

A PARTNERSHIP PLAN FOR THE NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Partnership Plan is designed as an update of the 2010 National Park Management Plan and focuses primarily on a series of priority actions for the Park from 2015 to 2020. The final draft plan can be viewed by following this link:
[NFNPA 482 15 Annex 1 Management Plan](#)
- 1.2 Unlike the 2010 Plan, this update has been produced as a joint plan by a partnership group comprising many of the statutory bodies in the Forest, including New Forest District Council. It is therefore not just a plan for the Park Authority, and as such marks a significant step forward in achieving ownership and commitment from key local and regional organisations.
- 1.3 A number of non-statutory organisations are also happy to lead on specific actions, and a total of 27 organisations are now currently involved in delivering the Plan.
- 1.4 The partnership group was involved in guiding the overall structure and text of the draft, and the approach to consultation, through a series of meetings and discussion sessions over the last two years.

2. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 2.1 A 'Call for Views' consultation took place between 20 October and 19 December 2014. There were 79 responses to the consultation which generally supported the approach of the document and its emphasis on practical projects.
- 2.2 The main issue arising related to the text concerning large-scale cycle events. Many respondents wished to see a more positive approach to cycling in general, a broader look at large-scale recreational events and more emphasis on sustainable transport. These, and other suggestions for improving the Plan, led to a number of changes being incorporated into a revised draft.
- 2.3 Consultation on the revised draft took place from 11 May to 22 June 2015. More than 300 organisations and individuals were notified, including all those who responded to the initial draft. Of these, only 34 organisations and individuals wished to make comments on the Plan.
- 2.4 No particular issue dominated the responses and, unusually, a considerable number of the comments specifically supported the Plan or particular sections or actions within it. Overall those responding felt it was an improvement on the first draft.
- 2.5 A list of the organisations that have responded to the two consultations is shown in Appendix 1.

3. NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 This is the final draft as presented to the National Park Authority Meeting on 16 July. There were no substantive changes made.
- 3.2 New Forest District Council is being asked to endorse the document formally, along with the other statutory bodies on the Partnership Group, including Hampshire County Council, Test Valley Council, Wiltshire Council and the Verderers.
- 3.3 The final design work for publication will show that the Plan has been jointly produced. It will be officially launched later this year.

4. PORTFOLIO COMMENTS

- 4.1 I welcome the developing partnership approach adopted in this Plan.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That Cabinet recommend to the Council that the Partnership Plan for the New Forest National Park be endorsed.

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Background Papers:

The Partnership Plan for
the New Forest National Park
Authority.