

Committee: FINANCE AND RESOURCES

Date: 25 May 2021

Report: ACTION PLAN 2021/22

Purpose of the report

1. To seek Members' approval for the detailed programme of activity that the Authority will undertake during 2021/22 in order to achieve its objectives.

Recommendation

2. That Members approve the Action Plan as the basis for managing the Authority's day-to-day work in 2021/22.

Strategic Planning Framework

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

Background

4. The specific objectives that the Authority is trying to achieve through its various work programmes were set at the Authority meeting in December, and subsequently set out in the published [Corporate Plan 2021-22](#). Members will recall that most of these objectives are taken directly from the National Park Management Plan 2019-24.
5. The purpose of the Action Plan is to set out in more detail what we are going to do, and by when, to make progress on those objectives this year. It is a 'public document' but it is not written with the public as its primary audience. It is an *operational* document that is used by managers to plan and manage day-to-day, and it is updated during the year.

Action Plan for 2021/22

6. The draft Action Plan for 2020/21 is set out in the **Annex**. The objectives relating to the Authority's four priority programmes are highlighted (in green). Any actions postponed from last year are marked in red with a (p). Those that have been outstanding for longer than a year are marked accordingly.

7. Members' attention is drawn to the following significant themes:
- a. **Supporting high nature value upland farming** – directly supporting farming and influencing future national policy, including: launching the new national *Farming in Protected Landscapes* programme (1.2); extending the national pilot of a 'payment by results' agri-environment scheme in Wensleydale (21.1); running the local Catchment Sensitive Farming programme (20.5) and farm carbon audit project (1.1); and, delivering the local strand of the national *Our Common Cause* project (1.5).
 - b. **Extending engagement with a diverse range of groups** – launching an ambitious programme of work with a range of new audiences, particularly focused on: schools (3.1; 11.1-4); and, young people (10.3-7; 13.2-4).
 - c. **Delivering nature recovery** – increasing investment in habitat restoration, including in Swaledale through the '*Tees-Swale: naturally connected*' programme (18.1 & 3); developing the new Raydale Landscape Recovery Test (18.2); and, a rapidly expanding programme of support for new native woodland (24.1-7).
 - d. **Rights of way** – an extensive programme of works to maintain and improve the opportunities for physical access within the National Park, including enhancing national trails (8.1-8.4); improving the wider network (7.1-7.6); and, continuing to put right flood damage to rights of way in Swaledale (7.6 & 7).
 - e. **Development management** – a range of measures to return to pre-Covid service levels, and improve long-term efficiency and effectiveness (29.1-29.8)
 - f. **Post-covid working** – a range of measures to facilitate more 'agile' working and improve operational efficiency and service provision through new infrastructure (39.1, 3, 8 & 9) and changes to working practices (36.2; 38.1, 2 & 6).
8. Members will see from the report on income generation elsewhere on this agenda, that this is likely to end up being the most extensive and ambitious annual programme of work that the Authority has ever undertaken.
9. In addition, we are told that the Government's response to the Glover Review is now imminent and – together with our own planned review of priorities - will inevitably necessitate some fundamental re-consideration of the importance and extent of different areas of our work.
10. Subject to Members' approval, the final Action Plan will be made available to all Members and staff. Progress on all the actions will be monitored by the Audit and Review Committee.

Conclusion

11. Following the extreme disruption of the last 12 months, the Action Plan for 2021/22 sets out a hugely positive programme of work to support recovery in the National Park post-Covid, with particular emphasis on nature recovery/land management and improving access to the area for all in society.

12. The Action Plan is considered to be stretching but realistic on the basis of what we know at this point. It goes without saying, though, that it cannot be set in stone, and the Authority will need to remain flexible in its approach as events unfold over the coming months. Any proposals for significant changes to our plans will, of course, be brought to Members for consideration.

