

## **Introduction to the Review of the AONB Management Plan**

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**Summary:** A consultant, Alan Wheeler, has been engaged to support the production of the Management Plan review. The review should be completed by May 2008, although September 2008 is more realistic. At each Board meeting during this period the agenda will include an item on the progress of the review.

**Purpose of Paper:** To advise the Board on the programme, appointment of a consultant and introduce the afternoon session on the Management Plan.

### **Background**

1. Alan Wheeler, an environmental and planning consultant, has been appointed to assist the Board under the review of the Management Plan. Alan was heavily involved in the 1994 and 2002 plans. He also has expertise in the production of Strategic Environmental Assessments. Alan will be leading the afternoon session which will be taking an overview of the review process, plan structure, board aims and issues not adequately covered in the 2002 plan (and new foreword produced in May 2005).

### **Process and Timetable**

Table 1	Process of undertaking the review
Table 2	Work Programme
Table 3	Key Stage Analysis and timetable

### **Broad Aims and Policies**

2. It is essential that Board members familiarise themselves with the current Management Plan. The Board Aims and Policies are given in Appendix 1. The Board's various committees and task groups have begun the task of assessing existing aims and policies according to the table headings advised by the Countryside Agency guidance. In essence it is an assessment of continuing relevance.

### **Plan Structure**

3. A Key task for the Board at this stage is to decide upon the structure of the Revised plan. It is advised that the existing chapter headings are retained, but regrouped according to the Board's main purposes.

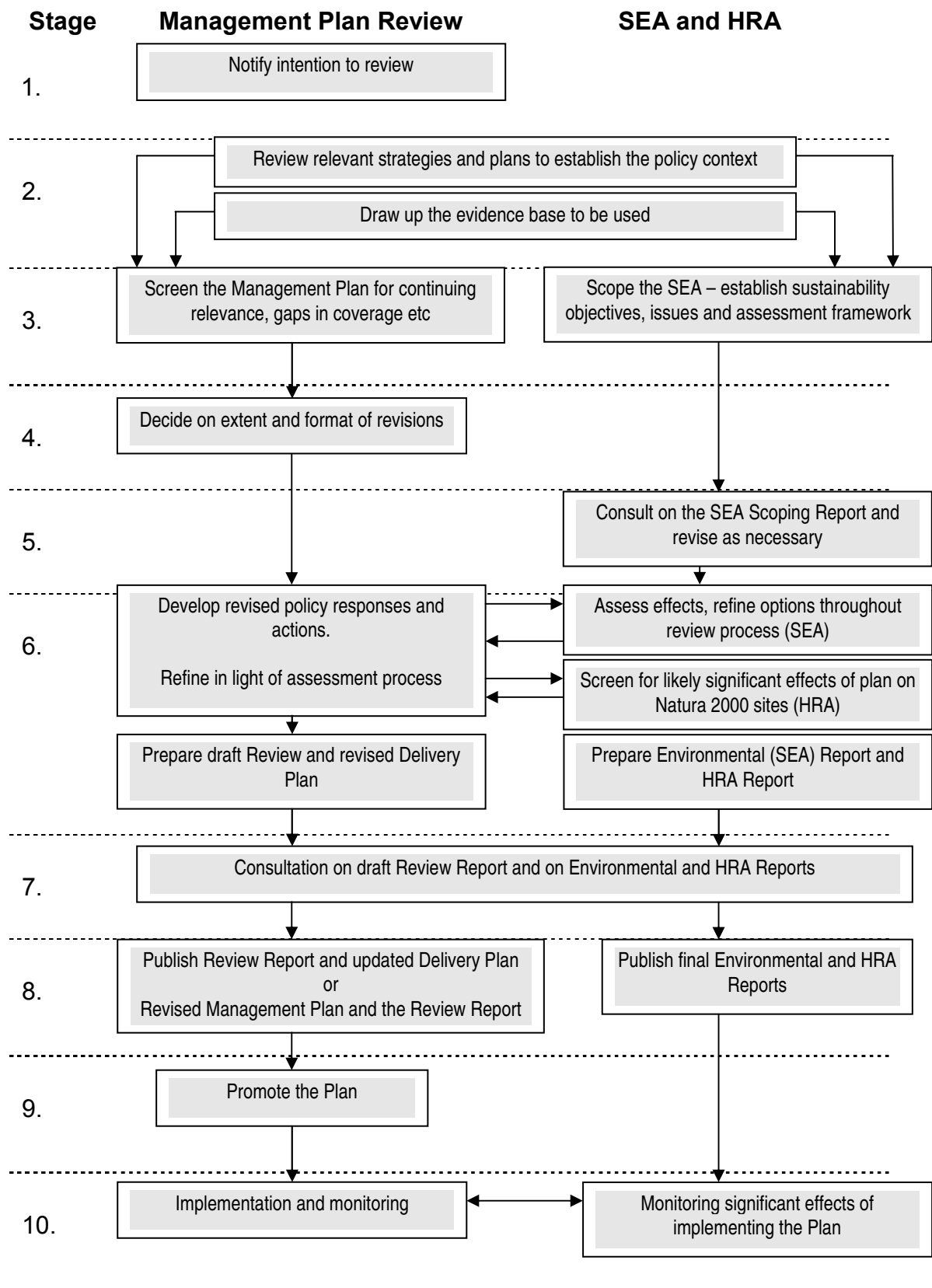
<b>Purposes</b>	<b>Chapters</b>
To Conserve and Enhance Natural Beauty	Landscape
	Nature Conservation
	Farming and Forestry
	Historic Environment
	Water Environment
	Built Environment
	Travel and Transport
	Minerals and Waste
To Promote Awareness and Enjoyment of the Chilterns	Recreation and Access
	Travel and Transport
To foster social and Economic Well Being	People, Jobs and Services

