

**2014 - 2019 MANAGEMENT PLAN  
DELIVERY PLAN FOR 2016/17 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**END OF YEAR ASSESSMENT (March 2017)**

<b>KEY</b>	<b>Good progress or completed</b>	<b>Some progress or ongoing</b>	<b>No progress</b>
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Mgt. Plan Policy reference		Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Team Leader	
L1	1	Monitor landscape change by publishing an annual report on environmental indicators in the 'Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes'	Gather data and include in 2016/17 annual review	PB	Completed
	2	Enable local people and visitors to contribute data on landscape change using websites and social media by 2015	Develop and adapt 'Rate My View' software for Nidderdale	PB	No progress
	3	Promote the Ecosystem Services approach in local decision-making by creating a database of Ecosystem Services by 2016	Organise Ecosystem Service workshop to identify priorities	PB	No progress
L2	1	Implement the Heritage Lottery Fund supported Landscape Conservation Action Plan for Upper Nidderdale by 2018	Complete relevant actions in year two of the Landscape Conservation Action Plan by 31 March	IM	Completed
	2	Ensure that 50% of the eligible area is covered by a higher level agri environment scheme by 2019	Create database of expiring Environmental Stewardship agreements	MW	Completed

Mgt. Plan Policy reference	Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Team Leader	
		Agree Higher Tier Countryside Stewardship priorities with Natural England	MW	1 successful application, 3 successfully re-submitted as Mid-Tier applications
		Identify Mid-Tier Countryside Stewardship priorities	MW	5 applications submitted;
		Submit a bid for Facilitation Funding	MW	Completed. The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust working in partnership with the AONB was awarded a Facilitation Fund to work with 19 farmers in Upper Nidderdale
		Support > 5 applications for Capital Grants	MW	17 CSF water capital grants submitted. 15 Hedgerow and Boundary grants submitted
		Promote AONB Farm Advice Service by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating information on NAONB website</li> <li>Undertaking media campaign</li> <li>Attending agricultural shows at Otley, Pateley and Masham</li> </ul>	MW	The AONB's farm conservation adviser team operates primarily through personal contact and recommendations based on a solid working relationship with members of the farming community built up over more than a decade. The team circulated a Catchment Sensitive Farming newsletter to all farmers in Nidderdale and attended the Nidderdale Show.
	3 Improve the conservation value of 75ha of ancient woodland by 2017	Facilitate >two applications to the Forestry and Bioenergy strand of the Yorkshire Dales Leader programme	MW	Completed
		Grant-aid >two other woodland planting proposals. At least one should be in a location highlighted by the bat Habitat Suitability Model	SK	See above

Mgt. Plan Policy reference		Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Team Leader	
	4	Publish revised guidelines for protecting landscape character by 2015	Publish guidelines	PB	A draft of Harrogate Borough Council's Farm Buildings Design Guide covering the District with a section dedicated to the AONB was completed.
L3	1	Commission research to identify barriers to migration and dispersal of wildlife species and coordinate a programme of landscape-scale habitat enhancement to overcome at least 25% of barriers by 2018	Apply for grant to support implementation of the AONB Biological Recording Project	SK	HLF awarded the AONB a £350 000 grant for the project, now called The Wild Watch, in September following a successful 12-month project development phase. A Wild Watch project officer was appointed in January.
			Prepare project implementation plan	SK	Completed
			Create project steering group	SK	Completed
			Appoint part-time project coordinator	SK	Completed
			Complete Coronation Meadows project	SK	Completed
			Produce pollinators project specification in consultation with stakeholders	SK	Completed
			Funding application	SK	Completed
	2	Restore 3000ha of peat before 2019 by providing financial and logistical support for the Yorkshire Peat Partnership	Provide logistical and other support to help YPP meet their 9 500ha restoration target	PB	AONB staff worked closely with the Yorkshire Peat Partnership's team. A meeting of farmers and moorland managers took place in December to review work in Upper Nidderdale following concern about the effectiveness of restoration techniques.

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	3	Increase the extent of native broadleaved woodland by 350ha by 2019; improve productivity and support development of a local biomass energy market		MW	See L2 (3)
	4	Develop a Payments for Ecosystem Services pilot and create a habitat bank of biodiversity offsets by 2016	Focus on biodiversity offsetting at the 2015 AONB planning & development seminar for public and private sector organisations	PB	The JAC's response to the Draft Harrogate District Local Plan included a recommendation that a biodiversity compensation scheme policy should be included in the final version
L4	1	Provide local planning authorities and their statutory consultees with advice on the impact of major development on the AONB, and publish consultation responses on the AONB's website on a quarterly basis	Respond to planning consultations and publish outcomes	PB	Responses to 69 planning applications were approved by Members of the JAC's Executive
		Publish an analysis of planning applications, decisions and outcomes in the AONB Annual Review	Include in Annual Review	PB	Summary information included
	3	Organise an annual forum for planning authority representatives	Arrange and publicise event (see L3 4)	PB	No progress
L5	1	Publish an AONB Design Guide by 2018	Produce project scoping report in consultation with stakeholders including the local planning authority	PB	No progress

