

Item 6. AONB Partnership membership biennial review and recruitment

1. Summary

This paper sets out a timescale and process for the AONB Partnership's biennial review of membership.

2. Background

The Partnership's Terms of Reference state that:

The Partnership will review its membership not less than every two years. This will include reappointment to individual member seats, and may include further review as the Partnership deems necessary. The Partnership will operate an application process for the individual member seats and Parish/Town Council seats, and where necessary for non-statutory or voluntary organisations. Appointment of applicants to seats will be made by the full Partnership, based on the following criteria:

Individual and Parish/Town Council members

- *resident in the AONB or a nearby town or countryside;*
- *proven commitment to AONB purposes and relevant areas of interest;*
- *ability to make a valuable contribution to the Partnership.*

Non-statutory and voluntary bodies

- *support for AONB purposes and a clear overlap in remit with that of the AONB;*
- *a significant material or operational interest within the AONB;*
- *representative with ability to make a valuable contribution to the Partnership.*

In 2015, the process was immediately followed by appointments to the Management Board, which were confirmed at the November Partnership meeting. Since the Transition Board was only formed in August 2016, it does not seem necessary to review the membership of this again now.

There are no Partnership members in the 'non-statutory organisation' category who have failed to attend any meetings in the last two year period (this has previously been the basis for asking some organisations to reapply if they wish to continue as members). It is therefore proposed for simplicity that the current membership review involves appointments just to the seven individual member seats and the six Parish/Town Council seats. It may be preferable to complete appointments by email voting (all current Partnership members can vote) prior to the November Partnership meeting, which any new members can then attend.

The November meeting of the Partnership must also re-elect a Chair and Vice Chairs (which are also on a two year term).

3. RECOMMENDATION:

The Transition Board is recommended to endorse the proposed process for membership review and recruitment.

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