

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

Description or purpose of document	Objectives and/or targets identified in the document	Implications for the Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan
INTERNATIONAL		
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979) http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/nature/bern/default_en.asp		
<p>The aims of this Convention (which came into force on 1 June 1982) are to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats, especially those species and habitats whose conservation requires the co-operation of several States and to promote such cooperation.</p> <p>Particular emphasis is given to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species.</p>	<p>The Parties undertake to take all appropriate measures to ensure the conservation of the habitats of the wild flora and fauna species. Such measures should be included in the Parties' planning and development policies and pollution control with particular attention to the conservation of wild flora and fauna.</p> <p>The Parties undertake to promote education and disseminate general information concerning the need to conserve species of wild flora and fauna and their habitats.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should make provision for the conservation of internationally, nationally and locally important habitats and species and seek ways in which to promote public understanding of the need for such measures.</p>
Bonn Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (1979) http://www.cms.int/		
<p>The Convention (also known as CMS or the Bonn Convention) aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range.</p> <p>It is an intergovernmental treaty, concluded under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme. Its membership has grown steadily to include 86 (as of 1 June 2004) Parties from Africa, Central and South America, Asia, Europe and Oceania.</p>	<p>Particular objectives set out for the involved Parties are that they shall:</p> <p>Promote, co-operate and support research relating to migratory species</p> <p>Endeavour to provide immediate protection for migratory species included in Appendix I</p> <p>Endeavour to conclude Agreements covering the conservation and management of migratory species included in Appendix II.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should provide for the conservation and protection of migratory bird species.</p>
The Convention on Biological Diversity (The Rio Convention) (Adopted June 1992, entered into force December 1993) http://www.cbd.int/		
<p>This is the first treaty to provide a legal framework for biodiversity conservation. Its main aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation of biological diversity The sustainable use of the components of biodiversity The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. 	<p>Contracting Parties are required to create and enforce national strategies and action plans to conserve, protect and enhance biological diversity.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should aim to conserve and enhance the habitats and species listed in the national, regional and local Biodiversity Action Plans.</p>
Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Adopted December 1997) http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php		
<p>The Protocol entered into force in February 2005. The aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prevent interference with the climate system To allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change. <p>Developed countries that have ratified the Protocol are committed to reducing their emissions of greenhouse gases.</p>	<p>The UK has set itself a target of a 12.5% cut in CO2 emissions (based on 1990 levels) between 2008-2012.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should aim to reduce CO2 emissions within the AONB and maximise opportunities for ecosystems to adapt to climate change.</p>

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Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971) http://www.ramsar.org		
<p>This is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international co-operation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.</p> <p>There are presently 138 Contracting Parties to the Convention, with 1368 wetland sites, designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance (known simply as 'Ramsar Sites' in the UK).</p> <p>Over the years the Convention has broadened its scope to cover all aspects of wetland conservation and wise use, recognising wetlands as ecosystems that are extremely important for biodiversity conservation in general and for the well-being of human communities.</p>	<p>The Convention's Mission Statement is 'The conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world'.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should provide for the conservation and wise use of wetlands</p>
Rio Declaration of Environment and Development 1992 http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?documentid=78&articleid=1163		
<p>The Declaration aims to establish new levels of cooperation among States and people through international agreements. These should:</p> <p>Recognise the integral and interdependent nature of the Earth, our home, Respect the interests of all Protect the integrity of the global environmental and development system.</p>	<p>The key objectives of the Rio Declaration are that: Everyone (both now and in the future) has a right to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. Environmental protection should be an integral part of development Development should meet the needs of both present and future generations. All parties should work together to decrease the economic disparities amongst people. Unsustainable patterns of production and consumption should be eliminated.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should contribute to sustainable development. Policies and actions in the Plan must be balanced with respect to environmental, social and economic issues i.e. one of these areas must not gain at the expense of either of the other two. Inter-relationships between these three issues must be identified and taken into account.</p>
The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg (2002), Commitments arising from the Johannesburg Summit http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/basic_info/basicinfo.html		
<p>This is a reaffirmation of the International commitment to sustainable development coming 30 years after the Stockholm commitment to tackle environmental degradation and 10 years after the Rio Summit and Declaration of 1992</p>	<p>The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development was a key outcome from the summit. Some of the sustainable development commitments include: The integration of energy into country-led poverty reduction processes; The removal of market barriers and the creation of a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency; Greater resource efficiency; Support for business innovation and the take-up of best practice in technology and management: work on waste and producer responsibility.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should promote renewable energy and energy efficiency measures with a particular emphasis on business innovation and best practice.</p>

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Copenhagen Accord United Nations Climate Change Conference 2009 http://unfccc.int/meetings/copenhagen_dec_2009/meeting/6295.php		
The document recognised that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of the present day and that actions should be taken to keep any temperature increases to below 2 °C.	The Accord set out a number of non-legally binding actions, including: A low-emission development strategy is indispensable to sustainable development. Developed countries (Annex I Parties) to commit to economy-wide emissions targets for 2020 and agrees Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to strengthen their existing targets. Enhanced action on adaptation is urgently required to reduce vulnerability and build resilience in developing countries, with developed countries contributing finance, technology and capacity.	The Management Plan should promote a reduction of carbon emissions as well as adaptation measures, as part of a sustainable development approach.
EUROPEAN		
Aarhus Convention (1998, ratified February 2005) http://ec.europa.eu/environment/aarhus/		
This establishes a number of public (and organisations') rights with regard to the environment. Public authorities (at national, regional or local level) are to contribute to allowing these rights to become effective.	The Convention creates obligations in three fields or 'pillars': Public access to environmental information; Public participation in decision-making on matters related to the environment Access to justice (i.e. administrative or judicial review proceedings) in environmental matters.	The Management Plan preparation procedures should include public consultation measures and encourage public participation. The public should also have access to the information which supports the decision making process
The Birds Directive (Directive on Conservation of Wild Birds) (79/409/EEC) Adopted 1979 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm		
The Birds Directive addresses the conservation of all wild birds throughout the European Union, including marine areas, and covers their protection, management, control and exploitation. It applies to the birds, their eggs, nests and habitats. It also aims to ensure that non-native birds do not threaten other biodiversity.	The main provisions include: The maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species The identification and classification of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for rare or vulnerable species paying particular attention to the protection of wetlands of international importance. These, together with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive, form a network of pan-European protected areas known as Natura 2000.) The establishment of a general scheme of protection for all wild birds	The Management Plan should maintain a favourable conservation status for all wild bird species.
The Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC) (2002) http://ec.europa.eu/environment/noise/directive.htm		
The main aim of this Directive is to provide a common basis for tackling the noise problem across the EU.	Member states are required to: Monitor the noise problem Inform and consult the public about the noise exposure, its effects and measures considered to address it Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary or maintain noise quality where it is good Develop a long term EU Strategy to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the long term.	Tranquillity is one of the special characteristics of the AONB.

