

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY MEETING – 22 MAY 2008

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND

Report by: Claire Gingell, Sustainable Development Fund Officer

Summary:

The Sustainable Development Fund has now completed two years of operation. Almost £400,000 has been allocated to over forty projects that benefit the environmental, economic and community wellbeing of the New Forest National Park.

This report summarises the progress made by the Sustainable Development Fund during its second year of operation, from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 and sets out its priorities for the forthcoming year.

Recommendations:

- 1. To note the progress made by the Fund and the projects it has supported during the last year in delivering sustainable development within the New Forest National Park.**
- 2. To approve the focus of the Sustainable Development Fund for the forthcoming year (2008-2009).**

Resources and Corporate Plan:

£180,000 per annum grant plus staff resource of one and a third officers.

Corporate Plan Objective SE1 – Promote sustainable development within the National Park as the basis for the social and economic well-being of local communities.

Papers:

NFNPA 251/08: Cover paper

NFNPA 251/08 Annex 1: Projects allocated funding from the Sustainable Development Fund between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008.

NFNPA 251/08 Annex 2: Update on projects allocated funding from the Sustainable Development Fund between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

NFNPA 251/08 Annex 3: Projects allocated funding from the Sustainable Development Fund small grants scheme between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008.

NFNPA 251/08 Annex 4: Delivering corporate plan and Defra objectives through the Sustainable Development Fund.

NFNPA 236/08: Proposed changes to the Sustainable Development Fund Panel

NFNPA 188/07: Annual Report of the Sustainable Development Fund

NFNPA 129/06: Sustainable Development Fund – Six Month Report

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Sustainable Development Fund (the Fund) has been in operation for the last two financial years (since April 2006) with a budget of £200,000 per annum.
- 1.2 To be eligible for the Fund, projects must demonstrate that they will encourage sustainable ways of living in and enjoying the New Forest National Park and further at least one of the National Park purposes.
- 1.3 Applications to the Fund are appraised by members of the Fund Panel, which makes recommendations to the Authority on which projects to support.

2 Applications

- 2.1 The Authority received 66 enquiries between April 2007 and March 2008 from individuals or organisations interested in submitting an application to the Fund.
- 2.2 During the last year the Panel appraised 15 applications to the Fund, all of which were approved. One of the projects has since had its offer of grant withdrawn due to significant alterations to the original project and one applicant has since decided not to take up the grant offer and pursue their project. This has resulted in 13 projects being implemented during the year, details of which can be found at **Annex 1**.
- 2.3 The amount of funding allocated to projects during the last year was £116,155. Combined with the £258,106 allocated in the previous year, this brings the total amount allocated since the start of the Fund to £374,261. This represents 94% of the overall Fund budget over the last two years. The remaining 6% unallocated arises mainly from projects that were approved but subsequently withdrawn and has been carried over to the Fund budget for the 2008 - 2009 financial year.

2.4 The Fund has supported projects from the private, public and voluntary sectors, with the Panel tending to fund private sector projects at a lower rate in recognition of any potential future financial gain for the applicant. The figures below show the breakdown of projects supported by sector during the 2007 – 2008 year and for the Fund as a whole.

Fig 1. Projects supported during 2007 – 2008 by sector

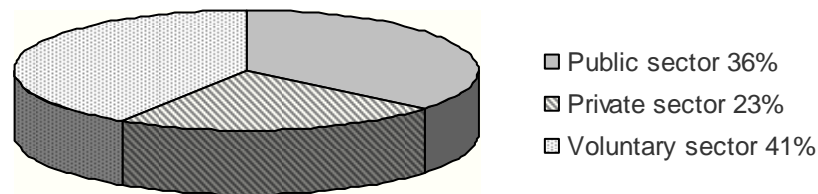
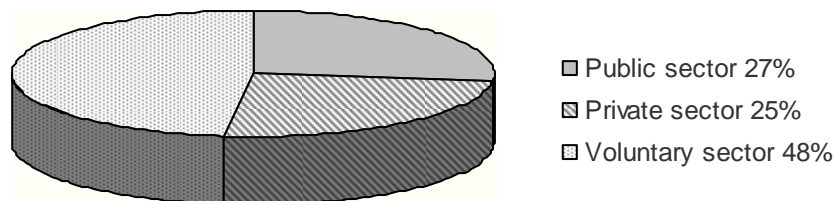


