SDAONB Delivery Plan 2023/24

This listing summarises a working Delivery Plan that supports the South Devon AONB Management Plan strategy and requirements of externally funded projects. The plan is an integral part to the statutory Management Plan and also identifies the key planned actions delivered by partners that contribute towards the conservation and enhancement of the South Devon AONB supporting its Management Plan strategic priorities. This plan will continue to be updated annually to ensure it remains relevant and flexible.

Further information can be obtained from the South Devon AONB staff unit office; requests via email enquiries@southdevonaonb.org.uk.

SDAONB staff unit actions follow the MP4 format and are identified in bold, numbered and given a high/medium/lower priority status.

Place

Landscape Character

1	**Coordinate and create local Landscape Recovery bids as part of Environmental Land Management funding**	**Lead h**
2	**Develop 3 pipeline proposals for undergrounding overhead power lines and submit to National Grid as part of the new regulatory period beyond 2023**	**Lead m**
3	**Develop a proposal at Sharpham and wirescape in the setting for undergrounding overhead power lines and submit to National Grid as part of the regulatory period 2015-2023**	**Lead h**
4	**Undertake 10 AONB Fixed Point Photography images followed by an analysis of landscape change within the views**	**Lead h**
	Nominate Dark Sky Discovery Site status in the AONB	Partner
	Partner involvement in the delivery of the Rural gentrification/Our Imprint PhD project working towards completion in 2023	Partner

Natural Resources & Climate

5	**Lead, promote and engage with South Devon Catchments Partnership Action Plan projects in 2023/24**	**Lead h**
6	**Facilitate and lead beach cleans with partners in 2023/24**	**Lead l**
	Contribute to the delivery of the SHDC Climate Change and Biodiversity Action Plan	Partner
	Contribute to the development and delivery of the Devon Carbon Plan	Partner
	Embed the use of nature-based and 'blue carbon' solutions and actions through delivery of the Devon Carbon Plan	Partner
	Support the development of Local Authority Climate and Biodiversity Strategies and Blue Carbon Plans	Partner
	Support the development and delivery of Local Authority Infrastructure Plans	Partner
	Support the delivery of the England Woodland Creation Offer, Local Authority Treescapes Fund and Urban Tree Challenge Fund	Partner
	Support delivery of the Slapton Line Adaptation Project responding to accelerated rates of coastal change along the Slapton Line (A379)	Partner
	Diffuse Water Pollution Projects for the catchments in the AONB	Partner
	Implement a programme of infrastructure improvements under the AMP8 programme in 2023/24	Partner
	Deliver water quality projects informed by condition assessments against Bathing Water Directive, Shellfish Waters and non-designated water sports areas standards	Partner
	Promote Till the Coast is Clear work on the SDAONB coastline	Partner

Biodiversity and Geodiversity

	Produce and publish a Nature Recovery Plan for the SDAONB	**Lead h**
	Life on the Edge project development phase agreed NLHF outputs (Land management)	**Lead h**
	Submit phase 2 bid for "Life on the Edge" project to NLHF in August 2023	**Lead h**
	Produce a Life on the Edge project Conservation Management Plan	**Lead h**
	Secure further South Devon Pacific Oyster Project work	**Lead l**

	Deliver a Facilitation Fund programme based on a successful application	**Lead h**
	Future Farming Countryside Programme, Agricultural Transition Plan and Farming in Protected Landscapes programme development	**Lead/Partner**
	Deliver a NERC funded Collaborative Award in Science and Engineering PhD studentship using the SDAONB as an outdoor laboratory to better understand how pollinators act in fragmented landscapes	**Lead/Partner**
	Develop and deliver projects identified in the Wild Wembury Opportunities Mapping project	**Lead/Partner**
	Support local engagement and delivery (South Devon priority focus area) with the Saving Devon's Treescapes project in the South Devon priority focus area and beyond	**Lead/Partner**
	Support the development of and local engagement with Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest initiative	Partner
	Support local engagement with the Saving Devon's Treescapes project	Partner
	Support Saving Devon's Treescapes project in the South Devon priority focus area in the Delivery Phase 2 NLHF application	Partner
	Provide estate/landowner habitat enhancement advice and connectivity improvements	Partner
	Coordinate and deliver action to safeguard Devon's natural environment through the Devon Local Nature Partnership in support of the seven priority themes identified in the prospectus	Partner
	Implement action in support of the management plans for Berry Head and Slapton Ley National Nature Reserves	Partner
	Support the development of a Moor Meadows model in South Devon using LoTE funding	Partner
	Support the Devon Local Nature Partnership in the development of the Devon Nature Recovery Network and Devon LNRS project	Partner
	Work towards meeting conservation objectives for South Devon's SSSIs and SACs	Advocate
	Publish guidance for the conservation and management of marine protected areas off the South Devon coast	Advocate