Gary Smith
Deputy Chief Executive
11 May 2021

1	During Brexit transition, support farmers and landowners to continue to deliver a range of public benefits through national agri-environment scheme agreements and other similar initiatives, and monitor take-up.		
1.1	Work with 14 farms in the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale to complete farm carbon audits and action plans, and publish the overall findings.	Jun	
1.2	Launch the 'Farming in Protected Landscapes' scheme	Jul	
1.3	Commission a set of natural capital accounts for the Northern Upland Chain LNP to help identify the costed public benefits of sustainable land management in the 2 National Parks and 3 AONBs (p).	Sep	
1.4	In partnership with the Farmer Network, run the 2021 Yorkshire Dales farm and estate open day programme.	Oct	
1.5	As part of the 'Our Common Cause' project, carry out a programme of activities to improve management of Grassington, Brant Fell and Ingleborough Commons.	Mar	
1.6	Provide advice and information to Yorkshire Dales farmers about national policy developments on future farming, specifically relating to environmental land management, through the provision of 8 newsletters.	Mar	
2	Maintain the National Park as a place where a true sense of tranquillity, remoteness and solitude can be found, and by 2021 obtain Dark Skies Reserve status to enhance and promote enjoyment of its night sky.		
2.1	Provide guidance to businesses and non-residential property owners on improving lighting that benefits the climate and is dark skies friendly	Sep	
2.2	Work with volunteers to undertake dark-sky readings for IDA annual report	Mar	
2.3	Provide targeted grants to at least 5 local businesses to make significant external lighting improvements	Mar	
2.4	Offer 'a night under the stars' experiences for people who wouldn't normally get the opportunity to experience the tranquillity of the Dark Sky (p)	Mar	
3	Use the Dales Countryside Museum 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 Historic Environment Record for the new area of the National Park by 2024.		
3.1	Work with the NASH Story of Schools project officer to develop a programme of visits from local schools and an exhibition	Oct	
3.2	Run a 'Dales Archaeology day' to promote understanding of the cultural heritage of the National Park	Oct	
3.3	Complete a history of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Oct	
3.4	Co-ordinate business partners to deliver the bookable 'Taste in Time' National Park Experience	Dec	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

3.5	Renegotiate access/management agreement at Bolton Park Mine or decide to let it lapse	Dec	
3.6	Prepare a specification for a National Mapping Project (Lidar) in the new area of the National Park and identify funding for it	Jan	
3.7	Undertake the second year of the Dialect and Heritage project with Leeds University	Mar	
3.8	Undertake a community archaeological excavation project in the Quaker field at Bainbridge	Mar	
4	Help local people to restore, repair and - where possible - bring back into use nationally-important historical sites, buildings and structures so that less than 4% of scheduled monuments and listed buildings are considered 'at risk' by 2024.		
4.1	Agree detailed proposals for repair and stabilisation work at Myers Garth bridge, Bishopdale	Oct	
4.2	Tender and appoint contractors to undertake conservation works at Smardale Kilns (p)	Nov	
4.3	Work with cavers to recover and investigate archaeological remains from Long Drop cave (p)	Dec	
4.4	Prioritise works/find funding for Lammerside Castle	Dec	
4.5	Undertake protective works to stop water erosion at Old Gang Smelt Mill. (p)	Feb	
5	Deliver co-ordinated programmes of activity that enhance the distinctive landscape, geology and cultural heritage, including the 'Westmorland Dales' Landscape Partnership by 2023.		
5.1	Improve opportunities for cycling in the Westmorland Dales by extending the Yorkshire Dales Cycleway through the area linking Reeth to Dent, and adding a further 30km of signed route. (pp)	Dec	
5.2	Act as accountable body for the Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership.	Mar	
5.3	Produce leaflets to promote a further 6 self-guided walks in the Westmorland Dales	Mar	
5.4	Deliver year 2 of the 'A Way Through' scheme as part of the Westmorland Dales Programme.	Mar	
5.5	Organise engagement events to develop ideas for a possible 'Three Counties' area-based programme of enhancement projects (p)	Mar	
5.6	Continue to facilitate and monitor schemes to put intrusive overhead electricity wires underground, including completion of schemes at Storrs Common, Grimwith Reservoir and Eastby Crag	Mar	
6	By 2022 secure significant funding to repair, restore, and, where appropriate, find adaptive new uses for traditional field barns, particularly those in Swaledale, Arkengarthdale and Littondale.		
6.1	Run a trial local barn repair scheme for the Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Conservation Area	Jul	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

