

I: Introduction & Overview

July 2009

Peak District

Landscape Strategy



Peak District National Park Landscape Strategy and Action Plan 2009 – 2019

Introduction & Overview

July 2009

Final Report

Foreword

Our national parks were designated for their high landscape value – a value which we, the people of this nation, put on them – and the first of two statutory purposes is to conserve and enhance their natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage; but that task cannot be ideally and fully carried out until one is sure one knows where that beauty lies and what the heritage is that requires protection.

We achieved an important milestone in upholding that designation and in pursuing that purpose for this national park when in March 2008 we published our first comprehensive Landscape Character Assessment. No longer would the beauty of the Peak District's landscapes remain unarticulated, other than in poetry and art; now the glorious variety of the national park's landscapes are systematically identified, described and mapped.

It would be easy now to be complacent and to put the Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) on a shelf and to take it down from time to time to admire the job we did; but we all know that landscapes are not static, however much we might idealise them and hope to freeze-frame time itself. Our diverse Peak District landscapes have been shaped through history by the interaction between people and nature, and they will continue to change in response to natural processes and the needs and priorities of communities.

Maintaining a past physical landscape is virtually impossible, but maintaining the key characteristics which create a sense of place in each distinct landscape and are valued by people is within the art of the possible. Hence the importance of capturing those key characteristics in the LCA. Now we must set out to protect our cherished landscapes by maintaining those characteristics whilst accommodating changes arising from social, economic and environmental necessity.

This document – the Peak District National Park Landscape Strategy and Action Plan – provides a broad framework to guide future landscape change. It helps to fulfil the National Park Management Plan and works alongside a wide range of the Authority's plans and strategies. It also places the Peak District National Park at the forefront of practical action to make a reality of the European Landscape Convention in England.

The landscape guidelines are not prescriptive. They need to be applied with a careful eye for the local circumstances and the views of local and wider communities about landscape change. However, the combined impact of the LCA and this document is to give all the Authority's staff a spatial lodestone for their work and all our stakeholders and the public who love the park a source of inspiration for what we mean by the importance of a sense of place.

Christopher Pennell

Member Representative for Natural Beauty



Christopher Pennell

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Document Structure

The landscapes of the Peak District National Park have been mapped, with eight landscape character areas representing broad areas of landscape which share a common identity, e.g. the White Peak. Within each area a number of landscape character types have been defined based upon the pattern of natural and cultural characteristics, e.g. Open Moors or Riverside Meadows. The following documents comprise the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan:

1. Introduction and Overview: A section that sets out the context and rationale behind the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan and links to the European Landscape Convention.

2-9. Landscape Strategy and Guidelines: A report for each of the eight landscape character areas which have been identified in the Peak District. Each report contains information from the Landscape Character Assessment, which describes the landscapes identified in the area, together with the Landscape Strategy and Guidelines¹.

2. White Peak

3. Dark Peak

4. Dark Peak Western Fringe

5. Dark Peak Yorkshire Fringe

6. Derbyshire Peak Fringe

7. Derwent Valley

8. Eastern Moors

9. South West Peak

10. Landscape Action Plan: A plan which sets out how the Landscape Strategy and Guidelines will be delivered across the National Park as a whole over the next 10 years.

Contents

Introduction	5
European Landscape Convention	6
What is Landscape?	7
Landscape Change	8
Policy Context	9
Stakeholder Consultation	14
How to Use the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan	15
Map of Landscape Character Areas	16
Map of Landscape Character Types	17

¹The Landscape Character Assessment has previously been published separately in March 2008.

Introduction



Hurdlow, looking south © Peak District National Park Authority

The Peak District National Park is Britain's first National Park. Taken as a whole, it is a treasured landscape that has been shaped and continues to evolve through the interaction of natural and cultural forces. It is a landscape of exceptional natural beauty that provides opportunities for outdoor recreation to millions of people.

At a local scale, the Peak District National Park consists of many individual landscapes, each valued for their particular characteristics. These landscapes contrast with surrounding industrial and urban landscapes, enriching the lives of everyone who visits, lives and works in them. They also provide many other essential services to support life and economic activity, including fresh water supply, carbon storage, farming and tourism.

The overall management of the National Park is guided by the National Park Management Plan. This Strategy and Action Plan forms one of several strategies which set out in more detail how the National Park Management Plan will be delivered. The Strategy and Action Plan will only be successful through strong partnership working in the Peak District, building on existing links between stakeholders.

This Landscape Strategy and Action Plan demonstrates how the obligations of the European Landscape Convention will be fulfilled within the Peak District National Park. The Strategy and Action Plan is effective from 2009 to 2019, when a review will take place. The Action Plan will be valid for this period but also establishes timescales for all of the actions defined.

European Landscape Convention

The European Landscape Convention (ELC) came into force in the UK in March 2007. The Convention establishes the need to recognise landscape in law; to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and planning of landscapes; and to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of landscape policies. It also encourages the integration of landscape into all relevant areas of policy, including cultural, economic and social policies.

