

Complete	On Track	Behind Schedule	At Risk	Postponed to 2022/23	Cancelled
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AOP Activity	AOP Deliverable	Progress Report (May 2021)	Rating
1: Taking and inspiring action to address the global climate emergency			
1.1 Start to implement our Mission Zero Route Map to be a net zero organisation by 2030	Develop a detailed implementation plan for the next two to three years of investment and change within the National Park Authority	Work has focussed on the governance and engagement planning and structure for the Mission Zero team. This has now been approved and we will shortly be moving towards project team creation, to allow for a co-ordinated approach to delivery across the organisation. The primary task for this group is the finalisation of the implementation and engagement plan for the next three years.	On track
	Deliver infrastructure upgrades across our estate including heat pump installations, new electric vehicle charging points, and lighting upgrades	Report from our Mechanical & Electrical consultants has been reviewed and early discussions with the project team are commencing to agree the project plan for delivery.	On Track
	Review our fleet requirements and create a new management strategy for our road vehicles to identify how we will electrify our fleet and curtail petrol/diesel along the way	Starting to plan review of requirements work. Draft Fleet Audit Report received and being reviewed. This will inform the fleet management strategy on areas relating to the electrification of our fleet.	On Track

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	Engage our staff, Board, and volunteers to support and encourage positive behaviour changes to reduce emissions, including through a review of our organisational policies	A behaviour change framework was agreed by the Mission Zero steering group, which is being used to underpin the development of the engagement programme. Following an introductory presentation at the March 10:02, more detailed team sessions are proposed for summer onwards.	On Track
1.2 Work with our partners to deliver strategic change across the National Park	Build momentum for coordinated climate action within the National Park	Since the launch of the Mission Zero route map, we have spent time developing our strategic network of partners. Many are interested in our own internal Mission Zero work, but also in developing conversations about co-ordinating climate action within the National Park itself.	On track
	Leverage opportunities that the UN's COP26 in Glasgow provides	A working group is being set up to coordinate our presence around COP26. We are liaising with partners within the UK National Parks group, across the EELG portfolio and with interested partners who are keen to work with us to showcase the important role National Parks can play in a healthy climate and nature rich future.	On track
	Fund and support the Countryside Trust to work with communities and other stakeholders to develop and deliver local action for climate, nature and active travel.	The Countryside Trust core funding agreement for 21/22 has been signed. Discussions about a Wild Strathfillan delivery programme are underway. The Countryside Trust's focus so far has been on project development, funding and governance with recruitment for new Board members to represent communities underway.	On track

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1.3 Integrate land use and development planning to help address climate and nature emergencies	Complete the Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy and the Strathard Framework	<p>The indicative Regional Spatial Strategy was reviewed in light of feedback received from the Scottish Government and a second round of informal stakeholder engagement undertaken with adjoining planning authorities. No changes were made to the indicative draft as it remains robust in terms of content to inform the Government's preparation of National Planning Framework 4.</p> <p>The Strathard Framework draft document has now been published for public consultation with a closing date for comments of 28 June 2021.</p>	On track
	Start the Regional Land Use Partnership pilot process	Discussions are on-going with Scottish Government to finalise the scope of the project specification and outputs of the Pilot. Once the final specification is confirmed an internal project team will be developed.	On track
	Start to consider how future development could contribute to a zero carbon National Park as part of the new Local Development Plan	Early scoping and project plan to be developed.	On track
2: Restoring and protecting nature in the National Park			
2.1 Develop a future strategy for nature	Develop a Future Nature Route Map including more ambitious landscape-scale nature restoration projects	Draft outline Route Map to come to June Board meeting.	On track

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2.2 Deliver Nature-Based Solutions projects.	Undertake peatland restoration and native woodland expansion projects	<p>We are pleased to report that Scottish Government have confirmed capital budget allocations for the next four years for delivery of peatland restoration which will enable us to deliver projects on a multi-year funding basis.</p> <p>Four peatland restoration projects are forecast for this year with two of the four sites already having restoration plans drawn up with a view to going out to tender in June to deliver in the region of 260ha of restoration.</p> <p>We continue to handle initial enquiries about potential native woodland creation schemes, with approximately 60ha discussed to date.</p>	On track
	Deliver targeted Wild Park projects and further develop a programme of funder-ready proposals.	<p>Wild Park Steering Group held beginning of April to discuss priorities for 21/22.</p> <p>Projects for control of invasive rhododendron, riparian INNS control, mink and grey squirrels are in place. Further projects and programmes to be delivered this year are progressing.</p>	On track
2.3 Broaden our engagement to lead diverse groups in valuing and taking action for nature	Provide easy ways for all visitors to the National Park to demonstrate and share their respect for nature during their visit	Responsible visiting campaign underway from April 2020 providing advice and examples of positive visitor behaviour and respect for nature. This is using targeted messaging and working with new stakeholder groups to extend reach to a broader audience.	On track

