

HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

Individual Executive Decision

13 May 2024

TITLE:	The Hayfield Kinder Pledge
EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR:	Councillor Anthony McKeown - Leader
CONTACT OFFICER:	Linden Vernon – Head of Democratic Services
WARDS INVOLVED:	Hayfield

Appendices Attached – None

1. Reason for the Report

1.1 To consider the Council's support for the Hayfield Kinder Pledge.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Leader of the Council approves the purchase, by donation, of a copy of the Hayfield Kinder Pledge to formally support the initiative of the Hayfield Kinder Trespass Group.

3. Executive Summary

3.1 The 92nd anniversary of the Kinder Mass Trespass was marked by an access festival in Hayfield on 27 April 2024. As part of the event, the Hayfield Kinder Trespass Group, together with representatives of the Ramblers' Association, Right to Roam, the British Mountaineering Council, Spirit of Kinder and outdoor swimmers formally launched the Kinder Pledge, based on Benny Rothman's 1989 Rivington Pledge, updated to reflect current issues and campaigns.

3.2 It is proposed that the Council supports this initiative by purchasing its own copy of the Pledge, via a donation.

4. How this report links to Corporate Priorities

4.1 The proposal supports Aim 4 of the Council's Borough Plan - Protect and improve the environment including responding to the climate emergency.

5. Alternative Options

- 5.1 That the Council supports the Hayfield Kinder Pledge (recommended).
- 5.2 That the Council does not support the Hayfield Kinder Pledge (not recommended).

Mark Trillo
**Executive Director (Governance and Regulatory Services) and
Monitoring Officer**

Web Links and Background Papers

<https://kindertrespass.org.uk/the-hayfield-kinder-pledge/>

Contact details

Linden Vernon
Head of Democratic Services
Linden.vernon@highpeak.gov.uk

6. Detail

- 6.1 The Hayfield Kinder Trespass Group was formed in 2011. Its key purpose was to set up a visitor centre in Hayfield, which is where the 1932 Mass Trespassers assembled before setting off on their historic walk.
- 6.2 The 92nd anniversary of the Mass Trespass was marked by an access festival in Hayfield on 27 April 2024. As part of the event, the Hayfield Kinder Trespass Group, together with representatives of the Ramblers' Association, Right to Roam, the British Mountaineering Council, Spirit of Kinder and outdoor swimmers formally launched the Kinder Pledge, based on Benny Rothman's 1989 Rivington Pledge, updated to reflect current issues and campaigns.
- 6.3 The Pledge is as follows:

"We declare our commitment to a universal right of free and responsible access to all landscapes, rural and urban, for all.

We pledge to peacefully campaign to enshrine in law the right of universal open access to land and water, urban and rural, across all of the UK. This law should be similar to those currently in place in Scotland. We will also support the actions of those who undertake forms of non-violent direct action to campaign for these rights. We pledge to do no damage to any landscape and to recognise that some areas may not be available to everyone at all times, in order to protect the environment and wildlife.

Through formal and informal programmes of education, we will seek to extend popular understanding of the natural and built

environments and how we can best protect and enhance the rich diversity of the life and lifestyles that they enable and support.

Individually and with others we will explore, enjoy, exercise, and simply be in open urban and rural spaces. We respect the rights of others to do likewise. We will work to ensure that open spaces are welcoming and accessible to anyone and everyone on an equal basis.”

- 6.4 It is proposed that the Council supports this initiative by purchasing its own copy of the Pledge, via a donation. All proceeds will be used to support the campaigning and educational activities of Hayfield Kinder Trespass Group, including its organisation of annual Trespass events in Hayfield to mark the 1932 Mass Trespass and raise awareness of current issues.