

NFNPA RAPC 293/16

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

RESOURCES, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – 6 JUNE 2016

YEAR END PROGRESS REPORT 2015/16

Report by: David Stone, Corporate Services Manager and Nigel Stone, Finance and Performance Manager

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To present final progress against the 2015/16 objectives from the 2015-2018 Business Plan.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 The Authority has produced its Business Plan for the period 2015-2018 which details the main activity of the Authority during that time and, more specifically, further detail on outcomes for the current year. The Business Plan sets out how we will deliver the Authority's two purposes and duty during these timeframes.
- 2.2 The Authority's Business Plan objectives/outcomes are derived from the Partnership Plan for the New Forest (2015-2020) which was approved by the Authority in June 2015 and has since been ratified by all the other partner organisations involved.
- 2.3 This report accordingly comprises the final update on progress against the actions in the plan based on a traffic light system of green – completed; amber – off track but not significant; and red – significantly off track. Individual owners for each outcome have been named to ensure clear lines of accountability. In line with members' previous requests, an explanatory note has been added in the "Risk and mitigation" column to clarify the reasons and next steps as applicable where targets had been flagged red or amber.

- 2.4 The report also contains the performance indicators for the current year (p6-10). This includes the 'family' (national) indicators, agreed by all English National Park Authorities, and a set of 'local' indicators set internally. The local indicators have been refined by Officers to both better reflect priorities and avoid repetition with figures which already appear in the main objectives. Targets have been set that are "achievable but challenging"; therefore it is highly unlikely that all areas will be 'green'.

3 Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 A number of the work programmes and indicators are directly focussed around improving equality and diversity, for example, our work with the Mosaic project, all-ability cycling and by monitoring attendance of under-represented groups at our events.

4 Recommendation

It is recommended that Members note the contents of the report and following discussion, agree any necessary management action.

Papers:

NFNPA/RAPC 293/16

NFNPA/RAPC 293/16 Annex 1: Year End Progress Report 2015/16

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**NFNPA RAPC 293/16
Annex 1**



**Year End Progress Report
2015/16**

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The National Park Authority was established in April 2005 and took on its full statutory powers and responsibilities in April 2006. The Authority will champion the New Forest National Park, working in partnership through co-ordinated and innovative policies and actions, focusing on achieving the two National Park purposes to:

- conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park;
- promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.

National Park Authorities also have a duty, in taking the purposes forward, to:

- seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park.

2015/16 Objectives

We will work towards achieving the Vision for the Park through four main programmes of work that reflect the National Park purposes and duty. These programmes and their outcomes, set out below, will provide the focus for all our future work and will ensure that there are clear and common goals across the organisation.

- **Protect**

We will help to improve the large-scale landscapes and habitats that are characteristic of the New Forest.

APPENDIX 1 – Protect showing progress against the actions

- **Enjoy**

We will work to champion the National Park as a place of inspiration, where everyone is able to enjoy, understand and value its special qualities.

APPENDIX 2 – Enjoy showing progress against the actions

▪ **Prosper**

We will work to support a way of life in the National Park that continues to centre around strong and distinctive communities with a clear cultural identity and a vibrant local economy.

APPENDIX 3 – Prosper showing progress against the actions

▪ **Aiming for Excellence**

We will work to champion the highest quality of service for local people and visitors and work closely with organisations and communities in championing the National Park.

APPENDIX 4 – Aiming for Excellence showing progress against the actions





Protect	Enjoy	Prosper
<p><i>Our priorities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhancing the New Forest’s landscapes and habitats ▪ Ensuring new development is sympathetic and in keeping with its surroundings ▪ Conserving the historic environment and local way of life 	<p><i>Our priorities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enabling high quality experiences of the National Park ▪ Improving understanding of the National Park ▪ Managing recreation to benefit the National Park 	<p><i>Our priorities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting a distinctive and prosperous local economy ▪ Promoting Sustainable Transport ▪ Encouraging sustainable communities
<p>Aiming for Excellence</p>		
<p><i>In all we do:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing the highest quality of service ▪ Achieving maximum benefits for the National Park ▪ Using available resources effectively and efficiently 		

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Family Indicators

	YE Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	YE	DoT	Comment
Conservation of the Natural Environment							
Area of SSSI land in the National Park	32,190ha						
Area of SSSI land in NPA Management	None						
% of SSSI land in 'favourable' condition	54%	n/a			52%	↔	
% of SSSI land in 'recovering' condition	47%	n/a			46%	↔	
Total length of regularly monitored water courses	280km						
% length of regularly monitored water courses with 'high' or 'good' ecological status	20%	n/a			TBC		
% length of regularly monitored water courses with 'moderate' ecological status	70%	n/a			TBC		
Conservation of the Cultural Heritage							
No. of Conservation Areas	20						
No. of Listed Buildings	625						
No. of Listed Buildings at risk	9						
No. of Listed Buildings at risk rescued during the last 3 years	2	n/a			1	↔	
No. scheduled ancient monuments	214						
No. scheduled ancient monuments at risk	c55						
No. scheduled ancient monuments at 'high' or 'medium' risk rescued during the last 3 years	15	n/a			22	↑	

