



**YORKSHIRE DALES**  
National Park

**NATIONAL PARK  
MANAGEMENT PLAN  
2019–2024**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
JUNE 2020**

Prepared on behalf of the National Park Management Plan Steering Group

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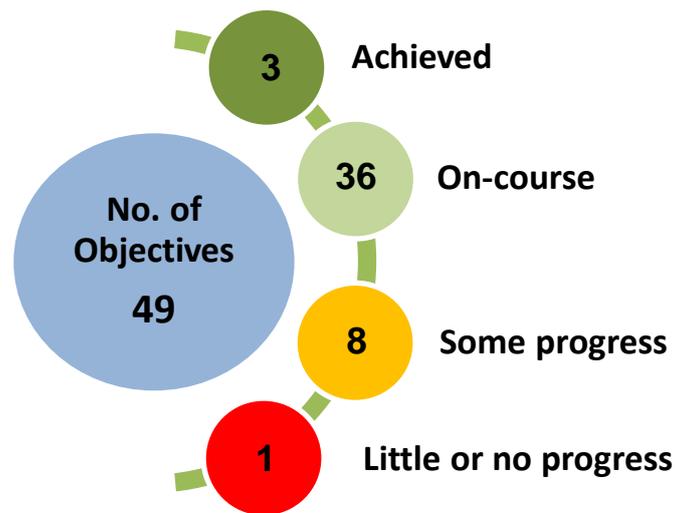


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# Summary



This report summarises the work undertaken in 2019-20 by a wide range of local partners towards achieving the 49 objectives that were agreed and set out in the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan 2019-24. Full details of each objective, the many organisations directly involved, and the progress made can be found at:

<https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/about/national-park-management-plan/>

Significant achievements made collectively by local partners in the last year include:

- Produced a new simplified and updated Landscape Character Assessment for the whole of the National Park (A3);
- Placed 9.5km of overhead power lines underground through works by Northern Powergrid and Electricity North West (A4);
- Completed the 'Rich Seam' project at the Dales Countryside Museum, to re-house and exhibit material from the Yorkshire Dales Mining Museum in Earby, which closed in 2015 (A5);
- Completed the first year of the £3.5 million *Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership* to unlock and reveal the hidden heritage of the Westmorland Dales, including: designating 11 local geological sites; restoring 4.3 ha of meadow; and planting 6.7 ha of new woodland (A7).
- Completed year 4 of the *Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership* programme, providing almost £200,000 for local projects, including restoration of 3 traditional farm buildings (10 in total) (A7);
- Improved the condition of rights of way across the National Park so that 90% are now 'easy to use', compared to 82% two years go (B1);
- Provided 'activity' days for almost 1,000 people from groups that are generally under-represented amongst visitors to the National Park (B4);
- Provided almost 1,900 young people with opportunities to learn about the National Park and to develop new skills (B5);
- Ran a programme of activities and events, attended by over 4,500 people (B6)

- Provided over 9,000 'volunteer days' (B7);
- Hosted stages of the UCI World Cycling Championships and the Tour de Yorkshire, promoting the area as an international destination for cycling (B9)
- Secured £3m in match-funding and submitted a bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a further £5.5 million for *Tees-Swale: naturally connected*, the largest 'farming for nature recovery' project in England (C1);
- Through the *Catchment Sensitive Farming* programme provided grants (worth at least £10,000 each) to 94 farms for development to reduce diffuse pollution (C3)
- Completed the fourth year of the national pilot of a 'results-based' agri-environment payment scheme in Wensleydale (C4)
- Provided grant funding to support the creation of over 130 ha of new native woodland (D2)
- Restored a further 414 ha of degraded peatland through the work of the Yorkshire Peat Partnership (D3);
- Reduced road haulage from quarries by a further 13%, with the first of two reductions to haulage limits at Swinden Quarry (D4);
- Completed 5 catchment projects working with farmers and land managers to improve natural flood management in Swaledale, Wensleydale, Lunesdale, Wharfedale and Ribblesdale (D5);
- Provided 10 apprenticeships for young people working for the National Park Authority, including 4 through the Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership (E7);
- Completed the first year of a five-year programme of measures to promote the National Park as a place to live for younger, working age households (F2);
- Installed new infrastructure to increase mobile phone coverage so that the area of 'not spots' in the National Park was halved, falling from 45% to 23% (F4);
- Continued the *Great Place: Lakes and Dales* project, using arts, heritage and culture as the catalyst for economic, social and environmental change focused on younger people. Activities included a new housing design competition, a range of new training opportunities, and the Hinterlands Film Festival (F5);
- Supported 36 local projects, with a commitment of £175,000 through the Sustainable Development Fund (F6).

There is only one objective in the Plan where there is clear evidence that the desired progress is not being made:

- The provision of new housing to meet local needs is still well behind target with only around 30 new dwellings completed last year, compared to the annual target of 65 (F1).

See: <https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/about/national-park-management-plan/> for further information.