

**STANAGE /  
NORTH LEES  
ESTATE**

**MANAGEMENT  
PLAN**

# CONTENTS

## Chapter

1. **Introduction:** Scope of the Plan, Description of the Estate, Views of the Estate by some of its key interest groups, Relationship to the Authority's other plans.
2. **Stanage Forum** - an approach to public participation
3. **Shared Vision**
4. **Goals, Aims and Objectives:** Key to the following section of the Plan (chapters 5 to 16)
5. **Archaeology / Cultural History**
6. **Commercial Use**
7. **Ecology / Wildlife**
8. **Economy**
9. **Education For All**
10. **Farming**
11. **Geology**
12. **Landscape**
13. **Management, Evaluation & Involving People**
14. **Recreation:**
  - (a) **4 Wheel Drive & Trail Biking**
  - (b) **Access & Rights of Way**
  - (c) **Access for All**
  - (d) **Camping**
  - (e) **Climbing**
  - (f) **Hang/paragliding**
15. **Vehicular Access**
16. **Woodlands**
17. **Participative Evaluation**
  - Appendices**
    - Appendix 1: National Park statutory purposes and duty.
    - Appendix 2: What is special about Stanage? (A list of responses to this question and their relative status, when asked of the Stanage Forum).
    - Appendix 3: Consensus building principles.
    - Appendix 4: Stanage Forum Steering Group Members.
    - Appendix 5: Overall structure of the Stanage Forum / Management Plan.
    - Appendix 6: Sustainability Appraisal. (An assessment of how this Plan will benefit future generations).
    - Appendix 7: Groups Involved in the Forum Process

## List of Maps / Illustrations

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Map 1	Stanage / North Lees Estate	1
Map 2	Archaeology / Cultural History	5
Map 3	Ecology / Wildlife	7
Map 4	Access & Rights of Way	14b
Map 5	Access for All	14c
Map 6	Hang-gliding and paragliding	14f
Map 7	Vehicular Access	15
Map 8	Woodlands	16

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Scope of the Plan

- 1.1.1 Stanage/North Lees Estate is owned and managed by the Peak District National Park Authority. This plan details how the Authority intends to manage the Estate over the next ten years, working in partnership with its tenants, neighbours, other organisations, visitors and local people through the Stanage Forum process, to achieve a shared vision for the future.
- 1.1.2 Stanage/North Lees is managed for the benefit of the nation and we all have a part to play. Only by working together can the Estate be effectively protected, enhanced and enjoyed. By reading this plan, we hope that you will gain a better understanding of the management of the Estate and of your role in helping us to ensure that it remains a special place for future generations to enjoy.
- 1.1.3 We also hope that this management plan can be used to demonstrate high standards of environmental site management and involving people within a national park/protected landscape.

## 1.2 Description of Stanage/North Lees Estate

- 1.2.1 The North Lees Estate (much of which is also widely referred to as "Stanage"), shown on Map 1, is part of the 4% of the National Park which the Authority owns. Its 542 hectares (1,341 acres) of moorland, rock edges, rough grazing and enclosed fields encompass a full range of issues that you might come across in any National Park or protected landscape, including:
- 1.2.2 **Landscape:** The Estate's scenic value is exceptional. The dramatic rock scenery of Stanage Edge, set in wild open moorland, with views to the pleasant rural landscape surrounding North Lees Hall and the Farm below is very special.
- 1.2.3 **Ecology & Wildlife:** It has internationally rare heather moorland and bog, designated nationally as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and more recently at the highest European level for its wildlife habitats and birds (as a Special Area for Conservation and a Special Protection Area, respectively). It also has a mixture of native broadleaved and coniferous woodlands and flower-rich pastures and hay meadows. Notable bird species which nest on the Estate include golden plover, curlew, snipe, ring ouzel, whinchat, long and short eared owls, pied flycatcher, reed bunting and linnet.
- 1.2.4 **People:** As well as being adored by the local people of Hathersage and Outseats, Stanage is only 6 miles (9.5km) from the centre of Sheffield (the UK's fifth largest city) and is central to the second busiest National Park in the world. The Estate receives over half a million visitors per year, making it one of the most visited areas of countryside in the UK. People come to enjoy a whole range of activities, including: climbing, walking, camping at the Authority's North Lees Campsite, cycling, picnicking, horse riding, hang-gliding, paragliding and bird watching or simply enjoying the fantastic views. It is especially important for walking: as an important area for open access; and climbing: for which it is regarded as one of the birthplaces of the sport. Stanage Edge now has over 1200 identified climbing routes of all different grades and more recently has become internationally famous for bouldering.
- 1.2.5 **Archaeology/Cultural History:** The whole landscape has been influenced by man and contains a wide range of interesting features, four of which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments. These include the remains of a Catholic chapel, a Romano-British settlement and Bronze Age sites. Interesting buildings include traditional farm buildings and the 16th Century North Lees Hall, which is Grade II\* Listed and has literary associations with the novel, "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Brontë
- 1.2.6 **Farming:** Most of the Estate is a working hill farm, leased to Derby College, which seeks to demonstrate how agriculture, recreation and the environment can be mutually beneficial.

1.2.7 **Education:** the Estate is a terrific educational resource both for formal groups, such as local schools, Losehill Hall (the National Park Authority's Study Centre) and other outdoor centres; and informal education for all visitors.

### 1.3 Views of the Estate by some of its key interest groups

1.3.1 There are a huge number of people who care passionately about the area for many different reasons and here are the views of some of them:

#### 1.3.2 **An outstanding area for wildlife**

Stanage/North Lees Estate, lies 9.5km to the south west of Sheffield City Centre and supports a rich mixture of varied habitats. The variety and number of bird species, which, at present, hold territories and breed amply demonstrate this. Species including Golden Plover, Dunlin, Curlew, and Short-eared Owl can be found on the moorland, whilst the Edge provides ideal nesting sites for Ring Ouzels. The slopes below the Edge are home to Whinchat and Linnet and the damper areas here hold breeding Snipe. The Estate woodlands sustain a rich spectrum of species, which includes Great Spotted Woodpecker, Wood Warbler, both Spotted and Pied Flycatcher, together with Nuthatch. Many of the species mentioned have a breeding population which is declining nationally, for example there are now 54% fewer Linnets than there were in 1966. A survey of the major part of the Estate in the spring and summer of 2000 recorded 65 species of birds, with 41 of these holding territories and probably breeding, the number of breeding/ territory holding pairs found was very nearly 400.

The development of a new management plan for North Lees presents a unique opportunity to manage habitat in a way which will be sympathetic to all wildlife.

Chris Falshaw  
Sheffield Bird Study Group

#### 1.3.3 **How is Stanage of importance to local people?**

Stanage and the North Lees Estate is a unique place where one could nearly make time stand still. It is the "backyard" to Hathersage village, where most of the residents have chosen to live because of the splendid scenery and to enjoy walking, riding, climbing, running, cycling etc. Some find the atmosphere stimulating, whilst others find it relaxing with the constantly changing weather conditions on the landscape, making no two days the same. We recognise our good fortune to live here and feel protective towards the area. Although the local economy benefits from the many visitors, there is concern over the accompanying congestion and crowding, which detracts from village and rural life. The older population remembers when the road from Hook's Car to Dennis Knoll was only a stone track and regret the day tarmac was laid. It will be a challenge to maintain the Stanage we know and love for future generations.

Jane Marsden - Chair, Outseats Parish Council and  
Jean Monks - neighbouring residents' representative

#### 1.3.4 **What is special about Stanage for Climbers?**

Stanage is one of the World's great climbing grounds. It is a revered destination for rock climbers and boulderers from every continent and most countries. Largely because of Stanage Edge, the highest density of climbers in the British Isles choose to live close by. Few abuse it. It offers the best range of climbs and boulder problems for the experienced and inexperienced alike, in a style that is unique to England, in a dramatic and unspoilt landscape, on what climbers call *God's Own Rock*. It is quite simply beyond compare. It is beyond superlatives: a World Heritage Site for climbers.

Henry Folkard  
Local Access Representative  
British Mountaineering Council

#### 1.3.5 **Walking on Stanage**

Stanage has been a Mecca for many generations of walkers and ramblers. Being within easy reach of one of the United Kingdom's largest urban areas (Sheffield), it has provided the fresh air and recreational opportunities sought by many city dwellers. It offers that first feeling of wilderness and freedom with magnificent views over the surrounding area. It generates a sense of mystery associated with its many wonders awaiting rediscovery.

Terry Howard  
Ramblers Association

#### 1.3.6 **Estate Warden's Perspective**

Under the official guidelines for their selection, each Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) represents "a significant fragment of the much depleted resource of wild nature now remaining in this country". They are supposed to ensure the survival of a "necessary minimum of Britain's wildlife and physical features." When Stanage was designated as a SSSI in 1987, no-one could have imagined the recreational pressures it faces today. Written in 1989, the current Stanage Guidebook described a then popular route to the crag as follows: "From Sheffield, take either the 240 or 272 bus as far as the Fox House Inn, then walk up the Burbage Valley or over Carl Walk and Higgarr Tor and onto the southern end of Stanage; this could take about 90 minutes."

Since then there has been an unprecedented growth in demand for access by car and I would suggest that this is the greatest threat to Stanage today. The speed and volume of traffic shatters the wild quality of the area that people treasure and there is an intolerably high number of sheep deaths. The much-hated roadside mounds, bollards, 40 miles per hour speed limit signs, etc. have been a reaction to this unsustainable demand and have in themselves caused problems.

The foot and mouth crisis of 2001 highlighted that Stanage and the other gritstone edges indirectly support a considerable recreational industry. The least we can ask for is responsible access and respect for the original users of Stanage, that is: farming and wildlife.

Most people agree that Stanage should not be treated as just a playground and we all have a duty to protect what is left. We have now shared our experiences and come up with a plan to prove that recreation, farming and wildlife can co-exist on Stanage. This is our challenge today and is reflected in our shared vision for the future.

Bill Gordon  
North Lees Estate Warden  
Peak District National Park Authority

- 1.3.7 A full range of the Estate's special attributes can be seen in the list given at Appendix 2. The list came from replies to the question: "What is special to you about Stanage?" which was asked of everyone with an interest in the area at the first Stanage Forum event and on the website (see chapter on Stanage Forum).

#### 1.4 Relationship to the Authority's other plans

- 1.4.1 The Stanage / North Lees Estate Management Plan is one of a number of action plans being produced under the National Park Management Plan, which covers the whole of the Peak District National Park. The National Park Plan is the predecessor of this Plan and its policies are more detailed and are still relevant. Relevant policies from these two plans are listed at the end of each chapter.
- 1.4.2 The Biodiversity Action Plan is another such action plan, which details how the Authority intends to work with others to look after the wildlife of the Peak District. This has been taken into account in the Ecology chapter of this Estate Management Plan.
- 1.4.3 The Local Plan details the Authority's development control policies for the National Park. The Authority's policy and planning staff have been consulted to ensure that this Plan's objectives are compatible, where appropriate.

## **2. STANAGE FORUM-AN APPROACH TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- 2.1 This management plan was written in an entirely different way to most. As there are so many people who care passionately about the Estate for so many different reasons, we wanted to involve people throughout the development of this Plan.
- 2.2 We started with a blank sheet of paper and a desire for everyone to work together to agree ways forward by consensus. The guiding consensus building principles are attached at Appendix 3.
- 2.3 The Stanage Forum was created in order to enable people to genuinely participate in the planning process. This was done through public Forum events, a website discussion board, a representative Steering Group and independent facilitators, the Icarus Collective.
- 2.4 This Plan has been agreed in principle by all stakeholders who have taken part in the Forum process through events, newsletters and the website and in detail by all Steering Group members.
- 2.5 Mutual understanding has greatly improved and we can now look forward to building on the many good working relationships that have been forged. Such a level of agreement has never been achieved before and was not believed possible by many at the outset. The achievements represented in this plan are a great credit to everyone involved, particularly the Steering Group members. The Authority sincerely thanks everyone who has been involved so far.
- 2.6 We hope to produce a report on the Forum process in the near future, drawing on lessons learnt along the way, which we hope will provide a useful guide for others who wish to involve people in site management planning.
- 2.7 The Forum will continue to play an important role in the implementation and on-going evaluation and development of the Plan, so there will always be opportunity for you to have your say. The current structure and role of the Forum can be seen in the Management, Evaluation and Involving People chapter.
- 2.8 **Who has been involved so far?**  
An enormous number of people have so far been involved in the Stanage Forum process. From the first Forum event in August 2000 up to the production of the draft Plan at the end of June 2002, there were 21,300 hits on the web site and 285 people on the mailing list for the newsletter. Those so far involved include the groups listed in Appendix 7. Please let the Estate Manager know if you think that any group is missing from this list that should be involved.

## 2.9 To find out the latest and to have your say:

- Visit the website: [www.peakdistrict.org/stanage](http://www.peakdistrict.org/stanage) which includes an on-line discussion board.
- Make your comments known to your Steering Group representative (see Appendix 4).
- Make your views known direct to Matthew Croney, the Estate Manager, at: Peak District National Park Authority, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1AE. E-mail: [matthew.cronney@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.cronney@peakdistrict.gov.uk). Tel: 01629 816351. Fax: 01629 816310.
- For further information on the Stanage Forum principles, facilitation and training on the Forum approach, you may wish to contact Steve Smith at the Icarus Collective: [steve@icarus.uk.net](mailto:steve@icarus.uk.net), Tel: 01484 841396.

### 3. SHARED VISION

3.1 The following vision statement\* was drafted by the Stanage Forum Steering Group and agreed by all participants of the Forum as a shared vision to guide the management plan. In pursuing this vision, we should continue to involve people as much as possible and improve the Estate, so that we can leave it in a better condition for future generations to enjoy:

3.2

**To care for and enjoy Stanage/the North Lees Estate in a way which respects and enhances wildlife, heritage and landscape.**

\* The vision statement is compatible with the National Park Authority's statutory purposes and duty, as detailed in Appendix 1.

## 4. GOALS, AIMS & OBJECTIVES

### Key to this section of the Plan

- 4.1 This is the main part of the Plan, which details what should happen on the ground and why, under a series of theme headings.
- 4.2 Each objective has:
- A headline in bold, which should be implemented.
  - Advice as to how to achieve it in plain text below.
  - Lead partners are identified and they are responsible for ensuring that the objective is implemented.
  - A monitoring partner is also identified and they are responsible for filling out a pro-forma to assess whether the objective has been implemented correctly and the implications of what has happened (see Participative Evaluation chapter).
  - A timescale for implementation - details the year by which the objective should be completed.
  - All objectives for the first two years have a priority from 1 to 9 (1 being the most important to complete on time). This is in recognition that, in reality, timescales may slip (due for example to lack of resources or unforeseen circumstances). If timescales are under pressure, then lead partners should endeavour to complete at least the high priority tasks.
  - Consultees - the lead partner should ensure that the detail of each objective is agreed with at least the consultees listed at the back of each chapter. (The Estate Manager has all the contact details). If it is implemented exactly as written, then there is no need for further consultation.
- 4.3 Prioritisation of objectives. The timescale, priority and identification of partners and consultees for all objectives were allocated by the Steering Group members at an action planning meeting. These were then checked with partners to make sure they were realistic and with everyone else through the Forum website and newsletter.

## 5. ARCHAEOLOGY/CULTURAL HISTORY

### Goal

- 5.1 **To sustainably manage the Estate's archaeological/historic/cultural interest, whilst improving access and respecting ecology, landscape and the working farm.**

### Aims

- 5.2 **To protect all features of archaeological/historic/cultural interest.** (There should be a presumption against cultivation and planning development. Protection should also extend to the historic buildings - North Lees Hall and North Lees traditional farm buildings (see Map 2). These are currently protected by the tenancy agreements with the Vivat Trust and Derby College and by being Listed Buildings. The principle should be borne in mind if circumstances ever change).
- 5.3 **To provide access to and interpretation of appropriate sites.** (Vulnerable sites and less obvious features, such as Romano-British and Bronze Age settlement sites should be left for discovery. However, a brief mention of their existence, though not their specific location, could be made on interpretation boards at access points and in the Estate leaflet pack - see Access & Rights of Way. The many ancient transport routes through the Estate should not be forgotten as an important feature for interpretation)
- 5.4 **To record the area's social/cultural history.**

(See Map 2 for the location of items referred to in this chapter's text).

## Objectives

Aim 5.2: To protect all features of archaeological/historic/cultural interest. (There should be a presumption against cultivation and planning development. Protection should also extend to the historic buildings - North Lees Hall and North Lees traditional farm buildings (see Map 2). These are currently protected by the tenancy agreements with the Vivat Trust and Derby College and by being Listed Buildings. The principle should be borne in mind if circumstances ever change).

**5.2.1 Appraise any proposal potentially affecting a feature of archaeological/historic/cultural importance, in consultation with the National Park Authority's Archaeology Service. Target Year(s): 1-10; Priority (from 1-9): n/a; Lead partner: National Park Authority - Estates and Archaeology Services; Monitoring: (Pro-forma) : National Park Authority - Archaeology Service.**

**5.2.2 Fell trees in Dennis Knoll Plantation that are growing on top of and immediately adjacent to archaeological features. Trees should be selected and carefully felled as part of normal thinning practice. The PDNPA's Archaeologists, Ecologists and the Forestry & Tree Service Manager should agree suitable trees, which should be selected and felled carefully in order to minimise the impact on the landscape, as well as on the archaeological features. The Plantation (which was planted long before the Authority acquired the Estate), is sited on part of a Bronze Age settlement and field system, which is designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Target Year(s): 5-10; Lead partner: National Park Authority - Forestry & Tree and Archaeology Services. Monitoring: (Pro-forma) :National Park Authority - Forestry & Tree Service.**

**5.2.3. Assess the maintenance requirement of the trig point and if necessary, seek sponsorship or other means of protection. Trig points are no longer used by the Ordnance Survey but they are valued landscape features which are still useful for map reading by visitors. Target Year(s): 5-10; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma): National Park Authority - Estates Service**

**Aim5.3:** To provide access to and interpretation of appropriate sites. (Vulnerable sites and less obvious features, such as Romano-British and Bronze Age settlement sites should be left for discovery. However, a brief mention of their existence, though not their specific location, could be made on interpretation boards at access points and in the Estate leaflet pack - see Access & Rights of Way. The many ancient transport routes through the Estate should not be forgotten as an important feature for interpretation).

**5.3.1 Categorise sites as either those suitable for site interpretation and access (stable), or those better left (vulnerable).** The Archaeological survey of 1991 should be used as a basis for this. Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Archaeology Service.**

**5.3.2 Provide discrete information and access to:**

- (a) **the Chapel** - informal access and small information sign (see Access & Rights of Way chapter).
- (b) **the Mill Pond** - informal access and small information sign (see Access & Rights of Way chapter)

NB. North Lees Hall already has access and interpretation and this should continue to be provided.

Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**5.3.3 Hold more than one open day per year at North Lees Hall.**

Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 5.4: To record the area's social/cultural history.

**5.4.1 Develop a record of the social history of Stanage.** This could be a book and/or video. There have been terrific changes in the area, experienced within living memory and the opportunity should be taken to record peoples' knowledge and experiences. Issues might include: the huge growth in recreational use of the area, by climbers, ramblers, etc. - from the mass trespasses to current trends and new sports, such as bouldering; farming - which has undergone huge changes since the 1940s; local people - the character of Hathersage and the social make-up of its population has also changed dramatically over the past 20 years or so. It was suggested that grant aid should be readily available for such a project, if led by the community. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **8**; Lead partners: **Derbyshire County Council, National Park Authority - Estates Service & Peak District Interpretation Project.** Monitoring: (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**

## **5.5 Relevant suggestions which are being considered under other subject headings**

5.5.1 The holloway on Ridgewayside has been suggested as new concession footpath (see Recreation - Access & Rights of Way).

## **5.6 Stange Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

5.6.1 Restore an ancient landscape back to its original state. This was suggested at the Forum in relation to a desire to get rid of roadside mounds, (see Vehicular Access) but just in case it meant more than that, the Steering Group advised as follows: Managed change is preferable, seeking to conserve and enhance the best features. Restoration to any particular period is undesirable, as it would mean losing features from all other periods and the whole cultural change aspect of the landscape. There would be problems of defining when an "original state" occurred and enormous practical problems in achieving it.

5.6.2 Ban cultivation and planning development of historic sites: the technical group advised that banning was too strong as there may be good other reasons for allowing these activities in exceptional circumstances. The wording was therefore changed to a *presumption against*.

## **5.7 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Terry Howard - Ramblers
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Ken Smith - Archaeologist (National Park Authority)
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Matthew Crony - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Graham Attridge - Disabled Access representative
- Judy Merryfield - Disabled Access Officer (PDNPA)
- Janet Priestley/Clark Field - Derby College

## **5.8 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 1 (Environment), actions 6.4 and 6.5 and Chapter 8 and paragraph 9.46 of Chapter 9 of the National Park Plan.

## **6. COMMERCIAL USE**

NB. Commercial use includes: filming, photography, campsites, climbing and other recreational tuition, management training, ice-cream vans, pay & display, tolls, etc.

### **Goal**

**6.1 To allow commercial use of the Estate, as long as it does not:**

- **Detract from the landscape/sense of wilderness**
- **Disturb nor damage wildlife nor ecology**
- **Cause disturbance to local residents nor farmers**
- **Cause conflict with other users of the Estate**
- **Increase recreational pressure on the area**

**To permit it in a way which:**

- **Brings income to the Estate and the local economy**
- **Is fair and consistent**

### **Aims**

**6.2 Seek voluntary contributions towards the costs of managing the Estate.**  
(Particularly from businesses which benefit indirectly from it, such as from visitors buying walking/climbing equipment, etc.)

**6.3 Differentiate between different types of commercial uses and apply appropriate controls/charges fairly and consistently.**

**Objectives:**

Aim 6.2: Seek voluntary contributions towards the costs of managing the Estate

6.2.1 **Contact potential sponsors for appropriate projects.** This will involve identifying appropriate projects and potential sponsors and then contacting them. Such projects might include a new bus or footpath repairs, etc. [The suggestion from the Forum was: "outdoor industries to subsidise management of the area & public transport". Realistically, this can only be done voluntarily and by charging for direct commercial use of the Estate (see below)]. Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 6.3: Differentiate between different types of commercial uses and apply appropriate controls/charges fairly and consistently.

**6.3.1 Implement the following approach to approval for commercial activities:**

- Permission refused: for anything which is clearly at odds with the goal for commercial use.
- Licence required (no charge): charity events (if compatible with the goal), outdoor centres (at least initially): Outdoor centres who use the area should receive an annual licence, in return for basic records of their use over the previous year. The licence should be free (at least initially), although voluntary contributions should be encouraged. Simple codes of practice should be drawn up with the centres and/or existing codes adopted, such as DARE's good practice guide and the BMC's Peak Group Book. Such codes of practice could be used in licences granted to others who use the area for similar purposes, such as universities and scouts. "Outdoor centres" should include youth hostels, activity centres, study centres and climbing walls/tuition centres. Use of the area by outdoor centres is significant but largely unknown. It includes education, climbing tuition and management training. The boundaries between what is commercial, educational or normally free access is difficult to assess. DARE should be asked to suggest guidance on differentiation between the different activities undertaken by their members. Self-regulation on numbers of visits and participants should be encouraged. The licensing system would give a much better record of the level and type of use of Stanage and a workable arrangement, based on trust and self-regulation, with the opportunity for constructive dialogue if problems occur. Decisions as to whether some of the activities are clearly commercial and should be subject to a charge could then be based on the information gathered.
- Licence required (small charge - mainly to cover costs): educational use (see Education for All chapter)
- Licence required (full charge - as appropriate/existing fee structure): commercial use, such as filming, photography, etc. Filming/photography can cause a nuisance to local residents, wildlife and other users of the Estate. It also promotes the area to even more potential visitors. Any licence for filming should therefore include the following terms:
  - The area must not be identified
  - It should only be allowed if a reasonably large sum is contributed to the Estate
  - Wildlife photography/filming should continue not to be allowed
  - Roads must be properly signed and managed if traffic is to be interrupted.

NB Where a licence is issued with no fee or a small charge, it should contain clauses to enable a full charge to be made, should the film/photos/etc. be used for commercial purposes in the future.

The main long-term aim of licensing policy should be to gather information on use and if necessary, regulate against over-use of the area, rather than generating income for the Estate (which is a beneficial by-product).

Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority: n/a; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma, record of licences granted and on-site monitoring of number and type of activities occurring without a licence): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**.

**6.3.2 Investigate the policies and fee structures for commercial use of other organisations, such as the National Trust.** This should inform the above guidelines and promote consistency of approach. Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**.

**6.3.3 Identify sites on a park-wide scale where group use could be encouraged and others where it should be discouraged** (where problems are created and there is a high level of use, such as at Stanage). In addition, Pete Coddington (Derbyshire and Peak Park Sport & Recreation Forum) is understood to be looking at the potential provision of mobile climbing walls, which may help to provide for group use and reduce pressure on sites such as Stanage. Target Year(s): **2-10**; Lead partner and Monitoring: (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service** (consulting Steering Group and Forum).

#### **6.4 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

- 6.4.1 For all commercial use of the Estate to stop. This did not receive majority support at the Forum and was considered unrealistic and undesirable by the Steering Group.
- 6.4.2 The Steering Group were keen to point out that Stannage is definitely not a commercial "flesh pot" to be sacrificed to benefit other quieter areas (as advocated by a minority of commercial recreation interests).

#### **6.5 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Andrew Sale - Brookfield Manor
- Mike Rhodes - Access Officer
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Don Mabbs - Derbyshire Association of Residential Education
- Janet Priestley/Clark Field - Derby College
- Terry Howard - Ramblers
- Pete Coddington - Derbyshire & Peak Park Sport & Recreation Forum officer
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- John Bishop - Estates Service Manager (PDNPA)
- Tony Hood - Rangers (PDNPA)
- Liz Ballard - Losehill Hall
- Jane Marsden - Outseats Parish Council

#### **6.6 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 2 (People), Action 6.12 and National Park Plan chapters 10 and 12.

## **7. ECOLOGY/WILDLIFE**

### **Goal**

- 7.1 To reduce disturbance to wildlife, enhance habitats and provide pollution-free fresh air and water, whilst: maintaining public access; allowing an appropriate level of vehicular access; providing an educational resource; providing income to local businesses and the Estate and maintaining a working farm.

