



**Tamar Valley**  
National  
Landscape

Consultation Draft  
Sep - Nov 2024

# Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan No.6 2025 - 2030

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# Executive Summary

## Our Vision

By 2055, Tamar Valley National Landscape has a strong sense of place and wellbeing, as a distinctive and internationally important landscape of high visual quality and a protected green and blue haven where communities and wildlife flourish. Nature and People are entirely connected, enjoying clear air, clean water, wholesome food, good health and resilience to a changing climate and variable economy. Tamar Valley National Landscape is a unique and vibrant destination of choice and high value.

A place to be. A place to breathe. A place to thrive.

## Our Purpose

To conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley.



## Our Strategy

- Champion a Nature-first approach throughout all activities, collaborations, delivery and partnerships.
- Inspire positive action to adapt to a warmer climate, clean and protect the landscape, decarbonise our communities and restore Nature.
- Secure investment and innovate to deliver at pace and at scale to deliver bigger, better and more joined up spaces for Nature.
- Strengthen our Partnership for improved coordination, evidence gathering and collaborative goal setting for Nature, Climate, Place and People.



# Our Projects

## Nature First

- Increase canopy cover, hedgerows, Special Species habitats and wildflower meadows creating connected Nature corridors.
- Expand control of Invasive Non-Native Species throughout the Tamar Catchment Area.
- Improve land and SSSI management, soil quality, tranquility, water quality and water storage throughout the Tamar Catchment Area.

## Climate Adaptation

- Enable and encourage regenerative agriculture and forestry, sensitive agri-tech applications, clean transport, energy saving and retrofitting.
- Improve data collection, analysis, reporting, applications of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics technology for better decision making.
- Influence National policy through contribution, engagement and sharing of best practice.

## Place Makes People

- Connect people with Nature through accessible and inclusive events, interpretation, shared experience, trails and volunteering.
- Celebrate community, culture, dark skies, heritage, landscape character, scenic quality and tranquillity within the landscape.
- Introduce landowners to investors and placemaking for integrated Nature, Climate Adaptation and Place enhancing projects.

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## **Management Plan Baseline**

The State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape baseline data statistics were issued by Natural England under the Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework during April 2024.

The Framework contains 10 targets, each accompanied by an indicator which will measure progress towards it and its related outcome. The indicator is supported by statistics generated from nationally available data collated by Natural England, from a range of data providers to establish the baseline for the Framework's indicators. Data owners include Natural England, Defra, the Forestry Commission and Historic England.

Defra will review the Framework at least every 5 years, linked to refreshes of the Environmental Improvement Plan 2023.

Defra will adjust targets, indicators and supporting statistics to ensure they remain relevant and functional.

Natural England will support this process, collating and providing annual updates of statistics each April to the Protected Landscapes Partnership, Defra and Protected Landscape bodies. Natural England will evaluate progress towards the targets and outcomes in the Framework with the first report due in Summer 2025. In addition to the indicators from Natural England, Tamar Valley National Landscape commissioned a State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape report which was produced in June 2024. This has also been used as a reference point to baseline this Management Plan and shape its ongoing priorities for 2025 – 2030. This State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape report will be carried out every 5 years and the next is due in 2029.

# State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape

## Stat 1 : Priority Habitats



<b>3,672 Ha</b>	Priority Habitat Area
<b>19,649 Ha</b>	Protected Landscape Area
<b>19%</b>	Protected Landscape Area
<b>15,977 Ha</b>	Not Priority Habitat Area
<b>2083 Ha</b>	Deciduous Woodland
<b>834 Ha</b>	Mudflats
<b>274 Ha</b>	Coastal Saltmarsh
<b>115 Ha</b>	Lowland Heathland
<b>107 Ha</b>	Traditional Orchard
<b>102 Ha</b>	Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh
<b>91 Ha</b>	Good Quality Semi Improved Grassland
<b>84 Ha</b>	Reedbeds
<b>11 Ha</b>	Lowland Meadows
<b>9 Ha</b>	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland
<b>4 Ha</b>	Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures
<b>1 Ha</b>	Calaminarian Grassland
<b>0 Ha</b>	Lowland Fens

## Stat 2 : Designated Areas



<b>149.94 Ha</b>	Local Nature Reserve Area
<b>0.8%</b>	Local Nature Reserve Area
<b>1.50 km<sup>2</sup></b>	Local Nature Reserve Area
<b>0 km<sup>2</sup></b>	National Nature Reserve Area
<b>0 km<sup>2</sup></b>	Ramsar (wetland site of international importance)
<b>19.79 km<sup>2</sup></b>	Special Area of Conservation
<b>14.89 km<sup>2</sup></b>	Special Protection Area
<b>20.23 km<sup>2</sup></b>	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

## Stat 6 : Tamar Valley SSSI Condition



<b>45%</b>	SSSI Features in Favourable Condition
<b>20</b>	Total Number of SSSI Features
<b>7</b>	Number Not Recorded
<b>20</b>	Negative
<b>0%</b>	SSSI Features On Track

## Stat 7: Land Managed Under Agri-Environment Schemes



<b>4,500 Ha</b>	Area in Agri-Environment Scheme
<b>391,800</b>	Annual value in Countryside Stewardship and Sustainable Farming Incentive

## Stat 4 : Ancient Woodlands



<b>376.6Ha</b>	Ancient and Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland
<b>1.9%</b>	Of Tamar Valley National Landscape
<b>1,256.7 Ha</b>	Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites
<b>6.4%</b>	Of Tamar Valley National Landscape
<b>40.64 Ha</b>	Old Canal Wood
<b>36.71 Ha</b>	Shevioc / Hawks Woods
<b>35.69 Ha</b>	Leigh Wood
<b>26.14 Ha</b>	Blaxton Wood
<b>22.30 Ha</b>	Warleigh Wood
<b>19.35 Ha</b>	Tremoan Wood
<b>16.84 Ha</b>	Blackmoorham Woods
<b>14.68 Ha</b>	Greystone Woods
<b>13.97 Ha</b>	Great North Woods
<b>11.04 Ha</b>	Ashleigh Blaxton Coppice
<b>10.10 Ha</b>	Hole / Hallowell Woods
<b>9.65 Ha</b>	Hardstone Wood
<b>8.59 Ha</b>	Harewood
<b>8.25 Ha</b>	Buttspill Wood
<b>6.01 Ha</b>	Langham / Round Woods
<b>5.73 Ha</b>	Wacker Wood
<b>5.65 Ha</b>	Milton Brook Wood
<b>5.53 Ha</b>	Venton/Mill Hills Woods
<b>4.51 Ha</b>	Blindwell Woods
<b>3.91 Ha</b>	Hardicott Wood
<b>3.67 Ha</b>	Collacombe Wood
<b>3.59 Ha</b>	Clitters Wood
<b>3.44 Ha</b>	Lilliput Wood
<b>3.43 Ha</b>	Ward Plantation
<b>2.25 Ha</b>	Blanchdown Wood
<b>2.15 Ha</b>	Dairy Dell Wood
<b>2.02 Ha</b>	Lamerhooe Wood
<b>1.57 Ha</b>	Whitsam Wood
<b>1.39 Ha</b>	Polbathic / Tredis Wood
<b>1.15 Ha</b>	Burrhills Wood
<b>0.98 Ha</b>	Crowngate Wood
<b>0.63 Ha</b>	Rock Park Wood
<b>0.01 Ha</b>	Grenofen Wood

## Stat 3 : Sustainable Woodland Management



<b>1,955.6 Ha</b>	Managed Private
<b>1,36.94 Ha</b>	Managed Public
<b>1,628.6 Ha</b>	Unmanaged
<b>3,731.14 Ha</b>	Total Woodland

## Stat 12 : Populations Living in Deprivation



<b>6</b>	Average IMD Decile Median
<b>33%</b>	Decile 6
<b>24%</b>	Decile 5
<b>18%</b>	Decile 7
<b>16%</b>	Decile 4
<b>10%</b>	Decile 9

## Stat 9 : Woodland Area Data



<b>2,192.44 Ha</b>	Broadleaved
<b>1,132.31 Ha</b>	Conifer
<b>126.68 Ha</b>	Felled
<b>97.13 Ha</b>	Mixed
<b>96.69 Ha</b>	Young Trees
<b>18.98 Ha</b>	Shrub
<b>6.73 Ha</b>	Ground Prep
<b>1.59 Ha</b>	Windblow

## Stat 11 : Tamar Valley Hedgerow Length



<b>2,100 km</b>	Hedgerows
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## Stat 24 : Tamar Valley School Pupils



<b>85%</b>	Capacity Reached
<b>82,800</b>	No of Pupils on School Roll
<b>97,600</b>	Total Capacity

## Stat 15 : Geological SSSI Features



<b>Declining</b>	Lockridge Mine - Mineralogy
<b>Favourable</b>	Crocadon Mine - Variscan Structures
<b>Favourable</b>	Devon Great Consols - Mineralogy

### 1950 - 2023

The Tamar Valley is warmer and wetter.

### 2011 - 2021

There has been an increase in home working by those residents who are employed.

### 2011 - 2021

There is less land in agriculture and fewer agricultural holdings.

### 2011 - 2021

Fewer residents are seeking work; and fewer people are employed in agriculture.

### 2018 - 2023

There is a steady increase in light pollution but no polluting traffic noise.

## Stat 5 : Ecological Status of Watercourses



<b>Water Bodies</b>	
<b>61.26km</b>	Total Length of Water Bodies
<b>57.74km</b>	Moderate
<b>1.86km</b>	Good
<b>1.65km</b>	Poor Condition

### Catchment Area

<b>2km</b>	Good
<b>9km</b>	Moderate
<b>1km</b>	Poor
<b>3%</b>	Good status of Tamar Valley Water Body
<b>13%</b>	Good status of Water Body Catchment Area

## Stat 8 : Heritage Assets



<b>644</b>	Listed Buildings
<b>569</b>	Grade II
<b>46</b>	Grade II* Listed
<b>29</b>	Grade I Listed
<b>0.3%</b>	At Risk
<b>27</b>	Scheduled Monuments
<b>2</b>	Grade I
<b>2</b>	Grade II*
<b>37%</b>	At Risk

### Heritage At Risk

<b>1</b>	Grade I Listed Building At Risk
<b>1</b>	Grade II Listed Building At Risk
<b>1</b>	Grade I Place of Worship at Risk

## Stat 17 : Tamar Valley Census 2021



<b>16,500</b>	Population
<b>49</b>	Average Age
<b>98%</b>	White
<b>1%</b>	Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups
<b>1%</b>	Other Ethnic Groups
<b>£2,100</b>	Average Earnings (Epcm)
<b>8</b>	Average House Affordability Ratio
<b>895</b>	Total Number of Local Business Units = 1-9 Employees
<b>580</b>	Grade I
<b>230</b>	Grade II*
<b>90</b>	At Risk

# Purpose of the Management Plan

A Protected Landscape Management Plan is statutory in that the Responsible Authority (National Park Authority, the Broads Authority, and Local Authorities with National Landscapes (or Conservation Boards where established/ the Conservancy) is required by law to produce them and review them every 5 years. Management Plans are of national importance. No major decisions should be taken affecting the future of a Protected Landscape without reference to its Management Plan.

The Management Plan, in its entirety, establishes the management policy of the Responsible Authorities. The Management Plan for the geographic area of the designation and not for any one authority or body. As a strategic over-arching document that coordinates and integrates other policies, plans and strategies where these relate to the purposes and duties. The Management Plan is, therefore, the principal vehicle for ensuring that the statutory purposes of the Protected Landscape are met.

## The Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan aims to:

- Present ambition and strategy to achieve the purposes of Tamar Valley National Landscape
- Summarise briefly the drivers for change and issues acting on the designation
- Establish measures of progress and success, including meaningful measures around climate change mitigation and adaptation, including clear, measurable targets to support Net Zero
- Identify the who, how, and when of delivery
- Establish management principles to guide the activity and decisions of others
- Embed an ecosystems service approach
- Describe the significant attributes of the designation
- Summarise the trends in the condition of the landscape and quality of life for people living and working in it

## The review of the Management Plan and the management of Tamar Valley National Landscape is a shared task for all.

The review process is vital in securing commitment to act jointly to conserve and enhance the landscape, galvanising collaborative action. As well as being a statutory requirement, a 5 year review of the Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan is necessary to ensure continuing relevance in light of changing circumstances, new drivers, and adaptive learning from implementation.

## Key drivers and dependencies:

- Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))
- Links to Environment Act Habitat Target – relates to Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework above  
<https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6427187599900672>
- County climate and carbon plans
- Local Nature Recovery Strategy creation and Natural Capital and Ecosystem Assessment Programme - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))
- Third National Adaptation Programme, February 2024
- Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (LURA), including the ‘seek to further’ duty upon local authorities
- Local Authority strategic plans
- Partner and stakeholder strategic plans
- United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals
- National Planning Policy Framework
- UNESCO World Heritage Convention

# Introduction

**Our National Parks and National Landscapes, collectively known as Protected Landscapes, are home to some of our most iconic and beautiful places. These remarkable landscapes support our nation's health and wellbeing.**

They're also crucial to delivering our commitments to tackle climate change and restore Nature, including our international commitments under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Each of our Protected Landscapes is unique. This is both in the challenges they face and the huge potential they offer to become the type of nature-rich areas we want to see across the country. We want our Protected Landscapes to be distinctive cultural landscapes that are alive with biodiversity and where rural businesses prosper. We want these landscapes to be enjoyed responsibly by a diverse range of people, enhancing wellbeing for all of society.

We want our farmers to benefit from good quality soils, clean water and an abundance of pollinators. Protected Landscapes are havens for native plants and wildlife. They hold swathes of irreplaceable ancient woodland and species-rich grassland, and they store carbon within their extensive tracts of deep peat. They are home to some of our most endangered species such as red squirrel, curlew and water vole.

An estimated 270 million visitors are drawn to these iconic places every year, to feel the benefits of being immersed in nature. People also come to experience the heritage assets which give such a sense of history, place and our cultural identity. This abundance of natural and cultural capital must be protected.

There is also huge potential to improve outcomes at a scale that can make positive changes for current and future generations to enjoy. Protected Landscapes have dedicated teams in their National Park Authorities, Conservation Boards and National Landscape Partnerships (collectively referred to here as Protected Landscape bodies). These teams contain a depth of knowledge and understanding of their areas and the rural economies in which they operate. They use strong and trusted relationships with local communities to get the best out of each landscape. This offers an excellent opportunity to place them at the forefront of coordinating the local action needed to achieve our bold ambitions.

The Protected Landscape bodies cannot reach these targets on their own. Success will require active participation by a wide range of stakeholders from across all sectors. We encourage Protected Landscape bodies, both individually and collectively, and their local partners to push their ambition and go above and beyond the targets set. These targets should be seen as a minimum contribution rather than a limit on a Protected Landscape's ambition.

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**Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs**  
January 2024



Tamar Valley National Landscape is a very special place for us all, with a 500 year World Heritage Site mining heritage, internationally protected species of both fauna & flora and a celebrated natural & tranquil landscape producing quality food and drink, inspiring arts & crafts, riverside walks and marine activities, all within vibrant rural communities enjoying a safe haven and leading healthy lifestyles. Designated in 1995, our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership has achieved a great deal in that time, securing more than £16m of investment and delivering more than 340 projects.

**Working together we have achieved our purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley landscape.**

New challenges have been set out for us. The Lawton Review demanded bigger, better, more joined up; outcomes of the Glover Review led to our repositioning as a National Landscape; the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (LURA) strengthened policy with a duty to seek to further the purposes of Protected Landscapes, Defra has published our Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework as a minimum for our delivery, Natural England has issued our state of the National Landscape Habitat Indicators, and of course the IPCC has forewarned of a 3 degree increase in temperatures by the end of the century.

To meet these challenges we cannot only repeat the good work we have done before. We must be more ambitious and urgent in our efforts, take on a different pace of activity and deliver at a far greater scale. We will be more robust in the regular assessment of both Nature recovery targets, emerging climate challenges and general landscape enhancement, through smarter engagement and inclusivity of key businesses, community and voluntary sector, stepping up to invest in the Tamar Valley's future.

So as we set out our plan for the next 30 years by consultation and fully engaging our communities, every landowner and new investors, encouraging Nature-enhancing and climate adapting activity, we strive to further champion the Tamar Valley in proud celebration of our people, place and Nature.



**Martin Howlett**

Chair

Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership





**Sarah Gibson**

Manager

Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership



A Nature-first approach must lead our collective actions for the next 3 decades to address the needs for biodiversity, climate adaptation and conservation of our landscape. We've set out our urgent ambition to prepare for a 3 degree warmer climate, as we continue to work hard to protect and improve what we already have. The next 5 years are vital to deliver our immediate priorities, critical quick wins and define workstreams for the next 30 years.

