



# Agenda

**Meeting:** North York Moors National Park Authority

**Venue:** The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, YO62 5BP

**Date:** Monday 18 March 2024, 9.30am

## Business

1. Livestreaming and recording – The Chair to inform members of the public that the meeting is livestreamed and recorded.
2. Apologies for absence
3. Public minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2023 (pg 1)
4. Public question time (an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions.)
5. Members are reminded that it is their responsibility to declare the nature of any personal, prejudicial and/or disclosable interests relating to any agenda item immediately prior to its consideration and are encouraged to complete a written declaration using the form provided.
6. Emergency evacuation procedure – The chair to inform members of the public of the emergency evacuation procedure.
7. Exclusion of the public from the meeting during consideration of Item Nos. 21, 22 & 23, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 & 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.
8. Guest speakers: Youth Voice Presentation from Europarc Conference in Netherlands
9. Strategy and Business Plan - setting annual milestones 2024-2025 (pg 10)
10. Budget 2024/2025 (pg 29)
11. Corporate Risk Register for approval (pg 43)
12. Health and Safety (pg 61)
13. Treasury Management and The Prudential Code for Capital Finance (pg 65)  
Appendices A – C of item 13

14. Rights of Way Delegation Agreement (pg 74)
15. Woodland Creation Scheme update (pg 78)

### **Reports for information**

16. Chief Executive's update (pg 80)
17. Report from Chair of FRASC (pg 83)
18. Feedback from Lead Members on Forums (pg 84)
19. Reports from Members on outside bodies (pg 86)
20. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chair, should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

### **Private business – minutes/reports circulated to Members only**

21. Private minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2023
22. Property update
23. Chief Executive's review panel

Tom Hind

Chief Executive (National Park Officer)

**Press Contact: Nina Beadle, Media and Communications Officer, 01439 772700**

### **Notes:**

- To ensure this Meeting is conducted in an open and transparent manner it will be live streamed to the public and recorded. A link will be published under the relevant Meeting heading of the Authority's website. The recording will be held in accordance with the Authority's retention policy.
- The Authority allows the videoing of public meetings but asks that any party wishing to do so informs the Authority in advance of the meeting. Videoing that disrupts the meeting is not allowed. Persons expressly refusing consent, children and vulnerable adults cannot be filmed or photographed. The existing rules relating to confidential and exempt information, defamation, Data Protection and Public Order apply. The Authority accepts no liability whatsoever for videoing carried out by other parties.
- Members are reminded to turn all electronic equipment to silent mode, including mobile phones, laptop computers and tablets. Please note that only information that is available to Members during the Committee meeting should be accessed from a computer in the interests of sound decision making.
- Tea and coffee will be available a quarter of an hour before the meeting.
- Lunch will be available at approximately 12.30 pm. Members taking lunch will have the appropriate amount deducted from any subsistence claim they may make.
- Judith Seaton should be notified of any apologies.
- Please ensure when parking in the car park that you have not caused an obstruction which could prevent emergency vehicles accessing the building.
- This agenda is available on the website [www.northyorkmoors.org.uk](http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk)
- This agenda is available in large print on request.

# North York Moors National Park Authority

## Item 3, Public Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2023

### Present:

Jim Bailey, Malcolm Bowes, George Jabbour, Patrick James, Bob Marley, John McCue, Heather Moorhouse, John Ritchie, Christine Robertson, Arnold Warneken, Keith Wilkinson (Independent Person), Colin Williamson

### Apologies:

Joy Andrews, Jane Harper, David Jeffels, Clive Pearson, Janet Waggott

### Officers in attendance:

Tom Hind (Chief Executive), Ian Nicholls (Director of Corporate Services), Briony Fox (Director of Conservation and Climate Change), Chris France (Director of Planning), Joel Brookfield (Director of Recreation and Wellbeing), Richard Smith (Authority Solicitor), Pete Williams (Chief Finance Officer), Paul Fellows (Head of Strategic Policy), Tom Stephenson (Head of Climate Change & Carbon Reduction), Rachel Pickering (Woodland Team Leader), Gareth Mills (Grant Thornton – Auditors), Judith Seaton (Executive Support Team Leader)

## Copies of all documents considered are in the minute book

### 60/23 Minutes

Paragraph 45/23 – it has transpired that co-options to the ‘Full Authority’ could bring a risk of legal challenge. Co-options to the Forums are possible and will take place. No amendment to the agreed resolution is felt necessary.

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2023, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 61/23 Public question time

There were no questions from members of the public.

### 62/23 Members Interests

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interests relating to any agenda item prior to its consideration.

### 63/23 Exclusion of the public

**Resolved:** That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Items 25 & 26, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1, 2, 3 & 5. of Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

### 64/23 Election of Member to the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum

Considered:

The report of the Executive Support Team Leader

David Hugill was unanimously elected to the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum.

**Resolved:** That Members elect 1 Local Authority Member to the R&W Forum.

### **65/23 Auditors verbal update**

Considered:

Gareth Mills indicated that there was no change to the final accounts as presented to FRASC in November as the letter of assurance from the pension scheme auditors is still awaited. Once received the audit can be fully signed off.

This was the last meeting that Grant Thornton would be attending as new auditors have been appointed for 2023/24. Gareth Mills wished to note his thanks for the help and support for the last 5 years of audit from the Authority's finance team and officers.

**Resolved:** That the auditor's verbal update be noted.

### **66/23 Final Statement of Accounts and Letter of representation**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Finance Officer

As the letter of assurance from Deloitte on the surplus on the pension scheme has not been received, then the second recommendation is to be agreed.

Thanks were given to the Chief Finance Officer for an excellent report and to Grant Thornton for an excellent outcome and working relationship throughout the 5 years as Auditors.

**Resolved:** That Members approve the Statement of Final Accounts subject to the letter of assurance indicating no material change to the Statement of Final Accounts. If there are no material changes, signing off the accounts is delegated to Chair of NPA and Chief Executive in consultation with Chair of FRASC and the S151 Officer. If the letter of assurance does indicate material change to the accounts, the Statement of Financial Accounts will be brought back to a future meeting.

### **67/23 Final medium-term financial strategy**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Finance Officer

Members commented:

- S106 is shown as part of the Conservation and Climate Change budget. It was noted that this is funding for the mitigation of harm from the development and the activities undertaken should be seen in this context.
- Recognising the success of external funding, means maximising existing resources but with projected deficits difficult decisions may have to be made in future years.
- More detailed financial work to be done on the property liabilities.

- Democratic core costs are shown as separate from core costs – these represent corporate costs charged to departments to process meetings and support Members.
- Farming in Protected Landscapes is included in the external funding figures. There is protected to finish in March 2025 so recognised that adaptations will need to be made. Government likely to consider role of Protected Landscape teams in delivery of farming/environmental payments over the next year.
- External funding requires match funding, and this is getting more difficult to find but funding applications where possible will build in delivery and core costs.

**Resolved:** That Members approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

### **68/23 Authority Business Plan priorities for 24/25**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive Officer

Members commented:

- Early engagement with Members and Authority leadership in addressing National Park decarbonisation is welcome.
- Challenging objectives but optimism in delivery is noted.

**Resolved:** That Members note the contents of this report and offer any comments.

### **69/23 NYMNP Decarbonisation Strategy**

Considered:

The report of the Head of Climate Change and Carbon Reduction

Members sought clarity on:

- Methodology for suppliers, with a possible element of dual counting of emissions.
- A suggestion of incentives for electric vehicle users coming to the National Park
- A request for baseline emissions/ sequestration data for Levisham Estate.
- Leading in this field is good but need to have a joined up, common approach.

**Action: Head of Climate Change and Carbon Reduction to circulate to Members the baseline data for Levisham Estate.**

**Resolved:** That Members approve the contents of the Plan.

### **70/23 UK National Park's Race to Zero Application**

Considered:

The report of the Head of Climate Change and Carbon Reduction

Members discussed the proposal and agreed to join the initiative demonstrating National Parks' climate leadership and to help deliver our own Management Plan outcomes.

### **11.35 Heather Moorhouse and David Hugill joined the meeting**

**Resolved:** That Officers recommend that the Authority proceed with an application to join the Race to Zero campaign given its ability to help deliver our Management Plan outcomes. It is hoped the risk around reporting can be addressed collectively by the National Park family working with Defra colleagues.

### **71/23 Tree and Woodland Strategy**

Considered:

The report of the Woodland Team Leader

Members noted that qualifying when woodland creation proposals would be presented to Members is not in the Woodland Strategy and should include “where there is a negative impact on National Park purposes”.

Members commented that it is a good report and strategy with ambitious tree planting targets. Potential concern in relation to double reporting of carbon benefits on S106 tree planting.

**Action: Additional paragraph to be added to page 3 of the Woodland Strategy to include “where there is a negative impact on National Park purposes”.**

**Resolved:** That Members adopt the Tree and Woodland Strategy with the changes proposed in Section 2 and the additional wording in the action above.

### **72/23 Organisational Development Plan progress update**

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services

**Resolved:** That Members note the contents of the report.

### **73/23 National Park Management Plan Annual Monitoring Statement**

Considered:

The report of the Head of Strategic Policy

Members commented:

- Waterbody status is below target but there is a lag in the date.
- Important that partners communicate their contributions to delivering objectives.

**Resolved:** That Members note the contents of the report and offer any comments.

### **74/23 Authority Business Plan 6 monthly progress report**

Considered:

The report of the Head of Strategic Policy

**Resolved:** That

1. The Annual Business Plan six-monthly Progress Report be noted by Members.
2. Members offer any comments on the contents of the Progress Report.

### **75/23 On the Record**

Considered:

The report of the Woodland Team Leader

**Resolved:** That Further consideration of this issue by Officers suggests the following for Members approval:

- Members will be consulted on Forestry England's Forest Plans via the Conservation and Climate Change Forum.
- No changes to the Scheme of Delegation are necessary.

### **76/23 Chief Executive's update**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive

Members discussed the use of additional discretionary powers in relation to visitor management and agreed that additional powers could involve additional cost, but this will be looked at further to see if they will be taken up.

**Resolved:** That Members note the context of this report making any comments that they wish to.

### **77/23 Report from Chair of FRASC**

Considered:

The report of the Chair of FRASC

**Resolved:** That the report of the Chair of FRASC was noted.

### **78/23 Feedback from Lead Members of Forums**

Considered:

The report of the Executive Support Team Leader

Patrick James indicated the Conservation and Climate Change Forum discussed peatland restoration, an outline of the projects to be delivered and also the Tree and Woodland Strategy.

Members noted the written report from Janet Waggott on the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum. Joel Brookfield indication that the Forum discussed the implications of the A19 crossing on the Coast-to-Coast route – whilst not within the National Park boundary.

**George Jabbour left the meeting at 12.33.**

Arnold Warneken reported that the Equality Diversity and Inclusion Group met and had breakout groups to discuss the format of the group from different perspectives going forwards. The optimum number of members was discussed with a suggestion of 12 being manageable. A presentation on inclusivity data was given which could be shared with Members of the Authority.

**Action: Presentation on inclusivity data given to the EDI Group to be shared with Authority Members.**

**79/23 Reports from Members on outside bodies**

Considered:

The report of the Executive Support Team Leader

Christine Robertson (NYMNPA representative at CNP) indicated that she has had a one-to-one positive discussion with Rose O’Neil (CEO of CNP) and touched on CNP’s ambitions and their National Park health check in October. The November CNP council meeting discussed the political upheaval and effects on a small organisation. Ruth Bradshaw presented the health check comparing National Park Management Plans, what they cover and the sharing of good practice; some do not have time goals and annual reporting – this report will be issued in spring 2024. Species recovery, water quality and wildlife crime also featured. 25% of SSSIs in National Parks are in favourable condition with 38% in favourable condition outside of National Parks (they are different, moorland has its challenges). The AGM followed with Janette Ward stepping down as Chair and Andrew McCloy was installed as the new Chair.

There was no report from the York and North Yorkshire Housing Board as Clive Pearson was unable to attend the Authority meeting.

**Resolved:** That the verbal reports be noted by Members.

**Christine Robertson left the meeting at 12.40.**

**80/23 Parish Forum update**

Considered:

The report of the Executive Support Team Leader.

**Resolved:** That Members note the issues raised.

**81/23 Other business**

There was no other business discussed.



# **Public Summary of Items considered "in private" at the meeting of the North York Moors National Park on 11 December 2023**

## **Private minutes**

Members agreed that the private minutes of the meeting held on [1], having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## **Property review update**

Members discussed the property review alongside the report from the Director of Corporate Services.

# North York Moors National Park Authority

## Item 4, Public Question Time

### When?

Public Question Time will be at the beginning of each meeting, immediately after the Minutes of any previous meeting have been agreed, and will be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes of questions and answers in total.

### What?

- Only questions will be allowed and these must relate to the business of the Authority
- Any questioner will be limited to two minutes maximum speaking time
- Supplementary questions will only be allowed for purposes of clarifying an earlier answer
- If answers cannot be provided on the day a reply in writing will be offered

### How?

Any questions must be delivered in writing to the Director of Corporate Services at least two clear working days before the meeting. The Chair will then call questioners at the meeting in the order questions were received.

**Answers to questions will normally be given by the Chair.**

### Exclusions?

No question relating to an individual recipient of services will be allowed, as appropriate alternative channels exist for such inquiries.

The opportunity to ask questions under this scheme does not apply to staff or their representatives, since other mechanisms are available.

No questions can be accepted which relate to matters which would normally be dealt with in private session because they relate to exempt information, for example:-

- Legal actions
- Financial and business affairs of other organisations
- Individual members of staff
- Trade Union negotiations

No questions can be accepted where there is a statutory procedure in place for public consultation, for example:-

- Development control matters
- Traffic regulation orders
- Public rights of way orders, etc

### **Notice of questions should be sent to :**

Director of Corporate Services, National Park Office, Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, YO62 5BP. Tel: 01439 772700.

**Item 8, Guest speakers: Youth Voice Presentation from Europarc Conference in Netherlands**

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2024

## Item 9, Strategy and Business Plan – Milestones for 2024/25

### 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To seek approval from Members for the proposed Strategy and Business Plan milestones for the next financial year 2024/25.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 The Authority's current Strategy and Business Plan was approved by National Park Authority (NPA) Members on 21 March 2022. The Plan sets objectives for the organisation for the subsequent five years and a set of 'milestones' for delivery which are reviewed annually. It determines the Authority's contribution to achieving the National Park Management Plan and other objectives that support our strategy to grow the Authority.
- 2.2 Progress on the delivery of these milestones is reported every six months to NPA. A report on the first six months of this year (2023/24) was considered by Members at the 11 December 2023 NPA meeting, together with a report on the priority milestones that have been identified by officers for next year.
- 2.3 An updated Strategy and Business Plan, including the revised milestones is in **Appendix 1**. The new milestones provide a more detailed breakdown of work the Authority will carry out next year, which will be the third year of this Business Plan.

### 3. Milestones for 2024/25

- 3.1 A number of milestones have been 'rolled forward' from the current financial year. There are also a significant number of new milestones. Members' attention is drawn to these and other key milestones for next year:

#### Objectives 1-4 (Corporate)

- Launching a new bespoke e-newsletter on conservation and climate change.
- Launching a TikTok channel.
- New communication campaigns around nature for all, species (i.e. biodiversity) and health and wellbeing.
- Enhancing the visitor offer to increase numbers at National Park Centres e.g., a new play area at Danby, art trails and new tramper routes.
- Embed a new staff performance framework and reward payments.
- Deliver a further reduction in NYMNPA greenhouse gas emissions by 20%.
- Install EV chargers at Newton, Hutton le Hole and Danby Lodge.

### **Objectives 5-13 (Conservation and climate change related)**

- Produce a climate change strategy/emissions reduction plan for the National Park.
- Deliver a project on "regenerative agriculture" on farm holdings.
- Complete the Ryevitalise Landscape Partnership Scheme and secure its legacy.
- Deliver Phase 1 of Esk and Coastal Streams Restoration Programme.
- Complete the North York Moors Nature Recovery Plan.
- Deliver year 1 of the Linking Levisham Landscape Recovery scheme.
- Deliver Year 1 of the Raiding the Bank project.
- Deliver Y1 of externally funded projects on Esk.
- Define a core expansion dark sky area and start the process for expansion with Dark Sky International.

### **Objectives 14-19 (Recreation and Wellbeing)**

- Launch a 'Nature Prescriptions for North Yorkshire' project.
- Arts and Culture Partnership to be fully established.
- Installing art trails at both National Park Centres.
- Facilitate Mindful on the Moor Festival/Workshops.
- Creating a 'Championing National Parks' project.
- Repairing Roseberry Topping paths and enhancing access.
- Secure funding for multi-year Youth+, Young Ranger and Explorer schemes.
- Path improvements and new signage on the Coast to Coast National Trail.
- Deliver accessibility improvements to RoW and extend the Trammer offer.
- Support 5 new cycle-friendly businesses, establish the Moor to Sea Cycle Network project and produce a Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan.
- 30 new tourism businesses approved as 'Champions'.
- Create a heritage sculpture trail near Boulby.

### **Objective 20 (Farming)**

- Deliver Royal Countryside Fund (RCF) Farm for the Future Programme.
- If funding is successfully found, deliver a new Test and Trial scheme.

- Deliver the final year of the Farming in Protected Landscapes scheme.

#### **Objectives 21-22 (Planning)**

- New Design Code to be completed by April 2025.
- Start a Local Plan review by the end of 2024.
- Deliver the Net Zero Lasingham project.
- Prepare guidance/promote affordable housing.
- Deliver at least one historic building grant scheme focusing on energy efficiency.
- Adopt/progress 6 Conservation Area appraisals.

#### **4. Conclusions**

- 4.1 The Authority's strategy to grow the organisation is based on four pillars – increasing profile/reputation, working with partners, investing in people and skills and maintaining high levels of customer service. Officers consider that these remain fundamental to achieving the strategy and that substantial progress is being made towards achieving them.

#### **5. Contribution to the National Park Management Plan**

- 5.1 The Strategy and Business Plan is critical to the delivery of many of the Management Plan's outcomes and objectives as it will measure the contribution of this Authority's activities towards delivering the Management Plan. It shares 18 objectives with the Management Plan which contains 24.