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	Deliver our Junior Ranger programme, engage young people, and fund the education travel grant	Since the easing of restrictions we are getting an increasing number of requests for engagement both online and in person within the National Park. This includes a Junior Ranger programme with the Vale of Leven school, support for an outdoor nature engagement summer programme for families within WDC, and many schools and outreach groups.	On track
	Support our volunteers in delivering more for nature	Volunteering is gradually able to open up again as restrictions ease. We have had active volunteers undertaking litter picks, biodiversity surveys and also now Visitor Engagement. Our volunteers are sharing our key messages around nature and climate and as a team we have worked to reduce the impact of volunteering on our organisational emissions. Work is also ongoing to develop engagement with a range of biodiversity monitoring tools, both for outcomes for nature and also those associated with citizen science and connection with the natural world.	On track
3: Working collaboratively on positive solutions to growing visitor numbers			
3.1 Provide clear, consistent, and accessible visitor information	Implement our Joint Response Visitor Management Plan with partners, including shared engagement, infrastructure, and enforcement actions	Partner meetings undertaken on a weekly basis to ensure that plan is on track and being adhered to. All partners have increased field staff capacity for visitor management including positive engagement and enforcement where necessary.	On Track

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	Provide strategic guidance on national visitor management communications and create engaging National Park-focused campaigns	Strategic guidance being fed into national visitor management communications. National Park Visitor Management Communications Plan agreed with partners and implementation began mid-March 2021 with key campaign activity underway on responsible visiting including new video and blog content as well as significant media coverage on Joint Response Visitor Management Plan, Litter collections and mental health connections to nature.	On Track
3.2 Improve visitor services infrastructure	Create a multi-year capital investment plan that considers what strategic investment would better support sustainable visitor management in the National Park	Initial project scoping and refinement underway and governance structure being developed. Two RTIF submissions worth a total of £70k submitted for Infrastructure development plans for West and East Loch Lomond.	On Track
	Undertake specific improvements such as car park and path improvements, as well as identify a new tenant for our Luss Visitor Centre.	Liaison is underway with FLS to provide additional parking provision at Rowardennan giving approximately 50 additional spaces for people visiting Ben Lomond. Tender process for new tenant at Luss Visitor Centre well advanced.	On Track
	Further our work on income generation for the West Highland Way	Successful fundraising has extended the WHW Business Development role to April 2022, enabling advertising, retail and licencing work by the WHW Management Group to continue and allowing time for the partners to explore charitable status and sponsorship in 2021-22.	On Track

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	Deploy temporary measures to alleviate pandemic-related visitor volume pressures	The new NPA Environment Officers, Seasonal Weekend Support Assistant and Rangers have improved the resilience and quality of our service. Additional temporary toilet capacity has been provided at key visitor hotspots. Liaison is ongoing with community groups and charities who have bid for the Better Places Safer Communities Fund who are looking at various measures including; field staff, litter bin provision and additional car parking spaces.	On Track
3.3 Implement the National Park Litter Prevention Strategy	Develop and deliver priority projects and targeted interventions, including those informed by engagement with the Litter Prevention Action Group	<p>Successful delivery of focused month-long effort on litter, as priority action ahead of the rest of the visitor season. Overall 1200 bags of litter collected by NPA staff, and a joint focus on the A82 with Argyll and Bute Council and partnership to support Keep Scotland Beautiful's Summer Clean pledge. NPA leading on litter communications within the visitor management campaign as the preference of local authority partners.</p> <p>Environment Officers deployment progressing well with two days per week dedicated to cross-Park work, supporting partners / land owners where possible and assistance requested.</p> <p>Scoping and agreement of subsequent priorities within next LPAG meeting.</p>	On Track

