

NFNPA RAPC 600/26

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**RESOURCES, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING –
7 SEPTEMBER 2026**

FIRST QUARTER PROGRESS REPORT 2026/27

Report by: David Stone, Corporate Services Manager and Nigel Stone, Director of Resources & Operations

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present first quarter (April-June) progress against the objectives from the 2026/27 Work Programme agreed by members in March.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 Following the adoption of the renewed Partnership Plan by its constituent organisations in 2022, members of this Authority approved the priorities for our own Business Plan in July 2023. This plan sets out what we need to deliver as our part of the partnership, alongside detail on how this will be achieved through specific outcomes, actions, timescales and measures of success.
- 2.2 Members also agreed the 2026/27 Work Programme in March 2026, and this report provides the first quarter progress against the outcomes and actions / priorities within it. As previously, many 'business as usual' items are removed from the tables, leaving a smaller number of clearly defined and concise actions to be monitored during the year.
- 2.3 Progress against these actions is measured by referring to the RAG (Red, Amber, Green) status under the quarterly column – this is simply progress seen in the period April to June against what was originally intended. A further column of RAG status' confirms whether the overall objectives are still expected to be achieved by the end of the financial year. An amber or red status for the quarter or year has been addressed through an 'action to regain' column aimed at mitigation or corrective action to bring the status back to green.

3. Progress Reporting

- 3.1 Under the format agreed by the Committee, the Work Programme does not include a specific column for officers to provide a substantive progress narrative against each of the actions shown as 'green'; however, these narratives will still be available through the Chief Executive's reports which provide a more flexible, detailed and up-to-date account of what has been done. There is however a final column in the tables for any particularly noteworthy officer comments on progress or issues.
- 3.2 Members of the Committee can of course question officers in first instance at the meeting, however should they wish to receive further detailed information or clarifications on a specific issue(s) whilst at the meeting, please contact David Stone or an appropriate member of the Strategic Leadership Team beforehand and they will endeavour to bring such responses along with them.

4. Performance Indicators

- 4.1 As discussed with Members, the national Key Performance Indicators have now morphed into the newly agreed Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework (PLTOF). These all have target dates greater than any single financial year and will be monitored over those timescales through annual year-end progress figures. As in previous quarterly reports, we have also provided our local list of annual indicators. All indicators will mirror the RAG status of the qualitative performance monitoring. For any amber or red indicators, officers have been given the opportunity to provide some text around 'mitigation / actions to regain'.

5. Recommendation

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

Papers:

NFNPA/RAPC 600/26 Cover paper (including KPIs)
NFNPA/RAPC 600/26 Annex 1: Q1 Work Programme Progress Report 2026/27

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Equality and Diversity Implications:

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



Q1 Progress Report 2026/27

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Quarterly Monitoring:

Indicator	Annual Target	25/26 Result
No. of planning applications received this year to date	N/A	116
% of planning decisions delegated to officers	90%+	
% of planning applications approved	85%+	
Speed of Major Development applications	60%+	100
Speed of Non-Major Development applications	70%+	90
Quality of Major Development applications (% overturned at appeal)	10% or less	100% (1)
Quality of Non-Major Development applications (% overturned at appeal)	10% or less	33%
No. of non-major appeals dismissed	N/A	10
No. of non-major appeals allowed	N/A	5
No. of appeals allowed which went against officer recommendation	20% or less	20% (1 of 5)
Current number of live enforcement cases	N/A	TBC
No. of enforcement cases received this year to date	N/A	TBC
No. of enforcement cases closed this year to date	N/A	TBC
Enforcement acknowledges complaints within 3 working days	90%+	TBC
Carry out initial enforcement investigation within 15 working days	90%+	TBC
Check compliance with enforcement notices within 5 working days	100%	TBC
Initiate action for non-compliance with an enforcement notice within 15 working days	100%	TBC
No. of tree works applications received this year to date	N/A	145
No. of tree works applications completed this year to date	N/A	135
No. of new Tree Preservation Orders made	N/A	4
No. of planning consultations received by Tree Team	N/A	44
No. of Tree Preservation Orders appeals	10% or less	0

No. of planning consultations received by Archaeology Team	N/A	27
No. of planning consultations completed by Archaeology Team	N/A	27
Combined social media audience	150,000+	167,762
No. of Climate Pledges received	1,800+	1,898
Number of promoting understanding face-to-face contacts (education, events, rangers, talks, training)	30,000+	8,146
No. of Pedall participants	5,000+	c2,000
% of income derived from sources other than the defra National Park Grant	20%+	24%
Information requests processed within statutory deadline	100%	100% (22)
Complaints processed within 20 working days	100%	100% (2 of 2)
Member participation in attending committees	82%+	76%
Undisputed invoices paid within 30 days	98%+	99%

First Quarter Mitigation / Actions to Regain:

Planning Appeals – Due to the small number of appeals overall in one quarter (1 major, 15 non-major), any upheld against us significantly skews percentage figures in these indicators.

Enforcement Statistics – apologies these are currently unavailable, but Officers will bring them to the Committee meeting.

Member Attendance – The figure has remained stable but is not currently meeting the target, one member has been on long-term sickness. Please note, figures only include official Authority / Committee meetings and not other significant work / events / training attended by our members.