

Date: 27 May 2008

Report: MEMBER FEEDBACK

Attached to this report is 'feedback' from the following members who have represented the Authority:

- Carl Lis, who attended a Conference on 14 March, organised jointly by Humber and Wolds and Yorkshire Rural Community Councils to investigate the issue of whether government policy will create and maintain strong, safe and prosperous rural communities
- Carl Lis, who with the Chief Executive, attended a seminar on how National Park Authorities might contribute to addressing climate change
- Malcolm Petyt at the Europarc Atlantic Isles Conference on 27/28 March 2008.
- Deborah Millward at the final meeting of the Limestone Country Project Group on 28 March 2008
- Malcolm Petyt who attended the meeting of the Council for National Parks on 1 May 2008

Richard Parkin
Secretariat Officer

Background documents: None

15 May 2008

FEEDBACK FROM EVENTS/SEMINARS/CONFERENCES

Name of Event: 80/20 Rural Vision

Date of Event: 14th March 2008

Name of Member: Carl Lis

The conference was organised jointly by Humber and Wolds and Yorkshire Rural Community Councils to investigate the issue of whether government policy will create and maintain strong, safe and prosperous rural communities and attracted around one hundred of the region's key players in rural affairs including policy makers, voluntary sector workers, advisers and members of organisations working to support people who live and work in rural areas.

It was held against a background where recent surveys have highlighted that in rural areas of England almost a million households live below the poverty line –including 75,000 people in Yorkshire and the Humber - , the continuing lack of affordable rural homes to rent and buy, the importance of a thriving rural economy, the decline of numbers of young people and growth in numbers of older people living in rural areas.

There was an extremely impressive list of speakers included Hilary Benn Secretary of State for the Environment and Helen Philips Chief Executive of Natural England.

Hilary Benn outlined the government's vision for rural areas and the plan to deliver it, however he had a bit of a rough ride. Sylvia Brown, Chief Executive of ACRE, (action with communities in rural England) highlighted how the Government has blindness to many rural issues. She also explained how at a local level, parish and community planning was highly valued by local communities, parish, district and county councils, but was not recognised by the Government at national level.

Then Sally Rawlings, chief executive of Yorkshire RCC went on to express the view that. "There has been a substantial shift in Government's attitude to rural areas over the last 12 months. 'Rurality' is no longer a policy driver in its own right. Of the 30 new Public Service Agreements introduced by the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007, not one is specifically rural"

"Defra no longer has a clear lead on strategic interest in rural communities. Decisions around funding and support to address issues faced by rural communities are now spread across Government. The new 'locality framework' of Local Strategic Partnerships and Local Area Agreements will increasingly drive planning policy and service delivery. Performance and outcomes will be assessed against a set of 198 national indicators, none of which is specifically rural".

However she did welcome the fact that the Secretary of State was present and hoped that he could take a clear message away with him with regard to Rural issues and the impact of government policy on the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Other speakers included Dr Stuart Burgess, the Prime Minister's Rural Advocate, who looked at tackling issues faced by rural communities and Dr Helen Phillips, Chief Executive of Natural England outlined the agency's role in delivering the government's vision. Terry Hodgkinson, Chair of Yorkshire Forward, looked at how 'rural' fits into the regional development agency's new 'mainstream' policy context and Paul Temple, National Vice President of the NFU, considered what the 21st century farming context is likely to mean for the region's rural areas.

Ann Woodward of East Riding of Yorkshire Council outlined the role of local strategic partnerships and local area agreements in delivering government policy and its rural vision. Professor Nigel Curry, director of the countryside and community research institute concluded by looking at rural land use planning and the alternative way forward for managing planning in rural areas.

The conference closed following a debate and vote on whether current and emerging government policy will create and maintain strong, active and empowered rural communities. A show of hands vote at the end of the conference found that four out of every five delegates felt that the Government isn't taking more notice of rural issues and that its policy to 'mainstream' delivery of schemes isn't going to work for the benefit of people living and working in rural areas.
people living and working in rural areas.

Carl Lis
01/04/08

MINISTERIAL SEMINAR ON NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITIES CONTRIBUTION TO ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE.

Following recent discussions with the Secretary of State, Hilary Benn, and the minister responsible for National Parks, Jonathan Shaw, the minister said it would be useful for him to host a seminar on how National Park Authorities might contribute to addressing climate change.

The seminar took place in London on the 27th March 2008 and was attended by; all National Park Authority Chairmen, and Chief Executives; Government officials, representatives from Natural England and the Association of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty [AAONB].

The seminar considered a number of presentations, broken up with plenary sessions to draw out key issues from discussion groups. I attended a session on renewable energy and energy conservation.

The first part of this session included a discussion on good working practice within National Parks which were either up and running or 'in progress'. Particular ones that were highlighted were our own initiative at Yoredale and the efforts that the North York Moors had up at Hutton –Le-Hole toilets in the form of a solar hot water system, low energy lighting, grey water and water saving. It was extremely encouraging to find that a good number of National Parks had initiated strategies such as green travel plans, energy audits of their property, community partnerships and a number of schemes where SDF funding had been used to enable others to instigate actions such as tree planting and hydro energy generation.

The second part of the session discussed areas where there are real or perceived barriers to progress. It was felt by all members of the group that the method of carbon reduction measurement should be consistent. There is a danger that at present too many methods were being used and subsequently there were issues in identifying accurate comparative data. There is also the issue of the current barriers that prevented small scale renewable installations. For example, how complicated it was to achieve grid connection, the lack of professional advice from utility providers and not forgetting the complications of the planning system.

The Chief Executive attended the session on 'Carbon Management on a Landscape Scale'. This discussed the issues around peat restoration and management as a major carbon store. There seemed little disagreement around the table that this area of work had the opportunity to provide many benefits for society. Not only in relation to carbon capture and adaptation but improve biodiversity, better water management, flood alleviation and improved access. However, bringing farmers and landowners on board was seen as critical. The current pressures within the market were not seen to be assisting. There was one notable contribution from a farmer who said that the 'carrot' to get farmers and landowners to play a more active role on this issue would have to be pretty large bearing in mind the market was driving greater productivity, whether it be cattle, sheep or grain.

