

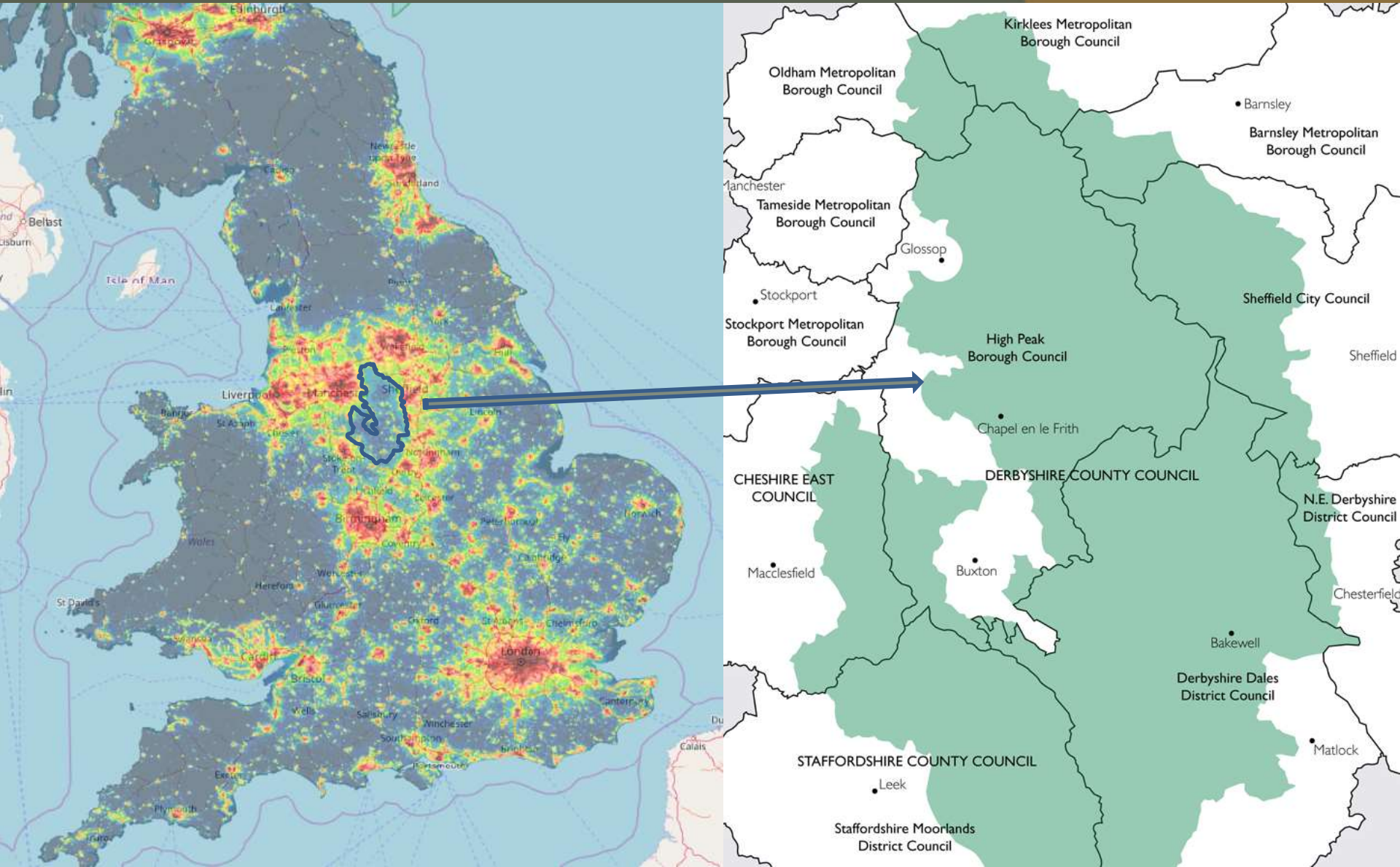


Opportunities and Challenges in the use of nature-based solutions to reduce carbon emissions for the Peak District National Park

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Secretary of State Member
Peak District National Park Authority



Peak District National Park: location





**PEAK
DISTRICT
NATIONAL
PARK**

Peak District National Park: benefits

Benefits within the Peak District National Park

555
square
miles

of PDNP protected
for natural beauty

over
1/3

of the PDNP
is open access

472

scheduled monuments
in the PDNP

1/3

of the PDNP is designated
for nature conservation

45
million
burgers

beef equivalent to 45m burgers
produced in the PDNP each year

5%

flood risk
reduction
blanket bog restoration
reduces peak storm water flows

£3.8
billion

value of the output produced
in the wider Peak District

PDNP contributes to
£ 1.6
trillion

value of UK natural
environment

PDNP is part of the
12
percent

of land on earth that is in a
protected area

Benefits to the surrounding regions

Benefits for the UK and the globe



158

UK priority species
in the wider Peak District

2,910

listed buildings
in the PDNP

over
1,300
miles

of rights of way
in the PDNP

65
miles

of cycling trails
in the PDNP

450
billion
litres

of drinking water a year
provided by the PDNP

over
12
million

visits to the PDNP a year

206
million
pints

of milk produced in
the PDNP each year

PDNP contributes to the
£2.2
billion

UK health benefits of
outdoor exercise

up to
20
million
tonnes

of carbon is stored in
PDNP peat bogs

Biodiversity, geodiversity, cultural heritage, soil quality, pollination,
energy provision, pest regulation, tranquillity, recreation, clean air

