



Committee and Date Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership 14 February 2011
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Item 6

CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE PUBLIC FOREST ESTATE IN ENGLAND

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Summary

This paper provides members with a short summary of the current consultation and gives the opportunity for discussion of issues arising.

Recommendation

The Partnership is recommended to note the information provided, and offer comments which will inform an AONB Partnership response to the consultation.

Background

1. Defra and the Forestry Commission launched on 27 January a new consultation on the future of the public forest estate in England. This is attracting significant publicity. No work has yet been carried out on drafting a response from the AONB Partnership, but the discussion and views of members at the meeting will be valuable in formulating this in due course. The consultation closes on 21 April.

List of Background Papers

Consultation papers available at <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-8D3G4M>.

The results of a consultation carried out in 2009 on the public forest estate under the previous government may also inform members response to the current proposals. These are available at <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-7y-xk2h>.

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The information in this report is compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998.

Environmental Appraisal

The recommendation in this paper will contribute to the conservation of protected landscapes.

Risk Management Appraisal

Risk management has been appraised as part of the considerations of this report.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

There have been no previous consultations on this topic with Partnership members.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Executive summary from consultation document on the Future of the Public Forest Estate