

Corporate Plan 2016-21: Annual Reporting 2017/18

Objective 1: Thriving Living Landscapes

Annual Measures			
Title	Actual	RAG	Comment
CP-1.15 Increase the number of stakeholders actively engaged in woodland management	0.00		Awaiting up to date data from Forestry Commission (FC) on number of felling licences and management plans, but are hopeful to receive this soon. Data provision such as this is subject to current work to revise local accord with FC. Woodland Officer taken on by SDNPA in reporting year with mission to drive this area of work on further.
CP-1.16 Increase in Ha of woodland in active management	0.00		Awaiting up to date data from Forestry Commission (FC) on number of felling licences and management plans, but are hopeful to receive this soon. Data provision such as this is subject to current work to revise local accord with FC. Woodland Officer taken on by SDNPA in reporting year with mission to drive this area of work on further.
CP-1.17 Establish 3 forestry apprenticeships within the South Downs National Park	0.00		Forestry apprenticeships still on track for delivery in current plan, but will be 19/20 now due to operational management requirements for 7 other SDNPA apprenticeships.
CP-1.19 Proportion of planning decisions which add value in line with the PMP outcomes	0.00		There have been a number of competing priorities upon the Development Management Team in the last year however this matter now forms part of the Team Improvement Plan and a timetable for delivery of this improvement will be agreed to enable us to report a baseline figure in 2018/19 once the issue of recording and measurement has been resolved.
CP-1.22 Develop 2 schemes for undergrounding cables per year	4.00	■	We work with two undergrounding cables suppliers: UK Power Networks (UKPN) and SSE West. Several undergrounding schemes are under development with UKPN as follows: 1. Charleston to Selmeaton; undergrounding cables will improve the setting of the farmhouse and the surrounding Public Rights of Way (PROW) network. 2. Malling Hill, Lewes; undergrounding of two high voltage cable routes through the Wildlife Trust reserve, this is a highly speculative project due to the expense of undergrounding HV cables. It has stage 1 approval. 3. Alciston village; overhead cables through the village affect the quality of the street scene and the setting of many of the listed buildings in the village. A technically complicated and expensive scheme involving many of the residents. 4. Littleington / Cuckmere Valley Phase 3; overhead cables along the SDW and the Cuckmere River have a dominant impact on the undeveloped river valley, this project will remove a 3rd phase of the existing overhead cables to the north-west of Littleington.
CP-1.5 % Ha of chalk grassland restored	0.00		This information was originally collected as part of the NIA. We are assessing potential systems to record this information
CP-1.6 % of chalk grassland in good or improving condition	99.00	■	This figure is for SSSIs within the National Park. The state of chalk grassland outside SSSIs is much worse, with Local Wildlife Sites 38% and Undesignated 12% favourable or recovering.
CP-1.7 % woodland in good or improving condition	98.00		This includes SSSI condition for Broadleaved, Mixed and Yew Woodland. 81% is in favourable condition
CP-1.8 % water bodies and rivers in good or improving condition	22.00		This is an improvement on the 2015 figure of 1.2% with high or good status
CP-1.9 % of Heritage Coast Strategy action plan completed	40.00	■	Plan continues to be delivered by partners, now largely led by Eastern Area Team

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CP-1.9 % of Heritage Coast Strategy action plan completed	40.00	■	Plan continues to be delivered by partners, now largely led by Eastern Area Team

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Annual Actions		
Title	RAG	Comment
CP-1.1 Work towards the submission, defence at examination, and adoption of the Local Plan	●	The South Downs Local Plan was published for Pre-Submission consultation in September 2017 and was submitted to the Secretary of State for examination on 27th April 2018 (Q1 2018-19). The Local Plan examination lasts from the date of submission to the receipt of the final Inspector's report (Q1-3 2018/19). The plan will be adopted after the NPA has considered the final Inspector's report (Q3 2018/19)
CP-1.2 Work towards the submission, defence at examination and adoption of the joint West Sussex Minerals Local Plan	●	The consultation on modifications to the Joint West Sussex Minerals Plan took place in January to March 2018 (Q4) and it was submitted for examination in May 2018. The Local Plan examination lasts from the date of submission to the receipt of the final Inspector's report. The final Inspector's report is expected in May 2018. Although it is likely that the plan will be found sound the Inspector deleted the Soft Sand Strategy and allocation from the plan. Therefore, as soon as the plan is adopted we need to start work on a single issue soft sand review.
CP-1.3 Work towards the submission, defence at examination and adoption of the joint East Sussex Waste and Minerals Sites Plan	●	East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Local Plan Review: Regulation 18 consultation took place Q3 2017-18. Following the adoption of the Sites Plan, work has now started on a Local Plan Review.
CP-1.10 Identify indicator species to highlight the condition of heathland	●	The Landscape and Biodiversity Leads responsible for Water and Chalk recently convened a session with the Rangers and have started to develop a standard approach for assessing condition of priority habitats. It is likely this will be based on a rapid assessment methodology, along with a mix of indicator species and absence/presence of invasive species. The Strategy Leads are going to work this up into more detail and present it at a follow up session in Q2 2018/19 for approval with a view to producing and completing an agreed methodology and identified priority species by December 2018.
CP-1.11 Identify indicator species to highlight the condition of woodland	●	As above.
CP-1.12 Identify indicator species to highlight the condition of chalk grassland	●	As above.
CP-1.4 South Downs Green Infrastructure Framework approved by SDNPA and partners signed up	●	Securing support from some authorities has been difficult and the framework has been on hold as a result. Natural England have offered to assist SDNP with the re-marketing of the framework at a high organisational level to promote the benefits of planning for nature at a sub regional level. This work is still ongoing and may also involve some further amendments to the structure of the framework documents yet to be determined. It is hoped that a different approach may be able to restart the framework.

