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1 Executive Summary

In the following chapters, there are a lot of facts and figures about the state of the Lake District National Park. Here is a quick summary of key issues and highlights from this year's report.

A Prosperous Economy

Farming and forestry

Farming is significant in terms of employment in the National Park, however farm incomes are low. Financial support through European and UK government funded schemes is likely to reduce over the next five years. The trends are towards fewer and larger hill farms, with an associated increase in number of the smallest (non-commercial) holdings. Livestock populations have declined, with 30 per cent fewer sheep than in 2000. Woodland area on farms has remained relatively constant, at about 3 per cent of the total.
68per cent of the National Park area is in an agri-environment scheme based on 2013 data. There are 28,500 ha of woodlands in the National Park, 12 per cent of the area. 24,000 hectares of woodland has entered Woodland Grant Schemes since 2007 to 2008.

Employment and business

Again, there is a similar story to previous years, while unemployment levels are significantly lower in the National Park compared to the national average, wages are significantly lower. We are a long way from meeting the 2015 target of a net increase of 14,000 square metres of additional employment floor space, however the Allocations Plan has specified areas of land for employment sites, which should boost development over the coming years. Broadband still remains a big issue for businesses, and while the Connecting Cumbria project is progressing, it is anticipated that this will not provide full coverage for the whole of the National Park.

World Class Visitor Experience

Sustainable tourism and visitor facilities

Tourism continues to be central to the National Park's economy and it is still attracting visitors, however the trend is one of increasingly ageing visitor demographic as the Lake District struggles to attract new and younger visitors. Partners are investigating new ways of attracting new audiences as well as consolidating existing audiences, furthering their experiences of the Lake District and what it can offer including the development of the Adventure Capital Strategy. Visitor satisfaction remains high and while the Cumbria Visitor Survey found an increase in spend amongst overnight and staying visitors, it found a reduction in spend amongst day visitors. Since there are a greater number of day visitors the overall picture is down. The GoLakes Travel project is well underway and aims to promote sustainable visitor travel. While private motor vehicles remain the most popular mode of transport for visitors, however this has dropped and public transport and walking is becoming increasingly popular.

Education, events, access and outdoor recreation

We fell slightly short of our target of 80 per cent of public rights of way being easy to use this year however a number were affected by the exceptionally bad weather. There is a wide range of activities available in the National Park with the most popular remaining walking and visiting the countryside. The most significant impact on tranquillity is felt in rural service centres and the increase of traffic on major roads is further reducing this tranquillity.

Vibrant Communities

Supporting communities

The number of services in communities is falling however communities are being given new opportunities to shape the future of where they live through Community Action Plans, have a say on sustainable development at a local level through Neighbourhood Planning and on a wider geographical scale through Whole Valley Planning, which is currently being piloted in Ullswater. 2011 Census data has given us a good picture of the age structure of the National Park and reflects the trend of an ageing population.

Housing

Housing remains a big issue in the National Park as house prices are high compared to household incomes. This coupled with second home and holiday home ownership is having a detrimental impact on homes for local people. The number of affordable and local needs houses (new units) that were granted planning permission and the number of housing completions increased on last year's figures. However the number of permissions granted far outweighs the number of units that are developed, completed and made available to local people. It is anticipated that the peak in housing completions will be in 2015/2016 and 2016/2017. This recognises that the Lake District National Park Authority have been granting significantly more planning permissions for dwellings during 2012/2013 than in previous years. Potential barriers to delivery are that the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) are receiving less money from Government and banks have tightened their lending criteria significantly, affecting deliverability of affordable schemes.

Transport

The GoLakes Travel project is putting some key transport infrastructure in place and is promoting sustainable visitor travel. While this is a visitor travel scheme, the new sustainable travel options provided by the scheme can benefit residents of the National Park. Residents in the National Park do depend heavily on private motor vehicles however over three quarters of residents can access employment by public transport, walking and cycling.

Spectacular Landscape, Wildlife and Cultural Heritage

Climate change

A Climate Change Action Plan has been put in place and so far the Partnership have identified, encouraged or established projects to save 26,926 tonnes of carbon emissions per year. Key areas where savings have been made are from home energy, accommodation and food and drink and travel. While the carbon emissions have been reduced the one per cent year on year target has still not been met. Visitors contribute a large proportion of emissions to the carbon budget.

Landscape, biodiversity and ecosystem services

There is a continuing need to develop a strategic approach to managing and improving biodiversity along with an indicator which we can use in future State of Park reports. Overall, 15 river and lake waterbodies have improved from Moderate to Good classification, whilst 11 river and lake waterbodies have deteriorated in status, however, the way in which this is measured is not appropriate and is being reviewed.

Cultural heritage and built environment

Each year the number of listed buildings and Scheduled Monuments at risk decreases, we are on track to meet these targets and we have met the target of no Conservation Areas at risk. The challenge is to continue the good work.

2 Looking ahead

This State of the Lake District National Park Report 2013 provides the foundation of awareness for the annual review of the Partnership's Plan and its priorities.

This document will be reviewed annually to measure change. Monitoring the key datasets featured throughout the chapters will provide a clear picture on the ways in which many aspects of the National Park are changing. New datasets are likely to emerge each year while some will cease to be used.

A number of challenges have emerged and a number issues that are central to achieving the Vision for the Lake District National Park remain pertinent. These cut across all four themes of the Vision:

- Broadband remains an issue for businesses and residents alike across the whole park. The Connecting Cumbria project is in place, however the outcome is still unknown and it is likely that some homes and businesses will still not have access to broadband once it is complete.
- Farm incomes are low across the National Park and there is a decline in full time farms.
- Housing remains a key issue as house prices soar above the average income of locals.
- The availability of affordable local housing is causing changes in the population of the National Park as younger people are forced to move away to where homes are more affordable. This coupled with lack of employment opportunities is creating an ever aging population.
- The target one per cent reduction in carbon emissions was not met for 2012 to 2013. Climate change impacts are being felt across the park which is affecting the distribution and abundance of species, the quality of habitats and the availability of water.
- There is a continuing need to develop a strategic approach to managing and improving biodiversity in the Lake District. This will contribute to 'Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services'.
- The quality of our lakes, rivers and tarns is of huge importance to the National Park as it affects biodiversity and ecology as well as our economy and tourism industry. We need to identify a way to accurately record the effects of this.
- Valley Planning is an ongoing project and there will be a number of lessons to be learnt from the pilot in Ullswater.

This list is merely indicative, there are many other issues which will need to be considered as partners discuss and agree their priorities and actions for the future.

In looking ahead it is essential that each partner must be fully aware of the impact that their work is having on the state of the park in order to achieve this vision.

3 Introduction

3.1 About the State of the Lake District National Park Report and the Partnership's Plan

The Lake District National Park Partnership (the Partnership) first produced a State of the Lake District National Park Report (State of the Park Report) in March 2012 and committed to renewing it annually. The purpose of this report is to establish an evidence base to:

- give an accurate picture of the condition of the National Park including the special qualities
- measure whether the work we are doing is having a positive effect and is working towards our Vision for the National Park.

The State of the Park Report will inform the Partnership's Plan annual review and identification of priorities. The Partnership developed the Partnership's Plan, which is the Management Plan for the National Park and details can be viewed at www.lakedistrictpartnership.co.uk.

The Partnership's Plan contains:

- The National Park's special qualities, that distinguish it from other parts of the country so we can protect them
- The Vision for the National Park in 2030 and key delivery aims to help direct our actions
- The actions the Partnership will deliver
- How we will monitor progress, including 21 indicators of success.

To help focus resources, in 2012, the Partnership identified seven priorities. These are topic areas considered, by the Partnership to be the most important ones, the must do's for the Partnership and the Lake District over the short term. The 2012 priorities were to:

- Support and develop profitable farming and forestry businesses while delivering sustainable land management
- Secure superfast broadband and improved mobile phone coverage across the National Park
- Develop Cumbria and the Lake District as the Adventure Capital of the UK, whilst safeguarding the special qualities of the National Park
- Facilitate the delivery of affordable and local needs housing opportunities throughout the National Park.
- Develop an integrated transport network in the National Park
- Develop valley plans, looking at social, economic and environmental needs and opportunities across the National Park
- Reduce carbon emissions in the National Park.

The State of the Park Report summarises the condition of the National Park across a variety of indicators. It includes:

- The 21 indicators of success in the Partnership's Plan
- Additional supporting indicators to monitor the special qualities of the National Park and the outcomes and delivery aims of the Vision.

We have structured this report by the four outcomes of the Vision and the topics identified in the Partnership's Plan. We recognise that some indicators are relevant to more than one topic.

However, to avoid duplication we have presented data for indicators only under one topic using a 'best fit' approach.

For each topic we have written a short textual summary and this is followed by data for relevant indicators presented in maps, graphs and tables. This report is based on data gathered during 2012 to 2013.

3.2 The Vision for the Lake District National Park

The Vision for the Lake District National Park in 2030 is that it will be:

An inspirational example of sustainable development in action.

It will be a place where a prosperous economy, world class visitor experiences and vibrant communities all come together to sustain the spectacular landscape, its wildlife and cultural heritage.

Local people, visitors and the many organisations working in the National Park or have a contribution to make to it, must be united in achieving this.

We will see the following outcomes:

A prosperous economy

Businesses will locate in the National Park because they value the quality of opportunity, environment and lifestyle it offers – many will draw on a strong connection to the landscape. Entrepreneurial spirit will be nurtured across all sectors and traditional industries maintained to ensure a diverse economy.

World class visitor experiences

High quality and unique experiences for visitors within a stunning and globally significant landscape. These will be experiences that compete with the best in the international market.

Vibrant communities

People successfully living, working and relaxing within upland, valley and lakeside places where distinctive local character is maintained and celebrated.

A spectacular landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage

A landscape which provides an irreplaceable source of inspiration, whose benefits to people and wildlife are valued and improved. A landscape whose natural and cultural resources are assets to be managed and used wisely for future generations.

3.3 The Special Qualities of the Lake District National Park

Special qualities distinguish National Parks from each other and from other parts of the country. We need to be clear about the Lake District's special qualities so we protect them and have a platform for effective management. Consultation on the Lake District National Park Management Plan in 2003 and World Heritage Site proposals in 2006 identified a number of characteristics that make the Lake District National Park unique.

The special qualities of the Lake District are:

- Complex geology and geomorphology
- Diverse landscape from mountain to coast
- Unique farmed landscape and concentration of common land
- Nationally important mosaic of lakes, tarns and rivers and coast
- Wealth of habitats and wildlife
- Extensive semi-natural woodlands
- History of tourism and outdoor activities
- Opportunities for quiet enjoyment
- Open nature of the fells
- Rich archaeology
- Distinctive areas and settlement character
- Celebrated social and cultural heritage

3.4 External impacts on the National Park

There are several external influences that will have affected the State of the Park in recent years:

- Like the rest of the UK, the general economic downturn continues to play a part in the State of the Park. With much less income, funding and investment, houses and other developments do not get built, visitor and local spending is less and businesses located in the Park have to work harder to sell their products and services.
- The funding elements include uncertainty around the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy and the future changes to the Rural Development Programme for England. Both of which have been of huge benefit to the support of farming and forestry practices in the Lake District in recent years.
- The 2011 Census also revealed a 2.5 per cent decline in overall population in the Lake District, notably those aged under 45 show the highest decrease. Consequently, coupled with a lack of employment opportunities for younger people, there is now an ageing workforce in the Lake District.
- The Lake District still suffers from poor communication infrastructure (when compared to other National Parks). A lack of good broadband connectivity and patchy mobile phone coverage has become a ‘real and present’ factor affecting business efficiency, productivity and access to new opportunities.
- Climate science remains a concern. Changing temperatures, changing rainfall patterns and more extreme weather events all play a big part on our landscape, land management and tourism. 2012 was the wettest on record for England, this affected both farming practices and the numbers of staying visitors in the Lake District. And in March 2013, the heaviest snowfall for 50 years resulted in thousands of sheep deaths across Cumbria and the Lake District.

4 Indicators of success

We have key indicators of success to help inform us that we are achieving the Vision for the National Park and in the shorter term that our delivery aims are being achieved.

We have set targets for 21 key indicators with targets for 2015 as follows:

Table 1: Indicators of success

No	Indicator	Baseline figure	Latest figure	Likelihood to meet target in 2015
1	The percentage of new businesses surviving for three years is higher in Cumbria than the national average	Not available	65% 2011	✓
2	The percentage of people of working age who are unemployed remains lower in the National Park than in Cumbria, the north west region and nationally	1.3% March 2010	1.1% Feb 2013	✓
3	Increase the median earnings of employees in Cumbria above the rate of inflation - using the Retail Price Index	Not available	£487 weekly pay 2012	?[1]
4	Over 90 per cent of planning applications in the National Park are approved for business, housing and other applications	91% March 2010	93% March 2013	✓
5	A net increase of 14,000 square metres of additional employment floor space developed in the National Park	Baseline figure is zero - target started from April 2010	1,542 square metres since April 2010	?
6	Over 95 per cent of visitors[2] rate the overall experience of their visit as good or very good	95% 2009	96% November 2012	✓
7	At least 85 per cent of visitors[1] have previously visited Cumbria	85% 2009	86% November 2012	✓
8	Visitors, who stay in the National Park, stay on average for at least five nights	5.31 nights 2009	5.7 nights November 2012	✓
9	Reduce the percentage of visitors[1] whose main mode of transport during their visit is a private motor vehicle to below 70 per cent	77% 2009	73% November 2012	✓

[1] There is unsufficient data to assess whether the target will be met in 2015 as the data is either unavailable, or we do not know whether it will be met.
[2] Visitors to the Lake District National Park

No	Indicator	Baseline figure	Latest figure	Likelihood to meet target in 2015
10	At least 75 per cent of accommodation providers in the National Park have a quality rating	73% 2010	62% 2011	?
11	At least 50 per cent of parishes in the National Park[3] are covered by Community Action Plans, which have been updated or created within the last five years	Not available	24% April 2013	?
12	Maintain the number of settlements in the National Park with four, five or six services from: convenience store, meeting place, primary school, public house, post office, doctors surgery			?
	• Rural Service Centres	13 settlements	13 settlements	
	• Villages with five services	7 settlements	6 settlements	
	• Villages with four services	11 settlements	10 settlements	
	• Villages with three services	3 settlements (2010)	5 settlements (2013)	
13	Develop 300 additional affordable and local needs homes in the National Park	Baseline figure is zero - target started from April 2010	62 homes March 2013	?
14	At least 75 per cent of working age people in the area have access to employment by public transport, cycling or walking	76% 2008	76.3% 2011	✓
15	Reduce per capita carbon dioxide emissions in Cumbria by 25 per cent by 2015, compared with the 2005 baseline figure of 10.2 tonnes per capita[4]	Baseline figures superseded annually	15.6% reduction compared to latest baseline for 2005 of 9.6 tonnes (20.6% compared to 10.2 tonnes baseline) 2010	?

[3] Physical parishes that have any amount of land within the National Park

[4] This data has not been monitored since 2010 so it is proposed that the indicator be altered to reflect action 57 in the Partnership's Plan – reduce carbon emissions by 1 per cent per year. See section 4.1 for more details.

No	Indicator	Baseline figure	Latest figure	Likelihood to meet target in 2015
16	50 per cent of county wildlife sites and regionally important geological sites in the National Park are, or have been in the last five years, in positive conservation management[5]	27% March 2010	42% 2011	?
17	95 per cent, by area, of sites of special scientific interest in the National Park are in favourable or recovering condition, increasing on 26 per cent in favourable condition	91% March 2010	91.3% March 2012	✓
18	Maintain the area of land in relevant agri-environment schemes in the National Park at 75 per cent	Not available	68% May 2013	✓
19	80 per cent of total length of public rights of way in the National Park are easy to use by members of the public	86% March 2010	78% March 2013	?
20	51 per cent of rivers and 29 per cent of lakes in the National Park are in at least good ecological status by 2015	38% - rivers 29% - lakes 2009	42% - rivers 34% - lakes 2012	✓
21	Reduce the number of cultural heritage assets at risk in the National Park so that:			
	• no Conservation Areas are at risk	1 2010	0 April 2012	✓
	• we reduce the number of listed buildings at risk from 88 to 80 - as at September 2011	Baseline was unknown until Sept 2010 - 87	83 March 2013	✓
	• less than 100, out of 275 Scheduled Monuments are at risk	Baseline was unknown until Jan 2011 - 149	123 March 2013	✓

[5] Not available for National Park and no report carried out in 2012. See section 4.1 for more details.

