Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Section 1: Information about the officer carrying out the EIA	
Lead Officer Name:	Judith Stockton
Job Title:	Local Plan Project Officer
Directorate:	Conservation & Community

Other officers on the EIA team, if there are any	
Name:	Gary Smith
Job Title:	Director of Conservation and Community
Directorate	Conservation & Community
Name:	
Job Title:	
Directorate:	Select one

Section 2: About the policy, process or function	
Title:	Draft National Park Management Plan (NPMP) 2025-30
Aims and purpose:	The NPMP sets out how the statutory National Park purposes and the associated socio-economic duty will be delivered over the next 5 years. The Environment Act 1995 requires that the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority produce a Management Plan for the National Park The Management Plan contains a long-term vision and 6 ambitions. Each ambition includes a set of related objectives which have a clear rationale and a lead body responsible for their delivery.
Partners and decision makers involved in the development of the policy, process or function:	The NPMP is developed by the Management Plan Partnership. The Partnership is made up of the authorities and organisations that have a major contribution to delivering the objectives in the Management Plan. Members include local authorities, Natural England, Historic England, local business representatives, youth representatives, and others.
Who will be affected by the policy, process or function:	The Management Plan affects all those who visit, live and work in the National Park.

Section 3: Involvement and Consultation	
What involvement and consultation has been undertaken or is planned on this policy, process or function and with who?	Early in the Management Plan development process, the Partnership agreed that the vision and 6 ambitions of the Plan should be the same as those in the current Plan (2019-24). The draft Management Plan objectives were then developed following: • an initial public consultation on the key issues the Management Plan needs to respond to. Comms work

	sought to make this consultation as accessible to all as possible. • a meeting of the Annual Forum (which includes all the bodies that operate in the National Park) to widen local engagement on the development of the Management Plan; and, • the publication of 6 'Evidence Reports' – one for each of the 6 ambitions in the Plan. Six specialist 'drafting groups' were then set up (one for each of the six ambitions) to review the information gathered and to produce an initial set of draft objectives. The drafting groups included representatives from the National Park Authority, partner organisations and young people. These objectives have been reviewed and refined by the NPMP Partnership. This refined list is the subject of this EIA. The draft objectives will be issued for further public consultation and review before the Management Plan is formally agreed.

Section 4: Gathering Data and Evidence	
What data and evidence did you use to assess the impact of the policy, process or function?	Data from the 6 NPMP 'evidence reports' have been considered as well as social and economic data from reports commissioned to support the development of the new Yorkshire Dales National Park Local Plan. This includes information drawn from the 2021 Census.
Please state how you collected it and how you used it. If you used information collected outside the Authority, please state the source of the information.	See above. The baseline information relating to the socio-economic make-up of residents and visitors to the National Park was used to consider the impact of the draft Management Plan vision, ambitions and objectives. Some baseline statistics are included in the appraisal below.

Section 5: Assessing the Impact	
For each of the protected characteristics, please specify an impact for each of the protected characteristics from the drop-down lists and underneath provide an explanation with details of the impact	
	Positive
Age:	Objectives within the NPMP aim to make the National Park accessible to all by, for example, maintaining 90% of public rights of way as easy to use (objective B1) and improving transport services and connections into and around the National Park (objectives D5 and F6). This will benefit all age groups but particularly those without access to a car. Younger people can often fall into this category. The age profile of those currently living in and visiting the National Park is skewed towards older people (31% of residents are aged 65+ compared to 19% in England and Wales, and 77% of visitors

	are age 45+). This means younger age groups are relatively under-served. A number of objectives in the Plan will positively seek to address this imbalance by encouraging and supporting more young people to visit and live in the National Park, including: • Providing outdoor learning and skills-based activities to enable 5,000 young people from in and around the National Park to explore and enhance their environment each year (B4), • Working with farms and estates to provide more opportunities for visitors and school groups to experience the special qualities (E2), • Developing events and attractions which will be attractive to a more diverse and younger audience (E4), • Supporting the completion of new housing, including affordable housing, to help attract and retain younger working households (F1), • Providing more apprenticeships and traineeships (E5). Objective E4 seeks to make the National Park more accessible to a diverse range of ages by providing, e.g. new access for all trails and all terrain mobility scooters. This should make it easier and provide more opportunity for mobility impaired elderly groups and the very young to enjoy the National Park. Objective B7 aims to provide opportunities for underserved groups to experience the National Park for health benefits. Many of the Management Plan objectives aim to maintain and improve the special qualities, wildlife and environment in the National Park and these will provide benefits to people of all ages.
Disability:	**Positive** Objectives within the NPMP aim to make the National Park accessible to all by, for example, maintaining 90% of public rights of way as easy to use (B1) and improving transport services and connections into and around the National Park (D5 and F6). This will benefit all groups but particularly those who are limited in their own mobility, are unable to drive or don't have access to a car. Objective E4 seeks to make the National Park more accessible to a diverse range of ages and abilities by providing more 'Changing Places' accessible toilet facilities, all terrain mobility scooters, accessible routes at 10 visitor attractions and 5 new access for all trails. Objective B7 aims to help tackle health inequalities and improve people's health and well-being by enabling at least 1,500 people with health conditions to connect with and experience the special qualities of the National Park through 'social prescribing' activities by 2030.