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	Support regular, self-led volunteering activities, subject to COVID-19 restrictions.	<p>Programme of NPA delivered volunteering created, starting in May with fortnightly opportunities rolling across areas within the National Park, equalling 10 events total with 6 spaces on each.</p> <p>In addition, partner organisation volunteering opportunities established targeting specific areas or in development to cover partner's estates (FLS). NPA supported two community clean ups with waste uplift and equipment where a direct request for help was received. Engaging with local authority partners to restart their own volunteering.</p>	On Track
3.4 Explore and pilot sustainable visitor transport services	Develop strategic thinking on how to deliver transport services and infrastructure that will promote modal shift from private car use to access congested places	<p>Futures Group meetings held to develop conversations and internal strategic thinking.</p> <p>Work underway on specification and brief for National Park wide Sustainable Transport and mobility study similar to a successful piece of work in Snowdonia.</p>	On Track
	Work with partners to develop and deliver new transport pilot projects, subject to pandemic restrictions	<p>Application submitted to Smarter Choices Smarter Places for a Visitor Sustainable Transport Coordination project which includes a new 1 year post.</p> <p>New regular conversations being shared with Local Authorities and Regional Transport Partnerships.</p>	On Track
4: Making our organisation, our people, and the National Park more resilient through a green recovery			

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4.1 Support the resilience of communities and the local economy in the National Park	Engage with communities to understand their priorities and work closely with public and third sector partners to coordinate support	Communities Team work plan has been revised in light of new working arrangements since closure of the Community Partnership. Initial contact is being made with Community Development Trusts. Meetings have begun with key partners including Development Trust Association Scotland, Stirling Council and Stirling Voluntary Enterprise. Engagement with Communities, including Community Councils, is being reviewed as part of wider stakeholder engagement planning. Support is being given to the Countryside Trust as it begins to build relationships with NP communities.	On Track
	Use the National Park grant schemes and our planning role to support green recovery projects	The National Park Grant Schemes are being refreshed under a Green Recovery Fund banner with an increased budget.	On track
4.2 Use local place-making to support a green recovery in the National Park	Support more communities to prepare their own Community Place Plans to identify local place making priorities and actions needed to support lower carbon living and working within the Park	<p>Ongoing support to Killin, Strathfillan and Balquhider, Lochearnhead and Strathyre as they undertake their plans. Various techniques and support measures being offered to help evaluate our ongoing support role and refine this.</p> <p>Internal team lessons learned session undertaken to identify approach this year as well as key areas where communities are needing support, including climate awareness and literacy.</p>	On track

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	Support the Destination Group, consisting of National Park tourism businesses, to help respond to the challenges and opportunities of the year ahead	Increased engagement with the group is already in place on re-opening and recovery plans, national grant support schemes, and visitor management improvements. Recovery planning 2021-22 will collate the support and opportunities available including tool kits; events; joint marketing and funding opportunities including RTIF and NPA's Green Recovery Fund.	On track
	Support delivery of Callander's Landscape	<p>Focus has turned to delivery planning for remaining capital projects over the remaining term of the project as well as legacy planning.</p> <p>Visitor Management Strategy finalised and agreed by all partners as sound basis from which all partners can collaborate and establish strong legacy from CLP.</p> <p>Highly successful online engagement delivered whilst adhering to lockdown rules with reach of almost 1000 people. Arrangements for in person volunteering and events in place for commencement in June - including archaeological digs, conservation and dark skies.</p> <p>Falls of Leny remains at risk of completion within programme term with various options currently being explored by partners and NHLF.</p>	On track
4.3 Implement post-pandemic ways of working for the National Park Authority	Develop a new model of working that overcomes some of the challenges of pandemic working while retaining the benefits of reduced commuting and better flexibility	Significant staff engagement, communication, and training is underway, as well as policy, IT, and facilities developments. Timeline for return to office working subject to Scottish Government guidance, but we expect to be ready to start a phased return from end of June should restrictions allow.	On track

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	Determine how our Board and Committees will use virtual meetings in the future	Initial discussion held at May 2021 Chairs & Executive meeting. Further work being undertaken which will be discussed with the Board in due course	On track
4.4 Improve the organisation's resilience	Making health, safety, and wellbeing improvements	Staff Communications & Wellbeing Group established, first meeting due to be held late May/early June. H&S priorities identified and delivery plan being discussed with key Operational Managers.	On track
	Identify ways to continue to supplement our core funding	Applications in place with various funders including RTIF, Better Places, etc. Car park charging project in progress, awaiting Planning determination. Expected implementation from late summer or autumn.	On track
	Improve our digital services, including developing our skills, platforms, and disaster recovery	Planning of our move to Office 365 and MS Teams for improved telecoms has begun. Initial discussions with Cloud based Disaster Recovery suppliers has begun.	On track