

**REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR POLICY PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES****SHERWOOD FOREST REGIONAL PARK BOARD****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of the report is to provide the Committee with an update on the activities of the Sherwood Forest Regional Park Board.

Information and Advice

The Regional Park vision is for “a future for the Sherwood Forest area where the outstanding natural and cultural heritage is locally, nationally and internationally recognised – where vibrant communities, economic regeneration and environmental enhancement thrive together in this inspiring natural setting”. Objectives encompass enhancement of landscape and historic character, promotion of sustainable leisure and tourism and support for agricultural diversification, woodland and rural economy uses which respect local character.

The concept of the Regional Park is being driven by an informal partnership, led by a Board of 20 organisations including the County Council. The Board is currently chaired by Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.

The recent work of the Board has been to explore ways that concept of a regional can be delivered and how to achieve this, given financial constraints. Regional Park designation will add value to the work undertaken by all partners.

Two working groups report to the Board:

- Sherwood Funding Working Group – encourages shared funding bids that support the Regional Park aims. A Stage 1 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund to establish a Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) valued at £3.9million was unsuccessful in October 2013. Partners have been encouraged to resubmit the bid and a revised bid will be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund at the end of May.
- Sherwood Habitats Steering Group – provides technical support regarding biodiversity and landscape matters. Over the last year, the group has carried out Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping and started to investigate applications of the concept of Ecosystems Services.

Other work initiated by the Board has been to pursue recognition of the area within Local Development Frameworks and to look for opportunities to work with Experience Nottinghamshire in promoting Sherwood to visitors.

Other Options Considered

2. As this is report for noting only, it is not necessary to consider other options.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

3. The report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

4. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That the report be noted.

Jayne Francis-Ward

Corporate Director Policy Planning and Corporate Services

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sally Gill, Group Manager Planning
0115 9696536**

Constitutional Comments

5. The report is for noting

Financial Comments (SEM 23/04/14)

6. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972. - None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected - All