



THE VISION FOR DARTMOOR

**Making Dartmoor better for future generations,
alive with nature, connected with the past**

DELIVERED IN PARTNERSHIP





THE VISION FOR DARTMOOR

Our Vision is to make Dartmoor better for future generations, alive with nature, connected to the past. A place where people of all ages and backgrounds can live, work or visit. A place that is loved, cherished and cared for.

Here is the Vision for Dartmoor National Park, delivered together through the Partnership Plan. The Vision has been created following extensive public consultation and debate. It is everyone's responsibility to come together to deliver this Vision; make choices that balance the needs of people and place; embrace positive change; and inspire the next generation to help shape its future.

Dartmoor National Park is an extraordinary landscape: shaped by nature and humans over time; steeped in history but always changing; one of Britain's finest. It has the power to inspire and enrich lives.

By 2045, Dartmoor will be:

ALIVE WITH NATURE: Networks of healthy habitats that are home to many different plants, insects and animals create a more resilient natural environment connected within and across the boundary of the National Park. Some areas feel wilder as nature is enhanced and allowed to take its course.

CELEBRATED AND ENHANCED: Dartmoor's natural beauty and rich cultural heritage is better understood, valued and looked after.

WELCOMING FOR ALL: Enriching people's lives, reaching out to people from all backgrounds, connecting them with this special place. Transformative experiences will inspire people to care for the National Park.

A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK: People of all ages can enjoy living and working in low carbon, flourishing communities that are connected physically and digitally. Farming and forestry businesses play a key role in delivering a high-quality environment and local products alongside a range of other public benefits.

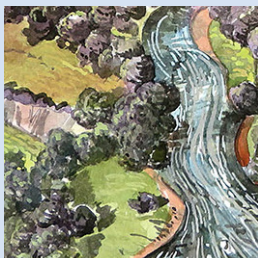
CARBON NEGATIVE: Dartmoor's peatlands, soils and woodlands will store significantly more carbon. Responding to climate change will be embedded in our way of life, making the best use of natural resources and reducing carbon emissions.

The Partnership Plan sets out how we will work together over the next five years towards delivery of the vision. It contains actions under each theme that set steps and milestones for the partners to achieve. The Partnership Plan is reviewed and updated every five years.

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In order to deliver this Vision for Dartmoor, the partners have focused on seven themes, which describe in more detail what needs to be achieved, and how. The themes do not cover all the work that will be ongoing within the National Park but instead highlight the areas where we will work together to achieve transformative change.

THEME



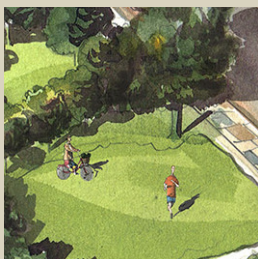
A BETTER RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

DARTMOOR TODAY

The impact of climate change on Dartmoor is our greatest challenge; it will continue to be wide reaching, with warmer, wetter winters, hotter, drier summers, increased (and decreased) river flows and an increasing frequency of extreme weather events, the effects of which are already being seen.

VISION FOR 2045

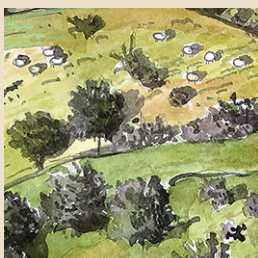
Dartmoor will have met the vision to be carbon negative. The National Park will play a significant role as a carbon sink through peatland restoration, woodland management and creation, with sustainable farming and land management practices to increase soil carbon. The successful impacts of mitigating climate change that cut-across all aspects of the Partnership Plan and the Local Plan, will be realised.



BETTER FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Dartmoor National Park Authority has worked with a Next Generation group to ensure that they are involved in the future of Dartmoor. Their Manifesto accompanies this Plan and is a 'Call to Action' from the Next Generation to influence how organisations and decision makers shape Dartmoor for its future communities, recreation users, visitors, businesses, young people, farmers and the environment, landscape and heritage.

Dartmoor is a place that the next generation can thrive in: a place to call home, a place to work, a place to explore and a place to protect and understand. The next generation will be supported on Dartmoor through reliable infrastructure and services, viable jobs and diverse career opportunities.



BETTER FOR NATURE AND NATURAL BEAUTY

The natural beauty of Dartmoor's landscape character includes wild, open moorlands, with striking granite tors and steep wooded river valleys, intimate enclosed farmland with historic field patterns, and settlements; always changing, and shaped by nature and people over time. Dartmoor is internationally important for a range of habitats, it supports many rare and common species. Its deep peat, soils and woodlands are important stores of carbon and it hosts the headwaters of nine main river catchments.