The European Landscape Convention defines landscape as:

“an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”

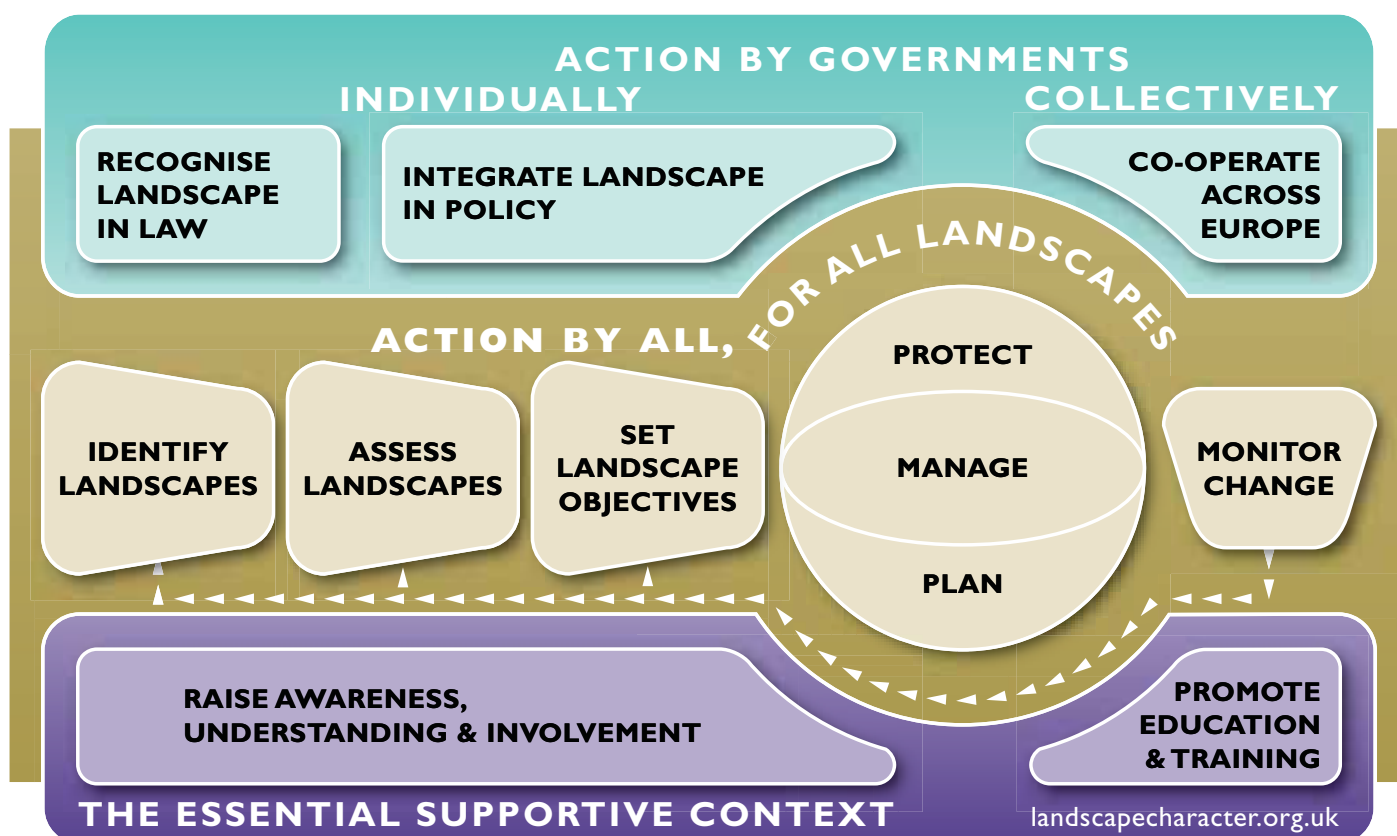
The diagram below illustrates the practical steps needed to implement the European Landscape Convention:

Implementing the European Landscape Convention

Defra has charged Natural England with leading the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in England, working in partnership with English Heritage. An implementation framework has been published in 2007 and revised in 2009. The framework seeks to further strengthen the protection, management and planning of landscape in England by providing a structure for the Action Plans of partners and stakeholders. European Landscape Convention Action Plans have been produced by Natural England and English Heritage, providing a national steer.

Implementing the ELC in the Peak District National Park

The Peak District Landscape Strategy and Action Plan will form a key contribution to the implementation of the ELC in the Peak District National Park. The Landscape Strategy builds on the Landscape Character Assessment completed in 2008, and provides information regarding landscape change, a vision for the future and landscape guidelines for the distinctive landscapes of the Peak District. The Landscape Action Plan will reaffirm the importance of landscape, co-ordinate existing work and guide future work to protect, manage and plan the landscapes of the Peak District, as embodied within the purposes of the National Park Management Plan.

