

# **Dartmoor National Park Authority**

6 November 2020

# Dartmoor National Park – Outreach and Engagement Strategy 2020

Report of the Head of Outreach & Understanding, Head of Communications & Fundraising and Director of Conservation & Communities

Recommendation: That Members approve and adopt the Outreach & Engagement Strategy at Appendix 1

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The final report from the Landscapes Review <u>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachm</u> <u>ent\_data/file/833726/landscapes-review-final-report.pdf</u> led by Julian Glover, published in September 2019, reminded us that National Parks were designated in part to provide a healing space, both mentally and physically, for the many. They were meant to be for everybody. The reality is that there are parts of society who are 'disconnected' from National Parks and as a society we are increasingly disconnected from nature.
- 1.2 In addition, the 25 Year Environment Plan and the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan (NPMP) (current and emerging versions thereof) highlight the importance of engaging with new audiences, especially young people as those who stand to benefit from and contribute to Dartmoor in the future. A key priority action in the draft review of the NPMP is the development of an Outreach and Engagement Strategy by 2020.
- 1.3 Reaching out to new audiences needs new ways of working and, most importantly, a clear rationale to ensure that resources are used both efficiently and effectively. In 2019 the Authority undertook an internal business review to provide additional capacity to deliver this agenda and to foster a 'Team Dartmoor' approach across the organization, recognising that part of the skill set was to seek and apply for external funding. Although this Strategy identifies priorities and actions for the Authority, through the review of the NPMP we know that there is a shared ambition amongst partners to work together in a co-ordinated way and we hope that it will form the basis for continued collaboration and positive joint working.

#### 2 Developing the strategy

- 2.1 The intention to complete an 'ambitious' Outreach and Engagement Strategy by the end of 2020 started with a useful away-day attended by staff from the Communications and Visitor Services and Outreach and Understanding teams.
- 2.2 Good progress was made towards a shared understanding of the 'impact' we wanted to create and the supporting 'outcomes' necessary to achieve this; essentially understanding *why* we are undertaking this work. We also started to explore the *what* and *how* of our current provision; defining outputs, activities and thinking about 'audience journeys'.
- 2.3 This activity was added to with considerable time during the summer to understand wider demographics and some of the issues that act as barriers to participation (desk research). This was 'ground truthed' with survey work undertaken each weekend and during the busy weeks of summer at honeypot sites by Outreach staff. These surveys helped us understand motivations, visitor profiles and began the process of informing visitors to develop pro-environmental behaviours.

Locations	All (26 visits)		
	Haytor Middle CP, Ruddycleave Br	idae, Bellever, Foggintor, Meldon,	
	Magpie Bridge, Bellever, Shipley Bridge, Roborough, Two Bridges.		
	& Hound Tor		
Number of	373		
surveys			
completed			
Holiday/Day	Holiday - 133		
Visitor/Local	Day visitor - 111		
	Local - 129		
Why visiting	Walking - 216	Other (please specify)	
(some gave more	Walking with dog - 57	Camping – 11	
than one reason	Cycling - 3	Peace \7 \quiet – 1	
	Picnic - 28	Nordic walking – 1	
	Meet friends/ family - 30	Photography - 3	
	Fresh air / enjoy scenery - 86	Book writing – 1	
	Watching wildlife - 56	Climbing – 3	
	Access to water /river – 16	Tors – 1	
		Recording walk – 1	
		Exercise – 1	
		Aechaeology – 1	
		Wistmans – 11	
		Supervising visually impaired	
		group - 1 (18)	
		$180 \text{ Tors in } 80^{\text{th}} \text{ year} - 1 (5)$	
First visit	Yes – 85	100 1013 11100 year = 1(3)	
	No - 288		
Frequency of			
visits to	At least once a week - 58		
	At least once a month - 57		
Dartmoor	Less than once a month - 188		
Influence of	Yes - 121		
Covid on visit	No – 258		
	-		

Table 1: summary of surveys conducted by Outreach Assistant

- 2.4 Work throughout the summer refined this early work into an 'ambitious' strategy attached at Appendix 1. The document clearly sets out the evidence base and context, what we are trying to achieve and what success looks like. It highlights opportunities for growth and change, recognizing current excellent practice with our teams; it sets out what can be achieved within current resource provision and what could be achieved with additional funding and resources.
- 2.5 The strategy and supporting evidence were presented to and discussed by Members of the Park Management Working Panel on 9<sup>th</sup> of October 2020.

#### 3 Purpose

- 3.1 The purpose of this strategy is to bring together existing activities and programmes alongside the development of ambitious new projects and initiatives to connect people with place for people's well-being and for the protection and conservation of Dartmoor. Some of our ambition will require external funding bids to enable delivery however this strategy sets our direction and provides the framework for us to do this.
- 3.2 The Strategy aims to:
  - Identify how to increase accessibility, awareness and understanding of Dartmoor National Park for those groups in society currently under- represented and facing barriers (both people living in the National Park and those living outside).
  - Significantly increase the number of young people who connect with the National Park and to increase the number of people who realise health benefits from a visit to the National Park.
  - Help people from all ages and backgrounds create long lasting relationships with Dartmoor and take action to help look after it.
- 3.3 In doing so make Dartmoor National Park:
  - More accessible for all sectors of society;
  - More welcoming and inclusive;
  - A place more people come for mental and physical well-being (not just those that 'self-refer');
  - A place where people come to reconnect with nature and Dartmoor's special landscape and in doing so better understand Dartmoor; take positive action to help look after the place, reduce their environmental footprint and increase their economic impact;
  - A space where communities (of place and interest) are engaged and empowered to help look after the environment, understand it and see it as an economic asset.

#### 4 Sustainability and Equality Impact

4.1 The Outreach and Engagement Strategy specifically and explicitly aims to create an approach with equality at the very core of our work – making Dartmoor accessible to those who may otherwise find barriers to developing a relationship with Dartmoor.

#### 5 Financial Implications

5.1 The strategy at Appendix 1 clearly identifies what can be delivered using existing resources. It also identifies activities that will require additional funding and

partnership approaches to delivery. Having an 'adopted' strategic document allows us to develop external funding bids that will enable us to realise the ambitious nature of engagement proposed.

#### 6 Conclusions

- 6.1 Formally adopting the Outreach and Engagement Strategy will bring focus and ambition to our work, will respond to the Landscapes Review <u>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/833726/landscapes-review-final-report.pdf</u> (Glover Review) recommendations, the 25 Year Environment Plan and the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan and will be a crucial document to engage partners and stakeholders when developing funding bids.
- 6.2 But critically our success will be measured by seeing a greater diversity of people engaging with Dartmoor, feeling welcome, comfortable and able to visit if they want to. The physical, socio-economic or cultural barriers that have prevented them coming, will have been removed.
- 6.3 More people and particularly those sectors of the population who are currently at risk of poor health, will feel the positive impact of the place on their physical and mental health and wellbeing. A new generation of people will develop a deep and long-lasting connection with Dartmoor and take positive action to care for it.