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Objective 1: Thriving Living Landscapes

Annual Actions - continued		
Title	RAG	Comment
CP-1.14 Farm clusters within SDNP to produce action plans which reference PMP outcomes	●	All South Downs Farm Clusters have adopted an Operational Plan developed by the Winchester Downs Farmers Group, detailing targets, outcomes and delivery mechanisms. The plans do not yet reference PMP outcomes, but we are working with the cluster network to progress this.
CP-1.20 Landscape & habitat mapping and spatial targeting tools developed and available to use	●	The habitat connectivity mapping has been improved. In addition we have undertaken an experimental piece of work looking at satellite observation to better understand habitats within the park.
CP-1.21 Influence progress of the two pilot PES projects	●	Influenced bids and design of 2 CPES projects and ChaMP work.
CP-1.23 To maintain or increase the extent of dark night skies in the South Downs National Park	●	Dark Sky conditions have been maintained over the year with observations consistent with those taken for the SQM survey. Some Parishes are interested in applying for International Dark Sky Community Status which will embed delivery into the communities. Local Plan Policies are in development as is technical information to support planners.
CP-1.13 Identify indicator species to highlight the condition of water	●	See previous comment for CP-1.10.
CP-1.18 Demonstrable SDNPA impact on the process and formal outcome of the Stanmer Park Partnership to regenerate the Home Farm complex	●	Brighton and Hove City Council have carried out surveys of Home Farm.
P-1.24 Partnership established to develop heritage conservation apprenticeship standards		Chris Jones, Historic Environment Officer Northumberland National Park is leading on this on behalf of the All Parks Historic Environment Working Group.

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Objective 2: People Connected with Places

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Objective 2: People Connected with Places

Annual Actions		
Title	RAG	Comment
CP-2.3 Establish and implement an Access Land maintenance programme	●	Access Land condition surveys have been completed and uploaded to CAMS. A programme of work, ranging from minor repairs to the replacement of 27 items of furniture has been identified at an estimated cost of £12.5k for materials excluding any additional costs for contractors. The majority of work is on Access Land in the Eastern Area and will be programmed over two years to spread the cost
CP-2.4 Demonstrable influence on major infrastructure decision making	●	Our major infrastructure work has continued and we have seen the results of our influence in several major schemes in the past year: 1. a major route through the SDNP at Selmeston being dropped as a preferred route as part of Highways England east of Lewes A27 scheme, partly because of the SDNPA comments. 2. The SDNPA has been involved at Arundel for the A27 scheme and has objected to all 3 routes proposed which will cause damage to the SDNP and we await a preferred route announcement imminently. 3. The comments from SDNPA for the A27 at Worthing also contributed to a junction 'improvement' being taken out of the SDNP and reduced in size. 4. We maintain a watchful eye on the discussions at Chichester re the alternatives being put forward and are ready to provide evidence again should off road schemes through the SDNP come forward. 5. M3J9 road improvements, SDNPA have responded in the strongest terms to the siting of a temporary works depot within the SDNP, and in principle objection to the works as proposed, and we await the decision from HE Finally, 6. ESSO have consulted with the SDNPA since Dec 17 over their plans to replace the multi-fuel pipeline through the SDNP in Hampshire. We continue to work with them to influence their preferred route, and have highlighted a route outside the SDNP to continue along rather than re-entering the SDNP as occurs at present. Preferred Route announcement is expected early summer 18
CP-2.5 Develop and implement projects which add value to LHA's delivery of their rights of way statutory responsibilities	●	A range of work has been undertaken including surface improvement works on the South Downs Way bridleway at Littleton Farm in West Sussex. Also in West Sussex, Path Extinguishment Orders at Fittleworth led to work preparing a Statement of Case for the Authority and commenting on the applicant's Statement of Case as part of a Public Inquiry into the proposed Extinguishment Orders. The Inspector did not confirm the Order and the rights of way remain open to the public.
CP-2.2 Health and wellbeing projects and partnerships established	●	Delivered a successful and well received Health and Well Being Conference with Public Health England (PHE). Prioritisation of future work and capacity currently being established. Furthermore, we have successfully developed a partnership with Public Health England (PHE) to share evidence and data contributing to development of SDNPA approach to Health and Well being. Also jointly presented with Public Health England at East Sussex and West Sussex Health and Well-Being Boards
CP-2.6 Collect baseline figures and measure increase in diversity of the volunteer service in terms of age, ability, social background and ethnicity	●	Baseline figures have been collected for young people (16-25), BAME, males/females and those with a health issue. Diversity has decreased between 2016 and 2018, however our plans as to how we will address this are laid out in the Volunteer Development Plan.

