

Quantock Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



QUANTOCK HILLS JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 26th April 2022

2.15pm, Spaxton Village Hall
High Street, Spaxton, Bridgwater, TA5 1BS

To: The members of the Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee

For further information about the meeting, please contact the Quantock Hills AONB 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 - an opportunity for members of the JAC to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter being considered at this meeting.
3.	Accuracy of the previous minutes (copy appended) and to consider any matters arising.
4.	Public question time - The Chairman 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.	Paper A – Partnership activity report (Iain Porter)
6.	Paper B – JAC future governance and meeting format (Iain Porter)
7.	Paper C – AONB Management Plan review (Iain Porter)
8.	Paper D – Ranger Report (Andy Stevenson / Owen Jones)
9.	Paper E – Quantock Hills AONB Business Plan 2022/23 (Iain Porter)
10.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Future JAC meeting dates: (all start at 2.15pm)</p> <p>Tuesday 19th July 2022 (type / venue: tbc)</p>
	<p>Note: Further information about any of the reports for this meeting may be obtained from the report authors based at the Quantock Hills AONB Service, The Quantock Office, Fyne Court, Broomfield, Bridgwater, TA5 2EQ. Tel: 01823 451884 or Email: quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk</p>

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 Quantock Hills AONB Communication and Support Officer Amanda Sampson on email 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 Quantock Hills AONB Communication and Support Officer Amanda Sampson on 07976 695913 or email asampson@somerset.gov.uk</p>
3.	<p>Public Question Time</p> <p>At the Chairman'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 Chairman. You may not take direct part in the debate.</p> <p>The Chairman will decide when public participation is to finish. If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chairman 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. 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>

QUANTOCK HILLS JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (JAC)

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee on **Tuesday 25th January at 2.15pm**

The Chair noted that the meeting was being held virtually and was an advisory meeting and as a consultative meeting without any decisions to be made is not subject to the 1972 Local Government Act and therefore can take place virtually.

Present:

Members:

Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew – JAC Chair (ATB)	- Somerset West & Taunton Council
Mike Caswell – JAC Vice Chair (MC)	- Somerset County Council
Philip Comer (PC)	- Friends of Quantock
Alan Bradford (AB)	- Sedgemoor District Council
Mandy Chilcott (MAC)	- Somerset County Council
Hugh Davies (HD)	- Somerset County Council
Alicia Aras (AA)	- Somerset Local Access Forum
Hugh Warmington (HW)	- CLA

Officers:

Chris Edwards (CE)	- Quantock Hills AONB
Iain Porter (IP)	- Quantock Hills AONB

Also present:

Jon Doyle (JD) Somerset County Council, Julie Cooper (JC) Sedgemoor District Council, David Stripp (DS) Kingston St Mary Parish Council, Joshua Schweiso (JS), Michael King (MK), Philip Hackett (PH) and Steve Robertson (SR). Amanda Sampson (AS) Quantock Hills AONB, Bill Jenman (BJ) Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme

1. Apologies

Jo Chesworth (Natural England), John Andrews (Friends of Quantock), Martin Jones (West Bagborough PC), Charlotte Russell (Historic England), Dixie Darch (Somerset West & Taunton Council)

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 ATB declared himself to be a member of Quantock Eco, Friends of Quantock, Quantock Deer Management & Conservation Group and Quantock Stag Hounds, is a Quantock Hills Landowner and is the Vice Chair for the County CLA. No other declarations were given.

3. Accuracy and matters arising from the previous minutes (19th October 2021)

- 3.1 ATB commented as this meeting is an advisory only meeting (virtual) the previous minutes from Tuesday 19th October 2021 will need to be signed off at the next face to face meeting.
- 3.2 MAC added that the County Council have just passed that within meetings where a vote would usually be taken and decision adopted a 'minded to decision' be made where the officers can carry on and make decisions as a way of getting around not meeting face to face. Are the JAC able to adopt the minded to decision option or something similar? ATB feel that decision would need to be agreed at the next face to face meeting and asked this to be added as an agenda item for the next meeting.
- 3.3 AS to add 'minded to decision' as an agenda item for the next face to face meeting.

The minutes were agreed in principle.

4. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

5. Public Question Time

No public questions.

6. Paper A – Quantock Hills Team and Partnership Report (Chris Edwards)

- 6.1 CE gave an update on the team and partnership report. The QLPS team have now taken over the lease on the old QH office within Nether Stowey library so the AONB service now has 2 offices. Verity our Volunteer Coordinator left us at the end of December to take up a new position with Young Somerset which will strengthen our contact with them. The recruitment for a slightly revised version of the post will start soon. Recruitment for the post of AONB Manager has been successful and IP has been successful in applying for the post. Congratulations to IP.
- 6.2 Response to the Glover Review will be drafted by CE and IP based on comments by members and passed by the Chair and Vice Chair for decision by the response deadline.
- 6.3 Finally, CE is retiring at the end of March and this will be his last JAC meeting after having written over 130 JAC reports and it is a great strength for the AONB and JAC that IP will taking over the reins.
- 6.4 ATB thanked CE for everything he had done for the JAC for the past 33 years and 130 meetings and wished CE well in his retirement.

There were no questions or comments.

7. Paper B – Team Structure Assessment (Iain Porter)

- 7.1 ATB welcomed IP as the imminent new Quantock Hills AONB Manager on behalf of the JAC.
- 7.2 IP gave an update on the proposed team structure for the QH AONB team from April 2022. There are currently 6 positions which are funded through the core budget, 2

positions funded through the landscapes projects budget and 5 positions funded through the landscape partnership scheme budget. The proposal is to reduce the salary burden on the core budget. IP's current position as Development Officer will remain vacant when he becomes the AONB Manager and the current vacancy of Volunteer Coordinator will be amended and renamed to become the Community Engagement Ranger. The new position of Projects Manager is to ensure delivery of the ongoing projects over the next couple of years and will be on a 2-year fixed term post. The proposed team structure moving forward will be 5 positions funded from the core budget, 3 positions funded through the landscapes projects and the QLPS budget remaining the same. More information on the team structure is available in Paper B.

