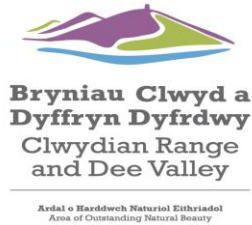




# Public Document Pack



Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy AHNE  
Park Gwledig Loggerheads, Yr Wyddgrug, Sir Ddinbych CH7 5LH

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB  
Loggerheads Country Park, Nr. Mold, Denbighshire CH7 5LH

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**Web:** [www.clwydianrangeanddeevalleyaonb.org.uk/](http://www.clwydianrangeanddeevalleyaonb.org.uk/)

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 [@Clwyd\\_Deer\\_AONB](https://twitter.com/Clwyd_Deer_AONB)

To: Members of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee      Date: 13 June 2024  
Direct Dial: 01824 712589  
Email: [democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk)

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee, Friday, 21 June 2024 at 10.00 am in Guildhall Wrexham and by video conference.**

Yours sincerely

G Williams  
Monitoring Officer

## AGENDA

### 1 INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

### 2 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 APRIL 2024 (Pages 5 - 12)

To consider the minutes (copy attached) of the previous meeting of the AONB Joint Committee held on 12 April 2024.

### 3 MINUTES FROM OUR PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE STEERING GROUP HELD ON 30 APRIL 2024 (Pages 13 - 16)

To consider the minutes (copy attached) of the Picturesque Landscapes meeting held on 30 April 2024 (DS).

**4 PRESENTATION CURLEW CONNECTIONS PROJECT**

To receive a verbal update from Sam Kenyon and Rhun Jones on the Curlew Connections Project.

**5 UPDATE ON NORTHEAST WALES NATIONAL PARK DESIGNATION PROJECT**

To receive a verbal update from the NRW Programme Manager, Ash Pierce, on the North East Wales National Park Designation Project.

**6 JOINT COMMITTEE ANNUAL RETURN REPORT (STANDING ITEM)**  
(Pages 17 - 32)

To consider the Joint Committee Annual Return Update report (copy attached) (SG and PO).

**7 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (STANDING ITEM)** (Pages 33 - 38)

To consider the Forward Work Programme (copy attached) from the AONB Officer (HS).

**8 FUTURE MEETING DATES**

For Information – the next meeting date of the AONB Joint Committee is 15 November 2024.

**9 SIGNING OF JOINT ACCORD**

To sign the Joint Accord.

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Councillors**

David Healey  
Dave Hughes  
Alan James

Hugh Jones  
Nigel Williams  
Emrys Wynne

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## **CLWYDIAN RANGE AND DEE VALLEY AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY JOINT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee Meeting held in Council Chamber County Hall and by video conference on Friday 12 April 2024 at 10am.

### **PRESENT**

Councillors David Healy (FCC) Dave Hughes (FCC) Nigel Williams (WCBC) and Emrys Wynne (DCC)

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Steve Gadd (Finance and Assurance Manager), Mike Bather (Wrexham County Borough Council), Ceri Lloyd (AONB SDF Officer), Paula O'Hanlon (Senior Finance Officer, DCC) Howard Sutcliffe (AONB Officer), David Shiel (AONB Area Manager), Karen Weaver (AONB Co-ordinator), Clare Lord (Solicitor/ Places Team Leader, DCC), Ash Pearce (Designated Landscapes Programme Team Leader, NRW), Nicola Hughes (Committee Administrator, DCC), Sharon Walker (Committee Administrator/Zoom Host, DCC)

**Observers:** Councillor Bobby Feeley (AONB Partnership), John Roberts (AONB Partnership), Mike Skuse (AONB Partnership).

## **1. INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

The meeting was opened by the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Officer and Ranger Service Manager, Howard Sutcliffe. The Places Team Leader and Solicitor, Clare Lord suggested everyone attending the meeting introduced themselves for the minute taker to note the attendance at the meeting in the minutes.

Apologies were received from Councillor Win Mullen-James (DCC), Councillor Hugh Jones (WCBC) and Andy Worthington (AONB Partnership Chair).

## **2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Nominations were sought for the election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee.

Councillor Emrys Wynne nominated David Hughes for the role of Chair, and this was seconded by David Healy.

David Hughes nominated Nigel Williams for the role of Vice-Chair and this was seconded by David Healy.

There being no further nominations it was:

***RESOLVED:*** that David Hughes be appointed as Chair and Nigel Williams be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee.

### **3. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AONB JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 17 NOVEMBER 2023**

The minutes of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee held on 17 November 2023 were submitted.

#### **Accuracy –**

Page 5 (minutes) – Huw Jones to be amended to Hugh Jones.

Page 8 (minutes) – Moel Famau to be amended to Moel Famau.

#### **Matters arising –**

No matters arising were raised.

***RESOLVED:*** that, subject to the above, the minutes of the meeting held on the 17 November 2023 be received and approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

### **4. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AONB PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON THE 26 JANUARY 2024 (HS)**

The draft minutes of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership meeting held on 26 January 2024 were received for information.

The AONB Officer highlighted the following points from the minutes-

A presentation was received at the meeting addressing Inclusion, Diversity and Governance to work towards diversifying the AONB Partnership Membership.

Work to improve the toilet block and car park had now been completed at Horseshoe Falls to improve traffic and visitor flow.

Clwyd West – Levelling Up Fund - Loggerheads had plans being commissioned to alleviate flooding on the site.

Architects were currently working on designs to create a visitor Hub at Moel Famau to help manage visitors.

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the AONB Partnership meeting held on the 26 January 2024 be noted.

## **5. MINUTES FROM THE PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPES STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON THE 23 JANUARY 2024 (DS)**

The draft minutes of Our Picturesque Landscape Partnership meeting held on 23 January 2024 were received for information.

The AONB Area manager highlighted the following from the minutes-

Wenffrwd's key link path to the canal was a challenging piece of engineering and this work had now been completed.