ORLANDO RUTTER SAMANTHA HILL ALISON KOHLER

# **Outreach and Engagement Strategy**

# Conserving Landscapes, Changing Lives

This strategy focusses on how Dartmoor National Park Authority, working in partnership with others will deliver our long-term vision and ambitions identified in the Management Plan Review and rise to the challenges highlighted by the Glover Landscapes Review.

#### Our vision for Dartmoor

Our vision is to make Dartmoor better for future generations: climate resilient, nature rich, beautiful and connected to the past; a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can live, work or visit. A place that is loved, cherished and cared for.

#### 1.0 Our strategy aims

We know that to achieve our vision we must engage with new audiences and continue to connect with our existing ones. Our aim through this strategy, is to create a lasting, positive impact on people, that would lead to enjoyment of the National Park, improved health and wellbeing and ultimately a renewed care, understanding and stewardship of Dartmoor and other special places across the UK.

We would see:

- A wider diversity of people engaging with Dartmoor new audiences enjoying the National Park and developing an increased understanding of its special qualities, contributing in their own way to the conservation and enhancement of Dartmoor.
- Our current visitors and communities continuing to enjoy Dartmoor, developing to a greater understanding of Dartmoor that will inspire them to care. Developing, nurturing and fostering deeper relationships between people and place that may lead to positives such as improved health and wellbeing, volunteering and positive environmental behaviour
- Dartmoor will be better looked after and people will feel better through their engagement with Dartmoor Conserving Landscapes, Changing Lives

The Staircase of Engagement: from enjoyment and understanding to stewardship and care provides a visual summary of our aims:



We want more people to enjoy and benefit from Dartmoor and we want to *inspire people to care* as future ambassadors. We recognise that not everyone will progress to the end-point of stewardship. If we can help our audiences start this journey and value the relevance of Dartmoor to their lives, connecting with them in their space, they will start to care for the landscape.

## 1.1 To achieve this, we need to:

- Reach out to new audiences fully understand why they do not currently engage with or visit the National Park and remove any barriers.
- Help all our visitors and local communities develop an even greater understanding and appreciation of the National Park.
- Bring people together to deliver our vision.

## 1.2 If we are successful by 2025

We will see a greater diversity of people engaging with Dartmoor, feeling welcome, comfortable and able to visit if they want to. The physical, socio-economic or cultural barriers that have prevented them coming, will have been removed.

More people and particularly those sectors of the population who are currently at risk of poor health, will feel the positive impact of the place on their physical and mental health and wellbeing. A new generation of people will develop a deep and long-lasting connection with Dartmoor and take positive action to care for it.

Anti-social behavior and damage to the fabric of Dartmoor will be significantly reduced.

#### 2.0 Why do we need to do this?

We know that at a national level there are some groups in society that are less likely to visit a National Park. These are people from lower socio-economic groups, people living with a long-term disability or illness, young people and those from BAME communities. It is true to say that this trend is reflected on Dartmoor. From our own visitor surveys (2017) we know that:-

- Over 90% of people visiting Dartmoor come by car
- The age profile tends to be skewed towards older visitors with over 87% of visitors being 35+.
- Those aged between 35-54 account for 40% of visitors.
- Younger adults (16-34) only account for 13% of visitors.
- 3% of visitors consider themselves to be a member of an ethnic minority.
- 7% of visitors consider themselves to have a longstanding health issue or disability.

However this is a small sample and further work to understand all audiences will be a key component of this Outreach & Engagement Strategy.

There are strong policy drivers both in the Glover Review and the 25 Year Environment Plan which identify the need to connect people with nature, increase ethnic diversity of visitors and focus on children. All of these are driven by an underlying aim to improve people's health and well-being backed up by significance evidence that being outdoors and close to nature has positive benefits on both.

These national headlines may miss some of the local or audience specific needs. It is important to note that socio-economic deprivation can be urban and rural based: For example, in Devon there are rural communities with indices of socio-economic deprivation equal to some better publicised urban localities (see supporting evidence).

Similarly, the national focus is on youth engagement, but Devon's demographic is significantly older. Many older people, living alone and possibly in rural communities with few services will suffer disproportionate health inequalities. Public Health Devon's *Joint Strategic Needs Assessment* (2018) highlights this group as of particular concern in some localities and communities.

We have used this data to help us identify our priorities for action. However this raises another area of need which is to better understand the motivations and barriers for people who do not currently engage and perhaps also some of our existing visitors. We appreciate that to really understand people, individuals and communities takes time.

We tend to see 'the countryside' and 'recreation' from our own perspectives and experiences –creating events and activities that attract 'people like us' based on our preferences and experiences rather than putting ourselves in other people's shoes. Our current activities and events are not seen as relevant, interesting or accessible to our currently un-engaged audiences. To change this we need to review our way of working, understand our new audiences and change our approach.

Our challenges aren't just about new audiences but we are seeing increasing levels of anti-social behaviour causing damage to the fabric of the National Park, impacting on other people. This has been exacerbated by the Covid-19 situation and we have an urgent need to help more people enjoy the National Park in ways that are not damaging, but more importantly to foster a passion and long term connection to Dartmoor so that they care about its future.

#### 2.1 Opportunities provided by the health agenda

Dartmoor provides opportunities to contribute significantly to the improved health and wellbeing of the nation. We have 4m visitors currently who 'self-refer' and get the benefits of a trip to Dartmoor. There is scope to significantly increase this particularly if we can work with people from more socially deprived communities.

This is particularly important within the current national context. The report "Health equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 years on" highlights that for those living in more deprived districts and regions, health is getting worse and health inequalities are increasing, with the lives of those at the bottom of the social gradient becoming more challenging across many domains in the past decade. Evidence shows that there continues to be disparities among groups in both the quality and quantity of greenspace, and differences in the way and frequency that certain groups use greenspace.

Public Health-England research in 2020 shows that:

• the most economically deprived areas have less available good quality public greenspace

• people exposed to poor quality environments are more likely to experience poorer health outcomes than people who enjoy good quality environments

• unequal provision of good quality greenspace means those who are at greatest risk of poor physical and mental health may have the least opportunity to reap the health benefits of greenspace

• all demographic groups benefit, but deprived groups appear to gain the most health benefit and socioeconomic inequalities in health are lower in greener communities – providing greener environments for deprived groups could help to reduce health inequalities

• analysis of MENE survey data across multiple years found that infrequent users of greenspace tend to be – people who are female; older; in poor health; of lower socioeconomic status; with a physical disability; ethnic minorities; people living in deprived areas; those with less local access to greenspace; and people living further from the coast

There are renewed opportunities to engage with people about health and wellbeing as part of the increased self-awareness we have seen as a result of the pandemic.