- 7.3 MAC welcomes the approach, what can be done to mitigate any weaknesses. IP the initial concern with this approach is the Management Plan Review which has to begin this year and with response from government we expect changes so with some of the savings in the core budget we will be able to bring in some external consultancies to help with this.
- 7.4 DS, the potential reduction to project development, in previous meetings it was a concern that time was spent writing funding bids. Is this something that can be passed to volunteers to help out? IP - we can take this forward and see if any volunteers are happy to help with funding bids.

There were no further questions.

8. Paper C – Landscape Partnership Scheme Report (Bill Jenman)

- 8.1 BJ gave a presentation on the events and engagement activities undertaken during 2021. There are 5 members of the QLPS team and they have really come together very well. 23 projects at the moment and the team are starting to get very busy as they look to catch up after missing much of year 1 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 8.2 BJ – the QLPS has caught up very well on the engagement and people based activities but there is concern about the land management and practical project elements. This will be the area of priority for the coming period.
- 8.3 PC – Keen to see that the ditch / banking is going ahead on Quantock Common (Friends of Quantock land). This is being undertaken by Friends of Quantock, facilitated by the QLPS. The aim is to get the works done before the Easter holidays.

There were no further questions.

9. Paper D – Planning Report (Chris Edwards)

- 9.1 CE gave an update on behalf of Alex Meletiou the Quantock Hills AONB Planning Officer in his absence. A current application of note is a solar 'farm' application in the vale of West Somerset, which the AONB will be raising some concerns about.
- 9.2 AB, are there any known plans about the development of the plot at the old Pines Café yet. CE – we are not aware of any plans or applications coming forward.
- 9.3 AB, makes an ideal for a centre of some kind and would hope that when plans do come forward, if they are for change of use, the AONB takes the view of the public benefit of this location.

There were no further questions.

10. **Paper E – Government Response to the Landscapes Review**

(Iain Porter and Chris Edwards)

- 10.1 CE gave an update on the government response to the landscape review as per paper E. After 3 years the government have given their response. Some AONB lead officers were invited to a DEFRA presentation on what to expect when the response was published. See paper E for more detailed information.
- 10.2 Due to the timescales for consultation CE / IP will draft a response, taking into account comments from today's meeting. This will be sent to the JAC for further comment and a meeting held to discuss a final draft. The final consultation response will be return, signed off by the JAC Chair and Vice-Chair.
- 10.3 AB, nothing will replace the single farm payment, this country may be short of food in years to come if not careful. Smaller farmers will look at these schemes and take their land out of food production. Food security needs to be looked at instead of schemes. BJ, the point of food security is valid, but the discussion needs to look at all land use not just that of nature recovery e.g. golf courses, 'energy crops'.
- 10.4 ATB, National Parks do have an obligation to support local communities but AONB don't, with just the purpose to conserve and enhance landscape. Increased public access will reduce nature recovery, you cannot have both. CE the first introduction of Rangers was to try and find the balance between the 2 and where the pointer should be placed.
- 10.5 MAC, there will always be friction between people visiting and an access to all to how you protect and look after the hills. The challenge is how this fits with housing and having a vibrant community for our villages and schools and the communities. CE the governments aims are to increase priorities of both of these things and to increase the connectivity of nature and biodiversity. MAC National Parks have their own planning authority and AONB's don't, there is a challenge for affordability for key workers and others.
- 10.6 JC, the CRoW Act Guidance, which makes it a duty to protect **and enhance**. The need of enhancement has to be highlighted. You might be able to protect by planning restrictions but you cannot enhance without some active management. The enhancing element needs to be more prominent. IP raised the point that there are various interpretations as to what 'due regard' means.
- 10.7 JD, a response mid-March would be best given the local elections happening in early April and the period of heightened sensitivity. Needs to consider who the response is coming from. IP, we can work the timescales back from start of period of heightened sensitivity to ensure response is submitted within time.

There were no further questions.

11. **Paper F – Business Plan 2022-23 Report** (Iain Porter)

- 11.1 IP gave an update on the business plan which has been sent to members. Grant application to Defra is due end of January. Defra have not yet informed AONBs of their allocations for 2022/23. Priority area of works will be largely in line with previous year.

11.2 Budget has been built around work areas and should allow surplus of £30-35k at year end (March 2023) taking into account external contracts for nature recovery plan and preparation work for the AONB Management Plan review.

There were no questions.

12. Paper G – Quantock Hills AONB Finance highlight Report (Iain Porter)

12.1 Report presented.

There were no questions.

13. AOB

13.1 CE for 15 years+ there has been a national agreement with Heritage England. We are being asked to sign up to the new national statement which we fully support and ask for the JAC agreement for us to sign this. Everyone agreed. CE to send copy to JD to check if it needs any oversight from SCC.

13.2 JC thanked CE for his work within the QH AONB over the many years. IP there will be a date for anyone wishing to see CE before he leaves, date will be emailed out nearer the time.

13.3 ATB good luck to CE in his retirement.

13.4 CE thanked the JAC for the continued support to the Quantock Hills team.

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 26th April 2021 at 2.15pm (face to face meeting, venue TBC).

Meeting was closed at 4.22pm

To	Quantock Hills JAC	PAPER A
Subject	Partnership activity report	
Author	Iain Porter, AONB Manager	
Date	26 / 04 / 2022	

1. Staff structure

- a. As agreed at the last OWG / JAC the staff structure has been amended with the Development Officer post amended into a FTC Project Manager post responsible for FiP, HPC Landscape & Visual Schemes and input into the Nature Recovery Plan. The shared Volunteer Coordinator post has been amended and is now the Community Engagement Ranger. While much of the role is the same the engagement element of the role has been recognised.

2. Recruitment

- a. Community Engagement Ranger - I am pleased to report that Abby Wilkinson has been appointed to the post of Community Engagement Ranger. Abby will be starting the role on 25th April. The initial phase of Abby's work will be to gain an understanding of the existing work of the team and various projects that we are engaged with e.g. QLPS & Somerset Nature Connections. This post is shared with the Blackdown Hills AONB and initially offered on a 1-year FTC.
- b. Project Manager – The first application round had a disappointing uptake and with advice from SCC HR we ran another round with the deadline for applications being 28th March. This generated greater interest with several applicants being invited for interview. Due to previous commitments and Easter Holidays the interview date is not as soon as we would like but if interviews are successful it is hoped to have a Project Manager in post in mid to late May.

