

# BUSINESS PLAN 2018-2021

## 2019-20 Work Programme

### Protect

**We will endeavour to ensure the qualities that make the National Park a unique and special place are conserved, enhanced and resilient.**

**Protect Priority 1:** Protecting and growing the natural capital across the New Forest National Park landscape, connecting with surrounding areas to ensure habitats and wildlife are sustainable

- Provide clear advice, guidance and training to deliver the Landscape Action Plan, Biodiversity Action Plan and Cultural Heritage Plan
- Lead a co-ordinated approach to strengthen natural capital<sup>1</sup> and ecological networks within and beyond the National Park boundary, supporting Government's ambition for a 'Nature Recovery Network'
- Deliver landscape enhancement in the National Park and maintain and enhance the ecosystem services<sup>2</sup> on which the Park depends
- Identify the key evidence and data requirements needed to inform the conservation of the National Park's special qualities

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<sup>1</sup> Natural capital is the world's stocks of natural assets or resources (including geology, soils, air, water and all living organisms) which have a value.

<sup>2</sup> Ecosystem services can be described as the benefits people obtain from the environment, ranging from physical benefits such as clean air, water and food to aesthetic and cultural benefits that improve our quality of life.

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<p>In reference to the Landscape Action Plan objectives, develop a leaflet and website advice on good quality external lighting which reduces light pollution.</p> <p>Work collaboratively with partners to develop a 'Special by Design' initiative looking at if the man-made infrastructure, such as signage, fulfils its potential to be keeping with local distinctiveness and reinforce the special qualities.</p>	Sarah Kelly			
<p>Work with NFLAS and other partners to work up a legacy plan for the Restoring Lost Landscapes strand of the Our Past, Our Future Landscape Partnership Scheme.</p> <p>Develop a project portfolio and investigate ways of continuing and developing NFLAS' Working Woodlands, Better Boundaries and Nature's Stepping Stones and Rural Skills Projects into the future.</p> <p>(LH1, LH3, LM5, LH8, LH9)</p>	Rachael Gallagher			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<p>Provide a programme of land management support, advice and training for 100 landowners, farmers and commoners through the New Forest Land Advice Service.</p> <p>Work towards bringing 50 hectares of privately-owned land into better management with multiple benefits including for wildlife and commoning.</p> <p>(LM1, LM2, LM3, LH1, LH3, LH7, LH8, LM4, LM5, LM8)</p>	Julie Melin-Stubbs			
<p>Working with partners and through the Green Halo partnership's natural environment workstream, develop a clear understanding of natural capital benefits, existing and potential, in and around the National Park. Do this by:</p> <p>a. Working with the conservation organisations to secure opportunities to connect and grow natural capital which helps to deliver more benefits for people and wildlife.</p> <p>b. Developing four clear proposals that function across the landscape, working within a New Forest nature conservation partnership. This should include the area of Franchises Lodge Nature Reserve.</p> <p>(LH3, LH4, LH11, LM3)</p>	Paul Walton			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<p>Respond to current pressures on wildlife, and the call for action from the Glover Review, by developing and facilitating a New Forest nature conservation partnership with the relevant organisations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. prioritise action</li> <li>b. deliver for biodiversity in a collaborative and streamlined way</li> <li>c. Find and align resources collaboratively to support and deliver action for biodiversity</li> <li>d. Use the actions and outcomes of the previous BAP to inform this new approach</li> <li>e. Agree actions and collaborations for the new Partnership Plan</li> </ul>	Julie Melin-Stubbs			
<p>Design and deliver a wildlife campaign to ensure the public understand the importance of the New Forest for biodiversity and how critical it is to work together now to protect and enhance its habitats and species</p>	Hilary Makin			
<p>Work in partnership with the Forestry Commission to deliver the NPA/FC Accord locally. Agree priority actions by Quarter 1 and bring a 6 monthly progress report to RAPC (Quarter 2 and Quarter 4)</p>	Paul Walton			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<p>With partners, continue work to deliver improved water quality through the New Forest Catchment Partnership</p> <p>By the end of Quarter 3 the partnership has agreed a delivery framework to improve the water quality at Hatchet Pond</p> <p>Celebrate and present the outcomes of work that is being delivered for freshwater habitats through the Partnership, particularly in the Beaulieu Catchment e.g. through the New Forest Show and an exhibition at the Motor Museum</p> <p>Work with partners and camping providers at a minimum of 6 campsites to promote 'clean water camping' in order to reduce impacts on water quality (LH7, LH8)</p>	Ilan Barker			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
With the Forest Farming Group (FFG) work towards securing a new scheme/s for the New Forest SSSI from March 2020 in order to ensure that land management and rural development is funded following EU exit. Explore how this could be extended across the broader National Park landscape and beyond so that natural capital benefits are available across a wider area (LM8)	Paul Walton			
Work with local communities and organisations to progress the Landscape Enhancement Initiative in 3 locations to enhance landscape character where high voltage transmission lines impose on the landscape.	Sarah Kelly			