### **Aims**

- 7.2 Enhance all of the Estate's important wildlife habitats and species by adopting relevant Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan targets and developing the Farm Conservation Plan. (Once comprehensive targets have been set, the Farm Conservation Plan, which is being developed under the Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme is likely to be the most appropriate mechanism for delivery - see Farming chapter).
- 7.3 Enhance habitat for Ring Ouzel as a key species for the Estate. (The Ring Ouzel (or "Mountain Balckbird") is nationally in decline, with a reduction from 11,000 breeding pairs in 1990 to just 5,000 in 1999. Stanage provides ideal habitat for them but they are thought to be just hanging on, with fewer pairs than ecologists and ornithologists would hope. It is considered to be right at the point of balance between conservation, recreation and farming on the Estate).
- 7.4 Regular ecological survey and monitoring
- 7.5 Provide positive environmental education
- 7.6 Allow native scrub regeneration on the moorland edge (if it occurs).
- 7.7 Seek to ensure that atmospheric pollution from the proposed tyre burning at Blue Circle Cement Works does not have a negative impact the Estate's ecology.

(See Map 3 for the location of items referred to in this chapter's text).

## Objectives

Aim 7.2 Enhance all of the Estate's important wildlife habitats and species by adopting relevant Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan targets and developing the Farm Conservation Plan. (Once comprehensive targets have been set, the Farm Conservation Plan, which is being developed under the Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme is likely to be the most appropriate mechanism for delivery - see Farming chapter).

**7.2.1 Draft targets for enhancing the Estate's wildlife and habitats based on all relevant Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan(BAP) targets.** The management plan should sign up to the BAP and seek to deliver on the relevant targets. The Authority's Ecologist should recommend which targets are relevant, for approval by the Steering Group and English Nature. The BAP includes references to the following habitats and species which may be relevant to the Estate: blanket bog, upland heathland, upland oak/birchwoods, veteran trees, wet woodland, haymeadows, unimproved pastures, rough grazing, rush-pasture, ponds and river corridors and species: water vole, twite, curlew, lapwing, white-clawed crayfish. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 3; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Ecology Service & English Nature.** Monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Ecology Service**

**7.2.2 Draft targets for enhancing any other important habitats and wildlife on the Estate, which are not covered by the Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan.** A number of species and habitats are not (yet) included in the BAP. It was noted that the BAP will cover more species in future as a rolling programme of target species is proposed. We should be guided by this BAP programme and focus attention on its identified species/habitat each year. However, we should continue to protect/enhance other habitats if we feel that they need attention and not just wait for the BAP programme - as it might be too late for some species. Again, targets should be suggested by the Authority's Ecologist and agreed by the Steering Group and English Nature. Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Ecology Service & English Nature.** Monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Ecology Service**

The following targets should be incorporated within A1 and A2 above

**7.2.3 Unblock the drains along the Long Causeway to re-wet the area below it, to enhance the habitat for wetland birds, such as snipe and curlew.** This should be done gradually, in a staged approach to monitor the effects and to ascertain whether unreasonable shepherding difficulties are created. Target Year(s): 1-2; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and bird & habitat surveys): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**

**7.2.4 Investigate the possibility of planting a fodder crop to provide an additional feed source/habitat for twite and lapwing.** This should be investigated with the new RSPB/PDNPA Birds Project Officer for fields which currently have little biological interest. The Gathering Field, Top Warren, Leveret Fields and the fields immediately adjoining the farm buildings were identified as possibilities. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service & Royal Society for the Protection of Birds**. Monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**

**7.2.5 Provide and monitor bird boxes throughout the Estate's woodlands.** In conjunction with the other woodland objectives which should improve the habitat for birds, appropriate boxes, including ones designed for spotted and pied flycatcher should be erected and monitored annually. Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and log of box usage): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**

Aim 7.3: Enhance habitat for Ring Ouzel as a key species for the Estate. (The Ring Ouzel (or "Mountain Balckbird") is nationally in decline, with a reduction from 11,000 breeding pairs in 1990 to just 5,000 in 1999. Stannage provides ideal habitat for them but they are thought to be just hanging on, with fewer pairs than ecologists and ornithologists would hope. It is considered to be right at the point of balance between conservation, recreation and farming on the Estate). The agreed target for the following objectives is for 4 to 5 successful broods per year.

**7.3.1 Implement measures agreed to reduce human disturbance to Ring Ouzel.** This includes:

1. Encourage visitors to keep to the main paths (ie. The Long Causeway, Cabin Track, the path along the top of the Edge and the paths from Hollin Bank (Plantation), Hook's Car (Popular End) and Burbage Bridge Car Parks)
2. Encourage people to use the path along the top of the Edge and drop down to their particular areas of interest (eg.bouldering problems, favourite picnicing spots) between Popular End & Cowper Stone & discourage use of the paths along the base of the Edge.
3. Encourage people to avoid using the third / bottom path from Hook's Car Car Park to Popular End.
4. Monitor the regularly used nesting area to the north of Cowper Stone to check that there continue to be no visitors to this area.

These measures should be implemented through positive messages, explaining the reasons for them, through user groups such as the BMC, and the Ramblers Association, in the press, on interpretation boards at the main access points and leaflets (see Recreation - Access & Rights of Way), with a minimum of discrete on-site signing and barriers.

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partners: **National Park Authority, English Nature, British Mountaineering Council, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sheffield Bird Study Group.** Monitoring (pro-forma, on-site monitoring of visitor activity, log of information put out by partners): **BMC & National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**7.3.2 Temporarily fence off appropriate areas of bilberry which provide an important feed source.** Grazing can have a significant impact on the number of berries available (around 400 per square meter on grazed land, compared to 4,000 where there is no grazing in recent surveys elsewhere). This has proven to be successful on National Trust land in the Upper Derwent. In order to reduce the impact of fencing on the landscape: the fenced areas should be small in number (only one or two areas) and extent (around 20m x 30m maximum); they should be away from roads and main paths; and all but the main posts should be removed each year after the berries have gone (if possible - it may be that the plant flowers on old growth). Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partner and Monitoring (Pro-forma, habitat and foraging surveys to monitor use by ring Ouzels): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

- 7.3.3 **Identify whether any action could usefully be taken to improve soil conditions for worms by breaking compaction (if there is any) on the pastures and hay meadows.** Seek advice from the new RSPB/PDNPA Birds Project Officer. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 7; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.** Monitoring (Pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**
- 7.3.4 **Communicate that "gardening" of the crag is a criminal offence.** Vegetation on rock ledges on and near the crag are favoured nest sites. English Nature highlighted that, as the area is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest, the practice of "gardening" (cleaning the crag of vegetation to assist climbing and bouldering) could be interpreted as wilful damage under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act and is therefore a criminal offence. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partners: **British Mountaineering Council, National Park Authority - Estates Service, English Nature.** Monitoring (pro-forma): **BMC, (vegetation surveys): PDNPA Estates Service.**
- 7.3.5 **Carry out detailed annual monitoring of Ring Ouzel on the Estate.** A survey is to be carried out in 2002, the main purpose of which will be to establish a baseline. The BMC should be directly involved in interpreting the survey data. A similar level of detailed survey should ideally be carried out on areas outside the Estate if possible (to provide good comparable data). It would also be useful to establish the reasons for the decline of Ring Ouzel on Coombs Moss (where it is understood that there was once a strong population and there has never been recreational access). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partners: **Sheffield Bird Study Group, English Nature, British Mountaineering Council, National Park Authority - Estates Service.** Monitoring (Pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**
- 7.3.6 **Produce a leaflet about Ring Ouzel on the Estate.** Education is a key area which could only improve things for the Ring Ouzel and other wildlife (see below). In particular, the leaflet should show what it looks like, its alarm call, feeding patterns, etc. We should celebrate the fact that the Ring Ouzel is still here and emphasise the positive. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service, British Mountaineering Council, English Nature.** Monitoring (Pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

- 7.3.7 Erect small, discreet signs near Ring Ouzel nest sites if within a frequently visited area, to alert people to their presence. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 8; Lead partners: National Park Authority - Estates Service, British Mountaineering Council, Sheffield Bird Study Group. Monitoring (Pro-forma): National Park Authority - Estates Service.**
- 7.3.8 Include messages about Ring Ouzel on any new interpretation boards at access points (see Access and Rights of Way). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partners: National Park Authority - Estates Service. Monitoring (Pro-forma): National Park Authority - Estates Service.**
- 7.3.9 Communicate the importance of the hang-glider launch point, below Cowper Stone, as a Ring Ouzel feeding site to Derbyshire Soaring Club Members. It should be celebrated and respected. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partners: National Park Authority - Estates Service, Derbyshire Soaring Club. Monitoring (Pro-forma): Derbyshire Soaring Club.**
- 7.3.10 Include text in the leaflet and wherever else appropriate to encourage people not to drop biodegradable litter. This is because it attracts crows, which rob other birds' nests of eggs. (There are already measures targeted at preventing litter but many people are unaware that even biodegradable litter can cause problems). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 9; Lead partners: National Park Authority - Estates Service, all user/visitor groups. Monitoring (Pro-forma): BMC, Ramblers, National Park Authority - Estates Service.**
- 7.3.11 Plant more rowan trees in Jubilee, Hollin Bank and Stange Plantations to provide additional feed sources for Ring Ouzel. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partners: National Park Authority - Estates Service. Monitoring (Pro-forma): National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

#### Aim 7.4 Regular ecological survey & monitoring

**7.4.1 Develop an annual rolling programme of monitoring of important bird populations.** NB. English Nature are proposing Peak District wide moorland bird surveys under Moors for the Future in 2003. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service, Sheffield Bird Study Group, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, English Nature.** Monitoring (Pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**7.4.2 Survey the lichens on the Estate, especially on Car Head Rocks.** The rock edges and boulders are believed to contain rare species but have never been properly surveyed. Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Ecology Service, English Nature.** Monitoring (Pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Ecology Service.**

Aim 7.5 Provide positive environmental education.

**7.5.1 Provide education that focuses on the positive aspects of wildlife on the Estate.** (Also see the Education for All chapter). It was stated that it is amazing how wild it is and how much wildlife there still is at Stanage, given the number of visitors, traffic and the proximity of Sheffield - Britain's 5<sup>th</sup> largest city. This should be celebrated and thereby promote respect for and an "ownership" of the wildlife interest of the Estate. It was also stated that it is incredible and badly wrong that the area can be designated a Special Protection Area and a Special Area for Conservation (Europe's highest levels of designation for birds and habitats, respectively) without the majority of visitors having any idea about it. As part of education, we should explain the different ecological designations, etc. to people. In particular: Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation, Environmentally Sensitive Area, Site of Special Scientific Interest and Biodiversity Action Plan.

Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service and Losehill Hall, all user groups, education providers, English Nature.** Monitoring (Pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Losehill Hall & Estates Service.**

Aim 7.6: Allow native scrub regeneration on the moorland edge (between Stanage Edge and the road).

7.6.1 **Allow native trees to regenerate if it occurs naturally** (as is more likely if sheep numbers are reduced, as planned - see Farming). There should be no planting. However, succession to woodland should be discouraged on the open moorland (other than Car Head Moor), pastures and hay meadows. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma & site survey): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**.

Aim 7.7: Seek to ensure that atmospheric pollution from the proposed tyre burning at Blue Circle Cement Works does not have a negative impact the Estate's ecology.

7.7.1 **Express concern to the relevant authorities about the potential effects of proposed tyre burning at Blue Circle Cement works.** The Steering Group expressed their concern about the proposals to burn tyres at Blue Circle Cement Works. They would like reassurance that monitoring proposals will consider all of the potential emissions and problems. They were aware that investigations so far carried out have been thorough but that if something went wrong, the potential results could be so sudden and disastrous for the ecology of the moorland and bog, that it should not happen in the first place. It is understood that High Peak Borough Council are now leading consultation on this proposal and that the SG's views should be represented. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partner & monitoring (Pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

## **7.8 Relevant solutions being considered under other headings**

- 7.8.1 Reduce sheep grazing pressure. This should leave more heather, bilberry, etc. available as feed for Ring Ouzel (amongst a host of other reasons for reducing grazing pressure). As proposed under the Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme - see Farming.
- 7.8.2 Implement a clearway order to prevent cars parking on the roadside verges. A spin-off of this objective detailed under Vehicular Access, is that the roadside verges provide a major feed source for the Ring Ouzel. (NB. The soil imported for roadside bunds appears to have a higher pH than surrounding soil and more worms as a feed source for Ring Ouzel, betrayed by increased mole activity).
- 7.8.3 Encourage heather regeneration: by continuing the current burning policy (see Farming).
- 7.8.4 Ensure that dogs are kept on leads during the bird-breeding season. [Recreation - Access & Rights of Way]
- 7.8.5 Provide interpretation at access points. Discrete map and information boards showing preferred paths and indicating particularly sensitive areas for wildlife. [Recreation - Access & Rights of Way & Education]
- 7.8.6 Promote Cattisside and Car Head Moor for nature conservation. [Recreation - Access & Rights of Way]
- 7.8.7 Vehicular access - a whole package of measures to reduce the detrimental impacts caused by people travelling to and through the Estate.
- 7.8.8 Encourage people to keep to the main paths [Recreation - Access & Rights of Way]
- 7.8.9 Integrate a working hill farm with conservation, including reducing the number of livestock to such a level where there is no overgrazing on the Estate, for a proper heather burning regime to be implemented and to control spreading bracken. [Farming]
- 7.8.10 For the farm to become a model of environmentally-friendly, possibly organic, farming with local branding and marketing. [Farming]
- 7.8.11 For the environmental education potential of the Estate to be properly co-ordinated and fully realised [Education]
- 7.8.12 To limit educational use to areas and numbers that do not cause damage to habitats/disturbance to wildlife [Education]

## 7.9 Forum suggestions not taken forward:

- 7.9.1 Reduce the proportion of non-native trees on the Estate by 25% - see Woodlands chapter.
- 7.9.2 To reduce the instances of disturbance to wildlife - to different degrees depending on zone - e.g. accept the Edge as a major recreational zone but keep the blanket bog as a sanctuary - pursuing by keeping people to paths , etc. objectives - see Access & Rights of Way chapter.
- 7.9.3 Seek other areas of the park where flora / fauna which cannot co-exist with recreation can live / be encouraged to live. We should do whatever we can to protect and enhance the ecology of the Estate, as reflected in the vision statement. Areas outside the Estate are beyond the scope of this management plan.
- 7.9.4 Ban sheep grazing of the access area (Not ruled out entirely but highly unlikely - see Farming Chapter).
- 7.9.5 Predator control (especially crows) - these were not thought to be at a level which warranted control at present. It would also be difficult and undesirable at a location which receives so many visitors. However, it should be monitored and reconsidered if there is a large and sustained problem.

## **7.10 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Chris Falshaw - Sheffield Bird Study Group
- John Atkin - Local bird watcher
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (National Park Authority)
- Janet Priestley - Derby College
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Dave Turnbull - BMC
- Richard Pollitt - English Nature
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Roy Taylor - RSPB
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- Alan Hancock - Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (re: The Roaches)
- Jane Marsden - Local representative
- Rangers
- Catherine Bowmer - Peak District Interpretation Project Manager
- Mike Rhodes - Access Officer
- Ken Smith - Archaeology Service Manager (PDNPA)

## **7.11 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 1 (Environment), paragraphs 6.3 to 6.6 and National Park Plan chapter 6.

## 8. ECONOMY

### Goal

- 8.1 In pursuing the Plan's other objectives, for the Estate and its visitors to contribute as much as possible to the local economy in a way which does not detract from its special qualities.

### Aims

- 8.2 To find out how much the Estate currently contributes to the local economy.
- 8.3 To maximise the Estate's contribution to the local economy.

## Objectives

Aim 8.2: To find out how much the Estate currently contributes to the local economy.

8.2.1 **Conduct a survey to assess the contribution that the Estate and its visitors make to the local economy.** Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority: 5, Lead partners: **National Park Authority, user groups.** Monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 8.3 To maximise the Estate's contribution to the local economy.

- 8.3.1 **Develop an action plan based on the survey to maximise the Estate's contribution to the local economy wherever possible and appropriate.** This should involve the Steering Group and Forum to generate ideas. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **6**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

#### **8.4 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Terry Howard - Ramblers
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Janet Priestley/Clark Field - Derby College
- John Thompson - Head of Recreation (PDNPA)
- Jane Marsden - Local representative
- Jacque Bevan - local councillor
- Hope Valley College
- Sheffield Universities
- Dick Turnbull - Outside, Hathersage
- Other local business representatives

#### **8.5 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 3 (Economy), actions 6.16, 6.18, 6.19 and 6.20 and objective 20.14 of the National Park Plan.

## 9. EDUCATION FOR ALL

### Goal

- 9.1 To optimise the educational value of the Estate, whilst protecting / enhancing its ecology and archaeological interest; without undue disturbance to the wildness of the area, other visitors, local people and the working farm.

### Aims

- 9.2 Provide guidance for formal education groups
- 9.3 Provide informal education and guidance for all visitors
- 9.4 Involve and inform everyone with an interest about the management of the Estate. (Seek to move along the scale from awareness to understanding to participation).
- 9.5 Demonstrate good practice in environmental site management

**NB.** It should be noted that any contribution towards the economy of the Estate / area should be secondary and not an objective of education policy. However, actions such as Losehill Hall's long term policy of encouraging residential courses for formal educational groups should be welcomed - as people staying longer in the area are likely to contribute more to the local economy.

## Objectives

Aim 9.2 Provide guidance for formal education groups

9.2.1 **Implement measures to ensure that all educational groups book their visit and obtain a licence.** In order to achieve this, incentives must be offered, and the policy must be effectively communicated and enforced:

1. Incentives:

- Charge a minimal fee to cover costs
- Provide a Teacher's Pack (as now)
- Licence to include important liability and health & safety information
- Once licence obtained, wardens/rangers will be alerted of their presence and will offer a weather report, advice as to the best areas to study and alert groups to current situations, such as fire risk status, access closures and any relevant hazards
- Offer use of the farm's Teaching Room, by arrangement with the farm tenants

2. Communication:

- Make a face-to-face, personal approach to the Local Education Authority co-ordinators and advisors to get information across.
- Inform schools known to visit the Estate.
- Provide relevant information on the Authority's education web site.

3. Enforcement:

- Wardens and Rangers to inform groups who turn up on site that they need to book and obtain a licence and explain what they would get in return.

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 7; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

9.2.2 **Develop a user-friendly code of conduct for formal education groups.**

This should detail sensitive areas for wildlife and where and when people should and should not go during their visit. The code should rely on voluntary compliance by pointing out why a particular area is special. There is already an outdoor charter that could be used as a basis for this and there is going to be good practise guide for schools visits on the PDNPA's Education website in 2003. (A national code is also proposed under the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act but we should continue to develop a specific one for the Estate). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 7; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

- 9.2.3 **Monitor the level of use of the Estate by formal education groups.** Record and monitor basic information to include: the number of groups, number of people per group, the nature of their visit, where and when. A simple recording sheet should be developed and all information compiled in one place. All educational users should be required to return such information. This will help to assess whether there is a need to control educational visits in future and help to better tailor the information provided to the needs of the users. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **8**; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service and Losehill Hall.** Monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**
- 9.2.4 **Contact groups that bring primary school aged children to the Estate and find out their needs.** For example, St Michael's Field Study Centre are known to visit the Estate very regularly but the nature of their use is not known. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **9**; Lead partners: **National Park Authority -Losehill Hall.** Monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Losehill Hall.**
- 9.2.5 **Copies of the results of all studies should be requested and compiled.** It was suggested that these could be collated by a student placement. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **8**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service & Losehill Hall.**

Aim 9.3: Provide informal education and guidance for all visitors. ( NB. It is important to leave some things for people to discover for themselves, perhaps having been given a hint in leaflets and on interpretation boards. It was also noted that Stanage can offer a beneficial simple outdoor experience and this should be encouraged although no provision is necessary).

9.3.1 **Wardens & Rangers to provide face-to-face interpretation and education as front-line staff.** Rangers have an educational role and this should be developed by working with local schools and scout groups, etc. Wardens should continue to provide information about the Estate and its management. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.** Monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

9.3.2 **Provide occasional guided walks.** These could be led by Rangers, Wardens and others (such as bird groups, ecologists, archaeologists, parish footpaths officers, other local people). These should tie in with management plan messages. However, these should not be held too often. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **9**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates, Rangers, Archaeology and Ecology Services and Losehill Hall, user groups, Sheffield Bird Study Group, local representatives.**

Aim 9.4: Involve and inform everyone with an interest about the management of the Estate (Seek to move along the scale from awareness to understanding to participation).

9.4.1 **Continue to use the Stanage Forum process as a method of building understanding and encouraging participation in the management of the Estate.** Including meetings, the newsletter and website (see Management, etc.). Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **5**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

9.4.2 **Initiate more volunteer action and partnership projects.** Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partners and monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

9.4.3 **Provide up-to-date information on the web site(s).** These, such as the Stanage Forum web page, the National Park Authority's main site, an education website (being developed) and user groups' own sites (such as the BMC's) have the potential to meet a large number of demands for information. Schools and climbers now use the web site a great deal. All information contained on websites should also be made available to those who do not have access to the internet. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service and Losehill Hall, British Mountaineering Council.**

9.4.4 **Provide frequent press releases.** Magazine articles to keep people up-to-date with newsworthy items. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and log of press coverage): **National Park Authority - Estates Service, all partner organisations on the Steering Group.**

9.4.5 **Provide annual updates on the management of the Estate.** These might be based on the management plan's annual monitoring report and should include information on the Forum process itself. They should be supplied to all education groups, on the web site and disseminated to the public as appropriate. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **5**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 9.5: Demonstrate good practice in environmental site management

9.5.1 **Promote the management of the Estate as a demonstration of good practice.** The management of the Estate should be used as a demonstration of good practice, particularly the Stanage Forum, as a pilot approach. Successes should be celebrated and disseminated as appropriate. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority: **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

9.5.2 **Also note:** Losehill Hall are trying to develop a Farmers Education Network and Derby College has signed up as being interested, so there may be educational opportunities through this but they will take some time to develop.

## 9.6 Background

Education for All includes both formal and informal education of all people, from school groups to individual visitors. Stanage / the North Lees Estate provides a rich source of education material. Education / information is currently provided by a number of sources, including:

- Derby College (Derbyshire College of Agriculture & Horticulture) - farm tenants providing for its students
- Losehill Hall - National Park Study Centre - environmental education
- Estates Service - ad hoc requests for information - mainly from students and groups wanting to look at good practice in environmental site management
- Information Service - ad hoc requests
- Guide books and good practice guides
- On-site interpretation boards, bylaws and other signs
- A leaflet pack
- Press releases
- Wardens and Rangers - provision of face-to-face information/interpretation on-site.
- Teachers' Pack - for use by visiting school groups
- Group leaders e.g. Ramblers, climbing instructors, scouts, university, outdoor centres and school groups.
- Local people - are a largely untapped source of information on the area
- National Park Authority web-site.
- The Stanage Forum process

## **9.7 Relevant suggestions being considered under other subject headings**

- 9.7.1 Provide interpretation boards at main access points (see Recreation - Access & Rights of Way chapter).
- 9.7.2 Provide and regularly update a leaflet pack on the Estate (see Recreation - Access & Rights of Way chapter).
- 9.7.3 Adhere to good practice guides, such as the Stanage Guide and the Peak Group Book for climbers and promote codes of conduct agreed through the Forum process - e.g. for commercial users, hang-gliders & paragliders, 4 wheel drivers and trail bikers. [Recreation]
- 9.7.4 Vehicular access - a whole package of measures, including education and promotion of the reasons for it - to reduce the detrimental impacts caused by people travelling to and through the Estate.
- 9.7.5 Integrate a working hill farm with conservation, education and recreation [Farming]
- 9.7.6 'Zone' archaeological sites: a) those suitable for site interpretation and access (stable); b) those better left (vulnerable) [Archaeology]

## **9.8 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

- 9.8.1 Provide an educational resource for disadvantaged inner city children. However, no separate provision at Stanage is considered necessary because a facility is already proposed for Parson's House/Burbage Valley. There may be opportunities for connected use of Stanage but a separate facility is thought to be unnecessary.
- 9.8.2 Limit the number of educational groups using the area: It was felt that we need to monitor and properly assess the current level of use and any problems caused first, before any decision on whether to seek to restrict numbers could be taken.

## 9.9 Consultees

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Liz Ballard - Losehill Hall
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Don Mabbs - Derbyshire Association of Residential Education
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Jane Somerset - Information Service (PDNPA)
- Janet Priestley/Clark Field - Derby College
- Helen Turton St. Michael's Study Centre, Hathersage
- Ken Smith - Archaeologist (PDNPA)
- Anna Wharton - Education Ranger (PDNPA)
- Tony Hood - Rangers (PDNPA)
- Jane Marsden - Local representative
- Catherine Bowmer - Interpretation Project Manager
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Sheffield Secondary Schools

## 9.10 Relevant Authority Policies

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 2 (People), paragraphs 6.12 and 6.13 and Objective 4 (Understanding), paragraphs 6.21 and 6.23 and National Park Plan chapter 18.

## 10. FARMING

*As revised 13 April 2006*

### **General Principle:**

The management of the Farm should operate within the framework of the Estate Management Plan and embrace the Stange Forum structure/process and its consensus principles.

### **Goal: (unchanged)**

- 10.1 To support a farming-based business which provides employment and income to the local economy and the Estate, with mutual benefits for education, recreation and conservation of the landscape, wildlife, habitats and archaeology.

### **Aims: (revised to reflect new objectives)**

- 10.2 For the farm to be environmentally sustainable and maximise its conservation value
- 10.3 In meeting the other aims, the farming based business should strive to be economically sustainable and contribute towards local social and economic well-being where possible.
- 10.4 To positively contribute to the recreational use of the Estate
- 10.5 To enhance the landscape value and fabric of the Estate

**Aim 10.2 For the farm to be environmentally sustainable and maximise its conservation value**

**Objective 10.2.1:**

The land should continue to be grazed at current sustainable levels, or as otherwise recommended by English Nature guidelines. There may also be merit in taking sheep off the moor in spring to avoid overgrazing of bilberry (but this requires further discussion). Cattle grazing should be re-introduced to the in-bye land, in combination with sheep, at the appropriate level. This is particularly important for wet pastures: Little Chapel Field, Leveret Fields, Bottom Pasture and Gathering Field. Traditional breeds such as Shorthorn, Blue Albion, belted Galloway or highland cattle should be favoured.

**Background**

As in 2001 during the drafting of the Plan, the idea of not grazing the moorland at all was discussed and rejected again. (See the full Estate Management Plan for pros and cons). The changes to grazing, including reintroducing cattle are new suggestions from PDNPA's Ecologist.