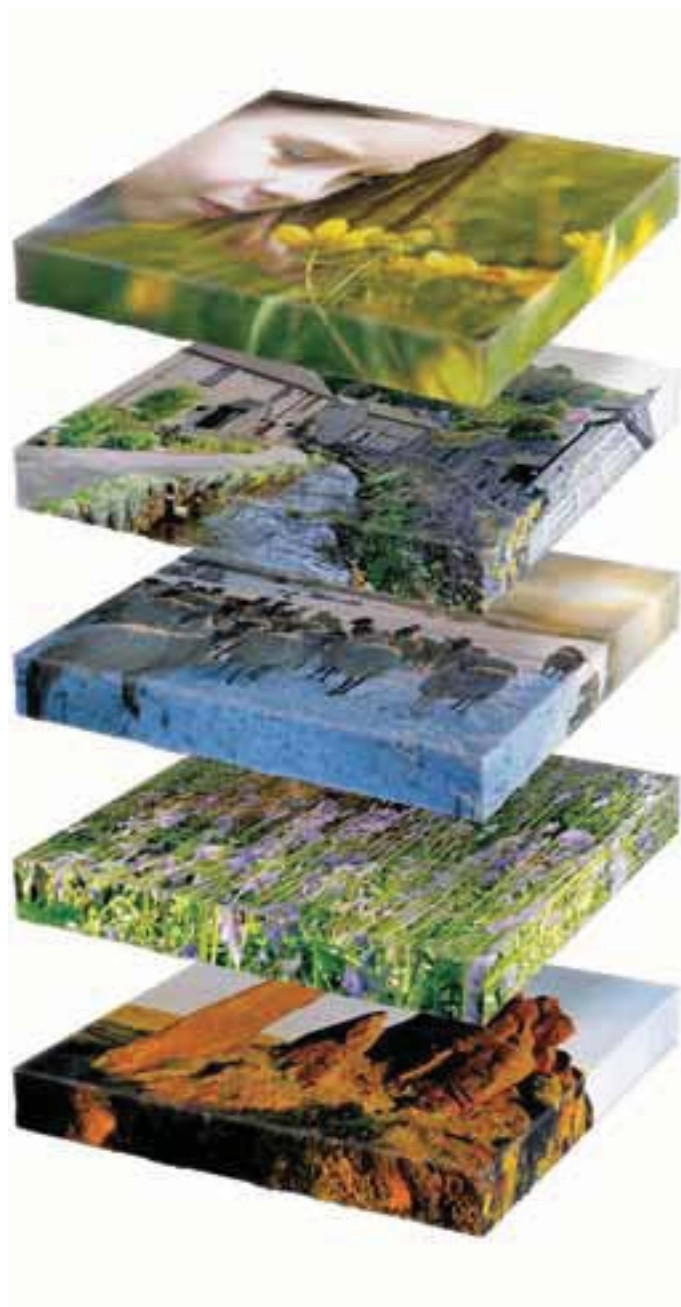


Making a reality of the European Landscape Convention

What is Landscape?

Landscape is more than just 'the view'. It is about the relationship between people, place and nature. It is the ever-changing backdrop to our daily lives. It can mean a small patch of urban wasteland as much as a mountain range, and an urban park as much as a lowland plain.

Landscape results from the way that different components of our environment – both natural and cultural – interact together and are perceived by us. People value landscape for many different reasons. It is therefore important to understand what the landscape is like today, how it came to be like that and how it may change in the future



Experience:

Landscape is more than the sum of physical features that make up our environment. How we perceive the landscape can have an important influence on how we use or value its character and resources.

History:

The landscapes of the Peak District have been shaped by human activity throughout history. It is therefore important to understand past patterns, the extent to which they have survived and how different stages in history have contributed to the character of today's landscape.

Land Use:

Land use includes all of the various uses that people make of the landscape, such as settlement, farming and field enclosure, energy production and forestry. The character of the English landscape is particularly influenced by the present-day pattern of these features, as well as their historical legacy.

Wildlife:

The variety of plants and animals in the English landscape has been shaped over thousands of years by a complex set of social, historical and economic factors, all operating against the physical backdrop of the landscape itself. The types and abundance of wildlife and the habitats of which they form a part can play a significant role in shaping the character - and in some cases the function - of each particular landscape.

Natural Form:

Natural form includes geology, landform, river and drainage systems, soils and vegetation cover. The shape of the land, or landform, is often the main influence on the character of the landscape, especially in upland areas. Rivers and drainage systems also have an important part to play in shaping the landscape, whilst geology, soils and vegetation cover can determine the 'usefulness' of the land for agriculture, settlement and other functions.

Landscape Change

In the 1970 book 'New Lives New Landscapes' Nan Fairbrother² explained:

"Landscape...is not a static background which we inhabit, but the interaction of a society and the habitat it lives in, and if either man or the habitat changes then so inevitably must the resulting landscape."

Landscape = habitat + man

...the natural environment changed by a creature who is himself constantly changing. It is thus the result of an equation which can never be stable, and if it has seemed so in the past it is because the pace of landscape change has been slow compared with our brief human generations."

Maintaining a past landscape is not possible. Landscapes are not fixed, and are subject to constant and unpreventable forces of change which apply pressures and have different impacts upon landscapes, so that they change in response to both human practices and changing natural processes. The aim is not to preserve a landscape created from past processes, but to ensure that valued and key characteristics which create a sense of place are maintained and enhanced into the future. There is a need to protect the cherished landscapes of the Peak District whilst accommodating necessary changes arising from social, economic and environmental necessity.

The European Landscape Convention identifies three principles of landscape action:

- **Landscape protection:** action to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by their natural or cultural value
- **Landscape management:** action to ensure sustainable development and ongoing upkeep of a landscape, guiding changes arising from social, economic and environmental necessity
- **Landscape planning:** means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes

In a National Park, designated for the national importance of the landscape, there must be a strong emphasis on landscape protection. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan reflects this priority. However, many landscapes will require a mixture of protection, management and planning. In such cases some aspects of the landscape are so valued that they must be protected, others must be allowed to evolve in a sustainable manner; whilst there may be opportunities to introduce new elements in the landscape. The landscape guidelines have been structured to clearly identify priorities for landscape protection, management and planning.



Trees play an important role in how we perceive the landscape
© Peak District National Park Authority

Future Landscapes in the Peak District

There are many possible future directions for landscapes and there are particular challenges in the Peak District National Park. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan has taken account of the need to maintain functional ecosystems that provide services to support life and the economy. The need to protect the tranquillity and dark skies that are so valued in the Peak District has also been recognised.

As well as protecting valued characteristics of the Peak District, the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan proposes changes to some landscapes to enhance them and ensure that they are more resilient to climate change. Such changes include the rewetting of moorland to protect blanket bog and maximise carbon storage. Actions to reconnect rivers to more natural flood plains are also proposed to mitigate the impacts of the anticipated increase in flooding and storm events. There are also proposals for the re-wilding of some landscapes which will provide landscapes for recreation, whilst creating opportunities to expand valuable semi-natural habitats such as limestone heath. Such proposals, whilst likely to make a significant contribution to the valued characteristics of the National Park, are likely to be relatively modest in scale given the existing high landscape quality and the strong contribution that cultural heritage features make to the landscape across much of the National Park.

