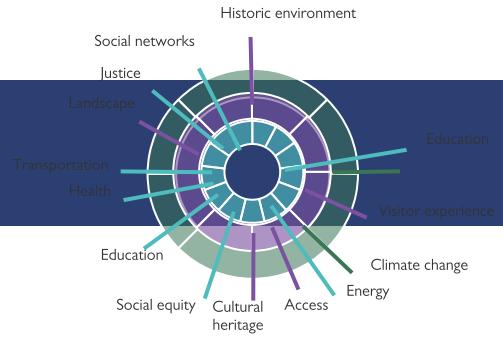


We will champion the Park as an arena for life long learning



Human capital relates to skills, knowledge and experiences possessed by individuals, communities or organisations and the value this brings to individual and societal wellbeing. Having a Park rich in human capital is vital if we are to collectively work to address the challenges facing the area, such as climate change, biodiversity decline, rural depopulation and aging demographic.

HUMAN CAPITAL



Why this is important

There are multiple strands to why this Plan must champion the Park as an arena for all forms of learning, whether through the formal teaching system or more informal educational opportunities.

The second purpose of the National Park is to provide opportunities for understanding of the Park.

Research shows that those societies where education is freely and easily accessible and citizens are supported to access life long learning are more inclusive and socially equitable.

There are limited opportunities for post 18 learning within the National Park, meaning that many young people leave the Park in order to pursue their education. This 'brain drain' is compounded by the high cost of housing and limited job opportunities in the Park meaning that many young people do not return to the area post university despite their desire to come home.

The Park as a protected area and collection of rural communities faces a range of wicked problems which will require informed innovation to solve.

These factors taken in combination create an imperative to ensure all our activity provides opportunities for learning, education and research.

How will the policy be implemented

All the activity supported by this Plan has the potential to provide opportunities for learning and research, both in formal educational settings and beyond. We will ensure that these opportunities are acted upon to champion:-

- Learning at all levels centred on our purposes and duty, including the ecological and social systems that contribute to the Park's uniqueness.
- Supporting in community learning through citizen science and research projects to support our understanding of the Park and its systems.
- Driving creativity through artists in residence programmes.
- Supporting career pathways through apprenticeships, interns, gap year programmes and progression opportunities.
- Developing research partnerships with Higher Education institutions to promote the Park as an arena for unique research of social and environmental systems and new economic models.

What success looks like

The Park is an arena which nurtures the talent of our communities through outreach, education initiatives for all ages and volunteering opportunities.

There are regular learning events held by the NPA and partner organisations aimed at increasing understanding of the issues Future Beacons aims to address.

There is greater understanding of the Park and the issues it faces. Action research is helping define future pathways to solving wicked problems.

How we will measure progress

We will recognise success as an increase in opportunities for learning and research within the Park.