4.1 Improving how we monitor the State of the Park

Wherever possible we report data specifically for the National Park and each year we will look into whether new data at National Park level is available. In cases where data is not available for the National Park we state what level the data is reported at, which includes data for the:

- county of Cumbria
- four districts that cover the National Park (Allerdale, Copeland, Eden and South Lakeland)
- wards in the National Park on a 'best fit' basis, including wards with greater than 50 per cent area within the National Park as shown on the map on page 11.

It is also important to note the date of some of the data used in this report. In some cases, the data may not yet be available for 2012 to 2013 or a new survey hasn't been carried out. Wherever possible it is made clear when the data was collected.

In February 2013, the 2011 Census data became available which has given us valuable additional information on the population of the National Park, however this will now not be updated for another 10 years.

Indicators of success

The indicators of success were identified in 2010. Since then, new data has become available or some data that was previously used is no longer monitored. A number of the indicators therefore need to be reconsidered in light of these changes.

10. *At least 75 per cent of accommodation providers in the National Park have a quality rating*
The number of accommodation providers with a quality rating is falling year on year and while this could reflect a decline in the quality of hotels, it is more likely to be down to the fact that businesses may be opting out of inspection schemes in a bid to save costs during the economic recession. This would mean the figure wasn't entirely representative of the quality of hotels.

15. *Reduce per capita carbon dioxide emissions in Cumbria by 25 per cent by 2015, compared with the 2005 baseline figure of 10.2 tonnes per capita*
This is a Cumbria-wide indicator however it is no longer monitored. Figures are now available from annual data collected on the Carbon Budget for the Lake District National Park Progress Report (established 2011). The suggested new indicator is in line with action 57 in the Partnership's Plan - '*Reduce carbon emissions in the Lake District National Park by one per cent per year.'*

16. *50 per cent of county wildlife sites and regionally important geological sites in the National Park are, or have been in the last five years, in positive conservation management*
Reporting did not happen in 2012 because the indicator NI197 (Improved Local Biodiversity – proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented) is no longer used.

20. *51 per cent of rivers and 29 per cent of lakes in the National Park are in at least good ecological status by 2015*
This is being reconsidered as its relevance and usefulness is questionable in showing the quality of waterbodies in the National Park.

There are also some other new indicators which could be considered in the next Partnership Plan review, in particular an indicator for biodiversity which is being developed alongside the Partnership's Plan. Outcomes identified in Biodiversity 2020 have broadened the awareness that

is needed by the National Park Partnership to report effectively on progress on biodiversity action in the National Park. The State of the Park Report currently reports on the condition of SSSIs and Local Sites in positive conservation management. This data remains relevant but the indicators need to be expanded to more accurately reflect the ambitions of Biodiversity 2020 (section 8.2).

Supporting data

Some of the information presented in this report presents a 'snapshot' rather than trends. The report identifies some gaps and issues in the range of information that we have available. We will work to address these in future years, when data becomes available. A summary of gaps and issues for each of the four outcomes is given below:

A prosperous economy

We do not have information about small businesses in the National Park and how they are faring economically. There is also no information about traditional industries and the connection between businesses and the special qualities of the National Park.

World class visitor experiences

We have a good picture of our visitors. However, we need more information on visitors' contribution to local communities and how they contribute to what is special about the National Park.

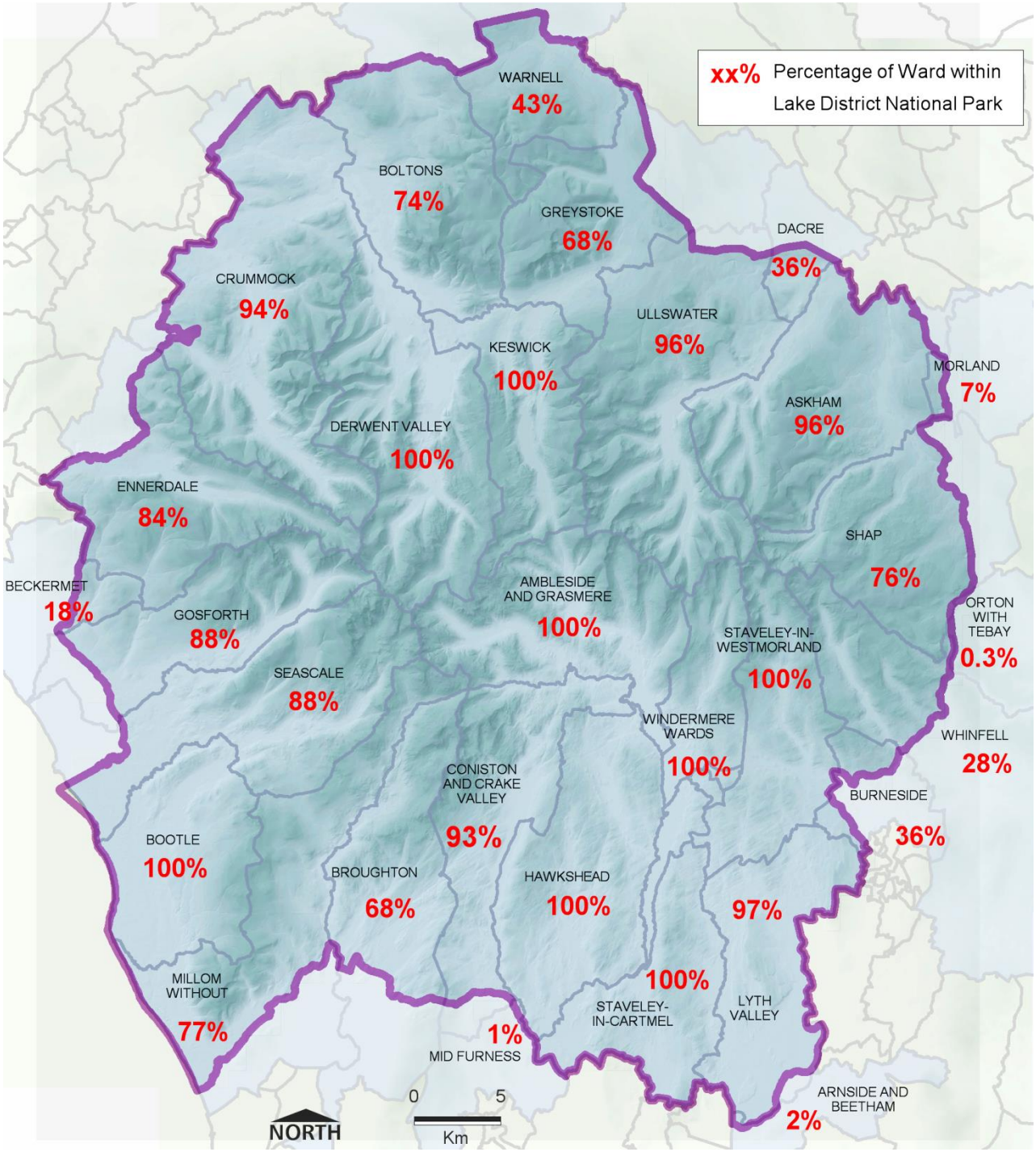
Vibrant communities

While we are able to monitor volunteering activity undertaken through the Lake District National Park Authority, we do not have information on learning opportunities and the amount of volunteering activity undertaken across the whole park. And we have no specific indicators to monitor the special quality 'celebrated social and cultural heritage'. In previous reports, the Place Survey that was carried out in 2008 was used to identify issues that affect people living in the Park. However it was a one off survey so we were unable to monitor change, and we have no new information relating to issues for residents. We are able to gather a lot of information about visitor transport, however we only have one measure for community transport.

A spectacular landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage

The Landscape Character Assessment sets a baseline for the landscape of the National Park and it is important in guiding planning and land management decisions, but it does not measure change. Data on wildlife is limited to protected sites. We do not have information about what benefits the National Park brings to people.

Figure 1: Wards in the National Park



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013. Height data © GeoPerspectives
Source: Lake District National Park Authority

5 A Prosperous Economy

The outcome

Businesses will locate in the National Park because they value the quality of opportunity, environment and lifestyle it offers – many will draw on a strong connection to the landscape. Entrepreneurial spirit will be nurtured across all sectors and growth and traditional industries maintained to ensure a diverse economy.

Delivery aims

PE1 Adopt a proactive, consistent and inclusive approach to planning.

PE2 Connect the special qualities of the National Park, including landscape features and cultural heritage, to the economy through imaginative approaches, including use of traditional skills.

PE3 Maximise the opportunities for the National Park to support the regeneration of Cumbria and wider regional or national initiatives.

PE4 Actively support land managers in the task of sustainably managing the landscape: delivering environmental and economic benefits for themselves and the wider community.

PE5 Promote growth of an integrated economy which nurtures vibrant, diverse and high value businesses and enables them to meet market demands, such as use of low-carbon and digital technologies.

PE6 Encourage small businesses and entrepreneurial aspirations to develop by providing appropriate support.

5.1 Farming and forestry

Unique farmed landscape and concentration of common land is one of the special qualities of the Lake District National Park.

About 2,500 people are employed in farming in the National Park. Based on national and Lake District total employment and agricultural employment figures, on average the Lake District National Park is eight to ten times more reliant on agriculture for employment than the rest of the UK. But farm incomes are low, with a net farm income of £9,594 in 2011 to 2012 as shown in table 5. This is a significant drop in income from a recent peak of £20,176 in 2010 to 2011. The fall in incomes in 2011 to 2012 appears to be driven by a fall in output[6] across all cost centres[7] apart from diversification. The fall is particularly noticeable for agri-environment schemes which are almost 40 per cent lower in 2011 to 2012. This drop reflects the regional and national picture of a reduction in farm income Over half of the 1,060 commercial farms in the National Park are larger than 50 hectares (table 4). A change in data collection for farm size from Defra means it is now only available for commercial holdings.

[6] The amount of goods and services produced

[7] Cost centres are agriculture, agri-environment and other payment, diversification out of agriculture and the single payment scheme

There are 64,544 hectares of Common Land in the Lake District which makes up 28 per cent of the total National Park area. The majority of land in the National Park is in an agri-environment scheme agreement (table 2):

- In 2013, 68 per cent of the National Park was in an agri-environment scheme managed by Natural England, a fall of six per cent since 2011
- over 24,000 hectares of land have been in Woodland Grant Schemes since 2007.

Entry Level Stewardship supersedes the Countryside Stewardship Schemes and Environmentally Sensitive Areas Schemes, although some existing CSS and ESA agreements are continuing until 2014. Most of the land in expiring schemes will enter into Higher or Entry Level Stewardship schemes.

There are 28,500 ha of woodlands in the National Park, 12per cent of the area. About 9,500 hectares are owned or managed by the Forestry Commission and about 19,000 hectares under other ownership (all figures from National Inventory of Trees and Woodlands 1999). These assets range from large public forests such as Grizedale and Whinlatter with multiple benefits, in particular timber and tourism, to small undermanaged woodlands, often on farms, that have potential for greater economic and environmental value and to the culturally and ecologically significant individual yews and ash pollards in many valleys. A Cumbria and the Lake District, Trees, Woodlands and Forestry Strategy and Action Plan was completed in June 2013.

Table 2: Area of land in agri-environment schemes (indicator of success 18)

Agri-environment schemes	Area under agreement in 2011:	Area under agreement in 2013:
Entry Level Stewardship	13,407	27,319
Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	37,622	61,042
Higher Level Stewardship	760	1,008
Organic Entry Level Stewardship	1,288	1,961
Organic Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	1,745	210
Countryside Stewardship Scheme	5,099	15
Lake District Environmentally Sensitive Area	109,520	64,286
Total Note that there are some small overlaps in area between different schemes but these are a small percentage of the overall figure	**169,441** 74% of the total area of the National Park	**155,841** 68% of the total area of the National Park

Source: Natural England, April 2011

Table 3: Area of land (ha) in Woodland Grant Schemes in the Lake District National Park

Grant Type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Total
Woodland creation	31	43	16	84	38	73	**285**
Woodland regeneration	145	190	49	51	86	49	**570**
Woodland improvement	653	793	1,183	1,450	1,391	915	**6,385**
Woodland planning	723	420	11	265	258	938	**2,615**
Woodland management	2,625	2,642	2,892	2,994	1,813	1,456	**14,422**
Woodland assessment	0	4	203	0	0	0	**207**
Total	**4,177**	**4,092**	**4,354**	**4,844**	**3,586**	**3,431**	**24,484**

Source: Forestry Commission, 2013

Table 4: Number and size of farms in the Lake District National Park

Farm size	2009	2010
<5 hectares	166	70
5<20 hectares	212	197
20<50 hectares	218	195
50<100 hectares	264	248
>=100 hectares	346	350
Total	**1,206**	**1,060**

Source: Defra Agricultural Survey, Crown Copyright

Table 5: Net farm income in the Lake District National Park

	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	2011/ 2012
Net farm income approximated for the National Park, based on Cumbria High Fells and South Cumbria Low Fells joint character areas	£9,155	£7,704	£20,176	£9,594

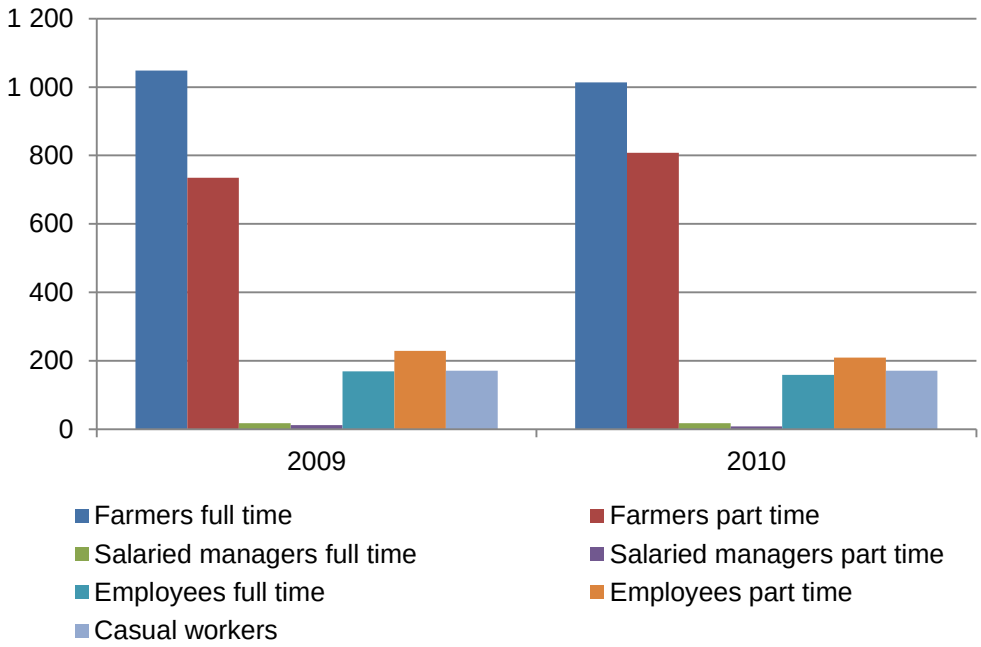
Source: Defra Farm Business Survey, Crown Copyright

Table 6: Number of holdings by farm type

Number of holdings by farm type[8]	2009	2010
Cereals	6	#[9]
General cropping	#	69
Horticulture	19	13
Specialist pigs	#	#
Specialist poultry	9	14
Dairy	108	76
Less favoured areas grazing livestock	723	741
Lowland grazing livestock	78	92
Mixed	34	31
Other	222	18
Total holdings	**1,206**	**1,060**

Source: Defra Agricultural Survey, Crown Copyright

Figure 2: Number of people employed in commercial farming



Source: Defra Agricultural Survey, Crown Copyright

[8] For 2010 onwards the methodology for classifying farm types has changed to one based on Standard Outputs. More details can be found in the standard output typology document on the June webpage: www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/foodfarm/landuselivestock/junesurvey/junesurveyresults

[9] # - indicates suppressed to prevent disclosure of information about individual holdings.