The Covid-19 crisis offers a new opportunity for us to connect to Social Prescribers (and therefore their 'patients'). We have an opportunity to reach out to new audiences who may benefit from our 'green space' offer – in the future these will certainly include some who have health inequalities as a result of being in socio-economic groups D & E – precisely those identified as 'missing' by the Glover Review.

#### 3.0 Identifying our priority audiences

Understanding audiences, as an activity, will underpin each and every action in the strategy.

We will then develop activities that: -

- 1. are responsive to the audiences we wish to engage
- 2. develop relationships, connections and engagement for a purpose
- 3. support and deliver outcomes, that lead to impacts.

To enable this, we will engage with organisations and groups that work with our target audiences to undertake project-based actions co-designed with them. These will include: -

#### Communities of interest

- Young people
- People with disabilities
- People living with health inequalities
- BAME communities
- Those living in evidenced socio-economic deprivation.

*Communities of place* (evidence from socio-economic deprivation and health inequalities, Acorn 2020):-

- Ashburton
- Buckfastleigh
- Horrabridge
- Moretonhampstead
- Princetown

Equally there is clearly need demonstrated off the moor in surrounding urban and rural communities with high indices of multiple deprivation, notably areas within:

- The cities of Plymouth and Exeter
- Torbay/Newton Abbot
- Rural hinterlands

We will also take opportunities to work at a national level, engaging communities of multiple deprivation in cities across the south and central England.

# 4.0 Developing ways of working

Much of our current community outreach and engagement activity has relied on face-toface and this is acknowledged as a preference for many of our current audiences and individuals.

We also have well-developed working relationships with local community and voluntary groups together with significant experience of working on inclusion, diversity and health related projects with external funding, with partners.

However, the world is changing, especially in the aftermath of Covid and our outreach and engagement activities have already become much more 'virtual'.

Our vision for communications states that we will be connected to our audiences wherever they are in whichever way they want to connect with us; accessible to all. To many this will be online via social media or the web and it may be the only way they connect and engage with us, to others it may be the start of their journey of discovery into the National Park. We must be open and welcoming to all, connecting them with nature and the landscape in the ways they choose to do so. Each strand of work we develop needs to consider the best way to engage with communities involved, recognising that this will vary. **5.0 Evaluation** 

Each project, activity or strand of work will have its own measures of success and evaluation criteria built in. We will use both quantitative and qualitative methods, depending on the outcomes we want to measure.

Some of this will be based on our current methods of evaluating our outreach work [The Logic Model], but we will also need to bring in other methods such as measuring behaviour change through the Behavioural Insights' EAST framework, and the more quantitative measures we use for digital engagement.

We will use our evaluation measures to learn from and develop how we engage with our audiences, adapting our approach, if needed, to ensure we meet our strategy aims.

# By 2025 we would hope to demonstrate we have seen a 10% increase in our key priority audiences.

7.0 Outline plan

#### 7.1 Potential Visitors

Aim

• A wider diversity of people engaging with Dartmoor – new audiences enjoying the National Park and developing an increased understanding of its special qualities, contributing in their own way to the conservation and enhancement of Dartmoor

#### Objective

Develop our existing practice, new and innovative programmes to connect with currently under-represented groups whether by socioeconomic status, ethnicity or other indices of diversity. We will engage with groups that work with our new audiences.

Ensure new programmes are led by an understanding of each audience, their motivations and needs. The role that Dartmoor can play in making a difference to their lives will be a significant part of each of the projects listed.

In the first five years we will use targeted interventions, actions and activities to reach out to our priority groups. Some of this will rely on precise data – such as indices of multiple deprivation, some will rely on working with new and existing partners and some will be project-based actions, co-designed with our audiences.

		Audien	ce: Potential Visitors		
	Activity / project / audience	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
resources	Outreach Vehicle	Review use – use the successful 'shows' engagement model with audience age differentiated activities in communities with multiple indices of deprivation on and off the moor	Use existing resources and capabilities to engage.	Identify communities – winter 2020. Deploy – 2021 onwards	Review completed. New deployment implemented. Numbers of participants. Increased knowledge, understanding.
Existing res	Informal Learning	Review current offer with intention of broadening diversity of audience (includes Ranger Ralph etc)	Trial new approaches to activity that engage with people 'where they are'.	Review: winter 2020. Deploy 2021	Review completed. New deployment implemented. Numbers of participants.
Û	Visitor Centres	Develop a programme of events and activities with outreach team.	To encourage new audiences to start their Dartmoor relationship in a 'safe' space.	Develop the programme: winter 2020. Deploy 2021 onwards.	Numbers of participants, groups and new audiences attending. Comments and feedback received.

		Audience:	Potential Visitors		
	Activity / project / audience	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
	Embedded Community Development model	Ambitious bid for 5 year project, 3 new Community Development workers in urban localities off Dartmoor.	To 'start from where audiences are' – with their agendas, to create urban rural links	Bid worked up 2021	Bid successful. Project implementation. Project milestones.
w Resources	Moor for All People (MAP)	Primary aim of MAP is to increase the social diversity of visitors to Dartmoor, giving them the confidence, knowledge, skills and understanding to enjoy the moor's heritage.	First-time and infrequent visitors will feel welcome and be encouraged to develop a lifelong passion for nature and the cultural environment. MAP would be co-created with the communities in question	Bid worked up autumn 2020 as part of Covid-19 recovery planning.	Bid successful. Participants will feel welcome in Dartmoor National Park. Participants will develop an understanding and appreciation of Dartmoor's unique heritage and will be inspired to care.
New	Ranger Ralph for children in care	Develop a free membership programme for children in care to join Ranger Ralph	Disadvantaged children have the opportunities to engage in RR activities, either virtually or in person	Proposal to County Council early 2021 to work up joint bid	More children from disadvantaged backgrounds have the chance to connect with the NP
	Clarion Housing Ambassadors	Joint bid with 4 other NPAs with Clarion social housing in close proximity to NPA.	To work with youth ambassadors in engaging tenets in purposeful social action.	December 2020 - 2023	Bid successful. Numbers of residents visiting and showing increased understanding

		Audience:	Potential Visitors		
	Activity / project / audience	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
	Access Unlimited	Coalition led by YHA (with FSC, Outward Bound, Scouts/Guides & NPAs) – seeking funding to provide residentials in protected landscapes to respond to Glover 'every child under the stars'.	To ensure that there are opportunities for every child and young person to access high quality learning and residential experiences in our National Parks and AONBs.	Coalition Bid submitted summer 2020. We would look to develop a local bid if this is unsuccessful.	Delivery from 2021 Projected outputs: 2,121,862 young people on residentials in 10x English NPs
New Resources	Great Big Walk Out	UK NPA Learning & Outreach Officers – direct response to Covid-19 as part of recovery. Particular target audiences – key workers, schools with key workers, schools returning in 'crisis'.	One strong product - a vehicle to promote responsible behavior; new found connection to the natural environment and o connect people to National Parks while developing understanding and respecting their special qualities and benefiting from the health and wellbeing benefits.	Bid to Defra as part of NPA Recovery Planning suite of activities We would look to develop a local bid if this is unsuccessful	Bid successful. Outputs: 37,500 (direct engagement with NP officer) up to 750,000 (Indirect, who may not have gone out on a walk otherwise) Total, to include awareness raising and social media: 7,075,000
	Social Prescriber link- workers	Develop new relationships with social prescribers – on Dartmoor and in hinterland.	To ensure that Dartmoor becomes a wellbeing destination.	March 2021 start	Numbers of participants. Increased knowledge, understanding and 'care'.

