

Report to	South Downs National Park Authority
Date	26 March 2020
By	Director of Countryside & Policy Management, and Landscape & Biodiversity Strategy Lead
Title of Report Decision	South Downs National Park – Climate Change Action Plan

Recommendation: The Authority is recommended to:

- 1) Note the climate and nature emergency that has been declared by a number of partner organisations**
- 2) Affirm the Authority's commitment to contribute to addressing the climate and nature emergency by;**
 - a) Committing to the South Downs National Park Authority becoming a 'Net-Zero' Organisation by 2030 as defined within appendix 1;**
 - b) Agreeing the action plan set out at appendix 4 which includes a commitment to working with our constituent Local Authorities and other partners, in particular communities and landowners to deliver actions that respond effectively to the climate and nature emergency;**
 - c) Committing to working towards the South Downs National Park becoming 'Net-Zero with Nature' by 2040 as defined within appendix 1.**
- 3) Note the creation of a climate change action fund reserve as part of the 2020/21 budget.**
- 4) Note that monitoring of delivery against the Climate Change action plan will be undertaken by the Policy and Resources Committee.**

I. Introduction

- I.1** In November 2019 a workshop was held, attended by Members, officers and invited partners to consider how the SDNPA should begin to develop its response to the emerging climate emergency, which had been declared by a number of statutory and non-statutory partners across the areas of the National Park. The session provided an opportunity to consider the issues for the National Park and discuss how the SDNPA might develop its response.
- I.2** There was a clear recognition from NPA members at a member workshop that there was a global environmental and ecological crisis. There was also an acknowledgement of the role the SDNPA could play, and desire to understand where we could make the biggest contribution, acknowledging that this has to be set within the context of furthering National Park purposes and Duty

- 1.3 SDNPA members requested additional work be undertaken to better understand:-
- The up-to-date evidence for the National Park area in terms of carbon and GHG emissions, the role of each sector and how the biggest reductions could be made;
 - What the SDNPA could do directly to address the challenge, in terms of its own operations and business continuity;
 - How we might best be able to co-operate with other reporting authorities to achieve this shared purpose;
 - How we might use our convening role to achieve the necessary join-up and shared action with our external partnerships;
 - Areas that were outside the scope of the SDNPA do deal with.
- 1.4 The results of this initial work is set out in the attached appendices to this report and is intended to help the National Park Authority reach an informed decision about its contribution to addressing the climate and nature emergency. It makes a number of recommendations to members on the future direction of the NPAs work.

2. **Policy Context.**

- 2.1 The South Downs NPA has a key role in meeting the challenges arising from the climate and nature emergency, in respect of the National Park, in particular through the existing Management Plan and Local Plan policies. The NPA also has a range of tools and approaches at their disposal in terms of advocacy, influence and delivery.
- 2.2 This is especially the case in terms of its strategic planning and policy making role. It will inevitably require greater collaboration with our constituent Local Authorities and a wider range of delivery partners.
- 2.3 Through our new Local Plan and our recently reviewed Partnership Management Plan we need to properly co-ordinate our work on both climate change adaptation and mitigation. Some of our activities have the potential to deliver on both.

- **Mitigation** – Actions that limit the magnitude or rate of climate change and its related effects. This is generally focussed on cutting the emissions of Carbon Dioxide and other Green House Gasses.
- **Adaptation** – The process of adjustment to actual or expected changes in climate and its related effects.

3. **Issues for consideration.**

- 3.1 There is a great deal of positive overlap with our developing work on Nature Recovery. Work to restore and create habitats will equally deliver on climate change targets. Consequently we propose to deliver '**Net-zero with Nature**' as further explored in appendix I.
- 3.2 It is also essential for the SDNPA to use its planning powers and policies to best effect. There are a number of proposals in the Action Plan that seek to use delivery mechanisms such as CIL to achieve greatest impact.

4. **Options & cost implications.**

- 4.1 Through the development of the 2020/21 budget a climate change action fund reserve has been created. For 2020/21 the exact amount available to fund the action plan is not yet confirmed and is dependent upon any underspend achieved in the 2019/20 budget. ., The budgetary position in relation to this work is subject to a separate decision making process and will be reported to the Policy and resources committee as part of its monitoring of this work.
- 4.2 The NPA could decide not to agree an action plan to contribute to addressing the climate and nature emergency, however this has not been recommended as it would mean the

Authority is failing to play an apocopate role in the leadership and co-ordination of the response to the emergency.

5. **Governance in the SDNPA**

- 5.1 The SDNPA Senior Management Team will co-ordinate this work as a 'cross-cutting' issue with delivery predominately being delivered through the Authority's Theme Programme Boards.
- 5.2 Resource planning and the links through to team plans will be overseen by the Operational Management Team (OMT). This will include the identification and allocation of resources, including staff resources, required to deliver on the action plan.
- 5.3 The intention is for the Policies & Resources Committee to maintain oversight on the delivery of this work as it progresses.
- 5.4 A communications strategy will be developed and the public affairs strategy will be reviewed to ensure Climate change is adequately expressed through this policy. Any resultant change to the public affairs strategy will be considered by the NPA at the appropriate time

6. **Other Implications**

Implication	Yes*/No
Will further decisions be required by another committee/full authority?	No
Does the proposal raise any Resource implications?	Yes, the Action Plan will need sufficient staff resource across the NPA to support its delivery. This will include the development of a core team to take forward the proposed climate actions.
How does the proposal represent Value for Money?	The Action Plan has been developed in response to the UK's Climate Emergency. Money spent on positive action now will off-set the costs of Climate Change Impacts in the future. As an example the UK insured losses from storm events were £620 million per annum in 2012. For Storm Ciara (2020) alone the costs are estimated between £912 million to £1.2 billion
Are there any Social Value implications arising from the proposal?	No, implications arising from the proposals in this report.
Have you taken regard of the South Downs National Park Authority's equality duty as contained within the Equality Act 2010?	Yes, no adverse implications have been identified. Individual projects will be assessed as they are developed
Are there any Human Rights implications arising from the proposal?	There are no Human Rights implications arising from this proposal.
Are there any Crime & Disorder implications arising from the proposal?	None.
Are there any Health & Safety implications arising from the proposal?	The existing climate change risk assessment highlights a number of health & safety and welfare issues that may result from not adequately adapting our policies and working practices.

Are there any Data Protection implications?	None.
Are there any Sustainability implications based on the 5 principles set out in the SDNPA Sustainability Strategy:	<p>The Climate Change Action Plan is wholly compliant with the five principles of our Sustainability Strategy.</p> <p>1/ Living within environmental limits 2/ Ensuring a strong healthy and just society 3/ Achieving a sustainable economy 5/ Promoting good governance 6/Using sound science responsibly.</p>

7. **Risks Associated with the Proposed Decision**

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
The UK Government declared a climate change emergency in May 2019. This is in recognition of the existential threat it presents.	High	High	<p>SDNPA Climate Change Risk Assessment & Adaptation plan.</p> <p>SDNPA Climate Change Action Plan set out a range of actions we are able to take to mitigate and adapt to the worst of these risks.</p> <p>UK Climate Change Committee considers that the necessary transition is possible, with technologies and approaches we already have available to us.</p>

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Appendices

1. SDNP Climate Change Strategy
2. National Park Climate Change Action Plan
3. Climate Change Action Plan – Summary Tables
4. Climate Change Action Plan - LPA survey
5. Climate Change Action Plan – 5 year programme (Comms Draft)
6. HLF Climate Change Action Fund – Funding Expectations

SDNPA Consultees

Chief Executive; Director of Countryside Policy and Management; Director of Planning; Chief Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer; Legal Services, Business Service Manager

External Consultees

None

Background Documents

[SDNPA Climate Change Adaptation Plan.](#)
[South East Climate Action group \(SECA\) Database that summarises current action by Local Authorities :-](#)

SDNP Climate Change Strategy

Overall Context

1. National Policy and Local Policy

- 1.1 There has been increased levels of public concern around the impacts of Climate Change and the existential threat it poses. In recognition of this the UK Government declared a climate emergency in May 2019. It has committed the UK to becoming a 'Net Zero' economy by 2050.
- 1.2 The Climate Change Committee (CCC) advises the UK Government. It reports to Parliament on the state of progress bi-annually. Its latest report indicates that the UK is currently failing to maintain the necessary trajectory to meet this target.
- 1.3 The CCC consider the target to be achievable, with technologies and approaches we have available. But it will need rapid action to meet this ambitious target. It will require a transformation in our economy and our approach to land use.
- 1.4 The CCCs report 'Land Use – Policies for Net Zero in Land Use' (2019) recognizes the role that land use, agriculture and forestry could play in reducing emissions. It estimated these sectors accounted for 12% of total UK greenhouse gas emissions.
- 1.5 With the right support farmers and land-managers can play a significant role in reducing these emissions and locking up carbon. To this end, new Agricultural and Environmental Bills are progressing through Parliament.

2. UK Clean Growth Strategy

- 2.1 We should also recognised that the rapid transition to 'Net-zero' presents opportunities for the wider UK economy. To meet the national carbon budgets for the periods 2023 to 2027, and 2028 to 2032 requires a rapid acceleration in the shift to a low-carbon economy.
- 2.2 The UKs Clean Growth Strategy was published in April 2018. It sets out the Government's ambition to grow the economy while cutting Green House Gas emissions. The strategy promotes technological innovation, creation of high value jobs and industry and the development of low-carbon expertise and technology.

3. The 25 Year Environment Plan – Responding to Climate Change at a Landscape Scale.

- 3.1 The Governments 25 Year Environment Plan (25 YEP) was published on the 11th January 2018. The important role that National Parks play as delivery bodies is frequently referenced.
- 3.2 The NPAs purposes of 'conserving and enhancing' the natural environment is also strongly emphasised. The plan sets out a number of mechanisms that could help to drive or fund this work. These include:-
 - The need for NPAs and their partners to work at a Landscape Scale to deliver climate change Mitigation and Adaptation.
 - Establishing the principle of Biodiversity 'net gain' within the planning System.

- Design and delivery of a new Environmental Land Management System – where the principle aim is environmental enhancement.
- The co-design and delivery of 14 natural capital plans – with Local Nature Partnerships.
- Establishment of 25 new catchment/landscape scale ‘nature recovery’ areas.
- Expanding the use of natural flood management solutions.
- Work with landowners and farmers to identify and target areas that would most benefit from woodland creation.
- The need to link up protected sites and landscapes as a means to deliver a ‘Nature Recovery Network’.

