

BUSINESS PLAN 2018-2021

2019-20 Work Programme – Q3 (1 October to 30 December 2019)

Enjoy

We will champion the National Park as a place of inspiration, where everyone can enjoy, understand, value and care for its special qualities.

Enjoy Priority 1: Helping more people to understand and value the things that make the New Forest National Park unique and special

- Deliver learning and engagement activities (e.g. through rangers, education officers, events, exhibitions and interpretation) for different audiences including a focus on children and young people, making the National Park relevant and accessible and giving them a voice in its future
- Lead the development and delivery of bespoke curriculum-linked education for schools and colleges at selected National Park sites and in the classroom
- Maximise the use of social media and online resources to help a growing number of people to understand, value and care for the New Forest
- Enable organisations with face-to-face public and visitor-facing roles, including educators, businesses and accommodation providers, to be ambassadors for the National Park and its special qualities

Outcome	Senior Responsible Owner	Objectives/priorities/actions	Quarterly RAG status	Overall RAG	Action to regain (if either RAG Amber or Red)
National Park special qualities and key messages promoted through face to face engagement	Gillie Molland	Promote understanding of the special qualities, our work and key messages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15,000 face to face contacts by NPA rangers at events led or co-led by the Authority, community events run by other organisations, informal learning activities, opportunistic use of mobile unit and an on-the-ground presence throughout the National Park. • Other events and activities such as Big Pedall Ride out, New Forest Show and walking festival 			
Other organisations enabled to be ambassadors for the National Park	Jim Mitchell	Support organisations with face-to-face public and visitor-facing roles to be ambassadors for the Forest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving their own sustainability • communicating ‘caring for’ messages to visitors • encouraging car-free visits Target is to work directly with 5+ businesses, 5+ accommodation providers, 8+ local information points and visitor centres			
Awareness of the special qualities raised through corporate communications	Hilary Makin	Raise awareness of the special qualities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • celebration of the 70th anniversary of National Parks • Promotion of the Year of Green Action in the New Forest • increase social media reach and engagement by 20%. 			

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Sessions about the National Park taught to 10,000 students	Nigel Matthews/Amy Moore	Develop and teach curriculum-specific sessions about the National Park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10,000 students from pre-schools, schools and colleges, both in the 'field' and in school • 2019-20 focus on litter / environmental / green action • Maintain and expand New Forest Curriculum web pages Additional collaborative work with partners through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel Grant Scheme (3,000 student visits to the New Forest) • Educators' Forum (28 organisations encouraged to work together) 			

Enjoy Priority 2: Enabling high quality and beneficial experiences of the National Park

- Encourage providers of sites for outdoor recreation to highlight in their visitor information and interpretation the New Forest National Park's special qualities and its status as a nationally-important, living landscape
- Work with Natural England, local communities, land owners, land managers and highway authorities, to establish the England Coast Path and improve agreed recreational sites and routes in ways that will reduce impacts on sensitive areas
- Work with health providers, communities and businesses to enable people to benefit from improved mental and physical health through engagement with the special qualities of the National Park
- Work with partners to develop a shared approach to promoting volunteering, building on the success of the Our Past Our Future scheme and the annual volunteer fair, to enable more people to volunteer in ways which benefit the New Forest's special qualities and support their own wellbeing

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Community interpretation developed	Gareth Owen	Develop interpretive resources with local communities and partners to promote the National Park's designation and special qualities (e.g. suitable signage, self-guided trails, digital): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at least three sites / locations, including new historic routes utilising the rights of way network 			
Access or provision of route information improved	Adam Vasey	Work with partners to improve access or provision of route information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> use rural communities fund and/or other external funding where possible at least four local sites or walking routes to be identified and improved 			
England Coast Path implementation plan developed	Adam Vasey	While the route for the England Coast Path is being determined: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop options for access furniture (e.g. route signage, gates, boardwalks) and interpretation (e.g. points of interest) 			

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PEDALL project supported	Donna Nesityif	Develop the PEDALL project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure external funding of £20K in 2019-20 Recruit 15 volunteers Deliver 190 cycling sessions for up to 400 participants. 			
Apprentice Ranger scheme delivered	Gillie Molland	Deliver the 2019-20 OPOF Apprentice Ranger scheme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> two apprentices recruited, inducted, supported, qualified and prepared for future work in partnership with Forestry Commission, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, National Trust and Hampshire County Council (Lepe Country Park) college courses delivered and reviewed quarterly by Kingston Maurward College. 			

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Young people inspired to get involved	Gillie Molland	In partnership with New Forest heritage and youth-focussed organisations, encourage and inspire 16-25 year olds to get involved with National Parks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Forest Youth Action Project (practical conservation work, environmental education, employability skills) • Other (non-NPA) schemes: John Muir Award, National Citizen Service, Princes Trust programmes, Duke of Edinburgh Award 			This was being led by Craig Daters (who left in Sept 2019), supported by other Rangers and Education staff. We have continued the work as time and resources have allowed and are planning to give renewed focus on it as part of a review of ranger and education roles and as we recruit a new North Ranger.
Coordination of volunteering developed	Jim Mitchell	Grow and develop coordination of volunteering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mutually beneficial partnerships after OPOF • 10th anniversary volunteer fair and guide (attended by 40+ volunteering organisations and 400+ prospective volunteers). 			

Enjoy Priority 3: Facilitating a partnership approach to managing recreation to achieve a net gain for both the working and natural landscape as well as for the recreational experience

- Gain wide agreement and shared commitment to deliver a new suite of prioritised actions that will improve the management of recreation across and beyond the National Park
- Work with partners and facilitate the delivery of co-ordinated communications to influence behaviour and reduce the recreational impact on the 'working Forest' and its special qualities
- Facilitate a review of the sites and routes used for recreation throughout the New Forest and to gain agreement for changes that need to be made, including working with highway authorities and landowners to create a more joined up and safer network of walking and cycling routes between villages and places of interest
- Undertake and support research, and to collate data that clarifies positive and negative impacts of recreation and the success of recreation management initiatives

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Targeted educational, evidence-led campaigns coordinated and delivered	Nigel Matthews	Play a leading role in the co-ordination and delivery of targeted educational campaigns. 2019/20 focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • animal accidents (inc. working with partner organisations to agree the feasibility of average speed cameras on the B3078) • dog walking (inc. a Professional Dog Walkers' Charter) • litter (spring clean and school assemblies) • disturbance of ground nesting birds (increase to four seasonal rangers) • feeding of ponies (inc. new signage at Hatchet Pond). 			Animal accidents were fewer than expected, and plans are well-advanced for 2020 campaigns around litter and ground nesting birds. However, ongoing concerns about dog walking / cattle and feeding of ponies require additional joint working with partners
A wildlife campaign is successfully designed and delivered	Hilary Makin	Ensure the public understands the importance of the New Forest for biodiversity and that everyone needs to play their part in protecting and enhancing its habitats and species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • boost behaviour-change campaigns to encourage people to take individual responsibility • clear and positive explanations about work being done together by New Forest organisations 			See above re campaigns. Misinformation that planting trees across the Forest will help solve climate change has led to direct action at Slap Bottom. Communications around climate change response in the Forest being rolled out with partners.