

AM 618/22

## NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

### AUTHORITY MEETING – 24 March 2022

#### NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK PARTNERSHIP PLAN – APPROVAL OF FINAL DRAFT

**Report by:** Steve Avery, Executive Director

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval of the final draft version of the new Partnership Plan 2022-2027, attached as Annex 1. It includes further amendments that have been suggested by partners, Members and staff since the previous draft version was presented to Members at the last Authority meeting in January.
- 1.2 Subject to Members' approval, the principal partner organisations<sup>1</sup> will then be formally invited to approve the Plan within their own organisations. It is expected that this will happen over the next couple of months following which the final version will be 'adopted' and published in June.

#### 2. The final draft of the Partnership Plan

- 2.1 Further minor amendments to the draft Plan have been made since the January meeting. These include incorporating additional comments from the Friends of the Forest and the RSPB as well as updated references to the Government Response to the Landscapes Review. A number of actions have been updated and refined too.
- 2.2 In the meantime, the proposals for the new partnership group will be progressed over the coming months and it is hoped that the new arrangements for oversight and activation of the new Plan will be finalised by the time of the next Authority meeting in July. We are also encouraging all partner organisations to reflect the five Partnership Plan themes in their own business / corporate plans.

#### **Recommendation:**

**To (i) approve the final version of the Partnership Plan and the action plan, attached as Annex 1 and 2, and (ii) delegate authority to the Executive Director (Strategy & Planning) to make any final minor amendments in consultation with the Chair prior to the Plan being finalised.**

**Papers:** AM 611/22 and AM 609-21

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<sup>1</sup> Hampshire County Council, Wiltshire Council, New Forest District Council, Test Valley Borough Council, the Verderers, Forestry England / Forestry Commission, Natural England, Environment Agency.

**Contact:** Steve Avery

**Equality Impact Assessment:** There are no equality or diversity implications arising directly from this report.