

BUSINESS PLAN 2015-2018

Draft 2016-17 Work Programme

Protect

We will endeavour to ensure the qualities that make the National Park a unique and special place are conserved, enhanced and resilient.

Protect Priority 1: Enhancing the New Forest's landscapes and habitats

We will work with land managers, land owners and commoners to enhance the New Forest's landscapes and wildlife habitats, by:

- giving clear advice and guidance, using the Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Action Plan and tranquillity mapping
- developing and delivering projects which restore, enhance and maintain important wildlife sites
- offering support, advice and training
- working with partners to enhance the New Forest at a 'landscape scale'.

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
Deliver habitat restoration and river catchment enhancement through landscape scale partnerships across the National Park. These include: Our Past Our Future (OPOF), where the NPA is the lead body, the Verderers HLS Scheme, New Forest Catchment Partnership (co-host) and New Forest and Solent SPA Forums. LH4, LH7	Ian Barker, Lawrence Shaw, Rachael Gallagher			
Enhance important wildlife sites with active management delivered through 3 OPOF projects: Working Woodlands, Better Boundaries and Natures' Stepping Stones. The targets are 10 SINCs, 1200m of hedgerow and 40 ha of woodland under active management. LH1, LH3, LM5	Julie Melin-Stubbs			
<i>Identify and secure £60k in grants as match funding to deliver OPOF.</i>	Fiona Wynne			
Identify the areas of greatest need for back-up grazing for commoning and identify the mechanisms for securing grazing land. LM4	Julie Melin-Stubbs Paul Walton			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
Provide a programme of land management support, advice and training for 100 landowners, farmers and commoners. LM1, LM2	Julie Melin-Stubbs			
Work with the New Forest Ecademy (OPOF) and partners to identify the priorities for future surveys on species and habitats. LH14	Ian Barker			
Seek to reduce impacts from noise, visual disturbance and lighting on the tranquillity of the National Park. The priority is the National Grid Visual Impact Provision project at Hale Purlieu ST1, ST2, ST4	Sarah Kelly			
Finalise a climate change adaptation plan report and set up New Forest Climate Change group. CC4	Andy Brennan			
Coordinate action through the Verderers HLS, OPOF and Western Escarpment Project to reduce verge damage and encroachment. Outcomes will contribute to delivery of the New Forest Site Improvement Plan. LH6, LD7, LD8	Sarah Kelly			

Protect Priority 2: Ensuring new development is sympathetic and in keeping with its surroundings

We will seek the highest quality of development in the New Forest to minimise impacts on its special qualities and deliver enhancements by:

- providing clear National Park planning policies and a high quality planning service
- working with neighbouring authorities in the development of their planning policies and proposals that may affect the National Park
- increasing knowledge and evidence about changes to the special qualities of the National Park
- supporting delivery of green infrastructure plans within and outside the National Park to reduce pressure on the most sensitive areas.

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	
Lead partners in developing a strategic approach to the provision of green infrastructure and the management of natural capital within the National Park and a surrounding 25km "Green Halo". LM3, LH11	Paul Walton/David Illsley			
<i>Undertake a full review of our adopted Core Strategy (2010), taking into account the experiences since the Core Strategy was adopted and changes in national planning policy (introduced through the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Policy Guidance). To include public consultation on the draft Local Plan in Autumn 2016 and the preparation of the Submission draft Local Plan by Spring 2017.</i>	David Illsley			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	
<i>Run a series of themed planning workshops for Parish and Town councils, including building design and conservation, planning policy, trees, development control and enforcement.</i>	Steve Avery			
<i>Introduce charging for pre-application advice for certain types of development whilst maintaining an open and accessible planning service.</i>	Steve Avery			
<i>Co-ordinate the use and distribution of developer contributions to support habitat mitigation measures within the National Park.</i>	Steve Avery			
<i>Re-visit the merits of introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy for the National Park following enactment of the Housing and Planning Bill and further government planning reforms.</i>	Steve Avery			
<i>Co-ordinate the local design awards scheme to recognise and promote exemplary development in the National Park.</i>	David Illsley			
Support the Western Escarpment Conservation Area Action Plan by working with Parish Councils in delivering the actions identified in the Plan. LD8	Lisa Crouch			

Protect Priority 3: Conserving the historic environment and local way of life

We will support the conservation of features that contribute to the local distinctiveness of the New Forest, by:

- enabling local people to retain and promote traditional building skills and crafts
- developing initiatives that encourage recording and celebration of features of interest to local communities
- providing advice and resources for specific community-led projects that promote local distinctiveness and cultural heritage
- improving knowledge and skills amongst the public to further protect the archaeology of the National Park.

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
Develop period and thematic research strategies to address gaps in the knowledge of specific time periods of the Forest's archaeological record. LD2	Frank Green			
Establish a New Forest Heritage Forum as part of OPOF LD4	Frank Green/James Brown			
Curate the New Forest Remembers Exhibition and Heritage Portal, a WWI & WWII online archive. The WWI exhibition will be shown at five different venues, 12 new articles added to the Portal, 50,000 page views and 5 talks given. LD3	Gareth Owen			
Actively manage scheduled and unscheduled ancient monuments on the Crown Lands and Open Forest. Improve the condition of at least 10 sites on the Crown Lands. LD6	Lawrence Shaw			