Llangollen Museum was to hold its final exhibition displaying OPL work from the end of January and the Ebenezer Chapel in Cefn Mawr had expressed an interest in the exhibition for Spring/Summer 2024.

**RESOLVED:** that the meetings of the Picturesque Landscapes Steering Group meeting held on the 23 January 2024 be noted.

## **6. PRESENTATION AND REPORT ON THE DRAFT SUSTAINABLE TOURISM STRATEGY 2023-2028**

The Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Sustainable Development Officer guided Members through a presentation on the Draft Sustainable Tourism Strategy 2023-2028.

The Strategy outlined a long-term vision for Sustainable Tourism within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.

The vision recognised –

- the increasing number of people participating in outdoor recreation which was placing increasing pressure on fragile and precious ecosystems
- the global and regional challenges arising from climate and nature emergencies
- the challenges facing the industry arising from the cost of living crisis and tourism trends post Covid 19
- the proposed National Park status for an area including the CRDV AONB

The 2023-2028 Sustainable Tourism Strategy was the third plan developed since 2015. In 2015 the impact on the AONB's natural environment had been noted to be relatively limited however, there had been some degree of erosion

and pressure on habitats from overuse in a few locations at certain times. In 2019 an impact appraisal was conducted to gather the thoughts of personnel who worked in AONB areas on the impact of tourism within AONB areas. Consolidating responses together, it was felt that without sustainability at its core, the growth of tourism in a region could have serious impacts on people's lifestyles, natural habitats and wildlife, historic sites and essential resources such as water and energy; without careful planning, negative impacts could quickly prevail as tourism grows. This could eventually degrade the destination and lead to the destruction of its assets.

The Draft Sustainable Tourism Strategy had a process to implement the Sustainable Tourism Vision and Action Plan which included the approach, the incorporation of the 9 goals of the vision and commitment.

The 9 goals within the Sustainable Tourism Strategy were –

- Biodiversity
- Communities and Culture
- Visitor Management
- Business Support
- Carbon Footprint
- Waste
- Mitigation and Adaptation
- Communicating with visitors
- Monitoring and Evaluation

In January 2024 a meeting was held to prioritise the goals within the Action Plan. The AONB Sustainable Development Officer further explained each goal within the strategy to the Committee and the responses received back from personnel concerning each goal.

The AONB Sustainable Development Officer stated the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB Sustainable Tourism Vision for 2050 recognised that the communities/culture, landscape and environment of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB were central to the tourism offer of the region and defined how the management and delivery of tourism can promote and provide experiences of the uniqueness and beauty of the area whilst also protecting and enhancing its special qualities.

The Chair thanked the AONB Sustainable Development Officer for their detailed presentation and question were welcomed from members.

Members commented on the photograph of litter in AONB areas in the presentation and stated that this was an issue for the Local Authority. Members suggested encouraging the public to take their litter home with them and referenced the waste collection methods within different countries involving underground bins with increased capacity.

Members highlighted the challenge of reducing the Carbon Footprint of visitors and referred to sustainable transport, in particular buses and questioned what plans were in place if there were too many visitors to an area at one time. The AONB Sustainable Development Officer stated that the Carbon Footprint of visitors was monitored, and she would gather the information and report back to the Committee at a future meeting.

***RESOLVED:*** that the Committee adopt the Sustainable Tourism Vision and Action Plan for the AONB covering the year 2023-208.

## **7. UPDATE ON THE NORTHEAST WALES NATIONAL PARK DESIGNATION PROJECT**

The Designated Landscapes Programme Team Leader (DLPTL) provided a presentation which included information on the following points: -

- Progress Overview
- Assessments
- Public Engagement
- Next Steps
- Advisory Group changes

Members were given a brief overview of the key elements of the Special Qualities Report, Forces for Change Report and the Management Options Report which were relevant to the Northeast Wales National Park Designation Project.

Details were given on the engagement strategy that had been conducted within the surrounding areas of the proposed new National Park and 949 responses had been received, generally portraying a positive and optimistic feeling towards the National Park. The majority of responses received were from local residents. A table of common concerns was presented to the Committee with tranquillity and sustainability of the area and the impacts on public services being the areas of most concern.

Going forward, the next steps for the Northeast Wales National Park Designation Project included a report to be produced on the engagement period and Impact Assessment and Benefits Analysis being conducted, with public consultation taking place in Autumn 2024.

The Chair thanked the DLPTL for their detailed presentation and questions were welcomed from Members.

Members sought clarity on the Management Advisory Group and questioned if this was to include Members. The DLPTL explained that currently this Group was an Operational Level Group and did not include Members at this stage.

Members discussed the confusion within communities and for many Members regarding the difference between the AONB and a National Park and expressed the need to further educate the public and members on the difference. The DLPTL explained that workshops on the National Park for all Members were planned in the future and further frequent updates would be provided as the project continued.

The Chair thanked the DLPTL for their presentation and for attending the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** *that the update on the Northeast Wales National Park Designation Project be noted.*

## **8. NATIONAL LANDSCAPE REBRAND PRESENTATION AND REPORT**

The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Officer and Ranger Service Manager provided the Committee with an overview of the National Landscape Rebrand report.

Over several years two national reports, the Marston Review (Wales) and the Glover Review (England) had looked at how all aspects of AONBs could be improved including their future direction. One of the major opportunities was a refresh in the name, direction and branding. Both reports suggested a change in the name for AONBs to National Landscapes. On 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, AONBs, primarily in England became National Landscapes. For many years the acronym AONB had been mispronounced, misunderstood and had remained in the background of designations.

AONB/National Landscape Teams had been at the forefront of delivering natural solutions to the main challenges facing the nation for many years. The new brand underscores their commitment to redoubling their efforts and engaging with a wider audience. The rebrand marked the next step in fully realising the National Landscapes vision, to be the leading exemplars of how thriving, diverse communities can work with and for nature in the UK: restoring ecosystems, providing food, storing carbon to mitigate the effects of climate change, safeguarding against drought and flooding, whilst also nurturing people's health and well-being.

