

WYE VALLEY AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB) PARTNERSHIP
Business Plan for 2023/2024



AONB Unit Initiatives / activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outputs 	AONB Budget £ <i>[nonAONB£]</i> Key Staff %	Outcomes AONB Management Plan 2021-2026 Strategic Objectives	Metric (see ManPlan Sec13, p114)	By when
Nature				
Nature Recovery & Landscape connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop AONB Nature Recovery Plan to focus priority areas for habitat creation and connectivity particularly between woodland, species-rich grassland, riparian habitats, orchards and veteran trees. Complete Species Action Plans for Orchards (Noble Chafer), River (Water Crowfoot), Woodland (Woodland Butterfly assemblage), Grassland (Bumblebee assemblage), and Hedgehogs. Manage final period the Lower Wye Nature Networks Project with National Lottery Heritage Fund and Gwent Wildlife Trust and Woodland Trust. Manage control of Invasive Non Native Species (INNS) particularly Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and American Skunk Cabbage through Wye Invasive Species Programme (WISP) Promotion of Natural Flood Management (NFM), Green Infrastructure (GI) & Riparian Trees initiatives working with local land owners, managers & stakeholders Organise regular volunteer task days, including on partner sites and Reserves Collaborate over outputs and outcomes of Woolhope Dome workshop Collaborate and support landscape connectivity initiatives including Wye to Wyre - Severn Treescapes. 	4000 <i>[£264,525]</i> NRO 50% PO 40% DO 18% CLO 15% IO 10% AM 5% FAO 3% FO 2%	WV-L1 Promote and develop policies and initiatives to conserve, enhance, restore or create the features and elements that maintain the Special Qualities, landscape character and natural beauty of the AONB. Ensure their sustainable management and mitigate, reduce or remove detrimental features WV-L2 Encourage and enhance appropriate landscape scale and green infrastructure action by all particularly on consolidating ecosystem services and positively contributing to habitat connectivity that allows wildlife to adapt to the effects of climate change WV-L4 Ensure the establishment and collection of sufficiently comprehensive baseline data to monitor landscape condition and direction of change WV-B2 Encourage and support measures that contribute to the management of all statutory designated sites and County local/key wildlife sites so that they are in favourable condition and within robust ecological networks WV-B3 Promote the adoption of schemes and initiatives that sustain, enhance and recover the characteristic biodiversity of the AONB, and that enable ecological systems, networks and natural processes to accommodate and adapt to climate and other environmental change, including through nature based solutions and landscape scale habitat connectivity WV-B4 Identify species and diseases considered to be detrimental to the biodiversity value of the AONB and encourage their monitoring, management and, where appropriate, their control WV-F4 Support the development of and funding for new skills, farming practices and farm-based activities that are compatible with the aims of AONB designation, and encourage and support traditional skills such as hay making, hedge laying, dry stone walling, woodland and coppice management, riparian tree works etc. that contribute to the maintenance of the Special Qualities of the AONB WV-W3 Support the development of employment and skills and markets for local timber and woodland produce WV-W4 Support the monitoring, management and where appropriate, control of diseases, pests and other threats, which may cause substantial mortality in tree species and woodland habitats and seek to mitigate the landscape impact of any loss WV-P3 Encourage and assist partners with initiatives that deliver the Management Plan, or other initiatives where the objectives are consistent with the purposes of the AONB designation, and utilise existing resources and seek new resources to implement the AONB Management Plan WV-P4 Encourage Section 85 organisations, under the CRoW Act, to have co-ordinated policies to progress the purposes of the AONB designation and to make commitments in	1.a) 1.b) 1.c) 3.a) 3.b) 3.d) 4.a) 4.b) 5.a) 6.c) 6.d) 6.e)	Q1-3 Q4

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunities for the National Grid Visual Improvement Programme (VIP) for area between Ross & Goodrich with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust & landowners Continue liaison with Herefordshire Meadows Network, Monmouthshire Meadows and Parish Grassland Project. Develop and support partnership projects that deliver landscape scale conservation activity and initiatives within and adjoining the AONB particularly those linked to improving water quality in the Wye. 		their annual business plans to specific delivery contributions that enable the AONB work programme		