## 7.2 Existing Visitors

Aim

• Our current visitors and communities continuing to enjoy Dartmoor, developing to a greater understanding of Dartmoor that will inspire them to care. Developing, nurturing and fostering deeper relationships between people and place that may lead to positives such as improved health and wellbeing, volunteering and positive environmental behaviour

#### Objectives

Use our existing staff-skills, resources and experience to develop new ways to maintain contact with our existing visitors, helping them connect or reconnect with Dartmoor through the provision of engaging, targeted audience specific activities and events.

Continue some of our current activities and develop new ways to engage with the many loyal audiences we already have, both at a large scale connecting with large groups of people through a single event or activity, as well as the deeper projects that provide opportunities for individuals in a smaller group.

		Audience: Exis	sting Visitors		
	Activity / project /	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
	audience				
resources	Festivals and events	To engage at scale with visitors who already have a relationship with Dartmoor but who want to find out more about special qualities.	Develop greater understanding, awareness – moving people up the staircase of engagement towards stewardship	Virtual in 2020. Events from 2021	Numbers of successful events. Numbers of participants. Increased knowledge, understanding and 'care'. Numbers of first-time users/diversity
Existing	Create three themed Visitor Centres that stand-alone as attractions in their own right by developing engaging interpretation and family activities	Work to develop wider range of authentic, engaging, knowledge-understanding and 'care' based activities.	Use Visitor Centres as a hub from which people can develop confidence to 'explore further'.	Virtual in 2020. Events from 2021	Numbers of participants. Increased knowledge, understanding and 'care'. Numbers of first time users/diversity

		Audience: Exis	sting Visitors		
	Activity / project / audience	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
Existing resources	On site interpretation and information	Review and completely refresh our on-site interpretation and information to ensure clarity and consistent message – ensuring key messages relevant to each site	To help people understand how special Dartmoor is, what they can do and why they can't do some things	Review Implement for 2021 season.	Increased knowledge, understanding and 'care' – measured by Visitor Survey.
	Co-creation engagement to target specific audience segments	Use existing DNP officer contacts with communities of interest to build on existing partnerships with community organisations and develop new opportunities for joint delivery.	To undertake focused work with:- - 'young actives' - Health inequality targeting - Partners supporting vulnerable groups	2021	Numbers of successful engagements. Number of partnerships developed. Numbers of participants.
	Review formal education offer	Use existing 'demand pattern' of curriculum driven education events to develop further learning packages for schools.	Increase in formal education visits with a clear curriculum enrichment focus using Dartmoor's special qualities	Winter 2020 - 2021	New education offer trialed, developed, consulted, implemented
	John Muir Award	Current offer is to limited numbers of schools and formal education groups – review efficacy and reach	Increase participation from schools, informal learning and new audience groups	2021	Number of new Awards registered Number of participants completing

	Audience: Existing Visitors				
	Activity / project /	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
	audience				
New Resources	Outreach Rangers for heavily used sites – with focus on young people and families	To engage people through fun activities at some of our busier sites where we have experience of anti-social behaviour in the past. Develop and deliver a programme of overnight stays for young people, reach out to urban areas. New youth/community worker skills required	To help visitors enjoy and better understand the area they are visiting. Also, so that we better understand this audience	Implement for 2021 season if funding available.	Numbers of successful events. Numbers of participants. Increased knowledge, understanding and 'care'. Reduced anti-social events

#### 7.3 Local Communities

Aim

• Our current visitors and communities continuing to enjoy Dartmoor, developing to a greater understanding of Dartmoor that will inspire them to care. Developing, nurturing and fostering deeper relationships between people and place that may lead to positives such as improved health and wellbeing, volunteering and positive environmental behaviour.

This strand of work will focus on communities of place rather than communities of style, purpose or specific audience 'segments'.

#### Objectives

Build on established relationships with Dartmoor community organisations – for example those that we have developed either through Parish Councils, the Dartmoor Volunteer Groups' network, communities of place who have received a Coronavirus Community Support Grant and community organisations active in a locality, eg Be Buckfastleigh.

Explore opportunities to develop new relationships with other groups – especially where those groups are active in localities with any of the indices of deprivation.

	Audience: Local Communities				
	Activity / project /	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of
	audience				success
resources	Dartmoor Community – specific targets	Work to understand local areas of deprivation and develop targeted interventions. (Use Acorn Profiles in the first instance.)	Engage those whose experience of Dartmoor as a resident is limited.	Once C-19 restrictions are lifted.	Numbers of successful events. Numbers of participants. Increased enjoyment. Increased knowledge
Existing r	Co-creation engagement to target specific communities identified with inequalities.	Use existing DNP officer contacts with communities <b>of place</b> to build on existing partnerships with community organisations and develop new opportunities for joint delivery.	To undertake focused work with community groups, for example:- - Be Buckfastleigh - Princetown Youth Club	2021	Numbers of successful engagements. Number of partnerships developed. Numbers of participants.

	Activity / project / audience	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
Existing resources	/isitor Centres	Develop a range of activities and events to support community outreach work. eg exhibition of Moorscapes projects, regular activities to support community groups etc	Develop a meaningful relationship with our local communities by using the visitor centres as a community resource. Reduce rural social isolation. Extend the purpose of visitor centres outside the main tourist season	Once C-19 restrictions are lifted.	Numbers of successful events. Numbers of participants. Increased knowledge, understanding and 'care'.

	Audience: Local Communities				
	Activity / project /	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of
	audience				success
New Resources	Moorscapes	<ul> <li>Built on the legacy of the Moor than meets the eye (MTMTE)</li> <li>Parishscapes project, the Moorscapes project has been developed to include three elements: <ol> <li>A community grant scheme</li> <li>A facilitated community programme</li> <li>Sharing best-practice</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Enabling communities of interest and place to explore, access conserve and protect the heritage that is important to them through the development and delivery of their own project. Welcoming new communities of interest to Dartmoor. The project team will work with and support under-represented groups.	Once NHLF are 'open' to application – currently may be October 2020	Bid successful. Project implementation. Project milestones.

