Appointment of Secretary of State Members to National Park Authorities and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Conservation Boards

Briefing pack for applicants
Closing Date: Noon on 6 March 2020
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Ministerial message to candidates

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Secretary of State appointed member of a National Park Authority or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Conservation Board.

I am looking for a diverse group of passionate and committed individuals who want to help shape the strategic direction of our National Park Authorities and AONB Conservation Boards. As a Secretary of State appointed member, you will have the opportunity to help conserve and enhance our most treasured landscapes now and for future generations. I welcome applications from people who have a clear understanding of land management, rural communities, as well as protection and enhancement of the environment. Applications are also encouraged from people with experience in planning, commercial and business leadership, communications and stakeholder outreach.

We seek applicants who are sensitive to the needs of the local communities, whilst having an ability to respond to the challenge of widening access to more diverse groups in society. I particularly encourage applications from disabled and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic and younger candidates as currently the Boards of National Parks and AONBs are not fully reflective of our diverse society.

This is a pivotal time for Protected Landscapes, the recent review of England’s National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, led by Julian Glover completed last year. The review considered how to build on the existing plan for AONBs and National Parks, how to connect more people with the natural environment and improve health and wellbeing, helping to deliver the aspirations of the 25 Year Plan for the Environment.

Julian Glover and his team have set out a compelling vision for more beautiful, and biodiverse National Parks and AONBs, more accessible for everyone in the country to enjoy. We are in the process of considering all the recommendations. Board members will have an important role to play in delivery of the Government’s response to the review, helping to oversee the implementation of practical steps for improvements.

If you have the knowledge, skills and experience required to contribute to the life of the nation’s National Parks and AONBs and would derive satisfaction from public service, we very much look forward to receiving an application from you.

Lord Gardiner of Kimble
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity
Defra mission statement

Defra wants Britain to be a great place to live. Our work plays a critical role in the wellbeing of everyone in the country through the creation of healthy environments, a world leading food and farming industry, a thriving rural economy and enhanced protection against floods and animal and plant diseases. Appointing high-calibre people from diverse backgrounds with relevant skills, knowledge and experience to the boards of our public bodies will help us to ensure that our work is more effective, resilient and accountable.

Equal Opportunities

UK government has a policy of equality of opportunity. We aim to promote equal opportunity policies whereby no one suffers unfair discrimination either directly or indirectly, or harassment, on grounds such as race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sex, gender identity, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or age.

Diversity

We recognise that existing Board appointees are not fully reflective of diversity in society. We want National Park and AONB Boards to better reflect the users they serve. That’s why we positively welcome applicants from all backgrounds. All public appointments are made on merit following a fair and open competition as regulated by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments.

Disability

We guarantee to interview anyone with a disability whose application meets the minimum criteria for the post. ‘Minimum criteria’ means you must provide sufficient evidence in your application, demonstrating that you meet the minimum level of competence required for each essential criterion, as well as meeting any of the qualifications, skills or experience required. The Cabinet Office and Defra is committed to the employment and career development of disabled people. To show this we proudly display the Disability Confident Leader logo. More information about Disability Confident Leaders is available by clicking the logo above. If a person with disabilities is put at a substantial disadvantage compared to a non-disabled person, we have a duty to make reasonable changes to our processes where possible. If you need a change to be made so that you can make your application, please refer to the ‘How to submit your application’ section below.
Introduction to NPA and AONBs

There are ten National Parks (including the Broads Authority), and thirty-four Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, including two Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Conservation Boards in England. The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949) enabled the designation of National Parks and AONBs in England and Wales. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 permitted AONBs to form Conservation Boards to aid management, particularly in cases where AONBs cross several administrative boundaries. In 2004, Conservation Boards were created for the Chilterns AONB and Cotswolds AONB.

National Parks and Cotswolds and Chilterns AONBs are protected because of their natural beauty and the wealth of opportunities provided for outdoor recreation, being designated nationally and internationally important landscapes. This high-quality environment supports vibrant local economies and communities.

