

South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

AONB Partnership Committee Meeting

to be held at

10am on Friday 26 November 2021

Remote Video Meeting
via Zoom

Agenda & Papers



AONB Partnership Committee Membership

Members nominated by local authorities

Devon County Council	Cllr Roger Croad
Plymouth City Council	Cllr Jonathan Hawkins (officer advising: Peter Chamberlain)
South Hams District Council	Sarah Foque (note Sam Lew attending in place)
Torbay Council	Cllr Nicky Hopwood Cllr Bernard Taylor (officer advising Graham Swiss) Cllr Anne Brooks (officer advising Tracy Brooks)

Members nominated by statutory agencies

Environment Agency	Rob Price
Forestry Commission	Jon Burgess
Historic England	Ross Simmonds
Natural England	Eamon Crowe

Members co-opted by the AONB Partnership Committee

National Trust	Richard Snow
Plymouth University	John Martin (Vice Chair)
Independent	John Green (Chair)

Community Representatives

Amenity groups	Penny Mills
Business community	Gary Jolliffe
Coast and marine sector	Natasha Bradshaw
Community/voluntary groups	Peter Sandover
Environmental organisations (NGOs)	Ed Parr-Ferris
Landowning/farming community	Charles Wreford-Brown
Parish Councils	Liz Hitchins
Tourism community	Laura Campbell

AONB Unit staff attending

AONB Manager	Roger English
AONB Office Manager	Vanessa Gray

Also in attendance

Head of Environmental Planning, PCC	Kathryn Deeney
Natural Infrastructure Officer, PCC	Sam Lew

Agenda

Item 1 (3 mins)	Public statements	
The formal meeting and live recording to YouTube immediately follows the public statement session		
Item 2 (5 mins)	Introductions & apologies for absence	
Item 3	Declarations of Interests	
Item 4 (5 mins)	Minutes of the last Partnership Committee meeting (25 June 2021) for approval & any matters arising	Page 4
Item 5 (10 mins) (5 mins)	Partnership Matters 5a) Community Representatives 5b) Co-opted members	Page 11 Page 12
Item 6 (15 mins) (15 mins) (15 mins) (10 mins) (15 mins)	AONB Management 6a) Plymouth Sound National Marine Park 6b) Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest 6c) Nature Recovery 6d) Devon Land Use Framework Pilot 6e) National Matters	Page 14 Page 16 Page 18 Page 23 Page 24
Item 7 (20 mins)	Partner updates – partner contributions to conserving and enhancing the South Devon AONB	Verbal
Item 8 (5 mins)	For Information 8a) March – November 2021 Planning update 8b) Current and recent key planning applications 8c) The Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme 8d) AONB Staff Unit activity report 8e) NAAONB, AONBs and Historic England Heritage Statement	Annex 3 Page 29 Verbal Page 31 Annex 4

Agenda timings are provided as a guide

Agenda Item 4

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SOUTH DEVON AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**HELD VIA REMOTE VIDEO MEETING
ON FRIDAY 25th JUNE 2021**

1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**Those present were:**

Peter Chamberlain	PC	Devon County Council
Cllr Nicky Hopwood	NH	South Hams District Council
Cllr Bernard Taylor	BT	South Hams District Council
Graham Swiss	GS	South Hams District Council
Cllr Anne Brooks	AB	Torbay Council
Tracy Brooks	TB	Torbay Council
Eamon Crowe	EC	Natural England
Richard Snow	RS	National Trust
John Martin	Vice-chair	Plymouth University
John Green	Chair	Independent
Geoffrey Osborn	GO	Representative: amenity groups
Peter Sandover	PS	Representative: community/voluntary groups
Ed Parr Ferris	EPF	Representative: environmental organisations (NGOs)
Roger English	RE	AONB Manager
Vanessa Gray		AONB Office Manager – minute taker

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr Roger Croad	Devon County Council
Cllr Jonathan Hawkins	Devon County Council
Jon Burgess	Forestry Commission
Lynne Maurer	Representative: parishes

Cllr Nicky Hopwood is welcomed to Partnership Committee, replacing Cllr Rosemary Rowe

The position of Representative: tourism community is vacant following the resignation of Samantha Dennis

Observers

Observers were requested to follow the meeting live via YouTube

2. PUBLIC STATEMENTS

- 2.1 No public statements were made.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

- 3.1 No interests were declared.

4. MINUTES OF THE 12 MARCH 2021 PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING FOR APPROVAL & ANY MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

4.2 CHAIRMANSHIP

The AONB Manager updated Committee members on the Chairmanship vote. All bar one eligible vote was cast; a range of positive feedback was received.

RESOLVED

On behalf of the AONB Partnership, the AONB Manager formally invited John Green to continue as Chair for a further two year period. John Green accepted.

5A THE FARMING IN PROTECTED LANDSCAPES PROGRAMME

5a.1 The AONB Manager provided a presentation to highlight aspects of the programme.

ACTION 1 (RE): Share the presentation with Committee members.

5a.2 Observations and in discussion

5.2.1 Support was expressed for the programme.

5.2.2 A number of Committee members raised concerns about increased workload and pressures on the AONB staff unit with the introduction of this large scale programme. In response the AONB Manager outlined there are two areas of support payments: advice & guidance and finance & admin allowing the staff unit headcount to increase for a three year period. There are challenges to be faced over the next three months, with the short lead in and rapid build up. Short term contractor support is being secured.

5.2.3 Eamon Crowe will represent Natural England on both the South Devon AONB and Dartmoor National Park assessment panels.

5.2.4 Cllr Hopwood would like to see the assessment panel include someone with no previous background or experience.

5B ENVIRONMENTAL LAND MANAGEMENT SCHEMES

5b.1 Eamon Crow provided a presentation on the current and future range of agri-environment schemes running during the Agriculture Transition Period.

5b.2 For more information on the schemes:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-farming-incentive-scheme-pilot-launch-overview>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-land-management-schemes-overview>
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/funding-for-farmers-in-protected-landscapes>

5C OTHER NATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR SOUTH DEVON AONB

5c.1 The AONB Manager went through the item in the papers.

5c.2 Observations and in discussion

- i. Concern was raised over an aspect of the Ministerial statement on the Landscapes Review "*We will also be exploring opportunities to increase private investment, particularly by diversifying funding sources to include emerging markets in natural capital and other commercial opportunities*" and whether that implied additional development. The AONB Manager's interpretation, based on the Glover Review context, is that it would be more akin to exploring different forms of green investment to support Natural Capital and actions to reach net zero. Our recent experience of this was preparing a Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund

bid for a project that aims to stimulate private investment and market based mechanisms to improve and safeguard the riparian land associated with the Dart estuary.

- ii. The Natural England response to South Hams Society regarding the 2013 request for a boundary review was raised and the question asked as to what the Partnership Committee could do to assist. The AONB Manager requested and received permission to share the response.

ACTION 2 (RE): Circulate the Natural England response to Committee members.

- iii. Natural England will be developing a Green Paper on new designations and there will be a public consultation on the proposals later this year.
- iv. The AONB Manager reminded Partnership members that the primary focus is to secure action on Glover proposal 24, to ensure better resources, powers and purposes for the existing designated AONBs.
- v. Partnership Committee members requested further detail be provided on the Plymouth City Council led Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest project.

ACTION 3 (RE): Follow up with Plymouth City Council.

5D NATIONAL ARTS IN THE LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

- 5d.1 The AONB Manager provided an update on the National Arts in the Landscape Strategy.

- i. The item was included on the agenda at the request of the National Association for AONBs.
- ii. The Strategy helps the AONB Network achieve its Colchester Declaration aims, and those of Glover's National Landscape Review around:
 - Engaging with a wider and more diverse audience
 - Helping people to create deeper connections to nature, place and landscape
 - Inspiring pro-environmental behaviour to tackle the conjoined ecological and climate emergency

The Chair invited Committee members to vote whether to adopt the strategy.

RESOLVED

South Devon AONB Partnership agreed to adopt the National Arts in the Landscape Strategy.

6 ROUND TABLE PARTNER UPDATES

- 6c.1 Peter Chamberlain, Devon County Council

- i. Devon's Local Nature Partnership are launching Wild About Devon on Monday evening next week. This is a new network to encourage communities to take action for wildlife. Providing county based framework for support, information sharing, signposting advice and grant sources. The event will last 1.5 hours, sign up via the Devon LNP website www.naturaldevon.org.uk

- 6c.2 Cllr. Bernard Taylor, South Hams District Council

- i. Mentioned a potential project for Farming in protected Landscapes where a local farmer has expressed interest in creating a nature walk around eight acres of their land.

- 6c.3 Graham Swiss, South Hams District Council

- i. A new planning bill, with wide ranging changes to the planning system, is expected later this year following its inclusion in the Queen's speech.
- ii. Torbay are in the early stages of a local plan review. This key stage will assess areas of land with potential for development. A panel will be set up to look at land for housing & employment with

a call for sites. Work is about to start, and Graham is representing South Hams and West Devon LPAs on the panel.

6c.4 Cllr. Anne Brooks, Torbay Council

- i. Hopes the Arts in the Landscape Strategy will use local artists from the AONB.

6c.5 Tracy Brooks, Torbay Council

- i. A Local Plan update is in progress for housing matters. A housing and economic land availability assessment (HELAA) process is currently in its early stages to examine all available sites. The first of three panels will meet in early July. Public consultation will follow.

6c.6 John Martin, Vice chair

- i. The Plymouth University led project Monitoring England's Protected Landscapes will examine current landscape monitoring practises amongst National Parks and AONBs and make recommendations to Natural England for a future data and monitoring framework.
- ii. John offered to share the report when available and present the projects findings at a future Partnership Committee meeting.

6c.7 Geoffrey Osborn, representative for Amenity Groups

- i. It is now understood that flagging planning applications as within the AONB on notices and on the District Council website is not possible with the current system.
- ii. Requests that Graham Swiss further investigates the matter of LPA adoption of the Planning Protocol within South Hams District Council.
- iii. Would like to have had the workings of the South Devon AONB Core Funding Group explained. In particular the reasons for the Partnership Committee Chair attending as observer and Sarah Gibson attending as officer advising for South Hams District Council.

The Chair responded An explanation of the Core Funding Group will be covered in a future meeting.

- iv. Would like planning cases to be discussed either in the main Committee meeting or in a separate sub-group.

The Chair responded Partnership Committee is not the forum to discuss individual planning applications.

- v. Questioned why an AONB planning response is not always submitted at an early stage.

The Chair responded It is very important the AONB submits a considered response once all required information is available. The Amenity Groups play an important role in planning as they are aware of local sensitivities.

6b.8 Cllr. Nicky Hopwood, South Hams District Council

- i. In agreement that Partnership Committee is not the forum to discuss individual planning applications and added the Joint Local Plan has stringent policies that need to be followed.

6b.9 Peter Sandover, representative for community and voluntary groups

- i. Neighbourhood Plans
 - a. Two Neighbourhood Plans have passed referendums at the recent elections and a number are progressing.
 - b. Expressed thanks to both the AONB Manager and the representative for Amenity Groups for their comments on the draft Dartmouth Neighbourhood Plan which will be going out for public consultation.
 - c. The Kingbridge, West Alvington and Churchstow Neighbourhood Plan is currently out for public consultation.
- ii. Agreed Partnership Committee is not the forum to discuss emerging planning applications but supports the suggestion for a sub-group.

6b.10 Ed Parr Ferris, representative for environmental organisations (NGOs)

- i. Local Nature Partnership is working towards a summer release of the first iteration of the Nature Recovery Network plan.
- ii. Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest was announced this week with funding from Defra. Devon Wildlife Trust are on the advisory group which is looking beyond the immediate boundary of Plymouth. There is a need for 25Ha of woodland planting this financial year and there is a call for sites. There is a bigger ambition over five years and the target for 2035 is larger still.
- iii. Sites are being put forward for designation as Highly Protected Marine Areas. Five sites within South Devon AONB and its marine setting are being considered.
- iv. Avon Valley meadow creation project update: wildflower rich seeding has taken place. Ed highlighted there is a shortage of donor sites from which to harvest local seed and this has an impact on this project and other initiatives. Partnership Committee members are invited to let Ed know of any potential donor sites.

6b.11 Richard Snow, The National Trust

- i. Land Outdoors and Nature Programme, Salcombe Project to improve farmland for nature between Bolt Head and Bolt Tail, has now been running for two years. Richard offered the opportunity for Partnership Committee members to visit the site when able, to view the positive outcomes achieved to date.
- ii. Richard echoed Ed's comments that there is a shortage of donor sites from which to harvest local seed which is impacting the LON project and other National Trust initiatives. Partnership Committee members are invited to let Richard know of any opportunity to harvest wild flower seed.

6b.12 Jon Burgess, Forestry Commission (update provided via email)

- i. A new Woodland Officer is shortly due to be appointed for South Devon who will cover the area of the AONB.
- ii. The new Woodland Creation Offer has launched which offers considerably improved grant aide to encourage woodland creation. Most will need to be native broadleaf dominated to achieve highest levels of grant aid and targeted to the areas of land most able to benefit from woodland.
- iii. Working with Devon County Council and others to create Devon specific guidance on 'Right Tree in the Right Place' which will help ensure maximum benefits are obtained.

7A LIFE ON THE EDGE – DEVON SPECIAL SPECIES ON THE SOUTH DEVON COAST**7a.1 The AONB Manager provided an update on the Life on the Edge project.**

- i. Life on the Edge is a flagship project for South Devon AONB focussing on a number of critical sites.
- ii. The project is very closely aligned with Management Plan priorities, Defra requirements and Core funder strategies.
- iii. The project is aimed at the whole of the AONB. At the heart, the project aims to improve the situation of a range of special species located on the coast, however there is also the need to improve habitat away from coast.
- iv. The project will also pick up on some of the challenges around provenance for seed and plants. The AONB will work with businesses to provide locally sourced product in future.
- v. The film for this agenda item could not be shown due to time constraints. The AONB Manager encouraged partners to look carefully at the update contained in the papers, including the

proposed project structure that National Lottery require a project of this size to have and to understand the scope and ambition of the project.

The AONB Manager requested that Partnership Committee members

- Undertake the simple survey that is contributing to the information and evidence needed for the NLHF application for funding:
<https://us5.list-manage.com/survey?u=5ede14ae51d5e6e05cf965eb4&id=86c9f0b288&attribution=false>
- Consider representing the South Devon AONB as a Project Board member for the lifetime of the project, from run up to submission through development and final delivery – initial meeting August 2021.

Ed Parr Ferris agreed to be on the project board.

7B EAST DEVON AONB AMBASSADOR SCHEME

7b.1 The papers summarised East Devon AONB's Ambassador Scheme. Additionally, the AONB Manager played a Zoom meeting recording with the East Devon AONB Manager Chris Woodruff, explaining the scheme in more detail.

Observations and in discussion

- i. Whether the AONB staff unit has available resource to promote a similar scheme within the South Devon AONB was questioned.
- ii. A scheme for South Devon AONB may help raise awareness of the AONB and encourage a more diverse audience.