This is a 10-year plan, which identifies opportunities for new directions for some landscapes and is realistic about what can be achieved within this timescale. There are many alternative directions in which landscapes might change, and it is essential that changes are made with meaningful dialogue with people who live in, work in and visit the valued landscapes of the Peak District. Partnership working and the development of local landscape visions with stakeholders is the essence of this approach to landscape planning.

² Fairbrother, N., New Lives, New Landscapes, Pelican Books, London, 1970. p12.

Policy Context



Lathkill River mist © Peak District National Park Authority

National and Regional Policy Context

Statutory Purposes of the National Park³

The Environment Act 1995 defined the purposes of National Parks as:

- conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage
- promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of their special qualities

In addition to the above purposes, National Parks have a duty to:

- seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park with regard to the statutory purposes

³ www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/nationalparks/

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan contributes to the first purpose of National Parks by providing a context and direction for actions to conserve and enhance natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage within the Peak District National Park. In the context of a National Park there is a direct relationship between the terms of the Environment Act and those in the European Landscape Convention. The term 'protect' in the European Landscape Convention is equivalent to 'conserve' in the Environment Act. The terms 'manage' and 'plan' describe actions to 'enhance' the landscape through guiding necessary change and strong forward-looking action.

The Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Strategy contribute to the second purpose by providing tools for enhancing awareness, enjoyment and understanding of the special qualities of the National Park. The Landscape Action Plan includes specific actions related to landscape education and to communicating the special qualities of the landscape.

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan provides a framework for considering future landscape change in the different landscapes of the Peak District. The documents recognise the need to accommodate necessary landscape change to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities, whilst conserving and enhancing the landscape.



Traditional field barn and wall patterns © Peak District National Park Authority

Natural England Landscape Policies

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan respond to Natural England's Framework for Delivery of the ELC⁴, and their emerging landscape policies⁵. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan considers all of the landscapes that are characterised by the Landscape Character Assessment (LCA), aiming to provide a robust context for managing landscape change in a sustainable manner which will reinforce character and local identity. The Peak District National Park Authority has created one of the first ELC Action Plans produced in England, leading the way in the sustainable use and management of landscapes. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan places an understanding of landscape, including its associated natural and cultural heritage and landscape dynamics, at the core of sustainable resource management and planning. They establish a landscape perspective for integrated land use planning and land, water and resource management.

East Midlands Regional Plan, March 2009⁶

The National Park spans four government regions but, for the purposes of planning policy, the whole of the National Park is covered by the East Midlands Regional Plan. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan complies with the policies in this Plan:

- **Policy 8** (Spatial priorities in and around the Peak sub-area)

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan complies with this policy by working to reinforce the statutory designation, helping secure conservation and enhancement efforts. It also enables more focused understanding and management of cultural and natural heritage resources.

⁴ www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/tcm232117_tcm6-8169.pdf

⁵ www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/Landscape Policy- final_tcm6-9279.pdf

- **Policy 26** (Protecting and enhancing the region's natural and cultural heritage)

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan promotes sustainable development and appropriate management, and provides an approach to the enhancement of natural and cultural heritage.

- **Policy 30** (Priorities for managing and increasing woodland cover)

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan will be able to identify areas for woodland creation and feed this information into the review of the current regional target for increasing woodland cover.

- **Policy 31** (Priorities for the management and enhancement of the region's landscape)

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan will provide a means of understanding, protecting and enhancing National Park landscapes in a sustainable manner and to a high standard. It also provides a strong context for future policies and projects.

A Regional Landscape Character Assessment is currently being produced for the East Midlands Region. This regional assessment will be a key reference for regional spatial planning. It has built on the results of the 2007 Peak District Landscape Character Assessment.

Local Policy Context

Peak District National Park Management Plan (2006-2011)⁷

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan provides an important tool to deliver the vision of the published National Park Management Plan 2006-2011:

- a conserved and enhanced Peak District where the natural beauty and quality of its landscapes, its biodiversity, tranquillity, cultural heritage and the settlements within it continue to be valued for their diversity and richness.
- a welcoming Peak District where people from all parts of our diverse society have the opportunity to visit, appreciate, understand and enjoy the National Park's special qualities.
- a living, modern and innovative Peak District that contributes positively to vibrant communities for both residents and people in neighbouring urban areas, and demonstrates a high quality of life whilst conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the National Park.
- a viable and thriving Peak District economy that capitalises on its special qualities and promotes a strong sense of identity.

⁶ www.gos.gov.uk/497296/docs/229865/East_Midlands_Regional_Plan2.pdf

⁷ www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/npmp.pdf

The Landscape Character Assessment establishes a spatial context for considering issues, policies and actions from the Management Plan. An understanding of the diversity of landscapes across the Peak District, will make it easier to interpret and implement the Management Plan.

The current National Park Management Plan establishes a specific landscape outcome:

- a clear characterisation of the whole of the landscape and it is conserved and enhanced in accordance with that characterisation.

The Landscape Character Assessment⁸ (2008)⁸ provides a clear characterisation of the landscape. It has identified, mapped and described landscape character types and areas, capturing the variation of the landscapes of the Peak District. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan provides the means to ensure that the whole landscape is conserved and enhanced in accordance with that characterisation. The Landscape Character Assessment also provides a framework to support spatial planning and other outcomes of the Management Plan, including those related to planning policy, cultural heritage, and biodiversity. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan is part of a suite of strategies for the Peak District National Park. The text below highlights links with key policies, plans and strategies.