		Audience: Loc	al Communities		
	Activity / project / audience	Summary Description	Purpose	Timeline	Measures of success
	Everyone matters	Develop and pilot a new outdoor focused curriculum for those pupils with different skills as an alternative to traditional academic learning methods	Help those children who find traditional forms of learning achieve better outcomes and fulfill their potential	TBC	Numbers of successful events. Numbers of participants. Increased knowledge.
w Resources	A38 Corridor – communities	Co – create a programme of activity to support health and well -being of Dartmoor communities	Help improve the lives of deprived sectors of Dartmoor communities through access to and a connection with Dartmoor the place	TBC	Number of people engaged and impact on health and well being
New	Citizen Science Programme (Pilot programme of Wildlife Wardens in parishes in the Teignbridge part of the NP)	Working with local communities and visitors to help us better understand and monitor nature	Help connect people with nature and provide useful information about habitats and species	2020	Number of people engaged in programmes of activity

# **Outreach and Engagement Strategy –** *supporting evidence*

## 1.Situation Analysis – National to Local: policy context

In addition to fulfilling our local ambition to engage new audiences our *Outreach and Engagement Strategy* makes a significant contribution to the following national and regional policies, plans, strategies or initiatives:

	Policy or Strategy	Aim or vision or outcome	
	or <b>plan</b>		
DNAL	Landscapes Review - Glover	Landscapes for everyone:- Proposal 7: A stronger mission to connect all people with our national landscapes Proposal 8: A night under the stars in a national landscape for every child Proposal 9: New long term programmes to increase the ethnic diversity of visitors Proposal 10: Landscapes that cater for and improve the nation's health and wellbeing Proposal 11: Expanding volunteering in our national landscapes	
NATIONAL	25 Year Environment Plan	Chapter 3: Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing.	
	We are here – UK NPAs shared communications story	Shared purpose: To inspire everybody to care Shared values: Care, Inspiration, Connection, Balancing & Diversity	
	<b>Devon County</b> <b>Council -</b> multiple policies, examples provided	<ul> <li>Equality Policy</li> <li>Adult Care &amp; Health</li> <li>Children's Service – including children in care</li> <li>Family Support services</li> <li>Youth Offending</li> </ul>	
REGIONAL	Devon Local Nature Partnership – two specific strands of work: • Naturally Healthy • Outdoor Learning	<ul> <li>Everyone in Devon has the opportunity and confidence to be 'naturally active' in order to improve their health and wellbeing.</li> <li>People of all ages regularly interact with Devon's natural environment - an integral part of learning that takes place through life.</li> </ul>	
LOCAL	Dartmoor National Park Management Plan	Promotes a spirit of partnership to deliver national park purposes and duty against a 20 year vision by means of clearly stated Ambitions, Goals and Means to Achieve.	
ΓΟ	DNP Communications Vision	We will: • Be connected • Be relevant • Be valued	

# 2. SWOT Analysis

#### **STRENGTHS**

# Staff

An expanded staff team who are energetic, skilled and knowledgeable with a wide range of communication, engagement, educational and interpretation skills giving considerable capacity across a range of disciplines.

We have an excellent track record with audiences already engaged resulting in the current provision of a wide range of age differentiated, authentic, immersive engaging activities, offers and programmes.

We have well-developed working relationships with the local community and voluntary groups and considerable experience of working on inclusion, diversity and health related projects with external funding, with partners for example: MOSAIC, *Naturally Healthy*.

We also have great examples of partnership working with other significant lead organisations – public, private and third sector and with Dartmoor communities eg MTMTE.

Projects we lead use formative and summative evaluation, reflection and Action Learning to review and evaluate success, lessons learnt and recommendations for future activities, funding bids and audience engagements.

## Current audience

Thriving community and voluntary groups with whom we have well developed working relationships.

Loyal visitors and users – both those who come to Dartmoor to engage with us in our differentiated formal and informal learning offers, through outreach activities and at Visitor Centres as well as those who follow on a variety of social media channels.

# Location

An outstanding and varied natural and cultural environment that acts as a 'beacon', a destination of choice in an inspirational landscape.

#### **WEAKNESSES**

#### Visitor motivation

Evidence provided by *Team Tourism* who undertook a UK National Park analysis in 2017 provides useful context. Other evidence indicating similar trends but from longer ago is available, this evidence as the most recent is just to highlight the 'weakness' of the growing gap between those who visit National Parks – whether as tourists or for other recreation or leisure pursuits – and the majority of 'current users'.

The report explored both barriers and motivations. Barriers concurred with much previous research but interestingly were less significant to 'not visiting' than lack of motivation, summarised:-

• **Indifference** quotes from those surveyed included 'boring' and 'never got around to it';

- **Multiple factors** a range of issues including health issues, weather, perceived cost, preference to go abroad;
- Lack of awareness 30% reported not knowing about 'National Parks'.

Helpfully the same report identified that about two –fifths of non-visitors were 'rejecters' of National Parks - they were unlikely to visit ... no matter what we did. This is significant.

In addition to this evidence the Landscapes Review ((Defra, 2018 – aka: Glover Report) identified a gap in provision with the perception that

"National Parks are an exclusive, mainly white, mainly middle-class club, with rules only members understand and much too little done to encourage first time visitors."

While we may feel this generalisation is not entirely reflective of some of our excellent provision there is an acknowledged gap in provision for people from mainly urban settings, with some indices of socio-economic deprivation and from BAME communities.

#### Resources

For some aspects of the strategy to be fully implemented considerable extra staff and financial resources would be required. This would require bids for external funding. This against a backdrop of possible economic recession and a Government with more focus on meeting people's basic needs and restarting the economy. While we have learning from great project work in past some has not become mainstream. Resources tend to support small scale and short timescale activity meaning we have not had the capacity, time or capability to 'deep dive' into longer-term 'behaviour change' projects.

#### Audiences

Our understanding of our target audiences is patchy – where we engage we have good understanding but there are also unknowns and preconceptions. We have gaps in our visitor profile, we are not reaching everyone: specifically:-

- Lack of understanding of their motivations
- Lack of understanding of the behaviour of some people who do not want to use Dartmoor responsibility or don't know how
- Lack of resources and some skills to reach out
- Lack of knowledge and understanding of some key hard to reach audiences, particularly areas of socio-economic deprivation outside of the National Park
- An assumption we make that audiences have to visit Dartmoor to 'relate' to it not everyone wants an 'embodied' experience, our engagements during lockdown have shown how important virtual engagement can be. Some people like the idea of Dartmoor but are fearful of visiting we should aim to include these 'virtual visitors'

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Developing what we do well

Our strong delivery record and our range of audience engaging activities provides opportunity to develop, grow and trial in new ways our strong 'products'. Working with partners (rather than competing in an increasingly competitive funding environment) and integrating our approaches using 'Dartmoor – the place' as a central focus.

