
PEAK DISTRICT LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP

LNPR2-72 (“Nature Peak District”)



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PEAK DISTRICT LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION

Section A: A description of your proposed LNP

Q.1. Please describe:

a. The geographical location and boundary of your proposed LNP.

The Peak District is one of the most popular, accessible and well known upland areas in England. The proposed Peak District LNP is based on the 3 national character areas – Dark Peak, White Peak and South West Peak which define the Peak District with the Peak District National Park at its core (Figure 1).

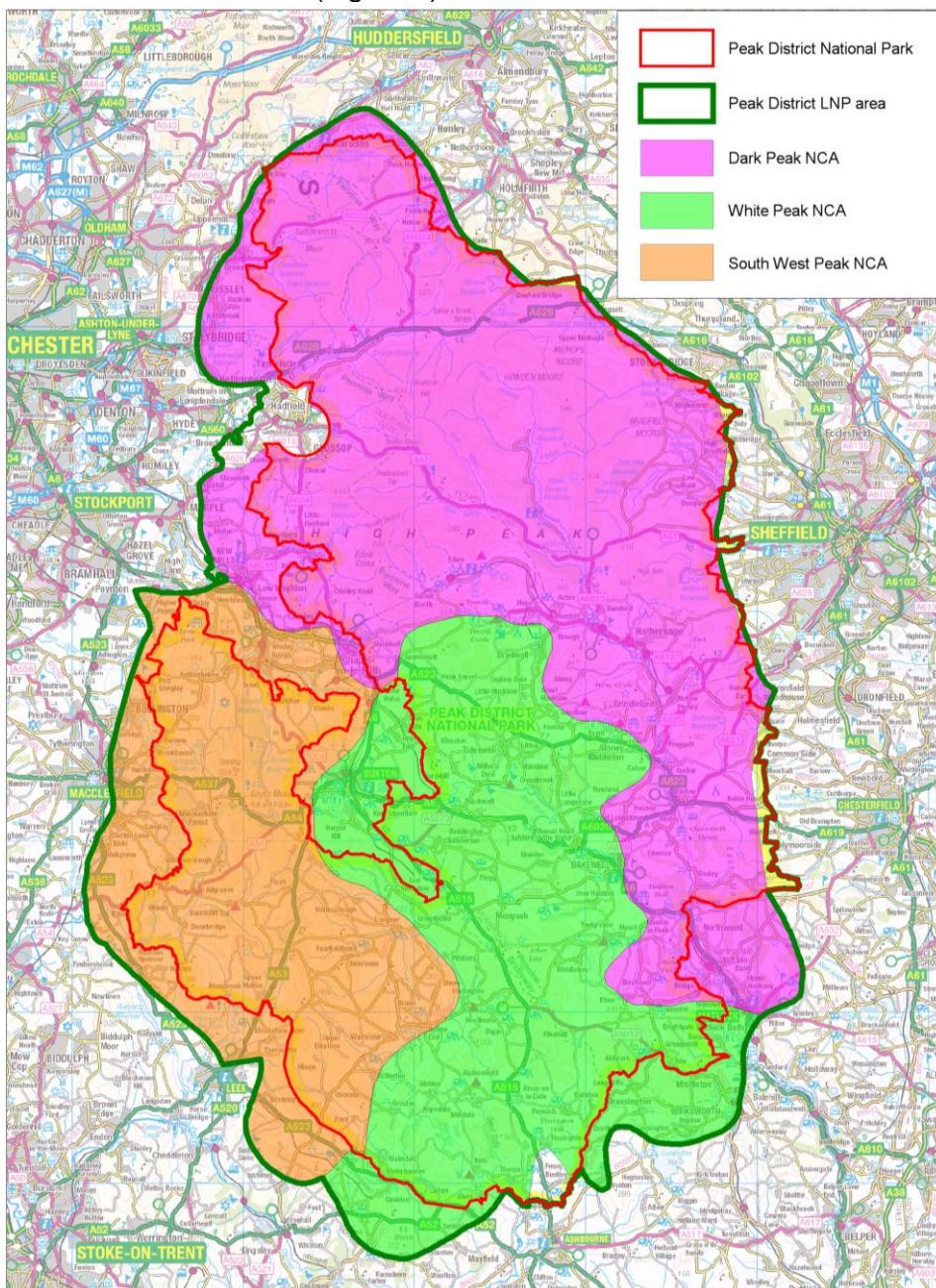


Figure 1 Map of the Peak District LNP area

b. Your partnership's current membership and structure, including the level of involvement of the different members (feel free to use a diagram if it is helpful)

We have the bedrock of a broad partnership of people and organisations including representatives from the community, business and health sectors as well as environmental bodies. This includes representatives at member, director and officer level as well as grass roots community representatives. This broad partnership has been established through the capacity building process (which engendered much support and enthusiasm for a Peak District LNP) and we will retain links with this wider partnership through an annual meeting.

