Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority **Item 5**

Audit & Review Committee

25 November 2025

Corporate Plan 2025/26 – 6-month progress report

Purpose of the Report

1. To assess progress towards achieving the objectives in the 2025/26 Corporate Plan.

Recommendations

2. That Members consider and comment on:
    a. the Authority's performance in the first half of the year.
    b. the revisions to the Action Plan for the rest of the year.

Strategic Framework

3. The information and recommendation contained in this report are consistent with the Authority's statutory purposes and support the strategic planning framework:
    - Corporate Plan Objective 28:
      Plan and manage the Authority's work so as to make the most effective use of its resources, including generating sufficient income to maintain expenditure at the same level as 2014/15 in real terms across the extended National Park area.

Background

4. The 33 objectives contained in the Corporate Plan for 2025/26 were approved by Members at the Authority meeting in December 2024 and formed the basis for setting the budget and detailed action plan for this year.

5. Members will recall that most of our objectives are taken directly from the National Park Management Plan 2019-24 (NPMP) and are grouped under the NPMP's six 'ambitions for 2040'. In addition, there are a few objectives that relate to aspects of the Authority's own organisation and governance.

6. For each objective, the Corporate Plan sets out the 'milestone' that we have said we want to reach by the end of this financial year, and this is used to inform the assessment of progress.

Overall progress

7. **Appendix 1** shows progress on all the objectives. Overall:
    - 28 (85%) are either 'achieved' or 'on-course';
    - One may be 'narrowly missed';
    - Four will not be achieved.

8. Of the 11 objectives that relate to the Authority's six priority programmes (highlighted in bold in **Appendix 1**), nine are 'on-course' or have already been 'achieved'. Notable achievements so far this year include:
    - Committed grants worth £1.32 million on 72 agreements to support farmers and landowners through the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme (1);
    - Completed significant engineering works on rights of way at Cawden (Malham); Brackenbottom (Horton) and Buckden Pike (6);
    - Provided activity days for 754 people, taking the cumulative total over the last 5 years to 6,409 (exceeding the target of 6,000 by 2025) (9);
    - Supported completion of Phase 1 of works to reduce pollution from former metal mines at Barney Beck – part of the Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected programme (17);
    - Continuing to deal with planning applications within government target times (23).

9. There are two priority objectives that will not be achieved:
    - Restoration of species-rich grassland (16). The shortfall is related to the shutdown of national agri-environment schemes.
    - Ending illegal persecution of raptors (19). Despite the best efforts of a number of landowners and land managers, there continue to be confirmed cases of illegal persecution each year.

10. Of the remaining objectives, significant achievements so far this year include:
    - 94% compliance with Traffic Regulation Orders (13);
    - 2.2 km flagging at White Mossy Hill, on the Coast-to-Coast path completed (14);
    - Seven applications approved so far for the Sustainable Development Fund (projects with a total value of £225,000) (22);
    - Local Plan submitted for Examination (24);
    - National Park Management Plan 2025-2030 adopted (26).

Detailed progress

12. Sitting behind the objectives is a much more detailed operational document - the annual Action Plan. It sets out each of the specific things that the Authority intends to

do to this year to make progress on the objectives. It was approved by the Finance and Resources Committee in May 2025.

13. **Appendix 2** lists all the actions for this year that:
    a) have already been achieved; or,
    b) need to be changed in light of developments so far this year (in which case, a brief explanation is provided); or,
    c) need to be added to the Plan to reflect new activity and decisions made by the Authority since the original Plan was approved in May. These are shown in red.

Financial Implications

14. Income was £5.8 million at the end of August 2025, and the Authority is currently on course to achieve expenditure of at least £9.9 million by March 2026 (28).

Legal Implications

15. None.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications

16. All objectives relating to equality, diversity and inclusion are on course apart from providing at least 7,000 volunteer days this year (objective 11). However, the percentage of volunteer days from under-represented groups is anticipated to achieve the target of 15% by March 2026

Climate Change Implications

17. The native broadleaved and mixed woodland creation objective has been achieved (20), which will sequester carbon and therefore contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the National Park.

18. The Authority is on course to achieve the objective of reducing its own greenhouse emissions by 80% compared to 2005/06 by March 2026, supported by switching to a primarily electric vehicle fleet this year (33).