6.2	Monitor the completion of the restoration of 6 traditional barns through the RDPE TFB pilot scheme	Mar	
6.3	Work up 3 barn projects through the Westmorland Dales programme	Mar	
7	Benefit a wide variety of users by raising the standard of all public rights of way so that 90% are 'easy to use' by 2023.		
7.1	Carry out engineering works to 450m of public rights of way including 320m on the Bridleway at Sharp Haw and on the riverside footpath at Kirkby Lonsdale.	Dec	
7.2	Confirm a Permissive Path agreement at Crackpot, Swaledale and a footpath creation with the Lonsdale Estate, Tebay	Mar	
7.3	Repair 2.9km of previously engineered routes, including significant re-surfacing works on the 3 Peaks route at Brackenbottom.	Mar	
7.4	Maintain existing roadside signs so that the number of places where a right of way is signposted from a metalled road remains at 98%	Mar	
7.5	In conjunction with Natural England complete the final phase of the Ingleborough Access Project including the further flagging and surfacing of a section of Sulber Nick footpath	Mar	
7.6	Implement a programme of flood recovery work in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale including works at Reeth bottoms, Sleil Gill, Langthwaite, Paradise, Low Row and Birk Park/Barney Beck, Heaulaugh	Mar	
7.7	Assist NYCC in reinstating 3 significant bridges at Studfold, nr Helwith Bridge, Low Faggergill and Wood House Bridge, Arkengarthdale	Mar	
7.8	Conduct enhancement works to 2 of the 6 identified promoted walks as part of the Tees Swale Project	Mar	
7.9	Install a new bridge at Haw Beck, Thoraby and repair 5 bridges including the listed stone arch Waterfall Bridge, Burton cum Walden and replace two sets of stepping stones in Austwick and Horton in Ribblesdale	Mar	
8	Maintain and promote the Pennine Trails and other recognised long-distance routes, and campaign for the Coast-to-Coast footpath to become a National Trail by 2024.		
8.1	Identify works required along the 'Coast to Coast' to meet National Trail Standards	Dec	
8.2	Implement the Pennine Way maintenance plan for 2021/22	Mar	
8.3	Implement the Pennine Bridleway Maintenance Plan for 2021/22	Mar	
8.4	Act as lead authority for the Pennine National Trails Partnership and administer the grant system	Mar	

9	Carry out works to improve access on appropriate public rights of way and established permissive routes so that 262 km (10%) are suitable for users of all ages and abilities by 2024.		
9.1	Identify a further 15 km of <i>Miles without Stiles</i> Routes.	Mar	
9.2	Go out to tender on a design and build contract for replacing the footbridge at Cautley with a bridle bridge	Mar	
10	Provide 300 people from under-represented groups with activity days that enable them to access the special qualities of the National Park, and so increase their understanding, enjoyment, health and well-being.		
10.1	Work with Peak District NPA and DEFRA to develop an application to the Green Recovery Fund to increase opportunities for people from BAME backgrounds to take part in recreational activity in the National Park	Jun	
10.2	Review the Learning and Engagement Strategy (p)	Nov	
10.3	Deliver 'recover and re-connect' activity days to people for whom COVID has had a disproportionate effect including the elderly, BAME communities, people on low incomes and young people in social housing.	Mar	
10.4	Pilot a supported walking programme to enable and encourage walking for health in the National Park	Mar	
10.5	As part of the Access Unlimited coalition deliver the Generation Green Project, provide facilitated day visits and other virtual/face to face activities in the National Park and surrounding areas for young people from urban areas.	Mar	
10.6	Deliver year 1 of the Uplands for All project, engaging young people with the natural heritage of the Tees Swale area, through a mix of face to face and virtual engagement.	Mar	
10.7	Develop a pilot social prescribing programme connecting young people with the health and wellbeing benefits of the Park, and look for funding for implementation.	Mar	
11	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.		
11.1	Deliver curriculum linked educational activities to 1,500 young people in primary and secondary education	Mar	
11.2	As part of the Tees-Swale programme, deliver year 1 of the 'Uplands for Education' project, providing education activities for school children in Swaledale and Darlington	Mar	
11.3	Develop a series of education-branded online National Park resources for schools using project based learning and the national curriculum. (p)	Mar	
11.4	Deliver Countryside Code messaging to primary age children through the 'Crucial Crew' programme.	Mar	
12	Run a cohesive programme of inspirational, participatory activities that attract at least 3,000 people each year to find out more about the National Park's special qualities.		

