Review of 2025-26: Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust & Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

1 Dales Woodland Restoration

- Through the Woodland Trust's Grow Back Greener programme, supported the creation of 24 hectares of new native woodland.
- Funded the planting of 71 field trees
- Ran 7 woodland training events for landowners and community groups including how to grow creeping willow for community nurseries
- Engaged with over 300 individuals from local communities and vulnerable groups in woodland activities and events
- Created 10 Woodland Management Plans to improve small woodlands for nature and offered 2 management grants.
- As part of YDMT Grants, supported the planting of 20,390 trees and shrubs creating small woodlands and hedgerow.
- Continued to work with the Forest Plastics Working Group to reduce the use of plastic in woodland and hedgerow schemes, and removed over 69,000 redundant tree tubes

2 Dales Meadow Restoration

- Supported a further 20ha of grassland restoration works
- Secured pre-development funding from NLHF for the "Jewels of the Dales" project to revitalise the flower-filled landscape of the Dales through sustainable farming
- With FIPL funding, supported implementation of 11 enhancement schemes to boost biodiversity
- Ran 6 training sessions for the public and farmers on botanical and bumblebee ID and surveying, with 61 people attending.
- Involved almost 200 people in meadow- and pollinator-related activities and surveying, including a National Meadows Day event

3 Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected

- Restored a further 10 ha of species rich grassland;
- Supported six projects including tree planting, hedgerows and scrub
- Held 4 training/demonstration events for farmers & contractors;
- Supported the first phase of works to reduce pollution from historical lead-mining sites on Barney Beck in Swaledale;
- Ran year 5 of 'Uplands for All', providing training and recreational activity days for people from under-represented groups.
- Through 'Creatively Connected' used the arts to engage local communities and visitors with the Tees-Swale project area

4 Other nature conservation

- Implemented the first year of the House Birds project, supporting local communities to take action to conserve local populations of four iconic house-nesting bird species
- Reviewed and relaunched the Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum to support implementation of the wildlife objectives in the new National Park Management Plan

5 Learning and Engagement

- Supported ‘Ambassador Schools’ to embed National Park outdoor learning and environmental education in their curriculum, and piloted the scheme with one secondary school
- Ran curriculum educational and skills-based activities for over 2,000 young people
- Offered skills development and training for community group leaders who are working with under-served communities to enable them to build confidence in accessing and leading groups in the National Park.
- Through ‘People and the Dales, ran training events and one residential with 11 community group leaders
- Worked with community groups to co-design and run activity days for more than 1,700 people from under-served groups
- Supported 30 community champions and two mentors as part of Championing National Parks for Everyone.
- Worked with young people to develop a proposal for a Yorkshire Dales Youth Council. Funding bid was submitted in April 2026.
- Continued to build on the success of NCS partnership by securing external funding to support 377 vulnerable young people through events and one joint ‘Big Day Out’.
- Through Green Futures:
  - enabled a further 233 vulnerable young people to access immersive events
  - Recruited 8 Rural Apprentices and placed with local organisations.
  - Ran 2 six-week woodland wellbeing programmes for vulnerable groups.
  - 34 individuals connected with peers to take environmental action through YDMT’s Youth Forum, including an annual Environmental Youth Summit.
- Gave 14 YDMT small grants to community groups and young people;
- Ran one joint skills-sharing sessions with local organisations involved in learning and engagement activities;
- Established a Yorkshire Dales Outreach Leaders Forum.

8 Volunteers

- Provided 5,791 volunteer days, with 23% coming from under-represented groups;
- 198 volunteer days through YDMT tree planting and woodland maintenance;
- Provided opportunities for 165 volunteer days for young people (age 11–29) through Young Rangers and ‘Upskill-Down Dale’;
- Developed and embedded a partnership volunteering model; enabling Dales Volunteers to support partner organisations’ activities that meet NP Management Plan objectives.

9 Access

- Carried out accessibility improvements to Malham NP Visitor Centre, including installation of Changing Places toilet, and purchase of additional Tramper.

10 Other projects in development

- Completed the pre-development phase for the Three Counties: One River project and submit development phase bid to NLHF.