19. Only 99 hectares of grassland habitat has been created or restored, out of a target of 500 hectares (16). Grassland sequesters carbon in the soil, therefore missed restoration targets may slow overall progress towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the National Park.

Conclusion

20. Substantial progress is being made towards the achievement of most of our objectives, with 88% of the objectives likely to be achieved or only narrowly missed.

Kate Clark
Performance Management Officer

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	£1.32 million grant spend committed so far on 72 agreements. Funding spread across all 4 themes, including 328ha of habitat management and restoration and 207 educational visits to schools	On-course
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 in progress to be submitted in January 2026.	On-course
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	8 FIPL barns are on track to complete this year. Usually at least 25 barn conversions approved through planning applications during the year.	On-course
4. Help local people to restore, repair and - where possible - 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 at risk and 61 LBs at risk. 1 LB at risk is being restored using FIPL funding.	On course
5. Use DCM and the HER to help local heritage groups to 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	Historic England's Aerial Survey team have appointed a consultant to finish the final phase of this work which focusses on the Westmorland Dales. Historic England are funding this project.	On-course

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%	Bridges replaced/repaired at Cotterdale; Coverdale; Hawes; Mallerstang; and Hebden Gill. Significant Engineering works completed at Cawden, Malham, Buckden Pike and Brackenbottom.	On-course
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	ACE funded projects such as Nature Calling and Creatively Connected have delivered activities to engage residents and visitors with the National Park through the arts.	On-course
8. Increase and promote opportunity for people with a disability to access the National Park so that by 2026, 15% of visitors using the Miles without Stiles routes self-Identify as having a disability or long-term health condition.	12%	Digital Access Hub launch planned for October. Removing Barriers funding improvements to access at Cautley, Aysgarth, Stainforth and Hawes.	On-course
9. By 2025 provide 6,000 people from under-represented groups with activity days that enable them to access the special qualities of the National Park, and increase their understanding, enjoyment, health and well-being.	6,000 people [cumulative]	Activity days for 6,409 people delivered. 754 people engaged this year, including through: pilot activity for Three Counties, One River, nature prescriptions 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	965 young people inspired so far. Generation Green: Tomorrows Stewards and Adventures Away from Home funding bids submitted. Youth Voice EOI in development to be submitted October.	On-course
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	Expecting similar numbers to 24/25 = c5,500. Working with key partners, including Yorkshire Peat Partnership and National Trust, to sign up volunteers.	Near Miss
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, e.g. funding the cost of maintaining the Three Peaks route.	Secure £30k for 3 Peaks route	3 action days promoting the Three Peaks Project and Code of Conduct have been delivered. £24k of external funding secured for the maintenance of the Three Peaks route.	On-course

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 identified 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	2.2km of flagging at White Mossy Hill, Coast to Coast has been completed. 6 creation agreements, 9 diversion orders and 1 creation order completed. The Pennine Way 60th Anniversary celebration exhibit opened in April at DCM.	On-course
15. Promote and encourage responsible cycling, enabling the development of two 'cycle hubs', & work with local Highway Authorities & other partners to undertake the work necessary to develop one further family-friendly cycling route by 2026.	2 cycle hubs	Active Travel Plan, Economic Business Case and Feasibility Study of Travel to School project produced. Establishment of Garsdale – Hawes multi-user route by Public Path Creation Order approved.	On-course

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	27 ha being restored/created through FIPL and Tees-Swale and 48 ha is under restoration at West Burton and West Grafton; cumulative total 147 ha. Shortfall is related to the shutdown of national agri-environment schemes.	Not achieved
17. Deliver a co-ordinated 5-year programme of investment to support nature recovery through the Tees-Swale: *naturally connected* programme, and identify other potential landscape-scale 'nature recovery areas'.	Complete year 5 of Tees-Swale programme	Phase 1 of the work at Barney Beck is complete. Phase 2 will start later in the year and involves hard engineering of riverbanks.	On-course