ACTION 4 (All): Send thoughts on the application of a similar programme for South Devon and any follow up questions for Chris Woodruff to the AONB Manager by 9 July.

7C AONB GATEWAY SIGNAGE PROGRAMME

7c.1 An update on the South Devon AONB Gateway signage programme was provided in the papers.

Observations and in discussion

- i. Policy and guidance on highway signage are set out nationally through a general direction order. Signs should be kept to a minimum, be installed only where required and be sympathetic. Devon County Council, as the local highways authority, uphold this approach, looking for decluttering of signage, installing new only where necessary.
- ii. Boundary markers are accommodated in limited circumstances by national guidance however the South Devon AONB has a complex boundary with multiple entry points rendering boundary signage unfeasible due to significant cluttering. The programme is therefore focused upon existing village gateway signage.
- iii. Support was expressed for the current approach of combining the AONB logo with town/village name signs, reducing the need for a proliferation of signs on the roads.

2021 IMPORTANT DATES

Locations and themes for meetings will be announced nearer the time.

- 7th – 8th July 2021, Landscapes for Life conference
- Subject to Covid-19 restrictions, the South Devon AONB public conference will be held in the autumn
- 26th November 2021 at 10am, Partnership Committee meeting, venue TBC

Item 5: Partnership matters

Purpose of the report

1. This report updates AONB Partnership Committee members on changes to the Partnership as a result of the recent elections to Community representative roles and sets out a case for co-opting the South West Coast Path Association to the Partnership Committee.

5a Community Representatives

2. Community Representatives continue to be an important component of the South Devon AONB Partnership and make a valuable contribution to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the AONB.
3. Following online elections held over recent months, six of the Community Representatives positions supporting the South Devon AONB Partnership Committee have changed. A short online induction session was held with the new representatives and further information will be provided by the AONB Unit over the coming weeks.
4. Confirmation of outgoing, new and remaining Community Representatives is provided in the table below. The Partnership and Staff Unit would like to formally record their thanks for the support, hard work and dedication from the outgoing representatives and warmly welcome those new to the Partnership.

Role	Outgoing Rep	New Rep
Amenity groups	Geoffrey Osborn 4 years	Penny Mills Director CPRE Devon (former Chair); Vice Chair East Devon AONB; on the committees of North Devon AONB ad Blackdown Hills AONB; former Parish Councillor (10 years); member of SPAB (Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings).
Business	Kate Ryder 9 years	Gary Jolliffe Till the Coast is Clear CIC; Stand Up Kingsbridge – community eco group; excellent working relationships with many local land owners, organisations and companies in the tourism, marine & farming communities.
Coast & Marine sector	Vacant	Natasha Bradshaw Coastal governance research and professional practice over the past thirty years from the local to international level; leading Estuary Partnerships for the Teign, Exe and Severn over ten years; leading the WWF campaign for the UK Marine Act prior to a PhD thesis; involved in establishing the Coastal Partnerships Network in 2006 and remain an active member of the Steering Group
Community & Voluntary Groups	Peter Sandover 3 years	Peter Sandover Architect, Masterplanner and Community Engagement Consultant based in South Pool; Neighbourhood Planning Champion; Vice chair of South Devon Coastal Local Action Group; watch keeper Prawle Point NCI, former rear commodore (cruising) Salcombe Yacht Club
Landowning and Farming	Robert Steer 2½ years	Charles Wreford-Brown Central Association of Agricultural Valuers; National Farmers Union; farming along coastline of AONB; 40 years experience with the landowning and farming community advising on all aspects of land ownership (farming, Stewardship, landlord, tenant etc.)
Parish & Town Councils	Lynne Maurer 2½ years	Liz Hitchins

		Chair Brixton Parish Council; Director - Devon Association of Local Councils; Neighbourhood Planning; Sustainable South Hams; Set up River Yealm Water Quality Group; setting up Brixton Climate Change and Environment Working Group
Professional Non-Governmental Environmental Organisations	Ed Parr-Ferris 9 years	Ed Parr-Ferris Conservation Manager at Devon Wildlife Trust
Tourism sector	Vacant	Laura Campbell 20 years working in Tourism and Hospitality; former Visit England project manager; SW Regional Representative for the Tourism management Institute; Director for Dartmouth Mayflower; Consultant for Discover Dartmouth; Festivals & Sustainable Dartmouth committees

5b Co-opted members

5. Among the wide ranging positive proposals made in the Glover Landscapes Review was strengthening links with other designations and in particular bringing National trails into the national landscapes family. Bringing national landscapes together to achieve more than the sum of the parts was a central message running throughout the review's findings.
6. The National Trail of the South West Coast Path is a critical asset shared by all coastal AONBs in the South West and Exmoor National Park. The area of responsibility for the National Trail Partnership is expanding as the coastal access provisions contained within the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 are enacted, including creating the England Coast Path, providing for roll back, and new coastal access rights within the coastal margin.
7. Defra is increasingly asking National Trail teams to also deliver for nature, climate, people and place. In addition to synergies with recreation, tourism, health and wellbeing, opportunities for nature recovery at the coast within the South Devon AONB and the highly designated nature of the coastal zone have been the focus of many earlier Partnership agendas, past and current project work. Likewise for work to reach new audiences and engage missing groups. The South West Coast Path Association has ambitions in all of these areas and is regularly a significant partner in developing and delivering projects at scale on the South Devon coast and latterly, a key partner in our Life on the Edge project collaboration.
8. The South Devon AONB Staff Unit has enjoyed over an extended period a close working relationship with the South West Coast Path National Trail team and South West Coast Path Association.
9. Given the unique working relationship, direction of travel and the need for meaningful integration into the national landscapes family, an opportunity now exists for strategic and operational alignment at Partnership level.
10. The Terms of Reference of the South Devon AONB Partnership require membership and operation of the AONB Partnership to kept under regular review to ensure it remains fit for purpose. Clause 6vi enables the membership of the Partnership Committee to be altered by decision of the Partnership Committee. Co-option to the Partnership has occurred previously for special cases including for the National Trust, University of Plymouth and Field Studies Council. In the latter case, the position was relinquished following the departure of Andy Pratt from the Partnership.

11. Given the special case outlined above and the mutually beneficial opportunities that would be gained, the AONB Manager recommends co-option of the South West Coast Path Association to the AONB Partnership and agreement of the Partnership is sought.

Recommendations

12. AONB Partnership Committee members are recommended to:

- i. Give their thanks and appreciation to the outgoing Community Representatives for their valuable contribution to conserving and enhancing the South Devon AONB and supporting the Partnership.
- ii. Welcome all of the new Community Representatives to the Partnership Committee.
- iii. Invite a representative from the South West Coast Path Association to join the Partnership Committee as a co-opted organisation in recognition of the close working relationship between the AONB and the National Trail.

Item 6a: Plymouth Sound National Marine Park

Purpose of the report

1. At the request of Partnership Committee members, to provide an update on activity to progress creation of the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park, the UK's first National Maritime Park.
2. Kathryn Deeney, Head of Environmental Planning at Plymouth City Council will add to this short paper and supplementary information with a briefing during the Partnership meeting.

Background

3. AONB Partnership Committee members last received a substantive item on this area of work on the 15th March 2019 shortly after a prospectus and consultation was launched for the Marine Park proposal.
4. A National Marine Park was self-declared on the 14th September 2019.
5. The last substantive engagement from the AONB Partnership with the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park project was in July 2020 as part of a round table workshop led by Blue Marine Foundation and Consultants working on behalf of Plymouth City Council. During the workshop in principle support for the concept was given subject to further clarification and information including consideration of:
 - Geography and character of the site
 - Purposes
 - Leadership and governance
 - Management
 - Promotion
 - Financing
 - Overlap and integration with existing designations
 - Approach to potential recreational impacts upon designated sites
6. Since then a successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Horizons Fund for £9.6m was made which was widely covered in July 2021 by local and national media.

National Lottery Heritage Horizons funded development phase

7. The Heritage Horizons fund is a two stage application process. Plymouth City Council have been successful at the Expression of Interest (EoI) stage which releases 10% of the funding. Plymouth now have until June 2023 to fully develop the projects described within the EoI. The next 18 months or so will therefore be focused on consultation and engagement to firm up the proposals within their Lottery EoI. Recruitment for project staff is well underway and a series of engagement events are likely to start from early 2022. From 2023 onwards there will be a 5 year delivery period.
8. Plymouth City Council has been successful in a first stage application to the National Lottery New Horizons programme for development phase funding.

The Park in the Sea concept

The Park in the Sea will:

- i. Establish the UK's first National Marine Park;
- ii. Protect and enhance a world class natural environment and heritage landscape;

- iii. Be a national exemplar and thought leader in enabling a positive response to climate change for government, Plymouth and the Heritage Fund;
 - iv. Level up access to heritage to ensure all citizens and Lottery players can enjoy the benefits;
 - v. Provide new employment opportunities and career pathways in sustainable future ocean jobs;
 - vi. Act as a city-wide and regional stimulus for economic ‘green’ recovery post COVID;
 - vii. Position Plymouth as a UK Top Ten day-visitor destination;
 - viii. Champion health and wellbeing with a new generation of engaged volunteers, communities and heritage champions;
 - ix. Get the entire City in, on under and next to the water through 5 gateways and a network of community projects;
 - x. Deliver an innovation pilot for digital heritage engagement that will give the Park an international platform.
9. The Marine Park will seek to improve the physical and social infrastructure surrounding the Sound and use technology to engage people with it. The funding bid outlines five ‘gateways’ to the park, each with a particular focus to try to inspire more people to explore, connect with and enjoy the sea. They are:
- The Hoe and Tinside –health and wellbeing hub
 - National Marine Aquarium –nature and the environment hub
 - Mount Batten – active recreation hub
 - Mount Edgcumbe – heritage hub
 - Smart Sound – digital hub
10. It is estimated the grant will support the development of 20 new ‘blue’ enterprises and create 464 jobs. There will be a two-year development period, before chosen ideas will be taken forward over a five-year delivery plan. Among those ideas being considered are innovation labs, a marine observation post, a ‘hidden treasures of the Sound’ project, and the development of digital park apps.

Further Information

11. Further information is available in Annex 1 for this item, a Project Overview of ‘Park in the Sea’ and <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/projects/building-plymouth-sound-uks-first-national-marine-park>.
12. More information will be available in due course via www.plymouthsoundnationalmarinepark.com Plymouth City Council’s own webpages.

Recommendations

13. AONB Partnership Committee members are recommended to:
 - i. Having heard the presentation, share their views on the Marine Park initiative;
 - ii. Maintain an active involvement in the development of the Marine Park initiative in order to ensure the best outcomes for natural beauty, nature, climate, people and place.

Item 6b: Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest

Purpose of the report

1. At the request of AONB Partnership Committee members, this report provides a briefing on plans, funding and associated project work to create a Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest.
2. Kathryn Deeney, Head of Environmental Planning at Plymouth City Council will add to this short paper with a briefing during the AONB Partnership meeting itself.

Background

3. Following a successful bid by Plymouth City Council, a government press release published on the 23rd June 2021 announced that the Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest will be the first newly created Community Forest to be supported through the Nature for Climate Fund. The new Community Forest will join England's Community Forest network.
4. Under Defra's England Trees Action Plan, this project is the first of at least three new Community Forests to be created in areas most at need and will contribute to woodland creation ambitions and assist in meeting net-zero emissions by 2050.
5. Creation of the Community Forest is part of a government drive to see tree planting rates treble in England by the end of the current parliament.

The Community Forest approach

6. The scheme will receive funding through the Woodland Creation Partnership, part of the Nature for Climate funding programme, to develop canopy cover across the city and plant up to 500 hectares of woodland by 2025, increasing coverage to 1600 hectares by 2034. With an initial focus upon sites across the city, the project will expand outwards beyond the city's administrative boundary into suitable sites within the remainder of the Plymouth Policy Area local plan policy area within parts of South Hams and West Devon. Further expansion will see planting extend into a buffer area with the Community Forest stretching from the heart of the city to the edge of Dartmoor encompassing 1900 hectares of land.
7. Unlike traditional block planted forests, community forests aren't geographically restricted to one place. Instead, they are spread out across a mix of community woodland, private woodland, on street, urban woodland, wooded habitat corridors, wood pasture, hedgerows and in-field trees. This form of community forest creation can incorporate natural regeneration, andrewilding in addition to traditional tree planting. This approach better suits the rich cultural landscape of South Devon with its high density of historic field boundaries well defined by Devon hedges.
8. Initial phases of work involve appointing a project delivery team, consulting on and developing the forest plan and identifying sites for the first year of planting.

Partnership

9. The proposals have been drawn up by a broad initial partnership between:
 - Plymouth City Council,
 - National Trust,
 - Woodland Trust,
 - South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council,
 - the Forestry Commission,

- Forestry England,
- Devon Wildlife Trust,
- Plymouth Tree Partnership and
- Dartmoor National Park

Further information

10. A short film has been produced to introduce the Community Forest approach. This can be viewed on YouTube via the following link [Welcome to the Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest - YouTube](#)

Recommendations

11. AONB Partnership Committee members are recommended to:

- i. share their views on the Community Forest initiative and pass suggestions for suitable sites for the various phases of planting and forest creation to the project team;
- ii. Maintain an active involvement in the development of the Community Forest in order to ensure the best outcomes for natural beauty, nature, climate, people and place.

Item 6c: Nature Recovery

Purpose

1. To provide Partnership Committee members with an update on the development of a Nature Recovery Plan for the South Devon AONB and links to other evolving nature recovery activity.

Background

2. Through Item 5a of the 13/03/2020 Partnership Committee meeting, Partnership members were provided with a brief introduction to the National Association for AONBs '*Colchester Declaration on Nature in AONBs*' and Nature Recovery Networks.
3. As a key part of its commitment to address the decline in nature and achieve net zero, the government's 25 Year Environment Plan included a commitment to develop a Nature Recovery Network (NRN) across the country and AONBs have been playing their part to assist with this development and delivery of related actions. The following report draws together a series of strands of activity contributing to this area, providing a particular focus on the development and delivery of a South Devon AONB Nature Recovery Plan.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies

4. New legislative provisions within Part 6 of the Environment Act 2021¹ require the production by responsible authorities of Local Nature Recovery Strategies to cover the area of England. This is a once in a generation opportunity to put Nature into recovery and requires urgent action. For Devon, development of the strategy is likely to be undertaken at the county level through the Local Nature Partnership with Devon County Council as the responsible authority, though a nested approach is likely to be needed to respond at an appropriate spatial scale for Plymouth and other large urban areas.
5. Local Nature recovery Strategies are expected to include:
 - A statement of biodiversity priorities for the strategy area covering: a description of the area and its biodiversity; habitat and species opportunities for recovering or enhancing biodiversity; priorities for habitats and species recovery or enhancement; and proposals of action to be taken in support of the priorities
 - A local habitat map for the whole strategy area, identifying: nature conservation sites; nature reserves; other areas that could become important for biodiversity or are areas where recovery or enhancement could contribute other environmental benefits.

