

Annual Report 2019

Landscapes
for life
.org.uk

THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
Areas of Outstanding
Natural Beauty



Welcome from our Chairman

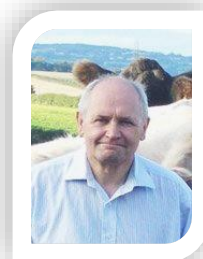
“Against a backdrop of stretching targets in the government’s ambitious **25-year Environment Plan**; unprecedented public concern for the environment; many of the local authorities which host AONBs declaring **climate emergencies** and the challenges of Brexit, the opportunities are enormous.

As we complete this annual report, the **Designated Landscapes Review** panel has just published its findings. I am delighted the report recognises the **immense value and potential** of AONBs and sets bold ambitions for their higher profile within the urgent imperatives of **nature recovery** and improving the **health of the Nation**. The National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty will work to ensure the Report is prioritised in the widest of policy contexts in the coming months and years.

AONBs have already made a formal commitment to increase the scale and pace of their delivery for nature in the form of the **Colchester Declaration**. This sets out **ambitious targets** specifically designed to protect what remains and recover what has been lost in our natural environment. This will build on the significant, and often unpublicised work that AONB teams have been carrying out to restore nature.

Post Brexit, there will of course be changes to environmental and agricultural policy and we have been pleased to work alongside Defra to develop the **new Environmental Land Management system** which will incentivise more environmentally friendly farming practices and simplify the current system of farm payments. We look forward to beginning the tests and trials in the coming months and continuing to work alongside Defra to deliver.

AONBs have proved themselves time and again to be lithe organisations, capable of punching well above their weight, and the figures and case studies compiled in this annual report form clear, real-life demonstrations of this capability.”



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'P. Hygate'.

Philip Hygate FRSA,
Chairman

The Landscapes for Life Annual Report

The **Landscapes for Life Annual Report** brings under the spotlight the fantastic work of the UK's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty during the year 2018-19!



An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a nationally important, protected landscape. There are **46 AONBs across England, Wales and Northern Ireland** and each one has its own distinct, sometimes unique, characteristics.

AONBs operate on a one-of-a-kind **partnership** based model, bringing together conservation organisations, parish, town and county councils, landowners and farmers, representatives of local business, groups such as local ramblers and bridleway users and voluntary groups. This **power to convene** is a true strength of AONB teams – taking a landscape scale approach, prioritising and sharing work to meet the needs of a wide range of stakeholders.

The work of AONB Partnerships incorporates all aspects of the area including **culture, heritage, wildlife, geology, habitats, tranquillity and scenic quality**. Each AONB has been designated so that these features can be safeguarded for future generations.

The year 2018-19 is the first that AONBs have reported to a **new set of Key Performance Indicators** which will give a baseline for future annual reports as we progress through a time of great change for the environment sector in general and for designated landscapes in particular.

Who we are

The National Association for AONBs (NAAONB) is a **charity** that provides a strong collective voice for the UK's 46 AONBs.

Our **vision** is that the natural beauty of AONBs is valued and secure.

Our **mission** is to support and develop a network of ambitious AONB partnerships with a strong collective voice.



Our **charitable objects** are simple and have the care of the UK's countryside at their heart. They are:

- a. to promote the **conservation and enhancement of natural beauty**, including the physical, natural, cultural and built environment in and around AONBs, other protected areas, and those areas for which such designation might be pursued;
- b. to advance the **education, understanding and appreciation of the public** in relation to the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty in and around AONBs, other protected areas and those areas for which such designation might be pursued;
- c. to promote the **efficiency and effectiveness** of those organisations promoting or representing AONBs, other protected areas and those areas for which designation might be pursued.

We do this by taking a **collaborative and partnership based approach** to working with our members and other organisations at a national level to achieve shared goals.

{ Our staff



Howard Davies
Chief Executive



Amber Carter
Office and Membership
Manager



Clare Elbourne
Administrative Assistant



Richard Clarke
National Policy and
Development Manager



Ian Rappel
Wales Development Manager

{ Our contractors



Ruth Colbridge
Communications Manager



Marie Micol
Project Assistant

Caring for natural beauty

First and foremost, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are designated and protected for the beauty of their landscapes. Each AONB has its own distinct, sometimes unique, characteristics; incorporating **culture, heritage, wildlife, geology, habitats, tranquillity and scenic quality**.

To measure the contribution AONB Partnerships make to natural beauty, we assess area conserved or enhanced for **biodiversity and geodiversity**; land area conserved or enhanced by **improvements to heritage assets**; and area where **scenic quality** has been improved by undergrounding overhead lines.