Local Development Framework⁹

The 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act established far-reaching changes for the English planning system, the most significant being the replacement of the Development Plan with a Local Development Framework, which requires an evidence-based and spatial approach to planning for sustainable development. The Peak District National Park Authority is currently preparing a Local Development Framework. The Local Development Framework must reflect the valued characteristics of the Peak District. The Landscape Character Assessment provides a valuable spatial context for planning and a description of the character of the landscape. The Landscape Strategy provides information on landscape change and guidelines that can inform policy development. However, the Local Plan and emerging Local Development Framework provide the definitive policy position with regard to planning matters in the Peak District National Park.

Cultural Heritage Strategy¹⁰

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan integrates cultural heritage management into a wider landscape context. They promote sustainable planning and management of all landscape characteristics, and an understanding of interactions which may affect cultural heritage elements, therefore supporting the existing Cultural Heritage Strategy.

Biodiversity Action Plan¹¹

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan aids in identifying actions to restore and (re-)create landscapes. They provide understanding of condition, driving forces and interactions which may affect biodiversity. The Strategy and Action Plan helps to reinforce social, cultural and economic benefits of actions to enhance biodiversity resources. They also provide a basis for monitoring biodiversity and other landscape elements.

Peak District Design Guide (Supplementary Planning Document)¹²

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan provides a point of reference for design, complementing the existing National Park Design Guide. The landscape guidelines do not provide detailed design guidance, but inform understanding of the landscape context of a proposed development and the implications of any landscape schemes associated with development.

⁸ www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/index/pubs/lca.htm

⁹ www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/index/looking-after/plansandpolicies/ldf.htm

¹⁰ www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/chstrategy.pdf

¹¹ www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/bap.pdf

¹² www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/designguide.pdf



Hathersage Moor- Heather moorland is particularly characteristic of the British uplands © Peak District National Park Authority

Conservation Area Appraisals

A Conservation Area is defined as an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. There are 109 Conservation Areas in the Peak District National Park. Conservation Area Appraisals are currently being completed to identify the special qualities that make a place worthy of designation as a Conservation Area, and to look at ways in which the character of a place can be conserved or enhanced through future changes.

Village Plans

Many communities in the Peak District have researched and written Village Plans. Writing a Village Plan can be an excellent way for residents to think about what they value in the landscape, and how they can work together with outside agencies to look after it, understand it better and make sure that visitors are well informed. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan contains information about the character and priorities for different landscapes, providing a strategic context for local studies.

¹³ www.peakdistrict.org/peakdistrict-climate-change-action-plan.pdf

Climate Change Action Plan¹³

There is now an overwhelming body of scientific evidence highlighting the serious and urgent nature of climate change. It is recognised that the impacts of climate change will result in changes to the landscapes of the Peak District, with particular impacts affecting some landscapes more than others. A Climate Change Action Plan has been produced that considers the response to climate change across the Peak District National Park. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan can be used to enhance the spatial understanding of climate change mitigation and adaptation programmes, existing and new. It will aid in monitoring which landscapes and associated elements are being affected by climate change and thus help to ensure an appropriately focused response.

Renewable energy is important in helping to combat the effects of climate change. There are many opportunities within the National Park to develop small-scale renewable energy for local needs. These include the current technology of solar power; ground source heat pumps, anaerobic digesters, wind and water power and others. This list is not comprehensive and new technologies are being developed. Some of these renewable energy technologies have a landscape scale impact; these particularly include water power, wind power and wood fuel projects. The Strategy identifies the landscape character types which could potentially accommodate water and wood fuel schemes, either by utilising existing landscape features, such as rivers and woodland, and helping to maintain them, or by creating new features where appropriate.



Landform and farming shape the distinctive features of Rushup Edge © Peak District National Park Authority

Recreation Strategy

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan will help to provide a spatial dimension for understanding how landscape character contributes to opportunities for, and is affected by, actions associated with recreation.

Minerals Strategic Action Plan

The Minerals Strategic Action Plan expresses how some of the actions identified in the National Park Management Plan with respect to minerals will be achieved. In addition, it states how the Authority's statutory duties regarding minerals will be carried out. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan provides general actions and specific guidelines to reduce the landscape impacts of minerals operations.

Sustainable Transport Action Plan

The Sustainable Transport Action Plan is currently being prepared. It will take forward and build on the actions of the National Park Management Plan to improve traffic, travel and accessibility for residents and visitors to the National Park. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan provides general actions and specific guidelines to reduce the landscape impacts of transport and its associated infrastructure on the National Park.

Sustainable Tourism Strategy

The Sustainable Tourism Strategy is currently under review. It seeks to capitalise on the Peak District's rural environment, underpinned by the quality of the landscape, to provide socio-economic benefits to local communities through tourism. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan will help to guide opportunities to use landscape as a means of enhancing tourism in the Peak District, and to ensure that sustainable tourism development enhances the landscape.

Strategy for Working with People and Communities

The landscapes of the Peak District are managed largely by local people and communities who live and work in the area. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan is very much concerned with the relationship of people and place. It will be a useful document to help guide the implementation of projects and plans which strengthen this relationship and increase the role of people and communities in planning and managing Peak District landscapes. By this means, it will help implement and reinforce the Strategy for Working with People and Communities.

Land management and grant schemes

Agri-Environment Schemes

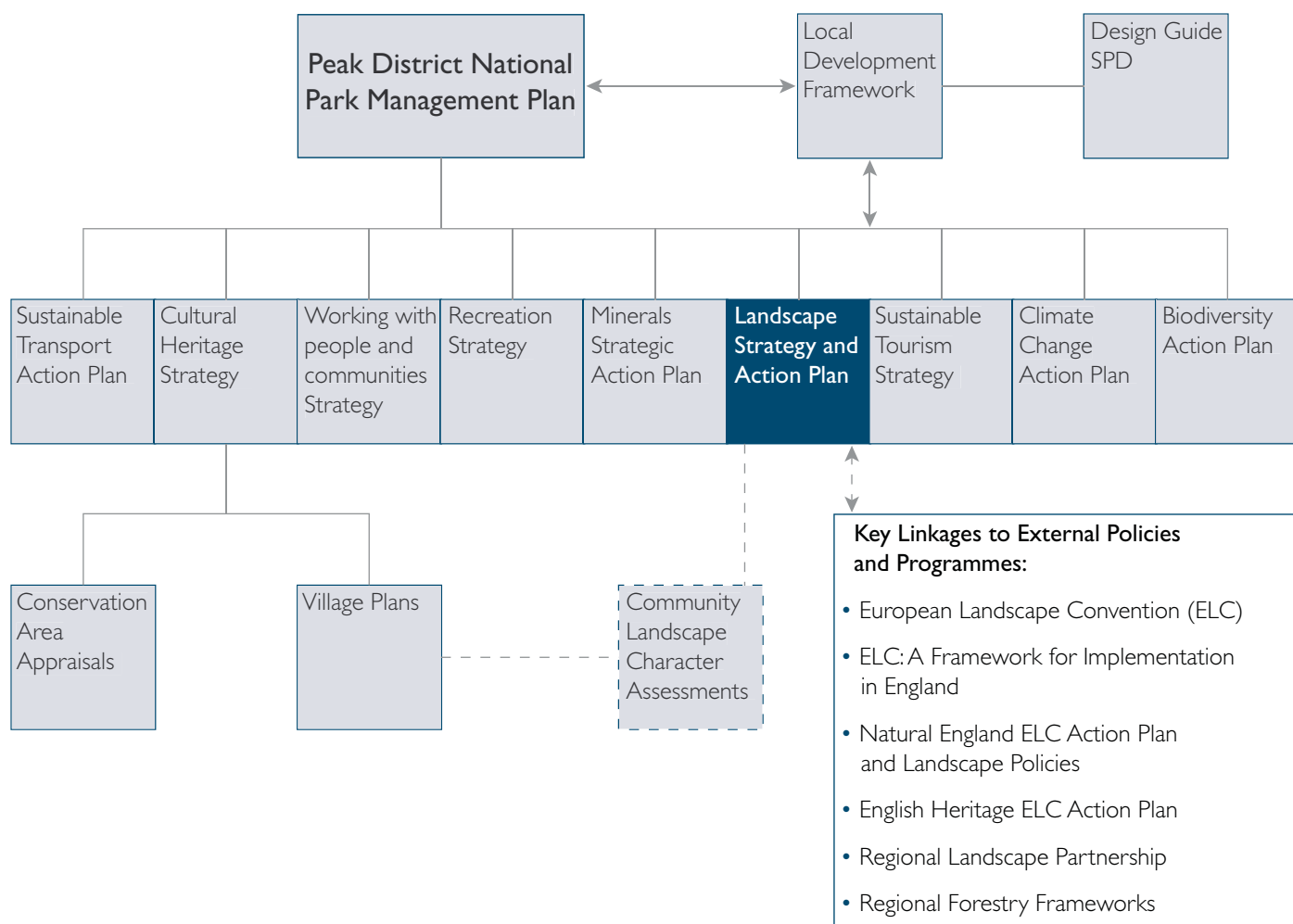
Landscape Character Assessment has a key role to play in targeting agri-environment payments to farmers, because a main objective of the scheme is to maintain and enhance landscape quality and character. Agri-environment schemes are not part of the policy context, and instead represent a delivery mechanism to achieve the objectives of the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan will enhance the evidence base and understanding regarding local landscape character and landscape change for agri-environment scheme targeting.

The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan provides a robust evidence base and context for identifying all environmental assets on a farm. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan will enable better analysis of the presence and condition of assets and how these are changing. They will also provide detailed advice on appropriate management strategies for maintaining or enhancing assets at a landscape scale in a manner that will support or enhance landscape character.

English Woodland Grant Scheme

The English Woodland Grant Scheme consists of six grants for the creation and stewardship of woodlands, and is operated by the Forestry Commission. Understanding how woodland contributes to landscape character will inform work associated with the different grant schemes. It helps to inform landscape design plans, ecological assessments, and historical and cultural assessments. Similarly, it can inform work for the Woodland Regeneration Grant and the Woodland Improvement Grant, both of which aim to manage changes in existing woodlands, and the Woodland Creation Grant, which seeks to enhance the landscape through woodland creation. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan can also inform the production of Woodland Management Plans under the Woodland Management Grant by helping to provide context and directions for future woodland management.

How the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan link to other strategies and action plans



Castleton Valley © Peak District National Park Authority

Stakeholder Consultation



Rainbow, Morridge © Peak District National Park Authority

Consultation has been an essential process in the preparation of the Peak District Landscape Strategy and Action Plan. A series of consultation events were carried out with a range of stakeholders, aimed at enhancing understanding of how the Peak District landscapes are changing and how they may change into the future from many different perspectives. The purpose was to capture an understanding of the landscape from people who live in, work in and shape it and to ensure that the resulting publication was realistic, useful and applicable to the work of the stakeholders. These consultation events are summarised below. Following preparation of the first draft of the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan, a web based consultation was carried out in order to provide people with an opportunity comment upon the content of the documents and thus refine them further.

Your Vision: Your Peak District National Park

Seven community consultation events were held during autumn 2008 to inform the production of the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan and the Peak District National Park Local Development Framework. Events were held in Kettleshulme, Hathersage, Hayfield, Warslow, Bakewell, Bradfield and Holme, with participants invited from local community organisations, such as parish councils, civic societies and local forums as well as members of the National Park Authority.

