

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

27 January 2009

Report of the Director of Planning Transport and Leisure

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Council

1 ADOPTION OF AONB MANAGEMENT PLANS

Summary

A report on the draft Management Plans for the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and High Weald AONB was presented to Planning and Transportation Advisory Board on 6 January 2009 with a recommendation that Policy Overview recommends to Cabinet that the Council should resolve to adopt the first revision of both Management Plans on 27 February 2009.

1.1 Adoption of the AONB Management Plans

1.1.1 The preparation and 5 yearly review of a Management Plan for the AONB is a statutory duty. It has to be performed jointly with all of the other authorities which include parts of the AONB. Tonbridge and Malling includes parts of two AsONB. The Management Plans have been reviewed on behalf of the Council by the relevant AONB Units which report to Joint Advisory Committees on which this Council is represented.

1.1.2 The reviews of the two plans have been subject to extensive local consultation during the course of their preparation, including local Members and Parish Councils within the AONBs. The draft Management Plan Reviews were endorsed by PTAB on 20 October 2008. Following similar consideration by all other authorities in the AONBs, the matter was considered again by PTAB at its meeting on 6 January 2009 with a view to both documents now being recommended for adoption. The reason that the adoption date is after the date of the Council meeting is to allow for circumstances where changes of a minor nature might need to be agreed following the Council meeting.

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 As set out in the report to PTAB.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 As set out in the report to PTAB.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 As set out in the report to PTAB.

1.5 Recommendation

1.5.1 That Cabinet recommends Council to resolve to adopt on the 27 February 2009 the first revisions of the Management Plans for the Kent Downs AONB and High Weald AONB.

1.5.2 Authority be delegated to the Director of Planning Transport and Leisure to agree before they are published any minor changes that result from the consideration of the Management Plans by other authorities.

Background papers:

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Nil

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Director of Planning Transport and Leisure