



Farming in Protected Landscapes programme

Local Assessment Panel members;

Peak District National Park Authority Chief Officer nominee & Senior Officer - Suzanne Fletcher

Natural England (*with deputy*) – Brian Dunning (*Dave Rowley*)

National Farmers Union - Andrew Critchlow

Country Landowners Association - Helen Dale

Dark Peak Farmer/land manager – Joe Dalton/Tom Mills

South West Peak Farmer/land manager - John Stone (Chair)

White Peak Farmer /land manager (*with deputy*) - Ben Garstang (*Robert Adams*)

Environmental Non-Government Organisations (*with deputy*) - Matt Buckler,
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (*Tom Aspinall, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds*)

Additional specialist input may also be provided for a particular application or panel meeting e.g. a representative from the Rural Payments Agency or Historic England.

Background to Farming in Protected Landscapes

1. Protected Landscapes - our National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)- are special and unique places. They are living, working landscapes that also support a huge range of habitats and species, and they are enjoyed by millions of people every year. By supporting the farmers, land managers and people who live and work in these areas, we can help protect these exceptional places and support local communities.
2. To help do this, Defra has introduced the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme, which will run from July 2021 to March 2025.
3. The programme is part of Defra's [Agricultural Transition Plan](#). It has been developed by Defra with the support of a group of AONB and National Park staff from across the country. The programme's National Framework document sets out the purpose and operation of the programme in more detail (link to be added when available).

4. Through the programme, farmers and land managers can be supported to carry out projects that support nature recovery, mitigate the impacts of climate change, provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage, or support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses. This is a programme of funding for one-off projects covering these areas of work, not an agri-environment scheme.

Purpose of the Panel

To consider and decide on applications for projects (with a total fund request of over £10,000) submitted to the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme, according to the agreed criteria for the programme as published in the information for applicants and in accordance with the scoring system provided. Protected Landscapes are responsible for appointing the panel.

Role of Local Assessment Panel (LAP)

The panel shall:

- Refer all enquiries for the Farming in Protected Landscapes grant to the Protected Landscapes FiPL officer without prejudicing their decision making
- Receive a report and recommendation on all valid applications from the FiPL officer and should consider all applications along with the FiPL officer report and recommendations
- Assess applications, giving regard to the FiPL National Framework and other guiding documents, and marking applications to achieve the desired outcomes of the FiPL programme
- Assess applications using the scoring system provided
- Award, partially award, request more information or refuse applications
- Give precise reasons for decisions - these reasons should refer to the guidance documents and scheme criteria.
- Treat decisions as confidential until notice has been issued by the Protected Landscape to the applicant.
- Review and make recommendations for alterations the Panel's Terms of Reference; these recommendations will be considered by the Chief Officer or their nominee and the Chair of the panel
- Champion the FiPL programme with farmers, land managers and other relevant organisations
- Have regard to the [Nolan Principles](#) in all its affairs

Date of meetings

Panel meetings will generally be held every 6 to 8 weeks during the application window.