We are currently in the process of establishing an Interim Board which will drive the LNP. The capacity building process has given us a strong indication of who will want to be involved in that. The National Park Authority will continue to co-ordinate in the interim period.

Various options for the structure below the Board have been discussed by the wider partnership, and the Interim Board will make a decision on this once established. There is a strong will to have a flexible structure which builds on and makes links with existing partnerships. The structure is therefore likely to comprise a combination of utilising existing fora and establishing a small number of standing groups (geographically and/or topic-based) and temporary task-and-finish groups.

The following gives some indication of the range and likely level of involvement of organisations and individuals; this willingness to participate was captured during the capacity-building stage:

Representation on (Interim) LNP Board

- Business Peak District (see Q8 for description) - providing link to LEPs (also to be pursued through liaison with other LNPs).
- Public Health representatives (NHS Derbyshire County - providing link to Health & Wellbeing Boards).
- NGOs (including Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Friends of the Peak District).
- Local Community Group representative (e.g. Peak Park Parishes Forum and representative of community bodies such as Rural Action Derbyshire).
- Representative of Peak District Land Managers Forum (which includes farmers and private landowners as well as bodies such as United Utilities) and/or Derbyshire Rural and Farming Network.
- Natural England.
- Environment Agency.
- Biodiversity representative on National Park Management Plan Advisory Group - Penny Anderson.
- Peak District National Park Authority.

Wider Partnership Members (also likely to participate periodically in standing and task-and-finish groups established by the Board):

- Community Groups (including Chapel Vision, Transition Buxton, Bakewell & Eyam Community Transport).
- Country Land & Business Association - providing a link to the Peak District Land Managers' Forum.
- Individual businesses (including Tarmac, tourism providers, farm businesses)
- Wildlife Trusts (Staffordshire, Sheffield).
- Forestry Commission.
- Groundwork
- Local Authorities

- Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.
- Landscape-scale project representatives (including Dark Peak NIA, Moors for the Future Partnership, Sheffield Moors Partnership).
- Geology groups (including Sheffield Area Geology Trust, Derbyshire RIGS Group).
- Local Access Forum.
- Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service.
- BTCV.

In addition, links with cultural heritage - which is seen as an integral part of landscape and recreation - are currently being explored.

Section B: A summary of your ideas and plans for an LNP in your area

Q.2. We are keen to capture a summary of both what your ambitions are for an LNP in your area and an overview of the initial steps you plan to take towards it. Please:

a. Summarise what you feel the LNP role could mean for your area - what difference could your LNP make at a strategic level and how might it go about doing it?

We begin on a strong footing. Because we have a National Park at the core of the LNP we already have a strong ethos of partnership with sustainability and the natural environment at its heart. We therefore envisage the primary role of the LNP as developing and strengthening links between existing fora and driving forward key strategic cross-sectoral initiatives. This will be done primarily through:

- Integrating sustainable economic, environmental and social policy, strategy and initiatives to ensure that environmental issues are at the heart of decision making, and to increase the effectiveness of delivery.
- Promoting the integration and understanding of ecosystem services across environmental, health & wellbeing and visitor sectors through LEPs and Business Peak District, Health & Wellbeing Boards, the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group and directly with relevant organisations.
- Involvement of local people and communities - strengthening links between local community groups and providing integrated support for them, by finding out what local groups feel they need, what the LNP could offer, and exploring ways of providing this support in an effective way.
- Identifying gaps in delivery and promoting means of addressing them through an integrated approach to existing or new initiatives, ensuring the development and use of an effective evidence base.
- Providing co-ordinated evaluation of the effectiveness of actions for the Natural Environment.
- Maintaining the flexibility to accommodate change, such as adapting to climate change.

The LNP Board will play a complementary role to other key fora such as Local Enterprise Partnerships (through Business Peak District), Health & Wellbeing Boards and the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group (which has an advisory role in relation to delivery of the National Park Management Plan). The LNP will help develop linkages and synergies between the work of these groups, and the relationship between the LNP Board and these key fora will be kept under review.

b. Provide a high level summary of the key actions you plan to undertake in the first 6 months if you become a Government-recognised LNP – ideally in a table / list of bullet points of not more than 2 pages.

