

# Shaping the Future(s Group)

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PLANNING SESSION WITH CORE GROUP MEMBERS

# Futures Group: our purpose

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- The Futures Group provides an **opportunity for Board members to contribute to early thinking on strategic topics** or significant projects **prior to further development by officers** and **subsequent Board decision-making**.
- The group will provide a **working forum to host discussions** and **encourage innovative thinking** in issues of significant importance for the National Park and its stakeholders.
- The management of **resulting workstreams and projects will be scrutinized in other areas of Governance** as appropriate.

*[Board paper including Terms of Reference](#)*

# Futures Group: our responsibilities

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- To **contribute to early thinking** and to support the development of strategy and policies or significant projects;
- To **provide support to officers** by making **best use of skills, expertise and networks held by Board members**;
- To enable ongoing support and advice to relevant lead officers through **identifying and appointing a Board member champion** for a particular topic or project;
- To identify **external partners, stakeholders or expertise** who can **support strategic thinking and innovation**;
- To **guide the inception of work areas** to ensure **Board expectations and priorities are understood**;
- To enable the **best use of data insights and design thinking** to tackle challenging issues

*[Board paper including Terms of Reference](#)*

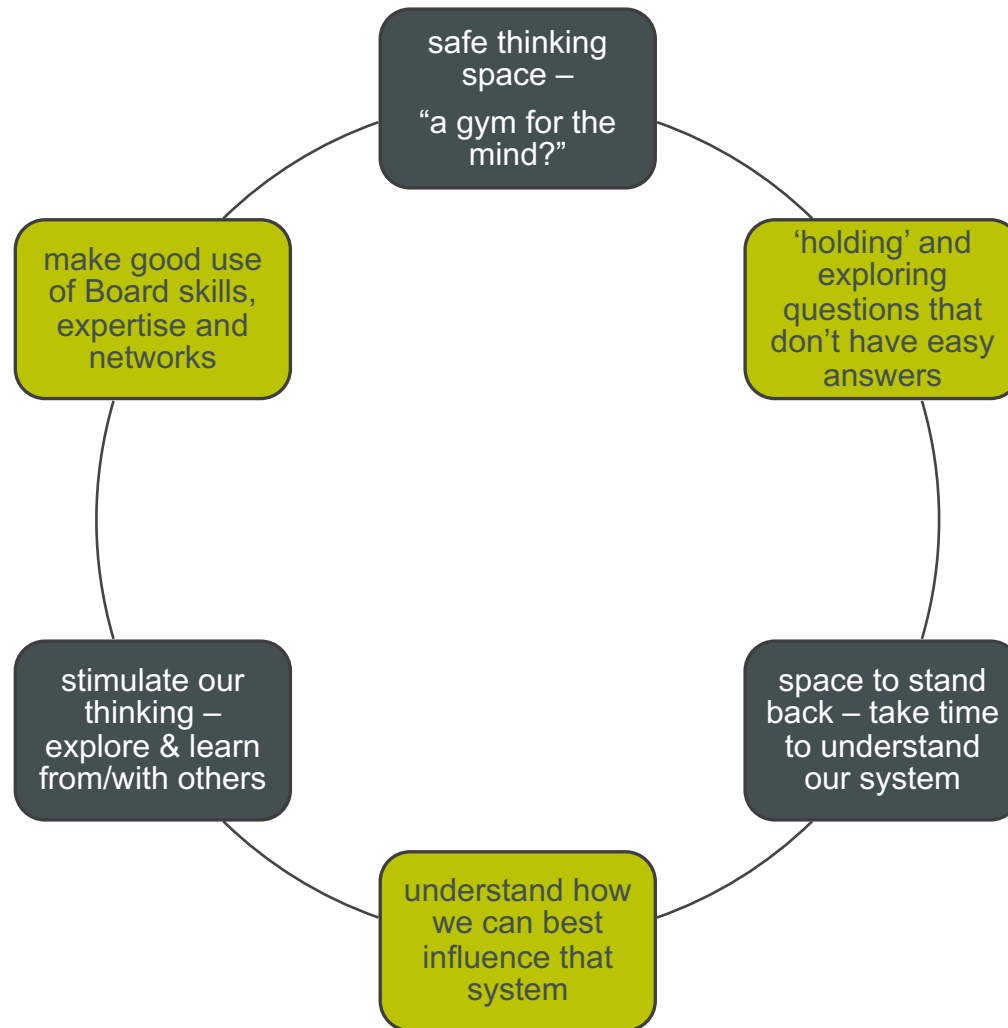
# Futures Group: meetings and membership

