

Grant Funding Agreement
Report by Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer

Summary: This report provides Members with a briefing on the recent discussions with Defra regarding the updating of the Grant Funding Agreement.

Recommendations:
To note the progress made with Defra officials in revising the Grant Funding Agreement.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The current National Park grant agreement was last reviewed in 2008 and is now out of date compared to the latest Cabinet Office's guidance. Following recommendations by the National Audit Office (NAO) that Defra needed to update the agreement with stronger mechanisms for review and oversight, officials have been reviewing of the Grant Agreement for National Park Authorities and the Broads Authority.
- 1.2 The Yorkshire Dales have worked with DEFRA in bringing the grant agreement in line with other department grant agreements in force. The Chief Financial Officers for the English National Park Authorities held a telephone conference on 1 July with DEFRA to discuss areas that may require further clarification. Good progress has been made and the latest version has been circulated for comments and questions by 22 July. DEFRA are hoping that the new agreement will be signed and in place by the end of July.
- 1.3 The new grant agreement will cover the 2019/20 grant settlement. The grant agreement will then be reissued once a new settlement has been reached.

Background Papers:	Draft Agreement
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Date of Report:	11 July 2019
Broads Plan Objectives:	None
Appendices	None