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LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

This Landscape Conservation Action Plan (LCAP) has been produced by Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) for the *Moor than meets the eye* Landscape Partnership.

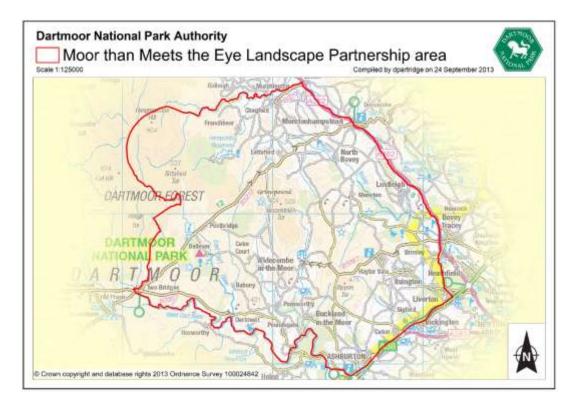
The Landscape Partnership area lies within Dartmoor National Park, an area designated for its outstanding natural beauty and the opportunities it provides for outdoor recreation. This area is regarded to be one of the best landscapes in the country; it contains some of the most treasured habitats (and the species they support) and has some of the best preserved archaeology in western Europe. But there are risks and threats to this landscape and the communities who help maintain it. There are also are opportunities to inspire a range of people to help us look after the landscape and to forge a new relationship between the landscape and people's lives.

The *Moor than meets the eye* Landscape Partnership area is the south east corner of Dartmoor National Park, located in Devon, south west England. The area is bounded by significant geographical features (the A38 at its southern boundary, the River Dart on its western boundary, the River Teign on its northern boundary and the A382 Bovey Tracey to Chagford road on its eastern boundary). Plymouth is 35 miles west and Exeter and the M5 north 20 miles east. The towns of Plymouth, Exeter, Torbay, Newton Abbot, Teignmouth, Totnes, Tavistock and Okehampton and a population of over 675,000 people are within 30 minutes drive from the centre of the area

The *Moor than meets the eye* area is 280 square km (27,722 hectares) and reflects the interrelationship of open moorland blocks, valley systems and enclosed land that reflects the landscape integrity of the area and its interrelation with the people who have lived and worked here for over 4,000 years. It is one that local people and visitors can relate to and support; it exemplifies all the landscape qualities associated with the area: moorland and tors, the moorland edge with its the characteristic pattern of scattered dwellings, stone walls and small towns, and the transition into steep sided river valleys flowing off the moor.

You can literally walk through time in this area: passing examples of Bronze Age and industrial remains on the high moorland, through the medieval landscape of the moorland edge and down the valleys to the age of the railway which brought Victorian tourists to the area. The routeways that link the high moor to the valleys are often ancient ceremonial routes or latterly routes to markets. The link between high moor and the valleys is intrinsic and important in telling the story of the landscape, how it evolved and how it is managed.





Scheme Description

One of the catalysts for the *Moor than meets the eye* Landscape Partnership has been the demand for investment in the landscape that has come from those living and working in the area or adjacent to it.

The Moor than meets the eye Landscape Partnership will help people:

- learn about and learn from the past
- understand, appreciate and enjoy the cultural and natural environment now
- develop projects and skills to sustain the area's heritage for future generations.

The vision for *Moor than meets the eye* is:

"Our vision is for the unique historic landscape of south east Dartmoor to be recognised as a truly special place: one where wildlife thrives, heritage is conserved and appreciated, and people draw inspiration and value from the landscape, today and for future generations.

It is an area where local residents, businesses, farmers, visitors and agencies work together to share, understand and appreciate the importance of this landscape and together have the skills and opportunities to contribute to its future."

This is also an opportunity to look at ways of developing innovative projects that can be used elsewhere in Dartmoor National Park. The Landscape Partnership Scheme takes the form of a book with seven chapters. These come together to tell a compelling story of an integrated living landscape - where people understand, enjoy, contribute to and therefore value the rich mosaic of our natural and built heritage.