Nature Recovery Network²

6. The habitat map element of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy needs to be underpinned by a scientifically robust work, that is based on the reality of our local landscape and that has the support from key partners in every sector. This is the Devon Nature Recovery Network map developed by the Devon Local Nature Partnership with support from Devon Wildlife trust and the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre.

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/part/6/enacted>

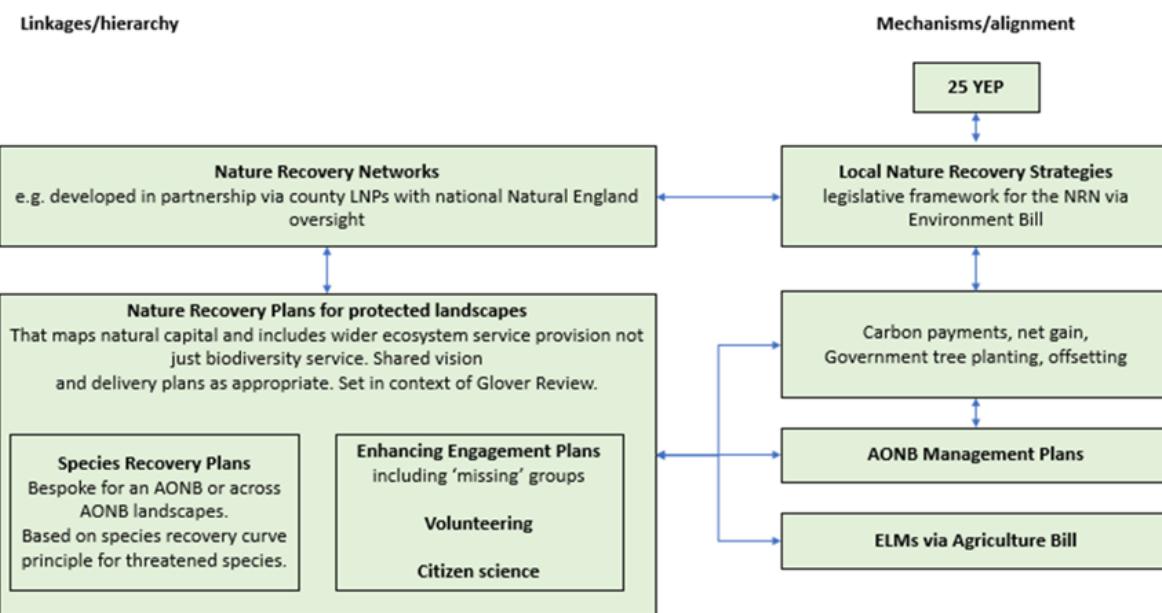
² Natural England defines the NRN as a national network of wildlife-rich places. '*The Network will be an expanded, improved and better-connected set of nature-rich places that also support our net zero ambition and deliver wide benefits for people. It is a recognition that in order to recover nature, we need to improve our existing network of protected sites and other wildlife-rich habitats, providing a greater area of better connected, higher-quality habitat and that we need to do this is a planned way to ensure that investment can be targeted strategically.*'

7. At an event on the 30th November, the emerging Devon Nature Recovery Network map will be showcased for the first time. This is a significant milestone for Devon's natural environment. At this stage, the map is work in progress and partners will continue to work together, under the umbrella of the Devon Local Nature Partnership, to improve and expand it and develop a practical toolkit for all to use.

Colchester Declaration on Nature in AONBs

8. In 2019, South Devon AONB, along with all the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) across the country, signed up to the Colchester Declaration on Nature. It frames an urgent initial response to the climate and ecological emergency recognised by local authorities throughout the UK contributing to outcomes for the Climate, Nature, People and Place agenda.

Colchester Declaration- Summary and Project Plan



9. Along with all the AONBs in England and Wales, South Devon AONB staff unit is in the process of drawing up a bespoke Nature Recovery Plan for this area linked to emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategies and Nature Recovery Network Mapping. In South Devon this journey will involve us working with landowners, conservation organisations, neighbouring AONBs and other protected landscapes, and the wider community. Our aim is to engage, inspire and inform positive action throughout all of the protected landscape, including its estuary waters and seabed, and wider linked land within the setting of the AONB and beyond.
10. Initial nature recovery mapping, assessment and visualisations have been prepared as part of a shared contract to support the development of AONB Nature Recovery Plans. For further information please see <https://www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/state-of-nature/> and link to the StoryMap <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f16bd19fd2ce4f1486787827c441b5c0>
11. The range of habitats, and their complex associations, together with the location of the area supports rare species assemblages; including parts of internationally recognised Important Plant Areas and Important Invertebrate Areas. The shifting climate space and climate change in general will have an increasing impact on our local environment and will influence our responses to its future conservation and enhancement.

12. The delivery of the plan will contribute to realising the UK government target of 30% of the land and sea in the AONB being positively managed for nature by 2030. This will enable clarity on the contributions South Devon can make and over what % of the designated area given that a proportion is already built development. It will also strengthen ambitions with nature-based solutions on climate change and flood risk management by guiding nature-based approaches to carbon removal and flood prevention.
13. This key document will help guide other local policy initiatives;
 - Year 2 and 3 targeting of Farming in Protected Landscapes programme funding
 - Influence future targeting of Environmental Land Management scheme funding
 - The Biodiversity Net Gain framework in planning
 - The delivery of biodiversity offsetting
 - Targeting of new green and ethical investments, blended finance and corporate social responsibility offers
 - Defining potential spatial allocations for nature in Local Plans
 - Contributing to the Devon Carbon Plan and Corporate Plan priorities of the AONB's Local Authorities
 - Influence and integrate with Devon's Local Nature Recovery Strategy and Network
 - Provide a spatial framework for the next iteration of the South Devon AONB Management Plan.
14. The plan will be a spatial expression of our shared vision for beautiful, resilient landscape rich in wildlife. Habitat and species recovery will be addressed at a landscape scale inspiring and guiding nature-friendly estuarine, coastal and land management decisions across the AONB.

Recent Progress

15. A Nature Recovery Plan member working-group of the Partnership Committee has met twice to progress the development of this key document to develop:
 - a proposed project timeline,
 - a draft plan structure
 - and ensure integration with the emerging Devon Local Nature Network and Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
16. Further Partnership member participation in the working group would be welcomed.
17. Given the variety of habitats and species priorities in the coastal areas of the AONB and National Park network, nature recovery at the coast remains a challenging area of work to drive activity at scale. To this end the AONB Manager chairs a national Coastal Cluster group of AONBs and National Parks with areas of coast and estuaries as part of their national landscapes in order to share learning, best practice, data and to develop collaborative projects and economies of scale. This is one of the five Colchester Declaration pilots and one of two that is thematic and highly dispersed in its nature.

Proposed development timetable

18. The phased development of this key Plan will allow it to evolve and have a closer connection with partner authorities' plans and explore cross-boundary opportunities. Nesting together with plans, strategies and networks developed in tandem at various spatial scales, the Plan will extend the envelope up to Dartmoor, across the whole of the South Hams and into Torbay and Plymouth.

19. Plans and priorities that relate to land outside the protected landscape boundary will support data relevant to the county-scale Local Nature Recovery Strategies which will become a statutory duty on Local Authorities arising from the Environment Act and Dartmoor National Park.

Phase 1: Nature Recovery Plan ‘Lite’

- Produce a concise document (c.15 pages)
- SDAONB State of Nature report provides a starting point.
- Review flagship/priority species work
- Identify core principles and priorities for nature recovery specific to the AONB.
- Focus on priority habitats and explore cross-boundary opportunities.
- Connect with partner authorities' plans.
- Cross reference Strategic Nature Areas on the Devon Nature Map.
- Access soils data to help identify natural habitat types.
- Use Agricultural Land Classification to identify and locate main opportunities.
- Link to updated Ancient Woodland inventory and Devon NRN
- Identify trends and opportunities for change in the SDAONB landscape
- Consider potential improvements to farm and forestry business models
- No focus areas identified on maps at this stage as consultation is needed.

Timeline - November 2021 - March 2022

- Nov - Jan: mapping and analysis. Engage with individual partners to explore priorities and fill in knowledge gaps.
- Dec – Feb: Liaise with key partners individually to explore issues and opportunities and identify core principles. Identifying priority species and habitats mapping any areas of high opportunity and begin to build the network.
- Feb- workshop with environmental partners to share the emerging plan including principles and priorities. Generate a spatial theoretical network.
- Mar - draw up final draft. Maps with network shown not yet published subject to phase 2 of consultation.

Phase 2: Nature Recovery Plan ‘Live’.

Timeline - April 2022 - Sept 22

- April - wider stakeholder group consultation on the principles and priorities of the NRP.
- May – June - discussions with individual landowners and managers in the focus areas to explore appetite for change / delivering outcomes.
- May – June - incorporate additional data from new and emerging sources.
- July – August - further ground-truthing with partners and landowners.
- September - launch Version 1 of the document and start to use it as a targeting tool and reference document supporting delivery on the ground.

Driving action now - current nature recovery projects

20. Recognising the timetable for nature recovery plan development extends well into 2022, that there are clear gaps in data and understanding and that iteration will be required as part of the development cycle for the Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy and Network, we are conscious

that action in support of nature recovery cannot wait that long. Therefore, action is being taken now for those items where the need for and focus of intervention is clear. However, the scale and ambition of this needs to be substantively ramped up as rapidly as possible.

21. Many AONB partners, landowners and local communities are delivering projects that directly benefit nature throughout the protected landscape at small and large scales. The National Trust *Land, Outdoors, Nature* programme, Devon Wildlife Trust *Avon Valley Project*, Catchment Based Approach and Slapton Line Partnership's *Adaptation Plan* are just a few excellent examples.
22. The ongoing management and enhancement of Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Marine Conservation Zones, National Nature Reserves, Local Nature Reserves County Wildlife Sites and sites of other wildlife interest, all aim to protect core priority habitats providing important refuges for many threatened species.
23. Flagship and significant planned projects like *Life on the Edge* led by the AONB Staff Unit will address some of the urgent responses needed to save threatened species identified as Devon's Special Species.
24. Saving Devon's Treescapes delivery in the South Devon Priority focus area and wider project area will contribute to the loss of Ash trees to *Chalara* (Ash Dieback Disease) whilst providing exciting opportunities for community engagement.
25. Initiatives and studies to protect and fully understand the status and ecology of seagrass meadows and extent of invasive non-native species such as pacific oyster in AONB estuaries continues to reflect the need for urgent conservation action.
26. The Avon Valley Farm Facilitation Fund, Countryside Stewardship Mid-tier and Higher Tier, ELM Sustainable Farming Incentive Pilot, Woodland Creation Schemes and Farming in Protected Landscapes grants are also delivering direct wildlife benefits across the AONB and beyond.

Recommendations

27. AONB Partnership Committee members are invited to:
 - i. Note the timetable and approach to be taken towards development of a Phase 1 *Nature Recovery Plan 'Lite'* and completed 'Live' Phase 2 Nature Recovery Plan document.
 - ii. Visit the website page <https://www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/state-of-nature/> and link to the StoryMap. <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f16bd19fd2ce4f1486787827c441b5c0>
 - iii. Advocate for the Nature Recovery Plan in discussions with the area's communities, farmers, landowners and businesses to drive engagement with its development.
 - iv. Advise the AONB Manager of any areas of activity the Partnership feels the AONB Unit should be prioritising or paying particular attention to developing collaborative actions in response to the wider issues of the climate and biodiversity crisis.
 - v. Indicate to the AONB Manager your interest in joining the Partnership working group on the Nature Recovery Plan.

Item 6d: Devon Land Use Framework Pilot

Purpose

1. To introduce AONB Partnership members to a national project for which the county of Devon has been selected to be the first area in England to pilot a Land Use Framework. The AONB area, Partnership and its Staff Unit will be an essential component of this project work.

Background

2. This project follows an earlier inquiry phase in 2017 and the subsequent Our Future in the Land report published in 2019. The project will bring together a wide network of interested stakeholders and partner organisations to design, test, develop and review a Land Use Framework for Devon, in tandem with delivering significant improvements to the quality and accessibility of land use data sources.
3. As highlighted in earlier agenda items there are an increasing number of expectations for areas of land and water to deliver multiple benefits driven by nature recovery, climate change response, coastal change, natural flood management, affordable and other housing, renewable energy etc. The Land Use Framework pilot presents an opportunity to highlight areas for win wins and deconflict parts of our landscape
4. Please see Annex 2 to this item for the Devon Land Use Framework Project Plan.

Recommendations

5. AONB Partnership Committee members are invited to:
 - i. Note the report and opportunities the Devon Land Use Framework presents;
 - ii. Carefully consider geographic and thematic areas of concern within the AONB and its setting where competing land use pressures are likely to occur.

Item 6e: National Matters

Purpose

1. To provide AONB Partnership Committee members with an update on National Association for AONBs activity in support of the AONB network and introduce other national matters of significance.

Glover Landscapes Review

2. Following the Written Ministerial Statement published in June 2021, further work has been undertaken by Defra to ready a full government response to the Glover Landscapes Review. The response along with a consultation is anticipated to be published in mid-December 2021.
3. A National Association for AONBs response will be drafted shortly and AONB lead officers are gearing up for a mid December conference call.
4. Given the importance of this area of activity to the future of the nation's national landscapes, and that the consultation will fall between Partnership meetings, information will be shared upon publication with Partnership members. A small working group is proposed to consider the Defra response and consultation, before drafting a response on behalf of the Partnership.

NAAONB Letter to Lord Benyon

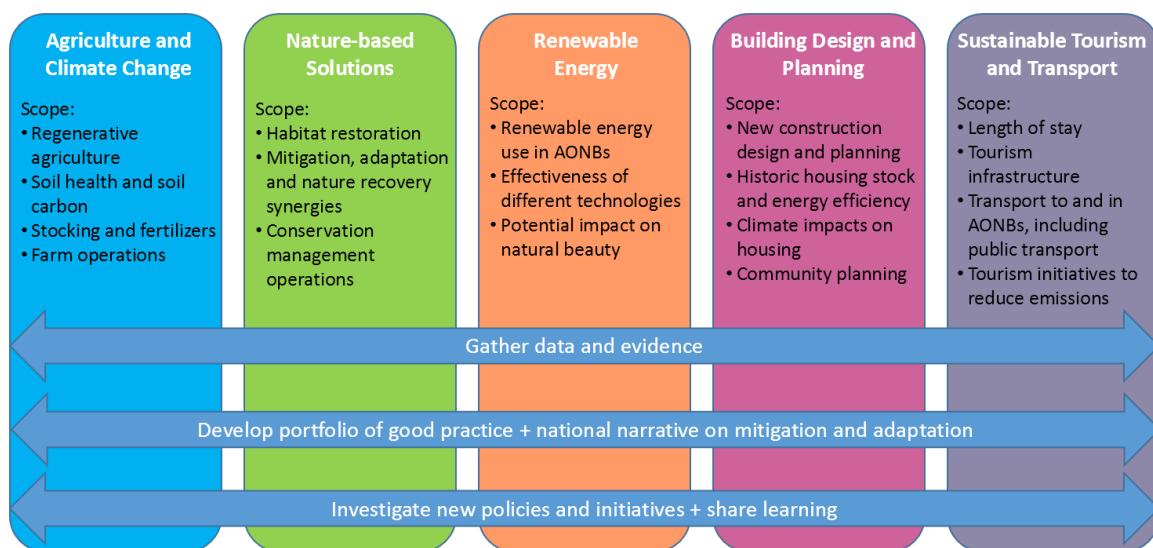
5. Philip Hygate, Chair of the NAAONB wrote to Lord Benyon earlier in November to raise ongoing concerns regarding the acute funding pressure faced by England's AONBs. Key messages contained in the letter were.
 - We are gravely concerned at what appears to be a continuing failure to match expectations with resources or to grasp the serious financial predicament facing AONB partnerships across England.
 - Overall core funding reducing 36% over the past ten years.
 - Landscapes Review called for urgent and focussed action by Government to secure the viability and resilience of the local AONB teams. Their passion, commitment and innovation in delivering public goods for the nation against a backdrop of chronic under funding was lauded by the Review.
 - The Review was also unequivocal that on the ground the vast majority of AONBs are indistinguishable from National Parks. Their total area is 50% greater than that of the Parks, they contain just as much important nature and are even more popular with visitors. They also do vital work to restore nature, promote understanding and enjoyment of these outstanding places and support the local economy. But all this is without the recognition in law or support in resources.
 - The total core funding from Government for all 34 AONB partnerships in England now stands as equivalent to only half the core funding provided to a single National Park Authority. The resourcing disparity between AONB partnerships and National Parks Authorities is the single most important issue underpinning the future success of the protected landscape network.

- Pulled together as a package and tied to strengthening of resourcing, the proposals in the Glover review on new purposes and powers for AONB have the potential to deliver a transformational approach to AONB leadership and management during this Parliament.
- Glover's recommended immediate fix for AONB core funding, which can be tied to a progressive reform package, could be delivered over the course of this Parliament for a total additional investment of £12 million, spread over three financial years.
- We are calling for a modest, yet fundamental, package of reform for AONB and have provided contributions throughout to demonstrate how such a simple package could be both transformative, uncontested and deliverable. We are keen to grasp the opportunity for a step-change in ambition and delivery. Meaningful change here would have a huge impact at relatively little actual cost.

Collaborative Climate Action Programme

6. This is an ambitious programme to drive work and influence the narrative around climate change in protected landscapes utilising skills and knowledge from across the AONB network. South Devon AONB Unit staff have been involved in four of the sub-groups to date, meeting virtually to move this area of work forward. Priority areas of activity have been identified for each of the sub-groups and are as follows:

Climate change sub-groups



NAAONB Chairs and Lead Officers Conference

7. The National Association for AONBs 'Nature Positive, Carbon Negative' conference took place via Zoom on the 18th November 2021. Speakers included Tony Juniper, Lord Benyon, George Marshall and John Watkins, the NAAONB's own new Chief Executive. A summary of the speakers' contributions can be found at <https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/events/event-reports/Chairmans-conf-2021>.
8. The afternoon workshop generated a great variety of ideas and reflections on how the power of AONB Partnerships could be harnessed to deliver on climate action. From the material collected and

with the involvement of Partnership Chairs, a 'Statement of AONB Chairs on Climate Action' will be co-created.

Landscapes for Life Conference

9. The 2021 Landscapes for Life national conference was held entirely online and was virtually hosted by Devon's 5 AONB Teams with principal sponsorship from Devon County Council. Part of the conference provided for virtual field visits achieved through pre-recorded films. For South Devon this provided an opportunity to: give an overview of the area as a whole complete with challenges and opportunities; see highlights of our approach to estuary management; hear from farmers in the Avon Valley Farm Facilitation group on their experiences; and learn about the development and early work on Life on the Edge in support of coastal habitats and invertebrates at risk.

10. 2022 is anticipated to be a hybrid conference for the very first time.

NAAONB Strategy 2021-23

11. The period covered by the last strategy saw a renewal of ambition in a number of areas by the UK's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Under the leadership of the National Association, AONB teams committed to delivering significant and stretching targets around nature recovery, climate change, and engagement and diversity in AONBs. Additionally, the Charity and its members are working to support the establishment of more nature-friendly farming payment systems in AONBs as we move away from support mechanisms driven by the EU's Common Agricultural Policy. These subject areas remain the clear focus of the 2021-23 strategy.

12. The ongoing nature of the Coronavirus pandemic has altered how we all work, and has created significant opportunities and challenges for AONB teams. Raised awareness of the great wellbeing benefits of landscape and nature also means a higher number of visitors to AONBs, often by many that are experiencing these landscapes for the first time. This is wholeheartedly welcomed, but requires investment to ensure that the effective management of visitors is successful. The commitment by UK Government to create a National Landscape Service is also of significant interest to the National Association and we will continue to work closely with all stakeholders to help create the best outcomes for AONBs.

13. Our clear vision and mission, dedicated staff and trustees, and an active and engaged membership, are a recipe for real delivery. This strategy sets out how the Charity will continue to help people collaborate in order to conserve and enhance natural beauty.

14. Key actions are:

- Work with partners to support thinking on protected landscape management
- Take action to achieve nature recovery and minimise climate change
- Create opportunities for people to connect with landscape
- Support AONB teams to promote sustainable agriculture
- Build tools and opportunities to support collaboration
- Develop the organisation [charity]

See https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/application/files/6816/3670/6769/211118 - 7 - NAAONB_Strategy_2021-23_Final.pdf for more information.

Heritage Statement

15. A joint statement on the historic environment in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty has been prepared. Please refer to the statement in full at Annex 4 to the agenda papers, Item 8e. The statement is a declaration of ambition and intent made between the 34 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England, Historic England and the National Association for AONBs (NAAONB). All parties have an interest in, or responsibility for, the historic environment within Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). The statement covers its purpose, areas of collaboration and introduces a National Action Plan. The latter focuses upon three areas:
 1. Showcasing exemplary projects and schemes.
 2. Dissemination of appropriate guidance and codes of best practice.
 3. Establishment of a historic environment working group of interested AONBs
16. The new statement provides useful clarity on direction and roles to ensure ongoing action and support for historic environment activity. The Glover Landscapes review was silent on heritage despite being an integral part of landscape and responsibility for the historic environment resource sits with the Department for Culture Media and Sport. Our current and planned programmes of activity in support of the historic environment in South Devon fit well with the new statement.
17. Since production, the new joint statement has been agreed and approved by Historic England, the National Association for AONBs and around half of the English AONBs. Release of the statement fell outside of our South Devon AONB Partnership cycle. As an interim measure the AONB Manager has provisionally signed up to the Statement on behalf of the Partnership and the Partnership is now formally requested to support this position.

Environment Act 2021

18. The Act is arguably the most significant piece of UK environmental legislation since the introduction of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) back in 1988, and it's also fairly unique as it makes specific provision for review and revision of requirements. Its scope includes:
 - Environmental governance
 - Environmental regulation
 - Waste and resource efficiency
 - Air quality and environmental recall
 - Water
 - Nature and biodiversity
 - Conservation covenants
19. A variety of professional bodies and environmental commentators have provided views on the scope and likely efficacy of the new act. One such useful overview has been provided by the Landscape Institute <https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/news/policy-update-environment-act-2021> and the Ends Report journal provides insightful commentary <https://www.endsreport.com/article/1732807/environment-act-2021-45-things-need-know>
20. Full text of the new legislation can be found at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted>

Recommendations

21. AONB Partnership Committee members are recommended to:

- i. Note the scope of national level advocacy and collaborative action being led by the National Association and the increasing role played by staff from across the AONB network in initiatives that benefit the network as a whole;
- ii. Remain alert to publication of Defra's formal response to the Glover Landscapes Review and associated consultation documents; and take the opportunity to submit an appropriate consultation response;
- iii. Agree that the South Devon AONB Partnership formally sign up to the new joint statement on the historic environment and request the AONB Manager to confirm support to the National Association for AONBs.

Item 8b: Current and recent key planning applications

Purpose

1. To highlight to AONB Partnership Committee members planning related activity of note including development management applications.

Live applications of particular note

2. **P/2021/0890** Land At Upton Manor Farm Camp Site St Marys Road Brixham TQ5 9QH. Construction of 132 residential dwellings with access roads, infrastructure and public open space in outline, the proposal includes the demolition of existing buildings on the site This application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement. The application is a departure from the Local Plan.
3. **1159/21/FUL** Land at West End Garage, Main Rd, Salcombe TQ8 8NA. Erection of 22 residential dwellings (including 30% affordable homes) with associated amenities and infrastructure (Resubmission of 3320/20/FUL).
4. **P/2020/0966** Wall Park Touring And Centry Road Camping Site Centry Road, Brixham TQ5 9ET. Replacement of ten touring caravan pitches with 10 holiday static units/lodges and laying of new road (amended plans received 04.10.2021).
5. **3335/21/FUL** Proposed Development Site At Sx 566 494 Land West of Collaton Park Newton Ferrers. Construction of 125 homes, commercial business units, landscaped parkland, community boat storage/parking, allotments, improvements to existing permissive pathway and public footway, enhancement of vehicular access and associated infrastructure and landscaping.
6. **3078/21/VAR, 3118/21/ARM, 3119/21/FUL & 3120/21/FUL** Proposed Development Site Sx856508 A3122 Norton Cross To Townstal Road Dartmouth.
 - Variation of condition 4 of outline planning permission 3475/17/OPA (for 210 dwellings, public open space, green infrastructure, strategic landscaping and associated infrastructure) to revise approved parameter plan A097890drf01v4 to 180304 P 01 02 Rev C
 - Application for approval of reserved matters seeking approval for layout, scale, appearance and landscaping for 143 residential dwellings and associated open space and infrastructure following outline approval 3475/17/OPA and approval of details reserved by conditions 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17 and 21 of that consent
 - Full planning application for the erection of 32 residential units (situated within both phases 1 and 2) and associated works
 - Planning application for attenuation basins, pumping stations, public open space, landscaping and associated works in connection with the residential and employment development of land to the north/ east.
7. **0936/19/ARM** Land at SX 857 508 adjacent to Townstal Road West of Dartmouth Dartmouth. READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received and amended development description) Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval 15_51/1710/14/O (Appeal APP/K1128/W/15/3039104) as varied by application reference 2609/19/VAR and 0479/21/VAR for layout, scale, appearance and landscaping for 123 dwellings, public open space, landscaping and associated works and approval of details reserved by conditions 5, 6, 8, 9 & 12 of planning consent 0479/21/VAR.
8. **1867/21/ARM** Land South Of Junction Between Townstal Rd and Nelson Rd Dartmouth TQ6 0LB. Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval 15_51/1710/14/O (Appeal APP/K1128/W/15/3039104) as varied by application reference 2609/19/VAR and 0479/21/VAR for

layout, scale, appearance and landscaping for the construction of a 69 bed care home (use class C2) provision for parking, gardens, access and associated works.

9. A full list of planning cases the AONB Unit has been involved in over the I period is provided for information purposes within Item 8a.

Appeal cases of note affecting the South Devon AONB

10. The inquiry for this enforcement notice appeal case **APP/K1128/C/21/3268326** relating to 0387/21/CLE, 0848/20/FUL and 0042/19/FUL Gerston Point West Alvington TQ7 has been delayed.. The appeal relates to a retrospective application for change of use of land to domestic use with carport and storage building. The Inquiry is now scheduled to take place over 2 days starting 8th February 2022. Preparation of supporting Statements of Common Ground and Proofs of Evidence is well underway. The AONB Manager is supporting South Hams District Council's appeal team on this case and providing expert witness input on natural beauty matters.
11. Appeal Case APP/K1128/W/21/3276041 relating to 3943/20/FUL. Erection of replacement dwelling and garage, relocation of access and associated works. The appeal was upheld by the Planning Inspectorate and conditional approval given. Impacts on the AONB arising from the modern design of the building, extent of glazing and resultant night-time lighting impacts were given very little weight in the decision.

Community Land Trust Sites likely to affect the South Devon AONB

12. An increasing number of Community Land Trust schemes are coming forward for sites in inappropriate locations, typically driven there by limited land availability. Of particular current concern are the Butts Park, Newton Ferrers and Bonfire Hill, Salcombe proposals both in elevated locations on the plateau edge with little to no onsite ability to mitigate.

Recommendations

13. The Partnership Committee is recommended to:
 - i. Continue to alert the AONB Manager at the earliest possible opportunity to cases where protected landscape matters are pertinent and share views on live applications.

Item 8d: AONB Staff Unit activity report

Purpose

1. To highlight to AONB Partnership Committee members a selection of project activity the Staff Unit has been engaged in over the last three months with the involvement and support of partners.

Background

2. The Unit continues to be flexible to address restrictions and lockdown issues by increased development of online resources and working closely with NAAONB.

Project activity June 2021 -November 2021

Nature

4. The NHLF Phase 1 application for the Life on the Edge (LOTE) project was submitted in August. Project team members have responded to the defined project assessor who will be presenting to the decision panel in late November 2021. The team continues to build relationships with landowners and project partners.
5. Nature recovery mapping, assessment and visualisations are viewable at <https://www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/state-of-nature/> and link to the StoryMap <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f16bd19fd2ce4f1486787827c441b5c0> These preliminary outputs will provide useful starting points and evidence to prompt discussions within the Nature Recovery Plan Working Group colleagues and subsequently wider partners, assisting in formulating a Nature Recovery Plan for the South Devon AONB.
6. The Saving Devon's Treescapes project NHLF Delivery Phase application (2021 – 2026) was successful providing the extended opportunity for more tree planting and community engagement in the South Devon AONB priority focus area.
7. The completed Yealm Woodland report is helping to focus activity going forward.
8. NE published (NERR100) Partnership led strategy to monitor and manage the spread of Pacific oyster populations in south Devon and Cornwall - <http://nepubprod.appspot.com/publication/4889256448491520> [26.7MB Pdf, 258pages]
9. Collation of National CaBA benefits monitoring form data (2020/21) and submitted on time

Climate

10. The South Devon Catchments Based Approach partnership and Estuary forums continue to engage its members in the delivery of CaBA action plan projects
11. Coastal change - the AONB Unit has supported the employment of a Slapton Line Adaptation Manager position
12. Dwarf seagrass research – partnership with University of Plymouth

People

13. Throughout the pandemic the Staff Unit has continued to engage with our communities with increased online events, activities, walks and resources.