Fig 2. Projects supported by the Fund as a whole by sector



3 Match funding

3.1 The total amount of match funding levered in by the Fund through projects during the year 2007 – 2008 is £192,781 represented by £103,521 cash, and £89,260 provided by in-kind contributions such as volunteer time or donated materials (£ equivalent).

3.2 The total amount of match funding levered in by the Fund overall is £698,959 represented as £405,888 cash and £293,071 as in-kind contributions. This equates to around £1.87 of match funding for every £1 allocated from the Fund.

4 Monitoring and evaluation of projects

4.1 Monitoring and evaluation of projects is carried out through a system of regular progress reports with each project monitoring against project specific outcomes.

- 4.2 In addition, each project is required to submit an end of project report which includes monitoring against the following five standard indicators:
- the number of community groups and local voluntary organisations directly involved in the project
 - the number of young people (aged 13-24) involved in the project
 - the number of local businesses involved in the project
 - the number of project participants, visitors or users
 - the number of volunteers involved in the project.
- 4.3 Thirteen projects have so far been completed and have submitted end of project reports. These have shown that over 20,600 people, 55 local businesses and around 30 community groups have benefitted from the Fund.
- 4.4 An update on the projects supported by the Fund during the first year of operation is at **Annex 2**.
- 4.5 An annual report is submitted to Defra and shared with other National Park Authorities.

5 Small Grants Scheme

- 5.1 Following a decision by the Fund Panel a small grants scheme was established in April 2007 to encourage applications for lower levels of funding. £5,000 of the overall Fund budget was set aside to be allocated in grants of up to £500.
- 5.2 The scheme has proved a useful means of supporting small-scale projects with nine projects being allocated a small grant from the Fund. This totals a commitment of £3,396 (68% of the available budget). Details of the projects supported through this scheme are at **Annex 3**.

6 Publicity

- 6.1 When funding is approved, applicants to the Fund sign a legal agreement with the Authority that contains details of their publicity requirements. Applicants are required to publicise their projects in a manner appropriate to the project and it's audience and always to acknowledge the support of the Fund and the Authority when undertaking publicity.
- 6.2 The Fund and the projects supported by it have received a considerable amount of publicity in the local media. A 'scrap book' of press cuttings relating to the Fund is kept by the Fund Officer.

- 6.3 Information about the Fund can be found on the Authority's website along with details, updates and links to the projects supported.

7 Delivering against objectives

- 7.1 Projects supported by the Fund further both of the National Park purposes and also the socio-economic duty. In addition they address many of the Authority's corporate plan objectives. Details of how individual projects deliver against corporate plan objectives are at **Annex 4**.
- 7.2 Defra has set out a number of national priorities for the Fund including involving young people, combating social exclusion and encouraging links between urban groups and those resident in the National Park. Details of how individual projects deliver against Defra criteria are also at **Annex 4**.
- 7.3 As can be seen from the Annex, the range of projects supported by the Fund has led to a fairly even spread of benefit across both of the purposes and across the corporate plan objectives.

8 Benefits beyond the timescale of the Fund

- 8.1 As projects supported by the Fund approach the end of their funded timescale, emphasis is placed on providing project development assistance to enable them to continue where appropriate.
- 8.2 It is expected that the vast majority of projects supported by the Fund will continue to provide environmental, economic and community benefit to the New Forest beyond the initial period in which they are funded by the Authority.

