



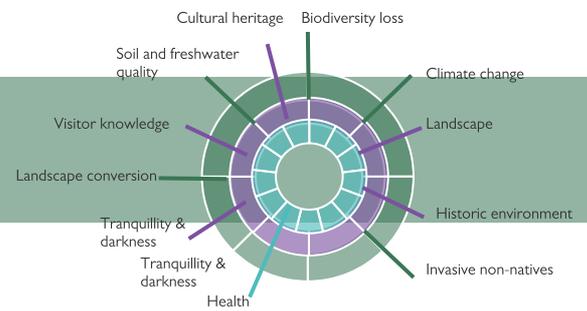
The landscape is vital to all that we are as a National Park. We will in all our endeavours work to guide and harmonise necessary changes in the landscape to ensure that the essence remains strong and vital.

We will conserve and enhance landscape features which have intrinsic value due to their geological geomorphological, ecological, heritage or aesthetic value.

The European Landscape Convention (ELC) defines “Landscape” as “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors” (Council of Europe, 2000).

Our Special Qualities are derived from human interaction with the landscape, as such an overriding objective of this plan is to ensure that landscape character is conserved and enhanced in all we do.

LANDSCAPE



Why this is important

Our landscape is what we are famous for, and it is valued by millions of visitors every year, but landscape quality is vulnerable.

Perhaps a useful way to consider the need for landscape management is to consider it through the eye of an economist to whom the National Park may appear as a 'common pool resource' - one that is vulnerable to problems of congestion, overuse, pollution, and potential destruction unless carefully managed.

It follows that only if our landscapes are nurtured (as a core resource), will they be able to continue to support the National Park in providing an arena for outdoor recreation for wellbeing, whilst also supporting local community development, economic activities and delivering on climate and nature recovery imperatives.

How the policy will be implemented

The wide range of interests and stakeholders, each with their own priorities, and pressures require important and complex systems and incremental decisions to be taken.

Many of these decisions rest with the NPA in its formal role as a Local Planning Authority. However, the NPA also has broad powers to undertake action to pursue its purposes.

In this way the NPA can work in partnership on a spatial or thematic basis to bring about desirable change:

- in the policy context and strategic decisions which influence landscape change;
- in the way in which land is used and managed; and,
- in people and business' individual actions and choices

Such careful management is also a key responsibility of all other 'relevant authorities' exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in a National Park

What success looks like

The 2021 study<put in link> provides a methodology on which to determine landscape condition based on the extent to which areas retain their visual, cultural, and ecological character.

It follows that success would be improving the overall condition of all landscape types not assessed as good, and to maintain good or very good scores for those landscape types assessed as such.

How we will measure progress

We will repeat landscape condition assessment as part of the review of this Management Plan involving our communities and visitors.

Within areas assessed to be very poor or poor, annual assessment will be undertaken.