The Glover Review and the 25 Year Environment Plan both provide a policy landscape where our existing offers can be grown and developed especially the ambitions and recommendations concerning young people.

#### Covid-19 – a catalyst for change?

There are real opportunities, as well as challenges, offered by 'release after lockdown' – the rush to the mountains immediately before lockdown and following the announcement of the easing of lockdown restrictions emphasized how important 'big, open spaces' are to some sections of society.

Opportunities to engage are considerably increased following lockdown with an increased interest in health and wellbeing. There has been much in the mainstream media and in social media about mental wellbeing in the time of restricted horizons together with some positives (as well as negatives) about physical activity levels. Our 'offer' is much more relevant to a greater proportion of the population at present and we should capitalize on this. Many of the people accessing Dartmoor will continue to be self-prescribers.

Additionally the Covid-19 crisis offers a new opportunity to connect to Social Prescribers and their service-users. During lockdown the NHS Social Prescribers were working specifically to support NHS staff, carers and other key workers with evidence that some were advocating green space for exercise for physical health and mental wellbeing. With this 'new habit' for Social Prescribers we have an opportunity to reach out to new audiences who may benefit from our 'green space' offer – in the future these will certainly include some who have health inequalities as a result of being in socio-economic groups D & E – precisely those identified as 'missing' by the Glover Review.

We have some great projects and partnerships to build on to develop more coordinated working, across boundaries, to support Government policy which will benefit health and wellbeing for new audiences, especially those identified by Covid.

New audiences may well self-identify after the peak, as a direct result of Covid-19 e.g. survivors; Covid-bereaved, and they may bring new motivations currently not catered for. One such 'new audience' will be those communities who identify collectively as having received Coronavirus Community Support Grant. Many of these grantees had not engaged with the National Park Authority in this way before and are keen to develop the relationship. Another specific audience here would be people from BAME communities. These people were more adversely affected by Covid-19 and although the evidence is still being gathered there is some suggestion that socio-economic deprivation had a part to play.

#### Landscape Service

May provide a significant opportunity for increased capacity (1,000 extra 'Rangers'). We would need to influence the role and the support these new staff could bring to reaching out to people in their own communities. This may also provide interesting and innovative ways of working.

#### Partnerships

There will be opportunities for new partnerships. Our approach to collaborative working and co-delivery has a strong track record with individual health interventions, educational activities and, over the longer term, MTMTE showing that this can be very successful.

Existing strong partnerships that we can build on to ensure co-ordination not duplication of effort. It may be a threat and an opportunity as everyone aims to hit this new inclusion and outreach agenda.

These partnerships may well be strengthened but increased funding opportunities following Covid-19 possibly linked to health and potentially linked to the inclusion agenda.

There is also the opportunity to form new partnerships with groups and organisations we have not previously engaged with that will help us to reach out to our new audiences.

#### **THREATS**

#### Funding

The economic landscape is changing as we face a recession and a Government spending review. This could have a significant impact in both our core grant funding, but also the opportunity to bid for funding from external sources.

If we don't get partnerships right there is a danger of competition or duplication with other non-government organisations taking and acting on funding opportunities and socio-political drivers before we do and attracting external funding for similar work.

Past experience has shown that we are not always 'visible' in some of the partnerships we have developed and led further jeopardizing success in the future.

Fuding tends to be for short term, small scale interventions, activities and projects meaning fundamental behaviour change is difficult to embed.

#### Covid-19

Has also changed some visitor profiles and behavior. Anecdotal evidence suggests that Covid-19 has encouraged some first-time visitors to the moor who are unaware of the Countryside Code and the fragility of some of Dartmoor's habitats. This is in addition to the longstanding issue of visitors to riverside honeypot sites who engage in activities not within the spirit or legislation of the National Park designation. These 'new' visitors are also an opportunity but require us to fully understand motivations.

#### Public perception of our Rangers

'Rangers' is an evocative term conjuring up public perceptions. Many of our partner organisations have 'Rangers' who do not face some of the difficult and conflicting

challenges faced by us as a National Park: managing the expectations of landowners, farmers, commoners, businesses *and* visitors. To visitors our Rangers are perceived by some as role models but by others as 'petty bureaucrats' enforcing byelaws. Changing this narrative would provide additional opportunities for motivating engagement.

#### 'Never' visitors

We need to accept that some of the population will never visit, either in person or virtually, and that for these people we are not relevant. The *Team Tourism* reports highlighted this but it is supported locally, anecdotally. Those who will never visit no matter what we do will always be 'missing' but may be used by policy makers as a way of demonstrating our lack of relevance (to this audience).

## 3 - Maps illustrating IMD to inform target activity





# <u>3 (continued) – Map illustrating Health & disability deprivation to inform target</u> <u>activity</u>



## 4 - Three examples of 'ambitious' engagement

## 1 Embedded Community Development worker model

This would be 'bottom up' – *"their agenda"* – developing rapport rather than creating activities that 'we' enjoy. Specific task would be to understand motivations (rather than barriers) in order to build a transactional relationship that becomes long-term, self-sustaining and is rooted in target communities (of place, of interest) aspirations and agendas.

Three Community Development workers 'embedded' within local community to serve (broadly):

- Plymouth South-Western moor;
- Newton Abbot, Torquay, Exeter Eastern moor;
- Okehampton and rural hinterland North moor.

'Embedded' – would mean that the Community Development worker would (preferably) live in the community of place; would certainly have a main office base in the community of place and perhaps a more distant relationship with Parke.

To achieve real change this would need to be a long term project - 5 years minimum in order to build trust and confidence in us by communities – otherwise the danger is the initial 'project cynicism' followed by project collapse once funding ceases.

To add value to this approach making the project have a specific Action Research element would help others learn from this (for National Park Authorities) pioneering approach – thus 'failures' are minimized because each would become a significant learning point.

#### 2 Increase limited range of targeted activity with additional partnerships

As a different way of 'reaching out this approach would further develop some of our working practice that has proved successful in engaging under-represented audiences through the use of 'trusted by the community' partners. This approach has had both difficulties, see for example the findings in the *Naturally Healthy Project* evaluation report (Howes *et al* 2018) and some notable successes in which trusted partner organisations were able to help bring those who would otherwise not have accessed Dartmoor to us.

Some examples:-

- Mental health support groups in Plymouth through drama workshops with Plymouth Theatre Royal;
- Young Carers support group, Bovey Tracey;
- Older inactive people at Stover through the Connecting Actively to Nature;
- And adults recovering from serious mental illness through the partnership with *Devon Recovery Learning Community*, an NHS partnership trust.

The approaches currently used across the Outreach & Understanding and Communications teams would continue as they are with the use existing capacity to target narrow sections of audiences with identified 'need' or of perceived lack of engagement.

