

Draft YDNP Management Plan 2019-2024 – Response from Friends of the Dales

27th April 2018

General Comments

- Given that there are 50 objectives we believe that thought needs to be given to their prioritisation, if not at this stage then when the next level of detailed planning is carried out. The individual objectives will make varying contributions to the delivery of the vision, some with more impact than others. Identifying priorities and allocating resources and efforts accordingly would seem a sensible approach.
- A significant number of the objectives are rather vague in terms of specific quantifiable and time bound deliverables and we would encourage more effort in making them genuinely ‘SMART’ and include intermediate milestone targets where appropriate.
- A management plan without associated identified funding and budget is in danger of being a ‘wish list’. We acknowledge that this is difficult when delivery of the plan depends upon a number of different organisations, whose own future funding is not known. Nevertheless, it would be helpful to identify for each objective the source and amount of funding that is or can be expected to be reasonably secure and the gap between this amount and the estimated total required.

Specific Comments on the Objectives

A1 . It would be helpful to state the current % cover to put the 60% target into context.

A3. Amend the objective to state that the LCA will be used to underpin (planning) decision making.

A6. Whilst acknowledging the funding challenge, to have an at-risk target (4%) which is higher than the current status seems most unambitious.

A7. We should have programmes, albeit on a more modest scale, for other parts of the NP.

B5. We would be happy for FOTD to be included as a supporting organisation in helping deliver this objective.

C2. We suggest that an update of the Biodiversity Action Plan for the NP should be included.



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C3. In addition to the specific species identified, focus is also needed on overall species decline as identified in the State of Nature 2016 report.

C4. Do we need to consider micro plastics?

D. “.. **storing more carbon each year that it produces**”. Not clear how this is being measured, what the current position is, and how the objectives will influence this.

D1 and possibly **D2** and **D7** would be better located in section **C**.

D4. We support the objective of progressively reducing road haulage of crushed rock from quarries in the NP.

D7. We welcome the aim to develop an online, interactive habitat network map.

E2. A growth target of 1% p.a. (5% by 2024) in tourism value appears unambitious.

E3. We would like to see a specific focus on encouraging, and providing funding for, public transport access, consistent with the aim of being a ‘leading sustainable tourism destination’

F. describes the need for ‘**balanced**’ communities but is silent on the 2nd homes issue. We are fully aware of the 2nd homes council tax matter, but this is a plan up to 2024, and needs to include an objective to seek other means of striving to address the high and growing number of 2nd homes.

F1. Given the acknowledged challenge of lack of affordable housing, this is a disappointingly vague objective. An objective specific to the delivery of a defined number of affordable dwellings is needed with a detailed plan underpinning it. This, we would argue, is a high priority issue. A target of a range of housing types runs the danger of dwellings that don’t address this challenge being built or converted, potentially impacting the local distinctiveness of the NP, e.g. through inappropriate barn conversions.

F2. Another high priority objective. Consideration should be given to YDNPA being the lead organisation for this – to drive and coordinate efforts by the DCs.

F7. We support the response submitted by Friends of DalesBus, particularly the suggestion that YDNPA should be the lead organisation, for the reasons they articulate, notably the Authority’s responsibility for securing Access for All to the NP and its unique position in being able to coordinate public, private and voluntary sector organisations.