14. The **60at60 campaign** closed, smashing our £4000 target with a total raised of £4257. This came from individual fundraisers and business sponsorship. This money was used to pay for 7 Young Carer activity days which we ran in partnership with Devon Carers and Westbank.
15. The **60th anniversary campaign**, funded by a £10,000 grant from National Lottery Heritage Fund engaged over 1900 people. This met all of our agreed objectives (set out pre-covid) and was a real achievement considering the limitations placed on the team and the activity programme by the pandemic. We have been able to adapt our content, using online provision, mixed in with in person events where we were able.
16. Over 50 people came to The Ariel Centre in Totnes for the 60th Anniversary finale celebration event. They enjoyed films, artwork, projects which have been completed over the scheme, involving hundreds of people from local schools, communities and organisations across the AONB.
17. Unfortunately, due to low booking numbers two Devon Naturally Healthy Forum walks for the CCG were cancelled
18. Nature Notes articles in local papers x4

60th anniversary events programme	Attendees
Online talk - A seasonal guide to Bird watching in South Devon AONB – Summer	82
Online talk - A seasonal guide to Bird watching in South Devon AONB – Autumn	48
Online Talk – 3000 years below the sea – shipwrecks of Prawle and Start Point	47
Live event – Wembury Apple Day	100
Live event – Orchard and Cider press tour -Hunts	14
Live event - East Prawle Bee Discovery Day	70
Live event – Farm walk – Mount Folly Farm	12
Live events – Walking through time x 3 walks – Bolt Tail, Bolberry, Bolt Head	41
Live activity – DIY Dairy – Children’s Day at Dartmouth Food Festival	119 children
Live activities – Coastal visit and Artist in residence – Kevicc. A level students	15 students
Live activity – variety of community groups – Our AONB in the next 60 years – film – working with 2 film makers	66
Live activity – finale event	53

Young Carers ACTIVITIES	Attendees
Coastal adventure days – Sailing x 1; Surfing x 2; Canoeing x 2; estuary day x 1 Activity days included instructor session, arts activities, explorer walks and education activities. Completely funded by the 60at60 campaign	48 Young carers

Estuary Forum illustrated talks by invitation	Attendees
Online illustrated talk - Totnes Rotary Club – Dart Estuary Water Quality	20
Live event - guided walk – Frogmore community – Frogmore Creek nature & conservation	15 + 5dogs
Live event - beach clean – Scoble Point	8

Other on-line talks and events	Attendees
Virtual South Devon Tour as part of the NAAONB 'A Climate for Change' annual conference	120
Sustainable South Hams – updates	30+
Chivelstone Church restoration project community open day – event ran in partnership with group as part of their NLHF funded project	200

Place

18. The NAAONB Key Performance Indicators for the South Devon AONB (2020/21) were submitted on time
19. Delivery of FiPL programme –
The programme was launched on 1st July across the country.
Julia Bastone contracted as interim FiPL officer in advance of FiPL Officer appointment.
A web page has been set up and a flyer printed to generate interest. A press release was issued along with social media content.
Following Panel training on 15th September we held our first panel meeting on 28th September.
Three projects were approved and an additional two approved by the AONB Manager.
We staged an information evening on 12th August attended by 20 farmers.
A FiPL advice surgery is taking place at Modbury on 17th November
Our next Panel meeting is on 23rd Nov when we anticipate another 4 projects will be considered by the panel.
To date we have registered 37 expressions of interest.
20. The Countryside Stewardship Facilitation programme in the Avon Valley continues to engage farmers in virtual and actual sessions
A second extension was finally secured in late August continuing until 31st January 2021. This will enable activities which couldn't take place because of Covid to be staged. These are a mixture of farm walks and workshops within and beyond the AONB.
A total of 11 Countryside Stewardship mid-tier applications were assisted by the group
21. NERIF grant submission (unsuccessful)
22. Contact managing the Torcross Tank hard landscaping project
23. The AONB Unit is leading the **South Devon Coastal Heritage project**, funded by a Heritage at Risk grant from Historic England. The partnership includes National Trust English Riviera and National Trust South Devon Countryside, DCC archaeology unit, South West Coast Path and Historic England officers. The first phase of this has now been completed with development works taking place in the two project areas – Bolt Head to Bolt Tail and Defending the Dart. This included geophysics, Drone and photogrammetry surveys, site visits, vegetation management on the SAMs and development of a plan for delivery over the next 3 years. The delivery phase application for a further Heritage at Risk grant will be submitted by the end of November for works over the next 3 years.
24. The AONB Unit has secured funding through the England Coast Path implementation grants to deliver a selection of interpretation projects around Bolt Head – Bolt Tail and at Bantham. A further application for an establishment grant will complete these works in the Spring of 2022. This funding is providing in-kind match as part of the South Devon Coast Heritage project.

25. Further works for the project will be completed with the application of a small lottery grant and in partnership with local organisations

Recommendations

26. AONB Partnership Committee members are invited to:

- i. Note the breadth of the work undertaken by the Unit with positive alignment to the 25 YEP/Glover Review and NAAONB priorities closely linked to the conservation and enhancement of AONB special qualities and Management Plan priorities;
- ii. Consider how the Partnership as a whole and as individual members wish to become more involved in the development and delivery of future projects.

South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

AONB Partnership Committee Meeting

to be held at

10am on Friday, 26 November 2021

Remote Video Meeting
via Zoom

Papers Annex 1 to Agenda Item 6a

**Project Overview Document
Plymouth Sound National Marine Park
'Park in the Sea'**





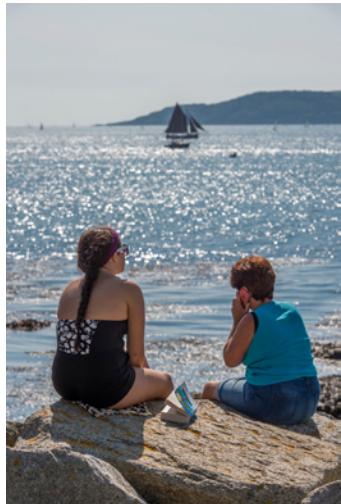
PROJECT OVERVIEW DOCUMENT

Plymouth Sound National Marine Park



THE BIG IDEA

'Park in the Sea'



to the top →

Photographs of Plymouth Sound:

From left to right: 1) View of the Hoe, 2) People enjoying the NMP, 3) Decapod, 4) Evening view of Plymouth's waterfront 5) Plymouth fisherman at work,

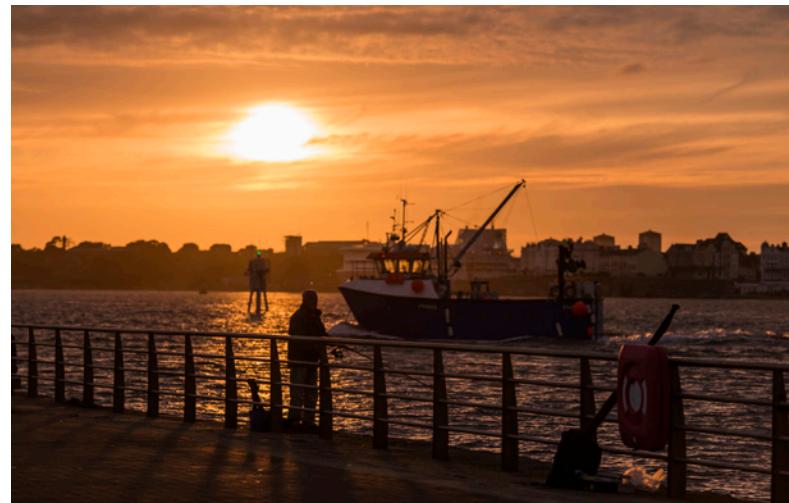
In launching the Heritage Horizon Awards in 2019, during the 25th anniversary of the National Lottery, the ambition of the Heritage Fund could not have been clearer to us. We completely recognise that need for our project to be truly outstanding, transformational and to not only have a significant impact on our communities, but to also raise the bar in making the link between Lottery players and the Heritage Fund's investments.

We believe our project to create the UK's first National Marine Park (NMP) in Plymouth Sound is a perfect fit for the Horizon Fund. We share the scale of your ambition through our objective to transform the lives of every single one of our communities through engagement with our maritime heritage, landscape and nature. This new partnership between the Heritage Fund and the NMP provides a national opportunity to

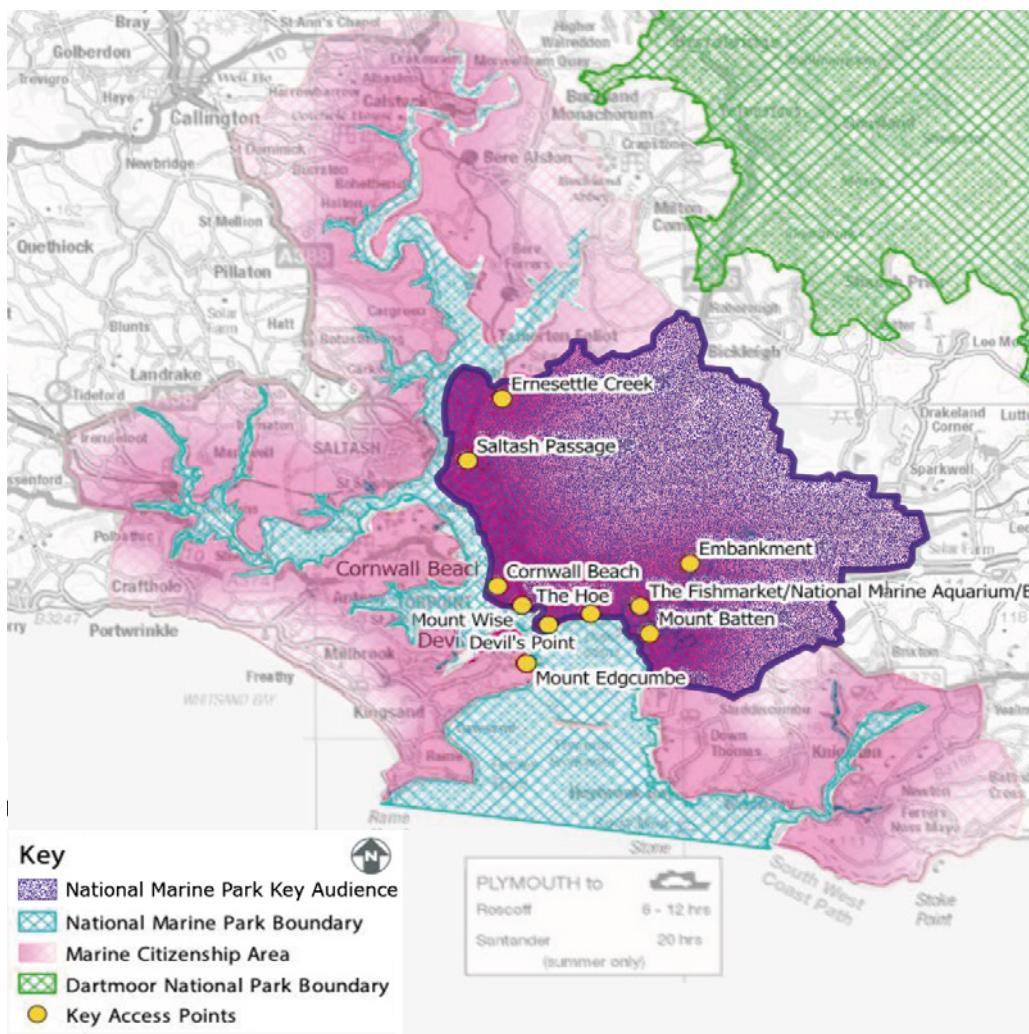
create a climate change exemplar and thought leader that can then be replicated across the UK.

Plymouth Sound is an unsurpassed marine environment; a historic landscape that has defined a city and its citizens for centuries. A unique place where the largest naval base in Western Europe and fragile sea grass beds co-exist. A place where the world's greatest voyages began and fishermen today still leave for the daily catch. At a time of enormous global challenges and climate change this unique environment and the golden thread between people and place is threatened. Our project provides a national opportunity to nurture the innovation needed to completely reimagine how a landscape and its people can work together.

Our historic marine landscape cannot be separated from the people who live and work in



to the left
Proposed NMP boundaries
The NMP Key Audience will be Plymouth





our coastal community whether commercial fishing, shipping, naval defence, coastal leisure and tourism, marine research or blue technology. More than a landscape, it is their heritage and their future. Yet for the first time since the Ice Age, our marine environment is under threat from climate change, habitat degradation and human disconnection. Our built heritage is being lost and our cultural ties to the sea have, in places, been severed.

Our project will establish the UK's first National Marine Park (NMP) - a 'Park in the Sea'. A 21st century park enabling a new collaboration between ocean, heritage and City. Co-designing with communities will ensure people engage enabling a lifelong connection, fostering positive behaviours and benefits for individuals and heritage. Our five 'Gateways', community access projects and 'Digital Park' are physical, and social connection points focusing on health and wellbeing, active recreation, heritage, nature and environment. More than a park, our 'Park in the Sea' will transform lives, employment, education, volunteering and environment; re-establishing the bond between people and place that has defined Plymouth.

Unlocking Potential

We believe in the power of heritage projects to transform far beyond the reach of other initiatives and our ambitions for the impact of the NMP are unapologetically bold and far reaching.

Leading a new generation of Park's our 'Park in the Sea' will:

1. Establish the UK's first National

Marine Park;

2. Protect and enhance a world class natural environment and heritage landscape;
3. Be a national exemplar and thought leader in enabling a positive response to climate change for government, Plymouth and the Heritage Fund;
4. Level up access to heritage to ensure all citizens and Lottery players can enjoy the benefits;
5. Provide new employment opportunities and career pathways in sustainable future ocean jobs;
6. Act as a city-wide and regional stimulus for economic 'green' recovery post COVID;
7. Position Plymouth as a UK Top Ten day-visitor destination
8. Champion health and well-being with a new generation of engaged volunteers, communities and heritage champions;
9. Get the entire City in, on under and next to the water through 5 gateways and a network of community projects;
10. Deliver an innovation pilot for digital heritage engagement that will give the Park an international platform.

Collaborative

Our ambition to engage with every citizen and every community in our city is clearly bold needing a new approach to collaboration, co-design and engagement. These principles define our Park both in our journey to date and our approach going

← to the Bottom
Photographs:
From left to right: 1) NMA Garden View, 2) dingy sailing at Mount Batten, 3) Sea view from Mount Edgcumbe folly, 4) Virtual tour of the Sound

forward. This must be the 'People's Park'. Through our approach we will create a movement where people recognise the value of their landscape, nature and their role within it. We will create active citizens, through a concept of Ocean Citizenship, which will aim to define both rights and responsibilities for this unique landscape. A new social contract that seeks to reconnect the citizens with their heritage that has defined them for hundreds of years.

Our journey began with extensive community, professional and business engagement involving over 75 institutions and thousands of individuals, culminating in a conference at the National Marine Aquarium in June 2018, 'Marine Parks: Bringing It All Back Home'. This resulted in a clear consensus and mandate for the first NMP in the UK endorsed by our communities.

Co-designing the NMP with our communities, partners and stakeholders will ensure people engage with the NMP in a manner that enables a lifelong connection, fostering positive behaviours

and benefits for individuals and heritage. The concept of the 'Park in the Sea' represents a new way of thinking. An increasing focus of academic research, the unique attributes of Plymouth Sound makes it the prime location in the UK for testing and development; to protect, conserve and be a catalyst for transformation.