This is a very short timescale and we envisage that the programme of specific action will start to emerge in the first 6 months but much of the time will be taken up with establishing formal structures and relationships. In this period our key objectives will therefore be to:

- Set up aLNP Interim Board and hold an initial board meeting to finalise governance and terms of reference; determine the working relationship between the LNP Interim Board and National Park Management Plan Advisory Group; agree working relationships and 'memorandum of agreement' with neighbouring LNPs; agree and establish resourcing priorities and ways of meeting those needs.
- Inspired by our strategic Vision, identify key Natural Environment and related business and health & wellbeing priorities which would benefit from a strengthened policy/strategy base, better integration of existing delivery or new delivery mechanisms (e.g. issues around water quality and supply including low-flow of rivers, diffuse pollution, flood-risk management, biodiversity, moorland management and landscape/amenity have emerged as an important theme from the capacity-building stage).
- Set up LNP structure - standing and task & finish groups - to reflect priorities.
- Complete a communications plan (including establishing liaison mechanisms with other bodies and fora, a strategy for engaging under-represented sectors - see Q5, and setting up a LNP website).
- Support the development of a Geodiversity Action Plan.
- Identify ways of supporting community groups and plan a wider partnership launch event.

Section C: Your preparations and plans for becoming an effective LNP

Q.3. Describe any progress you have made towards developing, and / or how you plan to develop, a strategic vision for your area and how you plan to use your vision to inform your work and priorities.

There is a strong existing strategic vision for the core area in the form of the National Park Management Plan, which has recently been agreed by a wide partnership of stakeholders including the majority of LNP partners. This plan, which is also outward-looking beyond the boundaries of the National Park, is underpinned by more detailed strategies and action plans such as the Local Biodiversity Action Plan, Climate Change Action Plan, Recreation Strategy etc. We do not therefore intend to spend time developing a new vision for the area, but have focused instead on developing a mission for the partnership which clarifies its role in fulfilling that vision.

We will weave together key strategies and priorities from the draft Health & Wellbeing Strategy, the business sector and the environmental sector and identify integrated priority areas of work for Task & Finish groups. We will start with a particular priority cross-sector theme (e.g. water quality, increasing native woodland) then identify how this links to other areas e.g. climate, landscape, community involvement etc. From this we will identify and support the development of key means of addressing these priorities through:

- encouraging a strengthening of the policy/strategy base where necessary
- supporting and encouraging better integration of existing delivery mechanisms
- supporting the establishment of new strategic initiatives where necessary

Q.4. Describe how the individuals and organisations in your current membership reflects the range of skills, expertise, interests and level of authority needed to become an effective LNP and how you will address any gaps.

A wide range of individuals and organisations across a variety of sectors have been engaged in the capacity building process. There is a strong commitment from the health sector, businesses and communities to engage as well as environmental bodies. We will ensure that representation on an interim LNP Board will have close links with key strategic bodies such as the Health and Well-being Board, LEPs through Business Peak District and the independent National Park Advisory Group.

The Interim Board will be listening hard to its local community representative and the representatives from the NGOs who work closely with local communities; it will be these representatives who will be key in helping to ensure a proper engagement with local community groups.

An indication of how the range of skills, expertise and interests required for an effective LNP will be reflected in the membership (as identified in Question 1b) is as follows:

- **Strategic thinking** - There is high-level officer representation from key strategy-forming organisations including statutory agencies, Local Authorities, the Peak District National Park Authority and Health & Wellbeing Boards.
- **Credibility to influence decision makers** – The capacity-building process has attracted high-level Member support from local authorities; and individuals involved in the process have a strong track record in being respected in their areas of work and influencing others. These include Derbyshire Rural and Farming Network, CLBA, NFU, the President of the Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management, lead officers for the Derbyshire Health & Wellbeing Strategy and Friends of the Peak District.

- **Deep understanding of ecosystem services and landscape scale management**
– The LNP will draw on the expertise of member organisations such as Natural England, the Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, the Land Managers Forum and the National Park Authority.
- **An understanding of the needs of Businesses** - Will be well represented through Business Peak District which covers land management, retail, manufacturing, tourism, food & drink and property sectors. Other representation ranges from small individual farm-based businesses to larger industry representatives such as Tarmac.
- **Working in partnerships** - There is a very strong history of partnership-working in the area, both for strategy and delivery, amongst many of the LNP bodies.
- **An understanding of countryside recreation and health issues** – These are catered for through strong representation from NHS Foundation Trusts alongside organisations such as Natural England, the National Trust and the National Park Authority, which are engaged in countryside recreation issues.
- **Community engagement** - This is seen as a key area of work for the LNP and will draw on existing expertise from organisations such as The Wildlife Trusts, Groundwork, Council for Voluntary Service and, representing landowner interests, CLBA and NFU.

For further information on the representation of different sectors within the partnership see Q2b. We believe that the capacity-building work has been successful in engaging a wide range of sectors. Perhaps the least well-represented (though by no means unrepresented) are individual community groups, and an early task of the Interim Board will be to address that by reviewing existing liaison mechanisms with such groups.

