



Report of the Gower AONB Officer

Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 5 July 2021

Proposed Amendments to SDF Grants Panel Terms of Reference

Following discussions with Welsh Government, we are considering some changes to the Terms Of Reference governing the SDF Grants Panel.

These changes are aimed at ensuring that the membership of the panel is diverse, and that they well placed to implement the Sustainable Grant Scheme locally.

Welsh Government - Key Recommendations for SDF Panels

- 1) The SDF panel should consist of a diverse demographic of members, with representation from the AONB's Partnership where required.
- 2) Any pre-existing membership arrangements; where for example an SDF panel member is also required to sit on an AONB Partnership panel, should not be dissolved. *This requirement can over-rule point 3 covering maximum term if necessary.*
- 3) Panel members should serve for a minimum of 2 years and for no longer than 3 years, with any new panel members shadowing the exiting member for 1 year.
- 4) Panel appointment should be through a rolling programme carried out by the AONB staff with no more than one third of the panel being replaced in any one year.
- 5) Panel members are required to undertake basic training to keep themselves abreast of the aims and purposes of the SDF and the AONB.

Our intention is that the AONB Steering Group remains central to the governance of the AONB Partnership, and that appointments to the SDF Grants Panel (and the SDF Appeals Panel) would be agreed and implemented through the Steering Group.

The proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference will be brought to the Steering Groups next meeting for approval.

Mike Scott,

24th June 2021