

Date: 28 March 2023**Report: REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

1. ENGAGEMENTS

Since the last meeting of the Authority, the Chief Executive has been involved in the following:-

Events

- Attended the funeral of the first Chief Officer of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, Richard Harvey, who served from 1974-1996.
- Hosted a Staff Webinar on Environmental Improvement Plan.

Meetings

- With the CEO of the North York Moors NPA a meeting with the Assistant Director at NYCC to discuss the emerging arrangements for the new North Yorkshire Council (NYC).
- An English National Park Officers Group which discussed Levelling up & Regeneration Bill; update on financial position; communications and lead officer requirements for 2023.
- The CEO at Richmondshire DC to discuss the transfer of current partnerships to the new North Yorkshire Council (NYC).
- A briefing meeting with the National Parks England (NPE) Chair, Executive Director and new 'Lead' CEO – final meeting as Lead CEO.
- A meeting with Defra Officials and English CEOs to discuss the financial pressures in NPAs.
- An introductory meeting with the newly appointed Strategic Engagement Manager for NPE.
- A further meeting with Defra Officials on the financial pressures and future outlook for NPAs.
- A visit from the new CEO of Peak District NPA, as part of his induction programme.
- A meeting with the CEO of Dartmoor NPA on potential additional Defra grant funding.
- A meeting with the CEO of Lake District NPA on new Unitary Council issues.
- English National Park Officer monthly meeting where the following were discussed: The Prince's Countryside Fund; Update on additional Government funding; Briefing on recent developments on England Land Management Schemes (ELMS) and Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL); Landscape Partnership; the Defra Consultancy on income generation; Levelling up Bill; NPE Updates on: Communications; Nature Recovery; Climate Change; ENPOG away day: All Parks Parliamentary Group (APPG) meeting.

- A meeting with the Youth Officer at the EUROPARC Federation to discuss EUROPARC's youth engagement, the Yorkshire Dales' experience and the Youth Manifesto looking forward.
- A meeting of the National Parks Partnership (NPP) to discuss the DEFRA funding consultation.
- A discussion with Officers from North Yorkshire County Council on the Hawes - Garsdale multi use route.
- An Induction on National Parks England with the Chair of the Lake District NPA.
- An NPE Board Meeting where the following were discussed: Update on Landscapes Parks and Trails Partnership from the Defra Deputy Director for Access, Landscapes, Peatlands and Soil; NPE Communications 'campaign'; NPUK Communications review; Review of NPE
- Undertook the appraisal of the Executive Director for NPE.
- A meeting of Natural England's Protected Landscapes Management Plan Steering Group.
- A meeting with Executive Director Economy and Infrastructure of Cumbria County Council in her capacity as a recently appointed senior officer at Westmorland and Furness Council, where the following were discussed: New Council Strategy, timetable and update on development of new Authority, membership of the National Park Management Plan Steering Group, future funding and provision for Rights of Way, Cumbria LEP, Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership, Active Travel England, future meeting of Management Teams.
- English National Park Officer monthly meeting where the following were discussed: Deficit Funding, Government response to Landscapes Review, Defra Income generation tender Levelling up Bill, Landscape Partnership update, APPG, MPs update UK Communications Review, NPE Review.
- Chaired a meeting of the UK Access Officers Group to discuss the recent Court Case in Dartmoor and the opportunities for increasing cycling in the National parks; A presentation by Cycling UK.
- A meeting with the Chief Executive of Craven District Council to discuss the handover of partnerships to NYC.
- A meeting with the Senior Quality Manager of Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited to discuss issues with the Authority's External Auditors.
- Along with the Chair and Deputy Chair, a liaison meeting with Friends of the Dales to discuss development at Friends of the Dales; Local Plan, Visitor Survey Results, update on YDNPA financial settlement; 70th anniversary YDNP and 75th of legislation; Agriculture payments/support: Environmental Land Management Scheme and update on Landscapes Review.
- A meeting with Chief Executive of the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership.
- An introductory discussion with the Client Manager for Philanthropy Company regarding the income diversification project.
- Chaired a Europarc Atlantic Isles (EAI) Board Meeting
- Attended the final meeting of Local Government North Yorkshire and York (LGNYY)
- A further meeting of the NPE Board, to discuss the NPE Review

David Butterworth

Chief Executive

Background documents: None

8 March 2023