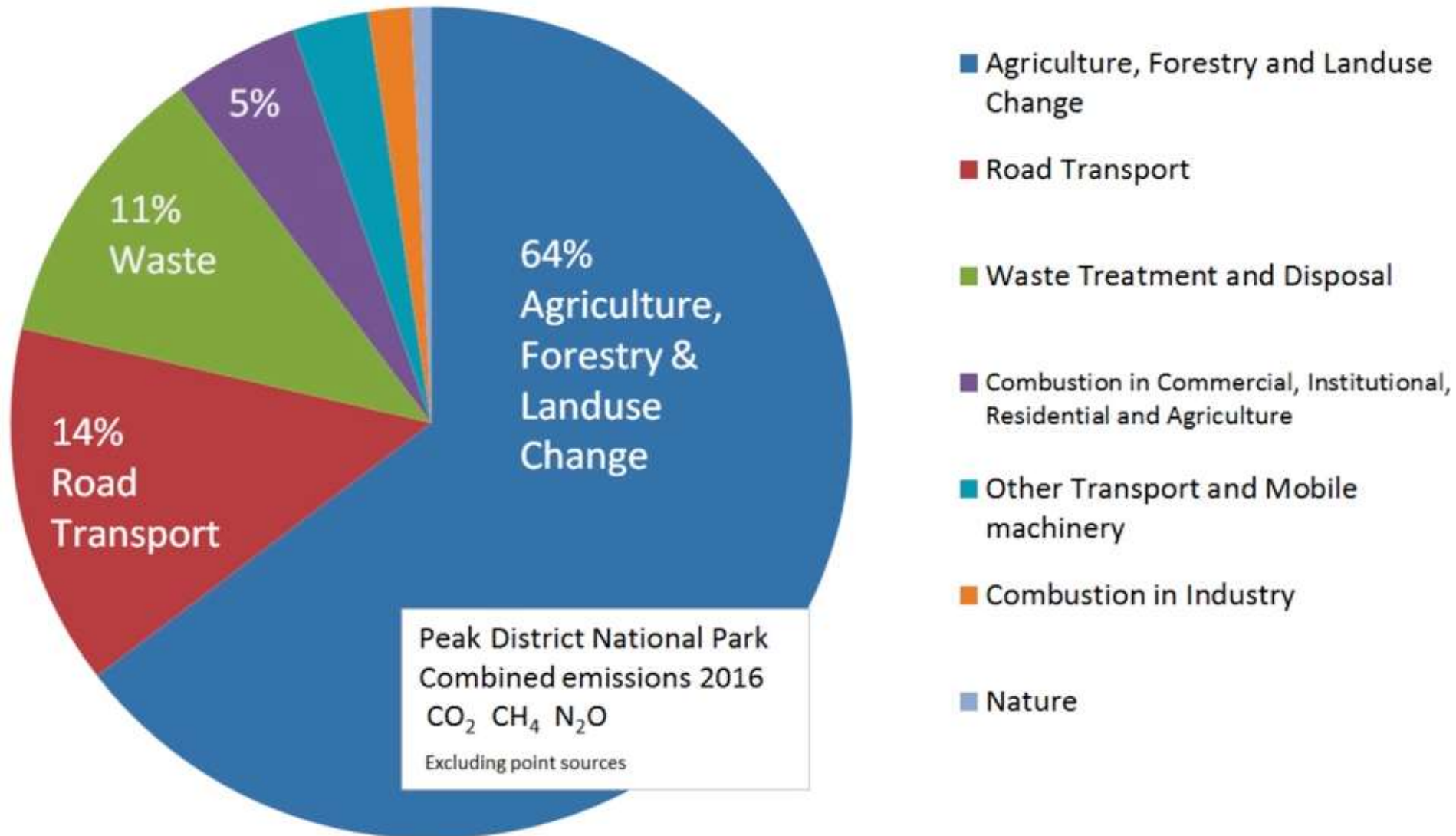
Sense of history, regulating water flow,
clean water, timber, food

Carbon storage, sense of place, tourism,
inspiration, natural beauty



**PEAK
DISTRICT**
NATIONAL
PARK

'Carbon' and the Peak District



Healthy peatland benefits

- Natural flood risk management - slows delivery of water from the headwaters, around 30% reduction in peak discharge from large storms
- Good raw water quality, avoiding £ millions spent on treating discoloured water
- Reduces the risk of wild fires and boosts biodiversity
- **Peat is the UK's largest carbon store** – healthy peat locks in (sequesters) carbon, but blanket bog in poor condition releases more carbon than it takes in. In the Peak District alone, 20 million tonnes of carbon is stored in the peat.





