CONSULTATION DRAFT

BEACONS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

An Historic Environment Action Plan for the Brecon Beacons National Park

2023 - 2028

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PRW Photography

Crickhowell

Foreword

To be developed

Llangorse Mountain

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Brecon

Talybont Reservoir

Nigel Forster

Contents

PART 1

7 Introduction

12 Our Historic Environment

Caring for our National Park

Valuing our Historic Landscapes and Places

Why do we need an Action Plan?

25 How has the Action Plan been developed, and who is it for?

32 Purpose, Aims and Objectives

Purpose and Aims of this Action Plan

Action Plan Objectives

PART 2

34 Background to the Action Plan Tables

51 Appendices

PART 1

Introduction

Designated a National Park in 1957, the 520 Sq miles of the Brecon Beacons encompasses beautiful countryside stretching from the rural heartland of Mid Wales in the north to the edges of the urban landscapes of the South Wales Valleys.

Nigel Forster

Mountain top cairns, Corn Du

Brecon

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The National Park contains some of Wales' finest and most treasured landscapes, prized for their peace and tranquillity, outstanding natural beauty, geology, wildlife, and cultural heritage.

Despite their apparent wildness, the landscapes we see today are cultural landscapes, formed by thousands of years of human interaction with the land. From the uplands to the settled valleys, the landscapes testify to both continuity and change, and the deep cultural patterns of life which have moulded our landscapes over millennia. From some of our most impressive and recognisable monuments – our great hillforts, spectacular castles or industrial landscapes - to buried archaeological remains and the warp and weft of local places, the fabric of these landscapes evidence how people have interacted with, managed and lived within these mountains and valleys for thousands of years.

The landscapes of the National Park are living and working spaces[1], with our environments and communities subject to a wide range of pressures, including from development, agricultural change, demographic change, increased visitor numbers and great global challenges including the climate and nature emergency, social and economic inequality, pandemic and recession.

[1] https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/the-authority/who-we-are/what-is-a-national-park/

Carreg Cennen

"The historic environment is the physical manifestation of Wales' cultural heritage; a precious inheritance that we must care for and pass on to our children to love, cherish and enjoy"

Lord Ellis Thomas (2018)

Carmarthenshire County Council

The National Park Management Plan *Future Bannau*[2], works to address these challenges for our designated landscape. The Historic Environment sector has an important role to play in contributing to a sustainable future for our protected landscapes[3 4 5] and careful management is essential to protect its special qualities. However, existing under-resourcing and capacity issues in the sector will be accentuated by the challenges facing us all in the years ahead. This plan has been developed in partnership, to protect our Historic Environment and promote cohesion and alignment of the different groups and organisations working in the National Park. It will sit alongside the Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP)[6] as background evidence for the National Park Management Plan, and will help the National Park Authority plan for the future. It has been prepared to help us look after the historic environment all around us.

(need high res image)

[2] https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/the-authority/who-we-are/npmp/management-plan-review/
[3] https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-07/priorities-for-the-historic-environment-of-wales.pdf
[4] https://gov.wales/programme-for-government-2021-to-2026-html#section-73287
[5] https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/areas-outstanding-natural-beauty-national-parks-2018-report%20.pdf
[6] https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/environment/nature-recovery-action-plan/

THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF HISTORY

From the Stone Ages to the Second World War

359 scheduled monuments

M Botwood

5 Cadw guardianship sites

PRW Photography

1946 listed buildings

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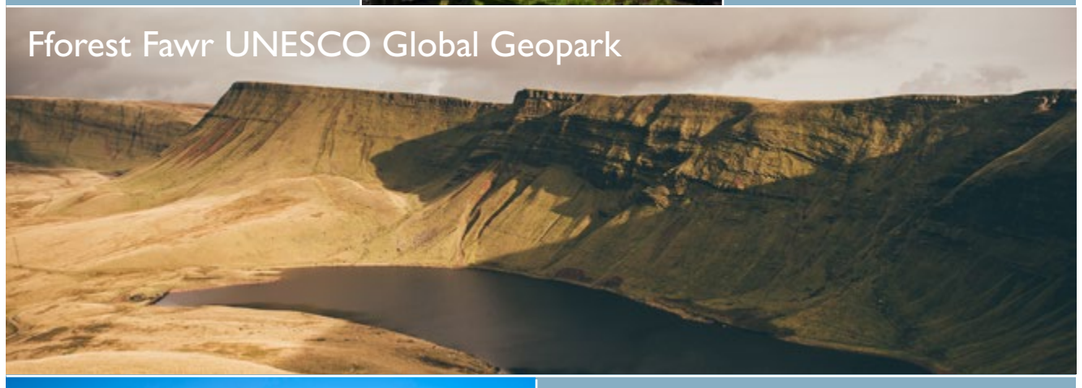
8 Registered historic landscapes

Nigel Forster

18 Registered historic parks and gardens



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5 designated Conservation Areas

Nearly **17,000** recorded sites of historic interest

Celtic longboat, Brecon Museum

Nigel Forster

Our Historic Environment

The Brecon Beacons National Park is one of Wales's finest and most treasured landscapes. It contains some of the most beautiful, spectacular and dramatic sites in Wales, and is an area of national importance with a designation conferring the highest status for conservation. Thousands of years of human history can be traced in the fabric of these landscapes, from our earliest hunter-gather communities through to the 20th century.

The National Park has inherited a wealth of archaeological and built heritage. Prehistoric remains, testifying to ancient ways of life and death, are well preserved in our uplands. Some of the earliest archaeological remains are of Mesolithic camps preserved in the upland peat landscapes. The Neolithic chambered tombs of the Black Mountains are known internationally for their importance, and the later Bronze Age burial cairns are a characteristic feature of our ridgelines. Iron Age Hillforts, often with spectacular views from commanding positions, link upland and lowland.

The Roman invasion of Wales in the first century AD led to the construction of a network of forts and camps across our landscapes, with the road systems established then forming the basis for later transport networks. Ancient myths and legends echo from earlier periods. One such focus, Llangors lake, contained an early medieval royal crannog, the only known example in Wales.

PRW Photography

Llangorse lake

Medieval castles reflect the political changes associated with the Norman Conquest and the local power struggles which followed. Great swathes of the uplands were designated as Forests – hunting preserves for the Norman lordships. Medieval planned towns, such as Brecon and Hay, formed focal points for trade and cultural exchange. The tapestry of their surrounding arable and pastoral hinterlands form the core of the modern landscape. Our built heritage, including fine gentry houses, historic churches, towns, villages and dispersed farmsteads contribute to the Brecon Beacons National Park's special qualities and sense of place. Some of the most spectacular ecclesiastical remains are monastic.

Agriculture was only one element in human exploitation of the landscape. Mining and quarrying can be traced back to the medieval period, but it was the massive expansion of industrialization in the later post-medieval period which transformed South Wales into a powerhouse of the world. The World Heritage site at Blaenavon, along with other great industrial sites around the Park, together with their transport networks, transformed the landscape and attract many thousands of visitors a year. The urbanisation and population growth of South Wales in the 19th and 20th centuries lead to increasing demand for food production and for a reliable clean water supply. Reservoirs supplied the populations of the developing towns of the south. A long history of military use has also left its marks on the landscape.

The Park has many thousands of historic assets recorded within its boundaries. There are nearly 17,000 assets on the Historic Environment Record, including 359 archaeological sites recognised as being of national importance and protected for the benefit of the nation. Eight Landscapes of Outstanding or Special Historic Interest and 18 Historic Parks and Gardens have been identified as some of the best examples in Wales. Nearly 2000 Listed Buildings, five Conservation Areas, and many more regionally or locally important settlements, buildings and structures contribute to the National Park's special architectural and historic value.

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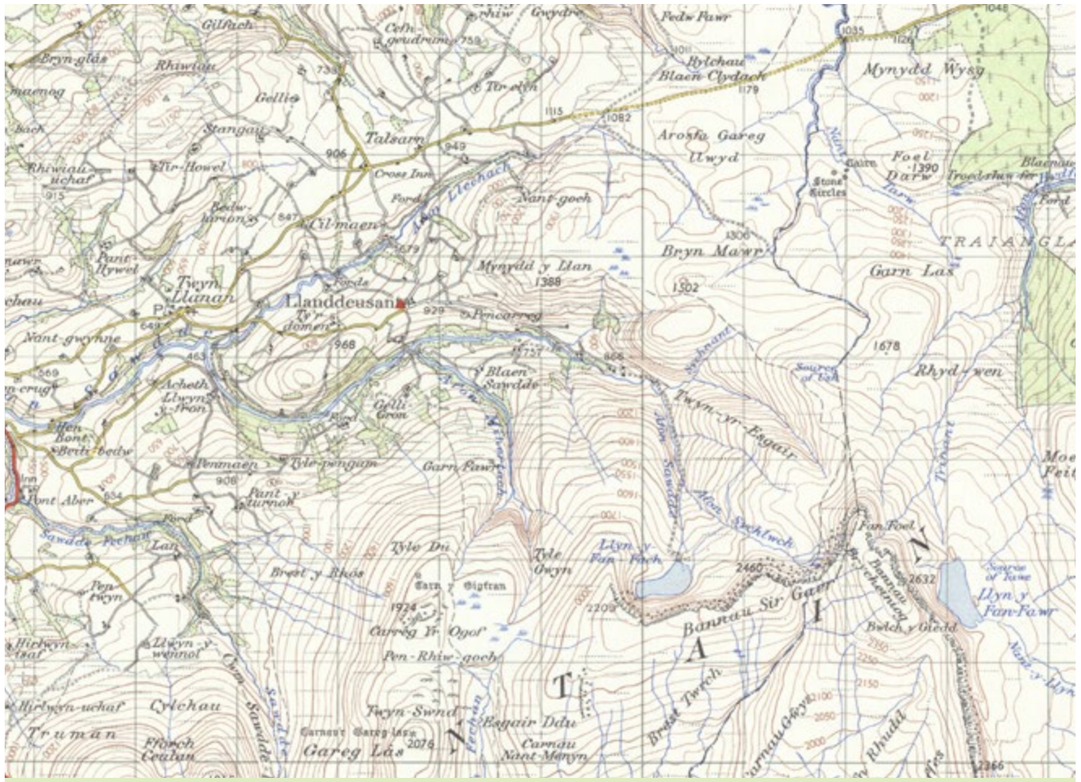
This time depth testifies to both continuity and change, and includes some of the most precious buildings, archaeological sites and historic landscapes in Wales. Many of these survive as visible and upstanding features. These sites have survived for hundreds or thousands of years, and are a valuable resource, which need to be carefully managed and conserved to ensure that they survive for current and future generations to enjoy.

