

**Norfolk Coast AONB Updated Management Plan (2019-2024), revised 2022**

Summary: This report provides an explanation and summary of the modifications made to the current Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan (2014-2019) and seeks approval for formal endorsement of an updated Management Plan (2019-2024) by NNDC, as a member authority of The Norfolk Coast Partnership, the AONB Management Body.

Recommendations: **Members of the Planning Policy & Built Heritage Working Party recommend to Cabinet that the contents of the updated Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan (2019-2024) are endorsed for use as a material planning consideration in the determination of planning applications.**

Cabinet Member(s) Cllr Andrew Brown	Ward(s) affected  All
All Members	All Wards
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**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Section 89 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) places a statutory duty on relevant local authorities to *‘prepare and publish a plan which formulates their policy for the management of the area of outstanding natural beauty and for carrying out of their functions in relation to it’* and *‘to review the plan at intervals of not more than 5 years’*
- 1.2 The Norfolk Coast Partnership (NCP) is the partnership body appointed to manage the designated area.
- 1.3 In accordance with this timescale, a revised draft Plan has been prepared by NCP, circulated to all of the partners on the Core Management Group (NNDC, GYBC, BCKLWN, NCC, Natural England) and feedback incorporated.
- 1.4 A copy of the revised Management Plan is attached to this report as **Appendix A.**

- 1.5 Changes made relate to aligning the Plan with changing national planning policy, updated national environmental and agricultural policy following Brexit, emerging Local Plans and County-wide Plans, new Supplementary Planning Documents (e.g. the North Norfolk Landscape Character Assessment, 2021), new policy such as GIRAMS and updated evidence bases relating to coastal erosion, climate change.
- 1.6 The revised Plan also includes an assessment of the condition of the area's natural beauty. A detailed condition monitoring assessment was undertaken of the seven defined Key Qualities (see 3.2 of the Management Plan) to gain an update on the condition of all of the defined special qualities. (Red, Amber, Green (RAG rating).
- 1.7 A Summary Schedule of Changes is attached at **Appendix B**
- 1.8 The focus of an AONB Management Plan is to formulate policy for the management of the designated landscape by the relevant bodies in order to conserve and enhance the landscape and scenic beauty of the area. These policies are influenced by a wide range of different factors, such as conservation, amenity, social and economic issues. The AONB Management Plan does not override the Local Plan or wider Development Plan, but in its making should link in with the overriding policies in those plans. Once local authorities have endorsed the AONB Management Plan, those elements in it that relate to the development and use of land, and which supplement and support the policies set out in the Development plan, may be material considerations to be taken into account in determining a planning application.

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 **Members of the Planning Policy & Built Heritage Working Party recommend to Cabinet that the contents of the updated Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan (2019-2024) are endorsed for use as a material planning consideration in the determination of planning applications.**

## **3 Legal Implications and Risks**

- 3.1 The Council has a statutory duty under Section 89 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) to 'prepare and publish a plan which formulates their policy for the management of the area of outstanding natural beauty and for carrying out of their functions in relation to it' and 'to review the plan at intervals of not more than 5 years'

## **4 Financial Implications and Risks**

- 4.1 No financial implications or risks are identified.

**Appendix A** – Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan (2019-2024) revised 2022  
**Appendix B** – Schedule of Changes made to the current Management Plan (2014-2029)