The aims of the events were:

- to inform local community champions and local stakeholders about the Local Development Framework (LDF) and Landscape Strategy
- to engage local community champions and local stakeholders in defining the key issues relevant to their local area affecting Peak District landscape and planning policies
- to identify landscape quality objectives that should appear in the Landscape Strategy and in LDF policies

The events used Ketso mind maps to capture information about: Energy and Natural Resources; Farming and Land Use; History and Heritage; Jobs and Business; Recreation and Tourism; Sense of Community; Traffic and Transport; and Wildlife and Nature.

Officer Workshop: Issues of change

On 1 December 2008 a workshop was held at Aldern House, Bakewell. Participants were members of the National Park staff. The purpose of the workshop was to gain understanding of how officers perceived landscape change through their work. Participants considered landscape change through a range of driving forces recognised as attributable for landscape change. These were: Conservation; Climate change implications; Demography, housing and employment; Tourism and recreation; Resource and land use; Transport and infrastructure; and Energy. Data was collected spatially using large format maps and tables enabling officers to record information for each landscape character area or specific locations.

Officer Workshop: Landscape visions and the ELC

On 12 February 2009 a workshop was held at Aldern House, Bakewell. Participants were National Park staff and members. The purpose of the workshop was to consider landscape futures. Participants were asked to consider innovative future visions based on their understanding of landscapes and the issues of change acting upon them. Participants were also asked to consider which current policies, plans and programmes could be linked to the European Landscape Convention (ELC) Action Plan and any new policies, plans and programmes which could help to strengthen activity associated with the ELC Action Plan.

Results were collated for the different landscape character areas using large format maps and tables.

Communities of Interest Workshop

On 13th February 2009 a workshop was held at Losehill Hall, Castleton. Participants were regional stakeholders with an interest in the Peak District and how it may be shaped in the future. The purpose of the workshop was to gain understanding from the stakeholders regarding landscape change and landscape futures from their work perspectives. Participants were asked to discuss and describe issues of landscape change for each landscape character area. They were then asked to consider innovative future visions based on their understanding. Participants also considered which current policies, plans and programmes could be linked to the ELC Action Plan and new policies, plans and programmes which could help to strengthen activity associated with the ELC Action Plan.

Findings from all of the above events are detailed in individual reports produced for each workshop. Data is also recorded in a series of overviews where information from all of the workshops is collated and combined for each landscape character area.

Web- based Consultation

Following the production of the draft Peak District Landscape Strategy and Action Plan, a web-based consultation was undertaken to provide opportunity for people to comment on the draft documents. The consultation ran from 21 April to 29 May 2009. Many comments were received and these were used to further enhance the content and focus of the documents, their robustness and applicability.



Snow transforms the landscape. The Roaches.
© Peak District National Park Authority

How to Use the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan

When considering a possible landscape change, it is important to consider the valued characteristics of the landscape and how they will be affected by the change. The Landscape Strategy and Action Plan helps to raise an understanding of the character and dynamics of the different landscapes of the Peak District National Park. There are many local variations in landscape and it is essential that site-based decisions take account of local circumstances.

Decisions about landscape changes should, wherever possible, be made through discussion and partnership amongst people who live in, work in and visit an area. The steps below describe how to use information from the Landscape Strategy and Action Plan to inform decisions about landscape change.

- I Use the Landscape Character Assessment map overleaf or the web link, to locate which landscape character area is relevant to the proposal for landscape change

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/lcamap

- II Refer to the chapter of the Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Strategy to gain an understanding of how the landscape has developed

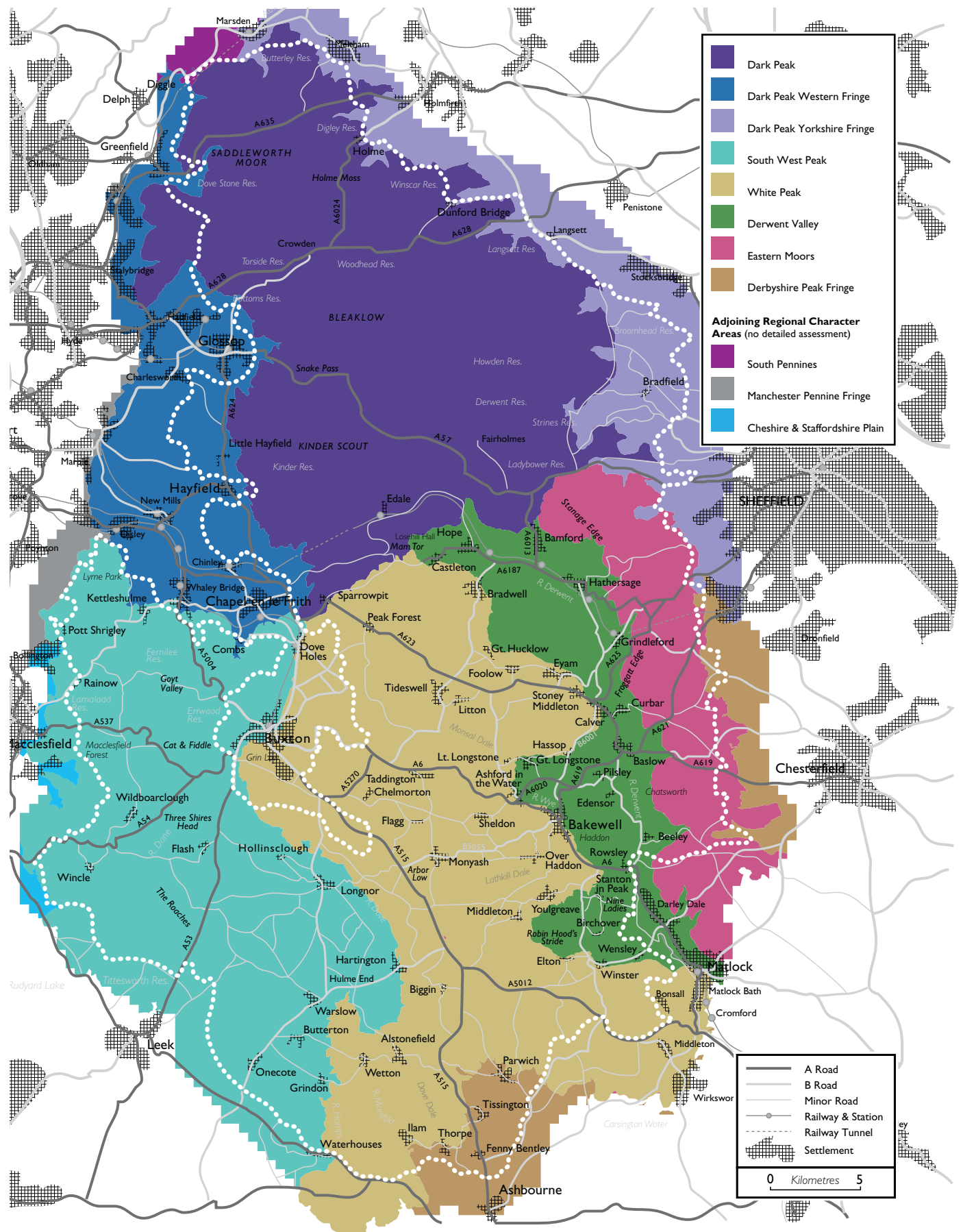
www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/lca

