

## 4. What is an AONB Management Plan?

- 4.1. Local authorities that have an AONB within their area must prepare and publish a management plan. This plan ‘formulates their policy for the management of their area of outstanding natural beauty and for the carrying out of their functions in relation to it’. It has to be reviewed every five years<sup>7</sup>.
- 4.2. All public bodies and persons holding public office have a statutory duty to ‘have regard’ to the ‘purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area’<sup>8</sup> when making decisions affecting land in an AONB (Appendix 4).
- 4.3. This document is the third review of the Cranborne Chase AONB Management Plan first published in 2004. This plan runs from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2024. It is a statutory document and forms an important role in the delivery of services by the local authorities. It is a plan for all those that have a responsibility to look after this precious and treasured landscape. The plan sets out realistic objectives and policies for AONB partners to achieve in the next five years. Working together, these targets can be realised to the benefit of the landscapes and communities of this nationally designated area. The review process is set out in Appendix 5.

### How does the Management Plan fit with the Policies and Plans of others?

- 4.4. National and local policies already provide a considerable level of protection for the natural beauty of the AONB. In addition, many partner organisations prepare strategies and plans that deal with a range of other issues that affect the area (such as the management of development, transport, tourism, recreation, energy, water resources and biodiversity).
- 4.5. These policies, plans and strategies will inform the AONB Management Plan. Implementation of this Management Plan will complement them and influence the preparation and delivery of other key policies, plans and processes affecting the area. This covers, for example, Local Plans and other planning documents; and Sustainable Community Strategies. An explanation of the policy context is set out in Appendix 6.

### Who Approves the Plan?

- 4.6. Many people and organisations commented on this Management Plan during its preparation. The plan was subject to assessments under European directives and to public consultation between August and November 2018. The AONB Partnership (see section 18) endorses the plan and relevant local authorities have formally adopted it. It is published with the assistance of the partners who are responsible for much of the plan’s delivery. The Partnership Board will review the Partnership Delivery Plan, which sets out the programme for achieving the Management Plan’s ambitions and objectives, annually. This Management Plan, the Strategic Environmental Assessment, the Habitat Regulations Assessment, and supporting documents are all available on the Cranborne Chase AONB website: [www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk](http://www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk). You can make enquiries about these documents to the Cranborne Chase AONB team through the website or via [info@cranbornechase.org.uk](mailto:info@cranbornechase.org.uk).

<sup>7</sup> Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000: Section 89.

<sup>8</sup> Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000: Section 85.