Q.5. Describe how you have involved and engaged, and / or how you plan to involve and engage, wider interests who may not be represented in your membership in your work.

A strong integrated approach to environmental and socio-economic issues already exists in the Peak District through a range of existing fora and projects such as the National Park Advisory Group, Business Peak District, Environmental Quality Mark, Land Management Advisory Service, Moors for the Future and others. The LNP will aim to strengthen this further and we have identified our initial priorities as strengthening links particularly with the business sector through Business Peak District and relevant LEPs; developing closer links with Health & Wellbeing Boards and looking at ways to influence delivery of, and help implement, the elements of Health & Wellbeing Strategies which link to the Natural Environment; and strengthening links with, and support for, local community groups such as Chapel Vision who are piloting a neighbourhood plan.

The capacity-building work to date has included 3 sectoral workshops for the Environmental, Business and Health & Wellbeing sectors respectively, and a telephone survey of local community groups (timescales have precluded a further workshop). Information and views from these workshops were then drawn together in a cross-sectoral workshop involving representatives from all these sectors to clarify the purpose, potential structure and vision for the LNP. During this process, contact was made with 140 individuals representing 83 organisations; 56 people were actively involved in either a workshop or telephone survey, and an additional 19 people attended more than one, with 48 different organisations represented. The results of this engagement process form the basis of the current bid. It has been particularly encouraging that as part of the capacity-building work, the three priority sectors: business, health & wellbeing and local communities, have all been well-represented and been keen to engage, and have included a significant number of individuals not normally represented on existing environmental fora.

However, in spite of these most encouraging signs of involvement across all interests so far, a task of the Interim Board will be to keep a watching brief to ensure that engagement with wider interests continues. If necessary, the Interim Board will take action to ensure that this prevails, actions ranging from establishing one-to-one contact through to holding specific welcoming events to listen and engage.

An indication of the level of support from different organisations is given in Appendix 1.

Q.6. Describe any progress you have made towards establishing, and / or how you will establish, the partnership's credibility in the area and ensure it has the ability to effectively engage and collaborate with a range of local senior decision makers.

During the capacity building phase of the LNP we have made contact with some 140 individuals in the Peak District, representing businesses, the health sector, the environmental/biodiversity sector, local authorities, and local communities & community representatives.

The final cross-sector workshop, where we brought together 39 representatives of many different interests, was supported at member level with both the chair of the Peak District National Park Authority and the Leader of Derbyshire County Council & Chair of the Derbyshire Shadow Health & Wellbeing Board giving presentations. Attendance at the workshop included representatives of businesses, local authorities, local community groups, the three statutory agencies and NGOs at all levels from volunteer, officer, head of department, director and chief executive.

The National Park Management Plan (NPMP) has been approved as a shared strategic document by a wide range of stakeholders and already demonstrates partnership and credibility.

Therefore, as can be seen, the partnership has already begun to establish credibility and has already engaged at a deep level with senior decision makers. Also, as can be seen in Questions 1b and 4, the Interim Board and wider partnership are represented by key, credible, influential individuals. They are keenly aware that for a Peak District LNP to be effective and to be able to 'do business' with local senior decision makers, that credibility must be maintained and developed, mainly by demonstrating at an early stage the difference that the LNP will make. Its first significant actions and the way it communicates them will be key.

Q.7. Describe any progress you have made towards ensuring, and / or how you will ensure, that the LNP has effective and accountable governance and decision making processes.

The capacity building process has been a good vehicle for setting the right tone for good accountable governance and fair decision making processes. It involved consultation with 140 organisations and individuals of which 39 participated in the final workshop with good representation from all sectors. This has had active support at Member level from key bodies (see Q6).

It also involved representation from local community groups and the LNP will build on that relationship to form an effective communication channel between organisations and communities.

To continue this work towards good governance, an Interim Board will be set up in the first six months, prior to establishment of a formal Board. Potential membership of that Interim Board has emerged from indications of support from representatives of the wider partnership through the capacity building work. One of the key issues to be addressed by the Interim Board in setting up the formal Board will be longer-term accountability.

Good and effective governance is not only accountable, it also is efficient, simple, focused, allows a respectful conflict of ideas and has good outcomes.

The work that we have done so far in the capacity building stage has explored how the structure of the Peak District LNP can make for efficiency and simplicity. Models have been explored and discussed, and we believe that the final model to emerge (to be decided by the Interim Board) will do just that, by using existing fora and establishing smaller standing groups.

The other aspects of good governance will be established initially by Terms of Reference for the Interim Board and wider partnership. These will cover areas such as expectations of the Board Members including confidentiality, inclusivity and impartiality.

