**Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority** **Item 7b**

**30 June 2026**

# Appointment of Members to represent the Authority on Partnership bodies

## Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the appointment of Members to represent the Authority on Partnership bodies.

## Recommendation

2. That Members confirm the Authority's Member representation on each Partnership body listed in the **Annex**.

## Strategic Framework

3. The information and recommendation(s) contained in this report are consistent with the Authority's statutory purposes and its approved strategic planning framework:
    - **National Park Management Plan**
      Partnerships underpin and underlay the aims and objectives of the Yorkshire Dales Management Plan and form one of the Management Plans common themes.

## Background

4. The purpose of this paper is to provide information on the Authority's partnerships in terms of Members' attendance at the partnership meetings; question Member representatives and subsequently, make new appointments or re-appointments to the partnerships.

5. The Authority tries to ensure that its resources are used effectively in partnerships that best achieve national park purposes and objectives and also relate to the Authority's agreed priorities.

6. The **Annex** to this report lists the partnerships in which Members currently participate, the number of meetings of each partnership since June 2025 and the number of those meetings attended by the Authority's representative(s).

## Financial Implications

7. None

## Legal Implications

8. None

## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications

9. None

**Rebecca Eslick**
**Committees Officer**

**Annex**

# Partnerships

| Partnership | Appointments made NPA June 2025 | Meetings | | Lead Officer | Description/Effectiveness for NPA and Nat Park |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Held | Attended | | |
| 1. Campaign for National Parks | Mark Corner | 21/01/26 | Yes | Gary Smith | Provides a corporate/voluntary sector voice on National Park matters and acts as an umbrella organisation for a range of national bodies interested in nat. parks. Represents National Parks, acts as a conduit and effectively lobbies Govt. and develops good relationships with key organisations. |
| 2. Dales Woodland Forum | MC for Natural Environment (Mark Corner) | 0 | 0 | Lee Johnson | Independent forum to advise the Authority on a range of woodland issues. Helps to secure wide ownership of Dales Woodland Strategy (public and private sector). It focuses on woodland in the Dales and allows discussion of priorities for the NPA.<br><br>**NB This Forum is being wound up and will be amalgamated into the Farming and Land Management Forum and Biodiversity Forum** |
| 3. Farming & Land Management Forum | Neil Heseltine | 04/07/25<br>15/10/25<br>29/01/26 | No<br>No<br>Yes | Jane Le Coq | Forum to feedback whether YDNPA and partners are doing what we said we would in relation to the Management Plan objectives for farming and land management; to hear opinions of the farmers and land managers in the National Park; and identify ways to work together more effectively to deliver NPMP objectives. Improved relationship with farmers and land managers. Expert input into policy making and development of external funding bids etc. |
| 4. Grassington Moor Management Association | Neil Heseltine | Date TBC | Yes | Phil Richards | Duties under the Commons Act. Liaison with local community and land managers. Positive outcomes on both purposes. Reviews and Authority approval to continue. |
| 5. National Park Management Plan Partnership | Chair | 27/11/25 | Yes | Gary Smith | Group set up to develop, monitor and oversee implementation of the objectives in the National Park Management Plan. Ensures NPMP objectives are achieved. |

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| 6. National Parks England | Chair | 07/07/25<br>23/09/25<br>11/12/25<br>11/03/26 | Yes<br>No<br>Yes<br>Yes | Gary Smith | Political grouping of English Chairs discussing and influencing NP policy nationally. Determines wider English NPA policy. Major source of influence on Govt. |
| 7. North Yorkshire Shared Prosperity Fund Partnership | MC Sustainable Development (Richard Foster) | 0 | 0 | Peter Stockton | To provide oversight and guidance in respect of the delivery of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund in North Yorkshire.<br><br>**NB The Partnership Fund was passed to the Combined Authority and ended in March 2026**. |
| 8. Housing Provision Advisory Group | MC Sustainable Development (Richard Foster) | 04/09/25<br>15/01/26<br>14/05/26 | Yes<br>Yes<br>No | Peter Stockton | Considers any housing issues in Westmorland and Furness related to the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Park areas within the Unitary. |
| 9. Swinden Quarry Trust | R Foster & R Heseltine | 0 | 0 | Martyn Coy | To manage the investment of the trust fund for the long-term management of the site after the restoration of the quarry following its closure. |
| 10. Yorkshire Dales Access Forum | MC for Recreation Management (Lizzie Bushby) and Neil Heseltine | 09/12/25<br><br><br><br>12/05/26 | Yes<br>Yes<br><br><br>No<br>Yes | Rebecca Greenfield | Statutory partnership to advise the authority on access and recreation provision and management. User and landowner involvement in recreation and access management. |
| 11. Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum | MC for Natural Environment (Mark Corner) | 28/04/25<br>15/07/25<br>15/09/25<br>05/03/26 | Yes<br>No<br>Yes<br>Yes | Ian Court | Advisory group for the Development, review and implementation of LBAP. Responsible for the content of the LBAP. Broad support for the LBAP. Partnership funding. |
| 12. Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group | MC for Recreation Management (Lizzie Bushby) | 0 | 0 | Rachel Briggs | Yorkshire Dales specific group looking at options for management of individual green lanes in the National Park which provides users an opportunity to give 'advice' on green lane management before the matter is considered by Members. Provides users an opportunity to give 'advice' on green lane management before the matter is considered by Members. Meets as and when required. |