The AONB Area Manager and Team Leader guided members through a presentation providing further information including –

- Introduction and objectives of the rebrand
- How the brand was developed
- Introduction to the brand identity

Each National Landscape had worked with Nice and Serious to develop a new logo that reflected their landscape or one of its iconic species. There was now a suite of 39 logos (including the National Landscapes Association logo)



which made a patchwork representing the whole family. The Committee were shown images of the 39 logos and the reason for their different colours were explained.

The Chair thanked the AONB Area Manager for their presentation and the The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Officer and Ranger Service Manager for his report and comments were welcomed from the Committee.

Members raised concerns regarding the costings of the rebrand and also referred to the plans for a new National Park which would mean a further rebrand in the near future.

The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Officer and Ranger Service Manager reassured members that this the costings would be well managed.

***RESOLVED:*** that the Joint Committee adopts the rebranding of AONB areas to the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscapes and becomes The National Landscape Joint Committee.

## **9. JOINT COMMITTEE ANNUAL RETURN UPDATE REPORT (STANDING ITEM)**

The Head of Finance and Property, Steve Gadd (SG) gave a brief update on the Joint Committee Annual Return report to the Committee.

The report gave details of the AONB's projected revenue budget outturn position for 2023/2024. The projected overall position was a contribution from the revenue reserve of c.£20K, slightly less than anticipated when the budget was set.

The report had been audited and signed off and a letter from the Auditors Team would be brought to the next meeting of the Committee.

***Resolved:*** that the AONB Joint Committee Outturn Accounts 2023/2024 be noted.

## **10. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (STANDING ITEM)**

HS presented the forward work programme and gave a verbal update on progress on the items listed highlighting:

- A new one-year offer had been received from Natural Resources Wales for funding, unfortunately this had reduced from a three year offer.
- Consultation had been held regarding the AONB Management Plan, NRW had commissioned Land Use Consultants to re-write the guidance for National Landscapes Management Plans.
- The Local Authority Legal Agreement had been reviewed in January 2024. It was agreed that there would be no need for reviews of the

Joint Committee Legal Agreement however, it would need to be sent to Wrexham and Flintshire Councils.

- AONB Champions had requesting involvement in all aspects of the Committees work and an increase in open and broad meetings had been held to facilitate this.
- Dark Skies initiatives including the changing of lights had had a major impact in Llangollen and aided the reduction in electricity costs.

Members discussed the impact of sewage spillages into rivers and seas and asked if it was relevant for it to be included on the Forward Work Programme. Following a discussion, it was agreed that representatives for Dwr Cymru and the Dee Life Project would be contacted to advise if they would attend a future meeting of the Committee.

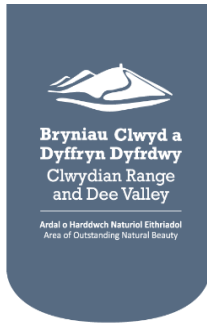
***RESOLVED:*** that the Forward Work Programme be noted.

## **11. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The next meeting on the AONB Joint Committee is scheduled for 21 June 2024.

**RESOLVED:** that the future meeting date be noted.

Meeting concluded at 11.55am



**Our Picturesque Landscape Project  
Steering Group Meeting Minutes,  
Froncysyllte Community Centre  
Froncysyllte, Wrexham.**

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 10am to 12pm.**

**Members Present**

David Shiel (DS), Hannah Marubbi (HM) Jillian Howe (JH), Mike Bather (MB), Howard Sutcliffe (HS), Ffion Roberts (FR), Del Roberts Jones (DRJ).

**Apologies**

Sallyanne Hall (SH), Lynne Jones (LJ), Rhun Jones (RJ) Paul Evans (PE), Fiona Grant (FGr), Huw Rees (HR), Fiona Gale (FG) Carly Davies (CD), John Roberts (JR).

1. Welcome and Apologies	All welcomed to the meeting and apologies noted.	Actions
2. Minutes of last meeting update	<p>HS noted that Ian Hughes, NRW will join the group for the remaining meetings and all to be included in all correspondence.</p> <p>DS updated the group on the progress of the work to the Horseshoe falls. Work on the car park is now complete, with an increase in parking spaces and drainage work is complete, but work continues to the drop off points and to for future electric point. Height barrier still not installed. Discussions are in hand regarding the best way to move forward with paddle sports businesses.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the legitimacy of containers used for storage around the valley and the role of planning enforcement. HS asked MB if NRW can be invited to future WHS board meetings.</p>	<p>FR</p> <p>MB</p>

<p><b>3. Project Risk Register</b></p>	<p>Majority of the projects in the risk register are now coloured green to denote they are complete. The exceptions are as follows –</p> <p><b><u>Volunteers</u></b>  The number of volunteers working on projects are lower than anticipated, but OPL are working with the Rangers to schedule OPL volunteer numbers into their events and are on schedule to meet this target.  OPL are collaborating with the Rangers on their volunteer Ranger events and have fifteen people interested in joining this scheme in the Dee Valley.</p> <p><b><u>Panorama Management</u></b>  The Panorama signage has started to be installed. NRW happy with the location of the signs and the Rangers have started to install in them at locations. It is hoped that these signs will discourage careless parking which damages the ground in four key areas and raise awareness of the area’s status. A biodiversity walk is planned for May and another further into the summer.</p> <p><b><u>Picturesque Circular Trails</u></b>  The guided walks trails are being used by the Rangers and are proving popular. The only outstanding leaflet is the ‘Discover the Dee Valley Walks’ booklet. The maps are still being developed by the designer and improvement work is being done by the Rangers at Gro Isa. The Railway at Corwen will have large copies of the map on display at the station, to promote Corwen walk routes.</p> <p><b><u>Interpretation</u></b>  Still waiting for 4 of these panels to be finished and installed at the Horseshoe Falls site. The final draft and comments have now gone to the designer for manufacturing. CRT need to approve replacing the signs in the existing housing.  Four Great Highways project want to put interpretive pillars around the WHS and may need to go through the planning group. Needs to keep the look of the WHS interpretation. DS to forward details to MB.  A community miles map that proposed for Fron community centre car park is not in keeping with other interpretation boards in the project area. As a key location for the WHS it needs to be discussed with Fron Community Council to see if they are happy for it to follow WHS branding and consistency. DS to follow up with wider team.  The Glyn Valley Tramway wall has been cleared of vegetation by their volunteers which will make the plaque more visible.</p> <p><b><u>Education Packs</u></b>  JH took the group through a presentation of the website educational resources that have been developed.  The team will now take the resources to the schools to advise teaching staff how to use.</p>
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DS.