Carreg Cennen

PRW Photography

Bullpit Meadow, Crickhowell



Map reproduced with permission of the National Library of Scotland.

Historic place names, whether of geographic features, settlements or individual properties, can provide a rich source of information about the historical development of a community and contribute to identity, a sense of place and belonging.

Every single field, mountain, river and cliff has a name in Wales. The majority of these names are in the Welsh language and have existed for centuries. They form an essential and fragile component of our heritage. Most of these names are not recorded on maps, and some only exist orally in the local Welsh-speaking community. Welsh place names are intimately bound up with the landscape and history of the area, and as such allow us a window into the past, and a deeper understanding of the history of our communities. Some may reflect natural features locally, others historical events or people. In areas where the language is no longer widely spoken, they also serve as a reminder that Welsh was the community language right across Wales in the recent past, and as such, they serve to tie Anglophone communities in with their Welsh heritage.

If you are interested in place names, you can learn more from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales here: https://historicplacenames.rcahmw.gov.uk/ and if you would like to discover the meanings of local names, you will find a list of common elements here: https://historicplacenames.rcahmw.gov.uk/glossary

Dr James January -McCann, RCAHMW

Caring for our National Park

The National Park Authority (NPA) and all relevant authorities are tasked with protecting our designated landscape for the benefit of the nation[8].

The National Park has two primary purposes:

> To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park

> To promote opportunities for the public understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park

In carrying out its purposes the NPA shall seek to:

> Foster the economic and social wellbeing of local communities within the National Park

In circumstances where the first purpose and second purpose are in conflict, the Sandford Principle sets out that where a resolution cannot be found, the first purpose must take precedence.

Every National Park is required by law to produce a National Park Management Plan. This Plan establishes shared objectives and priorities and influences not only the work of the National Park Authority but also a host of organisations and individuals that the Authority work alongside, including all the statutory bodies who are required to have due regard to the purposes and duty of National Parks[8].

Dyfed Archaeological Trust

[8] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/25/section/62#:~:text=(2)In%20exercising%20or%20performing,shall%20attach%20greater%20weight%20to

The 2022 Welsh government remit letter for National Parks requires National Park Authorities to align their work to the key wellbeing objectives and to become exemplars in responding to the climate and nature emergency. It recognises that the National Parks are home to agricultural communities who have worked and shaped our landscapes for thousands of years, and highlights that National Parks must work with communities to develop solutions delivering benefits for people and the environment.

The National Park Management Plan[9] works to address these challenges. The Plan covers a five-year period but has a much longer-term perspective. Five critical 'missions' have been established, to guide work over the coming years.

- **Climate Mission:** The Plan highlights the individual and collective part we all have to play in climate change mitigation and adaptation, to reach the ambition of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across the National Park by 2035
- **Nature Mission:** The Plan urges action to promote habitat recovery, species conservation and ecosystem restoration to ensure that the Brecon Beacons are Nature Positive by 2030.
- **Water Mission:** The Plan aims to have achieved clean, safe, resilient and plentiful water resources and water environments by 2030.
- **The People Mission:** The Plan aims by 2027 to have taken decisive action to support people to live and enjoy the Park sustainably and equitably.
- **The Place Mission:** The plan highlights that it is in local places, that the work to drive the change comes together. It commits to working with the people and agencies who are deeply rooted in these places to identify the key challenges and work together to find and implement the solutions that work on the ground. It aims to have contributed to the development and implementation of the Key Place Plans by 2027.

The Management Plan highlights how we all have important roles to play in addressing the challenges facing us and in developing sustainable futures for our landscapes and communities. The Historic Environment sector, alongside owners, custodians, managers and visitors to historic sites have an important role to play in developing solutions and exemplar approaches in responding to the climate and nature emergencies, and promoting the vibrant culture of Wales[10 11 12].

Flooding in Crickhowell following Storm Dennis, 2020

We are already experiencing the effects of Wales's changing climate. Warmer temperatures, rising sea levels, changing rainfall patterns and more frequent extreme weather events are now familiar.

The impact of these effects on our historic assets, which are irreplaceable, will have serious consequences for the historic environment and we need to respond to this by considering what we can do now and in the future to help increase the resilience of the historic environment.

In this context, the Climate Change Subgroup of the Historic Environment Group (HEG) in Wales (HEG 2019, 20) prepared with stakeholder engagement and public consultation the Historic Environment and Climate Change in Wales Sector Adaptation Plan (SAP), which was launched on the 18 February 2020.

The SAP is available bilingually as a download via the climate change section of the Cadw website: https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/climate-change/adapting-to-climate-change

Louise Barker (Historic Environment Group Climate Change Subgroup)

[9] https://governance.beacons-npa.gov.uk/documents/s49418/Enclosure%203%20FINAL%20Future%20Bannau%20LOW.pdf
[10] https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-07/priorities-for-the-historic-environment-of-wales.pdf
[11] https://gov.wales/programme-for-government-2021-to-2026-html#section-73287
[12] https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/areas-outstanding-natural-beauty-national-parks-2018-report%20.pdf

Llangynidr Bridge

PRW Photography

Valuing our Historic Landscapes and Places

"The historic environment is a vital part of the cultural identity of Wales. It is made up of many individual historic features which are known as historic assets. Historic assets include individual historic buildings and archaeological remains, historic parks and gardens, conservation areas and townscapes, historic landscapes, and World Heritage Sites. All these historic assets contribute to the distinctive character of all our places and to the quality of Welsh life. It is also a finite, non-renewable resource that we should sustain for the benefit of our own and future generations"

Cadw (2011) Conservation Principles

Heritage is an important source of economic prosperity and growth[13]. Our beautiful historic towns and villages provide a focus for social and economic activity, providing jobs and attracting investment, business and visitors. Our archaeological sites testify to the time depth of our landscapes, adding layers of meaning and interest. Our monuments, historic parks and gardens, our remote uplands and historic farmed and industrial landscapes are appreciated for their own distinctive character and atmosphere and are popular places to live and to visit[14].

[13] https://cadw.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2020-01/Annual%20Historic%20Environment%20Group%20for%20Wales%20-%20HEG%20Report%20Eng%202018-19.pdf

[14] Brecon Beacons National Park visitor survey 2016 - 2017

Gabriella Karney Photography

DATA PUBLISHED RECENTLY BY HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT GROUP FOR WALES (HEG) INDICATES THAT HERITAGE:

- creates employment for around **40,000** people in Wales
- is an economic driver for the tourism sector: figures show that in 2019 of **75 MILLION** day visitors to Wales, **27 MILLION** were motivated to visit by the historic environment

Tretower Court

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A survey of visitors to the Brecon Beacons National Park in 2016 – 2017 found that:

23% of visitors said that the biggest influence on the decision to visit was prompted by a desire to experience the history and culture of the National Park.

Hay Festival

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The National Survey for Wales 2017–18 found that the amount of people in Wales who had attended or participated in arts, culture or heritage activities at least 3 times in the past year was **75%**

Heritage is an important source of economic prosperity and growth. Our beautiful historic towns and villages provide a focus for social and economic activity, providing jobs and attracting investment, business and visitors. Our archaeological sites testify to the time depth of our landscapes, adding layers of meaning and interest. Our monuments, historic parks and gardens, our remote uplands and historic farmed and industrial landscapes are appreciated for their own distinctive character and atmosphere and are popular places to live and to visit.

Heritage is essential in supporting sustainable development and promoting green recovery[15]. Retrofitting and adaptive reuse of historic buildings generates employment, avoids waste, reduces consumption from new materials and reduces our overall carbon footprint[16]. The appearance and character of new development can be improved by sensitive and informed design, and by conserving, re-using and respecting historic buildings and spaces. Sustainable farming can produce fresh, local products sold in local towns, reducing food mileage. Conservation grazing, and traditional forms of woodland and peatland management can be essential in restoring habitats and protecting archaeological sites. Many historic sites have natural and cultural values, providing a range of green spaces and a variety of habitats, supporting biodiversity recovery, facilitating access to nature and providing information on past landscape change.

The historic environment contributes to the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors alike.[17] [18] [19] It supports people to live healthy lives, providing places to visit, social spaces, promoting walking and exercise, access to outdoors and opportunities for volunteering. The importance of access to green spaces, including historic parks and gardens and local heritage, in promoting physical and mental well-being is well recognised [20] [21]. Within the National Park, over 60% of our scheduled monuments and many thousands of archaeological sites are located on freely accessible open access land. Our rights of way network can provide further access, often utilising historic transport routes, such as the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, cherished by visitors and residents alike[22].