4. The SDNPA Policy Framework

- 4.1 The South Downs NPA has a key role in delivering this broad agenda. We have our existing Management Plan and Local Plan policies. We have a range of tools and approaches at our disposal in terms of advocacy, influence and direct delivery. This is especially the case in terms of our strategic planning and policy making role.

5. The Climate Change Adaptation Plan

- 5.1 We currently report on our adaptation planning on a five year rolling programme. Our current Adaptation Plan seeks to:-
- Assess the current and predicted impacts of climate change on our purposes and statutory functions;
 - Considered the impact upon key assets of the National Park, and on sectors such as farming, forestry and other land-use;
 - Set out proposals and policy responses to adapt adequately to these risks.
- 5.2 The Adaptation Plan sets out some of the adaptive actions that are needed over the short, medium and long-term. It looks ahead over multiple Management Plan review cycles. It also informs the UK Governments own Adaptation Strategy.
- 5.3 The Plan provides us with a comprehensive assessment of the risks and opportunities, and a good basis for taking positive action. A link to the on-line version of this report is included here:-
- <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/SDNPA-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Plan-Final-On-line-version.pdf>
- 5.4 Inevitably this document focusses more on adaptation responses. The UK wide response to the ‘climate emergency’ also needs to focus on mitigation (reducing carbon emissions).

Scope, partnerships and delivery

6. Scope of our Action Plan

- 6.1 We need to co-ordinate our work on both climate change adaptation and mitigation. Some of the proposed actions have the potential to deliver both.

Climate Change Mitigation – Actions that limit the magnitude or rate of climate change and its related effects by cutting emissions.

Climate Change Adaptation – The process of adjustment to the actual or expected changes in climate and its related effects. This is generally focussed on developing resilience to climate change impacts at a landscape scale.

- 6.2 Our actions must consider the potential to cut other Green House Gas emissions (such as Methane) not just Carbon Dioxide.
- 6.3 The Climate Change agenda is very broad, and the SDNPA has limited resources. The Action Plan is focussed on the areas where we can have the greatest impact and influence.

7. How we propose to deliver the Action Plan

- 7.1 The SDNPA needs to be influential and effective at a national level. It also needs to deliver at a strategic, park-wide scale and help support local, community based action. In order to achieve this, we propose to deliver the Actions Plan through a broad range of partnerships.
- 7.2 This may include delivery through new groups of partners. A summary of our approach is included in Appendices 2 and 2.

8. National Level - Working with the other Protected Landscapes

- 8.1 National Parks England (NPE) have recently refreshed its Climate Change & Energy Group. The intention being to improve co-ordination and joint-action across the UK National Park family.
- 8.2 The group are currently working on a new 5 year delivery plan. The intent is to achieve a 'step up' in terms of delivery. The main aim is for the NPAs to lead in efforts to tackle climate emergency, and to:-
- Demonstrate how rapid transition to low-carbon living can be achieved.
 - Work collectively towards becoming 'Net zero' National Parks by 2040.
 - Achieve 'Net zero' as National Park Authorities by 2030.
 - Promote the principle of achieving 'Net Zero with Nature'
 - Work with our constituent communities and enable them to contribute to this shift.
- 8.3 In terms of delivering the ambitions of the Lawton Review we also intend to work collaboratively with the wider Protected Landscape family – including the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) within the region.
- 8.4 To achieve this we will co-ordinate our efforts with the South East & East Protected Landscapes (SEEPL) forum. This brings together 14 designated landscapes across the South East and East of England.
- 9. Working with our constituent Local Authorities**
- 9.1 Delivery of the Action Plan will require greater collaboration with our constituent Local Authorities and a wider range of delivery partners.

- 9.2 Many of our constituent Local Authorities have declared climate emergencies, and are developing 'Net Zero' action plans. There is great potential for us to work closely with them. We are having initial discussions to scope areas for greater collaboration and how the NPA can best add value.
- 9.3 A summary of the current situation for our constituent Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) is included in Appendix 4. In addition the South East Climate Action group (SECA) have set up a Database. This summarises where Local Authorities are in terms of developing targets and action plans for their area. A link to the database is below:-
<http://bit.ly/SECAclimateactionsurvey>
- 9.4 The SDNPA will need to do further work to align us with our constituent LPAs. This will include joint work on establishing common metrics and targets.
- 9.5 The LPAs rely on national data-sets compiled by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to set and monitor their targets. At present this data is not cut to National Park areas. So there is a risk of effectively 'double counting' any contribution the National Park makes to national targets. This is a common problem for all of the NPAs and we are seeking to address it quickly.
- 9.6 Along with the New Forest NPA, we have requested that BEIS produce a cut of the data to National Park boundaries. We should receive this by April 2020. This will put us on an equal footing with our constituent LPAs overcome the risk of double-counting.

10. Communications & Engagement

- 10.1 There is a significant role for the SDNPA in communicating challenges around Climate Change and to encourage behaviour change. We will develop an effective communications strategy and make Climate Change a priority for our public affairs strategy.

11. Internal governance to deliver the Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan

- 11.1 Senior Management Team will co-ordinate this work as a 'cross-cutting' issue through our Programme Delivery Boards.
- 11.2 It will need sufficient resourcing across teams to support its delivery. This will require sufficient staff resources to deliver on the action plan presented in Appendix 5. The Operational Management Team (OMT) will assist with resource planning and the links through to team plans.
- 11.3 The Policies & Resources Committee to maintain oversight on the delivery of the Action Plan as it is progressed.

12. Baseline & Trajectory

- 12.1 We need a consistent approach to data and metrics that can work at these differing scales. This includes a baseline for current emissions, and establishing the best trajectory towards a Net-Zero target. We also need to be able to monitor our progress.
- 12.2 There are two ways of considering carbon emissions, and for setting targets.

- Consumption Based – Emission calculations are based on the consumption of all goods and services by UK Households. It also takes into account the effects of trade and imports.
 - Production Based – Emission calculations are based on fossil fuel usage and other relevant processes such as industry and agriculture
- 12.3 Several methodologies exist, and they vary greatly in terms of complexity. There are also risks in adopting an approach purely based on either a production or a consumption basis.
- 12.4 The SDNPA previously contracted Small World Consultancy to develop a consumption based assessment for the National Park. The work provided a useful insight into the sources of emissions for the Park.
- 12.5 Though helpful, the work was completed in 2014, and is now dated. It also presents less detail on the contribution from key sectors such as agriculture. We are currently commissioning follow up work in collaboration with the other NPAs. This will give us the common approach to data and metrics that we require.
- 12.6 This new study will be a blended approach, with elements of both consumption and production based modelling. It will also present us with different scenarios that could apply in terms of achieving Net Zero for the National Park area.
- 12.7 This contract is currently being let. As a result we should have updated emissions figures sometime during 2020. The contract will also consider the need for annual updates. As a joint piece of work, we will achieve a cost-benefit. The work should cost us around £6-7K per annum to monitor progress.

Net Zero for the SDNPA

13. Meeting a 2030 'Net-Zero' target for the National Park Authority

- 13.1 The National Park Authority should lead by example. How it operates, its working practices and how it manages its Estate can make a significant contribution to achieving this target.
- 13.2 The NPA should do all it can to minimise its carbon footprint and achieve high levels of sustainability. Through our Corporate Plan, internal governance and resource planning we need to ensure that we imbed Climate Change action across the Authority.
- 13.3 Achieving a 'Net-Zero' target for the NPA will be very challenging. It has implications for how we manage our estate, purchase supplies and equipment and our working practices. Work is underway to baseline the carbon footprint for the Authority. We propose to use a common approach that has been used by other NPAs so we have comparative data.
- 13.4 The acquisition of Seven Sisters Country Park also presents an opportunity to develop the sites as an exemplar in terms of Climate Change adaptation and a low-carbon future,

14. The Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG)

- 14.1 The NPA has a clear role in sharing best practice and demonstrating how an organisation can progress towards achieving a 'Net-Zero' target. The SSG has been established as part of our corporate response to the challenges of Climate Change. Its purpose is to provide leadership

on our organisational response and promote best practice in terms of sustainability. The groups is working on the following outcomes:-

- Improve our performance and become carbon neutral as an organisation;
- Set targets for carbon reduction and monitor progress;
- Develop a strategy for sustainability for the SDNPA;
- Produce an annual action plan to address issues of highest priority.

14.2 As an early set of actions the group has committed the NPA to:-

- Identify 'quick wins and opportunities' through a staff survey;
- Undertake a carbon audit in line with other UK NPA by June 2020;
- Undertake a full sustainability audit by September 2020.

Net Zero for the National Park

15. Meeting a 'Net-Zero' Carbon target for the National Park

15.1 There are even greater challenges to meeting a 'Net-Zero' target for the National Park. We need to use a partnership based approach, much like the Management Plan. It may require us to work with new groupings of partners.

15.2 There is an opportunity for the NPA to collaborate widely and be an exemplar both in terms of public awareness and actively driving change. Using our convening role is where the National Park Authority potentially adds the most value.

16. 'Net Zero with Nature'

16.1 As a National Park, our statutory purposes are about protecting and enhancing nature. We can promote actions to the climate emergency are nature-based. Any response to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change can also help with nature recovery.

16.2 We cannot achieve one without the other. Where we are seeking to restore and create habitats, and improve their connectivity – we should also seek to maximise opportunities to sequester and store carbon. The principle that guides our approach should be that we seek to deliver '**Net Zero with Nature**'.

16.3 Some change may be inevitable. The ability of natural systems to be resilient or adapt to change is hugely variable. Our understanding of environmental limits may at times be insufficient. In this case the SDNPA must adopt the precautionary approach¹.

16.4 There is also a strong push for Net-Zero from within the farming sector. The NFU and CLAs have been doing extensive work on carbon monitoring at farm level and developing targets to reduce emissions.

16.5 There is potential through the New Environmental Land Management Scheme (NELMS) to deliver sustainable land management, improve soils and increase opportunities for carbon

¹ 'Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost effective measures that prevent environmental degradation' (United Nations General Assembly, 1992'.

sequestration. The SDNPA can add further value through our involvement in the national 'test and trials' programme.

- 16.6 Through our involvement with the Farm Clusters, and our work on Whole Estate Plans, we have an excellent platform. We can help support the rapid transition to a low-carbon economy for the land-based sectors.
- 16.7 There is a clear link with activity to deliver the Nature Recovery Network. We are already seeing projects that help demonstrate how Nature Recovery might be financed through the use of carbon or nitrate off-setting schemes. The SDNPA has a role in helping to find suitable recipient sites.