Dartmoor will continue to change at a landscape scale, with the abundance, diversity and distribution of biodiversity on Dartmoor adapting and evolving in response to climate change and the recovery of natural processes. Good land management and natural capital investment ensures habitats are protected, restored, maintained, cared for, expanded and connected; some areas becoming wilder as nature is allowed to take its course.



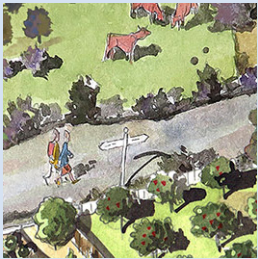
BETTER FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE

Dartmoor is internationally renowned as a rich cultural landscape, with evidence of thousands of years of human interaction. Archaeological remains from Bronze Age cists, stone rows and hut circles to field-systems and deserted medieval settlements, and the remains of the tin-mining industry can be seen easily. The history and culture of Dartmoor is written in its buildings, public spaces, historic landscapes and towns and villages. The National Park is also rich in intangible cultural heritage, having many distinctive local traditions, festivals, markets and celebrations, oral histories, customs and skills.



BETTER FOR FARMING AND FORESTRY

Agriculture shapes Dartmoor's landscape, as it has for thousands of years. Extensive grazing of the moorland commons by cattle, sheep and Dartmoor Ponies helps to manage the habitats and the large tracts of open access land. The surrounding enclosed land is an integral part of the upland farming system, providing ground for overwintering stock, hay meadows and winter feed crops. Dartmoor provides a wealth of natural services, fresh water, carbon storage and food, as well as significant opportunities for recreation and access to areas with a high level of tranquillity.



BETTER FOR PEOPLE

The offer of a warm welcome for all poses some significant challenges: currently car parks are full on nice weekends and visitor numbers are expected to increase significantly over the next 10 years. Sometimes visitor behaviour or sheer numbers causes conflict with local communities and those that manage the land, and it can cause harm to the fabric of the National Park and to conservation interests. Now is the time to ask visitors to help us take care of and enhance Dartmoor through responsible behaviour and reducing carbon emissions by changing the way they travel to and around the National Park.



BETTER FOR BUSINESS AND COMMUNITIES

Dartmoor is home to around 35,000 people, and a place of work for around 10,000 people. The National Park has an ageing population and workforce; net out-commuting; rural isolation; lack of sustainable transport and connectivity; difficulties accessing services and facilities; high house prices; and low wages; which all present implications and opportunities in terms of the needs of local communities and businesses. Dartmoor has a wealth of natural and cultural capital which provide opportunities for future innovation and prosperity. The implications of climate change also bring challenges and opportunities and will require a concerted and collective response.

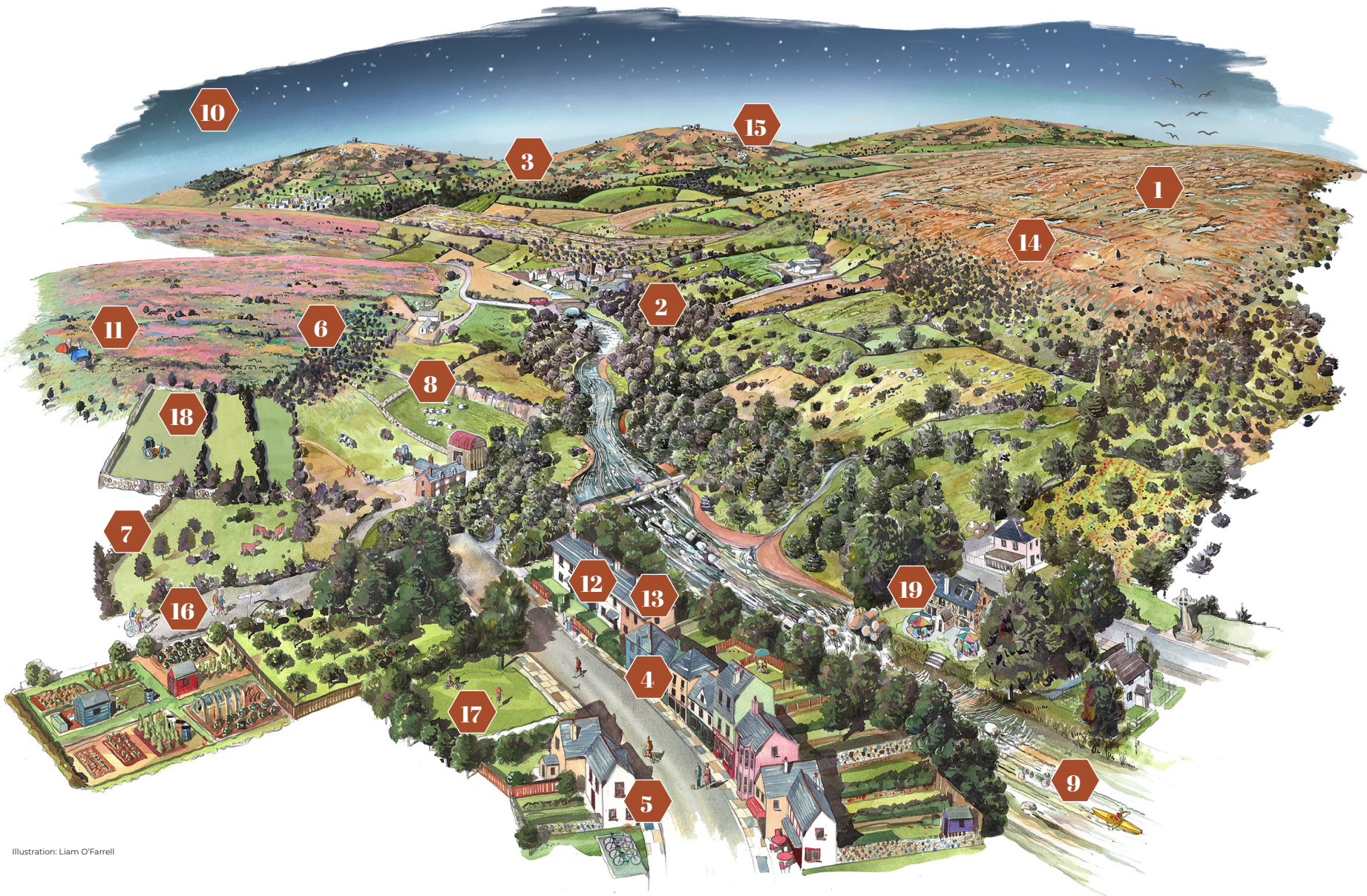
Dartmoor's cultural heritage is protected, well managed and in good condition. It is actively researched, and local communities, visitors and other stakeholders' value, understand and are engaged with Dartmoor's rich cultural history which contributes to the sense of place. Dartmoor's historic built environment, areas of high significance are managed as a priority concern, but elsewhere the management of the historic environment will be carefully integrated into other conservation projects and concerns.