Within this 5 year Management Plan, our Partnership looks to its communities, investors, landowners and stakeholders to work together to rapidly scale up delivery to provide more hedgerow and tree canopy, more wildflowers, manage water to improve its quality and storage within the land, conserve and regenerate the soil, improve habitats for vulnerable species, dramatically increase retrofitting of domestic and commercial properties, and decarbonise travel to reduce carbon emissions. All of this within Tamar Valley National Landscape area and surrounding Tamar Catchment Area to provide a bigger, better, more joined-up landscape for Nature and people to thrive.

We'll use a new doughnut economic model to promote a circular economy, specifically tailored to our Tamar Valley National Landscape, to help us to focus on our priorities and provide more robust monitoring. The Tamar Valley Doughnut model is introduced within this 5 year Management Plan and is an important addition to our toolkit.

A big thank you to our delivery Team who work passionately to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley landscape and for embracing these new tasks as we embark on our next 5 years of activity.

This is our Partnership's rallying call.

**We're now in a race to protect and grow our Nature and adapt to become more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Together, we will make the difference for the Tamar Valley and its communities.**





**Tamar Valley**  
National  
Landscape

**Tamar Valley**  
National  
Landscape,  
designated an Area  
of Outstanding  
Natural Beauty  
(AONB) in 1995.



CORNWALL



DEVON

**Key**

- Tamar Valley National Landscape Boundary
- Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site (A10i)
- Tamar Coast to Coast Way
- Tamar Valley Discovery Trail
- Train Station
- Hiking Route
- Disabled Access
- Viewpoint
- Ferry
- Wetlands



DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK



SALTASH

PLYMOUTH

TRAINS TO LONDON

WACKER QUAY

ANTONY HOUSE NATIONAL TRUST

PRINCE ALBERT BRIDGE

ROYAL WILLIAM YARD

PLYMOUTH SOUND NATIONAL MARINE PARK

SHEATONS TOWER

TRAINS TO LONDON



## Tamar Valley National Landscape

### Tamar Valley Devon & Cornwall Border Location

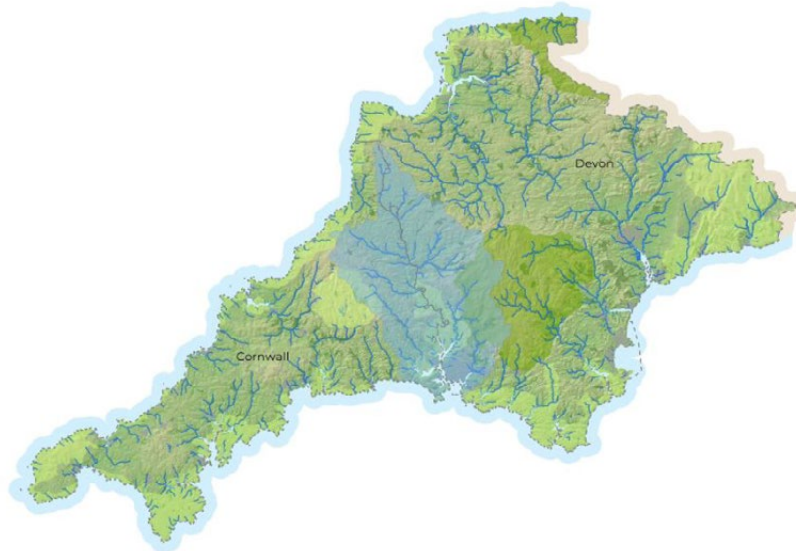
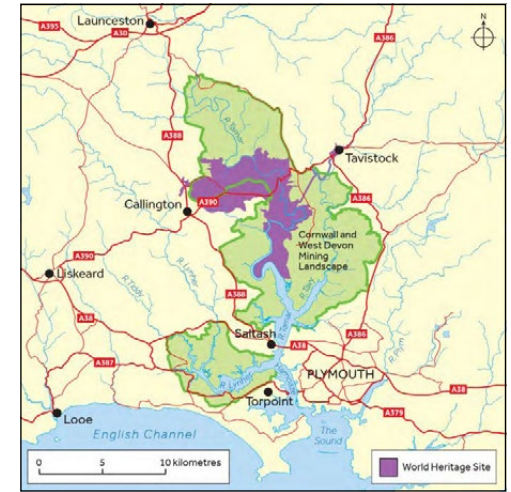
One of 8 Protected Landscapes in Devon and Cornwall, Tamar Valley National Landscape sits within a 1,800 square kilometres Tamar Catchment Area.

3 main rivers - Tamar, Tavy and Lynher - are core to the Tamar Valley National Landscape.



### World Heritage Site

Section 10 of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site lies within the Tamar Valley National Landscape.



### Tamar Catchment Area

The River Tamar meets the sea at Plymouth Sound with Tamar Estuary extending approximately 22 kilometres inland to Gunnislake. The Plymouth Sound National Marine Park lies within the Tamar Catchment Area and the southern range of the Tamar Valley National Landscape.

# Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework

Protected Landscapes have significant environmental potential, containing almost half of England's priority habitats. They also contain over half of our most precious sites for biodiversity, land designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). To ensure these habitats are reaching their full potential for Nature recovery, we have set targets to motivate more activity on the components needed to ensure wildlife can thrive.

## Thriving plants and wildlife targets

### Target 1

Restore or create more than 250,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitats within Protected Landscapes, outside protected sites by 2042 (from a 2022 baseline).

### Target 2

Bring 80% of SSSIs within Protected Landscapes into favourable condition by 2042.

### Target 3

For 60% of SSSIs within Protected Landscapes assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition by 31 January 2028.

### Target 4

Continuing favourable management of all existing priority habitat already in favourable condition outside of SSSIs (from a 2022 baseline) and increasing to include all newly restored or created habitat through agri-environment schemes by 2042.

### Target 5

Ensuring at least 65% to 80% of land managers adopt nature friendly farming on at least 10% to 15% of their land by 2030.

## Mitigating and adapting to climate change targets

### Target 6

Reduce net greenhouse gas emissions in Protected Landscapes to net zero by 2050 relative to 1990 levels.

### Target 7

Restore approximately 130,000 hectares of peat in Protected Landscapes by 2050.

### Target 8

Increase tree canopy and woodland cover (combined) by 3% of total land area in Protected Landscapes by 2050 (from 2022 baseline).

## Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment targets

### Target 9

Improve and promote accessibility to and engagement with Protected Landscapes for all using existing metrics in our Access for All programme.

### Target 10

Decrease the number of nationally designated heritage assets at risk in Protected Landscapes.

# Our Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership's Vision: Setting the Course for the Next 30 Years



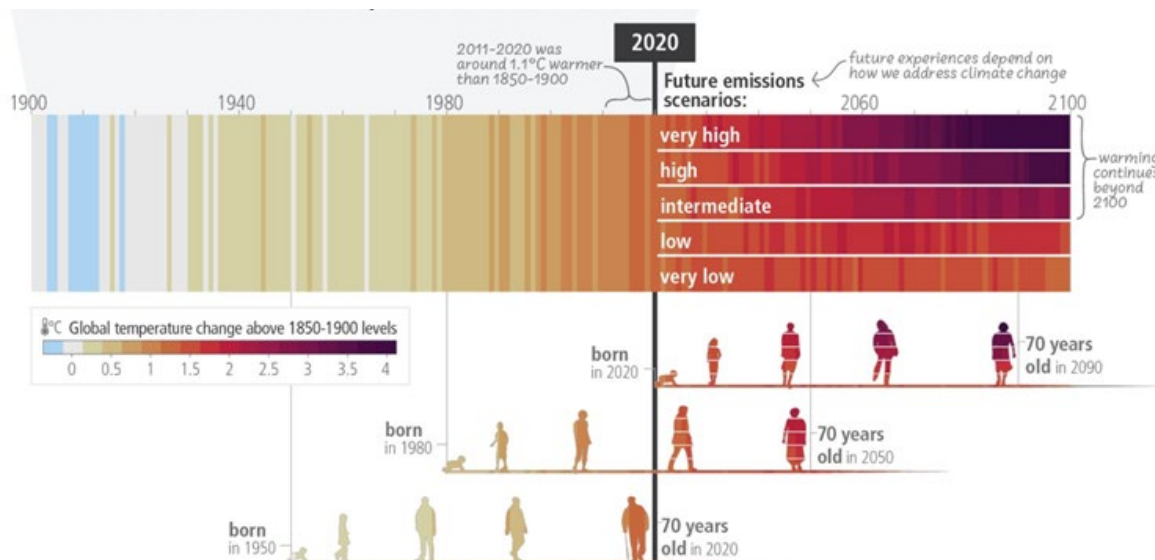
Building on the legacy generated by our first 30 years of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty designation in 1995, our Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership has developed a 30-year Vision and goal setting strategy which will lead us forward from 2025 to 2055.

During this period of time it is anticipated that our planet Earth will undergo changes, to its climate, to its weather patterns and to its biodiversity. These changes are likely to lead to increases in global temperatures, which the science projects as leading to a more unpredictable climate involving a significant increase in rainfall through Winter months, longer periods of drought through Summer months and the potential for poorer air quality.

A warming of around 3 degrees is anticipated, which, though sounds minor, will make a significant contribution toward the loss of habitats, species and land mass around the planet. Perhaps most concerning is the risk to the loss of sea life and the potential for catastrophic species loss.

has released its 2023 report: Climate Change 2023 Synthesis Report, Summary for Policymakers. It states that "Rapid and far-reaching transitions across all sectors and systems are necessary to achieve deep and sustained emissions reductions and secure a liveable and sustainable future for all. These system transitions involve a significant upscaling of a wide portfolio of mitigations and adaptation options. Feasible, effective, and low-cost options for mitigation and adaptation are already available, with differences across systems and regions."

The illustration below models to a 4 degree of warming; current global efforts have been projected by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as generating a 3 degree of warming:



## Our Response

In response to the need for action, and the Lawton Review conclusions urging for 'bigger, better and more joined up action', we are choosing to work with greater urgency in the next five years, acting to:

- Restore Nature
- Promote Biodiversity Net Gain
- Significantly scale up adaptation to the changing climate
- Support communities to adapt and thrive in a changing world

Our Vision has therefore changed from previous years to reflect the current Biodiversity Crisis and the Climate Change Crisis.

**A clear and policy-driven need  
for Biodiversity Net Gain, Climate  
Adaptation and a greater sense  
of urgency to act has been set out.**

By 2055, Tamar Valley National Landscape has a strong sense of place and wellbeing, as a distinctive and internationally important landscape of high visual quality and a protected green and blue haven where communities and wildlife flourish. Nature and People are entirely connected, enjoying clear air, clean water, wholesome food, good health and resilience to a changing climate and variable economy.

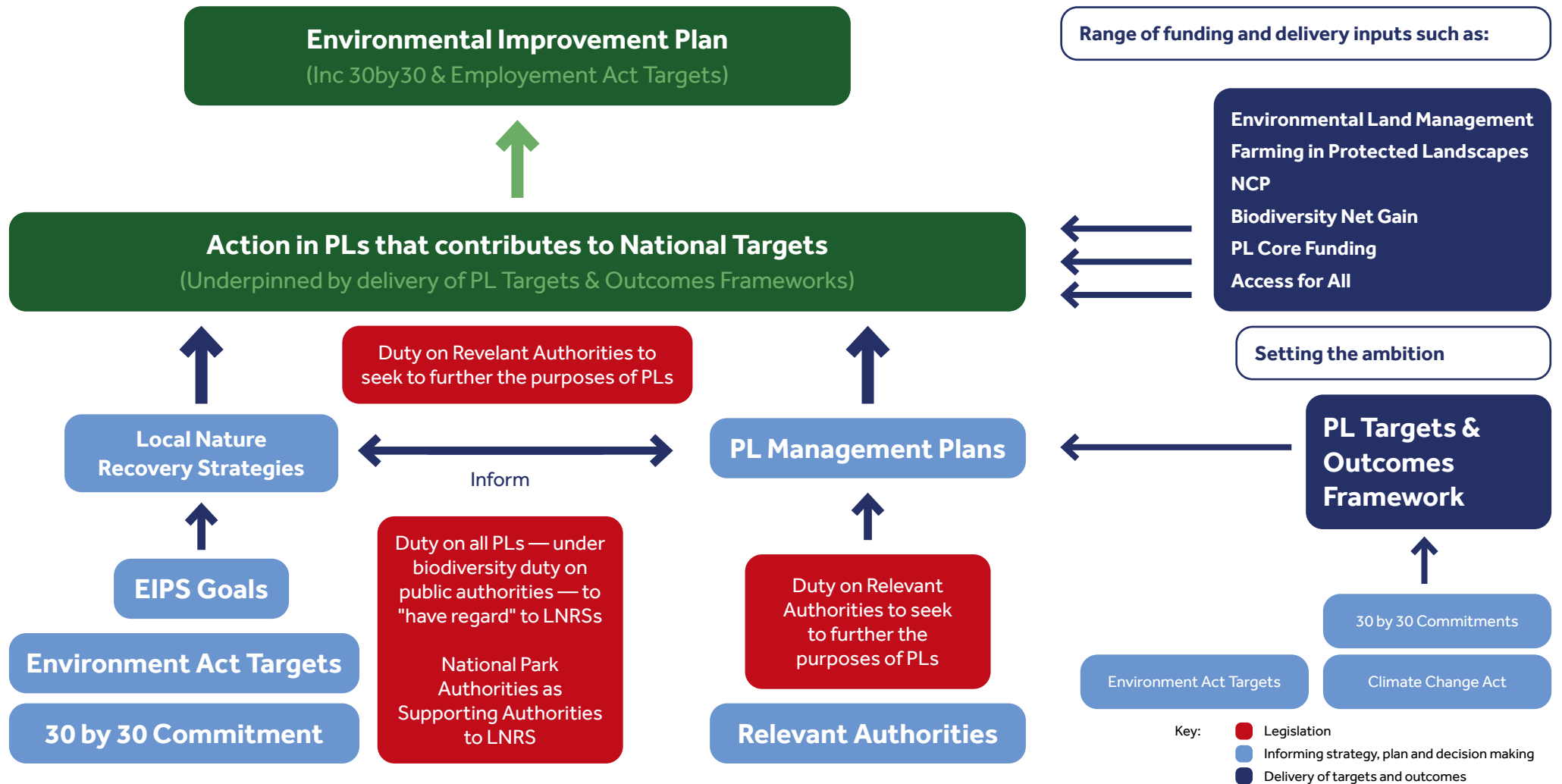
Tamar Valley National Landscape is a unique and vibrant destination of choice and high value. A place to be. A place to breathe. A place to thrive.

**Our Vision for the Tamar Valley National Landscape is informed by the forces for change operating on our landscape. These include:**

- Climate change, plus mitigation and adaptive measures
- New legislation including the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (LURA)
- Environment Improvement Plan 2023
- Defra's new Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework
- Natural England's Habitat Indicators
- State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape 2024 Report
- Requiring a response to the biodiversity crisis and need for Nature restoration
- Development pressures and lifestyle changes
- Renewable energy developments
- Structural change in agriculture and forestry
- Changes in use, control and quality of water
- Sustainability challenges for rural communities
- Promotion of the ecosystem services approach to management of natural resources
- Impact of the financial crisis and the policy priorities for promoting economic growth and jobs (through rural business, visitor facilities and access to the countryside).



# Outcomes for Nature, Climate, People and Place Delivered in Protected Landscapes (PLs)





# Our Ambition

Together, 6 plans will be developed to support delivery of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and our 30 year Vision. Each of these 6 plans will be of 5 years' duration.

This Management Plan is the first of those 6. The illustration below sets out our ambition and aligns with the Protected Landscape Targets and Outcomes Framework.



**2025**      **2028**

**2030**

**2042**

**2050**

**By 2028:**

- Halt biodiversity decline
- 300% escalation of annual activity & investment (from FY2023/4: £1.756m = £5.2m)
- SSSIs have actions on track to achieve favourable condition
- 150 Ha of new tree canopy and woodland cover

**By 2030:**

- 500% escalation of annual activity and investment (from FY2023/4: £1.756m = £8.7m)
- 80% of our land managers have adopted Nature - friendly farming on at least 15% of their land
- 200 Ha of new tree canopy and woodland cover
- 10 km of new hedgerow created

**By 2042:**

- Sustained levels of activity and investment from 2030
- SSSIs are in favourable condition
- Wildlife-rich habitat will have been created and restored outside of protected sites
- 450 Ha of new tree canopy and woodland cover
- 50 km of new hedgerow created

**By 2050:**

- Greenhouse gas emissions reduced to net zero
- Peat is restored
- 589 Ha (min) of new tree canopy and woodland cover
- 63 km (min) of new hedgerow created

# We've Adopted the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.

At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.