17. Potential for trees and woodland

- 17.1 There are also opportunities for new woodland planting within the South Downs National Park. The UK Climate Change Committee has set a national target of 19% woodland cover. The same target has been adopted by the Woodland Trust in terms of their Climate Change Action Plan. The South Downs (with 23% woodland cover) currently exceeds the UK target. But there is still scope to see some significant enhancement in woodland cover.
- 17.2 Some trees are naturally less resilient to the direct impacts of Climate Change. We will see declines in some species. We will work with the Woodland Partnership Group to deliver effective successional planting within the landscape.
- 17.3 We need to balance the push for increased tree planting with the need to protect other priority habitats and avoid unintended consequences. The grasslands and pastoral systems of the South Downs also have potential to draw-down and store carbon.
- 17.4 We must not lose our biodiversity rich grasslands to poorly planned or conceived planting schemes. It is equally about nature recovery, not just about blanket tree planting. The National Parks guidance on 'right tree, right place' is helpful here – and should develop good schemes that enhance the landscape as well as capturing carbon.

Planning & Land-use

18. Using the Planning System

- 18.1 It is essential that the SDNPA use its existing planning policies for best effect. We can also look to develop the potential around net-gain and other delivery mechanisms such as CIL.
- 18.2 There are a number of proposals that are currently being progressed that can help to achieve this. We will need to implement a method to assess the carbon implications of all decisions that are made, including within the planning process.

19. Biodiversity Net Gain

- 19.1 The current National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019 included provisions for Net gain for Biodiversity. This is intended to ensure that planning and development make a positive contribution to enhancing habitats and biodiversity.

- 19.2 This is also now a requirement of Strategic Policy SD9 in the adopted South Downs Local Plan. It is set to be a mandatory condition of planning permission in the emerging Environment Bill. The proposed level is for a 10% gain, as measured using the DEFRA Biodiversity Metric.
- 19.3 This requirement presents a significant opportunity to deliver wider environmental benefits. It could support actions such as tree planting, carbon sequestration and work on climate change resilience.

20. Call for sites – Carbon Sequestration

- 20.1 This would work in a similar way as a call for housing and employment sites. In this case we would look for sites that could provide opportunities for carbon off-setting. Recipient sites would be assessed in terms of their capacity to lock up carbon – or their potential to form a part of a Nature Recovery Network.
- 20.2 This could apply for sites already managed for nature or support the shift to more sustainable land management. It could identify areas suitable tree planting, protect important carbon sinks and create or link priority habitats.
- 20.3 It would enable the SDNPA to consider sites strategically across the National Park. It could be done quickly, and on a less formal basis, than the housing allocation process. We could also effectively screen the sites for any unacceptable impact on landscape, priority habitats or the historic environment.

21. Potential to use Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 21.1 The allocation of CIL funds to projects is determined by Planning Committee for each funding year. At present we do not use CIL funding for projects specifically related to climate change. This could be achieved through two mechanisms.
- 21.2 One is a ‘quick-win’, and presents an opportunity to lead by example.
- Use CIL to directly fund projects that address Climate Change mitigation or adaptation.
- 21.3 The other is also possible – but would require additional work to put in place.
- Explore the potential to use CIL as an incentive within the Planning System.
- 21.4 In the latter case, the SDNPA could offer a CIL discount to homes. This would be on conditional on them being built to a recognised ‘carbon standard’. In this way we could provide an incentive to developers and raise the bar in terms of sustainable building and design.
- 21.5 This could be based on a 50% discount on any properties built to meet the recognised ‘Passive house’ standard. This would represent a potential saving of around £10k for a 3 or 4 bedroom home.
- 21.6 As yet, this mechanism is untried – but it has great potential. The NPA are currently seeking legal advice on whether this is possible under the CIL Regulations.

22. Sustainable Construction – Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

- 22.1 As a Local Planning Authority we have some degree of influence and control over new development within the National Park area. The application of planning policies is clearly an area where we could seek to mitigate climate change and reduce emissions. We can also ensure that buildings are well designed to adapt to the predicted impacts of climate change.
- 22.2 The SPD builds on Local Plan policies to reduce CO2 emissions - through energy efficiency measures and on site low/zero carbon energy production. At present, Government policy prevents us going beyond current building regulations for energy efficiency. But this may be reviewed in future. For now the SPD pushed things as far as it is possible to do.
- 22.3 The draft document was approved by Planning Committee in January 2020. It is out for public consultation until 23 March 2020. Subject to any comments we receive, it will return to Committee for approval in June.
- 22.4 If the opportunity arises to strengthen our approach in the next 2 years, we will revisit the SPD again. We may also seek to add to our Local Plan when it comes up for review in the future. It is possible we could look to strengthen policies around design and sustainability at that stage.

23. Carbon offsetting through the Development Management Process

- 23.1 The SPD seeks to deliver measures to reduce CO2 emissions on site. There may be some cases where this is not practicable. There may be potential to require developers to pay a fee to offset the carbon generated by the development where it couldn't be achieved on site. This money would be used for energy efficiency measures elsewhere (e.g. retrofitting schools or other community buildings).
- 23.2 We cannot incorporate at this stage, but could be covered by an updated SPD in future. Again this is something the SDNPA could seek to include in our next Local Plan review.

24. Renewable Energy

- 24.1 Achieving Net-zero targets by 2050 will drive the transition to renewable energy. Some of this may be community level schemes that support rapid transition away from oil and gas fired systems. It could also see an increase in district level schemes were partner authorities are looking for economies of scale.
- 24.2 Within the National Park this could see an increase in applications for Solar PV and a renewed focus on off-shore and on-shore wind generation. We will need to work with our constituent authorities to ensure that schemes are developed that support the special qualities of the National Park.

25. Retro-fitting existing building and housing stock

- 25.1 One of the biggest challenges is improving the energy efficiency and thermal performance of existing buildings and housing stock. The SDNPA will need to work closely with our District and Borough Planning Authorities to support this work within the National Park area.

Local Communities.

26. Working with Parishes and local communities

- 26.1 There are 176 town and parish councils across the National Park and a multitude of community based groups. This represents a huge resource in terms of people, time and potential funding to deliver Climate Change action at a local level.
- 26.2 Parishes and community groups could make a huge contribution to reducing carbon emissions and delivering local projects.
- 26.3 They are also an important as a means to encourage action and activity that supports delivery of wider Climate Change targets. The SDNPA needs to effectively engage and 'add value' to local level action involving communities within and adjoining the National Park.
- 26.4 There is an important role for the SDNPA in harnessing this resource, there are a number of areas of work where the Authority to focus its efforts, these are broadly set out below.
- 26.5 We are starting to develop links with relevant Groups to engage with at this level including the Worthing Climate Action Network, South East Climate Alliance, Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC), Petersfield Climate Action Network, Greater Brighton Energy Group, Community Land Trusts and Transition Town Groups.

27. Neighbourhood Planning – encouraging action at a local level

- 27.1 To date, the SDNPA has developed a lot of experience around working with Neighbourhood Plan groups. Previously this has primarily been based on housing allocations and identifying sites for development.
- 27.2 Many of these plans will shortly come up for review. There is potential for the plans to support delivery for Climate Change adaptation and mitigation. We should be ready to support Parish and Town Councils, community groups and other 'partnerships of the willing' to take action at a local level.
- 27.3 Since the 1st April 2017 the SDNPA has given **£267,919** in Parish CIL funds. This is a new funding stream for many of our local communities. We should support local communities in using this resource effectively to deliver on a range of community benefits. This could include actions to tackle the effects of climate change. This could be through:-
 - Encouraging appropriate land allocations and designations which can tackle climate change, this could include tree planting on local green spaces, community facilities and renewable energy schemes.
 - Support town and parish councils to provide basic planning advice to local communities.
 - Planning advice to demonstrate how small scale improvements could be such as sustainable urban drainage, rain gardens, habitat creation and enhancements.
 - Supporting Town and Parish Councils to become central point for sharing best practice / advice with local residents on making a positive contribution to climate change action.
- 27.4 We also have our existing grant-in-aid schemes, such as the Sustainable Communities Fund (SCF) that could be used to help support Climate Change action.

28. Opportunity to use 'Net Zero' carbon targets at a Parish and local community level.

- 28.1 Winchester Action of Climate Change (WinACC) are a local group working to encourage positive action on Climate Change. They have developed an approach that produces a cut of national emissions data for rural Parishes within Winchester City Council's area.
- 28.2 The intention is to provide them with a consistent, and comparative, baseline and highlight areas where they can reduce emissions.
- 28.3 This is potentially a very useful approach, and one that the SDNPA could try to adopt for Parishes across the National Park. This would allow them to understand their current carbon footprint and seek ways to improve their performance. Providing this information would also provide a clear basis on which to measure success.
- 28.4 We are in discussions on the potential to roll out this approach more widely across the National Park. This would provide further opportunity to tailor funding streams, advice and support to local communities.
- 28.5 A number of other areas where the SDNPA might be able to support local communities are also considered in the action plan, including:-
- Sharing information and best practice;
 - Convening events to raise awareness and improve understanding;
 - Working with sector partners to deliver local training and support;
 - Regular articles in parish magazines promoting local action, projects and opportunities for funding.

29. Climate Action Fund Bid – Ouse Valley CARES project

- 29.1 The SDNPA, along with the South Downs Trust and community groups have submitted a bid to the National Lottery Communities 'Climate Action' Fund. The bid focuses on the communities of the Ouse Valley in East Sussex.
- 29.2 If successful it will bring together over 100 community projects and organisations to take climate action, over five years, with a focus on those people who are least engaged at present. It will support those community groups and organisations to:-
- Take practical action now;
 - Maintain and increase ecological resilience;
 - Accommodate change - Integrate across all sectors;
 - Develop knowledge and plan strategically.
- 29.3 The project area follows the river downstream from Barcombe, through Lewes and the lower Ouse Valley, to the large coastal communities ("the Havens").
- 29.4 The learning from this project will inform our community engagement efforts across other areas of the National Park. Details of the fund are presented in Appendix 6.