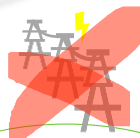
Habitats for biodiversity



Heritage in the landscape



Geodiversity conservation



Overhead power lines removal



In **2018/19**, AONB teams have enhanced or conserved natural beauty on over **13,220 hectares** – that's about 100 times the size of Hyde Park in London!

A promising year for peatlands in the AONBs

Whilst AONBs have been restoring peat bogs for many years, the UK's first **collaborative Peatland Strategy** elaborated in 2018 provided the right impetus for larger, more ambitious projects to take shape, and 2018/19 has been a **promising year for peatlands in the AONBs**.

Natural carbon storage habitats **rich in wildlife**, peat bogs are **vulnerable**; damaged over the years by **peat extraction** and **water drainage** for agriculture. They also provide crucial ecosystem services in the form of **water purification** and **flood risk mitigation**.

In the north of England, over **2,250 hectares** of peatland have been restored across three counties, through **Pennine PeatLIFE** (EU LIFE Programme). It is led by **North Pennines AONB** and involves the **Forest of Bowland AONB**, the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water, United Utilities and Northumbrian Water. This **ambitious programme** includes sediment traps, drain blocks, reprofiling of the eroding peat, airlifted bags of seed-rich heather brash, and hand-plugged *Sphagnum* moss and cotton grass.

Since early 2019, the **Forest of Bowland AONB** is also part of the Defra-funded **Northern Peatland Project**, with several site restorations scheduled over the next three years.



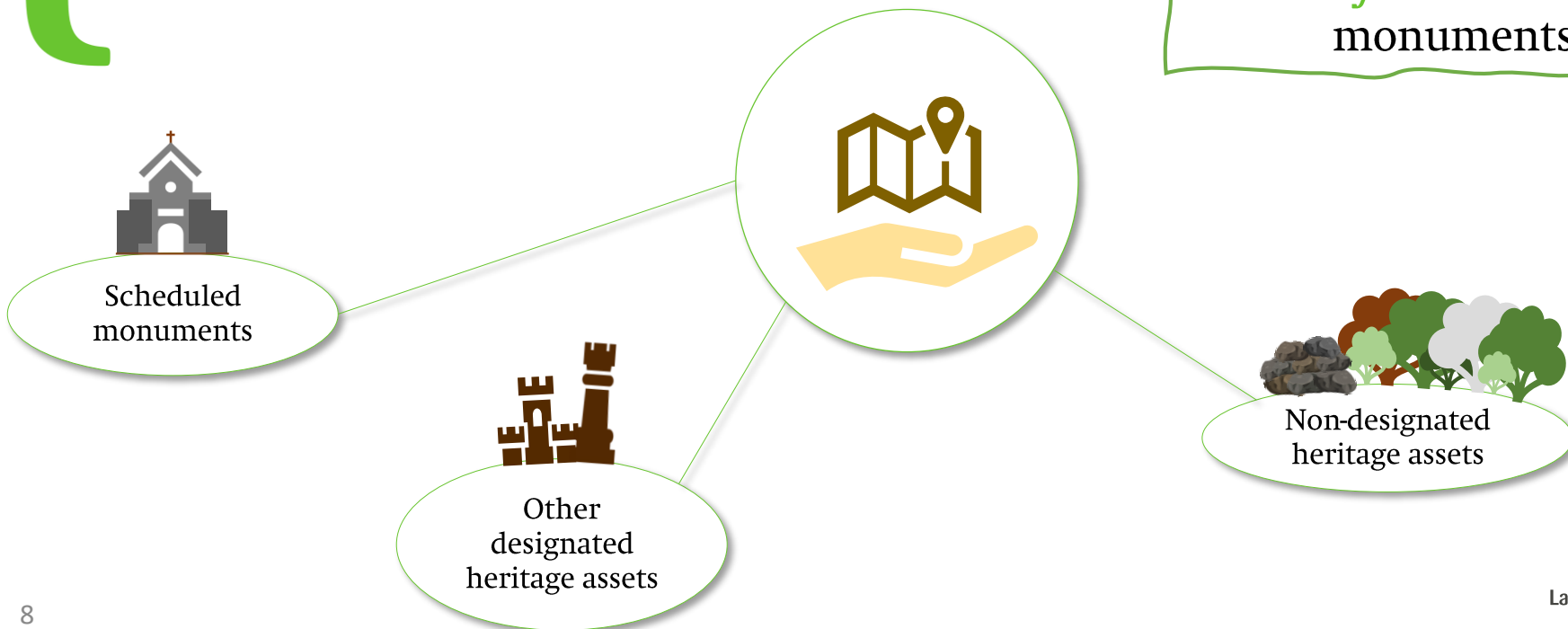
Further south, **Cornwall AONB** has also been involved in a partnership project with South West Water, local site owners, the Environment Agency and other local partnerships in Dartmoor and Exmoor National Park. Notably funded with a £2 million grant from Defra, the project represents **1,680 hectares of damaged peatland** scheduled for restoration across **Bodmin Moor, Dartmoor and Exmoor**. Various ditch blocking techniques are used to enable **re-wetting** of extensive areas of damaged peatlands. So far, in Bodmin Moor alone, 128 hectares have already been successfully rewetted, with **a lot more to come** in 2019/20.