They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

Our Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership has adopted the **United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals**. Our Management Plan will deliver toward each of the 17 goals. There is a strong focus aligning with:





We must secure the safest possible future for people and planet.  
That means taking urgent action, particularly over the next eighteen months:  
To slash emissions;  
To protect people and nature from climate extremes;  
To boost climate finance;  
And to clamp down on the fossil fuel industry.

Dear friends, we do have a choice.  
Creating tipping points for climate progress – or careening to tipping points for climate disaster.

This is an all-in moment.

The United Nations is all-in – working to build trust, find solutions, and inspire the cooperation our world so desperately needs.

And to young people, to civil society, to cities, regions, businesses and others who have been leading the charge towards a safer, cleaner world, I say: Thank you.

You are on the right side of history.  
You speak for the majority.  
Keep it up.  
Don't lose courage. Don't lose hope.

It is we the Peoples versus the polluters and the profiteers. Together, we can win.

But it's time for leaders to decide whose side they're on.  
Tomorrow it will be too late.

Now is the time to mobilise, now is the time to act, now is the time to deliver.

This is our moment of truth.



**Antonio Guterres**

Secretary General of the United Nations,  
2017 – ongoing. Taken from 5th June  
2024 New York City Special Address  
on Climate Action

# Nature First

Through a Nature-first approach we prioritise Nature restoration, control biohazards, Invasive Non-Native Species and pollutants, and protect, connect and grow our natural biodiversity.



## Soil

Soil runoff reduced from fields and soil regenerated using Nature based solutions providing substantial crop cycles on farms, orchards and market gardens offering long term food resilience

## Prevention

Contaminants, fertilisers, fly-tipping, litter, plastics, rubber particulates, septic tank soakaways and other pollution is reduced, policed and prevented wherever possible

## Connect

Increased tree canopy cover, dense and longer hedgerows, improved wildlife habitats and more wildflower meadows creating connected corridors for insects, bats, birds and mammals

## Better Management

Improved land management for wildlife, plants, hedgerows and trees both within and outside of protected areas

## Wildlife-rich Habitats

Wildlife thrives in rich habitats and the decline of our 17 Special Species has been halted and their populations are growing in numbers

## Domestic Gardens

Every garden contributes through coordination across the National Landscape, from wildflowers, hedgehog friendly fences, ponds and water saving, Invasive species control, less frequent grass mowing, and improved drainage

## Control

Expanded control of Invasive Non-Native Species Himalayan Balsam, American Skunk Cabbage, Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed throughout the Tamar Catchment Area

## Water

Improved water quality as more wetlands filter water by trapping sediment and nutrient runoff from farms, and enhanced water quantity as activity from reintroduced beavers, leaky dams and ponds slow water across the Tamar Catchment Area

# Nature First: Restoration

## £4,300,000 Total 5 Year Investment - Estimated



### Ambition

Thriving plants and wildlife and connected Nature corridors through creation and management of increased canopy cover, hedgerows, Special Species and wildlife-rich habitats and wildflower meadows.

### Targets & Outcomes

**T3** By 2028, SSSIs have actions on track to achieve favourable condition.

**T5** By 2030, 80% of our land managers have adopted Nature friendly farming on at least 15% of their land.

**T1** By 2042, Wildlife-rich habitat will have been created / restored outside of protected sites.

**T2** By 2042, SSSIs are in favourable condition.

**T4** By 2042, continuing favourable management of all existing priority habitat already in favourable condition outside of SSSIs (from a 2022 baseline) and increasing to include all newly restored or created habitat through agri-environment schemes.

### Management Approach

Nature-based solutions applied everywhere possible. Encourage the growth of Nature and aim for connected landscapes. Secure innovation and investment to deliver at pace and at scale to deliver bigger and better.

### Strategy

Champion a Nature-first approach throughout all activities, collaborations, delivery and partnerships. Engage with Local Nature Recovery Strategies to identify locations for the increase of canopy cover, hedgerows, Special Species habitats and wildflower meadows creating connected Nature corridors. Identify new species for planting to cope with an increased temperature, increased drought frequency and increased flooding events.

### Measurements of Progress & Success

Extent of wildlife-rich habitat created or restored within the National Landscape, outside of protected sites.

% of SSSIs within the National Landscape in favourable condition.

% of SSSIs within the National Landscape assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition.

Extent of priority habitat within the National Landscape, outside of protected sites, in favourable management through agri-environment schemes.

% of land managers adopting Nature-friendly farming on a percentage of their land.

The Priority Projects	Partners	5 Yr £ Estimation
<b>Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)</b> Identify the actions and define the pace to have improving condition on track by 2028, designed to achieve favourable condition by 2042.	Farmers Landowners Ministry of Defence Natural England Plymouth Marine Laboratory Wildlife Trusts - Cornwall and Devon	<b>£150,000</b>
<b>Land Manager Engagement</b> Build and manage a land ownership database and work with land managers to adopt Nature-friendly farming throughout their land, to help stop biodiversity loss and increase species abundance alongside sustainable food production. Map opportunities for hedgerow and tree canopy extensions, wildflower meadows, then encourage delivery through introducing Green Finance funding.	Farm Clusters Forestry Commission Landowners Market Gardeners Orchards Parish Councils	<b>£500,000</b>
<b>Wildlife-rich Habitats</b> Identify suitable sites outside of protected sites, define how to create and restore to favourable condition, set the pace and begin delivery to achieve by 2042.	Landowners Local Authorities Local Nature Recovery Strategies Wildlife Trusts - Cornwall and Devon	<b>£150,000</b>
<b>Special Species</b> Protect, restore, create and manage priority habitats for the 17 Special Species identified in the Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan.	Cornwall Wildlife Trust Devon Wildlife Trust	<b>£400,000</b>
<b>Water Quality and Quantity</b> Educate to reduce point source pollution, increase management advice on high risk soils, reduce plastic and rubber particulate pollution, increase resilience to droughts, promote sustainable drainage solutions, and seek Nature-based solutions to water management.	Dartmoor National Park Environment Agency South West Water Tamar Catchment Partnership Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum Westcountry Rivers Trust	<b>£3,000,000</b>
<b>Domestic Gardens</b> Inspire garden owners to adopt the same management techniques, including controlling invasives, pond creation, hedgehog friendly fencing, wildflower planting, etc, and community green spaces will be connected across the National Landscape area.	BBC and other media Celebrity endorsement Rewild Britain Royal Horticultural Society	<b>£75,000</b>
<b>Public Campaigns</b> Support public campaigns No Mow May and Let it Bloom June, and support the United Nations' Environment Programme #GenerationRestoration campaign.	BBC and other media Royal Horticultural Society UN Environment Programme	<b>£25,000</b>
<b>Riparian</b> Map all riverine buffers with a 10 metre buffer around rivers under 2 metres wide and 20 metre buffer around rivers over 2 metres.	Local Nature Recovery Strategies Westcountry Rivers Trust	<b>£0</b>

I have never seen so many natural beauties in such a limited spot as I have seen here.

The artist, J.M.W. Turner — Referring to the Tamar Valley



# Nature First: Control and Protect

## £1,450,000 Total 5 Year Investment - Estimated



### Ambition

A National Landscape with thriving native species, with a balanced ecosystem that provides food, good quality soil, sunlight and water without extreme competition.

### Targets & Outcomes

By 2030, all Invasive Non-Native Species will be identified, located, and a plan put in place for long term control.

By 2055, all Invasive Non-Native Species will be under control and minimal in number throughout the Tamar Catchment Area.

### Measurements of Progress & Success

Enhanced soil nutrient mapping of the National Landscape.

Landowners engaged.

Invasive Non-Native Species located and work underway to control.

Widespread biosecurity awareness.

### Strategy

Control Invasive Non-Native Species throughout the Tamar Catchment Area.

Improve soil quality and reduce soil runoff from agricultural land.

### Management Approach

Engage and coordinate with the Environment Agency, Natural England and South West Water to design a single approach to controlling Invasive Non-Native Species, and collaborate on bidding for grants including the Water Restoration Fund. Engage and collaborate with Rothamsted Research and the University of Plymouth to study soil within the National Landscape and advise on methods for enhancing, across the Tamar Catchment Area.

Priority Projects	Partners	5 Yr £ Estimation
<b>Invasive Non-Native Species Control Plan Development</b> Develop a plan to provide long term control and monitoring of Invasive Non-Native Species including Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and American Skunk Cabbage, throughout the Tamar Catchment Area.	Environment Agency Natural England South West Water Water Restoration Fund	<b>£100,000</b>
<b>Invasive Non-Native Species Control Implementation</b> Deliver the long term control and monitoring of Invasive Non-Native Species.	Environment Agency Natural England South West Water Water Restoration Fund	<b>£1,125,000</b>
<b>Soil Runoff Reduction</b> Explore and review options for reducing soil runoff from agricultural land throughout the Tamar Catchment Area.	Carbon Net Zero Teams Environment Agency Farmers Landowners Rothamsted Research Westcountry Rivers Trust	<b>£50,000</b>
<b>Soil Regeneration</b> Explore and review options for regenerating the soil across the agricultural areas of the Tamar Catchment Area, including cover cropping, crop rotations, healthy ecosystem balancing, symbiosis, etc.	Carbon Net Zero Teams Environment Agency Farmers Landowners Rothamsted Research Tamar Grow Local University of Plymouth	<b>£100,000</b>
<b>Special Species</b> Deliver actions that monitor the 17 Special Species identified within the Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan.	Cornwall Wildlife Trust Devon Wildlife Trust Plymouth Marine Laboratory Westcountry Rivers Trust	<b>£25,000</b>
<b>Biological Control</b> Provide data and research for biological controls and disease risks and explore mitigative measures for all species.	University of Exeter University of Plymouth	<b>£50,000</b>

# Climate Adaptation

Delivering to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and the UK Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy, we focus on encouraging Physical Changes and driving Knowledge and Efficiency.

- 1** Enable and encourage regenerative agriculture and forestry, sensitive agri-tech applications, clean transport, energy saving, retrofitting and new build Passivhaus design principles.
- 2** Improve data collection, analysis, reporting, applications of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics technology for better decision making.
- 3** Influence National policy through contribution, engagement and sharing of best practice.





# Climate Adaptation: Physical Changes

## £1,315,000 Total 5 Year Expenditure - Estimated



### 30 Year Ambition

Nature and People are entirely connected, enjoying clear air, good health and resilience to a changing climate and variable economy.

### Targets & Outcomes

**T6** By 2050, net greenhouse gas emissions will be reduced to net zero relative to 1990 levels.

**T7** By 2050, the 549 Ha of Peaty soils will be fully restored.

**T8** By 2050, tree canopy and woodland cover (combined) will be increased by at least 589 Ha (minimum 3% of total land from 2022 baseline).

By 2050, hedgerows will be extended by at least 63 Km (minimum of total hedgerows from a 2022 baseline).

### Strategy

Mitigating and adapting to climate change. Lead action to achieve net zero at a landscape level, working with residents, businesses and communities, aiming to reduce emissions and deliver Nature based solutions. Enable Agri-tech applications, agricultural regeneration, clean transport, energy saving and property retrofitting. Engage partners, home owners and business owners. Encourage installation of solar panels, air source heat pumps and domestic turbines. Seek out grants and connect with communities through Parish Councils.

### Measurements of Progress & Success

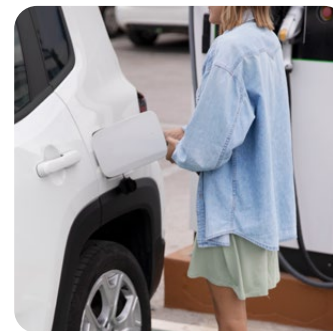
The level of greenhouse gas emissions within the National Landscape.

Extent of peat under restoration in the National Landscape.

Extent of tree canopy and woodland cover in the National Landscape.

Development of case studies of Agri-tech and agricultural regeneration and monitor take up across the Catchment area. Number of properties retrofitted.

Priority Projects	Partners	5 Yr £ Estimation
<b>Tree and Hedgerow Planting</b> Restore at scale to support skills and green jobs, attract private investment and help grow the rural economy, while sequestering and storing carbon into the future, and also providing natural flood management.	Farmers Forestry Commission Landowners National Trust Tamar Community Trust Volunteer Groups Woodland Trust	<b>£200,000</b>
<b>Peat Restoration</b> Explore potential to restore to support skills and attract private investment.	Landowners National Trust Volunteer Groups	<b>£25,000</b>
<b>Nature-Based Solutions</b> Research and develop additional Nature-based solutions to mitigate climate risks and adapt to increased drought and flooding events.	Cornwall Wildlife Trust Devon Wildlife Trust Environment Agency Westcountry Rivers Trust Tamar Catchment Partnership	<b>£15,000</b>
<b>Agri-tech</b> Explore benefits of sensitive Agri-tech and suitable applications to support farmers, market gardens and orchards.	Farmers Landowners National Farmers Union Tamar Grow Local	<b>£5,000</b>
<b>Regenerative Farming</b> Explore regenerative food growing techniques and silvopasture and agri-forestry, and introduce to farmers, market gardens and orchards to achieve net zero.	Dartington Trust Rothamsted Research University of Plymouth	<b>£5,000</b>
<b>Clean Transport</b> Explore and support Partners to introduce electric and hydrogen based transport to connect the Tamar Valley with Cornwall and Devon, secure electric vehicle charging points, an electric bicycle scheme.	Cornwall Council Devon County Council South Hams District Council Tamar Energy Community Transport Operators West Devon Borough Council	<b>£50,000</b>
<b>Property Retrofitting</b> Rigorously encourage an increased pace of property retrofitting for domestic and business premises, consideration and implementation of new Historic England guidance on adapting Heritage buildings.	Business Owners Cornwall Council Devon County Council Home Owners Parish Councils Tamar Energy Community	<b>£1,000,000</b>
<b>Energy Saving</b> Engage home owners and business owners in an energy saving campaign, sharing ideas and best practice.	Media Parish Councils Tamar Energy Community	<b>£10,000</b>
<b>Waste Reduction</b> Encourage aspirations for near zero waste by repurposing and reusing.	Cornwall Council Devon County Council Parish Councils Tamar Community Trust	<b>£5,000</b>



# Climate Adaptation: Knowledge and Efficiency

## £175,000 Total 5 Year Investment - Estimated



### Ambition

Entirely aligned with the National Landscapes Association, Defra and Natural England, delivering efficiently and effectively, with SSSIs in favourable condition, thriving plants and wildlife, carbon net zero and an accessible and inclusive landscape which is open to all.

### Targets & Outcomes

By 2026, develop a reporting tool using the Tamar Valley Doughnut Model.

By 2028, assess and review the SSSIs to ensure they are on track toward favourable condition.

By 2030, deliver a State of the National Landscape Report to inform the next phase of delivery toward 2055.

By 2030, deliver 5 annual reviews and 5 annual forums.

### Strategy

Improve data collection, analysis and decision-making, reporting and applications of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics technology. Strengthen our Partnership's delivery coordination, evidence gathering and collaborative goal setting for Nature, Climate, Place and People.

### Management Approach

Evidence-led decision making, ensuring the most appropriate allocation of resources, avoiding duplication and coordinating across the Partnership.

### Measurements of Progress & Success

A clear understanding of the National Landscape through enhanced Habitat Indicators.

Efficiencies and cost savings through the application of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics technologies.

Improved coordination of Partner delivery.

Rapid scaling up of activity and delivery throughout the Tamar Catchment Area.

Priority Projects	Partners	5 Yr £ Estimation
<b>State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape</b> Commission a State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape Report in 2029 and use as the basis of the Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan No.7 (2030 – 2035).	External consultant	<b>£30,000</b>
<b>Tamar Valley Doughnut Model</b> Develop a reporting tool to continuously monitor performance of Tamar Valley National Landscape.	Doughnut Economics Lab University of Exeter University of Plymouth	<b>£0</b>
<b>Annual Reporting</b> Create an annual report and deliver an annual forum for the Partnership and key stakeholders to attend.	Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership	<b>£10,000</b>
<b>National Forums</b> Influence National policy through contribution, engagement and sharing of best practice, and continue to build the profile of Tamar Valley National Landscape.	Defra MPs National Landscapes Association Natural England	<b>£10,000</b>
<b>Land Mapping</b> Enhanced GIS land mapping and land ownership information for increased management of communications and coordination across the integrated landscape, within the National Landscape and across the wider Catchment area.	Cornwall Council Devon Biodiversity Records Centre Devon County Council Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall Plymouth City Council South Hams District Council West Devon Borough Council	<b>£25,000</b>
<b>Photography and Sampling</b> Increase seasonal, fixed point photography to monitor changes in the landscape, including water levels, eDNA testing and conduct new sampling tests for water quality and Special Species habitat management.	Plymouth Marine Laboratory Tamar Catchment Partnership Tamar Community Trust Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum University of Plymouth	<b>£100,000</b>

# Place Makes People

Connecting Nature and people with the experience and celebration of the Tamar Valley, protecting its natural landscape, heritage and wildlife, and educating, enthusing and inspiring enhancement of this beautiful landscape.