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal

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Abergavenny: a gateway to the National Park

PRW Photography

[15] https://unesco.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Biocultural-Heritage-and-Landscapes-Linking-Nature-and-Culture.pdf

[16] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0921344919304136, https://historicengland.org.uk/research/heritage-counts/2019-carbon-in-built-environment/carbon-in-built-historic-environment/

[17] https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stories/why-do-places-mean-so-much

[18] MacBride-Stuart & Headington, 2019. Understanding the Health and Well-being benefits of the Brecon Beacons National Park for a community on its periphery

[19] Darville et al. 2017. Historic Landscapes and Mental Well-being. Available at: http://www.archaeopress.com/ArchaeopressShop/Public/download.asp?id=%7B851FBF09-5ABA-4677-9A3E-E411F7D11DFE%7D

[20] https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5663018/

[21] https://cadw.gov.wales/learn/15-minute-heritage

[22] https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/canal-and-river-network/monmouthshire-and-brecon-canal

Heritage enriches our lives. Our historic assets can be valued for their aesthetic qualities, and can create a focus for community pride, a sense of shared history and belonging. A study in 2015 found that 80% of people stated that local heritage makes their area a better place to live[23]. Our historic assets can help us understand how people lived and worked, and the beliefs and values they cherished. Research and interpretation are essential in promoting understanding of the past, revealing the experiences of diverse communities and exploring the multiple narratives that are contained within it. By working to understand our past, and promoting research into under-represented histories, we can break down barriers to participation and engagement, and contribute towards a more socially just future.

Appealing to many who are interested in local history and the natural world, churchyards and other types of burial ground, encapsulate the history of communities whilst offering a refuge for native wildlife.

St Gastyn

Andrew Gilpin Photography

These unique sites, nestled in the heart of towns and villages across Brecon Beacons National Park, have escaped both the plough and development. Therefore, the grassland species present often reveal how areas of the Park's wider countryside may have looked hundreds of years ago.

This old ancient grassland (meadow) was once widespread in the UK but is now rare. Since the 1940s over 97% has vanished. Burial grounds are some of the last places it remains. Sites rich in species are being identified by Caring for God's Acre as potential seed donor sites which have the potential to support historic habitat restoration in the local area.

Caring for God's Acre works with communities to record what they have and plan their conservation management. This ranges from recording the memorials which tell of lives past and the changing fashions in art and architecture over the centuries - to recording the species present in these special places.

If you are interested in finding out more Caring for God's Acre's website is https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/

[23] https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/attachments/20_years_in_12_places_main_report_0.pdf

Why do we need an Action Plan?

The deep time-depth of the Park, and the layers of history can be read in our landscapes and townscapes. Historic places that are well-maintained and well-managed add greatly to cultural life, and to our individual and collective wellbeing.

Our heritage needs to be cared for. National Parks are living landscapes that need to evolve to ensure the continued vitality of their communities. Managing and caring for the historic environment does not mean preserving these places 'in aspic'. Indeed, archaeological evidence shows us how these landscapes have changed over many centuries. Further evolution is inevitable, driven by economic, technological and social change. The historic environment has an essential role to play in contributing to nature recovery, and in the transition to a carbon-neutral future.

However, our historic assets are a finite resource. Once destroyed, they are lost forever. Damage, neglect and loss, including loss of access, can affect the value and significance of historic sites. A commitment to managing change carefully is therefore essential, so that we protect what is important and special about our historic assets. The continued preservation of the archaeology and historic landscape of the park depends upon sympathetic management by all those whose activities occur within it.

Caring for the historic environment requires us all to carefully manage change, ensuring that what is valued today is available to future generations. Cadw have set out 6 guiding principles for the conservation of the historic environment[24].

1. Historic assets will be managed to sustain their values
2. Understanding the significance of historic assets is vital
3. The historic environment is a shared resource
4. Everyone will be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment
5. Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent
6. Documenting and learning from decisions is essential

These principles underpin management of the Historic Environment, and inform strategies guiding us towards a more sustainable future.

[24] https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/conservation-principles/conservation-principles

This Historic Environment Action Plan focuses in on our physical, or tangible heritage. It does not purport to encompass the full breadth of Cultural Heritage[25], which is commonly expressed in terms of:

- 'Tangible' cultural heritage, such as historic buildings and places, monuments, and artefacts, (commonly referred to as the 'historic environment').
- 'Intangible' cultural heritage, such as traditions, customs and practices, aesthetic and spiritual beliefs, artistic expression, language and other aspects of human activity.
- 'Natural' heritage, such as natural sites and physical, biological or geological formations.

However, the Partnership and the Plan strongly advocate for the development of a wider Cultural Heritage strategy to promote the vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language of the Brecon Beacons National Park. An action to promote and advocate for this, is included as an essential element of this Plan.

How has the Action Plan been developed, and who is it for?

The Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015) requires Welsh public bodies to work to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It places a sustainability duty on public bodies and includes a goal to promote and protect culture, heritage, and the Welsh language[26].

Five ways of working have been established to support sustainable development and ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same. These highlight the importance of collaborating, integrating and involving people and groups in the development of strategies and plans. They also stress the importance of considering the long term, and working to prevent issues arising in the future, or existing problems from getting worse.

Following these principles, a new Historic Environment Partnership (appendix) has been initiated for the Brecon Beacons National Park, as part of the development of *Future Bannau*, tasked with preparing an action plan to promote the understanding, protection and management of the historic environment. Everyone who owns, manages and visits our ancient sites and historic places are responsible for helping to safeguard this precious resource. Working in partnership with colleagues, communities and visitors is essential in promoting understanding, conservation and celebration of our historic environment and cultural heritage.

This Action Plan (HEAP) has been prepared by the Historic Environment Partnership Core Group, in consultation with a broader network of interested groups, organisations and individuals (appendix).

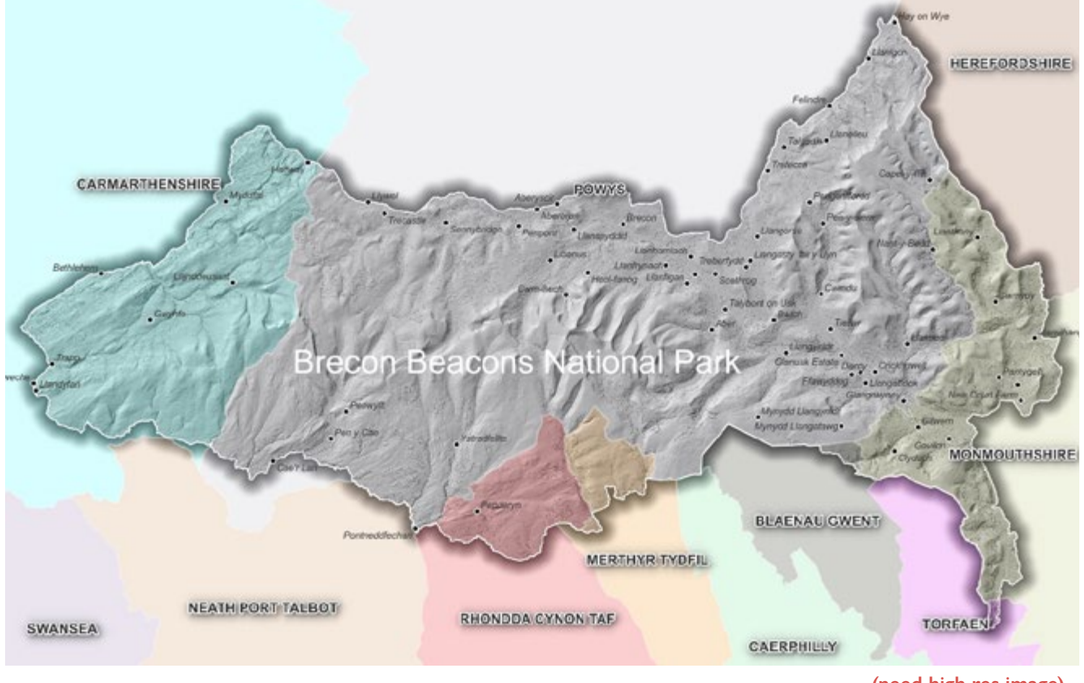
Population of the park:
33,995
(2020 data)

Number of people who visit the park annually:
4.31 million
(2019 data)

481 people engaged with National Park Authority heritage related walks
(2018 – 2022 data)

School visits to/supported by the National Park Authority:
87 SCHOOLS / AROUND 5500 CHILDREN.
(2019 – 2021 data)
Non BBNPA led visits adding 120-150 more schools.

25 SDF supported heritage projects since 2016
(total value of £116,867)



The National Park is situated across or abuts 9 Welsh Local Authority Areas, and the English border. (need high res image)

[25] http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/illicit-trafficking-of-cultural-property/unesco-database-of-national-cultural-heritage-laws/frequently-asked-questions/definition-of-the-cultural-heritage/

[26] https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/

Many individuals and organisations work in, or intersect with the historic environment sector across the Park, including homeowners, farmers, property and land managers, community groups, local authorities and visitors to the Park landscapes. The plan does not purport to encompass all activity – but aims to provide a foundation and framework to identify shared objectives, improve co-ordination, and focus resources.

The HEAP will provide a mechanism for helping to prioritise, deliver and monitor the conservation and celebration of our heritage. This will be a working document, to be updated regularly in the coming years. The Action Plan is primarily intended to guide the work of the Historic Environment Partnership (HEP), a developing collaboration of organisations, groups and individuals, who all have a common interest in the historic environment of the National Park. Delivery of the HEAP will depend on consensus, collaboration, and long-term commitment and resources. By working together to maximise resources, knowledge, and experience, we have the greatest chance of success.