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Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020, European Commission 2011 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/pdf/2020/1_EN_ACT_part1_v7%5B1%5D.pdf		
<p>This strategy is aimed at reversing biodiversity loss and speeding up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy.</p>	<p>Sets out EU strategy for compliance with Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its global Strategic Plan for biodiversity 2011-2020 (Nagoya 2010), through six mutually supportive and inter-dependent targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conserving and restoring nature • maintaining and enhancing ecosystems and their services • ensuring the sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries • combating invasive alien species • addressing the global biodiversity crisis 	<p>The Management Plan should conserve and enhance biological diversity and make provision for education and awareness raising of the biological resources within the AONB.</p>
The Habitats Directive (Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora) (Directive 92/43/EC) http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm		
<p>The Habitats Directive (together with the Birds Directive) forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. It is built around two pillars: the Natura 2000 network of protected sites and the strict system of species protection.</p> <p>The purpose is the maintenance or restoration of habitats and species of outstanding international significance at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.</p>	<p>The Directive requires Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) to be identified. These, together with SPAs, form a network of protected areas called Natura 2000. Projects are only permitted on such sites under exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>The Habitats Directive is implemented in UK law by the Habitats Regulations (1994) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1994/2716/contents/made</p>	<p>Management Plan policies should support protection measures for SACs and ensure that any proposed actions do not have an adverse effect on the species or habitats for which the SAC was designated.</p>
The Landscape Convention (entered into force 1st March 2004, ratified by UK in November 2006) http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/landscape/default_en.asp		
<p>The Landscape Convention highlights the importance and need for public involvement in the development of landscapes. It encourages a joined up approach through policy and planning in all areas of land-use, development and management, including the recognition of landscape in law. The Convention promotes landscape protection, management and planning, and European co-operation on landscape issues.</p>	<p>The Convention stresses the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put people at the heart of spatial planning and sustainable development Recognise that landscape exists everywhere and whether beautiful or degraded, is everyone's shared inheritance Increase awareness and understanding of landscape and its value, as a unifying framework for all land-use sectors Promote a more accessible, integrated and forward-looking approach to managing inherited landscapes and shaping new ones. 	<p>The Management Plan should put people at heart of spatial planning and encourage an integrated approach to managing landscapes. It should recognise that landscape is everyone's shared inheritance and provide a framework for increasing awareness and understanding of landscape and its value.</p>

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Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (June 2006) http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st10/st10917.en06.pdf		
<p>This aims to set be a single, coherent strategy, setting out how the EU will more effectively live up to its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.</p> <p>It recognises the need to gradually change our current unsustainable consumption and production patterns and move towards a better integrated approach to policy-making.</p>	<p>Overall objectives (to 2010) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and clean energy • Sustainable transport • Sustainable production and consumption • Public health threats • Better management of natural resources • Social inclusion, demography and migration • Fighting global poverty 	<p>The Management Plan should support measures which reduce climate change, provide clean energy, encourage sustainable transport and sustainable production and consumption and promote better management of natural resources.</p>
The Waste Framework Directive (75/442/EEC) (October 2000) http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/framework/index.htm and The Landfill Directive (99/31/EC) http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/landfill_index.htm		
<p>The Waste Framework Directive sets up a system for the co-ordinated management of waste within the European Community in order to limit waste production. Member states must prepare management plans to promote the prevention of waste and the recycling and conversion of wastes with a view to their re-use.</p>	<p>Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which could harm the environment, and in particular:</p> <p>Without risk to water, air, soil and plants and animals; Without causing a nuisance through noise or odours; Without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest.</p> <p>The UK target for reduction of waste to landfill is 75% of 1995 levels by 2010 and 35% by 2020.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should reflect both the need to reduce the overall amount of waste produced within the AONB and the need to dispose of waste that is produced.</p>
The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html		
<p>The Water Framework Directive brings together the previously fragmented water policies. Its overall objective is to achieve 'good status' for nearly all waters by 2015. It introduces a system of water management based on river basins rather than political or administrative boundaries.</p>	<p>River Basin Management Plans will be prepared. These will describe in broad terms what measures are planned to integrate the following objectives:</p> <p>General protection of the aquatic ecology Specific protection for unique and valuable habitats, The protection of drinking water resources The protection of bathing water</p>	<p>The Management Plan should support measures which protect and enhance aquatic ecosystems, protect water resources, reduce pollution of groundwater and mitigate the effects of floods and droughts.</p>
NATIONAL		
'The Natural Choice', the Natural Environment White Paper (Defra, 2012) http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/natural/whitepaper/		
<p>The first White Paper on the natural environment for over 20 years and sets out how a healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal wellbeing.</p>	<p>The White Paper sets out four ambitions:</p> <p>Protecting and improving our natural environment Growing a green economy Reconnecting people and nature International and EU leadership</p> <p>Specifically the White Paper incorporates the recommendations of the Lawton Review 'Making Space for Nature', and supports the establishment of Nature Improvement Areas and Local Nature Partnerships.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should set out a local approach to delivery of the high level White Paper aspirations, including enhanced ecological networks and how the environment supports the economy.</p>