National Parks are administered by individual National Park Authorities. The Chilterns and Cotswolds AONBs are each administered by a Conservation Board. Each National Park Authority/AONB Conservation Board is managed by an executive of permanent staff with oversight from members. Members make decisions about the actions that each National Park Authority/AONB Conservation Board should take to deliver its purposes. There are typically between 18 and 30 members, either appointed by Defra’s Secretary of State, or elected by local authorities or parish councils.

The executive carries out the necessary work to run the National Parks/AONBs and support and advise the members. Staff include professionals such as ecologists, rangers, planners and education specialists.

Defra encourages National Park Authorities/AONB Conservation Boards to maximise funding from a range of sources to supplement the grant they receive from Government.

Please see the vision statement of the National Parks in Annex A and the vision statements of the Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board in Annex B.
Statutory Purposes of the NPAs and AONBs

The statutory purposes of National Park Authorities are to:

i) Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage;

ii) Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of National Parks by the public.

- When National Park authorities carry out these purposes they also have the duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Parks.

- The Broads Authority has an additional purpose of protecting the interests of navigation, and in discharging its functions regard is to be had to the needs of agriculture and forestry and the economic and social interests of those who live or work in the Broads.

The statutory purposes of AONB Conservation Boards are to:

- Conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB.

- AONB Conservation Boards have a further responsibility to:
  
  - increase the public understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area of outstanding natural beauty

- When AONBs carry out these purposes they also have the duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the AONB.

- If there is conflict between the purposes for National Parks and AONBs they are both required by statute to place greater weight to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the park, a concept known as the ‘Sandford principle’.
The role and person specification

We are looking to make Secretary of State appointments to seven National Park Authorities and the Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board. The vacancies are shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Park Authority</th>
<th>Confirmed appointment vacancies</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dartmoor NPA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exmoor NPA</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Forest NPA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northumberland NPA</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peak District NPA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Downs NPA</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire Dales NPA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AONB Conservation Board</th>
<th>Confirmed appointment vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cotswolds AONB CB</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall role of a member is to contribute to the leadership, scrutiny and direction of the National Park Authority/ Conservation Board and further the statutory purposes. Members are not representative of any organisation or group and have a duty to act in the best interest of the Authority/ Conservation Board on which they serve. Certain ineligibility criteria apply to these posts.

The key functions of a member are to:

- Be collectively responsible, with other members, for decisions and ensure the National Park Authority/ AONB Conservation Board furthers its statutory purposes;
- Contribute towards the overall strategic direction of the National Park Authority/ AONB Conservation Board. For National Parks this includes overseeing the production of the management plan and local plan for the Park;
- Guide the Authority/AONB Conservation Board through the development of policy, business plans and participation in various activities such as meetings, committees and working groups;
- Scrutinise the workings and policies of the National Park Authority/ AONB Conservation Board;
- Approve and monitor programmes to implement the National Park Authority/ AONB Conservation Board policies and plans;
- Influence externally, on behalf of the CB/NPA that is, acting as ambassador; promoting the objectives of the CB/NPA.
- Contribute knowledge and skills and provide advice from the national and local perspective.
- The successful candidates must abide by the Nolan principles of public service (Annex C).
Essential criteria and skills

Essential criteria

All applicants **must** demonstrate the following criteria:

- Commitment to protected landscapes and an understanding of the **statutory purposes** of National Parks/ AONBs;

- Ability to communicate effectively and engage a range of stakeholders – to diversify visitors to the landscapes, engage with people who live locally and work collaboratively with farmers and land managers;

- An ability to constructively challenge and influence within a leadership group; and

- Ability to think strategically and provide advice in ways which are impartial, creative and focused on finding solutions that take account of local and national priorities.

Skills

Ministers are seeking to attract high-calibre applicants from a range of diverse backgrounds who can discharge the full range of non-executive responsibilities.

Common priorities identified across the National Parks and AONBs are summarised below. Candidates with these skills will help broaden and deepen the boards’ capabilities. You may have these skills, or other areas of expertise relevant to protected landscapes, and applications are welcomed from any candidates who meet the essential criteria for the role.

- **Communication**: public engagement, stakeholder management, education, diversity and youth engagement.

- **Commercial**: business leadership, income generation, business engagement, marketing, fundraising, sponsorship and entrepreneurship.

