

Officer Executive Decisions

Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan Adoption

Delegation from Leader and Cabinet and date

On 30 March 2021, the Cabinet delegated authority to the Director of Place and Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation, to:

- a) Address the minor amendments to the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan Review, 2021-2026 as highlighted in yellow in Appendix 1 to the report.
- b) Consider and approve reasonable minor changes made by the other eleven local authorities to the Plan during the adoption process.
- c) Consider and approve minor changes to the Plan for the purpose of presentation or improving clarity

(Decision No.: 40/2021)

The report may be found on the [Council's website](#).

Decision

It has been decided to formally adopt the Kent Downs AONB Management Plan Review (2021-26) in line with the agreement of all partner local authorities and the AONB Joint Advisory Committee, with effect from 16 November 2021.

Reasons for Decision

The adoption of the Kent Downs AONB Management Plan Review was subject to any minor amendments arising from consideration at decision making stage by other local authority partners.

The Kent Downs AONB Joint Advisory Committee met on 9 November 2021 and confirmed that all partner local authorities had agreed to adopt the management plan without amendments.

The Joint Advisory Committee confirmed the decision to adopt the AONB management plan review with effect from 16 November 2021.

The Kent Downs AONB management plan is a statutory requirement. The AONB Unit prepares and reviews the management plan on behalf of the local authority partners. The management plan needs to be formally adopted by individual local authorities.

Date of Decision

16 November 2021

Lead Officer

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Details of any other options considered and rejected

1. To unilaterally adopt the management plan in advance of wider consideration by other local authority partners – this raised the risk that the document could be amended following the Cabinet meeting on 30 March, and the adopted document would not be consistent across the AONB area.
2. Not to adopt the management plan – this is a statutory requirement on the authority, and this would not be an acceptable option.

Conflicts of Interest

None