**Objective 10.2.2:**

Carry out a combination of rotational heather cutting and burning in strips on the dry heather moor (favouring cutting initially but monitoring results relative to burning), or burning where cutting is not practical) but leaving at least 20% uncut/unburnt. Details to be agreed in the Moorland Management Plan, which is currently being drafted in consultation with English Nature.

**Background:**

Previous objective:

10.5.1 Carry out small burns (as done on grouse moors) on the dry heather moor (as per current guidelines).

Since this was written, we have been favouring cutting on PDNPA Estates as it is easier to control and in many cases has produced better results. Burning is up to date at North Lees but we have carried out one trial cut above Cabin Track, which left no trace of vehicular access and is recovering well. However, burning should not be ruled out, as it often produces better results and there may be some areas of the moor that cutting machinery cannot get to. PDNPA's archaeologists should also be consulted on the burning plan. Heather management is one of a range of techniques (also including bracken control, digging scrapes, blocking drains, etc) designed to create a diverse mosaic of habitats.

### **Objective 10.2.3**

Maximise the conservation value of all in-bye fields. They should all be designated as either hay meadows, pastures or flexible (either/or) and enhanced accordingly. The improved fields nearest to the farm may be considered for greater experimentation if appropriate.

#### **Action 10.2.3.1**

Hay meadows should be re-created on Ridgewayside, Top Warren, Leveret Fields and Front Field by spreading seed from Ridgewayside North and managing as late cut meadows.

#### **Action 10.2.3.2**

The floristic value of other pastures and hay meadows should be enhanced by harvesting and spreading seed from the best conservation fields (but not to the extent that they are impoverished), followed by periods of appropriate low grazing levels to aid improvement.

#### **Action 10.2.3.3**

Any drains should also be blocked/broken to provide wetter pastures and meadows, where appropriate.

#### **Background:**

Advised by PDNPA Ecologist and partially actioned so far. Further detailed advice to be provided by PDNPA's Ecologist, accompanied by a review of stocking regimes and land management practices.

#### **Action 10.2.3.4**

Plant an orchard and sacrificial fodder crop for birds in Barley Orchard field, which is improved land near the Hall.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion to reinstate some variety in habitat on improved land which currently has little conservation value. As the name of the field suggests, an orchard and an arable crop would have existed before the land was sown as grass pasture. Exact details to be agreed on RSPB and PDNPA Ecologists' advice but it is suggested that half the field could be planted as an orchard and the other half split into thirds with turnips, oats and fallow rotated each year. This would benefit farmland birds such as linnet, yellowhammer and finches. This should also be accompanied by a review of stocking regimes and land management practices.

## **Objective 10.2.4**

Any necessary bracken and weed control should be done by mechanical means if possible or weed wiping or spot spraying as a last resort).

### **Action 10.2.4.1**

Bracken should be treated if it is encroaching into other more valuable vegetation (such as heather moorland or species-rich grassland). This should be done by mechanical means where possible, accompanied by tree planting where appropriate. For further guidance, see the Peak District Bracken Code of Practice.

#### **Background:**

Previous objectives:

10.6.1 Spot spray the edges of bracken patches, where it is encroaching into other moorland vegetation. NB. This should not be done if the bracken provides an important feeding area for valued birds such as Ring Ouzel.

Since the Plan was drafted, the grazing levels have been reduced and we have found that heather is now out competing bracken, which is actually contracting slightly. However, there are still areas which might benefit from bracken control, which might be considered if more environmentally-friendly methods were proposed, particularly if the bracken could be composted and sold to gain extra income. For example, bracken has been cut in Little Chapel Field on Ecologist's advice and needs to be maintained to ensure it doesn't re-grow.

Bracken management is one of a range of techniques (also including heather cutting/burning, digging scrapes, blocking drains, etc) designed to create a diverse mosaic of habitats.

### **Action 10.2.4.2**

Cattisside & Hook's Car bracken beds - clear by hand and plant the very occasional rowan, hawthorn and other suitable native scrub species, to aid bilberry and heather regeneration and favour birds like whinchat, tree pipit and ring ouzel. Particularly focus on opening up the wet flushes. We should also consider merely scything the bracken annually around grassy/heather patches/boulders to enhance the mosaic of habitats and provide more feeding areas for Ring Ouzel and other birds.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion. It was considered that the west facing slope of Cattisside above the cottage is quite akin to Welsh ffrydds (sparsely wooded valley sides), which are a priority BAP habitat in Wales. Trees would help break up the monotony of large deep bracken beds and provide perches and berries for birds. Needs final approval on site by PDNPA Ecologist.

### **Action 10.2.4.3**

All weed control should be by mechanical means except where weed wiping or spot spraying is essential to control noxious weeds to comply with current legislation. Field margins should be left uncut.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion based on Ecologist's advice.

### **Objective 10.2.5**

Organic farming should be welcomed/encouraged (but is not essential), provided that comprehensive, environmentally friendly conservation objectives can be met.

#### **Background:**

It was agreed that this is a good and worthwhile objective but there may be issues to overcome/consider, such as the unfenced moorland boundary to neighbours land, which is not currently organic and animal welfare implications regarding use of preventative injections.

Previous objective:

10.2.1 Work towards the standards required for organic certification (although not necessarily go all the way). The farm will continue to pursue environmental principles, which might not necessarily involve going organic.

### **Objective 10.2.6:**

Farming using rare/traditional breeds will be welcomed (but is not essential).

#### **Background:**

New suggestion: Supporting such breeds is suggested as a worthwhile objective in its own right and often could result in better habitat grazing.

Such livestock should be suitable hill farming breeds, rather than just for novelty value.

### **Objective 10.2.7:**

Enhance all farmland trees and small woodlands and where appropriate, plant new ones.

#### **Action 10.2.7.1**

Veteran trees - plant 6-10 new field boundary trees to become future veteran trees and replace existing mature boundary trees (ash & oak). It might be possible to gain "sponsorship" of such trees or plant them in memory of someone.

#### **Action 10.2.7.2**

Install small exclosures in the boulder strewn Warren field to create an area of "parkland"/"wood pasture" habitat to border the oak woodland. 8-10 trees and 3-4 hawthorn shrubs to become future veteran trees.

#### **Action 10.2.7.3**

Far Warren - fence out exiting group of mature oaks but allow vehicular access to one side (if necessary). This is to allow natural regeneration of strip of mature oaks which have become separated from the woodland block.

#### **Action 10.2.7.4**

Plant a group of native broadleaf trees in the dense bracken top corner of Chapel Field, below the Chapel remains. This is to improve the conservation value of a dense bracken patch which is of little value for anything else in this location. Subject to agreement on site by PDNPA Ecologist.

#### **Background:**

All new suggestions from PDNPA.

### **Action 10.2.8**

An application must be made for the new Higher Level Scheme, retaining existing Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme guidelines as a minimum conservation standard.

#### **Background:**

As a result of the ESA agreement (along with other management undertaken), the farm's moorland is in favourable condition for SSSI purposes.

Previous objective:

10.2.2 Implement the new Environmentally Sensitive Area agreement. A tier 2 agreement has been implemented since the Plan was written. This includes no artificial fertilisers, pesticides, ploughing, re-seeding, etc and sets the current sustainable grazing levels. The farm's ESA will end in April 2006. ESA is no longer available for new applications and has been replaced by the

Environmental Stewardship Scheme, which has two levels: Entry Level and Higher Level.

#### **Action 10.2.9**

Widen all hedges. When fences are ready for replacement, widen them by around 1m to allow hedge expansion. Subject to agreement on site by PDNPA Ecologist in each case.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion. Need to bear in mind impact on land registration for the Single Payment Scheme, etc.

#### **Action 10.2.10**

Provide scrapes (small pools) where appropriate to enhance habitat for upland waders, such as lapwing, snipe and curlew. Dig 3 or 4 widely separated scrapes (small pools) on top of Sheepwash Bank and in Little Chapel Field/the improved bit of the Warren field.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion to continue the successful scrapes digging programme on Gathering Field and near the Buck Stone. NB Siting will need to be agreed with PDNPA Ecologists and Archaeologists.

#### **Aim 10.3 For the farming based business to be economically sustainable and contribute towards local social and economic well-being**

**NB.** Many of the objectives under 10.2 should also contribute to making the farm economically sustainable, such as organic farming, rare breeds and applying for the Higher Level Scheme.

#### **Objective 10.3.1**

Appropriate farm diversification will be considered. This must be compatible with the Estate's special qualities, the neighbouring use of the Hall and other objectives in the Plan and would be subject to gaining planning, listed buildings and any other necessary approvals.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion: The farm currently only has 330 sheep and relies on grants to make it economically sustainable. If it is to remain a viable single farm unit, it may need to take advantage of diversification opportunities, particularly making fuller use of the buildings. The College gained planning and listed buildings

consent to convert part of the cruck barn to provide student bunkhouse accommodation but never developed it.

Any diversification proposals need to fit the overall Estate objectives and be subject to full discussion with the Stange Forum Steering Group.

Possible diversification opportunities might be:

1. Niche products from the farm, linked to the use of the traditional barns
2. bunkhouse in traditional barn
3. craft workshop, etc in traditional barn.

NB. It was commented that integration & on-site management are important for the campsite and the Estate.

### **Objective 10.3.2**

The farm should seek to achieve the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark as a viable business and be branded and marketed as high quality, locally produced, environmentally sustainable produce.

#### **Background:**

There should be a presumption for EQM status unless there is a good reason why not. It was questioned whether the finished product needs to meet the standard and North Lees has only produced store lambs, rather than finished (fat) lambs in recent years. This may create difficulty but should be overcome if at all possible. It may also present an opportunity to encourage others in the chain of production to meet EQM standards.

Previous objective:

10.3.1 Contact other potentially interested parties in the area and seek to jointly develop local branding and marketing initiatives for farm-based products. A local landowner in Hathersage was thought to be actively pursuing the idea of letting shop space for local produce in Hathersage. This never came to anything but the EQM has been launched since the Plan was drafted.

### **Objective 10.3.3**

Ideas as to how the farm can contribute to maximising the Estate's contribution to the local economy should be welcomed.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion to seek to meet the National Park statutory duty to foster the social and economic well being of local communities. There are no specific objectives for this under the Estate Management Plan, as a strategy has yet to

be developed but this is a stated aim of the Economy chapter. Ideas suggested for consideration might include providing visitor facilities at the farm buildings, such as a farming demonstration/ low key visitor centre or local foods retail outlet but these would need planning consent and consideration of their impact on the Hall tenants and local roads and services, etc.

### **Objective 10.3.4**

In achieving the other objectives, the management of the farm should contribute towards the social well-being of the local area wherever possible. For example, if we decide to re-let any of the Estate, local candidates will be particularly encouraged and welcomed.

#### **Background**

New suggestion to seek to meet the National Park statutory duty to foster the social and economic well being of local communities.

### **Aim 10.4 To positively contribute to and gain from the recreational use of the Estate**

#### **Objective 10.4.1**

To enhance the rights of way network on the farm.

#### **Background**

The following actions were either new or suggested in the past and on reconsideration, it was agreed that they should be implemented as soon as possible after 29 September 2006 (when the current farm tenants leave). Wear issues and future maintenance requirements should be assessed in advance. It is felt that these suggestions would fit in with the aim for access & rights of way, which is to: "Improve the rights of way network where appropriate" and the goal for recreation, which is: "To welcome visitors to the Estate by providing easy and open access for all people and many types of recreation, whilst encouraging responsible use in order to: protect & enhance ecology/wildlife; protect the landscape and "wilderness experience"; avoid conflict within and between user groups; avoid causing disturbance to local residents and farming and to avoid damage to archaeology/cultural history".

#### **Action 10.4.1.1**

Open a new seasonal concession path across Ridgewayside for a trial period of two years.

#### **Background:**

As per previous objective: 14b5.3 Conduct a bird survey and seek consensus with Derby College as pre-requisites to opening a new seasonal concession path across Ridgewayside. The path should start alongside the hollow-way from Coggers Lane and pass through a flower-rich hay meadow. It should also be closed to public access during lambing time and part of the bird breeding season (for 6 weeks from 1 April). Signs to this effect should be present all year, to forewarn people. Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times. However, it could also be used positively to improve people's understanding of ecological issues

with regard to hay meadows. This route would connect well with the existing footpath network, avoid a section of road walking, provide outstanding panoramic views and enable people to see a flower-rich hay meadow (which is now a relatively rare opportunity). Due to potential problems with disturbance to farming activity, habitats and birds, it is proposed not to publicise this route but merely to allow access for a trial period of two years, with the proviso that this access may be withdrawn on the Steering Group's recommendation, at any time within that period, should problems occur.

The bird survey was conducted and showed no concerns but consensus was never reached with Derby College.

#### **Action 10.4.1.2**

Designate as concession footpaths, the current informal access to the Chapel and along the hollow-way above the farm to Hollin Bank for a trial period of two years, then designate as public footpaths if no problems.

#### **Background:**

Previous objective:

14b5.4 NB. It was agreed that we should do nothing - i.e. neither encourage nor discourage use of the hollow-way above the farm, which is occasionally used by walkers to cut a corner between existing footpaths.

This arrangement works pretty well and no problems have been experienced. It would also provide a separate footpath to the proposed bridleway along the driveway (see 10.4.1.3 below). We see no reason why such access should not now be formalised. However, it should not be widely promoted other than by normal footpath signing on-site.

#### **Action 10.4.1.3**

Re-designate the public footpath from Hollin Bank down the drive past the Hall & Farm as a concession bridleway for a trial period of two years, then designate as a public bridleway if no problems.

#### **Background:**

New suggestion. This would link nicely with the bridleway from Redmires over the Edge to Hollin Bank and may help to take pressure off calls to designate the path along the top of the Edge as a bridleway. Ideally, there would also be a link to Hathersage via Baulk Lane (but this is outside our ownership, although the owner should be contacted with the idea). Safety of use and impact on Hall tenants will need to be assessed during the trial period.

## **Objective 10.4.2: To enhance visitor facilities on the farm.**

### **Action 10.4.2.1**

Enhance the area around Hollin Bank Toilets block by providing a bench at the back of the toilet block and restoring the pond in Top Warren (subject to consultation with archaeologists).

#### **Background:**

New suggestion. It was discussed as to whether the top corner of Top Warren should be fenced out and planted with native broadleaf trees, providing benches and interpretation but this was felt to be too large a scale and formal for the demand. It was therefore agreed to first provide a minimum of visitor facilities and see how well they are used. If it proves popular we could then consider expanding (but weighing this against objectives for a natural landscape).

### **Action 10.4.2.2**

Seek to provide a room in one of the buildings for use by partner organisations to the Stanage Forum - as a "drop in" centre with displays and staff/volunteers from any partner organisation. Such a mini visitor centre could also sell local farm produce.

#### **Background:**

Suggested at the last Steering Group meeting. This is not a high priority and could only be provided if it fits in with the overall best use of the buildings as part of the whole estate. PDNPA Development Control officers should be consulted. Security issues should be borne in mind if equipment is to be left in the room.

## **Objective 10.4.3**

The farm should contribute to education about sustainable land management and achievement of the Plan's objectives, acting as a demonstration of best practice about how conservation, farming and visitor activity can co-exist.

#### **Background:**

Derby College provided an educational element to their farming and it would be good to really make the most of educational opportunities at North Lees. This should not be a requirement put solely on a new tenant/farm manager but be achieved acting in conjunction with PDNPA and other partners. This links to the goal for education for all, which is: "To optimise the educational value of the Estate, whilst protecting / enhancing its ecology and archaeological interest; without undue disturbance to the wildness of the area, other visitors, local people and the working farm".

#### **Objective 10.4.4**

Ideas as to how the farm can contribute to a social inclusion strategy for the Estate should be welcomed.

#### **Background:**

There are no specific objectives for this as a strategy has yet to be developed but a Management aim of the Plan is "To develop an Equal Opportunities & Social Inclusion strategy to ensure that everyone has real opportunity to become involved in the management and enjoyment of the Estate".

#### **Objective 10.4.5**

Ensure that farm-based activity is not unduly disturbed by visitor pressure.

#### **Action 10.4.5.1**

Continue to implement measures to stop people parking in the gateways around the farm and leaving gates open. These should include:

1. Use interpretation/education measures to improve understanding (see Education and Access & Rights of Way).
2. Maintain routed signs on problem gates (as few as possible). This should include all gates adjoining cattle grids and others to be identified by the Farm Manager.
3. Place advisory notices on the windscreens of offending cars (also asking them not to turn it into litter) and record their details.

#### **Background:**

This is not a big problem at North Lees any more but needs to be continued.

Previous objective 10.4.1: similar to above but also included contacting fell runners clubs, who were identified as particular offenders but now understand the issues and don't cause so many problems.

**NB.** There are many more objectives in the Estate Management Plan to improve understanding and influence visitor behaviour - see Recreation chapters (particularly Access & Right of Way) and Education for All.

## **Aim 10.5 To enhance the farming landscape and fabric of the Estate**

### **Objective 10.5.1**

The "fabric" of the Estate must be maintained in good condition - including signs, walls, fences, hedges and buildings.

#### **Background:**

Much of this is now required by codes of good agricultural and agri-environmental practice. It is also currently covered by ESA and the farm tenancy agreement but needs specifying as both of these will change in September 2006. Bear in mind the Plan's Landscape chapter presumption against fencing.

### **10.6 Relevant objectives being pursued under different headings**

10.7.1 The issue of sheep deaths on the roads is being dealt with under vehicular access.

10.7.2 The clearway proposed as part of the Vehicular Access solutions should help to stop people parking in some gateways.

10.7.3 Reduce disturbance caused by recreation, especially dogs off leads [Access & Rights of Way].

10.7.4 Fence stock out of the clough on Sheepwash Bank to allow natural regeneration of the oak/birch clough woodland. [Woodlands].

### **10.7 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

10.8.1 Introduce cattle grazing to help control bracken: Cattle could potentially benefit some of the habitats and help to break up the bracken. However it was advised against for the following reasons: It is an unfenced moor and it would be difficult, expensive and undesirable in landscape and access terms to erect fencing; cattle, recreation (on the scale of Stanage) and cars don't mix well; the Edge itself would be a danger to cattle; dung might be unpleasant to some visitors; most of the bracken lies in deep beds of bracken litter and cattle would be unlikely to control it and it would be undesirable anyway (see above).

10.8.2 Get rid of sheep from the access area. This could only be a possibility if sheep were found not to be necessary for the sustainability of the working farm. The technical group debated the arguments for and against this proposal (with all but one agreeing against) as follows:

#### For:

- Grazing can restrict public access, e.g. the recent closures due to foot & Mouth Disease

- Better heather regeneration
- Dogs have to be kept on a lead with stock around
- Sheep droppings are undesirable to some people

Against:

- The best management of the ecology of the moor is light sheep grazing and burning in small strips. The moor and bog are the most important habitats on the Estate and designated a Special Protection Area (Europe's highest level of protection for rare birds).
- The presence of stock and wildlife does not restrict public access (except in extreme circumstances, such as Foot & Mouth). The tall heather and wet bog makes public access physically difficult to most of the area anyway.
- Even if the area were not grazed, dogs would have to be kept on a lead so as not to cause disturbance to wildlife and other visitors.
- Sheep droppings will be less of a problem when sheep numbers are reduced. It was also argued that this is a minority view. They are also less offensive than dog and human faeces!
- The 118 hectare area of blanket bog and Carr Head Moor will continue not to be burned.

## 10.9 Consultees

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Frances Horsford - Ecologist (National Park Authority)
- Rod Starbuck - Department of the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Rural Development Service (Formerly MAFF/FRCA)
- Chris Manby - Senior Land Agent PDNPA (deputising for John Lomas)
- Norman Goodwin (who wrote in arguing that sheep should not be allowed to graze the access area)
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden, PDNPA
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager
- National Farmers Union
- British Mountaineering Council
- Ramblers Association
- Local residents
- Archaeologist (PDNPA)
- RSPB
- Bird Groups
- John Elliott (neighbouring farmer)
- Natural England
- Losehill Hall

#### **10.10 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 1 (Environment), paragraphs 6.3 to 6.5; Objective 3 (Economy), paragraphs 6.15 to 6.20; and National Park Plan chapter 4.

## 11. GEOLOGY

### Goal

- 11.1 To protect the geological interest of the Estate in a way which is compatible with all of its other special qualities.

### Aim

- 11.2 To ensure that no undue damage is caused to the Estate's geological interest.

## Objectives

- 11.2.1 **To monitor the Estate's features of geological interest to ensure that no damage is caused. Target Year(s): 1-10; Priority (from 1-9): 7; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): English Nature/National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

### **11.3 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- English Nature
- Derbyshire RIGS Group (Regionally Important Geological Sites)
- Derbyshire Wildlife Trust
- British Mountaineering Council

### **11.4 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 1 (Environment) and paragraphs 6.78 to 6.85 of the National Park Plan.

### **11.5 Background**

Stanage is a Regionally Important Geological Site - see information on file at the National Park Office, Bakewell for further information.

## 12. LANDSCAPE

### Goal

- 12.1 To enhance the wild, open, rural landscape character, whilst: maintaining/improving access, protecting and enhancing ecology/wildlife; making sure special needs groups have access (e.g. disabled, elderly); providing a campsite and maintaining a commercially viable farm business.

### Aims

- 12.2 To minimise the impact of undesirable man-made features on the landscape.
- 12.3 To enhance the quietness of the area by minimising motorised activity on the Estate.
- 12.4 Monitor the level of use by visitors.

## Objectives

Aim 12.2: To minimise the impact of undesirable man-made features on the landscape.

12.2.1 **Set up a "signs taskforce"** to seek to minimise the number and impact of all signs on the Estate. This should comprise of Steering Group members. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

12.2.2 **Remove obsolete fences, signs, etc. unless of historic interest.** Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

12.2.3 **Replace any sign that is not as discreet as possible while still fulfilling its function.** All signs should be either the dark green corporate colour or wooden routed if possible. Particular attention should be given to siting of signs, for example the car park entrance signs should be smaller and sited against walls at the start of footpaths from them (as they are only required to indicate where people are, should they need to phone the emergency services). Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

12.2.4 **Contact Transco to request that they replace the fluorescent gas pipeline markers on the bog with something less visually intrusive.** (However, this was felt to be highly unlikely as they are required for monitoring by helicopter). Target Year(s): 5-10; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

12.2.5 **Communicate the view of the Stanage Forum Steering Group that Blue Circle Cement Works is the biggest blot on the landscape, as appropriate.** This may be better coming from a Steering Group member who is not employed by the Authority. Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

12.2.6 **Identify any other incongruous features and remove them if possible or reduce their impact on the landscape.** Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 12.3: To enhance the quietness of the area by minimising motorised activity on the Estate.

**12.3.1 Reduce the number of low helicopter flights over Stanage, if possible.**

The Civil Aviation Authority should be contacted to find out if there is any way of controlling the number and height of pleasure flights over Stanage. (It is understood that these have successfully been banned over the Isle of Skye). Also, Mountain Rescue teams should be consulted as to how communication could be improved to reduce the number of times that helicopters are called out for minor injuries (if possible). Although the need for Mountain Rescue teams to err on the side of caution is fully appreciated, the Stanage Forum Steering Group felt that helicopters were being called more frequently to deal with relatively minor injuries - due mostly to poor communication. A designated landing site should be suggested for mountain rescue helicopters opposite Hollin Bank toilets. If called out, they could then perhaps wait there while the seriousness of accident is assessed and then decide whether to lift off the crag or not. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **5**; Lead partner& monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**.

Aim 12.4 Monitor the level of use by visitors.

**12.4.1 Design and implement a periodic survey of the number of visitors to the Estate.** In response to the question of whether the number of people visiting/using the Estate should be limited, it is considered that we first need to assess the level of use. This will link to monitoring proposed under other objectives, such as keeping to the main paths (Recreation - Access & Rights of Way) and Vehicular Access. It is considered to be inappropriate at present to try and set an overall limit and many questioned the validity of such an approach. It was also suggested that the opening of more areas of the countryside to public access under the Countryside & Rights of Way Act might result in a dispersal of visitors. The opportunity could also be taken to investigate evening and seasonal patterns of use and social inclusion monitoring as well. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Research & Monitoring Service.**

## **12.5 Relevant suggestions which are being considered under other subject headings**

- 12.5.1 NB. Many of the Plan's objectives will have an impact on the landscape. Listed below are some of the most obvious ones that should enhance the Estate's wild, open, rural character.
- 12.5.2 Commercial use - Guiding responsible commercial use of the Estate.
- 12.5.3 Farming - The proposed ESA agreement includes the removal of the fenced enclosures above the Edge and fencing stock out of the clough on Sheepwash Bank to allow natural regeneration of the oak/birch clough woodland.
- 12.5.4 Management structure - Co-ordination of all objectives by the Estate Manager.
- 12.5.5 Recreation - 4 Wheel Drive and Trail Bike Use - objectives to reduce the impact of such use on the landscape and environment.
- 12.5.6 Recreation - Access & Rights of Way - minimising the amount and reducing the impact of footpath repairs and interpretation boards.
- 12.5.7 Recreation - Hang gliding and paragliding - precludes the use of motorised paragliders.
- 12.5.8 Woodlands - Increase the proportion of native broad-leaved trees in the Estate woodlands, soften woodland edges and leave any indigenous trees that naturally regenerate on the moorland edge.
- 12.5.9 Vehicular Access - a number of objectives to reduce the impact of vehicles and parking/highways provision for them. Proposals include guiding parking to the least visually intrusive locations, reducing the volume of through traffic, removing roadside mounds and bollards and looking again at the design of the existing car parks.

## **12.6 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

- 12.6.1 Conserve/protect rather than enhance or increase wilderness: This only received 5 votes at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum and SG members felt that we should try to enhance if possible - as expressed in the shared vision.

