

Report to	<b>Policy &amp; Resources Committee</b>
Date	<b>24 May 2018</b>
By	<b>Performance and Project Manager</b>
Title of Report	<b>Mid project update – Truleigh Hill YHA</b>

**Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to:**

**1) Receive the mid project update and note progress on the Truleigh Hill YHA Project**

**1. Summary and Background**

1.1 As part of its remit this Committee receives mid-project reports for the larger projects the SDNPA has supported.

**2. Project update**

This report provides an update on one project which is at its mid-point. The project was approved in September 2017, through the normal project approval process. This project is funded from the Rampion Section 106 mitigation fund.

2.1 The principal aim of the Truleigh Hill YHA project is to create a flagship habitat, access and learning package in a field of 1 hectare opposite the YHA. This will be carried out through targeted habitat restoration, improvements in learning opportunities and interpretation, improved access to the site and volunteer development. It will do this by:

1. Habitat improvement
2. Learning and interpretation
3. Access improvements and
4. Volunteer development

2.2 Truleigh Hill YHA is ideally placed as a key visitor information point for the South Downs National Park and the South Downs Way National Trail. The YHA at Truleigh Hill currently receives between 6-10,000 day visitors a year who use the existing café. This is a large passing trade but only equates to 15% of the capacity. There are 5,000 overnight guests per year who stay at the Youth Hostel. Details are set out in the mid-project review which is at **Appendix I**. The SDNPA has committed to contribute £49,000 over one year. SDNPA is funding £29,000 and £20,000 is a grant from the National Grid. To date £9,950 of that total amount has been spent and the project is on track in terms of expected expenditure.

2.3 There are some areas of concern. The planning application process was quite lengthy and required more detail than anticipated. As a result there was a delay in submitting the application. Due to the size of the field, a planning application was required and went to Planning Committee in May. This has delayed the delivery of some elements of the project. Providing permission was granted, there will be no further delays and the project will be finished by September.

### 3. Other Implications

Implication	Yes/No
Will further decisions be required by another committee/full authority?	No
Does the proposal raise any Resource implications?	No additional requirements. SDNPA agreed to contribute £29,000 in cash from the Rampion Section 106 fund and £20,000 from the National Grid, with in-kind officer support over the year.
How does the proposal represent Value for Money?	
Are there any Social Value implications arising from the proposal?	No
Has due regard has been taken of the South Downs National Park Authority's equality duty as contained within the Equality Act 2010?	Yes – as the subject matter of the report is an update on projects and funding no specific issues arise. Consideration of equalities issues are considered as part of the development of a project.
Are there any Human Rights implications arising from the proposal?	No
Are there any Crime & Disorder implications arising from the proposal?	No
Are there any Health & Safety implications arising from the proposal?	No
Are there any Sustainability implications based on the 5 principles set out in the SDNPA Sustainability Strategy: 1. Living within environmental limits 2. Ensuring a strong healthy and just society 3. Achieving a sustainable economy 4. Promoting good governance 5. Using sound science responsibly	No – not directly although as part of the process for developing projects and when they are approved sustainability issues are included as part of the process.

### 4. Risks Associated with the Proposed Decision

- 4.1 There are no significant risks associated with the subject matter of this report. All projects have their own risk registers, which are monitored regularly.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
Unforeseen changes to the level of funding provided by relevant Government departments for future years	Likely	Minor	A robust monitoring and project approval system and regular reporting to this Committee on projects and the budget available
Reputational risk if we	Possible	Moderate	Work to generate income for the South

are unable to provide cash match funding for some of our larger projects			Downs National Park and also potentially for the SDNPA. A robust monitoring and project approval system and regular reporting to this Committee on projects and the budget available
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Appendices I. Truleigh Hill YHA mid-project evaluation report and outcomes table  
SDNPA Consultees Chief Executive; Director of Strategy & Partnerships; Director of Planning; Directory of Operations; Director of Corporate Services; Chief Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer; Legal Services, Governance and Support Services Manager  
External Consultees None  
Background Documents Truleigh Hill YHA Project Initiation Document