

# Glover Review

## Summary of Key Changes



**Derbyshire Wildlife Trust would like to see the following changes:**

### **1. Strengthening of the statutory purposes:**

The statutory purposes need to be strengthened to ensure greater priority is given to enhancing and restoring wildlife and reversing the significant decline in biodiversity

### **2. Better enforcement of the Sandford Principle:**

Better enforcement of the Sandford Principle in National Parks is needed. There should also be an equivalent principle applied to AONBs. The Sandford Principle should also be applied to the Broads National Park. Key to better enforcement of the principle is stronger leadership from government, Authority Members and Officers.



### **3. Establishment of a Nature Recovery Network:**

National Parks and AONBs need to become essential parts of a Nature Recovery Network. This network would put space for nature at the heart of our farming and planning systems; and brings nature into the places where people live.

Nature Recovery Network Mapping would guide the restoration and creation of habitats within and adjacent to National Parks and AONBs to enable a connected landscape, as well as ensuring essential habitat connectivity improvements are implemented within the wider countryside.

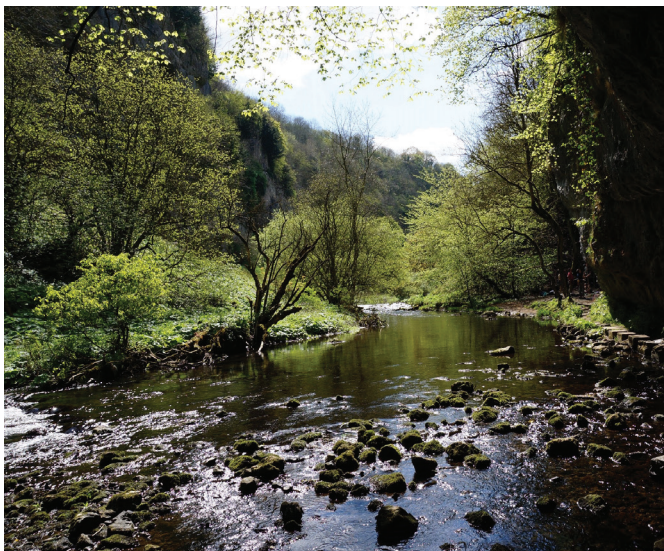
Robust policies are needed to protect and implement the Nature Recovery Network so that National Parks and AONBs are not surrounded by development, rather areas outside the boundaries are managed to support their core features.

### **4. World-leading environmental stewardship:**

There is currently an unrivalled opportunity to develop a world-leading approach to land management within our designated landscapes by implementing an ambitious environmental land management scheme which provides public money for public goods and creates landscapes which are rich in wildlife and great for people.

Future payments for farmers and land managers should be targeted and allocated through Nature

Recovery Network maps, using local and national data to help identify the key environmental issues which need tackling. This needs-based approach





would help to target resources and investment in land management to achieve the greatest impact and value for money. Future sustainable land management policies should protect and enhance natural capital, thereby recognising the role farmers and land managers have in delivering clean air and water, reducing flood risk, carbon sequestration, biodiversity and public access, integral to maintaining these beautiful, cultural landscapes that are valued by much of the public.

### **5. Greater ambition, clear targets and transparency on performance:**

More needs to be done to ensure National Parks are establishing ambitious and appropriate targets for reversing the decline of biodiversity. A new suite of environmental outcomes should be developed for National Parks to better prioritise the need for habitats to be bigger and better connected and ecological networks to be more resilient. There also needs to be greater accountability locally and via the new environmental watchdog, combined with greater transparency with regards to performance.

### **6. Enhanced regulatory powers:**

We would like to see improved regulatory powers to prevent illegal or inappropriate activities which conflict with the statutory purpose of National Parks to enhance wildlife, as well as stronger regulatory powers to investigate and punish offenders, through the introduction of vicarious liability.

The duty on other relevant authorities to “have regard” to National Parks and AONBs needs to be strengthened. This wording is inconsistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which requires that ‘[g]reat weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues ...’ (para. 172 of the revised 2018 NPPF).

### **7. A Wilder Future:**

Our National Parks and AONBs need to be much wilder. National Parks need to embrace the opportunity to pilot, demonstrate and evidence new ways to enhance habitats, including rewilding. They should also lead the way in supporting species recovery as well as the reintroduction of lost species.

National Parks & AONBs should become one of the main mechanisms by which the UK delivers its commitments around the Conventions on Biological Diversity and Climate Change (through large-scale restoration of habitat that locks up carbon – as a key part of our climate mitigation strategy). Wilding these areas could be a massive boost in both regards.

Our National Parks and AONBs are loved by the public and visited by millions of people each year. These landscapes therefore also need to continue to become more accessible and more inclusive. In addition, every visitor should be encouraged to

connect with nature and gain a better understanding of the value, beauty and vulnerability of the wildlife within these landscapes. It is also important that visitors gain a better understanding of how much these landscapes have changed over the past few decades, how much they need to change to reverse the current biodiversity decline, and how they can help.



### **8. Better resourcing, skills and governance:**

Enhancing wildlife within our National Parks and AONBs needs to be appropriately funded and resource allocation should better reflect the statutory purposes.

National Parks need to have access to appropriate advice and skills and be much better at identifying other organisations with appropriate skills and expertise who could support them in achieving their statutory duties either through advice and consultation or direct delivery.

Finally, there should also be a more appropriate governance framework for National Parks which better supports wildlife enhancement. At present there is no mechanism to ensure that each Board contains the strategic skills that are necessary to further the Park's statutory purposes. Similarly, there are no means by which to ensure that each Board member informs all their decisions by reference to the Park's statutory purposes.

*Designed by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust.*



**Derbyshire**  
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