# SHEFFIELD MOORS **MASTERPLAN 2013-2028**

**REVISED DRAFTv2** 

# **MAKING CONNECTIONS**

A landscape scale vision for the Sheffield Moors



http://sheffieldmoors.co.uk













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# THE SHEFFIELD MOORS Making connections at a landscape scale

The Peak District National Park Authority, Natural Trust, RSPB, Sheffield City Council, Sheffield Wildlife Trust, and Natural England have come together to work collaboratively as the Sheffield Moors Partnership.

The 'Sheffield Moors' is a collective name for a group of adjoining upland, and predominantly moorland sites that are all in public or charitable ownership. Collectively, they provide an amazing and very accessible landscape for people and wildlife across some 21 square miles of the Peak District National Park and very close to Sheffield, the fourth largest City in England.

The landscape is ancient and dramatic, and can provide a true sense of wilderness and quiet enjoyment, despite its closeness to Sheffield. At the same time, this is a popular place for many different types of access and recreation, attracting over a million visits per year, with more active outdoor pursuits like mountain-biking growing in popularity. The numerous 'edges', from the world famous Stanage, to Froggatt and Curbar provide spectacular views of the area and surrounding landscape, as well as being of international importance for the climbing community.

Many people have a very strong sense of ownership of the area, and a huge passion and knowledge about its wildlife, heritage and recreational importance. Groups representing access, wildlife and other interests are very active in the landscape, and already contribute in many ways to the care and stewardship of the Sheffield Moors.

The archaeological evidence is also incredibly rich, ranging from Bronze Age stone circles through to Second World War training areas that provide a fascinating record of the changes to the landscape and the people who have lived and worked in the area over thousands of years. Today, the moors continue to support the farming community.

There is a great diversity of habitats from the open, heather-clad moorland of Houndkirk, and the ancient oak woodlands of Padley Gorge, to the wet mires of Leash Fen, and the wild-flower rich grasslands of Longshaw and North Lees. These support a very rich and varied wildlife, and a number of sites of high geological value.

The masterplan for the Sheffield Moors aims to help safeguard their public status and integrate the full range of activities they host with their management, their conservation and their place in the wider landscape, both now, and as our legacy to future generations.

The Sheffield Moors Partnership has engaged and consulted with a wide range of people and organisations that cherish and value this landscape. Their thoughts and ideas have helped to shape and influence this masterplan. We want to ensure that people who come to the Sheffield Moors for a whole variety of reasons continue to enjoy and value this wonderful landscape, understand and support any changes that are suggested, and feel positive about our aspirations for the future. We're also keen to encourage more people to get directly involved in caring for the area.

This masterplan gives you the opportunity to share our vision for the Sheffield Moors over the next 15 years - up to 2028. We aspire to make these plans a reality in partnership with you.

# **OUR VISION**

### Our Vision for the Sheffield Moors by 2028 is:

Dramatic, cherished and active, the Sheffield Moors are managed as a connected landscape in the Peak District National Park.

The diverse and distinctive landscape of open moors, dramatic and wild gritstone edges, scattered clough woodlands and upland pastures is of high quality. Management protects and reinforces this historic character and the geology that shapes it, whilst the stories, rich archaeology, and cultural heritage are shared and protected.

Restoration of wildlife rich moorland and heathland, wildflower meadows and wetlands, with new deciduous woodland re-connect habitats across the landscape, and into the surrounding areas like west Sheffield and the Derwent Valley. This provides 'stepping stones' for wildlife to move around and thrive. Overall, habitats are better able to cope with climate change.

A well connected access network to and from Sheffield and surrounding rural communities, complimented by good public transport systems, provides high quality outdoors experiences for all - from the adventurous to the spiritual - whilst bringing people closer to nature.

People from local rural areas, Sheffield, and further afield have a strong sense of belonging for and understanding of the landscape and its special places. By being involved through volunteering, inspiring events and education, they come together to enjoy, care for and help manage the landscape.

A working landscape, supporting economically viable and environmentally sustainable farm businesses, as well as producing sustainable natural products such as wood, water and food, help to support the wider local economy, whilst providing a high quality environment on the doorstep of many people.

At the heart of this, the Sheffield Moors Partnership encourages a thriving collaboration of voluntary, public and private organisations, individuals and the wider community that works together to champion and deliver this shared vision and maximise and enjoy the many benefits of the landscape as a whole.

# THE SHEFFIELD MOORS IN THE PEAK DISTRICT

All of the Sheffield Moors lie within the Peak District National Park, and are just 8 miles from the centre of Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

On its eastern edges lie the Sheffield suburbs of Lodgemoor, Fulwood, Dore and Totley, and to the west are the Derbyshire villages of Hathersage, Grindleford and Baslow. Immediately north and northwest are the Hallam Moors stretching towards the Derwent Valley, whilst to the south is the Chatsworth Estate. Please refer to Figure 1.

The key areas within the Sheffield Moors and the primary land managing organisations are:

- **North Lees and Stanage**, owned and managed by the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA).
- **Redmires Reservoirs**, owned and managed by Yorkshire Water. Much of the surrounding moorland, towards Ringinglow, and conifer plantations, are owned by Sheffield City Council.
- Burbage, Houndkirk and Hathersage Moors, owned by Sheffield City Council.
- Blacka Moor and Wyming Brook, both managed by Sheffield Wildlife Trust on behalf of Sheffield City Council, who own the land.
- Longshaw, owned and managed by the National Trust.
- Eastern Moors (including Totley, Ramsley, Big, and Clod Hall Moors, together with Leash Fen), managed by the Eastern Moors Partnership (E a collaboration of the National Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, on behalf of the Peak District National Park Authority, who own the land.

Please refer to Figure 2 for further detail on the current land managing arrangements.

The Sheffield Moors Partnership does not get involved in the day to day management of each individual site, relying instead on existing partner arrangements and management plans to continue to carry out project activity at a site level in consultation with the communities and others with an interest in these sites.

In essence, the masterplan provides the long-term vision for the landscape as a whole, but the delivery of the vision will be primarily through site management plans which consider, plan and deliver management through detailed work programmes.