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
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	Current figure is 51%. Through Catchment Sensitive Farming, 56 farm visits have been carried out to advise on water quality and encourage good soil health practices and slurry management.	Not achieved
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 roost site protection.	Local coordination of nest and roost protection	Despite the best efforts of a number of landowners and land managers, there continue to be confirmed cases of illegal persecution each year.	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)	Through GBG and other schemes involving Authority officers, 234 ha has been planted over the last 4 years. At least a further 24 ha will be planted this year.	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	Only 14 approvals so far. However, there are another 38, awaiting completion of a S106 legal agreement. Applications currently lodged for a further 60 dwellings.	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	Seven applications approved so far (£47k in grants towards projects with a total value of £225k)	On-course

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 and at least 80% of applicants are satisfied with	65%/80% of applications determined on time.	77% of Minor applications and 82% of Other applications determined within 8 weeks.	On-course
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	Local Plan submitted August 2025 and Examination scheduled for December.	On-course

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
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	Annual Festivals programme Cheese and Dark Skies. Promotion of special qualities to new visitors via partner organisations such as Northern Rail's Yorkshire Dales Explorer Train service.	On-course
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 go to the Visitor Centres. Extended Tramper service and refurbishment of Malham NPVC to improve access into Visitor Centre.	Achieved
27. In partnership with key organisations, and in consultation with local communities and visitors, update the National Park Management Plan (NPMP) by 2025, giving priority to tackling the climate and nature emergencies.	Adopt new NPMP	Objectives approved by the Authority in June. All other Plan text approved by the NPMP Partnership. Final document currently being prepared for launch at NPMP Annual Forum on 23 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. Plan and manage the Authority's work so as to make the most effective use of its resources, including generating sufficient income to maintain expenditure at the same level as 2014/15 in real terms across the extended National Park	Expenditure of at least £9.9m	Income was £5.8m at the end of August, and is projected to be £11.2m by the end of the financial year.	On-course
29. Provide high quality, efficient and effective services and communications to the public and other stakeholders, and so maintain the Customer Service Excellence standard every year.	CSE standard retained	At the Audit and Review Committee in July 2024, Members decided that the Authority will stop pursuing external CSE accreditation and move to internal audits instead.	Not achieved

Objective	Target by March 2026	Progress	Status
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	It is hoped that the Authority can build back enough confidence in the 24/25 audit to get an unqualified opinion. But it may still be affected by the knock-on effects from the 22/23 'non audit'.	On-course
31. Ensure that we have HR policies, procedures, terms and conditions to attract and support the right people with the right skills to deliver the Authority's work effectively, as evidenced by accreditation under the Investors in People	Maintain IIP accreditation	We continue to review and update HR policies and procedures. The 12-month IIP review is scheduled for 7 November.	On-course
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, and high standards of health, safety and wellbeing.	Unqualified VfM opinion	The external audit will be concluded by February. The VfM opinion is likely to be unqualified given previous audits.	On-course
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 have been reduced by 76%. The switch to a primarily electric vehicle fleet is expected to further reduce the Authority's greenhouse gas emissions this year.	On-course

Key:

- Headings in green: objectives that relate to our eight priority programmes for 2025/26. The headings in green are 1, 6-10, 16-17, 19-20 and 23; these are also indicated as '**Priority'** in the text below.
- (p): postponed from 2024/25
- (pp): postponed from before 2024/25

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.**		
3.2	Through FIPL funding, restore or repair 10 traditional barns	Mar	Revised[1]
4.	**Help local people to restore, repair and - where possible - 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.**		
4.1	Work with Linton Parish Council to advise on, and part-fund, the restoration of Linton clapper bridge	Oct	Cancelled[2]
4.2	Complete a project to investigate and repair Dudderhouse cairn (p)	Nov	Revised[3]
5.	**Use DCM and the Historic Environment Record to help local heritage groups to 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.**		
5.1	Recruit a Cultural Heritage Apprentice (pp)	Sep	Achieved

[1] Currently at 7 barns being restored or repaired, one further barn expected

[2] The prospective cost of repairs are significantly higher than budget. Will now look at alternative options for helping the Parish Council but no likelihood of progress at this stage.

[3] Now working with Historic England to design a programme of repairs and interpretation for Dudderhouse Cairn and secure funding to implement the works in 2026.

