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## Active in the Outdoors – update on Recreation Strategy Action Plan December 2014

*By 2020 the Peak District will be a welcoming place, providing good access for all and quality facilities. Everyone will have the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from healthy outdoor experiences, contribute to the local economy and become more aware of the special qualities of the National Park. There will be a network of public transport routes linked to popular sites and any conflicts between recreation, residents and the management of the environment will be addressed. More people will have better information, a greater choice of activities and more sustainable ways of enjoying them. The National Park will thrive because more people will both enjoy and care for it.*

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### Healthy Lifestyles

- Wider Peak District cycle strategy and action plan have been published and a steering group set up to lead on the actions;
- Derbyshire Sport plan for cycling launched in order to lead on participation and progression elements;
- A dedicated task group has been set up to recognise the needs of mountain bikers and to see what can be achieved together;
- The Peak District & Derbyshire Sustrans Officer is actively engaged with four schools including intensive arts / active travel engagement at Hurst Farm, Matlock
- Work has started on new cycle routes as part of Pedal Peak 2;

### Widening Participation

- Concessionary bridleways created and launched at Longshaw and on the Eastern Moors Estate;
- Pedal Peak District social marketing continues with over 2,500 people signed up to the behaviour change programme which enables them to set their goals and receive hints, tips and advice <http://www.lovetoride.net/peakdistrict> @pedalpeak twitter followers now over 4,794;

- Summer of Cycling 100+ events. 50,000 A5 programmes for widespread distribution across Peak District & Derbyshire. In addition 50,000 sales brochures were used for targeted distribution into Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham, Stoke on Trent and Birmingham in order to widen participation;
- We are now seeking sponsors for the Peak District Cycling Festival / Summer of Cycling 2015;
- Developed a new vision for Stanage North Lees which will lead to development of a management plan;
- You're Welcome' access guide is currently being refreshed;
- A visitor survey and non-visitor survey has been carried out in the North West of the Peak District National Park. It is hoped to extend this to other areas as funds allow.

### **Less Impact**

- We continue to implement action plans for the management of recreational motor vehicles. A further fact finding meeting by Defra on the issue of vehicle use and the powers available to National Park Authorities took place in July;
- The Authority considered the works by Derbyshire County Council at Long Causeway in connection with the decision to make a traffic regulation order and confirmed their decision to prohibit all mechanically propelled vehicles at all times on grounds of natural beauty and amenity;
- Meeting held with vehicle users to discuss management of motorised vehicles in the Hartington area;
- Three long-term directions restricting access to open access land have now been reviewed. The area of exclusion at one of the sites was reduced by a third;
- Three public path diversions are on-going;
- We are working to developing online guidance for large scale events and to encourage participant donations;
- We have been working with young entrepreneurs from Derby to produce a new animation aimed at disseminating key messages for responsible visiting – aimed at young people – but relevant to all – to remind everyone of their responsibilities when carrying out recreation within the National Park so that they respect the land and the people that work it. Derby's Quad have agreed to show it in January 2015 and this event will be used to 'launch' it. It will also be shown at the Youth Forum in February. The online link will be sent out with some clear curriculum links and suggested ways to use it for different age groups.

By Carol Parsons – Recreation Strategy Officer

Carol's role is to implement and monitor the Peak District recreation strategy and deliver the recreation action plan via partnership working and project development. To provide strategic input, technical support and assistance with regard to the relevant National Park Management Plan Outcomes and Corporate Outcomes, as well as promotion and awareness raising of responsible visiting and sustainable tourism.