



Report of the Gower AONB Team Leader
Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 29 June 2020
Gower AONB Management Plan - Update

Gower AONB Management Plan Sub-group

The sub-group comprises:

Cllr Paul Lloyd	Cllr Lynda James
Paul Thornton	Jo Gooding
Paul Meller	Mike Scott
Chris Lindley	Gordon Howe
NRW representative	

The Sub-group last met on 15th January 2020, with the main outcomes being around the:

Review process and timetable – After some delay because of COVID-19, the table below outlines the process and outputs required to get an adopted, reviewed management plan by March 2022 (5 years since the current one was adopted). It does not cover all the specific requirements of the process, but gives a broad idea of what is required and where the sub-groups main activities will be. This timeframe is required to factor in statutory and public consultation periods and Welsh translation of the draft and final Plans.

Date	Action	Output	Notes
2020			
June	Formal notification to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) of intention to review the AONB management plan	Letter	Required under S.90 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
July-August	Prepare State of the AONB report	State of the AONB Report	Sub-group approval of documents
	Prepare Strategic Environmental	SEA Scoping Report	

	Assessment (SEA) Scoping		
Sept-Oct	Scoping consultation period		Consultation with NRW and Cadw required under SEA Regulations
August-November	Preparation of draft AONB Management Plan	Draft Management Plan	Sub-group approval of draft Plan
December	AONB Partnership Meeting	Approved draft Management Plan	Partnership approval of draft plan
2021			
January - February	Prepare public consultation on draft Management Plan and SEA Report	Council/Planning Committee approval	Council approval for public consultation required.
March - June	Public consultation period		
July-November	Review of consultation feedback and proposed changes	Consultation Report and Final Management Plan	Sub-group approval of final Management Plan
December	AONB Partnership meeting	Approval	Partnership approval of final Management Plan
2022			
January-February	Preparation of Council papers		
March	Council Meeting	Formal adoption by Swansea Council	

State of the AONB report – since the meeting and as a result of ongoing discussions, Natural Resources Wales has:

- provided all Welsh AONBs with a series of environmental datasets/statistics specifically cut to the AONB boundary
- Published the South West Wales Area Statement:

<https://naturalresources.wales/about-us/area-statements/south-west-wales-area-statement/?lang=en>

Both of these points will be beneficial to and influential on the preparation of the management plan.

The AONB team will formally write to NRW to start the review process (which will have further detail on the timeline) and we will also commence the compilation of the State of the AONB report.

Chris Lindley
Gower AONB Team Leader
16 June 2020