

Equality Impact Assessment

Directorate/Section

Conservation and Community

Title of policy or procedure:

Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan 2019-2024, June 2018

1. Is this a new or existing policy/procedure?

The emerging Management Plan is a combination of existing objectives that have recently been reviewed and wholly new objectives. Some of the objectives have therefore been assessed previously either as part of the last Management Plan process or as part of the Local Plan equalities assessment during 2016.

2. Name of the Lead Officer (with overall responsibility for carrying out the EIA)

Peter Stockton, Head of Sustainable Development on behalf of the Yorkshire Dales Management Plan Steering Group.

3. Which groups will the policy/procedure impact on (eg the public, community groups, residents, young people, visitors, employees, contractors)?

All communities/residents in the Park	Yes
Stakeholders	Yes
Visitors	Yes
Officers	Yes
Partner organisations	Yes
The business community	Yes
Other (Please state)	The wider public who have an interest in the Park or who may be affected by a resource there eg. water quality, flood water run off

4. What evidence is already available to you to help you identify the impact that the policy/procedure may have on these groups (e.g. what do you already know about the diversity of your target audience and their needs and/or experiences?).

We have evidence of delivery from previous management plan monitoring eg. take up of outreach programmes and demand/use for all abilities access trails. We also have more general data on visitor numbers and usage and census data on demographic and social trends.

We know that elderly and disabled groups (resident and visiting) can benefit from more accessible trails, improved information technology, digital connections and retention of community services.

We know that newer and more varied forms of visitor accommodation and facilities can widen enjoyment of the Park out to more groups that are not currently well represented by visitors.

We know that public transport offers access to a range of groups that do not have access to a car.

5. Which equality groups could be affected by this policy/procedure. State whether you think these impacts are high, medium or low impacts and briefly explain why. (Consider the impacts carefully and detail whether it is a high, medium or low impact. You may also want to think about whether impacts are positive or negative)

High – the policy/procedure affects significant numbers of people, and/or there is significant potential for adverse impact

Medium – the policy/procedure affects some people and/or there is some evidence to suggest adverse impact.

Low – the policy/procedure affects few people and/or there is little evidence to suggest adverse impact.

The Management Plan contains a number of objectives aimed at encouraging more visits and providing better facilities, including to groups with protected characteristics. These programmes follow on from earlier initiatives and have been encouraged by the Government’s 8 point plan for National Parks. In particular the proposed footpath and trail improvements and programmes to facilitate more outreach and volunteer opportunities are specifically targeted at groups that are currently underrepresented amongst visitors. These include youth groups, groups with disabilities and ethnic minority groups.

Equality Strand	Draft Management objective Impact	High, Medium or Low. Positive/negative
Age	<p>All abilities routes Extending the network of all ability trails should make it easier and provide more opportunities for mobility impaired elderly groups and the very young to enjoy the National Park.</p> <p>Fibre to the property- Hyperfast internet connection could be particularly beneficial to elderly groups in terms of better access to digital services and communications. However groups that live outside the hubs may only have access to universal service speeds which are a lot slower than hyperfast.</p>	<p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive and Low negative</p>

	<p>4G connection Higher speed and more reliable mobile data and voice services should be beneficial to the elderly and to the young in terms of communication and access to services.</p> <p>Tourism offer Improving the quality and variety of tourism services and facilities could be beneficial to the elderly and households with young children by offering more suitable forms of accommodation, catering and services.</p> <p>Wensleydale Railway Phased reinstatement could improve access to and from the Park for elderly people who cannot or do not want to drive.</p> <p>Service hubs This objective of focusing improved community services into the four main hubs should retain and deliver services into places that are more accessible for elderly residents and visitors.</p> <p>Public transport Efforts to retain and develop public transport services are more likely to be beneficial to the young and the elderly seeking access to services outside the Park.</p> <p>Green futures Targeting younger people to visit the Park is intended to offer opportunities to this underrepresented group to experience and enjoy the special qualities of the National Park</p> <p>Climate resilience Measures to help communities become more resilient to the effects of climate change should benefit elderly groups who may be more vulnerable to extreme weather events.</p>	<p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Low/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Low/positive</p>
Disability	<p>All abilities routes Extending the network of all ability trails should provide more opportunities for mobility impaired people to enjoy the National Park.</p> <p>Volunteer days Targeting under represented groups, including people with disabilities, for volunteering activities</p>	<p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Low/positive</p>