Recommendation:

- 1. To note the progress made by the Fund and the projects it supports in delivering sustainable development within the New Forest National Park.**

9 Sustainable Development Fund Panel

- 9.1 Following a decision by the Authority in February 2008 (NFNPA 236/08) a Fund Panel has been established for the current financial year. Membership of the Panel, which is chaired by Cllr Barry Rickman, has been drawn from the New Forest community. Individuals have been selected through an application process to represent the following areas: conservation and wildlife; wider environmental and sustainability issues; local business and economy; sustainable tourism; agriculture and commoning; wider community interests, and young people. A list detailing the Panel membership will be tabled at the Authority meeting.

10 Fund priorities for 2008 to 2009

- 10.1 Funding for the Sustainable Development Fund has been approved by Defra for the year 2008 – 2009 and is indicative for the years 2009 – 2010 and 2010 – 2011. The budget available from which to allocate grants is £180,000 per annum.
- 10.2 The process of adapting to and mitigating for climate change is an essential, ongoing and long-term issue for the Authority. The Fund has so far proven to be an effective tool in supporting communities that wish to implement projects and initiatives that mitigate or adapt for climate change. In order to reflect this success and the range of projects coming forward it is suggested that during 2008 – 2009 the Fund prioritise projects that deliver against this issue.
- 10.3 Following the success of the Fund small grants scheme, £3,500 will be set aside each year to be allocated to projects through this scheme.

Recommendation:

- 2. To approve the focus of the Sustainable Development Fund for the forthcoming year (2008-2009).**

**Projects allocated funding from the Sustainable Development Fund
between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008**

1 New Forest Horse Drawn Omnibus

Total project costs:	£49,959
Amount allocated from the Fund:	£14,661.40
Fund contribution:	29%
Status:	Complete

Based in Ringwood, this project has established a service providing opportunities for car free tourism. Using vehicles (including an old open-top omnibus) pulled by a team of heavy horses the business operates a number of different routes serving a range of New Forest visitor attractions, pubs and hotels. The horse drawn service was used by over 400 people during its first season in 2007 and attracted considerable press interest. The service is planned to run again during 2008 with revised and additional routes into the Forest. The project operators are continually developing the project and making links with local businesses to increase its sustainability and economic viability.

2 New Forest Carbon Footprint Project

Total project costs:	£24,796.31
Amount allocated from the Fund:	£9,571.16
Fund contribution:	39%
Status:	Ongoing

This project aims to raise awareness of the predicted impact of climate change on the New Forest, reduce the community carbon footprint of Brockenhurst, provide an example of community action to reduce carbon emissions and to inspire and support any other communities within the New Forest wishing to reduce their environmental impact. The project has attracted a great deal of publicity and has so far held a wide variety of events including a green Christmas fair, artists workshop, school activities and a programme of talks related to climate change issues. The project has proved to be an inspiration to many and has sparked action in other New Forest communities, encouraging them to consider how they can reduce their negative environmental impacts.

3 Rags to Witches

Total project costs:	£36,630
Amount allocated from the Fund:	£3,100
Fund contribution:	8%
Status:	Complete

This project has created an engaging touring theatre performance, 'Rags to Witches', which incorporates important messages about sustainability and environmental care and respect. Set in the New Forest, the production takes inspiration from the culture and folklore of the area and explores our connection with the natural world. The creation of Rags to Witches involved working with a local primary school to explore Forest stories and talk to community elders. The production is currently touring to schools and other venues in and around the New Forest and will also be performed further afield as part of the company's repertoire.

4 Sustainable Schools

Total project costs: £15,400
Amount allocated from the Fund: £11,550
Fund contribution: 75%
Status: Ongoing

This project is a pilot study to trial a new method of helping schools become more sustainable. It is building on the sustainability practices and experiences of Minstead Study Centre to support schools in making positive changes.