The book "*Moor than meets the eye* - the story of people and landscape over 4,000 years on Dartmoor" has the following chapters:

- Unveiling and conserving the Bronze Age archaeology of the high moor and forests
- 2. Learning about, conserving and sharing medieval Dartmoor and valuing local heritage
- 3. Discovering lost industrial landscapes
- 4. Moving in the footsteps of the Victorians
- 5. Making important connections across the landscape and across generations
- 6. Exploring Dartmoor's Treasures
- 7. The Future sustaining heritage businesses and moor skills.

This vision will be achieved through the Landscape Partnership Scheme's main objectives of:

- To conserve the unique historic landscape and its natural habitats which tell the story of human influence over thousands of years.
- To significantly enhance physical and intellectual access to the heritage landscape for everyone to enjoy.
- To develop new ways to increase community involvement and understanding of the historic and natural landscape and improve the ability of local people to share, celebrate and enjoy their local landscape.
- To provide local communities, businesses, land managers, guides and local property owners with enhanced skills, confidence and enthusiasm to contribute to the conservation of our built and natural heritage.
- To sustain a living and working landscape by encouraging and facilitating business opportunities that capture the value of the landscape.
- To develop a well trained and co-ordinated volunteer workforce to help conserve and interpret the area's heritage both now and in future years.

The Landscape Partnership Area

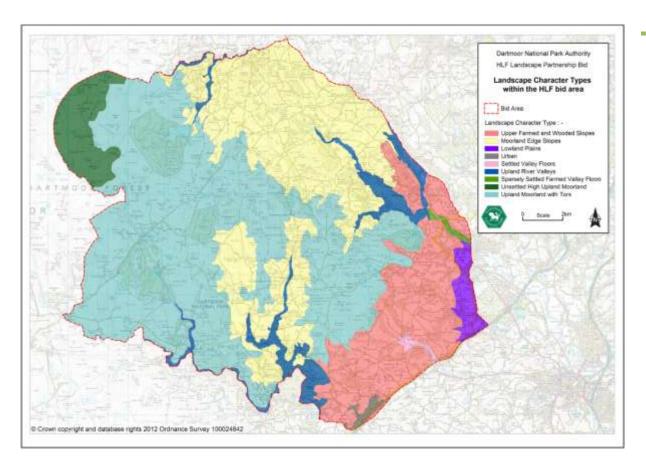
From the high moor to the fringe of the lowland plain, the *Moor than meets the eye* area:

"...encompasses contrasts between the tor-crowned ridges and peat-filled valleys; moorland waste and agricultural land; royal forest and medieval settlement; which provide a rich diversity of interest. In this area man has assessed and utilised the varied resources of soil, water, woodland and minerals and so created the changing landscape patterns which today are regarded as 'typical' Dartmoor..."

Brunsden and Gerrard, in Gill, 1970

The area is quintessentially 'Dartmoor' – a rich cultural landscape displaying thousands of years of human interaction – a microcosm of the landscape, both vast and intimate, that creates such a sense of place.

It contains six primary landscape character types identified in the Landscape Character Assessment for Dartmoor National Park (2010) which are interrelated but have their own distinct characteristics and sense of place, and which are:



UNSETTLED HIGH UPLAND MOORLAND

Part of two discrete plateaux separated by the Dart Valley, containing the highest and most remote land in Dartmoor, this is an open landscape where large expanses of heather and grass moorland are interspersed with patches of bilberry, purple moor grass, gorse and bracken – extensively grazed by sheep, cattle and ponies. The strong time depth of the landscape is reflected in a rich archaeological resource – extensive remains of ancient settlements, cairns and boundaries, particularly associated with the Bronze Age period.

UPLAND MOORLAND WITH TORS

A gently rolling large-scale moorland landscape sweeping below the high plateaux and summits associated with the Unsettled High Upland Moorland character type. There is a strong sense of exposure, tranquillity and far reaching, often panoramic views. Smooth outlines are punctuated by many tors and jagged rock outcrops, with slopes often strewn by granite boulders and clitter. This character type contains small villages and hamlets occupying sheltered locations, often associated with streams and rivers draining from the moor. Large conifer plantations create dark blocks with hard edges, contrasting with the smooth muted landscape backdrop. Patches of deciduous woodland are dominated by oak, ash and beech, generally limited to valley sides and around settlements.