Climate				
Climate Emergency Action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare & implement action plan from Carbon Neutral Designated Landscapes Organisation assessment Develop action plan from Wales Designated Landscapes Carbon Footprint Programme Continue Peatland Restoration initiatives particularly at Cleddon Bog SSSI Support grassland sequestration investigations with Herefordshire Meadows and Floodplain Meadows Partnership 	3,000 <i>[£16,000]?</i> DO 8% PO 5% NRO 5% CLO 3% AM 2%	WV-L1 Promote and develop policies and initiatives to conserve, enhance, restore or create the features and elements that maintain the Special Qualities, landscape character and natural beauty of the AONB. Ensure their sustainable management and mitigate, reduce or remove detrimental features WV-L2 Encourage and enhance appropriate landscape scale and green infrastructure action by all particularly on consolidating ecosystem services and positively contributing to habitat connectivity that allows wildlife to adapt to the effects of climate change WV-L4 Ensure the establishment and collection of sufficiently comprehensive baseline data to monitor landscape condition and direction of change WV-B2 Encourage and support measures that contribute to the management of all statutory designated sites and County local/key wildlife sites so that they are in favourable condition and within robust ecological networks WV-B3 Promote the adoption of schemes and initiatives that sustain, enhance and recover the characteristic biodiversity of the AONB, and that enable ecological systems, networks and natural processes to accommodate and adapt to climate and other environmental change, including through nature based solutions and landscape scale habitat connectivity WV-W4 Support the monitoring, management and where appropriate, control of diseases, pests and other threats, which may cause substantial mortality in tree species and woodland habitats and seek to mitigate the landscape impact of any loss WV-P3 Encourage and assist partners with initiatives that deliver the Management Plan, or other initiatives where the objectives are consistent with the purposes of the	1.a) 4.a) 4.b) 5.a) 6.c) 6.d)	Q1-3 Q4

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		AONB designation, and utilise existing resources and seek new resources to implement the AONB Management Plan WV-P5 Develop and promote the AONB as a model of sustainable development, landscape management, transportation, access and rural regeneration through exemplary initiatives setting standards for other areas		
Undergrounding Continue working with Western Power & local communities to identify power-lines within the AONB suitable for undergrounding, via Western Power South Wales Protected Landscape Undergrounding group and the West Midlands Undergrounding group.	<i>[c£100,000]</i> DO 8%	WV-U2 Encourage further under-grounding of existing and proposed power and telephone lines, where these do not conflict with any SAC, and resist new overhead lines where skylines or important views are affected WV-P4 Encourage Section 85 organisations, under the CRoW Act, to have co-ordinated policies to progress the purposes of the AONB designation and to make commitments in their annual business plans to specific delivery contributions that enable the AONB work programme	1.d) 4.a)	Q1-3 Q4
People				
Wye Valley Walk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Wye Valley Walk Partnership Maintain new website www.wyevallywalk.org Manage new on-line Passport scheme Continue Piercefield Walk enhancements with Gwent Wildlife Trust, MCC PRoW and landowner Pursue creation of Friends of Wye Valley Walk Audit & co-ordinate refresh of way-marking Collate route counter data & review options Review Cicerone Route Guide Facilitate future options for Lydbrook Bridge and Redbrook Bridge. Progress Wyesham riverbank revetment Review & republish 'Easy Access' walks. 	2,000 <i>[£10,000]</i> IO 10% CLO 7% AM 3% FAO 3% PO 3%	WV-S1 Encourage and promote the AONB as a sustainable tourism destination with forms of tourism activity and development that are based on the conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the Special Qualities and features of the AONB WV-S2 Promote the improvement of the visitor experience, particularly at the most heavily visited sites, and facilitate the opportunity for visitors to explore and discover other appropriate but less used locations throughout the AONB, thus spreading demand and balancing pressures across sites where this does not conflict with the Special Qualities of the AONB and the SACs WV-R1 Encourage and promote recreational pursuits and responsible access compatible with the AONB purposes, particularly linking sustainable transport and town and village facilities. Associated development and new access to land should be subject to WV-D2 & -D3 WV-P5 Develop and promote the AONB as a model of sustainable development, landscape management, transportation, access and rural regeneration through exemplary initiatives setting standards for other areas	1.c) 3.a) 3.d) 4.a) 6.c) 6.d) #counter data #web-stats	Q1-3 Q4