Caring for heritage

Conserving heritage assets for the future is important in **preserving what is special** about our designated areas. From abbeys to peel towers, milk churn stands to dry stone walls, hedgerows to burial mounds; these features are the physical **legacy** of the human activities that shaped each area.

Keeping these features alive is as important for the **story and culture** of an area as it is for its **scenic value**.

In **2018/19**, AONB teams have enhanced or conserved over **475** heritage assets, including **nearly 400** scheduled monuments!



Beacons of the Past: Hillforts in the Chilterns Landscape

'Beacons of the Past' is a four-year project aimed at developing understanding of the prehistoric landscapes of the Chilterns AONB. In doing so, the project will also:

- initiate and support existing conservation programmes to protect and enhance prehistoric monuments;
- enhance the resources available to teachers and schools for meeting the National Curriculum on British Prehistory;
- encourage urban communities to participate in caring for Cultural Heritage assets.

This project is supported and part-funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. It is now in its first year. The Chilterns AONB team has already commissioned a LiDAR survey of the hillforts (the largest of its kind in the UK), to uncover archaeological features across the landscape. The data collected helps increase the understanding of the role these hillforts played in the past and also allows for easy data sharing. The Chilterns AONB team has thus developed online tools for the public (the Online Citizen Science Portal) and for teachers and schools (the Online Learning Zone).



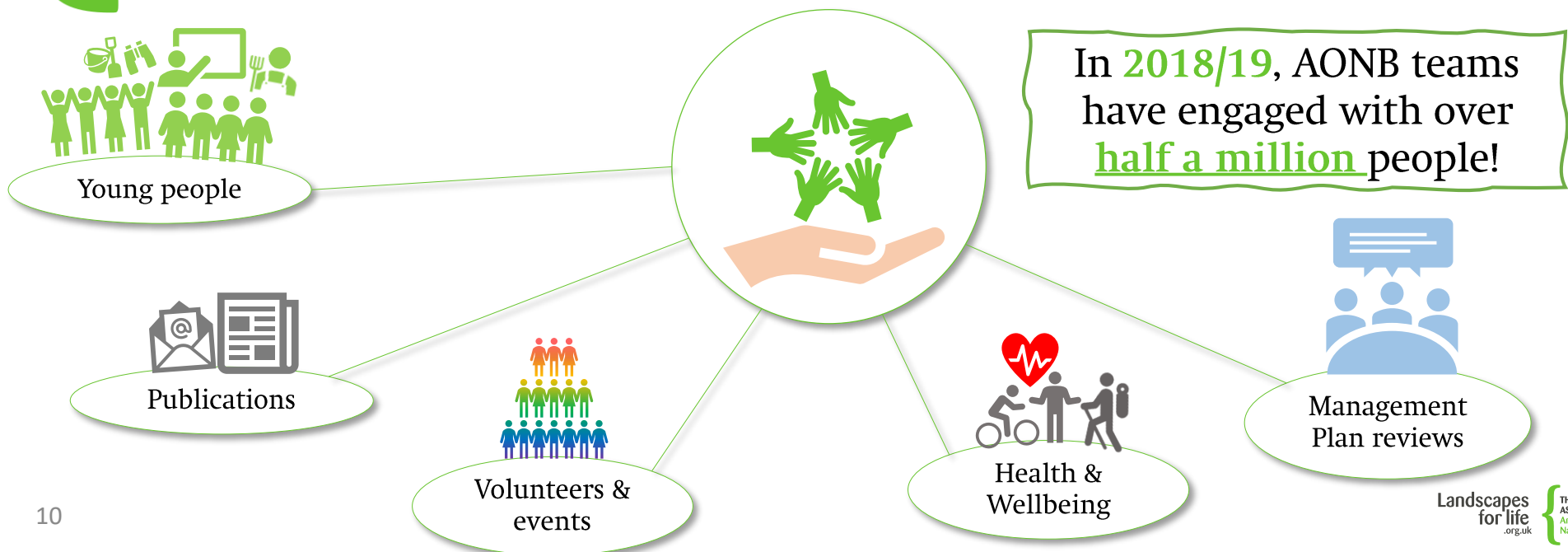
They have also delivered a wide range of public outreach activities, including 14 public talks reaching about 400 people, three quarterly e-newsletters (441 people), two family activity days (193 people), four guided heritage walks (86 people), 11 training workshops for 127 volunteers and three conservation events involving over 30 people.