- III Using the Landscape Strategy, consider which of the landscape guidelines are relevant to the proposal for landscape change

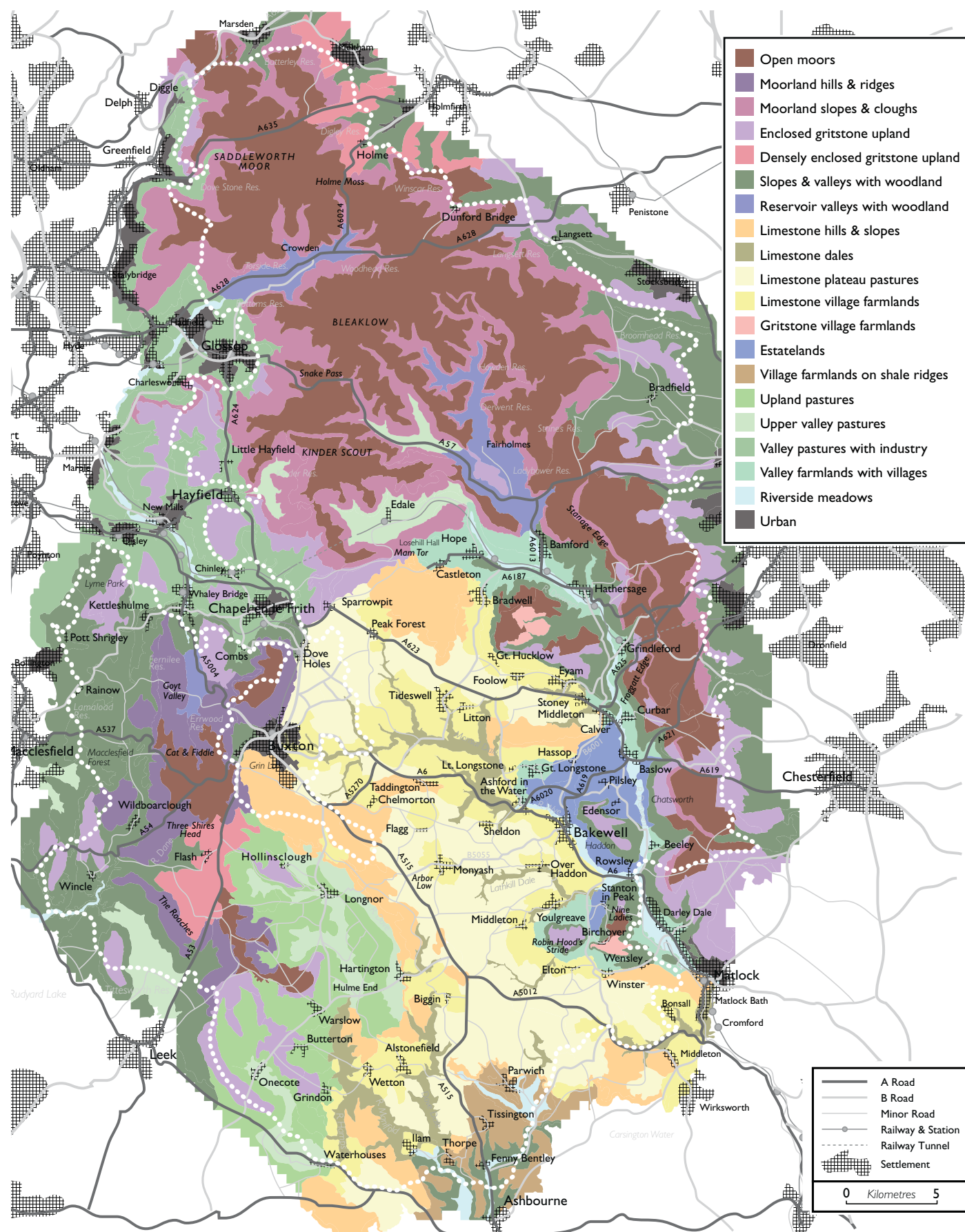
www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/landscapestrategy

- IV Assess the effect that the proposal will have on the landscape and, if appropriate, modify the proposal to ensure a positive contribution to landscape character and sense of place

Landscape Character Areas



Landscape Character Types



Peak District National Park Authority

Aldern House
Baslow Road
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE45 1AE