## Activities:

- NatureHub
- Events
- Ecotourism and Voluntourism

## Trails:

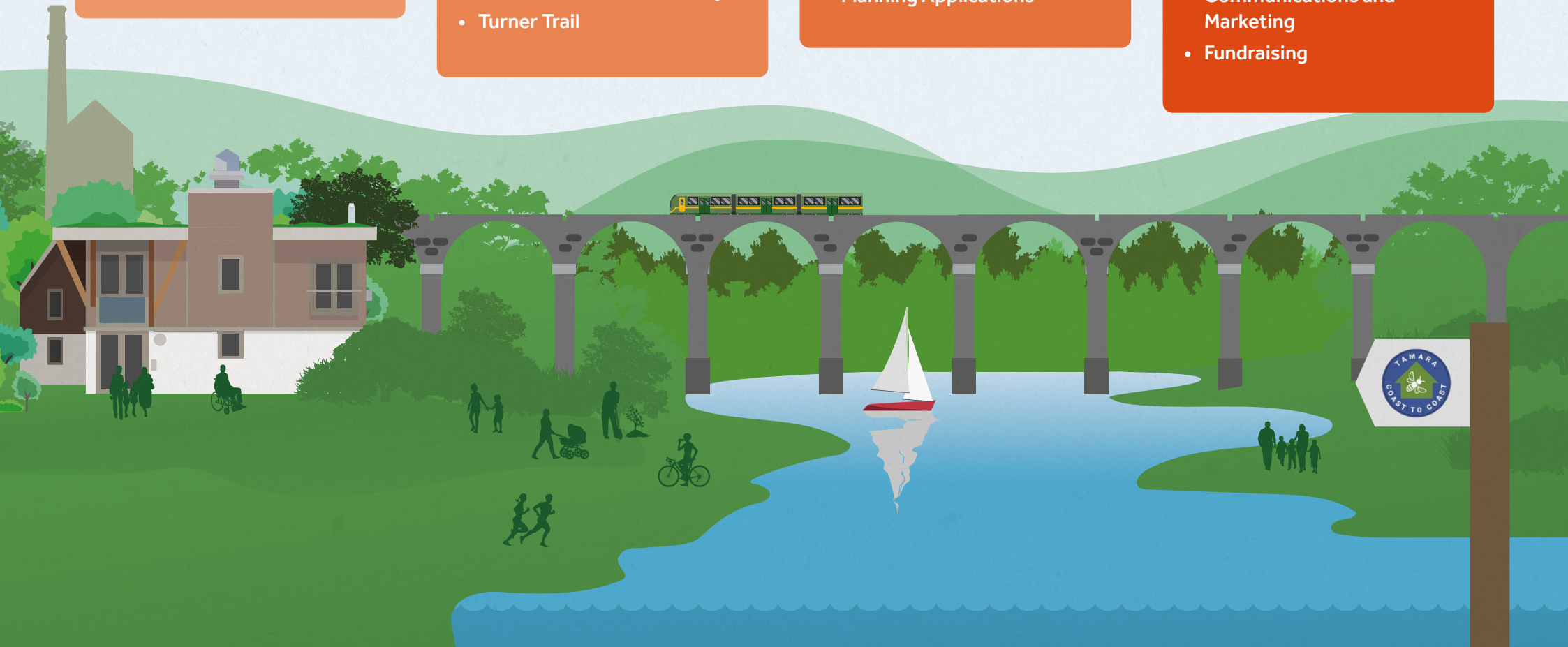
- Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site
- Tamara Coast to Coast Way
- Turner Trail

## Strategic Planning:

- Design Codes
- Heritage Buildings and Scheduled Monuments
- Planning Applications

## Engagement:

- Art and Culture
- Interpretation, Signage, Social Media and Digital Media
- Communications and Marketing
- Fundraising



# Place Makes People: Experience

## £635,000 Total 5 Year Investment - Estimated



### Ambition

A place to be. A place to breathe.  
A place to thrive.

### Targets & Outcomes

Tamar Valley National Landscape brand visible at major welcome gateways.

10 NatureHub events delivered each year.

5 Tamar Nature & Climate Champions Awards.

Accessible for all.

### Measurements of Progress & Success

Number of volunteer days.

Metres of accessible path as a percentage of total path.

Number of accessible toilets and rest stops.

Number of disability accessible parking spaces.

Number of accessible gates and gaps.

Number of visits and volunteer days facilitated by new equipment.

Number of schools engaged (primary and secondary) both inside and outside the National Landscape boundary.

Number of accessible or easy access routes for which wayfinding has been created or improved.

### Strategy

Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment. Connect people with Nature through accessible and inclusive events, interpretation, shared experience, trails and volunteering. Engage the Tamar Valley communities, and reach out to the Catchment Area communities.

### Management Approach

Build on the Strolls & Rolls programme with more accessible and inclusive events, engage the Arts Council in a bid for a new Turner Trail, build on the legacy of Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme and grow volunteering.

Priority Projects	Partners	5 yr £ Estimation
<b>NatureHub</b> Create a NatureHub arts and education calendar at the Tamar Valley Centre, offering regular art exhibitions, education workshops and training activities for business employees, community groups, schools and private hire.	Cornwall Wildlife Trust Devon Wildlife Trust Friends of the Tamar Valley National Trust Plymouth Marine Laboratory Tamar Community Trust University of Plymouth	<b>£25,000</b>
<b>Events</b> Create an annual Tamar Valley Nature & Climate Champions Awards programme and deliver an annual Partnership forum.	Friends of the Tamar Valley Tamar Community Trust Visit Tamar Valley Western Morning News	<b>£25,000</b>
<b>Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site</b> Monitor the condition, seek funding for repairs and promote the heritage of the most prominent assets.	Cornwall Council Parish Councils West Devon Borough Council Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Team	<b>£300,000</b>
<b>Tamara Coast to Coast Way</b> Explore the dedication of the Tamara Coast to Coast Way as a National Trail, design the Quality Standards for ongoing management and maintain the pathways.	National Trail Association Parish Councils South West Coast Path Association	<b>£50,000</b>
<b>Turner Trail</b> Create a new trail following in the footsteps of British nineteenth Century artist J.M.W. Turner.	Arts Council Cornwall Council Parish Councils Plymouth City Council West Devon Borough Council	<b>£150,000</b>
<b>Ecotourism and Voluntourism</b> Encourage ecotourism and visitors to engage with volunteering during their stay in the Tamar Valley.	Cornwall Wildlife Trust Devon Wildlife Trust National Trust Visit Tamar Valley	<b>£10,000</b>
<b>Interpretation, Signage, Social Media and Digital Media</b> Update all Highways gateway signs, interpretation panels and trail waymarkers with new branding, maximise use of digital and social media with the introduction of podcasts, games and videos.	Cornwall Council Devon County Council Parish Councils Plymouth City Council South Hams District Council West Devon Borough Council	<b>£75,000</b>



# Place Makes People: Landscape Celebration

£275,000 Total 5 Year Investment - Estimated



**Ambition**

Tamar Valley National Landscape has a strong sense of place and wellbeing, as a distinctive and globally important landscape of high visual quality with a protected green and blue haven where communities and wildlife flourish.

**Strategy**

Celebrate community, culture, dark skies, heritage and tranquillity within the landscape. Ensure accessibility and inclusivity, and the landscape is available to all. Introduce all landowners to investors and placemaking for integrated Nature, Climate Adaptation and Place enhancing projects.

**Targets & Outcomes**

**T9** Accessibility and engagement will be improved and promoted as for all using existing metrics in our Access for All programme.

**T10** Nationally designated heritage assets at risk will be reduced from 3.

**Management Approach**

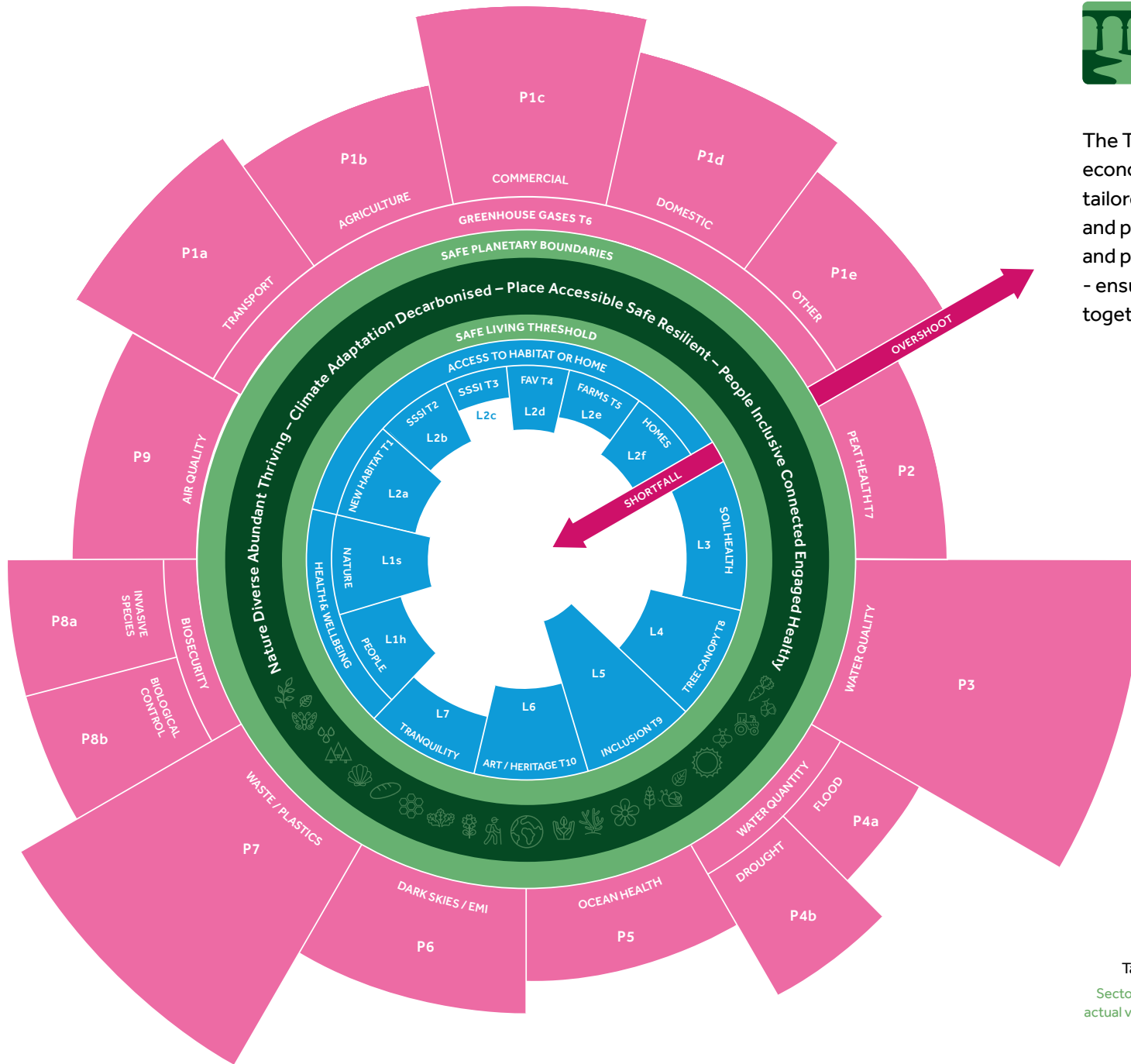
Work collaboratively, prioritise digital and keep print to a minimum for specific audiences, engage with a wide range of audiences.

**Measurements of Progress & Success**

Policies in place to ensure the National Landscapes is taking positive action to widen the diversity of staff, boards and volunteers. Number and % of nationally designated heritage assets in the National Landscape to be deemed at risk. Separately cover the categories of scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens and listed buildings (grade I or II\*).

Priority Projects	Partners	5 Yr £ Estimation
<p><b>Heritage</b></p> <p>Review the Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments Historic Assets at risk and create a plan for attracting funding for repair and maintenance.</p>	<p>Friends of the Tamar Valley National Trust Tamar Community Trust Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Team</p>	<p><b>£50,000</b></p>
<p><b>Design Codes</b></p> <p>Support the development of Building Design Codes within the National Planning Policy Framework.</p>	<p>Cornwall Council Devon County Council Friends of the Tamar Valley Parish Councils Plymouth City Council South Hams District Council Tamar Community Trust West Devon Borough Council</p>	<p><b>£15,000</b></p>
<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p>Provide comment to planning applications of scale that are likely to have a greater impact on the community, landscape, cultural heritage or wildlife, and uphold the preservation of dark skies, tranquillity and wildlife-rich habitats.</p>	<p>Cornwall Council Devon County Council Parish Councils Plymouth City Council South Hams District Council West Devon Borough Council Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Team</p>	<p><b>£15,000</b></p>
<p><b>Grow Awareness</b></p> <p>Celebrate the art, communities, culture and beauty of the landscape with organised talks and walks, increased membership and community outreach activities to grow awareness and engagement with the Tamar Valley.</p>	<p>Drawn to the Valley Friends of the Tamar Valley Plymouth Octopus Tamar Community Trust</p>	<p><b>£15,000</b></p>
<p><b>Communications and Marketing</b></p> <p>Expand the communications and marketing activities to raise awareness of the National Landscape, the NatureHub, events and volunteering opportunities, celebrating the landscape, its wildlife, Nature restoration and climate adaptation.</p>	<p>Cornwall Council Devon County Council Parish Councils Plymouth City Council South Hams District Council West Devon Borough Council</p>	<p><b>£150,000</b></p>
<p><b>Fundraising</b></p> <p>Work with Partners to generate additional income from donations, entrepreneurial activity, legacies and sponsorship for investment in the landscape, and collaborate on submitting bids for grants.</p>	<p>Friends of the Tamar Valley Tamar Community Trust Visit Tamar Valley</p>	<p><b>£30,000</b></p>

# Tamar Valley Doughnut



The Tamar Valley Doughnut economic model is uniquely tailored to our ambitions and positions Nature and people at the core - ensuring all life thrives together.



Created by S. Draper  
Business Development Officer,  
Tamar Valley National Landscape

Sector values for illustrative purposes - actual values currently being determined.





We can and we must create a future in which humans and nature not only survive but thrive together. The path toward that future is our legacy to our youth.



**Christiana Figueres**

Former Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (2010-2016) leading to the Paris Climate Change Agreement 2015, Global Optimism group founder, and co-author of *The Future We Choose: Surviving the Climate Crisis* (2020)

# Understanding Success

This Management Plan sets out how the purposes and duty of the Tamar Valley National Landscape should be met working collaboratively with all partners. To help us understand the complexity of this goal we utilise an adapted version of Kate Raworth's 'Doughnut' model of ecological and social/living boundaries.

We use this model because it helps envision a world in which Nature, people and planet can thrive in balance. We have applied the model to the statutory purposes and duty of the National Landscape. The first statutory purpose is about conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the landscape, where possible for all to enjoy.

In 2024 the Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes framework emphasised the role in protecting, creating and enhancing natural habitats, accessibility to Nature, heritage and decarbonisation.

The outer ring is the ecological ceiling. In order to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape, we must work to ensure Tamar Valley National Landscape is moving to do so within safe limits' such as Greenhouse gas emission, Water Quality and Quantity, Safe air and Healthy soils.

The inner ring is a Biodiversity Wellbeing foundation. This relates to the duty to protect our biological species which we are undertaking by adopting a Nature-first approach, viewing human activities as an action within this biosphere that we share with Nature.

Between these two boundaries lies a doughnut-shaped space that is both ecologically safe and enables biodiversity to thrive.

In this way, the Tamar Valley National Landscape Doughnut is a framework for understanding the successful implementation of our statutory purposes and duty. It enables us to establish and measure interventions with our partners, communities and landowners to the elements we need to move towards safer, sustainable levels in order to truly thrive in a landscape that is protected and enhanced for Nature, planet and people.