30. Community Energy schemes within the National Park.

- 30.1 On the 22nd January 2020, the SDNPA convened a meeting with organisations that are involved with supporting and developing community based energy schemes.
- 30.2 This brought together local delivery partners including OVESCO and Community Energy Sussex who are an industry leader in the sector. The intention was discuss the sorts of projects that had the greatest potential in the context of the National Park.
- 30.3 A number of ideas from that meeting are being progressed as part of the Climate Change Action Plan. These include:-
- Development a network of Climate Change 'Champions' to promote best practice and deliver local training and support.
 - Establish a Community Energy programme and encourage local action via the allocation of CIL money.
 - Focus on communities that are ready to move fast – and keen to make rapid transition to a low-carbon future i.e./ in terms of shifting away from oil fired heating to local scale renewable.
 - Re-energise neighbourhood plan groups during the review cycle and focus on 'zero-carbon' plans, community energy and other priorities rather than just planning and housing allocations.
 - Develop this approach within a couple of pilot areas, either clusters of Parishes or community groups who are keen to deliver an exemplar scheme. A number of parishes are forming local community based action groups – so we could develop a partnership based on these.
 - Look to build on the successful bid to the HLF Climate Fund bid, along with active local community groups, to drive these opportunities along.

Infrastructure, rural business and other key sectors

31. Transport and Sustainable Access

- 31.1 Many of our constituent Local Authorities are working on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs). These encourage modal shift by providing improved facilities for walking and cycling in towns. They use an evidence based approach to target investment where it can have the greatest impact.
- 31.2 The authorities are also looking to create sustainable travel connections between settlements to reduce emissions by taking motorised traffic off the road. The SDNPA is working alongside local authorities in the development of these plans to promote best options for connecting into the National Park.
- 31.3 The Local Highways Authorities are developing their Local Transport Plans (LTPs). These plans potentially form part of the action on Climate Change. They can encourage use of sustainable modes of transport and to support greener forms of public transport. An example being the Ultra-low emission bus scheme being developed by Brighton and Hove City Council.
- 31.4 The SDNPA Cycling and Walking Strategy 2017-2024 seeks to enable greater use of more sustainable modes of travel through the creation and improvement of a network traffic free access routes enabling a wider range of people to walk and cycle for both recreational and

utility journeys. In creating and improving routes we should consider the carbon footprint of the construction of the schemes, and any opportunities to sequester and store carbon.

31.5 Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) such as major road or transport schemes are not required to deliver net gain. However, when negotiating with the promoters of such projects will seek to achieve the best outcomes for biodiversity.

31.6 Specific areas where the SDNPA can add value include:-

- Working with our sector partners to encourage provision of facilities, opportunities and incentives to allow for reduced carbon travel.
- Working with partners to identify clear carbon budgets and actions and timescale needed to get to net zero in line with government deadline.
- Change attitudes to transport and support the shift to low-carbon travel, support and encourage people to go 'car free' during their visit to the National Parks.
- Build and promote off road cycle infrastructure and electric public transport networks.

32. Rural Economy & Tourism

32.1 The SDNPA will seeks to nurture businesses at a time of significant economic shift. We will support rural businesses to adapt their business operations, improve their sustainability, and boost their contribution to the SDNP local economy. The shift to a low-carbon economy will generate new opportunities to train and employ local people, source local products and support other local businesses. To support this transition the SDNPA will:-

- Create an enterprise network as the vehicle to allow communication between SDNPA and the NP businesses. The network will facilitate the delivery of our climate change aspirations.
- Deliver a business engagement strategy that helps businesses to decrease their carbon footprint, and improve their operational sustainability.
- Help to promote the SDNPA as a 'Low carbon' destination and work with businesses who can help us deliver on this.
- Work with the Responsible Travel partnership to promote places to stay which can demonstrate their environmental sustainability.
- Broaden the membership of Green Tourism and other accreditation schemes.

33. Historic environment and heritage assets.

33.1 There is a need for improved data and evidence on the climate change impacts upon designated heritage assets across the National Park. We need to better understand the implications and adaptations required to preserve the historic environment, this will help to develop solutions that enhance their resilience and help protect them for the future. We can achieve this through supporting historic environment research into climate change impacts.

33.2 In some cases archaeology and heritage assets may be lost, from accelerated coastal erosion for example. There is an opportunity for the SDNPA to work with sector leaders around how we communicate the engage around “curated loss” and open a public debate around the loss of heritage assets as a result if climate change.

33.3 Engagement around the arts has potential to engage and communicate with the public on issue around climate change, adaptation responses and the need for individual action. This is a key component of encouraging behaviour change.

34.0 Engagement and Outreach

34.1 The SDNP Learning Network have identified climate change education as a key area that they would like to see collaboration on across this sector. In particular the network have identified that schools are ahead of learning providers in delivering education on climate change.

34.2 There is also recognition that the way that we frame our communication with young audiences needs to be sensitive to minimise the potential for eco-anxieties of young people.

34.3 Three events are planned or are being delivered this year:

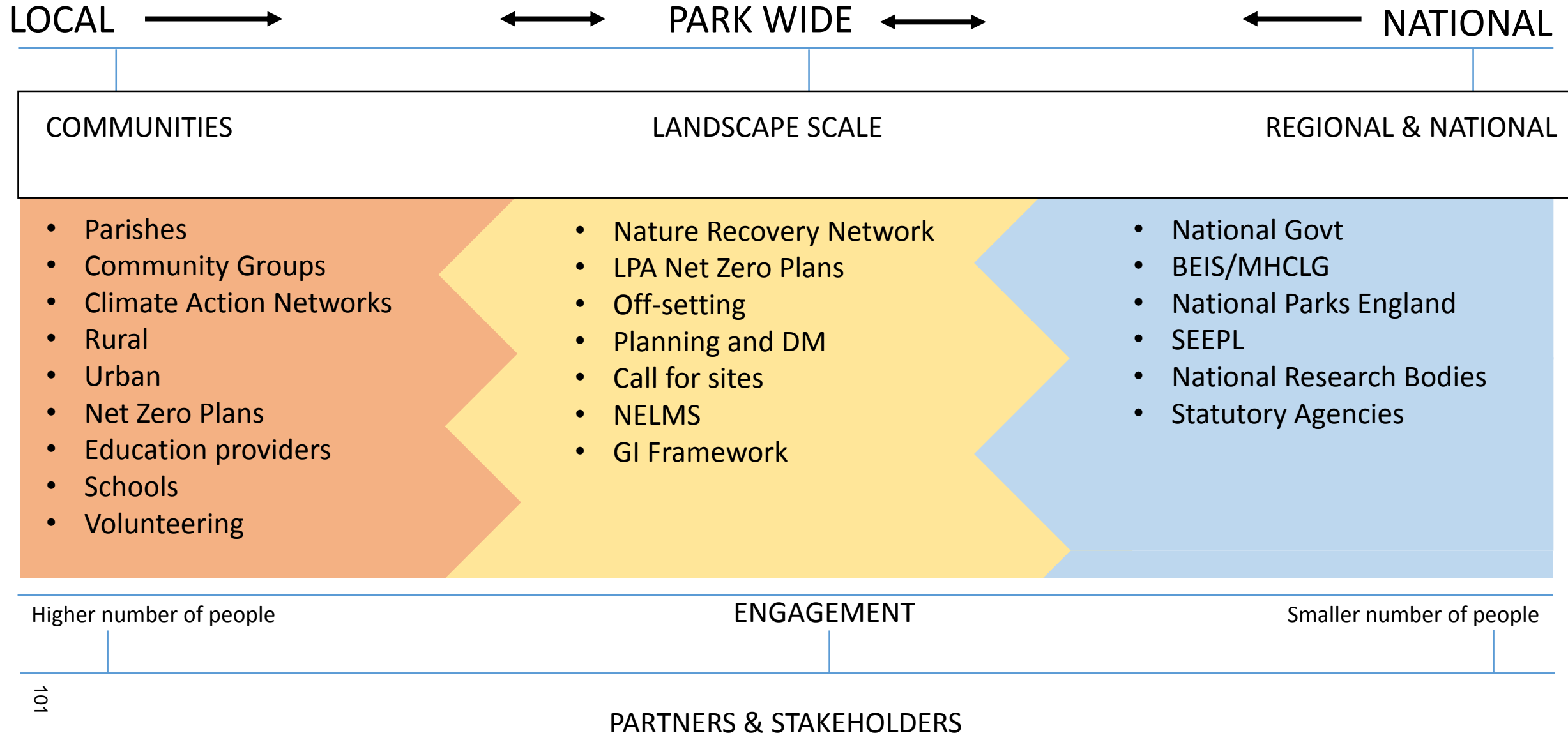
- Hopeful Earth Conference - Ditcham Park School.
- Earth Protectors Conference for teachers - The Sustainability Centre.
- Climate Change Teachers Twilight - Brighton and Hove Environmental Education (BHEE).

34.4 The SDNP Learning Network has asked for a workshop for learning providers in supporting learning about climate change and the SDNPA will look to convene a workshop for this network in summer 2020.