- **Nature conservation**: environmental land management, climate change, access and biodiversity.

- **Planning**: sustainable development.

Successful candidates must abide by the Nolan principles of public service (attached at Annex A) and the [Code of Conduct for Board Members](#).
Remuneration and time commitment

Appointments are made for a period of up to four years for National Park Authorities and three years for AONB Conservation Boards. The appointments are expected to commence in July 2020. Secretary of State members are unpaid but may qualify for specific allowances. An appointee may resign at any time by giving notice in writing to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State may terminate an appointment under certain conditions; these will be notified to the successful candidate on appointment. The three/four-year term may be extended by the Secretary of State.

**Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board**

A basic allowance of £300 per annum is paid to each Board member. Special responsibility allowances are paid to members undertaking additional roles as defined by the Board e.g. Chairman, Vice Chair and members of the Executive Committee. Reasonable travel and other expenses incurred on Board business can be reimbursed. Members, excluding those on specific working groups where the commitment might be slightly more, are asked to commit approximately 1-3 days a month to the Board’s work. Those on Task and Finish groups have a degree of flexibility on how they achieve the outcome but there is great value in face to face meetings. Full Board meetings are held three times a year at Cotswold District Council Offices in Cirencester and 1 day a year in the form of site centred from the CCB Offices in Northleach.

**Dartmoor NPA**

Members are encouraged to take an active part in the work of the Authority, both in formal committee business on the first Friday of each month at the Authority’s headquarters (Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot) and outside meetings as ambassadors for the National Park. While the time commitment will vary from month to month, at least two days each month should be anticipated. A basic allowance of £1,611 per annum is paid together with reimbursement of travel and other expenses reasonably incurred on Authority business. There are also several special responsibility allowances for roles such as chairmanship of a committee or working panel.

**Exmoor NPA**

The Exmoor NPA committee meets formally up to 12 times a year, usually the first Tuesday of each month, at Exmoor House, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9HL. There are many other opportunities for Members to become involved in the work of its committees and less formal meetings, site visits and briefings, and this can add up to a commitment of 2 – 3 days per month.

A basic allowance of £2,739.36 per annum is paid to each member. In addition to the basic allowance, a special responsibility allowance is payable to members who have been given significant responsibilities e.g. Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Deputy Chairman (Planning). Travel and subsistence allowances are paid for costs incurred.

**New Forest NPA**

A basic allowance of £1,922 per annum is payable to each member. Special responsibility allowances are paid to members undertaking additional roles e.g. Committee Chair and Deputy Chair. Costs incurred in relation to travel and subsistence
Remuneration and time commitment cont.

can be claimed in compliance with the National Park Authority’s Scheme of Member Allowances. All meetings of the Authority and its committees take place at the Authority’s offices in Lymington. Time commitment varies but is typically 2-3 days per month; candidates appointed to the Authority’s Planning Committee will be required to meet monthly and allocate additional preparation time. The Authority also requires its new members to attend the two-day member induction course operated by National Parks UK which provides useful information relevant to carrying out the role.

**Northumberland NPA**

Members are expected to spend a minimum of 2 days per month on Authority business. There are monthly Authority days, consisting of Development Management (planning) meetings for those members who sit on this committee (currently 9 members), followed by full Authority meetings (4 a year), Review meetings (3 a year) and Policy conferences (2 a year). There is the opportunity to sit on other working groups and Task and Finish groups. Most meetings take place at the Authority Head Office in Hexham. Members are expected to spend time in reading papers and preparing ahead of meetings. In addition to the scheduled meetings, members can attend all staff, member and volunteer days (2 each year), as well as optional special events.

The annual allowance for a member is £1804 and travel expenditure for approved Authority duties are paid at 0.45p per mile. Additional special responsibility allowances are paid for the following positions - Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Chairman of Development Management Committee and Chairman of Review Group.