The landscape of Plymouth Sound is currently managed through multiple partners and mechanisms. There is no common management framework. Interventions, while collaborative, are not necessarily designed to an overall scheme. The results are therefore, understandably, mixed. Nature is afforded protection through environmental designations and individual assets have similar historic designations. This has value, but does not encapsulate the full scope of the landscape in a holistic way.

It also means that the landscape is vulnerable. Not all risks are visible, as damage to the landscape is not always easy to see. We need to open eyes as a way of changing behaviour. These are



threats to the fabric of our natural capital, but threats that can be addressed and become opportunities for the future. The value of natural capital can be measured in many ways: socially, economically and environmentally. The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated how important it is to people's physical and mental well-being. It is also a significant opportunity to both protect and rejuvenate the landscape, above and below the water, while delivering mass engagement.

The development of the NMP requires this approach to management of the landscape. We will work with partners and stakeholders to address a system of multiple designations and management systems to look at a more holistic approach. As part of project delivery, we will design a 5 year Management Plan to come into effect when funding from the Heritage Fund comes to an end in 2028.

Transformative

During the delivery phase of our project, we intend to deliver our 'Park in the Sea' concept through investment in:

- Capital - five large-scale 'Gateways' focusing on a specific themes and activities aligning with a network of 'Community Access Projects' and a programme of direct marine habitat enhancement.

- Activities - an city-wide, community engagement programme through the Gateways. A project-wide digital programme to increase access and widen participation amongst our target groups and deliver a wider national and international platform for this heritage landscape.
- A Digital Park – championing new methods of engagement driven by innovation and cutting edge technology.

The gateways are located across the NMP, building on our existing assets, providing a framework for engagement and concept development. As physical access points they will create coherent infrastructure enabling mass participation, education and engagement. Taken together with our community access projects we will create a network around our amazing waterfront enabling the whole city to engage with the NMP. However, the real power of these gateways lies in their thematic approach, reaching deep into our communities, delivering meaningful and life changing outcomes for health, well-being, employment, heritage and landscapes.

These programmes will operate across the City taking the message of the NMP to the people where they live and work.

Our gateways are:

- a. The Hoe Waterfront and Tinside – Health



- & Wellbeing Hub;
- b. National Marine Aquarium – Nature & Environment Hub;
- c. Mount Batten – Active Recreation Hub;
- d. Mount Edgcumbe – Heritage Hub;
- e. Smart Sound Heritage – Digital Hub.

We will empower our communities to deliver a linked growing network of community access projects. These are smaller in scale, local access points to the NMP. Some of these physical assets exist already; our plan is to reimagine and reactivate these assets aligned to the Gateways programme. It enables us to connect more communities to the ocean at a local scale, leading to a democratisation of the water.

Changes and Benefits

Whilst it is early in the development of our project we have ambitions to create a generation of Ocean Citizens, a new NMP visitor centre, new classrooms in the Park, to open up the water to significant numbers of new users and to inspire careers in the ocean jobs of the future. We have also set ourselves an ambition to create the UK's first Digital Park offering unparalleled access and engagement opportunities. We will use a series of 'Innovation Labs' in the development stage to engage our communities and innovative businesses with in this endeavour.

We recognise that our project must deliver for people and we have set ourselves the ambitious targets including:

- Connect 10million people with the NMP

- Engage with 264,000 people
- Activate 100,000 hours of volunteer hours
- Increase visitor numbers from 5.2million to 6million
- NMP investment will create 464 jobs and deliver £18.4 million of GVA.

Excellence in leadership and transparency in governance will be at the centre of our project. We have assembled a diverse and experienced multi-disciplinary professional team with hundreds of millions of pounds of project delivery experience. We have already created a Project Board to deliver our capital projects and a NMP Stakeholder Forum to ensure that we are in touch with, and accountable to, our communities. This will result in learning that can be disseminated using a range of media including: conferences, events, printed and digital.

We will galvanise people across the city. The NMP will be open and accessible to all. However, we recognise that there are large numbers of people who do not currently engage with heritage and water-based activities. There are numerous barriers to access including: the current state of the facilities, lack of information and accessibility. Our project will change that. Working across the city, we will reach beyond communities of place and identity, to use the NMP as a way to inspire and build a culture of ownership and stewardship that reconnects people with the ocean.

Our Activity Plan is hugely ambitious and developed with inclusion at its heart. The City of Plymouth has a proud history and stunning location,

to the Right ↓
Photograph:
Fisherman deploying CPR on the Sound





but not everyone feels connected to this. This is our opportunity to make targeted investments and deliver an exciting and inspiring engagement programme so that everyone feels welcomed and involved. We will engage with a whole city and reach out to specific under-represented groups we have identified. We will activate our communities to help them understand their impact on their environment and show them how small changes cannot only help, protect and enhance this unique landscape, but improve their own well-being.

However, we also recognise that this project will not address every issue that requires work. We will use the Heritage Fund as anchor funding to unlock further income to extend the benefits of the project across the NMP. We are having active conversations and are confident of success.

As one of a handful of Heritage Horizon Award (HHA) projects, we acknowledge the high profile the project will have and the importance of being a national exemplar. We will not do this in isolation from the wider network of UK and international heritage organisations. Working collaboratively with the Heritage Fund, we envisage a joined up approach with other HHA projects to ensure that learning is shared and openly available to help affect change in other areas. National Government has already indicated an interest to work with Plymouth as a national pilot to understand how National Marine Parks can be applied across the UK. We believe this is a major opportunity for both

the Heritage Fund and Plymouth City Council.

We will make this project a success. We also want it to be the blueprint for a network of NMPs across the UK. We spent most of the last decade preparing for this moment, now at a critical moment in our planet's history, we want to make a major statement about how collaboration can deliver that transformation. The NMP Board, working with local people, will become an increasing focus of that change; putting in place the necessary governance structures and funding mechanisms to ensure that the NMP protects and flourishes.

COVID-19

The National Marine Park isn't a project so much as a realisation of the City's wider strategic ambitions. It is embedded in all that we do through our strategic plans and as such will play a full role in the City's recovery from Covid-19, our 'Resurgam'. The NMP will be a recovery catalyst for the city in terms of economic growth, social well-being and environmental sustainability. It will reconnect residents to this unique environment and natural capital improving personal well-being and driving behavioural change. It will also be a major catalyst and recovery beacon for the tourism industry that has been so devastated during the pandemic. It will be an inspirational call to action for the new sustainable future Ocean jobs that will be at the bedrock of our economic recovery. The UK's first NMP has the potential to be a national green recovery flagship.

to the Right ↓
Photograph:
Mount Edgcumb

← to the Bottom
Photographs:
From left to right: 1) Royal Navy Vengeance alongside the PRT Berth, 2) Seahorse finding refuge in seagrass, 3) NMA outreach event

Our Commitment

We understand that our project challenges many of the traditional assumptions of a Heritage project and we believe and hope this is exactly what the Horizon Heritage Awards are looking for. We invite the Heritage Fund to join us on this transformational journey to create the UK's first NMP engaging with a whole City and setting a new benchmark for how people and landscapes interact.

We believe in our proposition and have already committed £2.5m cash funding from the City Council - a bold decision in the context of austerity and during a global pandemic. A demonstration of our belief in the project and an illustration of our commitment and intent.

We acknowledge and value the contribution lottery players in making the Horizons fund and the transformational projects it will support a reality. We want to ensure for this project there is a strong and clear connection to lottery players throughout the delivery. As a result, if successful, we will commit as one our

first acts to create a marketing manifesto with you to agree our joint ambition and delivery mechanisms to create a marking manifesto with you to set out joint ambition and agree how this will be delivered.





*Top front cover image ©Lewis Huddy
Bottom front cover image ©Bracken Jelier*



South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

AONB Partnership Committee Meeting

to be held at

10am on Friday, 26 November 2021

Remote Video Meeting
via Zoom

Papers Annex 2, Item 6d

Devon Land Use Framework Pilot



Devon Land Use Framework: Project Plan

Introduction

Overall aim

This project brings together a wide network of interested stakeholders and partner organisations to design, test, develop and review a Land Use Framework for Devon, in tandem with delivering significant improvements to the quality and accessibility of land use data sources. The project will run for 18-months from September 2021 and the learning and outcomes will be taken forward in the implementation of the Framework on an ongoing basis.

What is a land use framework?

A land use framework is an approach to managing land use decisions that mediates competing pressures and encourages multifunctionality, enabling land to provide multiple benefits and public value. The framework consists of a set of agreed principles and practices that are embedded across local, regional and national organisations, informing and guiding decision making on a finite, pressured and precious resource: land.

Such a framework would be a mechanism for a more strategic collaborative approach to land use across Devon. The approach will help resolve conflicts over, and reconcile tensions between, the demands we make on land, ensuring we make the best use of it with a large, growing and demanding population. The framework would start with an intention to help to decide what is the best use for each area of land, but at the same time making sure all the things we demand of land (homes, food, leisure, travel, etc) can still be met. It will help inform and balance 'top down' planning policies with a system of local intelligence and ownership, building community resilience and adaptive capacity by enabling people to plan and make better decisions at a local level. The land-led framework designed would be a guiding context for all other strategies and plans (Local Plans, Transport Plans, environment strategies, farmer's private landowner plans, health strategies, etc).

Why Devon?

Devon is the first area in England to pilot a Land Use Framework. The county presents a mix of different types of land (coastlines, moorland, different grades of agricultural land), competing land use pressures, (climate resilience and adaptation, agriculture and forestry, leisure and tourism, flood mitigation, housing and development, local industries such as mining, employment, urban environments, health and wellbeing) and complex land use governance arrangements. A wealth of local plans also exist that cover these issues. With many competing pressures on the iconic landscape, Devon could benefit by introducing a land use framework as a way of navigating this complexity and delivering all the demands placed on land.

The aspiration for a Devon Land Use Framework was articulated by the FFCC Devon Programme Management Board based on discussions with many stakeholders during the FFCC's Devon Inquiry since 2017. The proposal for a national (England) and place based LUFs was a major recommendation in FFCC's 2019 report *Our Future in the Land*. In partnership with the Environment Agency and Devon County Council the proposal was incorporated into the Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme (FCRIP) in early 2021. There will be considerable synergy and opportunities for learning between it and other programme projects. In mid 2021 the project was aligned with the pilot land use data project being launched by the Geospatial Commission in Devon, with FFCC leading both projects working with multiple local partners. Land use data is critical to making good decisions and delivering these two pilots in tandem will enrich the Framework with better evidence and set the improvements in data within a decision-making framework to maximise the benefits from the data.

Devon Land Use Framework and Data Work Programme

The work programme below sets out how we envisage the work proceeding. The Design and Delivery Group will be agreeing the process as it is established. The work involved in delivering the Geospatial Commission's land use data pilot has been aligned with the Framework process. Some elements, such as much stakeholder engagement, are integrated into an expanded workstream. Additional elements that relate primarily to the data pilot work have been identified below *in italics* under each step of the process.

Phase One: Scoping and Design Oct-Dec 2021

Step 1 - Convene a Design and Delivery Group of organisations from the public, private and third sectors, which is representative of a wide range of interests in land use, to work together to co-design a land use framework for Devon. This role will build on early partnership working and discussions amongst key stakeholders. It will extend the scope of participation by analysing land use networks and engaging additional stakeholders to bring together a wide range of different land use perspectives. The process must ensure the full range of key land use decision makers across Devon are identified and involved.

Establish effective partnerships with organisations (including the Geospatial Commission, Devon County Council and the Environment Agency) to ensure clear communication about the purpose and rationale behind the project and close alignment with other initiatives such as the Devon Flooding and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme and Geospatial Commission's National Land Data Programme. Ensure that project reporting is built into project planning and delivery with appropriate objectives, milestones and outputs and regular reports to the Devon Land Use Leadership Group and ongoing liaison with FFCC's Senior Researcher, the Devon Flooding and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme and Geospatial Commission's National Land Data Programme.

Assist the Design and Delivery group to co-design a participatory process that they will follow for the duration of the project. Support the group in a way that allows full involvement from all participants regardless of the size or role of the organisation. Build relationships and partnerships between members of the group, sustain communications and provide administrative support to the group including calling regular meetings, recording and tracking actions. Ensure co-delivery and co-learning principles remain at the heart of the group so that all participants can play an active role. Facilitate the delivery of the agreed participatory process.

Work with key land decision makers to capture the questions they are trying to answer and how better data would improve land use decisions. Identify priority datasets and functionality.

Step 2 - Develop an overview of land use priorities and demands. Work with the partners to scope relevant data, mapping, documents and systems to identify overlaps, gaps and inconsistencies, any missing perspectives and to establish what is known and not known. Trace current land use decision making processes, who is involved, what data and evidence is used, what factors and objectives are considered and identify gaps, limitations and constraints. Clearly articulate the implications, opportunities and constraints which emerge. Establish the objectives the land use decision makers are trying to achieve, questions they are trying to answer, the values involved and work to make sense of the complexity.

Work closely with land use data user communities to understand how data is currently held, used and shared and capture representative data user stories to illustrate common limitations and data challenges. Produce a record of relevant local and national land use data and its supply chains, responsible bodies etc that could be provided for the Geospatial Commission work to develop a new portal or platform. This will include any gaps in the data and the departments/teams/individuals responsible within their organisation.

Phase Two: Delivery Jan 2022-Jan/Mar 2023

Step 3 - Help the group to identify specific land use issues in Devon, particularly flood risk mitigation, that can be used to test the process and principles in the emerging land use framework in at least one part of Devon.

Facilitate the creation of an initial 'working framework' which establishes shared principles against which future decisions on land use in Devon should be taken and outlines processes and protocols stakeholders can apply to align their land use planning. Draft practices that could be used to mediate and resolve differences of view and conflicting land use proposals.

Work with data stakeholders to identify further local or national data needs to inform land use decision making. Help the stakeholders explore how better data would improve land use decision making, leading to better outcomes. Feed into the development of the Geospatial Commission's NLDP data model design and requirements.

Step 4 - Support the testing and trialling of the framework and principles in an iterative process to identify what is achievable and how to maximise benefits from the process. Coordinate additional local community engagement activities or more detailed network/issue analysis where necessary.

Work iteratively with stakeholders to test the new land data portal to see if it meets user requirements and provide constructive feedback.

Step 5 - Bring the findings of the tests back to the design and delivery group regularly and analyse the ongoing and summative lessons learned. Identify where there are tensions and win-win opportunities and how conflicts can be better resolved or reduced. Test further priority issues which the Framework could be used to better align and mediate to check whether this generates similar or different lessons. Adapt the prototype land use framework and its protocols accordingly.

Work with the Geospatial Commission to input into the evaluation process of the data pilot. The evaluation will be conducted iteratively throughout the project and fully assessed at the end.