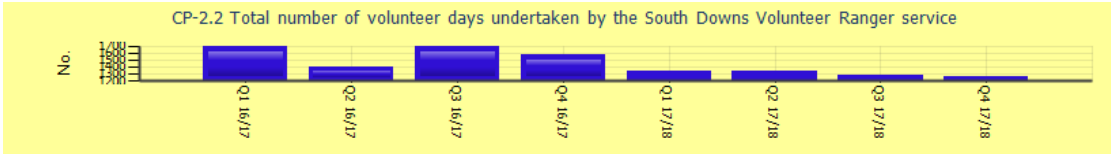
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CP-2.2 Total number of volunteer days undertaken by the South Downs Volunteer Ranger service

the volunteer service in terms of age, ability, social background and ethnicity

with a health issue. Diversity has decreased between 2016 and 2018, however our plans as to how we will address this are laid out in the Volunteer Development Plan.

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Annual Measure - No. young people attending the SDNP during National Citizen Service week			
Period	Actual	RAG	Comment
2017/18	32.00	-	In summer 2017 we piloted three sessions in the Western Area with the main provider of NCS in Hampshire, Mountbatten School. The aim was to test how best we can engage with this scheme to encourage more young people to volunteer within the National Park. The young people were recruited from a wide geographical area and many of them did not know anyone in their groups until their NCS activity week. A total of 32 young people (15-17) and 5 leaders (themselves young people aged 18-19) participated in the three days at Stodham Copse, near Petersfield

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Objective 3: Towards a Sustainable Future

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Objective 3: Towards a Sustainable Future

Annual Measures			
Title	Actual	RAG	Comment
CP-3.5 Number of partnership projects using the shared identity resources	130.00	-	130 projects. Projects include the Weald and Downland Living Museum Gateway Building in Singleton, Gilbert White House and the Oates Collection in Selbourne and Winchester, Lewes and Eastbourne Tourist Information Centres
CP-3.9 % satisfied with the quality of advice and support for Community-Led Plans (CLPs)	92.00	-	This figure was collected from the Planning Customer Satisfaction survey undertaken Nov-Dec 2017. A full survey of those who have undertaken Community Led Plans will be undertaken in 2018/19 where we will report a new figure.
CP-3.4 Number of tourism businesses using the shared identity	89.00	+	Uptake of the shared identity in the sustainable tourism sector has been positive with 89 businesses, food producers and tourism bodies starting to use the shared identity alongside their own branding. We expect this to expand further as the shared identity increases in visibility. Examples include site interpretation at two YHA sites, marketing collateral for accommodation providers such as Sullington Manor Farm and White Lodge, Lewes. The food and drink sector are represented by vineyards and breweries, who are using the shared identity for visitor related activities including Langham Brewery and Ridgeview Vineyard.
CP-3.7 Identify opportunities for and develop 5 hubs and gateways over the 5 year plan period	9.00	-	In the last year Gilbert White's House opened their new visitor offer and café with information on the National Park and using the shared identity. The National Park also features in the revamp of the Winchester Tourist Information Centre and our shared identity can now be found in Lewes and Seaford Tourist Information Centres. Work is continuing with Truleigh Hill YHA, Petersfield Museum, Beachy Head Visitor Centre, with Worthing Borough Council in Highdown Gardens, Hampshire County Council in Queen Elizabeth Country Park and in many smaller locations across the National Park.
CP-3.6 Number of tourism businesses we have shared our customer insight research with	7.00	-	This insight research was signed off in February 2018, shared with staff, Members and SMT in March 2018 and distributed to 7 Local Authority Partners as part of the Discover England fund work. It is being distributed to all the main destination management partners in the National Park in May 2018. It will also be publically available on the SDNP website May 2018.
CP-3.3 Number of Whole Estate Plans agreed by Policy and Resources committee	4.00	-	Bookham and Highfield and Iford WEPs have been endorsed by the Policy and Resources committee. Therefore four in total including Wiston and Newton Valence over 17/18
CP-3.1 Total value of LEP-funded projects within the National Park and 10km buffer area	0.00		Difficulty in collecting information that is accurate to the boundary of the SDNP and also information from the LEPs that the investment actually meets with the National Park's purposes in specifics. Measure to be reviewed for the next Corporate Plan.
CP-3.2 Total value of LEADER-funded projects within the National Park and 10km buffer area	0.00		No information forthcoming, issues with funding not always assisting purposes and inaccuracies in information. This indicator will be reviewed for the next Corporate Plan.

