



QUANTOCK HILLS JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 23 July 2025

St Audries Village Hall, West Quantoxhead, TA4 4DL – 2pm

To: The members of the Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee

For further information about the meeting, please contact the Quantock Hills Communication and Support Officer Amanda Sampson on email quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting is given on page 2.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

| Agenda: | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. | Apologies for absence. |
| 2. | Declarations of interest - Members of the JAC to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter being considered at this meeting (see Sc 5 page 2). |
| 3. | Accuracy of the previous minutes (copy appended) and to consider any matters arising. |
| 4. | Public question time - The Chair will allow members of the public to ask questions or make statements about any matter on the agenda for this meeting or present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. |
| 5. | Presentation - Two Moors Pine Marten Project (Tracey Hamston, Project Lead). |
| 6. | Paper A - Partnership Update (Iain Porter). |
| 7. | Paper B - Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (Bill Jenman). |
| 8. | Paper C - National Landscape Finance Report (Iain Porter). |
| 9. | Workshop - Management Plan Review (Iain Porter). |
| 10. | AOB. |
| 11. | Future JAC meeting dates (all start at 2.00pm prompt): Wednesday 22 nd October 2025 Wednesday 21 st January 2026 Wednesday 22 nd April 2026 Wednesday 22 nd July 2026 |
| | Note: Further information about any of the reports for this meeting may be obtained from the report authors based at the Quantock Hills National Landscape Office, Fyne Court, Broomfield, Bridgwater, TA5 2EQ. Tel: 01823 451884 or Email: quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk |

| Meeting Guidance Notes: | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. | <p>Inspection of Papers</p> <p>Any person wishing to inspect Minutes, reports, or the background papers for any item on the agenda should contact the Quantock Hills Communication and Support Officer Amanda Sampson at quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk</p> |
| 2. | <p>Notes of the Meeting</p> <p>Details of the issues discussed, and decisions taken at the meeting will be set out in the Minutes, which the Committee will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting. In the meantime, details of the decisions taken can be obtained from the Quantock Hills Communication and Support Officer Amanda Sampson at quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk</p> |
| 3. | <p>Public Question Time</p> <p>At the Chairperson's invitation you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments about any matter on the Committee's agenda. You may also present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 20 minutes in total.</p> <p>A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been signed. If you wish to speak, please tell Amanda Sampson, the committee administrator, before the meeting.</p> <p>You must direct your questions and comments through the Chairperson. You may not take direct part in the debate.</p> <p>The Chairperson will decide when public participation is to finish. If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chairperson may adjourn the meeting to allow views to be expressed more freely. If an item on the agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.</p> <p>An issue will not be deferred just because you cannot be present for the meeting.</p> <p>Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted, normally to two minutes only.</p> |
| 4. | <p>Substitutions</p> <p>Committee members can appoint substitutes if they are unable to attend the meeting.</p> |
| 5. | <p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>It is a member of the JACs responsibility to declare a personal or prejudicial interest at all meetings where matters being discussed or to be discussed affect their interests. Full guidance can be found in appendix 3 of the JAC Constitution.</p> |



**Quantock
Hills
National
Landscape**

QUANTOCK HILLS JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (JAC)

Minutes of a meeting of the Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee held on:

**Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 2.00pm
Crowcombe Village Hall**

Present:

Members:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Hugh Warmington (HW) | JAC Chair/CPRE |
| Alan Bradford (AB) | JAC Vice Chair/Somerset Council |
| Fran Smith (FS) | Somerset Council |
| Mike Caswell (MC) | Somerset Council |
| Laura Daniells (LD) | Natural England |
| Bob Croft (BC) | South West Heritage Trust |
| Tim Whittingham (TW) | Friends of the Quantocks |
| Alicia Aras (AA) | Somerset Local Access Forum |
| Julian Taylor (JT) | Parish Representative - North Petherton |
| Mark Philipson (MP) | Parish Representative - West Quantoxhead Parish Council |

Officers:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Iain Porter (IP) | Quantock Hills National Landscape Manager |
| Amanda Sampson (AS) | QH Communication & Support Officer |
| Alex Meletiou (AM) | QH Landscape Planning Officer |
| Helen Richardson (HR) | QH Landscape Projects Officer |
| Owen Jones (OJ) | QH Partnership Ranger |

Also present:

David Stripp (DS) Kingston St Mary Parish Council, Dixie Darch (DD) member of the public, Joshua Schwieso (JS) Spaxton Parish Council.

1. Apologies:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Tommie Muncie | National Trust |
| John Ebsary | Forestry England |
| Deborah Prestwich | Quantock Commoners Association |
| Alison Kent | BHS West Somerset & Exmoor Bridleways & Access Officer |
| Bill Revans | Somerset Council |

2. Declarations of Interest

HW declared himself as a Quantock Hills landowner, a member of CLA (Country Land & Business Association), Friends of the Quantocks, Falcon and Rural Housing, Somerset Local Access Forum and the Quantock Deer Management & Conservation Group.
No other declarations were given.

3. Accuracy and matters arising from the previous minutes (22nd January 2025)

The minutes of Wednesday 22nd January 2025 were signed off as a true representation of the meeting.

4. Public Question Time

DD ask to be able to ask a question later in the meeting for Paper B. HW agreed.

5. Election of the JAC Chair

AB asked for any nominations for the position of JAC Chair, MC nominated Hugh Warmington, MP seconded. No other nominations. Nomination approved unanimously. AB thanked HW for remaining in place.

HW asked for paper E to be reported on first in an alteration to the proposed agenda.

6. Paper E - Planning Report (Alex Meletiou)

AM raised the issue of concern with how Somerset Council were discharging their duties with regard to planning matters within the Quantock Hills National Landscape including permitted development and development management.

MC – re. Local Plan, the consultation should say there are no permitted development rights within a protected landscape. There is no statutory responsibility to carry out effective enforcement within the Somerset area.

FS - feels a meeting should be arranged with the planning department to discuss this and is not against the idea of the JAC making a complaint if needed.

IP - we need more detail provided on the decision making process when it comes to developments within the Quantock Hills National Landscape. IP has contacted the planning team on numerous occasions over the last 18 months with no response. IP feels that contact at senior officer level is not eliciting a response and requested that Member or more senior officer contact to the planning team. FS agreed to do this if required.

MC - a Section 1 complaint could be raised to the correct Monitoring Officer.

IP – JAC agree that most appropriate response is a letter of concern is sent from the JAC and that if this does not receive a satisfactory response then consider submitting a complaint.

HW - happy to sign a letter to the head of planning on behalf of the JAC.

Paper E Recommendation(s):

1) The JAC noted the report

7. Paper A - Land Management & Engagement (Owen Jones)

OJ gave a short presentation on the 2024 Summer Heathland Bird Survey.

FS - is there any funding available for farmers to be able to apply for to support enhancements for heathland birds. Are there any projects through Hinkley Point? IP – Funding is available through the various agri-environment schemes. Locally we have FiPL and the Landscape Improvement Scheme which can deliver capital works for nature recovery.

Paper A Recommendation(s):

- 1) The JAC noted the report.**

8. Paper B - Protected Landscape Targets & Outcome Framework (Iain Porter)

DD - are DEFRA taking into account the amount of work that is already being done. IP - lots of small measures are being taken into account as well as the work happening through the various funded schemes e.g. SFI or Countryside Stewardship, with greater understanding of the criteria by which 'wildlife rich' is being defined.

DS - does Ash dieback help with this. IP - we would be looking at woodland creation under the PLTOF, the Ash dieback just focusses our mind on woodland resilience.

LD - from Natural Engla gave an overview of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which are monitored and assessed by Natural England including the changes to assessment methodology.

There was a discussion about the NE surveys and data and the Deer Management Group, and the processes being put in place for deer management.

BC - asked if the maps used in the presentation are available. IP - confirmed the maps are available through the QHNL. There were no further comments or questions.

