

Peak District National Park Authority – Meet the CEO Roadshow – Community Feedback

Venue: Grindleford, Bishops Pavilion

Date: 10 April 2025

NPA/Authority – the Peak District National Park Authority

Issues raised

[Identical questions or concerns from previous Roadshows are not repeated, please see all available feedback online]

EV charging

The Authority currently does not have any active plans, or available funding, for further roll out of EV charging points at visitor locations, further to that already completed as part of the Recharge in Nature partnership with BMW UK. EV charging facilities in general residential areas are likely to be a matter, initially, for consideration by county and district councils. It would not be in the Authority's remit to provide residential EV charging facilities for homeowners.

Car parking [please see all previous roadshow notes]

The Authority is convening a discussion with MPs on 23 May to cover this issue, following an initial senior-level meeting including planning officers between the police, highways authorities and landowners in April. Outcomes from this can be shared with Parishes accordingly.

Broader highways concerns and potentially disruptive or illegal use of roads and parking (including restrictions and enforcement) would be a matter for the police or highways authority, as the NPA has no specific jurisdiction.

Parking charges

Authority charges are in line with many similar providers locally, including local authorities. All sites require maintenance and care; costs of which have also risen substantially in line with inflation. Parking charges also help to support facilities such as public toilets and 35 miles of accessible, all-user trails, which are made available free at point of use. Due to the number of additional parties operating car parking provision across the Peak District, it isn't currently practical to provide a transferable ticket to all and any car park in the area.

Public transport

Whilst not a transport authority in its own right, the National Park Authority aims to influence regional transport policy through strategy, data and working in partnership with commercial operators. This is a challenging environment as demonstrated by the recent closure of Hulleys, with some routes picked up by alternative, larger providers such as Stagecoach. We are regularly discussing these issues with both MPs and the combined authority mayor. There are some routes where bus services are not practical due to the size of the vehicles.

Tolls

There are currently no plans to introduce 'tolls' for entry into the Peak District National Park and this would likely be unworkable as a practical option. The Authority is exploring numerous commercial and revenue-generating opportunities to bridge the gap in core government grant funding.

Visitor Centres

National Park Visitor facilities at Edale and Upper Derwent are now closed. Castleton and Bakewell visitor hubs remain fully open and operational.

17 April 2025