

TECHNICAL OFFICERS'
WORKING PARTY REPORT

WYE VALLEY AONB
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
4th July 2016

NATIONAL AONB CONFERENCE

Purpose

To update members on the recent Landscapes for Life 2016 national AONB Conference.

FOR INFORMATION

Key Issues

- Three representatives from the AONB Partnership are attending the national AONB Landscapes for Life Conference.
- Sharing, Learning, Inspiring are the themes of the conference, between Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th June 2016, based in Lilleshall National Sports and Conferencing Centre.
- The Wye Valley AONB is hosting a Field Trip on Wednesday 29th June.
- Verbal feedback will be given by those attending.

Reasons

The theme of Landscapes for Life Conference 2016 is Sharing, Learning, Inspiring and it will bring delegates together to discuss the case for natural beauty in relationship to the health and wellbeing of society. National Association for AONB's 18th Annual Conference is in Lilleshall National Sports and Conferencing Centre, Shropshire. The Field trips are hosted by the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley, Shropshire Hills, Malvern Hills and Wye Valley AONBs.

Implications

CLr Phil Cutter, Andrew Blake and Nick Critchley, AONB Development Officer, are attending. They will give some verbal feedback on the presentations and discussion.

The Wye Valley AONB will feature prominently in the conference:-

- The work of Greg Dunn's PhD will form part of the Briefing session on the first day.
- Field Trip 5; the Wye Valley Well-being Triathlon will see 18 delegates experience some of the recreational, health and well-being initiatives and opportunities in the heart of the picturesque Wye Valley. They will be canoeing, walking and cycling along the River Wye, hearing about the Wye Valley River Festival and visiting Goodrich Castle and the mindSCAPE project.
- On the final morning Hannah Eaton-Wall, manager of ArtSpace Cinderford and contracted lead on the mindSCAPE project, will give a plenary presentation, on how natural beauty enables people living with dementia, their carers (both family and professional), to reconnect with the landscape in a sociable and creative way with particular reference to mindSCAPE.

The conference blog is <http://landscapesforlifeevents.org.uk/> which has details about the full conference programme, themes, speakers and sponsors. The Blog will be regularly updated during the week.

Background

The National Association for AONBs (NAAONB) organises that annual Landscapes for Life Conference, which each year is hosted by a different grouping of AONBs.