Paper B Recommendation(s):

- 1) The JAC noted the report.**
- 2) The JAC agreed the targets as recommended in the report for the inclusion in the reviewed Quantock Hills National Landscape Management Plan.**

9. Paper C - Farming in Protected Landscapes (Helen Richardson)

HR gave a short update on Paper C and asked for any further questions. There were no further comments or questions.

Paper C Recommendation(s):

- 1) The JAC noted the report**

10. Paper D - Partnership Update (Iain Porter)

HW- With the updated Terms of Reference approved proposed Dixie Darch to be co-opted as a member of the JAC. Approved unanimously.

There were no further comments or questions.

Paper D Recommendation(s):

- 1) The JAC noted the report**
- 2) The JAC approved the updated Terms of Reference.**

11. Paper F - National Landscape Finance Report (Iain Porter)

There was discussion about funding including concern over long-term funding arrangement. There were no further comments or questions.

Paper F Recommendation(s):

- 1) The JAC Noted the report.**

12. AOB

No other business.

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 23rd July 2025 at 2.00pm (West Quantoxhead Village Hall/St Audries).

Meeting was closed at 4.05pm.

| | | |
|---------|----------------------|--------------------|
| To | Quantock Hills JAC | PAPER A |
| Subject | Partnership Update | |
| Author | Iain Porter, Manager | |
| Date | 23/07/2025 | |

1. Staffing

- a. Land Management Skills Project Officer. After a significant period of time we have now recruited to this post. I would like to welcome Lucy Stockton to the team who will be delivering this position on a 2-year contract. The post will provide rural skills training to young people (16-24) and long-term unemployed.
- b. Vacant posts. With Somerset Council's restructure the Team had to identify posts that it wished to remain open, i.e. that the team would be looking to recruit to when resources allowed. The current vacant posts are:
 - i. Development Officer.
 - ii. Community Engagement Ranger.
- c. Team Structure. As reported in April the team will need to look at its current structure to ensure that financially it is sustainable in the longer term and will deliver the priorities of the Partnership and Government. This has been flagged with Somerset Council's HR team though we are waiting for the outcome of the Defra business planning process which should indicate funding levels for the next three years (see section 5).

2. National Landscape Association

- a. The annual NLA conference occurred 8 – 10 July. Iain, Owen, Bill and Jon attended from the team, with Jon presenting on the work of the QLPS as well as providing exhibition material for Nature Calling. This is a good opportunity to present the great work being done to a national stage and was picked up by the CEO and a number of presenters. The theme for this year's conference was 'Fit for the Future' posing challenges about the ability of National Landscapes to deliver for 30by30 and increase inclusivity and engagement.
- b. Recently the NLA undertook a study to understand the resource requirement for achieving 30by30 in Protected Landscapes. This has followed on from the Protected Landscapes Partnership's briefing on 30by30 potential in Protected Landscapes. The briefing - [National Landscapes - What are the costs for Protected Landscapes to protect 30% \(or more\) of land for nature by 2030?](#) - shows the scale of resources, not just financial, required to deliver 30by30 in protected landscapes and importantly identifies significant discrepancies in financial requirements modelled by Government and by projected delivery costs. It also raises concerns that in the short to medium term private finance is unlikely to be available to fund this work and that granting bodies, including the Government will need to allocate funding. While a desktop study at a national level the report does allow us to realise the challenges of responding to the PLTOF and managing expectations of partners.

3. Consultations

- a. Heather and grass burning. Responses were due by 25th May. The consultation was concerned with the operation aspects of heather and grass burning and a response was submitted by the Team. The majority of proposed changes would have limited impact on the swaling programme on the Quantock Hills, but it did allow opportunity to raise a number of issues the current heather and grass burning code places upon the Team and Commoners.

