

29 September 2026

Report of the Acting Chief Executive

Engagements

1. Since the last Authority meeting, the Acting CEO has been involved in the following:

Events

- Driver Risk Awareness training
- Hosted a staff webinar
- Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion training
- Senior Management Team day in Malham
- Staff Development Day
- [UK National Parks Conference 2026](#) in the Cairngorms
- Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected celebration event at Raby Castle

Meetings

- National Park Management Plan Partnership meeting.
- Monthly English National Park Officer Group meetings
- York and North Yorkshire Farm Advice Pathfinder meeting with Defra
- Meeting with South Downs National Park Authority about their Defra Pathfinder project
- Meeting with Natural England to discuss Higher Tier Countryside Stewardship delivery in National Landscapes and National Parks in Yorkshire
- Regular 1:2:1 meetings with incoming CEO
- Regular 1:2:1 meetings with the Chair
- Meeting for protected landscapes bodies with Defra on the implementation of 30x30
- Meeting with Richard Ingram to discuss visitor management issues.
- Meeting with the Chair of the Westmorland Family and other local authorities to discuss National Highways' planned Lune Gorge Bridges project
- Meeting of the Garsdale-Hawes Members' Steering Group

Gary Smith
Acting Chief Executive

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