



Committee and Date
Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership
20 November 2012

Item
7

AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

Responsible Officer Phil Holden, AONB Partnership Manager
e-mail: phil.holden@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01588 674088 Fax 01588 674099

Summary

This paper provides members with background material in support of discussion in a workshop session at the Partnership meeting.

Background

Following on from previous sessions by the Partnership, on evaluating the previous Management Plan and on the strategic priorities, policies and positions, it is proposed to hold a workshop focusing on new or particular current issues which the new Management Plan should take account of. Appendix 1 gives an outline of some of these new issues to stimulate thought and discussion. The views of members on additional things or detail on what the new AONB Management Plan should say on these issues will be welcomed.

Recommendation

The Partnership is recommended to note the information provided and offer comments.

List of Background Papers

Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2009-14

<http://www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk/looking-after/management-plan/>

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

The topics raised in this paper have been the subject of earlier consultations with Partnership members.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 New evidence & issues (outline draft)

Appendix 1

Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 New evidence & issues (outline draft)

PLANNING

Key documents: National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Shropshire Core Strategy, SAMDev

Issues for the new AONB Management Plan:

- Changing policy context, over-riding push for economic growth
- Changing role for AONB Partnership? More public voice on major applications?
- Guidance document on built development to support Management Plan?
- Need to secure strong policies on the AONB in SAMDev
- Renewable energy – solar arrays, wind turbines, woodfuel & biomass
- Poultry sheds
- Transport
- Making best use of planning gain

CONSERVATION & LAND MANAGEMENT

Key documents: Environment White Paper, Lawton review, River Clun Restoration Strategy & Draft Clun Catchment Plan

Issues for the new AONB Management Plan:

- Applying habitat network and ecosystem services approaches
- End of Clun and Shropshire Hills ESAs and uptake/ targeting of HLS and other schemes
- Continued structural change in farming – lessons from the Farming Project?
- Evaluation/ lessons from the Woodlands Project
- Mainstreaming low carbon activity
- Meeting Water Framework Directive targets

VISITORS, TOURISM & PROMOTION

Key documents: Shropshire Hills & Ludlow Sustainable Tourism Strategy

Issues for the new AONB Management Plan:

- Building the Destination Development Partnership (DDP) structure, European Charter.
- Relationship of AONB with towns around
- Continuing to raise profile and provision for walking
- Collaboration with other neighbouring areas, especially through Walking With Offa
- Public funding issues for basic services, facilities, etc
- Increasing business engagement, establishing mechanism for visitor payback

MANAGEMENT & DELIVERY

Pressure on public sector funding, and need to develop non exchequer sources of income
Developing structures, including Friends as charitable organisation
Area-based projects, more local detail

AREAS OF THE AONB

Stiperstones & Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme & Plan

Clun Catchment Partnership & Plan

Wrekin Forest Partnership and proposed new Wrekin Forest Plan

Clee Hill Partnership and project development

Wenlock Edge

Gaps in current area based working – Brown Clee, Stretton/A49 corridor