The National Park Authority (NPA), who will be driving the LNP forward in its initial stage and have overall responsibility for administrative and financial management of the LNP, has a good reputation for good governance, the way it conducts meetings and makes decisions. The NPA will facilitate early meetings of the Interim Board in a way that exemplifies good practice in ensuring that all have a voice, that access to decision making is available to all, and that measurable actions and outcomes are recorded.

Q.8. Describe how your partnership plans to embed the value of the natural environment into the strategic planning and decision making of others, particularly the economic and health and wellbeing sectors.

The Peak District LNP will build on the existing strong partnerships to ensure that the environment is embedded in decision making. There is an existing track record of delivery partnerships centred on the value of the natural environment such as Moors for the Future, Sustainable Catchment Management (SCaMP), Sheffield Moors Partnership and the new opportunity presented by the Dark Peak NIA which is the only upland NIA pilot and 1 of only 2 in National Parks.

There is wide recognition of the importance of ecosystem services in the area such as the links between healthy moorlands, carbon storage, water quality and recreational opportunities. The LNP will help establish priorities for strengthening this integrated approach to ecosystem service benefits and explore the scope for developing payment for ecosystem services and trialling visitor payback schemes.

Economic Sector

We envisage that the LNP will mirror the Local Enterprise Partnerships in strategic influencing.

Business Peak District was set up to ensure that the Peak District has a strong and unified voice with a link to the 6 relevant Local Enterprise Partnerships in the area. A Concordat has been produced with key priorities for growth in the Peak District economy supported by the LEPs, Chambers of Commerce and County Councils. Business Peak District has shown strong engagement with the capacity building process and already has some recognition of the importance of the natural environment to business opportunities particularly in branding.

Surrounding local authorities (including significant urban areas such as Sheffield, Manchester, and Rotherham) show considerable awareness, and are very supportive, of the importance of the Peak District to them and their promotion and business opportunities.

As an indication of how leading business people see the value and potential for ecosystems services and landscape scale thinking locally, the following feedback arose from the Business Focus Group during the capacity-building stage:

“... the natural environment is integral to everything in the Peak District.”

“The key thing is the landscape scale – that could make a difference. Makes a more coherent approach.”

“If the natural environment is improved, what could that do for business? Water purity is improved because it's needed for business purposes, but it benefits the natural environment as well.”

The LNP will build on this understanding by helping align business and natural environment interests, working with Business Peak District to develop new opportunities locally and influencing the work of the Local Enterprise Partnerships. It will also work closely with land management interests through the Peak District Land Managers Forum.

Health & Wellbeing

The shadow Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB) for Derbyshire is one of the earliest established shadow HWBs in the country, with the Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities having already been out for public consultation, and a draft strategy already prepared. Healthy lifestyles and improved emotional and mental health have already been identified as two of the key priorities of the H&WB strategy, and the LNP will be able to influence how that role will be delivered to mutual benefit for the natural environment and society. Through one of our capacity building workshops, attended by a number of healthcare professionals (including the organiser of the consultation), there was great support for collaboration over shared priority areas for health and the environment. Examples from this workshop of how the LNP could operate in collaboration with the Health sector included:

“Using health workers' expertise and knowledge of using outdoor environment for therapeutic use to improve mental, physical and spiritual wellbeing”

“PCT-commissioned health and wellbeing projects involving the LNP”

“Health and wellbeing LNP representatives influencing policy and delivery within their organisations”

“Community engagement, with a view to development of joint projects with skilled support from public, private and voluntary sectors”

Q.9. Describe how you see the LNP adding value to the range of other local projects and initiatives concerned with the sustainable management of the natural environment in your area, including any Nature Improvement Areas, biodiversity offset pilots and catchment partnerships and other land management initiatives.

There are a wide range of existing natural environment initiatives in the Peak District such as the Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area, Environmental Quality Mark, Local Biodiversity Partnership, Local Access Forum, Moors for the Future projects, Catchment Sensitive Farming project and Sheffield Moors Partnership. These complement and reinforce the

targeting of environmental stewardship. In addition, there are a number of smaller scale local community initiatives and projects. The LNP will add value to this existing work by:

- Raising the profile of the natural environment and the (often hidden) value of ecosystem services.
- Championing the business case for sustainable management of precious natural resources with the relevant sectors; and wider sustainability issues through work with Transition town groups.
- Influencing policy, strategy and implementation across key sectors to ensure the framework for action for the natural environment is enhanced.
- Providing a strategic role in guiding future natural environment priorities for existing and new initiatives by developing and promoting opportunity maps and ecological networks.
- Reinforcing and improving an integrated approach by encouraging existing and new initiatives to deliver multiple ecosystem service (including socio-economic) benefits alongside their core objectives, e.g. ensuring that tourism initiatives deliver benefits for the natural environment.
- Drawing existing initiatives together and facilitating links between them (e.g. to promote joint working, sharing best practice).
- Helping provide and enhance mechanisms for delivering the vision in an integrated way.
- Building up a stronger evidence base and enhancing availability of data (e.g. through an online toolkit).
- Exploring visitor payback schemes with the Dark Peak NIA.
- Providing a collective mechanism under which access to resources may be unlocked.
- Co-ordinating support for and communication with local community initiatives through annual networking events and a LNP website.