# WHAT MAKES THE SHEFFIELD MOORS SO SPECIAL?

The Sheffield Moors are protected by a range of statutory and other designations, as well as local and national policy that influence how it is managed and enjoyed, and have informed the aspirations of this masterplan. The most important are outlined below (please also refer to Figure 4).

At the same time, the Sheffield Moors have played a major role in the nation's love of the outdoors:

### Access and Recreation

The countryside around Sheffield is often referred to as its 'Golden Frame', and at the heart of this lies the Sheffield Moors.

The early development of climbing, as we know it today, started at Stanage Edge in the 1890's, and today the area is of international importance to the climbing community

The area gradually came into public ownership from the 1930's onwards, and this change helped meet a growing desire for public access to the countryside from the citizens of Sheffield, Derbyshire and elsewhere. Sheffield played a major role in the designation of the first National Parks from 1949 onwards and the development of protected 'Green Belt' around large cities. These steps contributed greatly to providing the rich and diverse landscape we enjoy today.

Most of the Sheffield Moors is designated as 'Open Access Land' within the Countryside and Rights of Way (or CROW) Act (2000), which means that access on foot is available across most of the landscape at any time.

In addition, access is provided along a range of designated routes through the existing public and permissive rights of way network (footpaths, bridleways, and byways) that criss-crosses the landscape. Sheffield City Council and Derbyshire County Council, as the respective highway authorities, are legally responsible for the rights of way network across the Sheffield Moors.

### National Park

All of the Sheffield Moors lies within the Peak District National Park. National Parks are designated to achieve the following purposes and are managed accordingly:

- to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the national park.
- to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities (of the park) by the public.

In pursuing these purposes, National Park Authorities also have a duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of their local communities.

Where there is irreconcilable conflict between the statutory purposes, the Sandford Principle will be applied and conservation will be given greater weight.

One of the driving forces behind the designation of National Park status for the Peak District is the very high quality of the landscape.

The Sheffield Moors is a sparsely settled area of gritstone uplands lying to the southeast of the Dark Peak plateau. It is an elevated landscape that drops away to the Derwent Valley to the west, and the Yorkshire Peak Fringe to the east, providing a number of vantage points over the city of Sheffield in lower lying eastern areas.

The landscape has been shaped by millennia of human activity, and three distinct character types are recognised:

- Open moors gritstone moor and heathland, with blanket bog, heather and grass moorland, wide views to distant surrounding hills and valleys, and a sense of remoteness and space.
- Moorland slopes and cloughs steep slopes and dramatic gritstone edges rising to the open moors, with widespread rough grassland, bracken, heather moor, and woodland with exposed views over lower ground.
- Enclosed gritstone uplands upland pasture associated with high, gently undulating moor tops, sloping in places to higher ground. This is a landscape of isolated stone farmsteads, regular fields with patches of acid grassland enclosed by drystone walls, and straight roads.

### Historic Environment

The Sheffield Moors are collectively of national importance for their archaeology.

There are over 40 'Scheduled Monuments' across the area, with those from prehistory, especially the Bronze Age, being particularly evident (please refer to Figure 5). There are also thousands of other recorded archaeological features. Combined these provide a record of the human activity that has created the landscape we know today.

Scheduled Monuments are nationally important sites and monuments, and have statutory protection from damage or disturbance. English Heritage, working in partnership with the Cultural Heritage Team in the PDNPA and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS) based in SCC advise on the management of this suite of sites and features, as well as championing our historic places and advising the government on heritage matters.

The land managing organisations across the Sheffield Moors also have a responsibility to protect these monuments and features when undertaking any work in the area, and are encouraged to maintain scheduled monuments in good condition.

Within the Sheffield Moors, there are extensive tracts of land which have had detailed archaeological surveys. This information is used the Cultural Heritage Team in the

PDNPA and SYAS to advise on the management of the whole archaeological resource – including the thousands of non-scheduled sites and features.

### Wildlife, Geo-diversity and Habitats

The great majority of the Sheffield Moors landscape lies within the 'Eastern Peak District Moors' Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). SSSI's protect the best of the country's wildlife and geological sites.

The Sheffield Moors are also included within of a European Union designated Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC), part of the Europe wide Natura 2000 network of internationally important sites for birds, and habitats respectively, for example merlin and curlew, blanket bog and ancient sessile oak woodland.

Many species and habitats across the area are also priorities within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). The UK BAP describes the biological resources of the UK and provides detailed plans for conservation of these resources, at national and local levels. Action plans for the most threatened species and habitats have been set out to aid recovery.

The area is also important for its geological interest with three designated Geological Conservation Review sites (GCR's) – at Hathersage Moor, Burbage Brook and Leash Fen. GCR's are the most important geological sites in Britain. There is also a range of other Local Geological Sites.

The health (or 'condition') of the SSSI is monitored by Natural England whilst the organisations within the Sheffield Moors Partnership have a duty to ensure the protected wildlife, habitats and geo-diversity is in a 'favourable condition' in liaison with Natural England.

The Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area is not a statutory designation, but it does provide added impetus to encourage the biodiversity value of the Sheffield Moors, and build better connections between people and nature.

# WHAT ARE WE DOING THIS FOR?

The Sheffield Moors are already cared for and managed by a variety of public, private, voluntary and charitable organisations, so why is a masterplan needed?

Currently, the management of the Sheffield Moors is delivered at a 'site-level' through individual management plans (for example, Blacka Moor, or North Lees and Stanage) without as much consideration as there could be of surrounding areas and how each site connects together for the people and wildlife that use and move through the landscape as a whole.

Nationally there is compelling evidence that England's collection of wildlife sites are generally too small and too isolated, leading to declines in many characteristic species. With climate change, the situation is likely to get worse as weather patterns change and become less predictable, increasing pressure on wildlife that cannot easily move or where other suitable sites are too distant. This is bad news for wildlife but also bad news for us, because the damage to nature also means our natural environment is less able to provide the many services upon which we depend. We need more space for nature. At the same time, people need better access to nature. There is compelling evidence that improving people's access to nature results in a multitude of benefits from health and well-being, education and other learning, to spiritual refreshment.

