

14 MONITORING

There are two aspects of monitoring that are relevant to this plan.

1. The implementation of the annual Action Plan - Monitoring will occur by assessing the success of the previous year's action plan, in the Annual Review at the end of that year.

2. The condition of the AONB - This is about the state of the land itself. Major monitoring programmes are costly and time consuming. They can be refined by using 'indicators'. Indicators are drawn from readily available information and are linked to the themes of this plan. They enable 'condition monitoring' of the AONB to occur. Results from these will inform future strategies and objectives. The indicators will be measured over a period that is appropriate to each issue.

Indicator	Indicative of	Monitoring Lead
Landscape and Geology		
Quality of Life Counts: Landscape Typology.	How landscape types change.	DEFRA.
Analysis of fixed point photography.	Effectiveness of land management practices.	AONB.
Biodiversity		
Population Counts of Fauna.	Good land management.	Butterfly conservation, Worcester reptile groups.
Area of SSSI's in favourable condition.	Condition of SSSI's and environmental improvements.	English Nature.
Historic Environment		
Number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments in positive management.	Good practice.	English Heritage, Local Authorities.
Farming and Forestry		
Uptake of environmental grants.	Good environmental practice.	DEFRA.
Uptake of woodland grants.	Good woodland management.	Forestry Commission.

Indicator	Indicative of	Monitoring Lead
Tourism Recreation & Access		
Hills Hopper loading figures.	Effectiveness of sustainable transport initiatives.	AONB.
Best value Performance Indicators for Rights of Way.	State of the Public Rights of Way.	Local Authorities.
Transport		
Car park takings.	Car use in area / Visitor numbers.	MHC.
Bus services.	Public transport levels.	AONB.
Community		
Parish Plan uptake.	Interest in community affairs.	AONB.
Development		
Percentage of planning applications commented on where AONB recommendations were taken into account.	Appreciation by planning officers of AONB's purposes.	AONB / LA's.
Sustainable Environment		
Incidence of fly-tipping / dumped cars, litter picking.	Quality of environment.	MHC / LA's

Appendix I:

Relevant Local Development Plan Policies for the protection and enhancement of the AONB:

CTC 3: Worcestershire County Structure Plan, 2001

'Within the Areas Of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), priority will be given to the conservation and protection of the landscape. Development will not normally be allowed except where it has no adverse effect on the landscape, and particularly the key landscape characteristics of the AONB, where it is for:

- (i) small-scale development located within or adjacent to an existing settlement; or
- (ii) small-scale recreation and tourism facilities, including farm diversification; or
- (iii) the purposes of agriculture or forestry practices.

Exceptionally, major industrial or commercial development will be allowed where there is no alternative site suitable for the purpose and it can be demonstrated to be essential to the overriding national interest. Such development will be subject to the most rigorous examination.

In assessing development proposals, Local Planning Authorities will need to have regard to the likely impact on the economic and social well-being of the area.'

LAI: Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan, Deposit Draft, 2002

'Within the Malvern Hills and Wye Valley Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, priority will be given to the protection and enhancement of the natural beauty and amenity of the area in the national interest and in accordance with the relevant management plans.

Development will only be permitted where it is small scale, does not adversely affect the intrinsic natural beauty of the landscape and can be demonstrated either to meet local community needs or enhance the quality of the landscape or biodiversity.

Exceptions to this policy will only be permitted when all of the following have been demonstrated:

1. the development is of greater national interest than the purpose of the AONB;
2. there is unlikely to be any adverse impact upon the local economy;

3. no alternative site is available, including outside of the AONB; and

4. any detrimental effect upon the landscape and biodiversity can be mitigated and compensatory measures provided.'

MR.6 Gloucestershire Structure Plan, 3rd Alterations Deposit Draft, 2003

In Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty will be given priority over other considerations. Regard will also be had to the economic and social well-being of the AONB.

Provision should not be made for major development within the AONB unless it is in the national interest and the lack of alternative sites justifies an exception.