- ✓✓✓ Primary Impacts
- ✓✓ Secondly Impacts
- ✓ Tertiary Impacts

Tier Level	KEY Projects and brief summary	National Landscape Themes			
		Nature	Climate	Place	People
GREEN FINANCE Tier 4 (Aggregated)	Nature First - Restoration - Water Quality and Quantity - Educate, increase management advice, reduce pollution, increase resilience, natural floodplain management	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓
	Nature First - Restoration - Land Manager Engagement - Database / Mapping	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓
AMBITIOUS Tier 3	Nature First - Control and Protect - Invasive Non-Native Species Control Plan Development - Develop plan for long term control & monitoring of Invasive Non-Native Species	✓✓✓		✓	✓
	Nature First - Control and Protect - Invasive Non-Native Species Control Implementation - Deliver plan for long term control & monitoring of Invasive Non-Native Species	✓✓✓		✓	✓
	Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Property Retrofitting - Rigorously encourage increased pace, domestic, business, Heritage buildings		✓✓✓	✓	✓✓
	Place Make People - Experience - Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Sites - Monitor, seek funding for repairs and promote heritage of most prominent assets			✓✓✓	✓✓
	Nature First - Restoration - Sites of Special Scientific Interest - Actions improve by 2028 achieve favourable by 2042	✓✓✓		✓	✓
MODERATE Tier 2 50K	Nature First - Restoration - Wildlife-rich Habitats - Identify sites, define plan to restore to favourable by 2042	✓✓✓		✓	✓
	Nature First - Restoration - Special Species - Protect, restore, create and manage priority habitats for the 17 Special Species in the Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan	✓✓✓		✓	✓
	Nature First - Control and Protect - Soil Regeneration - Explore and Review options for regenerating soil across the catchment	✓✓✓	✓✓		✓✓
	Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Tree and Hedgerow Planting - Restore at scale to support skills, attract private investment, sequest, natural flood management	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓	
	Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Clean Transport - Explore and support partner to introduce electric & hydrogen based transport, charging points, electric bicycles	✓	✓✓✓	✓	✓✓
	Place Makes People - Experience - Tamara Coast to Coast Way - Explore legacy as a National Trail - Design the standards of ongoing management and maintenance			✓✓	✓✓✓
	Place Makes People - Experience - Turner Trail - New trail following in the footsteps of British 19C artist J.M.W Turner			✓✓	✓✓✓
	Place Makes People - Experience - Interpretation - Signage, Social Media & Digital Media - Update highways, Gateway signs, trail markers, engaging digital media			✓✓	✓✓✓
	Place Makes People - Landscape Celebration - Communications and Marketing - Expand raise awareness of National Landscape, NatureHub, events, volunteering celebrate restore	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓✓

Doughnut Sectors	Protected Landscape Target & Outcomes Framework										United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals						Potential Funding	Potential Partners
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	7	11	12	13	14	15		
E3a E3b E3c E4 B1h B1n All B2 B3 B4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									National Landscapes Association Nature Based Solutions & Finance Earth; Rebalance Earth; Ocean City Nature; Multi-National Companies; Pension Funds; Insurance Companies; Green Finance Agencies	Westcountry Rivers Trust, Environment Agency, Dartmoor National Park, Tamar Valley National Landscape, Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum, Farmers, Landowners and a wider partnership which also includes Wildlife Trusts and Plymouth Marine Laboratory.
B1s B2a - f B3 B4 E8 E5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓										Landowners; Farmers; Ministry of Defence; Tamar Community Trust; Parish Councils; Local Authorities; Local Nature Recovery Strategies; Businesses
E8		✓	✓		✓													
E8		✓	✓		✓													
E1d B1h						✓						✓	✓	✓				
B7										✓								
B2b B2c B2d		✓	✓	✓														National Lottery Heritage Fund; Lottery Climate Action Fund - Our Shared Future; The UK Fund; National Lottery Heritage Grant; Regional Capacity Building; Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas; Repair Grants for Heritage at Risk; Water Restoration Fund
B2a B2b	✓			✓														
B2d B2e	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓										
B2D				✓	✓							✓		✓	✓			
E3a E3b E3c E4 B1h B1n All B2 B3 B4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓										
B1h B6 B7						✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
B1h B6 B7									✓				✓					
B6 B7									✓				✓					
B1h B6 B7									✓	✓		✓	✓					
B1h B6 B7									✓	✓			✓					



- ✓✓✓ Primary Impacts
- ✓✓ Secondly Impacts
- ✓ Tertiary Impacts

Tier Level	KEY Projects and brief summary.	National Landscape Themes			
		Nature	Climate	Place	People
CONSERVATIVE Tier 1	<b>Nature First - Restoration - Domestic Gardens</b> - Inspire, adopt Nature-friendly management techniques, ponds, invasives, planting	✓✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓
	<b>Nature First - Restoration - Public Campaigns</b> - Support public campaigns, such as No Mow May, UN Environment programme etc	✓✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓
	<b>Nature First - Control and Protect - Soil Runoff Reduction</b> - Explore and Review options for reducing agricultural runoff throughout the catchment area.	✓✓✓			
	<b>Nature First - Control and Protect - Special Species</b> - Deliver actions that monitor the 17 Special Species within the Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan	✓✓✓			
	<b>Nature First - Control and Protect - Biological Control</b> - Provide data and research. Biological control and disease risks - explore mitigation measures for all species	✓✓✓			
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Peat Restoration</b> - Restore to support skills, attract private investment	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓	
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Nature-Based Solutions</b> - Research and develop Nature-Based Solutions to mitigate and adapt to increased drought and flooding events	✓✓	✓✓✓	✓	✓✓
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Agri-tech</b> - Explore benefits, suitable applications to support farmers, market gardens, orchards.		✓✓✓	✓	✓✓
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Energy Saving</b> - Engage home owners and businesses in Energy Saving campaign, share best practice and ideas		✓✓✓		
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Physical Changes - Waste Reduction</b> - Encourage aspirations for near zero waste, repurpose and reuse		✓✓✓		
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Knowledge and Efficiency - State of the Tamar Valley National Landscape Report</b> - Use for basis of 2030 - 2035 Management Plan		✓		
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Knowledge and Efficiency - Tamar Valley Doughnut</b> - Develop as a reporting tool		✓		
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Knowledge and Efficiency - Annual Reporting</b> - Create annual report, annual forum for Partnership and stakeholders				
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Knowledge and Efficiency - National Forums</b> - Influence National Policy, engagement, sharing best practice, profile of Tamar Valley National Landscape	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<b>Climate Adaptation - Knowledge and Efficiency - Photography and Sampling</b> - Increase seasonal photography to monitor, water levels, sampling tests, Special Species habitats				
	<b>Place Makes People - Experience - NatureHub</b> - Arts and Education calendar at the Tamar Valley Centre				
	<b>Place Makes People - Experience - Events</b> - Create an Annual Tamar Valley Nature and Climate Champions award programme				
	<b>Place Makes People - Experience - Ecotourism</b> - Encourage voluntourism				
	<b>Place Makes People - Landscape Celebration - Heritage</b> - Review assets, plan for attracting funding for repair and maintenance				
	<b>Place Makes People - Landscape Celebration - Design Codes</b> - Support development of Building Design codes within National Planning Policy Framework				
<b>Place Makes People - Landscape Celebration - Planning Applications</b> - Provide comment to planning applications of scale that impact Landscape Character					
<b>Place Makes People - Landscape Celebration - Grow Awareness</b> - Celebrate art, communities, culture and beauty of landscape with organised walks and talks - membership					
<b>Place Makes People - Landscape Celebration - Fundraising</b> - Generate additional income, donations, entrepreneurial, legacies, sponsorship, collaborate with bids					

Nature	Climate	Place	People
Recovery	Adaptation	Placemaking	Engaged
Diversity	Decarbonisation	Landscape	Inclusive
Abundance	Reduce	Accessible	Connected
Thriving		Tranquil	Healthy
		Safe	

Doughnut Sectors	Protected Landscapes Targets & Outcomes Framework										United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals						Potential Funding	Potential Partners
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	7	11	12	13	14	15		
P1d	✓										✓					✓		
P1e	✓										✓					✓		
L3																		
L2a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓						✓	✓			
P8b																		
P2							✓											
P4a P4b				✓	✓			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
P1b				✓		✓						✓	✓					
L2f						✓						✓	✓	✓				
P7												✓	✓					
P1e																		
P1e																		
P1e																		
P1e																		
L5									✓	✓								
L5	✓												✓	✓	✓			
L5																		
L6																		
P1c P1d						✓						✓						
P1c P1d												✓						
L5 L6									✓	✓								
P1e																		

Local Investment in Nature Cornwall (LINC); Lottery Community Fund; Lottery Reaching Communities England; Lottery Partnerships; National Lottery Awards for All England; National Lottery Community Fund; Woodland Creation Planning Grant; Sec 17 Management Agreements (Monuments) Community Fundraising Crowdsourcing; Business Sponsorship; Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR); Environment Social Governance (ESG); Tamar Community Trust - Legacies; Friends of the Tamar Valley

Landowners; Farmers; Forestry Commission; Tamar Community Trust; Ministry of Defence



Decrease designated heritage assets at risk  
 Improve and promote accessibility  
 Increase Tree Canopy by 3% by 2050 - (1990 BL)  
 Reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 (1990 BL)  
 65-80% land man. Nature friendly farming 10-15% of land by 2030  
 Favourable management - agr management by 2042  
 60% SSSI in protected landscapes on track by 2028-01-31  
 80% SSSI in protected landscapes favourable by 2042  
 Restore/Create 250k Ha outside protected sites 2042 (2022 BL)

# Sources of Funding



Tamar Valley  
National  
Landscape

The estimated cost of delivering Management Plan No.6 2025-2030, is **£10.1million**



Tamar Valley National Landscape core funding of approximately 17% of this estimated cost will be cash provided as Revenue, provided by Defra at 75%, match funding of 20% will be provided from Cornwall Council, Devon County Council, West Devon Borough Council, South Hams District Council and Plymouth City Council. A further 5% of match funding will be raised from entrepreneurial activity and events at the Tamar Valley Centre NatureHub.

The additional funding, as a blend of Capital and Revenue, must be raised from external sources, including grants, sponsorship, corporate contributions, partner delivery contributions and Green Finance.

Projected over the 30 year term to 2055, at the time of publication of this Plan, delivery costs for Management Plan Nos 6 to 11 are currently estimated to reach £55.7m.

Long-term investment opportunities through grants and Green Finance will be explored to secure long-term funding to continue the work to meet the Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework (2024).



What you do makes a difference,  
and you have to decide what kind  
of difference you want to make.  
We have the gift of our life to make the  
world a better place – or not to bother.



**Jane Goodall**

English primatologist and anthropologist,  
considered the world's foremost expert  
on chimpanzees



# How Will the Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan No.6 Be Funded?

INCOME	2025/6 Est £	2026/7 Est £	2027/8 Est £	2028/9 Est £	2029/30 Est £	2025/30 Totals £	2030 - 2055 Est £ (x5)
Defra*	267,857	267,857	267,857	267,857	267,857	1,339,285	6,696,425
Cornwall Council*	43,207	43,207	43,207	43,207	43,207	216,035	1,080,175
Devon County Council*	15,900	15,900	15,900	15,900	15,900	79,500	397,500
West Devon Borough Council*	10,134	10,134	10,134	10,134	10,134	50,670	253,350
South Hams District Council*	580	580	580	580	580	2,900	14,500
Plymouth City Council*	TBC'd	TBC'd	TBC'd	TBC'd	TBC'd	TBC'd	TBC'd
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTION INCOME</b>	<b>337,678</b>	<b>337,678</b>	<b>337,678</b>	<b>337,678</b>	<b>337,678</b>	<b>1,688,390</b>	<b>8,441,950</b>
<b>INCOME: TARGETS</b>							
Green Finance	0	500,000	500,000	1,000,000	1,604,556	3,604,556	19,022,780
Sponsorship & Entrepreneurial	15,000	30,000	43,000	58,000	74,000	220,000	1,100,000
Grants, Partnership Projects, Other Funding	807,000	1,103,407	1,104,870	604,870	0	4,545,147	18,100,735
<b>TOTAL TARGETED INCOME</b>	<b>822,000</b>	<b>1,633,407</b>	<b>1,647,870</b>	<b>1,662,870</b>	<b>1,678,556</b>	<b>8,369,703</b>	<b>37,223,515</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>							
Nature First	425,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	5,750,000	24,125,000
Climate Adaptation	200,000	322,500	322,500	322,500	322,500	1,490,000	7,450,000
Place Makes People	182,000	182,000	182,000	182,000	182,000	910,000	4,550,000
Management & Administration	347,678	361,585	376,048	391,048	406,734	1,883,093	9,415,465
Net Surplus or Deficit Position	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	£25,000	£125,000
<b>TOTAL TARGETED INCOME</b>	<b>1,159,678</b>	<b>1,971,085</b>	<b>1,985,548</b>	<b>2,000,548</b>	<b>2,016,234</b>	<b>10,058,093</b>	<b>45,665,465</b>



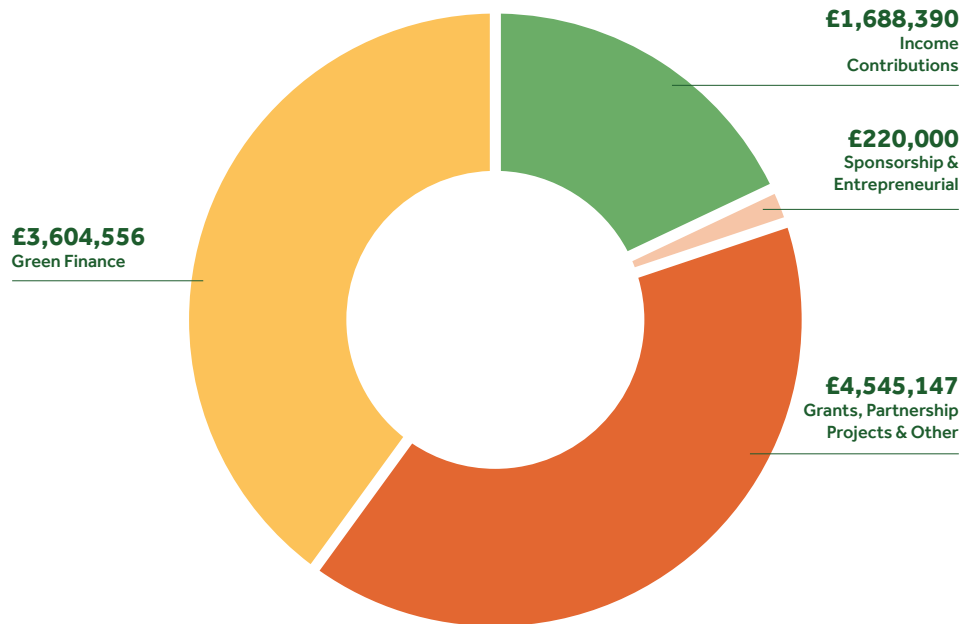
# Finance

## Funding & Budget

We've created this Management Plan recognising that just 17% of the funding may be raised through financial contributions from Defra and our local authorities, in accordance with their annual contributions during our last Management Plan (no.5) 2019-2024. The remaining funds required to deliver this Management Plan are aspirational and will require a Partnership commitment to work together to target additional funding.