Prior to the seminar, all National Park Authorities produced documents on what they were doing, what they intended to do and the obstacles they were facing which prevented them doing more. This document is **attached** as an appendix.

Carl Lis
Chairman

David Butterworth
Chief Executive

4 April 2008

Europarc Atlantic Isles Conference, 27-28 March 2008

Protected Areas in the 21st Century: What does the future hold?

I attended this event on behalf of the Chairman, who was engaged on other NPA business. It was held in the splendid setting of the Wales Millennium Centre in the redeveloped former docklands area of Cardiff Bay, with accommodation in a nearby hotel. There were about 65 delegates.

After an excellent dinner on the Thursday evening, the scene-setting address was by David Coleman, formerly at the Countryside Commission and its successor Countryside Agency, but now Head of Sponsorship for the Land and Recreation Division at Defra – in other words he is as likely as anyone to know what finance is likely to be available. He spoke on two main topics: How do we demonstrate “success” of protected areas? (this will be increasingly important as competition for central funds is likely to be tighter over the next few years) and What is the future for designations generally? (he felt it was more likely that the range of these will be reduced rather than increased – but he could not believe that the status of national parks would be diminished).

On Friday morning the first of the main sessions gave some comparative examples of the present set-up and future prospects in protected areas in several other European countries – a number of 10-minute sessions, which proved to be quite inadequate for most speakers, who came with far too much prepared material.

From Spain we learned that about 12% of the area is protected, including 14 National parks, 36% of the coast etc..., and that the main new challenges are land use changes and climate change. Responses need to be considered at the levels of policy, planning and management.

In Germany we heard that national parks cover only 0.54 of the country but they are IUCN 2 areas, and there are 100 nature parks (IUCN 5 like British NPs) over 25% of the country. The main challenge is the raise public awareness of the protected areas, and especially their economic benefits. There is an interesting system of logos for all these areas on the web, each looking like three-colour Smarties!

From Iceland we heard that their range of protected areas includes only 4 National parks, but a large number of nature reserves (with varying codes of conduct and admissibility) and natural monuments including waterfalls, volcanoes etc... A Nature Conservation Strategy for the whole country is due to be approved by Parliament, but progress has been much slower than was hoped.

The delegate from France had withdrawn through illness, so we heard from the CEO of the Irish Heritage Council, which covers both natural and cultural heritage. He told us of an encouraging increase in public awareness and support – and willingness to pay – though this was more for natural than for cultural heritage.

Discussion sessions following the presentations concluded that the main lessons were a need to increase public awareness and support for protected areas; a greater collaboration between different types of PA (especially in the UK); and more integration between types of PA (landscape, nature, cultural etc).

The second main session concentrated on Protected Areas in the UK and Ireland. The first speaker was Andy Wilson (NYMNP) on Options for the Future. He focussed on land management in NPs, where we have much less influence than over built development. We can do something to protect wildness and landscape, but much less in terms of resource protection: water, carbon, food etc. He saw positive signs of public acceptance of NP purposes and concern over climate change. He argued that NPAs should know more about *what* their park is and should be producing (landscape, carbon storage, wildlife, water, food etc) and *where* it should happen. He suggested that a third NP purpose of “resource protection” would be helpful, with a duty on public bodies to further this.

Howard Sutcliffe of Clwydian Hills AONB wasted much of his 10 minutes talking about his native Blackpool instead of Future Perspectives on Welsh AONBs, but he felt that the CRoW Act had been helpful in introducing statutory management plans; that the creation of the National assembly had brought AONBs closer to government attention; and that NPs and AONBs were working better together.

Martin Beaton of South Downs Conservation Board, speaking on AONBs UK, felt that Policy Statements on NPs and AONBs need revision in various respects; that resources for AONBs are much too limited compared to NPs; that administrative arrangements need further improvement on what CRoW introduced; and that there needs to be better communication both outwards and between types of protected areas.

The following break-out session was mainly for delegates to produce a SWOT analysis of protected areas. The afternoon plenary session seemed less than totally satisfactory, but it did conclude that certain major principles had emerged from the conference. There is a need for: “vision” (possibly leading to a more unified system of Protected Areas; greater public engagement; more collaboration; and a way of proving our efficacy.

On the whole I felt it was a worthwhile gathering – for both the exchange of ideas and experiences and, as usual, the opportunity to meet other people working in related areas.

Malcolm Petyt

Member Champion Report on the Final Meeting of the Limestone Country Project 28th March 2008

Members will be aware that the Limestone Country Project is now finished and this final meeting brought together all the strands of the project for the first time. Although basically a conservation project it was always planned to have a broader remit looking at the economic viability of re-introducing cattle grazing to upland pastures. So at this meeting those of us involved in just one or two aspects of the project could hear how the rest of the project had progressed.

Because of this ground-breaking approach delegates attended from quite a broad spectrum of organisations including other NPs, NGOs, universities, marketing specialists and most importantly, farmers.

The morning session was chaired by **Richard Clarke, CE of the Rare Breed Survival Trust** and **Tim Thom, co-project manager**, introduced the programme explaining the ethos of the project.

Bill Grayson, of the Grazing Animal Project (GAP) described the qualities of the hardy native breeds used in the project. He grazed his own stock, which were blue-greys and shorthorns, in the project area. He pointed out that these breeds can be out-wintered and raised entirely on grass. Winter keep was grass which had not been grazed during the summer months, this is known as deferred grazing. During the summer months animals put on 0.5kg /day but only maintained body weight through the winter. Over-wintered pregnant cows produced perfectly healthy calves under this regime. It was a very low cost system suitable for upland regions.

Roger Smith of Newcastle University described the habitats which were monitored during the project. This is the aspect of the project that I personally worked on. He explained that three years was an insufficient time to expect significant changes in vegetation but that the trends looked good. The quantity of individual valued species had increased but the number of valued species, the species diversity, had not. Soil seed bank analysis had shown that additional species were not present and it would need a much longer period for any additional species to spread. A repeat monitoring in 2012 would be soon enough to pick up these changes.

Richard Bevan of Newcastle University described the work using satellite surveying of cattle movement. The collars used could detect where the heifers grazed, rested and congregated throughout the day and night. This could then be matched to the vegetation types mapped in the 100 hectare site used. It was interesting to see that some areas were never even entered whereas others proved very popular, especially near the neighbouring field of bullocks – typical teenage activity!

