



**Lake District
National Park**

Lake District National Park Authority

Business Plan

1 April 2026 – 31 March 2027

(13 March 2026)

The Vision for the Lake District National Park and our role in its delivery

The **Lake District National Park Partnership** (the Partnership) was formed in 2006. It includes organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors, and both local and national organisations. The Lake District National Park Authority is one of the partners in the Partnership. The Partnership work together in the best interests of the Lake District National Park and English Lake District World Heritage Site, its environment, communities, economy and visitors.

The Partnership developed a **Vision for the Lake District National Park**. This was recently updated for 2051, when it will be 100 years since the Lake District became a National Park, and almost 35 years since its inscription as a World Heritage Site. Securing the new 2051 Vision for the Lake District will need all those who live in, work in, visit, and have a statutory obligation to the Lake District to do their part.

The Vision for 2051 is:

'The Lake District is deeply valued by the nation as a thriving, working landscape, which is nature and heritage rich, climate resilient, and socially and economically vibrant.'

The **Lake District National Park Partnership's Plan** is the statutory management plan for the Lake District which sets out how we and our partners in the Partnership will work together to proactively manage the Lake District as a National Park and World Heritage Site.

The **objectives for the Partnership** for the next five years are:

- Expand nature areas
- Improve the condition of our lakes, rivers and tarns for nature and people
- Reduce emissions
- Increase the resilience and carbon storage potential of the landscape
- Help rural communities to be vibrant and sustainable
- Improve the viability and resilience of local farms
- Improve the management of the historic environment
- Inspire people to enjoy, understand and care for the Lake District
- Improve integrated sustainable travel around the Lake District

Our **Organisational Strategy** has been reviewed and updated for 2026. We considered the long-term objectives for the Partnership and identified six key priorities for the National Park Authority. These are shown in the Organisational Strategy on page 4, along with the values and behaviours we intend to demonstrate.

Our **2026-2027 Business Plan** has been developed within the context of the Vision, the Partnership's Plan and our Organisational Strategy.

The Business Plan includes those elements of the Partnership's Plan that we either lead on or have substantial input to. And it includes key actions related to managing the National Park Authority and its statutory duties. The Business Plan does not include all the work of the Authority. There are many areas of work which we contribute to which are not shown in the Business Plan.

An example of this is our continued work with partners to address the current and potential future impacts of climate change. This includes working with partners:

- to meet Cumbria's 'net zero by 2037' target
- to conserve our landscapes and help landowners, visitors, developers and communities understand the importance of sustainability
- to act against the impacts and adapt, to create a landscape more resilient to our changing climate

The Business Plan shows the key actions we will take over the next year to deliver each of the six priorities in the Organisational Strategy, with the actions grouped into key areas of work. The priorities, key areas of work, and actions are not shown in any order of importance. All Business Plan actions support either the statutory purposes or our wider statutory duties.

For each key area of work, and each specific action, we have shown an estimate of the number of days of staff time needed to deliver the work in 2026/27. This does not include the time of the Executive Team.

Our Corporate Planning and Performance Framework

The Lake District National Park Authority has purposes and duties to which it must adhere. The **statutory purposes** are:

1. To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Lake District National Park, and
 2. To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Lake District National Park by the public.
- And in pursuing these purposes, we also have a **duty** to seek to foster the economic and social wellbeing of local communities within the National Park by working closely with the agencies and local authorities responsible for these matters.

The 2051 Vision for the Lake District National Park

We provide our services to achieve a long-term Vision for the Lake District.
The Vision was updated for 2051 by the Lake District National Park Partnership in 2025.

Local Plan

The Local Plan sets out the strategy for all new development in the Lake District. It provides planning policies which steer development decisions and guide planning applications.

Lake District National Park Partnership's Plan

This is the statutory management plan for the Lake District which sets out how we and our partners will work together to proactively manage the Lake District as a National Park and World Heritage Site.

Lake District National Park Authority's Business Plan

The Business Plan sets our direction for the year ahead within the overall context of the Vision and the Partnership's Plan. It includes actions from the Partnership's Plan which we are either leading on, or are significantly involved in, together with our own key actions for delivery and business development. The Business Plan does not include all the work we deliver.