Recognising limitations:-

- Staff capacity;
- Opportunities will be 'opportunistic' tactical rather than strategic;
- The programme remains 'our agenda' fewer opportunities to meet people where they are;
- 40% of non-visitors won't come no matter what we do, (Team Tourism 2017).

#### 3 National Partnerships

In addition to projects and programmes driven entirely by DNPA there are significant partnership projects that are being co-ordinated or led by other agencies and partners which we are contributing to and will benefit from. These projects are driven by both the *Landscapes Review* and by the recovery response to Covid-19. They aim to reach audiences we want to engage, hence their inclusion here.

## 5. Monitoring and measuring progress

We will use evaluation measures to learn from and develop how we engage with our audiences, adapting our approach, if needed, to ensure we meet our strategy aims.

To robustly evaluate success for some of our activities we will use the Logic Model framework that we have used before for our outreach work. This tracks entire projects and programmes of delivery, measuring inputs, outputs and outcomes and which will also attempt the more difficult measurement of impacts.

The Logic Model was used to evaluate the pilot Junior Ranger programme.

The logic model framework is summarised below.

Certain resources are needed to operate your programme	If you have access to resources, then you can use them to accomplish your planned activities	<i>If you accomplish your planned activities then you will deliver the amount of product or service you intended</i>	If you accomplish your planned activities to the extent you intended then your participants will benefit in certain ways	If these benefits to participants are achieved then certain changes in communities or organisations might be expected to occur	
Resources / inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts	
Your planned work			Your intended results		

To develop, track and monitor some of the *behaviours* we want to change through our activities we will use The Behavioural Insights Team EAST model; we used this model in the development of the Ranger Code and Love Moor Life.

The basic principle is if you want to encourage a change in behaviour, make it Easy, Attractive, Social and Timely (EAST).

#### Make it Easy

- *Harness the power of defaults.* We have a strong tendency to go with the default or pre-set option, as it is easy to do so.
- *Reduce the 'hassle factor'.* The effort required to perform an action often puts people off. Reducing the effort required can increase uptake or response rates.
- *Simplify messages.* Making the message clear often results in a significant increase in response rates to communications.

#### Make it Attractive

- *Attract attention.* We are more likely to do something that our attention is drawn towards.
- *Design rewards and sanctions for maximum effect.* Incentives are often highly effective

#### Make it Social

- Show that most people perform the desired behaviour. Describing what most people do in a particular situation encourages others to do the same.
- Use the power of networks. We are embedded in a network of social relationships, and those we come into contact with shape our actions. We can foster networks to enable collective action, provide mutual support, and encourage behaviours to spread peer-to-peer.
- Encourage people to make a commitment to others. We often use commitment devices to voluntarily 'lock ourselves' into doing something in advance. The social nature of these commitments is often crucial.

#### Make it Timely

- *Prompt people when they are likely to be most receptive.* The same offer made at different times can have drastically different levels of success.
- Consider the immediate costs and benefits. We are more influenced by costs and benefits that take effect immediately than those delivered later.
- *Help people plan their response to events.* There is a substantial gap between intentions and actual behaviour. A proven solution is to prompt people to identify the barriers to action, and develop a specific plan to address them.

# 6. - Map of current outreach and engagement activity

#### Outreach - 'out there'

- Outreach Van at shows
- Outreach Ranger Ralph recruitment family activities
- Outreach events, Meldon Wildlife Festival
- Outreach for Health partnerships in urban communities
- Cultural heritage archaeology events

#### Outreach – 'virtual'

- Social media channels
- Website
- Press and public relations
- Moor Life



#### **Formal Learning**

- Education/outdoor learning on
   Dartmoor
- John Muir Award with schools
- Teacher training and CPD
- Dartmoor Educators' Forum
- Universities -Bsc/BA/MSc/PhD students
- National Citizen Service
- Work experience placements
- University Student Placements
- Visitor Centres

#### Informal Learning

- Ranger Ralph Club
- Junior Rangers
- Youth Rangers
- John Muir Award families
- Higher Uppacott visits
- Visitor Centres

#### **Naturally Healthy**

- Activity provision with partners Devon LNP, Active Devon
- Health partnerships Devon Recovery
   Learning Community
- Bespoke health events for targeted audiences
- Continued support of *Buckfastleigh Naturally Healthy Group*
- Health activity through participation, activity and conservation volunteering

#### **Community support**

- Parishscapes -> Moorscapes
- Coronavirus Community Support Fund
- Dartmoor Volunteer Groups' grant

#### 7 - REFERENCES

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# **Dartmoor National Park Authority**

6 November 2020

# Dartmoor Community Resilience Project: Princes Countryside Fund Bid

Report of the Community Engagement Officer

Recommendation: That Members support the bid and the 'match funding' approach described.

#### 1 Introduction

1.1 On Friday 23 October officers submitted a bid to the Princes Countryside Fund (PCF) for the development of a project around economic and community resilience.

#### 2 Background

- 2.1 The PCF has grants of up to £10,000 available for projects from across the UK. The current funding round theme is Rural Community Resilience and the PCF is looking for applications that will build on projects that came about as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic this year, and the effect that this had on rural communities. They are looking for projects which protect or boost community assets and enterprises, or otherwise strengthen the sense of community.
- 2.2 Officers have been developing project ideas over recent weeks, led by evidence coming forward from our Covid Business Surveys, individual meetings, and video meeting sessions held with community enterprise and business representatives (including the Duchy of Cornwall).
- 2.3 The bid has been prepared by Emma Stockley (Community Engagement Officer), supporting the Forward Planning team, in liaison with the Chief Executive (NPO).

#### 3 The Project

3.1 Our vision is for Dartmoor to be at the forefront of a people-centred economy with a broad range of economic and social enterprises that put relationships, skills and the environment first. To start this journey, we want to develop a Dartmoor Community Support Network to bring together collective knowledge, skills and experience to sustain and develop the many embryonic community ventures on Dartmoor that have arisen from the impact of the pandemic, and those more proven ones which have demonstrated a critical role in local resilience. The network will enable us to share learning across the National Park and help foster peer to peer support and an

integrated place-based approach, linking community and private sector businesses. Through the Network, we will deliver initiatives such as a *Buy Moor Local* scheme, develop 'virtual but valuable' markets and fairs to promote local products and facilities e.g. community shops and cafes.