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The Carbon Plan (DECC, 2011) http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/carbon_plan/carbon_plan.aspx		
The Carbon Plan, published in December 2011, sets out the Government's plans for achieving the emissions reductions committed to in the first four carbon budgets, on a pathway consistent with meeting the 2050 target.	Sets out actions for areas including: Secure, sustainable low carbon energy Saving energy in homes and communities Reducing emissions from business and industry Towards low carbon transport Cutting emissions from waste Managing land sustainably Supporting the development of low carbon, climate resilient economies	The Management Plan should identify and support actions to cut carbon emissions which are compatible with the AONB designation and purposes.
UK Bioenergy Strategy (DECC, 2012) http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/bioenergy/strategy/strategy.aspx		
The strategy sets out the Coalition Government's approach to securing the benefits of bioenergy in support of meeting carbon emission targets.	Sets out four principles for Bioenergy: Policies that support bioenergy should deliver genuine carbon reductions that help meet UK carbon emissions objectives to 2050 and beyond. Support for bioenergy should make a cost effective contribution to UK carbon emission objectives in the context of overall energy goals. Support for bioenergy should aim to maximise the overall benefits and minimise costs (quantifiable and non-quantifiable) across the economy. At regular time intervals and when policies promote significant additional demand for bioenergy in the UK, beyond that envisaged by current use, policy makers should assess and respond to the impacts of this increased deployment on other areas, such as food security and biodiversity.	The Management plan should identify and support ways in which bioenergy can be harnessed in the Shropshire Hills in harmony with the AONB's special qualities.
Code for Sustainable Homes (CLG, 2009) http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/buildingregulations/greenerbuildings/sustainablehomes		
The Code is the national standard for the sustainable design and construction of new homes. The Code aims to reduce our carbon emissions and create homes that are more sustainable.	The Code measures the sustainability of a new home against categories of sustainable design, rating the 'whole home' as a complete package. The Code uses a 1 to 6 star rating system to communicate the overall sustainability performance of a new home. The Code sets minimum standards for energy and water use at each level and, within England, replaces the EcoHomes scheme, developed by the Building Research Establishment (BRE).	The Management Plan should support sustainability in development.
Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents		
The Act provides for increased public access to the countryside and strengthens protection for wildlife.	The main provisions serve to: Extend the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers Create new statutory right of access to open country and registered common land Modernise the Rights of Way system Give greater protection to SSSIs Provide better management arrangements for AONBs Strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation.	The CROW Act underlines the importance of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Section 89 (5) introduces a statutory duty for all AONB local authorities to prepare and publish AONB Management Plans. This scoping report forms part of the Sustainability Appraisal for the five yearly review of the Management Plan.

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<p>Annual Energy Statement (DECC, 2012) http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/aes/aes.aspx</p> <p>The statement describes the progress we have made on the actions referred to in last year's AES and the policies that are under way. In addition, the statement has a particular focus on the impact of our policies on energy prices and bills.</p> <p>A crucial part of DECC's strategy is to reduce the amount of energy we use in our homes.</p>	<p>Energy Policy is guided by the following objectives:</p> <p><u>energy security</u>: to ensure that UK businesses and consumers have secure supplies of energy, for light and power, heat and transport;</p> <p><u>climate change</u>: to lead the UK Government's efforts to prevent dangerous climate change, both through international action and through cutting our own greenhouse gas emissions. We have legally binding targets to cut our emissions by at least 80% by 2050, and to source 15% of our energy from renewable sources by 2020;</p> <p><u>affordability</u>: deliver secure, low-carbon energy at least cost to consumers, taxpayers, and the economy as a whole;</p> <p>support growth: deliver our policies in a way that maximises the benefits to the economy in terms of jobs, growth and investment, including by making the most of our existing oil and gas reserves and seizing the opportunities presented by the rise of the global green economy;</p> <p><u>fairness</u>: ensure that the costs and benefits of our policies are distributed fairly, so that we protect the most vulnerable and fuel poor households and address any competitiveness problems faced by energy intensive industries; and to manage the UK's energy legacy safely, securely and cost effectively.</p>	<p>The AONB Management Plan should support energy conservation and efficiency and ways of increasing energy self-sufficiency and generation which are compatible with the AONB's special qualities.</p>
<p>Business Plan 2012-2015 (Defra 2012) http://www.number10.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/DEFRA-2012-Business-Plan.pdf</p> <p>Departmental Business Plan for Defra, updated annually.</p>	<p>Defra's priorities are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support and develop British farming and encourage sustainable food production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the competitiveness and resilience of the whole food chain, including farms and the fishing industry, to ensure a secure, environmentally sustainable and healthy supply of food with improved standards of animal welfare 2. Enhance the environment and biodiversity to improve quality of life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance and protect the natural environment, including biodiversity and the marine environment, by reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions and preventing habitat loss and degradation 3. Support a strong and sustainable green economy, including thriving rural communities, resilient to climate change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create the conditions in which businesses can innovate, invest and grow; promote rural communities; encourage businesses, people and communities to use natural resources sustainably and reduce waste; and ensure that the UK economy is resilient to climate change 	<p>The AONB Management Plan should support the Defra priorities and demonstrate how AONB activity contributes to them.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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Sustainable Energy Act (2003) Department for Trade and Industry http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/30/contents		
<p>Implements some of actions identified in the Energy White Paper, "Our energy future – creating a low carbon economy" 2003.</p>	<p>The Act contains the following main provisions: Annual reporting on four specified energy policy goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy efficiency for residential accommodation and measures that would also contribute to tackling fuel poverty • targets for the use by the Government of electricity generated using Combined Heat and Power (CHP) • duty on the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority to undertake and publish impact assessments, including environmental assessments, before implementing significant proposals • Gas and Electricity Markets Authority to pay up to £60 million into the Consolidated Fund from surplus funds arising from the Non Fossil Fuel Obligation (NFFO) for use for renewable energy. 	<p>The Management Plan should have regard to sustainable energy objectives.</p>
Business Plan 2012-15 (DCMS, 2012) http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/DCMS_2012_BP.pdf		
<p>Departmental Business Plan for DCMS, updated annually. DCMS aims to improve the quality of life for all through cultural and sporting activities, support the pursuit of excellence, and champion the tourism, creative and leisure industries.</p>	<p>DCMC's priorities are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics 2. Create a sporting legacy from the Olympic and Paralympic Games 3. Create the conditions for growth Facilitate sustainable growth in the tourism, media, leisure, creative, communications and cultural industries, including by reforming the media regulatory regime 4. Boost the Big Society and strengthen cultural organisations Encourage philanthropic giving, return the National Lottery to its founding principles and foster the development of a new breed of strong local media groups. Reform arm's length bodies, support a move towards more sustainable business models and support libraries into the next generation 5. Facilitate the delivery of universal broadband and improved mobile coverage Stimulate private sector investment to deliver the best super-fast broadband network in Europe and provide for improved mobile coverage by 2015 	<p>The Management Plan should support leisure, tourism and cultural activities which are compatible with the primary aim of designation.</p>
Creating a sporting habit for life, A new youth sport strategy (DCMS, 2012) http://www.culture.gov.uk/publications/8761.aspx		
<p>Seeks a consistent increase in the proportion of people regularly playing sport, in particular, to raise the proportion of 14-25 year olds who play sport and to establish a lasting network of links between schools and sports clubs in local communities to keep young people playing sport up to and beyond the age of 25.</p>	<p>Seeks to build on the London Olympics of 2012 by inspiring a generation of young people to take up sport as a habit for life. Emphasis is mainly on built sports facilities, with little mention of the role that the countryside can play.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should highlight ways in which the potential of the AONB to improve health and wellbeing through physical activity, including of young people, can be maximised, in keeping with the AONB's overall purposes.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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Water for Life, the Water White Paper (Defra, 2011) http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/legislation/whitepaper/		
<p>Water for Life describes a vision for future water management in which the water sector is resilient, in which water companies are more efficient and customer focused, and in which water is valued as the precious and finite resource it is.</p>	<p>Sets out priorities under three headings: Water and the natural environment - tackling water pollution, tackling over-abstraction Water and the green economy – a water sector that focuses on its customers, supporting growth and innovation Water and consumers – affordability and bad debt, reducing high household bills in the SW, changing the way we use and value water.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should integrate real improvements in the water environment.</p>
Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act (2006) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents		
<p>The Act makes provision about bodies concerned with the natural environment and rural communities; in connection with wildlife, sites of special scientific interest, National Parks and the Broads; amends the law relating to rights of way; makes provision as to the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council; provides for flexible administrative arrangements in connection with functions relating to the environment and rural affairs and certain other functions; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>Main provisions of the Act were to: Create Natural England and the Commission for Rural Communities. Create a duty on public authorities to have regard, in exercising its functions, and so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. Clarifies that wildlife and cultural heritage may be taken into account when designating National Parks Make technical changes regarding SSSIs and National Parks Clarifies (s99) that the fact that an area may include farmland, woods, park or that its flora, fauna or geographical features are partly the product of human intervention in the landscape, does not prevent it from being treated, for the purposes of any enactment (whenever passed), as being an area of natural beauty (or of outstanding natural beauty).</p>	<p>The Management Plan must support and have regard to conserving biodiversity. The clause on natural beauty recognises the importance of the human element in creating and conserving our landscapes, but the omission of AONBs in the clause around wildlife and cultural heritage is not consistent with this and is not helpful in progressing a clear and consistent framework for natural beauty in UK protected landscapes.</p>
Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy (DEFRA, 2005) http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/03/25/securing-the-future-pb10589/		
<p>This Strategy was produced alongside 'One Future, Different Paths – The UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development'.</p>	<p>The Strategy sets out an overarching approach that the four separate strategies of the Government and devolved administrations can share. These are: Living within environmental limits Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society Achieving a sustainable economy Promoting good Governance Using sound science responsibly.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should follow the principles of living within environmental limits, ensure a strong, healthy and just society and promote good governance.</p>
Mainstreaming sustainable development – The Government's vision and what this means in practice (Defra, 2011) http://sd.defra.gov.uk/documents/mainstreaming-sustainable-development.pdf		
<p>This refreshed vision and our commitments build on the principles that underpinned the UK's 2005 SD strategy, by recognising the needs of the economy, society and the natural environment, alongside the use of good governance and sound science.</p>	<p>Seeks to move SD beyond being considered as a separate, 'green' issue which is a priority for only a few Government departments, to being central to the way we make policy, run our buildings and purchase goods and services, by: providing Ministerial leadership and oversight, leading by example, embedding SD into policy, and transparent and independent scrutiny.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should contribute to and demonstrate the principles of sustainable development.</p>

