

# OVERVIEW OF DRAFT NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN CONSULTATION RESPONSE

## Purpose of report

1. To provide the Steering Group with an overview of the feedback received through the consultation on the draft Management Plan.

## Background

2. Public consultation on the draft Management Plan ended on 11<sup>th</sup> January. 33 responses from organisations (listed in Annex B) have been received as well as 28 responses from members of the public. The table below summarises what respondents focused their comments on.

Section	% of respondents	Number of respondents
Vision	24.1%	14
Special Qualities	20.7%	12
Wildlife	32.8%	19
Landscape	37.9%	22
Climate Change	29.3%	17
Open and welcoming	37.9%	22
Economy	41.4%	24
Communities	39.7%	23
Other	37.9%	22

3. In general there was a good deal of support for the draft Management Plan, with a number of positive comments on its brevity, style and ambition.
4. The responses provided a wealth of constructive suggestions for improving the current draft - many of these are relatively minor and can all be accommodated.
5. There were a number of responses related to issues that the draft hasn't addressed or acknowledged and suggestions for more significant changes to the Management Plan objectives.

## Consideration

6. **Annex A** summarises the issues that were raised through the consultation. This doesn't attempt to cover everything – detailed suggestions on wording and subtleties on the emphasis of objectives have not been included, but will be taken into account when preparing the final draft.

## Recommendation

7. That the Steering Group note the range of issues raised through the consultation, and take them into account in determining the final content of the Plan.

Joanna Swiers  
NPMP Secretariat 25/01/2013

## Summary of issues raised in Public Consultation

### Vision

14 responses were received and feedback included:

- A suggestion to include a 7<sup>th</sup> bullet point on tranquillity
- A suggestion to put the landscape point first
- Under climate change point consider including reference to the threat from pests and diseases which are another reason to make the landscape more resilient
- The need to have more regard to communities
- A query as to whether the wildlife ambition is achievable

### Special Qualities

12 responses were received and feedback included:

- A plea to make sure private ownership of land is highlighted
- More reference to caves and geology should be made
- A suggestion to include something on linguistic, literary and artistic heritage
- A suggestion to expand the section on natural beauty qualities to include landscapes influence by human activity
- Red squirrels should be included in the section on nationally important species

### A. Wildlife

The biggest issue in this section was that there is no mention of bird of prey persecution (7 of the sixteen responses). Other feedback included:

- More visitors should be attracted to appreciate wildlife
- More ambitious targets are needed for wildlife objectives
- Affirmation of the emphasis on farmers and 'landworkers'
- Consideration should be given to liming fields

### B. Landscape

18 responses were received and included

- Support for work on tranquillity and the suggestion to do something practical about tranquillity asap rather than waiting for a survey to be completed
- The need to include something on caves / limestone
- A suggestion to add in something on looking after road verges
- To add an objective about 'telling the story' of the Dales
- Farfield Mill should be mentioned as a conservation area at risk
- More needs to be said about supporting farm diversification
- There should be a reference to the 'green infrastructure approach'
- World heritage status should be sought for stone walls
- A review of street lighting should be completed

### C. Climate Change

14 responses were received and included:

- Reducing road haulage from quarries (this was the main issue in this section)
- Production / extraction of timber shouldn't prejudice the special qualities of the Park
- Encouragement for the use of public transport should be included
- Anaerobic digesters should be referred to in relation to energy
- Measures for Mitigation against large trailer parks should be added
- Introduction of Park and Ride schemes should be considered

**D. Open and Welcoming**

20 responses were received and included

- D5 – removal of stiles, a number of responses objected to the principle of removing of stiles
- Suggestions to include something on provision of wet and cold weather tourism
- Support for regeneration of village halls
- Tackle parking problems and speeding traffic
- Support to continue green lanes work
- A suggestions to restrict the size of ‘large scale’ events
- A concern that too much emphasis has been placed on recognised regional routes such as the Pennine Way at the cost of less well known routes
- A suggestion to do more to separate cyclists from other road traffic
- A plea to protect open access land

**E. Economy**

17 responses were received and included:

- A suggestion that 10% increase on tourism growth would be more realistic
- Support for the reopening of Skipton – Embsay- Bolton Abbey railway
- A suggestion to include something on promoting local food
- Questions related to young people for example what happens to employment post apprenticeships?
- A request to refer to the Settle Carlisle railway
- Support to the extension of the Wensleydale railway
- A comment to include more on Visitor infrastructure such as car parks and signage
- Support to broadband proposals with suggestions that the level of ambition is not bold enough

**F. Communities**

19 responses were received and included

- 7 responses focused on Affordable housing and suggestions on the detail / queries of how the objective will be implemented
- 4 responses discussing transport issues

Other responses included

- A suggestion to include something on the promotion of community events
- Comments on doing more to maintain community facilities
- Detailed suggestions on Healthcare facilities

**Other issues**

Other external feedback received that didn't refer to specific objectives included

- Caving is missing
- Geodiversity conservation should feature
- Long-term rental housing and unused second homes are important issues to address
- The External perception of the National Park is an issue that needs tackling
- Promotion of the National Park as a place to live should be addressed
- Relationship with Local Plan needs to be made clear
- Make reference to demographics eg more migrant workers
- Road safety and network / traffic speeding have not been included

## List of organisations that responded to the consultation

### Organisation

1. Association of Rural Communities
2. Buckden PC
3. Burton cum Walden Parish Council
4. Carperby PC
5. Council of Northern Caving Clubs
6. CPRE Craven Branch
7. Craven Pothole Club
8. Cumbria County Council
9. Cumbria Tourism
10. Dales Tourism Partnership
11. English Heritage
12. Environment Agency
13. Forestry Commission
14. Friends of a Dales Highway
15. Friends of the Lake District
16. Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
17. Jeanne Breen Consulting
18. MD2 consultants
19. Natural England
20. Network Rail
21. North Yorkshire Fire Service
22. North Yorkshire County Council
23. Northern England Raptor Forum
24. Richmondshire DC
25. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
26. Settle-Carlisle Enterprise Network
27. United Utilities PLC
28. Upper Wharfedale & Littondale Sustainability Working Group
29. Wensleydale Railway plc
30. Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Alliance
31. Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
32. Yorkshire Dales Society
33. Yorkshire Dales Upland Bird Study Group