The masterplan is about working at a *landscape scale*, across all of the Sheffield Moors. In simple terms this is all about making wildlife rich places better, bigger and more joined up for people and nature – a strategic over-arching masterplan framework provides an opportunity to consider, plan and where appropriate improve the connections *between* the various sites for people and wildlife, and *across* the landscape as a whole – as well as the connections into and out of surrounding areas..

For example, are there opportunities to link the bridleway network at Blacka Moor to the rights of way network on Houndkirk and Burbage Moors, or how could potential new woodland help provide 'stepping stones' for wildlife between the moorlands and surrounding in-bye land? How can volunteering and engagement opportunities be better co-ordinated across the land managing organisations, and what are the best ways to tell the stories and history of the landscape as a whole? It is these types of opportunities and connections that the masterplan aspires to identify and champion.

The masterplan will encourage greater collaborative working, and where appropriate, consistency in policy between land managing organisations in the Sheffield Moors and others with an interest in how the area is cared for and managed. This type of approach is often called 'landscape scale' land management – moving away from a sometimes fragmented approach, to a holistic one. At the same time, it is recognised that the individual and special character of the different areas within the Sheffield Moors needs to be respected.

The Sheffield Moors landscape also provides a huge range of other 'ecosystem services' - public benefits - that all of us depend on, including:

- Supporting local businesses and the local economy. For example, the Sheffield Moors attract visitors to the area, in turn supporting local pubs and cafes, holiday accommodation, and 'outdoors' shops in local villages, as well as farmers and those employed in looking after the landscape.
- The storage and slow release of water, helping to mitigate flooding in Sheffield in particular, as well providing a local source of drinking water. Under the European Union 'Water Framework Directive', a catchment wide approach to improving water quality and associated wildlife is being promoted
- The storage and sequestration of carbon in peat bogs, woodland and other vegetation, helping to mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Cultural, intellectual and spiritual inspiration and refreshment through the landscape and its inherent qualities.
- Sustainable products like timber from woodland management, and food from the livestock that graze the landscape.

The masterplan will help in championing these wider benefits, and promote their better recognition in the day to day management of the Sheffield Moors. It should also help in raising awareness of their value and importance to people in the urban conurbations and rural communities that live around the Moors.

The Sheffield Moors Partnership (SMP) also hopes that the masterplan will help to influence local planning and other policies through greater recognition of the wider public benefits described above. This in turn, should then be translated into action on the ground that strengthens protection of the Sheffield Moors and adjoining areas from inappropriate development and encourages more integrated access linkages and wildlife-rich habitats into Sheffield and North Derbyshire generally.

By working more closely together, the partners and others with an interest in the Sheffield Moors are also better placed to bid for funding and other resources to help in caring for and managing the landscape – looking after the area ultimately requires people and resources such as farmers and rangers. The existing contribution of many other stakeholders such as the British Mountaineering Council, Ramblers, Hunter Archaeology Society, and Sorby Natural History Society to name just a few organisations is already considerable. Supporting and developing this further is critical to the future of the landscape and the partnership approach we are promoting.

Natural England and the government are supporting landscape scale land management through its programme of 'Nature Improvement Areas' (NIA's) finalised in early 2012. NIA's are large, discrete areas that will deliver a 'step change' in nature conservation, where a local partnership has a shared vision for their natural environment. The partnership will plan and deliver significant improvements for wildlife and people, restoring and creating wildlife habitats, connecting local sites and joining up local activity. The Sheffield Moors is included in the Dark Peak NIA, one of only twelve in England, and the only upland NIA.

The development and implementation of the masterplan for the Sheffield Moors is part of the delivery programme for the Dark Peak NIA and will help in meeting the ambitions of the latter

### Relationship with other policies and strategies

The Sheffield Moors lie across organisational boundaries - the masterplan will complement many existing strategies developed by the core partners and others. At the same time, it will also link to and drive local delivery of other national and regional strategies. The key ones are shown in Figure 3.

### **Cross-cutting themes**

Five main themes run throughout the masterplan:

- 1. **Being involved** including education, interpretation, volunteering, training, events and visitor experience.
- 2. Access and recreation including access networks, recreation, gateways into the area, and visitor facilities.
- 3. **Sustainable land management** including landscape, archaeology and cultural heritage, wildlife, geo-diversity, and farming and woodland management.
- 4. **Recognising the wider value of the moors** including the local economy, tourism and wider 'ecosystem services' such as climate change mitigation, and water storage.
- 5. **Delivering the masterplan** including working collectively to achieve the vision, sharing best practice, and monitoring and review of the masterplan.

# WHAT WE ARE PLANNING TO ACHIEVE – THE STRATEGIC OUTCOMES BY 2028

In 15 years time, delivery of the Vision will enable the Sheffield Moors to be characterised by the following (in no particular order):

### Theme 1 – Being Involved

### 1.1 People and community involvement is at the heart of all activities

People and communities are actively involved in the Sheffield Moors. Many aspects of the care and management of the landscape are delivered by volunteers, user groups, and the wider community facilitated by appropriate training programmes and other support. Stakeholder forums provide regular and on-going opportunities for people influence how the landscape is cared for and managed, whilst land managers such as farmers are committed to achieving the vision alongside and as part of their economic activities.

### 1.2 High quality visitor experience

Visitors explore, enjoy and learn about the natural and historic environment, gaining mental and physical benefits and a sense of well-being from access to nature and the landscape through a variety of experiences, from the wild moorland of areas like Stanage Edge, to the more formally managed like Longshaw.

Fixed interpretation and other signage is focused at key entrances and gateways into the area. Exciting and innovative methods including digital technology are used wherever appropriate, minimising visual intrusion in the wider landscape.

### **1.3 Inspiring activities and engagement**

A co-ordinated programme of inspiring and innovative activities, volunteering, events and learning opportunities provides for the surrounding communities and visitors alike. This helps to foster discovery and understanding of the Sheffield Moors and in turn, encourages pride and support for the area and its stewardship from an early age.

