barn
- Miles without Stiles interactive mapping and a Monsal Trail map
- Fast charging e-bikes, e-trikes, wheelchair bikes, and an e-mountain trike
- A e-cargo bike and e-bikes for trails and Ranger volunteers

How has the funding been supported?

The Peak District Foundation has provided funding of £4k for maintenance work to complement the capital works delivered under this programme at Surprise View and Conksbury. Peak Park Conservation Volunteers and Ranger volunteers have supported this work.

What's next

Defra have indicated the availability of further funding for 2026/27 and beyond. A separate report in relation to this will be provided, along with the 2025/26 project breakdown.

An active travel plan has been produced for a high-level network of routes for walking, wheeling, cycling, and horse-riding in the National Park linking with future improvements for accessibility and access to nature. This funding can help develop the infrastructure

More Miles

Proposed Miles without Stiles and tramper route at Derwent Dam – Phase 1
Cost £15.2k, 25 volunteer days



More Places

Accessible Woodland at Brunts Barn - Phase 1 – Cost £15.8k, 17 PPCV days



More Mobility

New e-bikes and inclusive cycles, and equipment for volunteers – Cost £107.2k



Appendix 2 - Completed Projects – Year 4 – 2025/26

More Miles

Item	Details	Comments
Brunts Barn, Grindleford	Vegetation clearance, step removal, surfacing, pond dipping platform, bridge.	Proposed Miles without Stiles route in the wildlife area. Links to ambassador training and volunteer hub. Volunteer involvement for design & delivery. Potential for Phase 2 for a disabled toilet, to extend the route, and provide for interpretation.
Conksbury	Widening and surfacing access.	New disabled access to Miles without Stiles route .
Derbyshire Bridge	2 in 1 gate.	Cattle grid bypass on road adjacent to the car park.
Derwent	Surfacing, gates, regrading of ramp, handrail, seating, viewing area, interpretation.	Proposed Miles without Stiles & tramper route. Links to Miles without Stiles route and cycle hire and to complement the new inclusive cycle equipment Potential for Phase 2 to provide a circular route.
Lady Cannings, Ringinglow	Gate access	Removal of obstruction on a proposed active travel route.
Macclesfield Forest	Gates, barrier removal, surfacing, seating, viewing area.	Proposed Miles without Stiles route to complement a new Changing Place. Potential for Phase 2 to extend the proposed route and provide interpretation.
Minninglow	Widening and separation of trail through the car park, path and seating in picnic area, removal of kerb and relocation of gates.	Improvements at car park for access and to a proposed Miles without Stiles route.
Standing Stone	Gates & surfacing	Access improvements in car park and for access to proposed Miles without Stiles route.
Tideswell Dale	Surfacing, gates & seating	Extends the Miles without Stiles route northwards. Wider step-free gates provide an alternative to the roadside pavement.
Torside to Woodhead	Access point and seating	Links to Miles without Stiles route from parking area and extending in the other direction to viewpoint and trail.
Trail map	Monsal Trail	Map and information which shows location, facilities, and distances between car parks and cycle hire locations on the Monsal Trail
Interactive mapping	For Miles without Stiles routes	Map and information to show route location and access and link to route details.

More Places

Item	Details	Comments
Accessible Bakewell	Template for accessibility	Accessibility audit and collation of information. Links with study on active travel to/from the town.
Brunts Barn	Pond dipping platform, bird boxes, interpretation, seating	Nature place & ambassador training & volunteering hub. Volunteer involvement for design & delivery.
Derwent Cycle Hire	Crossing and surfacing.	Crossing and link for trampers from cycle hire. Potential for Phase 2 to create an access ramp.
Monsal Trail	Seating	Resting places along the trail.
Parsley Hay	Access points and seating.	Improvements at cycle hire/ accessibility hub.
Surprise View Car Park	Bus-stop surfacing	Improvements to complement the proposed Miles without Stiles route.
Trentabank	Changing Place and widening of disabled parking.	Improvements linking to proposed Miles without Stiles route.
Torside Car Park	Vegetation clearance, surfacing, seating	Nature place linking to Miles without Stiles route and Trans Pennine Trail and active travel network. Associated Landscape Enhancement Initiative funding.

More Mobility

Item	Details	Comments
Inclusive cycles	Trikes, E-trikes, wheelchair bike, tandem e-trike, mountain e-trike	Parsley Hay, Millers Dale, & Derwent
E-bikes	Fast charging	Derwent & Millers Dale; Ranger volunteers
Cargo bike		Trails volunteers
Wheelchairs	All terrain	Brunts Barn, Trentabank, & Millers Dale
Bike stands & batteries	x4	All centres for working on accessible equipment.
Volunteer equipment	Portable ramp & toilet	PPCV and events.