DS/JH

	<p><b>Wenffrwd Pocket Park</b>  Parking charges start 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024.</p>	
<p><b>4.Final Evaluation Report.</b></p>	<p>The monitor has submitted his draft report up to February 2024. There will be some editing to do to the document towards the end of the project but it was very positive report. The link was circulated to the group prior to the meeting.  HM took the group through the draft report presentation and discussions were had looking back at memories and successes of the project.</p>	
<p><b>5.National Landscapes.</b></p>	<p>The AONB has new branding, and now known as a National Landscapes. All AONB' s encouraged to join with branding funded by DEFRA. OPL logos have been modified to reflect this. New logos shared with the group.</p>	
<p><b>6. AOB</b></p>	<p>MB informed the group that a Welsh UNESCO (Welsh WHS and Welsh Geoparks) group is being set up. Any group members with agenda items for the inaugural meeting in June to contact MB.</p>	<p><b>DS/HS</b></p>
<p><b>7. Date of Next Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>Next meeting will be Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 venue – Cadwyn Clwyd, Yr Hen Fanc, Bridge Street, Corwen. LL21 0AH 10 - 12</b></p>	<p><b>FR</b></p>

DRAFT

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**Bryniau Clwyd a  
Dyffryn Dyfrdwy**  
Clwydian Range  
and Dee Valley

Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

**JOINT COMMITTEE  
of the  
CLWYDIAN RANGE & DEE VALLEY  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY**

**Held on: 21st June 2024**

**Lead Member / Officer: Steve Gadd**

**Report Author: Paula O'Hanlon**

**Title: Joint Committee Outturn and Accounts 2023/24 & Draft budget 2024/25**

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**1. What is the report about?**

The report gives details of the AONB's revenue budget outturn position as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 alongside the draft budget for 2024/25.

**2. What is the reason for making this report?**

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the AONB's financial position as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and to seek approval of the budget for 2024/25.

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

Members are asked to note the financial outturn for 2023/24 (Appendix 1) and the Reserve Balances as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 (Appendix 4). Members are asked to formally approve the 2024/25 draft budget (appendix 2) and review and sign the Annual Return for 2023/24 (Appendix 3).

**4. Report details.**

The report provides a summary of the AONB's revenue outturn for 2023/24 detailed in Appendix 1. The final outturn position shows an overall overspend of £26,439 which has been funded from the revenue Reserve.

The report also provides a copy of the Annual Return for smaller local government bodies in Wales for the year ended 31 March 2024 (Appendix 3) for consideration and approval.

**5. How does it contribute to the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB Management Plans Priorities?**

Effective management of the AONB's revenue budgets will help the delivery of the agreed management plan priorities for the current year and underpins activity in all areas, particularly our relationships with funding partners and our joint priorities.

**6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

There are no direct costs associated with this report.

**7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.**

N/A

**8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

The financial position is a standing item at each meeting of the Joint Committee.

**9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

This report outlines the financial position for the AONB for 2023/24 & 2024/25.

The approval and signing of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2024 (Appendix 3) is a statutory requirement prior to Audit Wales carrying out an audit of the accounts.

Provisional funding from NRW has been obtained until 31/03/2027.

As of the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2024, the balance in the AONB Reserve (appendix 4) stood at £1,341,030. Of this, £1,270,780 is earmarked for specific projects which will progress during the 2024/25 financial year. The balance of £70,250 is available to support the 2024/25 revenue budget, it is expected that £53,854 will be required in 2024/25.

**10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

The AONB budget is dependent on income from NRW, Welsh Government and the three Local Authorities. There is a risk of there being insufficient funding to cover the cost of the AONB in future years unless additional resources are found, posing a risk to the future delivery of projects and the ability to deliver against the priorities in the AONB Management Plan.



## **11. Power to make the Decision.**

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

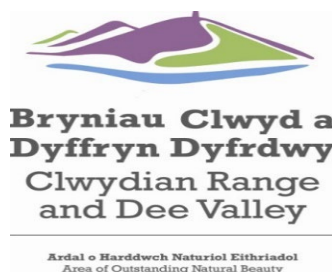
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**AONB JOINT COMMITTEE**

**(DENBIGHSHIRE, FLINTSHIRE AND WREXHAM COUNCILS)**

**CORE - REVENUE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AT 31st March 2024**

	Budget 2023/24	Outturn 2023/24
	£	£
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<u>Employees</u>		
Salaries	203,692	213,808
Training & Conference	2,000	677
<b>Total Employee costs</b>	<b>205,692</b>	<b>214,485</b>
<u>Vehicle and Travel</u>		
Vehicle Hire	400	582
Mileage	2,500	2,871
Use of Public Transport		438
<b>Total Vehicle &amp; Travel Expenses</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>3,891</b>
<u>Other</u>		
Protective Clothing	1,500	
Management Plan/Prof fees	2,500	2,500
Subscriptions	3,000	3,840
Audit Fees	1,134	1,582
IT / Communication costs	3,100	3,979
Office Expenses	500	512
Telephones	800	734
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>12,534</b>	<b>13,148</b>
<u>Projects</u>		
Grants	80,000	94,437
<b>Total Project costs</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>94,437</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>301,126</b>	<b>325,961</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
NRW CRDV Grant	-93,447	-93,447
SDF Mgmt fee	-20,000	-5,928
SDF Grant	-80,000	-94,072
LA Funding	-107,679	-132,514
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>-301,126</b>	<b>-325,961</b>
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