#### **6. Financial and staffing implications**

- 6.1 Having a Strategy and Business Plan ensures that the Authority's staff and Board are clear on our purpose, direction and priorities. The milestones for next year detail how the NPA will deploy the annual budget of £14.2 million identified in a further paper to this meeting.

#### **7. Legal and sustainability implications**

- 7.1 None.

#### **8. Recommendation**

- 8.1 That Members approve the Strategy and Business Plan milestones for 2024/25.

Contact Officer:

Paul Fellows

Head of Strategic Policy

01439 772524

## North York Moors National Park Authority Strategy and Business Plan 2022 – 27

Our Strategy and Business plan sets out the organisational priorities and delivery objectives for the North York Moors National Park Authority (NPA) for the five years 2022-27. They describe the NPA's contribution to the North York Moors Management Plan, and how we will deliver our strategy to grow the organisation and be high profile, contemporary and fit for purpose. The objectives are supported by a set of milestones which the Authority will work to deliver each year. We are now in year three of the Business Plan and milestones cover the year 2024/25.

<p><b>Our contribution to delivering the North York Moors National Park Management Plan</b></p> <p>We have identified three outcomes from the Management Plan that we will prioritise in our Business Plan and MTFs over the five years in order to bring focus to our work:</p> <p><b>Outcome 1 – A resilient landscape at the forefront of addressing climate change and nature recovery</b></p> <p>We're prioritising this outcome because it is the biggest priority in the Management Plan. The NPA needs to show leadership in demonstrating how the National Park can best adapt and respond to climate change whilst maintaining its special qualities. We are already taking a lead in woodland creation and peat restoration.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2 - A nature rich, more biodiverse landscape</b></p> <p>We're prioritising this outcome because it's central to our statutory purposes. We have a strong track-record of landscape-scale habitat creation/ restoration programmes. Developing a local Nature Recovery Strategy that's bespoke for the National Park is the key to unlocking future funding for nature through ELMS.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3 – A place that lifts the nation's health and wellbeing</b></p> <p>We're prioritising this outcome because it's central to a key role that protected landscapes can play in connecting people with nature. We will build on our existing strengths in access management, volunteering and youth engagement. We can further develop our links with under-served communities in Teesside and elsewhere to achieve health and wellbeing outcomes.</p> <p>Whilst our work to achieve these outcomes will not be the total sum of what we will do, these priorities will guide where we concentrate over the coming years so that we do fewer things well.</p>	<p><b>Our strategy for the National Park Authority</b></p> <p>Our strategy defines the goals and ambitions for the National Park Authority. We aim to grow the Authority with a vision for a high profile, contemporary organisation that's fit for purpose. To achieve this we need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the profile and reputation of the National Park and our work, to draw interest, awareness and enthusiasm for the great work we do regionally and nationally.</li> <li>• Harness our stakeholders, businesses and residents as partners in aspiration for the National Park.</li> <li>• Invest in our people, developing their skills and ensure our working environment and systems are up to date and efficient.</li> <li>• Maintain high levels of customer service and satisfaction so our reputation amongst our communities and partners is held high.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Our organisational values</b></p> <p><b>We are... Proud</b></p> <p>We are proud to be a part of an organisation that conserves, enhances and champions this spectacular landscape – each of our roles makes this possible.</p> <p><b>We are... Professional</b></p> <p>We are doers, enablers, inspirers - we uphold the highest professional standards to bring about positive change for the National Park.</p> <p><b>We are... Welcoming</b></p> <p>Inclusivity and empathy are at the heart of who we are and what we represent - the National Park is a place for all.</p> <p><b>We are... Collaborative</b></p> <p>We work positively and proactively with others to achieve our shared vision of the North York Moors.</p>
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The Strategy and Business Plan runs in parallel with a Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) that sets the financial context for the Plan. It is a dynamic document that is reviewed annually taking account of ongoing delivery of objectives as well as changes in the political and financial context.

## Organisational outcome - A high profile, contemporary organisation, fit for purpose

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
1) Raise the profile and position the brand of the North York Moors, so that more people recognise and appreciate the special nature of the National Park.	Increased awareness of the North York Moors National Park.	Develop 'Caring' audience for new bespoke e-newsletter showcasing conservation and climate change work.  Increase existing e-newsletter audiences by 10% (visitor) and 5% (gallery), maintaining above industry standard open rate of 36%.	-
-	Complete the rollout of the National Park's brand including signage and vehicle branding.	Signage scheme/interpretation complete at Sutton Bank, Newton under Roseberry car park and Cawthorn Camps.	-
-	Increase website traffic, social media engagement and reach.	Website baseline established.  Launch TikTok channel.  Increase video views on social media by 15%.	-
-	-	Deliver three communications campaigns that help to position the profile & reputation of the North York Moors & the NPA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nature for all</li> <li>• Boosting wildlife (species focused campaign - name tbc)</li> <li>• Destination campaign (health &amp; wellbeing focus)</li> </ul>	-
-	Enhance our offer at National Park Centres.	Increase our profile within the family market at Danby Lodge through the installation of a new play area by July 2024.  Increase our visitor numbers across our National Park Centres by a combined 12,000 by March 2025. *  Successful completion of the remainder of the Shared Prosperity Fund project (Tramper route, art trails, new events, sensory spots and a reflective area) by March 2025.	*Baseline (2023/Calendar Year)  Sutton Bank = 134,270  Danby Lodge = 59,626



Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
2. Provide an employment and volunteering experience which supports people to thrive, is inclusive and actively engages with the wider National Park family.	Deliver an Organisational Development Plan which sets out an approach to staff and volunteer communication which is clear about what we want to achieve and does so making best use of the available technology.	<p>Agree staff survey improvement plan (April 24) and implement all actions (December 24).</p> <p>Complete review of 10 core HR policies. (December 24).</p> <p>Implement new performance development framework and approach to recognition and rewards (April 24 and then ongoing).</p> <p>External health and safety review (completed by September 24) and action plan delivered (March 25).</p>	-
-	Blended working and desk sharing arrangements that provide opportunities for better professional interaction.	<p>Consultation with staff about internal layout of new HQ/depot (April 24).</p> <p>Commence working practice change management programme (June 24).</p> <p>Establish 6 hot desks within the existing office space at Danby Lodge (October 24).</p>	-
-	Benchmarked salaries in difficult to recruit to work areas, combined with updating the appraisal process and linkage to pay.	<p>Implement new approach to salary progression (April 24).</p> <p>Implement new approach to recognition and 'bonus' awards (April 24).</p>	-
-	Staff training programme to develop leadership and project management skills.	<p>Embed the career development discussions (April 24 and ongoing).</p> <p>New leadership development programme. Contract let (October 24).</p> <p>Commencing delivery of programme (January 25).</p>	-
-	Maintain our current offer and develop new opportunities for training and employing young people in the National Park.	Lead national review of Level 2 Countryside Worker apprentice standard and have revised standard approved (December 24).	-
-	-	Engage with NYMR to agree long term apprenticeship funding programme (March 25).	-

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
3) Ensure our working environment and systems are efficient and minimize our negative impact on the environment	NPA net Scope 1 and 2 emissions to fall by 75% by 2027.	NYMNPAs Emissions 8-year Reduction Plan adopted and in delivery. 20% reduction in NYMNPAs emissions. Climate change strategy for the National Park complete.	-
-	New Procurement framework and policy takes into account environmental credentials of suppliers.	Refresher training for new staff to be delivered (April 24).	-
-	Implement the outcomes of the property review in relation to Helmsley-based premises.	Undertake engagement with residents (May 25). Work to develop costed designs and achieve full planning permission (December 24). Put in place financial plan and agree with Members (September 24). Dispose of unwanted property assets (approval by Members in June 24 and disposal completed by March 25). Let contracts for the professional support needed in the building phase (January 25). Procure contractors to commence the build (March 25).	-
-	Replace all Authority vehicles with zero carbon emissions as soon as 'fit for purpose' vehicles become available.	-	Will be completed when vehicle fleet is replaced. Progress will be made on move to new office/depot
-	EV charging points installed at all key Authority operational sites and visitor centres.	EV Installed at our Newton under Roseberry and Hutton le Hole car parks by June 2024. EV installed at Danby Lodge car park by March 2025. 1 x EV point installed at HQ by April 2024.	-
-	Deliver a costed programme of works for Sutton Bank and Danby Lodge National Park Centres to reach net zero.	-	Public Sector Decarbonisation projects complete. Assessment of photovoltaic generation options for both Visitor Centre sites will be made at a later date.
-	Implement new systems to deliver land charge services directly to the Land Registry Office.	-	Completed 2022/23.

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
-	Provide and support the delivery of facilities (including toilets and Car Parks) in the National Park for public benefit.	Installation of changing places toilet facility to complete our accessibility offer at Sutton Bank by July 2024.	-
-	-	Install all new signage at 3 key sites – Sutton Bank (August 24), Newton under Roseberry (Sept 24) and Cawthorn Camps (Jan 25)	-
-	-	<p>Specify and procure new finance system (March 2025).</p> <p>Achieve full compliance with Transparency requirements (June 24).</p> <p>Deliver enhanced network connections at Danby Lodge to ensure full access to all IT systems (May 24).</p> <p>Review, revise and implement Business Continuity and Disaster Recover Plans (June 24).</p> <p>Develop specific protocols for the total loss of the finance and/or planning systems (June 24).</p> <p>Revisions to staff IT policies and deliver programme of communication (August 24).</p> <p>Review of contract templates, financial regulations and make changes resulting from Procurement Act 2023 (Dec 24).</p> <p>Implement new Rights of way Management System (Dec 24).</p> <p>Implement new Historic Environment System (Dec 24).</p>	-

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestones</b>	<b>Notes</b>
4) Provide an excellent level of service to all our clients and staff through their every interaction with the organisation.	Deliver a customer focused Development Management and planning enforcement service.	Maintain timely determination of planning applications (60% majors, 65% minors and 80% others determined within statutory timescales).	Organisational KPIs tracked via performance scorecard
-	Undertake Annual Planning training events with Parish Councils and Agents forums.	-	Now undertaken annually.
-	Develop a programme for assessing the level of customer service and an improvement plan which should include training and development initiatives.	Levels of customer satisfaction as measured through the Mystery Shopper Survey to reach an average of 80% for both National Park Centres throughout the year	-
-	-	Enhance our visitor experience by recruiting 10 engagement volunteers at Danby Lodge and Newton under Roseberry and facilitate their location within the car parks/outdoor space.	-
-	-	Group is fully established to integrate EDI matters into the wider Authority.	-

### **Management Plan outcome - A resilient landscape at the forefront of addressing climate change**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestones</b>	<b>Notes</b>
5) Capture and store carbon by creating at least 2,500 hectares of additional wooded habitat by 2032.	Create 375ha of new woodland	100 ha new woodland created (including all NPA schemes) to bring it to approx. 275 hectares to date.  Develop KPI to track woodland creation across the National Park.	-
-	Plant 500 landscape trees.	200 landscape trees planted to bring it to approx. 930 trees to date.	-
-	Plant/enhance 50km hedgerow.	12 km of hedgerow enhanced to bring it to approx. 42km to date.	-

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestones</b>	<b>Notes</b>
6) Capture and store carbon by ensuring all degraded blanket bogs and peat habitats in the National Park are under active restoration by 2032.	Work with Natural England, Estates and the Yorkshire Peat Partnership to complete restoration works on 2500ha of blanket bog by 2027.	All restoration works from Nature for Climate Fund delivery grant complete (1000 hectares).	-

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestones</b>	<b>Notes</b>
7) Protect, restore and improve soils across the National Park.	Improve 77 ha of land through a programme of invasive plant species control.	35 ha of land to be improved via continuing invasive species control. Annual total includes repeat sites previously controlled as well as new sites.  Identify new sites and commence invasive species control.	-
-	Enhance soil health throughout the National Park by working with land managers. Engage at least 200 land managers in best practice to enhance awareness of soil health.	40 new land managers engaged in soil health awareness.  <i>2023/24 data not yet available to be able to provide cumulative figure to date.</i>	-
-	-	Deliver project on regenerative agriculture on farm holdings in the North York Moors, in collaboration with other northern Protected Landscapes.	-

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestones</b>	<b>Notes</b>
8) Achieve good ecological status for all water bodies by 2027 and support the improvement of marine and coastal habitat.	Work with land managers to deliver improvement works on water bodies through agricultural infrastructure and management, invasive species control, improvements to septic facilities and monitoring.	Complete Ryevitalise Landscape Partnership Scheme and ensure continued legacy.	-
-	-	Deliver Phase 1 of Esk and Coastal Streams Restoration Programme, including Catchment Partnership objectives.  Deliver Year 1 objectives of newly funded river restoration project.	-

## Management Plan outcome - A nature rich, more biodiverse landscape

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
9) Create bigger, better and more joined up habitats, with nature rich wildlife corridors extending beyond the National Park boundaries	Develop and deliver a Nature Recovery Strategy for local North York Moors nature recovery work. Ensure NYM nature recovery priorities are incorporated into any wider regional LNRS.	Complete the North York Moors Nature Recovery Plan.	LNRSs by NYC and TVCA in place by March 2025. NPA's Nature Recovery Plan feeds into both LNRSs significantly.
-	Maintain 115 ha habitat enhancements through existing conservation agreements and bring 100 ha into new conservation agreements.	Maintain 158 ha of land managed under conservation agreements. 20 ha of additional land brought into agreement.	New figure is cumulative and is focussed on actual area under conservation rather than whole farm holding. Includes Rye & Birds on the Edge agreements.
-	Protect, manage and enhance 250ha of ancient and significant woodlands.	65ha of woodland restoration delivered, to bring it to approx. 215ha in total.	-

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
10) Restore wilder and more naturally functioning ecosystems on at least 2,000 hectares in the National Park.	Develop and implement a partnership approach to deliver Bransdale Conservation Management Plan.	Bransdale Management Plan completed by autumn. 2024. Phase 1 Funding secured for delivery.	-
-	Develop partnership approach to create/deliver a Newtondale / Levisham Conservation Management Plan.	Deliver Linking Levisham Landscape Recovery scheme year 1.	-
-	Develop a Landscape Recovery Pilot programme.	-	Complete with confirmation of go ahead for Linking Levisham

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
11) Work with our moorland community to support the sustainable management of moorland to ensure it retains its intrinsic character which supports a greater variety of species and habitats.	Work with Natural England and Moorland partners to enhance moorland fringe habitat.	Deliver Moor to Restore peat restoration objectives. Hold 3 workshops with moorland community to discuss outputs of climate change modelling undertaken by Leeds University. Establish Moorland Farming support group.	Terms of Reference for Moorland Forum revised and agreed by all parties.

## Management Plan outcome - A landscape rich in heritage and highly valued for its sense of remoteness and tranquillity

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
12) Ensure that our historic environment is better understood, conserved, explained and under appropriate management; and work with partners to reduce the number of identified Designated Heritage Assets at Risk.	Improve the condition of at least 25 Heritage Assets at Risk.	5 designated heritage assets removed from register or prevented from entering the list.	-
-	Deliver the Land of Iron legacy	-	Ongoing as business as usual.
-	Restore the Rosedale Kilns.	-	Abandoned.
-	-	Deliver Year 1 of the Raiding the Bank project.	-
-	Develop a major multi- stranded historic environment focused project seeking external funding.	Discussions with NHLF undertaken and outline bid submitted.	-
-	Complete 10 Conservation Area appraisals/management plans.	<p>Adopt 4 appraisals currently in progress (Staithe, Goathland, Grosmont and NYM Railway).</p> <p>Progress further 2 appraisals (Hutton le Hole and Appleton le Moors).</p> <p>Publish Heritage Assessment of Botton Village.</p>	-
-	Deliver 5 heritage skills training workshops.	Deliver 1 heritage skills training scheme	Three workshops delivered to date.
-	Deliver a historic building repair grant (focusing on energy efficiency).	Deliver at least one scheme using existing grant mechanisms.	-
-	-	<p>Link heritage skills to Traditional Boundary Fund walling and focus on hedge laying through developing apprentices and volunteers.</p> <p>15 training sessions delivered.</p> <p>Provide hedge management training for land managers through advice on the website and 3 training / advice sessions.</p>	-

Objective	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestones	Notes
13) Increase the intrinsic darkness of the National Park International Dark Sky Reserve, through expanding the current dark sky core zone by twenty percent by 2027.	Deliver a lighting strategy/management plan to maintain dark sky status and increase the area of dark sky core zone by 20%.	Define core expansion area and start process for expansion with DarkSky International (new name for IDA).	-
-	Proactively use the planning system to conserve dark skies.	-	Completed.
-	Factor lighting into all future landscape improvement projects wherever possible.	Deliver 3 large scale lighting projects and 6 smaller scale lighting projects.	-
-	Identify dark corridors within dales to link up with habitat connectivity.	Deliver 4 community engagement sessions.  Train Dark Sky Ambassador volunteers – 2 sessions with 20 attendees.	-



## Management Plan outcome - A place that lifts the nation's health and wellbeing

Objective (from NPMP)	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestone	Notes
14. Create specific, targeted opportunities to improve mental and physical health and wellbeing by connecting people with nature.	Provide Green Social Prescribing opportunities to communities within and around the National Park.	<p>Launch the 'Nature Prescriptions for North Yorkshire project' by end of May 2024.</p> <p>Nature Prescription offer is embedded through social prescribers/GP practices within 5 Primary Care Networks – March 2025.</p> <p>IMPACT MEASURE - 70% of Participants in 24/25 project report a closer connection to nature and/or an improvement to their wellbeing.</p>	-
-	Establish an Arts & Culture Partnership for the National Park which will develop externally funded projects that deliver the outcomes of the Art & Culture Strategy.	<p>Arts &amp; Culture Partnership MoU and operating model finalised with 20 partners signed up.</p> <p>Implement Stage 1 of Arts Council funding (if successful) and installation of Arts Trails at National Park Centres.</p>	-
-	Refocus the NYM events programme, targeting health and wellbeing benefits.	<p>Create and deliver Mindful on the Moor Festival and hold 4 Self-Care workshops.</p> <p>Provide an additional 25 externally funded places for groups/individuals in financial need to access NPA events beneficial to H&amp;WB.</p>	-
-	-	<p>Ensure at least 100 evaluation forms for H &amp; WB events are completed.</p> <p>Of these, 75% or more of the people engaged identify a positive change in their wellbeing.</p>	-
-	Implement a revised volunteering strategy, which determines targets for health and wellbeing, participation and output.	<p>Analyse Volunteering survey, develop action plan (April 24) and implement actions (December 24).</p> <p>Establish new KPIs to measure volunteering performance. New KPIs and baseline agreed April 24.</p> <p>Establish KPI improvement for 24/25 (April 24).</p>	-
-	Build on our emerging destination PR activity working with underserved groups and organisations.	<p>4 community champions trained, through the Mosaic project, to make their own films for sharing on social media platforms by March 2025.</p> <p>Two organised walks in partnership with Muslim Hikers.</p>	-