Overlooking the Wye legacy	<i>[£25,000]</i> PO 5% FAO 5%	WV-H1 Initiate and encourage schemes, policy development, advice and sympathetic management through partnerships and positive action to conserve, enhance and promote the historic environment, in conjunction with landowners, national agencies and other relevant organisations	1.c) 2.a) 2.b) 2.c)	Q1-3 Q4

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Continue to develop heritage & Community projects as part of the legacy of the Overlooking the Wye Landscape Partnership Scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing Cleddon Falls & Wordsworth Walk enhancements with landowner(s) Review & reprint of Walks leaflets Audit and repair & maintenance of Overlooking the Wye infrastructure 	DO 3% IO 3% AM 2%	WV-H3 Promote the understanding and enjoyment of the cultural heritage and historic environment WV-P5 Develop and promote the AONB as a model of sustainable development, landscape management, transportation, access and rural regeneration through exemplary initiatives setting standards for other areas	3.a) 3.b) 4.a) 4.b) 6.c) 6.d)	
Offa's Dyke Collaboratory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunities for future cross border partnership projects along the corridor of Offa's Dyke, promoting archaeological research and investigation into the landscape significance of the 8th century monument Participate in Collaboratory conferences, meetings and events Support community based research and events. 	~ AM 2%	WV-H1 Initiate and encourage schemes, policy development, advice and sympathetic management through partnerships and positive action to conserve, enhance and promote the historic environment, in conjunction with landowners, national agencies and other relevant organisations	1.c) 2.a) 2.b) 2.c) 3.a) 4.a) 4.b) 6.d) 6.e)	Q1-3 Q4
Communications & social media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular social media (SM) posts e.g. Facebook, Instagram and twitter On-going updating and management of www.wyevallyeaonb.org.uk. Regular publication of on-line AONB newsletter 'Picturesque' Revise and publish AONB Map & Guide 	4,000 IO 45% PO 3% FAO 3%	WV-C2 Promote awareness, appreciation of, and pride in the lower Wye Valley, the Special Qualities and features of the Wye Valley AONB and the beneficial aspects for local people of living and working in a nationally protected landscape WV-A1 Increase the profile of the Wye Valley AONB, promoting awareness and understanding of the designation and the Special Qualities of the AONB, through communication with, and interpretation for, residents, visitors, organisations and businesses, including embedding cultural and artistic activities into the conservation and enhancement of the AONB and measure effectiveness	3.f) #SM stats	Q1-3 Q4
Outreach Activities Promote the AONB through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks/presentations to local groups Stands at relevant shows. 	1,400 IO 8% CLO 5% PO 4% NRO 4%	WV-C2 Promote awareness, appreciation of, and pride in the lower Wye Valley, the Special Qualities and features of the Wye Valley AONB and the beneficial aspects for local people of living and working in a nationally protected landscape WV-E4 Raise awareness of the value of the AONB and the importance of retaining a high quality environment in attracting and retaining entrepreneurs, relocating businesses, inward investment and skilled personnel	3.a) 3.b) 3.c) 3.d)	Q1-3 Q4

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote, sponsor &/or lead guided walks, events, activities and countryside craft /rural skills courses in and around the AONB Support the Wye Valley River Festival CIC 		WV-A1 Increase the profile of the Wye Valley AONB, promoting awareness and understanding of the designation and the Special Qualities of the AONB, through communication with, and interpretation for, residents, visitors, organisations and businesses, including embedding cultural and artistic activities into the conservation and enhancement of the AONB and measure effectiveness		
Youth Rangers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review programme and further opportunities to continue the model of engaging young people in conservation and heritage Train new Leaders as required/appropriate 	1,000 CLO 15% NRO 4%	WV-F4 Support the development of and funding for new skills, farming practices and farm-based activities that are compatible with the aims of AONB designation, and encourage and support traditional skills such as hay making, hedge laying, dry stone walling, woodland and coppice management, riparian tree works etc. that contribute to the maintenance of the Special Qualities of the AONB WV-C2 Promote awareness, appreciation of, and pride in the lower Wye Valley, the Special Qualities and features of the Wye Valley AONB and the beneficial aspects for local people of living and working in a nationally protected landscape WV-P6 Inform and engage all relevant interests, especially local communities, in issues and decisions affecting the AONB	3.a) 3.b) 3.c) 3.d) 4.a)	Q3 Q4
Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service and set agendas for JAC, TOWP and Steering Group Organise AONB Partnership Annual Study Tour of key sites &/or issues in late September 2023 Run AONB Partnership Seminar/forum in winter Continue implementation of recommendations from AONB Good Governance Review 	1,600 AM 18% DO 4% FAO 3%	WV-P1 Maintain and develop effective partnerships and administrative arrangements to lead and co-ordinate the management of the AONB and develop the AONB Partnership as an effective forum for initiating and promoting discussion on important issues affecting the AONB WV-P2 Sustain and enhance local and national government funding and support for the AONB Unit to add value to delivery of the AONB purposes WV-P6 Inform and engage all relevant interests, especially local communities, in issues and decisions affecting the AONB WV-P7 Encourage partners to be champions and ambassadors for the AONB in their contact with other interests, and ensure those interests recognise and consider the Management Plan and AONB work programme when relating to the area	3.b)	Q1-3 Q4
Local Partnerships & Collaboration Influence & attend partnerships as appropriate; eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Nature Partnerships (LNP) in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire Wye Catchment Partnership Wye Navigation Advisory Committee (WyeNAC) 	~ AM 8% DO 8%	WV-R2 Assist the resolving of conflicts, real and perceived, between recreation, conservation and local interests, including other economic activities, and between different recreation interest groups in relation to the purposes of the AONB designation WV-P1 Maintain and develop effective partnerships and administrative arrangements to lead and co-ordinate the management of the AONB and develop the AONB Partnership as an effective forum for initiating and promoting discussion on important issues affecting the AONB WV-P3 Encourage and assist partners with initiatives that deliver the Management Plan, or other initiatives where the objectives are consistent with the purposes of the	4.a) 4.b) 6.c) 6.d)	Q1-3 Q4

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Tourism Association, South East Wales Tourism Forum, Visit Monmouthshire and Visit Herefordshire Wye Valley River Festival CIC Advisory Board Gloucestershire Food and Farming Partnership Gwent Green Grid Partnership Monmouthshire Local Access Forum Monmouthshire Wye Valley Villages Delivery Group Support Town, Parish & Community Councils with advice & guidance as appropriate 		AONB designation, and utilise existing resources and seek new resources to implement the AONB Management Plan WV-P4 Encourage Section 85 organisations, under the CRoW Act, to have co-ordinated policies to progress the purposes of the AONB designation and to make commitments in their annual business plans to specific delivery contributions that enable the AONB work programme WV-P5 Develop and promote the AONB as a model of sustainable development, landscape management, transportation, access and rural regeneration through exemplary initiatives setting standards for other areas WV-P6 Inform and engage all relevant interests, especially local communities, in issues and decisions affecting the AONB WV-P7 Encourage partners to be champions and ambassadors for the AONB in their contact with other interests, and ensure those interests recognise and consider the Management Plan and AONB work programme when relating to the area		
National Collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and engage with the National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NAAONB) and attend appropriate seminars & events Co-host 2023 National AONB Seminar 5th-7th Sept including hosting Field Trip Work with Welsh Government and Tirweddau Cymru Landscape Wales (National Designated Landscapes Partnership) and other stakeholders, including NRW & NAAONB Work with DEFRA and others in progressing the Glover Review of Designated Landscapes in England, including Natural England & NAAONB 	~ AM 8% DO 4%	WV-P4 Encourage Section 85 organisations, under the CRoW Act, to have co-ordinated policies to progress the purposes of the AONB designation and to make commitments in their annual business plans to specific delivery contributions that enable the AONB work programme WV-P5 Develop and promote the AONB as a model of sustainable development, landscape management, transportation, access and rural regeneration through exemplary initiatives setting standards for other areas WV-P9 Share knowledge and skills in protected area management locally, regionally, nationally and globally as appropriate	4.b) 6.b) 6.c)	Q1-3 Q4