All Business Plan actions support either the statutory purposes or our wider statutory duties.

The Business Plan incorporates our **Organisational Strategy** which identifies our priorities as the National Park Authority, as well as the values and behaviours which are central to the way we work.

Service Plans

Annual Service Plans set out the detailed actions that services will take to support delivery of Business Plan key actions and other 'business as usual' work.

LDNPA Organisational Strategy

What we will do:

Our Priorities

Managing the National Park Authority and its statutory duties

Through everything we do our fundamental priorities will be to deliver our purposes and duty, protecting our Special Qualities of the National Park and sustaining our attributes as a World Heritage Site.

Nature Recovery

Deliver nature's recovery through improving the condition of protected sites, managing non-protected sites, and creating more species-rich habitats.

Communities and Economy

Help rural communities to be sustainable and vibrant by increasing affordable or occupancy restricted homes and controlling second homes / holiday lets, expand and diversify workforce, conditions for economic growth, reduce visitor pressures.

Viable Traditional and Nature-Friendly Farming

Improve viability and resilience of farms by increasing nature-friendly farming practices, support functioning hefting and commoning, enhance farm advice, develop and promote quality produce, establish new income streams through farm diversification.

Historic Environment

Improve management of the historic environment by decreasing heritage at risk assets, improving non-designated heritage assets, increasing understanding of heritage condition, retaining traditional skills and practices and growing the number of skilled crafts people.

Health and Wellbeing, Inspiration, Responsible Visiting

Inspire people to enjoy, understand and care through better understanding of health benefits of being active outdoors, improving rights of way and Miles without Stiles, increasing volunteering, delivering more engagement programmes.

How we will do it:

Our Values and Behaviours

Leaders

We lead the way, delivering the Vision and inspiring people to enable the landscape to flourish.

Empowered

We think creatively, encouraging innovation, adapting to change and being willing to take appropriate risks.

Nurturing

We nurture the Lake District, our teams and where we work, respectfully managing the National Park on behalf of those who live, work or visit here.

Proud

We are proud of the Lake District and what we do at the Authority, which drives us to be our best.

Team Player

We cooperate and work together, creating a sense of belonging where trust thrives.

Forward Thinking

We plan for the future, recognising that our future sustainability is in our own hands.

Key Actions

Managing the National Park Authority and its statutory duties

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|---|---|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mayoral Combined Authority Engagement | | | | | 86 |
| 1 | Mayoral Combined Authority Establishment: Help shape Cumbria's new Mayoral Combined Authority, preparing for its establishment in April 2026, and the election of a new mayor in May 2027. | Executive Team | April 2026 | March 2027 | - |
| 2 | Defra Pathfinder: Deliver, if agreed with Defra, a place-based Pathfinder for the Lake District, which seeks to improve identified regulatory and advisory processes within the Defra 'family', enhancing customer experiences, including, for example, a one-stop shop for farm advice. | Executive Team | April 2026 | Sep 2026 | 19 |
| 3 | Cumbria's Uplands Transformational Project: Work with Defra and partners to prepare for and participate in the Hilary Cottam uplands pilot, including the designing of land management schemes bespoke to their locality through a 'bottom-up' approach. | Executive Team | April 2026 | March 2027 | 35 |
| 4 | Sustainable Travel: Work with the unitary authorities and the Mayoral Combined Authority to prepare a plan for transformational improvements in sustainable and active travel to drive behavioural change. | Executive Team | April 2026 | March 2027 | 32 |
| Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through our Pathfinder project and our participation in Cumbria's Uplands Transformational Project, explore with partners a possible Rural Deal for Cumbria. | | | | | |