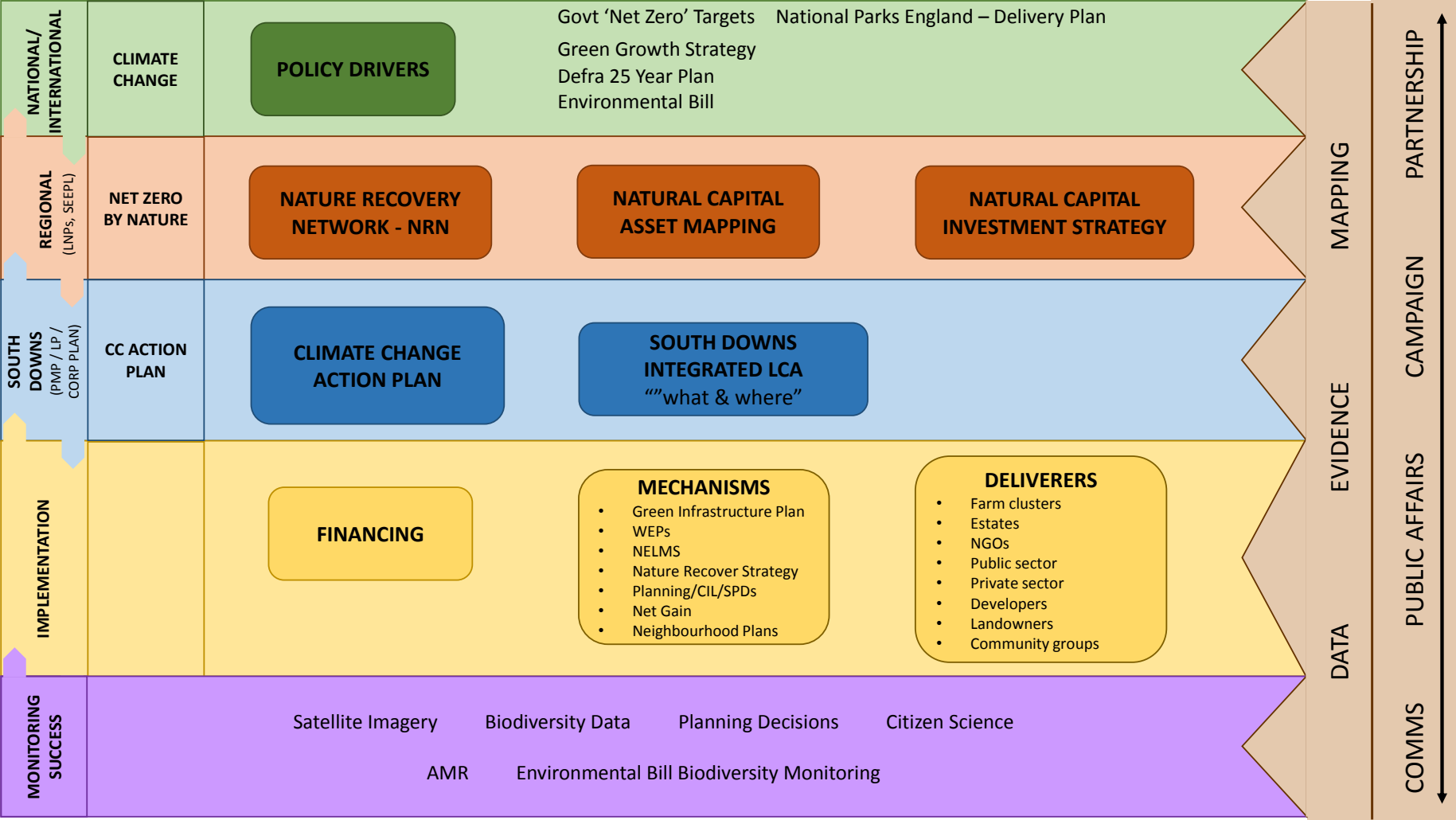
34.5 The SDNPA is also looking to develop a ‘climate action’ fund which would be able to give small grants to schools to fund climate change related action.

CC ACTION PLAN - SCALE OF DELIVERY

Agenda Item 12 Report NPA19/20-29 Appendix 2
National Park Climate Change Action Plan



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Local Planning Authority Survey – Adur and Worthing

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Yes Strategic Sustainability Manager
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Jul-19
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2030
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2050
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	Yes No (in development with a target of March 2020)
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	Yes
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	Yes Just the last year
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	Yes Yes
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	Internally we have a carbon Reduction Delivery Group, Chief Executive's Climate Emergency Board, Sustainable Travel Plan Delivery Group. We also host a Sussex wide LA Climate Emergency Group at Worthing TH, attended by all Sustainability officers in E & W Sussex, B&H, and East Hants.
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	Most work is focused on mitigation so far. We need to develop work on adaptation. We are holding a Climate Conference March 4th 2020 and plan to develop a Climate Partnership/Forum for A&W following the conference.

Local Planning Authority Survey – Arun

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	In the process of recruiting Yes
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Jan-20
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	yes 2030
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	in process of development
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	yes
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	No
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	No Yes
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	No
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	

Local Planning Authority Survey – Eastleigh

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Yes Strategic Planning Lead for Environment
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Jul-19
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2025
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2030
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	Yes Yes Yes
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	Yes and no, some specific budget, but predominately through shifting existing budgets.
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	Yes
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	

Local Planning Authority Survey – East Hampshire

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Yes Climate and Environment Strategy Manager
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Sep-20
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	No
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	No
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	No (under development) No (under development) No (under development)
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	No
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	No
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	Yes, Hampshire County is also working on a climate plan. No
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	Yes we have a Cabinet Liaison Panel on Climate Change
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	We are keen to work with the community. We are supporting community action.

Local Planning Authority Survey – East Sussex County

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Currently recruiting Yes
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	as soon as possible, and in any event no later than 2050'
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	The draft East Sussex Environment Strategy includes a long term aim to: remain within the science-based carbon budget for East Sussex'
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	In draft in draft No
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	

Local Planning Authority Survey – West Sussex County

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none">If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title?	No. We have several teams contributing to this agenda and the Sustainability team maintains a co-ordinating role across the Authority. Sustainability Team Leader
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none">If yes, when was this declared?If no, are you currently considering this?	No No
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none">If Yes, What is your target date?	Yes - to attempt, not a firm commitment by 2030
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none">If Yes, What is your target date?	No No
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Climate EmergencyAuthority Operations Net ZeroAuthority Area Net Zero	Underway Underway No
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	Not currently
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none">If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available)	Yes Baseline 2011/12 Annual Report
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled?	Yes - there is a Sussex wide forum for D&B's Yes BUT it would need additional identified resource at officer level to be able to support this.
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	Yes - we have a Member initiated climate change advisory group.
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	Very happy to answer more specific questions as needed.

Local Planning Authority Survey – Eastbourne and Lewes

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Yes Strategy & Partnership Lead - Sustainability
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Jul-19
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2030
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2030
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	Yes - Lewes (diff Budget) Yes - Eastbourne (diff Budget)
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	No
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	Yes Yes
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	Yes
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	Question 6 is a little ambiguous- it's yes for both councils regarding staff resource but only Lewes DC has committed capital £ resources up to March 2021

Local Planning Authority Survey – Hampshire County

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Yes Strategic Climate Change Officer & appointed Climate Change Champion
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Jun-19
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2050
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Action Plan due 31 March
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	due 31.03.2020 due 31.03.2020 due 31.03.2020
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	Yes
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	Yes 2010
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	

Local Planning Authority Survey – Chichester

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Jun-19
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	No - Action Plan due January 2020
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	No - Action Plan due January 2020
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	Action Plan due January 2020 Action Plan due January 2020 Action Plan due January 2020
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	Climate Change Task and Finish Group
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate	Green councillors are working with Transition Chichester, Ecochi and XR Chichester – encouraging them to come to Council meetings to hold council to emergency Chichester City Council have established a 'task and finish' group to carry forward at City level. The Council House has

	<p>Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)</p>	<p>installed solar panels on the roof and has signed up to renewable energy for the council house. Using a more 'natural' approach to City council green areas ie not using pesticides. Exploring 'greening' some bus stop roofs. A resident has undertaken to plant specific areas with pollinator friendly planting – hope to form group to carry forward. Looking to promote a 'tree summit' to establish areas that will benefit from more trees. Exploring how to electrify council vehicle use by and eliminate plastic use by hirers. Keep Kirdford and Wisborough Green have been doing sustained lobbying at all levels on drilling and fracking in Sussex and Surrey. Eco Chi has been campaigning against A27 through Binsted Woods, but felt ignored by council Chichester DC plan Green Energy Fayre with suppliers of solar panels, insulation, air source heat pumps etc in the spring</p>
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Local Planning Authority Survey – Winchester

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Yes Sustainability Officer
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Jun-19
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	

Local Planning Authority Survey – Horsham

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Motion Passed 2019
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Intention to cover whole Area
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	Carbon Trust Working on Action Plan Carbon Trust Working on Action Plan Carbon Trust Working on Action Plan
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	Council is planning to involve community groups, no formal structure as yet
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	HDC has been open to discussions between community groups and councillors and council officers and has had strong engagement with Sussex Wildlife Trust. Setting up 'Wilder Horsham District' an ambitious rewilding and biodiversity project in partnership with Sussex wildlife Trust.

Local Planning Authority Survey – Mid Sussex

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	Yes Sustainability Officer
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	Revised Strategy due March 2020 Revised Strategy due March 2020 Revised Strategy due March 2020
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	Members Sustainability and Climate Change Panel is helping to progress sustainability and climate change issues at MSDC. Cllr Andrew Lea (Lindfield) is chairing this group. MSDC is hoping to form a Mid Sussex Sustainability Network and engage with more partners
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	

Local Planning Authority Survey – Brighton and Hove

Question		Response
1.	Does your Authority have a dedicated officer working on Climate Change work? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, who is the named contact and what is their job title? 	
2.	Has your Authority declared a Climate Change Emergency? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, when was this declared? If no, are you currently considering this? 	Yes Dec-18
3.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its own business and operational activities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes
4.	Has your Authority set a date for reaching net-zero carbon in terms of its broader authority area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, What is your target date? 	Yes 2030
5.	Has your Authority developed an action plan to address reaching these net-zero targets and the challenges posed by the Climate Change Emergency? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency Authority Operations Net Zero Authority Area Net Zero 	Yes Yes Yes
6.	Does your Authority have a specific budget or resource dedicated to this Climate Change work?	Yes
7.	Has your Authority been monitoring its carbon footprint for any length of time? (Yes/No) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Yes, how long have you been monitoring this data (Provide a link if publicly available) 	Yes 2013
8.	Are you aware of a broader regional forum for climate change work across authorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would you be willing to contribute to any monitoring and reporting on a collaborative basis so area level data could be compiled? 	
9.	Do you have a group related to Climate Change?	
10.	Are there any further comments you would like to make about your Authorities current activities on Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation? (open question)	

