



# REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

## PORTFOLIO AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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Date of Meeting: 19TH JANUARY 2008

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Public

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Key Decision: Yes

Recorded in Forward Plan:

No

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Inside Policy Framework

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Title: NORTH PENNINES AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN

Report of: HEAD OF PLANNING AND HOUSING SERVICES

Report reference: DS.05/09

### Summary:

This report sets out the position regarding the production of the Management Plan for the North Pennines AONB.

### Recommendations:

That the draft management plan is reported to Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee for their consideration and a further report is presented to this committee on the final version of the 2009-14 Management Plan.

**Alan Eales**

**Head of Planning and Housing Services**

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Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: North Pennines AONB Management Plan 2004-09; North Pennines AONB Management Plan 2009-14 Consultation Draft

## **1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS**

- 1.1 The introduction of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 increased the status of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and placed their management on a more formal basis. This also brought a statutory responsibility for the local authorities whose areas contain AONBs to put adequate measures in place to ensure the future protection of those high quality landscapes. The North Pennines Partnership is established to undertake management responsibilities for the AONB involving all constituent local authorities and private sector representatives with local interest.
- 1.2 In 2004 the CRoW Act required all Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty to have a Management Plan prepared for a five year period which would establish the objectives and priorities for work over that period. This initial period finishes at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 and a new Management Plan is required to be in place for the following 5 years.
- 1.3 The North Pennines Partnership has undertaken a large amount of work on preparing the new Management Plan with officers from each area assisting and advising on the preparation. A consultation draft has been prepared and is appended to this report.
- 1.4 As nine Local Authorities cover the AONB area the preparation of joint documents such as the Management Plan is complex. This is further complicated by Local Government Reorganisation in Northumberland and Durham County areas. In order to put in place a new Management Plan by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 the Management Plan must be reported to City Council at its 3<sup>rd</sup> March meeting.
- 1.5 Following consultation, the full analysis of comments and changes to the Plan are still being worked on and will not be available until the 2<sup>nd</sup> February. A more detailed report on changes to this draft for the final version will be available for the Executive meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> February meeting.
- 1.6 Members are asked to consider the attached draft Management Plan and refer this initial report to Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration prior to the final version being available.

## **2. CONSULTATION**

### **2.1 Consultation to Date.**

One draft of the report was prepared for consultation during September/October 2008. Over 800 comments have been received.

### **2.2 Consultation proposed.**

No further consultation is proposed.

## **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the draft management plan is reported to Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee for their consideration and a further report is presented to this committee on the final version of the 2009-14 Management Plan.

## **4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To ensure consideration is given to the Management Plan which will impact on future priorities within part of the district.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS**

- Staffing/Resources – The AONB Partnership is supported by staff from the Local Plans and Conservation section and is funded from within Local Plans and Conservation Section budgets.
- Financial – The Management Plan is one of the Core functions funded by the joint working arrangements from existing Local Plans and Conservation budgets
- Legal – The requirements for a Management Plan are established through the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
- Corporate – The Management Plan will assist in ensuring a high quality environment for the “Greener” aspect of the Council’s priorities.

- Risk Management – The lack of adequate Management Plan may impact upon Core Funding and project funding provided in partnership by Local Authorities and Natural England.
- Equality and Disability – None
- Environmental – The AONB provides a high quality landscape and environment which will be improved by the provision of the Management Plan.
- Crime and Disorder – None
- Impact on Customers – The Management Plan will establish clear priorities for the work of the AONB Partnership and provide clearer information for customers.

**Alan Eales**  
**Head of Planning and Housing Services**

**APPENDICES TO  
DS.05/09 – NORTH PENNINES AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN 2009-2014**

Please note that due to the size of these documents they cannot be uploaded onto our information system.

To view the documents please click on “External Links” on Carlisle City Council’s Council Information page and select “North Pennines AONB Partnership”