Objective (from NPMP)	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestone	Notes
15. Increase awareness of, and access to the National Park among underserved communities, particularly those in the surrounding area	Develop an improved and accessible visitor offer in the north of the National Park.	<p>Planning approval and delivery schedule for Guisborough Forest agreed with work commenced by March 2025</p> <p>Roseberry Topping Path Restoration – main access path fully restored by October 2024.</p>	-
-	Support the VisitEngland North York Moors Accessibility Project to improve information, customer service and facilities	-	Completed.
-	Deliver a programme of outreach activities and events focusing on underserved communities.	<p>Commence delivery of the Championing National Parks for Everyone Project by July 2024</p> <p>Deliver 1 Community Champion training course by Feb 25 and recruit 7 new champions</p> <p>Complete 3 co-designed engagement opportunities with The Outdoor Partnership by Oct 2024</p> <p>Deliver 3 co-designed walks for wellbeing in partnership with Nur Fitness by July 2024</p>	-
-	-	<p>Facilitate visits for 800 participants through the Community Transport Project by the end of Sept 24</p> <p>Attend Ormesby Hall Local Engagement Weekend (June) and Middlesbrough Mela (Aug) to engage target audiences</p>	-
-	Increase the proportion of people from under-represented groups involved in volunteering.	Increase from 30% baseline in volunteering strategy by 5%	-
-	Provide immersive learning experiences through an Outdoor Learning Service tailored to schools, with a focus on areas of high deprivation.	<p>Establish a baseline for the following outcomes by end October 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children identify a closer connection to nature</li> <li>• children identify that they have been inspired to care more for nature</li> </ul> <p>At least 50% of schools/groups undertaking outdoor learning activities are from areas of high deprivation</p>	-

Objective (from NPMP)	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestone	Notes
16. Inspire the next generation to enjoy, learn about and care for the National Park and support young people's direct involvement in decision making about its future.	Deliver a programme of youth engagement provision and volunteering, aiming for 30% of volunteers being 30 and under by 2027.	Develop a multi-year funding programme to secure the future of Youth +, Young Rangers and Explorer Volunteers.  Establish a baseline for the following outcomes by Oct 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young People identify an improvement to their wellbeing</li> <li>• Young People acknowledge that they have developed skills</li> <li>• young people acknowledge that the schemes have enabled them to make a difference for nature</li> </ul>	-
-	Ensure Youth Council and Youth Voice is embedded into NP processes.	Youth Voice is embedded in decision making through co-option and successful induction onto members forums (conservation and climate change/ recreation and wellbeing) by October 2024.  Youth Voice supported to increase their membership by 7 young people external to the NPA by March 25.	-
-	Successfully conclude delivery of the NHLF funded Young Explorer Project and seek legacy funding to ensure equitable provision of these clubs.	-	Completed June 2023.

Objective (from NPMP)	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestone	Notes
17. Ensure that all members of the public are able to enjoy the National Park using easy to use, well-marked rights of way and open access land.	Maintain promoted RoW at 85% easy to use	85% of public rights of way easy to use in latest BVPI survey.  Agree, identify and record the promoted and priority routes across the National Park.  6km of surface/ accessibility improvements.  30 accessibility improvements made on priority routes  25% reduction in problem reports on priority routes	To be assessed in line with new Targets and Outcomes Framework  Improved access points (gap-gate-stile), removal of barriers
-	Increase the offer of 'Miles Without Stiles.'	Implement recommendations of the audit.	-

<b>Objective (from NPMP)</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestone</b>	<b>Notes</b>
-	Expand the provision of a quality Trampler Network across the National Park.	Create a new Trampler route and offer at Danby Lodge by October 2024.  Develop new partnerships to add an additional Trampler and location to the Trampler Network.	-
-	Work with partners to establish the Coast to Coast as a National Trail and maintain support for the Cleveland Way.	Undertake necessary RoW work to dedicate a legal route across the whole of the National Park by March 2025.  6500 metres of path surfaced to National Trail Quality Standards by March 2025.  80% of the route officially signed as Coast to Coast by March 2025.	-

<b>Objective (from NPMP)</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestone</b>	<b>Notes</b>
18. Promote the North York Moors National Park as the premier recreational/ family cycling destination in the North of England.	Develop a compelling offer around the National Park's USP (e-bikes, gravel, family friendly and mountain biking) and encourage a transformative change in the way people get to and move around the National Park.	Support businesses and communities to increase cycling facilities, services and user experience through NYMNP's Local business tourism contribution grant scheme - five new businesses to become cycling friendly in 2024/25.	-
-	Redesign the Moor to Sea Cycle Network route as a nationally recognised off-road/gravel route.	Initial partnership to be established around specific project (Moor to Sea Cycle Network); engage previous partners (NYC/FE) and new partners (Sustrans/Cycling UK); develop a project plan, timeline and funding prospectus.  Additional objectives to be agreed once partnership in place.	-
-	Norh York Moors Cycleway signage completed and route launched.	Review feasibility and costs with WSP/NYC and draft realistic timeline for installation.	-
-	Improve the quality of cycling routes at Sutton Bank.	Upgrade sections of Paradise Cycle Trail (red route) and complete resigning of all cycle trails.	-
-	Reestablishment of Rosedale Railway Permissive Cycle Agreement.	Renegotiate Agreement with Landowner.  Reintroduce the Rosedale Railway to the cycling offer for the NYMNP.	-
-	Work with partners to develop cycle trails linking surrounding urban areas with the National Park.	Develop Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for NYMNP.	-

<b>Objective (from NPMP)</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestone</b>	<b>Notes</b>
19. Work with businesses to establish regenerative tourism as a guiding principle and encourage visitors to make a positive contribution to the National Park.	Work with NYMTN to encourage hosts to build an even closer relationship with the place distinctiveness/special qualities.	Work with train and bus operators to develop marketing messages that encourage sustainable access into the National Park and active recreation, showcasing messaging to >1 million people on networks that link to the National Park (Northern/TPE).	-
-	-	30 tourism businesses approved as 'Champions' who are actively using National Park messages.	-
-	Deliver tourism elements of Boulby S106	Deliver a four-piece heritage sculpture trail in the project area, working with local communities to select designs.  Support Staithes Festival to increase visitor numbers by 10% and exhibitors by 5% from 2023 baseline.	-

### **Management Plan outcome - A place that supports a more diverse and flourishing net zero carbon economy**

<b>Objective (from NPMP)</b>	<b>Delivery by 2027</b>	<b>2024/25 milestone</b>	<b>Notes</b>
20) Maintain a strong and viable farming and land management community that delivers more for climate, nature, people and place.	Support a significant proportion of farmers and land managers in the National Park in accessing ELM Local Nature Recovery and Landscape Recovery ELM components.  Update to take account SFI, CS+ and Landscape Recovery	Deliver Royal Countryside Fund (RCF) Farm for the Future Programme (funded by Defra's Future Farm Resilience Fund) to farmers and land managers in the National Park.	-
-	Deliver a Test and Trial focusing on incorporating private sector funding into ELM through initiatives such as Biodiversity Net Gain and Carbon Credits.	Implement new Test & Trial (if funding successful) to assess how farming in the NYM can offset carbon emissions elsewhere.	-
-	Deliver and fully spend the resources allocated to the Farming in Protected Landscapes Scheme.	Deliver and optimise the use of the resources allocated to the Farming in Protected Landscapes Scheme.	-

## Management Plan outcome - A place of great beauty where local communities thrive

Objective (from NPMP)	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestone	Notes
21) Increase the delivery of affordable housing above 2010-2020 levels to build at least 100 affordable homes in villages across the National Park by 2027; and press for changes to control the conversion of housing to second or holiday homes.	Undertake a focused review of the Local Plan.	Focused review of Local Plan end of 2024 and launched.  Engagement Strategy produced.	Community involvement, engagement & awareness.
-	Prepare an affordable housing and second homes strategy to implement targets.	Prepare good practice guidance and approach Parish Councils to promote/seek interest/sites.	-

Objective (from NPMP)	Delivery by 2027	2024/25 milestone	Notes
22) Work to establish the North York Moors National Park as a leader in low-cost, low-carbon housing design through the development of at least one new-build exemplar scheme; and promote the deployment of sustainable materials and responsible retrofitting measures in historic buildings to secure their long-term future.	Facilitate two exemplar schemes – focusing on retrofitting a heritage building and a new build.	Deliver net zero Lastingham scheme.  Publish guidance on retrofit.	-
-	Update the design guide/design codes.	Design Code Scoping Phase out to public consultation April 2024.  Complete Design Code by end of 2024/25.	Community involvement, engagement & awareness.

# North York Moors National Park Authority

**Monday 18 March 2024**

## **Item 10, Budget 2024/25**

### **1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 To provide Members with details of the proposed budget for 2024/25 for approval.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The budget is set in the context of the Authority's Strategy and Business Plan, which contributes to the delivery of the National Park Management Plan. Proposed Business Plan milestones and priorities for the next financial year were considered by National Park Authority in December and have been brought to this meeting for approval. This budget provides the financial assurance to enable delivery of those milestones in 2024/25.
- 2.2 The budget proposal focusses delivery on the following three Management Plan outcomes in addition to our planning, corporate and democratic functions:
  - A resilient landscape at the forefront of addressing climate change.
  - A more biodiverse landscape.
  - A place that lifts the nation's health and well-being.
- 2.3 A Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) paper was brought to the Authority meeting in December. The paper indicated a balanced budget position in 2024/25 but a £0.2m deficit in 2025/26, growing each year thereafter. The main reason for this increasing deficit position from 2025/26 is the gap between inflation and anticipated DEFRA grant settlement. Whilst our strategy to overcome this deficit is being considered, this paper focusses on the budget for 2024/25.
- 2.4 This budget proposal builds on the financial strategy of growing the Authority despite the four years of flat cash settlements continuing into a fifth year in 2023/24. The strategy of generating external funding remains successful with almost £3m of funding committed in 2023/24 and a culture of using external funding to deliver project opportunities is now embedded across most areas of the Authority. In 2024/25 we will continue to foster this approach across the organisation and ensure we have a strong pipeline of projects. But to continue to grow our income and mitigate future deficits, we also need to grow earned and commercial income and review how core funding is spent.

### **3. Budget summary**

- 3.1 The table below illustrates that the proposed budget balanced as is required by legislation. A combination of increased S106 income and a higher level of secured external funding at this stage of the year has resulted in a higher budget being set

in 2024/25, with £14.2m of income being allocated to expenditure to deliver in year, the highest gross budget the Authority has ever set.

-	<b>23/24 Original budget</b>	<b>23/24 Latest budget</b>	<b>24/25 Budget</b>
-	<b>£k</b>	<b>£k</b>	<b>£k</b>
<b>Income</b>	12,790	13,704	14,202
<b>Expenditure</b>	12,790	-13,685	-14,202

3.2 A breakdown of the elements that make up the budget can be found in the body of the report below and in Appendices 1 and 2.

#### **4. Income**

4.1 The table below shows the breakdown of £14.2m income in 2024/25 compared to the original 2023/24 budget of £12.8m. It shows an increase in income year on year in all areas except DEFRA grant 3.

-	<b>22/23 Budget</b>	<b>Proportion of total income</b>	<b>23/24 budget</b>	<b>Proportion of total income</b>	<b>Year on Year Growth</b>
-	<b>£k</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>£k</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>£k</b>
<b>Earned</b>	1,710	13.40%	1,787	12.60%	77
<b>External</b>	1,836	14.30%	2,666	18.70%	830
<b>Farming in Protected Landscapes</b>	1,047	8.20%	1,402	9.90%	355
<b>S106</b>	3,815	29.80%	3,965	27.80%	150
<b>DEFRA Core Grant</b>	4,382	34.30%	4,382	31.00%	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,790</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>14,202</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1,412</b>

#### **Earned income**

4.2 Earned income is defined as all income which is generated from business activities and assets, for example retail, car parking or letting agreements. It also includes investment income. Overall, this has increased from £1.71m to £1.79m, with increases in car parking income and inflation partly offset by a reduction in investment income. The breakdown of earned income can be found in Appendix 3.

4.3 Car parking income is projected to increase from £783k to £859k due to anticipated growth as a result of works at Danby Lodge and Newton-Under-Roseberry. In addition, it is anticipated that marketing campaigns and improved signage will increase visitor numbers too. There is no tariff increase built in next year.



- 4.4 2023/24 has continued to see a drop off in planning application levels following increases during the pandemic. The budget for planning applications has been reduced overall by £10k compared to 23/24 budget. The new budget of £260k has been decreased to allow for reduced volumes but increased for a full year of statutory fee increases, which were implemented with the Levelling Up Act on the 6 December 2023. Overall planning income is budgeted at £305k for the year.
- 4.5 There have been challenges in our retail activities during 2023/24, with sales decreasing predominantly due to the cost-of-living pressures reducing visitor spend. Budgets have been increased for inflation, but margins are retained at current levels. There is a small increase however for the introduction of the bookshop and plant sales.
- 4.6 The above increases are offset by reducing investment income. The rapid increase in base rates to counter inflation in 2023/24 resulted in much higher interest earned on investments than anticipated. As a result, the original 23/24 budget of £157.5k has increased by a further £150k. However, the temporary nature of this income should not be seen as part of building sustainable budgets. Rate reductions are expected in 2024/25. Consequently, investment interest in the budget is capped at £156k with any amount exceeding that in year proposed to go to property reserves.
- 4.7 All other areas of income remain at similar levels to 2023/24, albeit with inflationary increases applied where appropriate.

### **S106 income**

- 4.8 The Authority has two substantial S106 agreements (Woodsmith and Boulby mines) for authorised development which provide compensation payments to mitigate the adverse impacts of these developments. The budgeted value of these agreements has increased from £3.815m in 2023/24 to £3.965m in 2024/25.
- 4.9 The project delivery is still being finalised, but the budgeted income breakdown within the agreements can be found in Appendix 5.

### **External funding**

- 4.10 For the purposes of the budget this is defined as any grant income from a third-party source which is not earned income, S106 agreements or core DEFRA grant. Consequently, it includes income such as the £1,402k of funding relating to the Farming in Protected Landscapes scheme.
- 4.11 The level of external income budgeted correlates to the value of expenditure expected against this during the year. The budget only includes secured external funding at this stage with the exception of a further £50k and £15k included in the access and outdoor learning budgets respectively which represent specific 24/25 targets for those services as part of our move to become a more project-based delivery and rely less on core Defra grant funding. The external funding

target has already been met with secured funding of £4.07m in 24/25, or £2.66m if Farming in Protected Landscapes funding is excluded. However, the pipeline of potential projects indicates that the level of external funding is likely to increase further should applications currently being considered be secured. As further projects are secured, they will be added into the budget in year and reported as budget changes through the quarterly reporting process.

- 4.12 As reported in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, there is increasing pressure on corporate functions as a result of externally funded projects which don't fully factor in core support costs. This may be a limiting factor to the levels of external funding growth that can be delivered. This is a strategic issue for the Authority and one which Officers intend to discuss further with Members during the next financial year.
- 4.13 A breakdown of the budgeted external funding income can be found in Appendix 4.

### **DEFRA Grant**

- 4.14 Defra has indicated that the core settlement for 2024/25 will be flat cash for the sixth year in a row. The budgeted core grant is therefore included at £4.382m. This represents 31% of total budgeted spend which is lower than the financial KPI which indicates that DEFRA grant funding should be no higher than 45% of total income.
- 4.15 There is a strong likelihood of some additional capital funding being allocated to all Protected Landscapes following the statement announcing additional funding f by Secretary of State Steve Barclay in December 2023. However, this is still to be formally confirmed so at this stage is not included in the budget papers.

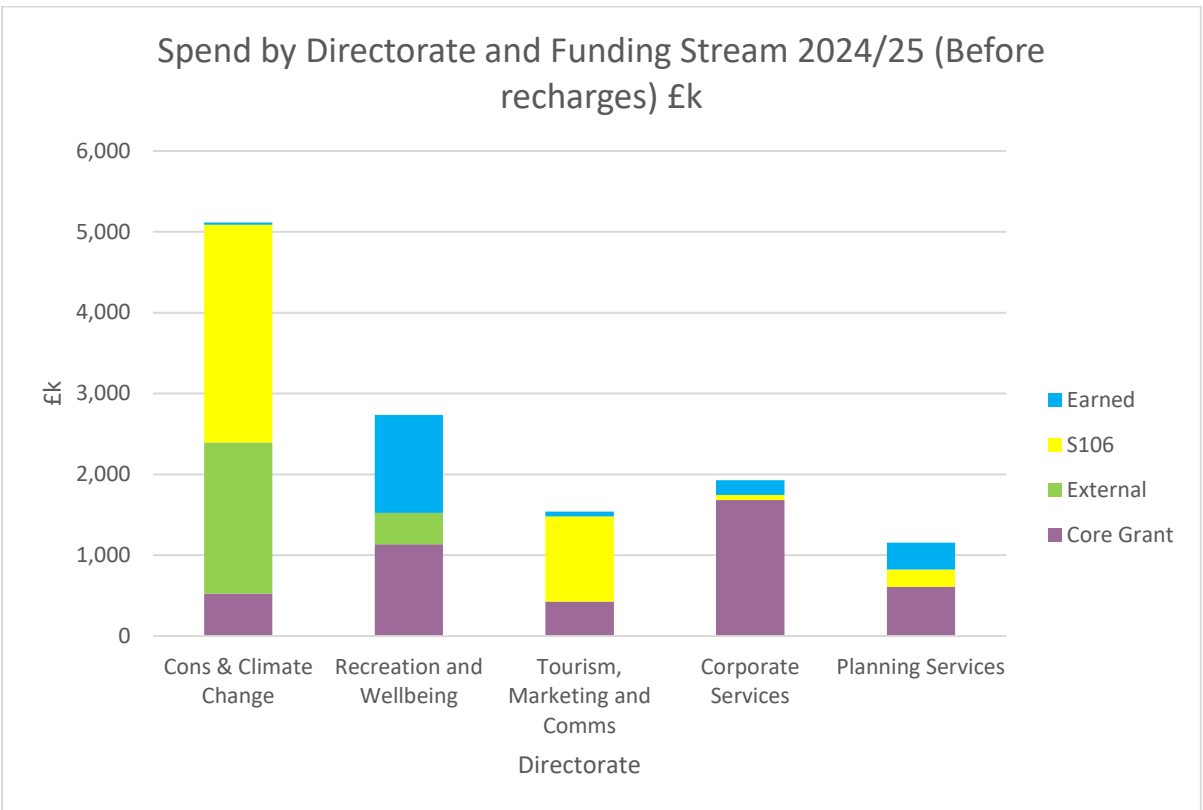
## **5. Expenditure**

- 5.1 Total expenditure for the Authority in 2023/24 is budgeted at £14.2m. This is broken down into DEFRA and subjective headings in Appendices 1 and 2.
- 5.2 Staffing costs equate to just short of £4.0m which includes all roles funded from external sources as well as core funded posts. This key area of expenditure has come under increasing pressure with pay awards of c6% in the last two years whilst the core grant remains frozen. The 2024/25 salary budget is set to increase by 4% in the absence of any information at this stage as to what the local government pay settlement proposals may be. This therefore represents a major risk in the budget with any variation to the offer needing to be dealt with in year. Each 1% increase equates to a £30k core grant funding gap which would need to be found in both 2024/25 and future years. It is as a result of increasing pay awards and frozen grant that the financial KPI that core funded staff costs will not exceed 50% of the value of the grant can no longer be met.

