

List of Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2008-2013 Policies

Climate change

CCP1: That the impact of climate change on the Cotswolds AONB is understood and a strategic response is developed.

CCP2: That measures are taken to mitigate the causes of climate change.

CCP3: That measures are in place to adapt to the likely impacts of climate change.

GLOP1: That the likely impact of globalisation on agricultural land use in the AONB is understood and a strategic response is in place.

PP1: That the conservation and enhancement of the AONB and its special qualities is fully taken into account in strategies, plans and guidance produced to address development, transport and service provision in and around the AONB.

Landscape

LP1: That the unique character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cotswolds landscape are conserved and enhanced.

Rural land management

RLMP1: That viable, sustainable farming that meets environmental standards remains one of the principal land uses within the Cotswolds AONB and contributes to maintaining the quality of the landscape.

RLMP2: That rural land management that conserves and enhances natural resources including biodiversity and landscape character, and aids public enjoyment of the Cotswolds AONB is supported and rewarded.

RLMP3: That all landscape management is in accordance with guidance based on landscape character assessments which identify the special qualities of the Cotswolds landscape.

RLMP4: That a sustainable rural economy, which provides economic viability whilst enhancing the Cotswolds landscape and biodiversity, is developed.

RLMP5: That the conservation and enhancement of ancient woodland, parkland, hedgerow, urban and veteran trees is undertaken to maintain their landscape, ecological and cultural value.

RLMP6: That the skills required to care for and promote the landscape and its special qualities are increased, with opportunities to acquire and develop such skills available to all.

Natural resources

NRP1: That the exploitation of natural resources is managed so as to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB.

NRP2: That carbon emissions from activities within the AONB are reduced through a combination of reducing energy consumption by applying energy conservation measures and encouraging more sustainable patterns of development, together with renewable energy generation by technologies that are of an appropriate scale for their siting.

NRP3: That less waste is produced through waste minimisation and recycling of waste materials generated by residents and visitors, construction and redevelopment, agriculture and tourism providers. Any residual waste is disposed of locally where there is no harm to the distinctive characteristics of the AONB.

NRP4: That soils are used sustainably by maintaining the protection and management of soils within a range of land uses so as to reflect good agricultural practice and to minimise the direct pollution of soils and loss of this irreplaceable natural resource through soil erosion.

Historic environment

HEP1: That change is managed in ways that protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and the cultural heritage of the AONB.

HEP2: That the wealth of historic resources in the Cotswolds AONB is better identified, recorded, and understood.

Biodiversity

BP1: That UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and species in the Cotswolds AONB have been maintained and where possible, enhanced, by the end of the plan period.

BP2: That 95% by area of designated sites and UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats in the Cotswolds AONB are in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable improving' condition by the end of the plan period.

BP3: That a co-ordinated programme of work is in place to restore, recreate, link and buffer UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and species assemblages.

BP4: That by the end of the plan period, baseline biodiversity data will be available across the AONB in a readily accessible form.

Development and transport

DTP1: That all Local Development Framework documents and planning decision-making processes will use the following criteria to determine the acceptability of a proposed development in the Cotswolds AONB. Development will:

- be compatible with the distinctive character of the location as described by the relevant landscape character assessment, strategy and guidelines
- incorporate designs and landscaping consistent with the above, respecting the local settlement pattern and building style
- be designed to respect local building styles and materials
- incorporate appropriate sustainability elements and designs
- maintain or improve the existing level of tranquillity
- not have an adverse impact on the local community amenities and services and access to these
- protect, or where possible enhance, biodiversity
- be in accordance with a more sustainable pattern of development, reducing dependence on car travel

DTP2: That only development which supports the local economy, improves access to local services, and increases the opportunity for people to live and work in their local community will be promoted in Regional Spatial Strategies

and Local Development Frameworks, unless required for some clearly identified national interest.

DTP3: That the special qualities of the AONB are fully respected in the planning, design, provision and management of all types of transport.

DTP4: That those involved in the care of the AONB have the opportunity to live within it.

DTP5: That the current level of local services and access to those services is maintained or enhanced where possible, to support sustainable communities.

DTP6: That issues of importance for the management of the landscape are fully reflected in community focused strategies and plans.

DTP7: That opportunities are taken to promote public transport and reduce the use of private cars.

Awareness and appreciation

AAP1: That there is greater awareness and appreciation by those who live in and around the AONB, work in or visit the Cotswolds, of the purposes of designation, the special qualities of the AONB and the positive benefits of actively experiencing and helping to sustain them.

AAP2: That landowners and the public have a greater awareness of the positive benefits obtained by sustainable land management in conserving and enhancing landscape character and how they can support this by the production and consumption of the goods, products and services provided by such management.

Enjoying and exploring

EEP1: That visitors and the tourism industry understand the need for, and support the conservation and enhancement of, the special qualities of the AONB as the key assets upon which tourism in the Cotswolds is based.

EEP2: That the tourism industry makes a vital contribution to the Cotswold economy while at the same time seeking to manage in a positive and sustainable manner the pressures tourism places on the natural beauty of the AONB.

EEP3: That there is a co-ordinated approach to the appropriate management and promotion of public access and quiet recreational activities with planning to ensure access for all.