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lake District National Park Partnership's Plan | | | | | 415 |
| 5 | Partnership's Plan Adoption: Adopt the new Partnership's Plan in June 2026. | Executive Team | April 2026 | July 2026 | 200 |
| 6 | LDNPA Partnership Actions: Secure commencement of delivery of the short-term actions led by the LDNPA. | Executive Team | April 2026 | March 2027 | 43 |
| Future Actions for 2027-2029: | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare the Lake District National Park Partnership's Climate Smart Adaptive Management Adaptation Plan. | | | | | |
| World Heritage | | | | | 324 |
| 7 | State of Conservation Report: Deliver work packages requested by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) to enable submission of the State of Conservation report to the World Heritage Committee by December 2026. | Executive Team | April 2026 | Dec 2026 | 123 |
| 8 | Interpretation Strategy: Deliver the Industrial Trail from the Interpretation Strategy Action Plan, in collaboration with other North of England and Midlands UNESCO World Heritage Sites. | Executive Team | April 2026 | Dec 2026 | 140 |
| Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29: | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission a Coniston Community Interpretation pilot and video to continue delivery of the Interpretation Strategy. | | | | | |
| Operational and Service Improvements | | | | | 419 |
| 9 | Communications and Engagement Strategy: Develop and commence delivery of a new Communications and Engagement Strategy to align with the new Partnership's Plan and Business Plan. | Communications and Engagement | April 2026 | March 2027 | 9 |

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10 | Visitor Information Services: Undertake a review of our visitor information and engagement and prepare a roadmap for recommendations. | Communications and Engagement | April 2026 | March 2027 | 30 |
| 11 | Youth Engagement Programme: Subject to funding, develop an expanded engagement programme with young people (aged 14 to 25), targeting underserved audiences in and outside of the National Park (for example green skills and careers events, school outreach, and youth voice representation). | Communications and Engagement | April 2026 | March 2027 | 45 |
| 12 | Business Continuity Plan: Continue to review and test the Business Continuity Plan, including adding in scenarios to deal with a prolonged cyber incident. | Resources | April 2026 | Oct 2026 | 10 |
| 13 | Brockhole Partners: Embed partner organisations at Brockhole. | Resources | April 2026 | March 2027 | 70 |
| 14 | Property Asset Management Strategy: Complete the review of the Property Asset Management Strategy. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 40 |
| 15 | Ranger Volunteering: Increase volunteering across Ranger services (South) that assists in LDNPA property maintenance. | People and Organisational Development | April 2026 | March 2027 | 143 |
| 16 | Car Parks: Review potential for increasing car parking capacity and enforcement rates at appropriate sites. | Resources | April 2026 | Oct 2026 | 45 |
| 17 | Carbon Sequestration: Identify costed options to deliver carbon sequestration and begin to deliver projects that will achieve a 50 tonne reduction per annum. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 27 |
| Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement findings from the ongoing review of artificial intelligence, possibly including a wider scale roll out of Copilot. | | | | | |

Nature Recovery

Five-year Partnership objective: Deliver nature's recovery through improving the condition of protected sites, managing non-protected sites, and creating more species-rich habitats.

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nature Recovery | | | | | 1,080 |
| 18 | Nature Restoration Fund: Develop, with partners, a proposal to play a key role in a local delivery body for the new Nature Restoration Fund. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 14 |
| 19 | Sale of Biodiversity Net Gain Units: Prepare and make available for sale four biodiversity net gain units on our property at the Storms Estate. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 42 |
| 20 | Coast to Coast Nature Corridor: Oversee the National Lottery Heritage Fund Coast to Coast Nature Corridor development bid with northern Protected Landscapes partners. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 23 |
| 21 | LDNPA Responsible Body: Deliver the LDNPA Responsible Body function and establish the first 12 conservation covenant projects. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 60 |
| 22 | Love Windermere: Support delivery and lead the land use and communications workstreams, facilitate partner activity and delivery actions to support water quality, actions to navigate planning requirements, and access funding opportunities. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 172 |
| 23 | Rusland Moss: Implement 15 hectares of peatland restoration works to restore the lowland raised bog at Rusland Moss. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 48 |
| <p>Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the Environmental Improvement Plan 2025 commitments. • Achieve the PLTOF (Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework) apportionment targets. | | | | | |

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|-----|--|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a nature recovery Local Development Order. | | | | |

Communities and Economy

Five-year Partnership objective: Help rural communities to be sustainable and vibrant by increasing affordable or occupancy restricted homes and controlling second homes / holiday lets, expanding and diversifying workforce, creating conditions for economic growth and reducing visitor pressures.

