












Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

Objective 1: We will develop strategies and support or lead strategic overarching partnerships and projects which deliver our first objective to conserve wildlife, the natural beauty of the landscape and cultural heritage – a thriving living landscape			
Key Priorities	RAG	Notable Successes	Further work required
Future of farming and agri-environment work			
1. Continue to have input into national policy for future agri-environment schemes and if successful, deliver government pilot for lowland farmland		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff continue to liaise / work with officers across the English National Parks to influence the development of the new Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS) and ensure a consistent approach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defra anticipate beginning conversations with interested stakeholders from October 2018 with regard to the implementation of tests and trails for the new ELMS.
2. Provide support that promotes a consistent approach across all farm clusters		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Farm Cluster Groups continue to look at ways to engage with the public, with the Winchester Downs Group running a successful Bioblitz and the Arun to Adur Group an Open Farm Day that was attended by over 600 people. The second meeting of the Southern Facilitators Group, now comprising of 15 Farm Cluster Groups across Southern England was held during the quarter. Following the establishment of social media channels for the South Downs Farm Cluster Network, group facilitators and farmer members have been invited to add content. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving forward, the group will meet twice a year to share best practice, ideas and issues.
Lead or support projects and partnerships that deliver objective 1 outcomes			
1. Develop landscape scale projects which focus on restoration and management of chalk landscapes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects in progress are the Truleigh Hill Landscape project which is on track. Changing chalk projects, Dewponds and Grazier posts, which were approved at P&R in March are not in delivery and awaiting confirmation of funding for the wider National Trust led HLF project they are part of. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project evaluation due in December
2. Deliver year 2 of the Woodland Trust and SDNPA woodland partnership program targeting woodland owners with support		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 visits to woodland owners in the SDNP- providing advice and follow up report Detailed geoprocessing of mapping data regarding nature of woodlands, woodland ownership in the SDNP producing full data report with maps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will next be reported at year end





Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

<p>to enable sustainable management'</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed targeting exercise to identify areas of highest priority for more targeted intervention re provision of advice Building data on supply chains in the SDNP 	
<p>3. Facilitate the development of the South Downs Forestry Champions group action plan</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry Champions subgroups established to identify and drive forward actions under the headings of People, Place and Prosperity- clear action plans have come from each subgroup and will report back to the Forestry Champions Steering group in december 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will next be reported at year end
<p>4. With partners deliver Phase I for Archaeology on the Edge</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project was approved for funding in May 2018. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The invitation to quote was issued during August with interviews for consultants by the 2nd or 3rd week of September. They will be carried out jointly with East Sussex County Council. It is anticipated that the consultant(s) will be in place to deliver phase I in October 2018.
<p>5. Develop arts and cultural projects which focus on the special qualities and promote social inclusion (Defra 8pp)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two projects have been approved during Q1: Audio Trails project aims to enable visitors to experience the landscape that inspired the artists and writers who lived and worked at and close to iconic locations within the SDNP. It will deliver an app which guides users to locations which inspired the artists/writers. The app will take visitors from the venue on a circular or linear walking route relevant to the artists/writers. There will be a series of location points (8-10) on the walk where a linked narrative will be played using audio and/or visual as appropriate to the venue. The app will add value to the visitor offer at these venues by introducing users to a rich, outdoor and immersive landscape-led experience. The first three venues are Charleston, Ditchling Museum and the Monks House in Rodmell Total project cost £18,600. SDNPA contribution £12,600 The Inn Crowd is a partnership between the South Downs National Park and Applause Rural Touring (ART) to support a Writer/performer in Residence who will work with communities at locations across the SDNP gathering material focused on the South Downs and people's relationship with it. Pubs are still a hub for many communities and this project will select and work with pubs located across the SDNP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated start date September 2018 Project start up meeting scheduled for September Work with the Writer in Residence Marcus O'Dair communities and a range of pubs across the SDNP to establish which ones will be used as part of the project.






Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total project cost £33,000. SDNPA contribution £16,000 	
Submit and adopt a sound local plan that supports the delivery of Partnership Management Plan outcomes			
1. Successful defence of the approach at examination during 2018		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examination now scheduled for November and December 2108. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Develop a Natural Capital approach for the SDNP			
1. Agree an integrated work programme for ecosystems services, natural capital and green infrastructure delivery		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An internal meeting has been held to start delivery of this area of work. The incoming CPM Manager will be leading on this area of work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Core Work			
1. Complete ChaMP project to improve the quality of groundwater in the Brighton Chalk, to ensure it remains a sustainable resource for public water supply (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project interventions are being promoted and implemented with land managers. Project funding extension to 2020 has been agreed by the key partners (Southern Water, EA, SDNPA) to align with the water company business plan cycle. The interventions are targeted on a field by field basis where they will have most impact on water quality, they include regular soil testing, precision farming and wider use of cover crops to prevent bare soils in winter. The original SDNPA contribution was £100,000 with an additional £25,000 as approved last year, the current total is £125,000. SDNPA has received an additional £60,000 from the project for hosting the project manager, thus total SDNPA spend is £185,000. The total project budget to March 2019 is £438,966, although this will increase with the approved project extension to 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the urban area feasibility studies are underway to look at 5 rain garden sites to intervene major road run off Offer letters have gone out for wider rural interventions to commence in autumn this year. Work continues to develop SUDS schemes in Urban environment
2. Deliver year 3 of Heathlands Reunited to deliver, bigger better, joined up heathland in the South Downs National Park. (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This period marks the end of the second year of the project. The capital (conservation) works element of the project remains behind schedule with only 14% of the planned works completed. The activity and engagement element of the project has been progressing well though it is also behind schedule at 31%. Though it is normal for most projects to deliver more in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch up plans for capital works are now in development with the aim for work to be back on schedule by the end of the next work season. The shortfall in delivery resources is currently being addressed and a catch-up plan is being developed which will seek to engage more resources while increasing the efficiency of delivery.




Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

		the later stages a shortfall in delivery resources has also contributed to the lack of progress in some areas.	
3. Local environmental improvements via on the ground projects (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See website for a detailed list of on the ground activities this quarter https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/national-park-authority/our-work/on-the-ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will continue during the year
4. Deliver priority actions from the Climate Change Adaptation Plan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defra consultation on the next round of Adaptation Reporting (ARP3) was launched during July/August. SDNPA led on co-ordinating and preparing the response on behalf of National Parks England and the other NPAs. For the next round of reporting the NPAs are to combine their Climate Change risk assessment and action plan with their PMP reviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDNPA is first Authority to go through this process so will be working with Defra to develop the approach based on its previous experience around planning and reporting on adaptation responses across different sectors.
5. Activities to influence national networks by demonstrating approaches for payments for eco-systems services		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work has been underway to refine and develop a set of Natural Capital Accounts for the National Park – based on current best practice. Including pilot work on how to monitor improvements in environmental condition. SDNPA has contributed to the development of innovative work on Natural Capital valuation alongside key partners such as the Sussex Local Nature Partnership and the Water Companies. SDNPA have been developing and refining the process of assessing Ecosystem Services benefits and opportunities as part of developing exemplary Whole Estate Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This work will be continued and developed during the rest of the year
6. In partnership with Historic England undertake condition monitoring of scheduled monuments and undertake prioritisation and associated conservation work of scheduled monuments (vulnerable/at risk)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition monitoring completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting Historic England prioritisation, from which an action plan will be developed This will next be reported at year end


Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

Objective 2: We will develop strategies, support or lead strategic overarching partnerships and projects which deliver our second objective to promote understanding and enjoyment through volunteering & learning, high quality access management and providing information and events – people connected to places			
Key priorities	RAG	Notable Successes	Further work required
Lead or support projects and partnerships that deliver objective 2 outcomes			
1. Develop Centurion Way from West Dean to the South Downs Way as a 'shovel ready project' (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four complex route modification requests from landowners and tenants, which have delayed the submission of the planning application have now been successfully resolved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is intended for the planning application to be submitted in the autumn.
2. Agree approach to Health and Well-being work, establish relevant partnerships and identify sources of funding and develop projects to promote health and well-being (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic review being developed as part of the PMP review process. Overarching approach is beginning to be defined. More detailed work will emerge as the strategy is developed. There are some arts and health related projects in development phase, which may come forward for funding during the year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop partnerships and networks as required and identify projects to deliver added value.
3. Develop new sustainable partnerships with the arts and culture sector leading to development and delivery of projects (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft MOU established with the Arts Council which gives SDNPA enhanced status when bidding for project funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects and partnerships being developed as part of PMP review
4. Implement Lewes North Street Quarter Community Heritage project		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is dependent on the development starting. A project manager has been appointed internally to oversee this project once it goes into delivery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Position National Park as a visitor destination			
1. Increase the awareness of the South Downs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following an update of the Communications Strategy and an Events Review, we have focused much of our events activity in 	





Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

<p>National Park, particularly in the south east of England (Defra 8pp)</p>		<p>this first quarter on reaching new audiences in the South East. This included a National Parks Week event in towns in the urban fringe of the National Park and running stands at the Boomtown Festival with nearly 60,000 young people and speaking to over 600 people at the Southampton Mela, an Asian festival in the heart of Southampton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has also progressed on the National Park Entry Signage, with the focus on Q1 on safety, finalising the production quality etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The signs will be installed later between mid October–mid December
<p>2. Development of mutually beneficial promotional opportunities, including use of the shared identity between National Park based tourism businesses and the SDNPA (Defra 8pp)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The roll out of the Discover England Tourism project was underway in Q1 with two information sessions held for 60 tourism providers, explaining how they could join the programme to develop their experiences for the international markets and be part of England’s National Park Experience Collection. • Work took place to extend the Cycle and Walkers welcome scheme around West Sussex, taking advantage of the Velo South cycle event happening in September 2018 • A pilot took place for signing up tourism businesses to deliver a visitor giving programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Q2 Discover England work will move into one to one training sessions for signed up providers in and three general sessions open for all National Park tourism businesses . Q2 will also see the central programme team delivering the selling of the experiences to the overseas travel trade and online travel providers. • In Q2/Q3 – Discussions are underway to extend the cycle and walkers scheme to Horsham, Chichester and Eastbourne areas. • Q2/ Q3 the Visitor Giving programme will be extended to other tourism businesses
<p>Core Work</p>			
<p>1. Establish a monitoring and maintenance programme for CROW Access Land furniture and signage. Repairing and replacing infrastructure on a prioritised basis for 2018-19</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme of work managed and monitored via CAMS is underway led by Area Ranger teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs will be reported on an annual basis.
<p>2. Diversify the range and types of activity supported by the South Downs Volunteer</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Development Strategy approved by COVE. A number of initiatives underway to diversify volunteer roles e.g. HeRe Heathland Histories, Community Work Parties and SAM monitoring volunteers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will next be reported at year end


Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

Ranger Service (Defra 8pp)			
<p>3. Facilitate our learning approach through the Our South Downs partnership and other targeted learning activities including:</p> <p>a. John Muir Award in the South Downs National Park</p> <p>b. Geocaching</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful Schools Conference held at Amberley Museum a. John Muir Award training delivered to the OSD learning network at Pulborough Brooks b. New geocaching passport created to simplify engagement and to allow a new bronze level award to be introduced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will next be reported at year end

Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

Objective 3: We will develop strategies, support or lead strategic overarching partnerships and projects which deliver our third objective to build sustainable communities which are engaged and shaping their environment and supporting sustainable businesses and tourism – towards a sustainable future			
Key priorities	RAG	Notable Successes	Further work required
Lead or support projects and partnerships that deliver objective 3 outcomes			
1. Deliver Discover England's National Park programme to deliver increased SDNP exposure and new South Downs bookable tourism experiences tailored towards international markets. (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Information Sessions were held for tourism providers (Lewes and Midhurst) 60 attendees came to hear more about the Programme and how to get involved. There have been 34 applications from accommodation providers and 19 lead experience providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 accommodation providers and 9 experience providers, who were accepted onto the intensive training programme, will have one to one training sessions with the business support consultant over the next 3 months to prepare for the National Park Experience Collection marketed by the central Discover England team to international travel trade.
2. Develop hubs and gateways to the National Park to provide visitor and accommodation information(Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new visitor gateway at the Gilbert White Museum was launched in May and discussions are ongoing with a number of partners including Stanmer Park and Charlston 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
3. Website improvement to deliver business support for the visitor economy. (Defra 8pp)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This quarter we have carried out some detailed website testing using the Citizens Panel to discover how easy it is to find information on the site, including for visitors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans are being developed to improve the Discovery Map as a key route for visitors to get information on how to enjoy the National Park
Core Work			
1. Ensure infrastructure which supports the development of the National Park is delivered in a timely fashion by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Managing an effective CIL 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CIL has been in operation since April 2017. SDNP is the only National Park that has CIL. The CIL team deal with approximately 100 separate points of contact with the public each week In the 2017/18 financial year £198k was collected in CIL charges – in future financial years it is expected to be higher Parishes receive a proportion of CIL from development in their area and the first payment of £31k was made to Parishes in April 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the process for prioritising and allocating CIL funding has been agreed by Planning Committee the actual infrastructure projects that are proposed to receive funding from 2017/18 CIL receipts will be presented to Planning Committee for approval in late 2018.





Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

<p>collection process</p> <p>b. Using the Infrastructure Business Plan to prioritise and identify the location of infrastructure projects</p> <p>c. Managing S106 obligations effectively</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed process for prioritising and allocating CIL funding to individual projects will be considered by Planning Committee on 13 September 	
<p>2. Provide support for community planning including;</p> <p>a. Facilitate the timely delivery of neighbourhood development plans</p> <p>b. Ensure that the 5 year housing land supply of the SDNP is not prejudiced by a lack of progress by NDPs</p> <p>c. Provide timely support, advice and guidance to</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood Planning officers continue to work with a range of Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) groups. Specifically we have supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bury, Patching, Plumpton and Ditchling Westmeston and Streat NDPs have successfully passed referendum and have been formally 'made' by the NDP - Provided formal response to Fittleworth, Stedham with Iping and Lewes NDPs - Lewes NDP has been submitted for Examination, and Examiner has been appointed and officers are working with the qualifying body to respond to the Examiners initial questions Working with Hambledon Village Design Statement (VDS), Selborne VDS, West Meon VDS and Swanmore VDS who have prepared initial drafts of their plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">







Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

<p>communities pursuing a community led plan</p> <p>d. Endorsement of Parish Plans, Village Design Statements and Local Landscape Character Assessments by the SDNPA</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Easebourne and Jevington Parishes on the early stages of Village Design Statement preparation • Preparation of the new Village Design Statement toolkit (to enable a landscape led approach to design) • Endorsement of Newton Valence Parish Plan at P&R Committee May 2018 	
--	--	---	--



Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

Objective 4: We will develop strategies, support or lead strategic overarching partnerships and projects which deliver our fourth objective to be a confident and secure organisation exercising effective influence delivering shared outcomes through excellent customer service, providing value for money and generating income to support our work			
Key priority	RAG	Notable Successes	Further work required
Make correct and high quality decisions on development management proposals			
1. Deliver a robust and well performing development management service		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning performance is subject to regular monitoring and evaluation and is reported to Policy and Resources Committee quarterly • Speed of decision making is good and all government targets are being met. • Appeal performance is sound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although overall satisfaction with the planning service rose between the 2014 and 2017 Planning Customer Satisfaction Survey actions are being incorporated into the Development Management Improvement Plan to improve performance in response to the findings of this survey.
2. Work with host authorities to improve the quality of their decision making and performance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See comments above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See comments above
Increase the income available for projects delivering the Partnership Management Plan			
1. Continue to work with the Trust to encourage a culture of philanthropy for the National Park, promoting legacy giving, donations and visitor payback		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trust has secured funds of £100k to date. • Legacy giving is being promoted through South Downs View and our newsletter and the Trust has already received a Legacy Gift. This is very encouraging given they are still in their first year of operation. • There are a number of partners signed up to the Visitor Giving Scheme. The initial income has been encouraging (between £3k / £5K per hotel) and has resulted in additional resource being allocated to the scheme. • Mend Our Way appeal continues to perform well with 65% of total income secured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued partnership with the Trust to help them achieve their objectives and fundraising goals
2. Pursue commercial partnerships that help us deliver our Purpose and Duties		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently £30k secured through the continued Gatwick Partnership and Southern Waters Sponsorship of the Chalk Grassland Event • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure Sponsorship for Dark Nights Skies, Take the lead and National Parks Week. • Continue to build partnerships with those organisations in and around the park, identifying opportunities for revenue generating partnerships
Drive efficiencies in new contracts			

Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

1. Complete retendering of the GIS contract		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS contract retender completed. New contract let to existing providers, following a competitive process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract delivery monitored through review of KPIs
Lead the review of the Partnership Management Plan and develop an approach to keeping the PMP delivery framework relevant and refreshed			
1. Engage partners, key stakeholders and staff in delivering a revised PMP delivery plan for launch in April 2019		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PMP Task and Finish group has been reviewing work on Strategic reviews, the evidence base and drivers for change. IT has also guided the development of the workshop mentioned below. • A workshop is scheduled for 25 September including staff, SDNPA Members and partners to review the work on the review of the PMP so far and to help prioritise areas for delivery over the next 5 years. The workshop will be managed by independent facilitators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the workshop there will be further engagement with partners and stakeholders until December to test the prioritisation and firm up partner contributions to the revised joint action plan.
2. Work with partners to demonstrate how they have delivered their responsibilities and commitments to delivering the PMP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is evidence of water companies explicitly referencing the SDNP PMP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further commitments will emerge as part of the review of the PMP
3. Complete thematic evidence reviews and development of strategic priorities for the PMP and the next corporate plan (<i>Defra 8pp</i>)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence reviews completed and reviewed by the Partnership Management Plan Task and Finish Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information will be published as part of the engagement around the PMP review during October and December
Keep accommodation outside of the South Downs Centre under review in order to meet changing business needs in the longer term			
1. Implement outcomes from the accommodation review for area offices		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western are team successfully relocated to Wallops Wood in Droxford during August • Refurbishment of new accommodation for the Eastern Area Team is on schedule and the team will move in September 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Team move within the Weald and Downland Museum, is on track for autumn this year • Design work is progressing on Swan Barn Farm for the Wealden Heaths Team
Foster a culture where our people are empowered and supported to deliver to their potential			
1. Implement key recommendations from the culture group		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops with staff resulted in the identification of 3 key values: Collaboration; Respect; Innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture Group are now continuing work to ensure these values are demonstrated within organisational behaviours

Performance overview Quarter 1 2018-19

2. Carry out a staff survey and define measures and targets		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff survey commissioned and due to be carried out in September 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
3. Implement the outcomes of the member survey		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey Commissioned and due to be carried out in September 2018. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