Q.10. Describe the opportunities you see for funding the delivery of your aims, for instance by aligning and targeting local resources and sources of funding, and how you plan to support the running of the partnership.

There is a strong desire amongst all partners to minimise the administrative costs of running the LNP. Current proposals are therefore for administrative support to be absorbed by partners through “in-kind” contributions, with the National Park Authority underpinning core support. Maximum use will be made of developing links with existing initiatives. The need for any additional financial support to administer the partnership, and possible ways of doing that if necessary, will be reviewed by the interim Board. Options put forward at the cross-sector workshop included:

- Continue to use in-kind partner contributions.
- Seek voluntary financial contributions from partners.
- Formal membership with a fee.
- Seeking external funding support e.g. through Community Infrastructure Levy.

Resources for delivery are likely to be largely through enhancing and expanding existing funding opportunities. Much of this is likely to be channelled through existing or new project work, but the LNP has a key role to play in helping co-ordinate funding strategies and ensuring projects are maximising opportunities for multiple benefits when bidding for resources. This will be done through:

- Pooling resources – knowledge, information, time and finances.
- Collaborating over external funding bids.
- Supporting, and where appropriate developing new external funding bids by providing a strong strategic framework of shared priorities.
- Influencing and enhancing targeting of existing expenditure.

- Helping identify savings that could be made in other sectors through more modest expenditure related to the natural environment (e.g. reducing health care costs; reducing flood risk; reducing water treatment costs).
- Exploring visitor payback schemes.

Q.11. Describe why your boundary is the most appropriate one for your LNP and why any overlaps are necessary. Please also tell us about what you have agreed with neighbouring LNPs about how you will work together, including how any overlaps will be managed or resolved.

The boundary of our LNP is based on the three National Character Areas (White Peak, South West Peak and Dark Peak) which together have a strong local and national identity as the Peak District, reflecting landscape, wildlife and geology as well as land use and economy. This gives the area a coherent “local distinctiveness”.

The boundary fits well with existing initiatives such as Visit Peak District, Business Peak District and the Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan, all of which include the wider Peak District area with the National Park at the core. Several existing organisations such as Natural England, the Forestry Commission and the National Park Authority are also aligned to the proposed LNP area. Although the area is not aligned to Local Authority boundaries, both Local Authorities and other organisations have a long-established history of effective cross-boundary working in the area, recognising the Peak District as a distinct environmental and socio-economic entity.

We have discussed boundary issues with adjacent LNPs, and support these complementary LNP bids for adjacent areas, shown in Figure 2:

1. **West Yorkshire LNP** – includes an area of overlap covering the administrative boundary of West Yorkshire in the areas of Barnsley and Kirklees.
2. **South Yorkshire LNP** - includes an area of overlap covering the administrative boundary of South Yorkshire. This joint working area is important to both LNPs, the urban populations of South Yorkshire benefitting from access to the landscapes and ecosystem services provided by the National Park, and in turn the tourist/visitor revenue and community engagement value to the National Park from the urban populations.
3. **Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire LNP** - boundaries have been agreed to avoid overlap. We will ensure close working relationships between the two LNPs, particularly on county-wide issues.
4. **Staffordshire LNP** - includes the county up to the National Park boundary. There is therefore some overlap where small parts of the White Peak and South West Peak National Character Areas extend beyond the National Park boundary. This reflects existing working arrangements for many initiatives such as the Local Biodiversity Partnerships.
5. **Cheshire LNP**- includes an area of overlap reflecting the county boundary. We are exploring ways to strengthen working relationships, improve communications, agree division of work to maximise efficiency in geographically shared areas, and develop closer working across landscapes and ecosystems.

6. **Greater Manchester LNP** - includes an area of overlap reflecting administrative boundaries. Division of responsibility within the shared area will be based on the expertise and knowledge of the respective LNPs.
7. **South Pennines Uplands LNP** - boundaries have been agreed to avoid overlap. However, there is significant scope for cross-boundary working through landscape-scale initiatives such as the Moors for the Future partnership and the South Pennines and Dark Peak IBDA.

