National Park Authorities also have a strong record of providing high-quality training and delivering apprenticeships, and have been involved in the design and development of several Trailblazer Apprenticeships, from historic environment investigation to traditional countryside management.

In recent years dedicated National Park staff, working in strong partnerships with other bodies and local communities, have secured millions of pounds worth of external funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and charitable trusts. This funding supports vital work to conserve and enhance our historic environment, whilst providing educational, health and recreational opportunities and helping local economies to thrive and grow.

National Parks are incredibly special places. Their heritage is a national asset recognised worldwide. Understanding, conserving and communicating the stories of these cultural landscapes is integral to protecting them, allowing us to realise their potential and, by so doing, enriching the lives of all of those who live in or visit National Parks today and in the future.
Special landscapes shaped by people

**Carew Castle, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park**

Prehistoric hunter-gatherers at the end of the last Ice Age to some of the finest Bronze Age landscapes in Western Europe. National Parks also protect some of the best preserved Roman military structures, castles and hunting forests of medieval monarchs, beautiful 19th century designed landscapes, and historic, mines and quarries, some of which are still in use today. However, National Parks protect a rich and distinctive vernacular architecture, with buildings, farmsteads and villages comprised of local materials such as stone, slate, and thatch that create a unique sense of place and identity. These vernacular remains form the story of England, Scotland, and Wales and are key factors in retaining locals, investment and tourism.

Fifteen percent of all designated heritage assets lie within National Parks. This, however, represents only a fraction of the total resource as new discoveries are constantly being made. The historic environment makes it a truly distinctive part of the United Kingdom. The landscape has inspired poets and artists and contributing significantly to the nation’s rich cultural legacy.

The UK’s National Parks are amongst the finest and most treasured landscapes, rightly recognised for their tranquillity, special wildlife and unique habitats. They are also national landscapes, shaped by human activity over thousands of years. These living, working landscapes have, in turn, influenced local and national identity, inspiring writers, poets, local artists and contributing significantly to the nation’s rich cultural legacy.

**DARTMOOR**

Prehistoric hunter-gatherers and farmers, medieval miners, and soldiers have all left their mark on Dartmoor. The result is a cultural landscape containing a wealth of heritage where Gaelic place names give meaning to the mountains, waterworks, rivers, and settlements. Dartmoor provides the excitement of discovery whilst delivering opportunities for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

**LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS**

From World Heritage Site to a rich Industrial World Heritage Site. This spectacular cultural heritage includes a World Heritage Site has stimulated poets and artists including Sir Walter Scott, Sir Walter Raleigh, and Sir Walter Pater for centuries and continues to inspire the millions who visit it each year.

**KENTUCKY**

Established as a royal Norman hunting ground in 1138-1183, and enlarged in the late 19th century, the landscape has inspired such cultural figures as Thomas Hardy, H. Rider Haggard and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The landscape has been managed as a National Heritage Site since 1936 and has been mapped since 2006, with hundreds of archaeological sites identified, including more than 3,000 prehistoric sites, fine Medieval villages and Victorian industrial heritage sites. The landscape has been designated as a World Heritage Site because of its cultural landscapes and significant industrial heritage.