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|--|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Thriving Communities and Economy | | | | | 632 |
| 24 | Windermere Gateway: Support our partners with the continued delivery of the Windermere Gateway project, focussing on station elements if funding is announced. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 57 |
| 25 | Affordable Housing: Take a proactive approach to affordable housing exception sites, offering continued support to communities, for example in Witherslack, Hawkshead, and Ennerdale Bridge, to bring forward proposals. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 4 |
| 26 | Local Plan Review: Commence review of the Local Plan, gathering evidence, and developing options and suggested policy approaches. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 397 |
| Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver any Use Class changes in second homes and holiday lets. Continue preparation and adoption of the new Local Plan. | | | | | |

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|--|--|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nutrient Neutrality | | | | | 305 |
| 27 | Nutrient Credit Sale: Develop, implement and embed effective nutrient credit sale processes. | Development Management | April 2026 | Dec 2026 | 80 |
| 28 | Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund: Full commitment of the £15.28m capital Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund grant. | Development Management | April 2026 | Dec 2026 | 180 |
| 29 | Nutrient Mitigation Interventions: Continue to deliver nutrient mitigation interventions with proceeds of credit sales. | Development Management | April 2026 | March 2027 | 40 |
| Planning Casework – advice, applications and compliance | | | | | 3,881 |
| 30 | Planning Applications: Provide high quality, timely and effective case handling and decision-making on planning applications. (This means determining at least 60 per cent of major applications within 13 weeks or agreed time, 70 per cent of non-major applications within eight weeks or agreed time, and having no more than 10 per cent of our decisions on major county, major district and minor applications overturned at appeal.) | Development Management | April 2026 | March 2027 | 1,784 |
| 31 | Planning Compliance: Ensure appropriate compliance with planning controls through effective and timely investigation and enforcement. (We will visit 80 per cent of enforcement complaint sites within 21 days and have no more than 350 enforcement cases open by 31 March 2027.) | Development Management | April 2026 | March 2027 | 548 |
| 32 | Tree Work Applications: Effectively operate statutory tree controls through high quality and timely decision-making on applications and the appropriate use of designations and protections. (We will determine 80 per cent of tree work applications within eight weeks.) | Development Management | April 2026 | March 2027 | 190 |

Viable Traditional and Nature-Friendly Farming

Five-year Partnership objective: Improve viability and resilience of farms by increasing nature-friendly farming practices, support functioning hefting and commoning, enhance farm advice, develop and promote quality produce, establish new income streams through farm diversification.

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|--|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Farming | | | | | 910 |
| 33 | Hefting Strategy: Lead the development of a hefting strategy, as requested by the World Heritage Committee. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | Sep 2026 | 16 |
| 34 | Landscape Connections: Lead the development phase for a farm advice focused application to the Landscape Connections National Lottery Heritage Fund. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | Dec 2026 | 23 |
| 35 | Farming in Protected Landscapes: Deliver the FiPL (Farming in Protected Landscapes) programme. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 758 |
| 36 | Landscape Recovery Scheme: Support preparation of a Landscape Recovery Scheme round three bid (if announced). | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 40 |
| <p>Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If successful with our bid for the Landscape Connections project, lead and deliver the coordination of farm advice in the Lake District National Park. • Deliver years seven and eight of FiPL. | | | | | |

Historic Environment

Five-year Partnership objective: Improve management of the historic environment by decreasing heritage at risk assets, improving non-designated heritage assets, increasing understanding of heritage condition, retaining traditional skills and practices and growing the number of skilled crafts people.

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|---|--|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Historic Environment | | | | | 175 |
| 37 | Conservation Areas: Review and update a further four conservation area management plans that are over 10 years old. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 34 |
| 38 | Scheduled Monuments: Prepare and submit a National Lottery Heritage Fund development phase project application for Greenside Lead Mine. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 23 |
| 39 | Listed Buildings: Oversee the delivery of 'Lowther Castle Walls phase three'. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 5 |
| <p>Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If successful, deliver the Greenside Lead Mine development phase project and submit a delivery phase application in 2028. | | | | | |

Health and Wellbeing, Inspiration, Responsible Visiting

Five-year Partnership objective: Inspire people to enjoy, understand and care for the Lake District.