Tim Thom stood in for the economist who could not attend. He explained that between 60 and 80% of income on the 18 farms involved in the project was from subsidy. That the cost of setting up for beef production was not covered by the profit made. However when these were paid for, as in this project, then it was profitable. He pointed out that sharing equipment, as had been practised in the project, considerably reduced set-up

costs. He emphasised that native hardy breeds were particularly well suited to low cost maintenance.

Jim Caygill, a participating farmer, chaired the afternoon session, which commenced with **Adrian Shepherd** talking on the role of cattle in the Environmental Stewardship schemes. He pointed out that farming in the uplands would continue to be dependent upon subsidy and that the new schemes, which were gradually replacing the more rigid old schemes, did have supplements for introducing cattle onto sheep-only farms. Farming rare breeds was also rewarded. He noted that in the Higher Level Scheme it was likely that a new category would be introduced which rewarded a 30% livestock unit replacement with cattle, rather than the current 15%. Adrian also pointed out how the project had influenced the government in their proposals for an upland stewardship, in fact the author of the government report was present.

Ian Richardson of Bristol University reported on beef keeping quality, flavour, succulence and nutritional status, particularly saturated fats. Limestone Country beef scored well on all counts, but grass-only fed, hardy native breeds excelled in having very low levels of saturated fat. So it is good for you as well.

Jim Caygill spoke about the founding of Limestone Country Beef Ltd of which he is chairman. He explained that they could currently produce 100 carcasses a year and that there was scope for more farmers to join. The seasonality of the product was not necessarily deemed to be a draw back and that it was important to charge the right price. This is a premium product which is of its time, it is local, natural, healthy, beneficial to wildlife conservation and rare breed conservation.

Paul Evans of Natural England and co project manager summed up the project and the day. He said it had achieved all the objectives set by the EU, even talking to a group in Latvia. He said it had strengthened the bond between farmers and conservationists, and it had also strengthened the local economy. It had brought about the formation of a company. It had informed agri-environment schemes and had amazing publicity.

But most of all it had proved that **native breeds enhance wildlife**

As the sub-title of the conference said “**This is the End of the Beginning**” from now on conservation in limestone country and farming can go hand in hand.

Deborah Millward

Meeting of Council for National Parks

I attended the meeting on 1 May – which will be the last meeting of CNP to be held under its present title. A change of name to “Campaign for National Parks” is imminent. This will more adequately represent what CNP does, rather than its structure, and will help to avoid giving the impression to some people that it is some arm of local government.

The meeting followed a familiar pattern to some extent. Before lunch the Chairman gave an oral overview of CNP’s involvement in various issues, and introduced new members of staff. The revised CNP Strategic Plan for 2008-2013 was briefly discussed. The most notable aspect of this is a greater emphasis on increasing the number of people who know and care about national parks (those who led the movement for NPs are passing away and a new generation of supporters needs to be nurtured), and on leading and strengthening the national park movement generally.

Next came a session of “News from around the Parks”, when members from both Park Authorities and Park Societies were invited to speak about two or three issues of recent importance to them. I gave an update on our work on Green Lanes, and also mentioned two recent proposals for windfarms close to our boundary.

An oral update on the situation of NPs in Wales (at present not a happy picture in certain respects) was followed by the lunch break. After this we broke into four groups to prepare a range of questions to ask the Minister with responsibility for National Parks, Jonathan Shaw. He appeared at 2.45 and stayed for 45 minutes.

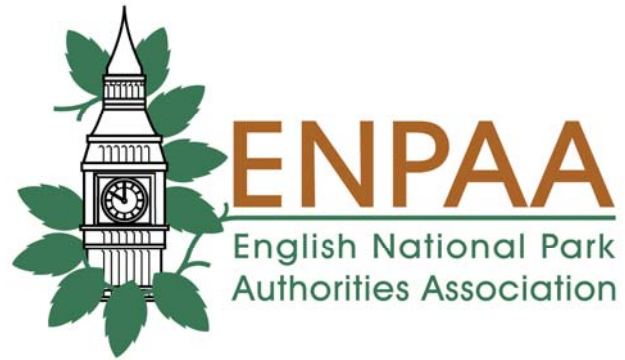
He began by speaking briefly about a matter we had understood he would not be prepared to cover: the fact that the Government will appeal against the High Court judgement on Backdale quarry in the Peak District, which he called “a disgrace”. He then told us how NPs have an important part to play in relation to climate change, and went on to say that the Defra team is committed to NPs, and that getting our good settlement this year had not been too difficult!

Jonathan then responded as openly and fully as one could expect to questions on: tightening Section 62; military training in NPs; “outdoor classrooms”; the achievements of the Mosaic project; a new NP Circular; help for hill farming; quarrying in NPs; sustainable transport; and NPs in the context of the Sub National Review.

After the Minister’s departure there was an update on Mosaic, followed by an overview of what NPs are doing on climate change: carbon management; climate change adaptation; energy conservation and microgeneration; and communicating the message (*Dales 2008* was held up as an example of this).

Formal business was then swiftly covered, most notably including the co-option of my predecessor Nancy Stedman as an individual member of Council.

Malcolm Petyt



APPENDIX

**Ministerial Seminar on
National Park Authorities contribution to addressing Climate Change**

Thursday 27th March 2008

London

Introduction

The English National Parks cover 8% of England; are iconic landscapes; contribute to storing carbon; and are visited by millions. As upland, and coastal landscapes they will be one of the first areas to see first hand the effects of climate change in this country. In March 2008, Minister for Marine, Landscape, and Rural Affairs, and Minister for the South East, Jonathan Shaw MP, invited the Chairs, Chief Executives and key staff from the nine National Park Authorities (NPAs) and senior Board members of Natural England to consider the role – both present and future – of NPAs in tackling climate change. The NPAs welcome this initiative, given the important existing work and potential that NPAs can play in this area.

