



Recreation Management Strategy

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Aim to cover

- Brief overview for any newcomers, including the role of the Recreation Management Strategy Steering and Advisory Groups
- Reminder of recent consultations
- The range of strategic actions that are now proposed
- The potential to create a Local Development Order
- Questions



Overview

- Quiet enjoyment of the special landscape, wildlife, tranquillity and unique cultural history of the New Forest – a good thing to do
- It's all too easy to inadvertently spoil the very things we enjoy
- The need to manage recreation is not new; think 1960s, wildlife designations, working Forest, 15.2 million recreation and leisure day visits by 1.4 million people and forecast growth in population
- Recreation Management Strategy 2010-2030: 61 actions
- RMS Working Group:
now split into a Steering
and Advisory Group



RMS Steering Group

- Forestry England
- Natural England
- Verderers of the New Forest
- New Forest National Park Authority
- Hampshire County Council
- New Forest District Council
- Test Valley Borough Council

The RMS Advisory Group has 11 additional organisations



Recent consultations

- 2017 Call for Views consultation – looking back at the actions in the 2010-2030 strategy
- 2018 consultation on 25 draft new proposed actions
- Average of 78% agreed or strongly agreed with proposed actions
- Now proposing 22 strategic actions:
 - more clearly described
 - revised actions about the spatial distribution of recreation facilities
- A working document – most important actions to be in the Partnership Plan
- Endorsement by Steering Group organisations

Proposals

Actions that continue and expand on existing work to help people understand how special the New Forest is, avoid negative impacts and benefit from spending time outside.

Objective 1: Convey the things that make the New Forest National Park special to both visitors and local people in more consistent and effective ways, so that they enjoy it, come to value it, want to care for it and do not inadvertently damage it.	Actions 1.1 – 1.5
Objective 2: Address significant and/or widespread negative impacts caused by recreation in the most appropriate, proportionate and effective ways.	Actions 2.1 – 2.4
Objective 3: Reduce the barriers that limit participation in beneficial outdoor recreation among those who need it most	Actions 3.1 – 3.3

Proposals

Actions relating to specific sites and routes that will help reduce impacts and improve the recreational experience.

Objective 4: Protect and enhance the New Forest's working and natural landscape, and improve the recreational experience, by influencing **where** recreation takes place.

Actions
4.1 – 4.2



This is where the Local Development Order fits in

Proposals

Actions aimed at increasing the level of funding available for recreation management, developing an evidence-based approach and keeping the strategy 'live'.

Objective 5: Increase the level of funding available for recreation management so that it is sufficient to address both existing and upcoming needs.	Actions 5.1 – 5.3
Objective 6: Collate data and evidence to help inform the ongoing management of recreation	Actions 6.1 – 6.2
Objective 7: Regularly review progress against agreed recreation management actions and adapt forward plans to protect the special qualities of the National Park and enable people to enjoy and benefit from them	Actions 7.1 – 7.3

Local Development Order

- Opportunity to develop a spatial plan for formal recreation facilities across the New Forest, including the distribution of car parking
- Protect the special qualities of the New Forest by enabling recreation in the right places
- Would avoid the need for multiple planning applications for small-scale engineering works at individual sites
- Criteria and thresholds for relocation of facilities
- Clear development process prescribed by government, including consultation
- Must have support of key organisations and satisfy legislation



A full suite of actions:

- Raising awareness: learn, value, respect
- Range of 'audiences'
- Targeted educational campaigns
- Signage, social media, more rangers
- Increase funding
- Data and evidence
- Enforcement
- Car parking
- Verge parking
- Alternative sites and routes
- Cycling and sustainable travel
- Dog walking
- Local Development Order
- Joint working between planning authorities

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