

Committee: FINANCE AND RESOURCES

Date: 8 February 2022

Report: INCOME GENERATION STRATEGY: PROGRESS UPDATE

Purpose of report

1. To inform Members of progress in implementing the 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 its 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.

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.
5. Achieving the Authority's income generation objective in 2022/23 will require us to generate enough income to fund expenditure of £8.5 million. The current budget projection is £11.2 million (and already £10.4 million for the following year).
6. As always, this report focuses on our 'pipeline' of externally-funded projects. Details of projects for which funding has been secured since the last update, and those bids currently in development are in the **Annex**. It includes hyperlinks to more information about those projects (where available).

Consideration

7. Since the last update in December there have been a number of significant project developments:
 - a. **Woodland creation** – we have secured £68,000 from the White Rose Forest to identify opportunities to plant new woodland in the Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse Catchments.
 - b. **Kirkby Lonsdale riverside** - we have secured £34,000 from a number of partners to repair the riverbank and protect the public footpath from Devil's Bridge to Kirkby Lonsdale. The funders are Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council (15k), Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (10k), Cumbria County Council (5k) and the Christopher Robins Charitable Trust (4k).
 - c. **Pennine Way** – we secured £56,000 from Natural England for a number of enhancement projects along the route, including surfacing of a section of the route to the north of Horton-in-Ribblesdale, and some additional flag surfacing on Shunner Fell and at Hawes. We will also be replacing the National Trails Quad Bike at Stone Dykes Barn, Stainforth.
 - d. **ELMS test** – Palladium has secured funding from Defra to test out how private finance might be 'blended' with money from the forthcoming ELM Scheme. The project will work with farmers involved in our RBAPs pilot in Wensleydale and our own ELM test in Raydale. The funding includes £11,000 for our specialist input to support the project.
 - e. **Three Peaks** – the bid to the European Outdoor Conservation Association for a YDMT-led project to influence behaviour and use of the area to make it more sustainable was unsuccessful.
8. At the time of writing, final contractual negotiations are still ongoing between Palladium and National Parks England over a potential private finance initiative to support native woodland creation in the National Park. The project is part of the national [Revere](#) initiative, which aims to secure investment at the scale and pace needed to tackle the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis. It is hoped that a positive verbal update can be provided at the meeting.

Conclusion

9. The Authority has a significant and rapidly-growing programme of externally-funded projects – several of which are now multi-million pound programmes running for multiple years. The pipeline of projects in development remains strong but will need very careful consideration given the ever-growing pressures on the Authority's staff capacity and core running costs.

Gary Smith
Director of Conservation and Community

19 January 2021

'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. Grow Back Greener	A programme of support being developed by the Woodland Trust, as part of the Northern Forest, for identifying, facilitating, planting and maintaining new native woodland in the National Park	c£3,000,000 (Woodland Trust)	Nov 2021 3.5 years
2. SUNO catchment woodlands	As part of the White Rose Forest, a project to identify and facilitate opportunities for new woodland to help reduce flood peaks in the Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse (SUNO) Catchments	£68,000 (White Rose Forest)	Nov 2021 1 year
3. Kirkby Lonsdale Riverside Path	Work to stabilise part of the riverbank on the Devils Bridge to Kirkby Lonsdale path	£34,000 (Kirkby Lonsdale TC; YDMT; Cumbria CC; Christopher Robins Charitable Trust)	Completed Dec 2021
4. Pennine Partnership	Various works to enhance the Pennine Way in the Yorkshire Dales National Park	£56,000 (Natural England)	Dec 2021
5. Net zero with nature – blended finance	Led by Palladium, with National Parks Partnership and YDNPA, a project to test out ways in which private finance could be 'blended' with public money as part of the ELM (Landscape Recovery) scheme	£8,000 (Defra)	Feb 2022 9 months
6. Ingleborough Access	Working with Natural England, a project to repair of 95m of boardwalk on the public footpath within the National Nature Reserve.	£20,600 (Natural England)	Apr 2022 12 months
7. Changing Places	Upgrading public toilet facilities at Grassington and Hawes so that they meet the 'Changing Places' disability standard.	£88,400 (Changing Places)	April 2022 1 year
8. 'Trees Climate Action' Fund	Working with the North Pennines AONB and Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust to promote opportunities for woodland creation in Cumbria/Durham. Includes funding for project officers, trainees, and a tree nursery.	£60,000 (National Lottery Heritage Fund)	Sep 2022 2.5 years
9. Mosaic project	Working with the Peak District and the North York Moors NPAs, this project will increase the depth of engagement of people from BAME backgrounds with the National Parks to benefit their health and wellbeing, open new opportunities for volunteering and employment and improve the welcome they	£90,000 (NHLF)	Dec 2022 2 years

Project title	Description	Prospective YDNPA Income	Start/duration
	find when they get there. Expression of interest to NHLF successful, now working up the development stage of the project over the next 9 months.		
10. Net Zero With Nature – woodland creation	Led by Palladium, with National Parks Partnership and YDNPA, a project to secure private finance to support delivery of the ambition set out in the new Dales Woodland Strategy.	???	Jan 2022 Development Phase
11. York and North Yorkshire Natural Catchment Flood Risk Solutions	Project led by City of York Council to target natural flood management measures over the wider catchments of the Rivers Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse (SUNO).	???	Apr 2022
12. Cautley Valley Access enhancement	Replace footbridge near the Cross Keys Inn with an accessible bridleway bridge and improve access for all into the Cautley valley. Working with NT and CCC Highways to improve visitor experience through road safety and parking.	£50k (NT, CCC, YDMT?)	April 2023
13. HER enhancement	Enhancement of the HER for the new area of the National Park using aerial photographic survey.	£20k (Historic England)	Apr 2022 2 years
14. Keep Ure River Cool (Phase 2)	Working with YDRT and EA, project to create new habitat along the River Ure and its tributaries to increase shade and reduce water temperature (on sites identified through study being carried out Nov-Mar 2022).	£300,000	Sep 2022 2 years
15. Curlew Conservation	Project developed by the Northern Upland Chain LNP for a programme of interventions to support healthy populations of Curlew and other breeding waders. Bid drafted but still looking for a suitable funding source.	£100,000 pa (????)	Jan 2023 4 years
16. Burnt-tip Orchid	Aims to get grasslands within Wensleydale into positive management, reintroduce Burnt Orchid and raise awareness of orchid conservation.	£13k (Natural England) £70k (NLHF)	2023 2 years
17. Three Counties Project	Early discussions with Sustrans, YDMT, Lune Rivers Trust, and Forest of Bowland AONB on a landscape-scale partnership centred around Kirkby Lonsdale, including the western extension of the National Park and Forest of Bowland towards Lancaster. Proposed timescale: EOI submitted in early 2022, Preparation of development application over 12 months for submission early 2023, (decision within six months). Preparation of delivery application over 18 months, (submission mid 2024). Earliest delivery could commence is 2025. YDMT expected to be lead partner with YDNPA accountable body.	£2.5 million (NLHF)	April 2025