5 Sustainable Toilets Feasibility Study

Total project costs: £3,780
Amount allocated from the Fund: £2,000
Fund contribution: 53%
Status: Ongoing

This project will undertake a feasibility study to investigate the installation of sustainable toilets at Bolderwood toilet block. It will explore a range of available technologies and provide guidance appropriate for a number of other sites within the New Forest.

6 Hatchett Green Enhancement Project

Total project costs: £2,198.75
Amount allocated from the Fund: £970
Fund contribution: 44%
Status: Ongoing

This is a project to visually enhance Hatchett Green Site of Special Scientific Interest by replacing unattractive signage, 'urban-style' bollards and other countryside furniture with items more suited to the Forest landscape.

7 Beaulieu Bus Stop and Viewpoint

Total project costs: £11,950
Amount allocated from the Fund: £8,000
Fund contribution: 67%
Status: Ongoing

This project will replace the existing village bus shelter with an improved one more in keeping with Beaulieu design. The bus shelter will be two-sided providing a viewpoint over and interpretation of the Mill Pond Site of Special Scientific Interest and Palace House.

8 Local Produce Events

Total project costs: £20,946.18
Amount allocated from the Fund: £9,583.38
Fund contribution: 46%
Status: Ongoing

This project is running a number of events to encourage the use of local New Forest produce. A 'meet the producer' event has been held between local chefs and food producers, with a further event planned between local craft producers and hoteliers. A wood and craft fair is also planned for the end of May and early June.

9 Ashurst and Colbury Bags for the Future

Total project costs: £4,665
Amount allocated from the Fund: £3,030
Fund contribution: 65%
Status: Ongoing

This project aims to significantly reduce the use of plastic bags within the parish of Ashurst and Colbury and to provide a catalyst for similar changes to take place elsewhere in the National Park. The project will provide every household in the parish with an organic cotton re-usable bag designed by pupils of Foxhills Junior School as part of their sustainability work. It will also work with retailers to identify alternatives to plastic bags and will hold a number of plastic bag 'amnesties'.

10 Widening the Audience for Aren't Birds Brilliant! In the New Forest

Total project costs: £6,970.50
Amount allocated from the Fund: £4,550.00
Fund contribution: 65%
Status: Ongoing

This project is building on the success of last years Aren't Bird's Brilliant! in the New Forest project by improving the interpretive experience to increase the percentage of Reptile Centre visitors who take part. An education program for schools is also being developed, delivering sessions about the birds and reptiles of the New Forest and the issues surrounding their management.

11 Fairweather's Learning Garden

Total project costs: £72,580
Amount allocated from the Fund: £21,774
Fund contribution: 30%
Status: Ongoing

A 'learning garden' is being developed in Beaulieu that will establish a link between the food children eat and where it comes from, by enabling local school children to grow and then eat their own vegetables and fruit as part of their school work. The project will also establish an after-school gardening club and offer a range of opportunities for local people to improve their gardening skills, learning from older members of the community who may have been previously employed in local horticulture.

12 Avon Tyrell Straw Bale Classroom

Total project costs: £41,640
Amount allocated from the Fund: £20,000
Fund contribution: 48%
Status: Ongoing

This project is to construct a straw bale 'eco classroom' complete with composting toilet to act as a base for environmental education activities at Avon Tyrell. The project will demonstrate the possibilities of sustainable building techniques and their use in modern society.

13 Priestlands Walled Garden Project

Total project costs: £19,773
Amount allocated from the Fund: £7,365
Fund contribution: 37%
Status: Ongoing

This project is to further develop a walled garden that is being created at Priestlands School, Lymington by expanding the reach of it to involve more students and tying it into the curriculum so that it becomes a mainstream learning resource. Through involvement in the project students are increasing their understanding and appreciation of their local environment and the New Forest.

Update on projects allocated funding from the Sustainable Development Fund between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007

1 Eco-Dormitory at Minstead Study Centre

Status: Complete

The eco-dormitory is now complete and the solar panel and sustainable insulation installed. The building was used by 180 children during the timescale of the Fund supported project and continues to be visited by school groups, who use the sustainability features of the building as a learning tool.