- 12.6.2 Adopt the "Unna Rules" as advocated by the BMC for sites in Glencoe (copy available from the Estate Manager): This was considered to be good background information to help shape thinking on a number of subject areas. However, the Steering Group also felt that Stanage is very different to the remote areas of Scotland to which the Unna Rules apply. Having said that, they commented how remarkably wild Stanage still is, considering that it is at the centre of the country and surrounded by 22 million annual visitors. Some of the "rules" have been agreed as objectives under different subject headings and others are not relevant to Stanage.
- 12.6.3 It was decided not to plant any trees outside the existing woodlands, as the moorland and grassland habitats are more important in ecological terms. (This was raised in relation to an old suggestion to plant trees in order to screen Hook's Car / Popular End Car Park).
- 12.6.4 Avoid unnecessary urbanisation e.g. get rid of car parks, pay and display, tarmac paths, litter bins, wooden posts from roadside: All of this is already recommended/taken into account in other chapters, apart from getting rid of litter bins. However, they only exist at Hollin Bank Car Park, where the SG considered that they should remain, as litter would become a problem here if they were removed. It was agreed, though, not to install any more elsewhere on the Estate.
- 12.6.5 Stop the burial of "rubbish" within landscape works, such as mounds: under the subject of Vehicular Access, it has been recommended that there should be no more mounds and that the existing ones be removed wherever possible. The issue was also felt to be one of standard of work, rather than a policy issue.

## 12.7 Consultees

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Henry Folkard/Dave Turnbull - British Mountaineering Council
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- Jacque Bevan - Local councillor
- Martin Burfoot - Landscape Architect (National Park Authority)
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Richard Pollitt - English Nature
- Steve Tompkins - Forestry & Tree Service (PDNPA)
- Transco (pipeline company)
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Edale & Buxton Mountain Rescue teams

## 12.8 Background

### Defining "wilderness"

The term wilderness is often raised in relation to Stanage and can be extremely difficult to define. Many conferences and essays have debated the issue. The Steering Group agreed:

1. It doesn't really matter whether Stanage meets a strict definition of wilderness. The point is that most people perceive it to have a "wilderness quality" which is worthy of protection and enhancement.
2. The Steering Group suggested that a wilderness must include wildlife (and not just be visually wild). If lost, a visual wilderness can be recovered but once wildlife is lost it cannot (easily) recover. The Steering Group agreed that the Ring Ouzel is a key target species for the Estate (as it is endangered and right at the point of balance between wildlife, access and farming - see Ecology)
3. In general terms, conservation at Stanage is about *managing* people and *encouraging* nature.

## 12.9 Relevant Authority Policies

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 1 (Environment), paragraphs 6.3 to 6.5 and chapter 3 of the National Park Plan.

### **13. MANAGEMENT, EVALUATION & INVOLVING PEOPLE**

#### **Goal**

- 13.1 To demonstrate best practice in environmental site management and public participation.

#### **Aims**

- 13.2 To meet high standards of site management practice, including effectively involving people in the management of the Estate.
- 13.3 To establish and maintain an effective management structure.
- 13.4 To effectively evaluate and review the Management Plan.
- 13.5 To develop an Equal Opportunities & Social Inclusion strategy to ensure that everyone has real opportunity to become involved in the management and enjoyment of the Estate.

## Objectives

Aim 13.2: To meet high standards of management practice, including effectively involving people in the management of the Estate.

### 13.2.1 To meet stated standards for site management practice.

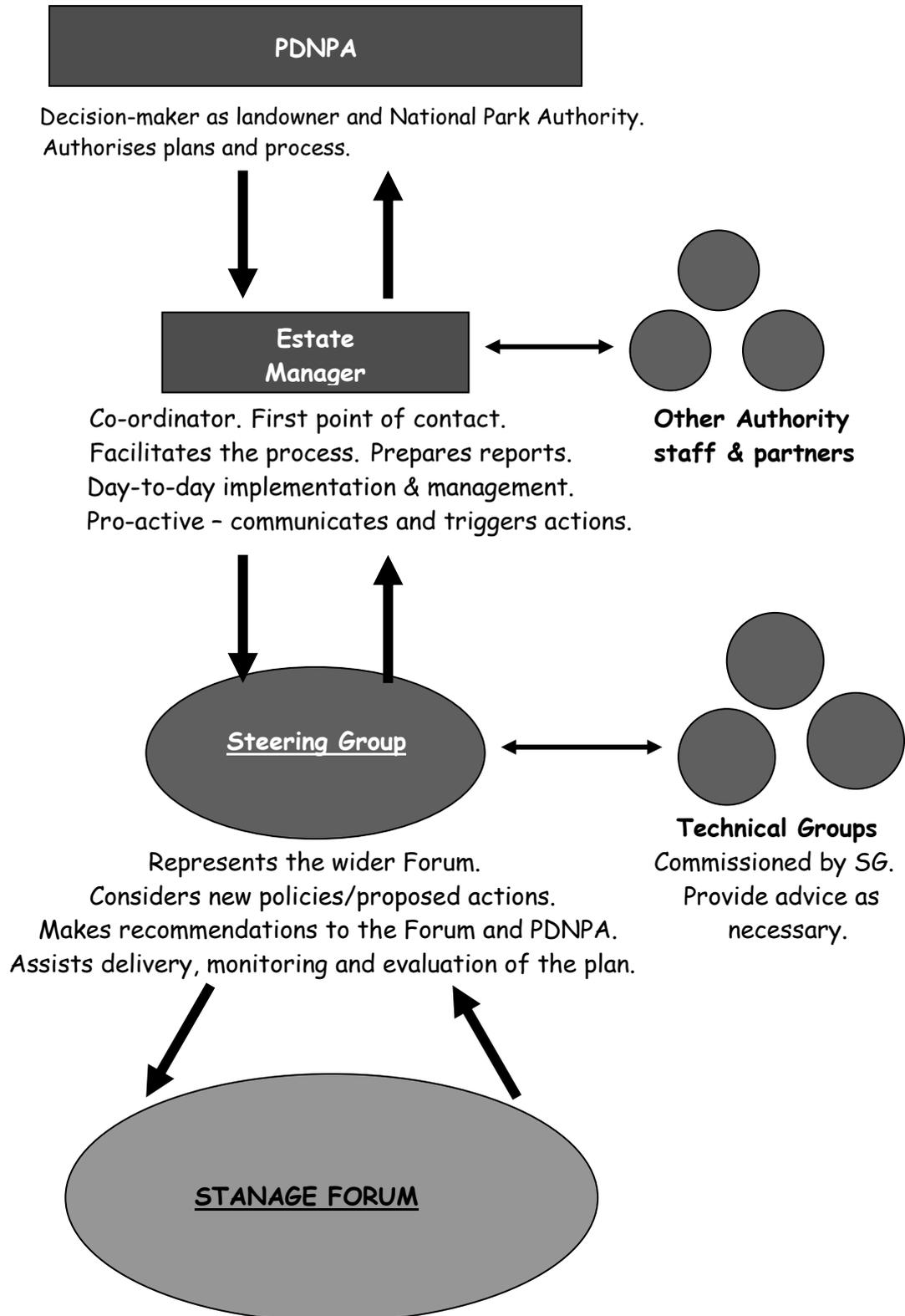
Management should:

1. Attempt to balance all competing interests in a way which meets the plan's objectives and overall vision
2. Be based on consensus (see consensus building principles, attached)
3. Involve people as much as possible to encourage joint "ownership" of the management plan and the Estate. This should include involving stakeholders in the development, implementation and evaluation of the management plan.
4. Be minimalist - nothing which is not necessary need be done and what needs to be done can be done in stages
5. Be accessible
6. Be easy to understand - the way that objectives are communicated should be targeted to their audience
7. Provide a basis for day-to-day decision making
8. Be consistent
9. Be open - with equal information available to all (unless very good reasons not to publish information, e.g. legally restricted).
10. Be promoted as a pilot / example of best practice

Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **1**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**.

Aim 13.3: To establish and maintain an effective management structure.

13.3.1 Establish and maintain an effective management structure based on the existing Stange Forum model (but recognise that the process is moving into implementation). It is recommended that the management structure should be as follows:



The wider Forum. Open to all. Nominates representative SG. Information and opinion gathering. Gives views on recommendations. Includes the web site, e-mail, phone and letter (all year); the newsletter (at least twice a year) and public events (once a year - or as deemed necessary by the SG).

13.3.2 In suggesting the above management structure, the following points are made:

- It is essential that all policy on the Estate is co-ordinated by the Estate Manager - currently Matthew Croney. Anything proposed on the Estate must be communicated to and agreed with him (in consultation with the relevant parties). This will make it easier for the public to find out about the management of the Estate and ensure proper accountability and co-ordination of the Plan's implementation.
- The Steering Group (SG) wishes to remain central to the process, to assist implementation, monitoring, evaluation and revision of the plan.
- Implementation of the Estate Management Plan should not be varied from the approved document without reference to and approval from the Authority.
- Steering Group membership should be based on the existing members and their representation. Each year, there will be a review to assess whether it is still representative of the wider Forum. Initially, thought should be given to how and whether to involve fell runners and 4 wheel drive & trail bike representatives (who have so far, perhaps, been under-represented).
- The Steering Group should be transparent, open & receptive, have the ability to co-opt members and be accountable to the Forum and the groups it is representing.

Target Year(s): 1-10; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

13.3.3 **Improve public relations and communication with visitors by continuing to train and otherwise support front-line staff.** Rangers and Estate Wardens are the public face of the Authority and it is important that they continue to be valued. Investment in their training is well repaid in better public relations, feed back and so on. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

Aim 13.4 To effectively evaluate and review the Management Plan.

**13.4.1 Implement a detailed monitoring and evaluation framework as outlined in the evaluation chapter of this Plan, which should involve people through a consensus approach.** The involvement of people in the evaluation process is particularly important, especially for qualitative evaluation, which is opinion-based. An "ownership" of evaluation, as part of the whole process, should be encouraged. Evaluation should be of the management plan - its policies and its implementation and of the condition of Estate itself. It should be concise and both qualitative and quantitative. Indicators for the plan should be set according to each particular objective and the people involved. Indicators need to be viewed holistically and within context - the Steering Group should have a co-ordinating role in this. The evaluation framework must provide the capacity to keep track of changes to the Estate over time. It should involve an annual monitoring report to keep everyone informed. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **3**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 13.5 To develop an Equal Opportunities & Social Inclusion strategy to ensure that everyone has real opportunity to become involved in the management and enjoyment of the Estate.

13.5.1 **Draft an Equal Opportunities & Social Inclusion Strategy for the Estate.** This should be drafted by the Estate Manager in consultation with the PDNPA's Personnel Service, Graham Attridge (Disabled Visitors' Representative) and Michael Hunt (British Mountaineering Council). Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **9**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

### **13.6 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

13.6.1 To establish the Steering Group as a Trust. To devolve actual ownership of the Estate to a democratically selected committee like the Steering Group - i.e. they hold the budget and make the final decisions, rather than the Authority (similar to arrangements for Peak District Interpretation Project, Brecon Beacons Forum and other case studies considered by the Technical Group (details available on request)). This was considered to be a good idea in principle but it would change the nature of the Steering Group, which has so far worked well in its present role. Trust status may be worth investigating on an individual project basis and in the longer-term, if resource problems occur (as it may open up more external grant funding opportunities). Other resource issues, such as hypothecation of income should be resolved first.

### **13.7 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Tim Richardson - Sheffield University
- Jane Marsden - local representative
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Andy Cooper - Research & Monitoring officer (National Park Authority)
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Matthew Crony - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Steve Smith - ICARUS Collective
- David Mount - Site Management Planning consultant
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Catherine Bowmer - Interpretation Project Manger
- Andy Guffogg - Sustainable Tourism Service Manager

## 14. RECREATION

### Goal

- 14.1 To welcome visitors to the Estate by providing easy and open access for all people and many types of recreation, whilst encouraging responsible use in order to: protect & enhance ecology/wildlife; protect the landscape and "wilderness experience"; avoid conflict within and between user groups; avoid causing disturbance to local residents and farming and to avoid damage to archaeology/cultural history.

### 14.2 Relevant Authority Policies

National Park Management Plan: Objective 2 (People), 6.12 details policies to secure opportunities for responsible and appropriate recreation and enjoyment, including: "encouraging user groups...to adopt codes of practice and activities that help to conserve or enhance the National Park, and thereby lead to continued sustainable use"; "concentrating on the management of those activities which rely on the special qualities of the National Park, whilst discouraging others, and helping them to relocate"; "maintaining, improving and extending rights of way and other paths and trails"; "improving and managing access to open country"; "maintaining and improving facilities and natural features used for recreation"; "providing for personal challenge and development"; "enabling better appreciation and understanding of the Park's special qualities". Objective 3 (Economy): "where visitors are welcomed and bring positive benefits". National Park Plan: Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17 and 18 all apply.

## 14.(a) Recreation - 4 WHEEL DRIVE & TRAIL BIKE USE

### Aim

14a1. To resolve the problems caused by recreational 4 wheel drive and trail bike use by consensus.

### Objective

14a1.1 Resolve the problems caused by recreational 4 wheel drive and trail bike use by consensus, through the approach recommended in "Making the Best of Byways". In relation to problems identified and Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs), Government guidance contained in "Making the Best of Byways" recommends the following staged approach:

1. Defining the problem: the exact nature, causes and whether they are real or perceived.
2. Option evaluation and identification of action:  
Re: Voluntary restraint / TRO:  
- where problems still arise, assess, in order of priority, need for:
  - (i) Voluntary restraint
  - (ii) TRO - seasonal / restriction by type of traffic, width and / or weight
  - (iii) TRO - all year- where there is uncertainty about who or what is causing a problem, consider implementing an experimental TRO.

Assess need for other facilities, segregation, traffic calming

3. Implement options, involving interested parties.
4. Monitor and review actions carried out.

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and any other monitoring identified in pursuing the objective):  
**National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

## 14a2 Consultees

The above proposal should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Ray Clayton - Green Lane Association (GLASS)
- Mandie Chester-Bristowe - Corporate Pursuits
- Richard Hall, John Clark and Ian MacPherson - Trail Riders Fellowship
- Jane Marsden - Local Representative
- Terry Howard & John Harker- Ramblers Association
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Richard Pollitt - English Nature
- Mike Rhodes - Access Officer
- Paul Hopkins - Rights of Way Officer (National Park Authority)
- Antony Hawkins - Ride to Roam
- Alix Otten - CTC Right to Ride
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Chris Falshaw - Sheffield Bird Study Group
- David Giles - TRF
- Pete Coddington - Derbyshire & Peak Park Sport & Recreation Forum Development Officer
- Sheffield City Council - as neighbouring landowners and Highways Authority
- Philip Bellefontaine - Derbyshire County Council as Highways Authority
- John Elliott - neighbouring tenant
- Ken Smith - Archaeology Service (PDNPA)
- Janet Priestley - North Lees Farm Manager, Derby College
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)

### 14a3 Background

Recreational 4 wheel drive and trail bike users currently have a legal right to use the Long Causeway (also known as the "Roman Road"), which is an unmade unclassified county road (UCR) - see plan attached. The desire to prevent this use came through more strongly than anything else as a common wish at the Forum events.

The main problems caused are perceived to be

- Disturbance to birds, in what is a Special Protection Area (Europe's highest level of protection for rare birds)
- Erosion and damage to vegetation and disruption of the drainage of an important wetland habitat (by blocking the drainage soughs through compaction) within the Special Protection Area
- A negative impact on the "wilderness quality" of the area (which was one of the most highly valued special qualities of the area at the first Forum)
- Disturbance to other users, such as ramblers, horse-riders and mountain bikers (particularly from large groups of users and high speed); and damage to an original paved section of the causeway, which is of archaeological importance (concern regarding damage to such routes is also referred to in Dodds & Dodds - "Tracks and Byways of Derbyshire").
- The route has also been identified for potential access improvements to make it more accessible for all. This proposal would be enhanced if motorised vehicles no longer used the route (see Recreation - Access for All).

Other points to note:

- Virtually all 4-wheel drivers and trail bikers belong to an organisation and all organisations have LARA as a common link. David Giles of the Trail Riders' Fellowship is also trying to develop a "Trail Users Alliance".
- The road from Sheffield to Redmires has the same status as the Long Causeway but is tarmac and no one is known to consider use of this to be a problem.
- It was argued that there are relatively few routes for recreational 4-wheel drive and trail bike use, compared to the number of bridleways and footpaths. However, the number of users is also lower and the SG supported the Forum's view that it is an inappropriate use at this location.
- The SG noted that although the opinions of the Forum meetings had been overwhelmingly in favour of banning 4-wheel drive and trail bike use, none of their representatives had attended. However, they had the same invitation and opportunity as everyone else to attend.

**14a4 The following suggestions for managing use were previously discussed:**

- Noise - ensure that all vehicles conform to the legal limit of 97dB.
- Group sizes - 4WD organisations and the Trail Riders Fellowship (TRF) both suggest a maximum group size of 6 vehicles in their codes of practice. The TRF advise that 4 is preferable. The SG considered that we should ask that 4 should be the maximum on this route.
- Speed - 4WD representatives would agree to a 5mph limit and the TRF to a 25 mph limit. They also agreed to stop for horses and give way to all other users, such as ramblers and mountain bikers.
- Damage - representatives' offers of help to repair damage to the road should be accepted. This must be done in a way which is sensitive to the landscape and ecology of this special area and under proper supervision. They should also be asked to help return the route to a condition where it is more suitable for horses.
- No night time use. This was an SG suggestion and was not raised at the technical group meeting.
- Weight limit - The SG suggested that a maximum weight limit should be agreed and asked that we begin by finding out whether there is an existing limit in 4WD groups' codes of conduct.
- Investigate whether the course of the route could be diverted slightly, within the boundaries of the highway, to avoid damage to the original paved section of the causeway. This should be agreed at a site meeting with users' representatives, English Nature and the National Park Authority's Archaeologists.
- Other advice contained in "Making the Best of Byways" government guidance should be heeded.
- Provide for education of other users, indicating that they may encounter 4WD and trail bike users who have a legal right to use the route, subject to the above conditions (if agreed).

However, the Steering Group, reflecting the strongly expressed wishes of the Forum, thought that this was insufficient to solve the problems caused and recommended a Traffic Regulation Order to prevent use of the route altogether.

It is hoped that by following the Making the Best of Byways approach, the problems and potential solutions can be investigated again and a TRO would only be used as a last alternative.

## 14a5 Relevant Authority Policies

The policies which are relevant to all recreation issues are detailed in chapter 14 - Recreation (general). The following specific policies are particularly relevant to this subject. National Park Plan Objective 10.6 includes: "To ensure that... recreational uses are compatible with conservation objectives and policies". Policy 10.7 is similar to the NPMP policy above. Objective 13.71 is "To minimise the amount of inappropriate motor sport taking place within the Park..." Paragraph 13.69 states "Casual use of tracks and paths, particularly by motor cycles and 4-wheel drive vehicles, sometimes irresponsibly, has caused an increase in complaints from other users, landowners and wildlife interests. In some cases this use is perfectly legal on non-classified county roads, even where they are unsurfaced green lanes. Traffic Regulation Orders, or reductions in highway status can be considered where problems are severe, in consultation with user groups. Such orders are made by Highway Authorities. Previously such action has been taken for example on a route between Kinder Road, Hayfield and Edale.

Local Plan policy LT2: Implementing the road hierarchy: very minor roads, states:

- (a) The National Park Authority and the Highways Authorities will take action to prevent or restrict vehicular use of "very minor roads" when there is demonstrable harm to the valued characteristics of the area and/or where the physical condition of the route precludes certain types of motor vehicle, and/or where motor vehicles are making conditions unsafe for other users.
- (c) Where user safety is an issue or where there is a high level of legitimate mixed use, the National Park Authority will support the creation of an alternative right of way or concessionary path for pedestrians.

Although not formally adopted as policy, most recent guidance to Highway and other authorities is contained in the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (now Department of the Environment Food & Rural Affairs) publication "Making the Best of Byways", as detailed under Objective A1.

## 14.(b) Recreation - ACCESS & RIGHTS OF WAY

### Aims

- 14b1 For all dogs to be kept on leads at times of year when they could cause disturbance to sheep or wildlife.
- 14b2 Encourage people to keep to the recognised paths.
- 14b3 Provide unobtrusive interpretation boards and leaflets.
- 14b4 Promote Car Head Moor and Cattisside for nature conservation.
- 14b5 Improve the rights of way network where appropriate.
- 14b6 Agree a guide to good practice for organised groups of Ramblers.
- 14b7 Ensure that night-time use of the Estate is appropriate.

(See Map 4 for the location of items referred to in this chapter's text).

## Objectives

Aim 14b1: For all dogs to be kept on leads at times of year when they could cause disturbance to sheep or wildlife.

**14b1.1 Enforce the dogs on leads policy on the access area during the bird breeding season and whenever sheep are grazing the moor.** The access area (everything above the road, including the Edge) will shortly be designated as "open country" under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act. The Act contains strict guidelines, including that dogs should be kept on leads of no more than 2m in length during the bird breeding season and when in the vicinity of livestock. This should be explained through interpretation (see below) and strictly enforced, through signs, Wardens and Rangers during the bird breeding season (1 March to end of July) and whenever there are sheep on the moor. It was advised that this needs persistence in approaching people. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma & log to record number of times dogs seen off a lead): **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

**14b1.2 Ask people to keep their dogs on a lead on public rights of way.** This should be done through interpretation (see below), signs (which should explain why) and Wardens & Rangers. We cannot insist that dogs should be on a lead because legally, they are only required to be under control. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma & log to record number of times dogs seen off a lead): **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

**14b1.3 Identify appropriate sites where dogs can be walked off a lead.** Attempts to identify any such sites within the Estate have not been successful. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 14b2: Encourage people to keep to the recognised paths.

NB. This would protect a series of "quiet areas" between and away from the footpaths, where the internationally important birds and other wildlife could remain undisturbed. This should be explained to people as the main reason for the objectives below.

**14b2.1. Interpretation boards, leaflets, Wardens and Rangers to request that people keep to the main paths during the bird breeding season (1 March until the end of July) and explain why.** Although the moorland is an open access area, the vast majority of people already keep to the main paths from well established access points (mainly at car parks) and along Stanage Edge itself. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 7; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma, site surveys and log to record number and location of people seen off the paths): **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

**14b2.2 Erect discrete signs encouraging people to avoid using the newly developing paths.** The following paths have been identified (as shown on the plan attached):

1. the path which cuts a corner from Dennis Knoll to the Long Causeway. The importance of this area for water vole should be indicated on the signs. (If signs do not work here, either extension of the roadside wall and/or extension of the Jubilee Plantation (by fencing out and allowing natural regeneration) should be investigated further).
2. the path which follows the drain adjoining the gas pipeline across the middle of the blanket bog

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 3; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma, log to record number and location of people seen on these paths and monitoring of path width/erosion): **National Park Authority - Estates Service** (Ranger Service also to help with log).

NB. These paths are causing problems of erosion, unnecessary trampling of valuable wetland habitats and disturbance to birds within the Special Protection Area. The path which cuts a corner from near Robin Hood's Cave to Stanedge Pole is already signed and this is proving effective). They all have alternative routes nearby.

Also see Ecology for other paths and areas where access is to be discouraged in order to enhance habitat for Ring Ouzel.

**14b2.3 Ask fell runners' clubs to keep to recognised paths during the bird breeding season.** They were identified as a group of users who frequently stray from the paths into the middle of the moor (narrowly missing a Schedule 1 bird's nest on a recent occasion). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**14b2.4 Maintain the recognised paths in an appropriate condition.** Such maintenance should be minimal, so as to limit its impact on the landscape. As an indication, any path should be kept to less than 2 metres of bare/trampled ground and should be repaired if it is clearly showing signs of continuing to spread. Such repairs should then be done as sensitively as possible, using appropriate materials (preferably gritstone and definitely not limestone chippings). As the Estate already has a relatively good infrastructure of paths, it is advised that most repairs/maintenance can be achieved by careful manipulation of drainage. Stone paving should only be used as a last resort. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and footpath condition surveys): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 14b3: Provide unobtrusive interpretation boards and leaflets.

**14b3.1 Provide interpretative boards at the main access points to the Estate.** These should be in car parks where provided. The boards should be similar to the existing boards but with the following comments incorporated:

- Signs should be used sparingly - only the minimum number required
- They should be as unobtrusive as possible - minimal in size, preferably sited on/against walls or other existing man-made features. Details of each location should be agreed with the Steering Group in advance.
- Messages should continue to *encourage* people to comply with objectives for ecological, etc. reasons, rather than *tell* them what they can and can't do.
- They should clearly show the public rights of way, access land and paths which visitors are encouraged to use (see above).

Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and standard evaluation of the boards): **National Park Authority - Estates Service & Peak District Interpretation Project.**

**14b3.2 Provide a leaflet pack about the Estate.** Complimenting the boards and providing more detailed information on the Estate. As per the leaflet pack designed in 2001 (due to go on sale in 2002). Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **9**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and standard evaluation of the leaflet pack): **National Park Authority - Estates Service & Peak District Interpretation Project.**

**14b3.3 Consider whether to provide mobile interpretive displays in a Land Rover.** Produce a report considering the pros and cons of providing such displays, as done by the National Trust. These could be used as well as or instead of permanent interpretive boards. This requires further consideration and investigation but was felt to offer flexibility, as information could be changed as required; high quality, being supplemented by a personal face-to-face presence; and have minimal impact on the landscape, as it would be in an existing car park and temporary (weekends only). Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**14b3.4 Reduce the number and visual intrusion of bylaws signs and replace them with something more user-friendly if possible.** New bylaws (or equivalent) are proposed under the CROW Act. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

14b3.5**NB**. Some things, such as the Romano-British settlement site and Bronze Age sites should be left uninterpreted (other than a general mention of their existence in the leaflets) for personal exploration and discovery.

14b3.6**NB**. Interpretation should be combined with other educational objectives to improve peoples' understanding of the special qualities of the Estate (see Education for All).

Aim 14b4: Promote Car Head Moor and Cattisside for nature conservation.

14b4.1 **Monitor access on to Car Head Moor.** See plan attached. This moor is to be designated open country under the Countryside & Rights of Way Act. The level of use and whether people keep to the public footpath should be monitored (perhaps by monitoring the vegetation). Action should then be taken if necessary to encourage people to keep to the public footpaths. This is a relatively unknown part of the Estate, which was gifted to the Authority in a will, on condition that it should not be managed in any way, with no grazing. It provides an interesting and rare example of what happens when an area is left unmanaged. The United Retriever Club has a legal right to use the moor and their licence for two events per year (outside the main bird breeding season) should continue as per the current agreement. Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and footpath and bird & vegetation condition surveys): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

14b4.2 **Decide how to prepare for open access on to Cattisside.** This should not be encouraged but access will shortly be permitted when it is designated as "open country" under the Countryside & Rights of Way Act. This could be provided by allowing access on to the moor at a point linked to the existing footpath network, near Leveret Croft (as shown on the plan attached), encouraging people to keep to the top of the small ridge and out onto the road near Hook's Car. This should not be widely publicised nor promoted and the level of use should be monitored. Although the habitat here is not currently as important as that of the main moorland around Stanage Edge, it will become more important as heather regenerates and as one of the few currently quiet areas of the Estate. Interpretation boards and/or leaflets should mention why certain areas are kept quiet - i.e. for wildlife (see above). Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and footpath and bird & vegetation condition surveys): **National Park Authority - Estates Service and Derby College.**

Aim 14b5: Improve the rights of way network where appropriate.

