

Summary

Welcome to this Community Conversation, one of a number of drop-in events held across the South of the Lake District to allow residents to begin considering the pros and cons of an extension to the Southern boundary of the Lake District National Park.

Background

There is a once in a generation opportunity for further extension of the National Park Boundary. Her Majesty's Government (HMG) have commissioned a review of all National Parks due to report in Autumn 2019. The Southern Boundary Partnership (SBP), a community led grouping of Parish Councillors in partnership with the Friends of the Lake District) believes this is the best chance to designate areas now outside the National Park and with similarly valuable landscape, environment, cultural and amenity value. A formal report on the existing boundary and the area adjoining has been generated to suggest where a new boundary for the National Park could be drawn.

What happens here?

National Park designation is seen to represent many potential benefits and some disadvantages to residents, visitors, farmers, and business owners. Information has been generated through SBP meetings with experts over the last 6 months. We would like your views, comments and questions. Please take the opportunity to:

Review the map with a proposal for an extension of the Southern Boundary

Review information generated at SBP meetings on what we believe are key topics to residents:

- Farming
- Housing
- Planning
- Tourism
- Transport

Meet Parish Councillor's, representatives from Friends of the Lake District, technical officers of the Lake District National Park and discuss issues with them. Leave any comments or questions you may have. A list of frequently asked questions (FAQ's) will be prepared after all the community events have been completed. If you want to receive a copy of the FAQ document – please leave your email address at the welcome desk. This will take time to address, so please be patient as we best address the questions raised.

What happens next?

The final decision for any extension to the southern boundary of the Lake District will rest with **Natural England and the Secretary of State for the Environment** but it may be that scrutiny of the evidence will not begin until the outcomes of the HMG Review are revealed in the autumn. Even then, as was the case with the 2016 extension to the Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales, the process could be a protracted one. A substantial consultation would be required and would involve the county council, the district councils, and the National Park Authority and parish councils, who have land within the area to be designated. As good practice, Natural England would also, throughout the consultation process, seek engagement with key stakeholders and the general public