

South Downs National Park

Partnership Management Plan (2020 – 2025)

Outcomes & Priorities

Outcome 1: Landscape and Natural Beauty

The landscape character of the South Downs, its special qualities, natural beauty and local distinctiveness have been conserved and enhanced by avoiding or mitigating the negative impacts of development and cumulative change.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

1.1 Protect landscape character

To protect and enhance the natural beauty and character of the SDNP and seek environmental net-gain from any infrastructure projects.

1.2 Create Green Infrastructure

To improve green and blue infrastructure to deliver nature recovery networks and connect people to nature within and around the National Park.

1.3 Target new payments

To maximise environmental, cultural and economic benefits of agri-environment and forestry schemes across the National Park.

Outcome 2: Increasing Resilience

There is increased resilience within the landscape for its natural resources, habitats and species to adapt to the impacts of climate change and other pressures.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

2.1 Improve soil and water

To improve soil and water by reducing soil erosion, improving carbon capture and filtration and reconnecting wetland habitats.



2.2 Improve trees and woodland

To improve the resilience and quality and quantity of trees and woodlands in the National Park and ensure that the right tree is planted in the right place.

Outcome 3: Habitats & Species

A thriving and connected network of habitats and increased population and distribution of priority species now exist in the National Park.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

3.1 Join up habitats

To create, restore and improve areas of priority habitat to be more, bigger, better, and joined up at a landscape scale.

3.2 Manage priority and invasive species

To increase the genetic diversity and resilience of target species and implement a landscape scale strategy for tackling invasive species, pests and diseases.

Outcome 4: Arts & Heritage

Cultural heritage of the National Park is enhanced and widely understood and enjoyed.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

4.1 Conserve heritage

To increase conservation, awareness, access to and understanding of South Downs cultural heritage.

4.2 Promote contemporary arts and crafts

To promote creativity and understanding of the landscape and traditions of the South Downs through contemporary arts and crafts.



Outcome 5: Outstanding experience for all

Outstanding experiences for communities and visitors are supported by high quality access and sustainable transport networks.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

5.1 Everyone's National Park

To encourage everyone to experience the National Park and widen participation for under-represented groups through targeted activities and promotion.

5.2 Improve accessibility

To improve accessibility through a network of high quality routes connecting communities with the landscape, heritage, attractions and transport hubs and gateways.

5.3 Encourage Sustainable Transport

To encourage sustainable access into and around the National Park, encouraging the retention and expansion of rural transport services.

Outcome 6: Lifelong Learning

There is widespread understanding of the special qualities of the National Park and the benefits it provides.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

6.1 Provide outdoor learning for young people

To provide high-quality outdoor learning opportunities as part of a locally relevant curriculum.

Outcome 7: Health and Wellbeing

The National Park is a well-used and recognised asset for sustaining mental and physical health and wellbeing.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

7.1 Improve health and wellbeing



To develop initiatives which enable local communities and individuals to improve health and wellbeing.

Outcome 8: Creating Custodians

More responsibility and action is taken by visitors, communities and businesses to conserve and enhance the special qualities and use resources more wisely.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

8.1 Increase volunteering

To increase and diversify volunteering opportunities that support the National Park.

Outcome 9: Great Places to Live

Communities in the National Park are more sustainable with an appropriate provision of housing to address local needs and improved access to essential services and facilities.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

9.1 Increase affordable housing

To increase affordable housing stock in the National Park, with focus on exemplary design and using local sustainable materials.

9.2 Support vibrant communities

To support community-led initiatives which enhance the towns, villages and landscapes of the National Park.

9.3 Improve digital infrastructure

To support improvement in digital infrastructure, speed and coverage throughout the National Park.



Outcome 10: Great places to work

A diverse, sustainable, dynamic economy that is positively linked to the special qualities of the National Park.

For this outcome priorities for the next five years are:

10.1 Strengthen enterprise

To strengthen and support sustainably managed land-based industries and local enterprise.

10.2 Increase destination awareness

To increase awareness and desirability of the National Park as a special place to visit.

10.3 Promote sustainable tourism

To establish the National Park as an exemplar in sustainable tourism.