**Peak District NPA**

A basic allowance of £2,346 per annum is paid to each member. Members are asked to commit 3-4 days a month, plus reading and preparation time, to the Authority’s work. There are 6 Authority meetings a year and a further 6 training events and workshops, other work depends on the member duties e.g. Planning Committee Members meet 24 days a year (all held at Aldern House, Bakewell). Costs incurred in relation to travel and subsistence can be claimed in compliance with the Parks Scheme of Member Allowances. Special Responsibility Allowances are available, but it is unusual to receive one in the first year.

**South Downs NPA**

Members of the Authority receive a Basic Allowance of £3,009 (currently under review) per year and may claim reimbursement for travel and other expenses incurred on Authority business. Commitment varies according to Committee representation & duties and is typically up to 4 days per month. Meetings take place at the South Downs Centre, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9DH. The Authority meets 6 times per year; in addition to Committee representation, working groups, training sessions and workshops

**Yorkshire Dales NPA**

The current basic allowance is £3,119 per annum, which is payable to each member. A Special Responsibility Allowance is paid to members undertaking additional roles as defined by the Authority. The time commitment for members is 2-3 days per month.
The recruitment process

The closing date for applications is noon on Friday 6 March. We expect to have shortlisted by early April, with panel interviews in May.

It is essential that your statement of suitability gives full but concise information relevant to the appointment, clearly demonstrating how you meet each of the essential criteria. Please also specify for which National Park Authority and/or AONB Conservation Board you are applying.

At the shortlist meetings the advisory assessment panels will assess each application against the essential criteria and decide who to invite for final interview. Candidates will be advised by email if they are invited to interview. The panels’ composition along with interview dates is outlined in the table overleaf.

As this is a national campaign to recruit to nine separate NPAs/AONB Conservation Boards, interviews will be carried out at three regional hubs at Defra offices in Bristol, London and York.

Interviews are expected to last for approximately 45 minutes. Candidates will be advised by email of the outcome of the interview.

You will be able to claim reasonable travel expenses incurred travelling to and from the interview (please note you may be asked to justify travelling costs if Defra considers the claims excessive). Please let Defra know beforehand if you are likely to claim, along with the approximate costs by contacting publicappts@defra.gov.uk and quoting reference number: ‘APPT10-19’.

Ministers will be made aware of all candidates deemed appointable by the panel. They will then decide who to appoint to the roles advertised.
# Interviews and panels

**Bristol Panel:** Defra, Horizon House, Bristol, BS1 5AH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interview dates</th>
<th>Defra panel chair</th>
<th>Organisation chair</th>
<th>Independent panel member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cotswolds: 19-20 May</td>
<td>Jessica Hodgson</td>
<td>Cotswolds: Brendan McCarthy (Deputy chair)</td>
<td>Sophie Churchill (Chair of the Potato Sector Board of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dartmoor: 13 May</td>
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<td>Dartmoor: Pamela Woods</td>
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<td>Exmoor: 18-19 May</td>
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<td>Exmoor: Robin Milton</td>
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**London Panel:** Defra, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR

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<tr>
<th>Interview dates</th>
<th>Defra panel chair</th>
<th>Organisation chair</th>
<th>Independent panel member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Forest: 22 May</td>
<td>Sarah Severn</td>
<td>New Forest: Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre</td>
<td>Sarah Mukherjee (Director of Environment at Water UK and Chief Executive of the Crop Protection Association)</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Downs: 11-12 May</td>
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<td>South Downs: Margaret Paren</td>
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**York Panel:** Defra, Foss House, York, YO1 7PX

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<tr>
<th>Interview dates</th>
<th>Defra panel chair</th>
<th>Organisation chair</th>
<th>Independent panel member</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northumberland: 20 May</td>
<td>Rebecca Leete</td>
<td>Northumberland: Glen Sanderson</td>
<td>Jim Dixon (Heritage Lottery Fund Trustee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peaks: 21 May</td>
<td></td>
<td>Peak District: Andrew McCloy</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire Dales: 22 May</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yorkshire Dales: Carl Lis</td>
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</table>
How to apply and submit your application

To apply, please send the following to publicappts@defra.gov.uk by the deadline of 12 noon on 6 March:

- a CV of no more than two sides of A4
- a supporting statement of not more than 1,000 words (approximately two sides of A4), setting out how you meet the essential criteria – make sure you refer to the contents of this document and provide specific examples
- e-mail addresses for two referees
- completed diversity and political activity monitoring form
- completed conflicts of interest, conduct and advertising monitoring form (please note the section on conflicts of interest and due diligence below).