The aims of the seminar

The seminar is an opportunity to explore the contribution of National Park Authorities to tackling climate change, both mitigation and adaptation. The aim is to reach a consensus on:

- defining the unique contribution of the National Parks;
- the extent to which the National Park experience could/ should be disseminated to others;
- whether a written climate change strategy is needed and/ or climate change reports from National Park Authorities;
- how to make progress on measuring the amount of carbon stored in the National Parks; and
- how achievable carbon neutrality is for the National Park Authorities and the National Parks themselves.

National Park Authorities have four unique contributions

There are many individuals and organisations involved in tackling climate change – both mitigation and adaptation. ENPAA has considered the range of activities that National Park Authorities are behind, and considers that our four unique contributions are:

Carbon/ecosystem management on a landscape scale

National Parks as test beds for climate change adaptation
on a landscape scale

Promoting energy conservation and micro-generation
in remote rural economies

Communicating with millions of visitors who are there to explore and
learn about the natural environment

Government, Agencies and others could help National Park Authorities to achieve more

In the pages that follow, we provide summaries of what each English NPA is doing in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation. Critical to the achievement of the outcomes we share, however, is partnership working with other Agencies like Natural England, the Environment Agency and others. A range of Government departments can also assist NPAs to achieve more in this area. Below we summarise some of the key areas where we believe help could really assist the existing efforts of NPAs and others.

Overall we look to Defra to actively promote, and seek recognition for, the national role that National Parks can play in tackling climate change.

Information

- assist in developing a simple methodology to determine carbon budgets for each National Park, especially for peat soils, and then the impact of farming and land management on carbon storage;
- Defra and Natural England to fund good quality science to enable a proper assessment of carbon storage/sequestration/reduction potential of different actions at national, regional and National Park level;
- identify and promote best practice in the public sector to enable carbon neutrality; and
- provide access to data, research and regulatory advice that is free to other Government bodies/agencies, to NPAs.

Finance

- ensure there are the resources for delivery through providing assistance with innovative funding models (invest to save, revolving funds);
- clarification on the future of PR09 and whether money can be spent on land that water companies do not own;
- identify National Park Authorities as ‘lead’ funding agencies in National Parks and integrate and delegate parallel regional funds (eg. clear skies schemes locally promoted and administered);
- provide additional funding to support communication initiatives and resources to implement projects identified by the Parks’ adaptation plans; and
- to provide better incentives to landowners to carry out carbon neutral/reduction land management techniques (especially through the proposed Upland Entry Level Scheme) with pilots for new incentives within National Parks.

Frameworks

- Defra to integrate moorland carbon into the emerging soil strategy and escalate moorland carbon emission as a high risk factor causing climate change;
- Defra to work with Government agencies to mainstream carbon friendly land management;
- Defra/ Natural England/ Environment Agency to support the integration of resources and approaches across different bodies – e.g. HLS targeting to allow the creation of new washlands to meet biodiversity, flood risk, and landscape targets;
- recognise and target support for climate change innovation in specific rural community and key local economy demonstration programmes, including the development of new approaches on land owned by National Park Authorities;
- bring agencies together in a focussed way to prepare a strategic plan for green infrastructure and landscape restoration (eg. across the South East);
- recognise and support the role National Park Authorities play in carbon management and water management (and the benefits downstream) through targeted support, in particular through the Upland Partnership; and
- clarify how the plethora of strategies and processes aimed at tackling climate change fit with economic development policies which include expansion of airports and air and road traffic.

Defra engagement with other Government departments

- continue to lead work across Whitehall to ensure adequate resources are delivered for climate change, obvious anomalies are addressed, and delivery structures are simplified;
- work with other departments to ensure rural services are supported in order to retain sustainable communities;
- CLG – there is a need for high level dialogue with CLG over the application of PPS25 and allied policies in relation to an integrated approach to climate change adaptation, new build, and protected landscapes;
- DBERR – work with the department to ensure sufficient support is available for the development of renewable energy that is appropriate for protected landscapes;
- DfT – ensure practical and financial support is available to reduce dependency and use of carbon-based private transport, including through support for integrated transport in urban and rural areas; and
- HM Treasury - adopt more meaningful measures of sustainable economic development, since current models (such as favouring airport expansion) make things worse.



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

The Broads is very vulnerable to short-term and catastrophic change as a result of sea-level rise which will be exacerbated by climate change. The Authority with the help of the University of East Anglia's world leading Tyndall Centre and Climate Research Unit has for some years been looking at the potential impact of climate change on the area.

One of the key priorities for the Authority is developing a whole landscape approach to the management of the Broads, looking at how it can adapt to different climate change scenarios over time. This work is focused on the 5 key valleys, integrating biodiversity, landscape, recreation, access and planning. At the landscape scale the Authority has commissioned the UEA's Carbon Reduction Unit to carry out a scoping study for a carbon audit for the area (using Sustainable Development Fund support) to better understand the data options and geographic area that is significant.

As the Authority's area is effectively floodplain the implications of PPS25 in terms of development is highly significant. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is likely to lead to an innovative policy approach and we are looking at the experience in Holland of building techniques to allow continuing economic activity in the floodplain consistent with the special qualities of the Broads. The creation of a £100 million public/private programme over 20 years to primarily strengthen flood management is also providing opportunities for innovation and enhancement of recreation, biodiversity and landscape.

The Broads Authority has worked closely with the boating industry on reducing emissions from tourism. This has included the first solar powered passenger boat in the UK; supporting and encouraging a carbon audit of the hire boat industry; supporting research into fundamental changes to boats' design and operation through the Eco Boat project.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Joint project with the Environment Agency and Natural England to develop a long term vision for the Broads to guide the work of the Authority and identify where influence needs to be brought to bear on other bodies over the short and medium term to enable effective change to happen. This will include exploiting the leading edge facilities in the Zuckerman Institute for Connective Environmental Research (Zicer). We have been working with UEA to develop computer visualisations of alternative landscape futures as a means of

engaging with stakeholders in the challenging debate on coastal realignment. The Authority is also closely involved with Natural England on one of their four pilots looking at climate change impacts on a Character Area.