	<p>is potentially a beneficial way for these groups to enjoy the National Park.</p> <p>Fibre to the property Hyperfast internet connection could be beneficial to members of this group that are particularly reliant on digital services eg. for healthcare and communications</p> <p>4G connection More reliable higher speed mobile data and telephone services could be beneficial to members of this group that are particularly reliant on digital communications.</p> <p>Tourism offer Improving the quality and variety of tourism services and facilities could be beneficial to this group in terms of more appropriate or attractive accommodation, improved accessibility and quality of facilities.</p> <p>Wensleydale Railway Phased reinstatement of the railway could improve access into and out of the Park, for the mobility impaired.</p> <p>Service hubs This objective of focusing improved community services into the four main hubs should retain and deliver services into places that are more accessible to groups with disabilities</p> <p>Public transport Efforts to retain and develop public transport services are likely to be beneficial to disabled groups seeking independent access into and out of the Park.</p> <p>Rights of way Maintaining and promoting rights of way are indirectly beneficial to the mental wellbeing of those seeking enjoyment of the outdoors.</p> <p>Climate resilience Measures to make communities more resilient to severe weather events will be beneficial to people with disabilities who may otherwise be at disproportionate risk.</p>	<p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Low/positive</p> <p>Low/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p>
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	<p>Dark skies Measures to maintain the qualities of the dark night sky could be discriminatory to persons with visual impairment. However this objective will not make the area darker, it will simply provide scrutiny of proposals that would make it less dark. The needs of the visually impaired can be considered as part of that scrutiny.</p>	Low/negative
Gender re-assignment	No specific impacts identified	
Marriage/ civil partnership	No specific impacts identified	
Pregnancy/ maternity	<p>All abilities routes – Extending the accessibility of the trail network could be beneficial to pregnant mothers and parents with very young children seeking safe access to the countryside.</p>	Medium/positive
	<p>Service hubs Retaining and improving access to services within the park should be beneficial to parents with young children seeking to avoid longer journeys to reach services.</p>	Medium/positive
	<p>Public transport Measures to retain or improve public transport should be beneficial to parents unable or unwilling to drive to services or access the park from elsewhere.</p>	Medium/positive
	<p>Climate resilience Measures to make communities more resilient to severe weather events could be beneficial to pregnant mothers or parents with young children who may otherwise be more vulnerable.</p>	Medium/positive
Race	<p>Outreach – Measures to widen access for minority groups could provide new opportunities for groups to enjoy the qualities of the National Park.</p>	Low/positive
	<p>Volunteer days Targeting under represented groups for volunteering could provide new opportunities to enjoy the qualities of the area and benefit from learning or training.</p>	Low/positive

	<p>Tourism offer Improving the quality and variety of accommodation and facilities should make the Park more welcoming to a wider range of people.</p> <p>Events, festivals and attractions- Developing new events could be a way of attracting more first time visitors from wider ethnic groups.</p>	<p>Low/positive</p> <p>Low/positive</p>
Religion/ belief	<p>Outreach Measures to widen access to the Park could provide new opportunities for religious groups to enjoy the qualities of the National Park.</p> <p>Events, festivals and attractions- Developing new events and festivals could be attractive to first time visitors including more religious groups.</p> <p>Service hubs Retaining and improving services and facilities such as places of worship and other meeting places, could be supportive to religious groups.</p>	<p>Low/positive</p> <p>Low/positive</p> <p>Medium/positive</p>
Sex and sexual orientation	<p>Events, festivals and attractions- Developing new events could be of wider attraction to groups within this category.</p>	<p>Low/positive</p>

6. Where you have identified a high or medium impact, please set out details of actions that can be taken to reduce any negative effects and /or enhance positive effects

The assessment has identified some objectives that could have positive outcomes for some equality groups. Positive outcomes have been identified that could benefit the following equality groups: age, disability, race and religion/beliefs.

The assessment has identified generally positive or neutral outcomes for groups with protected characteristics. This should be expected for a Plan that seeks to widen public access to the National Park.

Screening undertaken by: P R Stockton

Date: 27th June 2018