Farming and forestry systems will sustain a high-quality natural environment; they will store and sequester carbon, produce healthy food, high quality fibre and other products, be economically viable and deliver a wide range of public goods. Visitors, policy makers and local communities will understand the central role that farming and forestry play in producing food and a range of environmental goods, including landscape character, and that this relationship between people and the land is a rich and valuable part of our cultural heritage. Better understanding and appreciation has led to valuing Dartmoor, and a desire to buy and invest locally.

People from all backgrounds and ages are enjoying the National Park. They undertake activities of their choice consistent with Dartmoor's Special Qualities and benefitting their health and well-being. Visitors are spread out through time and space and arriving by sustainable transport. Everyone is able to find peace and solitude and some areas are quiet, as sanctuaries for nature. Visitors leave no trace; they understand and respect the environment, each other and the people living and working here.

Dartmoor's communities are thriving and engaged in caring for the National Park, they have ready access to quality affordable housing, and the services and facilities they need, and are able to make sustainable travel choices. New development in the National Park is of the highest quality, efficient, and conserves and enhances natural and heritage assets. Dartmoor's diverse economy fosters traditional sectors and productive, innovative and resilient enterprise. Dartmoor's outstanding natural and cultural capital acts as a catalyst for inward investment and prosperity, encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship.

THE VISION FOR DARTMOOR IN 2045 DELIVERED IN PARTNERSHIP



1. Peatland is restored to provide a rich habitat, extensive carbon sink and reduced downstream flooding
2. 2,000 ha of new broadleaf woodland across Dartmoor
3. Dartmoor is carbon negative
4. Towns and villages have community level food growing, recycling and energy generation
5. Communities have better digital and sustainable transport connections
6. Scrub and woodland are naturally regenerating up lower moorland valleys
7. Hedgerows are healthy, fuller, and provide corridors and stepping-stones of connected habitat
8. Farming and forestry enterprises play a key role in delivering a high-quality environment and local produce
9. Dartmoor is a place for active and responsible recreation
10. There are more opportunities to find tranquillity and dark night skies
11. Visitors leave no trace; they understand and respect the environment
12. Local people have ready access to quality affordable housing
13. New development is of the highest quality, accessible, adaptable, and energy efficient
14. Dartmoor's historic environment is visible at a landscape scale
15. Expansive views of tors remain a key part of Dartmoor's landscape character
16. There are more opportunities for all sectors of society to enjoy the National Park
17. Dartmoor plays an important part in good health and well-being
18. Haymeadows are more extensive and better connected
19. Businesses thrive in a way which supports the vision for Dartmoor