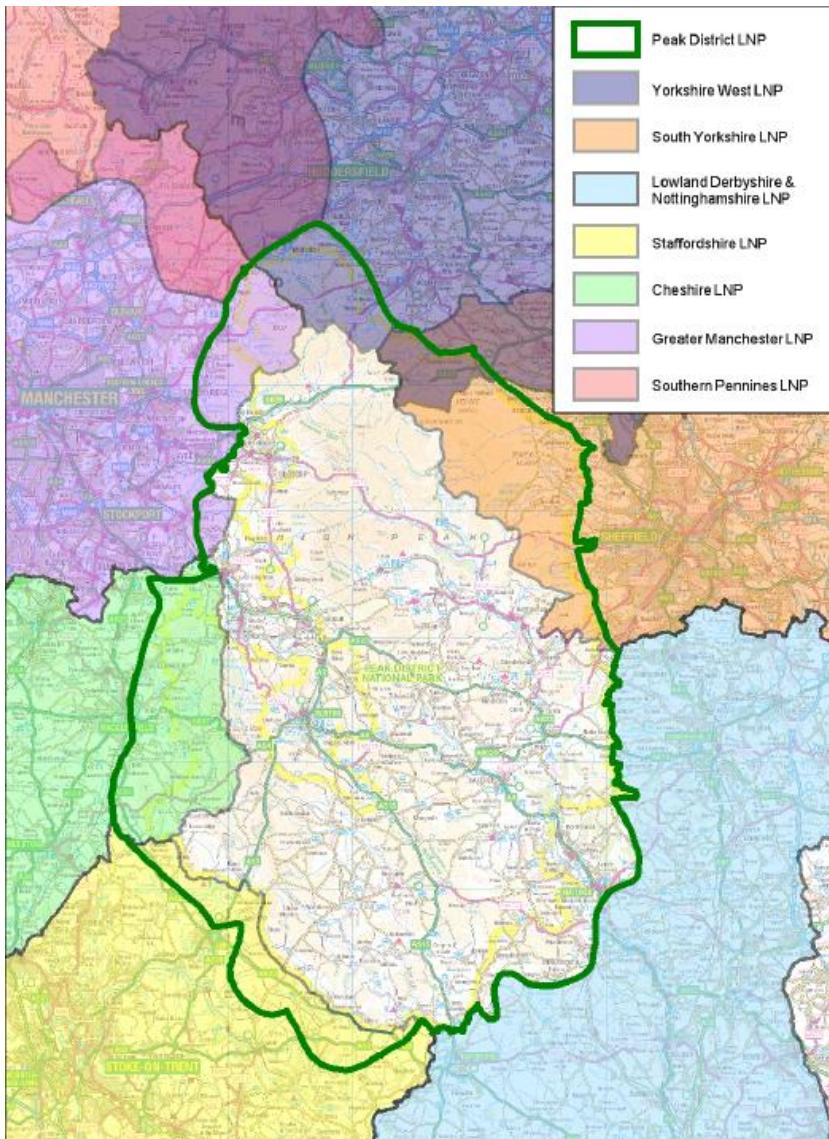


Figure 2 Peak District LNP and its neighbours

We have liaised/met with representatives from all adjacent proposed LNPs and agreed the following principles:

- Proposed boundaries will avoid overlaps where appropriate.
- That all parties are happy with the need for the modest areas of overlap, as these areas have an identity and importance both in the context of the uplands of the Peak District and in the context of surrounding areas (e.g. a county boundary); and they also make sense with regard to existing working relationships (e.g. with Local Enterprise Partnerships).

- That the LNPs will have a different and complementary focus within these overlap areas. For example, the Peak District LNP and organisations involved in it may be best placed to lead on many issues related to land management and recreation in the Peak District, whilst neighbouring LNPs may be best placed to lead on other issues such as liaison with LEPs.
- That we would work out detailed working arrangements in overlapping areas.
- That we would liaise between the different LNPs to co-operate on cross boundary issues and share good practice. The opportunity for joint working is a strength and benefit for LNPs as it widens the pool of potential resources, knowledge, expertise, and involvement. It offers the opportunity to deliver larger landscape-scale benefits, and integrate and embed those benefits more widely.

Q.12. Describe how you plan to monitor and evaluate your work, including how you will know you are making a difference.

The LNP Interim Board will initially identify priority issues and then agree specific objectives and, where appropriate, indicators and targets for these. A streamlined reporting mechanism against these priorities will be agreed with partners, drawing on existing mechanisms as far as possible. This is likely to draw heavily on existing partnership-reporting mechanisms for the National Park Management Plan, for example. The establishment of 'Task and Finish' groups each with a specific purpose will aid the monitoring process. Monitoring will need to take into account:

- The extent to which the LNP has established an overall coherent and strategic vision which is used by partners in influencing policy, strategy and priorities.
- The influence the LNP has had on modifying existing initiatives to expand the integrated scope of their delivery.
- Any new initiatives arising from the partnership.
- The additionality brought to external funding bids and other resource allocation.
- The extent to which community action has been facilitated.