FNE.4 Forest of Dean Local Plan, Revised Deposit 2002

In the Wye Valley and Malvern Hills AONB's priority will be given to the conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape. Development which could harm the natural beauty of the landscape will not be permitted. Major industrial or commercial development, which must be shown to be in the public interest, may only be permitted where it cannot be located elsewhere and where its effect on the landscape can be satisfactorily moderated.

At the time of writing the draft Malvern Hills District Local Plan is pending and the relevant details will be added when they become available.

References:

Malvern Hills AONB Statistical Digest (Draft), Centre for Rural Research 2003

Analysis of Consultation Data for Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan. Centre for Rural Research, 2002.

Malvern Hills AONB, Malvern and Ledbury Area Tourism Economic Impact Assessment 1998/99, Research Unit Heart of England Tourist Board 2000

Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Visitor Survey 1999-2000, Heart of England Tourist Board, 2000

Malvern Hills Conservators Management Plan 2000-2005, Dr PJ Alma, 1999.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plans (CA23), Countryside Agency, 2001.

The Malvern Landscape, Countryside Commission, 1993.

The Potential Impacts of Climate Change in the West Midlands, Pre-scoping Consultation Report March 2001, West Midlands Climate Change Impacts Study (WMCCIS)

Abbreviations Used

AONB - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

CAP - Common Agricultural Policy

DEFRA - Department for Food and Rural Affairs

EH - English Heritage

EN - English Nature

FC - Forestry Commission

FWAG - Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group

GIS - Geographic Information System

LA - Local Authority

LTP - Local Transport Plan

MHC - Malvern Hills Conservators

PROW - Public Rights of Way

SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest

GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

Term	Brief explanation
Access Agreement	<i>An agreement concluded under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 to provide access to a suitable area of open country. DfT</i>
Access Land	<i>Described in section 1 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 as land mapped in conclusive form either as 'open country' or as registered common land to which the public will normally have access on foot. CA</i>
Acid Grassland	<i>Consists of fine leaved grasses such as common bent, mat grass and wavy hair grass, together with typical herbs such as heath bedstraw, sheep's sorrel, and tormentil. Acid grasslands are typically found on nutrient poor, free draining and acidic soils (pH 4 to 5.5) overlying silica-rich or silicic rocks (formerly known as acid igneous rocks), sands and gravels.</i>
Adoption	<i>The legal stage in the process of development/unitary plan review, when the new Structure/Unitary Plan is adopted by the County Council, and replaces the existing Structure Plan.</i>
Agri-environment Schemes	<i>Scheme regulated by statutory instrument providing for the payment of aid to persons who give an undertaking, or enter into an agreement, to manage their land for biodiversity, landscape, the historic environment, public access or amenity objectives. DEFRA</i>
Alder Phytophthora	<i>A fatal fungal infection of trees believed to be a relatively recent hybrid of fungi <i>Phytophthora cambivora</i> and <i>Phytophthora fragariae</i>, the plant pathogen is capable of inflicting widespread damage to trees in the Alder family.</i>
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	<i>An ancient woodland site, believed to have had continuous woodland cover since 1600 AD, composed principally of native tree species that have not obviously been planted.</i>
Arabalisation	<i>Term for the conversion of lowland pasture to arable production and the resulting loss and/or fragmentation of semi-natural habitats.</i>
Arable Land	<i>Land devoted to perennial crop production, generally under a system of crop rotation, which includes fallow land. EEA</i>