**Protect Priority 2:** Ensuring new development is sympathetic and in keeping with the National Park, promoting high quality design and environmental net gain

- Provide a long-term planning vision for the National Park informed by the special qualities
- Deliver a high quality, proactive planning service that is focussed on securing the best possible outcomes for the National Park and its communities
- Work with neighbouring authorities in the development and implementation of their planning policies and proposals that may affect the National Park, taking forward the principle of environmental net gain<sup>3</sup> in line with the 25 Year Environment Plan

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<sup>3</sup> The environmental net gain principle expands on the net gain approach used for biodiversity to include wider natural capital benefits, such as flood protection, recreation and improved water and air quality.

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
Secure the adoption of a new Local Plan to guide new development in the National Park	David Illsley			
Investigate the feasibility of establishing a local design review panel to inform and support well designed, high quality buildings and places.	Steve Avery			
Co-ordinate the local design awards scheme to recognise and promote exemplary development in the National Park.	Steve Avery			
Review and update the Local List Requirements to improve the quality of planning application submissions.	Natalie Walter			
Work with neighbouring planning authorities and other partners to develop a shared evidence base regarding the impacts of new development on the protected habitats of the New Forest National Park. (LH10)	David Illsley			



Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
Support the Western Escarpment Conservation Area Action Plan by working with Parish Councils in delivering the actions identified in the Plan, to include feasibility of making an Article 4 Direction to address harmful, small scale changes to the local distinctiveness of the area. (LD8)	David Illsley			
Devise and implement an enhanced monitoring programme for new development to secure greater compliance with planning consents.	David Williams			
Following local council elections, run a series of planning workshops for parish and town councils	Steve Avery			
Re-examine the merits of introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for new development in the National Park	Holger Schiller			

**Protect Priority 3:** Conserving the historic and built heritage; supporting local culture with continued focus on commoning

- Direct the management of scheduled and unscheduled monuments to bring them into good condition
- Work with property owners to improve the condition of historic buildings and heritage features by encouraging repair and renovation, re-use and appropriate management
- Foster greater knowledge and understanding of the cultural heritage of the National Park
- Provide advice and support to secure resources for community-led projects that promote local distinctiveness and commoning way of life

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
Review the 2013 Cultural Heritage Strategy and the Cultural Heritage Action Plan to feed into the Partnership Plan review	Paul Walton			
Through the OPOF and HLS schemes deliver a range to projects to encourage volunteer and local resident involvement in the local heritage, history and archaeology of the New Forest. Aim to involve 250 volunteers and hold two meetings of the Community Heritage Forum. (LD1, LD2, LC1)	James Brown			
Deliver a programme of training in traditional building skills as part of OPOF, with 175 people participating in 8 courses (5 professional and 3 householder). (EW8, LD5)	Lisa Crouch			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<p>Actively manage scheduled and unscheduled ancient monuments on the Crown Lands and the rest of Open Forest.</p> <p>Improve the condition of at least 10 sites on the Crown Lands and the rest of the Open Forest. (LD6)</p>	Lawrence Shaw			
<p>Publish updated guidance to better identify and protect non-designated heritage assets in the National Park</p>	Lisa Crouch			