

BUSINESS PLAN 2018-2021 2020-21 Work Programme

Positive Land Use Change

Enabling the National Park to be richer for wildlife, resilient to climate change and deliver benefits for people such as flood alleviation and recreational opportunities. The Authority is in a position to influence positive land use change through its role as the local planning authority, by working with farmers and landowners and showing the leadership to develop a nature network for the National Park and its surroundings. The new Local Plan includes a number of land use based policies in relation to agriculture, green infrastructure, tourism and other leisure uses such as recreational horse keeping.

The current restrictions on the number of new homes that can be built in South Hampshire due to excessive nutrients (mainly nitrogen and phosphates) entering the Solent is an opportunity to incentivise better management of land in the catchment which is currently releasing nitrates, such as fertilised arable land, in order to reduce nitrate pollution reaching the Solent.

The Environment Bill will put biodiversity at the top of the environmental agenda with a requirement for almost all developments to provide at least 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). Developers, consultants and local planning authorities involved in the preparation and approval of planning applications will need to be ready for the changes.

This programme of work will also need to consider our response to increasing recreational and visitor pressures on land use.

Outcomes	Actions / Priorities	Quarterly RAG status	Overall RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)	Communication Actions
In our role as the local planning authority					
All new development provides, as an absolute minimum, the mandated level of BNG (following enactment of the Environment Bill).	Prepare local guidance for the effective implementation of BNG in the National Park.				
Designated nature conservation sites and habitats are better protected and enhanced through effective management of land use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the use of Local Development Orders and Article 4 Directions to manage recreational and visitor impacts. Implementation of the revised Habitat Mitigation Scheme SPD 				
Nutrient neutrality achieved for all new development in the National Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to apply the Nitrate Mitigation Checklist for all planning applications proposing a net increase in dwellings or providing overnight accommodation. Devise a local scheme to reduce nitrate pollution in the Solent in order to allow consented small-scale housing developments to proceed. 				

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Better management and oversight of land use change in the National Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring new development and change of use of land to ensure compliance with new Local Plan. Continue to support the Encroachment Working Party Develop a data base / map of land use change in the National Park 				
A Vision for the Waterside	Working with partners, agree and secure a comprehensive green infrastructure strategy for the Waterside				
Land Use Change Plan & Campaign					
Creation of a Nature Network for the National Park and surrounding areas, using the range of tools available to the NPA	<p>Encourage and enable positive land use change from highly-managed countryside to one that works with natural processes based on natural capital principles. Key tools that will help achieve this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Net Gain Environment Net Gain Harnessing stakeholders Land Advice Policy Influencing Co-ordination of land-owners/managers Supporting clusters Funding Working beyond our boundary 				

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Reduced recreational impact on the most vulnerable sites and increased recreational use of countryside locations away from designated sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the condition of rights of way, including more informative signage, so that they are used more often • Work with landowners to establish sections of the England Coast Path as they are confirmed, providing clear signage and desire lines that ensure walkers enjoy and stay on the path • Work with partners, communities and landowners to identify robust sites where increased recreation could be enabled on robust sites alongside nature recovery and sustainable transport 				