3. Defra Grant Offer

- a. On 15th March Defra informed AONBs of the approved protected landscapes budget for 2022/23. There has been a 14.7% increase on the 2021/22 base budget - which excludes FiPL and the in-year top-up – and this will form the indicative budget for 2023/24 and 2024/25. Confirmation of the allocations was sent 1st April requiring the AONB to continue on the terms of the 2021/22 Grant Agreement. As they have for the previous 2 years Defra is requiring the AONBs to support delivery of
 - Nature & Climate – deliver nature-based solutions to help address the twin biodiversity and climate crises.
 - People & Place – improving access to our projected landscapes for all parts of society and supporting the communities that live and work within them.
- b. The AONB budget for 2022/23 has been updated to reflect the uplift in grant and can be seen in the AONB Business Plan paper (Paper E). While the increase in grant is welcomed it has to be recognised that this comes against increasing costs (NI contributions, vehicle costs, utilities etc) and the requirement for match funding if the additional funding is used in the core budget.

4. Government Response to the Landscape Review

- a. As agreed at the Last JAC Chris and I drafted a response from the JAC to the Government's Response to the Landscape Review. The draft was sent to JAC members and the wider partnership for comment. Nine comments were received, and the draft amended accordingly. The updated version was sent to the JAC and wider partnership on 1st March with further amendments in respect of visitor pressures and Sandford Principle applying to AONBs. The response was signed by Anthony Trollope-Bellew (JAC Chairman) and Mike Caswell (JAC Vice-chairman) and submitted 11th March. A copy of the response can be found here - [Quantock Hills AONB response to Government \(Landscape Review\)](#)

5. Nature Recovery Green Paper

- a. In March Defra opened a consultation seeking views on the approach to simplifying and streamlining environmental regulation to enable delivery of the legally binding targets now enshrined in the Environment Act. [Nature Recovery Green Paper: Protected Sites and Species](#) The Government wants to move from a historic approach of legislative and prescriptive constraints to one which focusses more on outcomes and recovery. The proposals put forward are captured broadly as:
 - Protecting wildlife sites. The proposal include consolidating existing protected sites (SSSI, SAC, SPA, NNR, LNR) into a simpler legal structure. While there would be a single legal mechanism for terrestrial designation and a single one for marine designation, there would be the possibility to have varying levels of protection which could be site or species specific.
 - Delivering 30 by 30. Proposal to develop a framework based set of criteria to assess whether protected areas (including AONBs / National Parks) are contributing to nature recovery.
 - Protecting species. Proposal to bring in a simplified tiered approach to species, from tier 1 (minimum management standards) to tier 3 (highly protected) that will clarify the licensing and enforcement systems.
 - Delivering nature recovery. Reorganisation of Defra groups arm's length bodies with the aim of consolidating environmental regulatory functions and streamlining their delivery arrangements. Government also want to increase financing of nature recovery through increased effectiveness of 'polluter pays' principals and increasing private finance.
- b. The consultation is relevant to the Quantock Hills AONB as it could influence how the partnership delivers nature recovery and climate change activity into the future. The paper noted 'Our current and future National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty could play an important role in achieving our 30 by 30 commitment, but we know that they must do more to drive the recovery of nature. Under their current statutory purposes, level of protection and management, it is our view that they cannot be said to contribute towards 30 by 30 at this time.' What is key to AONBs delivering for 30 by 30 is appropriate reform, investment and management, some of which is proposed through the Government's response to the Landscapes Review.

- c. With regard to the consultation questionnaire there are a number of questions of direct relevance where I believe the AONB should submit a response, these are:
- i. Question 7. What degree of reform do we need to ensure a simpler and more ecologically coherent network of terrestrial protected sites?
 1. Option 1: Reform including a tiered approach emulating the approach taken in the marine area for HPMAs and MPAs, consolidating existing protected site designations and the creation of highly protected sites
 2. Option 2: Lighter touch reform including streamlining existing site designations (SACs, SPAs, and SSSIs)
 3. Option 3: Amalgamation into a single type of designation with a scale of protections
 4. Other
 5. No reform
 6. Do not know
 - ii. Question 10. Should we reform the current feature-based approach to site selection and management to also allow for more dynamic ecological processes?
 1. Yes, for both terrestrial and marine sites
 2. Yes, for terrestrial sites only
 3. Yes, for marine sites only
 4. No, neither for marine not terrestrial sites
 5. Unsure
 - iii. Question 11. How do we promote nature recovery beyond designated protected sites?
 - iv. Question 15. Should we move to more outcomes-focused approach to site management?
 1. Yes, using Site Improvement Plans
 2. Yes, but building on Site Improvement Plans to offer a holistic site outcome plan
 3. No
 4. Other
 5. Unsure
 - v. Question 20. What are your views on our proposed criteria to achieving our 30 by 30 commitment?
- d. The consultation closes 11th May 2022. As this is beyond the period of heightened sensitivity - due to the local elections - I propose to draft a response in early May, to send this to the JAC for comment and to submit a response from the JAC signed by the chairman and vice-chairman after 5th May. I would welcome input from JAC members if they have a specific interest / skill set relating to the subject matter.

6. 2021/22 AONB Service Business Plan Outrun

- a. Initial assessment of the 2021/22 Business Plan highlights 63 (81%) of actions / targets were completed, with a further 4 (5%) on target and continuing and 4 (5%) not achieving the target but delivering some outputs and 7 (9%)

significantly behind target or not delivering. The actions that have not been delivered are:

- Contact relevant landowners and develop a scheme of works as basis of LEI bid – not taken forward as FiPL required resourcing to deliver.
- Renewal of arrangement of pre-application advice to local planning authorities. With the move from a two-tier local authority system to a unitary local authority this action is being postponed until the new unitary is in place, due April 2023.
- Ensure woodland management events undertaken as part of the QFF event programme – delivered through other mechanisms.
- Support the Somerset Highways Parish Signs project. No parishes within the AONB looking to progress project. Working through QLPS to progress though this is likely to be in 2022/23
- Annual workshop for local authority planning staff promoting AONB special qualities. This is delivered in partnership with the other Somerset AONBs. No action has occurred to date and due to resource requirements it has been decided to postpone.
- Ensure information from staff / organisations which will increase accessibility of AONB to individuals and groups, especially those considered to be missing groups, is promoted via websites, e-newsletters and SM feeds. Delayed due to reduced Admin & Comms Officer resource in year.
- Organise and run training on SM use for AONB Team to increase targeted SM delivery – postponed due to other priorities.