- 5.3 Staffing on-costs remain broadly the same, with previously proposed Government National Insurance increases now being reversed and the pension valuation resulting in just a marginal increase to pension costs.
- 5.4 Inflation is having the biggest impact and is applied to all relevant overhead budgets. Inflation assumptions in 23/24 were as predicted so no prior year adjustment is required. Inflation rates applied are included in the table below0:

Category	Inflation Rate	Comment
Pay	4%	Estimated at 4% in line with December CPI inflation.
Utilities	150%	Rise of 150% expected following the signing of a new contract for gas and electricity following the end of a fixed term agreement in 2023/24.
General Overheads	4%	4% applied in line with December CPI inflation levels.

5.5 Other year on year changes in spend include local plan costs which will increase in 24/25 as work commences on a new plan to meet changes in national planning requirements and policy. There are also savings on rates specific to 24/25 as the extension of the 75% relief for the visitor centres continues for a further year and match funding for the Ryevitalise project which will be fully spent by the end of 2023/24 and will therefore result in a reduction in expenditure in 2024/25. The chart below helps to illustrate the total expenditure for directorates and their funding make up.



5.6 All capital spend in the year is expected to be funded from either external funding or reserves. Details of the reserves funded property, IT and vehicle capital programmes are in the table below.

<b>Capital Purchase</b>	<b>Value £k (Net of any disposal)</b>	<b>Reserve Funding</b>
Laptop replacements	20	IT
Replacement finance system	80	IT
Mule	15	Vehicle
2 x Mitsubishi L200	33	Vehicle
Dacia Duster	13	Vehicle
Takeuchi TB216 Mini Digger	13	Vehicle
5 x trailers	20	Vehicle
Sutton Bank compound fencing and café outdoor seating	20	Property
Hutton-Le-Hole toilet refurbishment	35	Property
<b>Total 24/25 expenditure</b>	<b>249</b>	-

5.7 There are currently no additional costs relating to the property review outside of the work currently being undertaken by Bowman Reilly on designs and planning permission. Budget implications and approvals for spend will be addressed through future business case papers as the project progresses.

## **6. Savings plan**

6.1 The increasing pressure of inflation when compared to the flat cash grant means that savings plans are essential to achieve financial sustainability. This year the budget is already balanced as a result of previous actions, and focus will be on delivering savings for 2025/26. There are, however, still a number of income generation / savings proposals built into the budget which will be monitored through the year:

<b>Savings category</b>	<b>£k</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Vacancy factor	78	2% reduction on staffing costs for naturally occurring vacancies.
External funding targets	65	Specific in-service funding targets for outdoor learning (£15k) and access (£50k).
Earned income generation	71	Additional income generation from car parking and initiatives and advertising revenues.

Savings category	£k	Comment
Funding diversification	40	Funding of DEFRA grant or earned income funded posts through externally funded projects.
<b>Total</b>	<b>253</b>	-

6.2 All of the above are specific savings proposals built into budgets and are being delivered. One year savings such as reduced business rates are not included above.

6.3 Progress on the delivery of the savings programme will be included in the quarterly reporting to FRAS committee through the year.

## 7. Reserves

7.1 Of the current £5.9m of reserves, £4.0m relates to ringfenced income in advance pertaining to S106 agreements and external funding. S106 funds are drawn down in advance so there is always likely to be a balance in reserves for this whilst the agreements are ongoing.

7.2 There is currently a general working balance reserve to help to manage cash flow and represents the minimum level of reserves that should be held. This is set at 5% of gross expenditure excluding S106 and Farming in Protected Landscapes which are deemed to be low risk areas. This currently stands at £435k. 5% of gross expenditure in 23/24 is £440k so no amendments are required for this. The contingency reserve is also being built up to the 5% level as above over time and currently stands at £291k (3.3%). A view will be taken at the end of the year on the outturn position and whether to use some of any surplus to help bolster this reserve.

7.3 Budgeted contributions to capital reserves in 2023/24 are £40k for IT, £85k for vehicles and plant and £50k for planned capital maintenance of assets. These remain the same as previous year. The next medium term financial strategy plan will look in detail at whether the planned capital maintenance of assets reserves should be increased to cover future asset liabilities.

7.4 There is £249k of capital spend which will be drawn from IT, property and vehicle reserves in 2024/25 as laid out in point 5.6 of the report.

7.5 Remaining earmarked reserves are expected to be spent as projects progress. A detailed breakdown of reserves can be found in Appendix 7.

## 8. Key budget risks

8.1 There remains some uncertainty in the budget and it is worth reiterating some of the assumptions that will need to be monitored through the year via the quarterly reporting:

- Pay award assumed at 4%.

- Inflation assumed at 4%.
- Savings to be achieved.
- Planning income and application levels.
- Property review – nothing is currently factored in for property moves.

## **9. Conclusion**

- 9.1 The 24/25 proposed balanced budget delivers £14.2m of activity, c.30% of which is funded from core grant. Excluding S106 this rises to 49%. There are increases year on year of external, earned and S106 income. Only secured external funding is included at this stage. There is no requirement to draw from reserves to balance the budget.
- 9.2 The budget still contains a number of assumptions on pay and overhead inflation that will need to be monitored and should there be any variation this will need to be addressed in year.
- 9.3 There are £253k of savings that will be monitored through the year.
- 9.4 The budget enables the delivery of the 2024/25 business plan milestones.
- 9.5 The reserves position continues to be healthy but earmarked reserves are still expected to be spent over time and the reserves to help manage risk need to continue to be bolstered.
- 9.6 From 2025/26, there is a growing deficit position as a result of the continued assumption that DEFRA core grant will remain frozen. A strategic approach to address this will need to be agreed in the first half of 2024/25.

## **10. Financial and staffing implications**

- 10.1 As detailed in the report.

## **11. Contribution to National Park Management Plan**

- 11.1 An approved balanced budget is essential to ensuring the deliverability of the Authority's objectives as set out in the Management Plan and Business Plan.

## **12. Legal and sustainability implications**

- 12.1 The Authority has a legal obligation to set a balanced budget each year which is financially sustainable.

## **13. Recommendations**

- 13.1 That Members approve the budget.

Contact Officer:  
 Pete Williams  
 Chief Financial Officer  
 01439 772700

## Appendix 1, 2023/24 Budget summary by DEFRA headings

- Income	2023/24 Budget £k	2024/25 Budget £k	- Comment
Conservation Of Cultural Heritage	87	294	Raiding the Bank new external project
Conservation Of The Natural Environment	3,937	4,231	Peatland & REStore new external projects, offset by reduction in Ryevitalise funding
Corporate and Democratic Core	181	179	-
Development Management	485	496	-
Farming in Protected Landscapes	686	1,402	Increase in funding
Forward Planning	0	0	-
Promoting Understanding	1,507	1,631	See Moor new external project
Rangers & Volunteers	0	0	-
Recreation Management	1,525	1,587	Mosaic new external project, increase in car park income, reduction in outdoor learning fees
DEFRA Grant	4,382	4,382	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,790</b>	<b>14,202</b>	-
<b>Expenditure</b>	-	-	-
Conservation Of Cultural Heritage	-375	-485	Raiding the Bank new external project
Conservation Of The Natural Environment	-4,613	-4,884	Peatland & REStore new external projects, offset by Ryevitalise core match funding.
Corporate and Democratic Core	-317	-298	Inflation and higher cost of utilities due to new contract
Development Management	-1,096	-1,133	Inflation
Farming in Protected Landscapes	-686	-1,402	Increase in DEFRA project funding and therefore expenditure
Forward Planning	-183	-206	Inflation
Promoting Understanding	-2,781	-2,873	See Moor new external project, inflation and higher cost of utilities
Rangers & Volunteers	-911	-993	Inflation and higher cost of utilities
Recreation Management	-1,828	-1,928	Mosaic new external project, inflation and increase in income collection costs
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>-12,790</b>	<b>-14,202</b>	-
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	-

## Appendix 2, 2023/24 Budget summary by subjective

-	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget	Comment
<b>Income</b>	<b>£k</b>	<b>£k</b>	-
Other Grants	2,767	4,061	FiPL uplift, plus new external projects eg Peatland, See Moor & Esk REStore
Sales	268	277	Inflation
Lettings	83	86	Inflation
Booking Fees	77	56	Reduction in Outdoor Learning fees
Car Park Income	782	859	Increase in car park income from initiatives
Planning Fees	299	3051	Increase in fees partly offset by reduction in volumes.
Other Income	23	37	Inflation
Donations & Sponsorship	2	0	Sponsorship removed
Investment Income	175	173	Capped at 2.5%
External Match Funding	117	0	Apprentice income moved to other grants
DEFRA Grant	4,382	4,382	-
S106 Income	3,815	3,966	Inflation
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,790</b>	<b>14,202</b>	-
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	-
Employees	-3,922	-3,955	-
Premises	-467	-614	Utility cost inflation.
Transport	-179	-167	-
Supplies & Services	-2,981	-3,330	New external projects eg Peatland, See Moor & Esk REStore
Grants	-780	-1477	FIPL increased grant allocation
Third Party	-466	-518	Inflation and increase in income collection costs
Contribution to reserves	-180	-175	Small reduction in vehicle reserve contribution
S106 Spend	-3,815	-3,966	Inflation
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>-12,790</b>	<b>-14,202</b>	-



### Appendix 3, Earned Income Breakdown

-	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget	Comment
<b>Earned Income Source</b>	<b>£k</b>	<b>£k</b>	-
Car parking	783	859	Increased income from initiatives
Planning Fees	329	305	Increase fees partly offset by reduced volumes
Retail	268	277	Inflation
Interest	175	173	Capped at 2.5%
Lettings	83	86	Inflation
Outdoor Learning	42	18	Change from earned income to external funding model.
Gallery Exhibitions	34	38	Increased target and inflation
Events	11	11	-
Other fees	7	20	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,732</b>	<b>1,787</b>	-

## Appendix 4, Budgeted external funding for projects

Status	Project	£k
<b>Secured</b>	Farming In Protected Landscapes	1402
-	Ryevitalise	431
-	Coast to Coast	291
-	National Trails	169
-	Esk Freshwater Pearl Mussels	41
-	Apprentice Schemes	90
-	Birds on the Edge*	75
-	BMW Recharge in Nature grant	11
-	Access	6
-	Mosaic Championing NPs for Everyone	72
-	Esk : Catchment Based Approach*	15
-	Esk REStore (Species Recovery)	432
-	Raiding the Bank	227
-	See Moor (Shared Prosperity)	183
-	Peat Restoration	558
<b>Targeted</b>	Access	50
-	Outdoor Learning	15
-	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,068</b>

\* Note : asterisked projects are the Authority delivery element of projects managed by the North York Moors National Park Trust but delivered in partnership with the NPA.

## Appendix 5, S106 Budgeted funding

<b>S106 Agreement</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>£k</b>
<b>Boulby</b>	Heritage	20
	Landscape	596
	Peat	158
	Monitoring	32
	Tourism	226
<b>Woodsmith</b>	Landscape & Ecology	852
	Core Policy D	970
	Tourism	290
	Tourism Cont Construction	145
	Tourism Impact Review	105
	Tourism Local Business	73
	Tourism Visit England	145
	Tourism Whitby	73
	Archaeological Data Contribution	32
	Geological Data Contribution	32
	Scarb Employment	57
	Monit Contribution Construction	159
	-	<b>Total Income</b>

## Appendix 6 – Reserves

Reserve Summary (£k)	2023/24 Opening position	Movement in Reserves Q3	2023/24 Q3 position
General working balance	435	-	435
Contingency	291	-	291
TELI Match funding	112	-	112
Woodsmith Section 106	2,937	-	2937
Blue Corridors income	42	-42	0
Ryevitalise income	249	-	249
<b>Restricted and committed reserves</b>	<b>4,066</b>	<b>-42</b>	<b>4,024</b>
Capital: Sutton Bank Visitor Centre	37	-	37
Capital: Vehicle replacements	123	-3	120
Capital: IT replacements	141	-	141
Capital: Property reserve	508	64	572
Projects: Future match funding pot	200	-	200
Projects: Ryevitalise match funding	153	-	153
Projects: Asset income generation	45	-	45
Projects: Signage	100	-	100
Projects: Forge Valley Boardwalk	25	-	25
Projects: IT work at Danby Lodge	15	-	15
Projects: Improvements to Visitor Centres	170	-	170
Projects: Car Park signage	90	-	90
Projects: Newton under Roseberry Car Park	70	-4	66
Projects: Cawthorne Camp	35		35
Projects: EV & E Bike Charging Points	60	-4	56
Projects: Transport Review	15	-	15
Projects: Levisham Land slip	50	-	50
22/23 budgets underspend	37	-	37
<b>Committee approved reserves</b>	<b>1,874</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1,927</b>
Unallocated reserves (to be distributed)	0	-	0
<b>Total reserve balance</b>	<b>5,940</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5,951</b>

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2024

## Item 11, Corporate Risk Register

### 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To seek Members' approval for the Authority's Corporate Risk Register (CRR) for 2024/25, subject to any amendments Members may wish to make.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 As Members are aware the Authority maintains a CRR which is updated annually and then considered by FRASC quarterly after approval at the March Authority meeting.
- 2.2 The CRR has been updated by the Chief Executive and Directors in a process facilitated by NYC's Insurance and Risk Management Team in January. The proposed CRR and summary are attached as **Appendices 1 and 2**.
- 2.3 The annual review detailed below has taken the Authority's current context into account and the risks are those that are considered by Officers to be the most significant for the Authority (as opposed to the place) in the coming year. The risks are a mixture of long-term issues as well as shorter term matters which should be adequately resolved this year.

### 3. Corporate risk register 2024/2025

- 3.1 There are several changes to the CRR for 2024/25 when compared to the current year. A number of these are changes in title and substance to reflect the Authority's evolving priorities. Completely new risks, however, have been added in relation to Property Assets, Project Management and Delivery, National Park Targets and Outcomes and Potential Breach of Statutory Duties.
- 3.2 The previous risk in relation to Nature Recovery is of too limited impact to warrant inclusion and has been deleted.
- 3.3 Detailed below is a summary of each of the risks and their proposed category. The full description and list of risk reduction actions are detailed in **Appendix 1**. The risk category is now assessed on a low-medium-high basis.
  - **Information Security – Category High.** Officers consider this to be a significant risk due to the operational impact on efficiency and the ability to continue with day-to-day work in the event of a significant security breach. While there are numerous controls in place, information security work is a risk priority for the coming year.
  - **Property Assets – Category Medium High.** An approved plan for reviewing property is in place and the Authority is embarking on a major project in

relation to its Helmsley based properties. There are financial, workload and reputational risks associated with this work.

- **Financial resilience – category medium high.** While this risk is well managed, a further year with no increase to the National Park Grant brings additional pressures both in budget management and on the need to increase earned income and external funding. Ensuring a favourable level of overall funding is critical to delivery of the Authority’s contribution to the Management Plan.
- **People, capacity, and skills – category medium high.** The Organisational Development Plan is now in place and there are several key actions this year. The considerable changes to working methods via a new HQ, moves to being a more project-based organisation and the external environment in which the Authority operates are all significant factors.
- **Health and safety and safeguarding – category medium.** While health and safety are well managed with external expertise easily available, the reputational risks of a fatality or serious accident are significant. The use of the external health and safety advisor is well embedded, and they will undertake a ‘critical friend’ review of the Authority’s practice this year.
- **Woodsmith/Boulby Mines (implementation of planning decisions) – category medium.** Work continues to manage the planning side of the relationship with both mines. The risk is potentially both reputational and financial for adverse consequences in these relationships. Monitoring is undertaken regularly. We continue to retain professional legal, technical, and ecological advisers to support us.
- **Project Management and Delivery – category medium.** The Authority is largely a project delivery organisation in its first purpose work and increasingly so in its second purpose work. Successful delivery of projects is key to continued funding and employment of a significant number of staff.
- **National Park Targets and Outcomes – category medium.** Achieving targets set nationally is increasingly important for retaining both funding and reputation.
- **Legislative Requirements and potential breach of statutory duties – category medium.** At the moment, there is a significant range of new environmental responsibilities, equalities and planning legislation, including some statutory targets. There is a risk of reputational damage and financial penalties for poor performance.
- **Climate change - category low.** This relates to the Authority managing the carbon emissions resulting from its own activities. Significant progress has been made and good plans are in place. Failure to achieve zero emissions by 2020 remains a reputational risk though.