2 BioMap New Forest

Status: Complete

Visits were carried out to landowners interested in producing wood fuel and to organisations interested in installing wood fuelled heating systems. The project held a number of seminars to demonstrate wood fuel use and its potential in the New Forest. This area of work is being further progressed by the Authority in partnership with a range of stakeholders.

3 Ipley Manor District Heating System

Status: Complete

The district heating system is now up and running successfully and is being use as a case study and example for those interested in utilising wood fuel.

4 Forest Schools Training

Status: Complete

The two individuals have now successfully completed their Forest Schools training and have been running sessions enabling children to explore the New Forest. They have been working with the Honeypot Project (see paragraph 6) and other local education providers.

5 Breaking Down the Barriers

Status: Complete

This project has provided the opportunity for 253 young people to take part in practical conservation work at sites in and on the edge of the New Forest, many of who had no previous positive experience of the National Park.

6 Honeypot Forest Schools Programme

Status: Complete

166 children who are carers, mainly from disadvantaged backgrounds in the urban areas surrounding the National Park have taken part in Forest

Schools sessions as part of their stay at Honeypot. They have explored the wildlife and habitats of the New Forest in a fun way, usually for the first time. The sessions have been so successful and beneficial that Honeypot is planning to incorporate this type of outdoor learning in all its programs from now on.

7 Friends of Lepe Country Park

Status: Complete

This project has successfully established a 'Friends of Lepe Country Park' group with over 100 members. The group runs regular practical conservation sessions, litter picks and visitor surveys as well as a program of walks and talks. The constituted group is now pursuing lottery funding to develop its own projects at the Country Park.

8 Aren't Birds Brilliant! In the New Forest

Status: Complete

Focusing on birds of prey and ground nesting birds this project delivered key messages about New Forest wildlife and management through the use of live images and other interpretation. During 2007 this project (staffed by over 40 volunteers) was visited by 17,500 visitors and the webcam was viewed over 34,000 times. The project is taking place again, with improvements in 2008 (see annex 1 paragraph 10 for more details).

9 Sculpture Park Feasibility

Status: Complete

A feasibility study was undertaken to investigate the creation of a sculpture park designed to interpret and reflect the special qualities of the National Park. The findings and action plan are being considered as part of the development of a site within the National Park.

10 Hollies Cards and Calendars

Status: Complete

The project provided opportunities for seventeen people with mental health issues to visit and connect with the New Forest through the use of photography.

11 Archaeological Excavation Equipment

Status: Complete

The tools and survey equipment funded as part of this project have been used in a number of archaeological excavations within the New Forest.

12 New Forest Electric Vehicle Hire

Status: Grant offer withdrawn.

13 The Image Project

Status: This project is no longer supported by the Authority.

14 New Forest Study Centre Rebuild

Status: Ongoing

Construction of the treehouse style centre incorporating a wood fuel heating system and rainwater harvesting collection system is now underway.

15 Sustainable Energy Study

Status: Ongoing

A study has been undertaken to assess the current and expected heat demand of Lyndhurst Community Centre and outline the options available for the sustainable use of energy in the building. The measures outlined in the study are being taken forward by the centre as part of their planned extension and work continues in association with the Authority to secure the necessary funding to do this.

16 The Mill at Gordleton Waterwheel Renewal

Status: Ongoing

Much of the research and preparation work has now been completed although some additional ecological studies need to be completed this spring before construction work on the waterwheel can commence.

17 Countryside Education Project

Status: Ongoing

This project is well underway with training sessions for both farmers and teachers having taken place and more planned for the near future. Six school visits to farms in the New Forest have also taken place and links are being made with other Fund projects.

