

29 September 2026

Report of the Chair

Engagements

1. Since the last meeting of the Authority, the Chair has been involved in the following:-

Events

- Regional Rural Housing Conference - Ripon Cathedral with representatives of housing associations, potential developers, public bodies and politicians [accompanied by Head of Sustainable Development]
- SDF-funded Project delivery, Settle - Film Premier of 'Our Generation is Green', film created by young film-maker showing year in the life of the YDMT Youth Panel
- SDF-funded Project delivery – Austwick Village Hall completion of solar panels installation
- Wildfire Prevention Campaign Briefing
- 75th Anniversary of the UK's First National Parks – Launch held in PDNPA of report, with Minister of State, sector partners and politicians
- Great Yorkshire Show – Breakfast business meeting hosted by North Yorkshire Council for stakeholders including business leaders, National Parks, politicians, landowners, charities, plus workshop attendance (accompanied by Director of Park Services)
- The NPUK Conference hosted by the Cairngorms NPA (reporting to December meeting)

Meetings

- Chair of Friends of the Dales for catch up meeting
- Julie Hutton for SoS Member exit interview
- Session with IT to update to an Authority email account
- NPMP Partnership preparation discussion with Acting CEO
- NPMP Partnership meeting.
- Induction meeting with new member: Felicity Cunliffe-Lister
- Chair's briefing and debriefing meetings for the NPA meeting
- Three catch up meetings with the Acting Chief Executive
- Briefing and induction meetings with the incoming CEO

- In-person NPE Board meeting and AGM, held in PDNP, including discussions on governance, NPAs' work on health and access, farming in National Parks, DEFRA update, work of the National Parks Partnership
- Catch-up meeting with the Deputy Chair
- Monthly meeting of the NPE Directors, including discussions on funding strategies, changes in staffing at DEFRA, recruitment of Sec of State Members, Devolution,
- Chaired the Member Champion meeting.
- An NPUK Conference briefing with other YDNPA delegates

Member Recruitment

- With DEFRA representative and an Independent Panel Member undertaken review and shortlisting of over 30 applications, and interviews of final nine candidates; recommendation for appointment now forwarded to DEFRA Minister.

Derek Twine
Chair