#### **4. Financial and Staffing Implications**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

#### **5. Legal and sustainability implications**

5.1 There are no legal or sustainability implications resulting from this report.

## **6. Recommendation**

- 6.1 That Members approve the draft Corporate Risk Register for 2024/25, making any comments they wish to.

Contact Officer:

Ian Nicholls

Director of Corporate Services

01439 772700

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification									
<b>Ref.</b>	NYM_9	<b>Title</b>	Information Security	<b>Risk Owner</b>	NYM CEO	<b>Risk Manager</b>	NYM Do CS		
<b>Risk Description</b>	Failure to ensure the security and quality of the Authority's digital systems and data, its effective storage and use to maximise its value as a key Authority asset. This could result in an impact on efficiency and decision making, potential data breaches, disruption, criticism and loss of service.					<b>Risk Group</b>	Info Gov		
Phase 2 - Current Assessment									
Current Control Measures									
Permission to access key security systems e.g. firewalls are restricted to IT staff only; permissions regarding file structure limit access to those who need to use the data held; external consultancy support available via contract for any unforeseen issues; off-site backup of data ensures availability; up to date anti-virus protection on all systems; regular external audits are undertaken with recommendations followed up and reported to members; an IT Disaster Recovery Plan is in place; advice has been given regarding data security and homeworking. Data protection training is provided periodically; FoI/DPA requests are dealt with and answered centrally; IT Manager is part of NPA network for exchange of advice and support. Run quarterly scans on external IP address to check security via an automated system; implementing any recommendations arising from this;									
<b>Current Probability</b>	H	<b>Current Impact</b>	VH	<b>Current Risk Score</b>	20	<b>Current Risk Category</b>	Very High		
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan									
Reduction Action				Action Manager		Due Date and status		%	Date Completed
RR_NYM_102	Improve the connectivity of Danby Lodge to ensure that all corporate systems are consistently accessible			NYM Do CS		30-May-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_103	Ensure that all staff undergo IT security training during the year			NYM Do CS		31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_65	Ensure that any advice from the National Centre for Cyber Security is considered and implemented (ongoing)			NYM IT Manager		31-Jan-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_66	A programme of quarterly information security reminders for all staff – to be circulated via The Hub (1st update by 30 April 2024)			NYM IT Manager		31-Jan-2025		75%	
RR_NYM_67	Update of IT acceptable use policy and recirculation to staff			NYM IT Manager		30-Sep-2024		75%	
RR_NYM_68	Review and revise Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plans			NYM CFO; NYM Do CS; NYM IT Manager		30-Sep-2024		75%	
RR_NYM_69	Develop protocols in the event of the loss of financial and planning systems			NYM CFO; NYM Do CS; NYM Do P		31-Dec-2024		75%	
RR_NYM_95	Establish sufficient financial and staffing to enable risk reduction actions to be achieved			NYM CEO; NYM CFO		30-Apr-2024		0%	
Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment									
<b>Target Probability</b>	H	<b>Target Impact</b>	H	<b>Target Risk Score</b>	16	<b>Target Risk Category</b>	High		






# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification									
Ref.	NYM_8	Title	Property Assets	Risk Owner	NYM CEO	Risk Manager	NYM Do CS		
Risk Description	Failure to operate from properties that are fit for purpose. Offices need to be suitable in size, location and design for blended working patterns and increased levels of collaboration between teams. Depots need to have long term tenure, low running costs and be robust from a safety point of view. A credible financial plan to deliver this needs to be established. Failure to achieve these outcomes will result in an adverse impact on operational ability to deliver services, financial impact and internal and external criticism.					Risk Group	Property		
Phase 2 - Current Assessment									
Current Control Measures									
A property review with agreed terms of reference has been established and initial decisions taken; member/officer working group established to oversee the review process and recommend options to the Authority; robust mechanisms in place to measure CO2e emissions from the Authority's buildings; multiple streams of property work established (not necessarily running concurrently). Contractor engaged to develop and cost plans for a new HQ/depot;									
Current Probability	H	Current Impact	VH	Current Risk Score	20	Current Risk Category	Very High		
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan									
Reduction Action				Action Manager		Due Date and status		%	Date Completed
RR_NYM_104	Undertake local consultation with community for HQ/depot development			NYM Do CS; NYM Do P		31-May-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_105	Undertake internal staff consultation for HQ/depot development			NYM Do CS; NYM Do P		31-May-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_106	Develop costed plans and achieve planning permission for HQ/depot development			NYM CFO; NYM Do CS		31-Dec-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_107	Let contract for professional support for construction phase			NYM CFO; NYM Do CS		31-Jan-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_108	Procure contractors for building phase			NYM CFO; NYM Do CS		31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_109	Undertake planned Danby Lodge development work			NYM Do CS; NYM Do RW		30-Jun-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_110	Installation of EV charging points at key car parks			NYM Do RW		31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_111	Establish requirements of northern Ranger team for depots and scope out long-term locations			NYM Do RW		31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_112	Engage external advice to manage new development risk assessment process (ongoing after 1 April 2024)			NYM Do CS		01-Apr-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_58	Ensure that sufficient financial resources are made available to deliver the agreed property plan and that this is part of the Authority's long term financial strategy.			NYM CEO; NYM CFO; NYM Do CS		30-Sep-2024		75%	
RR_NYM_62	Develop appropriate financial contingency plans for building projects			NYM CEO; NYM CFO; NYM Do CS		30-Sep-2024		75%	
RR_NYM_79	Develop end to end project plan for new HQ/depot building			NYM Do CS		01-Apr-2024		0%	

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

RR_NYM_81	Conclude Danby Lodge rent review			NYM Do CS	31-Jan-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_88	Put the necessary agreements in place and sell surplus property assets.			NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_89	Agree spatial use of the Riccal Drive site			NYM CEO; NYM Do CS	01-Apr-2024		0%	
<b>Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment</b>								
<b>Target Probability</b>	M	<b>Target Impact</b>	H	<b>Target Risk Score</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Target Risk Category</b>	Medium High	

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification								
Ref.	NYM_2	Title	Financial Resilience	Risk Owner	NYM CEO	Risk Manager	NYM CFO	
Risk Description	Failure to manage financial risks adequately resulting in consequent risk to work programmes delivery of services and business plan objectives.					Risk Group	Financial	
Phase 2 - Current Assessment								
Current Control Measures								
Reserves reviewed for adequacy; established budget monitoring processes; setting a balanced budget; production of an annually-reviewed MTFs; measures in place to mitigate against fraudulent activity; engagement with Defra and other partners; focus on earned income generation; focus on opportunities to grow income from external funding; effective day to day financial management; Financial Framework developed to enable appropriate decision taking and governance; good, externally verified processes and financial control measures in place; regular financial training for staff and Members;								
Current Probability	H	Current Impact	H	Current Risk Score	16	Current Risk Category	High	
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan								
Reduction Action				Action Manager	Due Date and status		%	Date Completed
RR_NYM_1	Ensure NP Business Plan objectives are manageable within the resources available to the Authority			NYM All Mgt Board	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_2	Set stretching but realistic income targets; continue to monitor performance of the income generating services against monetary expectations (quarterly)			NYM All Directors	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_3	Work to develop staff understanding of the changing relationship between DEFRA grant and external funding for core posts (ongoing)			NYM CFO	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_5	Produce a Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which incorporates a number of scenarios for how different levels of settlements and pay awards will be managed. Review level of reserves to manage current levels of risk			NYM CFO	31-Dec-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_70	Consider and agree actions required due to a diminishing National Park grant as a result of an adverse Comprehensive Spending Review settlement			NYM All Directors	31-Dec-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_71	Develop and implement a strategy which will enable service delivery to continue despite persistent inflationary cost increases			NYM All Directors	31-Mar-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_73	Consider a plan to deliver DEFRA priorities and funding for 24/25 where tightly defined/inflexible timescales and income rules will impact on our core operation			NYM All Directors	31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_8	Continue to horizon scan to identify and quantify changes to assumptions which underpin the MTFs and annual budget recognising the complexity and interdependencies (ongoing)			NYM CFO	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_82	Continue to carry out financial training for staff and Members			NYM CFO	31-Jan-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_83	Ensure investment in Danby Lodge to reduce net cost of operations			NYM All Directors	31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_84	Work with DEFRA to increase core grant funding and enable overheads to be included in external funding (eg NLHF)			NYM All Directors	31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_85	Put a financial plan in place to fund property investment over the next 5 years			NYM All Directors; NYM CFO	31-Mar-2025		0%	

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment							
Target Probability	M	Target Impact	H	Target Risk Score	12	Target Risk Category	Medium High

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification								
Ref.	NYM_5	Title	People Capacity and Skills	Risk Owner	NYM CEO	Risk Manager	NYM Mgt Team	
Risk Description	Failure to ensure that there is sufficient staff capacity, together with an ability to attract candidates of sufficient calibre to fill key posts results in an inability to deliver an ambitious work programme contained in the Business Plan; failure to deal effectively with workload peaks resulting in significant decline in effectiveness, service quality &/or insufficient progress in delivering desired outcomes.					Risk Group	Capacity	
Phase 2 - Current Assessment								
Current Control Measures								
Revised Business Plan to April 2027 is clear about the Authority's priorities; there is active management of workload through the formal appraisal scheme; strong emphasis on making health advice available to ensure wellbeing, flexible approach to working hours and work location. Review of skills required when vacancy arises to ensure individual posts are fit for purpose; long standing range of opportunities for younger people to work for the Authority via apprenticeships, graduate traineeships and internships, all supported by an adequate training budget. Consultancy assistance to provide professional and technical advice, particularly in relation to legal and financial matters; plan developed to ensure that delivery of outputs is not adversely affected by retirements over the next 5 years; external staff resource provided for finance, legal, health and safety, performance properly focussed on assisting with delivery of the Business Plan; funding secured to enable the continuation and expansion of apprentice training programmes;								
Current Probability	H	Current Impact	H	Current Risk Score	16	Current Risk Category	High	
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan								
Reduction Action			Action Manager		Due Date and status		%	Date Completed
RR_NYM_113	Engage with NYMR to agree long term funding programme for practical apprenticeships		NYM Do CS		31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_28	Continue to monitor staff costs and review adequacy of people resources to deliver agreed work programmes (ongoing)		NYM CEO; NYM CFO; NYM Do CS		31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_31	Members and senior officers to ensure that the focus of work is on delivering agreed BP targets (ongoing)		NYM Members; NYM Mgt Team		31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_32	Ensure a coherent plan for staff communication is put in place by 30 April and delivered throughout the year (ongoing)		NYM Mgt Team		31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_33	Ensure the delivery of the volunteering strategy supports both areas of high workload and priority (ongoing)		NYM Do CS		31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_37	Agree staff survey improvement plan and implement all actions		NYM All Directors; NYM Do CS		31-Dec-2024		75%	
RR_NYM_38	Complete review of 10 core HR policies		NYM Do CS		31-Dec-2024		90%	
RR_NYM_74	Implement new performance framework and approach to rewards/recognition		NYM All Directors; NYM Do CS		01-Apr-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_75	Commence working practice change management programme		NYM Do CS		30-Jun-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_76	Implement new approach to salary progression		NYM All Directors; NYM Do CS		30-Apr-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_77	New leadership development programme to commence delivery		NYM Do CS		31-Mar-2025		0%	









# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: **January 2024 review – detailed**

RR_NYM_78	Lead national review of Countryside Worker Level 2 apprenticeship standard and have revised standard approved	NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_87	Deliver training in partnership to improve the capacity in the contractor workforce	NYM Do CS; NYM DoC	31-Mar-2025		0%	
<b>Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment</b>						
<b>Target Probability</b>	M	<b>Target Impact</b>	H	<b>Target Risk Score</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Target Risk Category</b>
						Medium High

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification								
Ref.	NYM_6	Title	Health, Safety and Safeguarding	Risk Owner	NYM CEO	Risk Manager	NYM Do CS	
Risk Description	Failure to meet Health, Safety and Safeguarding statutory requirements resulting in possible loss of life/serious injuries, prosecution, claims, reputational damage and fines.					Risk Group	Health, Safety & Wellbeing	
Phase 2 - Current Assessment								
Current Control Measures								
Cross departmental Health and Safety Group meeting regularly; up to date health and safety policies; risk assessments of all key activities; annual corporate action plans; periodic reviews of health and safety practice; individual responsibility made clear in job descriptions; initial training and refresher training periods established; regular managerial monitoring of health and safety practice; health and safety standards made explicit to external contractors; volunteers are routinely briefed on H&S prior to practical work tasks; Service Level Agreement with NYC to provide additional expert support; standing agenda item at team and SLT meetings; enhanced IoSH training for Managers; agreements with partner volunteer groups in place; support staff both internally (through mental health first aiders and prevailing management style) and externally via Health Assured. Annual review of the Health and Safety and Safeguarding policies plus generic risk assessments to ensure that they remain fit for purpose and take external advice where appropriate;								
Current Probability	M	Current Impact	H	Current Risk Score	12	Current Risk Category	Medium High	
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan								
Reduction Action					Action Manager	Due Date and status	%	Date Completed
RR_NYM_41	Provide information for the progress report to members quarterly to allow scrutiny of actions May, September, November 2024 and February 2025				NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	 90%	
RR_NYM_42	Implement agreed annual health & safety action plan for 2024/25				NYM All Directors; NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	 90%	
RR_NYM_43	Develop and implement a programme of communication on health and safety matters for staff/volunteers, using a variety of different communication methods (plan to be developed by 31 May 2024, implementation then ongoing)				NYM Do CS; NYM Ho Vol Service	31-Mar-2025	 90%	
RR_NYM_44	Ensure appropriate training is provided to Members relating to their specific role in holding officers to account on health and safety matters				NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	 0%	
RR_NYM_91	Ensure compliance with COSSH at all Authority sites				NYM Do CS; NYM Do RW	31-Mar-2025	 0%	
RR_NYM_92	Arrange an external H&S audit for staff and volunteers; and implement findings				NYM Do CS	31-Dec-2024	 0%	
RR_NYM_93	Review and implement H&S training plan				NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	 0%	
RR_NYM_94	Arrange and deliver CDM training for new staff				NYM Do CS	30-Apr-2024	 0%	
Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment								
Target Probability	L	Target Impact	H	Target Risk Score	8	Target Risk Category	Medium	

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic







Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification									
<b>Ref.</b>	NYM_7	<b>Title</b>	Woodsmith and Boulby Mines – Implementation of Planning Decisions		<b>Risk Owner</b>	NYM CEO	<b>Risk Manager</b>	NYM Do CON&CC	
<b>Risk Description</b>	Failure to maintain effective working relationships with the developers, including timely engagement at a senior level, with adverse consequences for the delivery of efficient relationship management and corresponding adverse impact on the resources required to be deployed by the Authority to achieve appropriate regulatory oversight of the developments and the delivery of appropriate and timely mitigation and compensation actions through planning conditions and Section 106. A corresponding reputational risk to the Authority may also arise.					<b>Risk Group</b>	Strategic		
Phase 2 - Current Assessment									
Current Control Measures									
Availability of a dedicated staff resource to manage the day to day interface between the Authority's regulatory oversight role and the developers; Availability of specialist staff as appropriate to deliver effective Section 106 mitigation and compensation activities and management and monitoring of Section 106 resource deployment; Arrangements in place for regular liaison at a senior level between the Authority and the developers.									
<b>Current Probability</b>	M	<b>Current Impact</b>	H	<b>Current Risk Score</b>	12	<b>Current Risk Category</b>	Medium High		
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan									
Reduction Action					<b>Action Manager</b>	<b>Due Date and status</b>		<b>%</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
RR_NYM_50	Continue to work with Anglo American and ICL to ensure positive engagement and working relations at an appropriate level of seniority and frequency and across all functions relevant to the delivery of planning control and Section 106 delivery, and including to help manage the relationship				NYM Do P	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_51	Develop annual action plans and implement and monitor for both s106 contributions including financials.				NYM Do CON&CC	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_52	Ensure robust processes are followed and seek external advice where risk areas are identified in relation to major scheme changes (ongoing)				NYM Do P	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_54	Work with major landowners to identify woodland creation and peat restoration sites (ongoing)				NYM Do CON&CC	31-Mar-2025		90%	
RR_NYM_55	Continue good working relationship with ICL in relation to the deployment of the s106 contribution				NYM Do CON&CC	31-Mar-2025		90%	
Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment									
<b>Target Probability</b>	L	<b>Target Impact</b>	H	<b>Target Risk Score</b>	8	<b>Target Risk Category</b>	Medium		



# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification								
<b>Ref.</b>	NYM_12	<b>Title</b>	Project Management and Delivery		<b>Risk Owner</b>	NYM CEO	<b>Risk Manager</b>	NYM DoC&CC
<b>Risk Description</b>	Failure to effectively manage, monitor and deliver organisational projects resulting in under achievement of business objectives, loss of reputation with external funders leading to loss of income, adverse effect on core operational services, erosion of confidence among a large segment of the workforce,						<b>Risk Group</b>	Financial
Phase 2 - Current Assessment								
Current Control Measures								
Project Dashboard in place; regular reporting on project performance to SLT and Members; introductory training for all staff undertaken; specialist project manager in place; Heads of Service Group in place; infrastructure for identifying projects; regular engagement with wider workforce to encourage inclusion; positive engagement with external funders; Existing pipeline of projects in place and regularly updated.								
<b>Current Probability</b>	M	<b>Current Impact</b>	H	<b>Current Risk Score</b>	12	<b>Current Risk Category</b>	Medium High	
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan								
Reduction Action					Action Manager	Due Date and status	%	Date Completed
RR_NYM_100	Develop project pipeline aligned with external funding plans to ensure that a continual programme of projects are identified, developed and ready for funding at intervals which minimise pressure on operational staff				NYM Ex FM; NYM PDM	31-Mar-2025		0%
RR_NYM_101	Deliver a programme of training across all teams that reinforce the project management procedures and embed into practice for all staff				NYM PDM	31-Mar-2025		0%
RR_NYM_96	Develop skilled project managers across the Authority and where necessary and appropriate, procure specialist project management skills.				NYM All Directors; NYM PDM	31-Mar-2025		0%
RR_NYM_97	Work with a variety of external funders and with the North York Moors Trust to maximise opportunity for project funding				NYM Ex FM	31-Mar-2025		0%
RR_NYM_98	Where appropriate, ensure project staff are multiskilled to assist transition between projects and retain knowledge and experience				NYM All Line Mgrs	31-Mar-2025		0%
RR_NYM_99	Work with partners to embed project management principles and also to enable them to lead of projects so increasing capacity to deliver.				NYM All Directors	31-Mar-2025		0%
Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment								
<b>Target Probability</b>	L	<b>Target Impact</b>	M	<b>Target Risk Score</b>	6	<b>Target Risk Category</b>	Medium	