4. Meeting with Somerset Council Planning service

- a. At the last meeting, the issues related to planning decisions, including through permitted development, was raised. This has been a long-term issue with a continued lack of meaningful engagement from Somerset Council planning team. With agreement from the JAC, Hugh Warmington wrote to Alison Blom-Cooper, Head of Planning. As a result of the concerns raised in the letter a meeting took place on 26 June, involving Hugh Warmington, the Quantock Hills, Mendip Hills and Blackdown Hills National Landscape Teams, Alison, Dawn deVries, Service Manager (Development Management), Nick Tait, Service Manager (Placemaking & Projects) and James Divall, Head of Climate & Natural Environment. The meeting covered the following topics:
- b. Lack of engagement with or from planning teams. Alison noted the concern over lack of engagement and explained the possible reasons for this including lack of staff, compounded by changes in team structures within Somerset Council and a need to tackle a significant backlog of planning cases. Going forward Alison believes the situation will improve but did point out that for the next few months the priorities are dealing with the backlog and the Local Plan review. I will contact Alison in 4 months to set up a meeting between planning staff and the National Landscape Teams with the aim that more regular meetings are set. Alison and Dawn also welcomed the proposal for the National Landscape Teams to run workshops on specific topics such as dark skies or landscape and settings. The planning officers from the three main National Landscapes will be planning the first workshop for mid 2026.
- c. Article 4 Direction. As the JAC will be aware the National Landscape Partnership has considered whether an Article 4 Direction would allow greater scrutiny of permitted development in respect of agricultural development such as barns. There have been a number in the last three years which have been significant in size and have a significant negative impact in terms of landscape character, where a minor change in siting would have reduced the impact. It was evident that Alison was not supportive of an Article 4 Direction with concerns about geographical area and likelihood of getting Secretary of State approval. Nick Tait suggested a better approach would be to engage with the Local Plan consultation to ensure evidence was lodged and to consider development of Agricultural Building Design Guidance which could be submitted as a Supplementary Planning Document. We are aware that other National Landscapes have taken this approach and will be looking to take this forward through the Management Plan review process.
- d. Enforcement. Alison acknowledged the lack of enforcement, which was due to the loss of enforcement officers when the move to unitary occurred – through redundancies and retirement. A number of Enforcement Officers have now been recruited with a further two to be recruited soon. Dawn requested details of issues relating to breaches of planning conditions to ensure the officers were aware of these.
- e. Discharging the new duty, to seek to further the purpose of conserving and enhancing National Landscapes. Alison confirmed that Somerset Council Planning department

was aware of the new duty and had cascaded the guidance to planning officers. While aware of some of the case law and Planning Inspector interpretations Alison would welcome examples and will cascade these to planning staff through the weekly updates. Alison would also be happy to cascade other relevant information e.g. Management Plan review consultation, as appropriate.

- f. While the meeting was largely positive, with a desire of all parties to increase engagement, the planning team was keen to stress the significant pressures that they continue to face and to manage our expectations. There is therefore an increased priority for the National Landscape Teams to be engaged in the Local Plan review and forward planning to ensure that policies protect and enhance these designated areas.

5. Defra / National Government updates.

- a. As part of the Governments Spending Review process Departments are now setting their budgets for the next period. In a meeting with other Lead Officers and Gabrielle Edwards, Deputy Director for Access, Landscape, Peat & Soils (this is the main link officer between National Landscapes and the Civil Service), we were informed that Defra hope to have completed their budget setting in early Autumn.
- b. With a slight reduction in budget and Ministers keen to protect the Agri-Environment schemes cuts were likely to fall in other work areas. Gabrielle was also very clear that the ask for a multi-year settlement was very unlikely. It was stressed that this does not allow National Landscape Teams to strategically plan or be able to react when funding opportunities do become available.
- c. The Government released the first Protected Landscape Targets & Outcomes Framework (PLTOF) progress report to cover the period 2023-25 on 14 July 2025 - [Protected Landscape Targets and Outcomes Framework progress report - GOV.UK](#) – While a useful first snapshot the report also highlights that further work is needed on the metrics and datasets for some of the targets. The Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership agreed the targets for the Quantock Hills in April 2025, which will be incorporated into the Management Plan when reviewed. They are currently available on the Quantock Hills National Landscape website.

Recommendation(s):

- 1. The JAC notes the report.**

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| To | Quantock Hills JAC | PAPER B |
| Subject | Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme | |
| Author(s) | Bill Jenman, QLPS Manager | |
| Date | 23/07/2025 | |

The Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme – a final report from the Scheme Manager

This will be my final report as I leave at the end of July. To set the scene, here are some highlights of the QLPS:

- 5.75 km of hedge planted or restored.
- 140km of hedges surveyed.
- 3,100 woodland trees and shrubs planted.
- Nearly 2,500 young people taken to the Hills.
- Over 4,000 other beneficiaries and 600 volunteers (>4,000 vol days total).
- Well over 300 public events.
- 750 potential new archaeological sites located.
- >20 historic structure restored.
- 12 community Archaeological projects.
- Over 1,000 finds.
- We may have discovered a type of circular enclosure from the late Bronze Age that was previously unknown.
- And finally, as you know our inclusive events and engagement programme has been fabulously successful and recognised as an exemplar. We have definitely reached the parts other projects have struggled to reach!

And also I have to mention...

The team. I've been very lucky indeed with the team. The Community and Historic Heritage Officers remaining throughout has been invaluable, Jem and Paddon as Wildlife Officers both brought their own personalities and interests to bear at the right times in the project lifecycle, and Vickie and Lisa are both whizzes at the Council's finance systems. Most importantly everyone mucked in, shared knowledge, helped each other and me out, and pooled ideas and enthusiasm. It's been a privilege working with them.

Support from the rest the National Landscape Team – most especially the Rangers and from Iain the QHNL Manager.

The Partnership Board – all steering groups like this have some people who contribute a lot and others who occasionally show up, but the Board as a whole has contributed important ideas, corrections, and occasionally difficult questions.

Some lessons

- The Lottery were very demanding at Application stage – did they really want an events programme for 4 years' time? But afterwards I realised that what they actually wanted us to do was to show that we'd thought it through, in terms of audiences, workload, evidence that our budgets weren't fingers in the air, etc. All that preparation wasn't wasted, even though we later changed many of the details of the programme almost entirely, the aims and objectives Iain set back in 2017 have remained sound.

- Speaking of which the Lottery have been very flexible and pragmatic once in delivery. Covid obviously had a massive impact just as we were starting, but they have remained supportive throughout. NLHF were truly partners, not just funders.
- Poets and Archaeologists – what is it about deadlines they don't understand?!

And on a personal note...

It has been an amazing seven years in a fabulous landscape. I've enjoyed this project immensely and I'm proud of what we have achieved together. Of course, not every project worked (please don't mention the Car Park...) and there have been the well-known issues with Somerset Council, but every big programme has these sorts of frustrations. As a Lottery advisor once said to me, if all your projects work you aren't being ambitious enough. I'm confident we'll left a good legacy behind us, and Jon will be staying on to ensure that happens certainly as far as inclusive engagement is concerned. But one way or another it's over to the National Landscape core team, and to you as the JAC, now.

Thank you for such a fabulous opportunity.

Recommendation(s):

1. **The JAC notes the report.**

| | | |
|---------|----------------------|--------------------|
| To | Quantock Hills JAC | PAPER C |
| Subject | Finance Report | |
| Author | Iain Porter, Manager | |
| Date | 23/07/2025 | |

1. 2024/25 Financial outrun.

- a. Overall the Teams budgets ended as expected. The overspend in Core was expected to a certain level with the overspend being allocated from the reserves budget. There was an increase in the overspend due to the error by fleet in ordering the replacement team vehicles meaning that we paid for one temporary 4x4 hire as well as the full years lease on the new vehicles which arrived at the end of March. Table C1 show the summary outrun for the Teams budgets.
- b. The Partnership may remember that last financial year (2023/24) Somerset Council's contribution was lower. This was due to not being able to identify where the budget from the district councils (in the previous two-tier system) had been allocated. The finance team at Somerset Council were able to trace the budget and have allocated it to the Reserves Account meaning that it is higher than anticipated.
- c. While the overall balance is higher than last year we expect some of this to be repaid to Defra as full expenditure of the Capital Access Grant did not occur – The Capital Access Grant was paid in advance. We are waiting for guidance as to whether this grant is paid back or deducted from Defra 2025/26 grant.
- d. Appendix C1 has further budget information include spend on the individual line items.

Table C1: Summary outrun budget 2024/25.

| <i>Opening Balance (brought forward 2023/24)</i> -101,700 | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Expenditure | Income | Balance |
| Core | 320,980 | -268,005 | 52,974 |
| Landscape Projects | 612,642 | -654,612 | -41,970 |
| Projects | 55,090 | -73,176 | -18,086 |
| QLPS | 615,473 | -614,789 | 684 |
| Land Management | 43,285 | -20,034 | 23,251 |
| Reserves Account | 110,218 | -221,279 | -111,061 |
| <i>Budget balance</i> -195,908 | | | |
| Debtor accruals (Defra FETF & CS) | | | -8,033 |
| Carry forward (LMSS) | | | 14,200 |
| Carry forward (CAG) | | | 9,000 |
| Carry forward (FiPL) | | | 22,331 |
| Carry forward (QLPS redundancy + pension strain) | | | 19,000 |
| Earmarked Reserves (50% of core team redundancy) | | | 21,500 |
| Balance | | | -117,910 |

2. 2025/26 budgets and Team Business Plan

- a. On 31 March Defra issued their intention to fund confirmation for the Quantock Hills National Landscape Team. This is an extension of the current contract (grant agreement) for a further year pending the development of a future funding agreement. The Contract Change Notice was confirmed in June for the Core (revenue), Farming in Protected Landscape Programme and the Capital Fund. Defra are currently seeking approval for the Access for All funding from Treasury and have

been made aware of the issue of ensuring spend if we are not given permission to proceed soon.

Table C2: Defra grant funding settlement (Quantock Hills National Landscape) 2025/26.

| Grant | Amount (£) | Notes |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Core (revenue) | £190,604 | Continuation of base amount from 2023/24 and does not include the 2024/25 revenue uplift. This is a real-term reduction due to increasing salary costs (NI increases) and inflation. |
| Farming in Protected Landscapes | £250,980 | As advised earlier in the year Defra have extended the full FiPL programme for a further year. This is a similar level to the 2024/25 grant not including the Historic Building Restoration Fund. The objectives for FiPL remain as Nature, Climate, People and Place. |
| Capital Fund (new) | £119,207 | A new one year project fund with eligible spend on delivery of 30by30 and innovation / income generation. Defra have yet to confirm the specific criteria but have confirmed it is a capital only pot. With limited scope for spend and time constraints there is a requirement to start delivery of these projects early in the financial year. |
| <i>Access for All</i> | <i>£60,292</i> | A one-year extension of the Access for All funding including a significant uplift (members may remember that funding was allocated in year one and three). As in previous years this is capital funding with Defra confirming the criteria as (a) enhancement / creation of accessible path (b) creation of accessible toilets and rest stops (c) installation of accessible gates and gaps (d) Provision of visits to the PL (e) Provision of new equipment to enhance volunteer experience (f) enhanced route wayfinding on accessible / easy access routes. |
| Total | £621,083 | |

Recommendation(s):

- 1. The JAC notes the report.**

Appendix C1: Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership 2024/25 budget outrun

Note – Expenditure is shown as positive figure and income is shown as negative figure

Table C3: Quantock Hills National Landscape Team – Core Budget 2024/25 outrun

| Expenditure type | £ | | Income | £ |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Salaries, NI, SA | 241,228 | | Defra core grant ^c | -168,376 |
| Training | 3,879 | | | |
| Travel & vehicle costs ^a | 36,676 | | Recharges (staff) | -62,800 |
| Rents, rates, elec, water | 16,446 | | Recharges (HPC) ^d | -10,455 |
| Stationary, post, phones, printing | 1,163 | | Somerset Council | -24,970 |
| Equipment, materials, PPE, uniform | 6,087 | | Cont - FotQ | -1,000 |
| Literature, publications, publicity | 3,272 | | Sales / income ^e | 0 |
| Meeting costs | 1,283 | | Other | -405 |
| Management Fee, Insurances | 10,311 | | | |
| Memberships (NLA / EP) ^b | 135 | | | |
| Research & Development | 500 | | | |
| Total | £320,980 | | Total | £268,005 |