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Secure and Sustainable Buildings Act (2004) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/22/contents		
<p>An Act to make provision in relation to matters connected with buildings. Provisions include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purposes of building regulations 2. Buildings of special historical or architectural interest 3. Contents of building regulations 4. Continuing requirements of building regulations, and others. 	<p>This Act amends and improves the Building Act 1984, introducing the following objectives to the Building Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furthering the conservation of fuel and power. Facilitating sustainable development. Furthering the protection or enhancement of the environment. Prevention of waste, undue consumption, misuse or contamination of water. <p>It also develops a reporting regime which must also include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The efficiency with which energy is used in buildings in England and Wales The level of emissions from buildings The extent to which buildings have facilities for generating energy. The extent to which materials used in constructing, or carrying out works in relation to such buildings are recycled or re-used materials. 	<p>The Management Plan should support the achievement of sustainability objectives through buildings, in line with overall AONB purposes.</p>
Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency (DH, 2012) http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_132358		
<p>A public health outcomes framework for England, 2013-2016. Through associated legislation, many public health responsibilities are transferred from the NHS to local authorities.</p>	<p>The framework is focused on the two high-level outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased healthy life expectancy. 2. Reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities. <p>Four objectives contribute to the outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements against wider factors that affect health and wellbeing, and health inequalities People are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities The population's health is protected from major incidents and other threats, while reducing health inequalities Reduced numbers of people living with preventable ill health and people dying prematurely, while reducing the gap between communities 	<p>The Management Plan should identify opportunities to contribute to public health and wellbeing, consistent with the overall purposes of designation.</p>
Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England (Defra 2011) http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/04/08/pb13297-soil-strategy/		
<p>Sets out the vision that by 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England's soils and safeguard their ability to provide essential services for future generations.</p>	<p>Main areas prioritised for tackling degradation threats are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better protection for agricultural soils Protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon Building the resilience of soils to a changing climate Preventing soil pollution Effective soil protection during construction and development Dealing with our legacy of contaminated land 	<p>The Management Plan should seek ways of contributing to the Soil Strategy priorities consistent with the overall purposes of designation.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