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- The Group **will operate flexibly** to **host bespoke working meetings tailored to the needs of the topic** to be discussed.
- The Group will receive **presentations and run facilitated discussion sessions** rather than have agendas and reports.
- Meetings will not be minuted but **a note of the main findings, conclusions or guidance** resulting from discussions will be recorded.
- The Group will have an **appointed Chair and Depute Chair** and a **standing membership of up to five members**.
  - The Chair will agree with the lead officer the topics and best timings of meetings with a **minimum of four being held each year**.
  - The **quorum for a meeting will be any 3 members**, should the Chair or Depute Chair not be present a Chair will be appointed from the members present.
  - **All Board members and a representative of the Youth Committee will be invited** to attend meetings with attendance being optional according to whether the topic is of interest.
  - A **lead officer will facilitate support for meetings** from the relevant officer team for the topic to be discussed.

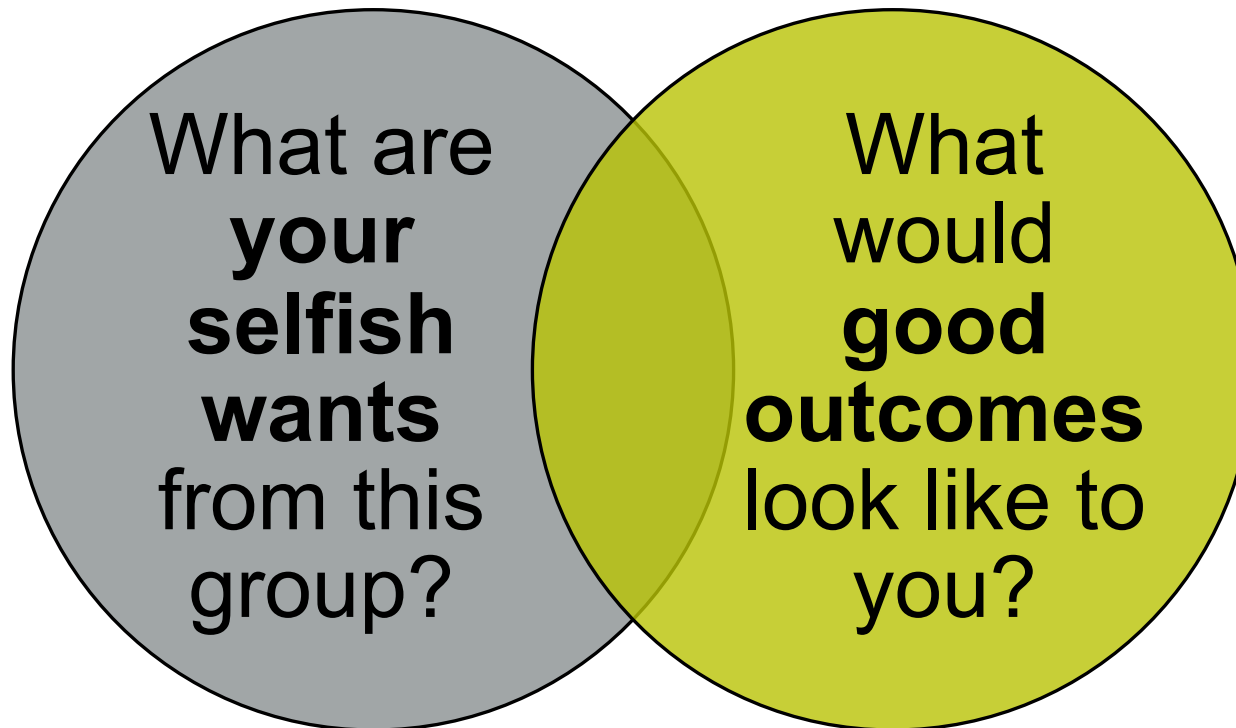
*[Board paper including Terms of Reference](#)*

# Futures Group: some thoughts to discuss



# Futures Group: sharing our thoughts

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# Futures Group: suggested topics to explore

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- The future of sustainable/visitor transport
  - Making the most of the multiple benefits this could bring
  - Understanding the system and what can help bring the modal shift that is needed
- The role of digital post-pandemic
  - A focus on digital service delivery for the Park Authority
- Planning for climate and nature
  - What more can planning do?
- Our role as a Regional Land Use pilot

# Futures Group: making it work

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- Meeting schedule driven by the topics
  - Needs to help at a time when officers are developing early thinking
  - Diary time secured but not always used for full sessions
- Not necessarily one session per topic – some may require more exploration
- Need to be clear on when a topic gets ‘handed over’ into normal organisational/Board governance
  - Ensures the Futures Group stays focused on the exploratory early stages
- How do we make the most of Board expertise, networks and connections?