By making this information widely accessible to people from all walks of life, the AONB Partnership hopes to increase understanding and appreciation of the Chilterns' historical landscape, and thus to encourage people to take more active roles in caring for it.

Engaging with people

We know that people form strong personal bonds with Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and these places have become special to residents, generations of visiting families and individuals seeking feelings of **rootedness**, **tranquillity**, **inspiration**, **consolation** and **freedom**. As well as being greatly loved, AONBs play a crucial role in the nation's **physical and mental wellbeing**.

AONB Partnerships recognise the mutual benefits of engaging with local communities – from consulting widely to develop robust five-year **management plans**; to working with local **landowners and farmers** to manage the landscape for nature; coordinating events for people to learn about the area and its heritage; to arranging **school trips** welcoming **conservationists** and **citizens** of the future to their local countryside. All AONBs have active **volunteering** programmes with opportunities to socialise, keep fit and develop new skills, while helping AONB teams to deliver more for the local area.



Somerset Nature and Wellbeing Project

The **Nature and Wellbeing project** has been helping members of the local community make the most of Somerset's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) by participating in activities that **improve their physical and mental wellbeing**. The aim is to tackle some of the barriers that prevent people from experiencing the health and wellbeing **benefits** that the countryside can offer.

This two-and-a-half-year project, which began in 2016, is funded by Public Health at Somerset County Council, and run jointly by **Blackdown Hills AONB**, **Quantock Hills AONB** and **Mendip Hills AONB**.

All 3 AONBs are working with **close to 30 partners** (from the **health** and **community** sectors as well as **nature conservation** organisations), to deliver numerous and varied activities, such as family days, regular farm visits during which participants can help with various tasks, seasonal **art sessions** for people living with dementia, **school trips** and schools' natural area improvement with volunteers, regular conservation **volunteering sessions**, **accessibility walks**, and much more!

The Nature and Wellbeing project officer, appointed to deliver this project, is working hard to **sustain these benefits** long beyond the end of the project, by creating lasting connections with the nature and health professionals, but also with the volunteers and community groups across Somerset.

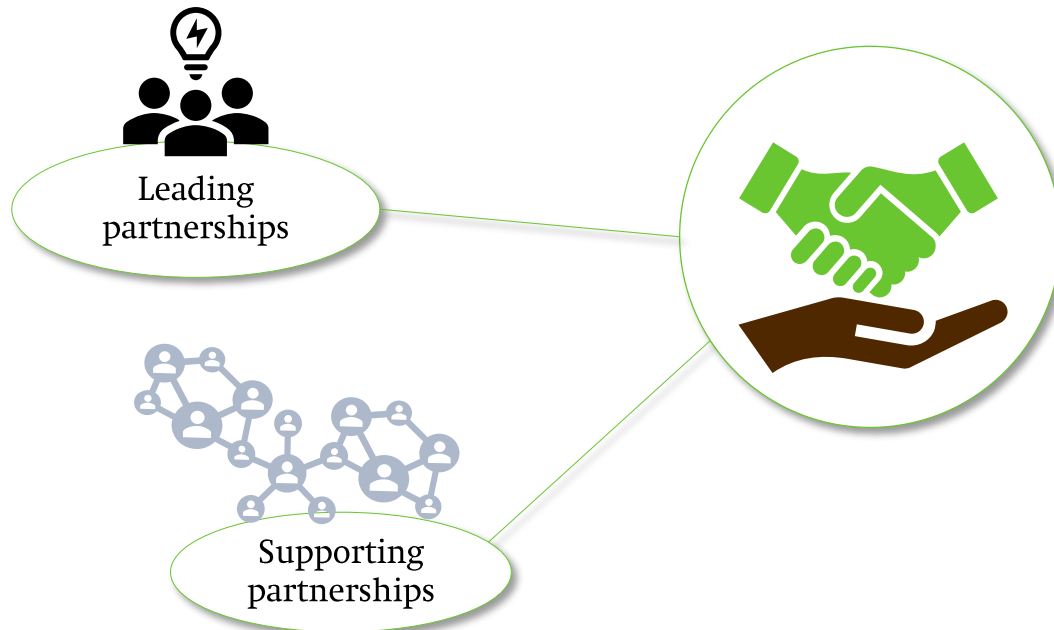


With increasing evidence that spending time in **nature** is **good** for your **health** and **wellbeing**, especially in **biodiversity-rich places**, AONBs across the country are now promoting the concept of a **Natural Health Service**, by enhancing access to the countryside and by encouraging people from all walks of life to engage with nature.