### Theme 2 – Access and Recreation

### 2.1 Key entrances into the landscape

Key entrance points into the landscape such as Redmires, Stanage, Burbage, Longshaw, and Curbar Gap are identified and managed as welcome points to guide visitors into the Sheffield Moors.

### 2.2 A connected access network

Appropriately maintained, connected and integrated access routes provide an extensive network for all users across the Sheffield Moors and into and out of the surrounding landscapes and communities, like those of west Sheffield and the nearby villages of Hathersage, Grindleford and Calver Sough. The links between public rights of way and public transport hubs and routes are well-developed and actively promoted.

The access network is complemented by clear and sympathetic signage of public rights of way and other recognised routes.

### 2.3 An accessible landscape

Access is managed in an integrated and sustainable manner, ensuring high quality, multi-use access for a wide range of recreational activities that are compatible with conservation and other uses and users of the Sheffield Moors including the less able bodied.

Where appropriate, routes and infrastructure are developed along the lines of 'least restrictive access' and promoted as such.

### Theme 3 – Sustainable Land Management

### 3.1 Conservation and enhancement of the landscape

The Sheffield Moors are managed as a holistic landscape, where the historic and characteristic elements of the landscape, from the open moors, to the gritstone edges, clough woodlands and enclosed upland pastures, are protected and where appropriate enhanced for current and future generations.

### **3.2 Protecting and celebrating the rich historic environment**

The historic environment is in good condition, well recorded and understood, and sensitively protected and managed. It is interpreted in creative, inspiring and innovative ways, particularly through virtual means and at key entrances into the landscape, bringing alive the landscape's amazing heritage and giving visitors and communities a strong sense of understanding.

Archaeology and its setting in the landscape are properly considered in the planning and implementation of management activities by land managers.

### 3.3 Management to achieve outstanding biodiversity and protect geo-diversity

Exemplar landscape scale restoration and management of habitats and species is delivering high quality habitats and 'favourable condition' and beyond of Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Geo-diversity interests are protected, well-understood, and appropriately managed and enhanced.

The Sheffield Moors support the full range of healthy, connected and diverse upland habitats including a rich mix of heath, grass, blanket bog, wetland, woodland, woodpasture and scrub together with associated species that are truly characteristic of upland landscapes. The different habitats are well connected and these help to form a coherent network with wildlife rich habitats across the wider Peak District and surrounding areas.

Invasive species are under control, and have been eradicated from key wildlife areas.

### 3.4 Appropriate grazing to achieve conservation objectives

Extensive grazing including appropriate livestock and the resident red deer herd is the primary land management tool on the Sheffield Moors. Opportunities to reconnect moorland with adjacent in-bye grazing fields are taken, to maximise flexibility of grazing regimes and habitat management.

Both of these are delivered through long term partnerships with economically viable and environmentally sustainable farm businesses who are financially rewarded for their role as land managers and the delivery of a range of public benefits.

# 3.5 All habitat management works are assessed against the likely impacts of climate change

Priority is given to habitat management that helps instil resilience to climate change in existing habitats, and at the same time, promotes adaptation to climate change to facilitate the ability of southern species to spread northwards in future years.

### Theme 4 - Making the most of the Wider Benefits of the Moors

### 4.1 Carbon stewardship is promoted

Management and restoration regimes promote the effective storage of existing carbon and the capture of new carbon stores across the Sheffield Moors, especially through increased development of bog vegetation, in turn leading to increased peat formation.

### 4.2 Appropriate opportunities to sustainably harvest natural products are taken

Opportunities are taken to sustainably produce and harvest natural products resulting from the agreed management of the landscape such as food, heather, wood, and water.

### 4.3 Water quality and storage is enhanced through management

Management and restoration regimes help to deliver a clean and high quality water supply and where possible reduce flood risk to surrounding communities.

### 4.4 Supporting the local economy

The Sheffield Moors are recognised for the role they play in supporting local businesses, communities and the wider economy in ways that are in balance with the conservation and recreational values of the landscape.

At the same time, mechanisms are in place for local businesses, local communities and others to support the management of the landscape financially, for example through sponsorship, and a growing market for the natural by-products of land management.

### Theme 5 – Delivering the Masterplan

### 5.1 The wild and open nature of the landscape is protected

All management and other activities in the Sheffield Moors are undertaken in ways that ensure that they do not detract from the landscape's historic character and feeling of wilderness.

Management works and activities do not have a detrimental long-term impact on the high valued peace and tranquility of the landscape.

### 5.2 Working collectively and in partnership to resource and deliver the Vision

The Sheffield Moors Partnership works collectively and inclusively to identify and secure the financial and other resources necessary to deliver the vision.

The masterplan is delivered primarily through individual management plans for each of the sites in the Sheffield Moors that take the aspirations of the vision and implement them through co-ordinated and connected actions between the partners on the ground.

### 5.3 Management is informed by and demonstrates best practice

Decision making is informed by expertise and best practice from within the Partnership and wider stakeholders, complemented by examples and learning from outside the area.

Learning and experience from the development and implementation of the masterplan is also being promoted as best practice where appropriate.

### 5.4 Monitoring and review of the masterplan delivery

The progress of the masterplan is fully reviewed every five years against planned delivery, as well as best practice elsewhere, with the involvement and input of stakeholders.

# WHAT WE ARE PROPOSING TO DO – THE KEY ACTIONS IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

Below are the key planned actions over the next five years that will help deliver the long-term Strategic Outcomes and Vision for the Sheffield Moors.

Further engagement and consultation with tenants, visitors, statutory bodies, and representative groups such as the Local Access Forums will be required in many cases on specific actions to further inform proposals before implementation takes place.

A lot of activity is already happening and all the organisations within the SMP have existing policy documents that help guide site management - the planned actions outlined below help capture what more is either needed or needs to be increased to help deliver the Vision.

