

**Landscapes review team panel**

# **Landscapes review: call for evidence**

**October 2018**

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# Overview

The government has asked for an independent review of England's National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). You can find more about the work of the [review](#) and our [Terms of Reference](#). Already the review team, led by Julian Glover and a panel with a range of experiences and interests, has carried out visits and meetings in many parts of England.

We will do more in the months ahead - but we want everyone to have a chance to contribute, whether you live in a National Park or AONB, run a business in them, enjoy visiting, care about landscapes and biodiversity, or represent an organisation with views that might shape and improve our findings. The questions are a guide: please do not feel you must answer them all – or have to write at great length. We have not set a word length on answers, as we know some people and organisations will want to reply in detail on specific points. However, we ask that where possible you keep each individual answer to no more than 500 words. It is not necessary to reply to every question so please ignore those which you do not think relevant to you. You may find it easier to write your answers elsewhere before pasting them into the text boxes which follow.

## Introduction

1. Are you replying as a member of the public or on behalf of an organisation?
  - Member of public
  - Organisation
2. If you are replying as a member of public
  - a) What is your name?
  - b) What is your email address? If you enter your email address then you will automatically receive an acknowledgement email when you submit your response. We may also use this to contact you further.
  - c) Please tick all that apply
    - I live in a National Park or AONB
    - I work in a National Park or AONB
    - I visit a National Park or AONB
3. If you are replying on behalf of an organisation or organisations
  - a) Which organisation(s)?
  - b) What is your name and position?
  - c) What is your email address? If you enter your email address then you will automatically receive an acknowledgement email when you submit your response. We may also use this to contact you further.

4. We would like to be able to use extracts from submissions in our final report. If you would not like them, potentially, to be made public, please tell us here. (Required)

- Yes, I'm content for you to use extracts of my response in the final report
- No, you may not use extracts from my response in the final report

5. We have obligations under freedom of information laws and there is more information below. For the purposes of these laws, would you like your response to be confidential? (Required)

- Yes
- No
- If you have answered yes, please give your reason

## Confidentiality and data protection information

Information in responses to this call for evidence may be subject to release to the public or other parties in accordance with the access to information law (these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)).

Defra / The Review may publish the content of your response to this call for evidence to make it available to the public without your personal name and private contact details (e.g. name, email address, etc).

If you say 'Yes' you want your response kept confidential, please clearly state what information you would like to be kept confidential and why. This is to help us balance these obligations for disclosure against any obligation of confidentiality. If we receive a request for the information that you have provided in your response to this consultation, we will take full account of your reasons for requesting confidentiality of your response, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.

If you click on 'No' in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, we will be able to release the content of your response to the public, but we won't make your personal name and private contact details publicly available.

## Before anything else

6. We would love to know what makes National Parks and AONBs special to you

We invite you to submit a recent picture which sums up what is special to you about our designated landscapes. It could be a place, a person, on a farm or of plants and wildlife. If you submit a photo, you must own its copyright and it may be used in the final report or online. Please tell us if that is OK.

- Yes, you can use my photo online or in the report

- No, you may not publish my photo

## Part 1 - Opening thoughts

We would like any opening thoughts on the role played by National Parks and AONBs - you may want to make a more detailed suggestion further on.

7. What do you think works overall about the present system of National Parks and AONBs in England? Add any points that apply specifically to only National Parks or AONBs.

8. What do you think does not work overall about the system and might be changed? Add any points that apply specifically to National Parks or AONBs.

## Part 2 - Views

We'd like to hear views on particular issues.

9. What views do you have about the role National Parks and AONBs play in nature conservation and biodiversity?

a) Could they do more to enhance our wildlife and support the recovery of our natural habitats?

10. What views do you have about the role National Parks and AONBs play in shaping landscape and beauty, or protecting cultural heritage?

11. What views do you have about the role National Parks and AONBs play in working with farmers and land managers and how might this change as the current system of farm payments is reformed?

12. What views do you have about the role National Parks and AONBs play in supporting and managing access and recreation?

13. What views do you have about the way National Park and AONB authorities affect people who live and work in their areas?

a) Are they properly supporting them and what could be done differently?

14. What views do you have on the role National Park and AONB authorities play on housing and transport in their areas?

## Part 3 - Current ways of working

We'd like to ask some specific questions about the way National Parks and AONBs work at the moment.

15. What views do you have on the way they are governed individually at the moment? Is it effective or does it need to change, if so, how?
16. What views do you have on whether they work collectively at the moment, for instance to share goals, encourage interest and involvement by the public and other organisations?
17. What views do you have on their efforts to involve people from all parts of society, to encourage volunteering and improve health and well-being?
18. What views do you have on the way they are funded and how this might change?
19. What views do you have on the process of designation - which means the way boundaries are defined and changed?
20. What views do you have on whether areas should be given new designations? For instance, the creation of new National Parks or AONBs, or new types of designations for marine areas, urban landscapes or those near built-up areas
21. Are there lessons that might be learnt from the way designated landscapes work in other parts of the United Kingdom, or abroad?

## Part 4 - Closing thoughts

22. Do you think the terms currently used are the right ones? Would you suggest an alternative title for AONBs, for instance and if so what?
23. The review has been asked to consider how designated landscapes work with other designations such as National Trails, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), National Nature Reserves (NNRs) and Special Protected Areas (SPAs). Do you have any thoughts on how these relationships work and whether they could be improved?
24. Do you have any other points you would like to make that are not covered above?

## How to respond

Responses to this call for evidence must be submitted online via Citizen Space by 18 December 2018 at:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/land-use/landscapes-review-call-for-evidence/>

If you are unable to submit online, please contact us at [landscapes.review@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:landscapes.review@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and we will work with you to find a different way of responding.



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