

Training/Awareness Sessions for Board Members

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Summary: It is proposed to organise a series of training sessions and field visits on specific topics for interested Board members. The annual cost is estimated to be in the order of £1,200.

Purpose of Report: To support provision of additional technical training for Board members.

Background

1. Currently the provision of training for Board members includes;
 - Occasional post Board meeting sessions.
 - Two Board tours each year and walking tour.
 - Occasional workshops.
2. In general awareness raising is based on Board papers, presentations at Board meetings and member involvement in task groups.
3. This format doesn't provide many opportunities for more in depth coverage of a specific topic. It is, therefore proposed to introduce a series of training sessions, probably involving a field visits, on specific subjects such as:
 1. Vernacular buildings
 2. Woodland Management
 3. Farming for Wildlife
 4. Access Provision for the less mobile
 5. Field Archaeology
 6. Ecology of chalk streams
4. It is expected that member attendance at each session would be approx 5 - 10. The sessions would be organised and led by members of staff and members themselves. Colleagues from other organisations might be invited as guest tutors.
5. The cost for each session might typically involve provision of a reading list, an introductory session indoors followed by field visits. Each course will cost in the order of £100 - 200.

Recommendations

1. **A series of one day courses/visits are organised for Board members.**
2. **If agreed Members are contacted to identify the subjects on which more training is required.**