Description or purpose of document	Objectives and/or targets identified in the document	Implications for the Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan
Business Plan 2012-2015 (Department for Transport, 2012) http://www.number10.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/DFT-2012-Business-Plan.pdf		
Departmental Business Plan for DfT, updated annually.	DfT's priorities are to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver the Coalition's commitments on high speed rail 2. Deliver a sustainable and customer-focused railway 3. Support sustainable local travel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support sustainable growth by investing in local transport, decentralising funding and powers, tackling local congestion and making public transport (including light rail), walking and cycling more attractive. 4. Invest in our roads to promote growth, while reducing congestion and tackling carbon 5. Promote sustainable aviation 6. Reform the Coastguard and search and rescue helicopter capability 7. Implement the Department's key cross-cutting reform 	The AONB has benefited from projects funded by the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. Changes in road, rail and air transport will all have effects on the AONB and need to be taken into account.
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (Defra 2011) http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/08/19/pb13583-biodiversity-strategy-2020/		
This new, ambitious biodiversity strategy for England builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how we are implementing our international and EU commitments. It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea. It builds on the successful work that has gone before, but also seeks to deliver a real step change.	The mission is "to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people." The Strategy defines detailed outcomes for habitats and ecosystems on land, marine habitats and ecosystems, for species and for people. The priorities for action are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea • putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy • reducing environmental pressures • improving our knowledge 	The Management Plan is well placed to make a real and significant contribution to biodiversity strategy, integral to the AONB remit.
Government Review of Waste Policy in England 2011 (Defra 2011) http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/06/14/pb13540-waste-review/		
Reviews government waste policy and sets out actions and commitments as part of a more sustainable approach to the use of materials, delivering environmental benefits and supporting economic growth, and to improve the service to Householders and Businesses.	Principal commitments include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> manage waste in line with the waste hierarchy and reduce carbon impact; encourage waste prevention and reuse; voluntary approaches to cutting waste, increase recycling Consult on higher packaging recovery targets for some key materials; Support energy from waste where appropriate Work to overcome the barriers to increasing the energy from waste which Anaerobic Digestion provides, as set out in the new AD strategy; Consult on restricting wood waste from landfill and review the case for restrictions on sending other materials to landfill. 	The Management Plan's sustainability principles will generally be in line with current approaches to waste management. Some waste proposals may have implications for the AONB, e.g. energy from waste.