Power to convene

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty cover some 15% of the land area of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, yet have small workforces. Their unique strength lies in their **power to convene**.

AONB Partnership teams include representatives from across their locality: from other **conservation organisations**, such as the RSPB, Natural England, National Trust, Wildlife Trusts; **farmers and landowners**; local **history and natural history societies**; representatives from **local business** organisations; **residents**; **local authorities**; and **ramblers**. This active **representation and team-working** to conserve AONBs helps prioritise and share work, amplifies what can be achieved and ensures that effort is invested where it is most needed.



In **2018/19**, AONB teams have influenced over **620** partnerships and initiatives, truly embracing **collaborative** working!

The Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat Project

The Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat Project brings together **18 local and national conversation bodies**, including **all five Devon AONBs** (East Devon AONB, Tamar Valley AONB, South Devon AONB, Blackdown Hills AONB and North Devon Coast AONB).

They form a partnership delivering a **countywide conservation project** to enhance habitats for the Greater Horseshoe Bat's foraging and commuting needs, thereby benefiting a wide range of wildlife. It is a **5-year, £2 million project**, made possible by the support from and hosting by the Devon Wildlife Trust.

East Devon AONB was instrumental in promoting the idea of bringing together a partnership of this kind – after their successful 3-year project 'Looking out for Bats', the small team felt there was much more to be done. They convened a first meeting of conservation bodies and from then on worked with partners to design **a common vision and a set of outcomes** for the **flagship species** and for wildlife in general.

The partners have engaged with farmers and landowners, supporting them in maintaining, enhancing or creating suitable habitats to sustain the Great Horseshoe Bat population across the county.

Crucial to this process has been the **close working relationship** built up over many years with the farming community in the county. **Farm Facilitation Groups** also allowed for wider take up.



Overall, there have been **over 650 landowner advisory visits** and **70 land management workshops** delivered so far.

The 18 partners also delivered well beyond the farming community, engaging local people through **community walks** (with over **12,500 participants**), practical events, and close to **200 school visits**. Four years into the project, it's now all about **sustaining these outcomes for the future**.

Sustainable development

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are designated for their **value to nature and to society**. Part of the role of AONB teams therefore is to ensure that any development of AONBs is done considerately to **protect** the **nature** and **heritage** of the area, while balancing this against ensuring opportunities for **local communities** and **businesses to prosper**.



Strategy,
policy and
guidance



Development
schemes



Infrastructure



Land
Management

In **2018/19**, AONB teams have appraised or developed over **4,140** strategy documents, development schemes and infrastructure and land management projects!

Arnside & Silverdale AONB Development Plan Document

In 2014 **South Lakeland District Council** (SLDC) and **Lancaster City Council** (LCC) began a project to prepare a joint **Development Plan Document** (DPD) for the whole of the AONB, with a representative from each council working alongside the Arnside & Silverdale AONB Manager and Officer at each stage. The aim was to **unify the planning** approach across the two councils, taking into account the **special characteristics** of the AONB as a **designated landscape**.

Between December 2014 and February 2015, SLDC and LCC ran a **Call for Sites Consultation** – inviting **individuals** and **organisations** to suggest sites to be considered for inclusion in the AONB DPD – either as having the potential for **development** or for designation as **open spaces**.

Shortly after this a **Site Assessment Methodology** was consulted on, followed by a **Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report** – these documents set out variables to be considered, notably: brownfield sites, accessibility, flood zones, nature or geological conservation designations, heritage assets, risk of loss of agricultural land or of adverse impact on key viewpoints.

The next step was a **consultation on the Issues and Options**, i.e. what **local people** and **organisations** thought about: the development and conservation **needs** of the area; what **issues** the plan should address; which strategic options are favoured; and sites put forward for housing, employment or open space use. Two further rounds of public consultation were conducted thereafter. They included drop in meetings staffed

by the AONB team and representatives from the relevant council in each of the AONB's parishes as well as consultation forms available online, in the AONB office, both Town Halls and in local libraries.