Annual Action: Five year housing land supply against South Downs Local Plan requirements

Period	Comment
2017/18	Our expected housing supply in the next five years is 2122 dwellings, while our requirement for the same period is 1250 and the buffer we have to add onto that requirement is 65. We therefore have a 61% surplus over the next five years. Note that this info is based on the 2016/17 AMR as we will always be reporting a year behind.

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Objective 4: An Efficient and Effective Organisation that Supports Partnership Working

Annual Actions

Annual Action: Five year housing land supply against South Downs Local Plan requirements	
Period	Comment
2017/18	Our expected housing supply in the next five years is 2122 dwellings, while our requirement for the same period is 1250 and the buffer we have to add onto that requirement is 65. We therefore have a 61% surplus over the next five years. Note that this info is based on the 2016/17 AMR as we will always be reporting a year behind.

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Objective 4: An Efficient and Effective Organisation that Supports Partnership Working

Annual Actions		
Title	RAG	Comment
CP-4.1 Business cases to support shared services approach developed and approved	●	The second phase of Working Together is now underway with implementation of: Recruitment advertising; National staff induction programme. Apprenticeships and Sourcing employee benefits taking place for participating National Park Authorities. Agreed prioritised roll out of e-learning courses – 25 courses have been released through which includes compulsory training in Data Protection, Fire Safety and Equality & Diversity. We have had 100% completion rate for this compulsory training.
CP-4.2 Develop Natural Capital Accounting concept and SDNP balance sheet	●	An initial SDNP Natural Capital balance sheet has now been produced and further work will now take place to refine this, aiming to produce an auditable document to sit alongside the annual accounts in 2020/21.
CP-4.3 Positive use of the Citizens Panel for measuring behaviour change and awareness	●	The first survey was completed in Q3 2017/18. Baseline data was collected around awareness of the Shared Identity and barriers to visiting the National Park, which will be asked on an annual basis to measure any change in awareness. In the Spring survey Q1 2018/19 we will be probing awareness of the Take the Lead campaign, amongst other things, and this will also be asked on an annual basis.
CP-4.4 Charitable Trust established and starting to generate income	●	The National Park Trust launched on Monday 16th October 2017 and has raised circa £111,000 in charitable donations. This includes £53,000 raised for its first public appeal 'Mend our way', funding four significant improvements on the South Downs Way. The Trust's communication materials, procedures and governance has been established alongside a project shelf, for which the Trust will continue raising funds over 2018/19. £65,000 has been raised by the Income Generation Team for the SDNPA directly. Some of these partnerships represent longer term revenue. For example, Gatwick's sponsorship of Miles without Stiles will deliver £20,000 pa over the next 3 years.
CP-4.5 Publish information on the achievement of projects set up in the PMP by partners	●	There has been good progress in aligning the strategic plans of partners with the PMP. There is specific evidence of the joint work with the SDNP being mentioned in the business plan for Southern Water. A similar approach is being taken with the other Water companies. In addition, the Lawton group of NGOs have all made the South Downs a focal area for delivery and are developing specific approaches as part of their long term strategic planning. As part of the review process for the PMP a wider range of partners are also being encouraged to explicitly link their plans to the PMP.
CP-4.6 Area teams housed in appropriate accommodation	●	Following the closure of the Stanmer Office due to unsafe working conditions, the Eastern Area Team have been located in the Sussex Innovation Centre while work takes place to provide longer term accommodation at Stanmer. Seeking temporary accommodation as a priority for the Western Area Team following notice being served on Empshott Office.

Annual Measures				
Title	Actual	Target	RAG	Comment
CP-4.7 % of planning application appeals determined in favour of SDNPA	70.00	69.00	■	70% of planning application appeals were determined in favour of the SDNPA (54 out of 77).
CP-4.8 Increased satisfaction from Planning Service users	69.00	65.00	■	The recent Planning Customer Satisfaction survey undertaken in 2017 showed an increase in overall satisfaction with the planning service from 64% in 2014 to 69% in 2017. This figure is the average overall satisfaction figure taken from surveys with three key stakeholder groups: planning applicants/agents, parish council clerks, and statutory and non-statutory consultees.

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