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification									
Ref.	NYM_11	Title	National Park Targets and Outcomes		Risk Owner	NYM CEO	Risk Manager	NYM CEO	
Risk Description	Failure to achieve the North York Moors' National Park's contribution to national targets and outcomes for Protected Landscapes resulting in loss of reputation and potential risk to funding in due course					Risk Group	Strategic		
Phase 2 - Current Assessment									
Current Control Measures									
National Park Management Plan that includes objectives and targets that are achievable and supported by key partners agreed; working with National Parks England & Defra to ensure national targets are relevant, appropriate and fair;									
Current Probability	M	Current Impact	M	Current Risk Score	9	Current Risk Category	Medium		
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan									
Reduction Action					Action Manager	Due Date and status	%	Date Completed	
RR_NYM_118	Adopt and maintain governance mechanisms that secure the ongoing presence and participation of key partners with responsibilities for delivering the Management Plan				NYM CEO	31-Mar-2025		60%	
RR_NYM_119	Work with National Parks England & Defra to ensure national targets are relevant, appropriate and fair (ongoing)				NYM CEO	31-Mar-2025		50%	
RR_NYM_120	Work with Management Plan Partner Delivery Group & Natural England to agree local share of nationally allocated targets				NYM CEO	31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_121	Adopt provisional targets to incorporate at next Management Plan review				NYM CEO	31-Mar-2025		0%	
RR_NYM_122	Ensure that key stakeholders are well-informed and adequately briefed on the impact of LURA duties on relevant authorities				NYM CEO	01-Jun-2024		50%	
RR_NYM_123	Review composition of Partner Delivery Group to ensure that all key partners with responsibilities for new national targets are represented				NYM CEO	01-Jun-2024		0%	
RR_NYM_124	Ensure NPA Business Plan objectives, targets and KPIs support measurement and achievement of national targets and outcomes				NYM CEO	01-Jun-2024		25%	
RR_NYM_125	Allocate sufficient staff resources to data capture and monitoring to support measurement of performance against all targets and outcomes				NYM All Directors; NYM Members	31-Mar-2024		50%	
Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment									
Target Probability	L	Target Impact	M	Target Risk Score	6	Target Risk Category	Medium		

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification								
<b>Ref.</b>	NYM_10	<b>Title</b>	<b>Legislative Requirements – Potential Breach of Statutory Duties</b>		<b>Risk Owner</b>	NYM CEO	<b>Risk Manager</b>	NYM CEO
<b>Risk Description</b>	Failure to comply with legislative requirements such as new environmental responsibilities, equality and new planning legislation including statutory government targets leading to legal challenge, financial penalties, adverse publicity on poor performance and reputational harm.					<b>Risk Group</b>	Legislative	
Phase 2 - Current Assessment								
Current Control Measures								
Provision of in-house legal advice and Monitoring Officer: DPD staff training including planning legal update courses; Tracking of public sector legal cases on weekly basis. Consideration of legal implications on all Committee Reports: Regular exchange through professional officer networks, regular monitoring of statutory planning performance indicators good cross departmental working on joint issues such as BNG.								
<b>Current Probability</b>	L	<b>Current Impact</b>	H	<b>Current Risk Score</b>	8	<b>Current Risk Category</b>	Medium	
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan								
<b>Reduction Action</b>					<b>Action Manager</b>	<b>Due Date and status</b>	%	<b>Date Completed</b>
RR_NYM_114	Use of external trainer for significant changes to legislation				NYM CEO	31-Mar-2025		0%
RR_NYM_115	Deliver specific training for Members on range of legislative risks and implications				NYM CEO; NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025		0%
RR_NYM_116	Carry out annual review of current control measures to assess effectiveness				NYM CEO	31-Dec-2024		0%
RR_NYM_117	Embed performance monitoring and management processes across all Authority including appointment of performance monitoring officer				NYM CEO; NYM Do P	30-Jun-2024		0%
Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment								
<b>Target Probability</b>	L	<b>Target Impact</b>	M	<b>Target Risk Score</b>	6	<b>Target Risk Category</b>	Medium	

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – detailed

Phase 1 - Identification							
Ref.	NYM_3	Title	Climate Change	Risk Owner	NYM CEO	Risk Manager	NYM Do CS
Risk Description	National Park Authority fails to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2030, resulting in an inability to meet public expectations, government targets for public bodies and significant reputational damage.					Risk Group	Strategic
Phase 2 - Current Assessment							
Current Control Measures							
Good understanding of emissions caused by the Authority's activities and plans are in place to address these; processes in place to accurately track emissions; all electricity used is from renewable sources; Business Plan outcomes are directed towards achieving these targets; targets are identified in the Business Plans and resources have been identified; climate change-specific training delivered to NYMNPA Members and staff;							
Current Probability	L	Current Impact	L	Current Risk Score	4	Current Risk Category	Low
Phase 3 - Risk Mitigation Plan							
Reduction Action				Action Manager	Due Date and status	%	Date Completed
RR_NYM_10	Maintain a clear and shared understanding of the current UK policy framework as it relates to targets for the public sector (ongoing)			NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	90%	
RR_NYM_11	Procurement to replace existing fleet with electric vehicles when the opportunity arises (ongoing)			NYM CEO; NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	90%	
RR_NYM_12	Maintain up to date data on Authority's CO2e emissions (ongoing)			NYM Do CON&CC; NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	90%	
RR_NYM_13	Firmly establish sustainability as part of the procurement process for quotation and tender level supply of goods and services. Provide training for staff.			NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	90%	
RR_NYM_14	Explore further opportunities and find financial support to secure resources to carry out decarbonisation of the Authority's activities including buildings work (ongoing)			NYM Members; NYM Mgt Team	31-Mar-2025	90%	
RR_NYM_15	Continue to deliver climate change-specific training to NYMNPA Members and staff to increase awareness/level of understanding			NYM Do CON&CC	31-Mar-2025	0%	
RR_NYM_16	Install EV charge points at principal NYMNPA-owned car parks and visitor centres			NYM Do CS	31-Mar-2025	70%	
RR_NYM_86	Prepare and disseminate Vehicle usage Policy			NYM Do CS	31-Jul-2024	0%	
Phase 4 - Target Risk Assessment							
Target Probability	L	Target Impact	L	Target Risk Score	4	Target Risk Category	Low

## North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – summary

Risk Trend	Risk	Description	Risk Owner	Risk Manager	Curr Prob	Curr Imp	Current Risk Score	Current Category	Targ Prob	Targ Imp	Target Risk Score	Target Category
↑	<b>NYM_9 Information Security</b>	Failure to ensure the security and quality of the Authority's digital systems and data, its effective storage and use to maximise its value as a key Authority asset. This could result in an impact on efficiency and decision making, potential data breaches, disruption, criticism and loss of service.	NYM CEO	NYM Do CS	H	VH	20	Very High	H	H	16	High
new	<b>NYM_8 Property Assets</b>	Failure to operate from properties that are fit for purpose. Offices need to be suitable in size, location and design for blended working patterns and increased levels of collaboration between teams. Depots need to have long term tenure, low running costs and be robust from a safety point of view. A credible financial plan to deliver this needs to be established. Failure to achieve these outcomes will result in an adverse impact on operational ability to deliver services, financial impact and internal and external criticism.	NYM CEO	NYM Do CS	H	VH	20	Very High	M	H	12	Medium High
▬	<b>NYM_2 Financial Resilience</b>	Failure to manage financial risks adequately resulting in consequent risk to work programmes delivery of services and business plan objectives.	NYM CEO	NYM CFO	H	H	16	High	M	H	12	Medium High
↑	<b>NYM_5 People Capacity and Skills</b>	Failure to ensure that there is sufficient staff capacity, together with an ability to attract candidates of sufficient calibre to fill key posts results in an inability to deliver an ambitious work programme contained in the Business Plan; failure to deal effectively with workload peaks resulting in significant decline in effectiveness, service quality &/or insufficient progress in delivering desired outcomes.	NYM CEO	NYM Mgt Team	H	H	16	High	M	H	12	Medium High
▬	<b>NYM_6 Health, Safety and Safeguarding</b>	Failure to meet Health, Safety and Safeguarding statutory requirements resulting in possible loss of life/serious injuries, prosecution, claims, reputational damage and fines.	NYM CEO	NYM Do CS	M	H	12	Medium High	L	H	8	Medium
▬	<b>NYM_7 Woodsmith and Boulby Mines – Implementation of Planning Decisions</b>	Failure to maintain effective working relationships with the developers, including timely engagement at a senior level, with adverse consequences for the delivery of efficient relationship management and corresponding adverse impact on the resources required to be deployed by the Authority to achieve appropriate regulatory oversight of the developments and the delivery of appropriate and timely mitigation and compensation actions through planning conditions and Section 106. A corresponding reputational risk to the Authority may also arise.	NYM CEO	NYM Do CON&CC	M	H	12	Medium High	L	H	8	Medium

# North York Moors National Park Authority – Strategic

Risk Register: January 2024 review – summary

Risk Trend	Risk	Description	Risk Owner	Risk Manager	Curr Prob	Curr Imp	Current Risk Score	Current Category	Targ Prob	Targ Imp	Target Risk Score	Target Category
new	<b>NYM_12 Project Management and Delivery</b>	Failure to effectively manage, monitor and deliver organisational projects resulting in under achievement of business objectives, loss of reputation with external funders leading to loss of income, adverse effect on core operational services, erosion of confidence among a large segment of the workforce,	NYM CEO	NYM DoC&CC	M	H	12	Medium High	L	M	6	Medium
new	<b>NYM_11 National Park Targets and Outcomes</b>	Failure to achieve the North York Moors' National Park's contribution to national targets and outcomes for Protected Landscapes resulting in loss of reputation and potential risk to funding in due course	NYM CEO	NYM CEO	M	M	9	Medium	L	M	6	Medium
new	<b>NYM_10 Legislative Requirements – Potential Breach of Statutory Duties</b>	Failure to comply with legislative requirements such as new environmental responsibilities, equality and new planning legislation including statutory government targets leading to legal challenge, financial penalties, adverse publicity on poor performance and reputational harm.	NYM CEO	NYM CEO	L	H	8	Medium	L	M	6	Medium
↓	<b>NYM_3 Climate Change</b>	National Park Authority fails to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2030, resulting in an inability to meet public expectations, government targets for public bodies and significant reputational damage.	NYM CEO	NYM Do CS	L	L	4	Low	L	L	4	Low

Risk Trend Key	
Symbol	Meaning
↑	Risk ranking has worsened since the last review.
▬	Risk ranking is the same as at last review.
↓	Risk Ranking has improved since the last review.
new	Risk is new or has been significantly altered since the last review.

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2024

## Item 12, Health and Safety

### 1. Purpose of the report

1.1 To update Members regarding health and safety activity during 2023/24.

### 2. Background

2.1 This annual report forms part of the Authority's systematic approach to the formal reporting of Health and Safety matters to Members. Detailed quarterly reports to FRASC on health and safety are also provided and give a good opportunity for Member scrutiny of activity in this key area.

2.2 The health and safety activity in 2023/24 has been a combination of 'business as usual', managing a low level of sickness absence/health initiatives and establishing good practice in the operation of our buildings. The subsequent sections of this report will outline several of the key health and safety issues managed over the last 12 months. The FRASC reports for 2023/24 provide the detail that lies behind the summaries in this paper.

### 3. Sickness absence

3.1 Sickness absence has reduced sharply this year. Short term absence was 2.5 days per full time equivalent member of staff in 2022/23 and, based on figures to the end of December, this is expected to fall to below 2 days per person in 2023/24. The current target figure is 2 days for short term absence (defined as less than 4 weeks absence).

3.2 Over the course of 2023/24, there have been 5 longer term absentees. One individual has now left the Authority, while the other 4 have been well supported by their respective managers and are now back at work. None of the illnesses have been work related.

3.3 In September 2023 the Chartered Institute for Personnel and Development (CIPD) published its latest report on Health and Wellbeing at Work, having surveyed workplaces across the country covering 6.5 million workers. Its findings are that sickness absence across UK plc is currently 7.8 days per FTE, a considerable increase on the pre-covid figure of 5.8 days. The public sector absence rate is 10.6 days, while the private sector (a better comparator for the Authority) is currently 5.8 days per person. Although long term absences can skew the Authority's overall figures, it looks likely that total absence in 2023/24 will be about 2.5 days per person.

#### **4. Accidents and near misses 2023/24**

- 4.1 The reporting of accidents and near misses has continued to improve and has a beneficial effect on health and safety management. Staff appear to have the confidence to report incidents without any fear of being adversely judged. All accidents and near misses continue to be discussed at the Health and Safety Group meetings who ensure that any learning points are properly shared.
- 4.2 No injuries were reported that required onward reporting to the Health and Safety Executive under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR).
- 4.3 The main safety issue encountered during the year was an unexpected occurrence of skin problems resulting from contact with the sap from Common Hogweed following the use of brushcutters to manage vegetation. The sap leaked through long sleeved clothing and resulted in blistering. All staff involved recovered quickly. The Ranger team approached this problem very positively, reducing the future risk by seeking permission from landowners to allow access for heavier cutting equipment, a new cutting regime and improved PPE.
- 4.4 A significant Near Miss occurred at Danby Lodge in December. A cable that was being used to support Christmas decorations had been attached to a chimney stack. During high winds, the cable stretched and pulled a large block of masonry out of the chimney structure. Thankfully the site was not open at the time, and nobody was hurt although there was damage to an adjacent roof as well as the chimney. Repairs have been carried out and alternative methods of securing seasonal decorations have been found.

#### **5. Current Health and Safety matters**

- 5.1 Each year, there is a significant programme of health and safety related activities, and the key points are included in the next few paragraphs.
- 5.2 There is a structured annual refresher programme of training covering basic health and safety practice through to use of chainsaws, all-terrain vehicles, winches, 4x4 driving, a range of plant, safe driver training for all vehicle users and so on. This refresher programme is overseen by the health and safety group and provision made within the corporate training budget to pay for it.
- 5.3 The annual programme of occupational health testing for staff who regularly use power tools and vibrating equipment has been completed. The work with occupational health staff highlighted the need for a small number of minor amendments to working practices – these have all been actioned and included use of additional personal protective equipment and more regular breaks when using specific pieces of kit.
- 5.4 The Construction, Design and Management Regulations cover many aspects of the Authority's practical work and are a key consideration in how we plan and manage practical work whether we undertake them ourselves or use contractors.



The annual programme of training to ensure new starters are fully aware of their obligations has just taken place.

- 5.5 The safety of volunteers is a very important consideration. An experienced volunteer plays an active part in the bi-monthly health and safety group. The Volunteering Team have a programme of visiting practical work sites and satisfying themselves that safety is managed appropriately.
- 5.6 Continued efforts have been put into promoting the various sources of information that the Authority provides to assist staff with managing their physical and mental health. Regular mental health activities are organised at different points in the year. These are always well received.
- 5.7 An improved programme of regular workplace inspections of the main operational buildings has been put in place with the resulting actions promptly dealt with.
- 5.8 The corporate health and safety policy and safeguarding policies have been reviewed by officers and are considered fit for purpose for the coming 12 months. Generic risk assessments are reviewed on a rolling basis and one member of staff has responsibility for chasing named officers to ensure that these reviews are done in a timely fashion. There is a central point on The Hub where the master copies of all risk assessments are kept, so staff know that they are always viewing the latest version.

## **6. 2024/25 Action plan**

- 6.1 The annual works mentioned in Section 5 above will be undertaken again in 2024/25. Officers are confident that health and safety is managed appropriately and has a sufficiently high profile both in reporting to members and discussion at SLT and team meetings.
- 6.2 The main new activity proposed for this year is an external audit of our health and safety practice. This will be undertaken by NYC with whom the Authority has had a service level agreement for many years to provide expert health and safety advice. The audit will be undertaken during the summer months and will provide a written report highlighting the strengths of current health and safety practice and areas to target for improvement.

## **7. Financial and staffing implications**

- 7.1 There are no significant additional financial or staff issues related to the contents of this report. Budgetary provision is sufficient to pay for all appropriate health and safety training and personal protective equipment.

## **8. Legal and sustainability implications**

- 8.1 There are no legal and sustainability implications to the contents of this report.

## **9. Recommendation**

- That Members note the contents of this report, making any comments that they wish.

Contact Officer:

Ian Nicholls

Director of Corporate Services

01439 772700

### **Background documents to this report**

1. FRASC Reports 2023/24
2. [Health and wellbeing at work \(cipd.org\)](https://www.cipd.org) CIPD Health and Wellbeing at Work Report, September 2023.

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2024

## Item 13, Treasury Management and The Prudential Code for Capital Finance

### 1. Purpose of the report

1.1 To approve the updated Annual Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy for 2024/25, and Prudential Indicators which has already been assessed by the Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee in February ahead of this meeting.

### 2. Background

2.1 The Authority is required to operate a balanced budget, which broadly means that cash raised during the year will meet cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operation is to ensure that this cash flow is adequately planned, with cash being available when it is needed. Surplus monies are invested in low-risk counterparties or instruments commensurate with the Authority’s low risk appetite, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering investment return.

2.2 CIPFA defines Treasury Management as:

“the Management of the Authority’s borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with these activities and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”

‘Investments’ in the definition above covers all the financial assets of the organisation, as well as other non-financial assets which the organisation holds primarily for financial returns.

2.3 The Finance, Risk and Standards Committee considered this report on Treasury Management and the Prudential Code Indicators for borrowing. The function of Treasury Management is undertaken for the Authority by North Yorkshire Council via a service level agreement.

2.4 In terms of investments, the Council pools the monies it invests on behalf of the Authority with its own funds and those of other organisations for which it undertakes a similar treasury management service. The approach adopted, consistent with the policy statement of this Authority, covered later in this report, is to ensure the security of capital and liquidity of investments. The Authority will also aim to seek the highest return on its investments provided that proper levels of security and liquidity are achieved. The current approved lending list of banks and organisations that the Chief Finance Officer can invest in is included at Schedule A to the Appendix of this report.

