
Autumn 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the South Downs Land Managers Autumn Newsletter, particularly to those NFU and CLA members who are new to the SDLM. In recognition of the fact that the South Downs is owned and managed by many individuals, businesses and public bodies, the SDLM represents the land management community to the South Downs National Park Authority. Our purpose is to ensure that the NPA takes land management into consideration when making policy decisions.

Up Coming meetings:

Southern Water Stakeholder Workshops
20th October 2017 Amex Stadium, Brighton
30th October 2017 Botley Park Hotel

SDLM Executive Committee Meeting 7th November 2017
SDLM/SDNPA Liaison Meeting 7th November

SDNPA News in brief

Review of South Downs Partnership Management Plan:

The NPA are currently undertaking a review of the Partnership Management Plan, concentrating on what will be delivered by the Authority and Partners in the next five years. The Plan is to be consolidated into eight key themes.

South Downs National Park Trust: The SDNPA are currently in the process of setting up an independent charity. The Trust will help fund delivery of the Partnership Management Plan working with community organisations for the benefit of the National Park and the people for whom it was created.

Meeting updates

Future of Farming Over this summer the SDNPA held a series of workshops with farmers to look at how exiting the EU and the Common Agriculture Policy might affect their ability to look after the National Park, whilst running profitable businesses. The aim is to go to Defra in the Autumn with a proposal for a farmer-led pilot for a new support scheme. Summary [Report of Workshops](#)

Liaison Meeting: At the last liaison meeting discussions focused on Brexit The SDNPA outlined how they intend to put forward a proposal to Defra to support at least one pilot in the National Park to demonstrate how a new agri-environment scheme might work. Minutes of the meeting can be found at <http://www.southdownsland.com/Meeting>



Planning update

South Downs Local Plan: Pre-Submission Local Plan Public Consultation is now open until 21st November 2017. More details can be found on the SDNPA Local Plan webpage <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning/national-park-local-plan/>

You are encouraged to respond using their online consultation system, which you can access here <https://consult.southdowns.gov.uk/consult.ti/system/home>

If you have any queries please contact them at planningpolicy@southdowns.gov.uk or call 01730 814810. [Participate in this consultation](#)

Community Infrastructure Levy – Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for Brighton & Hove

Brighton & Hove are at the first formal stage of introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and are consulting upon a Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule via the [consultation portal](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/pdcs-consultation). www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/pdcs-consultation

The consultation period is open for 8 weeks between 13 October 2017 and 10 December 2017.

The list of infrastructure BHCC may fund through CIL (known as a Regulation 123 List) does not form part of this consultation. This work is to be carried out between now and next spring, although it is worth noting that infrastructure will be selected from the updated [Infrastructure Development Plan \(Jun 2017\)](#) which supports the delivery of the City Plan Part One and the emerging City Plan Part Two. Items on this list will not then be eligible for further S106 obligations.

Their [Developer Contribution](#) webpage has a section on CIL which will be updated on a regular basis. The PDCS and Viability Study are also available on this webpage for viewing or download (you may need to scroll down).

Wiston Estate Whole Estate Plan Endorsed by SDNPA

The Wiston Estate covers an area of 2,522ha of which 70% is farmland and 20% woodland and is home to 106 households, 11 farms and 22 businesses. Well over half of the estate lies within the South Downs National Park.

The plan considers major challenges that the estate will have to face in the future including: climate change, rural business adaptation, pressure of development, changes to subsidies following Brexit, pressure from visitors and planning for succession. It is designed to help guide and support funding bids, future neighbourhood plan production, agri-environment, forestry and clean-water schemes amongst other things. [Read Full Plan](#)

South Downs Planning: The National Park Authority have launched a new monthly Planning Newsletter [Sign up to receive their monthly newsletter](#)

Project updates

Fritillaries for the Future

Work by the South Downs Volunteer Rangers is helping to save the regionally endangered pearl bordered fritillary butterfly by creating special havens for this 'very fussy' species in woods near Arundel in West Sussex. Over the past two winters the South Downs Volunteer Ranger Service has hand-cut bays into the edges of sweet chestnut coppice, to create special breeding habitat for the butterfly along sunny track edges. The pearl-bordered fritillaries at Rewell Wood historically relied upon habitat created by commercial sweet chestnut harvesting, but in recent years butterfly numbers have decreased and the population had been at a low ebb since 2015. 51 percent of the 49 butterflies counted across the entire site, during the flight period earlier this year, were counted in the area cleared by volunteers.

Other news

GWCT encourages landowners to count partridges

GAMEKEEPERS, farmers and landowners are being urged to get involved in a project which helps to conserve a much-loved bird.

The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT) has run the voluntary Partridge Count Scheme (PCS) since 1933 to collect information on the annual abundance and breeding success of grey partridges.



Counts on small farms to large estates offer a valuable insight into how well partridges breed, survive and benefit from habitat and management provision.

Over the years, grey partridge numbers have been affected by wet summers, low chick survival and problems with low winter survival rates.

As the autumn counts get underway, GWCT scientist Neville Kingdon, who collates the results each year, noted that every bird that is recorded is vital.

“To get a national recovery, we need a national response,” he stressed. “It’s the time of the year when crops are being cut and we can see birds, so it’s the perfect time for landowners to get out on their land and take part in the count. We’re not just interested in big numbers. Every count matters, and it can often be enjoyed as an activity with the family.”

To take part, complete this online form <https://www.gwct.org.uk/research/long-term-monitoring/partridge-count-scheme/join/>

For more information, email: partridgecountscheme@gwct.org.uk.

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Southern Water invitation to Annual Stakeholder Workshops

Southern Water are holding a series of stakeholder workshops. The main topics for discussion will include:

- Their long term strategy and the value of water to the South-East
- The delivery of their current Business Plan 2015 – 20
- Their performance commitments for their next Business Plan 2020-25, which they will be consulting on next year
- Working with local communities to increase water efficiency and improve the water environment
- It will also be an opportunity to hear about their long term strategy for 2020 – 45 and beyond

Workshops will be held in two locations close to the South Downs

20th October 2017 Amex Stadium, Brighton [Register Here](#)

30th October 2017 Botley Park Hotel [Register Here](#)

- Registration from 9.30am
- Workshops from 10am to 1pm
- Lunch served from 1:20pm to 2pm
- Optional “surgeries” from 2pm to 3pm

The stakeholder workshops will include short presentations from senior members of the Southern Water team, followed by roundtable discussions to allow you to share your views. In the afternoon, there will be more detailed surgeries on topics to be confirmed. Attendees at the workshops will include elected representatives, business groups, regulators, environmental and conservation group representatives, NGOs and charities.

To REGISTER, please click on the links above. If you have any further questions please call **Vincent Luxmoore** on **020 3948 5282** or email: enquiries@southernwaterworkshops.co.uk.