5.2 Employment and business

The number of residents claiming jobseekers allowance in the National Park is significantly lower than regional and national averages, with a rate of just one per cent, equating to just over 300 people (figure 3). The Office of National Statistics have reported this year that levels of self-employment among National Park residents is almost double that found nationally (at nearly one in five of the economically active population), whilst unemployment levels are noticeably lower. However, average incomes are lower in Cumbria than the national average. In 2011 to 2012 national median weekly earnings were £505 for full-time employees and the Cumbria-wide figure was a little lower at £487. Weekly earnings at district level are markedly higher in Copeland and lower in Eden compared to the Cumbria-wide figure; but note that due to small sample sizes data is less reliable at district level.

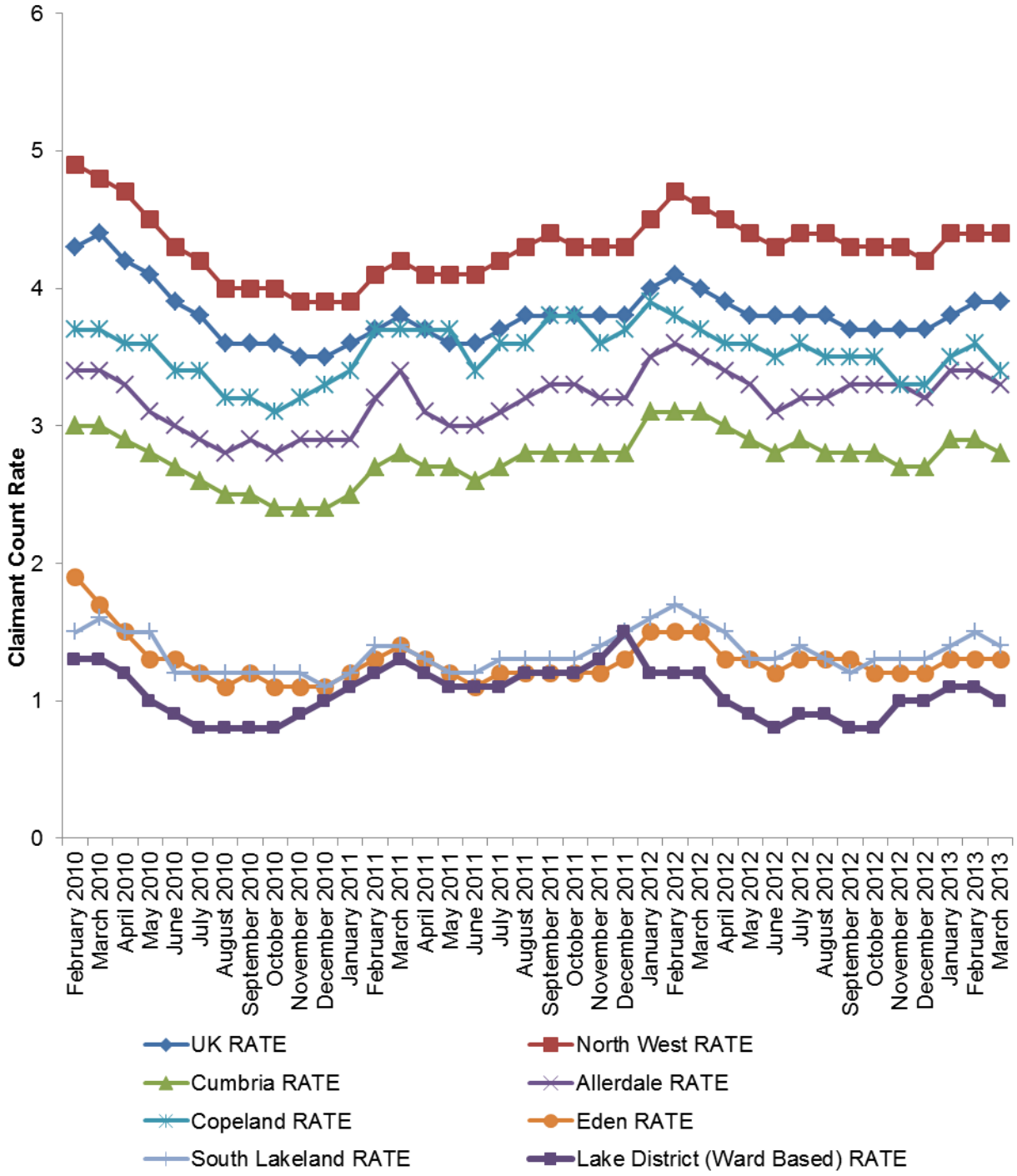
Figures from STEAM (Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor) in 2012 show that tourism is the dominant employment sector, contributing more than £900 million to the economy and employing just short of 15,000 people, this can be seen in table 7.

From businesses starting up in 2008, three-year survival rates were higher in Cumbria than the national average. Around 22 per cent of businesses in Cumbria operate within the National Park. Of these, 80 per cent rate National Park as a ‘good’ or ‘very good’ place to do business. The Cumbria Business Survey in 2011 was based on telephone interviews with businesses, including 152 in the National Park. One of the findings of this survey was the increasing need for higher speed broadband, with less than half of the businesses surveyed in the National Park satisfied with the coverage they receive. A number of barriers to business efficiency that were highlighted in the Cumbria Business Survey have since been addressed: In 2011 The Lake District National Park Partnership Business Task Force (BTF) was established which provides an open forum for local business to discuss issues with the Lake District National Park Authority and other partners. The BTF have provided guidance in the establishment of Planning Performance Agreements that are offered by the Authority for pre-planning application advice.

The Core Strategy of the Local Plan for the Lake District National Park Authority was adopted in October 2010, containing strategic policies for the National Park until 2025, including a policy relating to employment which states that the Lake District National Park Authority will maintain a minimum supply of 3.1 hectares of land for employment. The Allocations Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State in early 2013 and this identifies land for employment. The Annual Monitoring Report of the Local Plan shows that 1,542 square meters of employment land has been developed which since 2010 (indicator of success 5). This is the 2011 to 2012 figure, as monitoring has not yet been completed for 2012 to 2013.

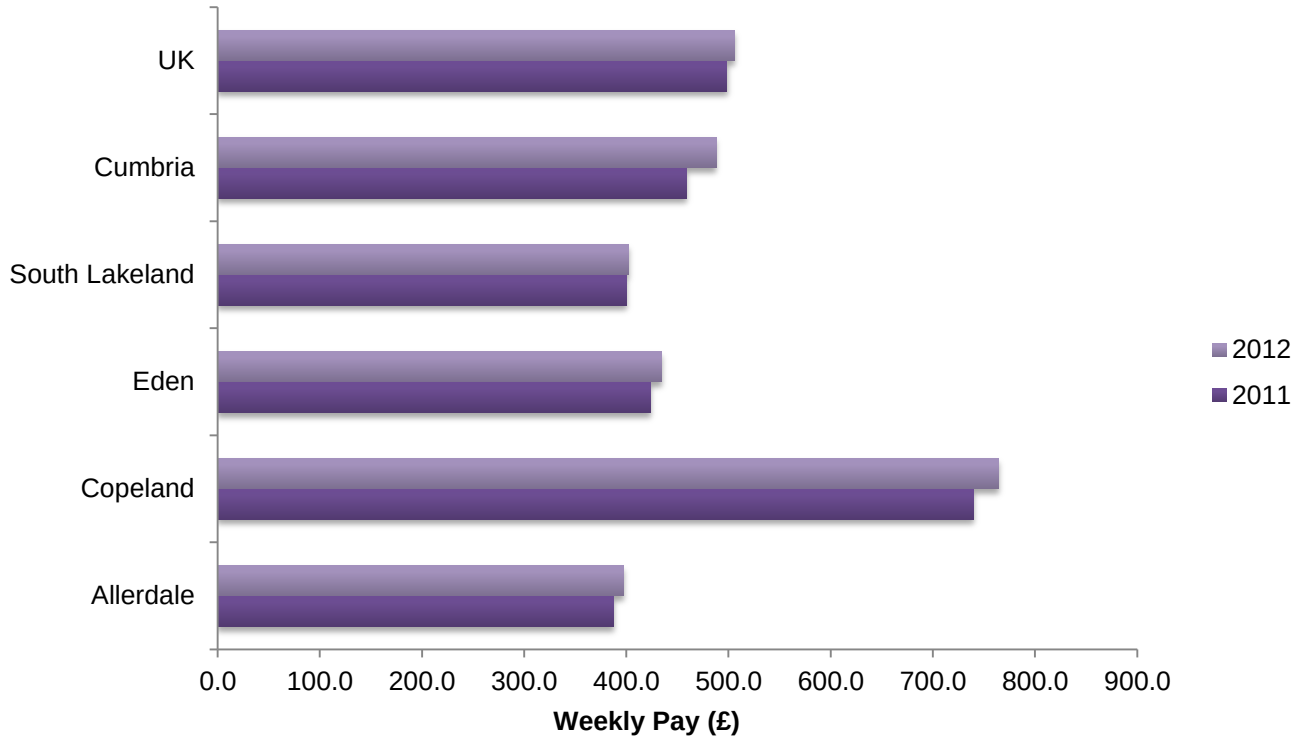
The Lake District National Park Authority approves over 90 per cent of planning applications (table 11). The Lake District National Park Authority reported that satisfaction with the planning service remains over 70 per cent (table 12), however this is only monitored every two years. The number of appeals received has dropped from an annual rate of around 30 appeals to 20, which is low compared with the 1,000 applications determined each year.

Figure 3: Jobseekers allowance claimant count rates (indicator of success 2)



Source: Cumbria Intelligence Observatory, taken from the Office for National Statistics Crown Copyright

Figure 4: Median earnings of full-time employees in 2010 (indicator of success 3)



Source: Cumbria Intelligence Observatory, taken from the Office for National Statistics Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings Crown Copyright

Table 7: Economic value of tourism

	2009	2010	2011	2012
Economic value of tourism	£965.9 million	£934.9 million	£1026.6million	£993.9 million
Number of tourism related jobs	15,021	14,865	15,078	14,919

Source: STEAM (Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor), Cumbria Tourism

Table 8: Business survival rates for businesses started in 2008 (indicator of success 1)

Survival of businesses	Number of new businesses 'born' in 2008	Percentage surviving a year	Percentage surviving two years	Percentage surviving three years
UK	238,895	92.0	74.0	58
Cumbria	**1,960**	**95.1**	**80.8**	**64.9**
Allerdale	345	95.7	81.2	65.2
Copeland	265	96.2	75.5	62.3
Eden	215	97.6	83.3	64.3
South Lakeland	505	92.0	79.0	66

Source: Cumbria Intelligence Observatory, taken from Office for National Statistics Business Demography Crown Copyright

Table 9: Top three barriers to business efficiency for businesses in the National Park

	Percentage
The way the local planning and development control system operates	42%
The local road network and road access	35%
The availability of parking for customers, staff or deliveries	30%

Source: Cumbria Business Survey 2010, Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

Table 10: Contributions to Nurture Lakeland, to look after the landscape and environment of Cumbria and the Lake District

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Number of businesses in Cumbria who are members of Nurture Lakeland	307	342	361
Value of contributions from businesses in Cumbria through Nurture Lakeland	£198,000	£167,850	£152,837

Source: Nurture Lakeland

Table 11: Planning application approvals (indicator of success 4) and planning appeals allowed

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Percentage of planning applications approved	89%	91%	91%	91%	93%	93%
Percentage of appeals allowed	50% 15 out of 30	34% 11 out of 32	25% 4 out of 16	45% 14 out of 31	43.5% 10 out of 23	35% 7 out of 20

Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Table 12: Satisfaction with planning application process

	2006-07	2009-10	2011-12
Percentage of planning applicants satisfied with the service received	73%	71%	76%

Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Table 13: Employment floor space completions trend for past 5 years (indicator of success 5)

07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	5 year total
2,191	723	2,771	1,542		**7,227**

Source: Lake District National Park Authority

6 World Class Visitor Experiences

The outcome

High quality and unique experiences for visitors within a stunning and globally significant landscape. Experiences that compete with the best in the international market.

Delivery aims

VE1 Promote a welcoming National Park for all, which encourages people to visit again.

VE2 Enhance the quality and diversity of the visitor's experience through improvements to accommodation, attractions, public realm and visitor facilities.

VE3 Encourage opportunities for sustainable tourism, such as visitors staying longer, spending more on local goods and services, contributing to local communities and using public transport.

VE4 Celebrate and protect what is special about the Lake District by promoting and restoring its rich cultural heritage and wildlife, local traditions and products.

VE5 Making the most of the landscape and nature as the backdrop for outdoor leisure experiences for all, particularly the next generation of returning visitors – from relaxing and tranquil to adventurous and exhilarating.

VE6 Engender pride and responsibility and opportunities for scientific research, securing the long term sustainability of the special qualities of the National Park.

6.1 Sustainable tourism and visitor facilities

Tourism is the dominant employment sector in the National Park. The Lake District National Park attracts just short of 15 million visitors a year, totalling around 22 million visitor days. This contributes over £900 million a year to the local economy through accommodation, food and drink, recreation, shopping, transport and indirectly supporting local businesses. Figures from STEAM provide an indicator for monitoring trends, rather than an accurate measurement of tourism. As we can see in figure 5, tourism value has fallen along with tourism volume. This significant fall could be down the impacts felt across the tourism industry across the whole country - the poor weather in the summer of 2012 along with a focus on London based events such as the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics. However it should be noted that overall, the Lake District has performed significantly better than elsewhere in the county.

According to the Economic Downturn and the 'Staycation' survey carried out by Visit England in February 2013, four in ten people surveyed in England are spending less on holidays in order to make savings, however a large proportion of people stated that in order to make savings they would take holidays in the UK rather than abroad, in particular to areas that are cheaper and closer to home, which may explain the steady increase in visitors from the North west coming to Cumbria, from 21 per cent of all visitors in 2002 to 37 per cent in 2012 (Cumbria Visitor Survey).

Cumbria Visitor Surveys are undertaken around every three years, based on face-to-face interviews with visitors between June and September. Visitors are identified as those people who have travelled more than 20 miles for a visit of more than three hours. The 2012 survey results were from 1,174 interviews.

About eight per cent of visitors are international visitors, an increase of three per cent from the last survey. Seventy per cent of visitors were aged over 45, 12 per cent were aged below 35 and only three per cent of visitors were aged below 25. Every year the percentage of visitors aged over 60 goes up, which reflects the trend in an aging demographic of visitors and suggests the park is not attracting younger tourists who perhaps haven't visited before. Figures for overall visitor satisfaction are high and 85 per cent of visitors have previously visited the area. Around 69 per cent of visitors interviewed were staying overnight and the remainder were day visitors. The most common response for visitors who stay overnight was seven nights, followed by two nights. Cumbria Tourism have reported that occupancy surveys for January to March for both serviced (hotels, guesthouses and B&Bs) and the self-catering sector are showing increases since 2012 by around one to two percentage points. Sixty Five per cent of businesses report that profits are down, but this is an improvement on 72 per cent who reported this six months ago, and 75 per cent in May 2012.

Over 60 per cent of accommodation providers in the National Park are in an accredited scheme. The figure has dropped significantly since 2010, by more than ten per cent. This drop is partly explained by a change in 2011 to the way that the data is reported for caravan and camping sites. The figures may also have been affected by businesses opting out of inspection schemes in a bid to save costs during the economic recession.

