YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY **ITEM 9**

Committee: **FINANCE AND RESOURCES**
Date: **11 February 2020**

Report: **INCOME GENERATION STRATEGY: PROGRESS UPDATE**

Purpose of report

1. To inform Members of progress in implementing the Authority's Income Generation Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That Members note the progress with implementing the Authority's Income Generation Strategy.

Strategic Planning Framework

3. The information and recommendation contained in this report are consistent with the Authority's statutory purposes and it's approved strategic planning framework:

Corporate Plan

Objective 34: 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 (= £7.9 million in 2019/20)

Background

4. This report is one of the regular updates provided to Members on the *activity* that is underway to develop areas of income generating opportunity. The levels of income actually *achieved* each year are reported to this Committee as part of the standard monitoring of the Authority's budget.

Consideration

5. To achieve the Authority's income generation objective in 2019/20, we need to raise income to support £7.9 million of expenditure. We currently estimate we will exceed that objective by at least £250,000.

6. For 2020/21, that objective rises to £8.1 million. The draft budget tabled today plans expenditure of £8.5 million. Whilst this includes around £200,000 that is not yet

guaranteed (the Tees-Swale and Our Common Cause projects), it does not include several other projects that are in advanced development, and will certainly exceed the objective.

7. Details of externally-funded projects for which funding has been secured since the last update (September 2019), and those bids currently in development, are in **Annex B**.

8. Significant changes to income since the last update in September include:

   - ***Treescapes: Rising from the Ashes*** – an 'Expression of Interest' for this project – to work with communities to plant, manage and value replacement trees affected by ash dieback – was submitted to the National Lottery Heritage Fund by YDMT in December. The feedback on the EOI was positive and the partners (YDMT, YDNPA, Nidderdale AONB) will now prepare the formal 'Stage 1' bid.
   - ***Curlew conservation project*** – the Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership also submitted an Expression of Interest to NLHF for a major Curlew conservation project. Again, the initial response was positive, and the partnership is now working to submit a Stage 1 bid in June.
   - ***Swinden Quarry Environmental Fund*** – the s106 agreement for the time extension at Swinden Quarry has now been completed. The associated Environmental Fund (£30,000 pa) will be launched in February, and will provide funding for a range of local projects to support nature recovery, landscape enhancement and improvements to water and air quality.

Conclusion

9. The Authority is continuing to develop a robust 'pipeline' of major externally-funded projects to deliver its objectives and maintain overall funding levels in real terms.

Gary Smith
Director of Conservation and Community

27 January 2019

Annex

'Pipeline' of significant external funding bids

Grants Key: green = funding secured; orange = bid submitted (or imminent); blue = in development.

Project title	Description	Prospective YDNPA Income	Start/duration
1. Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected	Project implementation and delivery to support habitat restoration and management through 'High Nature Value Farming' within the Swaledale part of the project area.	£60,000 p.a. (Esmee Fairbairn Trust)	Jun 2020 5 years
	Project implementation and delivery to support habitat restoration (peatland, woodland, hay meadows) and management through 'High Nature Value Farming'. Stage 2 bid to be submitted in February 2020.	£250,000 p.a. (NLHF)	Jun 2020 5 years
	Additional habitat restoration and creation, and other measures that will provide for natural flood management.	£50,000 p.a. (Defra)	Jun 2020 5 years
2. Curlew Conservation	Data collection and preparatory work for a cross-LNP wader conservation initiative	£25,000 (LNP)	May 2019 1 year
	Cross-LNP programme of interventions to support healthy populations of Curlew and other breeding waders.	£100,000 pa (NLHF)	Nov 2020 4 years
3. Swinden Quarry Environmental Fund	Funding for local projects to improve biodiversity, landscape, tranquillity, water quality and air quality.	£30,000 pa (Tarmac)	Feb 2020
4. Swaledale flood restoration	Extensive programme of bridge replacement and repairs to rights of way.	£650,000 (Defra)	Unknown 2 years
5. Our Common Cause	National project - led by the Foundation for Common Land - to enhance the heritage of upland commons in four of England's most significant cultural landscapes, including the Yorkshire Dales.	£25,000 pa (NLHF)	Apr 2020 3 years
6. Woodland creation	Initiative to support higher levels of woodland creation in the National Park	£25k pa (Woodland Trust)	April 2020
7. Burnt-tip Orchid	A landscape-scale project in the Ure Catchment that aims to get grasslands within Wensleydale into positive management, reintroduce Burnt Orchid (a section 41 species) and raise awareness of orchids and their conservation.	£13k (Natural England) £70k (NLHF)	Jun 2020 3 years
8. Treescapes:	Local £1m project led by YDMT to raise awareness of the importance of ash	£30,000 pa (NLHF)	Mar 2021

Project title	Description	Prospective YDNPA Income	Start/duration
rising from the Ashes	trees in our landscapes, and increase the number of broadleaved trees outside woods being valued, planted and managed.		3 years
9. 'Marginal gains'	Integrated environmental/business advice to improve the resilience and core profitability of upland livestock farming in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale AONB.	£50k (NYLEP) £500k (Defra/EAFRD)	Nov 2020 3 years
10. HER enhancement	Enhancement of the HER for the new area of the National Park	£20k (Historic England)	April 2021
11. Three Counties Project	Discussions are underway looking at a potential landscape scale National Lottery Heritage Fund partnership running along the Rawthey and Lune valleys. It could extend from Cautley in the north to beyond Kirkby Lonsdale in the south.	£2.5 million (NLHF)	April 2023