Whilst some outputs will be measurable, arguably the most significant longer-term benefits of the LNP in raising awareness of the natural environment and the value of ecosystem services, and influencing policy affecting the natural environment, may require a more objective assessment of success.

We look forward to working more collaboratively and effectively across the Peak District with a wider range of interests, from strategic to grassroots level, for the benefit of the natural environment and the associated socio-economic benefits it provides.

Appendix 1 – Support from partner organisations

The following are directly quoted from emails, feedback from workshops and response to the LNP application where partners have indicated their support for the LNP and desired level of involvement.

“I think that public health should play a role in further development of the proposed LNP. However, my personal capacity is limited due to an increasing workload. I would be happy to work with my colleagues Alison Pritchard and Julie Hirst to ensure that PH is represented and contribute however necessary.”

James Creaghan
Public Health Lead for Adult Obesity and Physical Activity
NHS Derbyshire County

“Thank you for sending me this draft bid. It looks good and I am happy to support it. Good luck with the bid.”

Julie Hirst
Public Health Specialist and Public Health lead for Peak District
Derbyshire County PCT

“Thank you for your email and thank you Julie for copying me into your response to which I fully concur.”

Linda Syson-Nibbs
Public Health Nurse Consultant (NHS Derbyshire)
Derbyshire County Council

“Happy to support this”
Alison Pritchard
Consultant in Public Health
Derbyshire County PCT

“Just a quick note to say that I thought it was a very well organised and constructive workshop with some very positive and sensibly pragmatic discussions. Happy to be involved, probably not at ‘board’ level but in local area or other groups. Good luck with the bid.”

Andy McIntosh
Restoration Manager - Central
Tarmac Limited

“Rest assured that the NFU is fully supportive of the concept of a Peak LNP and keep me in the loop, please.”
Paul Tame
Regional Environment and Land Use Adviser
NFU East Midlands region

“Generally I would say that CVSs have more of a role around representing the wider voluntary sector at a strategic level than Rural Community Councils like RAD [Rural Action Derbyshire]. What I might suggest is that you invite Board representation from Peak Partners for Rural Action, which is a local collective of RAD, and the three CVSs and 5 volunteer centres in Derbyshire Dales, High Peak and Staffs Moorlands. Peak Partners could then decide the most appropriate partner to represent the local VCS. You can use me a contact for Peak Partners.”

Neil Moulden
CEO
Derbyshire Dales CVS

"Would like to be part of the wider partnership. Would be happy to contribute to any landowner engagement."

Donna Tavernor
Country Land and Business Association

"Groundwork's delivery and strapline is "People, places and Prosperity." The integration of natural environment, communities and economy (e.g. business and tourism) is THE added value of the LNP. Groundwork would want to be a partner and involved as far as resources allow."

Rachel Billings
Groundwork Derby & Derbyshire

"Happy to be involved either on board or the wider partnership (may be someone more strategic, technical specialist at board level, officers at wider partnership level) - will discuss at work."

Rebecca Brunt
Biodiversity Officer
Environment Agency

"I think we would see ourselves as representing a significant aspect of environmental thinking and action in the Buxton corridor (which needs to be included) in environmental education and grassroots action. So we should be involved, but probably not on the Board."

Charles Jolly
Transition Buxton

"Happy to be part of wider partnership."

Sue Lawley
Head of Conservation
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

"Look forward to working with the NPA in partnership, including specific grant-funded project opportunities that may arise from the LNP work programme."

Anne Robinson
Campaigner
Friends of the Peak District



United Utilities
Longdendale Office
Tintwistle
Nr Glossop
Derbyshire SK13 1HS

www.unitedutilities.com

Peak District National Park Authority,
Aldern House,
Baslow Road,
Bakewell,
DE45 1AE

Dear Karen

PEAK DISTRICT LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP

Thank you for a copy of the bid for the Peak District Local Nature Partnership (LNP).

United Utilities strongly welcomes and supports the proposed establishment of a LNP for the Peak District. In particular we recognise the opportunities it presents for an integrated approach to the promotion and delivery of ecosystem services such as water quality, flood risk alleviation, carbon storage, biodiversity and countryside recreation opportunities. All of these elements are important to United Utilities both as part of our core business and as part of our wider corporate responsibilities.

We have welcomed the opportunity to participate in the workshops to date and look forward to the opportunities that the Local Nature Partnership presents to add value to, and build on, the range of existing initiatives such as Moors for the Future and the Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area. We look forward to discussing our level of involvement in the partnership in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Sharples'.

Peter Sharples
Catchment Manager - East