MOORLAND EDGE SLOPES

The Moorland Edge Slope character type is characterised by rolling hills and slopes falling away from the high moorland core incised by steep valleys. Pockets of



moorland common, marginal pasture and rough grassland define the upper moorland slopes, retaining visual and functional links to the adjacent moorland. Valleys are often densely wooded and contain tracks of Rhôs pasture (see above) grazed by livestock. Scattered copses and linear woodland strips follow small tributary streams. Patches of coniferous woodland are found on higher slopes.

UPPER FARMED AND WOODED SLOPES

Upper Farmed and Wooded Slopes represents a rolling, hummocky landscape which owes its character to a complex underlying geology – cut by small tributary streams at the foot of undulating slopes. The rolling hills and slopes are defined by a strong mosaic of irregular predominantly pastoral fields of medieval origin, frequent seminatural woodlands and species rich hedgebanks. The close proximity of the moorland is evident in patches of heathy vegetation and bracken in hedgerows and livestock grazed rough pasture on higher ground.

This is an intimate landscape. Past mining activity from the 16th to 20th centuries is evident along valleys through remnant mining structures and linked industrial remains.

LOWLAND PLAIN

The Landscape Partnership area is bordered to the south east by a small area of Lowland Plain. This is a flat undulating plain where upland finally meets lowland. The area is included because the A38 and A382 provide strong, identifiable boundaries for the Landscape Partnership area.

Statement of Significance

The *Moor than meets the eye* Landscape Partnership area is one of the finest examples of a palimpsest - a landscape on which layer upon layer of human activity has left its mark - in the UK. Its unique character has been shaped over millennia ensuring that people and place are intrinsically linked.



Marsh fritillary





The number of designated sites is testament to the variety and importance of the area. Key designations include:

- National Park
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) 16.6% of the area
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC) 16.1% of the area, reflecting its European importance.
- Section 3 Moorland and Woodland 48.1% of the area.
- 1 National Nature Reserve (NNR). County Wildlife Sites (CWS) covering 2% of the area.
- A number of European and UK protected species and a wide range of UK priority species and habitats.
- Recorded ancient woodland covering 2.9% of the area. .
- Over 970 Listed Buildings
- 269 Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- 5 Premier Archaeological Landscapes covering 9.9% of the area
- 7 Conservation Areas
- 226km of Public Rights of Way.

The following attributes are crucial to the significance of the area's unique landscape character and combine to create the internationally important and highly valued landscape of the National Park:

- The area is deeply layered and steeped in history. Its unique character has been shaped over the millennia and this palimpsest means the area hosts one of the most important collections of archaeological landscapes in Western Europe revealing a chronology of human activity stretching back over 8,000 years.
- A strong medieval settlement pattern of scattered farmsteads, hamlets, villages and towns set within enclosed farmland surrounded by open moor, linked by an intricate pattern of sunken lanes.
- The area has widespread evidence of industrial archaeology from quarrying and mining of the rich minerals of the area (tin workings, stone quarries and some of the earliest forms of industrial transport).
- The area has a link, through the quarrying of stone, with some of England's most famous landmark buildings This industry has led to the development and wealth of the stannary towns of Ashburton and Chagford.
- The area's Victorian influence is probably not widely understood or recognised but the impact on the development and character of the area, especially in the Wray valley is significant as is the interest in, and understanding of, the archaeology of this period.
- Traditional farming practices extending back thousands of years, using the moorland commons for extensive grazing of cattle, sheep and ponies.





- A unique system of pony 'drifts and pounds' associated with the management of the commons.
- Communities who have a strong affinity with the heritage of their local area, which is reflected in a number of active community archives, local history groups and local conservation volunteer groups who work hard to record and help protect the heritage of the area.
- An inspirational landscape of legends and myths that has inspired art and literature through the centuries and continues to inspire, offering spiritual refreshment and opportunities for quiet reflection, escape, challenge and creativity.
- A unique assemblage of wildlife dependent upon the areas distinct habitats, including upland blanket bog, heathland and ancient oak woodland, rhôs pasture and small pockets of haymeadow of international importance; vast displays of gorse and heather create a rich palette of colours and textures through the seasons.
- An area where it is still possible to find absolute peace, dominated by the sounds of nature
- In 2012 the area was visited by 2.24 million visitors (STEAM 2012) and 675,000 people live within 30 minutes drive time.