• If you have any questions about the appointments process, you need a change to be made so that you can make your application, or require additional assistance to support you in your application, please email the Public Appointments Team on publicappts@defra.gov.uk

• Please let the Public Appointments Team know if you are applying under the Disability Confident Scheme.

• For an informal discussion about the role please contact the relevant NPA/AONB CB using the contact details below:

**Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board**
Andy Parsons: 01451 862 000
andy.parsons@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

**Dartmoor NPA**
Kevin Bishop: 01626 831004
kbishop@dartmoor.gov.uk

**Exmoor NPA**
Judy Coles: 01398 322250
jcoles@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk

**New Forest NPA**
David Stone: 01590 646645
David.Stone@newforestnpa.gov.uk

**Northumberland NPA**
Sharon Robson: 01434 611516
Sharon.robson@nnpa.org.uk

**Peak District NPA**
Jason Spencer: 01629 816344
Jason.Spencer@peakdistrict.gov.uk

**South Downs NPA**
Robin Parr: 01730 819207
Robin.Parr@southdowns.gov.uk

**Yorkshire Dales NPA**
Julie Payne: 01969 652364
Julie.Payne@yorkshiredales.org.uk
Ineligibility criteria

You cannot be considered for Secretary of State appointments to a National Park Authority or the Broads Authority if you are:

• a serving Councillor of a local authority making appointments to that National Park Authority or the Broads Authority in the case of applications to the Broads Authority; or an employee of such a local authority;

• a serving Councillor of a parish council making appointments to the National Park Authority to which you are making an application;

• a serving employee of the National Park Authority or Broads Authority;

• a serving Member of Parliament;

• the holder of a politically restricted post in a local authority.

You cannot be considered for a Secretary of State appointment to an AONB Conservation Board if you are:

• a member of a local authority for an area wholly or partly within the AONB, or an employee of such an authority;

• a parish Councillor or chair of parish meeting for a parish wholly or partly within the AONB or an employee of such a parish;

• a serving employee of the Conservation Board to which you are making an application;

• the holder of a politically restricted post in any local authority;

• a person is also disqualified from becoming or remaining a member of the Board if s/he holds any employment in a company which would be under the control of the Board.

Additionally, you cannot be considered for a public appointment if:

• you become bankrupt or make an arrangement with creditors;

• your estate has been sequestrated in Scotland or you enter into a debt arrangement programme under Part 1 of the Debt Arrangement and Attachment (Scotland) Act 2002 (asp 17) as the debtor or have, under Scots law, granted a trust deed for creditors;

• you are disqualified from acting as a company director under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986;

• you have been convicted of a criminal offence, the conviction not being spent for the purposes of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (c. 53);

• you become subject to a debt relief order or a bankruptcy restrictions order;

• you fail to declare any conflict of interest.
Conflicts of interest and due diligence

If you have any interests that might be relevant to the work of the National Park Authority/AONB Conservation Board to which you are applying, and which could lead to a real or perceived conflict of interest if you were to be appointed, please provide details in your application. If you have queries about this and would like to discuss, please contact the Public Appointments Team.

Given the nature of public appointments, it is important that those appointed as members of public bodies maintain the confidence of Parliament and the public. If there are any issues in your personal or professional history that could, if you were appointed, be misconstrued, cause embarrassment, or cause public confidence in the appointment to be jeopardised, it is important that you bring them to the attention of the Advisory Assessment Panel and provide details of the issue(s) in your application. In considering whether you wish to declare any issues, you should also reflect on any public statements you have made, including through social media.

As part of our due diligence checks we will consider anything in the public domain related to your conduct or professional capacity. This will include us undertaking searches of previous public statements and social media, blogs or any other publically available information. This information may be made available to the Advisory Assessment Panel and they may wish to explore issues with you should you be invited to interview. The information may also be shared with ministers and Cabinet Office.

