

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

### **AONB Partnership Budget Update**

(Appendix A refers)

This brief report presents the updated AONB Partnership budget for 2021/2022 (Appendix A, column 3), which takes account of the AONB grant funding settlement communicated by Defra in early April 2021.

The Defra AONB funding settlement for 2021/22 is £225,997, which represents a 'flat cash rollover' of the budget settlement for 2020/21. It should be noted, this does not include an inflationary increase that has been the case over the previous three-year settlement.

Finally, it is worth highlighting that this updated budget will allow for an annual 'Projects' programme to the value of £54,784 to help deliver the AONB Management Plan. Wherever possible, the AONB Unit will seek to apply this 'Projects' funding as 'match' to attract and secure additional external funding (e.g. National Lottery Heritage Fund or Lancashire Environmental Fund).

### **Decision Required**

The Committee is requested to:

Note the 2021/22 revised estimates and offer comments.