



## Report of the Gower AONB Officer

Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 4 October 2021

### **Draft Amendments to Process of Appointing to the Sustainable Development Fund Grant Panel**

Welsh Government have requested changes to the way the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) grants panels are appointed, which are aimed at ensuring that the panels consist of a diverse demographic of members, with representation from the AONB Partnership. The proposed Terms of Reference Procedural / Guidance Notes are attached at Appendix A.

To accommodate this, I propose to amend the process that we use to appoint members of the SDF Grant Panel, and the SDF Appeals Panel.

Currently, members of the Steering Group nominate 4 members of each panel every two years, for a term of two years. To meet the Welsh Governments guidance, I propose to ask the steering group to appoint two members of each panel each year, for a term of two years.

This will enable us to have a rolling appointment process, keeping the skills built up by the panel membership, while also introducing new members of the panel.

I will also run annual introductions to the work of the SDF grants panel, as part of the established programme of meetings.

Before these amendments are confirmed, I would welcome any comments from the Steering Group.

**Background Papers:** None.

**Appendices:** Appendix A – Procedural / Guidance Notes.

Mike Scott,

27<sup>th</sup> September 2021