Step 6 - Make recommendations about how a Land Use Framework could be developed in other areas and nationally for England, highlighting what worked best in Devon and lessons learned from the process. Work to ensure that the Land Use Framework process and relationships are valued, embedded and sustained longer term amongst stakeholders.

Throughout the process the Facilitation Team will:

- Convene the design and delivery group regularly to assess the findings of the trials, analyse lessons, resolve or reduce conflicts and adapt the framework.
- Work closely with the FFCC Senior Land Use Researcher to ensure the group is supported with the necessary research and learning the process requires.
- Work to ensure that the Land Use Framework process and relationships are valued, embedded and sustained longer term amongst stakeholders.
- Support the FFCC Senior Researcher in reporting to the FRCRIP and Geospatial Commission funding partners for their project management and evaluation processes.
- Share learning and experience with all stakeholders, the Steering Group, FFCC and FFCC's Land Use National Group which is advocating a Land Use Framework for England.
- Contribute to briefing papers and work with the FFCC communications team to develop compelling narratives that explain the work and how improved data and a framework process is able to improve land use decision making.

Shared principles

A guiding set of principles is already being articulated to underpin the development of a land use framework. The Devon pilot is the first opportunity to test these, assess their robustness and whether they need any adjustment. The draft principles are:

Place

1. **Land-led:** land should be used for the things which it is best at, going with the grain, learning from experience/history, appropriate to the geology, soil and landscape character.
2. **Adaptive and resilient:** land should be used in a way that adapts to and mitigates change created by the climate crisis and the uncertainties and risks brought by increased flooding and drought, enabling communities to respond to multiple future scenarios.

People

3. **Locally responsive:** landowners should lead decision making, informed by local needs and aspirations and mindful of responsibilities to their local environment and community.
4. **Outward and future focused:** local decision-making should take into account impacts on other communities, the nonhuman world and on the needs and wellbeing of future generations.

Public Value

5. **Multifunctional:** land must be used to bring about multiple benefits to address varied human and ecological needs, working cross-departmentally and taking more coherent account of land use interactions and potential unintended consequences to identify best value.
6. **Integrative:** land should be viewed as a whole system, and managed collaboratively, joining up the nation's targets, needs and aspirations to enable better land use decisions to be taken across a wider area.

Outcomes

By the end of this process we will have:

- A prototype Devon Land Use Framework and partnership of stakeholders committed to implementing it.
- Significantly improved land use data understanding, quality, access and usage across stakeholders in Devon
- Partners will have worked through (and resolved) at least one real and pressing land use issue important to Devon stakeholders
- Tested the improved data portal and framework principles and made recommendations to inform national considerations for a national land use framework and data platform
- Learning, insight and a set of practices/protocols for designing and developing a local framework to share with other places

Potential Stage Two

Following the 18-month period the Design and Delivery group will need to review how it wishes to take the emerging Devon Land Use Framework forward. A potential stage two might have the following objectives.

1. Consider the organisational arrangements and resource requirements for fully establishing and embedding the framework and ensuring that the principles are effectively followed
2. Further evaluate how the emerging Framework improves existing planning and share learning.
3. Continue to test and refine the principles and practices of the Devon Land Use Framework by working through further live issues that are important to the Devon stakeholders.
4. Link with national level discussions about how a Land Use Framework may be being mobilised for the whole of England and ensure the Devon version dovetails and is able to lead the way in demonstrating the benefits for land use planning and management.

Partners and partnership working

The Devon Land Use Framework has been developed by the FFCC Devon Programme Management Board in partnership with the Environment Agency through the FFCC's Devon Inquiry since 2017. It is proposed that a sub group of this Board take responsibility for championing the Framework and ensuring institutional leadership during the 18 month period. This Devon Land Use Leadership Group includes key land use stakeholder organisations such as Devon County Council, the NFU, National Trust, Environment Agency, Duchy of Cornwall and Westcountry Rivers Trust. The Leadership Group is likely to meet quarterly. Input is also likely to be sought from expert advisers on wildlife, forestry and from the University of Exeter.

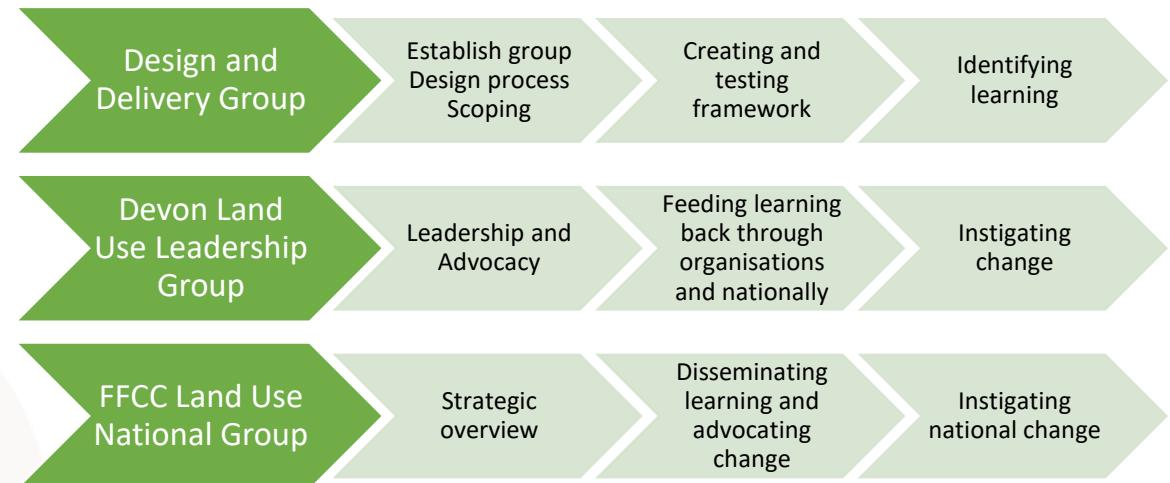
The Design and Delivery Group will lead the work programme as described above, engaging interested stakeholder during the early stages. The following list will be supplemented with further organisations and individuals.

Devon Land Use Stakeholders - include

Environment Agency
Devon County Council
District and City Councils (East Devon, Exeter City, Mid Devon, North Devon, Plymouth, South Hams, Teignbridge, Torbay, Torridge, West Devon)
Farming groups, growers, landowners, NFU, CLA, Duchy of Cornwall
National Geospatial Commission
National Trust, Woodland Trust, Devon Wildlife Trust, Westcountry Rivers Trust, CPRE
Dartmoor National Park and Exmoor National Park
Devon Communities Together, Resilience Forum, Transition Towns, Local Nature Partnership, Bioregional Learning Centre, Climate Emergency Partnership, Net Zero Taskforce
Local Enterprise Partnership
Town and parish councils
Housing developers, housing associations
Food, Farming and Countryside Commission
Forestry Commission, Natural England
Exeter University, other universities and colleges
Further individuals, organisations and groups identified during the initial steps of the process.

Roles and Responsibilities

Data access, gap analysis and alignment Develop new tools/portal	Land Data Pilot
Stakeholder engagement Process and relationship facilitation	Devon LUF Facilitation
Further research Link to National Group and other pilots	FFCC Senior Land Use Researcher



Timeline

An indicative timeline is shown below. The Design and Delivery Group will need to produce a more detailed version during step 1 and monitor progress throughout the period.

The option to extend the project beyond the initial 18 months, would be reviewed part way through the process and would depend on pace of progress and whether the group chose to explore many further issues.

	2021					2022												2023			
Steps	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
1 Establish Group																					
2 Scoping																					
3 Initial framework																					
4 Test framework																					
5 Adaptation																					
6 Share learning																					

Alison Caffyn September 2021

South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

AONB Partnership Committee Meeting

to be held at

10am on Friday, 26 November 2021

Remote Video Meeting
via Zoom

Papers Annex 3, Item 8a

Planning Update



Annex 3 – Item 8a: Summary of Development Management and other Planning Activity

Purpose

1. This report provides a brief update on Local planning authority development management consultations since the March 2021 AONB Partnership meeting pertinent to the South Devon AONB.

Key Activity

Planning Caseload

2. Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) formally consulted the AONB Unit on 82 applications for the year 2020/2021 and 58 applications to date for 2021/2022. In addition, the AONB Unit was consulted on two neighbourhood plans, three felling licences, one transport strategy, five new woodland creation proposals, a Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment for Torbay and a planning validation checklist for South Hams District Council.

Summary of activity since last update:

- 44 cases that LPAs have determined
- 3 completed responses on cases that LPAs are yet to determine
- 42 cases under consideration with responses currently in development
- 4 pre-applications responded to / responses in development

Note that the 30 applications with completed responses and an LPA decision as at the March PCM are treated as closed and are not reported again in the table below. Wording in 'normal' text signifies this appeared on the last planning update, with any changes/updates noted in '**bold**' text.

3. The following table lists the planning cases relevant to the period:

App Ref	Application Type	Decision	In accordance with AONB advice / guidance	AONB Major	Comments
44 Applications - LPA decision made					
1944/18/FUL	Land adjacent to Higher Gabberwell House Kingston Erection of dwelling	Refusal	Objection	Y	Joint response led by SHDC Landscape Specialist Revised plans received Nov 20
4180/18/FUL	Land East of B3196 Loddiswell Creation of an equestrian livery facility including erection of barn, menage, associated works and change of use of land	Withdrawn	Objection	N	Discussion with SHDC landscape specialist resulting in Objection Extension to 14.1.21
0292/21/ARC	The Mill Cottage Wembury Approval of details reserved by condition 6 (submission of CEMP) of planning consent 3053/19/FUL	Approved	No objection - subject to conditions	N	
0332/21/FUL	Coronation Boathouse Bantham Change of use from boathouse to restaurant and cafe	Withdrawn	Holding objection	N	Insufficient information to assess
2554/20/FUL	Land at College Way College Way Dartmouth Erection of a detached dwelling and annex	Conditional approval		N	READVERTISEMENT – Revised plans received
2192/20/VAR	Stoke Gabriel Boating Association Clubhouse Removal or variation of conditions 4 (restricted use) and 11 (no vehicular access)	Conditional approval	Objection	N	Original planning consent 52/1473/15/F READVERTISEMENT – conditions revised

App Ref	Application Type	Decision	In accordance with AONB advice / guidance	AONB Major	Comments
2828/20/FUL	Barby Lodge Cleveland Drive Bigbury On Sea Replacement dwelling	Refusal		N	READVERTISEMENT – Revised plans received
3814/20/VAR	Fort Bovisand Bovisand Application for variation of condition 2 - drawings of Planning application 2821/17/FUL	Conditional approval		N	
4110/20/FUL	Woodside Bennett Road Salcombe Single storey ancillary outbuilding	Withdrawn		N	Extension to 30.4.21
4040/20/ARC	Hill Park Aish Stoke Gabriel Approval of details reserved by conditions 4, 5, 11 and 12 of planning application 0444/20/FUL	Approved		N	
4115/20/ARC	Tides Reach Hotel Cliff Road Salcombe Approval of details reserved by conditions 17 and 18 of planning application 2826/15/FUL	Approved		N	
4268/20/FUL	Thurlestone Golf Club Thurlestone Part retrospective application for new pathway to side of Tee No.6	Withdrawn		N	READVERTISEMENT - Revised plans received and amended description
0905/20/ARC	Winters Marine Lincombe Boat Yard Salcombe Application for approval of details reserved by condition 5 of planning consent 0489/18/FUL	Approved		N	
MLA/2020/00433	Salcombe South Sands Saline Infiltration	Granted		N	
0476/21/FUL	Dartside Quay Marine Park, Galmpton Erect temporary polytunnel for seagrasses	Conditional approval	Support – with conditions	N	
0005/21/FUL	Land off Court Wood, Newton Ferrers Change of use woodland for 2 shepherds huts (tourism)	Withdrawn		N	
0673/21/HHO	Yorke Road, Dartmouth Amateur radio aerial	Refusal	Below threshold	N	Part retrospective Raised by member of the public
20/01184/FUL	Land At Bovisand Road, Staddiscombe Convert two barns to 2 dwellings	Appeal dismissed		N	Appeal Ref: APP/N1160/W/20/3265062
0464/21/FUL	Mossvara Pillory Hill Noss Mayo Slope stabilisation and associated works	Conditional approval	Objection	N	
1083/21/FUL	Bowcombe boathouse, Kingsbridge Change of use to holiday accommodation	Refusal	No objection with conditions	N	Retrospective
1565/21/HHO	The Boathouse, Mill Hill, Stoke Gabriel Replace/alter windows, enlarge balcony and replace balustrading	Withdrawn	No objection with conditions		

App Ref	Application Type	Decision	In accordance with AONB advice / guidance	AONB Major	Comments
2832/20/FUL	Development Site At Sx 8773 5172 College Way Dartmouth Erection of 9 flats	Withdrawn		N	
3463/20/FUL	Orestone End Cliff Road Salcombe Refurbishment with partial demolition, extension and remodelling to existing dwelling	Conditional approval		N	Initial no objection subject to conditions – now reopened due to landscape and visual matters.
4208/20/FUL	Land at SX 675 511 Trehele Cross Modbury Agricultural building for poultry (application 1 of 2)	Refusal		N	READVERTISEMENT - new documents received. Resubmission of 3161/20/FUL
4209/20/FUL	Land at SX 675 511 Trehele Cross Modbury Agricultural building for poultry (application 2 of 2)	Refusal		N	READVERTISEMENT - new documents received. Resubmission of 3164/20/FUL
4277/20/FUL	Lantern Lodge Hotel Hope Cove Amendment to 2101/19/FUL - additional 2 concealed gas tanks below lawn	Refusal		N	
4253/20/FUL	Korniloff Residential Care Home Bigbury On Sea Construction of five detached dwellings and demolition of existing buildings	Refusal		Tbc	
0409/21/OPA	Land at Ashford SX 677 487 Aveton Gifford Erection of agricultural dwelling	Conditional approval		N	
0663/21/FUL	Land at SX 5820 50520, Yealmpton Change of use B8 to C3 and redevelop to single dwelling	Refusal		N	
0547/21/FUL	The Original Factory Shop, Salcombe Refurbishment to restaurant and tap room with change of use	Conditional approval		N	READVERTISEMENT - new documents received
DCC/4222/2021	Torr Quarry Contract waste transfer/storage building	Conditional approval		N	
1129/21/FUL	Staddiscombe Technical detail following PIP	Conditional approval	Unable to comment on AONB matters	N	READVERTISEMENT - new documents received
0642/21/VAR	Lower Coombe Royal Stentiford Hill to Sorley Cross, Kingsbridge Variation of condition	Conditional approval		N	
P/2021/0403	Paignton Berry Acres (Yannons Farm) Approval of reserved matters	Approval			
0515/21/OPA	Sea Horses, Hope Cove Demolish property replace with 2 dwellings	Withdrawn		N	READVERTISEMENT - new documents received
1099/21/FUL	Land adjacent to Manor Cottage, South Milton New dwelling	Conditional approval		N	