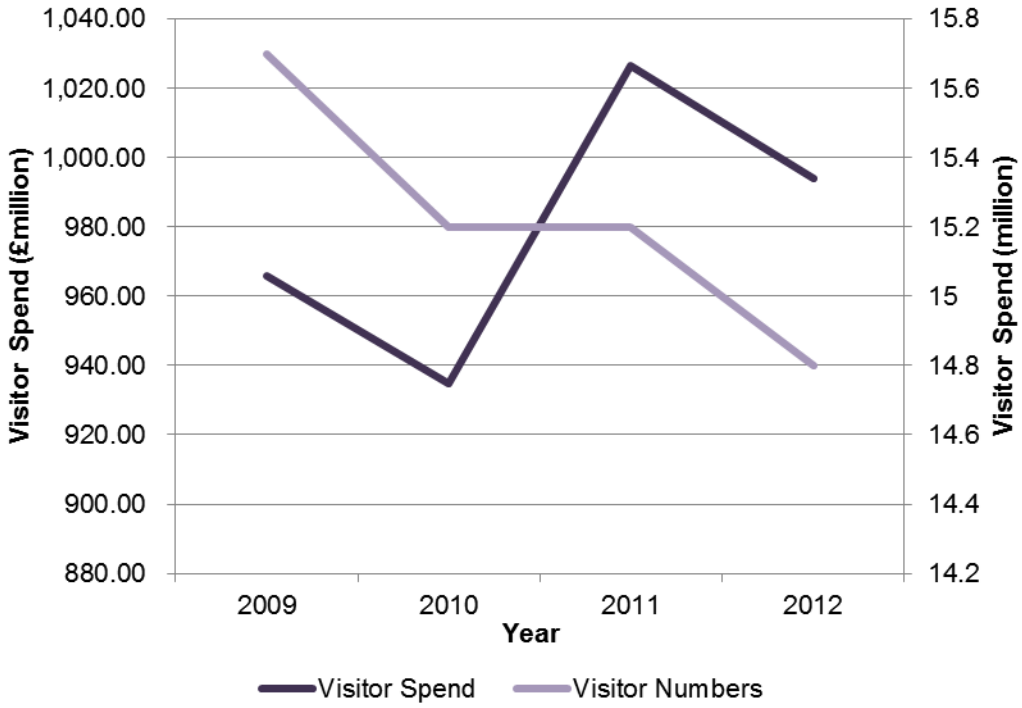
The majority of visitors arrive in the area by private motor vehicle (car, van, motorbike or motorhome): 82 per cent from the 2012 Cumbria Visitor Survey, however this is a reduction from the 2009 survey. Most visitors then use their vehicles as their main mode of transport during their visit, although again this has reduced by more than 10 per cent since the 2006 survey. The percentage of visitors whose main mode of transport was walking, using buses and on a coach tour increased from 2009 to 2012 which reflects the generally positive trend towards sustainable visitor travel, possibly influenced by the work of the GoLakes Travel project (section 7.3)

Table 14: Number of visitors to the National Park

	2009	2010	2011	2012
Visitor numbers	15.7 million	15.2million	15.2 million	14.8 million
Visitor days	22.7 million	21.9 million	21.9 million	21.7 million

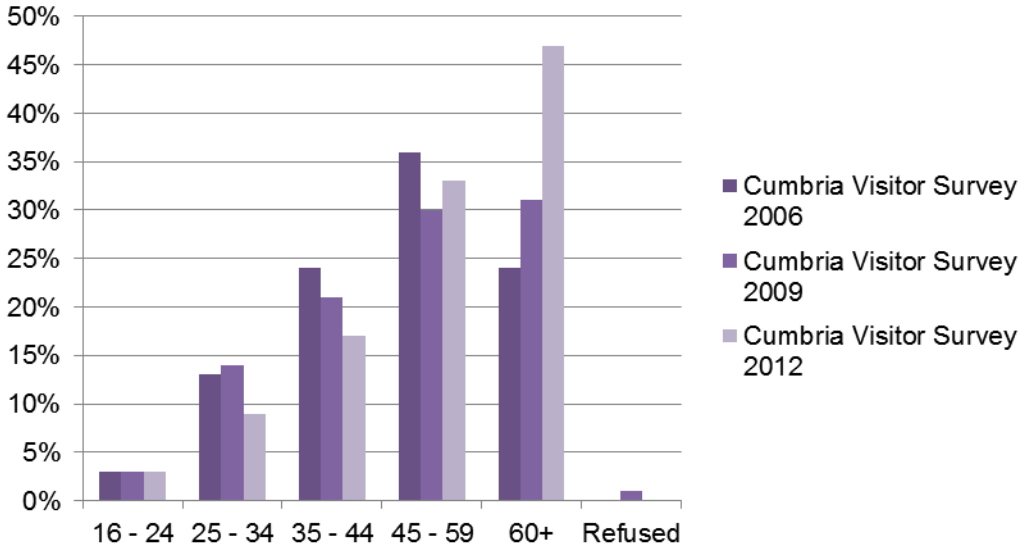
Source: STEAM (Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor), Cumbria Tourism

Figure 5: Economic value of tourism and visitor numbers to the National Park



Source: STEAM (Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor), Cumbria Tourism

Figure 6: Age profile of visitors to the National Park



Source: Cumbria Visitor Surveys, Cumbria Tourism

Table 15: Percentage of accommodation providers with a quality rating (indicator of success 10)

	2010	2011	2012
Percentage of accommodation providers in the National Park who have a quality rating	73%	63%	62%

Source: Cumbria Tourism

Table 16: Summary of feedback from visitors to the National Park (indicators of success 6, 7 and 8)

	2006	2009	2012
Percentage of visitors rating the overall experience of their visit as good or very good, broken down as:	97%	95%	94%
• very good	81%	56%	68%
• good	16%	39%	26%
Percentage of visitors who have previously visited Cumbria	85%	85%	85%
Average number of nights visitors stay - looking at staying visitors only	5.9 nights	5.3 nights	5.7 nights
Average spend per visitor per day, excluding accommodation - day and staying visitors	£18.81	£20.19	£24.02

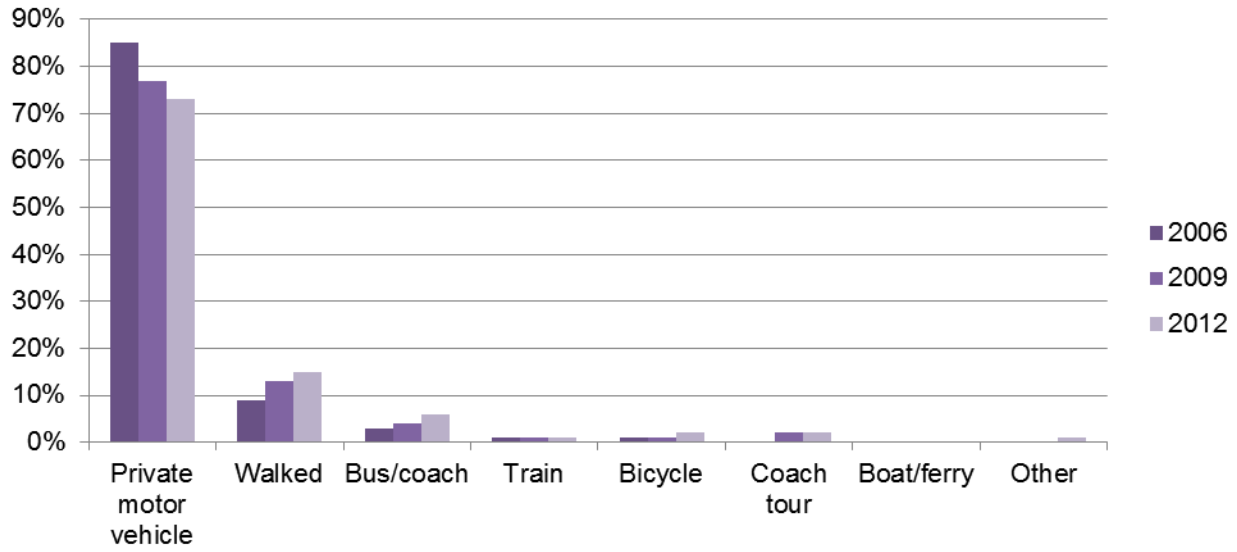
Source: Cumbria Visitor Surveys, Cumbria Tourism

Table 17: Top three reasons visitors give for visiting Cumbria

	Percentage
Because of the physical scenery and landscape of the area	69%
Because of the atmospheric characteristics of the area - peaceful, relaxing, beautiful and so on.	54%
Because we have been before	44%

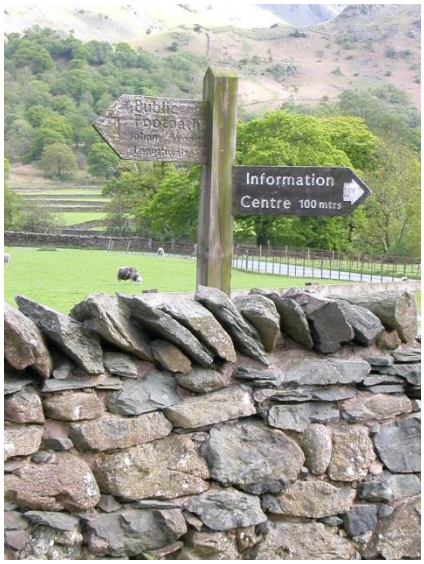
Source: Cumbria Visitor Survey 2012, Cumbria Tourism

Figure 7: Main mode of transport used by visitors during their visit (indicator of success 9)



Source: Cumbria Visitor Surveys, Cumbria Tourism

6.2 Education, events, access and outdoor recreation



History of tourism and outdoor activities is one of the special qualities of the Lake District National Park. There are over 3,000km of rights of way in the National Park and over 50 per cent of the National Park is open access land. An annual survey of five per cent of the network of rights of way helps us monitor how easy rights of way are to use. Of the 76.098km selected, 64.504km were 'easy-to-use, but not necessarily on definitive line[10]'. Although figures appear to have dropped in the last two years, over 70 per cent of rights of way are easy to use and this has now risen to nearly 80 per cent. The top issues identified over the last three years were that the path furniture (such as gates and stiles) needed replacing, repairing or was obstructed and the path surface was not easy to use. A number of paths failed in 2012 because of underlying surface water brought about by the exceptionally wet summer.

Visitors undertake a wide variety of outdoor activities. The number of activities undertaken by visitors as measured through the Cumbria Visitor Surveys varies greatly from survey to survey, however there is a general trend that shows the top three activities are visiting the countryside and long and short walks. Partners are investigating new ways of attracting new audiences as well as consolidation existing ones, furthering their experiences of the Lake District and what it can offer including the development of the Adventure Capital Strategy. Adventure Capital was highlighted as a Partnership Priority area for action in 2012 to 2013: *'Develop the Lake District as the Adventure Capital of the UK whilst safeguarding the special qualities of the National Park'*.

One of the special qualities of the National Park is opportunities for quiet enjoyment. The Campaign to Protect Rural England undertook a nationwide survey to test what tranquility meant to people and measure levels of relative tranquillity in different parts of the country. The results are unsurprising in that they show that the opportunity to experience tranquility is greater in remoter upland areas and areas served only by minor roads. The Campaign to Protect Rural England are continuing to measure changes to tranquil places. The main losses of tranquillity in Cumbria and the Lake District National Park has been a growth in traffic on the M6, A66, A591 and A590, all of which run through, or near to the Park. Nearly 22 per cent of Cumbria is disturbed by noise and visual intrusion, however this is put in to context compared to 100 per cent disturbance in the Manchester District.

About 750,000 people use visitor services provided by the National Park Authority each year, attending events, using the learning service or visiting information centres. In addition, over 1.4 million people visit the Lake District National Park website (data from 2012 to 2013). Sixty per cent of people surveyed increased their understanding of what was special about National Parks after using these services.

The Flora of the Fells project is about engaging people with the Cumbrian uplands, raising awareness of their value for biodiversity, natural resources, cultural heritage and landscape, health and the economy. This year a total of 491 people took park in the Fell Care Days that were

[10] Minor deviations from the definitive line on a map can still be considered 'easy to use' if the deviation does not affect user enjoyment and is not the result of a deliberate act to prevent the public from using the definitive line.

run by the project, along with other events including public awareness events, four leaders training events and Secret Windermere days.

Figure 8: Tranquillity data

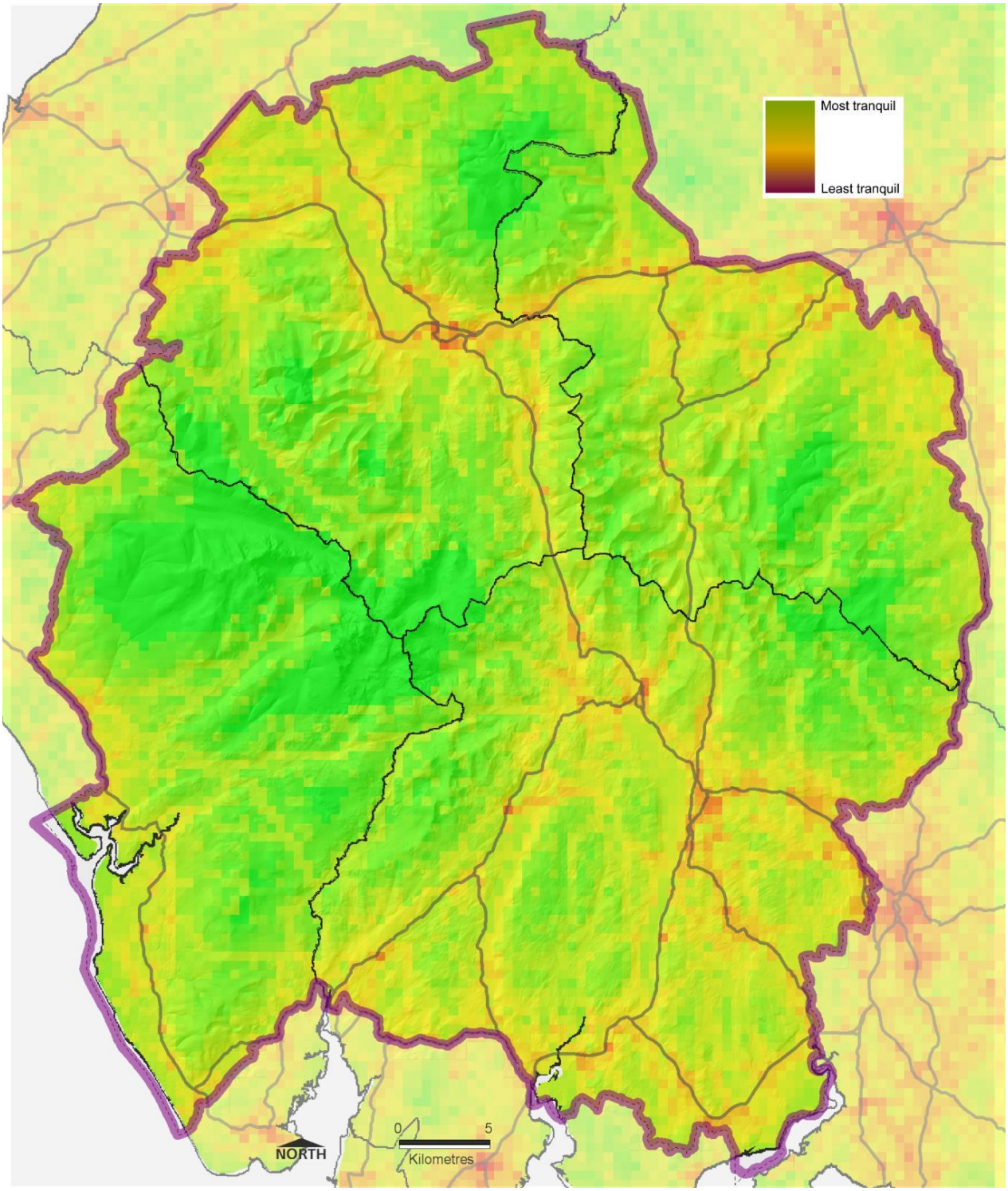


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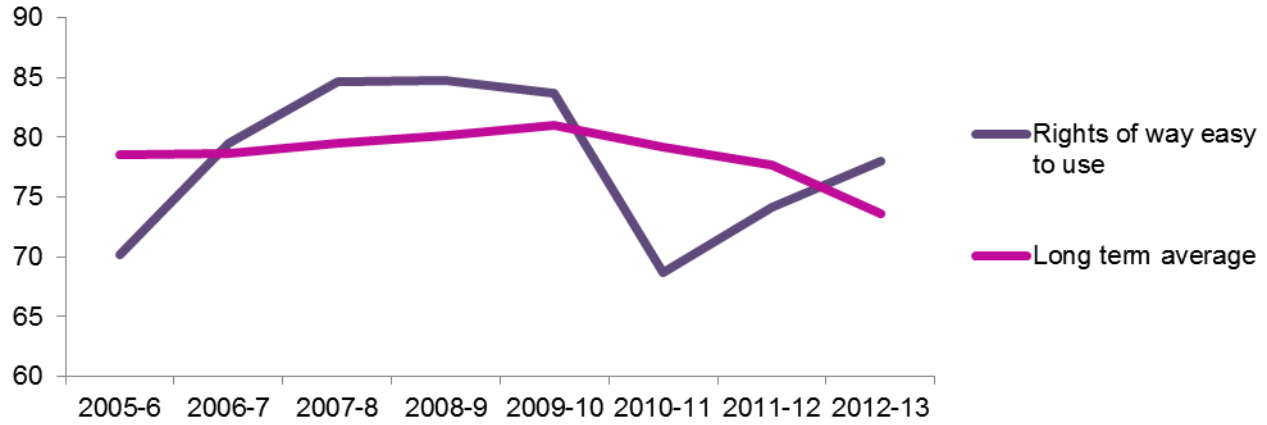
Figure 9: Percentage of rights of way that are easy to use (indicator of success 19)



Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Table 18: Outdoor activities undertaken by visitors to the National Park

	2006	2009	2012
Visiting the countryside	83%	51%	68%
Bird watching / field study / nature study / wildlife watching	25%	7%	12%
Short walks	68%	39%	53%
Long walks	55%	37%	36%
Cycling	9%	5%	6%
Mountain biking	6%	4%	2%
Horse riding / pony trekking	2%	1%	1%
Lake cruises / motor boat cruising	36%	27%	20%
Water sports	3%	1%	0%
Sailing / yachting / canoeing / speed boating / rowing	11%	5%	5%
Fishing	4%	2%	2%

Source: Cumbria Visitor Surveys, Cumbria Tourism

Table 19: Percentage of people who increased their understanding about the National Park through using visitor services provided by the Lake District National Park Authority

	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	March 2013
Percentage of people increasing their understanding of what is special about National Parks through our visitor services:	77%	76%	55%[11]	61%
• events	77%	79%	66%	75%
• learning service	88%	86%	61%	81%
• website	67%	69%	47%	53%
• information centres and Brockhole, the Lake District Visitor Centre	75%	71%	40%	51%

Source: Lake District National Park Authority

[11] The agreed methodology changed during the year, which meant that the figures dropped dramatically

Table 20: Outcomes from Flora of the Fells events

	2012 figure
Percentage of attendees who said they had 'learnt something' or 'learnt lots' from events	92%
Percentage of attendees who said they would change their behaviour because of what they learnt from an event, with top three changes as follows: • volunteering • getting out into the countryside more • reducing their environmental impact (in other ways)	72% 25% 21% 16%

Source: Friends of the Lake District, Flora of the Fells achievements 2012

7 Vibrant Communities

The outcome

People successfully living, working and relaxing within upland, valley and lakeside places where distinctive local character is maintained and celebrated.

Delivery aims

VC1 Develop and deliver balanced employment and housing opportunities that enable people to live and work in the community.

VC2 Ensure effective access to a broad range of life long learning opportunities.

VC3 Enable communities to influence and work with others to support the retention of local services and ensure access to essential services, such as health, information technology, childcare and support for the elderly.

VC4 Provide an integrated transport network which offers attractive alternatives to the car.

VC5 Help people within the National Park have a sense of belonging and pride – understanding the distinctiveness of the natural, environmental and cultural heritage of their area and contributing to its future well-being.

VC6 Involve communities, particularly children and young people, to help develop communities which are sustainable for future generations.

7.1 Supporting communities

More than 40,000 people live in the National Park. Settlements are generally small, with only three having a population of more than 3,000: Keswick, Ambleside and Windermere/Bowness. Data from the 2011 Census showed around two-thirds of the population are of working age, around a quarter are over 65 and less than a seventh are under 16. The National Park encompasses 79 parishes and parts of Allerdale and Copeland Boroughs, and Eden and South Lakeland Districts.

There are five distinctive areas in the National Park (North, West, East, South and Central and South East, see figure 10) reflecting how communities operate in and beyond the National Park. A settlement hierarchy reflects the size and role of settlements:

- Rural service centres: providing a range of services, employment, housing and transport links
- Villages: providing some services, links with rural service centres and some housing and employment development
- Cluster communities: our smaller settlements.

There are 13 Rural Service Centres in the National Park. Rural Service Centres have access to a range of important local services and amenities, including public transport and the following services: convenience store, meeting place, primary school, public house, post office and doctor. Gosforth, however, does not have a doctor and recently lost its post office during the nationwide

cutback in post offices. In addition, there have been several losses of individual services in villages since the assessment in 2008. This may be partly due to the period of economic recession and a decrease in demand due to factors such as second homes which results in less trading and demand than if homes were permanently occupied.

Nineteen parishes have up to date Community Action Plans (updated or created in the last five years). Six plans were updated or published during 2012 to 2013. The Partnership committed to developing a coordinated approach to Neighbourhood Planning support within the National Park. Neighbourhood Plans were introduced by the Government in the Localism Act 2011 to promote sustainable development at a local level. They focus on land use activities which require planning permission. Coniston and Torver Parish Councils produced a draft Neighbourhood Plan in 2013 as part of the Governments 'front runner' project, with the support of the Lake District National Park Authority. Millom Without are also working on a Neighbourhood Plan. Principle support is being provided by Copeland Borough Council as only a small part of the parish is within the National Park, however the Lake District National Park Authority are providing input as necessary. Another approach currently underway, from a priority identified by the Partnership in 2012, is the Ullswater pilot Valley Planning project. It is a geographical approach to partnership working to improve delivery of community aspirations. By involving local people, visitors and businesses it will establish what they want to change, keep the same or improve in their area.

Table 21: Community Action Plans (indicator of success 11)

	April 2013
Number of Community Action Plans covering parishes within the National Park	19
Percentage of parishes covered by Community Action Plans, updated or created within the last five years	24%

Source: Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT)

Table 22: Services in settlements (indicator of success 12)

	2008	2010	2012
Rural Service Centres - have access to public transport and the following services: convenience store, meeting place, primary school, public house, post office and doctor	13 settlements	13 settlements	13 settlements
Villages with five services	9 settlements	7 settlements	6 settlements
Villages with four services	12 settlements	11 settlements	10 settlements
Villages with three services	0 settlements	3 settlements	5 settlements

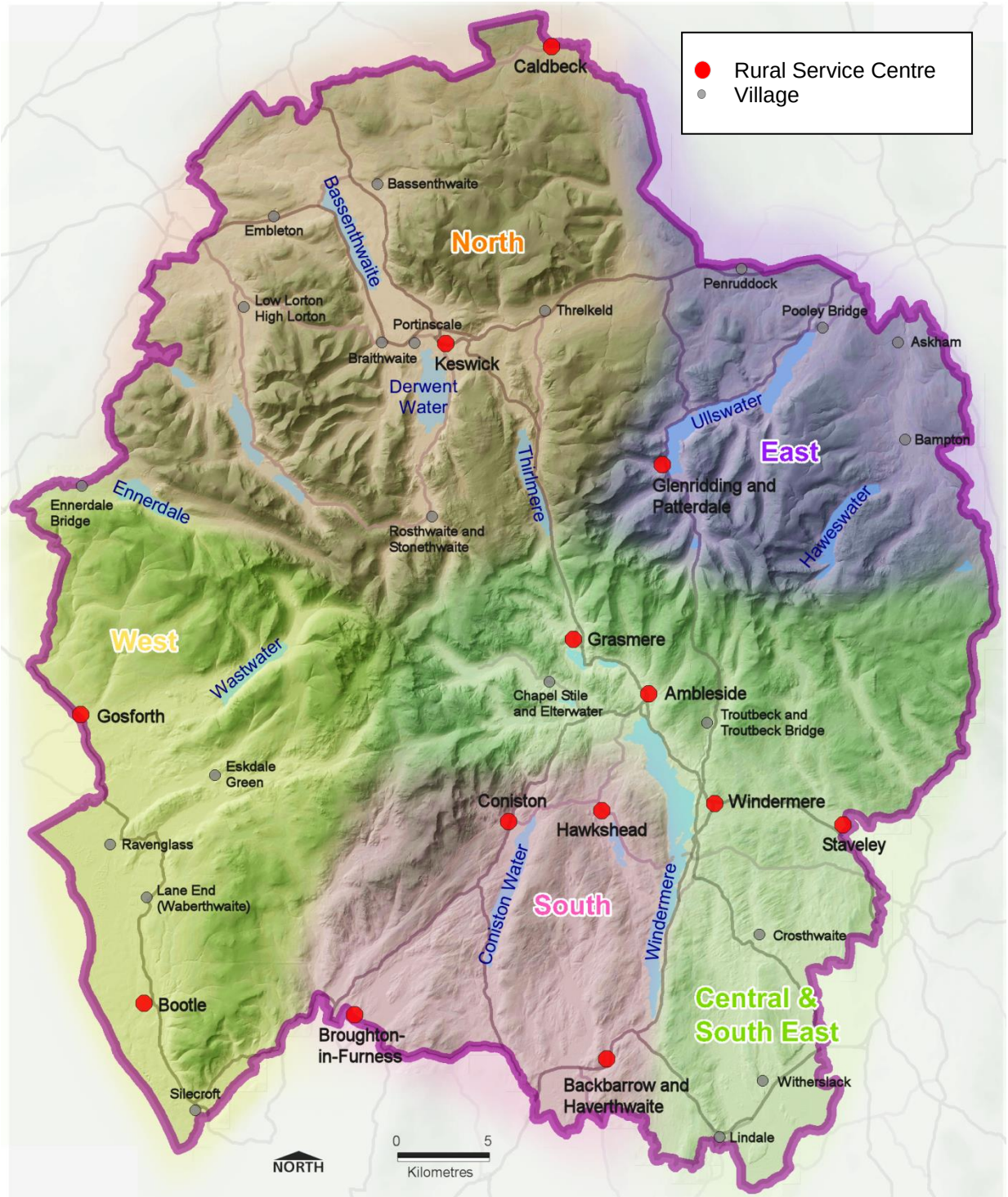
Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Table 23: Volunteer days completed for the Lake District National Park Authority

	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	March 2013
Number of volunteer days organised or supported by the National Park Authority	4,665	4,991	4,961	4,961	5,305	5,090

Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Figure 10: Distinctive areas and settlements in the National Park



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Source: Lake District National Park Authority

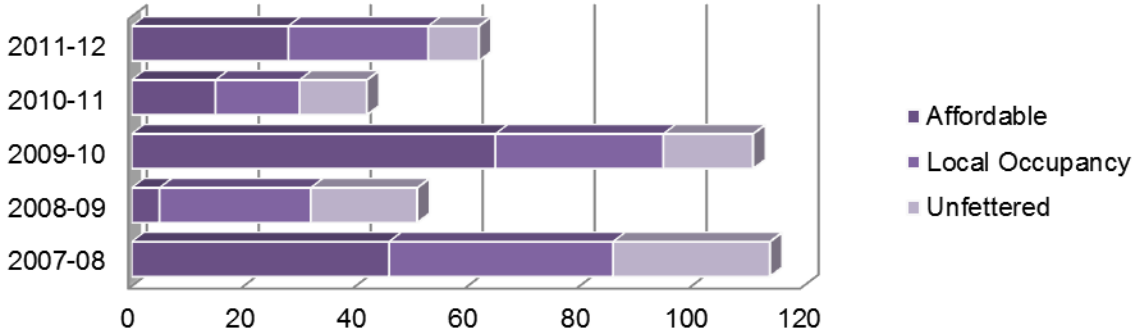
7.2 Housing

Respondents to the Place Survey in 2008 stated that affordable decent housing was the top issue in need of improvement in the National Park. The ratio of house price to income is markedly higher in the National Park than within Cumbria, with the average figure of eight to one. The housing market is influenced by demographic and economic changes, employment and incomes, second homes, accessibility, school catchments and inward migration. Figures from the 2011 Census indicated that 24 per cent of houses in the National Park were second homes or holiday lets (household spaces with no usual residents), but this figure is higher in some communities within the National Park, for example, according to the Coniston Parish Plan, 51 per cent of houses in the village are second homes. There are 572 homes in Coniston and 368 are lived in permanently and there are 204 second homes and holiday lets. Sixty-six properties are rented through housing associations, 70 are privately rented and several have local 106 occupancy clauses, but 211 are privately owned without any restrictions. Holiday lets do however attract tourists and can have a positive impact on the local economy, it is only when it becomes out of balance that they create difficulties for a vibrant community.

There is considerable variation from year to year in housing completions and planning permissions granted for housing. The recession is having an undoubted impact on housing, however, as figure 11 highlights, following a big drop in housing completions in 2010 to 2011, this increased in 2011 to 2012. When planning approval is granted, a standard time condition, for commencement, of three years from the date of the Decision Notice is applied. Not all homes granted planning permission are built for a variety of reasons and for this reason, 10 per cent is taken off the total percentage of planning approvals to take this into account. This is an important factor when monitoring the availability of new housing for local people.

The Core Strategy of the Local Plan, adopted in October 2010, contains a policy on housing provision and this is supported by a Supplementary Planning Document on Housing Provision which explains the requirements of housing development in the National Park. Housing development must meet the local need or local affordable need of each locality, to redress imbalances in the housing market. Table 24 shows a steep rise in the number of permissions granted since the adoption of the plan in 2010. Unfettered houses do not have any occupancy restrictions, which are from historic planning applications. Based on housing need the target is for 900 houses to be built in the National Park between 2010 and 2025 – an average of 60 per year. The Allocations of Land Development Plan Document was submitted to the Secretary of State in early 2013, which identifies land for affordable housing, employment and open space.

Figure 11: Number of housing completions (indicator of success 13)



Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Table 24: Number of units granted planning permission for housing

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Affordable	67	25	32	36	90
Local need	14	10	43	67	98
Unfettered	0	2	1	1	9[12]
Total for affordable and local need	**81**	**35**	**75**	**103**	**188**

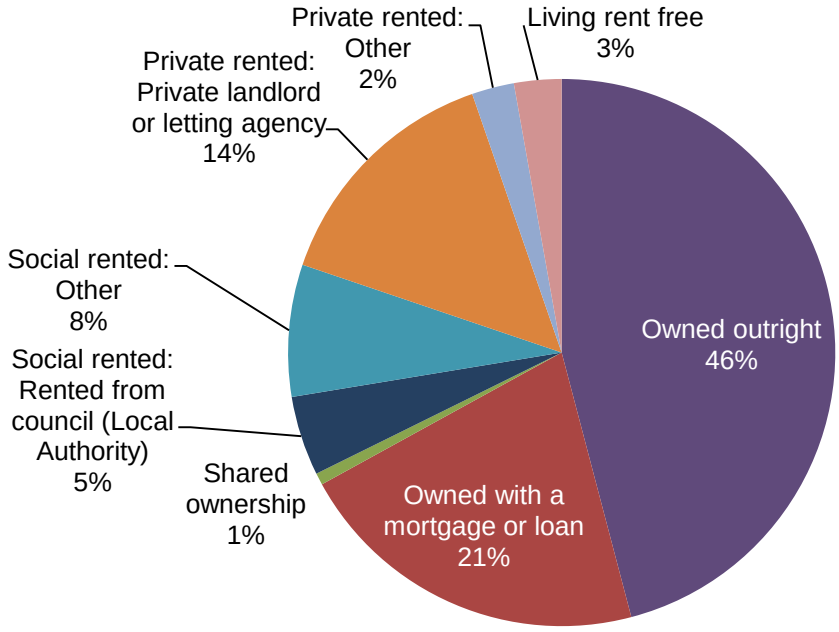
Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Table 25: House prices and income 2012

	Mean household income	Mean house price	Mean housing affordability ratio - house price to income	Lower quartile household income	Lower quartile house price	Lower quartile housing affordability ratio - house price to income
Lake District National Park [13]	£33,868	£273,506	8:1	14,205	£182,901	7:1
Cumbria	£32,641	£166,549	5:1	13,254	£94,216	12:9

Source: Cumbria Intelligence Observatory, taken from CACI StreetValue and PayCheck datasets

Figure 12: Household Tenure in the National Park



Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

[12] Eight of these have been given Certificate of Lawful Use. Certificates of Lawful Use or Development are certificates issued by local planning authorities which establish that an existing or proposed use or development of land is lawful.

