

## **GLOVER REVIEW OF NATIONAL PARKS AND AONBS**

**Summary:** To provide an update on the Glover Review of National Parks and AONBs and the Board's ambition for a Cotswolds National Park.

**Recommendation:** That the latest progress report be noted.

**Office Ref:** Martin Lane, Director

### **General Update**

1. The Glover Review issued an interim report in mid-July and Michael Gove, as the then Secretary of State at Defra issued a response. This exchange of letters is provided at **Appendix 'A'** and they were issued to all Board members via email in July.
2. The interim report reflects several areas of the Board's response to the Glover review in December 2018, such as: the 44 Protected Landscapes uniting to be more than the sum of their parts; that the system of Parks and AONBs often being fragmented, with the Review exploring the potential for a National Landscape Service; that all the protected landscapes should be a priority of the new Environmental Land Management Scheme, ELMS; the Protected Landscapes being hampered by having little influence over the things which have done most harm to nature, including a system of farming subsidies.
3. In terms of a Cotswolds National Park the interim report was, not surprisingly, silent on new designations. The report signalled that it would set out its thoughts on new designations in the final report.
4. The report also highlighted that any new National Parks should receive new funding rather than being funded from the existing Park budget. This is not unexpected as it has been a regular concern of the existing Parks.
5. The National Park media text agreed by the Board last December has been issued as an electronic leaflet publication in a PDF format, **Appendix 'B'**.
6. The Glover Review final report is expected in the autumn, which could be later in September or in October 2019. It is then envisaged that Government will aim to respond to the review report and its recommendations, although no timetable has been indicated at this stage.

### **Supporting Papers:**

**Appendix 'A' - Interim Findings of the Landscapes Review, July 2019.**

**Appendix 'B' - A Cotswolds National Park, leaflet produced and distributed in Pdf format.**