Historic environment

	Deliver Phase one of a Monument Management Scheme focused upon South Devon Coastal Heritage at Bolt Head/Bolt Tail and the Dart Defences cluster	**Lead h**
	Apply for a development phase Heritage at Risk grant focusing on Hillforts, signalling stations and Bantham Ham	**Lead h**
	Deliver a scheduled monument management programme to assist with monitoring coastal heritage at risk	**Lead h**

	Deliver actions in support of the Torbay Heritage Strategy	Partner
	Relocate Slapton Monument funded by the Coastal Revival Fund	Advocate
	Develop and market new types of historic maritime tourist attractions	Advocate

Farming & Land Management

	Develop and deliver yr3 Farming in the protected landscape programme	**Lead h**
	Deliver yr4 extension to the Farming in the protected landscape programme	**Lead h**
	Produce farm management plans for five target farms in LoTE hotspots	**Lead h**
	Deliver advocacy programme for the Environmental Land Management scheme to AONB farmers and land managers	**Lead h**
	Deliver SDAONB Farmers Sounding Board meetings	**Lead m**
	Facilitate cross-sector collaboration to deliver sustainable and appropriate woodland creation	Partner
	Support the work of the DWT Avon Valley Project	Advocate
	Support the work of the Wild Sharpham Future project	Advocate
	Provide a strategic lead on action to combat tree disease throughout the area including *Phytophthora* and *Chalara*	Advocate

Coast & Marine Environment

	Work with partners to deliver a series of events and activities to actively promote the coast	**Lead m**
	Marine Conservation Zone advocacy work	Partner
	Review of coastal management policies and procedures for Slapton Line	Advocate
	Support the development and delivery of the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park	Advocate

Rivers & Estuaries

	Implement the South Devon Catchment Partnership Year 5 work programme and seek funding for further work	**Lead h**
	Updating and maintaining 10 slipway information panels	**Lead h**
	Develop and deliver Seagrass meadow conservation projects	**Lead h**
	Facilitate understanding and implement conservation objectives for coastal & estuarine SSSIs, LNRs, SACs and MCZs	**Lead h**
	Facilitate development of Kingsbridge Recreation Ground stream silt trap project	**Lead h**
	Brixham / Kingswear project action plan- deliver / support identified projects	**Lead h**
	Produce and install interpretation boards on the New England coast path in SDAONB	**Lead h**
	Dart Estuary saltmarsh restoration project	**Lead/Partner**
	Survey 8 estuarine salt marshes on all 5 AONB estuaries	**Lead/Partner**
	Develop a “Natural Health Service” for Devon	Partner
	Establish the significance, effects and appropriate solutions to human disturbance of seabirds, seals, basking sharks and cetaceans.	Advocate
	Continued community involvement in the Rights of Way network through the Parish Paths Partnership and other schemes	Advocate
	Continue the public open space improvement programme across South Hams	Advocate
	Implement the Green Infrastructure plan for the South Hams District identifying gaps in the provision of recreational opportunity and prioritised solutions	Advocate
	Delivery of South West Water bathing water survey	Advocate

PEOPLE

Access, Recreation & Tourism

	Deliver LoTE celebration event July 2023 at New Barton Farm, Wembury	**Lead h**
	Trial a wide range of LoTE activities with target audiences in various locations – Plymouth Box, Torre Abbey, on-sites	**Lead h**
	Life on the Edge project access assessment of five hotspots	**Lead h**
	Develop and trial LoTE Parish Pollinator Plans	**Lead h**

	Art in the Landscape: Connecting People to Nature.	**Lead/Partner h**
	Work towards the delivery Brixham and Kingswear Peninsula Routeways and Connections projects	**Lead m**
	Use the Wembury corridors and connections project to deliver community engagement and match fund where possible	**Lead h**
	Promote awareness and understanding of the SDAONB and specific projects through public events	**Lead h**
	Review, update and install updated ferry panels	**Lead h**
	Update, print and distribute the Discover the SDAONB leaflet	**Lead l**
	Support the Slapton Line communications programme	Partner
	Improve opportunities for collaborative working and joint initiatives	Partner
	Explore opportunities for the national AONB network to jointly commission projects and provide consultancy services to generate income	Partner
	Support the continued development of the Devon Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP)	Advocate