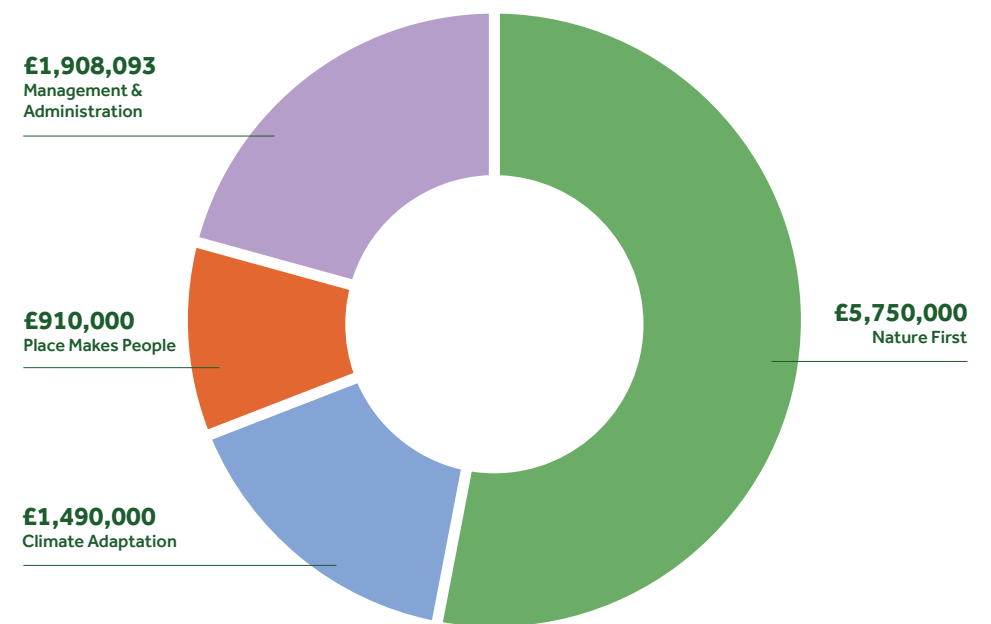
### Funding Aspirations

This will be targeted through a combination of sponsorship and entrepreneurial funds, grants and Green Finance, as suggested in the following pie chart:



### Budget Allocations

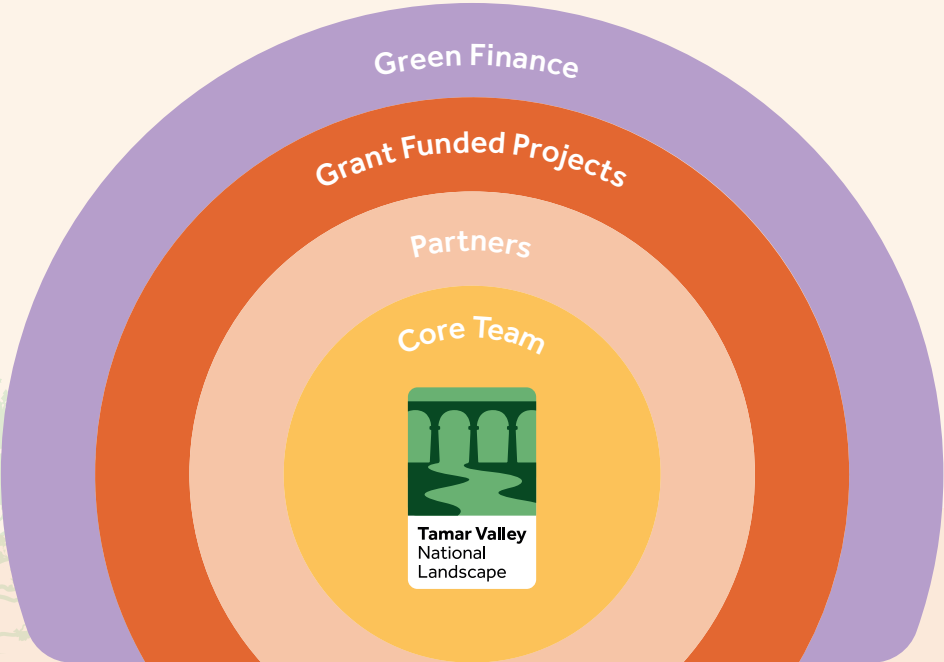
If our Partnership is successful in securing all the targeted funding, we'll be apportioning cash contributions in the following ways:



# Our 2030 Plan on a Page

We've work to do to secure all of the necessary funding to deliver this Management Plan. Below are indicative targets which will deliver as follows:

5 year funding security is important to deliver this Management Plan.



	£3.6m	£3m	£1.6m	£1.9m
<b>Nature First</b>	Water Quality & Quantity, Wildlife-rich Habitats	Special Species, Soil Regeneration, Biological Control, Invasive Non-Native Species Control	Land Manager Engagement, SSSIs, County Wildlife Sites	Domestic Gardens, Public Campaigns
<b>Climate Adaptation</b>	Peat Restoration, Property Retrofitting	Tree and Hedgerow Planting, Regenerative Farming	Clean Transport, Waste Reduction, Energy Saving	Agri-tech, Monitoring & Reporting, Photography & Sampling
<b>Place Makes People</b>	Cornwall & West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site	Design Codes, Heritage	Events, Ecotourism & Voluntourism, Fundraising	NatureHub, Signage, Trails
	<b>Green Finance</b>	<b>Grant Funded Project</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Defra Local Authorities NatureHub</b>

# Tamar Valley National Landscape - Target Sources for Raising Funding

	Programme	Lifetime	Locality	Programme Value	Target Finance	Buyers and Sources	Example
<b>Green Finance</b>	Woody Habitats River & Wetlands Climate Adaptation	1 - 30 years+	International National Regional	£1m - £30m+	Tier 4	National Landscapes Association Nature Based Solutions & Finance Earth; Rebalance Earth; Ocean City Nature; Multi-National Companies; Pension Funds; Insurance Companies; Green Finance Agencies	10,000,000
<b>Ambitious</b>	Placemaking Woody Habitats Rivers & Wetlands Estuarine Areas Soil Regeneration Climate Adaptation AgriTech Arts Access & Inclusion	1yrs - 30yrs +	National Regional	£501k - £10m	Tier 3	National Lottery Heritage Fund; Lottery Climate Action Fund Our Shared Future; Lottery The UK Fund; Local Investment in Nature Cornwall LINC; Nature South West; National Lottery Heritage Grant; Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund Round 2; Landscape Enhancement Initiative (LEI)	1,225,000
<b>Moderate</b>	Turner Trail Connections: Trails & Travel Garden Rewilding Climate Adaptation Heritage Preservation Social Prescribing	1yr - 3yrs		£50k - £500k	Tier 2	National Lottery Heritage Fund; Lottery Climate Action Fund Our Shared Future; The UK Fund; National Lottery Heritage Grant; Regional Capacity Building; Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas; Repair Grants for Heritage at Risk; Water Restoration Fund	475,000
<b>Conservative</b>	Triangular club-rush Project Wacker Quay Dormice Project Adder Project Nature Recovery Officer Allis Shad Project Invasive Species Project Anti Litter Campaign	1mth - 12mths		£5k - £49k	Tier 1	Local Investment in Nature Cornwall (LINC); Lottery Community Fund; Lottery Reaching Communities England; Lottery Partnerships; National Lottery Awards for All England; National Lottery Community Fund; Woodland Creation Planning Grant; Sec 17 Management Agreements (Monuments) Community Fundraising / Crowdsourcing; Business Sponsorship; Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR); Environment Social Governance (ESG); Tamar Community Trust - Legacies; Friends of the Tamar Valley; Keep Britain Tidy	30,000

# Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan

The Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership have prioritised the recovery and enhancement of Nature, to safeguard the future of our wildlife, our landscape, our communities and our local economy.

Nature, and Nature-based services to people, including clear air, clean water, healthy soils, flood control and carbon storage, provide the essential basis upon which we all rely for our health and wellbeing for a thriving life and for the quality of our landscapes. Due to a combination of factors, caused mainly by human activity over recent decades, Nature is struggling. Species and habitats are being lost or have deteriorated dramatically – caused by changes in land, river and sea use and its management; by resource extraction and pollution (especially from mining and agriculture); and by invasive non-native species. These are all playing their part, compounded by the impact of a changing climate.

Our Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan is intended to provide a framework for action and improvement, setting out priorities and actions that are necessary, including the urgent steps required to ensure significant benefits for Nature, climate change adaptation, place and people. It is intended to identify actions and unlock funding for practical measures through to 2030 that will help to achieve long-term. Our objective is to focus effort as we work to deliver 3 interconnected targets:

- Habitat enhancement and recovery
- Species recovery
- Natural connectedness

Nature Recovery Plans are key to the shared vision of National Landscapes, and of our partners within Defra and Natural England, to create resilient and Nature-rich landscapes that allow wildlife and people to thrive, to play a key role in the global '30x30' ambition to ensure that 30% of land is actively conserved or protected for biodiversity benefit by 2030. The Plan will help target investment in Nature going forward.

Our Tamar Valley Nature Recovery Plan has prioritised the following priority habitats of high ecological value and of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity across the landscape, as well as designated sites within the Tamar Valley, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest and County Wildlife Sites:

- Woodland, orchards and hedgerows
- Grassland and arable margins
- Wetlands and coastal (estuarine)
- Rivers, streams and ponds
- Lowland heath

The working landscape dominated by agriculture and forestry within the National Landscape, and our urban and post-industrial areas, are also both vital to support and enhance. These habitats are home to thousands of species including many of national or international importance and it is critical that action is taken to protect and conserve them.



People must feel that the natural world is important and valuable and beautiful and wonderful and an amazement and a pleasure...

The truth is: the natural world is changing. And we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water and air. It is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it.



**Sir David Attenborough**  
World-renowned British naturalist  
and broadcaster



Tamar Valley  
National  
Landscape

## What Nature recovery in the Tamar Valley can look like:



Artist's impression of the Lower Tamar-Tavy 2023



Artist's impression of the Lower Tamar-Tavy  
Enhanced Nature Recovery Network | Artist: Phil Collins

Species-rich communities are essential for functioning, resilient ecosystems and the recovery of high-quality priority habitats is key to securing the future of associated species.

Our Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership has adopted a list of Special Species that will become the focus of our efforts to safeguard and enhance their natural habitat.

The list includes species:

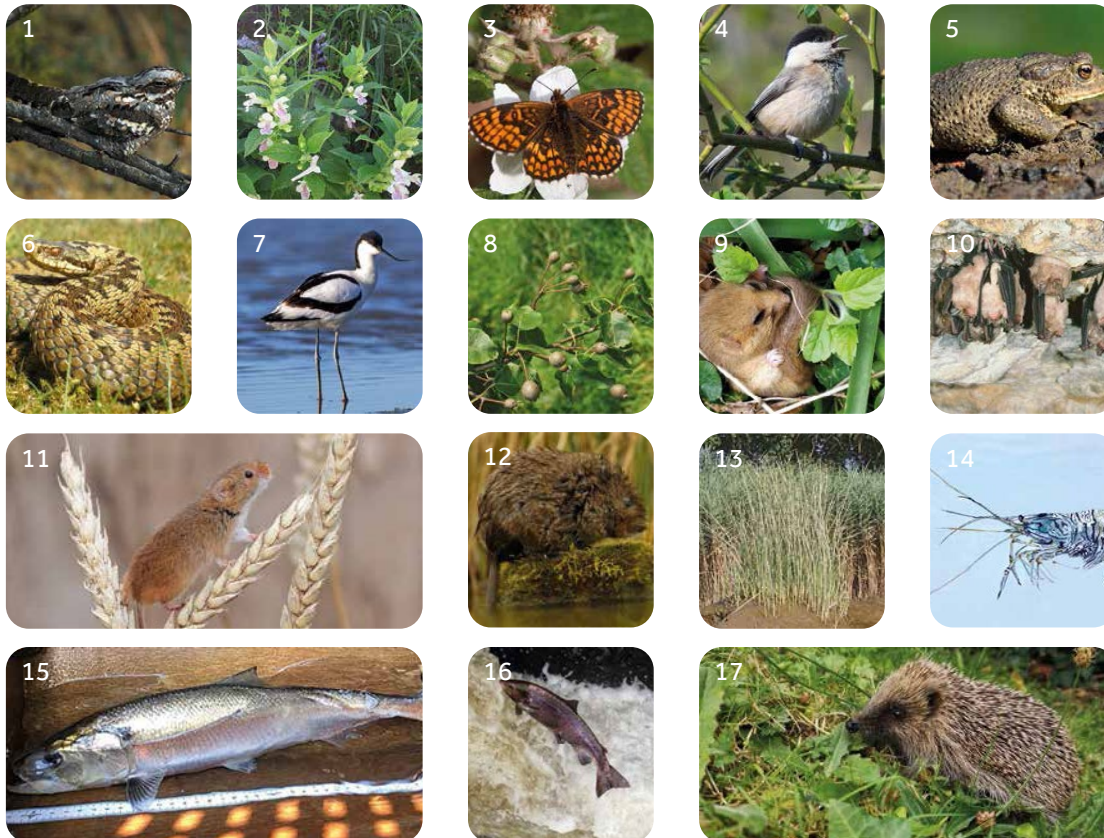
- of most conservation importance or concern (Priority Species), particularly where the Tamar Valley is an important area for a population.
- associated with the diverse habitats which should be flourishing in the Tamar Valley and beyond, and which can benefit from our work to improve and connect Priority Habitats across the National Landscape.
- that people will recognise and might be able to see – and help – in their own back gardens and local areas.

Tamar Valley National Landscape will also take action for other species, including our important invertebrates and pollinators, working together with our partner organisations and the wider community, where opportunities arise, and resources allow.

The Tamar Valley National Landscape Special Species are:

- Nightjar
- Heath fritillary butterfly
- Avocet
- Willow tit
- Salmonids (Salmon and Trout)
- Triangular club-rush
- Plymouth pear
- Allis shad
- Harvest mouse
- Bastard balm
- Hedgehog
- Common toad
- Adder
- Greater horseshoe bat
- Dormouse
- Water vole
- *Palaemon longirostris*  
(a prawn species found near Calstock)

## The Tamar Valley Special Species



- 1 **Nightjar** © D. Cirano
- 2 **Bastard balm** © Lesley Strong
- 3 **Heath fritillary butterfly** © Tony Cox
- 4 **Willow tit** © Geoff Carr
- 5 **Common toad** © Getty Images
- 6 **Adder** © Big Stock Photo
- 7 **Avocet** © Big Stock Photo
- 8 **Plymouth pear**
- 9 **Dormouse** © Jen Bousfield (taken under license)
- 10 **Greater horseshoe bat** © M. Hammett (Natural England)
- 11 **Harvest mouse** © Adrian Langdon
- 12 **Water vole** © Adrian Langdon
- 13 **Triangular club-rush** © Natural England
- 14 ***Palaemon longirostris*** © Phil Collins/ Tamar Valley AONB
- 15 **Atlantic salmon** © M. Gaunt
- 16 **Allis shad** © Environment Agency
- 17 **Hedgehog** © Adrian Langdon

## **Our Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership is committed to take action:**

### **1. Within our designated ecological areas**

By working with farmers, landowners, statutory bodies and other partners to help improve the condition of existing high-value sites, in particular Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and County Wildlife Sites. Together, we will identify volunteering and resourcing opportunities at SSSIs to assess conditions and implement improvements and resilience measures where features are in an unfavourable condition or under managed. We will work to the Defra targets of having SSSI features on track to favourable condition by 2028, in favourable condition by 2042.

### **2. Across the working National Landscape**

By working with farmers, foresters and landowners to create and manage more, bigger, better and joined-up Priority Habitats across the landscape. We will secure the additional resources to implement improvements in our top 5 opportunity areas for Nature recovery in the Tamar Valley National Landscape, including woody habitats, farmland, rivers and wetlands, SSSIs and County Wildlife Sites and community spaces.

### **3. Within our built-up and post-industrial areas**

By working with community groups, parish councils, local authorities and other partners, to encourage and support the management of private and public spaces for wildlife in villages, gardens, parks, heritage sites, school grounds, verges and other areas. Using a list of Tamar Valley Special Species and other resources, we will work to engage key stakeholders and local communities to identify practical opportunities for Nature recovery action in the wider community.

### **4. Through projects and initiatives to increase opportunities for people to connect with Nature**

By providing meaningful opportunities, we want people to enjoy, understand and access the natural environment. This will bring wellbeing benefits as well as a sense of pride of place. We recognise that what we care for, we value, and what we value, we protect.

### **5. Review this Plan, monitor and report on its progress every 2 years.**

For more detailed information, the Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan 2023-2030 is available here to view as an appendix to this Management Plan, or via Tamar Valley National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan 2023-2030.



# Local Nature Recovery Strategies

## 1. Within our designated ecological areas

There are 48 Local Nature Recovery Strategy areas all over England, with no gaps or overlaps.

Strategy preparation is led by a responsible authority, usually a local authority, and they will forge new partnerships with local stakeholders: landowners, farmers, business, charities, community groups, to write a local strategy that is collaborative and locally led.

Developed with support from Defra, Natural England, Forestry Commission and Environment Agency, each Local Nature Recovery Strategy will:

- Agree priorities for Nature recovery
- Map the most valuable existing areas for Nature
- Map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for Nature and for wider environmental goals

Landowners and managers will be encouraged to deliver the mapped proposals linked to other policies and incentives like Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

Local Nature Recovery Strategies will be published and reviewed every 3-10 years, to take stock of what has been delivered and ensure that the proposals stay relevant.

Tamar Valley National Landscape is located at the heart of Devon and Cornwall, bridging the border between the 2 counties, and situated to the North of Plymouth City Council. Each of these 3 local authorities have a statutory obligation to provide a dedicated Local Nature Recovery Strategy for their area (published March 2025), to determine key priorities and deliver for the Environmental Improvement Plan, Environment Act targets and 30 by 30 commitments.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies are primarily intended to identify locations to create or improve habitat, that are most likely to provide the greatest benefit to Nature and the wider environment. The strategies will also help to meet a range of wider environmental objectives and deliver co-benefits for people's health, wellbeing and access to Nature.