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69		
<p>This is the principal legislative mechanism for the protection of wildlife in Great Britain.</p>	<p>The Act requires any land that is identified as being of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features to be classified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and afforded certain protection against damaging measures.</p> <p>Schedules (1, 5, 8, updated every 5 years) to the Act provide protection for birds plants and animals. Schedule 9 prohibits the release of non-native species.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should ensure that the sites and species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 are adequately protected. The Plan should also support measures to control non-native species.</p>
Rights of Way Circular (1/09) Guidance for Local Authorities (Defra 2009) http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/06/15/pb13553-row-circular-109/		
<p>This circular gives advice to local authorities on recording, managing and maintaining, protecting and changing public rights of way. This advice and guidance sets out Defra's policy on public rights of way and its view of the law.</p>	<p>Covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about the network – including Definitive maps Liaising with the public – including Local Access Forums Recording the network - including Definitive maps Changing the network – including Rights of Way Improvement Plans Managing and maintaining the network Planning permission and public rights of way 	<p>Rights of Way are an important means for people to enjoy the AONB landscape and are an important resource for the tourism economy. Conservation issues need to be taken into account in some decisions regarding rights of way. The Management Plan should set out these linkages and seek solutions.</p>
National Planning Policy Framework (CLG 2012) http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/		
<p>The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It replaces many former Planning Policy Statements.</p>	<p>The NPPF makes a presumption in favour of sustainable development and encourages speedy approval of applications, subject to specific policies which indicate development should be restricted (these explicitly include AONBs. Paras 115 and 116 set out the priority given to AONBs, and major development proposals within them. AONBs are also mentioned in para 144 regarding mineral applications.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should set out the position of the AONB in regard to planning in line with the NPPF, but adding more detailed policy and guidance.</p>
Strategic Framework for Tourism in England 2010 – 2020, Visit England http://www.visitengland.org/strategicframework/		
<p>VisitEngland is the country's national tourist board. Its role is to grow the value of tourism by working in partnership with the industry to deliver inspirational marketing campaigns and to provide advocacy for the industry and our visitors. In consultation with the industry, VisitEngland launched the first national tourism strategy for England in ten years. England: A Strategic Framework for Tourism 2010-2020 is a blueprint for growth and aims to maximise tourism's contribution to the economy, employment and quality of life in England.</p>	<p>The Vision: To maximise tourism's contribution to the economy, employment and quality of life in England.</p> <p>The Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 - To increase England's share of global visitor markets. 2 - To offer visitors compelling destinations of distinction. 3 - To champion a successful, thriving tourism industry. 4 - To facilitate greater engagement between the visitor and the experience. <p>To achieve these objectives, a series of Action Plans have been developed. Those for 'Rural Tourism' and 'Wise Growth' (akin to sustainable tourism) are most relevant to the AONB.</p>	<p>The Management Plan needs to show how tourism can be developed in the area without harm to the AONB.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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National Character Area Profile NCA65 Shropshire Hills		
<p>NCA profiles are guidance documents which will help to achieve a more sustainable future for individuals and communities. The profiles include a description of the key ecosystem services provided in each character area and how these benefit people, wildlife and the economy. They identify potential opportunities for positive environmental change and provide the best available information and evidence as a context for local decision making and action.</p>	<p>http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications/nca/shropshire_hills.aspx</p> <p>Statements of Environmental Opportunity defined in the profile are: SEO 1: Protect and enhance the unique character of the Shropshire Hills NCA – with its distinctive landforms, outstanding geology and diverse historic environment – to provide and maintain a sense of place, enhance biodiversity, and promote an enhanced understanding and enjoyment of the area. SEO 2: Create (where appropriate) significant amounts of characteristic woodland, wetland and grassland habitats to enhance and extend the strong habitat network, and to improve soil quality and the regulation of water. SEO 3: Conserve, manage and enhance the area’s diverse historic environment, including its features and their settings (archaeological sites, buildings in a wide range of vernacular styles, and landmark features such as castles and hill forts). Conserve, manage and enhance the integrity of the area’s heritage, providing a sense of time depth across the whole landscape – in historic towns, field patterns, veteran trees, ancient paths and trackways, and industrial heritage – to provide and maintain a sense of history and place, to encourage recreation, and to promote an enhanced understanding and enjoyment of the area. SEO 4: Promote – and enhance understanding and enjoyment of – the area, increase learning and educational opportunities, and manage recreation at well used and high-value locations (such as the Long Mynd, the Stiperstones, Wenlock Edge, Clee Hills, The Wrekin and Stretton Hills) to retain their conservation value and tranquillity, and to support sustainable tourism.</p>	<p>The AONB Partnership commented on the draft NCA profile from the perspective of the Management Plan, ensuring good alignment. There is also a connection to NCA98 Clun and NW Herefordshire Hills, but the profile for this has not yet been written.</p>
WALES		
People, Places, Futures - The Wales Spatial Plan 2008 Update http://wales.gov.uk/topics/improvingservices/spatialplan/documents/wsp2008update/?lang=en		
<p>The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (section 60) placed a duty on the National Assembly for Wales to prepare a spatial plan. The Wales Spatial Plan is not part of the statutory development plan framework but provides the context and direction of travel for local development plans and the work of local service boards. The Wales Spatial Plan - People, Places, Futures - was originally adopted by the National Assembly for Wales in November 2004. This Update brings the Wales Spatial Plan into line with One Wales, and gives status to the Area work which has developed over the last two years.</p>	<p>The Vision is “We will sustain our communities by tackling the challenges presented by population and economic change. We will grow in ways which will increase Wales’ competitiveness while assisting less well-off areas to catch up on general prosperity levels and reducing negative environmental impacts. We will enhance the natural and built environment and we will sustain our distinctive identity.” The Plan identifies part of mid Wales close to the AONB as an area with Socio-economic Hubs, and having cross-border linkages.</p>	<p>The Management Plan needs to take into account the potential effects of development over the Welsh border, and to seek positive opportunities for cross-border links.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8: Planning for Renewable Energy (2005) http://wales.gov.uk/topics/planning/policy/tans/tan8/?lang=en		
<p>Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8: Planning for Renewable Energy (2005) provides advice on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable Energy and Planning; Onshore Renewable Energy Technologies; Design and Energy; Implications for Development Plans; Development Control; and Monitoring 	<p>TAN 8 defines Strategic Search Areas for wind energy, one of which is close over the border from the Shropshire Hills.</p> <p>Since the publication of TAN 8: Planning for Renewable Energy there have been some policy and legislative changes. Annex A of the Chief Planning Officers (CPOs) – Publication of Planning Policy Wales Edition 4, February 2011 letter sets out these changes and should be read alongside TAN 8.</p>	<p>The AONB Management Plan should take into account the possible effects of renewable energy proposals over the border in Wales.</p>
Powys Unitary Development Plan 2001-2016 (Adopted 1st March 2010) http://www.powys.gov.uk/index.php?id=9053&L=0		
<p>The statutory Unitary Development Plan UDP for Powys, excluding that part covered by the Brecon Beacons National Park, which is to be covered by separate UDP prepared by the National Park Authority.</p>	<p>The Plan sets out policies for various types of development, but has no specific mentions of the adjacent Shropshire Hills AONB.</p>	<p>The AONB Management Plan should take into account the possible effects of development over the border in Wales.</p>
Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) Preferred Strategy March 2012 http://www.powys.gov.uk/uploads/media/LDP_PREFERRED_Strategy_March_2012_Doc4_en_03.pdf		
<p>The preparation of the Powys LDP commenced on 1st January 2011 with a 4 year preparation timetable. The Council has now finished consulting on the LDP Preferred Strategy and are now considering the responses to inform the drafting of the Deposit Plan, which is due for consultation in 2013. Early in 2011 a Call was made for Potential Development Sites and all site submissions have been recorded on a Candidate Sites Register.</p>	<p>The Preferred Strategy option proposes that the LDP should provide 7,700 dwellings and 42 hectares of employment land and that this should be distributed according to a hierarchy of settlements, with greater allocations directed to settlements in a proposed central growth corridor running north to south through the centre of Powys. It describes the types of development that the LDP should allow in the County's towns, villages and countryside. It also sets out strategic policies for various types of development and land use.</p>	<p>The AONB Management Plan should seek to influence the LDP to ensure that developments in adjacent parts of Powys take into account the AONB.</p>
A Living Wales - Natural Environment Framework (NEF) http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/consmanagement/nef/?lang=en		
<p>Consultation document in 2010 followed up by 2012 consultation 'Sustaining A Living Wales' on proposed changes to the governance and delivery of the management and regulation of the environment in Wales, based on the ecosystem approach.</p>	<p>Aim is to ensure that Wales has increasingly resilient and diverse ecosystems that deliver economic, environmental and social benefits. Workstreams are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a stronger evidence base for our ecosystems so that we have a better basis for decisions that fully reflect risks, opportunities and limits. Ensuring that our dependence on the natural environment and the value of ecosystems, and their services, are fully reflected in the decisions that we make as government and society. Updating our regulatory and management approaches to deliver the new approach. Redesigning our partnership mechanisms around the new approach. Refreshing our institutional arrangements for regulating the environment and delivering improvements to ensure that they support an integrated, sustainable approach. 	<p>The AONB Management Plan will be able to make some contribution to the aim of the Natural Environment Framework through cross-border links and projects, and will need to take account of the changed organisational arrangements in Wales.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition (Welsh Government March 2012) http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/energy/energywales/?lang=en		
Seeks to deliver a genuinely sustainable approach to transition in line with Welsh Government's commitment to sustainable development as its central organising principle.	Aims are to: maximise the long-term economic benefits from energy , and in particular the job creation potential, for Wales. to ensure that communities benefit from energy infrastructure developments carefully plan and manage the relationship between energy development and our natural environment	The AONB Management Plan needs to take account of the strategic approach over the border and seek to develop positive links and avoid any conflicts with the AONB.
Sustainable Tourism - A Framework for Wales 2007 http://sd.defra.gov.uk/2011/07/sustainable-tourism-in-wales/		
The purpose of this sustainable tourism framework is to outline what sustainable development means for the tourism sector in Wales. Its purpose is to guide those involved in promoting and developing tourism in the public, private and voluntary sectors, nationally, regionally and locally to ensure that the tourism industry contributes to sustainable development in Wales.	Four key objectives support the vision for sustainable tourism: Promoting local prosperity; Supporting community well-being and involvement; Minimising tourism's impact on the environment; Protecting and giving value to natural heritage and culture.	The AONB Management Plan needs to set out the positive links and collaborative opportunities for tourism.
SHROPSHIRE		
Shropshire's Community Strategy 2010-2020 A Flourishing Shropshire (Shropshire Partnership 2010) http://www.2shrop.net/2shropnet/AToZOfMini-sites/S/ShropshirePartnership/CommunityStrategy		
The Strategy sets out the priorities and actions that Shropshire Council and partners will take to improve local and county-wide services.	The relevant themes and objectives are: <i>Stronger and safer communities</i> Make the best of culture and leisure opportunities and support the voluntary sector. Economy and environment. Preserve and enhance Shropshire's natural environment and heritage.	The Management Plan should support the voluntary sector and make the best of cultural and leisure opportunities in the AONB.
Shropshire Local Development Framework : Adopted Core Strategy 2006-2026 (Shropshire Council 2011) http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/planningpolicy.nsf/open/BA2DFED09485194980257922004CC90D		
The Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) will be the principal document of the Shropshire Local Development Framework (LDF). The Core Strategy sets out the Council's vision, strategic objectives and the broad spatial strategy to guide future development and growth in Shropshire during the period to 2026. It will be the starting point for the determination of planning applications and will be supported in due course by other documents relating to the allocation of land and more detailed development management policies.	The Core Strategy embodies an innovative approach to development in Shropshire and aims to deliver more sustainable places at all levels and in both urban and rural settings. A sustainable place has sufficient social, economic and environmental infrastructure to meet the needs of its current population, but it is also resilient and capable of adapting to a range of economic, social and environmental challenges in the future. Policy CS5: Countryside and Green Belt, Policy CS16: Tourism, Culture and Leisure and Policy CS17: Environmental Networks are especially relevant to the AONB.	The AONB Management Plan needs to fit with the Core Strategy as the over-arching planning policy document for Shropshire, adding detail and making clear the connections between the AONB and planning.