**14b5.1. Investigate further whether concerns about a mountain biking route along the top of the Edge can be overcome.** A site meeting should be held with mountain biking representatives to investigate whether the following perceived problems can be overcome:

- Additional impact on the landscape/wilderness quality of the area - in terms of seeing cyclists on the Edge and extra erosion and widening of the path. (However, this should be weighed against the fact that many cyclists will arrive by cycles, rather than by cars - which have greater impacts on landscape and ecology). It is also said to be a technically difficult route that is unlikely to be used by many beginners/occasional cyclists.
- It is very difficult to designate a route for mountain bikes without also allowing horse-riders - which would cause even more visual impact and erosion.
- Conflict with other users on an already heavily used path - but education to encourage mutual respect could help and usage of the congested Golden Carr/Salt Road bridleways would probably reduce.
- There may also be minimal extra disturbance to wildlife, although this should not in itself be a reason not to open this route (due to the amount of use it already gets by walkers and climbers).

NB. If this route does go ahead, it should be suggested that Sheffield City Council designate Duke's Drive on their adjoining land at Burbage Valley a bridleway, in order to make a good circular route and take pressure off the other footpaths around Higger Tor.

If these problems cannot be overcome, efforts should be made to try to identify an alternative appropriate off-road circular route through the Estate.

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**14b5.2 Erect discreet signposts at either end of the existing bridleways, indicating that cycles and horses are allowed (see plan attached).**

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 7; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Ranger Service.**

**14b5.3 Conduct a bird survey and seek consensus with Derby College as prerequisites to opening a new seasonal concession path across Ridgewayside.** The path should start alongside the hollow-way from Coggers Lane and pass through a flower-rich hay meadow (as shown on the plan attached). A bird survey of the area should be undertaken as a prerequisite to introducing this path, to check that disturbance to birds would not be a likely issue. Further surveys would need to be undertaken

during its use. It should also be closed to public access during lambing time and part of the bird breeding season (for 6 weeks from 1 April). Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times. However, it could also be used positively to improve people's understanding of ecological issues with regard to hay meadows. This route would connect well with the existing footpath network, avoid a section of road walking, provide outstanding panoramic views and enable people to see a flower-rich hay meadow (which is now a relatively rare opportunity). Due to potential problems with disturbance to farming activity, habitats and birds, it is proposed not to publicise this route but merely to allow access for a trial period of two years, with the proviso that this access may be withdrawn on the Steering Group's recommendation, at any time within that period, should problems occur.

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 3; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

14b5.4NB. It was agreed that we should do nothing - i.e. neither encourage nor discourage use of the hollow-way above the farm, which is occasionally used by walkers to cut a corner between existing footpaths.

Aim 14b6: Develop a good practice guide for groups of ramblers.

**14b6.1 Agree a good practice guide for organised groups of ramblers.**

Rambling groups frequently visit Stanage and as they are not commercial nor formal education in nature are not covered by objectives under Commercial Use nor Education for All nor by any existing guides as, for example, climbing groups are by the Peak Group Book. The guide should be developed with the Ramblers Association in order to maintain open access but in a way which respects wildlife. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **5**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service & Ramblers Association.**

Aim 14b7: Ensure that night-time use of the Estate is appropriate.

**14b7.1 Wardens and Rangers to patrol to ensure that night-time activity is compatible with the Management Plan's other aims and objectives.** Field staff need to keep on top of night-time use as more problems are created at night. This is because of urban fringe problems on the outskirts of Sheffield and because visitors can't see advisory signs and think no-one is looking! Individual visitor use is generally fine but illegal activity and group use normally requiring a licence is not, nor are things like using the cave for parties. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **3**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

## **14b8 Relevant solutions being considered under other headings**

14b8.1 Archaeology: Provide access and discrete information signs on obvious archaeological features, such as the ruined Chapel and the Mill Pond area.

14b8.2 Ecology: Access management measures suggested to reduce disturbance to Ring Ouzel

14b8.3 Education For All: a number of objectives which compliment on-site interpretation and leaflets, including provision of occasional guided walks.

14b8.4 Farming: Under the new Environmentally Sensitive Area agreement, Cattisside will continue to have minimal grazing at a low stocking rate and bracken control will be carried out if possible, in order to improve the moorland habitat.

14b8.5 Recreation: a number of proposals are detailed under other recreation sub headings, such as hang/paragliding, climbing, etc.

14b8.6 Vehicular Access: a series of measures, including guiding people to park in the main car parks and not on the roadside verges. Also, cycling is to be promoted as part of an integrated package of measures.

14b8.7 Woodlands: The small patch of birch on Cattisside will continue to be thinned and grazed as moorland edge woodland.

## **14b9 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

14b9.1 Designate Car Head Moor and Cattisside for nature conservation, with a ban on public access - the Steering Group recommend that "promote" is a less inflammatory word and that a minor amount of access on to Cattisside might not be detrimental to its ecology and wildlife. (Cattisside is also shortly to be designated "open country" under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act).

The following were not taken forward as they did not receive sufficient support at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum:

14b9.2 No increase in number of Rights of Way nor footpaths

14b9.3 Permit cycle, horse and foot access along track from Hollin Bank toilets - Warren - Mill Pond - Green's House - Outlane. (Also not supported by neighbouring property owners).

14b9.4 People / traffic management on RUPPs & bridleways where large volumes of walkers/cyclists/horses/4WD exist. Provide designated routes with priority for different users e.g. walkers, bikes, horses (which are not visually intrusive nor in conflict with farming or environment). (Also practically very difficult. However, a segregated footpath adjoining the

Long Causeway unclassified road may be considered - see Recreational 4 wheel drive and trail biking chapter).

14b.9.6 Allow cycling on routes from Hollin Bank past North Lees Hall down the Hall drive; from Hollin Bank to Dennis Knoll via Greens House (possibly only when stock not grazing Sheepwash Bank); re-open a missing link of the salters' way to Sheffield. (Also not supported by adjoining property/land owners).

#### **14b10 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Jean Monks - Local Resident & Horse riders' representative
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- John Harker - Ramblers Association
- Chris Falshaw - Sheffield Bird Study Group
- Antony Hawkins - Ride to Roam
- Alix Otten - CTC Right to Ride
- Rhodri Thomas - Ecologist (National Park Authority)
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Richard Pollitt - English Nature
- Emma Marsden - Observer, Sheffield University
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Mick Hanson - Sheffield City Council, Rights of Way Officer
- Myles Brazil - National Trust
- Pete Coddington - Derbyshire and Peak Park Sport and Recreation Forum Development Officer
- Ken Smith/John Barnatt - Archaeologists (PDNPA)
- Janet Priestley - North Lees Farm Manager, Derby College
- Catherine Bowmer - Peak District Interpretation Project Manager
- Mike Rhodes - Access Officer

## 14b11 Further detail

### **Dogs on leads**

These objectives would provide more opportunity than current policy for people to walk dogs off leads; it would contribute significantly to protecting and enhancing the ecology of the area by reducing disturbance to birds and other wildlife; have a minimal impact on the landscape (discrete signs); reduce conflict between users; reduce disturbance to farming; cause no disturbance to local residents, nor damage archaeology (subject to checking the positioning of the signs).

### **Keeping to the main paths**

This aim would continue to provide access to all visitors whilst relying on voluntary compliance from a minority of users who do not currently keep to the main paths; it would contribute to protecting and enhancing the ecology of the area by minimising trampling of sensitive wetland habitats, disturbance to birds and other wildlife and improving peoples' understanding of wildlife needs and asking for their help; enhance the landscape by reducing footpath erosion; have no effect on conflict between users; reduce disturbance to farming; cause no disturbance to local residents, nor damage archaeology (subject to checking the positioning of the signs).

### **Providing interpretation**

This aim would improve provision of access to all visitors by enhancing their visit through improved understanding and indicating where they can go; protect and enhance the ecology of the area by promoting understanding and encouraging co-operation with objectives, such as keeping to paths, dogs on leads, etc.; have a minimal impact on the landscape if carefully designed and sited, whilst encouraging a reduction of the impact of footpath erosion on the landscape; reduce conflict between users by showing where different groups are allowed to use the Estate; reduce disturbance to farming (keeping to paths, dogs on leads, closing gates, etc); improve understanding of visitors' impact on local residents, and understanding of the Estate's archaeology.

## 14b12 Relevant Authority Policies

The policies which are relevant to all recreation issues are detailed in chapter 14 - Recreation. The following specific policies are particularly relevant to this subject. National Park Plan: Rights of Way: 11.29, 11.30, 11.32, 11.33, Access to open country: 12.23, 12.24, 12.27, Interpretation: 18.34, 18.36, 18.37, 18.38.

## 14.(c) Recreation - ACCESS FOR ALL

### Aims

- 14c1 **To improve the accessibility of all means of public access on the Estate, where appropriate.** Rather than providing specific "paths for disabled people", etc. we will seek to improve the accessibility of all means of public access on the Estate.
- 14c2 **Provide full and accurate accessibility information.**
- 14c3 **Make North Lees Campsite fully accessible to disabled campers.**

(See Map 5 for the location of items referred to in this chapter's text).

## Objectives

Aim 14c1 To improve the accessibility of all means of public access on the Estate, where appropriate.

14c1.1 **Survey the accessibility of all rights of access on the Estate.** These should lead to recommendations for appropriate improvements. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Area Management Service.**

14c1.2 **Conduct a survey of disabled visitors to the Estate,** to identify problems and possible solutions. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 7; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Research & Monitoring Service.**

14c1.3 **Replace stiles with gates where appropriate.** However, where a stile is itself an interesting feature, it should be retained and a gate put in alongside. Gates should not be used at some locations if it would significantly increase the risk of livestock escaping. (Adjoining landowners should also be encouraged to take such measures). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Ranger Service.**

14c1.4 **Improve the accessibility of the Long Causeway and/or the Cabin Track.** In order to provide a suitable route on to Stanage Edge for people who are less able (see plan attached). Access to the Edge via the Long Causeway would be practically easier to provide from Redmires Reservoirs, rather than Dennis Knoll (as it is a gentler gradient). It would also be more desirable due to greater car parking provision there, which also has less impact on the landscape. There are also understood to be two other routes nearby from Redmires Reservoirs which could easily be upgraded to "Easy Going Trail" standard. This would require a partnership project with Sheffield City Council who own the land around the reservoirs. However, the side from Dennis Knoll to the Edge should also be improved as far as practicable and appropriate (accepting that it will remain too steep for many less able people). The Long Causeway is an existing robust track (designated an unclassified road) and improvements in suitable materials would have little impact on the landscape. It would be more suitable for access for all if 4 wheel drivers and trail bikers agreed not to use it (see Recreation - 4 wheel drive and trail bike use). The original paved stones on the pack horse route section could be covered if necessary to provide a more accessible surface. (This could also protect the archaeological feature). Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

14c1.5 **Provide for access for disabled people to the interpretation board at Dennis Knoll Car Park.** (see plan attached). This could either be

achieved by moving the board to the car park or extending appropriate surfacing to the board's current location. Any new surfacing should not be tarmac, nor limestone chippings. (This may require further investigation of provision of designated car parking spaces). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 9; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

14c1.6 **Provide a warning "people walking" sign near Hollin Bank toilets** (on existing infrastructure to minimise impact on the landscape). The road between Dennis Knoll and Hook's Car would provide a good walking route for less able people in itself, if objectives to reduce the speed and volume of vehicular traffic are successful (see the Vehicular Access chapter). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 9; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority).**

Aim 14c2 Provide full and accurate accessibility information.

**14c2.1 Produce a simple leaflet/booklet, mapping all access routes.** These should be mapped out showing all necessary information on gradients, terrain, obstacles, etc. People of whatever ability will then be able to assess for themselves whether they can use a particular route or not. This could be inserted into the existing leaflet pack. (Many of the routes were surveyed in January 2001 by Graham Attridge - the Steering Group's disabled visitors' representative). Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **6**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 14c3: Make North Lees Campsite fully accessible to disabled campers.

14c3.1 **Provide a toilet & shower room and otherwise improve North Lees Campsite to make it accessible to disabled campers.** A number of improvements are mid way through completion but were postponed in 2001/02 due to budget cuts made because of foot & mouth disease. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

#### **14c4 Relevant objectives being pursued under different headings**

14c4.1 Allow informal parking between Hollin Bank and Dennis Knoll to continue. (As it is flat, has a good view of the Estate and is often used by elderly and less able people). [Vehicular Access].

14c4.2 Continue to provide the statutory number of spaces designated for disabled people in official car parks. [Vehicular Access].

#### **14c5 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

14c5.1 Provide a level pathway for elderly and disabled people from Burbage Bridge on to the Edge: This would require substantial work with a high impact on the landscape. It would be virtually impossible to find a suitable route for the final steep section up on to the Edge itself. If a route could be found, its impact on the landscape would be unacceptably high. Alternative routes on Cabin Track or the Long Causeway were felt to be more suitable (see above).

#### **14c6 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Judy Merryfield - Area Management Officer (National Park Authority)
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Ken Smith - Archaeology Service Manager (PDNPA)
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Graham Attridge - Disabled visitors' representative
- National Trust
- Jean Monks - Local Resident & Horse riders' representative
- Martin Burfoot - Landscape Architect (PDNPA)
- Janet Priestley - North Lees Farm Manager, Derby College
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)

#### **14c7 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policies which are relevant to all recreation issues are detailed in chapter 14 - Recreation. The following specific policies are particularly relevant to this subject. National Park Management Plan Objective 2, Action 6.13; National Park Plan paragraphs 14.67 to 14.70.

## 14.(d) Recreation - CAMPING

### Aims

- 14d1. To continue to provide a high quality but basic campsite which meets demand from recreational users of the Estate.
- 14d2. To provide additional camping facilities in the local area to help to meet demand from recreational users of the Estate.
- 14d3. Prevent rough camping on the Estate.

## Objectives

Aim 14d1: To continue to provide a high quality but basic campsite which meets demand from recreational users of the Estate.

### **14d1.1 Continue to manage North Lees Campsite in the way that it is now.**

It is recommended that North Lees Campsite should stay within Authority ownership, with the same capacity as existing (60 pitches) and continue to be managed in the way it is now, which meets the requirements of recreational users. Common views expressed at the first Forum and in letters to the Authority, complement the site as being one of the special qualities of the Estate and extremely well run. The Steering Group agreed that it is well run, co-ordinates well with other local businesses, is respected in the local community, as well as nationally and internationally by its customers, has minimal signs and regulations and makes a significant contribution towards education and promoting understanding of visitors to the area. In order to achieve this on a site, which is an integral part of the Estate, so close to Sheffield and which could easily impact on local neighbours and the community of Hathersage, careful management is required in order to achieve a series of balances. It was felt that this has been achieved and the site is a credit to the Authority. It should therefore not be changed. In particular, the SG recommends that any significant improvement/upgrading or leasing to commercial organisations, such as the Camping and Caravanning Club should not be considered, as the site would no longer meet the needs of the type of customer which currently use the site - for whom there is a significant lack of suitable accommodation in the area (see below). The access to the site is also unsuitable for caravans.

Fire regulations and the sewage system dictate that it is not possible to increase the capacity of the site within the existing area and it could not be extended for the reasons listed below against additional provision on the Estate. The policy of giving discount to people who arrive by public transport was also highlighted as good practice, which contributes to the vehicular access objectives. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**14d1.2 Conduct a customer survey at North Lees Campsite and implement any resulting appropriate suggestions for improvement.** The survey should formally assess the level of customer satisfaction and ask what improvements campers would like to see (if any). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 9; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates and Research & Monitoring Services.**

Aim 14d2: To provide additional camping facilities in the local area to help to meet demand from recreational users of the Estate.

**14d2.1 Explore options for providing suitable extra camping facilities in the local area.** The Steering Group advises that there is a shortage of campsites in the area which are suitable for the type of customer that uses North Lees. The BMC and the Authority had sought to find suitable sites in the recent past but without success. However, it was felt that the following options should be explored (all of which would obviously be subject to planning consent):

1. Farmers in the local area - through a notice at Eyres and local contacts. It was felt that farmers might now be more willing to consider campsites as a potential extra source of income.
2. Froggatt Barn - owned by the National Trust.
3. Sheffield City Council - as neighbouring landowners.
4. The BMC offered to investigate ways of increasing the use of climbing huts, some of which are believed to be underused.

Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **British Mountaineering Council, National Park Authority - Area Management Service.**

NB. The proposed bunkhouse at North Lees Farm will only be for students and not available to the general public.

Aim 14d3: Prevent rough camping on the Estate.

**14d3.1 Prevent people from pitching tents on the Estate (outside the campsite).** This should continue to be done by wardening and signs at access points. This was felt to be essential due to the proximity of Sheffield and the rapid escalation in use which could result from any softening of the existing policy. Litter and fires are particular concerns, with the increased risk of vandalism and other crime of lesser concern. The SG considers that the current balance and wardens' discretion with regard to bivvying was about right for this location. NB. Sleeping overnight in cars is not allowed in the Authority's car parks. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and log recording number of times tents seen on the Estate): **National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

#### **14d4 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

14d4.1 The wish to provide additional camping facilities on the Estate was expressed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum. This had been explored in the past in great detail but no suitable sites could be found where planning consent would have been granted. It is also felt that any extra provision on the Estate would have unacceptable impacts on ecology, landscape and disturbance to local people (particularly traffic on narrow lanes). There would also be staffing and cost issues.

#### **14d5 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Jane Marsden - Local Representative
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Bill Gordon & Flo Richardson - North Lees Estate & Campsite Wardens (National Park Authority)
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Don Mabbs - Derbyshire Association of Residential Education
- Janet Priestley/Clark Field - Derby College
- Mike Rhodes - Access Officer
- John Scott - Development Control Service (PDNPA)
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Richard Pollitt - English Nature

#### **14d6 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policies which are relevant to all recreation issues are detailed in chapter 14 - Recreation. The following specific policies are particularly relevant to this subject. National Park Plan paragraphs 17.35, 17.37 to 17.40.

## 14.(e) Recreation - CLIMBING

### Aim

14e1. To welcome climbers to the Estate and encourage responsible use.

**NB.** This section only details objectives specific solely to climbing. Many other objectives relevant to climbers, as well as other visitors, are detailed in other chapters of this Plan, notably: Ecology, Landscape, Recreation - Access & Rights of Way and Vehicular Access.)

## Objectives

### **14e1.1 Promote good practice to address "hygiene problems" on the crag.**

People should be advised to use the public toilets at Hollin Bank if at all possible; failing that, they should use a plastic bag and take it away if they can or bury it as a last resort. Advice should also include something about the specific problems which occur from time-to-time in the Stanage Plantation area and in the caves. This should be promoted through a simple leaflet and publications, rather than obtrusive on-site signs. Suggested publications include the Stanage Guide, climbing magazines, the management plan, the Peak Group Guide, Bouldering Guides and through DARE (Derbyshire Association of Residential Education). The Plantation area is of particular concern because it is close to the spring water source which supplies the Campsite, the Hall and the Farm. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and site survey): **British Mountaineering Council and National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

### **14e1.2 Promote the ethic of leaving the rock as you find it.**

Climbers have a strong, self-regulating ethic that there should be no bolting or equipment left in gritstone, such as that at Stanage and this should be welcomed. This policy could equally be included under landscape or geology as the rock in its "natural" state is appreciated by everyone and there is no reason to single out climbing (given the above). This policy should also apply to plaques and anything else man-made. It was felt that a discrete area within Hollin Bank Car Park could be used for small memorial plaques if demand arises. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and site surveys): **British Mountaineering Council, English Nature, National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

### **14e1.3 Refer visitor groups to good practice advice contained in the BMC's Peak Group Book.**

The booklet contains advice on a whole range of issues, including top roping of popular routes, which was identified as a problem at Stanage. This is the standard for all Mountain Leader Training Board courses and for Derbyshire Association of Residential Education. All groups should follow it. Top roping constitutes accepted good practice where it obviates the need for group members to make any unsupervised descent and minimises erosion on descent paths. However, a suitable belay with long sling and carrabiner placed over the edge of the crag must always be used to avoid top rope scarring of the crag top. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **British Mountaineering Council, other visitor groups and National Park Authority - Estates and Ranger Services.**

## **14e2 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Jane Marsden - Local representative
- Bill Gordon & Flo Richardson - North Lees Estate & Campsite Wardens
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager
- Don Mabbs - Derbyshire Association of Residential Education
- Janet Priestley/Clark Field - Derby College
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Richard Pollitt - English Nature

## **14e3 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policies which are relevant to all recreation issues are detailed in chapter 14 - Recreation. The following specific policies are particularly relevant to this subject: National Park Plan paragraphs 13.16 & 13.18.

## 14.(f) Recreation - HANG/PARAGLIDING

### Aim

14f1. To welcome hang-gliders and paragliders and to encourage responsible use. See Map 6 for the location of items referred to in this chapter's text.

### Objectives

14f1.1 Grant a licence for hang-gliding and paragliding. The licence should include the following:

- Take-off points are from above Cabin Track and Hook's Car (as now).
- Landing sites at the Cabin Track take-off, Hook's Car (in front of the car park only - avoiding the wet sitch) and opposite Hollin Bank toilets. A further emergency landing site is on Cattisside (next to the road).
- Flying should be allowed all year.
- Hang-gliders and paragliders can use any of these sites. (i.e. there will no longer be one take-off for paragliders and one for hang-gliders). This is due largely to technological advances in the design of paragliders, whose capabilities are now much closer to those of hang-gliders.
- No competitions should be flown from Stanage (as they usually involve large numbers of people). (This is current agreed policy).
- No training should be allowed at this site (as it is unsuitable for beginners). However, coaching should be allowed to continue, subject to agreeing a definition of the term. (This is current agreed policy).

NB. The level of use and compliance with the licence should be monitored. The above agreements were achieved on the basis of the current, occasional level of use. This was described by DSC as:

- Around 20 days per year
- Mostly cross-country, rather than ridge flying
- Only when the wind is from the SW

This level of use should be monitored, including: the number of gliders flying in total on any given day, the number in the air at one time and the number of times the above licence conditions are broken (if at all). Action should then be taken, only if necessary, to restrict use to a level which is acceptable to English Nature and the Authority.

NB. It is not for the Authority to insist that all fliers should be members of Derbyshire Soaring Club. However, this is welcomed, as are their club site guide, rules and initiatives, in particular: the policy of encouraging people to meet at the Woodbine Café, Hope and car share to Stanage; the "Flyability" initiative for disabled fliers and the practice of dropping off equipment at the end of Cabin Track footpath and parking in the lay-bys further up the road.

Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and record of site usage): **National Park Authority - Estates Service**.

**14f1.2 Display the conditions of hang-gliding and paragliding in appropriate places.** The simple licence conditions above should be explained and displayed at The Woodbine Café, Hope and through the DSC magazine and site guide. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **5**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **Derbyshire Soaring Club, National Park Authority - Estates Service**.

## **14f2 Forum suggestions not taken forward**

14f2.1 A third take-off site from north of Stanage Plantation, with emergency landing on Sheepwash Bank. This was suggested by DSC, mainly to provide an alternative take-off if one or other of the other two sites were subject seasonal restrictions. As this is no longer the case and concerns remained over the third site, the suggestion was withdrawn.

## **14f3 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Len Hull & James Davis - Derbyshire Soaring Club
- Chris Falshaw - Sheffield Bird Study Group
- Richard Pollitt - English Nature
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council
- Antony Hawkins - Ride to Roam
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (National Park Authority)
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist (PDNPA)
- Janet Priestley - Derby College
- Stuart Ollerenshaw & David Wilcockson - neighbouring farmers
- Tony Hood - Rangers
- Mike Rhodes - Access Officer
- Aeromodellers Club

## **14f4 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policies which are relevant to all recreation issues are detailed in chapter 14 - Recreation. The following specific policies are particularly relevant to this subject: National Park Plan paragraphs 13.24 - 13.28.

## 15. VEHICULAR ACCESS

### Goal

- 15.1 To provide for all the people who want to gain access to the Estate, without impacting in a negative way on ecology/wildlife; the landscape (open, rural, sense of wilderness); local residents; farmers; local businesses (including income to the Estate) nor elderly and disabled visitors.

### Aims

- 15.2 Conduct surveys to provide accurate base-line information and guide the other vehicular access objectives.
- 15.3 To provide effective access to the Estate by public transport.
- 15.4 Make provision for visitors to be able to park & ride.
- 15.5 Restrict parking to the current designated spaces in order to minimise the impact of parked cars on the landscape.
- 15.6 People who park on the Estate should contribute towards its management and provision of public transport.
- 15.7 To introduce traffic calming measures in order to reduce the speed and amount of traffic to reasonable levels.
- 15.8 Promote cycling to the Estate.
- 15.9 Encourage lift sharing to the Estate.
- 15.10 To effectively co-ordinate and promote traffic management objectives.

**NB.** A minimalist approach should be followed, where nothing which is not necessary is done and what is needed should be done in stages. The objectives below were agreed in principle. However, the longer-term proposals should only be implemented as, when and if they become necessary.

(See Map 7 for the location of items referred to in this chapter's text).

## Objectives

Aim 15.2: Conduct surveys to provide accurate base-line information and guide the other vehicular access objectives.

15.2.1 **Conduct traffic and visitor surveys to provide accurate base-line information and guide and monitor the other vehicular access objectives.** As soon as possible, conduct surveys in order to:

1. Obtain more accurate knowledge of traffic/parking patterns of use (including division into user groups - climbers, rambles, etc.). Some felt that, contrary to the overall national trend, the level of demand for parking at Stanage may have peaked.
2. Assess what additional public transport should be provided - e.g. exact routes. Surveys to include: where people are going from and to and what would make them use public transport (and/or find results of any surveys already done). Also ask current bus users and drivers (especially the 257 service) what they think would improve the services. (At least part of this objective might fulfilled by a proposal from consultants to undertake a transport needs survey. The Steering Group should be consulted on the design of the survey. However, this is only a possibility at this stage and funding must be found. The survey is likely to cost around £8,000 and contributions of at least £500 are likely to be required from a number of partners (the rest being sourced by the consultants). In addition, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership are soon to consult groups and organisations within their area (of which Stanage is part) about public transport provision. This will be consultation rather than statistical survey but will add to the Steering Group's stated objective. HVCRP agreed that the Steering Group should be a consultee and its desired objectives would inform HVCRP's plans. Also, DCC hold information about numbers of bus users, which could be supplied if required. Bus service operators could also be approached for numbers of bus users, although confidentiality of commercial service information might be a problem.
3. Ask people for their ideas on how we could achieve income generation, discourage car use and provide an incentive to use public transport (i.e. to identify and then explore alternatives to pay and display). Pay and display has problems associated with it. If voluntary contributions are not forthcoming, then other alternatives should be explored (see below).
4. Assess where traffic-calming measures are most needed and would be most effective to reduce the amount and speed of through traffic. This should include recording where people are driving from and to. This should take place during school term time, in autumn 2002 if possible. This will inform the objectives detailed below.