Full details will be contained in the AONB Annual Report which will be available in July.

7. Budget Outrun 2021/22

- a. Due to end of financial year and annual leave for both finance officers and AONB Manager the budget overrun for 2021/22 will be tabled at the meeting.

Recommendation(s)

- 1) The JAC supports the consultation response approach as set out in Sc 5(d).
- 2) The JAC notes the report

To	Quantock Hills JAC	PAPER B
Subject	JAC – Future governance & meeting format	
Author	Iain Porter, AONB Manager	
Date	26 / 04 / 2022	

1. Quantock Hills JAC – Future Governance

- a. The Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee is a long-established body that has overseen the management and vision for the Quantock Hills since 1974. Since that time the governance has gone through many reviews and changes. However there are two key activities currently in process which will have a significant impact on the JAC and will require a review ensuring the body is fit for purpose into the future.
- b. The two key activities currently in process which will impact on the current JAC governance are:
- c. Unitary Council. The impact of the move from a 2-teir authority to a unitary will mean that the JAC goes from three local authority partners (Somerset County Council, Sedgemoor District Council and Somerset West & Taunton Council) to one (Somerset Council). This will require a change in the constitution to ensure appropriate membership levels, which will be required for April 2023.
- d. New national guidance on governance of AONBs. While the Landscape’s Review proposal on Governance was primarily aimed at National Parks (Proposal 26) Government acknowledges that many of the issues highlighted are relevant to AONB Partnerships. To ‘encourage positive reforms’ Government has instructed Natural England to replace the former CA guidance with the aim of setting out clear governance principals, processes and structures that local authorities will be expected to follow. It is likely that conditions will be included in the Defra grant agreements requiring evidence that the guidance has and is being applied to the JAC / Partnership. At present Defra / Natural England have not given a timeline for the guidance to be published. It is expected to be delivered following the Landscape Strategy and the AONB Management Plan Guidance review, which puts timings as 12 – 18months.
- e. Given the timings and drivers outlined above I am recommending the following approach –
 - i. October 2022: draft amended constitution / Terms of Reference to take account of move to unitary council and bring to JAC for comment / amendments. This would be a light touch review to ensure the move from three local authority partners to one ensures a fair and equitable standing on the JAC. The review will also include the Officer Working Group (OWG).
 - ii. November – January 2023: Approval and adoption of revised constitution / ToR.

- iii. As soon as the new guidance is available from Natural England look to undertake a more thorough review which will be coupled with the Management Plan review and can fully consider Governments response to the Landscape Review.

2. Future meetings

- a. At the JAC meeting 20th July 2021 it was agreed to trial a hybrid meeting approach with alternating face to face and virtual meetings. This is due to be reviewed in July. Given the need to discuss and agree an approach for the meetings going forward and to allow for election of chairman and vice-chairman I am recommending that the July JAC meeting is face-to-face.
- b. Structure / format of JAC meetings. I am keen that JAC members find meetings informative and that there is opportunity for positive engagement. With a change in staff and staff structure the reporting requirements on the AONB Service have changed and it is an ideal opportunity to look at how this interacts with the JAC meetings. I will be looking to:
 - i. Increase staff presenting on a specific issue / work area / project at meetings
 - ii. Increase the number of presentations from partners to give JAC members the opportunity to get more in-depth detail on these work areas
 - iii. Undertaken workshop type activities to get feedback on appropriate subjects and at appropriate times.
- c. I would welcome feedback from JAC members at the meeting on what they find useful and interesting, what they would like to see / hear more of and also their view of the hybrid meeting approach. This will be followed up with a short survey to ensure anyone who misses the meetings views can be captured.

Recommendation(s)

- 3) The JAC approves the approach and timings to the governance review.
- 4) The JAC supports the July 2022 meeting being face-to-face
- 5) The JAC notes the report

To	Quantock Hills JAC	PAPER C
Subject	AONB Management Plan Review	
Author	Iain Porter, AONB Manager	
Date	26 / 04 / 2022	

1. Requirement

- a. Under Sc89 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) 2000 local authorities, with AONBs within their geographical area, have a statutory responsibility to produce AONB Management Plans and thereafter to review adopted and published plans at intervals of not more than five years.
- b. The current Quantock Hills AONB Management Plan will require a review and any amendments to be adopted by 31st March 2024. The management plan is required to be approved by Natural England and then approved and adopted by the constituent local authorities.

2. Roles & responsibilities

- a. Executive. Quantock Hills JAC [existing]. The steering group will report back progress at JAC meetings. There may be requirement for additional JAC meetings specifically in relation to the Management Plan review.
- b. Steering Group. Quantock Hills OWG [existing] to support the AONB lead and steer the review, ensuring member organisations are kept fully informed of progress.
- c. AONB lead. AONB Manager [existing].
- d. Support. AONB team members [existing] // Volunteers [existing]. To provide input on content, objectives and actions within their areas of specialty.
- e. Support. External resources such as specialist consultants [new]

3. Budget

- a. Dependant upon scope of review = light touch vs comprehensive review.
- b. Potential expenditure items
 - i. Consultants. For specific research, data gathering, etc
 - ii. Design / printing – consultation, possible to undertake online survey though need to be aware that this may exclude some audiences
 - iii. Design / printing – management plan document.
- c. No additional funding available so funding to be identified from existing AONB budgets. Need to assess cost/benefit of loss of delivery.

4. Compliance

- a. The requirements of the SEA, Habitat Directives and Impact Assessments, and the need for compliance currently apply to revisions or re-issues of existing plans. Table 1 identifies known compliance checks in relation to AONB management plans.
- b. When undertaking a management plan review sufficient time has to be built in to undertake compliance checks including any appropriate consultations.

Table 1: AONB management plans – compliance checks.