[13] Best-fit at ward level - including wards with greater than 50 per cent area within the National Park

7.3 Transport and movement

Emissions from transport are a major contributor to the 'carbon footprint' of the National Park (see section 8.1). Cumbria is a rural county with a dispersed population, many of whom rely on their cars. Over three-quarters of working age people in Cumbria have access to employment by public transport or walking. This indicator measures the percentage of working age people living within the catchment area of a location with more than 500 jobs.

The GoLakes Travel Project is a multi-million pound sustainable visitor travel project which began in 2011. In its first summer, a visitor travel survey was carried out in the Central and South East area of the Lake District. It surveyed and mapped visitors' *actual* movement demands – finding out where people in the central Lake District travelled from and to, and how.

Approaching the central Lake District key findings:

- Day visitors tend to be fairly local - from southern Cumbria and north Lancashire mainly, then from the rest of Lancashire, especially east Lancashire towns, then Penrith and Carlisle. The proportion of day visitors from the main north west cities (Liverpool and Manchester) and west Cumbria seems to be relatively small.
- There are a few main origins for day bus and coach trippers - key markets are east Lancashire towns, Blackpool and West Cumbria towns.

Travelling around the central Lake District key findings:

- Staying visitors travel 15.8 miles[14] per day within the Lake District and 18.7 miles within Cumbria
- Day visitors travel 21.7 miles per day within the Lake District and 32.4 miles within Cumbria.
- Staying visitors tend to use the bus less for shorter journeys (one to 4.9 miles) than day visitors – and use the car more for these journeys.
- A day's travel by a staying visitor comprises an average of 1.4 journey segments.
- It is worth highlighting that even though most visitors are car users:
  - they also use other modes as part of their day out which means that
  - only 43% of actual journey segments are made by car.

The majority of visitors arrive in the area by private motor vehicle (82 per cent from 2012 Cumbria Visitor Survey) and most then use their vehicles during their visit (73 per cent from 2009 Cumbria Visitor Survey) – see section 6.1, however, both of these figures have fallen since the 2009 Visitor Survey. This may be affected by the work being done by the GoLakes Travel project and other sustainable travel schemes across the country, or perhaps by economic factors which have made running private vehicles more expensive. The Cumbria Visitor Survey also highlights visitor attitudes to sustainable transport in the area, the top three issues are surrounding the lack of buses, how infrequently buses run and how expensive public transport is. While this was just a survey of visitors, it is likely that the same issues will affect residents in the National Park.

[14] Note that respondents rarely recorded journey segments of less than one mile.

Table 26: Access to employment by public transport and walking in Cumbria (indicator of success 14)

	2007	2008	2009	2011
Percentage of working age people in Cumbria with access to employment by public transport and other specified modes	77%	76%	76%	76.3%

Source: Department for Transport, Crown Copyright

Table 27: Visitor attitudes to sustainable transport

Attitudes to sustainable transport	Percentage
If there were more buses I would be more likely to use public transport in the Lake District	27%
Public transport offers a quick way to travel around the Lake District	18%
I would use public transport more to get around the Lake District if it was cheaper	19%
I expect public transport in the Lake District to be frequently late	9%
I would use sustainable forms of transport more if they were running more frequently	23%
There is not enough information on sustainable transport options I could use to travel in the Lake District	17%

Source: Cumbria Visitor Surveys 2012, Cumbria Tourism

8 Spectacular Landscape, Wildlife and Cultural Heritage

The outcome

A landscape which provides an irreplaceable source of inspiration, whose benefits to people and wildlife are valued and improved. A landscape whose natural and cultural resources are assets to be managed and used wisely for future generations.

Delivery aims

SL1 Ensure change strengthens the character of the Lake District's landscapes, whilst sustaining cultural heritage and resources to deliver ecosystem services.

SL2 Protect and restore natural water features through whole catchment management.

SL3 Create a joined up approach to manage and enhance cultural and natural features, habitats and wildlife.

SL4 Mitigate against climate change in line with national carbon budgets and develop strategies and actions to adapt to climate change.

SL5 Improve the quality of the built environment, promoting innovative, high quality and sustainable design which takes inspiration from its surroundings.

SL6 Ensure that residents and visitors appreciate the importance of environmental protection by improving access, understanding, enjoyment, education and health.

8.1 Climate change

Data on per capita carbon emissions for Cumbria has not been monitored since 2010. The figures up to this point show a 15.6 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions between 2005 and 2009. Carbon emissions in 2005 in Cumbria were 9.6 tonnes per capita; in 2009 they were 8.1 tonnes per capita[15]. All districts covering the National Park have shown a reduction in in carbon emissions.

The Lake District National Park Partnership established a consumption-based carbon budget in 2011 – the first area in the UK to implement a comprehensive carbon budget. This estimated that the Lake District had a carbon 'footprint' of 2.3 million tonnes consisting of:

- forty-one per cent from visitors getting to and from the Lake District, with the majority of emissions from flights
- twenty-eight per cent from visitors, excluding travel to and from the National Park
- thirty-one per cent from residents.

The Lake District National Park Partnership agreed to reduce emissions by one per cent a year, in line with national statutory carbon budgets in the Climate Change Act. Figures for 2013 show that

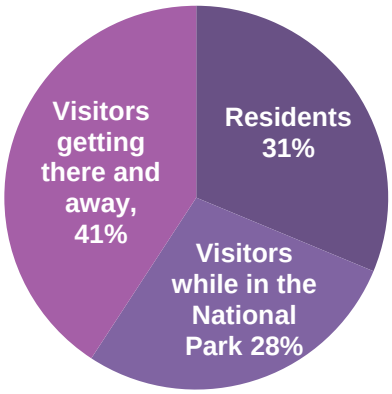
[15] Data has a lag of two years before it is available. Figures published previously for 2005-08 have been revised so that they are directly comparable to the 2009 figures. These figures exclude emission sources over which local authorities have no influence, such as motorways and EU ETS (Emission Trading Scheme) installations.

so far the Partnership have identified, encouraged or established projects to save 26,926 tonnes of carbon emissions per year, equivalent to just over 1 per cent of the carbon budget. There are still 42,574 tonnes to be saved to meet the three year target of 69,000 tonnes so while there has been an increased rate of savings, the target still isn't being met. As we can see from Figure 14, the rate of saving is expected to increase further in future years.

Key areas where savings have been made are from home energy, accommodation and food and drink and travel. These figures are from estimates and assumptions based on information provided by partners. As you can see from figure 15, data is provided on an optimistic and mid-range basis. The figures above are taken from the optimistic estimates. It is also important to note that savings are only reported for projects and schemes that were set up to reduce carbon emissions, it doesn't monitor savings from projects that have had an unintentional carbon saving or factors beyond our control.

Some domestic renewable energy installations do not require planning permission, so we do not have data for all renewable energy installations and this is only monitored every two years. Since 20 October 2010 the Lake District National Park Authority have monitored records of the numbers of planning applications for different types of renewable energy installations. The Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment Study, estimates a figure of 27,000 kilowatts of renewable energy for the National Park by 2030.

Figure 13: A carbon budget for the Lake District National Park



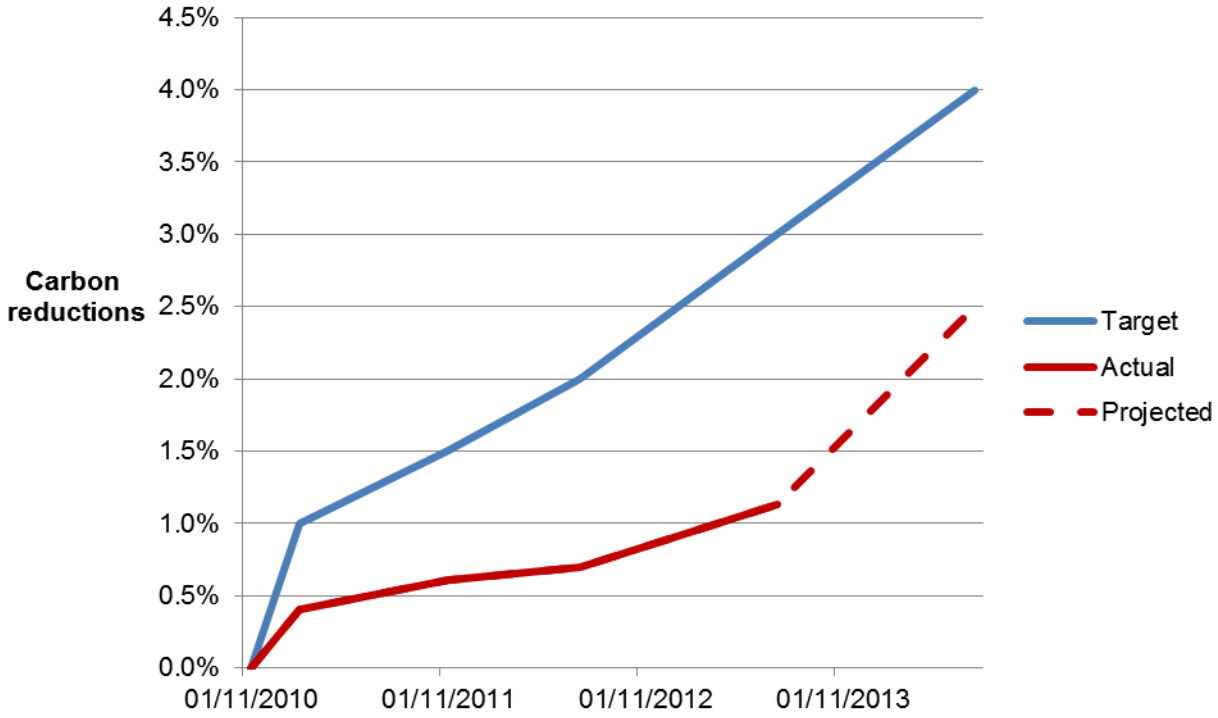
Source: Small World Consulting on behalf of the Lake District National Park Partnership

Table 28: Applications for renewable energy granted planning permission, 20 October 2010 to 31 March 2011

Renewable energy type	Number of applications granted which reference this type of energy generation	Total capacity in megawatts
Wind – onshore	5	0.058
Hydropower	7	0.3491
Solar photovoltaic	57	0.11986
Solar thermal	12	19 panels total
Biomass boilers	10	unknown
Air source heat pumps	7	unknown
Ground source heat pumps	5	unknown
Combined Heat and Power	3	unknown
Total	**106**	

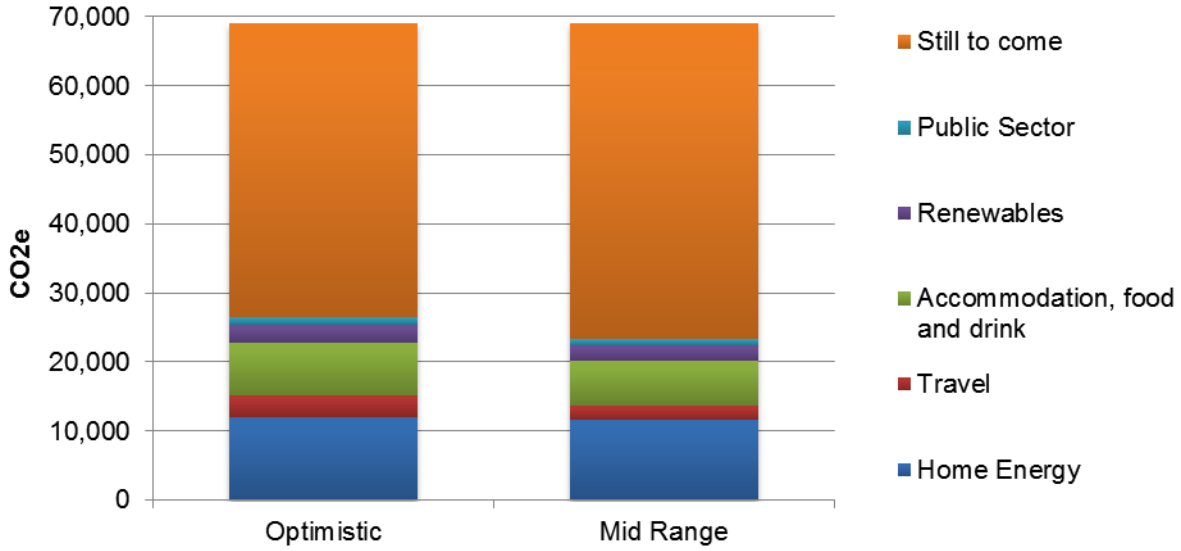
Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Figure 14: Progress of carbon saving compared to the target reduction



Source: Lake District National Park Authority

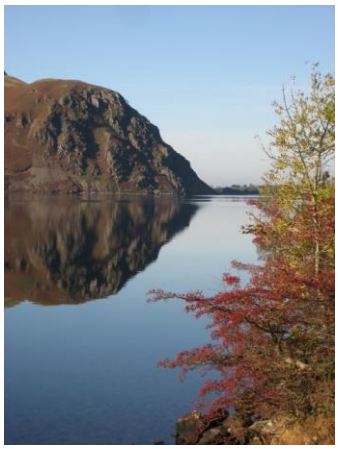
Figure 15: Progress towards year 3 reduction target of 69,000 tonnes CO_2e[16]



Source: Lake District National Park Authority

[16] Three per cent of footprint of the LDNP baseline of 230,000 tonnes CO_2e / annum

8.2 Landscape, biodiversity and ecosystem services



Six of the special qualities of the Lake District National Park relate to this topic:

- Complex geology and geomorphology
- Diverse landscape from mountain to coast
- Nationally important mosaic of lakes, tarns, rivers and coast
- Wealth of habitats and wildlife
- Extensive semi-natural woodlands
- Open nature of the fells

Over 36,000 hectares of the National Park are in European designated sites, 42,026 hectares are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), 14,000 hectares in County Wildlife Sites and 8,000 hectares in Regionally Important Geological Sites. There are over 10,000 hectares of ancient semi-natural woodland. Many nationally important habitats and species are found here including 173 species and 35 habitats in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, ranging from iconic red squirrels and natterjack toads to freshwater habitats, mires and arctic-alpine communities.

Biodiversity is of vital importance to the Lake District National Park. There has been a reported decline in biodiversity across the country. In 2011, the Government published “Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England’s Wildlife and Ecosystem Services”. Biodiversity 2020 recognises that National Parks are in a good position to deliver many of the listed outcomes. National Park Authorities are asked specifically in the Biodiversity 2020 delivery plan to ensure that Biodiversity 2020 outcomes and targets are incorporated into all National Park Management Plan reviews and other relevant strategy documents on an on-going basis. In 2012 a Cumbria Local Nature Partnership was established and there are ongoing conversations to identify and agree biodiversity priorities plus an indicator to monitor changes in biodiversity.

91.3 per cent of SSSIs are in favourable or recovering condition. The main outstanding issues on the remaining eight per cent of SSSIs are invasive non-native species, which are unlikely to be resolved, and grazing. Twenty-six per cent of SSSIs are in favourable condition. Up until 2010, the target that was being reported on was 95 per cent favourable condition for SSSIs by 2010. Biodiversity 2020 has expanded the previous target in Outcome 1A: ‘Better wildlife habitats with 90 per cent of priority habitats in favourable or recovering condition and at least 50 per cent of SSSIs in favourable condition, while maintaining at least 95 per cent in favourable or recovering condition.’ Therefore, in figure 15, by splitting the graphs we can show the percentage meeting favourable condition, rather than just showing the two figures combined.