NB. Any long-term proposals should be informed by the outcomes of the surveys and not anticipate them. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **1**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Transport Policy and Research & Monitoring Services.**

Aim 15.3: To provide effective access to the Estate by public transport, with a well targeted, co-ordinated and promoted package.

Public transport improvements to provide a real alternative to the car, should be the central, key objective of policy on vehicular access. Improved public transport provision should be part of an integrated bus, bike, car and rail package. Provision should be concentrated at weekends when demand for parking exceeds the number of spaces provided. Services should also be co-ordinated with trains to Hathersage and Bamford Stations whenever possible and intended for all to use, rather than specific users (such as the poorly used and recently withdrawn climbers' bus).

As many of the improvements suggested below (up to point 9) as possible should be pursued, subject to resources. The level of success should be monitored before the long-term proposals and more draconian ways of discouraging cars (such as pay & display) are considered.

**15.3.1 Extend the regular No.81 Sheffield to Ringinglow bus service to Upper Burbage Bridge and to run on Sundays and Bank Holidays.**

First Mainline should be contacted direct to see if they would be interested in providing this extension as a commercial service. If not, surveys should be conducted first in order to establish the level of demand before going back to First Mainline and other partners. If it is not possible to extend the service to Upper Burbage Bridge, then Searchlight (see plan attached) should be suggested as a fall-back. (This service is currently operated as a commercial service but the other partners below may be able to offer subsidy if surveys indicate sufficient demand). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership, Hathersage and Outseats Parish Councils (re: possible parish transport grant).**

**15.3.2 Re-route the 257 bus service into Hathersage via Hollin Bank, Dennis Knoll, Outseats and Thorp Farm entrance (and provide a more frequent service if possible).**

This would serve visitors better and create less disturbance to local residents on School Lane. (They have complained about buses using School Lane, as it is narrow and they frequently cross at the most congested point - near the Scotsman's Pack). It should also call at Hathersage Station and link with train times. Ideally, this should be a frequent service from 1 March to end of October and pick up at any new park and ride car parks that develop (see below). It was felt that, as long as it is not too frequent, objections from local residents are not anticipated and it should be tried and monitored. (The service is operated by Stagecoach East Midlands. The summer

service is currently supported by Derbyshire County Council and National Park Authority and the winter service by South Yorkshire Public Transport Executive). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership, Hathersage and Outseats Parish Councils (re: possible parish transport grant).**

15.3.3 **Link the 257 to the 273 & 274 bus services and improve frequency to provide a circular route from Sheffield via Moscar and North Lees.** (This could only be done if it does not adversely affect existing links to other services. Derbyshire County Council have agreed to look at whether this could be achieved). Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership, Hathersage and Outseats Parish Councils (re: possible parish transport grant).**

15.3.4 **Encourage cheaper fares and better co-ordination of pricing between bus companies** (as has been done successfully in West Yorkshire). The partners have agreed to this in principle but point out that all-inclusive ticketing schemes are difficult as they discourage competition and the Office of Fair Trading have been known to step in. However, the Lake District National Park Authority are piloting a "smart card" scheme to make paying for public transport cheaper and easier. This should be monitored and applied if and where appropriate. Also, existing schemes, such as Wayfarer, Peak Explorer and Family Freedom tickets should continue to be promoted.  
Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 1; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership, Hathersage and Outseats Parish Councils (re: possible parish transport grant).**

15.3.5 **Extend the No. 51 Sheffield centre to Lodge Moor bus service to Wyming Brook (near Redmires Reservoirs) and to run on Sundays and Bank Holidays.** First Mainline should be contacted direct to see if they would be interested in providing this extension as a commercial service. If not, surveys should be conducted first in order to establish the level of demand before going back to First Mainline and other partners. Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit,**

**Hope Valley & High Peak Transport Partnership, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service.**

- 15.3.6 Encourage all bus providers to Stange to consider if their vehicles can carry roof racks or trailers for hang/paragliders and other heavy (e.g. climbing) equipment.** (Partner organisations indicate that this is highly unlikely unless a new specialist service is provided - see shuttle bus objective 15.3.10, below). Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, Hope Valley & High Peak Transport Partnership, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service.**
- 15.3.7 Encourage public transport providers to have cycle and wheelchair accessibility on all buses and trains.** Cycling & Touring Club guidance and any other relevant advice / leaflets should be passed on to service providers. (Wheelchair accessibility is likely to be achieved because all new buses must be wheelchair accessible, according to the Disability Discrimination Act. By 2015, all public transport vehicles must be wheelchair accessible). Unfortunately, partner organisations indicate that provision for cycles is highly unlikely on buses unless a new specialist service is provided - see shuttle bus objective below. However, a bike bus is to be piloted by North Staffordshire/West Derbyshire Rural Transport Partnership, serving the Manifold and Tissington Trails, using a trailer with capacity for over 20 bikes and this should be monitored. On trains, the operator on the Hope Valley Line, First North Western, has a pretty cycle-friendly policy which states that "All local Hope Valley trains will carry bicycles free of charge throughout the week, although the number of bicycles carried on any particular train will be at the guard's discretion". Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership will continue to lobby FNW about any specific cases where a guard refuses to take bikes but at peak times it could just be a case that they can't fit any more on. They will also continue to lobby strategically for better cycle provision on trains, through the Association of Community Rail Partnerships. Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, Hope Valley & High Peak Transport Partnership, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service.**
- 15.3.8 Provide an increased winter weekend train service, especially an earlier train than 11:30am on Sunday mornings.** Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): **South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Hope Valley & High Peak Transport Partnership, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service.**

**15.3.9 Encourage bus providers to use environmentally-friendly fuels, such as stored energy buses or Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG). Target Year(s): 2-5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, Hope Valley & High Peak Transport Partnership, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service.**

**15.3.10 Provide a new local shuttle bus service to link to existing services and key stops.** The provision of such a service should await the results of surveys to assess the level of demand and the exact route. Initial ideas as to where a shuttle bus should go were that travelling along the base of Stanage Edge and linking to services from Sheffield and Chesterfield should be the priority and local bunkhouses and other accommodation and Bamford / Heatherdene would be desirable. It should preferably be a service which can be flagged down at any point; provide for cycles, climbing and hang-gliding equipment and run on LPG. (LPG is available at Bamford garage. A company in Loughborough is marketing LPG buses and an approach to them may lead to reduced costs in return for publicity). It is suggested that this service could be introduced on summer Sundays initially and extended to Saturdays and bank holidays if successful. This would require two buses, each costing around £300 per day. There may also be ways of purchasing the buses if desirable. Links could also be established with health initiatives, such as Healthy Sheffield and "walks around your village", with which Becky Flower (HVCRP) has had some involvement. Target Year(s): **5-10; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and records of levels of use of new services if possible): South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership.**

Aim 15.4: Make provision for visitors to be able to park & ride.

Park & Ride car parks could provide a useful addition to the overall package. However, it is very difficult to find sites where problems aren't just pushed on to another location and it is acknowledged that park & ride is difficult to make work in practice. It was therefore recommended that we should seek to provide a good public transport system that happens to pick up at car parks, rather than the other way around. Frequent buses, as described above, should therefore pick up at any of the following car parks. By providing a few alternatives, the problem in any one place will be minimised. Any such car parks must, of course, comply with Authority planning policy.

**15.4.1 Provide 50 parking spaces in the local area but outside the Estate.** This should be done with minimal "formalisation work" and cost and must comply with Authority planning policy. This is desired to cater for those who live on the western side of Sheffield and to prevent people from driving to Stanage, finding no parking spaces and driving around the area looking for somewhere else to park. It is hoped that this problem would decrease in future as people realise that parking is limited (and perhaps charged for in the longer-term) and a real public transport alternative exists. It was felt that around 100 cars over the current official Estate parking limit (315) is reasonable to expect on busy weekends. Around half of these could be expected to use public transport (in time) and so we should seek to provide half, i.e. 50 spaces, in the local area - preferably in Hathersage and/or Ringinglow, although Bamford would also be close enough. 25 spaces are already understood to be proposed at Hathersage Station. Further sites in Hathersage and at the Norfolk Arms and High Storrs School, Ringinglow in particular should be investigated. Hathersage Parish Council have already tried to identify a site but have failed, although the SG still felt that there are possibilities which haven't yet been fully explored. There are already around 20 spaces unused at the Norfolk Arms and unofficial spaces on the opposite side of the road and at the start of the byway on to Houndkirk Moor (which have been used for around 50 years and may therefore now have lawful use). There are also understood to be early plans to provide a large car park in the Bamford area to tie in with the road pricing scheme at Upper Derwent. This could potentially intercept traffic coming from the west, especially if linked to a new shuttle bus to Stanage (see above). Temporary car parks (for up to 28 days per year) might also help to provide parking and provide extra income to local farmers. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **9**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and survey of usage): **National Park Authority - Estates and Transport Policy Services.**

- 15.4.2 **Make parking charges and bus and train tickets all inclusive, wherever possible.** Partner organisations are already pursuing this objective but indicate that there may be problems of creating ticketing cartels and reducing competition, which may conflict with the Office of Fair Trading. Target Year(s): **2-10**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Derbyshire County Council, South Yorkshire Public Transport Executive, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership.**
- 15.4.3 **Promote the existing secure car parks at Meadowhall, Nunnery Square and perhaps Millhouses (all in Sheffield), as park & ride car parks for the Estate.** These should be promoted because additional problems and expense would be minimised. It is understood that Derbyshire County Council are also looking for a park and ride site in Sheffield, as part of the Upper Derwent proposals - this could also be promoted as part of the package, if suitable. There is already understood to be a train from Meadowhall, which would be a quicker option for visitors and should be co-ordinated with the 257 bus service. Also, if people must come by car, they should be encouraged to meet at these car parks and car share to Stanage. Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and questionnaire survey of usage): **National Park Authority - Estates and Transport Policy Services, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive.**
- 15.4.4 **Provide a park and ride bus service from Chesterfield.** This could potentially intercept traffic coming from the South. A suitable car park on the outskirts of Chesterfield could link to Chatsworth and many other destinations within the National Park. It was suggested that the Calver crossroads area is already an important traffic intersection and could act as a local public transport hub, with a car park and a frequent weekend bus to all of the climbing edges (and elsewhere). For example, Froggatt Edge - Fox House - Millstone Edge - Stanage - Hathersage & connect to other services, e.g. to Edale, Castleton, Upper Derwent. The possibility of using a disused quarry, such as Backdale (once operations cease) could also be explored - perhaps roofed over and landscaped as an "underground" car park (which was a suggestion from the Forum). (However, this is a long term proposal which would require careful detailed consideration and design. Alternative sites at the bookstore at Hassop Station, near Bakewell and Owler Bar were also suggested for further investigation. Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and survey of usage): **Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership, Chesterfield Borough Council.**

**15.4.5 Provide an artificial boulder in the main urban park & ride car park(s).**

This was suggested to encourage use of park & ride and retain people in the car park to reduce car crime. It could be named "Ben's Boulder" after Ben Wilson, the well-known local climber who suggested the idea. This would be a nice addition to the package but is not of high priority. (The possibility of providing a mobile climbing wall was also investigated but was not possible due to security risk and insufficient income generation for the provider).  
Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **British Mountaineering Council**.

Aim 15.5 Restrict parking to the current designated spaces in order to minimise the impact of parked cars on the landscape.

15.5.1 **Provide appropriate parking for up to 315 cars.** These should be provided as per the current provision for cars to park fully off the road, which are roughly as follows:

• Hollin Bank / Plantation	150
• Hook's Car / Popular End	58
• Upper Burbage Bridge Car Park	38
• Upper Burbage Bridge Lay-by	15
• Cabin Track Lay-bys	30
• Dennis Knoll / High Neb (surfaced area only)	14
• Lay-bys between Hollin Bank & Dennis Knoll	<u>10</u>
TOTAL	<u>315</u>

Parking should merely be allowed to continue in the above places and there should be no physical formalisation of previously informal spaces. (However, the need to provide better surfacing for spaces reserved for disabled people may need to be investigated in some locations).

NB. The area at the end of Cabin Track should be left as a drop-off point for hang/paragliders. However, there was not felt to be a need to signpost it as such, as when there is no flying, parking here does not create any significant problems. This should be monitored and a sign considered if problems occur.

Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **9**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma, on-site monitoring and survey of hang & paragliders to assess any parking problems at Cabin Track drop off point): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

15.5.2 **Investigate further the possibility and merits of introducing a clearway order to operate on weekends and bank holidays from 1 March to end October.** Derbyshire County Council (who would be responsible for implementing a clearway) have strong reservations against this proposal. However, the Steering Group, representing the wishes of the Stange Forum would like to explore this option further as it is a key part of their preferred vehicular access strategy. A clearway should only be implemented if a significant number of roadside mounds are to be removed, following their detailed assessment, as proposed in Objective D4 below. Initially the clearway could extend from just above Upper Burbage Bridge to Hollin Bank - on both sides of the road apart from opposite Hook's Car Car Park. This period is specified as it coincides with proposed public transport provision and is not to be enforced until the short-term public transport proposals are operative. It would involve a Traffic Regulation Order, which has its own statutory consultation procedure. It should be introduced in stages. Enforcement should be introduced gradually, with education by Rangers &

Wardens, warning notices and press releases used before fines are administered. Signing should be kept to a minimum and apart from entrance signs, should only be erected at weekends. Signs must include a brief explanatory message (such as "No parking on road verge") because the Police advise that most people do not know what the clearway symbol means. They would also advise solid white lines down either side of the road (but would not insist). The Police and the County Council both have strong reservations about enforcement problems and would prefer to retain self-enforcing measures such as bunding. The Police would be unable to enforce it because resources are limited, particularly on Bank Holidays and weekends and need to be focussed on crime rather than traffic problems. The only potential way to enforce properly would be by decriminalisation (i.e. DCC becoming responsible for enforcement). However, this might only be possible if funding could be found in order to pay for their enforcement. Even if funding could be found, DCC still have reservations.

If introduced, the success of a clearway order and the level of parking just beyond its limits should be monitored for 2 years. If appropriate, mounds should then be removed (see objective 15.5.4 below) and the clearway extended (see 15.5.3 below).

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service, Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority), Police.** Monitoring (pro-forma and on-site surveys if implemented): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**15.5.3 Monitor the level of parking in The Dale and opposite Hook's Car (Popular End) Car Park.** It was agreed that "overspill" parking should continue to be allowed opposite Hook's Car and down The Dale but neither be encouraged nor discouraged. The extent of its use should be monitored for 2 years. The Steering Group will then be better informed to assess whether measures should be taken to prevent it. If it is decided to keep the areas for overflow parking, the area at Hook's Car could be widened to improve safety at the road junction by "soft landscaping" - i.e. no formalisation of surfacing, etc. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partners: **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**15.5.4 Remove existing parking prevention measures where appropriate.** All of the wooden roadside posts should be removed as soon as possible (apart from a small number immediately outside the entrance to Hollin Bank / Plantation) Car Park - which should be rounded off). All of the mounds should be assessed as to their purpose and landscape impact (of both keeping and removing them) to decide which should be removed if the clearway is successful. If appropriate, they should be removed after two years of operation and monitoring of the clearway. If the mounds do have to remain, it may be possible in some cases to move them back from the road but not so far that a car can park WHOLLY off the road (as this could present an enforcement problem). Target Year(s): 1-5;

Priority (from 1-9): **1**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**15.5.5 Reserve at least the statutory minimum proportion of parking spaces for disabled drivers.** Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **6**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**15.5.6 Investigate alternative designs to reduce the landscape impact of existing car parks.** Alternatives to the green reinforced grass block design of Hook's Car and Upper Burbage Bridge Car Parks and ideas to improve the overall landscaping of all of the existing formal car parks, including lower, less obtrusive cycle racks should be investigated. Ideas should be sought from the Authority's and other landscape architects to put to the Steering Group for a consensus view on the best options. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **8**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

Aim 15.6 People who park on the Estate should contribute towards its management and provision of public transport.

The SG agreed that it was right that car users should pay for their use of the Estate. However, there was a majority view that pay & display machines are inappropriate for this location as they are an urban feature which detracts from the wild landscape and sense of freedom. Most of the SG had initially accepted the principle of pay & display but the BMC suggested some alternatives, based on their reservations, which included pragmatic concerns that people might park outside pay & display car parks and cause greater impact on the landscape and important habitats. Statements of views expressed for and against are available from the Estate Manager. The SG therefore recommend the following agreed objectives:

- 15.6.1 **Install voluntary contribution boxes at Hook's Car (Popular End) and Upper Burbage Bridge Car Parks.** The boxes should be discrete and in stone (similar to National Trust boxes). (However, it should be noted that many practical difficulties were experienced with voluntary payment boxes in the past and these would need to be overcome first). It is essential that a small sign clearly states that the money is going towards the support of public transport and the maintenance of the Estate (provision of visitor facilities, footpath repairs, etc). If possible, a ticket, saying "thank you for your contribution" should be issued. (However, it was recognised that this may be difficult and expensive in practice and it should not be a "pay & display machine in disguise"). The level of payment and the effect (if any) on parking patterns should be monitored and the situation reviewed after two years. This would allow comparison with pay & display at Hollin Bank (Plantation) and free parking at Dennis Knoll (High Neb). Results of this monitoring and the surveys detailed at A. above will then form the basis of a decision as to whether to continue with these arrangements or introduce pay & display or another form of payment for parking. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma, record of income and visitor opinion survey): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**
- 15.6.2 **Widely publicise the National Park Authority's annual parking permits.** It was suggested that the existing permits are not advertised widely enough. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 4; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and record of number of permits issued): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**15.6.3 Provide and promote an annual National Park parking ticket.** This should include and new park & ride car parks and be valid in all car parks in the Park, whoever they are owned by, with a privileged purchase price for residents. The price of the ticket should not be so low that it provides an incentive to use the car rather than public transport. It was suggested that it should also ideally be valid on all buses and trains to the area. It was felt that this might generate more revenue and reduce the need for on-site pay & display. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **5**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and record of take-up): **National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service.**

Aim 15.7 To introduce traffic calming measures in order to reduce the speed and amount of traffic to reasonable levels.

NB. There are two types of road on the Estate: the largely single track, "recreational" road from Cattisside to Dennis Knoll and the wider "local through traffic" roads on the rest of the Estate. This hierarchy of routes should be borne in mind in applying the objectives below.

**15.7.1 Make the road from Yorkshire Bridge to Hook's Car a "Quiet Lane".**

I.e. along Bamford New Road, past Dennis Knoll and Hollin Bank (Plantation) to Hook's Car. This is needed to reduce the speed and volume of traffic along this route which is becoming a "rat-run". It would enhance the wilderness quality of the area and make the route safer and more attractive for cyclists, walkers and elderly and disabled visitors. This would need to be identified and pursued by the South Pennines Integrated Transport Strategy (SPITS) and they are likely to require a survey of current use first. DCC could monitor speed of traffic and/or may be able to make a radar gun available. SPITS are still developing quiet lane policies and it is not yet clear exactly what might be involved. It is a voluntary approach, with effort given to education and consultation, with minimal advisory signing to "please keep your speed down". The owner of High Lees Farm and Bamford Traffic Action Group should also be consulted at an early stage. Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and monitoring of level of use and speed of traffic): **South Pennines Integrated Transport Strategy, Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority).**

**15.7.2 Extend the existing 40mph speed restriction to Sheffield and Hathersage and remove the unpopular entry signs from the Estate boundary.**

DCC agreed to consider further extending the limit along Birley Lane and the Dale to Hathersage. Sheffield City Council agreed to consider extending the 40mph limit from the Estate boundary, down through Ringinglow to the outskirts of Sheffield. It is also suggested that a 40mph should replace part of the existing 30mph limit on the A6187 and extend from near School Lane, Hathersage to just past the junction at Whim Cottage, as it is currently felt to be dangerous. The section from Whim Cottage to the Estate boundary should be kept at 60mph (at least in the short-term).

Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 5; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **Derbyshire County Council & Sheffield City Council (as Highways Authorities).**

**15.7.3 Occasionally enforce the speed limit at the morning and evening rush hours.** Police to consider occasional enforcement with radar guns and/or cars with calibrated speedometers. Persistent offenders should be reported to PC Bob Fox, the Beat Manager for the area who might be willing to speak to them. The use of cameras would neither be possible nor desirable as there are strict criteria e.g. high level of accidents and they have to be painted bright yellow from June 2002, due to new legislation. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **6**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and record of number of people seen speeding): **National Park Authority - Estates Service; Anyone who notices persistent speeding offenders, Police.**

**15.7.4 Educate drivers about the problems caused by large volumes and high speeds of road traffic.** Before the more drastic measures below are considered in detail, it was felt that commuters should be educated about the problems caused by travelling through the area: detracting from the wilderness quality, speed, danger and disturbance to walkers and cyclists and sheep deaths in particular. As part of local publicity, they should be stopped periodically and given a leaflet, explaining such problems and what measures are planned if the situation does not improve. In this way, people will be given a chance to change their behaviour voluntarily, rather than by draconian means and if more drastic measures do have to be implemented, they won't come as a shock. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **3**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

The above traffic calming measures should be monitored every year and reviewed after three years in operation. If the number and speed of cars going through the Estate does not decrease, the following suggestions should be investigated further and implemented as appropriate, as well as any new ones that may be put forward:

**15.7.5 Reduce the speed limit to 30mph through the whole Estate.** The limit should have entry signs indicating the special nature of the area and reasons for the speed restriction. Their design must be considered by the Steering Group and approved by the National Park Authority. Target Year(s): **2-5**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority).**

**15.7.6 Make the section of road from Whim Cottage to the Estate boundary also 30mph and/or narrow a section of road near Whim Cottage.** (Any narrowed section of road must still be wide enough for a bus). This could be with temporary structures at first to enable experimentation and monitoring of effect. However, it must be clear and obvious, with priority of direction signs - so as not to cause a traffic hazard. Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority).**

- 15.7.7 Make the road from Ringinglow to Dennis Knoll into a single track road with cycle way.** Kerbs, lines and asphalt markings are not thought to be appropriate as they do not form a safe barrier between motor vehicles and cycles and are urban in nature. Substantial work would be required and the aim should be to make it look as if it has always been a single track road. In any case, it should be less of an intrusion on the landscape than the existing two lane road. It is thought that this could possibly be achieved by moving the existing mounds towards the centre of the road and surfacing the cycle way in a dark stone chatter or similar. Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority).**
- 15.7.8 Introduce traffic calming measures, such as road narrowing/rumble strips.** This should be a last resort and done in a way which has as little impact on the landscape as possible. Target Year(s): **5-10**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Transport Policy Service, Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority), Police.**

**Aim 15.8:** Promote cycling to the Estate.

Measures above include providing cycle racks on buses, providing cycle stands at car parks and traffic calming measures to make the roads safer for cyclists. In addition to these, the following objectives should be pursued:

**15.8.1 Collate and provide information to encourage people to cycle to the Estate.** This might be within the leaflets and other information described below or in a separate leaflet and press releases, as appropriate. Efforts should be concentrated on Sheffield, which is within easy cycling distance of Stanage. There is understood to be a leaflet promoting a National Park anniversary cycling route which goes from Hunters Bar to Hathersage but this is on roads and has no formal provision from Ringinglow. However, no provision has yet been made to make these fast roads desirable for cycling. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and survey of number cycling to the Estate): **Cycling and Touring Club, other cycling groups, National Park Authority - Estates and Transport Policy Services.**

Aim15.9 To encourage lift sharing to the Estate.

**15.9.1 Provide leaflets and press releases to encourage lift sharing to the Estate.** All promotional literature should promote lift sharing as a second best alternative to public transport. Derbyshire County Council have formalised car-sharing schemes for local community needs and these could potentially be learnt from/extended to recreational use. Linda Neale is the co-ordinator. The BMC also have a web page dedicated to lift-sharing. The Authority could introduce the same on its website. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **All visitor groups and local parish councils, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, National Park Authority - Estates & Transport Policy Service, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership.** Additional monitoring: surveys to record number of people per car: **National Park Authority - Research & Monitoring Service.**

Aim 15.10 To effectively co-ordinate and promote traffic management objectives. Proper co-ordination and effective promotion is essential. The whole package should be co-ordinated and promoted as one, including:

**15.10.1 Provide information boards and leaflets about public transport to the Estate.** These should include a simple map, showing the routes of public transport services and explaining why people should use it (which could last a few years at a time), together with timetable information (which could be updated every April and October). Information should be displayed on local notice boards, such as parish councils, bus shelters, train stations, climbing shops, etc. DCC can supply timetable cases on request. A leaflet version should also be prepared for climbing/walking shops, campsites, barns and B&Bs, etc. (possibly using Oak Leaf Distribution or similar). SG members can advise where they should be sent and/or help distribute. They could also be put on car windscreens on site and through letter boxes in the local community. This **MUST** be easy to use. It should also be put on the web site (details of which should be referred to on the leaflet/poster). There may need to be two versions - one targeted at the local community and one targeted at visitors. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and visitor survey as to knowledge of public transport services available): **National Park Authority - Estates and Transport Policy Services, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership.**

**15.10.2 Provide information to encourage use of public transport to the Estate.** In addition to the objective above, services should be promoted widely, including the following:

- Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership annual leisure guides
- Climbing walls / outdoor shops & magazines
- PDNPA newspaper
- Local press - Derbyshire Times, Sheffield Star, etc.
- Local parish councils
- Students unions
- Youth Hostels, including YHA magazine
- SG members to help publicise
- PDNPA already propose to put site specific public transport information at its car parks.
- within the DCC timetable booklet
- petrol stations?

NB. Reasons for using public transport should focus on the ecological and landscape benefits. Car crime avoidance could also be mentioned as another benefit of using public transport.

Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and visitor survey as to knowledge of public transport services available and records of number of service users): **All visitor**

**groups, National Park Authority - Estates and Transport Policy Services, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership.**

**15.10.3 Educate visitors about why parking is restricted.** This could be done through the leaflets and information above, as well as by wardens and rangers. This should be an important part of the promotion for the whole vehicular access package of measures. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **5**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and visitor survey as to knowledge of why it is restricted): **All visitor groups, National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

**15.10.4 Co-ordinate traffic calming objectives with plans for adjoining areas.** This was strongly supported by all partners and viewed as very important, particularly in view of other initiatives taking place such as the waiting restrictions and traffic-calming measures being undertaken in Hathersage and road pricing plans for the Upper Derwent. There is a need to liaise with other partnerships such as SPITS, Upper Derwent, the Rural Transport Partnerships (RTPs) and Bamford Traffic Action Group and Ringinglow village, to ensure a co-ordinated approach. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority (from 1-9): **7**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and record of linkages made): **National Park Authority -Transport Policy, Area Management & Estates Services, Derbyshire County Council (as Highways Authority), South Pennines Integrated Transport Strategy.**

**15.10.5 Co-ordinate any new public transport services to the Estate and their promotion with others in the Hope Valley.** For example, bus services should be co-ordinated with proposed community bus services, e.g. after school care. The Rural White Paper proposed "community transport for quality parishes" - with funding available for 3 years from April 2001. Some improvements to services to the area are already planned and we should help to promote them. These include increased provision for people to travel from the Hope Valley to work in Sheffield and Manchester; hourly buses from Castleton to Sheffield and extra trains on the Hope Valley Line are planned from May 2002, with interchangeable tickets. Also planned is an increase in parking provision at Hathersage Station with cycle hire. HVCRP are understood to already be planning climbers/walkers buses from stations in the Hope Valley. All partner organisations agreed to consider the Forum's suggestions when consulted about other public transport plans for the area and inform the Steering Group of any relevant proposals which may affect Stanage/the North Lees Estate. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **4**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and record of linkages made): **National Park Authority - Estates & Transport Policy Services, Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership, Derbyshire County Council Public Transport Unit, user groups and parish councils.**

### **15.11 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

15.11.1 Underground car park: Very good idea if taken up by a number of organisations, for the Park as a whole. Not thought to be feasible for this plan but will be put forward as a suggestion where appropriate.

15.11.2 A warden could potentially enforce the clearway order and collect parking fees at weekends - reducing car crime, improving percentage of people paying and reducing impact on the landscape (as instead of pay & display): Not practical nor viable as five or so wardens would be required - one for each car park. But Rangers and Estate Wardens should be on-hand to help explain the package to visitors.

15.11.3 Road tolls: Impractical as five access routes onto the Estate. Also did not receive majority support from the Forum.

15.11.4 Any other suggestions were not taken forward as they did not receive sufficient support at the third Forum.

### **15.12 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Peter Stubbs - Traffic Planner (PDNPA)
- Martin Smith, Philip Bellefontaine & Tony Hocking - Derbyshire County Council (DCC) as Highways Authority
- Bill Lear/David Neilson - DCC Public Transport Unit
- Henry Folkard - British Mountaineering Council (BMC)
- Terry Howard - Ramblers Association
- Jane Marsden & Jean Monks - Local representatives
- Becky Flower - Hope Valley Rail Partnership Project Officer
- Tim Richardson - Observer - Sheffield University (also BMC).
- Peter Davey - Area Management (PDNPA)
- Martin Burfoot - Landscape Architect (PDNPA)
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Richard Proctor & Mikk Campbell - Sheffield City Council as Highways Authority
- David Skinner - Traffic Management Officer, Derbyshire Constabulary
- Paul Markham - Bakewell Police, Derbyshire Constabulary
- Mark Trask/Robert Shepherdson - Rural Transport Officer, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive
- Harry Cridland - Ringinglow Village (campaigner for traffic calming)

### **15.13 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 2 (People), paragraphs 6.8 and 6.14 and National Park Plan chapter 15.

## 16. WOODLANDS

### Goal

- 16.1 To manage the woodlands as an integral part of the Estate, in a way that has mutual benefits for ecology, landscape and archaeology; allows access where appropriate and is compatible with farming.

### Aims

- 16.2 To co-ordinate management of the woodlands with the rest of the Estate.
- 16.3 To increase the proportion of native broadleaved trees in the long term.
- 16.4 To manage the woods so that trees and other special qualities are compatible.

(See Map 8 for the location of items referred to in this chapter's text).

## Objectives

Aim16.2: To co-ordinate management of the woodlands with the rest of the Estate.

16.2.1 **Co-ordinate the management of the woodlands under one integrated Estate Management Plan.** The woods are an integral part of the landscape and should not be viewed in isolation to the rest of the Estate. Ensure that good communication between the Estate Manager and the Forestry and Tree Service Manager continues. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority: n/a; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates and Forestry & Tree Services.**

Aim 16.3: To increase the proportion of native broad-leaved trees in the long term.

**16.3.1 Implement plans for long-term management to increase the proportion of native broad-leaved trees in the Estate woodlands.** Current policy should continue. Any tree planting on the Estate should only be of native broad-leaved species. Felling of small groups and individual non-native (particularly coniferous) trees should continue where the impact on the landscape would be minimal. Target Year(s): **1-10**; Priority: **9**; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates and Forestry & Tree Services.**

**16.3.2 Fence out the clough on Sheepwash Bank to allow natural regeneration of the oak/birch woodland.** This is proposed under the Farm's Environmentally Sensitive Area agreement. It is felt that this will enhance the landscape of the Estate. The fence should be sited below the skyline. It should also include gates to continue to allow informal access alongside the stream and should have small signs explaining the reasons for the temporary fencing in order to gain understanding and avoid vandalism. Target Year(s): **1-2**; Priority (from 1-9): **6**; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma and site surveys): **Derby College.**

Aim 16.4: To manage the woods so that trees and other special qualities are compatible.

16.4.1 **Soften the edges of the woodlands on the Estate, where appropriate, to benefit wildlife and landscape.** Target Year(s): 1-2; Priority (from 1-9): 6; Lead partners & monitoring (pro-forma and photographic record): **National Park Authority - Estates and Forestry & Tree Service.**

16.4.2 **Thin the small copse of birch on Cattisside.** It should continue to be periodically thinned as appropriate and left open to grazing as moorland edge woodland. Target Year(s): 1-10; Priority (from 1-9): 9; Lead partner & monitoring (pro-forma): **National Park Authority - Estates Service.**

## **16.5 Relevant suggestions which are being considered under other subject headings**

16.5.1 Carefully fell a small part of Dennis Knoll Plantation that covers the Bronze Age archaeological site (see Archaeology).

## **16.6 Forum suggestions not taken forward:**

16.6.1 Get rid of all conifer plantations and the Jubilee Plantations: They provide a mixture of habitats on the Estate and some of them provide food and nesting sites for rare birds. Clear felling would have a dramatic impact on the landscape. They are also part of the "cultural landscape" and getting rid of them was felt to be too "purist". A long-term policy of simply not replacing such trees when they fall was therefore favoured.

16.6.2 Create a new footpath along the hollow way at the junction of Coggers Lane and Birley Lane - possibly linking a new path and/or open access through woodland on Ridgewayside. Make the path suitable for disabled visitors if possible: The Ramblers Association representative who suggested this wished to alter the course of this path, so that it would no longer go through the woodland (see Recreation - Access & Rights of Way). It would also be extremely steep and require significant work to prevent erosion being caused at the Hood Brook end of the suggested route.

16.6.3 Extend tree plantation to stop the path that cuts a corner at Dennis Knoll: This is a possibility if a birch scrub wet woodland were created but is unlikely to get approval from English Nature as it is within the moorland Site of Special Scientific Interest / Special Protection Area. Other options, such as voluntary signs or extending the roadside wall should be considered first (see Recreation - Access & Rights of Way]

16.6.4 Create a circular path for disabled people within Dennis Knoll woodland. This was suggested as an alternative to the suggested path in Ridgewayside, which would be too steep (see above). The Steering Group advised against this as better alternatives were highlighted under Recreation - Access for All. It was felt to be too small and would be considered to be a token gesture. A lot of work would also be required in felling trees on a suitable path. Concerns were raised that illegitimate use of this wood for camping and fires might result and rare birds in this wood might become subject to more disturbance.

## **16.7 Consultees**

The above proposals should be pursued in partnership with the following:

- Chris Falshaw - Sheffield Bird Study Group
- Jonathan Winn - Ecologist
- Jane Marsden - local representative
- Matthew Croney - North Lees Estate Manager (PDNPA)
- Steve Tompkins - Forestry & Tree Service Manager (National Park Authority)
- Ken Smith - Archaeologist (PDNPA)
- Terry Howard - Ramblers
- Bill Gordon - North Lees Estate Warden (PDNPA)

## **16.8 Background**

The Authority's Forestry & Tree Service manages most of the woodlands on the Estate. The only exceptions are the small plantations, including those screening Hollin Bank (Plantation) Car Park and the two "Jubilee Plantations" alongside the Long Causeway, which are managed as part of the Estate. The recommendations above are therefore advice to seek to take forward, in partnership with the Forestry & Tree Service Manager.

## **16.9 Relevant Authority Policies**

The policy base is National Park Management Plan Objective 1 (Environment), paragraphs 6.3 to 6.5 and chapter 5 of the National Park Plan.

## **17. PARTICIPATIVE EVALUATION**

- 17.1 In the same way that this Plan has been developed through public participation, the evaluation will continue to involve people in making informed and critical assessments about it. Evaluation will provide an on-going management tool that will inform changes in and the development of the Plan.
- 17.2 Set out below is a structure for evaluating the Plan. It outlines a process for carrying out the evaluation; the key evaluative questions that should be asked; when they should be asked; whom the questions need to be directed to; what will indicate success; what information should be collected and the method of gathering the information.

### **How the Plan will be evaluated.**

- 17.3 Using the management structure, as identified in the Management, Evaluation and Involving People chapter:
- Identified monitoring partners should complete the pro-forma and other surveys identified for each objective and return them to the Estate Manager.
  - The Estate Manager will produce a briefing report every six months, to keep the Steering Group informed of progress, based on this monitoring data.
  - Six monthly newsletters will keep everyone else informed and involved, according to the Steering Group's wishes.
  - Annual Steering Group workshops will be arranged to take an overview of the Plan's progress and evaluate the themes for the year, as identified below, involving the Forum as appropriate.
  - Annual Stange Forum event to keep people informed and involved in the Plan's continuing development.

## Strategic Evaluation Questions

17.4 The questions below are designed to provide a framework for assessing the "whole picture" of the Management Plan. This should include the context in which it operates, its inputs, the planning process, its outputs and longer term outcomes. All of these aspects are listed, as defined by the Steering Group, at Appendix 4. The list of questions below may need to be added to by the Steering Group, in order to ensure that all of these aspects (and any unforeseen ones) are properly considered.

KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: Involving People	When (year)	Who asked of (stakeholders)	WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?	Monitoring data to be collected.	Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)
Have all stakeholders been properly involved?	2	All stakeholders.	Agreement of all aspects of the Plan by all stakeholders. A high level of involvement in the implementation of the Plan.	Stakeholders' opinions.	Survey via newsletter and possibly at the annual Forum event. (Also asking if people think that any interest is not represented). Annual Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.

KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: The Vision	When (year)	Who asked of (stakeholders)	WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?	Monitoring data to be collected.	Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)
Is the vision being met/worked towards?	3	All stakeholders.	Agreement by all stakeholders that the vision is being achieved satisfactorily. Successful implementation of the Plan.	Stakeholders' opinions. Photographs taken from strategic locations at the same time each year to give an overall impression of the Estate. Delivery level evaluation (see below).	Survey via newsletter and possibly at the annual Forum event. Annual Steering Group workshop.
Are all stakeholders aware of the vision and have they agreed to it?	3	All stakeholders.	Acknowledgement and agreement to the vision by all stakeholders.	Stakeholders' opinions.	Survey via newsletter and possibly at the annual Forum event. (Also asking if people think that any interest is not represented). Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.

Is the vision valid/appropriate/achievable?	3	Steering Group	Agreement by all stakeholders.	Stakeholders' opinions.	Steering Group (annual workshop) to advise and seek validation from the Forum.
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KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: The Process	When (year)	Who asked of (stakeholders)	WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?	Monitoring data to be collected.	Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)
Is the process open and transparent?	5	All stakeholders.	Agreement by all stakeholders.	Stakeholders' opinions.	Survey via newsletter and possibly at the annual Forum event. Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.
Is the Stange Forum process making an impact on the way PDNPA thinks and operates?	5	PDNPA officers.	Evidence that other relevant projects undertaken by the Authority follow a consensus-building approach.	Evidence from other PDNPA officers.	Matthew to question relevant PDNPA officers. Steering Group workshop to consider responses. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.

<p>Is the Stanage Forum process making an impact on the way other bodies, groups, projects, etc. think and operate?</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>All stakeholders.</p>	<p>Evidence that other relevant projects follow a consensus-building approach, having learnt from the Stanage Forum.</p>	<p>Evidence from other relevant project coordinators.</p>	<p>Survey via newsletter and website. Matthew to keep a record of all enquiries about the Forum. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.</p>
<p>Is this the best method of achieving a management plan for Stanage? (i.e. most effective).</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>All stakeholders.</p>	<p>Successful implementation of the Plan and significant progress to achieving the vision. Agreement by all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Delivery level evaluation (see below). Evaluative questions about the vision (see above). All other relevant evaluative questions. Stakeholders' opinions.</p>	<p>Matthew to research other methods of management planning and report on relevant case studies. Survey via newsletter, website and at the annual Forum event. Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.</p>

<p>Has the process provided value for money/resources? (i.e. efficient).</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>All stakeholders.</p>	<p>Successful implementation of the Plan. Agreement by all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Answers to the question above. Cost of implementation, including time.</p>	<p>Delivery level pro-forma information on costs and time. Survey via newsletter, website and at the annual Forum event. Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.</p>
<p>Is the management planning process enabling the delivery of its aims and objectives?</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Matthew, Steering Group.</p>	<p>Agreement by all Steering Group members.</p>	<p>Level of achievement of the Plan's aims and objectives, including a report on any process problems experienced. Opinion of Steering Group members.</p>	<p>Delivery level evaluation (see below). Matthew to report. Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.</p>

<b>KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: Inputs</b>	<b>When (year)</b>	<b>Who asked of (stakeholders)</b>	<b>WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?</b>	<b>Monitoring data to be collected.</b>	<b>Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)</b>
Are there adequate inputs to achieve outputs/outcomes?	3	Matthew, Steering Group	Agreement by all Steering Group members. Sufficient resources committed to enable implementation of the Plan.	Level of resource commitment and effect on implementation of the Plan.	Delivery level pro-forma. Matthew to report. Steering Group workshop..
Is the process attracting resource commitment from relevant organisations?	3	Matthew, Steering Group.	Sufficient resources committed to enable implementation of the Plan.	Level of resource commitment and effect on implementation of the Plan.	Delivery level pro-forma. Matthew to report. Steering Group workshop.
Do we have adequate data to inform decision-making?	4	Steering Group	Agreement by all Steering Group members.	Record of decisions made since implementation of the Plan began, including any problems in doing so due to lack of data.	Matthew to keep a record. Steering Group workshop.
Has this Plan incorporated other appropriate evaluative data being generated by PDNPA or other partners?	8	Matthew, other relevant PDNPA officers and partners.	Incorporation of all relevant evaluative data that would help the implementation and development of the Plan.	Other relevant evaluative data being collected.	Matthew to question other relevant PDNPA officers and partners.

KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: Roles & remits	When (year)	Who asked of (stakeholders)	WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?	Monitoring data to be collected.	Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)
Is there a clear, transparent management structure/audit trail regarding decisions in place?	2	All stakeholders.	Agreement by all stakeholders.	Stakeholders' opinions.	Survey via newsletter and possibly at the annual Forum event. Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.
Are roles, remits and representation clear to all?	2	All stakeholders.	Agreement by all stakeholders.	Stakeholders' opinions.	Survey via newsletter and possibly at the annual Forum event. Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.

<p>Is there clear, effective communication between all elements of the Management Plan (i.e. Forum, Steering Group, technical groups, PDNPA, etc.)?</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>All stakeholders.</p>	<p>Agreement by all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Stakeholders' opinions .</p>	<p>Satisfaction survey via website, newsletter and possibly at the annual Forum event. Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.</p>
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<b>KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: Implementation</b>	<b>When (year)</b>	<b>Who asked of (stakeholders)</b>	<b>WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?</b>	<b>Monitoring data to be collected.</b>	<b>Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)</b>
Is the lead partner for each objective the correct/most appropriate one?	5	Steering Group and other stakeholders/partners as they deem necessary.	Effective and efficient implementation of the Plan's objectives.	See effectiveness and efficiency questions above. Identification and assessment of potential alternative lead partners.	Steering Group workshop. Survey of relevant stakeholders/partners.
Are the objectives achieving the aims and are the aims achieving the goals?	3	Steering Group	Successful achievement of objectives and significant progress towards achieving the goals.	Level of achievement of objectives and their effects.	Delivery level evaluation (see below). Steering Group workshop.
What effects has the Plan had on other areas nearby (positive or negative)?	5	Steering Group. Neighbouring interests.	Positive knock-on effects on neighbouring areas and elimination of any negative effects.	Opinions of neighbouring interests and Steering Group.	Questionnaire survey. Steering Group workshop.

<b>KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: Steering Group</b>	<b>When (year)</b>	<b>Who asked of (stakeholders)</b>	<b>WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?</b>	<b>Monitoring data to be collected.</b>	<b>Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)</b>
Do all the Steering Group members share an understanding of and a genuine commitment to the values, vision, goals, aims and actions of the group and the Plan?	1	Steering Group	Shared understanding and commitment of all Steering Group members.	Steering Group's opinions.	Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.
Is the Steering Group accountable to the Forum it seeks to serve? Has the level and nature of accountability been agreed with beneficiaries and the practical implications of this addressed?	1	All stakeholders.	Agreed level of accountability met.	Stakeholders' satisfaction level.	Survey via Newsletter and website. Consideration at Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.
Does the Steering Group find time to attend to its own needs (e.g. team working, training, revisiting delivery plan) as well as delivering its principal objectives?	1	Steering Group	Steering Group needs identified and met.	Steering Group's views.	Steering Group workshop. Independent observation reports by Tim Richardson of Sheffield University and/or other observers.

KEY EVALUATION QUESTION: Context	When (year)	Who asked of (stakeholders)	WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?	Monitoring data to be collected.	Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)
Have there been any changes in contextual factors which have significantly affected delivery of the Plan?	6	Steering Group	Identification and proper consideration of contextual factors.	Steering Group's opinions. Record of contextual changes during the Plan period.	Matthew to record contextual changes. Steering Group workshop.



### **Delivery level evaluation**

- 17.5 The detailed evaluation of the goals, aims and individual objectives should be fairly straightforward. The individual objectives can be monitored mainly by the completion of a pro-forma (see below) by identified monitoring partners. Some will also need on-site or public surveys, which are identified against each objective. Regarding the "when" column below, any issues arising from the completion of individual objectives will be reported as and when they occur but a year has been allocated for overall assessment of each goal (or two or three years for assessment of the key areas of vehicular access, recreation and ecology).

### Delivery Level Evaluation Questions for Stanage Forum Goals

KEY EVALUATION QUESTION	When (year)	Who asked of (stakeholders)	WHAT WOULD INDICATE SUCCESS?	Monitoring data to be collected.	Method of generating / collecting data (i.e. tools)
<p><b>Is the ARCHAEOLOGY/ CULTURAL HISTORY goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> <li>◆ Site condition surveys (if/as required by PDNPA Archaeology Service).</li> </ul>

<p><b>Is the COMMERCIAL USE goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> <li>◆ Record of type and level of use (licensed and unlicensed).</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Is the ECOLOGY/ WILDLIFE goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>3&amp;7</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> <li>◆ Enhancement of habitats.</li> <li>◆ Increase in native wildlife.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> <li>◆ Quality of habitats.</li> <li>◆ Number of wildlife species and abundance.</li> <li>◆ Air and water quality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> <li>◆ Wildlife and habitat surveys (some specific to objectives and others as required by PDNPA Ecology Service in consultation with Estates).</li> <li>◆ Air &amp; water quality monitoring (to be organised by PDNPA Estates Service).</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Is the ECONOMY goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> <li>◆ Record of direct and indirect contributions to the local economy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Is the EDUCATION FOR ALL goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Is the FARMING goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Is the GEOLOGY goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>9</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Is the LANDSCAPE goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Annual photographic record.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Photographs to be taken from strategic locations at the same time of year every year.</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Is the MANAGEMENT, EVALUATION AND INVOLVING PEOPLE goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>2&amp;5</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter, all stakeholders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> <li>◆ Also see key strategic evaluation questions.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Is the RECREATION goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>2&amp;6</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter, Sample of visitors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders, including visitors in general.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> <li>◆ Types of recreation and number of participants.</li> <li>◆ Visitors opinions.</li> <li>◆ Problems experienced due to visitors' behaviour.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> <li>◆ On-site survey of types of recreation and number of participants.</li> <li>◆ Visitor satisfaction surveys.</li> <li>◆ Record of any problems experienced due to visitor behaviour.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Is the VEHICULAR ACCESS goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>2,5&amp;8</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter, Stanage Forum.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders, including members of the Forum as a whole.</li> <li>◆ A reduction in the speed and volume of traffic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> <li>◆ Opinions from the Forum.</li> <li>◆ Speed and volume of traffic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - website and newsletter and otherwise if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> <li>◆ Monitoring of speed and volume of traffic.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Is the WOODLANDS goal being achieved?</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Steering Group, All consultees listed at the end of the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Satisfaction level of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Quantifiable data re: achievement of aims and objectives.</li> <li>◆ Stakeholders' opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Monitoring pro-forma for objectives (and other methods as specified for individual objectives).</li> <li>◆ Annual Steering Group workshop (with any other key stakeholders invited).</li> <li>◆ Forum - if/as considered necessary by the Steering Group.</li> </ul>

## 17.6 MONITORING PRO-FORMA

Has the objective been completed exactly as written in the Plan?  
(i.e. as envisaged, on time, etc.)

If not, please explain how it has differed from the Plan and why.

It would help us if you could provide photos and any other details of before, during and after the work has been completed (if appropriate), thank you.

YES [ ] NO [ ]

How has this contributed to / affected the aim and goal?

Did it (or is it likely to) result in any other benefits or problems?

What resources were used in achieving it (including people's time)?

Do you think it could have been achieved any better/easier/cheaper by other means? If so, how?

Do you recommend any resulting changes to this or any other objective?

Do you recommend any new objectives or monitoring to follow on from this one?

Any other comments?

**National Park Statutory Purposes & Duty**

- a) ".....conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area....."; and
- b) ".....promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public."

In pursuit of these purposes, the Authority will also pursue its statutory duty to:

".....seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities....."

**The Sandford Principle**

(As worded in the Environment Act, 1995):

If it appears that there is a conflict between those purposes, greater weight shall be attached to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park.

What is special about Stanage?

The table below is a list of responses to this question and their relative merits, when asked of the Stanage Forum. It is based on the Countryside Agency's "Quality of Life Capital" approach. The list provided a framework for ensuring that all of the special qualities of the Estate are at least being protected or enhanced wherever possible.