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

12.1	Deliver a programme of 'Go Wild' activities for families visiting the National Park		
12.2	As part of the Tees-Swale programme, deliver 6 community events to engage people with the natural, cultural and built heritage of Swaledale	Sep	
13	Give people from all backgrounds an opportunity to enjoy and contribute to the National Park by providing at least 1,000 volunteer days per year, with 15% coming from under-represented groups.		
13.1	Review the Volunteer Strategy	Dec	
13.2	Run 3 Young Ranger groups across the park to enable young people to participate in conservation activity	Mar	
13.3	As part of the Access Unlimited coalition delivering the <i>Generation Green</i> project, provide volunteering opportunities to engage young people from urban areas with the National Park	Mar	
13.4	As part of the coalition delivering the <i>Generation Green</i> project, train and develop 10 young people to take on skilled volunteer roles in the National Park.	Mar	
13.5	Roll out the <i>UK Wildwatch</i> programme to provide opportunities for a greater number and diversity of people to engage with, learn about and record wildlife	Mar	
14	Work with organisers of large-scale events to ensure they are well run, benefit local businesses, and contribute to the maintenance of the Park's natural capital, for example funding the cost of maintaining the 'Three Peaks' route.		
14.1	Promote the Three Peaks notification scheme for event organisers and Three Peaks walkers	Mar	
14.2	Revise and update the Three Peaks App	Mar	
15	Promote and encourage responsible cycling by supporting world class events that showcase the National Park, enabling the development of four 'cycle hubs', and creating at least one further family-friendly cycling route by 2023.		
15.1	Work with Sustrans to undertake a detailed assessment for a multi-user route as an alternative to part of the A65 between Kirkby Lonsdale and Ingleton	Dec	
15.2	Identify the work required to create a traffic-free, multi-user route from Skipton to Threshfield	Mar	
15.3	Depending on the outcome of the DoT bid to reinstate the railway, consult on proposals for a traffic-free, multi-user route from Hawes to Garsdale (p)	Mar	
16	Maintain 'green lanes' and, where appropriate, manage use by recreational motor vehicles, including enforcing any restrictions imposed by Traffic Regulation Orders.		
16.1	Replace information on 20 access boards for the access land at Bolton Abbey Estate (p)	Oct	
16.2	Calibrate the pedestrian and cycle counters by undertaking on-site face to face surveys to ascertain how the routes being monitored are used	Dec	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