5.2	Work with Historic England and specialist contractors to ensure completion of work to enhance the Historic Environment Record for the new area of the National Park, using LiDAR and aerial photographic data (p)	Sep	Postponed[4]
5.3	Consider the responses to the proposed extension of the Marske Conservation Area and determine whether to extend it	Sep	Achieved
5.4	Quaker Field Project – complete any remaining project work and complete/publish the report (pp)	Sep	Rescheduled[5]
5.6	Complete a further phase of survey work at Knights Close to provide Historic Environment volunteer engagement opportunities and training	Nov	Rescheduled[6]
5.8	Undertake oral history recordings to capture the experiences of people living in the Yorkshire Dales and share these stories to help bring DCM collections to life	Mar	Achieved
6.	**Priority: 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'.**		
6.1	Review the current fees for processing Public Right of Way Orders	Jun	Achieved
6.3	Carry out engineering works to 500m of public rights of way, with projects at Cawden (Malham) and Brackenbottom (Horton)	Dec	Achieved
6.4	Repair 120m of previously engineered route at Buckden Pike	Dec	Achieved
6.5	Investigate and improve drainage on Dandra Garth bridleway, Garsdale	Dec	Postponed[7]
6.6	Replace footbridges at Cotterdale, Turnbeck and Hebden Gill. Repair Little Rayns Bridge, Wensleydale, and Hall Hill Bridge, Mallerstang	Dec	Achieved

[4] Project being led and funded by Historic England's Aerial Survey team. After previous difficulties, a highly experienced consultant has been appointed to finish the final phase of this work which focusses on the Westmorland Dales. Expect completion by November 2026

[5] Delayed by having to prioritise work on the recently discovered Austwick hoard project (see action 5.5), in order to confirm Historic England funding for the project and secure urgent conservation work by Durham University. Should still be completed by February 2026.

[6] Delayed by having to prioritise work on the recently discovered Austwick hoard project (see action 5.5), in order to confirm Historic England funding for the project and secure urgent conservation work by Durham University. Should still be completed by March 2026.

[7] Initial investigation completed. This has highlighted that significant works not previously envisaged or budgeted for may be required to seek a solution. Works postponed to 2026/27.

6.7	Replace Gammersgill stepping stones in Coverdale	Dec	Postponed[8]
6.8	Carry out riverbank protection work on the Swale Trail at Stubbins, Swaledale	Dec	Achieved
7.	**Priority: 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.**		
7.1	Engage communities with the Pennine Way National Trail through the 'Nature Calling' arts project and Pennine Way 60th Anniversary celebrations	Aug	Achieved
7.2	Work with two farmers to deliver open farm Sunday and meadows days as part of the Tees-Swale programme	Sep	Achieved
7.3	Through 'Creatively Connected' use the arts to engage local communities and visitors with the Tees-Swale project area	Dec	Achieved
8.	**Priority: Increase and promote opportunity for people with a disability to access the National Park so that by 2026, 15% of visitors using the Miles without Stiles routes self-identify as having a disability or long-term health condition.**		
8.1	Through the BMW's access to nature fund, launch a new digital Access Hub to promote accessible routes and facilities in the National Park (p)	Oct	Achieved
8.2	Audit all 'Miles without Stiles' routes and a produce a costed plan for improving existing routes and developing new routes	Jul	Rescheduled[9]
8.3	As part of the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) funded Access to Eden project, create a 1.5km 'Miles without Stiles' route at Smardale (p)	Aug	Rescheduled[10]
8.4	Complete phase 2 of the Cross Keys/Cautley project in the Western Dales by carrying out works to improve 640m of bridleway and enhancing the road verge area	Sep	Rescheduled[11]

[8] Gammersgill stepping stones were subject to a previous court case. In endeavouring to obtain the correct design and types of stone we are now outside the window for working in rivers. Now proposed to be implemented for summer 2026.
[9] Delayed until December due to new accessible guidance from 'By All Reasonable Needs' published in Sep 2025.
[10] Delayed by need to secure planning permission for the works - now expected to be completed December 2025.
[11] Roadside works have been put back until February 2026 due to delays in receiving Highways permissions.