What	Why	When	Statutory Consultees
Equality Duty (Equality Impact Assessment)	<i>Sc 149 of Equalities Act 2010.</i> Specific duty on LA (including AONBs) to have consideration of equality issues in their decision making	Consider when policies are formulated	Local Authorities
Statement of Community Involvement	<i>Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.</i> Used for local development documents, relevant if MP to be adopted as material consideration or supplementary Planning Documents.	First process before main management plan Review occurs	Local Authorities
Strategic Environmental Assessment	<i>SEA Directive 2001/42/EC. SEA Regulations 2004.</i> Scope revised Man Plan to see if significant changes have been made. If yes carry out further assessment	After final draft	Natural England, Environment Agency, Historic England
Appropriate Assessment (Habitats Regulation Assessment)	<i>Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2017.</i> Relevant for SPA, SAC, Ramsar sites.	After final draft	Natural England

5. Indicative timings

- a. Table 2 shows the timeline for the various actions required for the management plan review IF the plan is to be adopted by 31st March 2024.

Table 2: Indicative timeline for management plan review.

Activity	2022		2023				2024
	3 rd Qu	4 th Qu	1 st Qu	2 nd Qu	3 rd Qu	4 th Qu	1 st Qu
Start Up							
Write to LA / NE – notification of review	●						
Scoping paper to OWG	●						
Scoping report to JAC	●						
Initiation							
Create logs and registers for review							
Draft ToR for MPRG							
Assess lessons learnt							
MPRG meetings		●	●	●	●	●	●
Consideration of SPD status							
Stage 1 consultation							
Initial public consultation							
Initial stakeholder consultation							
Stage 2 draft development							
Consider consultation responses							
Draft management plan							
Input from staff / MPRG							
Stage 3 consultation on draft							
Interested public consultation							
Statutory agencies consultation							
Input responses into draft							
Stage 4 Screening							
Compliance with SEA / HR / ED							
Stage 5 Approval and adoption							
OWG approval							●
JAC approval							●
Statutory agencies adoption							
LA adoption							
Closing							
Design management plan document							
Publish new management plan							

6. Considerations

- a. The Government response to Landscape Review (March 2022) identified several significant potential changes to protected landscapes. Some of these will require amendments to the statutory purposes and duties of AONBs including governance.
- b. As part of the response the Government has set out its preferred approach of the creation of a National Landscape Strategy, which will include the expected contributions of protected landscapes towards nature recovery, climate mitigation and adaptation, access and engagement. AONB management plans will be expected to align to the NLS, along with the existing national policies such as the 25-year Environment Plan and net zero. There will be a strengthened role for Natural England to review the revised

management plans ensuring they make ambitious contributions to national targets.

- c. Government has requested that Natural England create new Management Plan Guidance to incorporate these changes and to produce an outcomes framework allowing annual reporting to track progress. The new guidance will also build the foundations allowing management plans to facilitate delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies without duplication.
- d. At present we expect the National Landscape Strategy to be produced in spring 2023. There is no indication of when the new AONB Management Plan guidance will be available however due to the processes and other activities required it is likely to be mid to late 2023.
- e. On 1st April 2023 Somerset moves from a two-tier local authority system to a single unitary authority. As Paper B highlights this will require a governance review but will also require a shift in how the revised AONB management plan is reviewed and adopted by the local authority. With the potential for new strengthened purposes and duties and including linkages to duties placed on local authorities, such as delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategies, it is likely that the reviewed plan will require greater scrutiny and engagement from the new local authority. This is likely to require a longer timeline when considered alongside the other work streams of the new authority.

7. Options

- a. Given the considerations in Sc6 it is prudent to look at potential options for undertaking the management plan review.

Table 3: Management Plan review options

<p>Option 1: Undertake management plan review with aim of having reviewed plan adopted by 1st April 2024.</p>	<p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continues existing timeline and undertake management plan review within 5-year review cycle. <p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very constrained time to adapt review when NLS and new management plan guidance is produced and does not allow for slippage in NE producing guidance. This would require the review process being undertaken following the old guidance with a risk that once the plan is adopted on 1st April 2024 it would require a further review to ensure it is fit for purpose against the new guidance. Given the changes proposed it is unlikely that a management plan reviewed using the existing guidance would be seen as being fit for purpose. • Short timeline for new governance to be set up and for 'new' JAC to engage fully with management plan review. There will also be potential for reviewed plan to not be fully considered by new local authority in order to meet the 1st April 2024 deadline for adoption.
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<p>Option 2: Request extension to existing plan with aim of having reviewed plan adopted by 1st April 2025</p>	<p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for incorporation of NLS and full consideration of new guidance, including a bit of time for NE 'slippage'. • Allows for new JAC members sufficient time to engage in review process • Allows new local authority to fully consider review and implications of AONB management plan • Reviewed management plan will be fit for purpose and will not require an interim review with associated additional resource implications • Precedent – Cornwall AONB delayed review when moving to unitary. Lincolnshire Wolds AONB delayed review when AONB Manager post was vacant. <p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires process to seek agreement from local authority partners.
<p>Option 3: Request extension to existing plan with aim of starting review once NE guidance released.</p>	<p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NE guidance can be built into review process from the start <p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will require waiting until release date of NE guidance is known. This may impact on getting decision from local authority given likely timescale will be spring 2023. • Open ended nature does not give impetus to undertake preparation work and danger that review date could slip with existing AONB Management Plan becoming increasingly irrelevant.

Recommendation(s)

- 1) The JAC approves option 2, to request a delay of 12 months for the adoption of the reviewed AONB Management Plan, with new date being 1st April 2025.

To	Quantock Hills JAC	PAPER D
Subject	Rangers Report	
Author	Owen Jones, Partnership Ranger Andy Stevenson, Ranger	
Date	26 / 04 / 2022	

Since our last report in October 2021, the Rangers have mostly been engaged with practical works across the Hills by themselves, with volunteers or employing contractors. This has ranged from small groups of school children to large scale work parties with 25 or more corporate volunteers from local businesses.