16.3	Provide the secretariat for meetings of the full Yorkshire Dales Access Forum	Mar	
16.4	In conjunction with North Yorkshire County Councils continue to implement the programme of improvements to unsurfaced unclassified roads	Mar	
16.5	Explore with Cumbria County Council, a programme of improvements to unsurfaced unclassified roads in the Cumbria part of the Park (p)	Mar	
16.6	Repair 300m of 'open access' routes at Simon's Seat & Embsay Reservoir with stone flagging	Mar	
16.7	Review the 4 long-term directions at Holgates Pasture, Kilnsey Moor, Wood End, Hubberholme, Grassington	Mar	
17	Support farmers and landowners to restore and manage landscape-scale mosaics of priority habitats so that 30% of the priority habitats outside nationally-designated wildlife sites are in good condition by 2024;		
17.1	Conclude new Service Level Agreements with the three local biological records centres. (p)	May	
17.2	Publish the 2021 wildlife 'Trends and Status' report	Jul	
17.3	Support the establishment of a local provenance plant nursery to provide key flora for local habitat enhancement projects	Jul	
17.4	Coordinate a repeat survey of the condition of important habitats in lower Wharfedale and Littondale	Sep	
17.5	With Froglife and local partners, launch a programme to create and restore valuable ponds in the Ure floodplain, and create the first new pond (p)	Jan	
18	Support farmers and landowners to restore and manage landscape-scale mosaics of priority habitats so that at least one landscape-scale 'nature recovery area' has been created by 2021		
18.1	Through <i>Tees-Swale: naturally connected</i> , work with local farmers in Swaledale to restore 16ha of species-rich grassland and carry out rush management on 20 ha	Dec	
18.2	Run the <i>Raydale Landscape Recovery Test</i> as part of Defra's national Test and Trials programme, looking at how to optimize collaboration between farmers in the development of a landscape-scale recovery plan	Mar	
18.3	Through <i>Tees-Swale: naturally connected</i> , work with local farmers to create 40 ha of new native woodland in Swaledale	Mar	
19	Work with farmers and landowners to achieve and maintain stable or increasing populations for 90% of priority species by 2026, including the UK 'red-listed' upland birds — Black Grouse; Curlew; Hen Harrier; Lapwing; Merlin; Skylark; and Yellow Wagtail — for which the National Park is renowned, and those of international importance.		
19.1	With Game Conservation and Wildlife Trust coordinate and help carry out a local Black grouse survey	Aug	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

19.2	Through the Northern Upland Chain LNP produce a 'prospectus for nature recovery' setting out high-level ambitions for the area.	Sep	
19.3	Through the Swinden Quarry Natural Environment Fund support at least 4 local groups and businesses to take action to conserve nature in the area around the quarry.	Jan	
20	Work with farmers and landowners to improve the condition of the Aire, Eden, Lune, Ribble, Swale, Ure and Wharfe so that at least 90% of all rivers achieve 'good ecological status' by 2027.		
20.1	Work with partners to secure funding to implement the <i>Keep Ure River Cool</i> project over the next 3 years.	Dec	
20.2	Support the Upper Aire Project in delivering an ambitious 3-year water quality improvement plan.	Mar	
20.3	With funding from the Environment Agency, carry out a feasibility study on the impacts of pollution on Semerwater, and support Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust to create habitat on the River Ure to increase shade.	Mar	
20.4	Support the Dales to Vales River Network, Living Lune, Ribble Life, and Eden River Catchment Partnerships.	Mar	
20.5	Through Natural England's Catchment Sensitive Farming initiative, run a programme of advice, training and grant funding for farmers to reduce diffuse pollution in the Ure, Swale, Wharfe and Aire catchments.	Mar	
21	Work with farmers in Wensleydale to demonstrate the benefit of 'high nature value', low-input farm systems through a 5-year trial of a 'payment by results' approach to agri-environment funding.		
21.1	With Natural England, complete the DEFRA-funded 'Payment by Results' trial on 18 farms in Wensleydale.	Mar	
22	Work with moorland managers and other key stakeholders to devise and implement a local approach to end illegal persecution of raptors, including independent and scientifically robust monitoring, and co-ordinated Hen Harrier nest and winter roost site protection.		
22.1	Continue to monitor Peregrine breeding at quarry sites.	Aug	
22.2	Lead the work of the NPMP Prevention of Raptor Persecution Local action group, including preparing an annual report for 2020 and agreeing a communications strategy.	Sep	
22.3	Through the local action group agree and run a coordinated programme of nest and roost monitoring	Mar	
23	Work with farmers and landowners to ensure that at least 70% of all woodland is in active management by 2023, including positive management of conifer plantations to increase suitable habitat for red squirrels and black grouse.		
23.1	Produce 5 Woodland Management Plans to enhance woodlands in the National Park through agri-environment agreements.	Feb	
23.2	Support production of 5 woodland management agreements that are ineligible for mainstream funding.	Mar	