Planning & Sustainable Development

	Develop and use "Standing Advice" relevant to the most common forms of development experienced by the protected landscape	**Lead h**
	Provide comment and advice on significant planning applications	**Lead h**
	Assess relevant consultations and provide responses where relevant – Regional and National and Local	**Lead h**
	Publish guidance for Construction Environment Management Plan production	**Lead h**
	Installation of AONB village gateway signs by agreement with parish councils, Torbay wards and highway authorities	**Lead m**
	Develop initiatives in support of the strategic economic plan	Advocate
	Develop new prioritised programmes of local economic action and seek resources to support implementation	Advocate
	New provision and upgrades to existing facilities through s106 developer contributions and net zero policies	Advocate

Transport and Highways

	Install AONB gateway signs by agreement with parish councils and highway authorities	**Lead h**
	Develop approaches to roadside verge management to improve their nature conservation value with parish councils and highway authorities	**Lead h**

Rural Economy and Services

	Support local authority corporate plan activity amongst business, residents and visitors where appropriate	Partner
	Support local food and drink campaigns to increase awareness of the SDAONB amongst business, residents and visitors	Advocate

Community & Culture

	Develop and deliver the SDASONB Communications Plan and explore new audiences with the social media plan	**Lead h**
	Life on the Edge project development phase agreed outputs (People and Community)	**Lead h**
	Commission LoTE community theatre activity and deliver tour	**Lead h**
	Develop new volunteering opportunities in ID and survey techniques, coastal heritage and scheduled monuments	**Lead h**
	Develop and deliver a targeted programme of community, biodiversity and landscape projects in Wembury Parish through the Wild Wembury project	**Lead h**
	Work in partnership with others to develop opportunities for engaging a wider and more diverse audience including missing groups	**Lead h**

Windfall projects to be updated in year

Core business on behalf of the Partnership

	Produce documentation that acts as a continuation/extension of the SDAONB management plan 2019-24
	Undertake a light touch review of the current plan and set out intentions of and objectives of the 2026 – 2031 plan.
	Use Natural England national guidance to develop a statutory Management Plan for the period 2026 - 2031
	Collate and publish an annual Delivery Plan for 2023/24
	AONB governance – 3x Partnership meetings, 2/3x Core Funding Group meetings, 2x Estuaries Steering Group meetings, 1x annual open event
	Service and coordinate the AONB Core Funding Group
	Service and coordinate the AONB Partnership Committee
	Service and coordinate the South Devon Estuaries Partnership & their individual Estuary Forums
	Develop and publish an AONB Annual Report
	Maintain and develop the South Devon AONB website, social media, e-bulletins, press releases etc.
	Attend NAAONB landscapes for life conference
	Respond to consultation requests on planning applications in accordance with the AONB Planning Protocol
	Contribute towards the development of Local Authorities Strategic Planning Policy
	Collaborate in NAAONB activities, sharing advice and best practice nationally and regionally

The AONB Unit will lead or contribute to the following Environmental and Project Partnerships which provide substantive delivery mechanisms for AONB Management Plan priorities.

	AONB Estuaries Partnership Steering Group	**Lead h**
	Avon Estuary Conservation Forum	**Lead h**
	Brixham and Kingswear Peninsula Project Group	**Lead h**
	Dart Estuary Forum	**Lead h**
	SDAONB Partnership Committee	**Lead h**
	South Devon Catchments Partnership	**Lead h**
	South Devon Farm and Land Management Forum	**Lead h**
	Salcombe-Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum	**Lead h**
	SDAONB Farmers' Sounding Board Group	**Lead h**
	Yealm Estuary Management Group	**Lead h**
	Devon AONBs Managers Group	**Lead/attend**
	Devon Maritime Forum	Partner
	Devon Landscape Policy Group	Partner
	Devon Local Nature Partnership	Partner
	Naturally Healthy/ Active Devon	Partner
	Slapton Line Partnership Steering Group	Partner
	Slapton Nature Reserve Land Management Committee	Partner
	South Devon Local Action Group Management Board	Partner
	Sustainability and Outdoor Learning in Devon	Partner
	Tamar Estuary Consultative Forum	Partner

	Wembury Marine Centre Partnership	Partner
	Wembury Marine Conservation Area and Wembury Project Working Group	Partner