Place				

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AONB Management Plan 2021-2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicise and promote Wye Valley AONB Management Plan Monitor use of Management Plan in Planning Applications, Public Inquiries and by stakeholders 	1,500 AM 4% SPO 4%	WV-L1 Promote and develop policies and initiatives to conserve, enhance, restore or create the features and elements that maintain the Special Qualities, landscape character and natural beauty of the AONB. Ensure their sustainable management and mitigate, reduce or remove detrimental features WV-P3 Encourage and assist partners with initiatives that deliver the Management Plan, or other initiatives where the objectives are consistent with the purposes of the AONB designation, and utilise existing resources and seek new resources to implement the AONB Management Plan	3.e) 5.a) 5.b) 5.c) 5.d) 5.e) 5.f)	Q1-3 Q4
AONB Planning & Development Control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment on relevant Planning Applications and strategic planning documents Annually monitor and review development trends and the approach taken by planning authorities to issues that affect the AONB Engage in development and consultation on national strategy in liaison with NAAONB Deliver CPD & training for LA Planning staff & members Monitor Planning support & activity jointly with Malvern Hills AONB Partnership. 	~ SPO 75% AM 10%	WV-D1 Ensure a consistent and coherent framework of planning policies relating to the AONB is fully reflected in the statutory land use planning documents and their effectiveness monitored WV-D2 Encourage and support high standards of design, materials, energy efficiency, drainage, landscaping and Green Infrastructure in all developments, including Permitted Development, to ensure greater sustainability and decarbonisation, and that they complement, conserve and enhance the local landscape character and distinctiveness including scale and setting and benefit or enhance the natural environment WV-D3 Resist inappropriate development which will create a persistent and dominant feature out of keeping with the landscape of the AONB and/or if it damages Special Qualities in the AONB, including through high levels of noise and/or light pollution or any SAC, SPA or Ramsar site or other sites designated as environmentally important WV-P4 Encourage Section 85 organisations, under the CRoW Act, to have co-ordinated policies to progress the purposes of the AONB designation and to make commitments in their annual business plans to specific delivery contributions that enable the AONB work programme	5.a) 5.b) 5.c) 5.d) 5.e)	Q1-3 Q4
Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing updating of the AONB GIS and State of the AONB data, Complete Phase 1 Habitat Survey mapping & digitising Progress Nature Recovery Network map & ground-truthing Investigate opportunities to update heritage, tourism and recreation monitoring. Monitor and review implementation of the AONB Management Plan 	# DO 7% NRO 5% IO 5% FO 5% CLO 3% FAO 3% PO 3% SPO 3% AM 2%	WV-L4 Ensure the establishment and collection of sufficiently comprehensive baseline data to monitor landscape condition and direction of change WV-B5 Support the identification and monitoring of key indicator species and priority species and habitats, in partnership with conservation organisations, relevant individuals and the Local Biological Record Centres WV-H2 Promote establishment of baseline data to monitor change and improve the local databases of historic landscape assessments, conservation areas, locally important buildings, buildings at risk, ancient trees, heritage features and sites in the AONB in conjunction with Local Planning Authorities, local archaeological trusts and individuals WV-S3 Ensure adequate provision of co-ordinated tourism data and visitor engagement to inform strategic and practical decision making on conserving or enhancing the Special Qualities of the AONB	1-6	Q1-3 Q4

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake Fixed point photography across the AONB 		WV-P8 Develop and co-ordinate the acquisition and analysis of data across the AONB, to inform priority setting, planning, implementation and monitoring of change affecting the natural beauty, including developing a better understanding of the likely impacts of climate change on the landscape of the Wye Valley AONB and supporting mitigation and adaption actions		
