

North York Moors National Park Authority Scrutiny Meeting

30 July 2018

Progress towards Targets and Desired Direction of Change in the National Park Management Plan

1.	Purpose of the Report
1.1	To provide a progress update on the targets and direction of change in the National Park Management Plan

2. Introduction

2.1 In December 2016, a consultation was completed by the National Park Authority on the 2012 National Park Management Plan.

2.2 Following this consultation a small number of minor changes were made to the text of the Plan and in December 2016 the National Park Authority signed off the 'refreshed' Plan with its many policies and 40 measureable targets being carried forward for 2017 onwards.

2.3 This report summarises progress against the 40 targets set out in the Plan. The Plan does of course contain a much wider range of policies many of which do not have specific targets. The responsibility for implementation of the objectives in the Management Plan lies with a broad range of organisations – in both the public and private sector. The NPA has responsibility for some of these objectives, which are specified in the Authority's medium term Business Plan.

3. For Consideration

3.1 **Appendix 1** sets out an overview of progress against all 40 targets in the National Park Management Plan. Within this overview there are now a number (six in total) of targets that were set for 2017, which need updating.

Significant achievements include:

- The level of risk on 101 scheduled monuments has been reduced - including removal of 69 monuments from the 'at risk register'.
- 58 buildings at risk were removed from the at risk register between 2012 and 2018.
- 813ha of Plantation on Ancient Woodland sites (PAWs) were brought into restoration between 2012 and 2018.
- The value of tourism to the National Park's economy has increased significantly in the past five years.
- The annual number of visitor days has increased from 9 million in 2006 to 12.31 million in 2016.
- The % of rights of way deemed 'easy to use' was 85 % in 2016 compared with 69% in 2006.

Targets that have not been met include:

- The % of land managed in line with conservation objectives, which fell by at least 14% between 2011 and 2017 due to reductions in Countryside Stewardship coverage.
- The % of households and businesses with opportunity of access to high speed broadband – this was 74% in 2015 figure against a target of 100%.

In addition, there are a number of targets, almost all environmental, where recent data isn't available:

- The status of the landscape
- Tranquillity.
- Carbon Dioxide emissions from the National Park.

Overall the balance of change/progress is positive, particularly in the indicators relating to second purpose and economic attributes.

4. **Conclusion**

4.1 Members are asked to review the contents of the Appendices.

5. **Financial and Staffing Implications**

5.1 None directly.

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

6.1 Performance reporting sets out what the Authority is achieving to contribute towards the ambitions in the National Park Management Plan.

7. **Legal Implications**

7.1 None arising directly from this report.

8. **Recommendation**

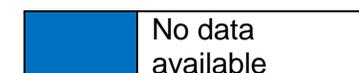
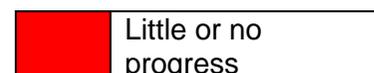
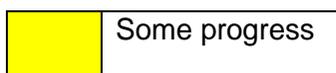
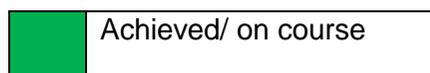
8.1 That Members review and comment on the attached document which provides information on progress against 40 targets in the National Park Management Plan, and an overview of performance of a number of organisations.

Contact Officers:

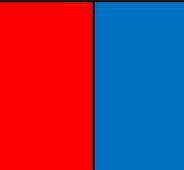
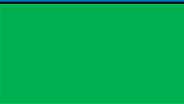
Jo Swiers, Performance Officer
Andy Wilson, Chief Executive