8.6	Install a Changing Places toilet at Malham National Park Centre	Mar	Rescheduled[12]
9.	**Priority: By 2025 provide 6,000 people from under-represented groups with activity days that enable them to access the special qualities of the National Park, and increase their understanding, enjoyment, health and well-being.**		
9.1	As part of the pre-development phase of the 'Three Counties: One River' project; develop and pilot activity to build connections with people and partner organisations in Lancaster and Morecambe	Jul	Achieved
9.2	Work with 'Craven Communities Together Cultural Health Partnership' to run the 'Bradford 25' cultural social prescribing project, supporting 60 neurodiverse young people to improve their mental health and wellbeing	Sep	Achieved
9.3	Recruit an Access to Eden Engagement Officer and begin work with the Sensory Trust to develop a sensory trail at Podgill, Kirkby Stephen	Nov	Rescheduled [13]
9.4	Offer 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	Nov	Rescheduled[14]
9.5	Work with community groups to co-design and run activity days for 700 people from under-served groups, including through projects such as Championing National Parks for Everyone', 'Tees-Swale Naturally Connected' and social prescribed activities such as Wednesday Wanders	Mar	Achieved
9.11	New: Deliver activity days for 150 young people through the 'Adventures Away from Home' programme	Mar	
9.12	New: Deliver 2 pilot green social prescribing programmes in the National Park as part of the YNYCA funded 'Natural Health Service for North Yorkshire' project	Mar	
10.	**Priority: 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.**		

[12] Now expected to complete in January 2026.
[13] Connected to 8.3. Officer will be recruited to start Spring 2026 when the route is completed.
[14] One session completed, second session will take place before March 2026.

10.1	With UK-wide partners, develop and submit a funding bid to scale up activities which help amplify 'Youth Voice' to influence change in National Parks; and a funding bid for Generation Green 3 activity	Aug	Rescheduled[15]
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.**		
11.1	Run Young Rangers in Schools project with Wensleydale School, connecting young people with the health and well-being benefits of the National Park through volunteering (p)	Jun	Achieved
11.2	Develop and embed a partnership volunteering model and plan; enabling Dales Volunteers to support partner organisations to deliver activities which meet National Park Management Plan objectives	Jul	Achieved
11.3	Deliver three Pennine Way 60th Anniversary Activity Days for volunteers from underserved communities	Sep	Rescheduled[16]
11.4	Review volunteer policy and practice against EDI principles, and develop a more proactive approach to increasing volunteering diversity; delivering a wide range of accessible opportunities for volunteering	Sep	Rescheduled[17]
11.5	Provide training for all project managers on how to integrate volunteer projects/groups into funding bids	Oct	Rescheduled[18]
11.6	Recruit and support 24 community champions and two mentors as part of Championing National Parks for Everyone project	Mar	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 - for example, funding the cost of maintaining the 'Three Peaks' route.**		

[15] Generation Green: Tomorrow's Stewards EOI submitted. Youth Voice EOI to be submitted in December 2025.
[16] One session tied in with a EUROPARC youth action day which was a fixed date. This was the first session, so other sessions had a knock-on time effect. Weather now must be a consideration. Re-scheduled to March 2026.
[17] Consultant appointed, report expected shortly. Now due December 2025.
[18] Waiting for review of volunteer practice at 11.4 to be completed. Now due March 2026.

12.1	Promote the Three Peaks project through existing channels (notification scheme, app, retail and website) and roll-out new fundraising materials (interpretation boards, signage and posters) (p)	Sep	Achieved
12.2	Run three action days to raise the profile of the Three Peaks project around the area	Dec	Achieved
13.	**Maintain 'green lanes' and, where appropriate, manage use by recreational motor vehicles, including enforcing any restrictions imposed by Traffic Regulation Orders.**		
13.2	Conduct a walk-over survey of Lady Anne Highway and Dawsons Close (p)	Nov	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.**		
14.1	Co-ordinate the condition survey of the Pennine Way	Dec	Achieved
15.	**Promote and encourage responsible cycling, enabling the development of two 'cycle hubs', and working with local Highway Authorities and other partners to undertake the work necessary to develop at least one further family-friendly cycling route by 2026.**		
15.1	Develop an Active Travel Plan, including, economic business case and site-specific feasibility studies, for the National Park (p)	Jul	Achieved
16.	**Priority: Work with farmers, landowners and partner organisations to restore or create 500 ha of species-rich grassland habitats by March 2027.**		
16.1	Work with YDMT, other local organisations and farmers to develop and submit a pre-development bid to NLHF for funding for the "Jewels of the Dales" project to revitalise and increase engagement with the flower-filled landscape of the Dales through sustainable farming (p)	Jun	Achieved
16.2	Review and relaunch the Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum to support implementation of the wildlife objectives in the new National Park Management Plan	Sep	Rescheduled[19]

[19] Delayed pending publication of the National Park Management Plan. New membership and Terms of Reference currently being developed prior to relaunch in January.