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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Supplementary Planning Document: Sustainable Design Part 1 (Shropshire Council 2011) http://shropshire.gov.uk/planningpolicy.nsf/open/D4C8698F8C7F579F80257922004CC903		
<p>The adopted guidance implements Policy CS6 of the Shropshire Core Strategy (Sustainable Design and Development Principles). This policy requires all development to meet minimum requirements within a Sustainability Checklist, which is set out within the Sustainable Design SPD.</p>	<p>Given the scope of the SPD, the guidance and checklist are being prepared in two parts: Part 1 of the SPD and checklist focuses entirely on sustainability elements, outlining standards for water, energy and waste management. Part 2 will focus on place making, outlining standards for elements such as design, transport, ecology and recreation and open space and will be developed during 2012.</p>	
Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Preferred Options 2012 http://shropshire.gov.uk/planningpolicy.nsf/open/9F75B1E4E30A1E3B80257922004CC8EE		
<p>The key purpose of the SAMDev Plan is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify sustainable growth targets for Shropshire's market towns • Identify Community Hubs and Community Clusters in the rural area where some further development will happen • Identify appropriate sites for future housing and employment development in market towns, community hubs and community clusters • Provide additional Development Management policies which can be used in the consideration of planning application 	<p>Site Allocations Documents There are 18 'Place Plan' areas in Shropshire and each one of these has its own SAMDev consultation document. Development Management Policy Directions Document A consultation document contains the proposed Development Management Policy Directions. Consultation on the Preferred Options was March to July 2012. The next stage is to prepare the Final Plan, which is due to be published in mid 2013.</p>	<p>Policy for protection of the AONB will be contained in the Development Management part of SAMDev. The Management Plan needs to tie closely with this.</p>
Shropshire Place Plans - Bishop's Castle, Bridgnorth, Church Stretton, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms, Ludlow, Minsterley and Pontesbury, Much Wenlock http://shropshire.gov.uk/planningpolicy.nsf/open/1491504211DB408180257922004CC907		
<p>Place plans will identify the local priorities and infrastructure requirements for each of Shropshire's communities. They are being developed by Shropshire Council in partnership with local communities, parish and town councils and local infrastructure and service providers.</p>	<p>The Place Plans are part of the Council's approach to creating sustainable places and communities through locality working. They outline the community priorities and infrastructure requirements within each settlement. Each Place Plan therefore forms a settlement based delivery plan, for the Council and its partners, to coordinate actions to meet local needs.</p> <p>The Place Plans will be used to identify where Shropshire Council and its partners target resources whilst also assisting in the implementation of Shropshire's Local Development Framework.</p>	<p>The Management Plan needs to take account of the relevant Place Plans (none of which are wholly within the AONB). It also needs to feed proposals and project ideas into the Place Plans as they are reviewed annually.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan Delivery Plan 2009 http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/environment.nsf/open/69E134F7A7C1D8C88025755A00696689		
<p>The Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan sets out detailed action plans for the conservation of habitats and species in the county. This Delivery Plan sets out a timetable for tackling some of the tasks critical to achieving the objectives of the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan. These overarching tasks are beyond the scope of individual species or habitat action plan and need to be addressed before the biodiversity process in Shropshire can really be seen to drive positive change.</p>	<p>Launched in 2002, the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan (SBAP) provided a detailed outline of the work necessary for the conservation of 34 species and 15 habitats. The plan was updated in 2005/6, and is now updated on a rolling basis, keeping pace with the changing face of biodiversity conservation, both locally and nationally. Plans have not been produced for all species as their needs can usually be covered by appropriate management of habitats. With a move towards Landscape Scale action plans it is likely that specific habitat and species action plans will no longer be updated.</p>	<p>The Management Plan should maintain and enhance the quality and extent of wildlife habitats in the AONB and promote an awareness and understanding of biodiversity conservation.</p>
Evolution, Revolution and Innovation - the Cultural Strategy for Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/arts.nsf/open/7C8ABD7ED063FD548025764F00411E48		
<p>This strategy presents Shropshire Council's and Telford & Wrekin Council's joint vision for culture in the sub-region for the period 2009 – 2014 and beyond. It is intentionally a joint strategy designed to celebrate our shared connections and ambitions.</p>	<p>We want culture to inspire us all, to shape how we live, learn, work and play and to enrich the life of every resident and visitor in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. We have seven key aims. We want to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve health and well-being 2. 'Think Green and Live Green' 3. Embed culture and creativity in formal, informal and lifelong learning 4. Achieve regeneration and economic sustainability 5. Build on our sense of place and sense of identity 6. Connect people, places and organisations 7. Prove the value of culture. 	<p>The Management Plan should explore and support connections between culture and the AONB's purposes.</p>
New Economic Growth Strategy for Shropshire 2012-2026 (in preparation) http://shropshire.gov.uk/businessboards.nsf/open/30B33F346A39D681802579C90055A127		
<p>The new Economic Growth Strategy will provide a coherent agenda for growth in the period 2012-2026, and will be aligned to the Shropshire Local Development Framework. Following consultation during 2012, the final strategy is due for publication in autumn 2012.</p>	<p>The Business Plan 2013-2016 sets out four priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerating business growth • Infrastructure for growth • Stimulating our growth sectors • Skilled and loyal workforce 	<p>The Management Plan needs to show how sustainable use of the AONB's resources and assets can support economic progress and where actions in pursuit of short term economic goals may harm both the AONB's special qualities and longer term economic interests.</p>
Shropshire Geodiversity Action Plan (August 2007) http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/planning.nsf/open/EEE885581E0DAEF280257516003D64B6		
<p>The Plan provides a framework for the protection and promotion of the Shropshire's geological heritage.</p>	<p>The relevant aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve Shropshire's geological resources in the field and to provide access to these resources wherever possible. • promote knowledge and understanding of Shropshire's geodiversity amongst the widest possible audience. • promote interpretation and tourism based on Shropshire's unique geology. 	<p>The Management Plan should conserve the geological features of the AONB. It should also promote the interpretation of such features to increase knowledge and understanding.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

