

COTSWOLDS NATIONAL PARK AMBITION

Summary: To provide an update on 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. When adopting the 2018 - 2023 Management Plan the Board adopted the ambition "To promote the case for the Cotswolds being designated as England's next National Park".
2. Following the December 2018 Board Meeting written submissions were made to the Glover Review for National Parks and AONBs; a submission answering the specific questions asked by the review and a separate submission focussed on the National Park Position Statement, FAQs and media article.
3. The Glover Review received 2,456 responses by the 18th December 2018 deadline.
4. Cotswold Life has subsequently featured a Cotswolds National Park article in their Summer 2019 edition of the magazine, **Appendix 'A'**.
5. Levels of interest in the idea of a Cotswolds National Park remain high, with local MPs seeking meetings with Julian Glover or offering additional material and local branches of CPRE requesting presentations.
6. Officers understand that Julian Glover has read the Board's detailed response and that the Panel has discussed the Cotswolds.
7. Officers also understand that the Glover Review plans to issue a draft report in June and a final report in October. It is then envisaged that Government will aim to respond to the review report and its recommendations.

Supporting Paper(s):

Appendix 'A' - Should the Cotswolds become a National Park?, article in Cotswold Life Magazine, Summer 2019 issue.