What is special about Stanage	Category	Scale of Importance	Number of times listed	Declining?	Substitutable?
Interest and pride in local village and surrounding land	Archaeology / Cultural History	Local	1	Y	N
Access history - as one of the first open access areas in the UK	Archaeology/ Cultural History	Regional	1	N	N
Archaeology / Historic landscape, containing elements of past human activity	Archaeology/ Cultural History	National	3	N	N
Bronte connections - literature	Archaeology/ Cultural History	International	2	N	N
Climbing history	Archaeology/ Cultural History	International	1	N	N
Farming history - 4,000 year old features, Enclosure period walls, variety of ages of features	Archaeology/ Cultural History	National	1	N	N
Folklore - Bronte, Robin Hood, Little John	Archaeology/ Cultural History	National	1	N	N
Industrial history - coal and lead mining, paper mill and transport routes	Archaeology/ Cultural History	Regional	1	Y (Long Causeway condition)	N

What is special about Stangage	Category	Scale of Importance	Number of times listed	Declining?	Substitutable?
Millstones	Archaeology/ Cultural History	Regional	2	N	N
Packhorse Routes	Archaeology/ Cultural History	Local	1	Y (on Long Causeway)	N
Paper Mill	Archaeology/ Cultural History	Local	1	N	N
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Archaeology/ Cultural History	National	2	N	N
You can see climbing stars, such as Seb Grieve, Ron Fawcett and Johnny Dawes	Archaeology/ Cultural History	National	1	N	N
Blanket bog habitat	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Bracken beds and rough grassland habitat	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Close to other beautiful areas	Ecology/Wildlife	National	1	N	N
Edge and boulders habitat	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Fresh air (for city dwellers)	Ecology/Wildlife	Regional	2	N	Y
Fresh water supply to some properties	Ecology/Wildlife	Local	1	N	Y
Habitat for rare birds	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Heather moorland habitat - Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) & Special Protection Area (SPA)	Ecology/Wildlife	International	2	Y	N
Important breeding sites for birds	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Native woodlands	Ecology/Wildlife	National	1	Y	Y
Natural history - flora & fauna / rare plants and fungi Superb place for wildlife (SSSI / SPA) / the hare, badger, the ring ouzel, the merlin, etc	Ecology/Wildlife	International	6	Y	N

What is special about Stanage	Category	Scale of Importance	Number of times listed	Declining?	Substitutable?
Natural resource that has many functions	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	N	Y
Pollution free	Ecology/Wildlife	Local	1	N	N
Rare lichens	Ecology/Wildlife	International?	1	Y	N
Unimproved hay meadows habitat	Ecology/Wildlife	National	1	Y	N
Unimproved pastures habitat	Ecology/Wildlife	National	1	Y	N
Wet sitch habitat	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Wide space of wildlife habitat (importance of where it is)	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Wild Birds on the moorland	Ecology/Wildlife	International	1	Y	N
Woodland diversity	Ecology/Wildlife	National	1	Y	Y
Economic benefits to the area from tourism - including climbing & walking and educational groups.	Economy	Regional	6	N	N
Provides a home for some people	Economy	Local	3	N	Y
Provides income to those who work / live on the Estate (managers, farmers, rangers, other NPA staff)	Economy	Local	5	N	Y
Educational resource for inner city children	Education for All	Regional	1	N	Y
Educational value - assist learning about National Park and upland landscapes, land management & conservation, also cultural heritage, archaeology, social history, variety of habitats, farming, etc	Education for All	National	5	N	N
Example of managing conflict between land users to educate, particularly children (social co-operation)	Education for All	Regional	1	N	Y

<b>What is special about Stanage</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Scale of Importance</b>	<b>Number of times listed</b>	<b>Declining?</b>	<b>Substitutable?</b>
Good, safe place for young people to learn about the countryside (school visits from all over the country)	Education for All	National	1	N	Y
Use of the area to demonstrate good practice	Education for All	International	1	N	Y
Farming / sheep grazing	Farming	Local	3	N	N
Geology - Regionally Important Geological Site	Geology	Regional	1	N	N
Atmosphere	Landscape	National	1	N	N
Beautiful landscape; stunning/wonderful scenery; aesthetics	Landscape	National	5	N	N
Dramatic scenery	Landscape	National	1	N	N
Inspirational landscape, views are inspiring leading to creativity	Landscape	National	1	N	N
Lack of fences	Landscape	National	1	Y	N
Landscape - gritstone crag landform unique to South Pennines	Landscape	Regional	1	N	N
Landscape features - woodlands, walls	Landscape	Local	1	N	Y
Mosaic/variety of landform	Landscape	Local	1	N	Y
Photogenic	Landscape	National	1	N	Y
Seasonal change/colour - particularly heather in autumn	Landscape	International	1	N	N

What is special about Stanage	Category	Scale of Importance	Number of times listed	Declining?	Substitutable?
Sense of wilderness / nearest wild area to south/south-east England / Wild open space / Bleakness and isolation / Freedom, escape, openness and tranquillity / Feeling of remoteness despite being near to Sheffield & accessible / Unspoilt countryside / natural feel / Uncrowded	Landscape	National	11	Y	N
Tranquillity / relaxation (excluding weekends) / peaceful & "remote" - beautiful moorland	Landscape	National	2	Y	N
Uncommercialised	Landscape	National	1	Y	N
Uniqueness / sense of place	Landscape	National	1	N	N
Variety of vegetation, beauty and inspiration	Landscape	International	1	N	Y
Views / open access / countryside / Views across the Peak from the Edge / Expansive views (to and from the Estate)	Landscape	National	4	N	N
Bill & Flo (The Estate and Campsite Wardens)	Management	Local	1	N	??!!
Consistent management based upon consensus view	Management	-	1	N	-
Good balance of all competing interests	Management	-	1	N	-
Good interpretation of site	Management	-	1	N	-
Local "ownership" of the area's value	Management	Local	1	N	-
Management information easily accessible to all	Management	-	1	N	-
Understanding of each others' needs	Management	-	1	N	-
Well managed	Management	National	1	N	-
"Sheffield's back garden"	Recreation	Local	1	N	N

What is special about Stanage	Category	Scale of Importance	Number of times listed	Declining?	Substitutable?
4 wheel driving and trail biking	Recreation	Local	1	N	Y
A marvellous adventure playground	Recreation	Local	1	N	Y
A place of freedom, where people can enjoy activities without unnecessary restrictions	Recreation	Regional	1	Y	Y
A well-managed campsite (rare in the Peak District!)	Recreation	Regional	1	N	Y
Abseiling	Recreation	Local	1	N	Y
Bouldering	Recreation	International	2	N	N
Bylaws exist to protect the area	Recreation	National	1	N	Y
Camping	Recreation	International	1	N	Y
Cheap day out	Recreation	Local	1	Y	Y
Climbing - "Best climbing edge in UK", internationally renowned, offering large amount and variety of grades of route (and accessible)	Recreation	International	10	N	N
Climbing edge reserved for traditional free climbing - no bolting	Recreation	International	1	Y	N
Enjoying flora and fauna	Recreation	National	1	Y	N
Erosion is well controlled / Rights of Way well maintained	Recreation	National	1	N	Y
Free - don't have to pay	Recreation	Local	1	Y	Y
Good for groups	Recreation	Regional	1	N	Y
Good local services close by / Pubs not far away	Recreation	Regional	2	N	Y
Great range of sports and hobbies	Recreation	National	1	N	Y
Gun dog training on the moorland	Recreation	Regional	1	N	Y
Hang gliding & paragliding	Recreation	Regional	3	N	N

What is special about Stanage	Category	Scale of Importance	Number of times listed	Declining?	Substitutable?
Horse riding / Exercising horse away from the dangers of the main road	Recreation	Local	3	Y	Y
Kite flying	Recreation	Local	1	N	Y
Level of recreation is well managed to reduce its detrimental impacts to an acceptable level	Recreation	International	1	N	-
Model airplane flying	Recreation	Local	1	N	Y
Mountain biking (key routes from Sheffield to the Hope Valley and beyond)	Recreation	Regional	4	N	Y
Picnics	Recreation	Local	2	N	Y
Place to take visitors	Recreation	Regional	1	N	Y
Place to walk dogs (for locals and visitors)	Recreation	Local	3	N	Y
Quiet enjoyment of countryside / Walking - as a form of enjoying QUIET recreation	Recreation	National	2	Y	Y
Relatively low level of disturbance to local residents	Recreation	Local	1	N	N
Running on open moorland	Recreation	Regional	1	N	Y
Safe but exciting area for families with children - streams, rock scrambling	Recreation	Regional	1	N	Y
Satisfies personal needs - exercise, relieves stress, spiritual rejuvenation, adventures, peace of mind and security	Recreation	National	1	N	Y
Snowy hills to slide down in winter	Recreation	Local	1	N	Y
Sponsored walks - reasonably safe area	Recreation	Regional	1	N	Y
The opportunity for personal and social challenge	Recreation	National	1	N	Y
The variety of accessible interests	Recreation	National	1	N	Y

What is special about Stannage	Category	Scale of Importance	Number of times listed	Declining?	Substitutable?
Walking / Rambling (Good for walking as accessible - with easy access points, car parking, good paths and access to moors)	Recreation	National	7	N	Y
The combination of values and interests	Variety	National	1	N	Y
Access by bus	Vehicular Access	Regional	1	Y	Y
Access for people with disabilities / the less able	Vehicular Access	Regional	2	N	Y
Accessible: Right of Access/An accessible wilderness area (an apparent paradox)/Easy access from urban areas, eg. Sheffield	Vehicular Access	National	2	N	N
Driving for pleasure (especially at weekends)	Vehicular Access	Local	1	N	Y
Easily accessible by bike from Sheffield	Vehicular Access	Local	1	N	Y
Free & unrestricted parking	Vehicular Access	National	1	Y	Y
Managed / restricted parking / Car parks concentrate visitors, providing relief for more sensitive areas	Vehicular Access	Regional	2	N	Y
Managed traffic - speed restrictions	Vehicular Access	Local	1	N	Y
Opportunity to create a safe, traffic-free environment	Vehicular Access	National	1	Y	Y
Parking	Vehicular Access	National	1	N	Y
Train to local village	Vehicular Access	National	1	N	Y
Travel /commuting through the Estate/Pleasant "short-cut"/ Unimpeded access by car and for farm equipment through the Estate (for convenience/shortest route)	Vehicular Access	Local	5	N	Y

## CONSENSUS BUILDING PRINCIPLES

### **Explicit Process**

Success comes from the careful, thoughtful and explicit 'design' of a coherent, overall process. It needs to consider achieving community development and capacity building gains. The process must also be transparent (i.e. its development, management and delivery should be clear to all. Independent facilitators may be helpful to enable a group focus on the issues with objectivity.

### **Commitment to abide by outcomes**

There is little point in entering a process which aims to bring people closer and closer together around agreed principles, values, purposes and common objectives and solutions if one or other party retains some eventual veto over any results. Either you have agreed to build consensus or you haven't.

### **Openness, honesty, trust**

Commitment is, however, an issue for all involved; it can only be secured if all parties are open and honest, and if the process builds trust through communication based on two-way listening and questioning.

### **Inclusiveness**

Agreements require great care in establishing. As early as possible, the whole gamut of possible views about an issue or problem should be aired. This should involve all who have a direct and legitimate interest (key stakeholders) - not just the obvious friends, or even enemies.

### **Shared responsibility for success**

Once the 'Consensus building' process is underway, it may be 'facilitated' but those involved are not passive actors waiting for the mythical 'someone else' to solve and decide things for them; everybody must take an active role in seeking progress.

### **Common information base**

Conflicts often roll on simply because different groups and individuals argue from different bases of important issues and key information. A proper 'Consensus building' process pays attention to sharing information, seeking common agreements, and seeking further information which can take things forward.

### **Mutual 'education' and exchange - building capacity**

If information, attitudes and values are in the open, and shared between all at all stages, there will inevitably be a shifting of perceptions and a development of personal and group knowledge and capacity. Paying attention to this can help to avoid conflicts on subsequent occasions and enable everybody to be (as it were) one step up the ladder at the start next time.

**Multiple options are identified**

In 'Consensus building' there is almost never one neat, simple solution. Though there are disadvantages when people come at things from different directions, this can bring into the room the advantage of diverse and innovative options and solutions - and a base for a more creative agreed solution. The 'Consensus building' process is designed to create multiple options and multiple solutions.

**Building common ground**

Although the most difficult problems require the most attention, it is important to seek out and build on those points of agreement and common ground that nearly always exist or can be developed quite quickly. Some may be minor but 'celebrating' small steps helps to create confidence and mutual trust, providing a platform from which to move onto tougher areas. The methods used are important and should be designed to naturally build consensus without debate, leaving the few contentious issues to be debated openly.

**Decisions made by consensus**

We still rely too heavily, in most procedures, on the ultimately debilitating system of majority votes, very often in situations where another approach would generate a different and more widely agreed decision. Working toward decisions which are supported by all greatly increases the chances that these decisions will be implemented successfully.

**Shared responsibility for outcomes and implementation**

Once a decision has been reached by consensus, those involved take on a responsibility to back the decision (and how it was reached) through any verification process, and then into the stages of implementation.

Source: Icarus Collective

## Consensus Building Principles Applied to the Stanage Forum

The many different people and organisations who make up the Stanage Forum all have an interest in how the Stanage/North Lees Estate should be managed. The methods we use to help the Forum members work together to produce a management plan can be described as a **consensus building approach**.

It is likely that each person will have different priorities and different opinions in relation to what is important and how the Estate should be managed. Some of these views and priorities will be in conflict with others. The conventional way of making decisions and resolving differences is to immediately focus on the problems and areas of conflict and attempt to resolve these. This way of working often means that people will defend their 'position' and the most vocal or the most powerful will get their way. What is achieved will be a compromise solution that no-one is completely happy with and which is difficult to put into practice.

A consensus building process aims to work in a different way. Using a carefully designed approach, individuals and groups can be brought together to find satisfactory solutions, which they all feel able to support. The aim is to uncover 'win, win' solutions rather than the more adversarial stance, 'I win, you lose', to which we are accustomed. An approach based on consensus building can be used, not only to resolve actual conflicts, but also to involve individuals and groups in the design of policies and programmes.

We hope that the Stanage Forum can adopt the following consensus building principles:

- **Participants speak directly to each other and reach agreement openly. Everyone will have a say and their opinion will be valued.**
- **Every effort is made to reach agreements acceptable to everyone, rather than, for example, by voting (which results in winners and losers).**
- **People will work from an open position, where their interests are stated and understood, even if not agreeable to others.**
- **People accept and are willing to work with each group's differences in order to reach a consensus that benefits all.**
- **Everyone who has an interest in the management of the Stanage/North Lees Estate can participate**
- **An independent facilitator will be used to design and facilitate the work and activities of the Forum.**

Stanage Forum Steering Group Members

Martin Beetham (Derbyshire Soaring Club) - Tel: 01274 589352, e-mail: mb@mbeetham.net or [stanagesites@derbyshiresoaringclub.org.uk](mailto:stanagesites@derbyshiresoaringclub.org.uk) Date joined: November 2005.

Bob Berzins (Dark Peak Fellrunners) - Tel: 0114 266 8415, e-mail: [robert.berzins@bobberzins.plus.com](mailto:robert.berzins@bobberzins.plus.com) Date joined: August 2002.

Jacque Bevan (Local Councillor) - Tel: 01433 650581, e-mail: [Beaver@Lodgedam.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:Beaver@Lodgedam.freeserve.co.uk) Date joined: October 2000.

Matthew Croney (Stanage/North Lees Estate Manager, PDNPA) - Tel: 01629 816351, e-mail: [matthew.cronney@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.cronney@peakdistrict.gov.uk) Date joined: October 2000.

Julian Dunk (local resident). Date joined: December 2003. (NB. Either Julian or Jean Monks will attend any given meeting but not both).

Richard Entwistle (Green Lanes Association) - Tel. 01246 413451, e-mail: [RE@RichardEntwistle.co.uk](mailto:RE@RichardEntwistle.co.uk) Date joined: November 2006.

Henry Folkard (BMC) - Tel: 01298 871849. Date joined: October 2000.

Bill Gordon (Stanage/North Lees Estate Warden, National Park Authority) - Tel: 01433 650704, e-mail: [northlees@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:northlees@peakdistrict.gov.uk) Date joined: October 2000.

Bernard Henwood (Sheffield Aeromodellers, walker, wildlife and history) - Tel: 0114 230 2681, e-mail: [b.s.henwood@btopenworld.com](mailto:b.s.henwood@btopenworld.com) Date joined: September 2005.

Jean Hodgkinson (Local resident & CPRE) - Tel. 01433 650746, e-mail: [Hodgkinson@cumulus.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:Hodgkinson@cumulus.fsnet.co.uk) Date joined: February 07.

Sean Jennings (local resident, walker and cyclist) - Tel: 01433 651110. Date joined: December 2003.

Jane Marsden (Outseats Parish Council) - Tel: 01433 650659, e-mail: [jane@hope-valley.co.uk](mailto:jane@hope-valley.co.uk) Date joined: October 2000.

Jean Monks (Local Resident) - Tel: 01433 650300, e-mail: [jean.monks@btinternet.com](mailto:jean.monks@btinternet.com) Date joined: October 2000. (NB. From December 2003, either Jean or Julian Dunk will attend any given meeting but not both).

Laura Norris (Vivat Trust) - Tel. 0845 090 2212, e-mail: [Laura@vivat.org.uk](mailto:Laura@vivat.org.uk)  
Date joined: January 2007.

Frank Ogden (Ramblers Association) -Tel: 0114 236 8015. Date joined:  
September 2005.

Tim Richardson (Observer, Sheffield University) - e-mail:  
[Tim.Richardson@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:Tim.Richardson@sheffield.ac.uk) Date joined: October 2000.

David Robinson (North Lees Farm Tenant) - tel. 0114 285 1429. Date joined:  
October 2006.

Wendy Thomson (Sheffield Bird Study Group) - e-mail:  
[w.thomson@kesterweb.org.uk](mailto:w.thomson@kesterweb.org.uk) Date joined: April 2006.

**Independent facilitator:** Steve Smith (ICARUS Collective) - Tel: 01484  
841396, e-mail: [steve@icarus.uk.net](mailto:steve@icarus.uk.net)

### Former Steering Group Members

Nick Willis (Edale Youth Hostel) - replaced by Don Mabbs.	October 2000 to March 2001
Julien Minshull (Derbyshire Soaring Club) - replaced by Len Hull.	October 2000 to May 2001
Dave Turnbull (British Mountaineering Council) - replaced by Clare Bond.	October 2000 to January 2002
Janet Priestley (Acting North Lees Farm Manager, Derby College) - replaced by Iain Baldwin.	March 2001 to Feb 2003
Robert Helliwell (ex North Lees Farm Manager) - no replacement.	October 2000 to May 2003
John Elliott (local farmer) - no replacement.	October 2000 to May 2003
Antony Hawkins (Ride to Roam - Sheffield mountain biking group) - no replacement.	October 2000 to May 2003
Clare Bond (British Mountaineering Council) - replaced by Graham Lynch.	January 2002 to February 2004
Graham Lynch (British Mountaineering Council) - replaced by Guy Keating.	February 2004 to June 2004
Andy Burgess (climber, walker and Sheffield resident) - no replacement.	December 2003 to October 2004
Terry Howard (Ramblers Association) - replaced by Frank Ogden (but still acts as his deputy).	October 2000 to September 2005
Graham Attridge (disabled visitor) - no replacement.	October 2000 to November 2005
Chris Falshaw (Sheffield Bird Study Group) - replaced by Wendy Thomson.	<u>October 2000 to March 2006</u>
Iain Baldwin (Derby College, North Lees Farm tenants) - replaced by new farm tenant, David Robinson.	May 2003 to September 2006
Ben Hull-Bailey (Derbyshire Soaring Club) - replaced by Martin Beetham.	September 2005 to October 2005
Ray Clayton (Green Lanes Association) - replaced by Richard Entwistle.	July 2002 - Nov 2006
Don Mabbs (Derbyshire Association for Residential Education) - no replacement	March 2001 - 2007
<u>Graham Wadsworth (Trail Riders Fellowship) - no replacement</u>	Dec 2003 - 2008
Guy Keating (British Mountaineering Council) - no replacement	Feb 2004 - June 2010

NB. The Steering Group was nominated through an open, democratic procedure where anyone was invited to nominate people for membership. The Group met for the first time in October 2000. Membership remained the largely the same until the Plan was completed in September 2002. However, some new members were invited to join during that period, when it became apparent that certain key interests were not represented. It was then subject to annual review until November 2005 and has been open to constant review at any time since then - i.e. anyone may leave or join at any time.

## Overall structure of the Stanage Forum / Management Plan

In order to evaluate the plan in a holistic way, it is first necessary to take a step back to define the whole picture. Inputs, the planning process, outputs and longer term outcomes should all be properly assessed, taking into account the changing context in which we are going to be operating over the next ten years.

### 1. Inputs

- The Forum structure (meetings, steering group, newsletter, website)
- PDNPA policy
- Volunteer effort (SG, Forum, etc)
- PDNPA staff
- Passion - to care for and enjoy Stanage
- Financial resources/a budget
- Support from statutory and non-statutory partners
- The farm

### 2. Process

- Forum events
- Steering Group
- Technical Groups
- Website
- Newsletter
- Flexibility - ability to change and adapt
- Stamina
- Administrative support
- Facilitation
- Debate/discussion/dialogue
- PDNPA staff
- Diplomacy
- Internal PDNPA consultations

### 3. Outputs

- Shared vision
- Shared goals & aims
- The 150 agreed objectives
- A consensus building approach
- Conflict resolution
- A more easily implementable & effective plan
- Affirmation of support from the PDNPA
- Raising awareness & understanding

#### 4. Outcomes

- Better (baseline) information
- Higher standing/status for the PDNPA
- Impact on ways of planning in other National Parks and protected areas

#### 5. Context

- Foot and mouth risk
- Government policy e.g. PDNPA's statutory duties
- Countryside & Rights of Way Act
- Farming
- PDNPA policy

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

*"Sustainable development is development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". Bruntland, 1987*

*"Human use and enjoyment of the world's natural or cultural resources should not, in overall terms, diminish or destroy them." Countryside Commission, 1993.*

Sustainability is a principle which underlies the Stanage/North Lees Estate Management Plan.

The Estate Management Plan is one of the detailed Action Plans forming part of the Peak District National Park Management Plan. The following appraisal is a standard format used to assess how sustainable such Plans are.

**Potential Impact of the Estate Management Plan on 16 Key Sustainability Criteria**

√ = Positive potential impacts

x = Negative potential impacts

√√ = Positive impacts may be substantial

xx = Negative impacts may be substantial.

Sustainability criteria	Potential impact of the Plan	Notes	Mitigation of potential negative impacts
<b>Social Progress</b>			
Settlements & places	√√	Positive - Enhancing local distinctiveness through protecting the Estate's special qualities and encouraging participation, through the Stanage Forum process. Enhancing aesthetic value in a way that is still functional. E.g. vehicular access policies to restrict volume and speed of traffic but maintain reasonable level of parking for visitors and a less congested through route for local people. It follows a low key, low maintenance and essentially invisible control of sensitive ecological sites by adopting an imaginative and pragmatic approach.	
Health & Safety	√x	Positive - Vehicular access objectives seek a reduction in the volume and speed of traffic. Other measures to resolve conflicts between different user groups on other rights of way, avoiding potential accidents between mountain bikers and trail riders & four wheel drivers and	

		walkers, for example. A reduction in the number of modern man-made items in the landscape. Negative - practical work, such as fencing, footpath repairs and roadwork have health and safety implications.	Follow task based risk assessments and assess any site specific risks on each occasion before work commences.
Local needs, equity and accessibility	√√	Positive - the principles of the Stanage Forum process to developing the plan are accessible and based on equity. It allows local decisions to be made locally. Education for All objectives will make information more accessible. The recreation chapter details objectives to enhance opportunities for enjoyment of the Estate. The Access for All chapter of the Plan details a number of actions to improve the accessibility of the Estate. The vehicular access objectives should make the Estate more accessible to those without a car.	
<b>Economic success</b>			
Vibrant local economy	√	Economy objectives recognise the enormous contribution that recreational activity makes to the local economy and seek to assess, balance and maximise the Estate and its visitors' financial contributions. Positive - farming objectives to encourage an economically viable, diverse farm-based business.	

Skills and training	√	Positive - Promoting mutual understanding is a key purpose of the Stanage Forum process to develop the Plan. Voluntary work is valued and essential to the process e.g. the Steering Group. Also see the Education for All chapter.	
Vitality of Centres	√	Positive - Plans for Hathersage have been integrated into this Plan and local community involvement in the Stanage Forum process has ensured that all objectives are compatible with the vitality of the village.	
<b>Environment</b>			
Transport	√√	Positive - Vehicular access objectives to reduce the volume and speed of through traffic and restrict parking to reasonable levels at locations which reduce damage to habitats, disturbance to wildlife and visual impact (including using effective but minimal and non-urban landscaping)..	
Energy & air quality	√x	Positive - Vehicular access objectives to reduce car use. Ecology aim to enhance air quality and objective to reduce threat from Hope Valley Cement Works. No objectives which would create extra pollution from energy use but: Negative - no specific objectives to reduce negative impacts of energy use.	Conduct energy audit of campsite, public toilets and warden's cottage to assess whether more efficient /sustainable energy sources are available/appropriate.

Natural resources & waste management	√√	Positive - The whole Plan aims to enhance natural resources, as detailed in the vision statement and in objectives throughout. The minimal use of materials so far employed by the Estate Warden in controlling considerable footpath erosion has been quoted as a good example to follow.	Attention should be given to what materials are used to implement the measures - ie reduce, reuse and recycle materials wherever possible.
<b>Special qualities of the Peak District</b>		All stakeholders to the area were asked at the first Stanage Forum to identify what they felt were the area's special qualities at the beginning of the planning process (see relevant appendix). The Plan was then developed to ensure that all of these qualities were enhanced if possible or at least protected.	
Statutory sites and sites of international/national importance	√√	See above	
Statutory sites of regional and local importance	√√	See above	
Biodiversity & semi-natural habitat	√√	See above	
Historic and cultural features and traditions	√√	See above	
Landscapes of special value	√√	See above	
Geomorphological and geological features	√	See above	
Built environment	√	See above	

APPENDIX 7

Groups Involved in the Forum Process

(From 1 August 2000 to 19 July 2002)

Aeromodellers Club	Department of the Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs	English Heritage
All Wheel Drive Club	Derby College	English Nature
Army	Derbyshire & Notts Entomological Society	Environment Agency
Association of National Park Authorities	Derbyshire & Peak Park Sport & Recreation Forum	Fieldfare Trust
Bamford with Thornhill Parish Council	Derbyshire Archaeologist Society	First Mainline
Black Community Forum Sheffield	Derbyshire Archaeologists Advisory Committee	Foundary, Sheffield
British Horse Society	Derbyshire Association of Residential Education	Glossop 4X4 Group
British Mountaineering Council	Derbyshire Bat Group	Green Lanes Association
British Trust for Conservation Volunteers	Derbyshire County Council	Greenpeace
Brontë Society	Derbyshire Dales District Council	Grindleford Parish Council
Castle Climbing Centre London	Derbyshire Ornithological Society	Hagg Farm
Climb, Sheffield	Derbyshire Regionally Important Geological Sites	Hathersage Parish Council
Climber (Magazine)	Derbyshire Soaring Club	High Mountain Sports (Magazine)
Corporate Pursuits (4WD), Rotherham	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Hitch 'n' Hike Bamford
Council for National Parks	Disabled Centre for Intergrated Living	Hope Valley and High Peak Transport Partnership
Council for the Protection of Rural England	Disabled Off-Road Association	Hope Valley College
Countryside Agency	Duke of Edinburgh Groups	Hope Valley Riding Club
Countryside Alliance	Edale Mountain Rescue Team	Hunter Archaeological Society
Cycling & Touring Club	Edge Climbing Centre, Sheffield	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
Dark Peak Fell Runners	Edinburgh University	King Edward VII Secondary

Land Use Consultants	Right to Ride (CTC)	Vivat Trust
LARA	Rock Lea Activity Centre, Hathersage	Voluntary Action Sheffield
Lindley Educational Trust	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	West Pennine Bridleway Association
Manor Community Project	Severn Trent Water	White Hall Centre, Buxton
Mountaineering Club	Sheffield Area Youth Centres	Woodcraft Folk, Bamford
Mynydd Climbing Club	Sheffield Bird Study Group	Yorks Wildlife Trust
National Farmers Union	Sheffield City Council	Yorkshire Naturalists' Union
National Trust	Sheffield Hallam University	Yorkshire Water
Neighbouring property owners and tenants	Sheffield Wildlife Action Partnership	Youth Hostels Association
On the Edge (Magazine)	Silverdale Secondary School	
Outseats Parish Council	Society of National Park Staff	
Outside, Hathersage	Sorby Natural History Society	
O-Zone (Cycling), Sheffield	South Peak Raptor Study Group	
Parson House Farm	South Yorkshire Forum	
Peak & Dukeries Land Rover Club	South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive	
Peak District National Park Authority	St Michael's Primary School Hathersage	
Peak Park Moorland Owners & Tenants Association	St Michael's Environmental Centre, Hathersage	
Peak Wildlife Advisory Group	Tapton Secondary School Sheffield	
Pedal pushers, Sheffield	Trail Riders Fellowship	
Police - Derbyshire and South Yorkshire	United Retriever Club	
Ramblers Association	University of Sheffield	
Ride to Roam, Sheffield	Vertebrate Graphics	