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Shropshire Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2011-2026 http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/traveltransport.nsf/open/2A79133CD32676E98025709E002EEF2B		
<p>The Shropshire Local Transport Plan covers all aspects of transport and highways, including walking, cycling, public transport, car-based travel, freight, and the management and maintenance of highways.</p> <p>The Strategy is supported by a series of LTP Evidence Base documents, an Implementation Plan. This is the shorter term LTP delivery plan updated annually and a series of more detailed supplementary LTP strategies and plans will be used to set out how the policies summarised in the LTP strategy will be pursued.</p>	<p>The Strategy sets out objectives under four headings:</p> <p><u>Economy and growth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve connectivity and access, particularly by sustainable transport modes • Improve journey time reliability and reduce unforeseen delays • Support growth and ensure new housing and employment areas encourage more sustainable travel behaviour <p><u>Traffic, carbon and environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce transport related carbon emissions • Minimise the impacts of transport on our local environment <p><u>Maintenance of the Highway Network</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the condition of the highway network <p><u>Accessibility and health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable disadvantaged people to more easily connect with a range of services and facilities • Encourage more travel by active modes of walking and cycling 	<p>The Management Plan should support sustainable access to services for local communities and seek to reduce both congestion and the impact of traffic on the environment.</p>
Shropshire Hills and Ludlow Sustainable Tourism Strategy and Action Plan 2011-16 http://www.shropshirehillstourismpartnership.org.uk/Shropshire%20Hills%20and%20Ludlow%20Sustainable%20Tourism%20Strategy%20Sep%2011.pdf		
<p>In December 2010, the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership, together with Shropshire Council, commissioned The Tourism Company with Alison Caffyn to prepare a sustainable tourism strategy and action plan for the whole of the Shropshire Hills and Ludlow destination, as covered by the Shropshire Hills and Ludlow Destination Development Partnership (DDP).</p> <p>A focal aspect of the strategy is the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which relates to all parts of the destination. The strategy has been written to comply with the requirements of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.</p>	<p>Guiding principles of the Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building an integrated destination, linking the towns and the hills (AONB) • Ensuring effective partnership working between stakeholders at all levels • Growing tourism spending year round and throughout the area • Bringing out opportunities to enjoy the area's special qualities and distinctiveness • Being ambitious about the sustainable aspects of tourism • Providing a quality experience for all visitors <p>Strategic objectives from the Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness • Delivering the hills experience • Delivering the market towns experience • Delivering the local food experience • Orientating and informing visitors • Promoting sustainable access and management • Supporting local enterprise 	<p>The Management Plan needs to incorporate the key strategic elements of the Strategy and support it.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping for Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-19 Appendix 1 Plans and Programmes (updated July 2013)

Description or purpose of document	Objectives and/or targets identified in the document	Implications for the Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan
<p>Countryside Access Strategy for Shropshire 2008-18 http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/media/268126/countryside-access-strategy-for-shropshire-2008-2018.pdf</p>		
<p>The Countryside Access Strategy for Shropshire considers existing countryside access opportunities within the county and, by responding to local needs, seeks to modernise the access network and to make the countryside a more welcoming place for everyone. It is the statutory Rights of Way Improvement plan (RoWIP) for Shropshire.</p>	<p>The main actions within the strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing and improving opportunities for everyone to access the Shropshire countryside. • Making improvements to the rights of way network. • Improving information on access opportunities for users. • Increasing the number of local promoted circular routes. • Developing more off-road routes particularly for horse riders and cyclists. • Improving safety especially at road crossings. • Encouraging more community participation in countryside access issues. • Promoting the benefits that access to the countryside brings to both mental and physical health. • Encouraging people to walk and cycle for local journeys. • Fully understanding what would encourage hard-to-reach groups to better access the countryside. • Promoting Shropshire as a walking, horse riding and cycling destination. 	<p>The previous Management Plan was developed at the same time as the Countryside Access Strategy and there is good alignment.</p>
<p>TELFORD & WREKIN</p>		
<p>Telford & Wrekin Core Strategy 2006 – 2016 Adopted 2007 http://www.telford.gov.uk/info/856/local_development_framework/673/telford_and_wrekin_core_strategy</p>		
<p>The Core Strategy DPD addresses the key spatial development issues for the Borough and provides a robust strategic planning policy framework that gives a clear understanding of how the Borough will develop physically over the 10 years to 2016.</p>	<p>Includes Development Objective 18. To protect, enhance and conserve the natural environment, areas of high biodiversity, nature conservation value and landscapes within the Borough, including the natural beauty of the Shropshire Hills.</p>	<p>The Management Plan needs to support and link to the Telford & Wrekin Core Strategy.</p>

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Description or purpose of document	Objectives and/or targets identified in the document	Implications for the Shropshire Hills AONB Management Plan
Telford & Wrekin Green Infrastructure Framework Evidence & Analysis Document https://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/download/1453/green_infrastructure_evidence_and_analysis_document		
<p>The purpose of the Telford & Wrekin Green Infrastructure Framework is to provide a strategic planning framework to guide the planning, design and management of green infrastructure within the borough.</p>	<p>The objectives of the Framework have been established following consultation with the projects stakeholders. These include (selected most relevant ones):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide an overarching framework for the planning, design and management of strategic and local green infrastructure in the borough. To help co-ordinate strategic/regional cross boundary green infrastructure areas e.g. The Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, The Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, the River Severn, the Shrewsbury and Newport Canal, National Cycle Ways and various Public Rights of Way. To assist the borough in responding to the challenges of a changing environment. To apply green infrastructure in a more structured and objective way To help secure funding for the Green Infrastructure Framework actions including mechanisms to resource the long term management of both existing and new green infrastructure To establish criteria which recognises the functions and value of green infrastructure at a strategic level in order to prioritise sites which are most vulnerable or in need of immediate action To help establish a governance model for monitoring and reporting on green infrastructure linked to corporate annual reporting and performance management To help the efficient and effective delivery of the Framework through partnership working 	<p>The Management Plan needs to support the emerging Telford & Wrekin Green Infrastructure Framework and application of these principles in the Wrekin area.</p>