A distinctive living, working cultural landscape that tells the story of generations of people interacting with their environment

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
1. **Support farmers and landowners to continue to deliver a range of public benefits through national agri-environment scheme agreements, green finance and similar initiatives.**	£1.25 million in FiPL grants	£1.5 million in grants provided for farmers and landowners through 64 agreements, including projects to support nature recovery, climate mitigation, access, education, food and landscape.	Achieved
2. Maintain the National Park as a place where a true sense of tranquillity, remoteness and solitude can be found and retain 'Dark Skies Reserve' status.	Retain Dark Sky Reserve status	Annual report on progress submitted in January 2026, and status retained.	Achieved
3. Secure funding each year to repair, restore, and, where appropriate, find adaptive new uses for traditional field barns, particularly those in Swaledale, Arkengarthdale and Littondale.	30 barns repaired or re-used	24 barns repaired/restored/re-used, including 5 funded through the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme. Average for last 5 years is still over 30 per year.	Near Miss
4. Help local people to restore, repair and bring back into use nationally important historical sites, buildings and structures so that fewer than 4% of scheduled monuments and listed buildings are 'at risk' by 2025	12 SMs 'at risk' 80 LBs 'at risk'	Currently 10 SMs and 64 LBs at risk. No change to the number of Scheduled Monuments at risk, 6 LBs removed and 4 added.	Achieved
5. Use DCM and the HER to help local groups research, record and promote the stories of the National Park area, including completing the enhancement of the HER for the new area of the National Park by 2025.	Complete enhancement of Western Dales HER	Final phase of project being led and funded by Historic England. After previous difficulties, a highly experienced consultant has been appointed to finish the final phase of this work in 20226/27.	Not achieved

A friendly open and welcoming place with outstanding opportunities to enjoy its special qualities

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
6. Benefit a wide variety of users by raising the standard of all public rights of way so that, on average, 90% are 'easy to use'.	90%	88% of RoW surveyed were 'easy to use' – an average of 90% over five years. Several bridges replaced/repaired and significant works completed at Cawden, Malham, Buckden Pike and Brackenbottom.	Achieved
7. Run a cohesive programme of inspirational, participatory activities that attract at least 4,000 people each year to find out more about the National Park's special qualities.	4,000 people	Dark Skies and Cheese Festivals and ACE-funded projects such as Nature Calling and Creatively Connected have delivered activities for 4,732 people.	Achieved
8. Increase opportunity for people with a disability to access the Park so that by 2026, 15% of visitors using Miles without Stiles routes self-Identify as having a disability or long-term health condition.	12%	Launched the digital Access Hub. Access improvements to routes at Cautley and Stainforth, New trampers at Grassington and Hawes. New 'Changing Place' facility created at Malham NPVC.	On-course
9. By 2025 provide 6,000 people from under-represented groups with activity days that enable them to access the National Park, and increase their understanding, enjoyment, health and well-being.	6,000 people [cumulative]	6,994 Activity days provided. 1,339 people engaged, including through: pilot activity, including through the pilot North Yorkshire Natural Health Service and 'Bradford 25' cultural social prescribing project.	Achieved
10. Through educational and skills-based activities, inspire 1,500 young people from in and around the National Park to explore and enhance their environment each year.	1,500 young people	2,009 young people inspired. Adventures Away from Home experiences delivered to 150 young people. Lead NPA for bid to the UK Fund to support youth engagement in UK NPs - titled 'Our Natural Futures'.	Achieved
11. Give people from all backgrounds an opportunity to enjoy and contribute to the National Park by providing at least 7,000 volunteer days per year, with 15% coming from under-represented groups.	7,000 volunteer days	5,791 volunteer days, an increase of over 200 days compared to 2024/25 but still some way below target. 23% of these days involve under-represented groups.	Not achieved
12. Work with organisers of large-scale events to ensure they are well run, benefit local businesses, and contribute to the maintenance of the National Park's natural capital.	Secure £30k for 3 Peaks route	£31k of external funding secured for the maintenance of the Three Peaks route. 3 action days held to promote the Three Peaks Project and Code of Conduct.	Achieved

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
13. Maintain 'green lanes' and, where appropriate, manage use by recreational motor vehicles, including enforcing any restrictions imposed by Traffic Regulation Orders.	90% compliance with TROs	94% compliance with TROs. Works to maintain green lanes at Busk Lane, Marsett and Hunter Bark, Long Preston have been completed with the financial support of NYC.	Achieved
14. Maintain and promote the Pennine Trails and other recognised long-distance routes and implement the Coast-to-Coast path as a National Trail through the National Park by 2025.	Implementation of C2C path	Coast-to-Coast path launched and formally opened in March. Completed 2.2km of flagging at White Mossy Hill. 7 creation agreements, 12 diversion orders and 1 creation order completed.	Achieved
15. Promote and encourage responsible cycling, enabling the development of two 'cycle hubs' & work with partners to undertake work necessary to develop one further family-friendly cycling route by 2026.	2 cycle hubs	2 cycle hubs in place. Active Travel Plan produced to support future project investment. Establishment of Garsdale-Hawes multi-user route by Public Path Creation Order approved by Authority	Achieved