Key Risks to the Landsape Partnership Area

For the natural heritage there are a number of key risks, including:

- deterioration of wet valley systems which support a range of flora and fauna some of national and international significance.
- deterioration of haymeadows has continued often because of the small and fragmented nature of sites
- a decline in the lichen community in the Bovey valley which needs management to protect their long term presence
- management being in place to help the red backed shrike create a stronghold in the area since it returned to Dartmoor in 2010
- developing management proposals to protect existing and potential maternity roosts for the nationally scarce Barbestelle bat in the woodlands of the Bovey Valley

For the cultural and built heritage the key risks include:

- the Landscape Partnership area contains 70 monuments registered at high or medium risk on the Heritage at Risk Register – more than 50 of these do not have a management plan or proposed management prescriptions in place
- the built environment is at risk from the lack of traditional skills and an awareness amongst building owners/occupiers of the need for traditional skills when maintaining/developing such buildings
- the lack of ability to realise the full potential to develop a unique example of a Dartmoor longhouse as a visitor attraction





 there is also a general threat to the landscape character from changing agricultural practices, with past problems of overgrazing now changing to undergrazing and an associated spread of gorse and bracken and a general increase in vegetation which threatens archaeological remains and important habitats and species.

Our knowledge of the area remains incomplete. We do not fully understand the 'needs of nature', the extent of archaeological remains etc and this incomplete knowledge is potentially putting heritage at risk. Despite being recognised as an internationally important area for archaeological remains, there is a lack of detailed archaeological information for certain parts of the Partnership area which may risk those landscapes being damaged or lost the Whitehorse Hill recent finds would indicate that there are areas of further archaeological significance, which are currently unknown.

Whilst a cherished and much visited landscape, many visitors (locals and tourists), and even some local communities, are unaware of the 'story of this landscape'. Most visitors are transient, and travel through admiring the scenery but unaware of the story behind it and the opportunities to explore and understand. There is a need to better explain the story of the landscape. There is also a linked opportunity to support existing local community groups to help to manage this landscape by providing training in traditional skills, co-ordinating volunteer opportunities and enabling them to tell the story of the landscape.

There is a clear need to provide training in traditional skills and promote awareness of these skills in maintenance of land or property to ensure that our heritage is conserved. There is also a threat to the landscape and heritage of the area from the decline and loss of traditional 'customs'. Our work with local history societies and volunteer groups has identified a specific need to share expertise and skills amongst, and across, community groups – to help them learn from each other.

Developing Moor than meets the eye

The Landscape Partnership has expanded over the Development phase to include the RSPB as a key delivery partner and the Dartmoor Commoners Council, as requested by HLF as outlined in our Round 1 pass offer letter. The Local Stakeholders Group was formed to help the Partnership fully and truly consider the views of local communities.

It is fair to say that the complexity of the Scheme made it difficult to communicate its breadth to local communities and foster engagement in the early stages. The work of the *Moor than meets the eye* team during the development of the Landscape Partnership Scheme has sought to explain this while at the same time understanding the overriding passion that communities have for the natural and archaeological heritage of the area. It is important to local communities that they can influence and feel involved in discussions about future management of sites and features, and there is a clear view that additional visitor infrastructure should not detract from the heritage or landscape quality of the area.

Our work has shown that local people are very interested to learn more about the heritage of the area, and share that knowledge with others, but Dartmoor should

remain a place of exploration, "not a theme park". The Landscape Partnership has learnt lessons during development of Moor than meets the eve about how to better engage with local communities and, as a result of this work, some of the projects included in the LCAP are different from those originally submitted.