The Commissioner for Public Appointments

This appointment is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments, to ensure that it is made on merit after fair and open competition. More information about the role of the Commissioner and the Governance Code on Public Appointments can be seen at:

http://publicappointmentscommissioner.independent.gov.uk/


For full details of the complaints process for public appointments, please click on the following link which will take you to the Commissioner for Public Appointments website

https://publicappointmentscommissioner.independent.gov.uk/regulating-appointments/complaints-and-investigations/
Data protection

Defra is committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal information and does so in accordance with data protection law including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). All the information you provide will be used to proceed with the public appointment listed in this information pack and in the case of diversity monitoring information may be anonymised and used solely for monitoring purposes. For more information about the way we collect and hold your information, please read our Privacy Notice, accessible through the Cabinet Office website (https://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk) or by requesting a copy from publicappts@defra.gov.uk.
By 2030 English National Parks and The Broads will be places where:

- There are thriving, living, working landscapes notable for their natural beauty and cultural heritage. They inspire visitors and local communities to live within environmental limits and to tackle climate change. The wide-range of services they provide (from clean water to sustainable food) is in good condition and valued by society.

- Sustainable development can be seen in action. The communities of the Parks take an active part in decisions about their future. They are known for having been pivotal in the transformation to a low carbon society and sustainable living. Renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, low carbon transport and travel and healthy, prosperous communities have long been the norm.

- Wildlife flourishes and habitats are maintained, restored and expanded and linked effectively to other ecological networks. Woodland cover has increased, and all woodlands are sustainably managed, with the right trees in the right places. Landscapes and habitats are managed to create resilience and enable adaptation.

- Everyone can discover the rich variety of England's natural and historic environment and have the chance to value them as places for escape, adventure, enjoyment, inspiration and reflection, and a source of national pride and identity. They will be recognised as fundamental to our prosperity and well-being.

**Mission**

"Government, partners and stakeholders understand, are inspired by, and value the work of National Park Authorities in England and provide sustained support and resources to enable them to further National Park purposes and the Vision".

You can find out more at [www.nationalparks.uk](http://www.nationalparks.uk)
The Board has four ambitions which serve as key developmental priorities, they are:

- To promote the Cotswolds AONB as the Walking and Exploring treasures.
- To secure the local design and delivery of a Cotswolds package of agri-environment payments for public goods and services and rural development support.
- To ensure that communities and businesses within and around the AONB identify and celebrate being part of a nationally recognised landscape.
- To promote the case for the Cotswolds being designated as England’s next National Park

You can find out more at [www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk)
Annex C - The seven principles of public life

Selflessness
Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

Integrity
Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

Objectivity
Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

Accountability
Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

Openness
Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

Honesty
Holders of public office should be truthful.

Leadership
Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.
Annex D – Current Secretary of State Members

Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
Nicholas Bumford
Brendan Costelloe
Jacqui Fenn
Graham Hopkins
Garry King
Simon King
George Lambrick
Catherine Le Grice-Mack
Ed Macalister-Smith
Brenden McCarthy
Dominic Morris
Daniel Szor
David Thackray

Dartmoor NPA [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
Andrew Cooper
Peter Harper
Naomi Oakley
Dr Robert Parkinson
Pamela Woods (chair)

Exmoor NPA [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
Linda Blanchard
Nick Holliday
Martin Ryall
Evelyn Stacey

New Forest NPA [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
David Bence
Gavin Parker
George Meyrick
Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre
Patrick Heneghan
Steve Trow

Northumberland NPA [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
Mike Bell
Jean Davidson
Fiona Gough
Chris Mullin
Peter Murray
Pippa Ross

Peak District NPA [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
Paul Ancell
James Berresford
Janet Haddock-Fraser
Zahid Hamid
Robert Helliwell
Lydia Slack
Ken Smith
Yvonne Witter

South Downs NPA [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
Sebastian Anstruther
Heather Baker
Ken Bodfish
Helen Jackson
Margaret Paren (chair)
Ian Phillips

Yorkshire Dales NPA [b]\textcolor{blue}{\textit{bios}}\]
Judith Donovan
Julie Hutton
Jocelyn Manners-Armstrong
Julie Martin
Jim Munday
Neil Swain