Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority **Item 12**

30 September 2025

Report of the Chief Executive

Engagements

Since the last meeting of the Authority, the Chief Executive has been involved in the following:-

Media

- Written an article for next edition of Friends of Dales' Review magazine.

Events

- Along with other Members of the Steering Group, a visit to the Peak District to look at their management of accessible trails as part of learning on the Garsdale - Hawes project.
- A day with the Directors to look at the work of the Land Management Section in the south west of the National Park.
- Delivered a webinar to staff on current issues which included: an update on Active Travel from the Access and Recreation Team and Projects Manager, and a presentation on The Creatively Connected Project from 'Northern Heartlands'.
- A day with the Access and Recreation Team and Projects Manager to look at his area of work.
- Along with the Chair and other members, attended a Staff Development Day.
- A day with the Tourism Officer to look at her area of work.
- Participated in an in-person Local Government Association Corporate Peer Challenge focus group at Westmorland and Furness Council.
- An interview with the Campaign for National Parks to facilitate their review on NPE Governance.
- A visit to the Craven Limeworks to check on the progress of the new Ranger base.

Meetings

- An induction and briefing meeting with newly appointed Lancashire County Council member, Nigel Swales.
- Chaired 2 meetings of Active Travel England Capability Fund group to update on progress.
- 2 meetings of the Garsdale to Hawes Steering Group.
- A briefing from the CEO of the YHA on hostels in the Yorkshire Dales.
- 2 'Financing England's National Parks' meetings and a workshop to discuss potential future private sector income sources.

- An update meeting with the Director of Thriving Places at Westmorland & Furness Council.
- An induction meeting with new Secretary of State (Parish) member, Richard Ingram.
- A Europarc Atlantic Isles Board meeting which discussed: governance, finance, the EUROPARC Federation and a workshop on the development of the new strategy 2026-28.
- Attended the NPE Board meeting with the following agenda items: discussion on NPE Organisational Design and Strategy; Protected Landscapes Partnership update.
- A meeting of the English National Park Officers Group [agenda unknown at the time of preparing this paper].

David Butterworth
Chief Executive