Home to the finest variety of wildlife in England

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
16. Work with farmers, landowners and partner organisations to restore or create 500 ha of species-rich grassland habitats by March 2027	Restore 250ha of grassland	13 ha restored/created through FIPL; 12 ha through Tees-Swale; and 41 ha through BNG – taking cumulative total to 138 ha. Shortfall due to shut down of national SFI and CS Higher Tier schemes in 2025.	Not achieved
17. Deliver a co-ordinated 5-year programme of investment to support nature recovery through the *Tees-Swale* programme, and identify other potential landscape-scale 'nature recovery areas'.	Complete year 5 of Tees-Swale programme	Through Tees-Swale, completed Phase 1 of the work to reduce heavy metal pollution at Barney Beck. Carried out a range of surveys to support the Ure Dales Landscape Recovery Scheme, led by YPP.	Achieved
18. Work with farmers and landowners to improve the condition of the Aire, Eden, Lune, Ribble, Swale, Ure and Wharfe so that 70% of all rivers achieve 'good ecological status' by 2025.	70% in good ecological status	Most recent figure (2023) is 51%. Through Catchment Sensitive Farming programme, we ran 11 events with 220 attendees and visited 71 holdings to advise on water quality and good soil health.	Not achieved

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
19. Work with moorland managers & other key stakeholders to end illegal persecution of raptors, including independent and scientifically robust monitoring, and co-ordinated hen harrier nest and	Local coordination of nest and roost protection	After some tentative signs of recovery, no Hen Harriers bred in the National Park in 2024 or 2025. There are still cases of confirmed illegal persecution.	Not achieved

Resilient and responsive to the impacts of climate change, storing more carbon each year than it produces

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
20. Through Grow Back Greener & other local funding programmes, support farmers & landowners to create at least a further 225 ha of native broadleaved & mixed woodland by 2025.	225 ha (cumulative)	At the time of reporting - Through schemes involving Authority officers, 276 ha has been planted over the last 5 years including 24 ha this year through Grow Back Greener.	Achieved

Home to strong, self-reliant and balanced communities with good access to the services they need

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
21. Encourage & facilitate high quality proposals for new housing in a range of tenures, sizes, types and prices, such that around 85 new dwellings are approved each year.	85 dwellings approved	35 dwellings were approved in 25/26, which does not achieve the annual target. However, the average over the past five years is still 83 dwellings per year because of over-achievement in some earlier years.	Near Miss
22. Use the Sustainable Development Fund and other funding sources, to support 10 new local projects each year that bring economic, social and environmental benefits to the National Park.	10 new projects funded	£111k granted to supporting 16 local projects, including Dark Sky friendly street lighting at Threshfield and refurbishment of toilet facilities at Reeth and District Memorial Hall.	Achieved

Providing an outstanding range of benefits for the nation based on its natural resources, landscape and cultural heritage, which underpin a flourishing local economy

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
23. Provide an efficient development management service, including ensuring that 65% of minor and 80% of 'other' planning applications are being determined within eight weeks…	65%/80% of applications determined on time.	73% of 'Minor' applications and 88% of 'Other' applications determined within 8 weeks or within agreed extension time. The bi-annual Customer Survey resulted in 71% satisfied with the service.	Achieved
24. Work with neighbouring authorities to produce a single, updated Local Plan for the whole of the National Park by 2025, which will help achieve the vision and objectives in the National Park Management Plan.	Complete examination	Completed the Examination hearings stage and issued the final consultation on the Main Modifications.	Achieved
25. Develop and promote events, festivals and attractions based on the National Park's special qualities and local distinctiveness so that at least 10% of visitors each year are coming for the first time.	10% first time visitors	Ran the annual Cheese Festival and Dark Skies programme. Promotion of special qualities to new visitors via LVEPs, and Northern Rail's Yorkshire Dales Explorer Train. Next survey in 2027.	Achieved
26. Increase opportunities for visitors to understand and enjoy the National Park, so that by 2026 over 60% of total visitors to the 4 National Park 'Visitor Hubs' go into the Visitor Centre.	60%	73% of visitors to the hubs went into the Visitor Centres.	Achieved
27. In partnership with key organisations,…update the National Park Management Plan (NPMP) by 2025, giving priority to tackling the climate and nature emergencies.	Adopt new NPMP	New Management Plan (2025-30) was adopted by the Authority and launched, with partner organisations, at the NPMP Annual Forum in October.	Achieved

To be a highly effective organisation that delivers quality services and is widely recognised for its expertise in National Park policy, practice and partnership-working

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
28. Make the most effective use of resources, including generating sufficient income to maintain expenditure at the same level as 2014/15 in real terms across the extended National Park area.	Expenditure of at least £9.9m	Gross expenditure was £13.4m - £3.5m ahead of the objective (albeit slightly down from 2024/25's record high). This was supported by income of £13.1m.	Achieved
29. Provide high quality, efficient and effective services and communications to the public and other stakeholders, as evidenced by an annual Customer Service audit	Customer Service Audit completed	Customer Service Audit completed with substantial assurance provided.	Achieved
30. Operate governance arrangements that are fit for purpose, as reported through the Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Governance Report.	Unqualified External Audit opinion for 2024/25	We received an unqualified opinion for 2024/25 and a retrospective unqualified opinion on the 2022/23 Accounts, which were not fully audited originally. This builds back full assurance on our finances.	Achieved
31. Ensure that we have HR policies, procedures, terms and conditions to attract and support people with the right skills to deliver the Authority's work effectively.	Maintain IIP accreditation	Various HR policies and procedures reviewed and updated. The 12-month Investors in People review took place in Nov 2025.	Achieved
32. Provide facilities and IT systems that are fit for purpose and support the effective delivery of our services, as evidenced by the external auditor's annual 'value for money' opinion	Unqualified VfM opinion	An unqualified value for money opinion was received for 2025/26.	Achieved
33. By 2030, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our operations by at least 95% compared to 2005/06, and achieve annual carbon savings from woodland planting of at least 30 times our residual annual emissions.	Emissions -80%	Emissions were down by 4% compared to 2024/25. Total cumulative reduction is now 77%.	Near Miss