From the outset, councils were acutely aware of the importance of **capturing local opinions and knowledge** as part of the development of the plan. All consultations were well publicised and everyone who had commented during any of the consultations was contacted directly when the following round of consultation was launched.

At the end of February 2018, the DPD was submitted to the **Government Planning Inspectorate** and public hearings were held at Kendal Town Hall for local people and organisations to be able to put their views to the Planning Inspector. After a final round of consultation on the modifications requested by the Planning Inspector, the DPD **was ready for adoption by the two local councils** in 2019.

As we write this report (September 2019) the DPD work was awarded the '**Spatial Planning**' Award for the North West by the Royal Town Planning Institute. The project is now going forward to the national final in October 2019.

Value for money

Core funding of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty via taxation amounts to **less than 20p per person per year**, yet they contain over 260,000 hectares of Sites of Special Scientific Interest – home to some of the most important wildlife in the UK; and over 20,000 km of public rights of way.

AONB teams are skilled at **delivering** far more for society than the funding would imply. By accessing **grants** to deliver additional projects; through their **power to convene** and work alongside partner organisations; and due to their established **volunteer programmes**, AONB Partnerships are able to massively increase what staff teams are able to achieve and **maximise benefits for the area and society**.



Value of volunteer days



Local Authority funding (core)

Non-Local Authority funding (core)

Other external funding

Value of external projects

In **2018/19**, the value of the work delivered by AONB teams reached **£23.5 million**, for landscapes, nature, heritage, people and local economies.

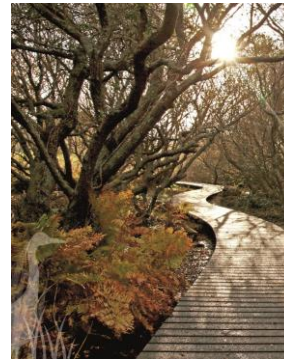
Wonderful Wetlands – Isles of Scilly AONB

On St Mary's, one of the Scilly isles, there are **two wetland sites** (totalling just over 26 hectares and just under 7% of the total area covered by SSSIs in Scilly); both are SSSI's and are very important not only for **biodiversity** but also to the very fabric of **island life**.

The Wetlands provide the majority of the **drinking water** supplies for St Mary's (approximately 70% during the summer months, topped up by the desalination plant and 100% during the winter months) as well as a **flood defence** to some key areas of habitation, economy and critical infrastructure.

Lack of management leading to increased growth of willow, bramble and bracken meant that by 2015, the wetlands were drying out and as a consequence were less effective as functioning wetland ecosystems.

The Isles of Scilly AONB partnership has helped to facilitate **hydrological monitoring** to take place within the wetlands to help better understand how they function and to enable a **water level management plan** to be drawn up; additionally some funding has also been allocated to enable enhancement of **boardwalks & bridges** and **interpretation** across the sites to improve access and information for those visiting these wetlands.



Ongoing **dipwell and ecological monitoring** now takes place alongside and a programme of **rotational reed cutting** and **willow removal** as part of the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust's site management plan.

Since the onset of management, ecological monitoring has revealed significant increases in **nationally rare plants** such as Tubular water-dropwort and the return of Marsh thistle and Lesser marshwort, both rare in Scilly-terms.

The **annual cost** of management of the wetland sites on St Mary's to date has been **£40,000** which was funded through the **Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust's Environmental Stewardship grant**.

The work of the NAAONB in 2018-19

2018-19 has been a **landmark year for the environment sector as a whole** and the National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty has continued to work tirelessly to represent the needs of nature and society.

2018-19's work falls into three main areas:

Advocacy

- prepared an ambitious, compelling, and evidenced **case for change to the Designated Landscapes review panel**;
- developed a credible, collaborative and progressive proposal for a post Brexit Environmental Land Management scheme supporting nature friendly farming; **'Farming for the Nation'**. This proposal was accepted by government, and tests and trials are scheduled to begin during 2019-20;
- submitted **government consultation responses** on behalf of the AONB network in relation to Net Gain, and the wider National Planning Policy Framework and presented a summary of the positive approach AONB teams are taking to housing in response to the government report 'Fixing the Broken Housing Market';

- in Wales – working towards the delivery of the Welsh Government ambition set out in the 'Valued and Resilient' policy paper, by **developing further collaboration** with the Welsh AONB partnerships, National Park Authorities in Wales, Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales.