App Ref	Application Type	Decision	In accordance with AONB advice / guidance	AONB Major	Comments
1485/21/CLP	Salcombe Retreat, Malborough Proposed use of land for 57 static caravans	Withdrawn		Y	
P/2021/0425	Elektron Instruments, Torquay Demolish building, replace with two industrial units	Approval		N	
1934/21/FUL	Murrawangi, Salcombe Partial demolition and new rear extension & timber balcony with raised parking area	Withdrawn		N	
1641/21/HHO	Sunnydale, Newton Road, Salcombe Refurbish, extend and second parking space	Withdrawn		N	Householder application
3943/20/FUL	Appleford, Kingsbridge Replacement dwelling and garage	Appeal upheld		N	Appeal ref APP/K1128/W/21/3276041
1867/21/ARM	Land south of Townstal Road Dartmouth Approval of reserved matters	Conditional approval		N	
4287/20/FUL	Ridge Cross, Brixton Extend workshop building	Withdrawn		N	
3509/21/FUL	Appleford Bowcombe Road Kingsbridge Replacement dwelling and garage	Withdrawn		N	
3 Applications - Response submitted - LPA still to determine					
2167/19/FUL	Gara Rock Hotel East Portlemouth READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received) 5 additional holiday units within Gara Rock Resort		Objection	N	Application re-advertised, number of units reduced from 8. Revisions awaited
0761/20/OPA	Vicarage Park Land North of Westentown Kingston 12 new houses		Objection	Y	Resubmission of 4068/17/OPA
1411/21/VAR	The Cove guesthouse, Torcross Variation of condition		Objection	N	Planning consent 53/3160/11/F
42 Applications - Responses in development					
0868/20/ARM	Development Site SX612502 North Of Church Hill Holbeton Application for approval of reserved matters construct 14 dwellings			N	Following outline approval 25/1720/15/O; resubmission of 0127/19/ARM
2089/20/FUL	Fish Hoek South Town Dartmouth Alter and extend 2 dwellings and erect 2 new dwellings			N	Related to withdrawn application no. 2781/18/FUL
4158/19/FUL	Development Site At Sx 734 439, Land to Northwest of junction between Ropewalk and Kingsway Park Ropewalk Kingsbridge 15 dwellings			N	READVERTISEMENT – Revised plans received
3343/20/FUL	Seacliffe Overseas Estate Stoke Fleming Construct replacement dwelling			N	

App Ref	Application Type	Decision	In accordance with AONB advice / guidance	AONB Major	Comments
3186/20/VAR	The High Nature Centre East Portlemouth Variation of conditions 3, 5 and 23 of planning consent 20/0785/12/F			N	
2133/19/VAR	Cottage Hotel, Hope Cove Variation of condition 2			Y	READVERTISEMENT - new documents received
018/3303/2020	Sharpham Trust Felling licence application			N	
1159/21/FUL	Land at West End Garage, Salcombe 22 dwellings			Y	
1602/21/ FUL	Land At Sx 893 507 Castle Road Kingswear New livestock building			N	
P/2021/0658	Brokenbury, Churston Ferrers Formation of a solar farm & associated equipment to include installation of fencing, CCTV, landscaping & ecological mitigation.			N	
018/3473/2020	Strete Estate Woodlands Felling and restocking			N	
2048/21/ARC	Noss Marina Approval of details reserved condition 4			Y	
P/2021/0173	Riviera Bay Holiday Park, Brixham Replace facilities building & relocate 7 lodges			N	
2817/21/ARM	Noss Marina Details of reserved matters and discharge of conditions			Y	
2842/21/FUL	Briar Hill Farm, Newton Ferrers Extend holiday park, construct 14 lodges			N	
018/1605/2021	Hoodown Woods Kingswear Felling and restocking			N	
1340/21/FUL	Plot 5, Staddon Heights, Wembury Change of use, field to dog training & facilities			N	
3053/21/ARM	Noss Marina Approval of reserved matters			Y	
3078/21/VAR	Development site Norton Cross to Townstal Road Dartmouth Variation of condition			N	
3118/21/ARM	Development site Norton Cross to Townstal Road Dartmouth Approval of reserved matters			N	
3119/21/FUL	Development site Norton Cross to Townstal Road Dartmouth 32 residential units			N	
3120/21/FUL	Development site Norton Cross to Townstal Road Dartmouth Attenuation basis, pumping stations, open space etc			N	

App Ref	Application Type	Decision	In accordance with AONB advice / guidance	AONB Major	Comments
0936/19/ARM	Land adjacent Townstal Road, West of Dartmouth Approval of reserved matters , 123 dwellings			N	Readvertised – revised plans received
3165/21/VAR	Rear of 62 Staddiscombe Road Plymstock Removal of conditions			N	Related application 1129/21/FUL
P/2021/0865	Former Wall Park Holiday Centre Brixham Siting of residential park home replacing touring pitch			N	
3221/21/FUL	Land on SW side Cliff Road Wembury New dwelling			N	
018/934/2021	Land to South of White Roack Paignton Discharge of appeal conditions			N	
2035/21/FUL	Land at Sx 515 490 Pump Hill Road Wembury Change of use agriculture to dog walking area and amenity			N	Readvertised – revised plans
P/2020/0966	Wall Park Touring and Century Road Camping site Brixham Replace 24 touring pitches with 10 holiday statics/lodges			N	
P/2021/0811	Land at Churston Court Farm, Churston Change of use from agricultural to storage			N	
3054/21/ARM	Noss Marina Approval of reserved matters			Y	
3498/21/ARC	Newpark Stables North Huish Approval of reserved matters			N	
3571/21/FUL	Skyfall, Warfleet, Dartmouth Replace detached dwelling			N	
3406/21/VAR	Venus takeaway kiosk Variation of condition			N	
P/2021/0890	Land at Upton Manor Farm Camp site, Brixham			Y	Limestone cavern information supplied by member of the public
3167/21/FUL	Menryn Court Wood Newton Ferrers Extend dwelling and replace garage			N	
2982/21/FUL	Land opposite Butts Park Newton Ferrers 20 residential units			Y	
3335/21/FUL	Site at land west of Collaton Park Newton Ferrers 125 homes			Y	
3403/21/HHO	Avonmouth Folly Hill Bigbury on Sea Regularisation of garden terracing			N	
P/2021/1007	Former Wall Park Holiday Centre Brixham Temporary siting of static caravan			N	

App Ref	Application Type	Decision	In accordance with AONB advice / guidance	AONB Major	Comments
CN/2021/0101	Land South of White Rock Paignton Discharge of appeal condition			N	
MLA/2021/00454	Dittisham Pier repair work			N	

Recommendations

4. The Partnership Committee is recommended to:
 - i. Note the level of resource commitment currently applied to the type of development management consultations, bearing in mind the recently updated AONB Planning Protocol (adopted March 2020), in addition to strategic and neighbourhood planning demand across the local planning authority areas. Keep this under review.
 - ii. Continue to provide early notification of significant planning matters to the AONB Manager to enable timely and appropriate action to be taken.

South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

AONB Partnership Committee Meeting

to be held at

10am on Friday, 26 November 2021

Remote Video Meeting
via Zoom

Papers Annex 4, Item 8e
NAAONB, AONBs and
Historic England Heritage Statement



JOINT STATEMENT ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT IN AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

This Statement is a declaration of ambition and intent made between the 34 **Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty** in England, **Historic England** and the **National Association for AONBs (NAAONB)**. All parties have an interest in, or responsibility for, the historic environment within Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).

Shared Principles:

1. AONBs are national assets.
2. The landscapes of AONBs have been created by centuries of interaction between people and the environment.
3. The historic environment is fundamental to the distinctive character, sense of place and natural beauty of each AONB.
4. The principle that landscapes are an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity underpin our actions, as set out in the European Landscape Convention (ELC) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Protected Landscapes.
5. By working together the parties can further the understanding, conservation, enhancement and public enjoyment and appreciation of the historic environment in AONBs.

Purpose of the statement

The historic environment is an intrinsic component of the character of today's world and a physical record of the past. It represents the investment of centuries of skills, resources and cultural influences that can never be replaced. It explains the development of the landscape and gives each place its distinctive character and sense of place. Culture, customs and rural traditions are essential elements of cultural and historic landscapes that forms tangible links to the past.

The historic and cultural environment is valuable for its own sake, but also generates jobs and attracts people to live and work in an area. It encourages businesses to invest and tourists to visit. It is a resource that needs to be used carefully and sustainably: a non-renewable resource, we lose or degrade it at our peril.

The parties to this statement recognise that the landscapes of AONBs have been created by centuries of interaction between people and nature, and the historic environment is fundamental to the character of today's AONB landscapes. The parties recognise the key role AONB partnerships make in the sustainable management of the historic environment, and the contribution that well-managed heritage can make to local economies, generating inward investment, employment, facilitating local branding and attracting visitors from home and abroad. The parties also recognise that historic environment and cultural heritage contribute to health and wellbeing and can be a positive education resource as better understanding of the past enables us to plan better for the future.

It is therefore the stated intention of the parties to this statement to work together to conserve and enhance the historic and cultural environment. The parties will collaborate to further the understanding, conservation, public enjoyment and appreciation of the historic environment in AONBs. This collaborative work is needed not only in relation to scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas and registered parks, gardens, sites and landscapes but with regard to the whole of the historic environment, the historic character of the wider landscape and cultural heritage.

Areas of Collaboration

The 34 English AONBs agree to:

1. Incorporate objectives into AONB Management Plans relating to the understanding, conservation, enhancement, management and public engagement and enjoyment of the historic environment of AONBs.
2. Secure better understanding, conservation, management and interpretation of the historic environment of AONBs.
3. Seek appropriate advice from relevant agencies and local authority historic environment professionals on proposals or work that has relevance to the historic environment.
4. Ensure Historic England is updated on who the key AONB contacts are on an annual basis and ensure that Historic England is kept engaged in the direction and delivery of AONBs work.
5. Undertake collaborative working and actively pursue opportunities to improve the condition of heritage@risk and other heritage assets. AONBs will work with partners to monitor the historic environment and assist in the provision of data as to condition and trends together with evidence of positive intervention undertaken or instigated by AONBs.

Historic England agrees to:

1. Assist in developing AONB Management Plan historic environment objectives and any associated strategies and programmes through:
 - the provision of strategic advice, and
 - the periodic provision and review of statutory heritage data specific to AONBs.
2. Ensure that AONBs are fully reflected in the Historic England programmes of research and characterisation in order to enhance the opportunities for Historic England and AONB partnerships and secure better understanding, conservation, management and interpretation of the historic environment of AONBs.
3. Ensure each AONB is updated on who their key Historic England contacts are and ensure that AONBs are kept engaged in the priorities and delivery of Historic England's work.

The NAAONB agrees to:

1. Provide key contact details for AONB units to Historic England on an annual basis through the collaborative platform – the National Landscapes Forum.
2. Encourage NAAONB members and others to incorporate objectives into AONB Management Plans relating to the understanding, conservation, and public engagement and enjoyment of the historic environment of AONBs.
3. Encourage NAAONB members and others to secure better understanding, conservation, management, and interpretation of the historic environment of AONBs.
4. Encourage NAAONB members and others to Seek appropriate advice from relevant agencies and local authority historic environment professionals on proposals or work that has relevance to the historic environment.
5. Encourage NAAONB members and others to Work to integrate their activities with those relevant activities of Historic England.

National Action Plan

It is the ambition of parties to produce a National Action Plan that can be reviewed by the partners to deliver shared objectives. The drafting of an Action Plan and sharing of best practice, case studies and research will be facilitated through the new digital platform hosted by NAAONB – the National Landscapes Forum.

It is the ambition of all parties to review of the Action Plan every five years to provide an opportunity to review the state of the historic environment of AONBs (including use of Heritage at Risk data) and direct reporting from AONBs on AONB Management Plan delivery to identify future priorities for action.

Together the parties will collaborate and encourage others to promote the sustainable management of the historic environment in AONBs by:

1. Showcasing exemplary projects and schemes.
2. Dissemination of appropriate guidance and codes of best practice.
3. Establishment of a historic environment working group of interested AONBs

Application of the statement

This statement applies to the 34 AONBs in England. It has effect from *[replace with revised date]* will be monitored annually and reviewed (along with the Action Plan) every 5 years by the parties. The Statement does not affect the statutory duties of the respective organisations.

Parties to the statement

Historic England

Historic England is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. They are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). They champion and protect England's historic places, providing expert advice to local planning authorities, developers, owners and communities to help ensure our historic environment is properly understood, enjoyed and cared for.

They do this by:

- Championing historic places
- Identifying and protecting our heritage
- Supporting change
- Understanding historic places and
- Providing expertise at a local level

Under Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 Historic England is required to have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of AONBs.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, abbreviated to AONB, are outstanding landscape whose distinctive character and natural beauty are so precious that it is safeguarded in the national interest.

There are 34 AONBs in England, created by the legislation of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949. Protection of AONBs was further enhanced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000 (CROW2000).

AONB landscapes range from rugged coastline, dunes, salt marshes, peatlands, woodlands and estuaries to water meadows, gentle downland and upland moors.

The primary purpose of AONB designation is to **conserve** and **enhance** the natural beauty of the area. Social and economic development which contributes to the natural beauty of the AONB is encouraged so that communities are strengthened, and the experiences for locals and visitors alike are improved.

AONBs are designated because of their individual qualities. These include their flora, fauna, historical and cultural associations as well as scenic views. They are living and working landscapes that have been, and continue to be, shaped by nature and human activity.

Arnside & Silverdale
Blackdown Hills
Cannock Chase
Chichester Harbour
Chilterns
Cornwall
Cotswolds

Cranborne Chase
Dedham Vale
Dorset
East Devon
Forest of Bowland
High Weald
Howardian Hills
Isle of Wight
Isles of Scilly
Kent Downs
Lincolnshire Wolds
Malvern Hills
Mendip Hills
Nidderdale
Norfolk Coast
North Devon
North Pennines
North Wessex Downs
Northumberland Coast
Quantock Hills
Shropshire Hills
Solway Coast
South Devon
Suffolk Coast and Heaths
Surrey Hills
Tamar Valley
Wye Valley

The National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

The National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NAAONB) was formed in 1998 as an independent organisation to act on behalf of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England and Wales

The NAAONB became a Charitable Company limited by guarantee on 14th October 2014 having previously operated as an incorporated controlled company limited by guarantee.

The NAAONB has established itself as the voice of the AONB Partnerships and Conservation Boards by working closely with them, and with Local Authorities, statutory agencies, central governments, and other interested bodies. By doing so it furthers the work of AONB Partnerships and Conservation Boards and helps them deliver their statutory responsibilities.

The NAAONB

- is an influential, trusted organisation that is accepted as the voice of the AONB network,

- encourages and harnesses the collective experience, enthusiasm and goodwill of the AONB network,
- brings the AONB network together as a cohesive and coherent entity,
- develops and supports collaboration across all designated landscapes,
- celebrates the unique identity of its individual members,
- collaborates with others to achieve shared objectives, and
- is the single point of contact with the AONB network for governments.