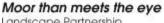
A number of key research projects have been completed during the Development phase of the Scheme and have provided valuable information to shape the final projects:

- A Skills Audit has been completed and the results used to shape the scope of a new training scheme called the Dartmoor Diploma.
- A set of people counters have been established at sites across the area to provide baseline information and allow future monitoring of visitor numbers.
- A LIDAR survey has been completed for Forestry Commission plantations and the East Dartmoor National Nature Reserve. This has been followed up by a full field survey at Fernworthy. A number of new or previously thought to be lost sites, including a hut circle, two medieval farmsteads, and a number of prehistoric boundary have been revealed and have shaped the detailed proposals for the round 2 submission.
- Research into the bat population in the East Dartmoor NNR has also been completed to help develop detailed proposals for further conservation of this
- An Audience Development and Interpretation plan has been developed which promotes the "Dartmoor story" as a way of interpreting Dartmoor in ways that will appeal to all.
- A Historic Environment Character assessment has been completed to compliment the Landscape Character Assessment and will be used in the development of the Moor Medieval and Parishcapes project. (This was funded outside of the development grant)
- A Conservation plan has been completed for Higher Uppacott and along with plans drawn up by an independent conservation architect this has shaped revised proposals for this building. Again this has been funded outside of the development grant adding value to the HLF contribution.

Changes have been made to the project as a result of the community engagement, research and project development work. The most significant changes relate to the East Dartmoor NNR, the Bellever Time Trail, Heritage Trails and Parishscapes. A number of significant new projects have also been added; these include Ancient Boundaries, Modern Farming which was promoted by the farming community and In the footsteps of the Victorians, promoted by three local history societies.

Addressing the key points in the Round 1 Pass Offer Letter During the development of *Moor than meets the eye*, between December 2012 and January 2014, the projects that were included in the Round 1 application have been discussed by the Landscape Partnership Board, the Local Stakeholders Group and with community groups, landowners and interest groups. Advice has also been received from the State Aid team at Defra.

The Round 1 Pass offer letter also identified 4 key points requiring attention for the second-round submission, which were:





Key Point		Action	
_	Applicant to develop the exit strategy so that more projects are sustainable after HLF funding	Legacy and sustainability are identified in Section 6 of the LCAP and in the Project Pro-formas	
2.	Applicant to include a clear budget for monitoring and evaluation	Budget of £20,000 included under Programme E.	
3.	Applicant to invite Dartmoor Commoners Council to become part of partnership	Dartmoor Commoners Council has accepted the invitation to join the partnership and are signatories on the Memorandum of Understanding.	
4.	Applicant to look at the unbalanced funding between the four strategic aims and show how the Wray Valley Trail will bring wider benefits to the rest of the scheme.	Changes to the budget are outlined below. The 'In the Footsteps of the Victorians' project has been developed based on further interpretation of the Wray Valley Trail and has developed significantly in its own right. Further interpretation in the Moretonhampstead area will also build on this.	

The changes to projects and gaining a better balance between Programme Areas has resulted in the following budget:

	Round 1 Budget	Revised Budget	Change	%age Change
Programme A	£577,549	£789,453	+£211,904	+ 38.25
Programme B	£525,500	£693,424	+£167,924	+ 31.96
Programme C	£1,605,450	£1,356,320	- £249,130	- 15.54
Programme D	£211,000	£379,500	£168,500	+ 79.86
Programme E	£972,095	£677,016	- £295,079	- 30.36
Total	£3,891,594	£3,904,425	+ £12,831	

These Programmes are made up of the following projects

Programme A: Conserving or restoring the built and natural features that create the historic landscape character

PA1 Moorland Birds

£89,296

This project aims to protect and celebrate Dartmoor's special moorland birds. Many of our British upland birds are under threat, facing population declines and loss of habitat.



PA2 Haymeadows

£22,431

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This project aims to raise awareness and appreciation of the unique concentration of flower-rich haymeadows and pastures which remain in this area, through improvement in the management of existing meadows and involvement of the local community.

PA3 Natural Connections

£22,431

The Project aims to encourage better management and enhance natural networks within a number of wet valleys in the *Moor than meets the eye* area. The wildlife found in these areas includes a number of nationally rare species, including one, the Bog Hoverfly, which is only found on Dartmoor. They require extensive, suitable and inter-connected habitats in order to survive.

PA4 Discovering the Nature of the Bovey Valley

£266.445

Protecting and conserving key species, habitats and historic features of the Bovey Valley. Fostering deeper understanding and life-long interest in the area's natural and cultural heritage, and engage local communities in all aspects of management.