Family Indicators

	YE Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	YE	DoT	Comment
Recreation Management							
Total length of footpaths and other rights of way		326km					
% of total length of footpaths and other rights of way, that were easy to use by members of the public	75%	n/a			62.4%		Authority does not have control over this
Estimated total number of visitors to the National Park (STEAM survey data)		3.8m (2014)					
Total No. of volunteer days organised or supported by the NPA	1,000	n/a			717		Should increase significantly due to OPOF in 2016/17
No. of those days attended by 'under represented' groups	80	n/a			10		Should increase significantly due to OPOF in 2016/17
% of those days attended by 'under represented' groups	8%	n/a			1%		Should increase significantly due to OPOF in 2016/17

Promoting Understanding – Max 150 words

Ancient relics + modern technology = new audiences

Funded by the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme, the New Forest NPA has engaged the public in recording and managing archaeological sites. Over 450 volunteer 'citizen science' survey days took place over three years, including participation by youth groups e.g. cub scouts.

In 2015 a four month long exhibition highlighted the project, deliberately tailored for a younger audience (11-24 years old) and utilising new technologies to make the exhibition as engaging as possible – resulting in a record 20,000 people attending.

During the exhibition a 'Digi Arc' weekend took place, supported by Ordnance Survey, Bournemouth University, Maritime Archaeology Trust and Wessex Archaeology. 800 people took part in digital trails, Minecraft modelling competitions and 3D workshops. Feedback confirmed that these activities had introduced new audiences to the natural and historic environment of the New Forest.

Family Indicators	YE Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	YE	DoT	Comment
Development Control							
No. of planning applications received to date	781					839 in 2014/15	
% of planning applications by type dealt with in a timely manner:							
Major applications determined within 13 weeks	60%	100%	100%	88%	88%	↑	
Minor applications determined within 8 weeks	65%	84%	84%	83%	83%*	↑	
Other applications determined within 8 weeks	80%	97%	95%	95%	93%*	↑	
% of planning applications approved	85%	84%	84%	84%	84%	↔	
% of planning applicants satisfied with the quality of service received	Survey not completed						

* Of those applications which missed the deadlines, the average additional time was 24 days (excludes those which were delayed by S106 agreements).

Corporate and Democratic Core							
Total CO ₂ emissions from NPA operations (tonnes)	103	n/a		99	↑		
% CO ₂ reduction from NPA operations	-2%	n/a		-5%	↑		

Local Indicators

	YE Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	YE	DoT	Comment
Protect							
Number of planning decisions delegated to officers as a % of all decisions	90%	93%	92%	91%	91%	↑	
Appeals allowed against refusal of planning permission by the Authority (% of appeals)	35%	25%	26%	29%	27%	↑	
% of enforcement cases dealt with in a timely manner:							
acknowledge complaints within 3 working days	90%	98%	99%	97%	98%	↑	
carry out initial investigation within 15 working days	90%	94%	97%	96%	97%	↑	
check compliance with enforcement notices within 5 working days of the expiry of the compliance period	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	↑	
initiate action for non-compliance with an enforcement notice within 15 working days	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	↑	
Work with our partners to support at least 25 young commoners in their commoning activities	25	25	25	30	30	↑	
Enjoy							
Combined social media audience	25,000	24,092	25,977	28,583	31,385	↑	
% change in New Forest Tour and Beach Bus passenger numbers	+5%	+3%				↔	Poor weather last summer but still increased usage
Number of promoting understanding face-to-face contacts (education, events, rangers, talks, concierge, training)	40,000	12,620	30,397	36,180	43,000	↑	
Prosper							
External funding generated for Authority projects	£2.5m	£2.4m	£5.2m	£5.2m	£5.2m	↑	Transport Grants and Landscape P'ship Scheme
Partner funding committed to projects supported by the Authority	£1m	£0.7m	£1.5m	£1.5m	£1.5m	↑	

Local Indicators

YE Target Q1 Q2 Q3 YE **DoT** **Comment**

Aiming for Excellence							
Information requests processed within statutory deadline	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	↑	
Complaints processed within 20 working days	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	↑	
Member participation in attending committees	80%	79%	83%	73%	80%	↑	
No of working days lost due to sickness absence per FTE	4	n/a			3.6	↑	
No of working days lost due to sickness absence per FTE, not including long-term sickness absence	3	n/a			3.2	↔	
Business miles claimed in private vehicles per FTE (% change)	-2%	n/a			+2%	↓	
Pool vehicles mileage (% change)	+5%	n/a			+25%	↑	