

Dartmoor National Park Next Generation Manifesto

Contents

Introduction	3
Next Generation Vision	4
Our Asks	5
Living	5
Working.....	5
Conserving/Enhancing	6
Experiencing	6
Youth Empowerment.....	6
Call to Action - Putting Our Asks into Action	7
Our Call to Action	8
Living	8
Working.....	9
Conserving and Enhancing	10
Experiencing	11

Introduction

This manifesto is a call to action created by the Next Generation of Dartmoor in response to EUROPARC's Youth Manifesto. It should act as a platform for organisations and decision makers to shape Dartmoor for its future communities, recreation users, visitors, businesses, young people, farmers and the environment, landscape and heritage.

The Manifesto will ensure that the Next Generation are involved in the future of Dartmoor National Park.

The Manifesto is aimed at

- Organisations and decision makers
- The Next Generation of Dartmoor

Next Generation Vision

The National Park will be a place that the next generation can thrive in: a place to call home, a place to work, a place to explore and a place to protect and understand. The next generation will be supported on Dartmoor through reliable infrastructure and services, viable jobs and diverse career opportunities. Communities will thrive, traditions will be alive and there will be wide spread recognition of the rural skills on offer.

There will also be a future for the environment and heritage of Dartmoor, it will be protected, enhanced and understood by all. Everyone will have the opportunity to visit and experience Dartmoor and it will remain one of Britain's breathing spaces.

Our Asks

Living

Infrastructure and services

The National Park is **well connected** digitally and physically. **Community assets** are protected and services are **accessible and resilient**. A **strong public transport network** allows those living on the moor to access services and social activities, both within Dartmoor and in surrounding areas.

Housing

There are more **affordable housing** options for young people to enable them to live and work within the National Park. Housing priorities are given to people wanting to create a **home** in the National Park and not those buying second homes.

Communities

Current and future generations are able to **grow roots** on Dartmoor and feel that they have a future there. Young people have the opportunity to live on Dartmoor and keep **local customs and traditions** alive and create thriving communities. There is a sense of being part of a **whole Dartmoor community** rather than separate, isolated communities, and pride in helping to keep Dartmoor special.

Working

Job Opportunities and Skills

Diverse job opportunities are available within the National Park, including and beyond agriculture and tourism, with both **entry level** and **graduate** jobs. Young people have access to **training and skills** to help them develop. Dartmoor is known nationally as a centre of excellence for **rural skills**.

Businesses

Dartmoor is a desirable location to **grow a business**. It is marketed and recognised as a **business hub** with strong links between sectors and with growth areas. New generations of farmers are supported and have good opportunities to develop and grow their farm businesses through the maintenance of traditional Dartmoor farms

Conserving/Enhancing

Dartmoor's natural and cultural heritage

The importance of Dartmoor's **natural and cultural heritage** is widely understood and recognised. The **health and condition** of the environment is improved, providing **environmental services** to the wider region including clean air and water, reduced flood risk, and climate change mitigation. Dartmoor is known as a beacon for the **conservation and enhancement** of landscape character, wildlife, historic features, and traditional farming; **pioneering** and developing **best practice**.

Experiencing

Opportunities

Everyone has the opportunity to visit Dartmoor. The National Park supports and enables **different users** and promotes a **variety of experiences** on Dartmoor, encouraging users to **deepen and diversify** their experiences. Opportunities for **wilderness** experiences are maintained. There is a particular focus on **events and activities** aimed at the younger generation. Dartmoor acts as one of the nation's breathing spaces, providing **health and wellbeing** benefits to local people and those visiting.

Understanding

There is **widespread understanding** of Dartmoor and what it makes it special. Visitors understand the **role that farming** plays in maintaining the landscape character and the importance of **traditional Dartmoor skills** and moorland practices

Respect

There is **mutual respect and understanding** between and among different user groups and local communities, and **constructive relationships** are built across all users of Dartmoor.

Youth Empowerment

Young People are the future of Dartmoor. We want to make sure that the next generation feel empowered and enabled to make a difference and have meaningful opportunities to be involved in the future of the National Park.

Call to Action - Putting Our Asks into Action

This is call to action for

1. Organisations and decision makers to help empower the **Next Generation** to act as future leaders for Dartmoor
2. **Young people/Next Generation** to be active leaders and drivers of change

Our Call to Action

Living

Infrastructure and Services

- Digital connectivity is essential for local residents, businesses and visitors. Improve mobile phone coverage, internet / broadband reliability and speed
- Provide good public transport throughout the year, connecting settlements within the National Park and surrounding areas

Communities

- Digital connectivity can only go so far. Young people need activities and social opportunities to help them feel part of the community, as well as avoiding feelings of isolation and issues with mental health

Housing

- Many young people are finding it difficult to stay in their communities. There needs to be a better understanding of young people's housing needs and support / signposting to how to access housing

Working

Job Opportunities and Skills

- Develop a Dartmoor scheme linking local schools and colleges to local employers to provide opportunities for young people through apprenticeships, internships and work experience
- Ensure that traditional skills and knowledge are passed on to the next generation and there are opportunities for young people that want to get into hill farming

Businesses

- Encourage a spirit of entrepreneurship on Dartmoor with funding and support to encourage young people to start their own businesses
- Provide community work spaces and hubs that are desirable to work in, connected, and encourage creativity, innovation and collaboration

Conserving and Enhancing

Dartmoor's Natural and Cultural Heritage

- Help us (young people) to learn about what is special about Dartmoor and how we can help to conserve and enhance it
- Be bold and innovative to conserve and enhance the National Park for the next generation, to ensure that it is in better condition
- Provide opportunities for us (young people) to get involved with conservation projects

Experiencing

Opportunities

- Use social media to improve communication about how we (young people and users) can access and enjoy the National Park responsibly
- Develop a Dartmoor Ranger App with information about the local area, projects, routes and sensitivities that gives people the confidence to visit Dartmoor and use it in the right way
- Create a series of waymarked routes to help people to feel more confident exploring Dartmoor, and to make it more accessible

Understanding and Respect

- Provide opportunities for shared understanding between different groups and with local communities
- Identify ways to help visitors and user groups to understand the role farming plays in managing the landscape.