16.3	Publish the Authority's 'Biodiversity Report' – including information on the implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain	Nov	Rescheduled[20]
16.5	Support 20 ha of grassland restoration works through the FiPL programme and the new Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier scheme	Mar	Revised[21]
16.7	New: Work with the Peak District National Park Authority to collate and prepare data for the national Protected Landscape Observatory AI mapping project	Mar	
16.8	New: Begin work on the pre-development stage of the 'Jewels of the Dales' project to support restoration of rare grassland plant species and more regenerative farming practices	Mar	
17.	**Priority: Deliver a co-ordinated 5-year programme of investment to support nature recovery through the Tees-Swale: naturally connected programme, and support other potential landscape-scale 'nature recovery areas'.**		
17.1	Work jointly with YDMT and project partners to complete the NLHF-supported, pre-development phase for the Three Counties: One River project (p)	Aug	Achieved
17.2	Work with partners along the Coast-to-Coast route to develop initial proposals for a long-term programme of enhancements to nature and access, and seek funding to achieve it (p)	Aug	Rescheduled[22]
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.**		
18.1	Submit and support complementary bids to York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's Carbon Negative Challenge Fund for initiatives to support regenerative farming in the National Park	May	Achieved
18.2	Work with farm cluster groups in Orton and Kilnsey to develop a sub-catchment natural flood management plan (p)	Dec	Revised[23]

[20] Delayed by pressure of other work – statutory deadline is March 26.
[21] Only likely to restore 15 ha as a result of delays in opening the national CS Higher Tier scheme for applications.
[22] Development of funding bid to National Lottery Heritage Fund is well underway. Expect bid to be submitted in January 2026.
[23] YDNPA only involved in supporting the farm cluster at Kilnsey. Orton scheme entirely led by Lune Rivers Trust.

18.5	New: With funding from the Environment Agency carry out the first phase of works to fence off the river from livestock to prevent erosion, reduce sediment and help vegetate the banking, as part of the 'Buffering the Bain' project	Mar	
19.	**Priority: Work with moorland managers and other key stakeholders to end illegal persecution of raptors, including independent and scientifically robust monitoring, and co-ordinated hen harrier nest and roost site protection.**		
19.1	Produce an annual monitoring & evidence report for Yorkshire Dales National Park & Nidderdale Birds of Prey Group	Sep	Achieved
19.2	Determine the future role of the YDNP/Nidderdale Birds of Prey Group, as part of implementing the objectives in the National Park Management Plan (p)	Nov	Achieved
20.	**Priority: Through Grow Back Greener and other local funding programmes, support farmers and landowners to create at least a further 225 hectares of native broadleaved and mixed woodland that enhances the National Park's landscape by 2025.**		
20.1	Support the development and adoption of the White Rose Forest's Strategic Plan for 2025-2050, and its bid for future funding	Sep	Achieved
20.3	With funding from the Woodland Trust create 25 ha of native woodland through Grow Back Greener (p)	Mar	Revised[24]
21.	**Encourage and 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, including identifying measures to reduce the proportion of under-occupied properties.**		
21.1	Provide an updated shortlist of potential rural affordable exceptions sites for the Housing Authorities to take forward	Sep	Achieved
21.2	Monitor progress in implementing the Local Plan policies and publish the Annual Monitoring Report	Oct	Achieved
23.	**Priority: Provide an efficient development management service that supports appropriate opportunities for economic and community development whilst helping to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the**		

[24] Currently have agreements for 24 ha.