24	Support landowners to create at least a further 450 hectares of native broadleaved and mixed woodland that enhances the National Park's landscape by 2024, with priority given to projects that strengthen habitat networks, increase carbon storage and help to reduce flooding.		
24.1	Using the Woodland Opportunity Mapping publicise the opportunities to creation multi-purpose new woodlands.	Jun	
24.2	As part of the White Rose Forest, secure funding for a new post to identify and develop schemes to create new woodland in the parts of the National Park within Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse catchment.	Aug	
24.3	With support from the Woodland Trust, organise and launch a 4-year programme of support for new native woodland across the National Park	Sep	
24.4	Create at least 70ha of new native woodland supported by Forestry Commission, YDNPA, YDMT and other local organisations.	Mar	
24.5	Create at least 90ha of new native woodland supported by the Woodland Trust.	Mar	
24.6	As part of the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme, identify potential sites and develop specific proposals for natural flood management projects – including new native woodland - within the Aire Valley catchment	Mar	
24.7	Support the work of the Forestry Plastics Working Group to identify alternatives to plastic tree guards.	Mar	
25	Work with farmers and landowners to deliver landscape-scale natural flood management projects in the Aire, Eden, Ribble; Lune; Swale, Ure, and Wharfe catchments.		
25.1	Work with York City Council and North Yorkshire County Council to secure full financial approval from Defra's Innovative Flood and Coastal Resilience fund for a programme of NFM measures for the York/SUNO catchment.	Aug	
25.2	Identification and promotion of Landowner NFM opportunities in the Aire Catchment. Supporting the delivery of the White Rose Forest and the Leeds Flood Alleviation scheme	Mar	
26	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.		
26.1	Work with Housing Associations, local housing authorities and others to identify and support appropriate proposals for around 85 new dwellings	Mar	
27	Undertake a 5-year programme of measures to promote the National Park as a place to live for younger, working age households (18-44) to help halt the decline in their numbers.		
27.1	Through 'Great Place: Lakes and Dales', develop a programme of training and advice for local authorities to	Dec	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

	promote/market the National Park to younger people as a place to live and work		
27.2	Support Craven and South Lakeland District Councils to deliver an additional year of investment in local culture, arts and heritage so as to retain and attract younger people and businesses through the 'Great Place: Lakes & Dales' project	Mar	
28	Use the Sustainable Development Fund and other funding sources, to support 20 new local projects each year that bring economic, social and environmental benefits to the National Park.		
28.1	Provide Sustainable Development Fund grants to at least 20 new local projects	Mar	
29	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 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.		
29.1	Put in place appropriate arrangements to run the Development Management service as Covid restrictions are lifted (e.g. planning surgeries, planning committee etc).	May	
29.2	Activate the remaining elements of the Agile planning software system	Jun	
29.3	Run an annual planning training event with Parish Councils	Jul	
29.4	Analyse the impact of new planning software on the operation of the Development Management service (p)	Nov	
29.5	Determine at least 65% of 'minor' planning applications within 8 weeks or the time limit agreed with applicant	Mar	
29.6	Determine at least 80% of 'other' planning applications within 8 weeks or the time limit agreed with applicant	Mar	
29.7	Close at least 75 enforcement cases	Mar	
29.8	Carry out a performance review of the core Development Management service	Mar	
30	Improve the quality, variety and marketing of the tourism 'offer' to encourage more overnight stays and more visitors in the quieter months, so that the value of tourism grows by at least 5% in real terms by 2024.		
30.1	Promote the opportunities for farmers to develop pop-up campsites using new permitted development rights	Jun	
30.2	Assess the potential for promotion of Dales Heritage Railways alongside the Settle Carlisle line to promote active travel and 'the journey being the experience' to facilitate low impact tourism and our special quality	Dec	
30.3	Publish and distribute 125,000 copies of 'The Visitor 2022' as the official guide to the National Park	Feb	