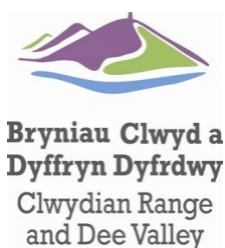


**AONB JOINT COMMITTEE**

**(DENBIGHSHIRE, FLINTSHIRE AND WREXHAM COUNCILS)**

**AREA - REVENUE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AT 31st March 2024**

	Budget 2023/24	Outturn 2023/24
	£	£
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<u>Employees</u>		
Salaries	196,747	210,719
Training & Conference	500	17
<b>Total Employee costs</b>	<b>197,247</b>	<b>210,736</b>
<u>Vehicle and Travel</u>		
Fuel	4,000	7,118
Fleet	19,000	12,424
Travel	1,200	1,687
<b>Total Vehicle &amp; Travel Expenses</b>	<b>24,200</b>	<b>21,230</b>
<u>Other</u>		
Protective Clothing	1,500	1,347
General Equipment	250	118
IT / Communication costs	3,100	3,421
Telephones	1,000	937
Site Management		1,178
Projects/Activity expenditure	4,000	3,052
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>9,850</b>	<b>10,052</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>231,297</b>	<b>242,018</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
NRW Forestry Partnership	-30,821	-30,821
LA funding	-177,325	-184,758
Contributions from Reserve	-23,151	-26,439
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>-231,297</b>	<b>-242,018</b>
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-0</b>



Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

**AONB JOINT COMMITTEE**

**(DENBIGHSHIRE, FLINTSHIRE AND WREXHAM COUNCILS)**

**CORE -DRAFT BUDGET 2024/25**

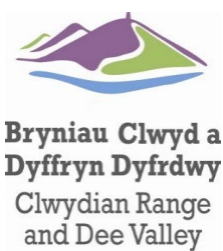
	Budget 2023/24	Draft Budget 2024/25
	£	£
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<u>Employees</u>		
Salaries	203,692	218,185
Training & Conference	2,000	1,000
<b>Total Employee costs</b>	<b>205,692</b>	<b>219,185</b>
<u>Vehicle and Travel</u>		
Vehicle Hire	400	200
Mileage	2,500	3,500
Use of Public Transport		500
<b>Total Vehicle &amp; Travel Expenses</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>4,200</b>
<u>Other</u>		
Protective Clothing	1,500	1,000
Management Plan/Prof fees	2,500	2,500
Subscriptions	3,000	3,900
Audit Fees	1,134	1,582
IT / Communication costs	3,100	4,000
Office Expenses	500	500
Telephones	800	750
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>12,534</b>	<b>14,232</b>
<u>Projects</u>		
Grants	80,000	90,000
<b>Total Project costs</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>90,000</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>301,126</b>	<b>327,617</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
NRW CRDV Grant	-93,447	-100,538
SDF Mgmt fee	-20,000	-10,000
SDF Grant	-80,000	-90,000
LA Funding	-107,679	-79,500
Contributions from Reserve		-27,579
WG Grant Mgmt fees		-20,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>-301,126</b>	<b>-327,617</b>
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**AONB JOINT COMMITTEE**

**(DENBIGHSHIRE, FLINTSHIRE AND WREXHAM COUNCILS)**

**AREA - DRAFT BUDGET 2024/25**

	Budget 2023/24	Draft Budget 2024/25
	£	£
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<u>Employees</u>		
Salaries	196,747	211,619
Training & Conference	500	500
<b>Total Employee costs</b>	<b>197,247</b>	<b>212,119</b>
<u>Vehicle and Travel</u>		
Fuel	4,000	7,000
Fleet	19,000	14,000
Travel	1,200	1,800
<b>Total Vehicle &amp; Travel Expenses</b>	<b>24,200</b>	<b>22,800</b>
<u>Other</u>		
Protective Clothing	1,500	1,500
General Equipment	250	250
IT / Communication costs	3,100	3,500
Telephones	1,000	700
Site Management		
Projects/Activity expenditure	4,000	4,000
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>9,850</b>	<b>9,950</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>231,297</b>	<b>244,869</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
NRW Forestry Partnership	-30,821	-30,821
LA funding	-177,325	-187,773
Contributions from Reserve	-23,151	-26,275
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>-231,297</b>	<b>-244,869</b>
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

# Minor Joint Committees in Wales

## Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

### Accounting statements 2023-24 for:

Name of  
Committee:

Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2023 (£)	31 March 2024 (£)	
<b>Statement of income and expenditure/receipts and payments</b>			
1. Balances brought forward	421,384	942,520	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Must agree to line 7 of the previous year.
2. (+) Income from local taxation/levy	355,682	319,702	Total amount of income received/receivable in the year from levy/contribution from principal bodies.
3. (+) Total other receipts	1,063,978	1,347,513	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
4. (-) Staff costs	-512,421	-648,681	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, taxable allowances, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and termination costs. Exclude reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing (if any).
6. (-) Total other payments	-386,104	-620,024	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook minus staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	942,520	1,341,030	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).
<b>Statement of balances</b>			
8. (+) Debtors	103,283	151,660	<b>Income and expenditure accounts only:</b> Enter the value of debts owed to the Committee at the year-end.
9. (+) Total cash and investments	860,438	1,197,899	<b>All accounts:</b> The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held at 31 March. This must agree with the reconciled cashbook balance as per the bank reconciliation.
10. (-) Creditors	-21,201	-8,529	<b>Income and expenditure accounts only:</b> Enter the value of monies owed by the Committee (except borrowing) at the year-end.
11. (=) Balances carried forward	942,520	1,341,030	<b>Total balances should equal line 7 above:</b> Enter the total of (8+9-10).
12. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	0	0	The asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held as at 31 March.
13. Total borrowing	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

## Annual Governance Statement

We acknowledge as the members of the Committee, our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2024, that:

	Agreed?		'YES' means that the Committee:	PG Ref
	Yes	No*		
<p>1. We have put in place arrangements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• effective financial management during the year; and</li> <li>• the preparation and approval of the accounting statements.</li> </ul>			Properly sets its budget and manages its money and prepares and approves its accounting statements as prescribed by law.	6, 12
<p>2. We have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption, and reviewed its effectiveness.</p>			Made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.	6, 7
<p>3. We have taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the Committee to conduct its business or on its finances.</p>			Has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to codes of practice and standards in the way it has done so.	6
<p>4. We have provided proper opportunity for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.</p>			Has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect the committee's accounts as set out in the notice of audit.	6, 23
<p>5. We have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the Committee and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.</p>			Considered the financial and other risks it faces in the operation of the Committee and has dealt with them properly.	6, 9
<p>6. We have maintained an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems throughout the year and have received a report from the internal auditor.</p>			Arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the Committee.	6, 8
<p>7. We have considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the Committee and, where appropriate, have included them on the accounting statements.</p>			Disclosed everything it should have about its business during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.	6
<p>8. We have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in previous reports from internal and external audit.</p>			Considered and taken appropriate action to address issues/weaknesses brought to its attention by both the internal and external auditors.	6, 8, 23

\* Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'no' response given; and describe what action is being taken to address the weaknesses identified.



## Additional disclosure notes\*

The following information is provided to assist the reader to understand the accounting statement and/or the Annual Governance Statement
1.
2.
3.

\* Include here any additional disclosures the Committee considers necessary to aid the reader's understanding of the accounting statement and/or the annual governance statement.

## Committee approval and certification

The Committee is responsible for the preparation of the accounting statements and the annual governance statement in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 (the Act) and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

<b>Certification by the RFO</b> I certify that the accounting statements contained in this Annual Return present fairly the financial position of the Committee, and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2024.	<b>Approval by the Committee</b> I confirm that these accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement were approved by the Committee under minute reference:
	<b>Minute ref:</b>
<b>RFO signature:</b>	<b>Chair signature:</b>
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Name:</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

## Annual internal audit report to:

Name of  
Committee:

Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB

The Committee's internal audit, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, has included carrying out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ending 31 March 2024.

The internal audit has been carried out in accordance with the Committee's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the following control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the Committee.

	Agreed?				Outline of work undertaken as part of the internal audit (NB not required if detailed internal audit report presented to the Committee)
	Yes	No*	N/A	Not covered**	
1. Appropriate books of account have been properly kept throughout the year.					
2. Financial regulations have been met, payments were supported by invoices, expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.					
3. The Committee assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.					
4. The annual precept/levy/resource demand requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process, progress against the budget was regularly monitored, and reserves were appropriate.					
5. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked, and VAT was appropriately accounted for.					
6. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.					
7. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with minuted approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.					
8. Asset and investment registers were complete, accurate, and properly maintained.					

	Agreed?				Outline of work undertaken as part of the internal audit (NB not required if detailed internal audit report presented to Committee)
	Yes	No*	N/A	Not covered**	
9. Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.					
10. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments/income and expenditure), agreed with the cashbook, were supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records, and where appropriate, debtors and creditors were properly recorded.					

For any risk areas identified by the Committee (list any other risk areas below or on separate sheets if needed) adequate controls existed:					
	Agreed?				Outline of work undertaken as part of the internal audit (NB not required if detailed internal audit report presented to Committee)
	Yes	No*	N/A	Not covered**	
11.					
12.					
13.					

\* If the response is 'no', please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

\*\* If the response is 'not covered', please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or if coverage is not required, internal audit must explain why not.

[My detailed findings and recommendations which I draw to the attention of the Committee are included in my detailed report to the Committee dated \_\_\_\_\_.] \* Delete if no report prepared.

### Internal audit confirmation

I/we confirm that as the Committee's internal auditor, I/we have not been involved in a management or administrative role within the Committee (including preparation of the accounts) or as a member of the Committee during the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24. I also confirm that there are no conflicts of interest surrounding my appointment.

Name of person who carried out the internal audit:
Signature of person who carried out the internal audit:
Date:

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**AONB Reserve M99001BC01**

	<b>2023/24</b>				
	<b>Opening balance 01.04.23</b>	<b>Revenue budget</b>	<b>Project funding</b>		<b>Closing Balance 31.03.24</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>-943,286</b>	<b>-87,592</b>		<b>-855,694</b>	
<b>Underspend / overspend</b>					
M01001 & M01002		23,115			<b>-38,977</b>
NRW matchfunding for Dee Valley Warden		8,000			<b>0</b>
SLSP 10% Overheads		<b>-13,773</b>			<b>-31,273</b>
<b>Projects</b>					
Corwen projects					<b>-1,425</b>
Outreach Engagement project (KA)					<b>0</b>
Scottish Power Overhead lines - Llysfasi					<b>-5,500</b>
Flintshire AONB Badge					<b>-711</b>
Other/Misc income/sales etc			1,000	<b>-600</b>	<b>-5,703</b>
WG Grant (WGHA)			1,440		<b>-4,718</b>
Whitebeam project					<b>-1,575</b>
Tourism Growth Plan (TGP) / Dark Skies (DARK)			690	<b>-434</b>	<b>-1,959</b>
Curlew Cymru					<b>-519</b>
Friends of the AONB (Michael Ross, benches and habitat mgmt)					<b>-1,193</b>
Farm Payment Scheme BPS				<b>-19,168</b>	<b>-34,413</b>
Limestone Legacy funding (LIME)					<b>-6,110</b>
Loggerheads Shelter					<b>-3,541</b>
Community Garden SDF (COMM)					<b>-1,581</b>
Highways Mitigation Fund P96058					<b>-3,469</b>
Tesco young Rangers				<b>-1,000</b>	<b>-1,000</b>
Donations			245		<b>245</b>
Grant Overheads (OHEA)			7,434	<b>-19,387</b>	<b>-11,953</b>
<b>SDF Additional funding</b>					
<b>17/18</b>					
<i>:- Collaboration with UNESCO WHS</i>					<b>-5,000</b>
<i>:- Gateways A5 Trunk Road and A494 signage (GATE)</i>					<b>-23,111</b>
<i>1803 :- Llantysilio - Moorland restoration £15k</i>					<b>-1,000</b>
<i>1806 :- 2019 - 2024 ANOB Plan £16k</i>			1,866	<b>-2,500</b>	<b>2,739</b>
<i>1808 :- Site conservation - 3 historical sites £15k</i>					<b>-11,301</b>
<b>2019/20</b>					
<i>1901 :- Tree Planting (3 sites)£15k</i>			8,736		<b>-175</b>
<i>1902 :-Threshold and Welcome signs for key AONB sites . £30k</i>					<b>-14,573</b>
<i>1904 :- Heathland Management through cutting and bailing of heather £15k</i>					<b>-3,600</b>
<b>2020/21 Resilient National Parks &amp; AONBs (RNPA):</b>					
DBT1 :- Climate Change and Nature Recovery			49,861	<b>-30,766</b>	<b>-31,885</b>
DBT2 :- Plas Newydd Winter Opening			12,844	<b>-7,434</b>	<b>-0</b>
DBT3:- River Access for Canoeists					<b>1,428</b>
DBT4:- Assistant Ranger - Community Miles					<b>-6,499</b>
<b>2020/21 SLSP</b>					
2001:- Visitor Impacts Resilience project (MF)			1,320		<b>-9,207</b>
2002:- Improving Dark Skies and local ecology (Lighting @ Loggs)					<b>-5,872</b>
<b>2020/21 Green Recovery: (GREC)</b>					
2003:- Graig Fawr					<b>-95</b>
2004:- Moel Findeg & Hen Ardd			5,205		<b>-3,816</b>
2005:- Loggerheads and Alyn Valley			757		<b>-5,541</b>
<b>Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places 2021/22:</b>					
2008 :- Recreation & Tourism Project - New R & D studies			22,500		<b>-7,150</b>
LUFR Levelling up Fund - Railway					<b>-154</b>
2011:- Gwaenysgor etc. (Dee Valley pocket park)					<b>-3,613</b>
<b>Recreation Plan SDF (RECP)</b>			2,320		<b>-2,380</b>

AONB Reserve M99001BC01

	<u>2023/24</u>				
	Opening balance 01.04.23 £	Revenue budget £	Project funding £      £		Closing Balance 31.03.24 £
<b>Additional WG Revenue:</b>					
STAF:- Staffing to support the ongoing increased pressures with tourism					-17,782
2017:- Development of programme of work for new design of existing structures for Capital Projects					-4,150
2018:- Desk top study on opportunities mapping of Moel Famau for SMNR project					-10,000
<b>DSDL Dark Skies Designated Landscapes Collaboration SNPA</b>			148,483	-175,000	-132,884
<b>Snowdonia - Observatory etc. + general Dark skies work</b>					-26,400
<b>NRW Partnership additional staff funding (NRWP)</b>					-1,809
<b>SLSP 2022 - 2025 (2225)</b>			122,652	-200,000	-184,073
<i>Activity 15% DBT1</i>			30,000		56,250
<i>Overheads 10% Revenue</i>			20,000		37,500
<b>Corwen Garden - Cadwyn Clwyd (CG22)</b>			16,825	-14,878	-30
<b>NRW</b>			11,650	-9,850	540
<b><u>SDF &amp; Resilient AONBs 22-25 (STAF):</u></b>			131,751	-150,000	-118,553
<b>NRW CRDV Partnership (CRDV)</b>			20,566	-20,566	-0
<b>PEAT</b>					-22,310
<b>LEADER Cadwyn Clwyd (DVRP)</b>			6,500	-7,954	-0
<b>Snowdonia National Park - Hedgrows (SNPA)</b>				-29,640	-34,171
<b>LEI 3 Lost Landscapes</b>			49,290	-422,976	-507,236
<b>LEI - Huw M</b>					-112,875
<b>Brilliant Basics - A Welcoming Loggerheads (BBWL)</b>			52,879	-45,156	7,723
<b>Curlew Connections</b>			20,701	-13,053	7,648
<b>International Young Rangers Camp (IYRC)</b>			7,762		7,762
		17,342		-415,085	
<b>Closing balance</b>		<b>-70,250</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,270,780</b>	<b>-1,341,030</b>
				<b>CHECK!</b>	<b>-1,341,030</b>
					<b>-0</b>



**Bryniau Clwyd a  
Dyffryn Dyfrdwy**  
Clwydian Range  
and Dee Valley

Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

## Forward Work Programme June 2024 Update

Project Existing	Detail/Action	Timescale	Timescale Not Started or Problem =Red In Progress on track =Amber Complete =Green	Cost –ve or +ve (£ Cost) or neutral (Through existing and external budgets)
New	<i>Updated Action</i>	New Dates		
<b>Finance</b>				
Finance and Funding	<i>Draft Risk Register to JC 10.11.22</i>	<b>2023-24</b>		Neutral
NRW Core AONB Funding	<i>New Offer 2024-26 £108k for two years. Unfortunately, now reduced to one year after an initial offer of 3 year!.</i>	2024-26 2024-25		-ve
SDF Fund	WG continue fund at £100k.	2022-25		+ve
SLSP Fund	<i>Year 2 and 3 increase to £200k</i>	2022-25		
<b>Strategic Plans 2022-25</b>				
AONB Management Plan	<i>. LUC are producing new guidance after consultation with National Landscapes/AONBs</i>	<b>2024</b>		Neutral
South Recreation Plan	<i>South Area Rec Plan under consultation. North Plan implementing.</i>	<b>2024</b>		+ve
AONB Tourism Plan	<i>Consultation gone to Tourism Forum October 2023. Approved JC 12.4.24 Taken to AONB Partnership 7.6.24</i>	<b>2023-24</b>		Neutral
<b>AONB Joint Committee</b>				
Joint Committee Meetings	<i>JC Meetings on track. Sad death of Cabinet Member Cllr Win Mullen</i>	<b>2023-24</b>		Neutral
LA Legal Agreement	All agreed and sealed by LAs for next 5 years. <i>Reviewed by Head DCC Legal 31.1.24 2024-in consultation with WCBC and FCC</i>	2019-2024		Neutral
AONB Champions/ AONB Local Members and Community Councils	<i>Become an open invitation 2x per year. Met 16.5.24 Denbigh-Climate Change</i>	<b>2023-24</b>		Neutral