4. It is further advised that the following themes should be laced through those chapters:
- Climate Change
  - Life Long Learning
  - Social Inclusion
  - Health and Well-being

**Recommendation**

1. **The Board advises on the basic structure for the reviewed Management Plan**

**5. Table 1**



**Table 2**

<b>Chilterns AONB Management Plan- Work Programme and Timetable</b>			
<b>Review Stage</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>By When</b>
<b>Phase 1: May – August 2007 – Scoping the review</b>			
1. Notify intention to review	Write to Natural England, LAs etc	Chief Officer	End- May
2. Establish policy context. Develop evidence base	For each chapter of the current Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify relationship of the Plan to other national, regional and local policy instruments</li> <li>Identify and populate key indicators of the condition of the AONB</li> </ul> i.e.-		20 July 2007
	Landscape		
	Nature Conservation	Land Management Group	
	Historic Environment	Historic Environment Group	
	Built Environment	Planning Officers Group	
	Water Environment	Chalk Streams Stg Group	
	People, Jobs & Services	CCB Task Group	
	Farming & Forestry	Land Management Group	
	Minerals & Waste Disposal	Planning Officers Group	
	Recreation & Access	Recreation & Access Group	
	Travel & Transport	Roads & Transport Group	
3. Screen the Plan for continuing relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invite views of key stakeholders</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	End- May
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Vision Statement &amp; Statement of Significance</li> </ul>	CCB Review Group	24 August 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review each chapter:</li> </ul>		
	Landscape		
	Nature Conservation	Land Management Group	
	Historic Environment	Historic Environment Group	
	Built Environment	Planning Officers Group	
	Water Environment	Chalk Streams Stg Group	
	People, Jobs & Services	CCB Task Group	
	Farming & Forestry	Land Management Group	
	Minerals & Waste Disposal	Planning Officers Group	
	Recreation & Access	Recreation & Access Group	
	Travel & Transport	Roads & Transport Group	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft SEA Scoping Report</li> </ul>	Consultant	20 July 2007
4. Decide on scale and form of Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft report for Executive Committee</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	Early September 2007
5. Consult on SEA Scoping Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invite views</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	23 July – 24 August 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make any necessary amendments</li> </ul>	Consultant	14 September 2007
<b>Phase 2: September 2007 - January 2008 – Developing the revised Management Plan</b>			
6. Undertake draft review and test with SEA/HRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft revised material in light of screening and decision on scope and format of review</li> </ul>		Mid-November 2007
	Vision Statement & Statement of Significance	CCB Review Group	
	Nature Conservation	Land Management Group	
	Historic Environment	Historic Environment Group	
	Built Environment	Planning Officers Group	
	Water Environment	Chalk Streams Stg Group	
	People, Jobs & Services – to be replaced by new chapters: Health & Well-being Social Inclusion	CCB Task Group	
	Farming & Forestry	Land Management Group	

	Minerals & Waste Disposal	Planning Officers Group	
	Recreation & Access	Recreation & Access Group	
	Lifelong Learning (new chapter)	CCB Task Group	
	Travel & Transport	Roads & Transport Group	
	Nature Conservation	Land Management Group	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake SEA of initial draft material as it becomes available</li> </ul>	Consultant & CCB Review Group	Mid-November 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake HRA screening</li> </ul>	Consultant, Land Management Group & CCB Review Group	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise draft material as necessary</li> </ul>	Groups as above	Early December 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop candidate actions for Delivery Plan</li> </ul>	Groups as above	Early December 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft report for Executive Committee</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	Early December 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report for Conservation Board</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	Early January 2008
<b>Phase 3: December 2007– March 2008 – Prepare the consultation drafts</b>			
6. Prepare Draft Review & revised Delivery Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft new introductory chapter(s)</li> </ul>	CCB Review Group & consultant	Mid-February 2008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edit Task Group material for theme chapters</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce Delivery plan</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Print consultation document</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	
6. Prepare draft Environmental & HRA Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assemble and agree texts for these two reports</li> </ul>	CCB Review Group & consultant	End-December 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Print consultation documents</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	End February 2008
<b>Phase 4: January – September 2008 – Consultation and Adoption</b>			
7. Consultation on draft Revised Management Plan, Environment & HRA Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any necessary presentations etc in accordance with consultation programme tba</li> </ul>	TBA	Early March- End May 2008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review consultation responses</li> </ul>	CCB Review Group & consultant	Early June 2008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial report to Conservation Board</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	3rd week June
8. Prepare revised Management Plan and Review report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise draft Management Plan as appropriate</li> </ul>	CCB Review Group & consultant in consultation with theme Groups	June 2008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare Review Report</li> </ul>	CCB Review Group & consultant	July 2008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft report for Executive Committee</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report for Conservation Board</li> </ul>	Chief Officer	September 2008
<b>Conservation Board adopts revised Management Plan – September 2008</b>			