18 Waterside to Forest Community Connection Project

Status: Ongoing

This project is now well into its second year. The Waterside Community Ranger has made considerable progress in working with young people to tackle anti-social behaviour, particularly in Fawley Inclosure and Forest Front Nature Reserve. A wide variety of activities and sessions have been carried out in partnership with other community organisations working in the Waterside, for example; the basics of commoning session, nature discovery days, arson forum work, involvement with a Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service project for known fire setters. The Ranger has also been present at a number of social events to build relationships with young people in the community.

19 New Forest Barbastelle and Bechstein's Bat Research

Status: Ongoing

This project is now coming to an end. Over twenty volunteers have undergone training and using the specialist equipment funded, have undertaken hundreds of survey hours identifying locations within the New

Forest where Barbastelle and Bechstein's bats exist. The equipment purchased will continue to be used for bat research beyond the timescale of the Fund grant.

20 Recording Boldre Parish

Status: Ongoing

Three very successful exhibitions have been held showing photographs and other memorabilia belonging to the people of Boldre parish. The exhibitions, attended by around 1,500 people have generated a great deal of interest in local history and have unearthed a great many forgotten photographs. Work is underway to create a template designed to aid other communities who wish to explore their history in this way and a Boldre Historical Society has now been established.

21 New Forest Aspirations

Status: Ongoing

Three groups have now visited the New Forest to learn about timber production, as part of their wood skills course. A further three sessions are planned for the forthcoming year.

22 Discover the New Forest

Status: Ongoing

Work has been carried out in New Milton to identify the needs of five key groups with regard to accessing the New Forest by public transport. Focus groups have been set up, surveys conducted and trial visits to the Forest carried out with: families with young children/people on low incomes, young people, holiday makers, elderly residents and disabled people. A report is currently being compiled to detail the outcomes of this work and areas for improvement will be identified.

Projects allocated funding from the Sustainable Development Fund small grants scheme between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008

- 1 New Forest Wildlife Guides**
Amount allocated from the Fund: £351
Status: Complete
The project provided identification guides of New Forest wildlife for use by Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.
- 2 Honeybees to the People Project**
Amount allocated from the Fund: £363
Status: Ongoing
This project will provide a mobile nuke / demonstration hive for educational use at exhibitions, shows and talks.
- 3 Golden Hill Regeneration**
Amount allocated from the Fund: £455
Status: Complete
The project has enabled volunteers from the Hordle community to carry out practical conservation work at Golden Hill.
- 4 Purchase of Camcorder**
Amount allocated from the Fund: £499
Status: Complete
This project involved the purchase of a digital camcorder and associated software for use in recording the changing face of the National Park, for example; conservation work, livestock management and changing landscapes.
- 5 Greening the New Forest Workshop**
Amount allocated from the Fund: £478
Status: Complete
A one-day workshop was delivered in June 2007 to Forest Holidays campsite managers based in the New Forest in order to increase their awareness of local and global environmental issues and how they can reduce the impacts of their sites.
- 6 Sway Memorabilia Weekend**
Amount allocated from the Fund: £150
Status: Complete
A weekend exhibition of photographs and articles depicting the history of the village of Sway and the surrounding Forest was held in April 2008.

7 Bird Survey Project

Amount allocated from the Fund: £300

Status: Ongoing

Three hand held GPS systems will be purchased for use in bird surveys in the New Forest.

8 New Forest Outdoor Science Project

Amount allocated from the Fund: £500

Status: Ongoing

The Project will enable teachers from five schools to take an Open Country Award, providing them with the necessary skills to explore the New Forest with their students for ecological fieldwork.

9 Allotment Regeneration

Amount allocated from the Fund: £300

Status: Ongoing

The Project will clear the last section of the Lyndhurst allotment site in preparation for additional plots to be let out to parishioners.