- 3.2 In the week following lockdown the National Park established a Coronavirus Community Support Grant (CCSG) to provide upfront grants for initiatives aimed at building community resilience (foodbanks, support telephone lines, local delivery, online plays etc.). The grant helped provide initial funding for many examples of innovative community responses that linked volunteers and businesses with the wider community.
- 3.3 An evaluation of the CCSG recipients (volunteers, community groups etc), and a series of surveys of local businesses, gave a consistent message that they are keen to see positive changes in behaviour sustained and become the new normal i.e. a return to local and resilient supply chains; local care programmes; and more engaged and integrated communities.
- 3.4 We have some excellent community-based initiatives on Dartmoor and many are keen to share their learning with newer groups, or those with limited capacity but lots of enthusiasm.
- 3.5 The funding we seek, along with staff time from the National Park, will address community resilience and innovation on Dartmoor by:
  - a) Establishing a **Dartmoor Community Support Network** to strengthen the sense of community and pool knowledge, skills and experience to support the many embryonic community ventures on Dartmoor that have arisen from the impact of the pandemic. The Network will provide peer to peer support and training and existing community groups who have practical experience will be able to offer support to fledgling groups or specific initiatives.
  - b) Providing platforms to promote 'support local' this might be to encourage volunteering, the purchase of local goods/services and to integrate the supply chain e.g. local cafes buying local milk and meat; 'virtual fairs and markets' to provide new markets for local businesses. This element of the project will explore how public, private and third sectors can work effectively together.
- 3.6 In delivering elements (a) and (b), we will take forward the many lessons-learnt from the pandemic in a way which clearly seeks to address the climate, ecological and wellbeing emergencies.
- 3.7 Our project is supported by three existing community initiatives:
  - Chagfood CIC, a community-supported market garden <a href="https://www.chagfood.org.uk/">https://www.chagfood.org.uk/</a>
  - NED Care, a Dartmoor-based social enterprise set up to provide support and personal care. The organisation was featured in The Prince's Countryside Fund *Village Survival Guide* in 2018 <u>https://www.nedcare.org/</u>
  - The Seed CIC, a community wholefood shop and café <a href="https://www.buckfastleighseed.co.uk/">https://www.buckfastleighseed.co.uk/</a>

They will support the project by offering facilitation, training and support for new community groups – using their leadership to help others follow.

# 4 Funding and timescales

- 4.1 A grant from PCF would provide revenue funding which we can use to pay for training, product development, IT support etc. It will provide the financial resource to turn community ideas into reality. A grant of £10,000 is sought, towards a project of £28,444 in total. The National Park will provide staff time and resource to manage the project and help develop the ideas. We see this a partnership project: PCF funding to unlock community ideas and the National Park fulfilling an enabler role.
- 4.2 Subject to successful grant funding, the project will start immediately and be completed by November 2021.
- 4.3 In respect of project sustainability, we have a strong track record of supporting community groups in the heritage and conservation sector on Dartmoor, which over the years has resulted in a strong and productive network that reaches across the moor. We want to create a similar network for social enterprises, interlinked with businesses, with the goal of the network becoming largely self-sufficient by the end of the project. This approach of providing training, staff time and support to achieve independence has worked in the past and this time, we will also engage the expertise, experience and leadership of community members who will contribute their passion, knowledge and time.

# 5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 A grant of £10,000 is sought from the PCF. The rest of the project will be funded by DNPA, comprising £16,932 of in-kind staff costs (Community Engagement Officer), and £1,512 in costs.
- 5.2 Officers and community and business representatives are robustly behind this project concept. In the event the funding bid is unsuccessful, other funding avenues will be explored.

# 6 Equality and Sustainability Impact

- 6.1 We will work hard to ensure that the Network and the platforms we develop will reach the people they are intended to benefit. This will involve liaising with Dartmoor community groups, promoting opportunities for involvement, ensuring widespread publicity, outreach and engagement. To ensure that the Network's training is suitable, relevant and accessible, we will consult with community members and those involved in leading community enterprises on the moor. We will seek, within public procurement rules, to utilise local contractors and thus build capacity.
- 6.2 The project is diverse and ambitious, exploring a variety of strands from small-scale initiatives to embed localism to encouraging local investment in the environment to off-set carbon. Any one of these strands could be developed further by the Network and be taken forward in creative and innovative partnerships.

#### 7 Conclusion and Recommendation

7.1 This project is the outcome of a period of research and engagement, and responds to the needs of communities and business, as well as climate, ecological and well-being challenges we are currently facing. Members are invited to support the bid and he approach described. Members will be informed in due course as to whether the bid is successful.

EMMA STOCKLEY



# **Dartmoor National Park Authority**

6 November 2020

# Tree Preservation Orders, Section 211 Notifications (Works to Trees in Conservation Areas) and Hedgerow Removal Notices Determined Under Delegated Powers

Report of the Trees and Landscape Officer

Recommendation: That the decisions be noted.

# TPO APPLICATIONS

## West Devon

Ref: 20/0005

#### 4 Willowby Gardens, Yelverton SX 5243 6764

Application to reduce the height of a row of ash and beech. The works will have minimal impact on the character of the area. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

- 1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
- 2. All works are carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work-Recommendations.

 Ref: 20/0014
 2 Holt Close, Yelverton
 SX 5229 6811

Application to fell a horse chestnut tree. The tree is in very poor condition. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

- 1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
- 2. Replacement planting of one half standard silver birch tree within the crown spread of the originals during the first season following felling.

# South Hams

# Ref: 20/0007Bittaford Wood Caravan ParkSX 6679 5673

Application to tidy up three storm damaged oak trees and crown lift two pine trees. The works are minor and will have minimal impact on the health or appearance of the trees. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

- 1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
- 2. All works are carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work-Recommendations.

#### Ref: 20/0009Shaugh Bridge Wood, Shaugh PriorSX 5330 6365

Application to fell a group of ash and sycamore, and reduce a mature oak. The ash trees are infected with Ash Die Back and the sycamore have poor form. The works to the oak tree are minor. Consent was granted subject to conditions;

- 1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
- 2. All works are carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work-Recommendations.

SX 6470 5673

#### Ref: 20/0013 Rutt House, Ivybridge

Application to fell a Lawson Cypress. The tree is in very poor condition. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

- 1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
- 2. Replacement planting of one half standard oak tree within the crown spread of the originals during the first season following felling.

#### **SECTION 211 NOTICES**

#### Teignbridge

#### Ref: 20/0008The Old Rectory, WidecombeSX 7180 7670

Notification to reduce one beech two sycamore trees, and fell a sycamore. The tree to be felled is in poor condition and the other works are required to address issues identified in the other trees

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

#### Ref: 20/0010 7 Station Road, Buckfastleigh SX 7408 6621

Notification to fell an almond and spruce tree. The felling will have minimal impact on the character of the Conservation Area.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

#### West Devon

#### Ref: 20/0006 Broadmead Barn, Brentor SX 4803 8130

Notification to reduce long branches. The works are minor and will have minimal impact on the health or appearance of the tree. A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

#### Ref: 20/0011Baileys Hey, ChagfordSX 6991 8762

Notification to fell two larch, two Douglas fir and three ash trees and carry out minor works to other trees. The trees to be felled are in poor condition.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

## Ref: 19/0012Castle Inn, LydfordSX 5096 8484

Notification to fell two beech and an ash tree. The trees are in poor condition

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

**BRIAN BEASLEY**