The HEAP provides a local framework in compliance with Wales' unique environmental legal and policy drivers, and is underpinned by a variety of laws, policies, plans and strategies, as shown in the diagram below.

INTERNATIONAL DRIVERS	NATIONAL DRIVERS	LOCAL (BBNP) DELIVERY MECHANISM/PLANS
Valletta Convention (creates a commitment to adequately resource and protect archaeology and archaeological investigation)	**The Environment Act 1995** (Section 61) (National Parks)	**National Park Management Plan**
Faro Convention (promotes cultural heritage protection as a core public right and benefit)	**Well-being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**	**Local Development Plan**
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972	**Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016**	**Supplementary Planning Guidances**
	Planning Policy Wales	**BILWHS management plan**
	Cadw Historic Environment Priorities 2018	**Historic Environment Action Plan**
	Cadw Conservation Principles, 2011	

Evidence base: State of the Park report, Monuments at Risk, CC SAP, HER, Conservation Area appraisals, BILWHS reporting

Hay on Wye

SUPPORT US

The success of the Historic Environment Action Plan will depend upon the sustained input of our Historic Environment Partnership.
Many partners are operating in challenging times, with significant demands upon both time and resources. However, by working together, we can all contribute to the conservation, understanding and celebration of our Historic Environment. The Partnership is a collaboration which is open to all who want to contribute. A desire and commitment to help deliver the plan is the only requirement to be involved.

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Cairns, Pen Cerrig Calch

The Vision

The Historic Environment of the National Park will be carefully managed, celebrating our historic environment, supporting biodiversity recovery and increasing resilience in the face of climate change. It will be valued by visitors and local people, who will be inspired by a wealth of historic sites, stories and local traditions. All will be engaged in learning from the past in order to inform the development of sustainable strategies for the future.[27]

[27] *The vision has been developed through an early workshop attended by members of the heritage community, local communities and NPA staff, with updates following consultation with the Historic Environment Partnership.*

Nigel Forster

Llanddeusant

Aled Llywelyn

Purpose, Aims and Objectives

Purpose and Aims of this Action Plan

The purpose of the Action Plan is to improve co-ordination and collaborate action to promote the conservation and celebration of the Historic Environment of the National Park.

The Aims of preparing the Action Plan are:

1. **To define a suite of shared objectives and secure commitment to delivery**
2. **To promote the conservation management of the historic environment**
3. **To engage with communities and visitors in promoting understanding of the historic environment and cultural heritage of the Park**
4. **To improve collaboration, resourcing and capacity in order to support projects to enhance, manage, research, monitor, and celebrate the beautiful and varied character of the historic environment and heritage.**

Action Plan Objectives (2022-2027)

The following objectives provide the framework for actions identified in Section 2

Collaboration and Partnership

- To improve capacity to implement and develop the Action Plan
- To work with partners at all levels to unify action for heritage

Conservation Management of the Historic Environment

- To promote the sustainable management of the historic environment as an integral part of projects developed and implemented within the National Park
- To promote understanding of the interaction between cultural and natural ecosystems, supporting and informing sustainable strategies for green recovery and climate change mitigation.
- To work with authorities, owners, managers, communities and visitors to protect, conserve and enhance nationally, regionally and locally significant historic assets.

Valuing and Celebrating our Heritage

- To improve capacity to support community engagement and project development
- To celebrate and promote engagement with the historic environment for the heath, wellbeing and public benefits it brings

Developing Knowledge and Understanding

- To develop evidence baselines and research priorities
- To promote education, skills and training

Young Archaeologists Club at Pen Y Crug, Brecon

Sue Ware

PART 2

Historic Environment Action Plan: Actions and Key Partners

Crug Howell camp

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Hay on Wye

Background to the Action Plan Tables

The following four framework tables list actions that have emerged as a result of a series of discussions with heritage partners and staff at the National Park Authority. The Action Tables do not encompass all heritage activity within the National Park, but they seek to encompass a series of drivers and priorities held in common.

Many different individuals, groups and organisations work and contribute to the conservation and enhancement of our historic environment and cultural heritage. The Action Tables seek to build on work already underway and identify work contributing to the overarching purpose of this plan; ***to improve co-ordination and collaborate action to promote the conservation and celebration of the Historic Environment of the National Park.***

The Action Tables are intended to be dynamic and will evolve in future, in response to ongoing developments, drivers and opportunities.

Notes to accompany the Action Tables:

- An indication of HEP member support for each action is as follows: Lead Partner (in bold), confirmed support (standard text) and potential support - to be confirmed (in italics). This does not exclude the involvement of other partners due to the Plan being an evolving document and it is expected that this will change as the HEAP develops.
- Abbreviations are used, with full partner names given in Appendix 1.
- An indication of priority and timescales are provided in the tables. The HEP's overall top five priorities for implementation are highlighted in peach
- A column to indicate a link to a *Future Bannau* Key Mission is included
- The 'critical links to projects' column is provided to give an indication of cross over with existing/planned partner-led initiatives
- It is recognised that some actions overlap and contribute to multiple objectives.
- Monitoring and evidencing progress in the context of broad landscape scale, multi partnership based plans pose many challenges. Baseline data sets are required against which to measure progress, and simple and time effective systems to collate key performance indicators are required. The Action tables include a column indicating potential data sources and indicators

Collaboration and Partnership

	Objectives *Objectives should be specific statements that define measurable outcomes, e.g. what steps will be taken to achieve the desired outcome.* *Objectives for period of the plan 2021-2026 to move towards the vision*	**Actions** *SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely)*	**Lead Organisations** *(a) in place, in progress* *(b) initiated, requires development,* *(c) requires initiation* Major Partners (**Lead**, Confirmed, *Potential*)	**Priority / Timescale**	**NPMP: Key Mission links**	**Outcomes**	**Critical Links to Projects/ Notes**	**Monitoring Indicators** *A suite of monitoring indicators will be agreed and included in performance assessment reviews.* *How to quantify/ measure effectiveness?* *Reporting processes*
1	To improve capacity to implement and develop the Action Plan	To seek funding to recruit a HEAP Implementation Officer to develop the Historic Environment Partnership, coordinate development and delivery of the Plan and evaluate the Plan's progress	c) **BBNPA**/ HEP Core	Year 1	All	Improved capacity to • Develop the partnership network and support collaboration. • Promote engagement communities, landowners/ managers, farmers in delivery of the plan • Coordinate development and delivery of the action plan, • To promote and benefit from sources of funding • To establish and collate performance assessment indicators and evaluate plan progress		Data may include: • Improved capacity to support HEP • A thriving partnership • Ongoing development and delivery of HEAP • Annual reporting
2	To work with partners at all levels to unify action for heritage	Integrate HEAP into HEP plans, polices and projects	b) **BBNPA, HEP Core** *HEP Forum*	Year 1	All	• HEAP is referenced in partners work streams, plans and policies • The HEAP is referenced in BBNPA cross-departmental work streams, plans and policies, contributing towards collaborative holistic outcomes • Improved opportunities to promote cross-discipline project development, and collaboration with nature recovery and biodiversity initiatives.	SFS, SLM, Peatlands, Tree planting, Nature Recovery, Climate change, Tourism, Communities, NRAP	Indicators may include • HEAP integration into: HEP partner plans • HEAP Integration into BBNPA cross-departmental projects and plans
3		Establish an annual Historic Environment Partnership Day	c) HEP nominated person – TBC	Year 2	All	• Awareness and profile of the work of organisations are raised • Projects celebrated and shared • Public engagement		Data may include: • Event stats (date of event, contributors, attendees)
4		Develop an online presence for HEAP & HEP. To include: • Online access to HEAP, and systems for update • Resources, news, projects and events • Links to partners websites, resources	c) **HEP Core, BBNPA comms team**, All	Year 1	All	Increased • Access to, knowledge and participation in HEP & HEAP • Public understanding of the work of different groups • Enjoyment and engagement of the cultural heritage and historic environment of the Park	Comms Strategy	Data may include: • Initial development of website • Ongoing associated digital stats: website usage / social media posts etc
5		Champion heritage in the development of national, regional and local policy and guidance	**a) CIfA, Cadw, ALGAO, HEG, HEP, All**	Ongoing	All	• HE input to the development of post-Brexit national policy and practise • Strengthened representation of HE in National Park strategy, policy and programmes	• NPMP • LDP • State of the Park Reporting	Individual and collective appraisal of developing strategic policy for the Park (ongoing)

Conservation Management of the Historic Environment

	Objectives *Objectives should be specific statements that define measurable outcomes, e.g. what steps will be taken to achieve the desired outcome.* *Objectives for period of the plan 2021-2026 to move towards the vision*	**Actions** *SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely)*	**Lead Organisations** *(a) in place, in progress* *(b) initiated, requires development,* *(c) requires initiation* Major Partners (**Lead**, Confirmed, *Potential*)	**Priority / Timescale**	**NPMP: Key Mission links**	**Outcomes**	**Critical Links to Projects/ Notes**	**Monitoring Indicators** *A suite of monitoring indicators will be agreed and included in performance assessment reviews.* *How to quantify/ measure effectiveness?* *Reporting processes*
1	To promote that the sustainable management of the historic environment as an integral part of projects developed and implemented within the National Park	Maintain capacity in the statutory planning system for the sustainable management of the Historic Environment, including monitoring and enforcement.	a) **BBNPA,** WATS, Cadw, BBPS	Ongoing	All	• Sufficient HE capacity to support the statutory planning function of the NPA.	LDP review	Data may include • Staffing levels
2		Maintain and improve systems for historic environment input into inter– disciplinary project development BBNPA (ie programmes not managed via the planning system).	b/c) **BBNPA**, Cadw, WATs	Ongoing	All	• Improved capacity for providing advice, project participation • Projects and programmes for change (Climate, Nature, Water, People and Place missions) will be informed by an understanding of the distribution, type and significance of historic assets affected • The sustainable management of the historic environment is integrated and considered in all aspects of the management of National Park landscapes	NRAP Tourism Policy/ Strategy	Data may include • Staff input • Partner input into projects
3	To promote understanding of the interaction between cultural and natural ecosystems, supporting and informing sustainable strategies for green recovery and climate change mitigation.	BBNPA Climate Mission: work towards the ambition of Net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across the National Park by 2037. Concurrent work towards increasing resilience for the Historic environment in line with the HE CC SAP	b) **BBNPA HE SAP, All**	Ongoing	Climate Mission	Individual and collective action to develop climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience strategies Strengthen linkages between BBNPA policy and activity and the Welsh Historic Environment and Climate Change Sector Adaptation Plan	HE CC SAP, NRAP Built heritage, Peatlands, woodland creation NRW: *Landscape and Nature Recovery in a Changing Climate work*	Data may include • BBNPA progress data • Evidence gathered to inform annual (January) reporting to the HE CC Sector Adaptation Plan
4		Raising awareness of information and good practice: Woodlands HE advice into the development of schemes, ensuring that in managing existing landscapes, woodlands and trees, good practice conservation management guidance is followed and the significance of heritage assets are respected	**b) Cadw, NRW WATs, BBNPA**	Ongoing	Climate, Nature, People and Place Missions	Accordance with the UK Forestry Standard & Woodland for Wales Strategy 2009, 4 • Projects and programmes for will be informed by an understanding of the distribution, type and significance of historic assets affected. • Archaeological sites are safeguarded and the integrity of historic landscapes are preserved. • Residents and visitors can experience the cultural history of woodlands and their historic features	WAT input into the development of NRW Forest Resource Plans; FLA Glastir WCS/ WG woodland Grant schemes (continue until 2025, when new SLM schemes are adopted) National Forest for Wales Historic trees project NRAP, Coed Cymru	Indicators may include • Appropriate HE consultation processes developed for woodland creation schemes Data may include • TBC Reporting mechanisms for above

Conservation Management of the Historic Environment *(continued)*

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5		Raising awareness of information and good practice; Rivers and Waterways HE advice into the development of schemes, ensuring that the historic environment of our reservoirs, lakes, and rivers and waterways will be safeguarded during development of management/ riparian improvement schemes, and the cultural heritage of our waterways will be celebrated.	b) **Cadw, NRW, WATs, BBNPA, Glandwr Cymru**	Ongoing	Water Mission	• Projects and programmes for will be informed by an understanding of the distribution, type and significance of historic assets affected • The historical significance of our waterways is protected • Residents and visitors can experience the cultural history and historic features of waterways	BBNPA River Crisis Task Force WAT Rivers Project, Riparian improvement Schemes, Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal Project, Dŵr Cymru Brecon Beacons Mega catchment Initiative NRAP NRW: River 4 Life project (Usk) Rivers Trust/Afonydd Cymru	Indicators may include • Appropriate HE consultation processes developed for improvement schemes Data may include • TBC Reporting mechanisms for above
6		Raising awareness of information and good practice: Peatland restoration HE advice into the development of Peatland restoration programmes, ensuring that the historic environment of peatlands will be safeguarded during development of restoration schemes, and understanding of the historic environment and paleoenvironmental record of the uplands of the National Park is improved.	b), **Cadw, WATs, NRW, BBNPA**. CCE Cardiff	Ongoing Ongoing	Climate and Nature Missions All	• Accordance with Best Practise Guidance : IUNC guidance, draft National Guidance • Peatland restoration schemes will be well informed, the historic environment will be protected, and projects can articulate the multiple benefits of schemes • Improved understanding of the evidence base of the paleoenvironmental record in the uplands of the National Park	Peatland Restoration programmes Wales Draft National Guidance BBNP Paleoenvironmental Review	Indicators may include • Development of agreed Guidance • Improved baseline data • Successful holistic development and implementation of schemes
7		Raising awareness of information and good practice: SLM, Nature Recovery	a/b) **BBNPA, WATs, NRW**	Ongoing	All	Interrelations between the historic and natural environment are understood and strengthened for mutually beneficial outcomes and supporting development of sustainable strategies for the future • Supporting development of cultural ecosystem services approaches, • Improving dialogue between the HEP Partnership and LNP, seeking opportunities to collaborate, promoting existing projects and initiatives • seeking opportunities to collaborate cross-departmentally BBNPA	NRAP, BAR LNP BBNPA Volunteer and survey network Conservation projects: ie Garn Goch, Bryn Oer Caring For Gods Acre NRW: *Landscape and Nature Recovery in a Changing Climate* work	Indicators may include • Development of Integrated, cross disciplinary projects

Conservation Management of the Historic Environment *(continued)*

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8		Raising awareness of information and good practice: Agri Environmental and Sustainable Farming Schemes. Promotion of integrated approaches in the development of SLM/SFS.	1. a/b) **Cadw, NRW, WATs, RCAHMW, BBNPA** (Policy Team & Heritage team), *All*	Ongoing	All	Interrelations between the historic and natural environment are understood and strengthened for mutually beneficial outcomes and supporting development of sustainable strategies for the future • Ensuring that cultural heritage and historic environment are recognised and identified as a public good in development of emerging policy. • Contribution to the development of detail that will underpin the SFS, and the structuring of expert advice to farmers and the delivery of advice by Farming Connect, and how the service will liaise with historic environment specialists in the Welsh Archaeological Trusts and Cadw.	SFS PONT NRAP	Indicators may include • Appropriate HE consultation processes developed for SLM/SFS Data may include • TBC Reporting mechanisms for above

Conservation Management of the Historic Environment *(continued)*

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9	To work with authorities, owners, managers, communities and visitors to protect, conserve and enhance nationally, regionally and locally significant historic assets.	Partnership based working to conserve and enhance nationally significant/ designated historic assets.	a/b) **Cadw, WATs, BBNPA Planning and Countryside teams, NT, Mon CC, Heritage Watch**, BBNPA, Heritage Volunteers, BBPS, *Property and Landowners, All*	Ongoing	All	The percentage of designated monuments and Listed Buildings in good condition is increased; reduction in the number of designated historic assets at risk • Sustainable management of nationally important historic assets and their settings through the planning system • Work in partnership to ensure the most appropriate form of protection is applied to heritage assets. • Development of a priority list & strategy for conservation management of Scheduled Monuments within the BBNPA • Development of a Listed Buildings at Risk Strategy • Work with Volunteers and communities to promote beneficial management of designated heritage assets • Work with authorities, partnership/ interest groups, landowners and managers to promote beneficial management of historic assets • Work in partnership to monitor, record and investigate incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour – 'Heritage Crime'.	Planning department Warden teams Heritage watch Cadw Archaeology Strategy	Data may include • Planning stats • SM condition data • LB stats • Improved systems for Heritage crime reporting

Talgarth

PRV Photography

Conservation Management of the Historic Environment *(continued)*

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10	To work with authorities, owners, managers, communities and visitors to protect, conserve and enhance nationally, regionally and locally significant historic assets.	To promote the beneficial management of Registered Historic Landscapes and Registered Parks and Gardens	a) **Cadw, NRW, BBNPA, Planning and Countryside team, WATS**	Ongoing	All	To have increased the number of historic landscapes, and parks and gardens in favourable condition with appropriate management. • Sustainable management Registered Historic Parks, and Gardens delivered through the Planning system, and though provision of advice to inform development of management strategy • Provision of specialist heritage advice to inform development of large scale Landuse schemes: e.g. peatlands/ tree planting schemes not managed via the planning system.	Craig Y Nos Country Park Management Plan	Data may include • Planning statistics • Project stats • NRW *Development Trends in Registered Historic Landscapes data*
11		To work in partnership to protect the Outstanding Universal Values of the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site	1a) **Cadw, Torfaen CBC, GGAT WAT, BBNPA**	Ongoing	All	Protection of OUV Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site • Promotion of the beneficial management of the BILWHS through the planning system • Contribution to the Blaenavon WHS Steering Group Meetings	BILWHS Partnership BILWHEG (Volunteer group)	Data may include • Planning statistics • Meeting stats? • Volunteering info?

Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site, part of which is within the National Park

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Conservation Management of the Historic Environment *(continued)*

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12	To work with authorities, owners, managers, communities and visitors to protect, conserve and enhance nationally, regionally and locally significant historic assets.	To improve and enhance our historic townscapes, villages, and the settings of our historic assets.	a) **BBNPA Planning team**, *All*	Ongoing	People and Place, All	Improvements in our townscapes and the settings of our historic assets by realising the opportunities afforded by designating Conservation Areas and developing Placemaking • Conservation Area Appraisals review and enhancement works • Promotion of improvements through the planning system, new designations, and provision of advice and guidance	Mon & Brec Canal Local Listing Project BAR Strategy Signage and shopfronts guidance Windows guidance Colour Guidance project SDF	Data may include • CAA review and enhancement • Planning stats • Production of guidance

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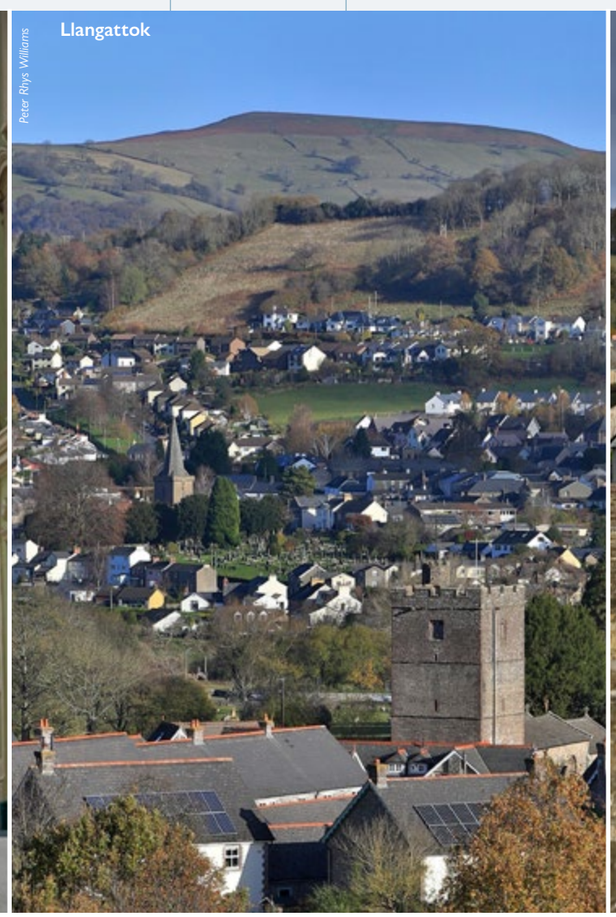

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Conservation Management of the Historic Environment *(continued)*

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13	To work with authorities, owners, managers, communities and visitors to protect, conserve and enhance nationally, regionally and locally significant historic assets.	Promotion of the favourable management of locally and regionally significant historic assets.	a) **WATS, BBNPA, Nat Trust, BBPS, BSMF**, FF Churches, All	Ongoing	People and Place, All	The contribution that locally and regionally important historic assets make to the special qualities of the National Parks and its local places is recognised and documented. The favourable management of locally and regionally significant historic assets is promoted, for this and future generations • Maintenance and augmentation of the Regional Historic Environment Records as an essential basis for informed decision making. • Promotion of beneficial management and mitigation of impacts to undesignated archaeological sites and historic assets as managed through the planning system • Work with authorities, partnership/ interest groups, land owners and managers to promote beneficial management of undesignated historic assets • Work in partnership and within communities to ensure that non-designated and intangible heritage is recognised and protected. • Improvements in understanding of the distribution, mapping, and character of our ancient, veteran, and notable trees and hedges	BBPS – Tramroads Project BS&MF/BBNPA – Farmsteads project BBNP Historic trees Project Warden teams Canal and Rivers Trust; Mon and Brecon canal Friends of Friendless Churches Caring for Gods Acre	Data may include • HER stats • Planning Stats • Project stats

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal

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Valuing and Celebrating

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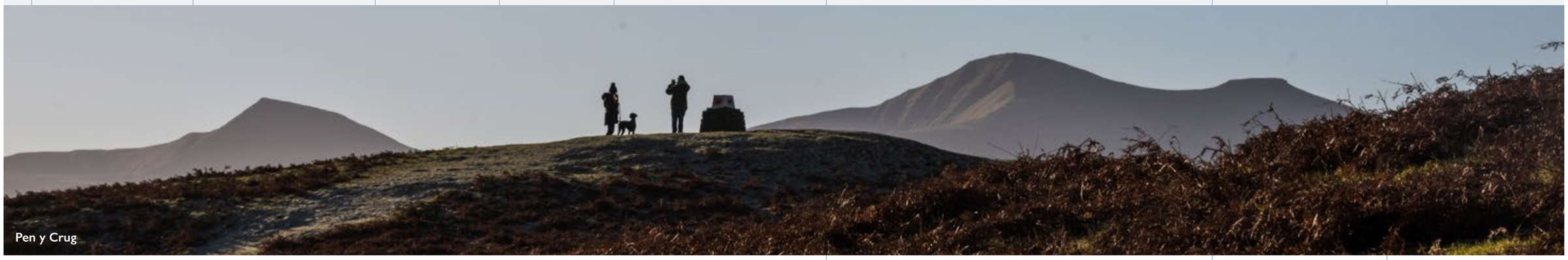
1	To improve capacity to support community engagement and project development	Develop BBNPA resources and capacity to support volunteering, community engagement and benefit from funding opportunities	c) **BBNPA** TBC budget allowing	Year 1	All	Increased capacity to support community engagement in the heritage of the park: • Work in partnership to develop flagship park- wide projects, support local projects and provide forums for the promotion of research and learning • Improved understanding of public benefits of the heritage of the park: health, wellbeing, nature recovery Increase partnership and cross-sectorial working • Support children's engagement in heritage and the next generations of archaeologists / conservationists • Identify opportunities to work with partners to improve inclusivity, and work with under-represented groups. Improved awareness of potential funding sources to support the development of heritage and engagement projects (ie SDF) • Prepare for unpredictability in funding opportunities, by identifying priorities and developing 'shovel ready' projects.	NPMP: Missions Tramroads YAC Existing Heritage Volunteers – '*Adopt a Monument*' scheme Ambassadors Geopark Nat Trust Canals, communities and Wellbeing Partnership project *(Powys County Council's Countryside Services, Regeneration and Tourism teams, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Canal and River Trust, Monmouthshire County Council and Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust and South and West Wales Wildlife Trust)* BBNPA SDF Communities team	Indicators may include • Improved capacity for community based projects Data may include • SDF statistics • Data from Communities team • Data from the Canals, communities and Wellbeing project
2	To celebrate and promote engagement with the historic environment for the heath, wellbeing and public benefits it brings	Development of HEP Communication / Interpretation Strategy.	c) **HEP, BBNPA Communications team** All	Year 1	All	Increased understanding, enjoyment and engagement in the cultural heritage and historic environment of the Park • Improved recognition of the public benefits of heritage, including nature recovery, health and wellbeing • Awareness and profile of the work of organisations are raised, projects celebrated and shared. • Support and promote Partnership projects, developing and celebrating themes with local organisations	WATs, RCAHMW, Cadw, National Trust, PONT Canal & River Trust: step by step programme BS&MF, Brecon, Story, Brecknock History Forum FFChurches, BILWHEG Amgueddfa Cymru BBNP Communities, Tourism Team/Policy, Geopark	Indicators may include • Development of strategy Data may include: • X no of posts, blogs, website access data

Valuing and Celebrating *(continued)*

	Objectives *Objectives should be specific statements that define measurable outcomes, e.g. what steps will be taken to achieve the desired outcome.* *Objectives for period of the plan 2021-2026 to move towards the vision*	**Actions** *SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely)*	**Lead Organisations** *(a) in place, in progress* *(b) initiated, requires development,* *(c) requires initiation* Major Partners (**Lead**, Confirmed, *Potential*)	**Priority / Timescale**	**NPMP: Key Mission links**	**Outcomes**	**Critical Links to Projects/ Notes**	**Monitoring Indicators** *A suite of monitoring indicators will be agreed and included in performance assessment reviews.* *How to quantify/ measure effectiveness?* *Reporting processes*
3	To celebrate and promote engagement with the historic environment for the heath, wellbeing and public benefits it brings	To advocate for the development of a Cultural Heritage Action Plan for the Park	c) **BBNPA**, HEP Core, Brecon Story, TBC	Year 1	All	Strategic plan to promote and advocate for NP's broader cultural heritage, including Welsh Language, Arts and Literature	Welsh Culture Strategy (due 2023)	Indicators may include • Establishment of a group and/or Cultural Heritage Strategy Lead for the Park • Development of the Strategy • Resources to support it
4		Develop a HE Community Engagement and Volunteering Strategy	b) **BBNPA + Volunteer engagement officer, HEP, BBPS, BSMF,** *WATs community officers, Y Gaer*	Year 2	All	Priorities identified Heritage Volunteering Database Improved opportunities for participation and engagement Partnership resources developed to support community engagement and volunteering opportunities. New opportunities for young adults and children Increased audience diversity Identification of funding opportunities	BBNPA Volunteering strategy Communities team	Data may include • SDF statistics • Data from Communities team • Data from the Canals, communities and Wellbeing project
5		To celebrate and support the work of our county, and local history and archaeology societies	**HEP/ BBNPA Communications team**	Year 1	People and Place Missions, All	Support for local and county groups (Item 1 Valuing and celebrating) Development of BB Heritage Resources webpage and communications plan (Item 2 Valuing and Celebrating)	BS&MF, Brecon Story, Brecknock History Forum FFChurches, WATs, BILWHEG Amgueddfa Cymru BBNP Tourism Team/ Policy, Geopark	Indicators may include • Development and implementation of NP Communications plan (See Valuing and Celebrating Action 2) • SDF statistics



Pen y Crug

Nigel forster

Developing Knowledge and Understanding

	Objectives *Objectives should be specific statements that define measurable outcomes, e.g. what steps will be taken to achieve the desired outcome.* *Objectives for period of the plan 2021-2026 to move towards the vision*	**Actions** *SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely)*	**Lead Organisations** *(a) in place, in progress* *(b) initiated, requires development,* *(c) requires initiation* Major Partners (**Lead**, Confirmed, *Potential*)	**Priority / Timescale**	**NPMP: Key Mission links**	**Outcomes**	**Critical Links to Projects/ Notes**	**Monitoring Indicators** *A suite of monitoring indicators will be agreed and included in performance assessment reviews.* *How to quantify/ measure effectiveness?* *Reporting processes*
1	To develop evidence baselines and research priorities	Commission NP *State of Heritage & Cultural Capital assessment*	c) HEP: definition of parameters, appointment of contractor	Year 1	All	• Increased understanding of the state of the heritage of the park, • Increased understanding of the public benefits of heritage to the National Park: Health, Wellbeing, Nature recovery, • Evidence baseline to inform NPMP, State of the park report, and future HEAP actions. • Recommendations for development of a priority work programme in support of HEAP	NPMP, LDP, State of The Park reporting, HAR, Heritage watch, CCSAP, Canal and River Trust Step by Step programme, Caring for Gods Acre, NRAP, Vital Signs, Canals, Communities and Wellbeing Partnership	Indicators may include • Resultant report and evidence baseline
		Commission NP *Cultural Ecosystems Service Review*	c) HEP: definition of parameters, appointment of contractor	Year 2	All	• Evidence baseline to inform NPMP, State of the park report, and future HEAP actions. • Promotion of understanding of the interrelationship between the natural and historic environments.	Ditto above, State of Heritage and Cultural Capital Assessment	Indicators may include • Resultant report and evidence baseline