2. The Local Development Framework process (and its associated work such as Strategic Flood Risk Assessment) is being used to test policies to allow the built environment within the floodplain to adapt to the threat of sea level rise and climate change effects.
3. With Defra's support and assistance, the Authority will be moving into what will become the greenest office in Norwich (BREAM Excellent) alongside the Environment Agency and Natural England. This will also trigger other work greening the Authority's operation (travel, other bases, procurement etc.) and help build a centre of excellence on climate change matters.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspire to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. Develop models of landscape for the next 20, 50 and 100 years to explore with the wider public and seek to reach agreement on the extremely challenging issues of how and if the coast is defended; the need for a barrier at the mouth of the River Yare and/or the creation of washlands to accommodate increased fluvial and coastal flooding.
2. Following the scoping study outcome, initiate the Carbon audit and reduction plan for the Broads as a whole.
3. Implement an integrated valley approach to the management of the Broads so that the economic, social and environmental resources can adapt to future change – trying to initiate a 'no regrets' approach to management.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- The need for high level and integrated leadership and communication to help the public engage with a very different future.
- The Broads Authority's capacity not only to investigate and understand the complexity of climate change but to then develop mechanisms to communicate that information to a wide range of disparate people and organisations. This also requires a large investment into close and effective partnerships.
- Mechanisms to make the necessary changes – even once the management and operational changes needed have been identified, there will need to be modifications to the planning, collective decision making and financial (e.g. compensation) processes to enable businesses, landowners and the public adjust to a very different future.



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

Communication and understanding:

The Authority has placed considerable emphasis on interpreting what climate change means for the National Park and its communities as a prerequisite to getting community action: *'from understanding to action'*

- Exhibition and outreach work around the theme 'I Can Change the Future' (54,500 visitors July – October 2007, 18 press releases, 5000 web hits, 10 school activities, guided walks, etc). New urban/rural venues and activities 08/09 - *Defra Challenge Funding 07-10* (see www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk).
- Establishment of new partnership with local communities within and adjacent to the National Park (Dartmoor Circle) focused on practical support and information exchange. Climate Action Planning Workshop (Feb 08) held with these groups to help take forward actions in the new National Park Management Plan with Dartmoor community groups.
- Establishment of partnership with local land management organisations – sharing best practice, establishing carbon footprint for Dartmoor - Nov 07.
- Workshops for Dartmoor advisers and farmers on adapting and mitigating climate change in farm businesses – April 08.

Practical habitat management

- Rewetting the blanket bog – pilot areas established, funding partnership with NE, ENPA, MoD, RSPB, Duchy of Cornwall, SWW for future expansion (PR09).
- Dartmoor Natural Networks – linking habitats on a landscape scale with community involvement.

Research

- Partnership with Plymouth University researching carbon budget and recommending appropriate management of Dartmoor's blanket bog

Dartmoor Sustainable Development Fund

- This funding (together with the match funding from SWRDA) has been used to support innovative approaches to energy efficiency and sustainable living e.g. Archimedes Screw, Biodiesel Club, Moorcare Car Sharing Club.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Communicating messages under the general theme of *from understanding to action*.
2. Practical habitat management.
3. Establishing partnerships to deliver climate change actions in the National Park Management Plan.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspire to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. Develop a 'Transition Park' initiative that provides practical support to local communities and land managers (in the form of advice and funding) on the adaptation and mitigation agendas and thus delivers the goals set out in the Dartmoor NPMP launched in Dec 07.
2. Linked to 1, establish a greenhouse gas baseline for Dartmoor that will enable action to be targeted and progress to be monitored.
3. Develop the Authority's own work so that we are aiming to lead by example through our actions and the practical management of land and buildings that we own.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- Innovative funding models eg assistance to develop an ESCO model for a rural area with small populations.
- Development of HLS and UELS so that they establish a carbon currency for paying farmers to store and manage carbon (and other greenhouse gases). Would like to develop this at a National Park level, perhaps via a Service Level Agreement with Natural England.
- Research, information and ideas – how do we know we are doing the right thing? Risk of re-inventing wheels etc.



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

- **Ambition** – Exmoor National Park Authority is committed to achieving carbon-neutrality in its own operations by 2012 and has set a target for a carbon-neutral National Park by 2025 in the new Exmoor National Park Management Plan.
- **Leadership** – as well as setting ambitious targets, the National Park Authority has installed wind, solar pv and woodfuel renewable energy systems within buildings it owns and manages and has reduced its carbon emissions by over 20% in the past two years. The Authority has established projects to work with local businesses, farmers and property owners to address issues relating to climate change– e.g. Greater Exmoor Network for Renewable Energy (GENRE).
- **Partnership development and joint working** – the Authority is working closely with a number of sub-regional and regional initiatives to develop and lead coordinated approaches to adapting to and mitigating climate change, e.g. West Somerset climate change strategy jointly with Forum 21 and Devon Association for Renewable Energy.
- **Investment** – the Exmoor National Park Sustainable Development Fund has played a key role in assessing the potential for micro-hydro and wood fuel in the National Park and in providing demonstration installations.
- **Carbon sequestration** – the MIRE project - a partnership with South West Water, Environment Agency, Natural England and local landowners - is making substantial achievements in re-wetting peatlands across the National Park to lock in more than 1 million tonnes of trapped carbon, provide improved habitat and provide the conditions for renewed peat formation.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Developing a strategy for achieving a carbon-neutral National Park Authority by 2012 including setting aside funding within the medium-term financial plan for carbon offsetting through investment in local renewable energy schemes.
2. Supporting the Exmoor MIRE Restoration Project. This is good for wildlife on the moorlands; for the flow patterns of moorland rivers; good for water supply companies; those living downstream who benefit from reduced flood risk and erosion; and good for carbon storage and the reduction of CO₂ in the atmosphere. Over 1 million tonnes of carbon is stored in the peatland of Exmoor and much more in the whole of the UK. The drained peatland of Exmoor is now releasing carbon into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide (CO₂) as the carbon in the peat oxidises. Rewetting the moors will reduce this effect and eventually as the bog begins to grow again it will begin to lay down

new peat and store more carbon. The project is also good for the future of the moorlands and the farming communities which depend on them since rewetting the moorlands will mean they will be improved for agriculture and management by stock grazing will still be required. Ditch blocking raises the water table to a level just below the surface so that the dominance of purple moor grass (*Molinia*) is reduced leading to a more diverse mix of moorland plants and better grazing.

