

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Please use this form to comment on the draft Howardian Hills AONB Management Plan. Please complete it electronically and email it by 11th November 2018 to:

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Ref. no: 5/ Date received:

Do you have any comments on the general style and content of the new Management Plan?

CPRENorthYorkshire believe that the content of the new Management Plan is consistent with other such plans across the country and welcomes the revised context - especially the provision of the legal context and reasons for designations. This

provides clarity for developers, land managers and members of the public and those with an interest in the AONB in general.

Do you agree with 'The Vision' and the Natural Capital & Ecosystem Services Objectives (p26-33)?

Yes, CPRENorthYorkshire believe this is a vital component to the AONB and where much of its beauty is derived. Gaining a greater understanding of these important areas is fundamental to the management of the AONB

Do you have any comments on 'A Rich Heritage' (p35-44)?

CPRENorthYorkshire is encouraged to see that so much emphasis has been given to this important area which is in line with their statutory duty

Do you have any comments on 'Living and Working in the AONB' (p45-64)?

The recognition afforded to the role agricultural practises play within the AONB and its rural nature in general is particularly welcomed. The AONB, is predominantly rural with many scattered villages and hamlets. All the market towns within the vicinity which serve these settlements are outwith the AONB therefore it is essential that the maintenance and protection of the existing rural environment is achieved. CPRENorthYorkshire are

encouraged by the fact the AONB recognise that BREXIT may impact these areas in the future and appropriate diversification or projects may be required to facilitate the continuation of rural based livelihoods and maintain a thriving population in the AONB to reduce further declining populations.

Do you have any comments on ‘Enjoying the AONB’ (p65-69)?

This section is welcomed.

Do you have any comments on ‘Awareness and Promotion’ (p70-71)?

It is considered the recognition of social media to promote the AONB is essential in the current age. Reference to Twitter accounts is encouraging, however, CPRENorthYorkshire believe that more could be achieved by the use of other similar technologies which would target a wider audience, including Instagram and Facebook to name a few. Interactive elements and links to U-Tube are increasingly popular. Asking the wider AONB Partnership and JAC to promote each other also enables platforms to reach wider audiences and followers in different areas.

Do you have any comments on the ‘Implementation’ section, including the Action Programme (p72-100)?

The implementation and monitoring section is useful and should aid delivery of the Plan bearing in mind that DEFRA’s new Environment Plan and future ‘Hobhouse Report’ may have future implications for the AONB as could the results of the Glover Report.

Do you have any comments on the ‘Landscape Management & Priority Sites’ document? Are there any sites you think should be included or excluded?

No. CPRENorthYorkshire are of the opinion that the Priority Sites are appropriate whilst recognising that all of the AONB is special and requires particular protection against inappropriate developments for the reasons it was originally designated.

Do you think that the State of the AONB Report and large map are useful?

Yes, this provides the evidence as to which areas need prioritising and why. The large map provide clarity for all users and potential developers alongside members of the public. It is useful in planning terms.

Do you have any other comments?

CPRENorthYorkshire welcomes the opportunity to comment on this Management Plan review and would welcome the opportunity for further involvement - they are members of the JAC for the Nidderdale AONB. In a similar vein, it is considered that wider collaboration should be sought with other key stakeholders in the vicinity including the National trust and the NPA and District Councils within the area.

In relation to policy DRE4 and reference to exploration and production of hydraulic fracturing applications, CPRENorthYorkshire believe that the reference to ‘requires tight control’ on pg. 54 should be removed as this implies that this activity is considered to be suitable for an area which (alongside National Parks) is afforded the highest protection for its unique landscape in terms of planning policy. It is believed that a reference to the Major Development Test would be more suitable within the Management Plan and the need for any applicant for such development to prove that it meets this important test set out clearly. It is considered that the bullet points listed within the Action Programme on pg.87 are more appropriate and this should be explained further to provide clarity to all readers within the main body of the document.