1. Habitat Management

1.1 Cothelstone Hill – the Levels Up funded project focussing on woodland resilience has continued. The two areas of woodland cleared (one due to ash dieback and one due to the overshadowing of the dominant sycamore and beech trees) have had all of the timber extracted and both plots replanted with just over 2,000 mixed native tree species. The third area cleared of scrub has been a major project of tree planting with over 4,500 trees planted resulting in over 450 hours of volunteer hours accumulated by 120 different volunteers; a lot of young people have been involved in this activity including the two newly formed Young Rangers groups (QLPS project), school groups under supervision from Young Somerset staff and children involved in the John Muir award at Queen’s College, Taunton. Despite the various storms blowing over the staked tree guards the project has been completed and the bluebells emerging in all areas. All of the trees have been submitted as part of the Queen’s Green Canopy initiative. [The Queen’s Green Canopy](#)

In other areas of the woodland the coppice rotation coupes are being cut using volunteers and some contractors. 4 coupes were coppiced by volunteers and where gaps were identified in the canopy new hazel trees and a couple of standard oak trees planted.

Despite the ash dieback audit and clearance of dangerous trees in the autumn, numerous trees were blown over during the recent storms. These required clearing to open up paths and tracks.

During the last year sadly we lost two of our original herd of Exmoor ponies, reducing the herd to five mares. Luckily we were loaned four from a vet on Exmoor for the winter as she grazed them on a Wildlife Trust site in east Somerset during the summer months. In late March the South West Heritage Trust purchased four geldings from the Exmoor Pony Centre to add to the herd. After a few days of establishing the pecking order, all of them are now reasonably compatible.

1.2 Swaling – in mid February we held our annual practical training session for volunteers in the swaling team to refamiliarize them with the methods and equipment. Following this we have managed 5 good burns across different areas of the common.

The Commoners, with their new FiPL funded flail have been extremely helpful cutting fire breaks to make the process safer.

1.3 Volunteer Rangers – throughout the autumn and winter the VRs have carried out regular patrols and litter picks as well as some practical tasks such as hedgelaying, coppicing and tree planting.

1.4 Working Well group – this group has been out whatever the weather and some participants have returned to mainstream employment. Again activities included coppicing, hedgelaying and tree planting.

1.5 QCV – the volunteers have opened a good section of a public bridleway by laying a hedge at Friarn and other tasks similar to the Volunteer Rangers.

1.6 Hedgelaying – three training dates were held at Perry Farm and the Orchard Wyndham Estate near Williton followed by the annual competition at the Cothelstone Estate. 32 people took part in the competition across the different classes (including several who had attended the training dates in the last few years) with approximately 250 metres laid. These events have been funded by donations from Friends of Quantock and the QLPS fund.

1.7 Adder works – during the autumn and winter a number of barrows were cleared of gorse and scrub partly to expose them for monitoring as a Scheduled Monument but also to provide a basking site for adders emerging from hibernation. The barrows were selected based on information from the reptile group RAGS. A number of metal tin sheets have also been placed out on Lydeard Hill and Wills Neck to encourage basking locations away from public paths. These can be easily monitored.

2. Visitor Management

2.1 Communications – the Rangers have continued their social media efforts communicating key messages such as keeping dogs on leads and explaining the new countryside code through videos and posts. Additionally they have done radio interviews and articles for magazines about the Hills and how people should behave in the countryside.

2.2 Fly tipping / litter – despite the tips and refuse collections being back to normal there has been a regular issue of fly tipping across all parts of the Hills. There have been 6 incidences of fly tipping and the District Council have been reasonably quick at retrieving the items.

2.3 Patrols – the Rangers have undertaken a number of patrols during the week and at weekends/bank holidays. Joint patrols with the police have taken place.

2.4 Events/activities –AONB Service public events have resumed with the Deer Rut walk in November for adults and families and volunteer led winter walks. The events planning for 2022 is underway with a full programme expected. Rangers continue to

co-ordinate externally run events such as the Quantock Quake, school events and Duke of Edinburgh groups.

We recently helped school children at Kilve Court plant trees to create a new woodland on the site as part of the Bronze D of E award.

2.5 Circular walk routes – the Rangers have audited the AONB Services promoted routes, such as the Quantock Greenway and waymarked trails, and made any changes to signage and furniture needed. We have also been working closely with the Somerset group of the Disabled Ramblers to recce routes around the hills as well as plan guided events during the Quantock Walking Festival.

2.6 Car removal – after nearly a year in situ we finally managed to get the car removed from the fence line above Triscombe Quarry. Somerset West and Taunton Council paid for a contractor to winch it off under our supervision.

3. Wildlife Monitoring. The AONB Service undertake a number of monitoring programme. The ones led by the Rangers are reported below.

3.1 Pied flycatchers – the boxes were checked in the late autumn months and cleared out. Friends of Quantock have again supplied funding to purchase oak to replace old boxes (15 new boxes were constructed by members of the Estates Team). These will be installed before the next nesting season begins. There are 4 lines of boxes in the combs with 81 boxes in total. Success rate of chicks fledged ranges from 22-25% depending on the location of the box.

3.2 Deer Count - the annual deer count took place on Sunday March 6th. Despite cold conditions the morning was clear and early indications suggest approximately 600+ red deer sighted and an increase in roe deer to approximately 150+. Full results and report will be passed to the JAC once the numbers have been compiled.

3.3 Dormouse surveys – the 70 dormouse boxes at Cothelstone Hill continue to be checked monthly – the annual box clearing and maintenance took place in February. Andy is shadowing dormouse box surveying on the Blackdown Hills in order to gain his license.

Recommendation(s)

- 1) The JAC notes the report

To	Quantock Hills JAC	PAPER E
Subject	Quantock Hills AONB Business Plan 2022/23	
Author	Iain Porter, AONB Manager	
Date	26 / 04 / 2022	

1. Introduction

- a. The Quantock Hills AONB Partnership is required to produce a business plan setting out its actions for the coming financial year. Not only does this link the AONB budgets and work plan in a single document it also allows an easy mechanism to assess progress.
- b. Unfortunately due to delays in Defra confirming the AONB grant and with the changes in staffing the business plan has been in draft since January.

