

NFNPA 520/17

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY MEETING – 23 MARCH 2017

DRAFT 2017/18 WORK PROGRAMME

Report by: Alison Barnes, Chief Executive and David Stone, Manager of Corporate Services

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Officers have been working on producing a draft Work Programme for 2017/18 (attached as **Annex 1**). This is the last of the three annual work programmes supporting the Authority's Business Plan (2015-2018) which in turn sets out how the Authority will deliver its part of the Partnership Programme (2015-2020) for the New Forest.
- 1.2 Officers are also drawing up a timetable for drafting and taking forward the new Business Plan covering the period 2018-2021 with work on this document commencing in June and approval at the end of March 2018.
- 1.3 The Work Programme outlines the planned activities undertaken during the year. However these may be amended if circumstances change or opportunities arise which are beneficial in furthering our purposes and duty.
- 1.4 The Work Programme does not show the total activity of the Authority; items that are included in the Programme represent the key areas of delivery for the given year to be closely monitored by officers and members. Another important tool in monitoring other key parts of our work are the Authority's Key Performance Indicators.
- 1.5 Particular attention has been paid to the proposed actions in the draft 2017/18 Work Programme to ensure that targets and goals are clearly defined and focused. Where relevant, links to actions in the Partnership Plan are set out at the end of each action. New actions in the Work Programme or current actions which have been updated to accommodate circumstances in the new year are displayed in italic type.
- 1.6 As with previous work programmes, individual owners for each action have been named to ensure clear lines of accountability. Quarterly updates on progress will continue to be given to the Executive Board and Resources, Audit and Performance Committee based on a traffic light system of green – on track or completed; orange – off track but not significant; and red – significantly off track.

2. Medium Term Strategic Planning

- 2.1 As members are aware, in January 2016 the government confirmed a funding settlement for the National Park Authority up to 2019/20, this has provided an opportunity for the Authority to potentially refocus resources towards developing medium-term strategic plans for key areas of work and identify further opportunities for the Authority to play a leading role in bringing together partners to tackle key challenges that will affect the National Park.

2.2 A number of strategic themes emerged from the Members' Day on 7 July 2016 where it was agreed that officers would work up three to four key themes which needed further development to guide the medium priorities for the National Park Authority. Officers explored the following four themes and developed draft proposals for how we should proceed with these over the coming years – these proposals were considered and endorsed at the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee meeting on 21 November 2016 (these themes also reflect key strategic plans and policies that are in place or in preparation and which set the framework for our work in the next five years):

Evidence and Data
Commercial Activity and Income Generation
Partnerships and Engagement, and
Organisational Development.

2.3 Key actions supporting the priorities and outcomes of the above themes have been included in the new 2017/18 Work Programme whilst continuing to retain the current format of Protect, Enjoy, Prosper and Achieving Excellence. Progress on these actions will be monitored in the usual way through the quarterly reports to the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee. A further Members' Day is being planned shortly which will provide an opportunity to report progress on the four themes and to receive input from members on other areas for potential development in the future.

2.4 The Resources, Audit and Performance Committee considered the draft 2017/18 Work Programme at its meeting on 6 March and following discussion resolved to recommend it for approval at the Authority meeting on 23 March.

Recommendation, that the Authority approves the draft 2017/18 Work Programme.

Paper:

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NFNPA 520/17 Annex 1:

Cover paper

Draft 2017/18 Work Programme

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