Mgt. Plan Policy reference		Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
	2	Devise a procedure for providing pre-planning application advice on potential AONB impact of development by 2015	Devise and publish procedure	PB	3 pre-application enquiries were received
L6	1	Advise the North Yorkshire and York Local Enterprise Partnership on AONB priorities for sustainable economic growth	Negotiate LEP support for implementation of actions appropriate to NAONB in Strategic Economic Plan for the Uplands document	PB	AONB staff circulated information on availability of European Structural & Investment Funding to tourism businesses and supported a successful application by How Stean Gorge
	2	Ensure that the Local Development Strategy for Yorkshire Dales Leader reflects the aspirations of AONB residents and businesses and facilitate at least 10 grant applications by 2018	Submit applications to Yorkshire Dales Leader programme for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Upper Nidderdale Tourism project</li> <li>b) Health &amp; Well-being project</li> </ul>	SK	AONB staff submitted a successful bid for a grant to support tourism businesses in Upper Nidderdale

### Natural environment

Mgt. Plan Policy reference	Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
NE1	1 Support work by land managers and Natural England to ensure that at least 50% of SSSIs are in Favourable Condition by 2019	Agree programme of collaborative work to assist Natural England staff with SSSI recovery	PB	Some progress (e.g. Humberstone) but no systematic programme
	2 Support work by land managers to ensure that at least 50% of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation are maintained in accordance with conservation management plan objectives by 2019	Devise re-survey programme for all AONB SINC's	SK	No progress
		Organise > two surveys in 2015 survey season	SK	No progress
NE2	1 Create a framework for collecting, storing, sharing and monitoring biological and ecological data by 2015		SK	See L3 (1)
	2 Identify opportunities for extending priority habitats by producing a Habitat Suitability Map by 2015		SK	See L3 (1)
	3 Produce a strategy for tackling Non Native Invasive Species by 2017	Support preparation of an INNS plan for the Yorkshire Dales including Nidderdale by the Yorkshire Dales Environment Network	SK	Completed

Mgt. Plan Policy reference		Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
NE3	1	Overcome obstacles to fish migration and in the Laver catchment by removing or modifying at least five weirs by 2017	Construct fish pass at Gatebridge Mill	PB	The Laver Restoration Project has been suspended due to lack of funding
			Organise two meetings of the Steering Group	PB	See above
			Facilitate > two riverine habitat improvement projects	MW	See above
	2	Eliminate sources of diffuse water pollution identified in the Catchment Appraisal of the Nidd by 2015	Implement NAONB actions agreed in 2015/16 Memorandum of Agreement with Natural England	MW	Completed
			Support the work of the Dales and Vales Rivers Network by attending meetings of the Executive Board	PB	Completed.
			Support > two applications for Water Capital Grants through Countryside Stewardship (see L2 2)	MW	7 Water Capital Grants & 6 Mid-Tier applications containing water protection options
	3	Ensure the AONB's Joint Advisory Committee is represented on Catchment Partnerships covering all the AONB's rivers by 2015		PB	See NE 3 (2)

## Heritage and the Historic Environment

Mgt. Plan Policy reference	Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
HE1	1 Reduce the number of structures listed in the Heritage at Risk register by 50% by 2018	Negotiate 1 agreement to protect building or scheduled monument at risk	PB	Repairs to Toft Gate Lime Kiln completed
	2 Organise an annual heritage skills training programme	Facilitate practical heritage skills training for 8 students participating in vocational courses	IM	5 students working to complete course through work placements and study.
	3 Repair and improve access to at least four landmark historic structures in Upper Nidderdale by 2018	Consolidation works completed at Fishpond Wood and Prosperous Lead Mines	IM	Completed.
	4 Develop action plans in consultation with local communities to implement recommendations in at least five Conservation Area Appraisal reports by 2016	No action planned by AONB team in 2015/16		NA
HE3	1 Implement the HLF-supported research and development plan for a former WW1 training and internment camp by 2016	Implement programme of volunteer training events in historical and archaeological research	SK	Completed
		Plan, publicise and deliver a range of public events linked to the First World War	SK	Completed
		Enable two research excavations to take place at the camp, with supporting public archaeology events linked to it	SK	Completed
		Publicise research findings and share online, including with key project partners	SK	Completed

Mgt. Plan Policy reference	Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
		Working with partners in Leeds and Masham, develop a virtual schools resource for Leeds and Nidderdale schools linked to the story of the camp and the First World War in the area	SK	Completed
	2 Organise an annual Heritage Forum	Schedule event	IM	Completed
	3 Organise an annual heritage events programme	Include heritage events in 2016 events programme	SK	Completed

