

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Executive Decision Record**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
<b>Date:</b>	1 April 2014
<b>Title:</b>	Adoption of North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) 2014-2019 Management Plan
<b>Reference:</b>	5706
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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**1. The decision:**

- 1.1. That the 2014-2019 Management Plan for the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty be adopted.

**2. Reasons for the decision:**

- 2.1. To ensure that Hampshire County Council meets its legal obligations under the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000.
- 2.2. To enable the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership to draw-down significant external match funding to support AONB core and project activities.
- 2.3. To help deliver Hampshire County Council's Corporate Improvement Plan aims of 'maximising well-being' and enhancing our quality of place'.

**3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1. The option of not adopting the AONB Management Plan was considered. This option was rejected as this would leave the County Council in breach of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and create a high risk of damaging its reputation and leadership in the field of landscape conservation.
- 3.2. The option of further substantive amendment of the AONB Management Plan was considered. This option was rejected as substantive amendments are not required by Natural England, and with those modifications recommended by officers that have been incorporated, the Management Plan is considered fit for purpose.

**4. Conflicts of interest:**

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

<b>Approved by:</b>  -----	<b>Date:</b>  <b>1 April 2014</b>
<b>Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment Councillor Seán D T Woodward</b>	