	National Park, including ensuring that 65% of minor and 80% of 'other' planning applications are being determined within eight weeks and at least 80% of applicants are satisfied with the service provided.		
23.1	Review and revise the Authority's Planning Enforcement Policy	Jun	Rescheduled[25]
23.2	Recruit a Planning Ecologist and establish processes and agreements for securing off-site Biodiversity Net Gain, including monitoring and enforcement.	Sep	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**		
24.1	Appoint a Local Plan Programme Officer	Jun	Achieved
24.2	Submit the Local Plan and associated documents to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination (p)	Aug	Achieved
24.3	Work with NYC to hold a referendum on the Clapham Neighbourhood Plan (p)	Sep	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.**		
26.3	Make improvements to the DCM train and engine shed	Mar	Revised[26]
27.	**In partnership with key organisations, and in consultation with local communities and visitors, update the National Park Management Plan (NPMP) by 2025, giving priority to tackling the climate and nature emergencies.**		
27.1	Adopt an updated NPMP for 2025-2030	Jun	Achieved
28.	**Plan and manage the Authority's work so as to make the most effective use of its resources, including generating sufficient income to maintain expenditure at the same level as 2014/15 in real terms across the extended National Park area.**		
28.1	Produce a detailed Action Plan to help achieve the Authority's objectives in 2025/26	May	Achieved
28.2	Agree a plan to utilise the additional DEFRA capital grant	May	Achieved

[25] Revised policy will be coming to the Authority meeting in December 2025.

[26] In light of the additional capital funding provided by Defra, the works have been revised to include replacing the heating in the engine shed and the ramps on the train carriage. The redecoration of the train carriage will now be done in 2026/27 instead.

28.3	Refine the approach to budget-setting and in-year management processes to put more emphasis on external funding and capital grants being spent before core revenue grant gets allocated	Sep	Rescheduled[27]
29.	**Provide high quality, efficient and effective services and communications to the public and other stakeholders and so maintain the Customer Service Excellence standard every year.**		
29.1	Review the benefits of retaining the Customer Service Excellence standard	Jul	Achieved
31.	**Ensure that we have HR policies, procedures, terms and conditions to attract and support the right people with the right skills to deliver the Authority's work effectively, as evidenced by accreditation under the Investors in People standard.**		
31.1	Identify key recommendations from the Investors in People Action Plan to implement in 2025/26	May	Achieved
31.2	Update and refresh the staff induction process	Jun	Achieved
31.3	Review the Authority's travel, accommodation and subsistence rates	Jul	Achieved
31.4	Undertake a regional pay benchmarking exercise	Jul	Achieved
31.5	Continue to review and update HR policies/procedures, including family-friendly policies (adoption, maternity, maternity support leave, parental leave, paternity leave, and shared parental leave) and recruitment (p)	Sep	Rescheduled[28]
31.6	Recruit a permanent Land Management Project Officer and a permanent Park Services Project Officer.	Oct	Rescheduled[29]
31.7	Review and update the Probation Policy to focus it more on assessing behaviours and attitude (without increasing overall burden).	Oct	Rescheduled[30]

[27] Being incorporated as part of process for setting the 26/27 budget. Initial work will be completed by December and reported to Finance and Resources Committee in February 2026.
[28] Now due in February 2026 as Safeguarding and Probation Policies have been prioritised.
[29] Land Management Project Officer recruited. Park Services (Access) Project Officer recruitment underway, and due to be completed by December 2025.
[30] Put back until December 2025 to incorporate changes arising from in the new Employment Rights Bill

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' (VfM) opinion, and high standards of health, safety and wellbeing.**		
32.1	Complete the development of the new Southern Area ranger base at Langcliffe Quarry (p)	Jul	Achieved
32.2	Vacate Stonedykes Barn, Stainforth and move to Langcliffe Quarry ranger base	Aug	Achieved
32.3	Replace the finance system	Sep	Achieved
32.4	Upgrade the IT network switches	Sep	Rescheduled[31]
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 that we have funded of at least 30 times our residual annual emissions.**		
33.1	Produce a new Carbon Reduction Plan for 2025-2030 (p)	Jun	Achieved
33.2	Replace the Pool vehicles with EV vehicles and the remaining Ranger Service 4 Wheel Drive vehicles (p)	Jun	Achieved

[31] Re-scheduled to December – the IT Team was restructured earlier in the year which has pushed back this project.