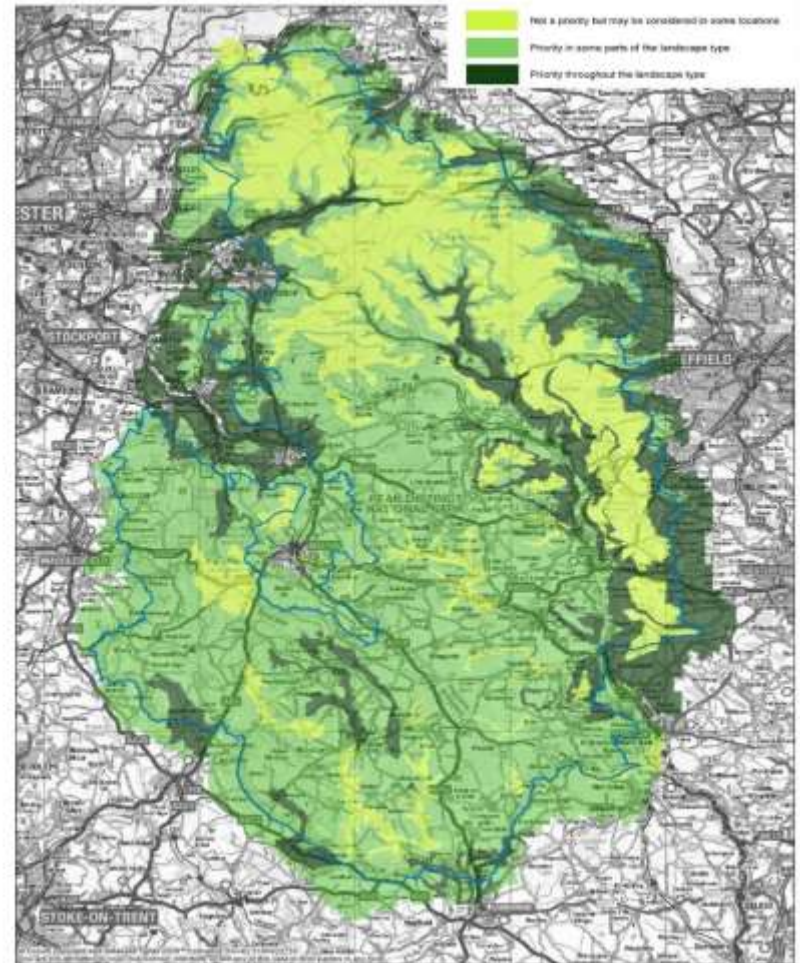
Peatland restoration in the Peak District

The challenge – to restore one of Europe's most degraded habitats

- The response – Moors for the Future Partnership, established 2003.
- PDNPA accountable body - secured over £35m funding
- Transformed 33sq km of damaged peat so far, which has avoided 62,000 tonnes of carbon loss

Woodland expansion – ‘the right tree in the right place’

- Expanded tree cover helps reduce the impact of climate change, aids biodiversity & complements the ‘special qualities’ underpinning the National Park’s designation
- We are undertaking ‘opportunity mapping’ of the National Park to identify the most suitable locations and methods
- We want to move away from the notion of ‘single land use’ forestry to a broader understanding of a ‘wooded landscape’



Our ambition for woodland

- Working with Forestry Commission & others to plant 176 ha of trees annually across the National Park and 5,280 ha in total by 2050
- An overall increase in land cover of 3.67% (more than double the Government's 25 year Environment Plan targets)
- New and increased tree cover will tackle biodiversity loss and climate change, but also mitigate wider landscape change, eg from Ash Dieback
- In line with Government's emerging national Tree Strategy



Current Situation

- Visitors and residents reliant on private cars for transport
- Park situated between major urban areas so high through-traffic
- Industry situated around Park reliant on freight

Options and Opportunities

- Infrastructure developments e.g. White Peak loop, recreation hub/spoke public transport options
- Electric vehicle charging
- Sustainable transport options used to influence and educate visitor behaviour within and outside the Park towards low-carbon lifestyles



- Scope and reach of influence high
- Leverage opportunity arising from Landscapes Review, ELMs, public awareness and interest in the environment
- Nature-based options bring multiple benefits beyond the ambition to zero-carbon
 - Improved biodiversity
 - Reduced environmental mitigation costs
 - Rural employment opportunities
 - Amenity value - enhanced health and wellbeing
- All options require expertise, partnership working and substantial financial resources to implement



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