Black Mountains

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Developing Knowledge and Understanding *(continued)*

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2	To develop evidence baselines and research priorities	Develop / commission a BBNP HE research agenda	c) HEP: definition of parameters, appointment of contractor	Year 2/3	People and Place, All	• Improved understanding, data, promotion of research, gap analysis, interpretative themes. • Development of Park- wide (cross-regional), narratives for the BBNP Area • Published summaries of the heritage and archaeology of the National Park as a whole: Supporting celebration and understanding of the HE of the park, as a foundation to promote future research, and as a tool to support conservation management.	BBNPA Research Partnership/Prospectus Welsh Archaeological Research Agenda Cadw's Archaeological Strategy, Cadw's Historic Environment Skills Manager RCAHMW work Existing academic research programmes CCSAP WELCAAP Anti - Racist Wales Action Plan	Indicators may include • Production of HE research agenda for the Park • Improved understanding of research priorities at a landscape scale • Resources for BBNP park-wide HE narratives and outreach materials
3		Maintenance and enhancement of the Statutory Historic Environment record for the Park	a) **WATs**, BBNPA, All	Ongoing	All	• Development and augmentation of the statutory HER, the fundamental baseline for sustainable management of the Historic Environment of the Park	WATs	Data may include • WAT Stats for HER augmentation
4		Inclusion of a Heritage remit within any BBNPA Wildlife and Rural crime officer secondment post for the National Park, and promotion of the Heritage Watch Scheme for the BBNPA area	b) **BBNPA warden team**, police pan-Wales HC lead, Cadw HC lead	Ongoing	All	Increased capacity to: • Improve understanding of Heritage crime within the National Park • Promote links with the Heritage Watch scheme • Develop/ commission baseline assessment of heritage crime in the park • Improved and systems for the reporting and recording of Heritage crime • Prevention work and improved capacity to respond & deal with damage cases	Dyfed- Powys *Heritage Watch group*, Gwent Police force, South Wales police Force, Cadw, WATs	Indicators may include • Establishment of Post • Improved baselines for heritage crime in the park • Establishment of appropriate reporting systems • Reduction in unauthorised works and damage
5	To promote education, skills and training	To promote opportunities for education, skills and training in the heritage sector	**BBNPA** rural skills Policy/ Working group, HEP, *Amgueddfa Cymru, Cadw, Y Gaer*	Year 1/2	All	• Opportunities for developing public awareness, understanding, enjoyment of and engagement with the historic environment through primary, secondary and tertiary curricula and lifelong learning. • Promotion of resources and training offered by education and skills providers. • Development of the NPA Heritage Ambassadors programme	BBNPA Rural Skills Policy working group BBNPA Education Team *The new Curriculum for Wales* Y Gaer Amgueddfa Cymru learning programme Cadw Lifelong Learning team/ Historic Environment Skills Manager WATs	Indicators may include • Input to the BBNPA rural skills Policy/ Working group • Development of Ambassador materials Data may include • Website usage stats: Heritage Ambassador programme

Appendices

Appendix 1: Membership of the HEP Core group:

- **Dr Paul Belford (HEP Chair), Director, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT)**. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust was established in 1975 and its object is the 'education of the public in archaeology'. CPAT is one of four Welsh Archaeological Trusts working closely with other national, regional and local bodies to help conserve, understand and promote all aspects of the historic environment in Wales. The Welsh Archaeological Trusts are independent charities. https://cpat.org.uk/home/about-us/
- **Janet Bailey (HEP Vice Chair). Branch Lead, Brecon Beacons Young Archaeologists Club (BBYAC)**. The Young Archaeologists' Club (YAC) is a UK-wide club, promoting 8-16 year olds participation in archaeology, and it part of the Council for British Archaeology. The Brecon Beacons Branch is based in Brecon and is run by a team of volunteers. https://www.yac-uk.org/clubs/brecon-beacons
- **Dr Liz Bickerton, Trustee, the Brecknock Society and Museum Friends (BSMF).** Since it was founded in 1928, the Brecknock Society has been studying and promoting the history and culture of the historic county of Brecknock. It gives particular support to the Brecknock Museum & Art Gallery, and, as Museum Friends, seeks to assist its operation and development. Its journal, Brycheiniog, is published annually and seeks to stimulate a wider understanding of the history, archaeology, literature, and arts of the former county of Brecknock. The Society is an independent charity. https://brecknocksociety.co.uk/about/
- **Anna Irwin, Inspector of Historic Buildings, Cadw.** Cadw are the Welsh Government's historic environment service working for an accessible and well-protected historic environment for Wales. The Inspector of Historic Buildings sits within the Historic Environment branch of Cadw and undertakes a range of duties related to protecting, conserving and sustaining the built historic environment in Wales. https://cadw.gov.wales/
- **Martin Buckle, Chair, Brecon Beacons Park Society (BBPS).** The Brecon Beacons Park Society is a voluntary organisation open to everyone. Its main purpose is to advance the enhancement, protection and conservation of the countryside and other amenities of the Brecon Beacons National Park for the benefit of the public. It provides opportunities for healthy recreation and in particular walking. The Society is an independent charity. https://www.breconbeaconsparksociety.org/about-bbps/
- **Dr Toby Driver, Senior Investigator (Aerial Survey), The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.** The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales is a national body, who have a leading role in developing and promoting understanding of the archaeological, built and maritime heritage of Wales. It generates, curates and supplies information for individuals, authorities and the government. The Royal Commission is sponsored by the Welsh Government. https://rcahmw.gov.uk/about-us/
- **Elizabeth Jeffreys, Project Director, Brecon Story.** The purpose of Brecon Story (previously the Brecon Heritage & Cultural Network) is to provide a united approach to raising awareness of the town's rich heritage and the vibrancy of its cultural & artistic life. The network is a collaborative partnership with leadership from Brecon Cathedral, bringing together Brecon's heritage & cultural attractions, community organisations, Brecon Town Council's new Information Centre: Visit Brecon, Brecon Beacons Tourism and Powys County Councils Tourism Unit, and includes stakeholders from the business community. The Brecon Heritage & Cultural Network is a local action group, and have received funding from Arwain, the LEADER development programme in Powys.https://breconstory.wales/home

PRW Photography

- **Julian Stedman (Former Member Champion for Heritage) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.** The Brecon Beacons National Park was established in 1957, and is one of the three national parks in Wales. The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority is a special purpose local authority, which though its primary purposes is tasked with the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park, and the promotion of enjoyment and understanding of its special qualifies by the public. It has a statutory duty to foster the economic and social well-being of communities living within the National Park. The BBNPA is funded by the Welsh Government. https://www.breconbeacons.org/

Appendix 2: Abbreviations

ALGAO: Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers

BAR Strategy: Biodiversity Action Reporting Strategy

BBNPA: Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

BBPS Brecon Beacons Park Society

BHF: Brecknock History Forum

BILWHS: Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site

BSMF: Brecknock Society and Museum Friends

CIfA: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CPAT: Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

CU: Cardiff University

DAT: Dyfed Archaeological Trust

DPP: Dyfed Powys Police

FFC: Friends of Friendless Churches

FLA: Felling Licence Applications

GGAT: Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust

Glastir WCS: Glastir Woodland Creation Scheme

HAR: Heritage at Risk

HC: Heritage Crime

HE CC SAP: Historic Environment Climate Change Sector Adaptation Plan.

HEG: Historic Environment Group

HER: Historic Environment Record

IUCN: International Union for the Conservation of Nature

LB: Listed Building

LDP: Local Development Plan

Mon CC: Monmouthshire County Council

MOU: Memorandum of Understanding

NPA: National Park Authority

NRAP: Nature recovery Action Plan

NRW: Natural Resources Wales

NT: National Trust

OUV: Outstanding Universal Value

RCAHMW: Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

SM: Scheduled Monument

SDF: Sustainable Development Fund

SFS: Sustainable Farming Scheme/

SLM: Sustainable Land Management

WATs: Welsh Archaeological Trusts

WCS: Woodland Creation Schemes

WELCAAP: Welsh Conflict Archaeology Advisory Panel

WATs: Welsh Archaeological Trusts

WCS: Woodland Creation Schemes

Appendix 3: Glossary

BBNPA Peatland Restoration programme: The BBNPA has delivered several peatland restoration project since 2005. These projects aim to restore peatland that is in an unfavourable condition and consequently emit carbon. These projects have significant environmental, social and economic benefits and have been developed in collaboration with various organisations. https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/environment/peatlands-and-uplands/

BBNPA Research Prospectus: The BBNPA has developed research partnerships with several universities to aid with its research needs. Through these partnerships over 50 research projects at undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD level have been completed.