This outcome also refers to priority habitats. These are the habitats listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) act. Priority habitats occur within SSSIs, County Wildlife Sites and in the wider countryside. We do not currently have a full picture of the extent of all priority habitats in the National Park. Natural England are currently in the process of producing a single priority habitat map for England. Some work is already occurring within the National Park that will help to improve the awareness of the current extent of priority habitats. Work is ongoing to improve the condition of up to 280 hectares of bogs and mires. Major restoration works have been completed on five sites totalling 153 hectares. The largest site so far has seen 100 hectares of blanket bog and basin mire, drained in the 1960s, restored at Forest Bottom between Longsleddale and Kentmere. There currently is a target to improve the condition of existing and create up 20 hectares a year of hay meadows. 2012 to 2013 saw the restoration of 29 hectares of hay meadows taking the total area of species rich meadows restored in the last five years to close

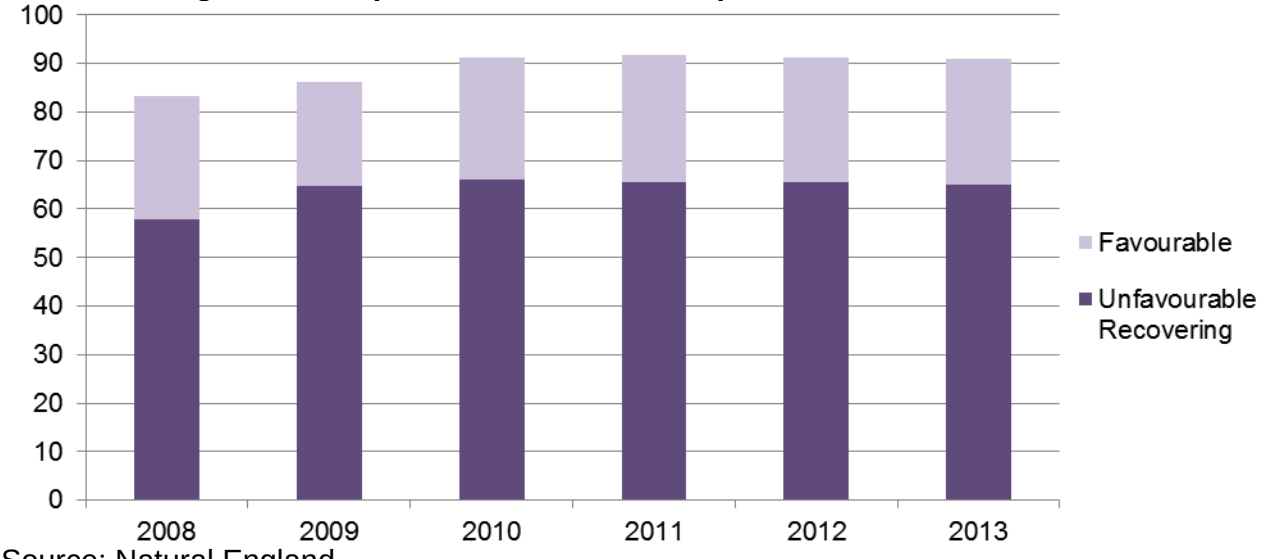
to 100 hectares. The Uplands for Juniper project continues its work. To date, 138 juniper sites have been surveyed for their status with 55 per cent of this total, covering 700 hectares, showing a decline in numbers and condition.

In 2011, 42 per cent of local sites in Cumbria were in positive conservation management. Unfortunately reporting of this statistic has not happened in 2012 because the Local Sites Partnership has not been resourced as indicator NI197 (Improved Local Biodiversity – proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented) is no longer used by Cumbria County Council. Defra have published that there was no report from Cumbria County Council in 2012.

Within the Lake District National Park boundary, there are 139 designated waterbodies. Out of these, 53 are at good ecological status. It is predicted that by 2015, 59 of these waterbodies will achieve good ecological status. In addition, The Environment Agency has identified a further three waterbodies that will improve by 2015. Using the Water Framework Directive classification system 40 rivers (42 per cent) were in good ecological status in 2012. Thirteen (34 per cent) lakes were in good ecological status in 2012. Overall, 15 river and lake waterbodies have improved from Moderate to Good classification, whilst 11 river and lake waterbodies have deteriorated in status (table 31). However, it is noted that care should be taken when assessing the yearly classification, since the assessment is based on a number of different environmental elements. Many changes in classification in 2012 were attributable to using a greater amount of data to run the classification. The reported ecological status is an overall assessment of all the elements required for the ecology of the water body to be considered to be in 'good' ecological health. The final reported Ecological status for a water body works on a 'one out all out' approach to classification, therefore, if just one element of either biological, chemical or hydrological parameters are assessed to be Moderate or below then the overall classification will be Moderate, regardless if other elements are assessed to be high or good.

A Landscape Character Assessment for the Lake District National Park was developed in 2008 and adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document by the Lake District National Park Authority in 2011. The document identifies 13 different types of landscape and 71 areas of distinctive character and contains guidelines to manage change and encourage sustainable development. It informs development and land management decisions by taking account of landscape character.

Figure 15: Percentage of Sites of Special Scientific Interest in favourable or unfavourable but recovering condition (indicator of success 17)



Source: Natural England

Table 29: Percentage of local sites in positive conservation management (indicator of success 16)

Percentage of county wildlife and regionally important geological sites where positive conservation management has been (in the last five years) or is being implemented:	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012
National Park	14%	27%	Not available	Not available
Cumbria	31%	40%	42%	Not available

Source: Cumbria County Council

Table 30: Waterbodies in the National Park in 'good' or 'high' ecological status (indicator of success 20)

Type of waterbody	Number of waterbodies	Number and percentage in at least 'good' ecological status			
		2009	2010	2011	2012
Lakes	38	11 (29%)	11 (29%)	13 (34%)	13 (34%)
Rivers	95	36 (38%)	40 (42%)	40 (42%)	40 (42%)

Source: Environment Agency

Table 31: River and lake waterbodies that changed class between 2009 and 2012

2009	2012	Waterbody type	Number of waterbodies	Change in Quality
Good	Good	Lake	9	Unchanged
High	High	Lake	1	Unchanged
Moderate	Good	Lake	3	Improved
Good	Good	River	28	Unchanged
Moderate	Good	River	12	Improved
Good	Not yet available	River	2	Unchanged
Good	Moderate	Lake	1	Decreased
Good	Moderate	River	5	Decreased
Good	Poor	River	1	Decreased
Moderate	Poor	River	4	Decreased

Source: Environment Agency

Figure 16: Common Land and Ancient Semi Natural Woodland in the National Park

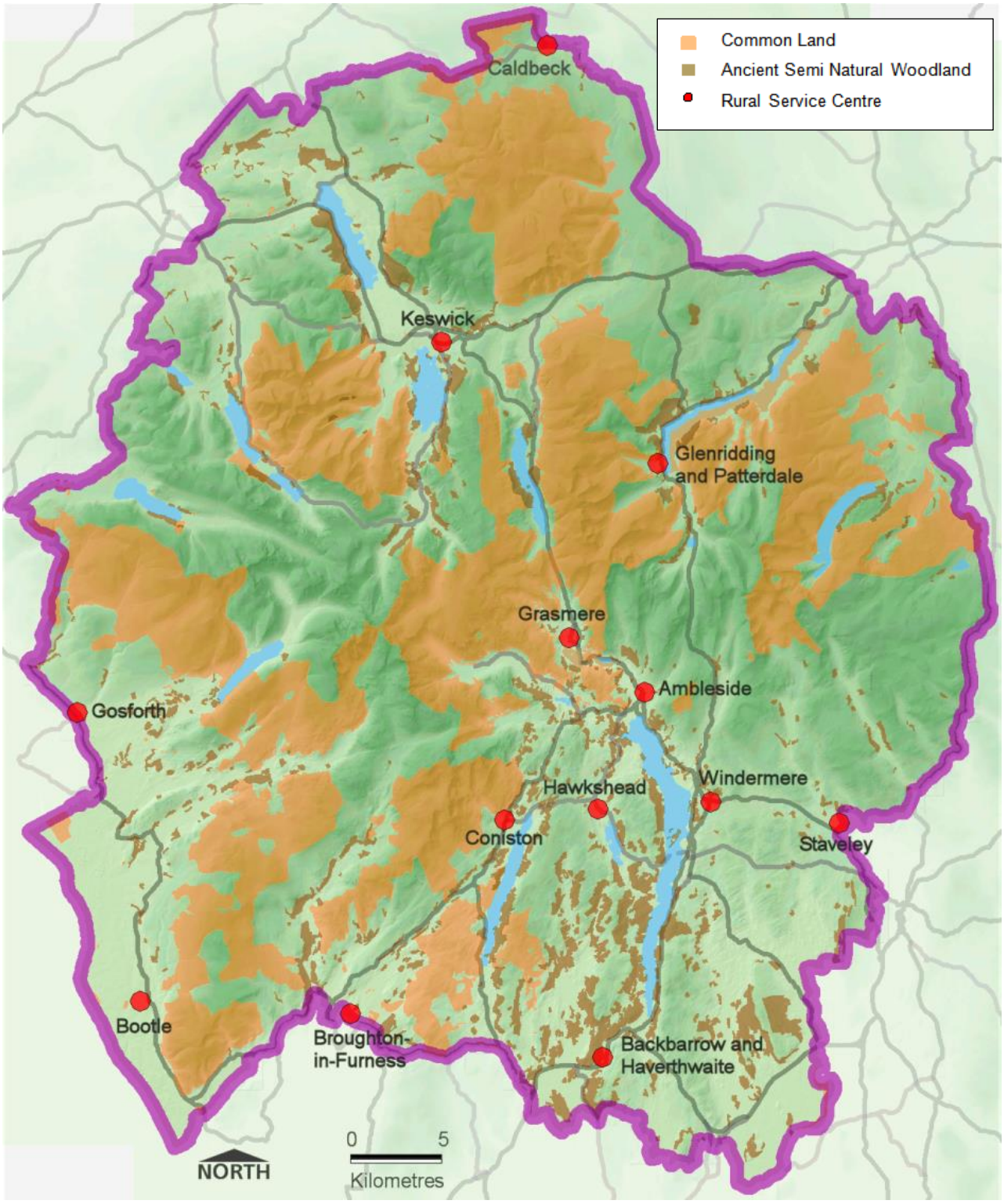


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Figure 17: Designated Nature Conservation sites in the National Park

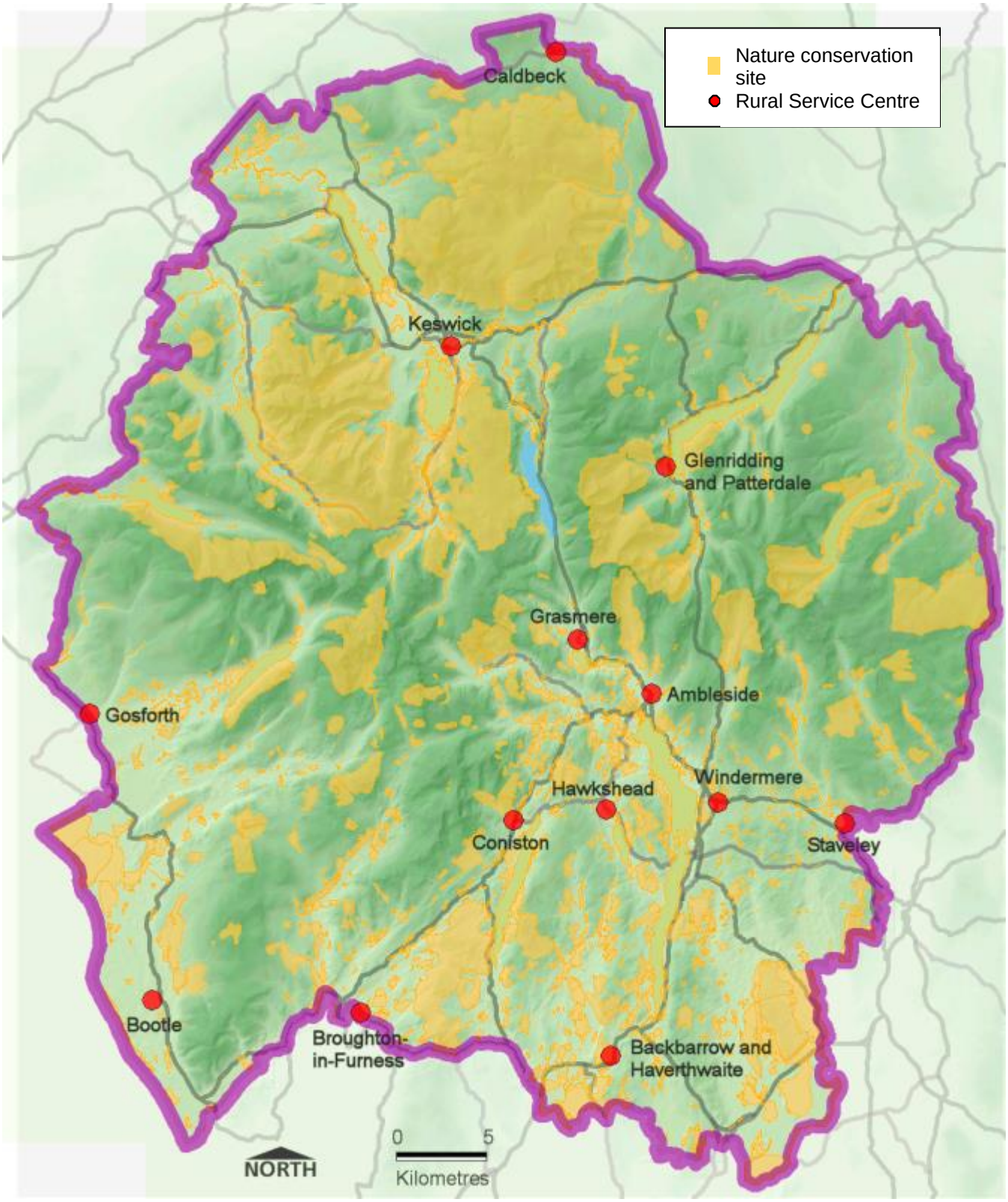

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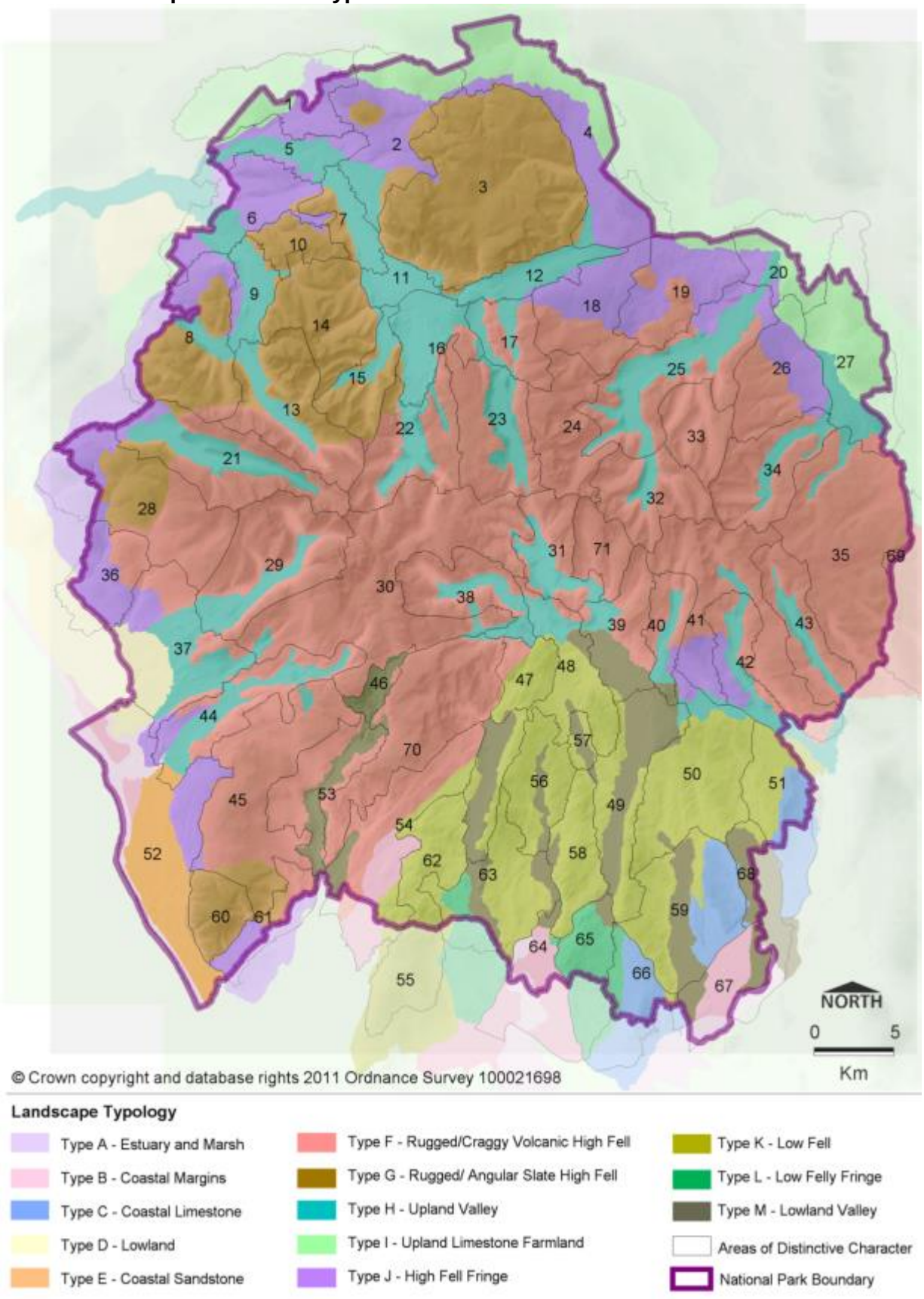
Figure 18: Landscape Character Types and Areas of Distinctive Character



Source: Lake District National Park Authority

8.3 Cultural heritage and built environment

Two of the special qualities of the Lake District National Park are rich archaeology, and distinctive areas and settlement character. There are more than 14,000 archaeological sites and monuments, 273 Scheduled Monuments, 23 Conservation Areas and more than 3,000 listed buildings.