Funding and resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare grant bids and claims for NRW, Welsh Government and DEFRA, and other funding bodies as required. Continue pursuing funding and develop opportunities for external funding and securing sources for strategic and partnership projects Develop fundraising campaign for HCF Wye Valley AONB Fund 	~ FAO 45% AM 8% DO 7% PO 3% CLO 2%	WV-P1 Maintain and develop effective partnerships and administrative arrangements to lead and co-ordinate the management of the AONB and develop the AONB Partnership as an effective forum for initiating and promoting discussion on important issues affecting the AONB WV-P2 Sustain and enhance local and national government funding and support for the AONB Unit to add value to delivery of the AONB purposes WV-P3 Encourage and assist partners with initiatives that deliver the Management Plan, or other initiatives where the objectives are consistent with the purposes of the AONB designation, and utilise existing resources and seek new resources to implement the AONB Management Plan	6.a) 6.b) 6.c) 6.d) 6.e)	Q1-3 Q4
Work placements Support the needs of student placements/group projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate new under-graduate and post-graduate research opportunities 	~ all	WV-P5 Develop and promote the AONB as a model of sustainable development, landscape management, transportation, access and rural regeneration through exemplary initiatives setting standards for other areas WV-P9 Share knowledge and skills in protected area management locally, regionally, nationally and globally as appropriate	3.a) 3.c)	Q1-3 Q4
Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide advice & guidance, as directed by DEFRA, to farmers and land managers to develop applications to help deliver bigger and better outcomes under the themes of Climate, Nature, People and Place. Service the Local Assessment Panel in determining applications and allocating funding. Manage delegated grants (<£5k) Administer grant payments and monitor and report to DEFRA 	<i>[£220,110 + c£100k match]</i> FO 75% DO 16% FAO 8% AM 3%	WV-L5 Support measures which increase public awareness and appreciation of the natural beauty and importance of the Wye Valley AONB WV-F1 Encourage farmers and landowners to develop and adopt sustainable management practices that conserve or enhance the features, Special Qualities and natural beauty of the Wye Valley AONB WV-F2 Influence policy on, and encourage the maximum uptake of, agri-environment and other appropriate schemes, including support for small-holders, where they progress the conservation or enhancement of the natural beauty, biodiversity, historic environment and Special Qualities of the AONB, particularly through Catchment Sensitive Farming and mixed farming of resilient, sustainable and low-GHG emission systems WV-F3 Identify good agricultural practices that are appropriate to the challenges facing the farmers of the AONB and disseminate through networks, partnerships and training. WV-F4 Support the development of and funding for new skills, farming practices and farm-based activities that are compatible with the aims of AONB designation, and encourage and support traditional skills such as hay making, hedge laying, dry stone	1.a) 5.f) 6.b) 6.c) 6.d) #DEFRA	Q1-3 Q4

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the AONB Farming Award to present to a notable project. 		walling, woodland and coppice management, riparian tree works etc. that contribute to the maintenance of the Special Qualities of the AONB WV-F5 Promote a wider understanding of the value of farming to the landscape and economy of the AONB WV-C2 Promote awareness, appreciation of, and pride in the lower Wye Valley, the Special Qualities and features of the Wye Valley AONB and the beneficial aspects for local people of living and working in a nationally protected landscape WV-E2 Raise awareness of good practice and encourage local businesses in the AONB to take opportunities to become more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable, particularly in ways that sustain the natural beauty of the area		
Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places (SLSP) Deliver & manage scheme: Nature Recovery:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower Wye Valley Nature Recovery Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invasive non-native species (INNS) control Landscape Connectivity Species Action Plans esp. Orchards project Sustainable Tourism:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower Wye Valley Tourism & Access Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wye Valley Walk enhancements: Wyesham & Piercefield Integrated Access Strategy Decarbonisation & Supporting Communities:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower Wye Valley Village Halls Energy efficiency & Hub development Engagement in collaborative projects across multiple Designated Landscapes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wales Dark Skies Education Resources Programme 	<i>[£175,000 + £30k Collaborative Projects]</i> PO 