Mendip Hills AONB Partnership Committee		
Committee meeting date:	**22nd November 2018**	**Paper: E**
Title:	**National Association for AONB (NAAONB) Update**	
Presented by:	**Jim Hardcastle, Mendip Hills AONB Unit**	
To be noted.		

1.0 NAAONB Conference: Shaping the Long View. July 2018

1.1 Attended by Cllr Nigel Taylor, AONB Partnership Chair and Jim Hardcastle, AONB Manager. This was an excellent opportunity for the new Partnership Chair to gain a deeper understanding of AONBs, the Defra 25 Year Environment Plan and the Glover Review. Julian Glover attended one of the sessions and responded to initial queries.

2.0 Glover Review

2.1 Staff from the NAAONB have worked hard with Defra and the Glover Review panel to organise the consultation structure and then help the AONB family to formulate responses.

2.2 Jim Hardcastle attended a special Lead Officers meeting in Birmingham on 27/9. Online correspondence prior to this day and discussions at this meeting have led to a 'prospectus' that captures the broad responses to the Glover Review Panel. This document also allows individual AONBs to form their own responses around this.

3.0 Taking the Lead

3.1 The NAAONB were awarded money from the Lottery Fund's Resilient Heritage fund to support the Future Landscapes Project. The project will explore how the AONB Family and its national charity (the NAAONB) can become more resilient and better prepared to address strategic challenges. For staff members there is a personal development programme for 40 people, Jim Hardcastle is one who will receive personality profiling and coaching. Topic working groups will then be established from these staff members to address complex problems facing the AONBs.

4.0 NAAONB Conference 2020

4.1 The Partnership Chairman kindly nominated the Mendip Hills AONB and other Somerset AONBs to host the national conference in 2020. We await a decision from the NAAONB. This would be a good opportunity to raise how important the landscapes of Somerset are with the community and decision makers in the area.