

NEW FOREST
NATIONAL PARK

National Park Update

6 March 2025

Just before last Christmas...

- An updated [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF)
- Planning Reform Working Paper [Planning Committees](#)
- Planning Reform Working Paper [Development and Nature Recovery](#)
- Defra's long awaited [guidance](#) on applying the strengthened statutory duty (to seek to further National Park purposes)
- [English Devolution White Paper](#) – now the subject of an [open consultation](#) until 13 April 2025

Hampshire and the Solent devolution consultation

- Consultation runs until 13 April 2025
- Looking to establish a Mayoral Combined County Authority across Hampshire, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight and Southampton
- Includes questions on the proposed geography and how the Combined County Authority will make decisions, together with questions on the effects of working across this geography through a Mayoral Combined County Authority
- Proposals for reorganisation of existing councils is a separate process and is not covered by this consultation

Coming next...

- Planning and Infrastructure Bill 2025 - aims to accelerate infrastructure development and housing projects in the UK
- MHCLG will consult this spring on a set of national policies for managing development affecting protected landscapes

In the meantime

- Received an indication of our overall financial grant settlement for 2025/26 from Defra - likely to result in an immediate 9% reduction in our core funding
- Maybe some extra money for capital expenditure
- A year extension to the Farming in Protected Landscapes and Access for All grant schemes for National Parks

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Towie star warns others not to hug New Forest ponies



GETTY IMAGES

Gemma Collins deleted a picture of her hugging the free-roaming pony, telling followers to "support these beautiful horses".

4 February 2025

TV personality Gemma Collins has told her followers not to "stroke or feed"



Purchase of Land at Keyhaven



[Hurst Spit to Lymington Strategy](#)

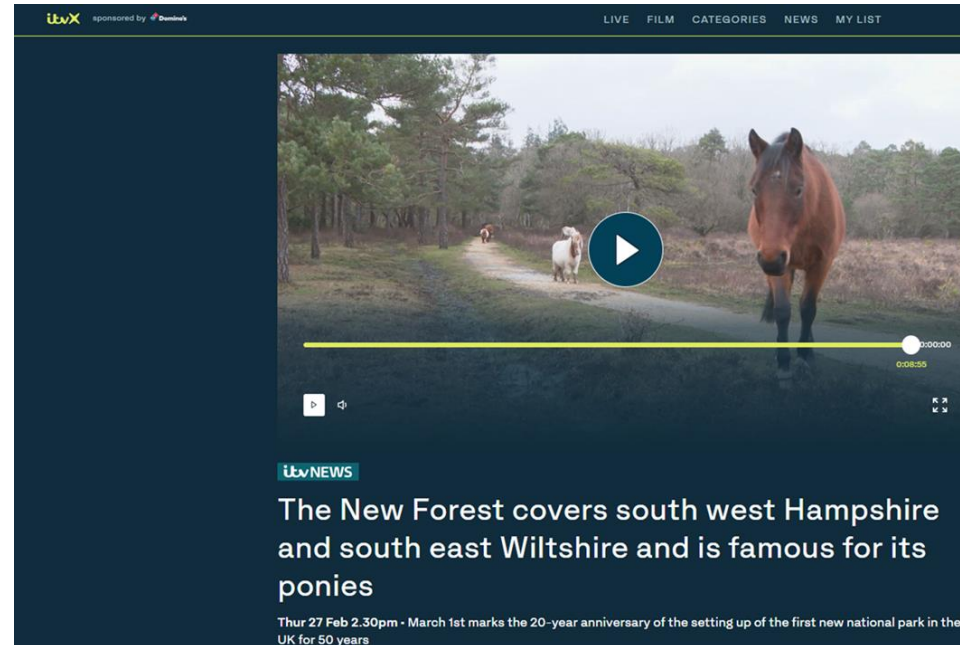


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New Forest Awakening Festival