Delivering 'Net Zero with Nature' – Responding to the challenge of Climate Change with nature based solutions				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
Support the rapid transition to a low-carbon economy for the land-based sectors.	<p>Work closely with sector partners who have also declared net zero ambitions, particularly the NFU (2040), National Trust (2030) and Environment Agency (2030).</p> <p>Promote uptake of high precision or low-input farming techniques so that the application of nitrate fertilisers does not result in excess nutrients passing into the aquifers at key times of recharge (Autumn/Winter)</p> <p>Support for farmers in terms of diversification to new crops and livestock breeds that may be more resilient to changing climatic conditions.</p> <p>Encourage sustainable land management that protect the environmental assets and ecosystem services of the South Downs while maintaining the profitability of farming.</p> <p>Encourage adaptation responses and land use practices that support or benefit the special qualities of the National Park.</p> <p>Encourage conservation measures such as contour ploughing, buffer strips, improving soil structure or changes in land management such as transition from arable to long-term grass lays or cover crops.</p> <p>In high risk areas promote shift from arable to long-term grass lays. Encourage measures that retain soils in situ such as contour ploughing, minimum or 'no tillage'. Promote the use of green manures and cover crops.</p>	SDNPA, NFU, CLA, Farm Clusters and FC Facilitators, Research Bodies (NERC, CEH), Statutory Agencies.	<p>Some of this will be achievable through our current involvement with the Farm Clusters and through the delivery of WEPS. However the work with sector partners to help drive rapid transition is not currently being covered.</p> <p>This would require additional staff time from CPM directorate and Area Teams to achieve an increased level of support.</p> <p>Follow up work required with CPM to define additional resource requirements.</p>	<p>2020-2025</p> <p>Carry Forward into next Management Plan cycle 2024-2030</p>
	<p>Research and monitoring of climate change impacts and trends. Develop research agenda and links with national level research bodies.</p> <p>Research the impact of land use change such as shift away from Arable to other crop types. Viability of different farming systems.</p>			<p>Current Management Plan and Local Plan cycle.</p> <p>Carry Forward into next Management Plan cycle 2024-2030</p>
Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS)	<p>Encourage land management practices that maintain the structural and microbial condition of soils and maximise its ability to store water and nutrients.</p> <p>Promote soil conservation measures especially in areas that are prone to erosion or may be more susceptible to drought conditions.</p>	SDNPA, NFU, CLA, Farm Clusters and FC Facilitators, Research Bodies (NERC, CEH), Natural England and the Statutory Agencies.	<p>SDNPAs current involvement in the NELMS test and trials will help us deliver on this element of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Phase 2 of the CHAMP Project will also target these kinds of interventions with Farmers and Land Managers in the Western Area.</p>	<p>Current Management Plan and Local Plan cycle.</p> <p>Carry Forward into next Management Plan cycle 2024-2030</p>

	<p>Work at a Landscape and Catchment scale to deliver effective environmental outcomes, allow for climate change adaptation and improve ecosystem service function.</p> <p>Work to establish more natural rates of flow and channel morphologies to make them more resilient to climate change impacts.</p> <p>Encourage land management practices that support pollinators. Use of natural pest controls or pest resistant crop species to reduce the need for pesticide use.</p>		<p>Soils project being developed in the Western Area with the Winchester Farm Cluster group, opportunity to apply any learning from this project more widely.</p> <p>Work with Catchment Projects is delivered through L&B strategy leads (Water). May need additional time to achieve this.</p> <p>Work on influencing and delivering NELMS currently sits with CPM directorate and Area Teams.</p>	
Nature Recovery Network (NRN)	<p>Increase habitat connectivity and the permeability of the landscape to wildlife.</p> <p>Target project funding and environmental grant funding towards measures that increase resilience to a changing climate, support biodiversity and provide wider Ecosystem Service benefits.</p> <p>Undertake adaptive management and ensure that areas of valuable habitat are bigger, better managed and joined up. SDNPA to promote delivery at landscape scale.</p> <p>Increase the quality and habitat diversity of wildlife sites. Deliver large scale habitat creation where opportunities exist, create buffer zones for vulnerable or fragmented habitats</p> <p>To increase understanding of climate change, and its impacts on the priority habitat and species within the South Downs National Park.</p> <p>Demonstrate how nature-based solutions can help develop resilience to climate change at a landscape scale.</p> <p>Develop pilot projects that show how Nature Recovery might be financed through the development of carbon off-setting schemes</p> <p>Promote the benefits of hedgerows and encourage best practice in terms of their management. Improve habitat connectivity, help retain soils, manage surface run-off and increase the permeability of the landscape to wildlife.</p> <p>Seek to influence flood management schemes so that they facilitate Natural Flood management techniques have potential to deliver enhanced flood storage and create new wetland habitat.</p> <p>Encourage naturally functioning floodplains and sustainable urban drainage schemes that plan for the potential changes in flooding as a result of climate change.</p>	SDNPA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Wildlife & Woodland Trusts, Local Nature Partnerships, Farmers and Landowners, Local Planning Authorities.	<p>In November 2019 the SDNPA recently ran a joint conference with Natural England and the Local Nature Partnerships to start to develop ideas on co-designing and delivering a Nature Recovery Network.</p> <p>The session worked on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the essential elements/components of a coherent and effective Nature Recovery Network? • How do we achieve the necessary joined-up approach? • Are there some shared principles for how the NRN might be planned, targeted and delivered? • Are there other organisations that may be potential delivery partners? <p>We have subsequently been following up on this work with the LNP and ensuring the key delivery partners are sufficiently joined-up.</p> <p>The plan is to run a follow-up session in May to start to produce a spatial plan of the NRN – this will define the priority habitats for each area and where we think investment is needed to deliver a coherent network.</p> <p>At present this work sits within the CPM directorate and is a major work strand for the Landscape & Biodiversity Programme Board. This is currently involving staff time from the L&B Strategy Leads.</p> <p>This is achievable within the limits of our existing staff structure/resource though it may need more allocated time.</p>	<p>Current Management Plan and Local Plan cycle.</p> <p>Carry Forward into next Management Plan cycle 2024-2030</p>

	<p>Encourage the creation of new habitat and wet woodland along streams and rivers to enhance connectivity, flood storage, help reduce run-off and diffuse pollution</p> <p>Undertake adaptive management and increase the genetic diversity and heterogeneity of key species on wildlife sites. Promote the collection and use of appropriate seed stock in habitat restoration or the creation of new habitat.</p> <p>Develop a strategy for tackling invasive and non-native species. Work to reduce their impact and spread within the National Park.</p>		Additional time/resource required from the Research & Evidence Team (CPM) to take this forward.	
New woodland planting	<p>Research on which tree species may be most impacted by changes in climatic conditions. Plan ahead in terms of planting species that may be more resilient to prevailing climatic conditions in the medium/long term.</p> <p>Better communicate how changes in land-use as a result of Climate action might affect the landscape character/ visual appearance of National Parks</p> <p>Identify the best carbon storage options for the National Park that provide the widest range of ecosystem service benefits. Enhance the capacity for carbon storage and sequestration at landscape scale.</p> <p>Encourage woodland management that provides the best range of ecosystem service benefits including enhancing biodiversity, natural flood management, air quality, carbon sequestration and renewable energy potential.</p> <p>Promote the benefits of wood pasture, in-field and boundary trees.</p> <p>Support tree planting in appropriate locations to help to store carbon and provide wider ecosystem service benefits for people and nature.</p> <p>Create new wet woodland habitat along streams and rivers to enhance connectivity, flood storage, help reduce run-off and diffuse pollution</p> <p>Produce guidance on the ‘right tree in the right place’ to help inform the design of good planting schemes that meet carbon targets and enhance the landscape quality of the National Park.</p> <p>Encourage an increase in urban trees to provide ecosystem service benefits within towns and villages. Promote the value of trees, parks and other Green Infrastructure.</p>	SDNPA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Wildlife & Woodland Trusts, Local Nature Partnerships, Farmers and Landowners, South Downs Woodland Partnership, Local Planning Authorities.	<p>External partners have organised a ‘Woodland Summit’ scheduled for March. This is focussed on the Eastern Area of the National Park, but it is an issue that applies Park-wide.</p> <p>Our staff are experiencing a significant increase in enquiries around tree-planting and the suitability of sites and species for addressing the climate challenge.</p> <p>Local Area Team staff, Strategy Leads and our Woodlands Officer are under increasing pressure to respond, and there are concerns that we may see poorly designed or planned schemes coming forward without adequate guidance or input from the SDNPA.</p> <p>A piece of work is need to ensure the SDNPA is on the front-foot. We are currently updating the Landscape Character Assessment for the National Park. This is helpful, but further guidelines are needed to support the principle of ‘right tree, right place’.</p> <p>We would propose to work with sector partners to produce guidance that we can share that would apply to tree and woodland planting across the National Park. This will support tree planting and ensure it happens in the most appropriate locations and delivers the maximum benefit for society.</p> <p>Additional time and resource will be required within CPM and from the Strategy Lead (Woodland) to achieve this.</p>	2020-2021

<u>Meeting a 2030 'Net-Zero' target for the National Park Authority</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
Sustainable Solutions Group	Identify 'quick wins and opportunities' through a staff survey Undertake a carbon audit in line with other UK NPA by June 2020 Undertake a full sustainability audit by September 2020.	SDNPA	SMT, Sustainable Solutions Group, All Staff	2019-2020
	Improve our sustainable performance and become carbon neutral as an organisation by 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set targets for carbon reduction and monitor progress Develop a strategy for sustainability for the SDNPA Produce an annual action plan to address issues of highest priority Oversee all activity to deliver the action plan. 	SDNPA	SMT, Sustainable Solutions Group, All Staff	2025
<u>Working with other National Parks – Climate Change & Energy Group</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
Joint Delivery Plan	NPAs to establish themselves as:- Leaders in meeting the challenge presented by Climate Change. Lead a rapid change in effort to tackle the climate emergency. Demonstrate how rapid response and transition to low-carbon living can be achieved. Work collectively towards becoming 'Net Zero' National Parks by 2040. Achieve 'Net Zero' as National Parks Authorities by 2030. Promote the principle of achieving 'Net Zero with Nature'.	National Parks England, SDNPA, UK National Parks and protected landscapes network.	National Parks England have issued a revised statement (2019) which set NPA wide targets for achieving Net Zero. Along with the SDNPA and Climate Change & Energy Group they have update their Climate Change Delivery Plan. This sets out planned actions for the NPAs collectively and is a step up in terms of delivery. The SDNPA currently assist with convening the Climate Change and Energy Group, which is covered by existing staff time/resource. This will need to be extended to cover the additional activity of the group.	2020-2025
Joint Advocacy	Use NPE to advocate for policy change in Government to provide us with the tools locally to deliver net zero. Support the Committee on Climate Change in doing the same and provide practical examples of good local action and barriers to progress that they can help in removing	National Parks England, SDNPA, UK National Parks and protected landscapes network.	National Parks England will also be setting up a NPA Chairs Task & Finish group – which the SDNPA will represent the Lowland NPAs. The SDNPA may need to support the work to develop a presence for NPAs at COP26 in November. This will require	2020-2021 Ongoing Programme

