

| Delivering 'Net Zero with Nature' – Responding to the challenge of Climate Change with nature based solutions | | | | |
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| 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>National Research Bodies: LWEC, NERC and CEH.</p> <p>SDNPA Research Hub and Universities.</p> <p>(Development of case studies based in the South Downs)</p> | <p>Work required to define the research priorities – especially where there are known gaps such as the impacts upon the Historic Environment.</p> <p>Additional time/resource required from the Research & Evidence Team (CPM) to take this forward.</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> |

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| | <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> | |
| <p>Nature Recovery Network (NRN)</p> | <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> | <p>SDNPA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Wildlife & Woodland Trusts, Local Nature Partnerships, Farmers and Landowners, Local Planning Authorities.</p> | <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> |

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| | <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> | | <p>Additional time/resource required from the Research & Evidence Team (CPM) to take this forward.</p> | |
| <p>New woodland planting</p> | <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> | <p>SDNPA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Wildlife & Woodland Trusts, Local Nature Partnerships, Farmers and Landowners, South Downs Woodland Partnership, Local Planning Authorities.</p> | <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> | <p>2020-2021</p> |

| Meeting a 2030 'Net-Zero' target for the National Park Authority | | | | |
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| 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 |
| Working with other National Parks – Climate Change & Energy Group | | | | |
| 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 |

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| | <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> | | <p>additional staff time to support and is over and above the current allocation.</p> | |
| 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. | <p>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.</p> | <p>2020-21</p> <p>Ongoing Programme</p> |
| 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> | <p>2020-2022</p> <p>Ongoing Programme</p> |
| <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. | <p>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.</p> | <p>2020-2021</p> <p>Ongoing monitoring.</p> |

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| <p>Working with our constituent Local Authorities</p> | <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> | <p>SDNPA, Local Planning Authorities, Sector Partners such as South East Climate Action (SECA).</p> | <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> | <p>2020-2022</p> |
| <p>The role of the South Downs NPAs Planning Function</p> | <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> | <p>SDNPA, Local Authority Partners, Natural England, Environment Agency, Developers and Planning Agents.</p> | <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> |
| <p>Sustainable Construction – Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)</p> | <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> | <p>SDNPA, MHCLG, Local Authority Partners, Natural England, Environment Agency, Developers and Planning Agents.</p> | <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> |

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| 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> |

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| | <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 |

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| | <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> | |
| <p>Developing Community Energy schemes within the National Park.</p> | <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> | <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> | <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> |
| <p>Community Lottery - Climate Action Fund Bid</p> | <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> | <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> | <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> | <p>2020-2025</p> |

| Historic Environment & Archaeology | | | | |
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| 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 |
| Engagement and Outreach | | | | |
| 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> | 2020-2021 Ongoing Programme. |
| Transport & Sustainable Access | | | | |
| 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> | 2020-2025 Ongoing Programme |

| | <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. | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Rural Economy & Tourism | | | | |
| 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> |