2.5 The second main function of the treasury management function is the funding of the Authority's capital plans. As of January 2024, the Authority does not have any loans in place and has not needed to borrow to fund capital projects. Despite not having taken out loans, the possibility of borrowing is an option that the Authority has ensured is available to it when making decisions on the optimum way to finance capital purchases. The indicators proposed in this report are based on the latest capital expenditure forecasts and therefore establish the parameters to allow a decision to be taken to borrow funds if that proves to be the optimum solution. Nothing in the report commits the Authority to any decision to borrow funds.

2.6 The Authority is required to:

- a) approve an Annual Treasury Management Strategy (ATMS) for 2024/25.
- b) approve an Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) for 2024/25.
- c) approve a Minimum Revenue Provision Policy (MRP) for 2024/25.
- d) approve a Capital Strategy for 2024/25; and
- e) approve an updated set of Prudential Indicators (PI's) for the period 2024/25 to 2026/27.

2.7 In doing so, the Authority must have regard to the following guidance, both of which were reviewed in December 2017:

- CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services.
- CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

2.8 The combined effect of these Codes and their relevant Regulations is that the Authority has to have in place by the start of the new financial year the following:

- a) an up-to-date Treasury Management Policy Statement.
- b) an Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy Statement and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy.

2.9 As noted above, the Treasury Management arrangements of the Authority are currently provided under contract by North Yorkshire Council. The Council is required (under this contract) to comply with the terms of this Authority's approved Treasury Management Policy Statement and Annual Treasury Management Strategy.

2.10 This report is required to obtain formal approval prior to 1 April 2024.

### **3. Treasury Management Policy Statement**

3.1 The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management requires the Authority to approve:

- a) a Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS) stating the policies, objectives and approach to risk management of its treasury management activities;

- b) suitable Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) setting out the manner in which the Authority will seek to activate the policies and objectives and prescribing how it will manage and control these activities.
- 3.2 Based on the requirements of the Code of Practice, a Treasury Management Policy Statement stating the Authority's policies and objectives of its treasury management activities is set out below and no changes are required.
- 3.3 The Authority defines the policies and objectives of its treasury management activities as follows:
  - a) treasury management is the management of the Authority's investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions, the effective control of the risks associated with these activities, and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with these risks;
  - b) the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk will be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of the treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the Authority;
  - c) that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of the business and service objectives of the Authority. The Authority is therefore committed to the principles of achieving best value in treasury management, and to employing suitable performance measurement techniques, within the context of effective risk management.
- 3.4 As emphasised in the Treasury Management Code of Practice, responsibility for risk management and control of Treasury Management activities lies wholly with the Authority and officers of both this Authority and North Yorkshire Council involved in Treasury Management activities are explicitly required to follow Treasury Management policies and procedures.
- 3.5 The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management requires a framework of Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) setting out the manner in which the Authority will seek to achieve these policies and objectives, and prescribing how it will manage these activities. The Code recommends twelve different TMPs.
- 3.6 As the Treasury Management activities of the Authority are carried out by North Yorkshire Council, the approach used has been for the Authority to adopt the TMPs used by North Yorkshire Council to govern their own Treasury Management activities. A copy of the North Yorkshire Council TMPs is available on request.

#### **4. Treasury Management Strategy**

- 4.1 Prudential Indicators are a number of key indicators, which are set to ensure the Authority operates its activities within well-defined limits. These limits include the Authority's "Authorised Limit for External Debt" - £427k for 2023/24, which is the maximum that can be borrowed in the year without requirement of further

approvals at Full Authority. The Authority's "Operational Boundary" is £177k, which is the maximum amount expected to be borrowed if a decision is made to fund capital expenditure through external borrowing. The Prudential Indicators also include:

- a) a limit on fixed interest rate borrowing exposures as a proportion of total exposures of 60% to 100%;
- b) a limit on variable interest rate exposures as a proportion of total exposures of 0% to 40%;
- c) borrowing from the money market limited to 30% of external debt outstanding at any one point in time;
- d) an investment limit on fixed interest rate exposure of 0% to 30%;
- e) a limit on variable interest rate exposure of 70% to 100% of outstanding principal sums.

## **5. Long Term Debt Position**

5.1 The Authority has no external debt in place. The external debt position in future will depend on decision made regarding the financing of future capital expenditure plans.

## **6. Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy**

6.1 The Authority is required to determine the amount of MRP it considers prudent for each financial year. The MRP Policy is based on the Government's statutory guidance and following a review of this policy, no changes are proposed at this time.

## **7. Annual Investment Strategy**

7.1 In terms of an Annual Investment Strategy for the National Park Authority, the current contractual arrangements with North Yorkshire Council for the investment of surplus cash balances mean that the Authority is required to use the AIS which was adopted by the Council on 21 February 2024. As a result, there is no need to adopt a North York Moors specific document as part of the Annual Treasury Management report.

7.2 A summary of the Annual Investment Strategy is included in the Treasury Management Strategy Statements (Appendix B). However, a copy of the Council's current AIS is available to members on request.

## **8. Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2024/25**

8.1 One of the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice is that an annual Treasury Management Strategy is considered and approved for each financial year. The Strategy attached as Appendix B includes:

- a) the Treasury Limits in force which will limit the treasury risk and activities of the Authority (paragraph 2);
- b) Prudential Indicators (paragraph 3);

- c) the current treasury position (paragraph 4);
- d) the Borrowing Requirement and Borrowing Limits (paragraph 5);
- e) Borrowing Policy (paragraph 6);
- f) prospects for interest rates (paragraph 7);
- g) the Borrowing Strategy (paragraph 8);
- h) Minimum Revenue Provision Policy (paragraph 9);
- i) Annual Investment Strategy (paragraph 10); and
- j) other treasury management issues (paragraph 11).

8.2 The Chief Finance Officer will report to the Authority if and when necessary, during the year, on any changes to this Annual Strategy arising from the use of operational leasing or any other innovative methods of funding.

## **9. Approved Lending List**

9.1 The approved Lending List of Organisations (counterparties) to which the Authority may make investments, together with the maximum sum at any time that can be placed with each, is outlined in the Council's Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) and Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS) as covered by the contractual arrangements with the Council.

9.2 Any changes to the approved Lending List are made by the Council's Chief Finance Officer under delegated powers and reported to the Council's Executive and to this Authority.

9.3 The Lending List of the Council for the 2024/25 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy is detailed in Schedule A to Appendix B (Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2024/25).

9.4 The information below details all the changes reflected in the latest Approved Lending List (Schedule A) compared with that submitted for 2023/24. Please note that the analysis below is between the version provided last year and the proposed list for 2024/25 - it is a snapshot at a point in time. It is therefore possible that there will be in year changes that are not identified in this snapshot.

- a) there are no organisations included on the 2023/24 Approved Lending List which will NOT be included for 2024/25.
- b) There were no organisations added to the Approved Lending List during 2023/24.
- c) Further changes were made during the year to decrease the maximum investment term for some organisations.

9.5 Local Authorities will continue to be included on the Approved Lending List for 2024/25. As a result of the way they are financed and their governance arrangements, Local Authorities are classed as having the highest credit rating.

## **10. Specified and Non-Specified Investments**

- 10.1 The Authority may use various financial instruments for the prudent management of its treasury balances. These are set out in the list of Specified and Non-Specified Investments (Schedule B of Appendix B).
- 10.2 Investment rates available continue to slowly increase as a result of the Monetary Policy Committee's succession of Bank Rate increases. However, investment returns are consistent with other comparable authorities. In order to ensure investment returns are maximised, while maintaining the appropriate level of security and liquidity of funds, alternative options are continually monitored and reviewed.
- 10.3 North Yorkshire Council has included a range of alternative investment options, including Certificates of Deposit, Bonds and UK Government Gilts within its investment strategy in order to improve returns over the coming year. However, the extent to which these are likely to have a material impact on returns for the Authority are limited, given the Business Plan intention to spend the majority of earmarked reserves. However, officers will continue to manage the authority's cash to meet strategy objectives and value for money overall.
- 10.4 Alternative investment options are continually monitored and reviewed, and Treasury Management staff continue to investigate further investment options to assess whether they meet the Authority's investment priorities and criteria list.
- 10.5 It should be noted that in order to ensure the Authority's investment strategy is consistent with North Yorkshire Council's, Property Funds are included in the Approved Lending List at Schedule A and schedule of Non-Specified Investments at Schedule B of Appendix B. However, Property Funds are not a viable investment option for the Authority as it is unable to meet investment regulation criteria due to the low level of funds under management.

## **11. Capital Strategy**

- 11.1 In December 2017, CIPFA issued a revised Treasury Management Code of Practice and Prudential Code. The revised Codes require all authorities to produce a Capital Strategy. The Capital Strategy provides a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management contribute to the provision of services objectives and takes account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability. As a result, a Capital Strategy is now included as Appendix C to this report.
- 11.2 Where authorities are considering non-core, alternative investment options that are classed as capital expenditure, rather than traditional treasury management investments, the Capital Strategy should provide a projection of how capital expenditure plans impact on capital borrowing and repayment plans.
- 11.3 The authority's capital expenditure plans do not currently include any non-core investments.



## **12. Treasury Management Reporting and Scrutiny Arrangements**

12.1 The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management reflects enhanced reporting and scrutiny arrangements in terms of:

- a) each authority must receive reports on its Treasury Management policies, practices and activities, including as a minimum an annual strategy and plan in advance of the year, a mid-year review and an annual outturn report after the end of the year;
- b) Treasury Management performance and policy setting should be subject to ongoing scrutiny and each authority must delegate the role of scrutiny of treasury management strategy and policy to a specific named body.

12.2 These enhanced requirements have been incorporated into the Authorities Latest Financial Regulations, updated October 2018. Sections 3.24-3.31 (regarding Treasury Management) state the current arrangements being as follows:-

- a) The Authority adopts the key recommendations of CIPFA's Treasury Management in The Public Services: Code of Practice, as described in Section 4 of that Code.
- b) Accordingly, the Authority will create and maintain, as the cornerstones for effective Treasury Management:
  - i. A Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS) stating the policies, objectives and approach to risk management of its Treasury Management activities.
  - ii. Suitable Treasury Management Practices (TMPS) setting out the manner in which the Authority will seek to achieve those policies and objectives and prescribing how it will manage and control those activities.
- c) The Authority will be responsible for the implementation and monitoring of its Treasury Management Policies and Practices but delegates the execution and administration of Treasury Management decisions to the Chief Finance Officer who will act in accordance with the Authority's TMPS, associated TMPs and CIPFA's Standard of Professional Practice on Treasury Management.
- d) The Authority will receive reports on Treasury Management Policies, Practices and Activities including, as a minimum:
  - i. An Annual Strategy Report in advance of the year.
  - ii. A Mid-Year Review.
  - iii. An Annual Report after the 31 March in the form described in the TMPs.

- e) The Authority delegates to FRASC the responsibility of ensuring the effective scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategies, Policies and Activities.
- f) All money in the possession of the Authority shall be under the control of the Chief Executive.
- g) The Chief Financial Officer shall periodically review TMPS and associated documentation and they shall make recommendations accordingly to the Authority.
- h) Notwithstanding the other regulations relating to Treasury Management, the Chief Financial Officer shall ensure that the Treasury Management System is documented and ensure that Treasury Management reports are regularly provided to the Authority.

### **13. Recommendation**

#### 13.1 That Members:

- i) approve the Annual Treasury Management Strategy for 2024/25 as detailed in Appendix B, including the Prudential Indicators set out in Section 3, and the Minimum Revenue Provision policy set out in Section 9 of that Strategy;
- ii) adopt the Annual Investment Strategy agreed by the Council for 2024/25;
- iii) approve the authorised borrowing limit of £426.8k for 2023/24, under section 3(i) of the Local Government Act 2003 as set out in Appendix B;
- iv) confirm the delegation to the Chief Finance Officer, as agreed in previous years, for the following matters:
  - a) any need to effect changes between the separate agreed limits for borrowing and other long-term liabilities (such as finance leases) in accordance with option appraisal, value for money or other relevant factors. This applies to the Prudential Indicators in Appendix B;
  - b) decisions to borrow from the PWLB and money markets at the most advantageous rate, as set out in Appendix B.
  - c) approve the Capital Strategy as set out in Appendix C.

Contact Officer:  
 Pete Williams  
 Chief Finance Officer  
 01439 772700

#### **Background documents to this report**

1. CIPFA code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services.
2. CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

**Appendices A – C have been uploaded as one separate item**

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2023

## Item 14, Rights of Way Delegation Agreements

### 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To update Members on the future position regarding our Rights of Way (RoW) responsibilities under the existing Delegation Agreements from our Local Highways Authorities, and to seek authorisation for giving notice to end the existing agreements in order to commence a renegotiation.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 The current delegation agreements between the National Park Authority (NPA) and two Local Highway Authorities - North Yorkshire Council (NYC) and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (RCBC) date from 2016 and 2017 respectively. These in essence delegate to the NPA, the Highway Authority's responsibility for the management of the entire network of public rights of way within the National Park. Under the current Delegation Agreements, the NPA manages 2,357 km of public rights of way. This includes the following obligations:

- The repair or replacement of 720 bridges (approx.36 per year).
- The repair or replacement of 3,300 roadside signposts (approx. 330 per year).
- Liability for a minimum of 25% contribution to the cost of repair or replacement for approx. 300 gates and 250 stiles per year.
- Responsibility for the surface of all RoW.

By undertaking these statutory duties on behalf of the Local Authorities it equates to approximately £233,000 of expenditure (including staff costs) per year across NYC and RCBC areas.

- 2.3 It is well understood that maintaining and enhancing the public rights of way network is a valuable mechanism to enable the public to enjoy the special qualities of the National Park. Objective 15 of the current Management Plan commits stakeholders to “ensure that all members of the public are able to enjoy the National Park using easy to use, well-marked rights of way, and open access land”. The NPA primarily contributes to this objective through the allocation of core funding to Access budgets (both improvements and maintenance) and the provision of a permanent paid Ranger Service.
- 2.4 Good management of the Rights of Way network has been central to the Authority's ability to deliver its second purpose. However, since 2011, the scope of that management function has narrowed at successive points. In 2011, the NPA resolved that the very high level of investment in the network was not sustainable and handed back responsibility for the Definitive Map. In both 2014 and 2016

responsibility for large bridges was handed back to the relevant Highways Authorities. The driver for this was purely financial: the Authority could no longer justify the priority of core resources for these discretionary responsibilities in the face of increasing pressure.

- 2.5 The current Delegation Agreements have now been in place for over 7 years, during which time the effective value of the core grant has continued to erode. Both Delegation Agreements make provision for a contribution from the relevant Highway Authority to enable the NPA to undertake their statutory duties. Neither authority currently does so and has not done so for some time. Provision was made in the 2023/24 budget for a contribution of £50k towards RoW provision. In January 2024 we received official confirmation from NYC that our request for a financial contribution had been turned down.
- 2.6 Pressure continues to build on the Ranger Service to maintain all RoW to a sufficient standard. Previous Delegation Agreements were predicated on a capacious level of skilled labour (both paid and voluntary) and capital funding. There is a real risk at present of spreading our resources too thin if we try to maintain at least 85% of Rights of Way at an 'easy to use' standard. Innovative forms of alternative provision such as third party liability agreements are being trialled but are unlikely to provide a substantial solution around on-going maintenance.

### **3. Issues and way forward**

- 3.1 The Medium-Term Financial Outlook for the Authority is predicated on a flat settlement for core funding. The forecast for 2024/25 is now balanced but from 2025/26 onwards the forecast is for an increasing gap between core grant fund income and expenditure based on current obligations. This is the key driver to review the scope and scale of our work in this area, which we plan to do during the next year.
- 3.2 Officers have no settled view around what the outcome of any options appraisal will be, but it is important to fully consider all options. These may include:
- Handing back responsibility for all bridges but retain the power to undertake work to priority bridges with their consent.
  - Hand back all public rights of way with a sealed, or historically sealed surface to the LA.
  - Utilise LA staff for enforcement escalation.
  - Hand back management of Byways Open to All Traffic, but retain the power to undertake any work in line with NPA priorities.
  - Hand back all low and medium priority routes to the LAs. The NPA could then focus all resources upon promoted and high priority routes.
  - Promotion and development of volunteer and/or parish adoption of maintenance of local regular RoW.

- Ending all enhancement and maintenance works unless part of an externally funded project

3.3 Members will have an important role to play. As part of its policy development and scrutiny function, the November meeting of the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum was invited to consider and advise on the strategic challenges around RoW using three questions:

- **Approach** - What should the priority and focus be for officers in their on-going work in this area?
- **Core Funding** – How far do members feel continuing to fund a statutory rights of way function is as, or more important than other core services?
- **Our brand** – How far are well maintained rights of way a fundamental part of our brand as a National Park?

The Forum gave a strong view that the wider benefits of RoW need to be fully appraised e.g. the health and wellbeing benefits alongside economic and tourism and that Members will need to know more around the potential impact of any changes. There was hope expressed that a contribution could be secured but Members understood that if this was not the case then further detailed work would be needed. This is the work that will be done over the course of the next 12 months.

3.4 The Delegation Agreements contain a 12 month notice period. In the past giving notice has been used to precipitate a period of meaningful discussion leading to a refreshed agreement. Members considered the matter further at the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum session on 27<sup>th</sup> February and resolved to recommend to the NPA that we proceed with a renegotiation of the Delegation Agreement by giving notice.

3.5 North Yorkshire Council is a shared Highway Authority for both us and the Yorkshire Dales National Park. We have been working closely with colleagues at the Yorkshire Dales NPA to ensure a joined-up approach. A recent report to their Finance Committee stated that in view of the financial pressures facing the Authority the current Rights of Way programme is unsustainable. They are introducing a two-tier system of maintenance across their two LA areas to reflect the differential rates of contribution. Maintenance work on the North Yorkshire network will be cut accordingly. There is a strong appetite across both NPAs to engage stakeholders and the wider public on the unsustainable nature of the current situation and the reasons for this.

3.6 If the recommendation is agreed to, Officers will immediately begin work on a detailed set of options. Members will be invited to be part of this process through the work of the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum. Members will have a formal role in agreeing any amendments to the Delegation Agreements in due course.