31	Promote the Yorkshire Dales National Park as a leading sustainable tourism destination, including enhancing the locations of 4 National Park Centres to create 'visitor hubs' that promote local distinctiveness and assist destination promotion for local activities, accommodation, food and itineraries.		
31.1	Enhance the signage around Malham National Park Centre to create a clear 'visitor hub'	Jul	
31.2	Produce free orientation maps for first time visitors at Grassington, Aysgarth, Malham, Reeth and Sedbergh	Jul	
31.3	Use Meet and Greet volunteers to enhance the visitor welcome at Grassington, Aysgarth Falls, and Malham visitor centres	Oct	
31.4	Explore with the Parish Council and North Yorkshire County Council how to improve car park signage in Hawes town centre so visitors are aware there is an overflow car park at DCM (p)	Mar	
32	Develop and promote new 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.		
32.1	Work with North York Moors NPA and local businesses to run the annual 'Dark Skies' festival	Feb	
32.2	Deliver the legacy of the Moors and Dales Destination Management project, including experimenting with a virtual food-based festival & signpost to business to provide opportunities for online sales.	Oct	
32.3	Survey new visitors to Malham, Aysgarth and Grassington to better understand their motivations for visiting, their experience and how they find out information.	Oct	
33	By 2023 provide at least 20 apprenticeships that focus on the skills that are essential to maintaining the National Park's special qualities.		
33.1	Recruit and support 2 trainees through the <i>Tees-Swale: naturally connected</i> programme	Apr	
33.2	Support existing apprentices in Wildlife, Heritage and Communications, and recruit a new Planning Technician apprentice (pp)	Jul	
33.3	Recruit 4 new Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership apprentices	Sep	
34	Work with neighbouring authorities to produce a single, updated Local Plan for the whole of the National Park by 2023, which will help achieve the vision and objectives in the National Park Management Plan.		
34.1	Co-ordinate and publish the NPMP Steering Group's third annual progress report on the 2019-24 NPMP	Jun	
34.2	Carry out a 'major project review' to identify lessons from the implementation of the current policy for traditional farm buildings (L2)	Jul	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

34.3	Publish the Annual Monitoring Report, analysing progress in implementing current Local Plan policies.	Jul	
34.4	Complete consultation on options for the new Local Plan (change of use, local occupancy, housing viability)	Oct	
34.5	Complete the housing viability and Gypsy and Traveller studies	Oct	
34.6	Hold the NPMP Annual Forum	Nov	
34.7	Carry out a light touch review of the NPMP objectives	Nov	
34.8	Commission an evidence study of infrastructure requirements and a playing pitch assessment (p)	Dec	
34.9	Prepare a first full consultation draft for the new Local Plan	Mar	
35	Plan and manage the Authority's work so as to make the most effective use of our resources, including generating sufficient income to maintain expenditure at the same level as 2014/15 in real terms across the extended National Park area.		
35.1	Produce a detailed Action Plan to help achieve the Authority's objectives in 2021/22	May	
35.2	Publish a detailed assessment of the Authority's performance in 2020/21	Jul	
35.3	Carry out a fundamental review of the Authority's priorities	Sep	
35.4	Continue to deal with the implications of the Covid Pandemic and implement the recommendations from the Authority's performance review.	Dec	
35.5	Prepare the Medium Term Financial Strategy (3-year budget) for 2022/23 to 2024/25	Feb	
35.6	Organise and monitor loan arrangements that support programme delivery, including with the Lune Rivers Trust and Broadband for the Rural North	Mar	
35.7	Develop a programme of maintenance and signage work for YDNPA's car parks to optimise income	Mar	
35.8	Work with Defra to take forward its proposals for implementing the recommendations of the Glover review, including the National Landscape Service, and ensure that the interests of the National Park and the Authority are properly represented.	Mar	
35.9	Respond to the Local Government Review consultation and, following the Government's decision, ensure that the NPA creates and develops strong working partnership arrangements with the new Unitary bodies.	Mar	
36	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.		
36.1	Undertake a full reassessment against the <i>Customer Service Excellence</i> standard	Jun	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