None of the Conservation Areas in the National Park are currently assessed as 'at risk'. A programme of work to establish appraisals and management plans for all the Conservation Areas in the National Park is well underway – since 2009 appraisals and management plans have been put in place for 19 out of 23 Conservation Areas, with two being implemented in 2013 for Broughton and Ravenglass.

A 'listed building at risk' survey was carried out in 2010 and this revealed a figure of 87 listed buildings at risk. This equates to about five per cent of the listed buildings in the National Park.

Between 2006 and 2010 the Lake District National Park Authority surveyed all the Scheduled Monuments in the National Park and 149 were identified as at risk, with 89 of these at high risk. Since then we have reduced the number of Scheduled Monuments at risk to 123, working with volunteers and through the Environmental Land Management Service[17].

[17] The Environmental Land Management Service was established in 2009 with Natural England, joined by the National Trust and RSPB, to work with land managers to maximise conservation outcomes from environmental stewardship schemes.

Figure 19: Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments in the National Park

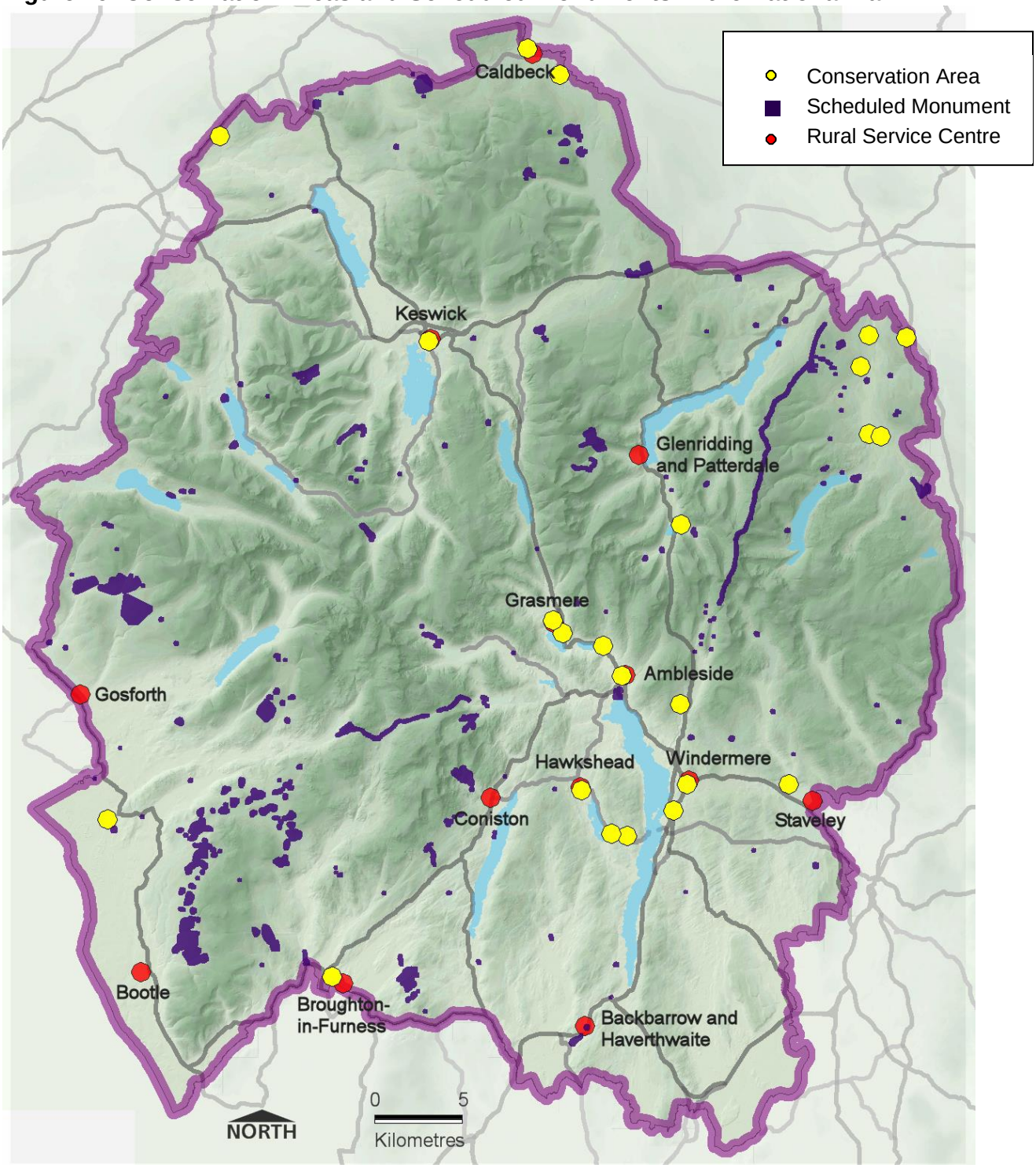


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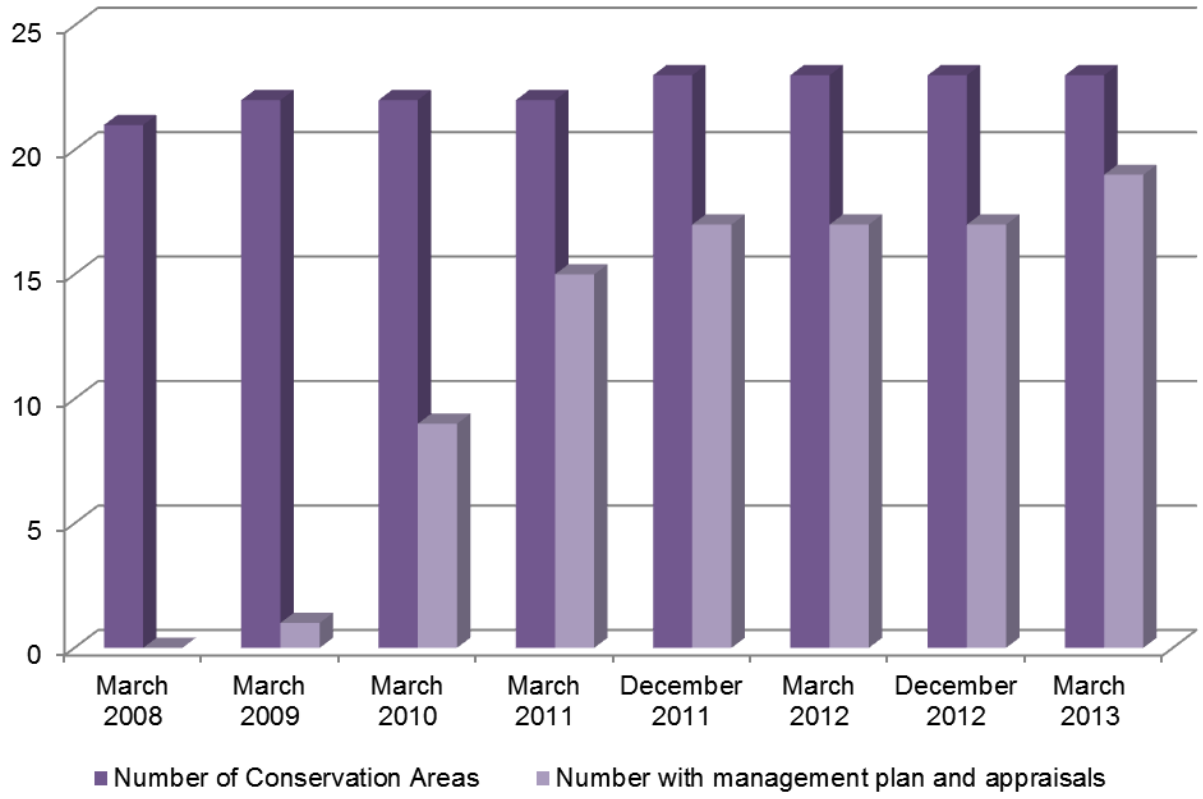
Table 32: Cultural heritage indicators (indicator of success 21)

	March 2011	December 2011	March 2012	December 2012	March 2013
Number of Conservation Areas at risk	1	0	0	0	0
Number of listed buildings at risk	87	87	87	89	89
Number of Scheduled Monuments at risk, consisting of:	149	131	131	123	118
• high risk	89	79	79	Not available*	71
• medium risk	60	52	52	Not available*	47

Source: Lake District National Park Authority
*Figures now only broken down by English Heritage once a year

Figure 20: Number of Conservation Areas with appraisals and management plans



Source: Lake District National Park Authority

Conclusion

Of course, it is impossible to say whether the National Park as a whole is in a good or bad state. This report has highlighted a number of really positive improvements over the past year - unemployment remains low, carbon savings are being made, more people are using sustainable transport and our historic landscape is being protected, to name just a few.

Section 3 highlighted challenges and key areas for action in the future. A number of these challenges are already being tackled, yet further work is to be done before they are resolved. A number of new challenges have arisen and partners must now work together to address them and put actions in place to improve the state of the Lake District National Park.

Annex 1 Profile of the Lake District National Park

Figure 21: Location of the Lake District National Park

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Table 33: Profile of the Lake District National Park 2013

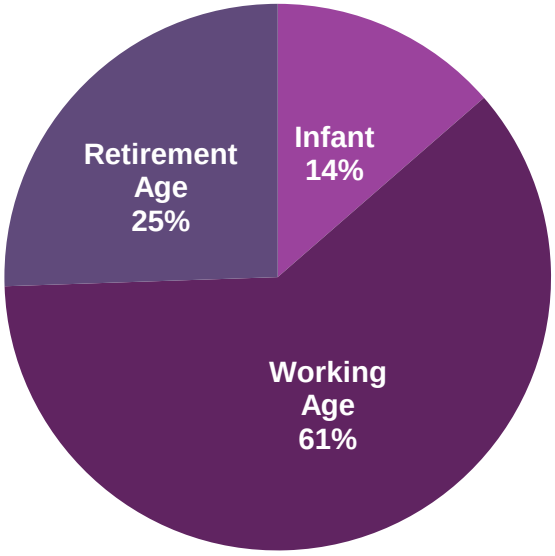
Item	Unit
Area	
Total Park area	221,968 ha[18]
Parishes totally or partly in the Park	74 parish councils 79 physical parishes
Population	
Resident population	40,770
School and pre-school age (0-15)	5,548 and 13.5%
Working age (16-64)	24,812 and 60.9%
Pensionable age (65+)	10,410 and 25.6%
Settlements with 3,000+ population	3
Housing	
Housing stock	23,893
Resident households	18,112
Owner occupied	12,257 and 67.7%
Private rented	3,587 and 19.8%
Social housing	2,268 and 12.5%
Nature conservation	
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	42,026 ha
Special Protection Areas	633 ha
Special Areas of Conservation	36,419 ha
RAMSAR Sites	772 ha
National Nature Reserves	1,763 ha
Land use	
Moorland, heathland and unenclosed grassland	104,250 ha and 45.5%
Farmland	76,800 ha and 33.5%
Woodland	28,901 ha and 13%
Heritage	
Scheduled Monuments	333
Conservation Areas	23
Listed buildings	1,768
Grade I	31
Grade II*	120
Grade II	1,617
Recreation	
Public footpaths	2,170 km
Public bridleways	882 km
Other public rights of way	45 km
Open access land	121,066 ha and 52.8%

[18] ha = hectares

1.1 2011 Census data

Census statistics help paint a picture of the nation and how we live. They provide a detailed snapshot of the population and its characteristics. Key statistics from the 2011 Census is available at National Park level and some key findings are detailed below.

Figure 22: Age structure in the Lake District National Park

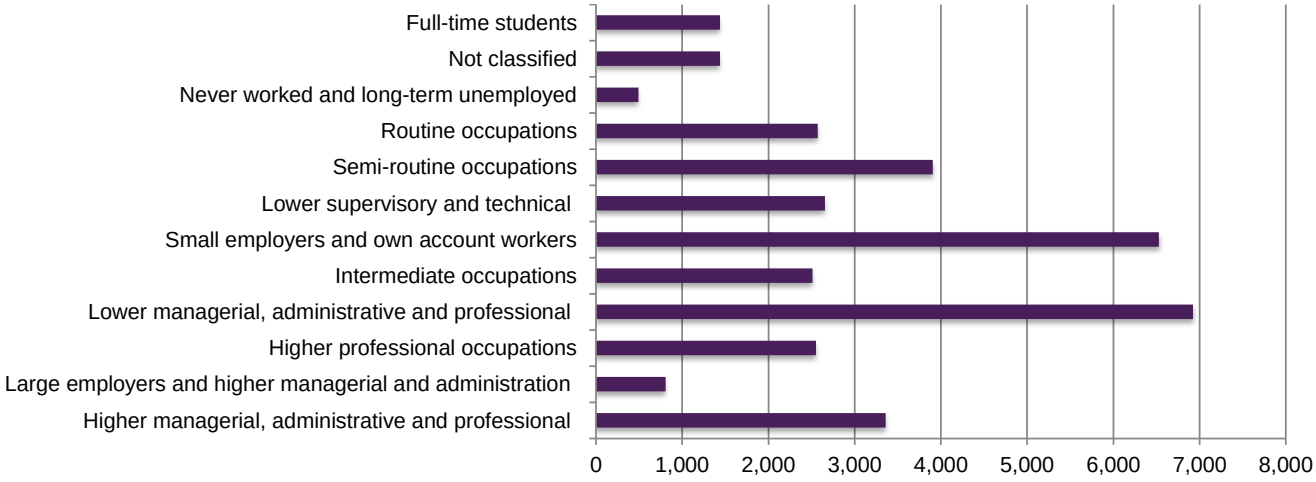


Source: Census 2011

Figure 23: Ethnic group of residents of the Lake District National Park

Source: Census 2011

Figure 24: The National Statistics socio-economic classification of Lake District National Park Residents



Source: Census 2011

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