

Devon LNP Executive Group meeting 30th January 2013

Minutes (actions)

Attendees: Tracy Brooks (Torbay Council), Peter Chamberlain (DCC, Chair), Steve Edmonds (EDDC), Cathy Fitzroy (NE), Sarah Jennings (DCC, sec), Mark Robins (RSPB), Mark Lane (DCC), Robin Toogood (South Devon AONB)

Apologies: Susan Warren / Peter Burgess (DWT), Paul Cottingham (NFU), Tina Henry (PCT), Mark Rice (EA)

1. Board update	Action
<p>Board met for first time in December 2013. Minutes on the LNP website.</p> <p>Position of a Chair has been advertised this week.</p> <p>Corinna Woodall to attend the Ministerial LNP event in Feb.</p>	<p>All to promote the advert for the Chair.</p> <p>Sec to promote via AONBs + all those involved in 2012 consultation process.</p>
2. Interim action plan	
<p>Devon Landscape Policy Group is developing an Advice Note, <i>Accommodating Wind and Solar PV Developments in Devon's Landscape</i>. This is currently out for consultation until March 4th. Presentation to be held on 12th February. For further information (as well as information on Devon Landscape Character Assessment) see - http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/environmentplanning/natural_environment/landscape/landscape-policy-guidance.htm</p>	<p>Sec to ensure that the Board + consultant producing the Business Plan are aware of the Advice Note</p>
2.1 Overview paper	
<p>Agreed that there are two audiences (a) those already involved in the consultation and aware of the LNP, (b) others. A <u>short</u>e newsletter (setting out overview of progress to date) to be sent out to all those involved in the consultation process (audience a) asap, with advert for the Chair + highlighting the three main priorities for the LNP. Further promotional material to be produced for audience b when the Business Plan has been finalised and a Comms Plan produced and to link to autumn conference. Critical to ensure that this (language used) is appropriate to the audience.</p> <p>Some discussion as to whether there is an existing promotional campaign that the LNP should link to / use. No-one aware of anything suitable.</p>	<p>Sec to send out e newsletter asap.</p> <p>RT to send through links to Plymouth Development Package.</p> <p>TB to send through TDS promotional material.</p>
2.2 Business Plan	
<p>Agreed that ML, MR and SJ would lead on the Business plan and selection of the consultant. Tenders deadline is 13th February. Important to identify outcomes / outputs.</p> <p>MR summarised work being undertaken on a Somerset LNP Prospectus – whereby ~ five key projects / priorities for the LNP are being identified.</p>	<p>MR, ML and SJ</p>



<p>2.3 State of Environment</p> <p>Brief for consultants currently being amended to take on board comments from the Exec Group. Budget for this work is small and so group made aware that work carried out will be limited. Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important that this is linked back to the three LNP priorities. - Potential to link to Annual Monitoring Reports undertaken by Local Planning Authorities? - Use to identify some 'killer facts' for the LNP! + include goals / trajectory / balance scorecard approach? Link to LNP B Plan targets as well as 2020 biodiversity targets etc - Social / health / wellbeing links important - Ensure clarify what is static vs what can change - Potential to use the Protected Landscape Framework currently being developed? - Caution reg. how to use agri-env data. Need to get advice from an NE specialist. - Would be useful to include other stats e.g. number of people involved in RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch / Forest Schools / education - Need to consider inclusion of information that can't be replicated in the future. - Important to identify what we don't know – gaps e.g. volunteering. <p>It was noted that wildlife NGOs are publishing a State of Nature report in May – and that SWEN are proposing to host a SW state of nature exercise in June.</p>	<p>TB to share info on AMRs.</p> <p>CF to send Sec link to Protected Landscape Framework. RT to send list of data sent to AONBs by NE.</p> <p>CF to send name of NE agri-env officer to spk to.</p> <p>SE to spk to DESWG to see if they have any information on env education that can be included in SoN.</p> <p>Sec to consider whether publication of Devon State of Nature report can be linked to these events.</p>
<p>2.4 Landscape Framework</p> <p>DWT (via a partnership agreement with DCC) is mapping Devon landscape scale projects and pulling together an associated database of key outputs. Agreed that it would also be useful to see what this shows in terms of what isn't covered by these projects – potential gaps / opportunities - although agreed that this information will need to be used intelligently and carefully and thought through further in terms of what can be published / messages etc. Agreed that this would be a really useful starting point to get a handle on what is happening across the county.</p> <p>Agreed that Sec should ask whether DWT could send a table to all relevant partners for them to fill in and send back with a GIS layer of the project area. DWT to also send a list of the projects they are already aware of so that everyone can help signpost DWT to other projects. DWT to clarify what they are including as a landscape scale project.</p>	<p>Sec to discuss with DWT</p>
<p>2.5 LEP</p> <p>MR met Tim Jones (LEP Chair) on 29th January for a discussion reg. LEP priorities and liaison with the LNP. Note that MR is leading on liaison with the LEP for Somerset LNP. Agreed three main ways of working:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LNP to have a place on LEP formal groups (e.g. MR to sit on LEP water and environment group) - Liaison via informal contact - Formal MOU / Compact to be agreed <p>Things are happening quickly / pace of change is fast – and LNP needs to be able to respond to this. Some key issues discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each LEP is being asked to put forward on main infrastructure proposition. This is currently a major package of flood risk activity of which natural solutions potentially form a part. LEP currently discussing this with Treasury / Cabinet Office. - LEP keen to blend a Rural Deal with Plymouth City Deal - potentially include large areas of coast, south Devon and Dartmoor. (City Deals 	<p>MR to remain main Somerset and Devon LNP point of contact for the LEP. MR to liaise with Plymouth LNP to ensure LNPs have, as far as is possible, one voice.</p>

<p>relate to devolving resources down from central government)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU Programmes. Gov proposing that a single pot of EU funding could be allocated by LEPs. LEPs however are self appointed which causes problems reg. the EU need for inclusivity. There may therefore be funding available which can be used by LEPs (or others) to bring sectors together to help overcome this issue. <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MR has been asked by SWEN (South west environment network) to pull together headline environmental asks from EU funding at the Programme level. MR will ensure that the LNP is made aware of this process and how to best engage with this and the LEPs work on EU funding. - Agreed that MR should rep Devon LNP on the LEP's water and environment group and be the main point of contact for the LEP. This will need to be revisited when the LNP Chair is appointed. 	
<p>2.6 Compact with LEP and H&WBB</p> <p>Not done</p>	<p>Sec to draft and send to Exec for comment</p>
<p>3. Joint working with Somerset and Plymouth</p> <p>Plymouth LNP has agreed that RT will act as the main link between the LNPs. Both LNP Secs to share minutes of meetings etc.</p> <p>MR to ask as main link to Somerset LNP.</p>	<p>RT, MR</p>
<p>4. Website update / Comms Strategy</p> <p>Devon LNP website has been improved and all main docs can now be found on the website. See www.devonenvironment.org.uk</p> <p>Comms Strategy to be produced following publication of Business Plan. Communications prior to this to be clarified e.g. inviting forum members, appointment of Chair, publication of State of Environment report etc.</p>	<p>All – send comments on website to Sec so that it can be improved.</p>
<p>Next meetings – meeting needed to discuss the Business Plan. Meetings to be then held ~ 3 weeks before each Board meeting.</p>	<p>Sec to send around a doodle.</p>