PA5 Unveiling the heritage of the High Moor and Forests £89,000

The project aims to improve understanding, to enable better management and promote the internationally important Bronze Age landscape on Dartmoor through a programme of survey, research, excavation, interpretation and conservation management works

PA6 Higher Uppacott

£172,550

Higher Uppacott is a grade I listed longhouse with early - mid 14th century origins where the lower-end shippon remains intact. This designated heritage asset has international significance and is emblematic of Dartmoor's medieval farming built heritage.

PA7 Ponies, Pounds and Driftways

£34,000

A project to identify and implement repairs to a number of pounds and driftways.

PA8 Ancient Boundaries, Modern Farming

£100,000

A grant scheme to help repair significant walls and gateways which are clearly visible from the highway or well used access routes. Interpretation to raise public awareness of the importance of respecting stone walls

PA9 Hameldown WWII Bomber Crash Archaeological Survey £2,300

A project to investigate why an aircraft heading back from France to Lincolnshire should crash on Dartmoor. There will be an archaeological survey on Hameldown, the site of the World War II bomber crash.



Programme B - Increasing community participation in local heritage

PB1 Bellever and Postbridge Trails

£124,400

Proposals for trails, interpretive media and visitor management (including car parking and landscape proposals for the forest area) which make links around Bellever Forest and Postbridge, using Whitehorse Hill as a means of developing further interest in the heritage of the area.

PB2 Parishscapes

£175,386

A community based project to help local people to look at, record and restore, where appropriate, features of built and natural heritage of significance in their local community.

PB3 Moor Medieval

£25,000

A parish based project to develop understanding about medieval life and to explore the effect that early farming had on the landscape of Dartmoor over more than a thousand years.

PB4 Engaging with the Nature of the Bovey Valley

£150,003

Developing volunteering and community participatory activities to engage people with the nature in the Bovey Valley, part of the East Dartmoor National Nature Reserve. This project compliments PA4 Discovering the Nature of the Bovey Valley

PB5 Welcome to Widecombe

£49,429

The project will increase the quality of the visitor experience in Widecombe in the Moor. It will interpret the historic nature of specific buildings, tin-mining and Victorian tourism and will tell the story of parish farming through the ages from Bronze Age settlement to "lost medieval manor of the moor", War time milk production to present day mixed native stock farm. This will support the educational restoration and interpretation of the vintage horse-drawn machinery collection kept at Glebe Farm.

PB6 Managing Volunteers

£20,000

The Community and Events Officer will provide an active role to help partners recruit volunteers and will provide advice and support to existing volunteer groups

PB7 In the Footsteps of the Victorians

£102,087

This project will research the history of the Wray Valley and the surrounding area on the eastern edge of Dartmoor during the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The project will produce for the first time a detailed history of the changes that took place during the Victorian era that transformed the communities and landscape. A particularly important aspect of the developments were portrayed by artists from the late eighteenth century though the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century. This will be comprehensively researched and presented in an exhibition at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM), Exeter.



PB8 A Drift through Time - Pony Herd Identification Project £6,768

Developing a leaflet and a small handbook to identify the pony herds in the *Moor than meets the eye* area and to help interpret their value to the management of the moorland areas.

PB9 Moor Boots £20,000

Moor Boots is a scheme to assist young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to acquire personal expedition equipment allowing them to participate in activities from which they would otherwise be barred.

PB10 Whitehorse Community Play

£14,350

People of all generations from a Dartmoor community will perform a community play that has been inspired by life in and around Bellever through different eras starting with the Bronze Age.

Programme C - Increasing access to and learning about the landscape and its heritage

PC1 Moor than meets the eye Interpretation

£177,986

Telling the story of people and landscape of Dartmoor over 4,000 years this project will help a wider range of local people and visitors engage with the heritage of Dartmoor. It will tell the story by embracing a range of interpretive techniques that are sensitive to the landscape.

PC2 Foot on the Farm

Withdrawn

PC3 Beating Heart of Dartmoor

Merged with PB5 Welcome to Widecombe

PC4 Brimpts Tin Trail

£12,300

Dartmoor has a world class tinworking heritage, documented from the twelfth century to the twentieth century. This project seeks to increase, improve and facilitate information and awareness of both this, and the trail for visitors, communities and specialist groups.