#### **4. Financial and staffing implications**

- 4.1 The immediate financial implications are contained in the report. The options appraisal will consider both the financial and staffing implications of each option.

#### **5. Contribution to National Park Management Plan**

- 5.1 Objective 15 of the National Park Management Plan makes a commitment to “ensure that all members of the public are able to enjoy the National Park using easy to use, well-marked rights of way, and open access land”. The NPA currently contributes to this through its Business Plan commitment which states that by 2027 we will ‘maintain promoted RoW at a level of 85% classed as easy to use’.

#### **6. Legal and sustainability implications**

- 6.1 The current Delegation Agreements remain in force until either party gives notice of at least a period of 12 months and only then when either party gives an explicit resolution for termination. Both giving notice and agreeing to an amended Delegation Agreement have previously required a resolution from Members and the power to do this has not been explicitly delegated.

#### **7. Recommendation**

- 7.1 That Members note the contents of this report and endorse the recommendation of the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum to authorise the giving of notice to both Rights of Way Delegation Agreements and proceed with a more detailed options appraisal.

Contact Officer:  
Joel Brookfield  
Director of Recreation and Wellbeing  
01439 772520

# North York Moors National Park

18 March 2024

## Item 15, Woodland Creation Scheme update

### 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To propose an update to the agreed framework for disbursement of contributions made under the Core Policy D element of the Woodsmith Mine S106 agreement through the Authority's Woodland Creation Scheme.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 The S106 contribution under consideration in this paper is made to offset 10% of predicted CO2 emissions from the operational electricity usage of the mine development. Off-site tree planting was agreed as the desired way to address this. The agreement provides compensation over 100 years to plant 7,155ha of new mixed deciduous woodland.
- 2.2 On 1 October 2018 Members agreed a framework for the disbursement of contributions made under the Core Policy D element of the S106 agreement (see Appendix 1). As this framework has not been updated since the early days of the S106 agreement implementation, and as market forces have meant that it is appropriate to offer increased incentives to attract landowners to commit to woodland creation, Officers feel that an update of this framework is required.

### 3. Updates proposed

- 3.1 The only updates proposed relate to paragraph 3.5 in the 2018 report relating to the payment of incentives. It states:

“Costs of woodland creation are detailed in the Section 106 Proposed Programme, Rationale and Costings to Compensate for Residual Impacts relating to Conservation Matters and these include a modest incentive payment. The scheme will fund up to 100% of capital costs and will make an annual maintenance payment for at least 5 years to ensure good establishment of the trees. An incentive payment will only be used where necessary and with the approval of the Director of Polyhalite Projects, to ensure best value for money. Members will be consulted where the overall payments proposed for a scheme significantly (by over 10%, index linked) exceed those stated in the above document”.

- 3.2 Officers would like to propose the following new wording of the last two sentences of this paragraph (in bold):

“Costs of woodland creation are detailed in the Section 106 Proposed Programme, Rationale and Costings to Compensate for Residual Impacts relating to Conservation Matters and these include a modest incentive payment. The scheme will fund up to 100% of capital costs and will make an annual maintenance payment for at least 5 years to ensure good establishment of the



trees. **Incentive payments will be offered as one-off payments, due after planting is complete, at the following rates: 5-10ha - £1,000 per hectare; projects over 10ha - £3,000 per hectare; 1-5ha projects – only incentivised as necessary. The Chief Executive Officer, having consulted with the Conservation and Climate Change Forum, will have delegated powers to approve these within the constraints of the Core Policy D budget and in accordance with the Authority’s financial regulations”**

- 3.3 This tiered approach to incentive payments is to encourage larger projects which are more efficient to administer and are necessary in order to achieve the challenging area based targets for woodland creation
- 3.4 Over the past 5 years the UK’s push for woodland creation has resulted in ever increasing incentives through various government schemes and private sector initiatives. Officers feel that it is crucial to keep the Authority’s Woodland Creation Scheme flexible enough to compete with other schemes and being able to offer attractive incentive payments is vital.
- 3.5 Incentives will be funded through the existing Core Policy D contribution. However, in future Officers may look to use other appropriate funding sources to supplement the Core Policy D contribution in order to ensure that the ambitious woodland creation targets for the S106 agreement are met.

#### **4. Financial and staffing implications**

- 4.1 None.

#### **5. Contribution to National Park Management Plan**

- 5.1 Increased flexibility and attractiveness of the Authority’s Woodland Creation Scheme will help to achieve Management Plan Outcome 1, Objective 2 - Capture and store carbon by creating at least 2,500 hectares of additional wooded habitat by 2032.

#### **6. Legal and sustainability implications**

- 6.1 None.

#### **7. Recommendation**

- 7.1 That Members approve the approach to delivery of the Core Policy D contributions of the Woodsmith Mine S106 agreement outlined above.

Contact Officer:  
Rachel Pickering  
Woodland Team Leader  
01439 772700

#### **Background documents to this report**

- 1. Section 106 Proposed Programme, Rationale and Costings to Compensate for Residual Impacts relating to Conservation Matters.

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2024

## Item 16, Chief Executive's update

### 1. Purpose of the report

1.1 To provide members with an update on the CEO's activities since the last NPA and to identify key and emerging issues for members to be aware of.

### 2. National issues and developments

2.1 The government has published a new Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework which sets a collective ambition for National Parks and National Landscapes in relation to the Environmental Improvement Plan. The 10 targets and outcomes cover the natural environment, protected sites, farming practices, climate mitigation, access and heritage. Defra expects protected landscapes to embed these new targets within Management Plans during the next 18 months. Although they are non-statutory, these place-based targets should be read in conjunction with new duties on relevant authorities and will lend greater weight to statutory management plans. Although the North York Moors Management Plan is only 2 years old we will be working with partners to adjust objectives as necessary to align with the new national targets and outcomes.

2.2 Further to the government's announcement of additional funding for protected landscapes in November last year, National Parks England has been engaging with Defra on the allocation of £10m of funding for next year. At the time of writing, formal confirmation from the department has yet to be received but it is understood that the allocation will be divided equally between National Parks & National Landscapes (i.e £5m each) with further equal subdivision amongst English NPAs. As funding is drawn from capital underspend it must be allocated to capital expenditure in the next financial year. NPE is arguing that the additional funding must be incorporated into the baseline grant funding from Defra and allocated to revenue in future years.

2.3 Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are one of the key tools by which Government seeks to meet its statutory nature targets and wider environmental goals. The North York Moors straddles two LNRS areas covering Teesside and York/ North Yorkshire led by TVCA & NYC respectively as 'responsible authorities'. The NPA has recently launched a consultation on a local nature recovery plan for the North York Moors National Park that will be integrated into both LNRS and will support the achievement of our Management Plan objectives.

2.4 The NPE Board met in London in January and welcomed Environment Minister Rebecca Pow to the meeting. The Board also considered developments with the Protected Landscapes Partnership (PLP), our collective manifesto priorities and guidance on new duties on relevant authorities that were agreed through the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act. NPE has now vacated its London office taking a

saving in accommodation costs and has recently welcomed additional members of staff to support Jayne Butler and NPAs on policy work and the PLP.

### **3. Authority updates**

- 3.1 Following the completion of our land acquisition in Helmsley, the Authority has written to residents local to Riccal Drive and the Town Council to inform them of our intentions with regard to the use of the site. Ian Nicholls and Chris France also addressed the Helmsley Town Council meeting in February, setting out the rationale for developing a new headquarters and southern ranger depot. We have indicated our intention to consult with Helmsley residents and the Town Council in due course.
- 3.2 Work continues to reinvigorate Danby Lodge National Park Centre with a number of exciting developments expected to complete early this year. These include new accessible trails, improvements to car parking and an innovative new playground that will act as a draw for families from around the area.
- 3.3 Deep Beat Entertainment Ltd, which operates the two café operations under the Park Life brand at our visitor centres has gone into administration. At the time of writing, the administrators, Interpath Advisory have executed a sale of the company's assets and goodwill through a pre-pack administration agreement and granted a licence to the purchaser to enable the business to continue to trade at our sites for a limited period of time. Officers are working to put in place interim arrangements to ensure continuity of service to our customers and facilitate an orderly transition to a new operator at both sites.
- 3.4 The Authority has launched a new appraisal and reward system with its staff, which is now being rolled out. The new system follows extensive consultation with our staff and includes a number of notable changes to the approach we have previously used. Of particular note, the new system takes the anniversary of appointment as the appraisal date and incorporates our values fully into objective setting.
- 3.5 A meeting was held recently with the MD and senior staff of ICL Boulby to discuss production and market trends, business outlook, priorities and progress with implementing the conditions associated with the extension of permission granted by the NPA to the company in 2022.

### **4. Stakeholder engagement**

- 4.1 Together with George Jabbour and colleagues from Howardian Hills, Ryevitalise and NYC, I met Defra Secretary of State, Steve Barclay for a site visit at Nunnington in January. The visit took in an inspection of a new bridge part-funded by Defra's recent Access for All funding and provided an opportunity to discuss the role of protected landscapes in delivering farm policy, water quality, enforcement, improving access and social prescribing. Along with other National Park Chairs & CEOs, Jim & I also held a virtual meeting with shadow Secretary of State, Steve Reed to discuss his priorities for National Parks.

- 4.2 The NPA hosted a team visit by Defra’s 30 by 30 team in February, which included a site visit to Fen Moor and Saltergate to learn more about the Linking Levisham project, partnership working and landscape-scale approaches to nature recovery. This team is charged with devising criteria against which England’s contribution to meeting the global biodiversity framework target of conserving 30% of land and sea for nature by 2030 will be met. An opportunity map published by the team in late 2023 highlights the significant importance of protected landscapes to this goal. A key message we sought to communicate is the importance of local advice and having sufficient powers and resources to harness farmers and landowners in delivering targeted management interventions on the ground.
- 4.3 The latest meeting of the North York Moors Management Plan Partner Delivery Group gave an opportunity for officers to present to key stakeholders on the impact of legislative changes brought about by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act. The group brings together representatives of relevant authorities that have a range of statutory responsibilities relevant to the Management Plan including local government, Natural England, EA, Forestry Commission and Historic England.
- 4.4 Engagement with local government has been a particular feature of stakeholder engagement by myself and senior officers recently with meetings and site visits held with the CEOs/ MDs of North Yorkshire Council and Redcar & Cleveland Council as well as attendance of the North Yorkshire Place stakeholder group and meetings with the interim director of the new York and North Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority.

## **5. Financial and staffing implications**

- 5.1 None.

## **6. Contribution to National Park Management Plan**

- 6.1 N/A.

## **7. Legal and sustainability implications**

- 7.1 None.

## **8. Recommendation**

- 8.1 That Members note the context of this report making any comments that they wish to.

Contact Officer:  
Tom Hind  
Chief Executive  
01439 772700

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2024

## Item 17, Report from Chair of FRASC

On the quarter 3 update, Members approved the allocation of £30k to install a double zip wire as part of the Danby Lodge play area, this will hopefully attract more families to come along, this is on top of the £170k already approved for improvements to Danby Lodge.

As for the draft budget a good explanation was given by the Chief Finance Officer. The draft budget for 24/25 shows ways to grow the organisation. The budget for 24/25 is £14.15m, an increase of £1m from the 23/24 budget. This is impressive as the DEFRA grant has been the same at £4.382m for the last six years.

Our Funding Manager Ellen Cross and the Authority team having secured the £2.25m target for 23/24. This was achieved and surpassed with spend of £3.883m expected. The target for 2024/25 has already been secured with work progressing well on funding for 25/26 year.

### Health and Wellbeing at work

Moving onto health and safety Ian Nicholls gave an update on sickness absence.

Members were updated regarding the outcome of the staff survey undertaken in November the health-related questions did not raise any significant issues requiring attention.

Two accidents and near misses were reported and sorted out safely without any injuries to staff. Items were agreed for the health and safety plan for the coming year.

The quarterly performance scorecard was reviewed and scrutinised. Notably volunteering days are down, but Officers think that this reflects changes in the way people volunteer. Overall active volunteering numbers remain unchanged. Visitor footfalls are already exceeding the annual milestone at Danby Lodge and on course to exceed at Sutton Bank.

### The Corporate Risk Register

As Members are aware the Authority maintains a corporate risk register which is updated annually and then considered by FRASC quarterly after approval at the March NPA. Officers will be delivering the draft risk register for 24/25 and this will be presented to the NPA in March.

### Treasury Management and the Prudential Code for Capital Finance

This report is updated annually which is the Treasury strategy and annual investment strategy for 24/25 and the prudential indicators for the financial years 2022 /23 - 2026/27. It was reviewed but remains very much the same as prior year strategy. This is undertaken for the Authority by NYC via a service level agreement.

## **Item 18, Feedback from Lead Members**

1. The Conservation and Land Management Forum took place on Monday, 22 January 2024 the notes and presentations are available on the Members' Extranet. Patrick James will give a verbal update at the meeting.
2. The Recreation and Wellbeing Forum was held on Tuesday, 27 February 2024. The papers and presentations are available on the Members' SharePoint site. A written report from Janet Waggott is attached at Appendix 1.
3. The presentation and notes of the Equality Diversity and Inclusion Group meeting held on 1 December 2023 are available on the Members' SharePoint site. An update was given at December 2023 NPA. The next meeting is to be held on 22 March 2024.
4. The forum agreed the notes of the previous meeting held on the 2 November 2023. A brief discussion re coast to coast and options re crossing the A19 took place, this will be discussed in more detail at the forum meeting in September 2024.

## **Appendix 1 – Recreation and Wellbeing Forum**

A presentation on village services by Naomi Green and Joel Brookfield was the main item of business for the Forum and generated a good discussion. They explained the background to the scheme, which started in 2008, the current financial pressures, and that core grant was used to provide village services to 13 villages.

The Forum discussed potential options to fund services that did not require core funding, was more aligned and focused to the objectives of the NYMNP. The general view of the forum was that whilst these grants had delivered in the past they were no longer fit for purpose. The Forum agreed on the need to refocus, to have fewer activities, more targeted objectives for any grant offered to villages by the NPA. Discussion about time dedicated as support, possibly apprentice time, rather than money/ grant and the importance of “badging” this as a NYMNP scheme/activity.

Ben Jackson updated the Forum on the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) delegation agreement and next steps. Members of the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum supported the proposal from the Rangers Service to proceed with the renegotiation of the PRoW Delegation Agreement. This will be taken as a recommendation at the NPA meeting.

Update from the Chair following the meeting with the Chief Executive, Chairman, Directors and Chairs of Committees and Forums which considered the governance of the Forums.

There have been some deliberate changes to the Forums to give them clarity of purpose within our governance framework, supporting the work of full Authority. The Forums play both a scrutiny and an advisory role, working closely with Officers to oversee progress on the delivery of our Business Plan and to help set strategy and policies. The work should be both backward and forward looking. If needed, recommendations can be brought forward by Forums to NPA for decision, the Forums are not decision-making bodies. Non-members of the Forum can attend by invitation of the Chair.

Members of the Forum were reminded of the key Milestones for the Recreation and Wellbeing. These will be monitored at Forum meetings in addition to the regular performance management reports.

A work programme for the next ten months was agreed. The next meeting of the Recreation and Wellbeing Forum is 8 May 2024 with topics to be considered including Tourism, Health and wellbeing Strategy and Business Plan Milestones.

Janet Waggott

# North York Moors National Park Authority

18 March 2024

## Item 19, Reports from Members on outside bodies

### 1. Purpose of the report

1.1 To consider reports from Members attending meetings of outside bodies as representatives of the Authority.

### 2. Background

2.1 It has been agreed that Members attending meetings of bodies where they are representing the Authority should present a report, either verbal or written.

### 3. North York Moors Trust

3.1 Colin Williamson's written report is attached at Appendix 1 on the meeting held on 14 December 2023.

### 4. Campaign for National Parks

3.1 There have been no recent meetings, Christine Robertson, CNP Representative, will give a short verbal update at the meeting.

### 4. York and North Yorkshire Housing Board

4.1 The next meeting is to be held on 11 March 2024. Clive Pearson will give a verbal report at this meeting.

### 5. Financial and staffing implications

5.1 There are no financial or staffing implications.

### 6. Legal and sustainability implications

6.1 There are no legal implications.

### 7. Recommendation

7.1 That the report be noted by members.

Contact Officer:

Judith Seaton

Executive Support Team Leader

01439 772586





## **Appendix 1, North York Moors National Park Trust update - Colin Williamson**

### **Trust refresh:**

In autumn 2023 the North York Moors Trust underwent a brand refresh, including a new logo, new website, and new strategic focus on connecting people with nature to unlock the associated health and wellbeing benefits. James Metcalfe, Executive Director of the Trust, designed both the logo, website, and is developing a business plan which sets out the long-term approach to sustainability and delivering the Trust's strategic aims. The response to the refresh from external stakeholders has been positive. The refresh demonstrates James' commitment to ensuring a greater level of independence from the Authority.

### **Donations and funding:**

General donations through our online platforms have been good with over £3,300 raised over the last year.

James has been successful in securing £7,000 from Beyondly, Skipton to fund the joint Authority-Trust RSPB Nature Prescription Project (green social prescribing pilot), £5,000 from Woodsmith Foundation to expand Birds on the Edge youth engagement work, £7,000 from the Tees Valley Community Foundation for Trust Treks, and £10,000 to cover the cost of restoring the village pond in Newton-on-Rawcliffe under the Birds on the Edge project.

### **Projects:**

- Birds on the Edge – entering second year of delivery.
- Trust Treks –wellness walks for men attending mental health peer support groups on Teesside.
- RSPB Nature Prescription Project – green social prescribing pilot project launching in May 2024 with the North York Moors National Park Authority, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, and RSPB.
- River Esk and Costal Streams Catchment Partnership – developing new management plan.
- Championing Coastal Communities – ensuring marine environment is included in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (North Yorkshire and East Riding).

### **General:**

Staffing assistance is currently Ellen Cross, Funding Manager and Vicky Taylor, Administration Support.

We welcomed guest speaker, Jen Lowthrop, Chair of the Peak District National Park Foundation, who gave us an insight to the highs and lows encountered when setting up their foundation.

Our second guest speakers were Youth Voice who provided us with a presentation on their trip to the Netherlands. Feedback from their attendance was complimentary. We congratulate them for being such ambassadors for the NYMNPA.