For instance, Local Nature Recovery Strategies will contribute towards government's commitments to:

- Restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitat outside of protected sites by 2042, compared with 2022 levels
- Halt the decline of species abundance by 2030, and reduce the risk of species extinction by 2042
- Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050
- Reduce nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment loads to a level at least 40% by 2038

Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan and the Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been developed across the same period of time, codesigned and informing each other, and should be considered in parallel informing Nature, climate, place and people priorities.

# Special Qualities of Tamar Valley National Landscape

These are the Statement of Significance aspects of natural beauty that justify the Tamar Valley's national and international importance and basis for designation as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1995. All of these protections are smart investments to ensure Nature and people thrive.

1. A rare valley and water landscape
  2. A landscape of high visual quality
  3. A unique wildlife resource
  4. A remarkable heritage
  5. A landscape of artistic and public appeal
- 

## IUCN Category V Protected Landscape



- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>1</b> Special Protection Area (Tamar Estuaries Complex) | <b>1</b> Special Area of Conservation (Plymouth Sound & Estuaries) | <b>1</b> Marine Conservation Zone (Tamar Estuaries Site) |
|--|--|--|



**Tamar Valley National Landscape is designated a Protected Landscape under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Category V classification.**

The 1994 Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories defines Category V, Protected Landscape/Seascape as: Area of land, with coast and sea as appropriate, where the interaction of people and Nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant aesthetic, ecological and/or cultural value, and often with high biological diversity. Safeguarding the integrity of this traditional interaction is vital to the protection, maintenance and evolution of such an area.

### Category V Protected Area:

- Maintain harmonious interaction of Nature and people
- A lived-in working landscape
- Agriculture, forestry and tourism are dominant land uses

### Desirable characteristics:

- Suitable for scientific research
- Important for education
- Recognised by artists of all kinds (now and in the past)
- Important for agri-biodiversity (animals and crops)
- Potential for ecological and landscape restoration

### 12 Management Principles

1. Conserving landscape, biodiversity and cultural values
2. Focus on the interaction between Nature and People
3. People should be seen as stewards of the landscape
4. With and through local people, for and by them
5. Cooperative approaches
6. Supportive political and economic environment
7. Enhancement as well as protection
8. Priority given to retain the Special Qualities of the area
9. Economic activities that do not need to be in the area should be located outside it
10. Business-like and of the highest professional standard
11. Flexible and adaptative
12. Measured in environmental and social terms

# Special Qualities of Tamar Valley National Landscape

## Overview

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 1994 system of categorisation lists 6 categories of protected areas (I – VI). Tamar Valley National Landscape is an IUCN Category V Protected Landscape/Seascape, a protected area managed mainly for conservation and recreation.

National Landscapes are designated under the Countryside & Rights of Way Act (2000) as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and along with National Parks they represent the finest examples of countryside in England and Wales. Designation seeks to conserve and enhance natural beauty; including flora and fauna, geology and landscape features, archaeology and architecture; whilst recognising the needs of the local community and economy.

The Tamar Valley was designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in August 1995.

Whilst historically referred to as AONBs, during November 2023, nationally, these were rebranded as National Landscapes. The National Landscapes Association is the coordinating voice across all National Landscapes based in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Tamar Valley National Landscape is located at the heart of Cornwall and Devon, where the borders meet, and includes the rivers of the Tamar, Tavy and Lynher. The larger section, around the rivers Tamar and Tavy, extends north from the broad estuary at Plymouth and the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park to where the intricate, deeply incised river meanders just below Launceston and Tavistock.

It borders Dartmoor National Park to the east and takes in Kit Hill to the west. The section around the river Lynher extends west from Saltash and Torpoint to St Germans in south east Cornwall.

Tamar Valley National Landscape covers around 75 square miles (190 square kilometres, 16,155 hectares). It is home to a population of 16,500 people, and the average age is 49 years, which was recorded in the 2021 Census.

The lowest point is at sea level and its highest point is 333m above sea level at Kit Hill.

There are 3,672 hectares of woodland, of which 376.6 hectares are ancient woodland sites.

The National Landscape includes the lower parts of the 3 river valleys - Tamar, Tavy and Lynher.

Close to 67% of Tamar Valley National Landscape is farmed, and 75% of that farmland is under grassland, predominantly used for sheep and cattle; there are around 600 holdings ranging from tiny smallholdings to large dairy farms of over 200 hectares.

There are 2,247 hectares of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), much of the estuary is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the EU Habitats Directive, there are 41 County Wildlife Sites and 2 Local Nature Reserves.

Tamar Valley National Landscape contains the majority of Area 10 of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site. There are over 100 former mine sites and their associated physical and social infrastructure.

The Tamar Valley National Landscape boundary crosses 5 local authority areas (2 counties, 2 districts and Plymouth City). The area also borders Dartmoor National Park and crosses 24 parishes.

## Special Qualities

The Statement of Significance defines the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley National Landscape, its character and the special qualities we associate with it. It provides the criteria against which impacts on this nationally designated landscape can be judged.

The pre-designation landscape assessment, *The Tamar Valley Landscape* (Countryside Commission, 1992), identified 5 special qualities to justify the designation of the Tamar Valley area as an AONB. These are described here:-

### A. A rare valley and water landscape

Tamar Valley National Landscape represents an unspoiled valley and water landscape, a classic English lowland river system. The Tamar river system rises near to the coast of North Devon and enters the National Landscape south of Launceston at Greystone Bridge. The Tavy and Lynher rise on Dartmoor and Bodmin Moor respectively and join the Tamar forming an expansive drowned valley estuary complex, before entering the English Channel at Plymouth Sound. Geological structure has helped create a compact river system containing large changes in form and scenery in a relatively small area.

The lower tidal reaches of the estuary have dramatic contrasts between extensive low water mud flats and expansive waterscapes at high water. The middle valleys become dramatic with steep fringing woodlands, high cliffs and rocky outcrops juxtaposed with gently meandering stretches through lush pastureland. The higher areas of the National Landscape possess a more gently rolling pastoral floodplain.

The river that was once a major industrial and trading route, busy with waterborne traffic and noise, is now a tranquil place, valued by visitors and locals alike for its peace and quiet, a silence only punctuated by bird calls.

### B. A landscape of high visual quality

The visual quality of the landscape in Tamar Valley National Landscape at an intimate or panoramic scale is exceptional. The landscape contains huge contrasts and surprises. In many places the network of ancient deeply incised lanes, high hedge banks and small fields gives a very enclosed, intimate and sometimes even claustrophobic feeling. This contrasts strongly with expansive estuarine vistas of the river valley and green patchworks of fields and hedges seen from vantage points such as Kit Hill or Weir Quay.

The high visual quality of the Tamar Valley arises from a combination of influences. The strong underlying structure has been shaped and enriched by many episodes of, sometimes, intensive and destructive human activity. Yet it has escaped the worst excesses of wholesale post-war landscape change seen elsewhere. It has also retained a distinctiveness and identity derived from small intricate local details, whether it be a style of fingerpost or an assemblage of flowers in a hedge bank; this distinctiveness is today more vulnerable than ever before. Much of this local survival has its roots within the controls applied during the long-term stability of landownership by the Dukes of Bedford, the Edgcumbes, Tavistock Abbey and other large estates.

### **C) A unique wildlife resource**

Tamar Valley National Landscape sustains a diversity of wildlife habitats. However, in ecological terms, the estuary complex represents its most important asset. These tidal parts have international importance and are mostly within a Special Protection Area (SPA) due to the importance of the intertidal zone in supporting wintering waders and wildfowl. Habitats are also protected within the tidal estuary by their designation as a European Special Area of Conservation (SAC), including mudflats, salt marsh, reedbeds, wet grassland, fen and fringing oak woodland.

The rivers themselves are an important resource, supporting a range of species including otters, many scarce and endangered fish, such as the Allis shad, salmonids, eels, and other marginal and riparian species.

Tamar Valley National Landscape contains extensive areas of woodland, particularly on the steep valley sides. This is split between large tracts of well-managed coniferous forest and equally large areas of broadleaved woodland, much of it ancient semi-natural. Within this are nationally important species, including

the Heath fritillary butterfly, and regionally endangered species like the Nightjar. Important remnants of once extensive lowland heathland remain on the dominant granite ridge at Kit Hill and other smaller sites.

Mining has left a vital legacy for wildlife as well as our cultural heritage, abandoned mine workings and spoil tips have become habitats in their own right and refuges for endangered species including 8 species of bat, amongst them the nationally rare Greater horseshoe. Some of the older mine spoil heaps are now valued as geological sites, offering a rare opportunity to study minerals above ground.

Farmland has generally been improved and possesses limited wildlife value apart from species-rich hedges, most especially along roadsides. These hedges also hold nationally important collections of rare daffodils, survivors from market gardening. Other remnants of this land-use include traditional orchards containing increasingly rare Tamar varieties of apples, cherries and other fruit.

## D) A remarkable heritage

All landscapes contain an historical record, however Tamar Valley National Landscape possesses a particularly significant and now internationally important cultural landscape. Whilst there are many reminders of ancient human interaction with the landscape, such as on Hingston Down and the ridge above the present-day Calstock village, the dominant landscape structure across much of the National Landscape results from medieval and post-medieval enclosures. This unspoilt pattern of settlement, lanes, fields, woodland and hedgebanks, in tandem with a precious collection of well-preserved medieval bridges, is an outstanding landscape legacy.

Overlying this landscape, the last 500 years has seen several defining episodes creating large-scale and fundamental landscape change for limited periods of time within defined geographical areas. Following extensive but small-scale mining in the medieval period on the Bere Peninsula, the late 18th century saw extensive mining activity throughout the Valley exploiting massive copper and arsenic reserves as well as a wide variety of other minerals and ores.

The mining heritage across a large area of Tamar Valley National Landscape is included in the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site (WHS) in recognition of the global importance of the deep mining technology developed in Cornwall and Devon.

The influx of miners during the 19th century created a building boom. The combination of workers' housing, Methodist chapels, chimneys, engine houses, inclines and associated infrastructure has created a distinctive mining landscape, much of it focused on the river.

Evidence of the river's importance can be seen across the landscape by a series of structures, leats, weirs, quays, fords, viaducts, limekilns and bridges. Large spoil tips of mining waste also remind us of the huge environmental damage caused by the industry.

The Tamar Valley has also been dominated by a significant market gardening industry employing up to 10,000 people in the early 20th century. Until recently it supplied many crops, via railway and river, to London and elsewhere. This has left an equally fascinating landscape footprint, one that has now been recognised.

Within a generation, the evidence of these episodes has been assimilated back into the landscape and shrouded in scrub and woodland. For those who discover it, this hidden multilayered landscape greatly enriches the area and has created a truly outstanding cultural legacy.

The buildings in the Tamar Valley illustrate the changing land-use patterns of the area. There is a mixture of vernacular styles, although stone remains the dominant building material. The area does have its share of fine country houses and estates, as well as many beautiful villages and farmsteads. There are several designed landscapes, 4 of which are nationally recognised through designation.

## E) A landscape of artistic and public appeal

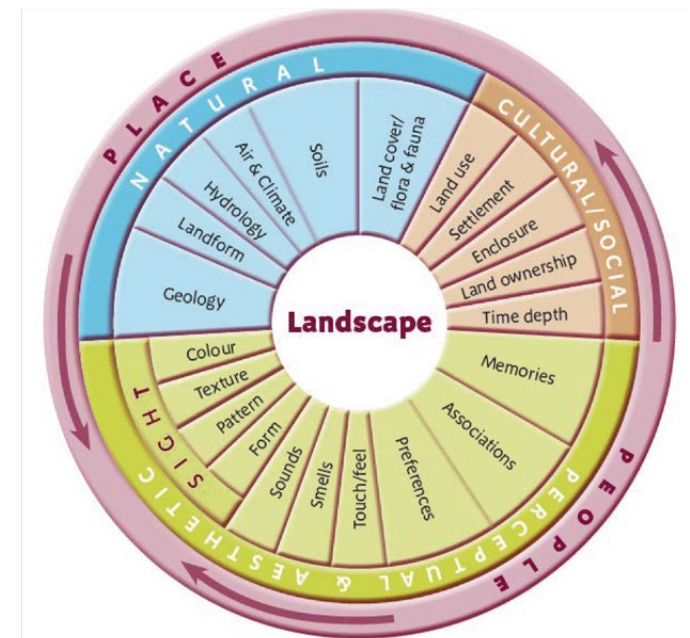
The area has long been a haunt for artists and travellers. Some notable writers and artists frequented the Valley, such as J.M.W. Turner. Often, visitors were as fascinated by the industrial environment as by the picturesque landscapes. Today, there remains an active community of artists and craftspeople in the Valley.

There has been a long relationship with Plymouth through the use of the river and railway as a recreational link. All levels of society were involved, from church outings to 'party fields' and more gentrified romantic tours.

The river and railway remain perhaps the best ways to appreciate the Valley. Country sports, mostly controlled by the large estates, have had strong landscape and cultural influences. The area has remained important for fly-fishing and shooting. The Duke of Bedford's former fishing lodge at Endsleigh remains the most visible reminder, designed by Wyattville and partly landscaped by Repton, within a stunning setting overlooking the River Tamar. There are several other designed landscapes within the National Landscape on which Repton advised - including a 'Red Book' for Port Eliot - but many were only partially completed.

The strong local identity is perhaps most rooted in the traditional land-based industries – farming, forestry and market gardening, mining and traditional salmon fishing. Local celebrations of the environment, such as strawberry and cherry fairs, daffodil and apple days, remain as important links and reminders. This sense of place remains one of the area's great strengths and one that needs careful stewardship.

The Landscape Wheel  
Natural England, 2014



## Natural Beauty and Heritage Values

In the UK and internationally it is established practice to designate historic, cultural and natural sites of national importance and significance in order to assist their conservation and protection. Sites are assessed against specific criteria and the designation includes a statement of the importance of a site. This statement sets out which particular attributes of the site (its values) make it stand out for designation<sup>a, b, c</sup>.

In the case of AONB designation, there is a single criterion of 'natural beauty', determined by a variety of approaches supported by nationally-agreed guidance (e.g. Landscape character assessment<sup>d</sup>, Natural England AONB designation guidance<sup>e</sup>). For each AONB a 'statement of significance' sets out the special qualities of the landscape that make it worthy of designation. As appreciation of landscape is a cultural construct that can fluctuate with changing social values, the statement of significance is necessarily an expert judgement and is recognised as such in national guidance. In this way it is distinct from the assessment of landscape character, which describes the landscape in value-less terms.

The Statement of Significance for the Tamar Valley National Landscape through its AONB designation cites 5 special qualities as the attributes of significance. These special qualities represent an expert judgement of what makes the area distinctive to the extent of being 'nationally important' for its natural beauty. They build on features identified through Landscape Character Assessment and Historic Landscape Character Assessment, but also take account of the heritage 'values' that the features represent. English Heritage recognises 4 such values: evidential value, historical value, aesthetic value and communal value<sup>f</sup>.

'Integrity' and 'authenticity' are concepts central to all aspects of heritage protection, being recognised by UNESCO internationally and English Heritage in England<sup>f</sup>, and being enshrined in international conventions and associated guidance (e.g. World Heritage Convention, 1972) to which the UK is signatory.

Integrity: wholeness, honesty

Authenticity: Those characteristics that most truthfully reflect and embody the cultural heritage values of a place.

Thus, actions for the conservation and enhancement of the special qualities of the Tamar Valley National Landscape should achieve the conservation of the integrity of the whole area, not just specific locations, attributes, or features. Similarly the authenticity of the whole area should be conserved, as represented in particular by the stated special qualities of the site.

Designation of an area as a National Landscape confers a duty upon relevant authorities to 'conserve and enhance' the natural beauty, as defined by the Statement of Significance. This means taking account of both the integrity and authenticity of the natural beauty of the site and also of all the features (both material and immaterial) that represent those values. A variety of guidance is available with regard to the treatment of natural and cultural heritage in planning. The landscape character areas identified for the Tamar Valley National Landscape area and their selected features of significance are provided in Annex 1.



The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA) and amended section 85 of the CROW Act, places a new duty on relevant authorities to seek to further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area when discharging their functions within National Landscapes. This new duty replaces the previous requirement for relevant authorities to 'have regard' to the purpose of AONBs, and is intended as a more proactive and strengthened requirement.