## Forward Work Programme June 2024 Update Continued

Project Existing	Detail/Action	Timescale	Timescale Not Started or problem =Red In Progress on track =Amber Complete =Green	Cost –ve or +ve or neutral
New	<i>Updated Action</i>	New Dates		
<b>AONB Partnership</b>				
Full AONB Partnership Meetings	<i>3 x AONB Partnership Meetings completed. Met 2x in 2024</i>	2023-24		Neutral
10 Year AONB Working Group Review	<i>Reported back to Partnership on 19.5.23 and 20.10.23</i>	2023-24		Neutral
<b>Partnership Working Groups:</b>				
Landscape Character and Built Environment	<i>Landscape Character and Quality 2023</i>	2023-24		+ve
Nature Recovery and Climate Change	<i>Met to review national maps</i>	2024-25		+ve
Heritage, Culture and Communities	<i>Historic Environment 2024-25 Regular meets</i>	2024-25		+ve
Tourism	<i>Sustainable Tourism 2024-25 Met x2</i>	2024-25		+ve
Recreation and Health	<i>Access and Recreation 2023</i>	2023-24		+ve
Sustainable Development	<i>Sustainable Communities 2024-25 reviewed met, new member Martin Hogg</i>	2024-25		+ve



## Forward Work Programme June 2024 Update Continued

Project Existing	Detail/Action	Timescale	Timescale Not Started or problem =Red In Progress on track =Amber Complete =Green	Cost –ve or +ve or neutral
New	Updated Action	New Dates		
<b>AONB Special Projects</b>				
SLSP	<p><i>Majestic Moorlands and Wild Woods of the AONB</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPAT Heritage work</li> <li>• Dinas Bran Improvements</li> <li>• Bryn Alyn Accessibility</li> </ul> <p><i>Enjoying our remoter landscapes 2022-25.</i></p> <p><i>Projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Moorlands and the traditions of the Commons</li> <li>• Woodlands Study</li> <li>• LNR/Llangollen GI/Pengwern Planting</li> </ul>	<b>2022-25</b>		+ve
SLSP Collaborative	<p><i>The AONB is engaged in three collaborative projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Wales Traditional Boundaries</li> <li>• All Wales Dark Skies Project</li> <li>• All Wales Education Project</li> </ul>	<b>2022-25</b>		+ve
SDF	2022-25 £100k per annum	<b>2022-25</b>		+ve
Special Project WG	<p>2022-25 £300k allocated to increase staffing:</p> <p><i>Farming/Engagement Officers appointed: Huw Morgan/Mari Jones. AONB Mgt Plan Ros Stockdale</i></p>	<b>2022-25</b>		+ve

## Forward Work Programme June 2024 Update Continued

NRW Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Campaign Work Dogs/Litter</i></li> <li>• <i>Conservation Grazing Signs</i></li> <li>• <i>Prot Equip/Uniform Young Rangers/Vols</i></li> <li>• <i>Community Miles/Regional Routes</i></li> <li>• <i>AONB Tourism Strategy Print</i></li> </ul>	2022-24		
Our Picturesque Landscape Project	<i>Coming in to final year projects progressing. Latest minutes to JC 21.4.24</i>	2018-23		+ve
Climate Change	<i>New internal and external meets, Clwyd Catchment engagement. Land purchase DCC.</i>	March 2023		Neutral
Northeast Wales National Park Designation Project	<i>One member of Staff attended all engagement meets. TAG and MAG established</i>	June 2023		

## Forward Work Programme June 2024 Update Continued

Project Existing	Detail/Action	Timescale	Timescale Not Started or problem =Red In Progress on track =Amber Complete =Green	Cost –ve or +ve or neutral
New	<i>Updated Action</i>	New Dates		
<b>Section 85 Organisations</b>				
SP Network Lines	<i>The Shelf back on track. New schemes in consideration - Shelf, Llangar, Plas Newydd and Llangollen Water Tower. Met March 2024 SPEN new schemes being brought forward.</i>	2022-25		Neutral
Dark Skies SPG	<i>Roll out of schemes private and public over Wesh DLs.</i>	2023-24		+ve
National Grid VIP and Landscape Enhancement Initiative	AONB Officer is rep for 39 AONBs on National Board. <i>4 x LEI Schemes Morwinion Valley and Minera Corwen EOI approved</i> <b>AONB Award to National Grid on 23.3.23.</b> <i>New scheme for Tremeirchion passed stage 1 worth £200k. Second scheme submitted to NG -Inc Nercwys / Rhos and Minera</i>	2023-24		Neutral
National Landscape Association formally NAAONB	<b>Rebrand underway from confirmation with JC on 12.4.24.</b> Regular Monthly Meets 1x Lead Officer's.	2023-24		Neutral
Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Llangollen Canal World heritage Site	<i>HS appointed Vice Chair of Steering Group. HS asked for Nature Area in basin, need to see more Nature Themes within WHS</i>	2023-24		+ve

Severn Trent/Dwr Cymru	<i>New Meet Hafryn Dyfrdwy 3.6.24 to discuss working on Land holdings. Possible overlap with LEI schemes Dwr Cymru to also have update meet to discuss after bio officer returns to work. Both to be invited to Nature Recovery and Climate change meet.</i>	2022-23		+ve
<b>Forward Work Programme June 2024 Update Continued</b>				
Highways Guidance for LAs	<i>FCC and WCBC support scheme. GB reviewing programme with DCC Highways Manager</i>	2023-24		-ve