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Access and Recreation | | | | | 4,038 |
| 40 | Small Lakes Byelaws: Submit the updated Small Lakes Byelaws to the Secretary of State for approval. | Rangers | April 2026 | March 2027 | 22 |
| 41 | Keswick to Threlkeld Linking Path Project: Continue to progress the Keswick to Threlkeld Linking Path project to the point of delivery. | Rangers | April 2026 | March 2027 | 96 |
| 42 | Network Plan: Utilising Active Travel England funding, undertake feasibility and design of West Windermere Way, Thirlmere East, and a section of the Bassenthwaite Cycleway priority routes in the Network Plan. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 151 |
| 43 | Keswick to Threlkeld Bridge Work: Complete the first phase of the Keswick to Threlkeld bridge deck and handrail replacements and develop a costed plan for the remaining bridges. | Strategy and Partnerships | April 2026 | March 2027 | 80 |
| 44 | Deliver Rights of Way Agency Agreement: Deliver the Rights of Way Agency Agreement, including delivery of an agreed bridge replacement work programme for 2026/27. | Rangers | April 2026 | Dec 2026 | 2,040 |
| 45 | Rights of Way Agency Agreement Funding: Complete negotiations with the two unitary authorities on any revised funding within the Rights of Way Agency Agreements. | Rangers | April 2026 | March 2027 | 36 |
| 46 | Miles without Stiles: Maintain the Miles without Stiles routes and increase the percentage of routes which meet their designation. | Rangers | April 2026 | March 2027 | 274 |
| 47 | Out There Strategy: Deliver the 'Out There' access and recreation strategy, which includes improve, maintain, promote and integrate themes. | Rangers | April 2026 | March 2027 | 1,054 |

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 48 | Access for All Projects: Deliver the Access for All projects (subject to funding from Defra). | Rangers | April 2026 | March 2027 | 24 |
| Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct priority Network Plan routes if funding becomes available. • Construct the Keswick to Threlkeld Linking Path project. • Complete phase two of the Keswick to Threlkeld bridge work. | | | | | |
| Visitor Engagement | | | | | 1,191 |
| 49 | Strategic Visitor Management Group – Implement 2025 Review: Implement the SVMG (Strategic Visitor Management Group) Review 2025 to strengthen its multi-agency operation. | Executive Team | April 2026 | April 2026 | - |
| 50 | Strategic Visitor Management Group – Implement Action Plan: Implement the SVMG Action Plan, to focus on alleviating the challenges of congestion, litter, and fly camping. | Executive Team | April 2026 | Oct 2026 | 873 |
| 51 | Wasdale Visitor Management: Lead the delivery of the Wasdale VMAP (Visitor Management Action Plan), learning lessons to apply elsewhere. | Executive Team | April 2026 | March 2027 | 162 |
| 52 | Borrowdale and Buttermere Visitor Management: Prepare a VMAP with Borrowdale / Buttermere communities (to include Keswick) and partners; and prepare an interim Area Action Plan for 2026. | Executive Team | April 2026 | March 2027 | 64 |
| 53 | Visitor Management Volunteering: Implement new opportunities for volunteering in community-based visitor management. | People and Organisational Development | June 2026 | March 2027 | 13 |
| 54 | Visitor Communications: Work with partners and networks to coordinate visitor messaging that supports first-time visitors to the National Park. | Communications and Engagement | April 2026 | March 2027 | 80 |

| No. | 2026/27 Action | Lead service | Target start date | Target end date | Estimated staff days (non-Executive) |
|---|----------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| <p>Future Actions for 2027/28-2028/29:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead delivery of Visitor Management Action Plans in Wasdale, and Borrowdale and Buttermere. | | | | | |

Service Objectives

Executive Team

Lead: Gavin Capstick, Chief Executive Officer

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC

Service Objectives: The Chief Executive is responsible and accountable for the day-to-day operations of the Authority, providing strong leadership, fostering a culture of innovation and excellence, promoting environmental stewardship, and contributing to the overall conservation, enjoyment, and sustainable development of the Lake District National Park. They play a pivotal role in setting the vision and strategy of the LDNPA, working closely with the Authority Members, Executive Board and other key stakeholders. By developing and implementing comprehensive strategies, they ensure that the National Park's objectives are aligned with its partnership agreed vision and long-term sustainability goals.