3. Commitment to specific targets in the Exmoor National Park Management Plan.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspires to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. Achieve a carbon-neutral National Park Authority by 2012 including setting aside funding within the medium-term financial plan for carbon offsetting through investment in local renewable energy schemes.
2. Gain an improved understanding of the impact of land management on carbon storage in the National Park and landscape scale approaches to adaptation for biodiversity.
3. Establish and commence implementation of a programme to move towards the achievement of a carbon-neutral National Park by 2025, particularly by engaging with local communities, businesses, farmers and landowners.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- **Authority capacity** – in the recent staffing complement review the Authority established a new post of Sustainability & Economy Manager to drive forward achievement of the climate change and economy targets in the National Park Management Plan. However, the scale of the challenge exceeds the capacity of a single post.
- **Knowledge** – we need to know more about the carbon ‘resource’ within the National Park and the impact of human activities, especially farming and land management.
- **Local capacity and skills** – there is considerable local interest in the development of renewable energy and other aspects of a low-carbon economy but a shortage of skilled installers and maintainers of renewable energy systems.
- **Access to bespoke advice** – many people are keen to play their part but confused over the best way to do so and put off by the uncertainties surrounding the quality and cost of the myriad of technologies and incentives that exist.
- **Incentives** – improved access to direct and indirect incentives are essential to encourage a transition to low-carbon lifestyles – ideally through locally managed schemes (e.g. National Park Authority with delegated allocation of grants to promote and distribute).



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

Partner Engagement:

- The North West Development Agency's Climate Change Action and Adaptation Groups;
- Cumbria Strategic Partnership's Climate Change Task Group;
- Cumbria Futures Forum;
- Tourism and Conservation Partnership;
- Business Task Force;
- Cumbria Green Business Forum.

Track record:

- Active engagement in Natural England's Cumbria High Fells Joint Character Area Pilot Climate Change Adaptation Strategy – one of four English pilot areas, which covers over 60% of the National Park;
- Ten year Fix the Fells Programme for upland landscape restoration and path repair with Natural England and the National Trust;
- Integrated research and associated upland management through the European-funded Mountain Massifs programme;
- Cumbria Wildfire Group with Cumbria Fire Service, Forestry Commission, National Trust, United Utilities and Moorland Association.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Integrated catchment management:

- a. Implemented the Bassenthwaite Lake Restoration Programme (BLRP);
- b. Implemented the Bassenthwaite Reflections Initiative comprising community engagement, arts and skills development;
- c. Extending the principles of the BLRP to all catchments, initially Windermere.

2. Learning, Engagement and Inspiration:

- a. Delivering over 500 tutored modules each year through the Field Studies Council, focusing on the actions young people can take to protect the environment;

- b. Re-directed the Sustainable Development Fund to promote innovation in measures that adapt to or mitigate climate change;
- c. Reviewed our own carbon footprint and implemented action based on audits by the Carbon Trust and Energy Savings Trust.

3. Policy Review:

- a. Climate Change-proofed our Preferred Options in the Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework;
- d. Commissioned a Sustainable Transport Strategy for the Lake District with Cumbria County Council, the North West Development Agency and Cumbria Vision including review of parking provision and pricing;
- e. Commissioned a '*Low Carbon Lakeland*' Report and associated Conference in June 2008 to establish opinions of key regional decision-makers, capture a picture of current policies and programmes and identify case studies of best practice in business, communities and the public sector.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspire to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. Complete preparation of catchment wide ecosystem adaptation management plans across the National Park;
2. Implement all aspects of the Cumbria Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and specifically for the National Park Authority to remain on target to become carbon-neutral by 2012;
3. Grow the funding available for promoting and supporting climate change adaptation and mitigation from £200,000 a year to £1 million a year.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- No definitive research or guidance on what specific and cost effective measures will enable National Park Authorities to become carbon neutral;
- Difficulty in augmenting SDF funding from other sources such as NWDA Climate Change Action Plan, Regional Economic Strategy or Rural Development Plan for England to make a significant National Park-wide difference;
- Lack of research into carbon stores in the National Park and how they can be best managed.



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

- Supporting, facilitating and getting involved in a range of successful community ‘climate change’ projects;
- Initiating and providing resources to enable a range of practical mitigation projects (mostly supported through the SDF) including micro-generation;
- Developing a comprehensive assessment of the impact of predicted climate change on the special qualities of the New Forest;
- Supporting the work of partners (New Forest District Council as the lead agency) in undertaking scientific modelling of the impacts of climate change on the low lying and vulnerable coastline of the New Forest.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Working to raise awareness of climate change and communication with local communities and visitors – and promoting the key messages needed to support adaptation and mitigation (talks, projects, green business training events, providing staff and financial resources to support and facilitate community climate change projects such as plastic bag free villages / village carbon footprint projects etc).
2. Preparing an adaptation plan for the New Forest National Park in partnership with others.
3. Assessing the carbon balance of the National Park and exploring ways in which we can increase our contribution to carbon sequestration, taking into account the contribution from the Park’s woods and trees, valley mires and salt marshes.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspire to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. To develop a landscape scale programme of habitat restoration and connectivity in partnership with Hampshire County Council and Natural England for the National Park and the surrounding region to enable habitat and species adaptation e.g. through migration; and to work to implement other aspects of the adaptation plan.
2. Continue to find new and engaging ways of raising awareness of climate change with the wider public and specific audiences (e.g. tourism, businesses and agriculture) including promoting our adaptation plan (when complete).
3. Effectively reduce the carbon footprint of the Authority's operations and those of the National Park as a whole.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- The dependency on private transport and the lack of practical public transport alternatives for both Authority business and everyday life in the National Park will make reducing the Park's carbon footprint difficult;
- Developing effective partnerships across both the public and private sectors - and joining up our actions through multiple agency working - is a challenge;
- Finding the time and resources to make projects and initiatives happen against other demands and activities;
- Uncertainty over the predictions of climate change and their consequences - which can frustrate buy-in by stakeholders because of unwillingness to commit / invest limited resources when we are unsure the adaptation will be effective.
- Practical limitations on the capacity to make changes to current temporary HQ offices to reduce the Authority's carbon footprint.