	Together, these objectives will help to make the National Park more accessible to those with disabilities or long-term health conditions. Management Plan objectives which aim to maintain and improve special qualities, wildlife and the environment in the National Park have potential to benefit everyone, including people with disabilities.
Gender Reassignment:	**Neutral** Many of the objectives in the Plan aim to make the National Park more accessible to all. It seeks to do this by overcoming some of the physical constraints which might otherwise prevent people from visiting or enjoying the National Park (E3, D5, F6), and by organising and supporting a range of activities which might encourage people to come to the National Park (B3, B4, B5, E2, E4) - including those who may be visiting for the first time. In previous years, annual events such as 'Pride in the Dales' have provided the opportunity for everyone to come together and show their support for the LGBTQ+ community. Many of the Management Plan objectives aim to maintain and improve the special qualities, wildlife and environment in the National Park. These have the potential to benefit everyone, including people who have undergone gender reassignment.
Marriage and Civil Partnership:	**Neutral** Many of the objectives in the Plan aim to make the National Park more accessible to all. It seeks to do this by overcoming some of the physical constraints which might otherwise prevent people from visiting or enjoying the National Park (E3, D5, F6), and by organising and supporting a range of activities which might encourage people to come to the National Park (B3, B4, B5, E2, E4) - including those who may be visiting for the first time. Many of the Management Plan objectives aim to maintain and improve the special qualities, wildlife and environment in the National Park. These have the potential to benefit everyone.
Pregnancy and Maternity:	**Neutral** Many of the objectives in the Plan aim to make the National Park more accessible to all. It seeks to do this by overcoming some of the physical constraints which might otherwise prevent people from visiting or enjoying the National Park (E3, D5, F6), and by organising and supporting a range of activities which might encourage people to come to the National Park (B3, B4, B5, E2, E4) - including those who may be visiting for the first time. Management Plan objectives which aim to maintain and improve special qualities, wildlife and the environment in the National Park have potential to benefit everyone, including people who are pregnant or have young families.
Race:	**Positive**

	People from ethnic minority backgrounds are under-served in the profiles of those visiting and living in the National Park. The 2021 Census showed that 98.62% of the YDNP's population are white compared to the England Non-National Park Area average of 80.95%. 97% of visitors to the National Park were from a 'white' background in 2022[1]. Many of the objectives in the NPMP aim to make the National Park more accessible to all, however some specifically target underserved groups to support and encourage them to visit. These include: • the delivery of activity days, support and training to groups from under-served communities, helping more people to experience the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park more easily (B3). • providing 7,000 volunteer days to give people from all backgrounds an opportunity to enjoy and contribute to looking after the National Park, with 20% coming from underserved communities (B5), • tackling health inequalities by enabling at least 1500 people with health conditions to connect with and experience the special qualities of the National Park; recognising that barriers exist to some people benefitting including those from ethnic minority backgrounds (B7). • developing events and attractions that are based on the special qualities of the National Park, and which will be attractive to a more diverse and younger audience (E4). Many of the Management Plan objectives aim to maintain and improve the special qualities, wildlife and environment in the National Park. These have the potential to benefit everyone irrespective of race.
Religion and Belief (including no belief):	**Neutral** Many of the objectives in the NPMP aim to make the National Park more accessible to all. It seeks to do this by overcoming some of the physical constraints which might otherwise prevent people from visiting or enjoying the National Park (E3, D5, F6), and by organising and supporting a range of activities which might encourage people to come to the National Park (B3, B4, B5, E2, E4), including those who may be visiting for the first time. Many of the Management Plan objectives aim to maintain and improve the special qualities, wildlife and environment in the National Park. These have the potential to benefit everyone irrespective of religion or belief.
Sex:	**Neutral** Many of the objectives in the NPMP aim to make the National Park more accessible to all. It seeks to do this by overcoming some of the

[1] YDNPA Visitor Survey 2022

	physical constraints which might otherwise prevent people from visiting or enjoying the National Park (E3, D5, F6), and by organising and supporting a range of activities which might encourage people to come to the National Park (B3, B4, B5, E2, E4), including those who may be visiting for the first time. Management Plan objectives which aim to maintain and improve special qualities, wildlife and the environment in the National Park have potential to benefit everyone irrespective of gender.
Sexual Orientation:	**Neutral**
	Many of the objectives in the NPMP aim to make the National Park more accessible to all. It seeks to do this by overcoming some of the physical constraints which might otherwise prevent people from visiting or enjoying the National Park (E3, D5, F6), and by organising and supporting a range of activities which might encourage people to come to the National Park (B3, B4, B5, E2, E4), including those who may be visiting for the first time. In previous years, annual events such as 'Pride in the Dales' have provided the opportunity for everyone to come together and show their support for the LGBTQ+ community. Management Plan objectives which aim to maintain and improve special qualities, wildlife and the environment in the National Park have potential to benefit everyone irrespective of sexual orientation.

Section 6: Action Planning	
Please describe the actions you will take following this assessment to eliminate any negative impact, including the timescale for each action and who will be responsible for the action. You might find it useful to make a more detailed action plan on a separate document which you can attach to this EIA.	
Action 1:	N/a
Timescale:	
Responsibility:	
Action 2:	
Timescale:	
Responsibility:	
Action 3:	
Timescale:	
Responsibility:	
Action 4:	
Timescale:	
Responsibility:	

Add more actions as necessary

Section 7: Justifying the Policy, Process or Function

If the policy, process or function cannot be changed, please explain the justification of any negative impact:	n/a
Please contact the Director of Corporate Services before taking this approach.	

Section 8: Approval and Review	
Date the EIA was completed and forwarded to Corporate Services Officer for the Director of Corporate Services approval:	11/12/2024
Approval date	11/12/2024
Review date:	11/12/2029