

## Volunteer Development Strategic Review Summary 2018

### 1. Underlying evidence and drivers for change

Volunteers provide a great practical resource across the South Downs National Park and have a huge impact in terms of their ambassadorial role as well. However, volunteers are not currently representative of the local demography. In particular, young people (age 16-24), people with disabilities, people from more socially disadvantaged communities and people from BAME communities are under-represented in our volunteer profiles.

### 2. Key issues

Most of the key issues limiting the development of participation in volunteering for the National Park relate to barriers to engagement by a wider range of people in a wider range of work:

- the challenge of transport to sites
- creating and communicating a cohesive volunteering offer across the SDNP
- reducing barriers to inclusion
- diversifying volunteering roles available
- future proofing the volunteer pool
- creating ambassadors for the SDNP

### 3. Strategic outcomes

- Outcome 8: More responsibility and action is taken by visitors, residents and businesses to conserve and enhance the special qualities and use resources more wisely.
- Specific programmes will focus on diversifying types of volunteers and the range of volunteering opportunities supporting NP Purposes and Duty available with SDNPA and with partners

### 4. Partnerships and delivery mechanisms

- creating a park-wide volunteering organisation network
- collaboration on joint training and project delivery
- demonstrating and sharing best practice
- creating and promoting diverse range of tasks
- communicating and reaching out to new audiences
- sign-posting and promotion
- enabling greater youth participation
- developing partnerships to support health and wellbeing through volunteering
- collaborative project development and funding bids