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

‘Internal Greening’

Energy efficiency of buildings improved leading to a 15% reduction in energy use; 74% of office waste recycled and the impact of transport reduced:

- petrol/electric hybrid cars purchased and essential car user allowance abolished
- staff mileage reduction targets and quarterly green travel competition
- Air miles offset
- MOORSBUS recreational bus service saved 492 Tonnes CO2 in 2007

Community Renewable Energy Project

- Working with local communities to reduce their carbon footprint aiming to deliver a 34% reduction in their CO2 emissions by 2009/10
- 4 Community Energy Audits undertaken
- £1.3m project (RDA 0.5m) 2008-2010 working with three communities to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy plans
- Sustainable Development Fund grant to a number of renewable energy projects including the first in a series of hydro electric generation plants on the River Esk owned by Community Action Group

Practical adaptation to Climate Change

- Advanced habitat mapping to identify network enhancement opportunities
- Re-wetting of drying blanket bog, grip blocking and re-vegetation of eroding peat
- Approximately 40 bridges improved to accommodate enlarged channels following 2005 floods
- Re-vegetation of 250 acres burnt moorland at Fylingdales

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Changing the way we work and setting an example as an organization
2. Helping local communities change the way they live and promoting renewable energy generation
3. Preventing peat loss and improving habitat networks

What are the 3 things your NPA aspire to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. Work with communities to implement Energy Action plans (resulting in 34% reduction in their CO2 emissions by 2010) as a model template for the RDA and others to follow
2. Implement habitat networks and peatland project in Yorkshire and Humber
3. Develop a climate change action plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2012

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- No agreed national method of calculating carbon neutrality including a realistic offsetting scheme
- Insufficient resources to adequately research where to apply effort to mitigate against climate change most effectively
- No clear well resourced mechanism to enable people to change the way they live and a lack of clarity amongst agencies as to who should be doing what and with whom.



Northumberland National Park

What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

- Upland management expertise for moorland carbon management/storage and water management/storage' e.g. successful Border Mires Project in conjunction with Forestry Commission, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, English Nature and others.
- Management of internationally important biodiversity and habitats susceptible to climate change, e.g. upland hay meadows and successful Seeding Change project.
- Promoting sustainability to visitors covering travel, local purchasing / consumption, environmental standards in businesses and green infrastructure e.g. Silver Award for Green Tourism Business for Rothbury National Park Visitor Centre, introduction of Green Tourism Business Scheme to the north east region.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Reducing our own emissions and working towards becoming a carbon neutral organisation as a demonstration of building energy management, estate management, procurement, and fleet and travel management, e.g. adoption of Sustainable Procurement Policy.
2. Promoting low carbon action in and around the National Park through the development of innovative Land Use Planning Policies and Supplementary Planning Guidance and through direct SDF support for innovative community and business schemes, e.g. Building Design Guide, numerous directly supported projects incorporating renewables.
3. Working closely with other partners in the north east region through the Water Framework Directive planning process to deliver Catchment Management Plans for the Solway-Tweed and Northumbria River Basin Catchments that take account of climate change issues, such as flooding, clean water etc.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspire to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. Extend upland landscape-wide research and partnership management for:
 - carbon management (moorland and other habitats, e.g. woodland), e.g. extend successful large scale new native woodland planting schemes.
 - water storage and upper catchment management to alleviate downstream flood risks in the context of the Water Framework Directive.
 - management to allow biodiversity to adapt, e.g. creation of larger more robust habitats.
2. Innovate renewable energy solutions for communities, farming and rural businesses making the best use of environmental assets in a National Park setting such as hydro-schemes, biomass, etc. towards examples of sustainable (carbon neutral) rural communities/farms/ estates etc.
3. Engage visitors to the National Park and especially young people in the issues of climate change impacts and the role protected landscapes have in mitigating these effects (droughts, flooding and health etc.) using established partnerships in the region. An example would be through development of The Sill –Centre for Wild Landscape based where there are most visitors on Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- Not seen as having a leading role in facilitating climate change solutions such as carbon land management, water/flood management, leisure transport and raising-awareness by Government Departments, Agencies or Local Government.
- Not targeted with support for key research and innovation for landscape-wide solutions, rural community issues, and key sectors such as upland agriculture and sustainable tourism.
- Not able to access normal channels of Government support (data, research advice, etc.).



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

- Upland management expertise for moorland carbon management/storage and water management/storage.
- Management of the adaptation of internationally important biodiversity and habitats to climate change.
- Environmental and emission impacts from key rural industries – e.g. upland agriculture, sustainable tourism and the extraction industry.
- Promoting sustainability to millions of visitors covering travel, local purchasing/consumption, environmental standards in businesses and green infrastructure.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. Reducing our own emissions and working towards becoming a carbon neutral organisation as a demonstration of building energy management, estate management, procurement, and fleet and travel management, etc.
2. Promoting low carbon action in the National Park through the development of innovative Land-Use Planning policies and guidance and through direct SDF support for innovative community and business schemes.
3. Leading research and partnership action on landscape-wide moorland carbon management through the Moors for the Future Project.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspire to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. Extend upland landscape-wide research and partnership management for:
 - carbon management (moorland and other habitats, e.g. woodland)
 - water storage and upper catchment management to alleviate downstream flood risks (such as South Yorkshire 2007)
 - international biodiversity adaptation management.
2. Innovate renewable energy solutions for communities, farming and rural businesses making the best use of environmental assets in a National Park setting such as hydro-schemes, biomass, groundheat etc. towards examples of sustainable (carbon neutral) rural communities/farms/estates etc.
3. Engage National Park visitors and especially young people more proactively in the issues of climate change impacts on them (droughts, flooding and health etc.) and on the environment (weather, water, biodiversity etc.) and on actions and targets (transport, consumption etc.) using NPA partnerships in transport, environmental education, visitor information etc.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- Not seen as having a leading role in facilitating climate change solutions such as carbon land management, water/flood management, leisure transport and raising-awareness by Government Departments, Agencies or Local Government.
- Not targeted with support for key research and innovation for landscape-wide solutions, rural community issues, and key sectors such as upland agriculture, sustainable tourism and extraction industries.
- Not able to access normal channels of Government support (data, research advice, etc.).



What are the things that your NPA considers it is strong on in relation to climate change mitigation and/ or adaptation?