Brecknock History Forum: Since it was founded in 1928, the Brecknock Society has been studying and promoting the history and culture of the historic county of Brecknock. It gives particular support to the Brecknock Museum & Art Gallery, and, as a Museum Friends, seeks to assist its operation and development. Hanes – Brecknock Society and Museum Friends)

Caring for Gods Acre: Caring for God's Acre works nationally to support groups and individuals to investigate, care for, and enjoy churchyards and burial grounds https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/

Canals, Communities and Wellbeing Partnership Project: The project will create opportunities for increased wellbeing, for individuals and communities along the corridors of canals in Mid Wales. It is a partnership project between Powys County Council's Countryside Services, Regeneration and Tourism teams, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Canal and River Trust, Monmouthshire County Council and Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust and South and West Wales Wildlife Trust) Canals, Communities & Wellbeing

Culture Strategy: The Co-operation Agreement and updated Programme for Government commit to 'Engage with the arts, culture and heritage sectors to develop a new culture strategy'. This builds on commitments in the Senedd by the Deputy Minister

Cwmyoy Church

Nigel forster

Tretower Court

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Middle Maestorglwd

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for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip to take this work forward in 2022. https://gov.wales/co-operation-agreement https://gov.wales/programme-for-government-update

Farmsteads Characterisation: The Farmsteads Character Statement (in prep) will provide an overview of the main characteristics of traditional farm buildings in the National Park, to help inform and stimulate research, support community initiatives, decision making in development control and agri-environment grant schemes. It places farmsteads in the character of their landscapes, showing how people have used the resources of the National Park and the various types of farmsteads and buildings you may find within it.

Geopark. Designated a UNESCO Global Geopark in 2015, Fforest Fawr is one of over 150 geoparks worldwide recognised by UNESCO for their distinctive geology. It's not just about rocks and geology though, a geopark celebrates an area's history and archaeology, the natural and human life within its boundaries (Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark - Brecon Beacons National Park, Wales)

Glastir: Glastir was the Welsh Government's sustainable land management scheme, through which financial support was offered to farmers and land managers. It paid for the delivery of specific environmental goods and services aimed at combating climate change, improving water management, maintaining and enhancing biodiversity (Natural Resources Wales / Glastir Woodland scheme). Glastir will be replaced by new Sustainable Farming Scheme from 2025 (currently under consultation, 2022).

Historic Environment Climate Change Sector Adaptation Plan: In April 2019, the Welsh Government declared a national climate emergency to accelerate action to tackle climate change. This requires both mitigation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, through measures such as energy efficiency, and adaptation to prepare for the impacts of climate change. To help raise awareness of the risks and opportunities of climate change and the need for adaptation, the climate change subgroup of the Historic Environment Group (HEG) has published the Historic Environment and Climate Change in Wales Sector Adaptation Plan

Talybont Reservoir

Nge Forster

https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/climate-change/adapting-to-climate-change

Heritage Crime: Heritage crime is any unlawful activity which harms historic assets including buildings, monuments, parks, gardens and landscapes https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/historic-assets/heritage-crime

Heritage Watch: Heritage watch is a collaboration between Police forces, Cadw, The Welsh Archaeological Trusts and the National Parks of Wales, to raise public awareness of sites at risk from heritage crime, improve monitoring, reporting, and repair of sites affected by heritage crime https://www.dyfed-powys.police.uk/police-forces/dyfed-powys-police/areas/about-us/about-us/heritage-crime/

Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016: One of the first pieces of legislation that was passed by the National Assembly for Wales included provision for the better protection of the historic environment. The Act gives more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments, and enhances existing mechanisms for the sustainable management of the historic environment. https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/legislation-guidance/overview

Historic Trees project: A project run by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority wardens, mapping the extensive range of ancient and veteran trees across the park, which makes a key contribution to the cultural, historical and biodiverse landscape. (New Tree Warden Network launches in the Brecon Beacons - The Tree Council)

Local Development Plan: The Local Development Plan sets our policies and proposals to guide development in the National Park. These policies and proposals aim to meet the needs for housing, jobs and services whilst protecting the Park's high-quality environment. The Local Development Plan entered the review phase in December 2017.

Mega Catchment Project: Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water led project working with stakeholders at a landscape scale to co-create a common vision which will deliver the best possible outcomes for everyone who lives, works and benefits from the greater areas surrounding the National Park.

Llangynidr

Peter Rhys Williams

Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal Project: The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority in partnership with the Canal and Rivers Trust, delivered a project which told the story of the Monmouth and Brecon Canal. It used animated films to show 4 different tramroads and their relation to the canal to engage people with the industrial path of the area.

Nature Recovery Action Plan: The Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) guides the work of the Brecon Beacons National Park Local Nature Partnership (LNP), a collaboration which is open to all who want to contribute. It sets out who the NRAP is for, its purpose, its policy and legislative context, what will happen to aid nature recovery and the key partners and actions. https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/environment/nature-recovery-action-plan/

National Forest for Wales: In 2020, Welsh Government announced a commitment to the National Forest for Wales. It aims to create areas of new woodland, and help to restore and maintain some of our irreplaceable ancient woodlands. Grant applications were opening in 2022, to provide financial support for people to create new woodlands and enhance and expand existing woodlands https://gov.wales/national-forest-wales

NPMP / Future Bannau: The Brecon Beacons National Park Management Plan sets the direction for the National Park for the next five years and beyond. Five bold 'missions' on climate, water, nature, people and place aim to guide the National Park back to operating within safe environmental limits in a way that supports people's wellbeing. It provides the overarching vision and framework for the National Park from which flow many strategies and plans, including HEAP. The Management Plan sets out how the statutory purposes and duty of the National Park will be met, and it is the Wellbeing Plan for the National Park Authority. https://governance.beacons-npa.gov.uk/documents/s49418/Enclosure%203%20FINAL%20Future%20Bannau%20LOW.pdf

Rivers Project: Cadw funded Welsh Archaeological Trust Project to develop good quality baseline data to identify opportunities for historic asset management and to better inform management decisions for assets at risk. Clwyd – Powys Archaeological Trust undertaking the works in relation to the Rivers Usk, Honddu and Grwyne in the Park.

Maen Madoc

Nige Forster

State of the Park Report: The State of the Park Report aims to gather evidence to inform the Management Planning process. It is constituted of data from various sources and forms the first step in the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Management Plan. The plan provides indicators and a baseline for trends, which is updated every 2 to 3 years.

Sustainable Development Fund: The SDF supports projects in the Brecon Beacons National Park which deliver economic, environmental, community and cultural benefits; Have the support and involvement of local communities; Improve services, opportunities and access for all; Bring people together in partnerships to tackle problems; Involve and support local businesses and the local economy; Demonstrate innovation and best practice; Involve young people; Encourage use of the Welsh language; Offer opportunities for volunteering and skills development https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/communities/sustainability-2/substainable-development-fund/

Sustainable Farming Scheme: The Scheme will be the main source of future Government support for farmers in Wales. Farmers will be rewarded for actions taken to respond to the climate and nature emergencies, alongside the sustainable production of food. In 2022 the Welsh Government published its Outline Proposals for the Sustainable Farming Scheme, which outlines the approach that will be taken to agri-environment funding following the transition away from the EU Common Agricultural Programme: https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-07/sustainable-farming-scheme-outline-proposals-for-2025.pdf

Sustainable Land Management: The Welsh Governments guiding principle for future agricultural policy.

Tramroads project: A project developed by the BBPS, in collaboration with a number of organisations, to identify former tramroads within the Brecon Bacons National Park with a view to safeguarding their heritage and sustaining their roles as routes for walking. The project has funding from Cadw.

UK National Parks Historic Environment Joint Statement: The Joint Statement is the expression

of the intention of the signatories to further the sustainable management, public understanding, access to, and enjoyment of the cultural heritage of National Parks https://www.nationalparksengland.org.uk/home/about-national-parks-england/policy/our-work-pages2/historic-environment-and-cultural-heritage

Vital Signs Project: Potential project to develop a surveillance and monitoring programme (Vital Signs) with partners for the National Park. Draft Vital Signs strategy has been written thanks to an Enabling Natural Resources and Well-being Development Grant. Currently developing funding bids to enable the strategy to be finalised and delivered.

Wellbeing of Future Generations Act: The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. It makes the public bodies listed in the Act think more about the long-term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach. (Guide to the Future Generations Act)

Welsh Conflict Archaeology Advisory Panel: Originating in the Cadw C20th Military sites Working Group and with representatives from Cadw, the Royal Commission, the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts, Historic England, the Defence Infrastructure Organisation and other agencies and national bodies. WelCAAP exists to raise the profile of recent conflict archaeology in Wales and the impacts on the communities and landscapes of Wales. as well as to disseminate best practice pertaining to the identification, research, protection, conservation, interpretation and presentation of eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth century conflict sites across the historic environment in Wales.

Welsh Archaeological Research Agenda: Since 2001 the archaeological community in Wales have worked on the production of a regularly reviewed and updated research framework, which aims to collate, contextualise and promote understanding and research opportunities within the archaeology of Wales. Documents on a series of period- based, and thematic categories are regularly reviewed and updated (Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales - Fframwaith Ymchwil i Archaeoleg Cymru).

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For more information about the Brecon Beacons Historic Environment Partnership, please visit www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/historic-environment-action-plan/

For more information about the Historic Environment of the Park please visit:

The Historic Environment Records; https://www.archwilio.org.uk/arch/

The RCAHMW Online Catalogue; https://coflein.gov.uk/

National Historic Assets of Wales; https://cadw.gov.wales/

People's Collection Wales; https://www.peoplescollection.wales/?gclid=Cj0KCQjwqoibBhDUARIsAH2OpWgJvMmZsF65DePANdJ-kLaagxPIEU-CeBcxbvDTS3W2JJDxCyzQVIUaAla4EALw_wcB

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