Delivering corporate plan and Defra objectives through the Sustainable Development Fund

	New Forest National Park Authority Corporate Plan Objectives																Defra Objectives					
	C1	C2	C3	C5	C6	C7	C8	U1	U2	U3	U4	U5	U6	U7	SE1	SE2	SE3	A	B	C	D	E
New Forest Horse-drawn Omnibus							■		■						■		■					
New Forest Carbon Footprint Project			■				■			■					■						■	■
Rags to Witches					■					■	■				■			■		■		
Sustainable Schools							■				■				■			■			■	■
Sustainable Toilets			■	■											■						■	
Hatchett Green Enhancement		■	■							■					■							
Beaulieu Village Bus Stop and Viewpoint		■			■	■				■					■		■					
Local Produce Events	■		■		■					■					■		■					■
Ashurst & Colbury Bags for the Future			■	■			■								■			■			■	
Widening the Audience for Aren't Birds Brilliant!			■							■					■		■	■	■			
Fairweather's Learning Garden					■						■				■		■	■			■	■
	New Forest National Park Authority Corporate Plan Objectives																Defra Objectives					

	C1	C2	C3	C5	C6	C7	C8	U1	U2	U3	U4	U5	U6	U7	SE1	SE2	SE3	A	B	C	D	E
Avon Tyrrell Strawbale Classroom					■		■				■				■		■			■	■	■
Priestlands Walled Garden					■					■	■				■			■	■	■	■	
New Forest Wildlife Guides										■	■				■			■		■		
Honeybees to the People Project	■				■										■					■		
Golden Hill Regeneration			■												■							■
Purchase of Camcorder		■			■										■							
Greening the New Forest Workshop							■			■					■		■				■	
Sway Memorabilia Weekend					■					■					■							
Bird Survey Project			■												■							
New Forest Outdoor Science Project										■	■				■			■		■		
Allotment Regeneration					■										■		■					

Defra Sustainable Development Fund Objectives

- A Involve young people.
- B Promote social inclusion.
- C Promote understanding and support of the New Forest amongst our urban neighbours.
- D Demonstrate new ways or best practice in sustainable living.
- E Encourage people to work together.

New Forest National Park Authority Corporate Plan Objectives

- C1 Develop strategies and support schemes to help sustain agriculture and commuting activity that is in keeping with the New Forest National Park.
- C2 Conserve, restore or recreate landscapes, and their component parts, which reflect the special qualities of the New Forest National Park.
- C3 Conserve and enhance the nature conservation value of the New Forest National Park.
- C4 Now incorporated into C6.
- C5 Work with relevant authorities to minimise the impacts of air, noise, water and light pollution on the special qualities of the National Park.
- C6 Strengthen protection, understanding and management of the historic, archaeological and cultural aspects of the National Park's landscape.
- C7 Support high quality building and open space design in village centres, reflecting the distinctive character of the built environment.
- C8 Co-ordinate a review of the likely impacts of climate change on the whole of the New Forest National Park and develop long term strategies and any short-term actions to address those impacts.

- U1 Produce a recreation and visitor management strategy for the National Park and surrounding areas.
- U2 Review strategies and develop proposals to reduce the impact of traffic on the special environment of the National Park and promote alternatives to private car use, working jointly with relevant authorities.
- U3 Improve everyone's understanding and awareness of the New Forest National Park, in particular hard to reach groups.
- U4 Prepare and implement a co-ordinated programme for education about the National Park, which emphasises environmental and sustainability issues.
- U5 Develop a co-ordinated National Park ranger service, working with relevant partner organisations to build on existing services.
- U6 Enhance opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding, including developing an integrated network of accessible, safe and attractive footpath and cycle routes, and promote their use to local people and visitors.
- U7 Improve public access through implementation of the National Park Authority's responsibilities under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

- SE1 Promote sustainable development within the National Park as the basis for the social and economic well-being of local communities.
- SE2 Protect the existing affordable housing stock, and help increase the number of affordable houses for rent and shared ownership.
- SE3 Support existing and encourage new businesses and community services which enhance the New Forest environment while providing economic and community benefits.