2. 2022-23 Work Priorities

- a. Work priorities and business planning is directed by the Quantock Hills AONB Management Plan and priorities of fundings e.g. Defra, local authorities. For 2022/23 these will include:
 - i. Maintaining 'on-the-ground' staff and volunteers for visitor management and land management.
 - ii. Provision of Nature & Wellbeing engagement through the Somerset Nature Connections Project.
 - iii. Provide opportunities for engagement through volunteering in a variety of roles.
 - iv. Production of a Nature Recovery Plan and embedding into statutory management plans and linking to national Local Nature Recovery Strategies.
 - v. Delivery of Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme (FiPL) and HPC Landscape & Visual Schemes, delivering nature recovery and climate objectives.
 - vi. Support and administration of the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme delivering engagement, landscape improvements and historic heritage works
 - vii. Provision of training in land management skills for young people to support growth in economic activity in the Quantock Hills and surrounds.
- b. The business plan will take account of opportunities and threats that may be realised during the year. This could include further impacts from the covid-19 pandemic or in-year funding opportunities, such as the Green Recovery Challenge Fund.

3. Assumptions made for budgeting purposes

- a. There is currently a lot of uncertainty over how the medium-term funding 'landscape' will look. The Government response to the Landscape Review signals a direction of travel but does not confirm funding mechanisms, funding

levels or , the Agricultural Transition Plan and ELMS will start to deliver the new components of Agricultural policy and the move to a single council structure in Somerset all have the potential to change how the AONB is funded and operates into the future.

- b. However it is necessary to make assumptions, especially in terms of next year's budget. The following assumptions have been made:
 - i. Core staff unit as agreed at January 2022 JAC meeting.
 - ii. Core expenditure includes 5% increase on 2021/22 levels in terms of staff costs, accommodation, vehicle and travel costs due to NI rate and price increases.
 - iii. Local authority contributions have minor increase as detailed in the Statement of Intent.
 - iv. National government (Defra) grant increases by 14.7% in 2022/23 and remains constant for 2023/24 and 2024/25.

4. 2022-23 Budget

- a. Table 1 shows the summary budget for 2022/23 based on indicative contribution figures supplied by the AONB partners at the January Officers Working Group. A full budget can be found in [Appendix 1](#).
- b. As a condition of the Statement of Intent (a requirement of the Defra grant) the AONB Service is required to hold an earmarked reserve which is to be used in the event of redundancies. This limits further financial liability from the partners. This is shown as a separate budget line and is not available as discretionary funds. It is updated annually and needs to cover 50% of the whole team being made compulsorily redundant.
- c. The budget will deliver the Unit Work Plan which will work to the priorities identified in Section 2 in delivery of the Quantock Hills AONB Management Plan 2019-24. To this extent continued funding has been identified for a Community Engagement Ranger post (updated Volunteer Coordinator role) and volunteer activities.
- d. The budget shows income against Cost Recovery. This is primarily recharge for services or management fees where the AONB Service is hosting joint projects. The cost recovery elements are for land management activity such as swaling which the AONB Service undertakes on Quantock Common SSSI. For 2022/23 the AONB Service will operate a cost recovery system, though not necessarily full-cost, for any scheme where it is asked to undertake swaling. There is also recharge against the Amenity Land budget for management of Cothelstone Hill, Lydeard Hill car park and Triscombe car park on behalf of South West Heritage Trust and SCC.
- e. Since 2015 the AONB Service has delivered the Greater Quantock Landscape Development Fund (GQLDF) and the Quantock Landscape Improvement Scheme (QLIS). Both these schemes are funded through the S106 / DCO associated with Hinkley Point C. The AONB Service is able to recharge for staff time in delivery of these scheme or directly employ a project officer to deliver them. This again is a funded element under the S106 / DCO. To ensure successful completion of the schemes within the timescales and budgets the AONB Service is looking to employ a Project Manager, who will

- also be responsible for overseeing the other landscape projects including the LMSS and FiPL (excluding the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme).
- f. The Blackdown Hills AONB recharge is for the Community Engagement Ranger post. This is a joint post with Quantock and Blackdown Hills AONB. Quantock Hills will retain budget and line management with day-to-day supervision undertaken by the local AONB officer. The Forestry England recharge is for the Partnership Ranger post, employed by the AONB Service and managed jointly with Forestry England.

Table 1: Quantock Hills AONB Service Budget 2022-23 (summary)

Budget Heading	Expenditure	Income	Balance	Notes
Core (revenue)	255,073	255,056	17	
Projects	120,128	102,466	17,662	Overspend covered by carry forward of grant from previous year
Landscape Projects	267,804	267,804	0	Ringfenced with income from S106 HPC funding & Defra (FiPL)
Quantock Landscape Ptn Scheme	414,776	414,776	0	Ringfenced, April 2020 – March 2025
Land Management	11,950	6,610	5,340	Ringfenced for land management activities on SWHT land holdings within the Quantock Hills. Overspend covered by carry forward of grant from previous year
RIA	2,154	-71,422	-69,268	RIA brought forward amount estimated figure provided by SCC finance 03/04/22.
Total	1,071,885	1,118,134	-46,249	
<i>Earmarked reserves</i>			16,000	50% of whole core team redundancy costs (figure tbc by SCC HR)
<i>Surplus / deficit at 31/03/2023</i>			-30,249	AONB will be surplus at March 2023.

Full copies of the Quantock Hills AONB Business Plan 2022/23 are available on the AONB Service website [AONB Business Plans | Quantock Hills AONB](#). If members want a copy of the current Business Plan, please contact Iain Porter iporter@somerset.gov.uk

Recommendation(s)

- 2) The JAC approves the AONB Service 2022/23 Business Plan

Appendix 1: Quantock Hills AONB Service Budget 2022/23 (full)

Notes:

- 1) Somerset County Council (SCC) hosts the Quantock Hills and their contribution to AONB budgets is shown at the bottom of each budget line. This is a feature of their finance system.
- 2) Descriptions of line items are provided by SCC and fixed, therefore, some items of expenditure may not match the description accurately
- 3) RIA, Project and Quantock LPS budgets estimated as 2021/22 final year figures were fixed 5th April 2022. As these budgets involved funding across financial years the outrun on 2021/22 budgets will impact the 2022/23 budgets.