The Director of Sustainable Development leads the planning profession for the Authority, advises on strategy and policies, and facilitates the delivery of the Vision for the National Park. They are committed to working with partners, having established the Lake District National Park Partnership.

The Assistant Director of Sustainable Development supports the management of the Lake District National Park Partnership and also provides leadership, specifically in the development of the Local Plan. They represent the organisation through our networks and at international, national and local level.

Legal and Democratic Services

Lead: Julie Wood, Solicitor

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC

FTE staff allocated to deliver Business Plan actions: 0.1 FTE

Service Objectives: This small team provides legal advice to the Authority and Executive Board in order to ensure compliance with all legal matters, safeguard the National Park Authority's interests and to support its decision-making processes. Legal compliance and best practice for procedures for the Authority is far ranging and diverse in nature. It covers subjects such as environmental land management and rights of way legislation; planning applications and breaches; Government legislation regarding the Equality Act, General Data Protection Regulation, Freedom of Information requests; and contracts and licences. The Member Services Coordinator, part of the team, oversees the LDNPA Members. Our members represent the public interest and are appointed either in their duty as local councillors or by the Secretary of State to represent the national interest.

Communications and Engagement

Lead: Sarah Calderbank, Head of Communications and Engagement

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC **FTE staff allocated to deliver Business Plan actions:** 2.8 FTE

Service Objectives: We help millions of people learn about, understand and enjoy the National Park, Authority and World Heritage Site using communications, digital channels and engagement activities. We deliver this through corporate communications, partnership projects, creative campaigns, visual storytelling, education and engagement programmes, and information centres, working collaboratively with Authority teams, partners and external stakeholders.

People and Organisational Development

Lead: Ben Leavesley, Head of People and Organisational Development

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC **FTE staff allocated to deliver Business Plan actions:** 0.3 FTE

Service Objectives: To work with staff, members and volunteers to deliver the People and Organisational Development strategies. Provide effective people support and ensure robust health and safety management. Identify business focused solutions which facilitate change; attract new people; and ensure effective systems, policies and procedures are in place within the People team to support the achievement of the Organisational Strategy.

Resources

Lead: Pete Notley, Head of Resources

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC **FTE staff allocated to deliver Business Plan actions:** 4.5 FTE

Service Objectives: To effectively manage the Authority's resources (financial, commercial and operational property, and business systems) to support medium term financial stability and sustainability goals through effective programme and project management. In addition, to oversee Coniston Boating Centre and car parking, as well as the transition of Brockhole to a third party operator.

Development Management

Lead: Andrew Smith, Head of Development Management

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC **FTE staff allocated to deliver Business Plan actions:** 15.0 FTE

Service Objectives: To provide a seamless development management service that works in partnership, implementing the spatial policy, facilitating inspirational development, strengthening sense of place and delivering the Vision. To provide high quality and timely planning advice, applications and compliance services.

Strategy and Partnerships

Lead: Rob Allison, Head of Strategy and Partnerships

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC

FTE staff allocated to deliver Business Plan actions: 10.7 FTE

Service Objectives: To lead the strategic thinking for the Authority on the National Park's future, monitor the state of the National Park and develop the Lake District National Park Partnership. To look after important habitats and landscapes including on our properties, providing support to land managers and working with partners to protect and enhance the landscape, and contribute to sustainable transport and tourism to meet Vision outcomes.

Rangers

Lead: Steve Gaskell, Head of Rangers

FTE staff on 1 April 2026: TBC

FTE staff allocated to deliver Business Plan actions: 23.1 FTE

Service Objectives: To maintain and improve rights of way and other access in the countryside, while encouraging and educating users in responsible outdoor recreation on accessible land and navigable lakes. Supporting visitor management and nature recovery initiatives, and the enhancement and maintenance of our rural properties, in line with our strategic priorities. Working closely with communities to help them meet their needs in ways that contribute to Vision outcomes.