

BUSINESS PLAN 2015-2018

Draft 2017-18 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)
Enhance important wildlife sites with active management delivered through 3 OPOF projects: Working Woodlands, Better Boundaries and Nature's Stepping Stones. The NPA leads on this work with projects delivered through the NFLAS. Targets are to have 10 SINCs, 1200m of hedgerow and 40ha of woodland under active management. LH1, LH3, LM5	Julie Melin-Stubbs			
Provide a programme of land management support, advice and training for 100 landowners, farmers and commoners. LM1, LM2	Julie Melin-Stubbs			
<p>With partners, facilitate the delivery of landscape scale enhancement, habitat restoration and river catchment enhancement through key schemes: the Verderers HLS Scheme, New Forest Catchment Partnership and New Forest and Solent SPA (Special Protection Area) Forums.</p> <p>Outcomes include: providing advice to the Forestry Commission on the delivery of the programme of wetland restoration and habitat management to enhance the SAC.</p> <p>Review opportunities to mitigate the impacts of new development on the SPA's</p> <p>Support measures to engage the public in activity aimed at reducing diffuse pollution and enhancing "flagship" ponds. LH4, LH6, LH7, LH8</p>	Ian Barker			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<p>Implement actions from the Landscape Action Plan. The priorities are to reduce impacts from noise, visual disturbance and lighting on the tranquillity of the National Park. Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with National Grid to progress proposals for undergrounding power lines at Hale Purlieu. Develop a “pipeline” of projects for Landscape Enhancement Initiative funding, aiming to submit 2 projects a year to the scheme. Maintain dialogue with the MoD and CAA to identify ways of reducing the impact of low flying across the National Park. <p>LH6, ST1, ST2, ST3, ST4</p>	Sarah Kelly			
<p>Engage specialist staff (NPA and key partners) on the impact of climate change, identifying risks and future actions to inform a climate change adaptation plan for the National Park. CC4</p>	Andy Brennan			
<p>Work with partners to secure the post-EU exit policies for land management that enable farmers and land managers to enhance the natural capital of the National Park.</p> <p>Work with local stakeholders to agree key outcomes and champion the needs of the National Park collectively to Defra, Ministers and National Parks England.</p>	Paul Walton			

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	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<p><i>Work with partners to develop a strategic approach to the management of natural capital and provision of ecosystem services within the National Park and surrounding "Green Halo".</i></p> <p><i>Establish and support the work of a cross-sectoral Green Halo Partnership which will;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• coordinate the delivery of a programme of projects and activity, supported by Partnership members, aimed at enhancing the Green Halo</i> <i>• seek additional resources to support the Green Halo work</i> <p><i>LM3, LH11</i></p>	Paul Walton			
<p><i>Progress the review of our adopted Core Strategy (2010), taking into account the representations received following publication of the first consultation draft last year. Include a further round of public consultation on a revised (Submission) draft Local Plan in Autumn 2017 and thereafter onward submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.</i></p>	David Illsley			

Action/Outcome	Owner	Progress during the Quarter	RAG status	Risks and mitigation (if amber or red)
<i>Review level of habitat contributions (currently £1,250 per new residential unit) required to mitigate the impacts of new development.</i>	Steve Avery			
Co-ordinate the use and distribution of developer contributions to support habitat mitigation measures within the National Park. LH10	Tony Spence			
Progress the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy for the National Park, taking into account the Government's anticipated response to the CIL Review in the Housing White Paper.	Steve Avery			
Co-ordinate the local design awards scheme to recognise and promote exemplary development in the National Park.	David Illsley			
Support the Western Escarpment Conservation Area Action Plan by working with Parish Councils and associated Agencies including the Forestry Commission, Hampshire County Council, the Verderers, Natural England and the National Trust 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)
<i>Through the OPOF and HLS schemes deliver a range to projects to encourage volunteer involvement in the local heritage, history and archaeology of the New Forest. Aim to involve 240 volunteers and hold two meetings of the Community Heritage Forum. LD1, LD2</i>	Frank Green / James Brown / Lawrence Shaw			
Deliver a programme of training in traditional building skills as part of OPOF, with 175 people participating in 8 courses (5 professional and 3 householder). EW8, LD5	Lisa Crouch			
<i>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</i>	Frank Green / Lawrence Shaw			