CORE / revenue Budget

Line Item	2022/23	Comments
APT & C-Pay	139,784	Salary figures provided by SCC HR
APT & C-Add Hours	7,389	Additional Payments to Rangers
APT & C-NI	13,037	Based on SCC HR advice including increase NI contributions.
APT & C-LG Pen	26,638	Based on SCC HR advice
Apprenticeship Levy	900	Based on 12 instalments of £75
Staff Training	2,500	
Electricity	400	New SCC contract
NNDR - Rates	1,550	As advised by SCC
Rents	10,200	Office rent = £6,4k, depot rent £3,8k
Water Charges	150	Estimate
Car allowance	500	
Travel costs	400	
Hired vehicle costs	750	minibus for Working well @ £60/mth
Vehicle Contract Hire	12,000	Estimated - new lease due Sep2022
Vehicle costs - Fuel	3,600	Based on 2021/22 costs + 12%
Vehicle costs - Tyres	300	
Vehicle costs - Licence	200	
Vehicle costs - Maintenance	1,400	
Equipment	1,000	
Equipment R&M	500	brushcutters £300 / chainsaws £200
Literature & Pubs	1,200	SNB book print
Clothing & Uniform	1,000	Potential rebranding
Postage	200	Estimated on 2021/22 costs
Stationary	800	Estimated on 2021/22 costs
Printing	200	Estimated on 2021/22 costs
Telephone - calls	700	BT landline recharge @ £170/quarter
Telephone - mobiles	800	mobile phones for team
Hospitality	500	Inc meeting costs for JAC and other working groups
Subsistence	100	
Subscriptions	2,775	NAAONB £2656 / AI = £125
Fees & Hired	1,000	Lone working system
Internal - Insurance	2,850	Inc PLI, ELI, Property & motor insurances
Publicity & Promotion	1,500	Websites: Coth Hill £100 / QVs £1000
Research & Development	10,000	earmarked for Man Plan & NR development
Cross Service Recharges	8,250	Management Fee to SCC
Grant - Defra	-171,200	Defra AONB Grant
Contributions - OLA	-12,485	SDC
Contributions - OLA	-12,485	Somerset West & Taunton
Fees & Charges	-1,000	FoQ Contribution
Fees & Charges	-300	Cost Recovery - swaling
Fees & Charges	0	Cost Recovery - LMSS Projects

Fees & Charges	-14,037	Recharge - Blackdown Hills AONB
Fees & Charges	-21,125	Recharge - Forestry Commission
Fees & Charges	-300	Income from AONB run events
Cross-Service		Moved RIA to core
OUTRUN CORE	22,141	
SCC core cont	-21,224	As agreed under Statement of Intent
SCC pension + Apprentice	-900	
SCC Contribution	-22,124	
Balance (105232 Core)	17	Any overspend to come out of RIA

AONB Projects

	2022/23	Comments
Hired vehicle costs	4,000	LMSS Project
Clothing, uniform	3,180	LMSS Project
Cost of Meetings (External)	1,500	LMSS Project
Fees & Hired	43,300	Cont to SNC Project
Ctrctrs (not 3rd Part)	68,148	LMSS Project + NR projects (Defra funded)
Defra	-25,166	Defra - uplift in grant (proposed)
Contributions - OLA	-40,000	Somerset West & Taunton - LMSS
Contributions - Oth	-30,000	Somerset Community Foundation (SNC project)
OUTRUN PROJECTS	13,962	
SCC Contribution	-13,300	Improving lives to reduce demand funding
Balance (103612 Project)	17,662	To be met from grant brought forward

AONB Projects (Landscape)

	2022/23	Comments
APT & C-Pay	60,770	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
APT & C-NI	5,029	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
APT & C-LG Pen	10,999	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
Apprenticeship Levy	200	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
Staff Training	1,000	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
Travel costs	700	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
Equipment	400	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
Printing	200	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
Telephone - mobiles	160	Landscape PO & Admins support / Pro Man
F&H - Prof/Tech Serv	15,000	GQLDF Grants (HPC)
Ctrctrs (Not 3rd Part)	48,000	Landscape Improvement Schemes (HPC)
Ctrctrs (Not 3rd Part)	125,347	Landowner grants (FiPL)
Grant - Defra	-156,978	Defra FiPL allocation
Contributions - OLA	-6,000	c/f SWT - LMSS Contribution to staff costs
Cross-Service	-41,826	Income from SCC (HPC) - Staff costs
Cross-Service	-63,000	Income from SCC (HPC) - grants
OUTRUN PROJECTS (Landscape)	0	

Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme

	2022/23	Comments
APT & C-Pay	121,716	Salaries
APT & C-NI	10,736	Based on SCC HR advice
APT & C-LG Pen	22,031	Based on SCC HR advice
LG ERS Def Red Cont	0	
Apprenticeship Levy	575	Estimate based on 2021/22
Staff Training	2,500	
Rents	6,000	
Car allowance	2,000	
Travel costs	450	
Equipment	42,500	Main expenditure - tractor
Equipment R&M	200	

Reprographics - photocopy/printing	500	
Postage	100	
Stationary	100	
Printing	200	
Telephone - calls	288	Shield lone working @ £24 / mth
Telephone - mobiles	600	@ £150/Qu
Cost of Meetings (External)	3,000	
Fees & Hired	25,000	
F&H - Prof/Tech Serv	4,800	
Ctrctrs (Not 3rd Part)	164,000	
Cross Directorate	7,000	Transport
Cross Service		
Internal - Insurance	480	Est PLI - £200 / ELI - £240 / Property - £40
Contributions	0	
Contributions	-25,000	Friends of Quantock
Fees & Charges	-338,831	NLHF
Fees & Charges		HE grants for SAM
Fees & Charges	-500	events
Cross Service	-4,000	CS from AONB
Cross Service	-46,445	SCC HPC S106 match funding (final tranche)
OUTRUN QLPS	0	

Land Management

		Comments
Equipment, materials	1,600	
Ctrctrs (Not 3rd Part)	10,350	
GrantGovtOutsideAEF	-5,110	CS / ES income
Grant - Defra	-1,500	Basic Payment Scheme (estimate)
OUTRUN AMENITY	5,340	To be met from grant brought forward

Quantock Hills RIA

Cross Service Recharges	2,154	carry forward - FiPL grant repayment
Grant - Defra	-71,422	B/f AONB RIA (2021/22) Estimate
OUTRUN RIA	-69,268	