The duty is a statutory one and applies to all relevant authorities when discharging any function that affects an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Relevant authorities include all levels of government and includes government agencies and ministers. Statutory undertakers are also covered by the duty.

The following has been provided by Natural England in respect of the new duty:  
Section 245 (Protected Landscapes) of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 places a duty on relevant authorities in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in a National Park, the Broads or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty ("National Landscape") in England, to seek to further the statutory purposes of the area.

The duty applies to local planning authorities and other decision makers in making planning decisions on development and infrastructure proposals, as well as to other public bodies and statutory undertakers.

Natural England advises that:

- The duty to 'seek to further' is an active duty, not a passive one. Any relevant authority must take all reasonable steps to explore how the statutory purposes of the protected landscape (A National Park, the Broads, or an AONB National Landscape) can be furthered;
- The new duty underlines the importance of avoiding harm to the statutory purposes of protected landscapes but also to seek to further the conservation and enhancement of a protected landscape. That goes beyond mitigation and like for like measures and replacement. A relevant authority must be able to demonstrate with reasoned evidence what measures can be taken to further the statutory purpose.

- The proposed measures to further the statutory purposes of a protected landscape, should explore what is possible in addition to avoiding and mitigating the effects of the development, and should be appropriate, proportionate to the type and scale of the development and its implications for the area and effectively secured. Natural England's view is that the proposed measures should align with and help to deliver the aims and objectives of the designated landscape's statutory management plan. The relevant protected landscape team/body should be consulted.

The new duty is applicable to all actions of relevant authorities, not just those relating to planning. In undertaking actions that impact or could potentially impact on National Landscapes and their settings, the relevant authority must be able to demonstrate how they have actively sought to further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape. The way in which the purpose of designation might be furthered, or the evidence of the genuine attempt to seek to do so, should be open to scrutiny.

## References

### **a) Habitats Directive**

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31992L0043:EN:NOT>

### **b) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979**

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46>

### **c) Guides:**

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/caring/listing/scheduled-monuments/>

### **d) LCA guidance**

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/landscape/englands/character/assessment/default.aspx>

### **e) Guidance for assessing landscapes for designation as National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England**

[http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/B1DesignationGuidanceMar11\\_tcm6-26242.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/B1DesignationGuidanceMar11_tcm6-26242.pdf)

### **f) Conservation Principles, policies and guidance, English Heritage**

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/conservation-principles-sustainable-management-historic-environment/conservationprinciplespoliciesguidanceapr08web.pdf>

### **g) Landscape and planning**

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/landscape/protection/planning/default.aspx>

### **h) NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) and the Historic Environment**

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/hpg/decisionmaking/NPPF/>

### **i) Historic environment and planning, practice guide**

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/pps-practice-guide/pps5practiceguide.pdf/>

# Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site

The Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site encompasses some 20,000 hectares across 10 Areas of Cornwall and West Devon. Area 10, Tamar Valley Mining District with Tavistock, has significant landscape overlap with Tamar Valley National Landscape as well as aims and objectives around nature, climate, people and place in common.



This UNESCO designated landscape saw extensive mining activity throughout the Valley in the 18th and 19th centuries particularly, and the resultant combination of housing, Methodist chapels, chimneys and associated infrastructure has created a distinctive mining landscape with stories to tell of the people who helped shape the place. The WHS is defined through this range of mining related sites and features known as Attributes and many of these are to be found within the Valley. Cornish-type engine houses and related mine buildings are perhaps the most apparent of these, but the former mining settlements, mineral railways and quays on the Tamar are also essential aspects of the Valley's historic metalliferous mining.





**As a Partner organisation, we are pleased to work alongside the Tamar Valley National Landscape to help maintain the heritage that sits within the landscape and which in turn, supports the vibrant and diverse wildlife habitats, cultural heritage and natural beauty which can be found throughout the valley for residents, businesses and visitors.**

By working in together, we are promoting the sustainable management and conservation of this globally significant industrial heritage, alongside the other key features and characteristics across the Valley. The WHS inscription further strengthens the importance of the heritage in the National Landscape by recognising its international importance and provides additional means of sharing, reinforcing and promoting it to a wider audience and securing this special place for future generations.



# Landscape Character (incorporating Historic Character)

Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is the process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape. LCAs identify and explain the combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinct from one another by mapping and describing Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Character Types.

Landscape Character Areas are unique, geographically-specific areas of Landscape Character Area with an individual identity and most Areas comprise a number of different Landscape Character Types.

Landscape Character Types are generic landscapes that share similar characteristics but may occur in different geographical areas.

Landscape Character Assessment covering the Tamar Valley National Landscape provides a robust evidence base for decision making and landscape management; it builds upon the Landscape Assessment undertaken for the Tamar Valley in 1992 prior to its designation as an AONB.

In addition to the objective assessment of landscape character, the 1992 study identified the 5 'special qualities' of the AONB. It is on the basis of these that the AONB was designated, and it is these and the overall landscape character, which is an intrinsic component of natural beauty, that the relevant authorities have a duty to conserve and enhance.

Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC), an assessment of the predominant historic character of an area that regards centuries of human interaction with the landscape, has also been completed for the designated landscape. LCA and HLC work as a core resource for understanding, describing and monitoring the landscape of the designated landscape.

The special qualities, features and landscape characteristics of the Tamar Valley are summarised in Annex 1.



## Landscape Character Areas

In conjunction with neighbouring local authorities, a process of landscape characterisation has been completed for the Tamar Valley AONB. This has been undertaken by consultants with extensive local consultation and using a nationally approved methodology (Countryside Agency, 1992). The basis of the exercise was a desk study that identified fine-grain Landscape Description Units (LDUs) with strongly distinctive topography. These were then assessed in the field and amalgamated into Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) with a strong identity that could be described according to set criteria and summarised with a set of key characteristics.

Details of the methodology used and maps of the various LCAs\* identified are available on a publicly accessible website, which provides a more robust evidence base for the planning process and will also help to establish a baseline for landscape monitoring in the future.

Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC), an assessment of the predominant historic character of an area that regards centuries of human interaction with the landscape, has also been completed for the AONB. Although HLC types sometimes coincide with LDUs, they more often blend or cross over. Together LCA and HLC work as a core resource for understanding, describing and monitoring the landscape of the AONB. The Tamar Valley Landscape character areas are detailed in Annex 1.





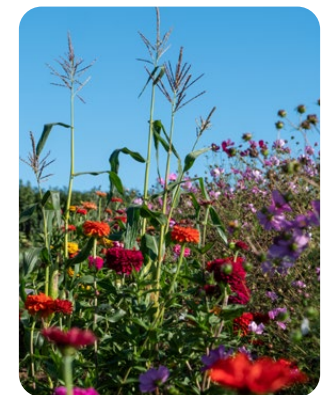
## Tamar Valley National Landscape Decision Making and Monitoring

The Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership have established a new decision-making and monitoring tool to provide indicators of change for important aspects of the special qualities and landscape character of the National Landscape and its setting, and in relation to forces for change.

The Tamar Valley Doughnut is based on the doughnut economic model informed by Kate Raworth, promoting a circular economy that turns away from growth toward a thriving economy. The Tamar Valley Doughnut has been designed to address the core priorities for Tamar Valley National Landscape and deliver to the Defra issued Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework.

All of the projects and priorities within this Management Plan are contained within the Tamar Valley Doughnut. This model is intended to inform future management of the area, enabling a clear snapshot of progress of delivery. Launched with Management Plan No.6 in 2025, the Tamar Valley Doughnut is able to consistently monitor performance across any length of time and specifically to deliver the Vision for 2055.

The Tamar Valley Doughnut also considers and aligns with the strategic objectives and decision making processes of the 5 local authorities and wider Partnership.



# Management Strategy

Due to the legally protected status of National Landscapes within the Countryside & Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000, land within nationally designated AONBs must be treated differently from land outside, as it has the highest status of landscape protection. Further to this, the Government has confirmed that in the decision-making process, great weight must be placed on the primary purpose of National Landscapes, being the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty. Accordingly, the Government has also confirmed within the plan-making process that there should be a strategic approach to AONBs;

- to plan positively for their conservation and enhancement
- to consider and reference National Landscape Management Plans
- to limit the scale and context of development within the designated landscape and sensitively handle development within its setting
- to direct development (in particular major development) to land of lesser environmental value outside the National Landscape area.



# The Environmental Legislation and Requirements

National Landscapes are designated as AONBs by the Government for the purpose of ensuring that the special qualities of the finest landscapes in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are conserved and enhanced. The primary purpose of AONB designation is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area, as confirmed by Section 82 of the CRoW Act. Section 85 of the Act contains the revised duty on all relevant authorities to seek to further the purposes of the designation in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect land in AONBs. Sections 88 and 89 of the Act state that each Local Authority and Conservation Board shall prepare and publish a Management Plan for their AONB which should then be reviewed at intervals of no more than 5 years. Management Plans are adopted statutory policy of the Local Authority. The Government has confirmed that the landscape qualities of National Landscapes and National Parks are equivalent, so the protection given by the land use planning system to natural beauty in both types of area should also be equivalent.

The AONB designation is also of international importance, recognised as a Category V Protected Landscape by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

These environmental laws and rules place requirements and additional responsibilities on local authorities and the planning system;

- National Landscapes are defined within the EIA Regulations for specific consideration as a “sensitive area”,
- The CRoW Act Section 85 Duty of Regard requires all public bodies, down to parish council level, to consider the National Landscapes nationally protected status in any land use related decisions. This includes planning applications and the formulation of Local and Neighbourhood Plans,
- National Landscape Management Plans have been recognised to form a ‘material consideration’ in the planning decision making process,
- Land within National Landscapes is recognised differently under the Town and Country Planning Act as Article 2(3) land (which for example restricts certain permitted development rights).

However, despite the above, Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) should recognise that:

- Natural England is the statutory consultee for landscape related planning issues,
- National Landscapes (and the partnership and staff units) are not formal consultees but their local knowledge of the designated landscape and its wider landscape setting, together with the aims and objectives of the statutory Management Plan, mean that they can provide a valuable contribution to planning matters,
- National Landscape Management Plans are not part of the statutory Development Plan but are a material planning consideration and help to set out the strategic contexts for development and provide evidence on the value of the area.

While a local planning authority has a duty to seek to further the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty (as defined by, and the appropriate management of the area, being set out in the statutory National Landscape Management Plans), this is achieved through partnership with National Landscapes and by reference to their Management Plans as a material consideration. The official consultee is Natural England and any relationship with National Landscape partnerships (and staff units) is discretionary, although generally regarded as best practice and recommended by Natural England.

## The Town and Country Planning Legislation and Requirements

It is important to recognise that the primary legislation in relation to AONB designation is from the CRoW Act (2000) and originally from the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. The amount of policy relating to AONBs has reduced greatly since the removal of Structure Plans and abolition of the Regional Spatial Strategies. Planning Policies for AONBs are now solely becomes principally contained in the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA), National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Local Plans and emerging Neighbourhood Plans.

The NPPF confirms the requirement in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 that applications must be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The NPPF provides specific planning guidance for plan makers and decision takers in relation to AONBs and confirms that great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty and that National Landscapes as AONB designated areas have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. National Landscapes and their Management Plans are material considerations in planning. In specific relation to major development,

the NPPF states that planning permission should be refused for major developments within National Landscapes except in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated that they are in the public interest, and sets a series of 3 stringent tests that have to be assessed. Whether a proposal constitutes “major development” is a matter for the decision maker, taking into account its nature, scale and setting, and whether it could have a significant adverse impact on the purposes for which the area has been designated or defined.

National Landscapes can restrict the presumption in favour of sustainable development; the NPPF acknowledges that there will be some circumstances where a local planning authority may not be able to meet its objectively assessed development needs owing to the need to prevent harm to National Landscapes. It confirms that the application of policies in the NPPF that protect National Landscapes provide a strong reason for restricting the overall scale, type or distribution of development in the plan area. The NPPF also revokes the presumption in favour of sustainable development where there is clear reason for refusing development on National Landscape grounds in the case of development plans being absent, silent, or relevant policies out of date.

The NPPF confirms that local planning authorities should set out the strategic priorities for their areas within Local Plans and accordingly deliver the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment, including landscape. The NPPF also confirms that;

- Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty of National Landscapes which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues.
- The scale and extent of development within all these designated areas should be limited, while development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.
- Planning should seek to further the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment.

Locally prepared plans and Neighbourhood Plans should set out policy for National Landscapes locally and define the special qualities of the area. This should specifically cross reference the relevant National Landscape Management Plan(s). Further to this, the existence of an AONB designation should be considered at the very outset in plan preparation and should influence the plan in terms of the strategic location of development, access issues, green infrastructure, Community Infrastructure Levy, use of natural resources, and in terms of landscape and environmental protection. Simply including a single policy reference to National Landscapes does not demonstrate that local planning authorities have met their legal duty to seek to further the purposes of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape.

Natural England is responsible for advising on National Landscape designation. In its 1991 policy statement on AONBs they identified the following three aims for AONBs:

1. The primary purpose of National Landscape status is to conserve and enhance natural beauty.
2. When carrying out the above duty, account should be taken of the needs of agriculture, forestry, other rural industries and of the economic and social needs of the local communities. In particular, sustainable forms of social and economic development, that in themselves conserve and enhance the environment, should be promoted.
3. Recreation is not a purpose of designation but demand should be met if this does not harm conservation of natural beauty or the needs of agriculture, forestry and other uses.

This Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan therefore focuses primarily on conserving and enhancing the quality of the landscape, in particular its natural beauty.

However, as the 1991 Countryside Agency policy statement confirms, this duty should not be implemented in isolation. Socio-economic needs and recreation are to be taken into account in furthering this primary aim in an integrated approach to the management of the National Landscape.

Section 114 of the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act stated "References in this Act to the preservation, or conservation of the natural beauty of an area shall be construed as including references to the preservation or, as the case may be, the conservation of its flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features."

Also Section 99 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 clarified natural beauty in the countryside as follows: The fact that an area in England or Wales consists of or includes -

(a) land used for agriculture or woodlands,

(b) land used as a park, or

(c) any other area whose flora, fauna or physiographical features are partly the product of human intervention in the landscape, does not prevent it from being treated, for the purposes of any enactment (whenever passed), as being an area of natural beauty (or of outstanding natural beauty).

# The Beauty of the Tamar Valley

Nature is a gift to us, a gift we all should love,  
Trees reaching to the sky, birds flying high above.  
Tamar Valley has it all, for everyone to see,  
Babbling brooks and rivers, lush meadows, wildflowers, moths, butterflies, bees.  
Hedgehogs, bats, fish and insects, they all live within it there,  
We must protect them all, we have to show we care.  
Pollution in England's rivers, flowing to our seas,  
Create an endless journey, don't let it be our destiny.  
Climate change is altering the planet, everything we love,  
The melting of the arctic, wild fires, heat and floods.  
Our steeply wooded river valleys, are a beauty to behold,  
Let's keep our farming, market gardens, orchards, a delight for young and old.  
Let's preserve the deep dark mines of yesterday, its heritage untouched,  
And prove to everyone who comes, we love it all so much.  
Tamar Valley is a tranquil place, to heal our state of mind,  
To find some peace away from stress, and all worries left behind.

**Diane O'Leary**

Former resident of Gunnislake



**Tamar Valley AONB's National Moment**, creating a heart in the landscape at Cotehele. Part of a national launch of 2019's Landscapes for Life Week, celebrating Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



**Daffodil garden above the valley**  
by Mary Martin

# Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership

The Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership is an alliance of organisations, committed to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley. Together, they co-design plans, collaborate on attracting funding and delivery, and collate data for monitoring progress.

The Partnership has a 3 tier governance structure, involving:

## Executive Committee

- Chair (Independent)
- Vice Chair (Councillor)
- Devon County Council Representative
- Cornwall Council Representative
- West Devon Representative
- Natural England Representative
- South Hams Representative
- Visit Tamar Valley Representative

## Partnership



## Dedicated Executive Team

Based at the Tamar Valley Centre at Gunnislake, providing management and administration services to coordinate and support the delivery of the Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan. Core funding from Defra and contributions from local authorities, additional project funding required to sustain and increase capacity.





**Tamar Valley**  
National  
Landscape

Date of Consultation:  
2nd September – 1st November 2024

Date of Adoption:  
Aimed at March 2025

If you require information in a different format –  
for example in braille or large print, please contact:

**Tamar Valley National Landscape, Tamar Valley Centre**

Cemetery Road, Drakewalls,  
Gunnislake, Cornwall PL18 9FE

[www.tamarvalley-nl.org.uk](http://www.tamarvalley-nl.org.uk)

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