

Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan 2025-2030 Consultation on Priorities |

Summary of consultation results – March 2024

1. The consultation was launched on 15 January 2024, and ran for a period of 6 weeks.
2. A total of 1,106 responses were received, of which:
 - 50% were from people indicating they live and/or work in the National Park;
 - 16% were from younger people (18-34); and,
 - 4% were from people identifying as being from non-white ethnic groups.
3. Some 27 organisations responded to the consultation (see **Annex B**)
4. The online questionnaire identified 18 issues from which people were asked to choose their top 6, ranked from 1 to 6¹. There was also an opportunity for people to identify any significant issues that had not been included in the list. See **Annex C** for a copy of the full questionnaire.
5. We have analysed the results below giving greater weight to those priorities that were ranked #1 by respondents².

Summary of findings

6. The top 6 priorities selected by respondents were:
 1. Help nature to recover by creating, restoring and connecting important habitats
 2. Protect rare and threatened species, including ending illegal persecution of birds of prey
 3. Reduce pollution and improve the water quality in rivers and streams
 4. Increase natural carbon stores by planting new woodland, restoring peatland, and improving soil management
 5. Help younger people to live/work in the National Park.
 6. Keep the rights of way network in good condition, and improve options for cycling and other sustainable outdoor recreation activity
7. Full results are set out in **Annex A**.

¹ The order in which the 18 appeared was randomised each time the questionnaire was opened to avoid inadvertent bias towards particular issues

² For each response a multiple of 6 was applied to the #1 ranking, a multiple of 5 to the #2 ranking, a multiple of 4 to the #3 ranking, 3 to the #4, 2 to the #5 and 1 to the #6.

8. Nature recovery was the #1 priority across all groups.

9. Residents' top 6 priorities were similar to the overall results but included:

- *Reduce the impact of second homes and holiday lets (#3); and*
- *Support upland livestock farming and land management to improve business viability and provide a wider range of public benefits (#6)*

These were instead of: *increasing natural carbon stores and keeping the rights of way network in good condition.*

10. Young people (18-34's) and those from minority ethnic backgrounds shared the same top 6 priorities as the overall result but in a slightly different order – with *reducing river pollution* and *helping younger people to live/work in the National Park* ranking more highly.

11. We also provided respondents with a 'free text' box to add any other issues they thought were important, and 314 people took the opportunity to add additional issues. Those most frequently mentioned – and not already covered by the 18 listed potential priorities – were:

- Supporting businesses and employment (19)
- Improving/increasing access to Open Access land, caves etc (18)
- Controlling traffic – speeding, parking etc (15)
- Supporting farmers to produce food/maintain the farmed landscape (14)
- Restricting use of Green Lanes by motor vehicles (14)
- Visitor management issues - litter, dogs on leads etc (14)
- Allowing more barns and farm buildings to be sympathetically converted for housing and economic uses (11)
- Improving access to local services, schools etc (10)

Priorities Ranked

All		Residents	
1	Help nature to recover by creating, restoring and connecting important habitats	1	Help nature to recover by creating, restoring and connecting important habitats
2	Protect rare and threatened species, including ending illegal persecution of birds of prey	2	Help younger people to live/work in the National Park
3	Reduce pollution and improve the water quality in rivers and streams	3	Reduce the impact of second homes and holiday lets
4	Increase natural carbon stores by planting new woodland, restoring peatland, and improving soil management	4	Reduce pollution and improve the water quality in rivers and streams
5	Help younger people to live/work in the National Park	5	Support upland livestock farming and land management to improve business viability and provide a wider range of public benefits
6	Keep the rights of way network in good condition, and improve options for cycling and other sustainable outdoor recreation activity	6	Protect rare and threatened species, including ending illegal persecution of birds of prey
7	Support upland livestock farming and land management to improve business viability and provide a wider range of public benefits	7	Increase natural carbon stores by planting new woodland, restoring peatland, and improving soil management
8	Reduce the impact of second homes and holiday lets	8	Increase the supply of affordable housing
9	Increase the supply of affordable housing	9	Keep the rights of way network in good condition, and improve options for cycling and other sustainable outdoor recreation activity
10	Improve resilience to the impacts of climate change, including wildfire, flooding and new pests and diseases	10	Improve the availability and frequency of public transport and reduce the impacts of visitor travel to and within the Park
11	Improve the availability and frequency of public transport and reduce the impacts of visitor travel to and within the National Park	11	Improve resilience to the impacts of climate change, including wildfire, flooding and new pests and diseases