A visual representation of the key opportunities that are available over the next fifteen years to help deliver the vision in relation to Access and Recreation, Habitats, and the Historic Environment are illustrated in the next section, Mapping the Future (Figures XX-XX).

## Theme 1 Being Involved

Outcome	Ref	Planned delivery actions by 2018	Lead Organisation
1.1 People and community involvement is at the heart of all activities	a)	• Develop better co-ordination, and closer and more joined-up working between those that plan and deliver volunteering and training opportunities within the Sheffield Moors and adjacent areas from 2013 onwards, driven through the initiation of a cross-partner liaison group	SMP, with volunteering groups
	b)	<ul> <li>Foster greater public and representative group consultation and involvement in Burbage Moors through planning and delivery of the Dark Peak NIA within the Sheffield Moors from 2013 onwards</li> <li>Continue on-going involvement of representative groups elsewhere such as Eastern Moors and Stanage</li> <li>Co-ordinate organisation of 'focus groups' in relation to particular wildlife, heritage or access issues, as appropriate</li> </ul>	NT, and NIA Partnership SMP SMP
	C)	Maintain and support the existing site-based stakeholder forums – Stanage Forum, Blacka Moor and Wyming Brook Reserve Advisory Groups, and the Eastern Moors Stakeholder	PDNPA, SWT, EMP

		Forum	
	d)	• From 2013 onwards deliver an annual 'partnerships' day for the Sheffield Moors, bringing together site-based stakeholder forums across the landscape, together with other user and interest group representatives as necessary, to encourage continuing input into the delivery of the masterplan	SMP in conjunction with Local Nature Partnerships for the Peak District and South Yorkshire
1.2 High Quality Visitor Experience	a)	• By 2015, develop and adopt an interpretation plan for the Sheffield Moors, with shared principles, to steer the priorities and co-ordination of written, virtual (for example, web-based, social media, and pod casts) and other interpretative materials for the landscape, and that identifies the key themes, stories and locations that best lend themselves to interpretation (see also Action 3.2b)	SMP in conjunction with the Peak District Interpretation Plan
	b)	• From 2013, prioritise the use of existing visitor 'hubs' in and around the Sheffield Moors as 'touch points' for visitor information, engagement and interpretation. For example the Moorland Discovery Centre at Longshaw, Ecclesall Woods Woodland Discovery Centre, and Hathersage	SMP
Page		<ul> <li>From 2013, ensure that through an integrated approach to the visitor journey, the right information and engagement is provided for visitors in key locations across the Sheffield Moors</li> </ul>	SMP
ge		Promote the health and well-being benefits of the outdoors	SMP
1.3 Inspiring activities and engagement	a)	• Ensure that education and other engagement programmes reach and appeal to the diversity of communities that surround the Sheffield Moors, to help encourage awareness, understanding and enjoyment of the landscape by all, for example through the Moorland Discovery Centre.	SMP
		• Encourage a more integrated approach to education and lifelong learning, so that providers across the Sheffield Moors are working strategically to make the most of available resources	SMP

## Theme 2 Access and Recreation

Outcome	Ref	Planned delivery actions by 2018	Lead Organisation
2.1 Key entrances in the landscape	a)	By 2016, detailed proposals developed to provide low-key but better managed and presented 'key entrance points' into the Sheffield Moors where needed, in particular Redmires, with implementation underway by 2018.	SCC with Yorkshire Water, PDNPA and Local Access Forums
2.2 A connected access network	a)	In partnership with the Local Access Forums, facilitate the creation of an integrated network of footpaths and strategic multi-user routes especially where these form part of the Sheffield and Derbyshire Public Rights of Way Improvement Plans. By 2018, to have developed proposals for new strategic bridleways routes, with appropriate links and to have commenced implementation. Principal routes to be considered include:	
		• From North Lees to Hathersage village (No. 2 on Figure 7)	PDNPA and DCC Rights of Way Team.
P		<ul> <li>At Eastern Moors – Barbrook Valley, and Curbar/Frogatt Edge (No. 14 on Figure 7) Repair/improve Moss Road bridleway surface as appropriate</li> </ul>	EMP with DCC Rights of Way Team, & PDNPA.
Page		• Through Longshaw and from Upper to Lower Burbage Valley (No's 5,8 and 9 on Figure 7)	SCC & DCC Rights of Way Team, with NT & PDNPA.
57		<ul> <li>Between Totley Moor/Blacka Moor and the Houndkirk Road byway (No. 7 on Figure 7)</li> <li>Within Lady Canning's Plantation (No. 4 on Figure 7)</li> </ul>	As above, with SWT. SCC and SCC Rights of Way Team and PDNPA.
		Between existing bridleway on White Edge Moor, to the proposed Curbar/Frogatt Edge concessionary bridleway (No. 10 on Figure 7)	EMP and NT with DCC Rights of Way Team & PDNPA.
		By 2018, to have developed a dedicated mountain bike route within Lady Canning's Plantation, between the Houndkirk Road and Jumble Road byways	SCC and SCC Rights of Way Team, with PDNPA
	b)	<ul> <li>Work with local Transport Executives and others to advocate the continuing need for existing and better public transport into and across the landscape</li> <li>Contribute to Peak District wide marketing of sustainable travel within the National Park such as Visit Peak District</li> </ul>	PDNPA, with SMP, the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority, and DCC
		<ul> <li>Take opportunities to build better connections between the public rights of way network, (especially key entrance points into the Sheffield Moors) and public transport hubs and routes</li> </ul>	SMP and Local Access Forums
2.3	a)	Opportunities to develop a low-key, low impact camping offer at Lady Canning's Plantation	SCC with the local Planning

A accessible landscape		are explored by 2015, and taken forward as appropriate	authorities
		• Opportunities are taken by 2018 to improve the camping offer at the Eric Byrne site on	
		Eastern Moors, whilst keeping its low-key character	EMP
	b)	• Joint working between the land managers will be employed to help to identify and resolve	SMP with Local Access Forums
		wherever possible recreational pressures in the landscape, linked closely to site	
		management plan development and implementation	