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Management Plan Monitoring



Indicator	Baseline	Target	Progress	Status
The status of the landscape	n/a	The landscape is identified as 'changing/enhancing'	<i>No data. Indicator – as previously compiled by Natural England is no longer available.</i>	
% of land managed in line with conservation objectives	79% (2011/12)	% maintained or increased	<i>2016/17 figure 65% - reduction of 3% from last year</i>	
Number of Scheduled Monuments on the MMS list at risk	328 judged as being at medium or high risk, as at May 2012	By 2017, the number at risk has been reduced by 65 from the number presented on the initial list	<i>Level of risk reduced on 101 Scheduled Monuments, including 69 removed from the list because risk now low.</i>	
Number of Listed Buildings on the Buildings at Risk register	95 (as reported in the Annual Performance Report 2010/11)	35 Buildings at Risk have been removed from the register	<i>58 in total removed between 2012 and 2018</i>	
% of SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition	99% (2011/12) 11.3%	At least 90% of SSSIs are in favourable or recovering condition by 2020	<i>Currently 99% (2017/18) Favourable = 11.66% and Unfavourable Recovering = 87.75%</i>	
No. of missing key ecological connections that have been made		A high proportion have been made	<i>56 connections have been worked through and for another 50 connections work is underway (80%). The remaining 26 connections are still to pick up (20%).</i>	
Area of species rich grassland created or restored	1,150ha (2012)	Area increased by 150ha by 2017	<i>As well as grassland in current national agri-environment schemes, the NPA has contributed to 97ha in restoration, 6ha in creation, and 71ha subject to management intervention/monitoring to maintain quality (including 10ha restored).</i>	
Population of wading birds breeding on moorland	3,353 pairs (2008)	Populations have been maintained	<i>3,568 pairs (2014 figure) Next survey planned for 2019</i>	

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Progress	Status
Population of merlin		Population not declined	<i>Comprehensive information not collected. The NPA is currently involved in an investigation into the apparent national decline by carrying out additional survey work in the North York Moors area.</i>	
% of the area of the National Park classed as tranquil	90% (2006)	No decline in the level	<i>Work being undertaken</i>	
No. of days of exceedance of ozone pollution levels at High Muffles (where levels are moderate to high)	17 (2012)	Fewer days where there is an exceedance	<i>7 (2017)</i>	
Area of blanket peat	4,100ha (2011)	Area maintained	<i>Area of peat is not measured. . However area believed to be broadly static since the 2011 approximated figure.</i>	
Area of moorland managed in line with conservation objectives	79% (2012)	Area maintained or increased	<i>96% of moorland in the NP c. 47,248 ha (2016/17 figure) – figure for 2017/18 not currently available.</i>	
Area of new native woodland and wood pasture planted	n/a	300 ha planted by 2017	<i>As of March 2018, 198 ha of new native woodland/wood pasture had been created since 1 April 2012.</i>	
Area of PAWS restoration initiated	n/a	At least 600ha initiated by 2017	<i>As of March 2018, 813 ha of PAWS restoration work initiated since April 2012.</i>	
Area of woodland managed in line with conservation objectives	74% (2014)	Area increased	<i>66% of woodland within the NP c. 19,555 ha (2016/17 figure) – figure for 2017/18 not currently available.</i>	
No. and % of water bodies identified as 'good' under the Water Framework Directive	79 / 81% (2012)	All appropriate water bodies identified as 'good'	<i>The methodology for data collection changed following the 2012 survey so it's not possible to make an assessment</i>	
No. of beaches identified as 'sufficient' under the revised Bathing Water Directive	2 out of 3 (2012)	All beaches identified as 'sufficient'	<i>One out of two beaches is 'good'. The other is 'excellent'. Two rather than three beaches are now counted as designated bathing water sites</i>	