36.2	Begin the roll-out of 'blended working' arrangements, ensuring that the services provided by the Authority are enhanced or, at worst, unaffected by these changes	Jul	
36.3	Create and launch a new Yorkshire Dales mobile app	Aug	
36.4	Review and update the Authority's social media strategy	Sep	
36.5	Re-launch the Parish Forums in an appropriate format	Oct	
36.6	Publish and distribute two editions of the 'Dales' newspaper to all properties in the National Park	Feb	
37	Operate governance arrangements that are fit for purpose, as reported through the Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Governance Report.		
37.1	Review the Data Protection Policy	May	
37.2	Produce the Statutory Accounts for 2020/21, and achieve an unqualified external audit opinion	Sep	
37.3	Revise and restructure the internal financial reporting process, to ensure that this remains fit for purpose	Nov	
37.4	Produce an Annual Governance Report to include a review of the Local Code of Corporate Governance	Nov	
37.5	Review Governance arrangements for partnerships to ensure that proportionate arrangements are in place	Dec	
37.6	Review and revise the Authority's Complaints, Compliments and Comments policy	Feb	
37.7	Re-procure long-term insurance contracts to cover the full range of the Authority's activities	Feb	
37.8	Produce the Annual Governance Statement	Mar	
37.9	Review the Procurement Strategy and produce a Procurement Manual for officers	Mar	
38	Ensure that we have HR policies, procedures, terms and conditions to attract and support the right people with the right skills to deliver the work of the Authority effectively, as evidenced by accreditation under the Investors in People standard.		
38.1	Produce a new 5-year People Strategy to make sure that we have the skills, experience and knowledge to deliver high quality and efficient services, including through blended working (p)	May	
38.2	Organise a programme of corporate training for staff, including 'Managing Remotely' and 'Effective use of videoconferencing'	Sep	
38.3	Carry out a staff survey on internal communications and action its findings	Dec	
38.4	Provide the agreed programme of Member training for 2021/22	Dec	
38.5	Undertake a full reassessment against the <i>Investors in People</i> standard, and achieve re-accreditation	Feb	

Draft Action Plan 2021-22

38.6	Complete the cyclical review of HR Policies, concentrating on those that are relevant to a move to 'blended working' and with a view to rationalising the numbers of policies and consolidating their content	Mar	
39	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 internal audit's reporting on relevant systems.		
39.1	Set a timetable and start to roll out IT solutions for future blended working plans	Jun	
39.2	Undertake flood protection measures at the Dales Countryside Museum	Jul	
39.3	Implement security software for Authority equipment , focusing on support for the move to blended working	Aug	
39.4	Procure and install a suitable replacement contract for videoconferencing	Sep	
39.5	Undertake structural repairs to the roof at Yoredale	Sep	
39.6	Seek funding from the Government's Changing Places initiative, with a view to installing a facility at an appropriate visitor centre site	Sep	
39.7	Re-let the cash collection (car parks and retail) contract	Dec	
39.8	Review and revise the 5-year Property Strategy to support the future requirements of blended working and further carbon reductions	Feb	
39.9	Review and revise the 5-year IT Strategy, to incorporate changes necessary to support the move to effective blended working	Feb	
39.10	Refurbish the public toilets at Clapham and Stainforth	Mar	
39.11	Replace thin clients with alternative equipment in line with the new IT Strategy direction	Mar	
39.12	Improve workshop facilities and staff parking at Craven Lime Works or Stonedykes (ppp)	Mar	
40	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our operations by at least 95% by 2030.		
40.1	Replace the ground source heat pump at Yoredale	Sep	
40.2	Put in place new working practices to support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from office energy use and business travel (p)	Dec	