Developing AONBs

- provided **technical support and guidance** to better enable AONBs to embed an **ecosystem approach** into AONB management plans, through a self-assessment checklist, and expert advice provided through workshops and webinars;
- delivered a professional and personal development programme, **'Taking the Lead'**, funded through the National Lottery Heritage Fund's Resilience Fund. This takes a ground-breaking approach to the development of deep collaboration by bringing together staff from across AONBs and giving them time and space to work on visionary task and finish projects which benefit all AONBs
- continued to develop relationships with the Landscape Institute, with a view to **developing an accreditation pathway for AONB managers and officers**.

The work of the NAAONB in 2018-19

Public engagement

- The NAAONB held its **annual national Landscapes for Life conference** in Kent in July earning very positive feedback. The conference attracted one hundred and thirty delegates, twenty per cent of which were non-members, demonstrating its appeal to the wider public,
- the **annual 'Outstanding Week'** in September, a programme events showcasing the work of AONB teams across England and Wales, designed to help people reconnect with nature and enjoy and be inspired by the UK's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)

The work of 2018-19 has **laid the foundations** for a huge amount of progress to be made in 2019-20 and we are looking forward to delivering even more for nature and society.



Bowland Award Winner 2018



Each year, AONBs select the **best project, best practice or outstanding contribution** to the wellbeing of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The **Wye Valley River Festival** is an ambitious biennial **arts and environment festival** run by the **Wye Valley AONB Partnership (Dyffryn Gwy AOHNE)**. The Festivals in 2014, 2016 and 2018 were co-created with local communities and professional artists. The Festival creates the opportunity to engage the public with key messages about conserving and enhancing the landscape in a **fresh** and **innovative** way.

Over the three Festivals they have engaged **over 80,000 people** with inspiring art focused on the special qualities of the landscape. The Festival is multi-sited with events spread around the Wye Valley AONB, between Hereford and Chepstow, over 16 days in early May (over the first May Bank Holiday weekend and the following two weeks).

Through the Festival the AONB Partnership has built **new relationships** linking **outdoor arts** with our more familiar partners from built and natural heritage, landowners, local communities, tourism and recreation, deepening their appreciation of the Wye Valley.



Partnerships are key to the **co-production** and creative **success**: these take time to establish and require **compromise** and **empathy** from each partner, clear boundaries and expectations discussed and shared.

The **collaboration between artists, environmentalists and local communities** has been at times a steep learning curve from each perspective. But over the 3 Festivals **support** and **respect** has been built up through the demonstration of **dedication, professionalism** and **delivery**.

Closing remarks

The stories presented in this report are the **combined effort** of thousands of farmers, landowners, conservation charities and volunteers, as well as the **AONB teams** helping making it all happen... but they are **just a few** of the numerous projects and activities AONBs are delivering for our **cherished landscapes**.

This year is special: we celebrate **70 years** of the AONB and National Park designations. With the **Review of Designated Landscapes**, our **Colchester Declaration**, and the AONBs involvement in developing the next **Environment Land Management system**, there are increasing opportunities to do more for our landscapes than ever before.

The AONBs are ready to take on the **challenges** ahead and are **working collaboratively** on a number of new initiatives, to deliver even more for nature and people. For several years now, AONB staff across the country have been taking part in National Lottery Heritage funded, nationwide **staff development programmes** facilitated by the NAAONB to instil **collaboration** and enhance **skill and knowledge flows across the network**.

Together, AONBs are **a force for change**. As ever, they keep on pioneering new ways of enhancing and protecting natural beauty across diverse and precious landscapes.

~ The NAAONB Team



Here was nature as future,
the satellite dishes of blue convolvulus
tuned to the cosmos, tracking the chatter of stars,
the micro-gadgets of complex insects
working the fields, heaths tractored by beetles,
rainbowed hay meadows tipsy with mist and light,
golden gravel hoarded in eskers and streams.

And we vowed not to slumber again
but claimed sanctuary
under the kittiwake's siren
and corncrake's alarm,
in realms patrolled by sleepwalking becks and creeks
where beauty employs its own border police.

Extract from *Fugitives* by Poet Laureate Simon Armitage.
Commissioned to mark the 70th anniversary of the National
Parks and Access to the Countryside Act.