Notes:

- Vehicles costs are higher due to requirement to short-term hire one 4x4 vehicle for the team due to Somerset Council fleet error in ordering new lease hire vehicles.
- National Landscape Association membership contributions not showing. This is being investigated.
- Defra core grant final payment has not been received. Defra aware of this and this should be received in new financial year.
- Recharges (HPC) are for contribution towards the Project Manager post, which came to the end of its fixed-term contract in June 2024.
- The National Landscape Team receives income from book sales and event ticketing. This is relatively small amounts and is not showing at the transfer from the imprest account into the main budgets has not occurred.

Table C4: Quantock Hills National Landscape Team - Landscape Projects Budget 2024/25 outrun

| Landscape Projects | Expenditure | Income | Balance |
|---|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Farming in Protected Landscapes Admin</i> | 21,935 | | |
| <i>Farming in Protected Landscapes Advice & Guidance</i> | 30,468 | | |
| <i>Farming in Protected Landscape Grants</i> | 562,482 | | |
| Farming in Protected Landscapes (total) ^f | 614,885 | -636,799 | -21,914 |
| <i>Greater Quantock Landscape Development Fund (HPC S106)</i> | 8,100 | -8,099 | 1 |
| <i>Landscape Improvement Scheme (HPC S106)^g</i> | 4,824 | -9714 | -4,890 |

Notes:

- Some expenditure from the FIPL budget went through in 2025/26. Eligible work undertaken in March by FiPL can be claimed / invoices in April and allocated to the previous financial year.
- Income in Landscape Improvement Scheme covers expenditure in 2024/25 and previous financial year (2023/24) which was not transferred across in March 2024.

Table C5: Quantock Hills National Landscape Team – Project Budget 2024/25 outrun

| Projects | Expenditure | Income | Balance |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Capital Access Grant | 22,481 | -27,854 | -5,372 |
| Monument Management Scheme | 4,146 | -4,800 | -654 |
| SHBBS | 14,600 | 0 | 14,600 |
| LMSS | 917 | -15,100 | -14,183 |
| Nature Recover | 935 | | 935 |
| Village Signs | 7,638 | | 7,638 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Branded materials | 4,373 | | 4,373 |
| Project grant (Defra) | 0 | -25,422 | -25,422 |
| Total | 55,090 | -73,176 | -18,086 |

Notes:

- h) Main underspend associated with delay in delivery of Land Management Skills Scheme which will require underspend to be carried forward into 2025/26 financial year.

Table C6: Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme – Budget 2024/25 outrun

| Expenditure | £ | | Income | £ |
|--------------------------|----------------|--|---------------|-----------------|
| Salary, NI, SA | 195,803 | | NLHF | -593,564 |
| Contractors | 347,959 | | FotQ | -20,000 |
| Equipment | 10,969 | | Event Income | -1,225 |
| Office Costs | 11,229 | | | |
| Partnership running cost | 10,055 | | | |
| Travel, transport | 6,968 | | | |
| Training | 1,265 | | | |
| Grants | 31,224 | | | |
| Total | 615,473 | | Total | -614,789 |

Notes:

- i) QLPS budgets align with National Lottery Heritage Fund financial reporting requirements and individual line items may not correspond depending upon the ledger code used when raising purchase orders.

Table C7: Quantock Hills National Landscape Team – Land Management Budget 2024/25 outrun

| Land Management | Expenditure | Income | Balance |
|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cothelstone Hill | 8,059 | -7,234 | 825 |
| New Stowey Farm ⁱ | 35,226 | -12,800 | 22,426 |
| Total | 43,285 | -20,034 | 23,251 |

Notes:

- j) Significant apparent overspend associated with New Stowey Farm due to significant capital works required to be able to undertake desired management. Income associated with New Stowey Farm (Sustainable Farming Initiative, FETF and HPC S106) due in 2025/26 financial year to cover capital work costs.