	<p>Consider the opportunities with UK National Parks to promote our work through our National communications programme. Work together to plan a fringe event at CoP26.</p> <p>Work with National Park Partnerships to secure funding for the Net Zero with Nature proposal.</p> <p>Help to implement the recommendations of the Glover Review and promote collaboration at strategic level between NPA/AONB's</p>		additional staff time to support and is over and above the current allocation.	
Setting Carbon Budgets	<p>Work to ensure each park has a production and consumption based Carbon Budget that is consistent across all Parks</p> <p>Develop scenarios to reach net zero by the fastest time possible</p> <p>A monitoring framework to report, ideally annually on progress toward net zero</p>	National Parks England, SDNPA, UK National Parks and protected landscapes network.	Work is currently being commissioned jointly with other NPAs to develop a standard approach to baseline and metrics for achieving Net Zero. This will include scenarios for each NP to reach the target as efficiently as possible, and the areas where we would need to concentrate to make the most impact.	2020-21 Ongoing Programme
Research & Evidence	<p>Better data on carbon storage by land use or habitat type, to make more informed choices on land use change</p> <p>Understanding of how to maximise carbon through biodiversity projects. Develop case studies of nature based and adaptation solutions</p>	National Parks England, SDNPA, UK National Parks and protected landscapes network.	<p>Natural England have recently expanded their Climate Change Team. They are looking to update their research work on the comparative ability of habitats to lock up carbon. This will include new mapping for the UK.</p> <p>The SDNPA will need to support this work to a limited extent, and use the results to develop guidance for the South Downs to highlight current carbon sinks, and where the greatest potential is for carbon sequestration is across the Park.</p>	2020-2022 Ongoing Programme
<u>Meeting a 'Net-Zero' Carbon target for the National Park by 2040</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
Establishing a baseline for our Carbon Targets	<p>Commission a piece of joint work with the UK National Parks to establish a common approach to data and metrics.</p> <p>Establish a baseline from which we can monitor the effectiveness of our actions to cut emissions.</p> <p>Produce options that allow us to demonstrate different trajectories to achieving the 2040 target, and how it might be achieved. This should include a rapid-transition scenario so we can understand the scope for cutting emissions as rapidly as possible.</p> <p>Supplement this with some additional work to align us with the modelling and approach being used by our constituent LPAs. Obtain the BEIS data-set in a form that supports our work and is useable at National Park level.</p>	National Parks England, BEIS, SDNPA, UK National Parks and protected landscapes network.	This contract is in the process of being let, but we should have an updated set of emissions figures during 2020, and the contract will also include annual updates. By achieving a cost-benefit of this being a joint piece of work, it will cost us around £6-7K per annum to monitor progress.	2020-2021 Ongoing monitoring.

Working with our constituent Local Authorities	<p>Work more closely with our Local Authority partners on Climate Change actions. Help support and add value to their work through the delivery of our own Climate Change Action Plan.</p> <p>Establish links and working arrangements with Climate Change leads within Local Authorities and with important sector groups such as South East Climate Action (SECA). Work to co-ordinate climate action with key delivery partners.</p> <p>Work with our LA partners to establish common metrics and targets so we can make a clear contribution to delivering national and locally based targets.</p> <p>Promote the principle of achieving ‘Net Zero with Nature’ and the role that the National Park and nature-based solutions can play in helping them achieve their net-zero targets.</p> <p>Target project funding and environmental grant funding towards measures that increase resilience to a changing climate, support biodiversity and provide wider Ecosystem Service benefits.</p>	SDNPA, Local Planning Authorities, Sector Partners such as South East Climate Action (SECA).	<p>This is a new area of work for us, previously we have focussed on Adaptation Planning. The need to establish a ‘Net Zero’ target and trajectory requires us to work more closely with our constituent LPAs more closely on this.</p> <p>We are starting to engage and develop our networks in relation to this element of the Action Plan.</p> <p>CPM and Planning Team will need to secure additional staff time to ensure we can adequately cover this work. At present this represents a gap.</p> <p>CPM and Planning to do further work to establish the staff time and resourcing requirements around this work. OMT to assist with the resource planning.</p>	2020-2022
The role of the South Downs NPAs Planning Function	<p>Embed the principle of both Biodiversity and Environmental ‘net gain’ within the planning System through our Local Plan strategic policies.</p> <p>Make use of the SDNPA Green Infrastructure framework. Highlight areas for GI investment in and around the National Park.</p> <p>Promote Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS) to enhance the resilience of urban areas.</p> <p>Use our existing Local Plan policies to influence positive impact on landscape character and ecosystem function (Strategic Policy SD2).</p> <p>Encourage an increase in urban trees to provide ecosystem service benefits within towns and villages. Promote the value of trees, parks and other Green Infrastructure.</p> <p>Promote green corridors, high quality green spaces and street trees within the urban environment to improve capacity for regulating air quality, providing shade and helping to manage the ‘urban heat island’ effect at a local level.</p>	SDNPA, Local Authority Partners, Natural England, Environment Agency, Developers and Planning Agents.	<p>Much of this work will be delivered through our existing planning policies and Development Management processes.</p> <p>Some additional work required to embed the GI Framework effectively.</p> <p>Net-gain is likely to be mandated, and is supported by our Local Plan policies. Additional work needed between lead officers in planning and CPM/Strategy Leads to ensure join-up with the Nature Recovery Network.</p> <p>Possible to revise or strengthen Local Plan policies when it comes up for review.</p>	<p>Current Management Plan and Local Plan cycle.</p> <p>Carry Forward into next Management Plan cycle 2024-2030</p>
Sustainable Construction – Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	<p>Promote energy efficiency and sustainable building standards in terms of design, materials and site layout.</p> <p>Raise the bar in terms of design and build standards via the use of incentives i.e. CIL or other mechanism.</p>	SDNPA, MHCLG, Local Authority Partners, Natural England, Environment Agency, Developers and Planning Agents.	<p>Currently being developed and will shortly return to Planning Committee for approval. Then it will be a case of applying it.</p> <p>Work may be required to update this work when the opportunity arises – especially if Government moves to revise or strengthen building standards in the interim.</p>	<p>2020-2021</p> <p>Revisit in 2022-2023</p>

Development briefs for specific sites.	Develop design codes that result in more sustainable building and schemes, with the best design, layout and materials to make them resilient to climate change. Incorporate passive solar gain, PV, landscaping, grey water storage and other features.			
Call for sites – Carbon Sequestration	<p>Initiate a National Park wide call for recipient sites’ that looks to deliver carbon off-setting schemes that are ‘nature-based’.</p> <p>Map and assess sites and habitat areas in terms of their capacity to lock up carbon – as a component of a Nature Recovery Network.</p> <p>Identify areas that may be suitable for new tree planting, could protect important carbon sinks or create or link priority habitats.</p> <p>Consider the sites strategically across the National Park. Develop a means to assess and screen sites where they might have an unacceptable impact on the landscape, priority habitats or scheduled historic monuments.</p>	SDNPA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Wildlife & Woodland Trusts, Local Nature Partnerships, Farmers and Landowners, South Downs Woodland Partnership, Local Planning Authorities.	<p>Work from CPM and Planning Policy to design and deliver on a ‘call for sites’.</p> <p>This would need to be developed alongside work with our LNP partners so it supports the Natural Capital Investments Strategies.</p> <p>This could be progressed through the Landscape & Biodiversity Programme Board as it would support ‘Nature Recovery’ as well as Climate Change work.</p> <p>Additional staff time would be required from CPM and Planning to develop a way to screen the sites for their potential and any unintended impacts.</p>	2020-2022
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	<p>Develop the potential to use CIL funding to fund projects that directly address Climate Change mitigation or adaptation.</p> <p>Explore the possibility to use CIL as an incentive within the existing Planning System and whether this is possible under the current CIL regulations.</p>	SDNPA, MHCLG, Local Authority Partners, Developers and Planning Agents, Parish Councils.	The SDNPA could offer a CIL discount to homes, provided they were built to a recognised ‘carbon standard’. This would be a way to incentivise developers to raise the bar in terms of sustainable building and design.	2021-2022
<u>Working with our local communities.</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
Helping to develop resilient communities	<p>Extend the scope of volunteer capacity within Parishes and local groups to enhance community resilience to potential climate change impacts.</p> <p>Make use of our existing grant-in-aid schemes, such as the Sustainable Communities Fund (SCF) to help support Climate Change action at a local community level.</p> <p>Support Town and Parish Councils to become central point for sharing best practice / advice with local residents on making a positive contribution to climate change action.</p> <p>Increase resilience of local communities through greater use of green infrastructure within urban settlements.</p> <p>Analyse and review current community action to identify opportunities for adding value to existing projects to deliver climate change outcome and tackle the CC emergency</p>	SDNPA, Worthing Climate Action Network, South East Climate Alliance, Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC), Greater Brighton Energy Group, Community Land Trusts and Transition Town Groups.	<p>This represents a significant amount of new work for the SDNPA. There is a lot of action at a local level and an opportunity to support local groups to deliver on wider climate actions.</p> <p>At present our community engagement work is delivered through the Planning Team. Some elements of this work could be delivered through existing staff resource – but not all of it.</p> <p>We can apply learning from other outreach work from current spatial projects such as He-Re and Truleigh Hill.</p> <p>This represents a significant opportunity – but also a gap in terms of our resourcing.</p> <p>To support this additional level of community engagement – specifically on Climate Action, we will need to secure an additional resource.</p>	<p>2020-2025</p> <p>Ongoing Programme</p>

	<p>Promote best practice locally to encourage others to take up projects that can contribute to tackling climate change</p> <p>Work with partners such as the associations of local councils to provide training to support councils to become more active in tackling climate change.</p> <p>Share Best Practice – run annual events to promote what local Climate Change Action is happening.</p> <p>Run an annual event for Local Councils, Community Groups, and other organisations to share best practice with other community groups.</p> <p>Work with all town and parish councils to establish a database of local projects and share information and best practice.</p>		<p>CPM and Planning to do further work to establish the staff time and resourcing requirements around this work. OMT to assist with the resource planning.</p>	
Neighbourhood Planning	<p>Promote the development of “Net zero” Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>Support Neighbourhood plan groups during the review cycle and focus on ‘zero-carbon’ plans, community energy and other climate action.</p> <p>Encourage land allocations and designations which can tackle climate change, this could include tree planting on local green spaces, community facilities and renewable energy schemes.</p> <p>Produce planning guidance to demonstrate how small scale improvements could be such as sustainable urban drainage, rain gardens, habitat creation and enhancements.</p> <p>Encourage local action within parishes and other community groups that supports the delivery of wider Climate Change targets</p> <p>Develop this approach within a couple of pilot areas, either clusters of Parishes or community groups who are keen to deliver an exemplar scheme.</p>	SDNPA, Parish Councils, Local Planning Authority Partners, Developers and Planning Agents, Parish Councils.	<p>At present the Neighbourhood Planning element of our work is delivered through the Planning Team. This may be achievable through the existing staff structure, though additional work would be needed to develop a template for ‘Net Zero’ plans at this local level.</p> <p>CPM and Planning to do further work to establish the staff time and resourcing requirements around this work. OMT to assist with the resource planning.</p>	2020-2025
‘Net Zero’ carbon targets at a Parish and local community level.	<p>Work with town and parish councils to audit their own buildings / operations to identify opportunities for improved performance.</p> <p>Encourage land allocations and designations which can tackle climate change, this could include tree planting on local green spaces, community facilities and renewable energy schemes.</p> <p>Working with a small number of pilot communities to establish the CO2 emissions of their own operations. Establish action plans to improve energy performance.</p>	SDNPA, Worthing Climate Action Network, South East Climate Alliance, Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC), Greater Brighton Energy Group, Community Land Trusts and Transition Town Groups.	<p>This represents a significant amount of new work for the SDNPA. There is a lot of action at a local level and an opportunity to support local groups to deliver on wider climate actions.</p> <p>This represents a significant opportunity – but also a gap in terms of our resourcing. We will need to secure an additional resource to achieve this element of the Action Plan.</p>	2020-2025

