



## **Report of the Gower AONB Officer**

**Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group – 6 December 2021**

### **Proposed Changes to Election Process for SDF Panel Members**

#### **For Information**

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.

To accommodate this, we will amend the process that we use to appoint members of the SDF Grant Panel, and the SDF Appeals Panel. To meet the Welsh Governments guidance, we will 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.

The steering group will be asked to nominate potential panel members, so that they can be appointed at the spring steering group meeting.

The Councils legal advisors have confirmed that a change to the Terms of Reference of the AONB Partnership are not required to accommodate this.

Mike Scott,

26<sup>th</sup> November 2021