## Theme 3 Sustainable Land Management

Outcome	Ref	Planned delivery actions by 2018	Lead Organisation
3.1 Conservation and enhancement of the landscape	a)	The planning, design and implementation of management actions, particularly proposals that will bring large-scale landscape, is informed by the Peak District National Park Authority Landscape Strategy and specifically that for the 'Eastern Moors', which encompasses all of the Sheffield Moors, as well as the Natural England Dark Peak Character Area profile	SMP
3.2 Protecting and celebrating the rich historic environment	a)	The planning, design and implementation of management works helps to protect and enhance the distinctive historic environment of the Sheffield Moors:	
		• By 2013, all land managing bodies within the Sheffield Moors to have adopted an approach to the management of the Historic Environment that is akin to the best practice model employed by the Eastern Moors Partnership, and its full integration into project planning	SMP, with PDNPA Cultural Heritage Team and SYAS
р		<ul> <li>By 2016, detailed field survey undertaken across Redmires, White Moss to Rud Hill, Lady Canning's Plantation, Nell Croft, and Blacka Moor</li> </ul>	SCC and SWT with SYAS and PDNPA Cultural Heritage Team
Page 59		• A conservation plan has been developed for Carl Wark hill-fort to reduce visitor pressures, such as erosion, to acceptable levels by 2015, and implementation is underway by 2016	SCC with EH, NE, SYAS and PDNPA Cultural Heritage Team
	b)	<ul> <li>By 2018 management recommendations are in place at a landscape scale (for the Sheffield Moors as a whole) for monument protection, visibility and interpretation following detailed analysis of all archaeological information on the Sheffield Moors (following completion of the outstanding survey work listed in 3.2a), and linked to Action 1.2a</li> <li>Opportunities to develop partnerships with Universities, local communities and interested individuals and volunteers, to further archaeological research and study are explored and encouraged</li> </ul>	SMP, with SYAS and PDNPA Cultural Heritage Team
3.3 Management to achieve outstanding biodiversity and protect geo-diversity	a)	<ul> <li>Dry heath restoration work continuing on Eastern Moors and North Lees</li> <li>Roll-out associated dry heath restoration as part of proposed HLS schemes for Burbage and Totley Moors, starting 2014</li> </ul>	EMP, PDNPA, with NE SCC and EMP, with NE
	b)	<ul> <li>Blanket bog and mire restoration work continuing on Eastern Moors (such as Leash Fen) and North Lees</li> <li>Roll-out associated blanket bog and mire restoration as part of proposed HLS schemes for Burbage and Totley Moors, starting 2014</li> </ul>	EMP, PDNPA, with NE SCC and EMP, with NE

	C)	<ul> <li>Wildflower meadow restoration completed around Greenwood Farm, Longshaw by 2015</li> <li>Grassland restoration work continuing around North Lees Hall</li> <li>Grassland restoration on Eastern Moors (Curbar, and Stoke Flats)</li> </ul>	NT PDNPA EMP
	d)	Take appropriate opportunities to create new native woodland and scrub that enhances the landscape, targeted within cloughs and valleys, and through the restructuring of existing conifer dominated plantations:	
		<ul> <li>Burbage Plantations felled by 2015 and replaced with mix of new native woodland (Oak, Birch, Rowan) and open upland habitat</li> </ul>	SCC with FC, NE and NIA Partnership
		<ul> <li>Wood-pasture restoration nearing completion at Sheffield Plantation, Longshaw by 2017 through the phased removal of coniferous plantations complimented by small scale planting of individual wood pasture trees where needed</li> </ul>	NT with NE
		<ul> <li>Scrub and dwarf heath developing on slopes below Stanage Edge by 2015</li> </ul>	PDNPA
Page	e)	Take appropriate opportunities to create small woodland/treed clumps between isolated woodland blocks, to act as 'stepping stones' for associated wildlife to move across the landscape	
60		By 2015, scattered trees and scrub have been created:	SCC with FC & NE
		<ul> <li>from Burbage Edge, and Burbage Valley to Padley Gorge</li> <li>from Lady Canning's Plantation, Houndkirk Moor to Blacka Moor</li> <li>On Ramsley Moor, Eastern Moors – new woodland creation</li> </ul>	EMP
	f)	Diversify existing conifer dominated plantations:	
		• Thinning and other woodland management works to be continued at Redmires Reservoir Plantations, and Lady Canning's Plantation	SCC with FC
		<ul> <li>North Lees/Stanage Estate conifer woodlands – management reviewed and implementation of woodland management programme commenced 2014</li> </ul>	PDNPA with FC
	g)	Bring all existing broadleaved and mixed woodlands within the landscape into appropriate active management regimes by 2014, in particular:	
		<ul> <li>The key remaining woodlands at the North Lees/Stanage Estate</li> <li>The woodland above Surprise View car park (Hathersage Moors)</li> </ul>	PDNPA (and SCC) with FC
	h)	Improve the interface between woodland and other habitats such as moorland and grassland,	

		by promoting graded margins such as scrub:	
		<ul> <li>This approach is integrated into woodland management works as they happen, where appropriate, across the Sheffield Moors</li> <li>Continue existing coppicing work on boundary between Lady Canning's Plantation and adjoining wetland on Ringinglow Road</li> </ul>	SMP SCC
		<ul> <li>Develop a scrubby edge between Blacka Moor and Totley Moor</li> </ul>	EMP and SWT
	i)	Subject to securing the freehold of the sites, to develop and implement appropriate conservation management of the de-commissioned reservoirs at Barbrook and Ramsley	EMP, PDNPA
	j)	Control and where possible eradicate invasive species where they are not part of the historic character of an area, in particular, Himalayan Balsam and Rhododendron:	
		<ul> <li>Rhododendron control to continue at Strawberry Lee Plantation, Blacka Moor</li> <li>Himalayan Balsam control to be undertaken as required across the landscape</li> </ul>	SWT SMP
Page 6	k)	<ul> <li>Develop a Geo-diversity Action Plan for Peak District is by 2015</li> <li>To allow natural and spontaneous geological processes to continue at sites of relevant interest</li> </ul>	Peak District Local Nature Partnership in liaison with the South Yorkshire Geodiversity Partnership Trust & Derbyshire Stone Centre
3.4 Appropriate grazing to achieve conservation objectives	a)	Develop an overall deer management policy for the Sheffield Moors and adopt by 2015	SMP with expert input
	b)	To continue to provide integrated advice and support to the farming community	Peak District National Park Authority Land Management Advisory Service & Peak District Land Managers Forum
3.5 All habitat management works are assessed against the likely impacts of climate change	a)	• To work together and with national agencies involved in environmental monitoring such as the Environment Agency to monitor signs of climate change, the resultant impacts, and develop mitigation and adaptation approaches where appropriate	SMP and national bodies such as EA and NE

