

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

31st January 2006**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****1. ENGAGEMENTS**

Since the last meeting of the Authority, the Chief Executive has attended the following:-

(a) Media

- Interview for Farming Today and PM programme on the Government's SIPS pension reform.

(b) Events

- The two day hearing in Skipton of the Affordable Housing Commission.
- The Richmondshire Local Strategic Partnership half day seminar to discuss the developing district agenda.

(c) Meetings

- The Richmondshire LSP Steering Group Meeting.
- Pam Warhurst and the Regional Directors of CoAG, English Nature and the Rural Development Service to discuss the emerging structure and role of Natural England.
- Along with the Chairman, the English Chairmen's Group meeting.
- Along with Mr LIs, Mr Lancaster, Mrs Peacock and Mrs Brooks a meeting with the Audit Commission to discuss the NPAPA Improvement Plan.
- The Head of Policy & Performance at Hambleton District Council to discuss the adoption of Management Competencies for the NPA.
- The DEFRA Implementers Group (DIG) to discuss regional issues.
- Along with the Chief Executive of the North York Moors NPA, Yorkshire Forward to discuss the NPA's role in the delivery of the regional economic strategy (RES).

2. ISSUES FOR MEMBERS' CONSIDERATION**a) Committee and other vacancies**

There are vacancies on the Authority's Planning and Audit and Review Committees as a result of the death of John Sayer. Mr Sayer, who was appointed to the Authority by Craven District Council, had also been appointed by the Authority to a number of Working Groups, including the Agricultural Reform Group and the Limestone Country Project Advisory Group and was a member of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum. At the time of writing this report, Craven District Council has yet to advise the Authority of his replacement.

Recommendation:

That, in line with previous practice, the Authority should –

- appoint his replacement to serve on the Planning and Audit and Review Committees, until such time as the Authority re-constitutes its Committees (normally at the annual meeting in July); and
- await the appointment of his replacement before considering filling the various vacancies on Groups and the Access Forum.

b) ANPA Workshop 2006

This year, the ANPA Workshop is to be held on 26th to 28th April in Cheltenham.

The theme will be “Recreation in National Parks” and each Authority has been allocated 8 places (and will be charged for eight places). Final details of the Workshop are still awaited, although a draft programme is **attached** to this report for information.

The Authority’s adopted attendance policy specifies that the Authority will be represented at the Workshop by:

“the Chairman (or Deputy Chairman) and three other members (to reflect a cross section of representation)”.

However, in view of the increased allocation of places and the fact that the Authority will be charged irrespective of attendance, it may be that six members and two officers would be an appropriate delegation.

Recommendation:

That an appropriate delegation be appointed to represent the Authority at the 2006 ANPA Workshop, attendance to be an approved duty.

3. ISSUES FOR MEMBERS TO NOTE

Northern Office ‘Open Evening’

It is intended that in the Spring (April/May) there will be an ‘Open Evening’ for the public to view the work of the Authority and to view Yoredale.

This will require officer presentations and some member attendance.

As soon as a date has been chosen, members will be informed and their availability requested.

**DAVID BUTTERWORTH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Background documents: None
18th January 2006