PC5 Wray Valley Trail

£845,000

Provision of 10km of predominantly off road multi-use trail on the route of the disused Moretonhampstead Branch line, constructed and opened in 1866 by the Victorians, whilst sympathetically maintaining the habitat of wildlife along the route.

PC6 Heritage Trails

£9,900

To develop an interactive web based map to develop, promote and share a range of Heritage Trails which help people explore and learn about the area.



PC7 Fernworthy Reservoir Improved Access

£120,846

To improve access and interpretation around Fernworthy Reservoir. The project includes footpath improvements to the round reservoir footpath and repair of 'Potters Walk' wheelchair friendly circular route.

PC8 Postbridge Visitor Centre

£190,000

The development of the National Park Visitor Centre at Postbridge as the Dartmoor hub for cultural heritage and specifically the main focus for the finds and story of the Whitehorse Hill Cist.

Programme D - Increasing training opportunities in local heritage skills

PD1 Dartmoor Diploma

£150,000

This project will deliver a programme of training to meet the needs identified within the *Moor than meets the eye* Skills Audit, which will help to address the risks to the landscape heritage of changing farming practices, and losing traditional skills in managing vernacular buildings.

PD2 EcoSkills £199,500

Natural England (NE) will host a roving team of trainees who will help deliver key elements of the whole MTMTE scheme and also learn from scheme partners to broaden their experience and understanding of landscape scale heritage conservation. The Woodland Centre will also be made available as a venue to facilitate other local rural skills training requirements for the life of the MTMTE scheme and beyond.

PD3 East Shallowford Trust

£30,000

A project to develop a training programme in rural skills and in particular the making of cream based at East Shallowford Farm. The project will train the Farm Manager and staff to run the courses and will provide initial funding to create the courses.

Programme E - Overheads, scheme staffing and other costs

PE1	Staff Team	£631,177
PE2	HERO and GI staff for Heritage Trails	£11,338
PE3	Transport and Subsistence	£5,000
PE4	Training	£3,000

PE5 Monitoring and Evaluation

£20,000

Appointment of consultants to devise methodology, carry out a mid-term review, and produce a final Monitoring and Evaluation Report to verify the impact and benefits to the area, the value of individual initiatives, activities and staff, and identify key issues and messages to maintain or continue.

PE6 Moor than meets the eye Website

£6,500

A website to promote *Moor than meets the eye*, and to act as a prime means of communicating messages, successes and achievements, and to act as a focus for working with communities.

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Sustainability

Five fully-funded years of delivery will have built significant momentum among communities, business and interest and user groups, energy that the Landscape Partnership is committed to maintaining. Through the likes of the Dartmoor Diploma and Parishscapes and further work on both natural and cultural heritage, it will also have developed and supported many of the skills necessary for long-term management of the area to foster a deeper understanding of the area's heritage for visitors and among the next generation of volunteers and heritage managers.

It is not the intention to seek a further large injection of funds once the five years of the delivering the projects that make up *Moor than meets the eye* is complete; the Landscape Partnership aims to ensure that many elements of the scheme will become self-sustaining.

The commitment to work with local communities should underpin the work of the Project Team during the course of delivering the Scheme and the Monitoring and Evaluation element of this should identify good practice in working and engaging with the communities in the *Moor than meets the eye* area so that this can be embedded in work here and taken wider to other communities in the National Park.

Developing ways of working that clearly involve communities is an essential outcome of *Moor than meets the eye*. The change to the range of projects outlined at the start of section 5 has come through discussions with community groups, interest groups, individuals and the Local Stakeholders Group, and shows how their involvement is important to the evolving Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Secondly, the level of engagement at a more practical level, through volunteering etc, remains a central aim of *Moor than meets the eye*, and the change in emphasis and funding for 'Parishscapes' is perhaps the best demonstration of this, together with incorporating the wishes of the Postbridge community about the Whitehorse Hill excavation into plans for Postbridge Visitor Centre. This and other schemes are set very much within the local community and there should therefore be potential for them to involve and inspire others within those communities to take these further.