## Theme 4 Making the most of the wider benefits of the moors

Outcome	Ref	Planned delivery actions by 2018	Lead Organisation
4.1 Carbon stewardship is promoted	a)	Continue to undertake habitat restoration and management, especially of blanket bog, to protect existing carbon stores and increase the ability of the landscape to store more:	
		Continue mire restoration on the Eastern Moors (for example Leash Fen)	EMP
		<ul> <li>Introduce appropriate blanket bog restoration at Totley Moss and Burbage Moors as part of proposed HLS agreements, from 2014 onwards</li> </ul>	EMP and SCC with NE
		• By bringing all woodlands in the Sheffield Moors into appropriate management by 2014	SMP with FC
4.2 Appropriate opportunities to sustainably harvest natural products are taken	a)	Appropriate opportunities will be taken to harvest natural products from the landscape, that arise from sustainable management of Sheffield Moors (through site management plans)	SMP
4.3 Water quality and storage is	a)	Take opportunities to help restore the natural hydrological systems of blanket bog, wetlands and mire, and more generally increase the area of the landscape that supports diverse, semi-	
Chhanced through management		natural habitats that are better able to capture and store water, and enhance water quality and ecology:	
6 2			EMP
		Continue mire restoration on Eastern Moors (for example Leash Fen)	EMP and SCC with NE
		Introduce appropriate blanket bog restoration at Totley Moss and Burbage Moors as part of proposed HLS agreements, from 2014 onwards	PDNPA and SCC
		<ul> <li>Woodland management to increase structural diversity (for example at North Lees) and proposals for new scattered trees and scrub on Burbage and Houndkirk Moors will help reduce the rate of run-off of water from the land</li> </ul>	EA, with SMP
4.4	a)	General promotion of land management that reduces the risk of flooding     Develop mechanisms for local businesses and others to support the Sheffield Moors:	
Supporting the local economy		Develop and trial a visitor payhook ashered 2012 2015 with least husing as a start set	NIA Dorthorobin
		<ul> <li>Develop and trial a visitor payback scheme, 2012-2015 with local businesses, and roll out the most successful model post 2015</li> </ul>	NIA Partnership
		• Explore the development of commercial sponsorship from corporate organisations from	
		<ul> <li>2013, to help support the objectives of Dark Peak NIA</li> <li>By 2016, associated PhD at Sheffield University – 'Cultural and educational services from</li> </ul>	
		green-space: does biodiversity matter? – completed and learning shared	

## Theme 5 Delivering the Masterplan

Outcome	Ref	Planned delivery actions by 2018	Lead Organisation
5.1 The wild and open nature of the landscape is protected	a)	As for Outcome 3.1, all land managers within the Sheffield Moors to plan and implement management activity in ways that compliment and is sensitive to the areas' very high landscape value, recreational and conservation value	SMP
5.2 Working collectively and in partnership to resource and deliver the Vision	a)	<ul> <li>Secure appropriate agri-environment grant support for all of the Sheffield Moors landscape, to help enable the delivery of public and environmental benefits across the area:</li> <li>Blacka Moor, Burbage Moors, and Totley Moor entered into HLS by 2013</li> <li>North Lees and Stanage woodlands entered into England Woodland Grant Scheme by 2014</li> </ul>	SWT, NT and EMP, with NE PDNPA with FC
Page	b)	<ul> <li>Take appropriate opportunities to secure other funding and resources that contribute to the delivery of the masterplan:</li> <li>Delivery and completion of the current Dark Peak Nature Improvement Programme by 2015</li> </ul>	SMP
<u>ດ</u>	c)	<ul> <li>Invest and grow the capacity for community led fundraising to support delivery of the Vision</li> <li>Through on-going support to stakeholder groups, for example a Ride Sheffield led fundraising programme to develop a dedicated mountain bike route in Lady Cannings Plantation in 2013</li> </ul>	SMP and NIA Partnership
	d)	<ul> <li>Through a process of robust stakeholder engagement and consultation, management plans to be prepared (and existing ones reviewed as appropriate) for the following sites by 2015:</li> <li>Blacka Moor</li> <li>Burbage Moors</li> <li>North Lees and Stanage</li> </ul>	SWT SCC PDNPA
5.3 Management is informed by and demonstrates best practice	a)	Encourage the sharing of 'lessons learnt' resulting from management of the Sheffield Moors, and relevant examples from elsewhere, and in turn, the application of best practice on the ground, through:	

		<ul> <li>Proper review of site management plans as they come up for review and renewal</li> <li>Periodic best practice events and workshops, and SM partnership meetings</li> <li>Good communication with other Nature Improvement Areas, especially those that encompass upland land management.</li> </ul>	SMP, NIA Partnership
5.4 Monitoring and review of the masterplan delivery	a)	<ul> <li>Annual review of delivery by SMP Steering Group, from 2013 onwards</li> <li>Delivery of the plan fully reviewed in 2018, informed by best practice locally and outside the Partnership, and new five year delivery programme developed.</li> </ul>	SMP SMP

# MAPPING THE FUTURE

Please refer to Figures XX-XX.

These highlight some of the key current issues (as of 2012) in relation to the management of Access and Recreation, Habitats, and the Historic Environment across the Sheffield Moors and provide an <u>indicative</u> illustration of how these issues may have been resolved or have moved forward in 15 years time (by 2028).