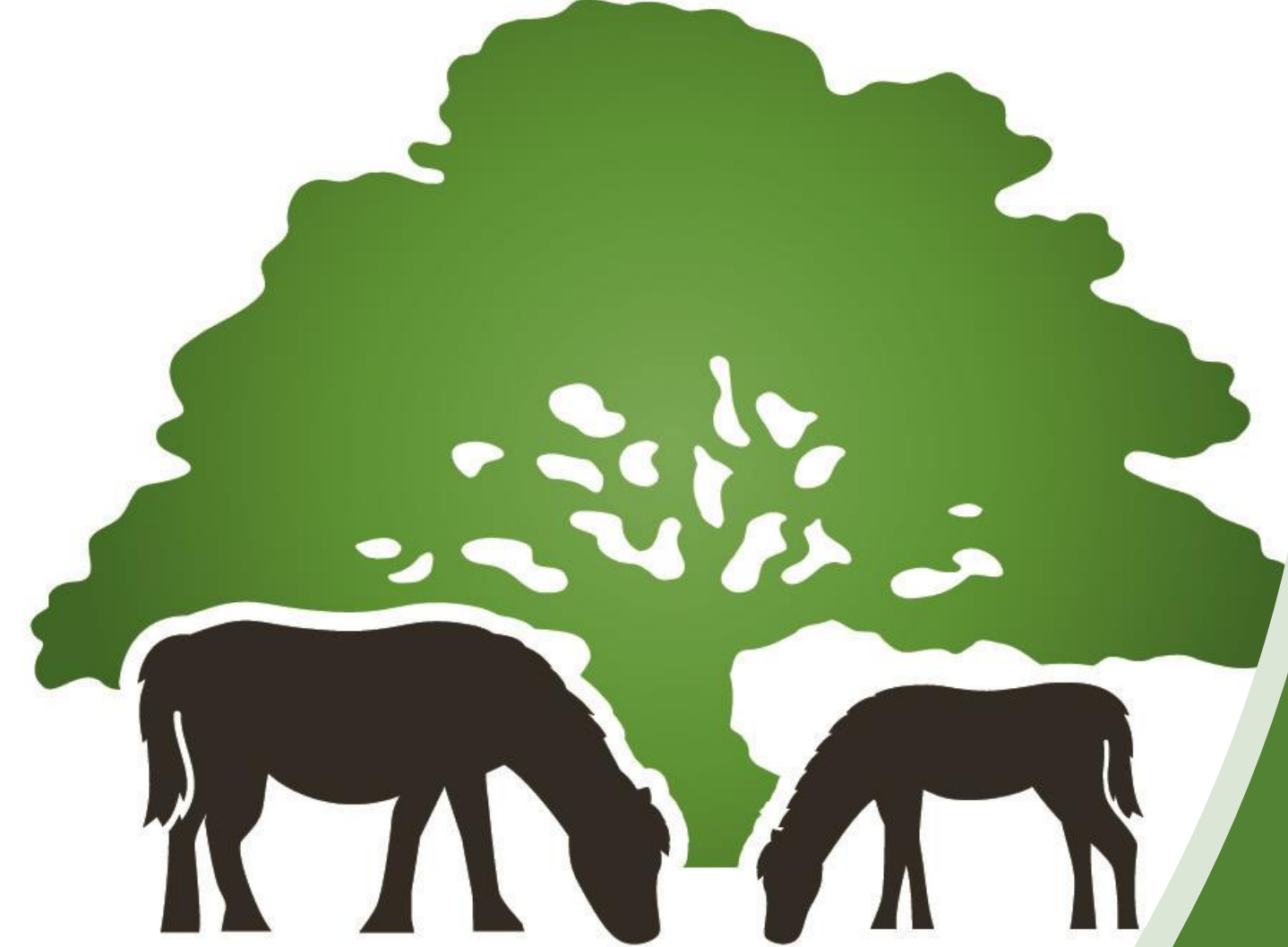
[New Forest Awakening Festival - New Forest National Park Authority](#)

National Park marks its 20th anniversary



The New Forest covers south west Hampshire and south east Wiltshire and is famous for its ponies - Latest From ITV News

The New Forest National Park marks its 20th anniversary - New Forest National Park Authority



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