	All
12	Protect the National Park's dark night skies from light pollution.
13	Repair, restore and re-use traditional stone field barns
14	Restore scheduled monuments, listed buildings, and other heritage features and support local cultural traditions
15	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from homes and businesses, including farming
16	Support the National Park's distinctive tourism economy by encouraging people to stay longer and come 'out of season'
17	Provide opportunities for people from a wider range of backgrounds and abilities to access the National Park for health and wellbeing
18	Encourage new, green businesses to locate in the National Park

	Residents
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Organisations that responded to the online survey:

- Austwick Parish Council
- Broadacres Housing Association
- Church of England - Benefice of Linton, Burnsall and Rylstone
- Church of England - rural chaplaincy
- Clapham-cum-newby Parish Council
- CPRE North and East Yorkshire
- Cravenwood Cottages
- Cycling UK
- Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company
- Dales Hang gliding & Paragliding Club
- Feel Good Factor
- FotLD / CPRE Cumbria
- Friends of the Dales
- Friends of Wharfedale Greenway
- Ingleton Parish Council
- Knight Frank
- Lunesdale Archaeology Society
- North Yorkshire Fell Club
- Open Country
- Oxygen Conservation
- RSPB Yorkshire Dales Accountancy
- Settle Primary School
- The Motoring Organisations' Land Access & Recreation Association
- The Rowe House b&b
- Two Dales Bakery, Reeth
- Upper Wensleydale Railway Association
- Yorkshire Dales Moorland Group

Questionnaire - NPMP consultation on Priorities – Jan 2024

Through their passion for this special place, local people, businesses, organisations and others are making huge efforts to look after and improve the Yorkshire Dales National park. But what do **YOU** think our priorities should be over the coming years? What are the critical things we need to be doing now to help shape this place for future generations?

1. A list of potential priorities for the future of the National Park is set out below. Please pick the ones that are most important to you, with number one being your first choice, followed by your second choice, third choice and so on. **You may only select 6 priorities**, giving a different priority rating for each.

Help nature to recover by creating, restoring and connecting important habitats
Reduce pollution and improve the water quality in rivers and streams
Protect rare and threatened species, including ending illegal persecution of birds of prey
Increase natural carbon stores by planting new woodland, restoring peatland, and improving soil management
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from homes and businesses, including farming
Improve resilience to the impacts of climate change, including wildfire, flooding and new pests and diseases
Repair, restore and re-use traditional stone field barns
Protect the National Park's dark night skies from light pollution.
Restore scheduled monuments, listed buildings, and other heritage features and support local cultural traditions
Keep the rights of way network in good condition, and improve options for cycling and other sustainable outdoor recreation activity
Provide opportunities for people from a wider range of backgrounds and abilities to access the National Park for health and wellbeing
Improve the availability and frequency of public transport and reduce the impacts of visitor travel to and within the National Park
Support the National Park's distinctive tourism economy by encouraging people to stay longer and come 'out of season'
Support upland livestock farming and land management to improve business viability and provide a wider range of public benefits

Encourage new, green businesses to locate in the National Park
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Increase the supply of affordable housing

Reduce the impact of second homes and holiday lets
--

Help younger people to live/work in the National Park.
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2. Are there any significant things that aren't included in the list above? Please provide details.

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3. Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

- Individual
- Organisation / group

If on behalf of an organisation/group, please give the name:

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4. What is your age (if responding as an individual)?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Under 18 <input type="checkbox"/> | • 45-54 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • 18-24 <input type="checkbox"/> | • 55-64 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • 25-34 <input type="checkbox"/> | • 65+ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • 35-44 <input type="checkbox"/> | |

5. What best describes your interest in the National Park?

- I live in the National Park
- I live outside the National Park
- I work in the National Park
- I live and work in the National Park
- I am a visitor/have visited the National Park
- Other (please specify)

6. Finally, choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background

- White
- Rather not say
- Asian/Asian British
- Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British
- Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups
- Any other ethnic group, please describe