Finally, some fee-earning and fundraising potential has been built into the scheme, through part payment towards course costs in the 'Dartmoor Diploma' and under the 'Ancient Boundaries, Modern Farming' stone walling project, and through raising a modest amount of sponsorship for the exhibition at RAMM under 'In the Footsteps of the Victorians'. While forecast income is modest, the foundations will have been laid through the LPS for efficient delivery, directed to best use by a community with the necessary infrastructure and skills in place.

The Landscape Partnership sees *Moor than meets the eye* as the start of increasing participation and collaboration where local residents, businesses, farmers, visitors and agencies do work together to share, understand and appreciate the importance of this landscape and together have the skills and opportunities to contribute to its future. The Partnership is committed to working together in the longer term and will encourage and support local communities in developing the knowledge and skills to play a more prominent and effective role in having responsibility for the plans and decisions that will shape and protect the best of this landscape long into the future.



Monitoring and Evaluation

The contract for evaluation will cover three elements:

- 1. The first stage of work will be within 6 months of the project start and will have four elements:
 - To assess the proposed indicators (as listed in the LCAP) to ensure they will provide adequate evidence for the evaluation
 - To formulise standard survey and feedback forms
 - To provide mentoring and support for Project and delivery staff to ensure monitoring and evaluation is fully embedded in the scheme
 - To provide a methodology for evaluating the overall impact of the scheme on people and communities
- 2. The second stage of the work will be required at mid-point through the LP scheme and will require the following:
 - A review of methodologies
 - Evaluation of progress against projected outputs and outcomes for the scheme as a whole.
 - Evaluation of the impact of the whole schemes on people and communities
 - Consideration of the effectiveness of the Partnership

The Landscape Partnership Scheme is operating over a 5 year time period; one contract will be offered for evaluation to allow for three points of contact

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- To assess the proposed indicators (as listed in the LCAP) to ensure they will provide adequate evidence for the evaluation
- To formulise standard survey and feedback forms
- To provide mentoring and support for Project and delivery staff to ensure monitoring and evaluation is fully embedded in the scheme
- To provide a methodology for evaluating the overall impact of the scheme on people and communities

The second stage of the work will be required at mid-point through the LP scheme and will require the following:

- A review of methodologies
- Evaluation of progress against projected outputs and outcomes for the scheme as a whole.
- Evaluation of the impact of the whole schemes on people and communities
- Consideration of the effectiveness of the Partnership
- 3. The final part of the contact will be 6 months before the end of the scheme and will require a final report in the format suggested by HLF guidance. It will verify the impact and benefits to the area, the value of the projects, activities



and Staff provided and recommend important points to maintain or continue beyond the life of the Scheme.

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Adoption of the Landscape Conservation Action Plan

The Landscape Partnership Board formally adopted this Landscape Conservation Action Plan at their meeting on the 8th January 2014, which included signing the Memorandum of Understanding and Constitution. The Local Stakeholders Group have been involved in developing the suite of projects that deliver the LCAP and has been consulted in the writing of the LCAP.

As the Lead Partner (and Accountable Body), Dartmoor National Park Authority formally adopted this Landscape Conservation Action Plan at its Authority Meeting on the 10th January 2014.

Availability of the Landscape Conservation Action Plan

The full plan will be available on the scheme website and will be linked from partners' websites, where appropriate. Hard copies of this plan will be held by:

- The Lead Partner
- The staff team
- All organisations on the Landscape Partnership Board
- Members of the Local Stakeholders Group
- The Heritage Lottery Fund.

Review of the Landscape Conservation Action Plan

This document will be reviewed on an annual basis over the life of the scheme, to tie in with the submission of a detailed delivery plan for the forthcoming year. This review will ensure that the aims and objectives of the scheme are still being met, thoughts from the local communities are taken into consideration, and any new opportunities incorporated. A thorough evaluation of the scheme will take place through a tendering process for independent consultants to devise a methodology for monitoring and evaluation. This will include a review at or around the mid-term point and in the final year to measure its success and ensure that plans for the legacy are still relevant and can be delivered.

Summarv

Ultimately the LCAP is an operating manual for the scheme. It will naturally evolve as *Moor than meets the eye* progresses, and all agreed changes will be published via the channels described above in amended versions.