- **Partnership working and bringing in external funding.** Projects implemented with, amongst others, Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, Craven Local Strategic Partnership, Yorwoods; Nidderdale AONB, Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, Microgeneration Yorkshire, and the National Trust. Worth almost £1 million.
- **Providing models of best practice.** Range of innovative projects funded through the Sustainable Development Fund, including a local community bio-diesel scheme, which recently received a Social Enterprise Innovation Award.
- **Reducing operational emissions** - Carbon emissions from Authority operations reduced by 64 tonnes (10%) last year. Detailed action plan in place to reduce by further 140 tonnes (23%) by 2009/10.

What are the 3 main things your NPA is doing on climate change?

1. **Supporting small-scale renewables.** Through the Sustainable Development Fund, the Authority has provided almost £300,000 to 15 renewable energy projects worth nearly £1 million. This includes:
 - 3 **hydro-power** projects (including restoring the oldest in-situ water turbine) and a feasibility study to identify further potential sites;
 - 3 **biomass** projects, including a two year biomass facilitation service. These projects are stimulating supply chains and processing, developing a local bio-mass market and encouraging the sustainable management of woodlands;
 - a number of **community and education** projects, including a community co-operative scheme operating a bio-diesel project running off locally-sourced waste vegetable oil.
2. **Woodland creation** – since 1995, the Authority and its partners (notably the Forestry Commission and Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust) have embarked on a sustained programme of support for the creation of new native woodland. In total, some 860 hectares have been planted (170 hectares in the last two years). At a conservative estimate, this woodland will be reducing emissions by over 3,000 tonnes of carbon per year (and over 21,000 tonnes in total).

3. **Greening Authority operations** – The Authority’s headquarters building – which opened in 2006 - incorporated a number of environmentally-friendly features, including a ground water heat pump to capture the low-grade heat from the ground and use this to provide underfloor heating to the offices. Together with other operational measures, this has reduced annual emissions by 64 tonnes of carbon (10%). Action now in hand – including installation of wood-fuel heating systems at two Authority buildings – will reduce annual emissions by a further 139 tonnes of carbon (23%) by 2009-10.

What are the 3 things your NPA aspires to do on climate change over the course of the CSR period (2008/09 – 2010/11)?

1. **A major programme of peatland restoration and management.** Peatlands in the Yorkshire Dales may store up to 10.5 million tonnes of carbon. If restored to pristine condition, Dales’ peatlands have the potential to capture up to 7,000 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere every year. It is vital that the upland peatlands outside SSSIs are maintained and restored to pristine condition through a programme of grip blocking, bare peat restoration and grazing management. Officers from the upland protected area network in the region (Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, North York Moors National Park Authority and Nidderdale AONB) together with Pennine Prospects, are now working with a range of partners to develop a regional upland peat restoration project.
2. **Develop a programme to support on-farm energy efficiency/renewables.** Upland farms are isolated from mains supplies, rely on inefficient fuel sources, and are highly energy inefficient (both domestically and commercially). A programme would bring significant climate change benefits as well as helping to improve the competitiveness of a crucial sector of the industry.
3. **Identify and begin to reinforce key habitat networks across the Park.** All key habitats have been mapped over the last 5 years. This information is now being used to identify key habitat networks (already done for woodland). In turn this will lead to targeting of resources on key ‘hotspots’ for enhancement and less intensive land management, as part of a Park-wide adaptation strategy.

What are the main obstacles that you currently face to do more?

- Lack of science and therefore reliable figures on carbon storage/sequestration/reduction potential and therefore which actions have the biggest impact. (e.g. is peat restoration more effective than getting insulation into every house in the Dales?).
- Being able to bring together key national and regional bodies (which don’t have an ‘on the ground and embedded in the community’ presence) to support delivery through local bodies (NPAs and others). At the moment, every organisation (big or small) feels obliged to have their *own* climate change projects.
- Engaging the support of landowners and farmers for activities that do not yet stack up economically for them.

Attendees

Defra

Jonathan Shaw, Minister for Marine, Landscape and Rural Affairs & Minister for the South-East
Robin Mortimer, Director for Recreation, Landscape and Adaptation to Climate Change
John Kilner, National Parks Sponsorship Branch
Claire Lewis, Adapting to Climate Change team
Judith Stuart, Senior Scientific Officer, Soils Policy
Helen Pontier, Senior Scientific Officer, Biodiversity and Landscape
Niall Malone, Landscape Policy Officer
Gareth Baynham-Hughes, Climate Change Mitigation

Government Office Network

Neil Cumberlidge, Deputy Regional Director, Environment, Resilience & Rural GONW

Natural England

Sir Martin Doughty, Chairman
Michael Depledge, board member
David Young, Executive Director for Strategy and Performance

Broads Authority

Kerry Turner, Chairman
Simon Hooton, Director of Conservation and Countryside
Lucy Harris, Head of Valley Management

Dartmoor NPA

Nigel Hoskin, Chairman
Kevin Bishop, National Park Officer
Sue Goodfellow, Director of Park Management

Exmoor NPA

Andrea Davis (Deputy Chair)
Nigel Stone, National Park Officer

Lake District NPA

David Thornton, Chairman
Richard Leafe, National Park Officer
Bob Cartwright, Director of Corporate Operations

New Forest NPA

Clive Chatters, Chairman
Lindsay Cornish, Chief Executive
Stephen Trotter, Director of Conservation, Recreation and Sustainable Development

Northumberland NPA

John Riddle, Chairman
Tony Gates, National Park Officer
Jonathan Mullard, Director of Policy & Strategy

North York Moors NPA

John Fletcher, Chairman
Andy Wilson, National Park Officer
Michael Graham, Climate Change Officer

Peak District NPA

Narendra Bajaria, Chairman
Anne Ashe, lead member on climate change
Jim Dixon, National Park Officer

Yorkshire Dales NPA

Carl Lis, Chairman (and Chair of ENPAA)
David Butterworth, National Park Officer

English National Park Authorities Association
Paul Hamblin, Director

Council for National Parks
Ruth Chambers, Deputy Chief Executive

Cairngorms NPA
Stephanie Bungay, Cairngorms NPA

Department of Business, Energy and Regulatory Reform
Nicola O'Conner, Foresight Team

National Association of AONBs
Mike Taylor, Director