

## **FOREST OF BOWLAND AONB JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Review of the AONB Management Plan**

#### **Issue for consideration**

This report provides an update on the progress of the review of the AONB Management Plan and outlines the next steps in the process.

#### **Review Progress**

1. Letters received confirming agreement from all partner local authorities for the AONB Partnership to carry out the review.
2. Statutory notice of the AONB Partnership's intention to carry out the review was sent to Natural England
3. The Review Working Group has met three times (January, June and September 2018) to help guide and advise the AONB Principal Officer on the review process.
4. An online survey was carried out in April and May 2018. Almost 300 responses were received from the individuals and organisations. A summary report on these has been produced and published on the AONB website.
5. A Scoping Report has been prepared for a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Management Plan and has been sent to the statutory agencies for comment (Natural England, Environment Agency, Historic England)
6. A Consultation Draft is nearing completion (see Appendix)

#### **Next steps**

- Complete draft revised Management Plan, Environmental Report and Habitat Regulations Assessment for the Plan by late November 2018
- Formal consultation on draft revised Management Plan launched, 8 weeks from late November 2018 to mid-January 2019
- Consultation on the Environmental Report (SEA) to run in parallel with Plan consultation
- 'Open Office' week to be held in Dunsop Bridge and Clitheroe offices during the consultation period (dates to be confirmed) for members of the public to discuss the plan with AONB staff
- Final revised Management Plan tabled for special Joint Advisory Committee meeting in late February 2019 (date to be confirmed)
- Final revised Management Plan forwarded to partner local authorities for approval/adoption by end March 2019

#### **Decision to be taken**

The committee is asked to:

- i. note the report and offer comments
- ii. approve the AONB Principal Officer to complete the consultation draft based on the version presented to the committee and commence formal consultation in late November 2018