	<p>Encourage communities to use their CIL receipt and other sources of funding to improve their own environmental performance and contribute to their wider parish CO2 reductions.</p> <p>Promote best practice locally to encourage others to making a positive contribution to climate change action.</p> <p>Help support communities that are ready and willing to make a fast transition to 'Net Zero'. Use these communities as exemplars for others to learn from and follow.</p> <p>Engage effectively with Local Climate Action Groups and citizens assemblies where they exist across the National Park.</p>		<p>CPM and Planning to do further work to establish the staff time and resourcing requirements around this work. OMT to assist with the resource planning.</p>	
Developing Community Energy schemes within the National Park.	<p>Development a network of Climate Change 'Champions' to promote best practice and deliver local training and support.</p> <p>Establish a Community Energy programme and encourage local action via the allocation of CIL money.</p> <p>Focus on communities that are ready to move fast – and keen to make rapid transition to a low-carbon future i.e./ in terms of shifting away from oil fired heating to local scale renewable.</p> <p>Ensure local communities and businesses can access benefits from delivering carbon storage, renewable energy generation and other low carbon activity.</p> <p>Encourage uptake of micro-generation and community based renewable projects that minimises the impact on the South Downs Landscape.</p>	SDNPA, Ovesco, Community Energy groups, Local Authority Partners, Renewable Energy Companies, Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC), Greater Brighton Energy Group, Community Land Trusts and Transition Town Groups, Parish Councils and Landowners.	<p>This represents a significant amount of new work for the SDNPA. There is a lot of action at a local level and an opportunity to support local groups to deliver on wider climate actions.</p> <p>This represents a significant opportunity – but also a gap in terms of our resourcing. We will need to secure an additional resource to achieve this element of the Action Plan.</p> <p>CPM and Planning to do further work to establish the staff time and resourcing requirements around this work. OMT to assist with the resource planning.</p>	<p>2020-2025</p> <p>Carry Forward into next Management Plan cycle 2024-2030</p>
Community Lottery - Climate Action Fund Bid	<p>Work with Community Groups and Local Authority partners to Submit a successful bid to the Action Fund.</p> <p>Bring together community projects and organisations to take climate Action, over five years, focus on people least engaged at present.</p> <p>Support those community groups and organisations to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take practical action now; • Maintain and increase ecological resilience; • Accommodate change - Integrate across all sectors; • Develop knowledge and plan strategically. <p>Apply learning from the project to inform our community Engagement efforts across other areas of the National Park.</p>	SDNPA, South Downs Trust, Ovesco, Community Energy groups, Local Authority Partners, Greater Brighton Energy Group, Community Land Trusts and Transition Town Groups, Parish Councils and Landowners.	<p>Proposal submitted to the Climate Action Fund with support from the External Funding Team. Going for development phase funding.</p> <p>The development funding ask will be for c£100k-£150k over 12 months.</p> <p>Will include a project officer to add capacity. This is needed to support further work and ensure a robust and deliverable project</p>	2020-2025

<u>Historic Environment & Archaeology</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
	<p>Improve data and evidence on the climate change impacts upon designated heritage assets across the National Park. Use this data to develop solutions that enhance the resilience of historic assets and help protect them for the future.</p> <p>Support for historic environment research into climate change impacts within the National Park.</p> <p>Engage with sector leaders around dialogues linked to “curated loss”, linking with communications and engagement.</p> <p>Support socially engaged arts projects that seek to engage the public with climate change, adaptation and individual action.</p> <p>Public engagement with positive approaches to building adaptation (where appropriate), and value of natural / historic materials in built structures, by signposting to specialist guidance.</p>	SDNPA, Historic England, HERs and Heritage Groups	<p>This would need to be delivered through the work of CPM and the relevant Strategy Lead. Further work required by CPM Managers to assess the time/resource requirements of this element of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Potentially deliverable with our existing level of resources.</p>	2020-2025
<u>Engagement and Outreach</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
SDNP Learning Network	<p>Extend the scope of volunteer capacity within Parishes and local groups to enhance community resilience to potential climate change impacts.</p> <p>Focus on climate change as a key area for collaboration across the education sector.</p> <p>Develop new ways to frame our communication with young audiences that are sensitive to the need to minimise the potential for eco-anxiety in young people.</p> <p>Collaborate on a workshop for learning providers in supporting learning about climate change.</p>	SDNPA, Learning Network, Schools and Education sector partners, Sustainability Centre,	<p>Three events are planned or have been delivered within or close to the SDNP this year: Ditcham Park School have run a Hopeful Earth Conference for students, The Sustainability Centre are planning an Earth Protectors conference for teachers with Ann Finlayson, SEED, giving the keynote, and Brighton and Hove Environmental Education (BHEE) are running a Climate Change Teachers Twilight.</p> <p>The SDNP Learning Network has asked for a workshop for learning providers in supporting learning about climate change and the SDNPA will look to convene a workshop for this network in summer 2020.</p>	<p>2020-2021</p> <p>Ongoing Programme.</p>
<u>Transport & Sustainable Access</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
Work alongside local Highways Authorities to develop sustainable travel schemes and deliver the best 'low-carbon' options for connecting into the National Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with our sector partners to encourage provision of facilities, opportunities and incentives to allow for reduced carbon travel. Working with partners to identify clear carbon budgets and actions and timescale needed to get to net zero in line with government deadline. 	SDNPA, Highways Authorities, Highways England, Public Transport Providers, Access and Amenity Groups, Local Access Forum	<p>This would need to be delivered through the work of CPM and the relevant Strategy Lead. Further work required by CPM Managers to assess the time/resource requirements of this element of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Potentially deliverable with our existing level of resources – though NSIPs may require additional resources to be drawn in at times. This is especially the case if a PPA is agreed with Highways England or its agents.</p>	<p>2020-2025</p> <p>Ongoing Programme</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change attitudes to transport and support the shift to low-carbon travel, support and encourage people to go ‘car free’ during their visit to the National Parks. • Build and promote off road cycle infrastructure and electric public transport networks. 			
<u>Rural Economy & Tourism</u>				
Objective	Potential Actions	Lead Partner/Partnership	Resources	Target Date
Support rural businesses to adapt their business operations, improve their sustainability, and boost their contribution to the SDNP local economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an enterprise network as the vehicle to allow communication between SDNPA and the NP businesses. The network will facilitate the delivery of our climate change aspirations. • Deliver a business engagement strategy that helps businesses to decrease their carbon footprint, and improve their operational sustainability. • Help to promote the SDNPA as a ‘Low carbon’ destination and work with businesses who can help us deliver on this. • Work with the Responsible Travel partnership to promote places to stay which can demonstrate their environmental sustainability. • Broaden the membership of Green Tourism and other accreditation schemes. 	SDNPA, Responsible Travel Partnership, Tourism Providers, National Parks England and the Tourism Officers Group.	<p>This would need to be delivered through the work of CPM and the relevant Strategy Lead. Further work required by CPM Managers to assess the time/resource requirements of this element of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Potentially deliverable with our existing level of resources</p>	<p>2020-2025</p> <p>Ongoing Programme</p>

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Climate Change Action Fund – Details of the HLF Scheme funding

The Climate Action Fund will support communities across the UK to take action on climate change. These communities will demonstrate what is possible when people take the lead in tackling climate change. With National Lottery funding, they will work together, share their learning and be active participants in a broader movement of change.

Area: UK-wide

Suitable for: Community-led partnerships - see the full list of eligibility criteria below

Total available: £100 million over 10 years (see Funding Expectations below)

Application deadline: Full proposals must be submitted by midday Friday 27 March 2020.

Aim of the fund

To reduce the carbon footprint of communities. A broader movement of change will enable communities to do this within and beyond the communities we fund. We are now open for an initial round of funding applications. In this initial round, we will support up to 15 place-based community-led partnerships to make the changes in their community they believe will have the biggest impact on climate change.

Funding expectations

- Applicants who need more time to develop their partnership, engage widely or test their approaches can access initial development funding (up to £200,000 over 18 months)
- Applicants who might be able to start longer-term plans at an earlier stage can access larger, longer-term awards (up to £2.5m over five years)
- Successful applicants will have experience in implementing meaningful action on climate change
- HLF expect to fund a mix of different places, communities, themes and initiatives, across the UK
- The first round will help shape further rounds of funding available at a later stage.

What HLF want to see

- **Community-led:** Projects to be led and driven by local groups with an understanding of local needs. Ideas will have been developed by involving the people who will benefit.
- **Working in partnership:** Projects will be delivered through place-based community-led partnerships bringing together a wide range of people and organisations with a shared vision of what local climate change action should look like. Partnerships will be expected to put in place an agreement as to how they will work together.
- **High impact:** Our funding will focus on activities that have the potential to make a meaningful and lasting difference on the carbon footprint of communities. This includes action on sustainable energy, sustainable transport, consumption (food and waste), and the natural environment.
- **Lasting impact:** To reduce the impact of climate change, it is important that the changes made are sustainable beyond the funding we might give. Long-term changes in behaviour, ways of working and practices need to be at the core of all local climate action activities.
- **Reach:** Partnerships need to engage with people outside of those already taking action on climate change in their local communities, and beyond.
- **Learning and engagement:** We will expect partnerships to produce and share their learning from the start, regularly, and be active participants in a broader movement of change.

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