20%, AM 15% FAO 8% NRO 8% DO 7% CLO 7% IO 3%	WV-L1 Promote and develop policies and initiatives to conserve, enhance, restore or create the features and elements that maintain the Special Qualities, landscape character and natural beauty of the AONB. Ensure their sustainable management and mitigate, reduce or remove detrimental features WV-C1 Encourage community led initiatives that maintain the diversity, sustainability and quality of rural community life and/or that stimulate investment, local employment, decarbonisation and retain or improve facilities and services for local people, subject to WV-D2 and WV-D3 WV-S2 Promote the improvement of the visitor experience, particularly at the most heavily visited sites, and facilitate the opportunity for visitors to explore and discover other appropriate but less used locations throughout the AONB, thus spreading demand and balancing pressures across sites where this does not conflict with the Special Qualities of the AONB and the SACs WV-S4 Encourage the mitigation and/or reduction of the adverse impacts of existing tourism activity and attractions, particularly where they are concentrated around certain locations or sites, and/or those that fall outside the aims of conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the Special Qualities and features of the AONB and decarbonisation. Highest priority will be given to addressing the issues in the Symonds Yat and Tintern areas WV-R4 Assist in identifying gaps in access and recreational provision, including for under-represented and minority groups, and work with appropriate bodies and stakeholders to support and promote access enhancements and improved access for all, where this does not conflict with the Special Qualities of the AONB and the SACs	1.a) 3.b) 3.d) 4.a) 5.a) 6.c) 6.d) #WG	Q1-3 Q4

AONB Unit Initiatives / activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs 	AONB Budget £ <i>[nonAONB£]</i> Key Staff %	Outcomes AONB Management Plan 2021-2026 Strategic Objectives	Metric (see ManPlan Sec13, p114)	By when
Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of SDF to potential applicants • Assist potential applicants with application process and project development • Service SDF Assessment Panel for allocating SDF funds. • Manage delegated grants and Landscape & Biodiversity Enhancement Grants (<£3k) • Training for SDF Assessment Panel members • Administration of grant scheme and reporting to Welsh Government 	<i>[£100,000 + c£90k match]</i> CLO 20% NRO 10% FAO 8% AM 3% IO 3% PO 3%	WV-L1 Promote and develop policies and initiatives to conserve, enhance, restore or create the features and elements that maintain the Special Qualities, landscape character and natural beauty of the AONB. Ensure their sustainable management and mitigate, reduce or remove detrimental features WV-B3 Promote the adoption of schemes and initiatives that sustain, enhance and recover the characteristic biodiversity of the AONB, and that enable ecological systems, networks and natural processes to accommodate and adapt to climate and other environmental change, including through nature based solutions and landscape scale habitat connectivity WV-C1 Encourage community led initiatives that maintain the diversity, sustainability and quality of rural community life and/or that stimulate investment, local employment, decarbonisation and retain or improve facilities and services for local people, subject to WV-D2 and WV-D3	1.a) 3.a) 3.c) 3.d) 4.b) 5.a) 6.c) 6.d) 6.e) #WG	Q1-3 Q4
Wye Valley AONB Fund with Herefordshire Community Foundation (HCF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Wye Valley AONB Fund with HCF to potential applicants • Assist potential applicants with application process and project development • Collate applications for the SDF Assessment Panel and liaise with HCF • Service SDF Assessment Panel recommending allocations to HCF. 	<i>[c£10k + c£10k match]</i> CLO 8% AM 2%	WV-L1 Promote and develop policies and initiatives to conserve, enhance, restore or create the features and elements that maintain the Special Qualities, landscape character and natural beauty of the AONB. Ensure their sustainable management and mitigate, reduce or remove detrimental features WV-B3 Promote the adoption of schemes and initiatives that sustain, enhance and recover the characteristic biodiversity of the AONB, and that enable ecological systems, networks and natural processes to accommodate and adapt to climate and other environmental change, including through nature based solutions and landscape scale habitat connectivity WV-C1 Encourage community led initiatives that maintain the diversity, sustainability and quality of rural community life and/or that stimulate investment, local employment, decarbonisation and retain or improve facilities and services for local people, subject to WV-D2 and WV-D3	1.a) 3.a) 3.d) 4.b) 6.c) 6.d) 6.e)	Q1-3 Q4