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Progress	Status
No. of visitor days	9m (2006)	Number has increased	11.82 (<i>Revised 2015 figure</i>) 12.31 (2016)	
% of Public Rights of Way are easy to use	69 % (2006/07)	85%	85% (2016) – average figure for 2 surveys in 2016. November 2016 figure alone was 80%	
% of Public Rights of Way that are signposted where they leave the road	95% (2012)	Maintain % at 95%	91% (2016)	
% of visitors who enjoyed their visit	95%	To maintain at least 95%	95% rated as very good/good (2016)	
Proportion of under-represented groups visiting the NP	30% of users to the NPA visitor centres, websites and events were from under-represented groups (2012)	Proportion increased	Information centres – no figure Events – 38% Education – 76% Website – 34% (2015)	
Proportion of visitors who are aware of the NYMNP		Proportion increased (Target 2016)	2016 Actual	
a) Visitor awareness of NYMNP	a) 34% (2011)	a) 37%	a) 92%	
b) Visitor awareness of Special qualities	b) 18% (2011)	b) 21%	b) 51%	
c) Visitor awareness of being in a NP	c) 73% (2011)	c) 83%	c) 83%	
Proportion of the region's population who are aware of the NYMNP		Proportion increased (Target 2013)		
a) Regional awareness of NYMNP	a) 34% (2008)	a) n/a – see explanation	A joint Regional Awareness Survey with the Yorkshire Dales NPA was not undertaken in 2013. Development of a new communications strategy is including work on assessing regional awareness	
b) Regional awareness of special qualities	b) 43% (2008)	b) n/a – see explanation		

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Progress	Status
Value of tourism to the National Park's economy	£416m (2010)	Value increased	£621.23m (2015) £646.78 (2016)	
No. of people employed in tourism	7,813 (2010)	Number increased	10,709 FTEs (2015) 10,923 FTEs (2016)	
Average length of stay	1.81 days (2011)	Length of stay increased	1.88 (2015) 1.92 (2016)	
The area of farmland managed in line with conservation objectives		Area maintained or increased	42% of farmland within the NP c. 25,152ha (2016/17 figure) – figure for 2017/18 not yet available	
No. of moorland hill flocks	100 (2006)	No decline	100	
No. of people employed in agriculture	2,220 All holdings (2010)	Number maintained or increased	2,164 (Commercial holdings)	
Levels of agricultural output	£56m (2009)	n/a indicator only	No figure.	
% of residents of the National Park 'in work'	70.64% (2001 Census)	n/a	75% (2011 Census)	
% of residents of the Park claiming unemployment benefit	1.9% (2012)	% has reduced	0.5% / 105 claimants (2016)	
Area of allocated employment floor space	0 (2012)	Area increased	+ 14ha (2015) Land allocated through the Whitby Business Park Area Action Plan.	
No. of salmon and sea trout in the Upper Derwent	None recorded	Salmon and sea trout are present	Records not available for Upper Derwent alone. Reported rod catch figure of 1 salmon and 1 trout for Yorkshire Derwent in 2016.	

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Progress	Status
% of households and businesses opportunity of access to high speed broadband*	No baseline recorded	100% by 2017	<p>Update from NYCC: Total premises = 13,104</p> <p>Total premises able to access Next Generation Access (NGA) superfast broadband = 9,310. This includes all BT (commercial, Phase 1 and Phase 2), plus Moorsweb, with no duplication.</p> <p>Current 'proposed' premises in the NP for Phase 3 is 528 premises. .</p> <p>End of Phase 2 = 71% of premises covered</p> <p>Adding proposed Phase 3 = 75%.</p>	
% of villages with key facilities	General Store – 30% Post Office – 32% Village Hall – 62% Village Pub – 64% Play Area – 25% (2006)	% maintained or increased	General Store –26% Post Office – 31%* Village Hall – 76% Village Pub – 74% Play Area – 38% (2018)	
No. of affordable homes built per year	29 (2011/12)	At least 75 built by 2017	No affordable units built this year, but there are 91 affordable units with planning permission plus 6 potential RHE schemes in the pipeline (together showing a local need for approx. 58 units)	
No. of vehicles passing traffic counters in the NP	1.942m (2006)	n/a	1.74m (2012). No full set of data since.	
CO2 emissions attributed to the National Park	396kt per year (2006)	Decrease in emissions	National Park. Central Government data for NP no longer collected.	