Image credits and sources

Front cover:

Barn Owl project – Dedham Vale AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/barn-owl-project>

Wonderful Wetlands - Isles of Scilly AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/wonderful-wetlands>

Wye Valley River Festival – Wye Valley AONB (Dyffryn Gwy AOHNE)

<http://www.mywye.co.uk/festival-18-photos.html>

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonb-case-studies/wye-valley-river-festival>

Chilterns Chalk Streams Project – Chilterns AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/chilterns-chalk-streams-project>

Dark skies (c) Cain Scrimgeour – North Pennines AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonb-case-studies/dark-skies>

Mosaic:

Chichester Harbour AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/chichester-harbour>

Turtle Dove Conservation – Howardian Hills AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/turtle-dove-conservation>

Glorious Cotswolds Grasslands – Cotswolds AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/glorious-cotswold-grasslands>

Weald Meadows Initiative – High Weald AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/weald-meadows-initiative>

Wild Watch – Nidderdale AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/wild-watch>

Conserving Black Down – Mendip Hills AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/conserving-black-down>

Isle of Wight AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/isle-wight>

Cannock Chase AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/cannock-chase>

South Wiltshire Farmland Bird Project – Cranborne Chase AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/south-wiltshire-farmland-bird-project>

Glaven Eel Project – Norfolk Coast AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/glaven-eel-project>

Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project – Lincolnshire AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/lincolnshire-chalk-streams-project>

Stepping Stones – North Wessex Downs AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/stepping-stones>

Northumberland Coast AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/northumberland-coast>

Grayling Butterfly back from the brink – Malvern Hills AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/grayling-butterfly-back-brink>

Quantock Hills AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/quantock-hills>

River Clun Recovery Project – Shropshire Hills AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/river-clun-recovery-project>

Llyn AONB (AHNE Llŷn)

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/llyn>

Gower Hedgerow Hub – Gower AONB (Gŵyr AHNE)

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/gower-hedgerow-hub>

Saving the Marsh Fritillary – Solway Coast AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/saving-marsh-fritillary>

Saltmarsh Restoration – Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/saltmarsh-restoration>

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB (Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy AHNE)

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/clwydian-range-and-dee-valley>

Welcome:

Surrey Hills AONB – © John Miller

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/surrey-hills>

Who we are:

Bowland Award 2018 Nominee – Bowland Haytime – Forest of Bowland AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonb-case-studies/bowland-haytime>

Bowland Award 2018 Nominee – Farms for AONBees – Cornwall AONB in partnership with South Devon AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonb-case-studies/farms-aonbees>

Caring for natural beauty:

Peatbog restoration projects

Cornwall <https://www.cornwall-aonb.gov.uk/bodmin-moor-peatlands-restoration>
<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/bodmin-restoration>
North Pennines <http://www.northpennines.org.uk/2019/06/04/a-record-year-for-north-pennines-peatland-conservation/>
<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/peatland-restoration>
<https://penninepeatlife.org.uk/>
Forest of Bowland <https://www.forestofbowland.com/peat-restoration-0>
<https://www.forestofbowland.com/Lancashire-Peat-Partnership>
<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/priority-peat>

Caring for heritage:

Beacons of the Past – Chilterns AONB; landscape photo © Gerry Withlow

<https://www.chilternsaonb.org/about-chilterns/historic-environment/hillforts/beacons-of-the-past.html>
<https://chilternsbeacons.org/wp/>

Engaging with people:

Somerset Nature and Wellbeing Project

Blackdown Hills <https://blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/project/nature-and-wellbeing>
<https://blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/nature-and-wellbeing-project-year-one-report-2016-17.pdf>
Quantock Hills <https://www.quantockhills.com/projects>
Mendip Hills <http://www.mendiphillsaonb.org.uk/2018/05/03/let-nature-nurture-video/>

Power to convene:

Greater Horseshoe Bat Project – East Devon AONB

<https://vimeo.com/246939349>

Sustainable development:

Arnside and Silverdale AONB DPD

<https://www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk/aonb-development-plan-document-dpd-adopted/>

Value for money:

Wonderful Wetlands – Isles of Scilly AONB © BareFoot Photographer

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/wonderful-wetlands>

Bowland Award Winner 2018:

Wye Valley River Festival – Wye Valley AONB (Dyffryn Gwy AOHNE)

<http://www.mywye.co.uk/festival-18-photos.html>
<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonb-case-studies/wye-valley-river-festival>

Closing Remarks:

Landscapes for Life Week

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/events/landscapes-for-life-week>

Back cover:

Black Down Restoration – Dorset AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/black-down-restoration>

Coastal Creatures (beach cleans in North Devon) – North Devon AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/coastal-creatures>

The Hidden Palace - Otford's Own Hampton Court – Kent Downs AONB

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/aonbs/kent-downs>

Nutkin ventured, Nutkin gained – Anglesey AONB (AHNE Ynys Môn)

<https://landscapesforlife.org.uk/about-aonbs/nature-recovery-solutions/nutkin-ventured-nutkin-gained>

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Annual Report 2019

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