### Understanding and Enjoyment

Mgt. Plan Policy reference		Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
UE1	1	Make the rights of way network easier to use by reducing the number of obstructed rights of way by 75% by 2019	Negotiate target with NYCC Rights of Way team	PB	No progress
	2	Enable more people to enjoy using the rights of way network by removing stiles and gates from 50km of rights of way	Negotiate target with NYCC Rights of Way team	PB	No progress
	3	Provide advice to event organisers on mitigating the environmental impact of large-scale outdoor activities	Refer enquiries to the AONB's web pages	SK	Completed
UE2	1	Seek to prevent illegal vehicular use on public footpaths and bridleways by erecting signs on all affected routes by 2015, and by encouraging the police to take enforcement action	Negotiate target with NYCC Rights of Way team	PB	No progress
			Agree plan for future management of the Dead Man's Hill route	IM	No progress
	2	Carry out an environmental assessment of all Unsurfaced and Unclassified Roads by 2015	Negotiate assessment programme with NYCC	PB	No progress
	3	Publish an action plan for all Unsurfaced and Unclassified Roads currently used by recreational vehicles by 2016	No action planned by AONB team in 2015/16		
UE4	1	Use printed and electronic media to distribute information about the AONB to visitors and local communities via the AONB's website, an annual printed newsletter for visitors and at least quarterly e-news bulletins for residents and volunteers	Publicise and promote new AONB website	SK	Completed
			Install new Open Access information boards on AONB moors	SK	Completed

Mgt. Plan Policy reference	Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
		Replace 50% of AONB outdoor information boards	SK	Only Open Access panels replaced
		Develop Flickr & Instagram accounts	SK	No progress
		Increase number of E-Newsletter subscribers by > 25%	SK	Completed
		Increase number of Facebook 'Likes' by 15%	SK	Completed
		Increase number of Twitter followers by 15%	PB	Completed
		Establish the Friends Annual Meeting as a community forum for disseminating information about the AONB's work	SK	Meeting provisionally arranged but keynote speaker withdrew
		Produce 2 e-newsletters	SK	Completed
	2 Implement the Heritage Lottery Fund supported Interpretation Plan for Upper Nidderdale by 2018	Produce and distribute 2016 'Visit Nidderdale'		On site interpretation installed in February
	3 Organise an annual programme of public events designed to convey key AONB messages and increase participation by 25% by 2019	Create 2015 summer events programme	SK	Completed
		Organise programme of events and demonstrations at agricultural shows/country fairs attended by AONB staff	SK	Completed

Mgt. Plan Policy reference	Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
	4 Encourage participation in volunteering by providing financial and organisational support for existing AONB volunteer groups	Organise weekly tasks for Nidderdale Conservation Volunteers	MW	Completed
		Provide support for the AONB Dry Stone Walling Group	MW	Completed
		Organise training programme for AONB volunteers	MW	Completed
		Organise 12 volunteer tasks on behalf of the Hackfall Trust	MW	Completed
	5 Implement the Heritage Lottery Fund supported plan to raise awareness of Upper Nidderdale in urban communities neighbouring the AONB by 2018	Submit report to Landscape Partnership Board with options for urban engagement with communities in north Leeds		Completed

### Living and working

Mgt. Plan Policy reference		Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
LW1	1	Provide advice and guidance to farmers and landowners seeking planning permission to expand or diversify their agricultural businesses	See L4 (2)	PB	See L5 (2)
			Publish Farm Buildings design guide	PB	See L2 (4)
	2	Ensure AONB businesses are eligible to receive Rural Development funding, including Leader and Structural Investment Funding, by influencing the development of funding strategies by 2015	See L 6 (1)	PB	See L 6 (1)
	3	Ensure good quality broadband coverage of the AONB by identifying and helping to overcome environmental constraints on infrastructure development by 2016	Encourage AONB communities to apply for Leader funding to support broadband development	PB	Grant available but no applications
			Advise Mobile Infrastructure Project developers on appropriate sites for new masts	PB	Completed.
	4	Support proposals for affordable housing where it does not cause harm to special qualities and ensure that future Local Plan policy reviews retain a commitment to meeting evidence-based need for affordable housing in the AONB	Respond to planning consultations	PB	L4 (1)
	5	Create at least five apprenticeships or bursaries linked to management of heritage features in Upper Nidderdale by 2016	See HE1 (2)	IM	See HE1 (2)

Mgt. Plan Policy reference		Management Plan Objective	Target	AONB Officer Team Lead	
LW2	1	Provide support to tourism businesses through the Yorkshire Dales Tourism Partnership and Business Network to increase the value of tourism across the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale AONB by 20% by 2020	Support implementation of the Destination Dales action plan	PB	AONB staff attended meetings of the Destination Dales Partnership Board and assisted with organisation of the Business Forum events in November and February.
	2	Carry out actions attributed to the AONB in the Yorkshire Dales Strategy for the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism	Organise a Dales Tourism business forum in Nidderdale in 2017	SK	(see L6 2)