The maps are deliberately indicative because the detail of any proposals will be finalised through detailed planning, generally as part of site management plans, including appropriate liaison with statutory bodies such as Natural England, and the involvement of stakeholders such as visitors and representative organisations.

# HOW WE WILL WORK TOGETHER

### How we will work together

The Sheffield Moors Partnership will:

- Work collaboratively and pool resources (funding and people) when appropriate to deliver the Vision and Strategic Outcomes set out in the masterplan by 2028
- Deliver the masterplan primarily through individual management plans for each of the 'sites' in the Sheffield Moors, taking the aspirations of the vision and implementing them through co-ordinated and connected actions between the partners on the ground. For example, the delivery of the masterplan at Blacka Moor will be led by Sheffield Wildlife Trust as the primary land manager, through the site management plan, working jointly and in liaison with adjacent land owners wherever appropriate for example, when developing the proposed bridleway link between Blacka Moor and Houndkirk Moors
- Make decisions based on expertise and best practice from within the Partnership and wider stakeholders, complemented by examples and learning from outside the area.
- Be streamlined with little bureaucracy
- Have mutual respect for each organisation's aims and site objectives, while reflecting and balancing the needs of the wider landscape.
- Communicate as one group our successes and best practice.
- Support one another in difficult and contentious issues, offering advice and if possible a partnership view.
- Resolve 'local' issues by working together, using similar practices and approaches, and fostering a culture that delivers on a landscape scale (i.e. the whole is greater than the sum of the parts of the partnership).
- Consult regularly and openly with a wide range of stakeholders and communities.
- Influence nationally, regionally and locally to achieve the 2028 vision (for example, local planning policy).
- Consider opportunities to potentially extend the Sheffield Moors approach to other adjoining areas as these arise.

### Monitoring and review of the masterplan

The Sheffield Moors Partnership will monitor the progress of the masterplan through an associated Steering Group, meeting several times a year.

At the same time, the SMP will co-ordinate an annual 'partnerships' day for the Sheffield Moors, bringing together all existing stakeholder forums like the Stanage Forum and Blacka Moor Reserve Advisory Group, together with other user and interest group representatives as necessary, including those from the farming community. The aim of these events will be provide a formal two-way feedback process on progress towards achieving the vision.

The progress of the masterplan will be fully reviewed every five years against planned delivery, with the involvement and input of stakeholders, and a new five year delivery programme developed. The next full review will be in 2018.

# **APPENDIX 1 - List of Stakeholder Organisations**

The following table lists the stakeholder organisations who have in some form been involved in the development of this masterplan:

Action for Involvement British Horse Society **British Mountaineering Council Baslow & Bubnell Parish Council** Campaign for the Protection of Rural England Calver Parish Council Curbar Parish Council **Dark Peak Fell Runners Derbyshire County Council Derbyshire Wildlife Trust** Eastern Moors Partnership English Heritage **Environment Agency Forestry Commission** Friends of Blacka Moor Friends of the Peak District Friends of the Porter Valley Grindleford Parish Council Hallam Riders Group Hathersage Parish Council Hunter Archaeological Society National Trust Natural England Moorland Association **Outseats Parish Council** Parsons House Outdoor Centre Peak District Local Access Forum Peak District National Park Authority Peak Horse Power Ramblers Association **Ride Sheffield** Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Sheffield Area Geology Trust Sheffield Bird Study Group Sheffield Campaign for Access to Moorland Sheffield City Council Sheffield Futures Sheffield Local Access Forum Sheffield & Peak Against City Encroachment Sheffield University of the Third Age (U3A) Sheffield Visually Impaired Walking Group Sheffield Wildlife Trust Sorby Natural History Group South West Community Assembly, Sheffield City Council South Yorkshire Archaeology Service South Yorkshire Biodiversity Forum South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group South Yorkshire Forest Partnership South Yorkshire Freight Partnership South Yorkshire Geodiversity Partnership Yorkshire Water

# **APPENDIX 2 – Masterplan Timeline**

# To be drafted

Proposed that this section has a simple timeline illustrating the process and timeline followed to prepare the masterplan (from Oct 2011 to present), referencing the 4 key stages, and with web links to the key documents produced (such as the Moorviews report from the public workshops in Feb-March last year)

# **APPENDIX 3 – Glossary of Terms**

Agri-env – Agri-environment schemes, such as Higher Level Stewardship that reward land managers for a range of effective environmental management

DCC – Derbyshire County Council

EA – Environment Agency

EWGS – England Woodland Grant Scheme, an agri-environment scheme overseen by the Forestry Commission that encourages sustainable woodland management

EMP – Eastern Moors Partnership, a collaboration of the National Trust and the RSPB

Geo-diversity - the variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, soils, landforms and natural processes. Geo-diversity is what produces the variety of landscapes found in the Sheffield Moors.

HLS – Higher Level Stewardship, an agri-environment scheme overseen by Natural England

MFF – Moors for the Future Partnership, which includes the Peak District National Park Authority (who host the partnership), National Trust, Natural England, United Utilities, Severn Trent Water, Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water, Derbyshire County Council and RSPB

NE – Natural England

NIA – Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area Partnership, which includes the RSPB, National Trust, British Mountaineering Council, United Utilities, Sheffield Wildlife Trust, Peak District National Park Authority, Natural England, and Sheffield City Council

NT – National Trust

PDNPA – Peak District National Park Authority

RSPB – Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

SAC – Special Area for Conservation; internationally important areas for particular habitats. In the case of the Sheffield Moors, these are blanket bog and Sessile Oak woodland

- SCC Sheffield City Council
- SM Sheffield Moors
- SMP Sheffield Moors Partnership

SPA – Special Protection Area; internationally important areas for particular breeding birds. In this case, species such as merlin and curlew

SSSI – Sites of Special Scientific Interest, the best of the country's wildlife and geological sites

- SWT Sheffield Wildlife Trust
- SYAS South Yorkshire Archaeology Service

# **APPENDIX 4 – Bibliography and Reference Sources**

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