Archives and Monuments Information England	<i>The National Monument Record's - NMR's - database of monuments, events and archives. EH</i>
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	<i>Area designated by the Countryside Agency or Countryside Council for Wales under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 where the primary purpose is the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty including the flora, fauna, geology and landscape. CA See also Landscape Value</i>
Best Value	<i>The duty of continuous improvement for local authorities as set by the Local Government Act 1999. Best Value is the way local government measures, manages and improves its performance. Best Value can apply to a service, a department or a whole council, but is most effective when applied holistically and used to drive improvement. IDeA</i>
Best Value Performance Indicator	<i>A national measure of performance, set by central government.</i>
Biodiversity	<i>The term given to the variety of life and the natural processes of which living things are a part. The term includes living organisms, the genetic differences between them and the communities in which they occur. UNEP</i>
Biodiversity Action Plan	<i>A plan, programme or strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Biodiversity Action Plans - BAPs are a key means by which the UK Government commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity at Rio de Janeiro (1992) is to be met.</i>
Birds Directive	<i>EU Directive 79/49/EEC on the conservation of wild birds which seeks to protect all wild birds and the habitats of listed species, in particular through the designation of Special Protection Areas - SPA</i>
Bridleway	<i>A public right of way for walkers and those on horseback, or leading a horse, together with pedal cyclists. DfT</i>
Bronze Age	<i>Period of human culture that followed the Stone Age, characterised by the use of bronze tools and weapons. In Britain spans 2300BC to 700BC.</i>
Brownfield Site	<i>Land which has previously been developed, excluding mineral workings or other temporary uses. ODPM</i>
Byelaw	<i>Regulation made by a local authority in consultation with central government.</i>
Byway Open to All Traffic	<i>A route predominately for use by walkers, horse-riders and cyclists but also open to motor vehicles. DfT</i>

Carrying Capacity	<p>Attempts made to measure the maximum amount of use that a resource can accommodate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological capacity is the maximum level of use consistent with no reduction in the valued ecological attributes of an area; • Physical capacity is the maximum level of use that can be accommodated in space or time; • Perceptual capacity refers to the point at which enjoyment falls due to feelings of overcrowding. Burton (1974).
Climate Change	<p>Any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of direct or indirect human activity. - IPCC</p> <p>A change in climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods. - UNFCCC</p>
Common Agricultural Policy	<p>The set of policy principles, regulations and subsidy mechanisms adopted by the member states of the European Community that are intended to consolidate efforts in promoting or ensuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reasonable pricing of food products, • fair standards of living for farmers, • stable agricultural markets, • increased farm productivity and • methods for dealing with food supply or surplus. - EC
Commoners	<p>Persons having registered rights in a common, consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pasture (grazing); • pannage (pig browsing); • estovers (cutting of bracken/wood for bedding, fuel or building material); • turbarry (digging of turf or peat for fuel); • piscary (fishing) or • soil (taking of sand, gravel, stone or minerals).
Common Land	<p>Defined in section 22 of the Commons Registration Act 1965 as:</p> <p>(a) land subject to rights of common (as defined in this Act) whether those rights are exercisable at all times or only during limited periods;</p> <p>(b) waste land of a manor not subject to rights of common. CA</p>

Community Strategy	<i>Defined in the Local Government Act 2000 as provision of a new duty and responsibility for Local Authorities to work closely with others to improve the local quality of life and promote well being. A Community Strategy links the work of key stakeholders in a Local Authority area across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors.</i>
Conservation Area	<i>Defined by section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which is desirable to preserve or enhance. ODPM</i>
Coppice	<i>Woodland which has normally been regenerated from shoots formed at the cut stumps of the previous crop trees, root suckers, or both i.e. by vegetative means. Coppice is normally grown on a short rotation i.e. 5 – 25 years to yield small diameter material. EEA</i>
Countryside Management	<i>The process by which the objectives of conservation, recreation and access are secured for public benefit in the management of both public and privately owned land. Countryside management involves the resolution of small-scale conflicts; the production of management plans and the implementation of agreements. CA</i>
Countryside Quality Counts	<i>A national project designed to develop national indicators of change in countryside character and countryside quality for the English countryside.</i>
Countryside Stewardship Scheme	<i>An agri-environment scheme available to land outside Environmentally Sensitive Area – ESAs – designed to protect, enhance, restore and re-create targeted landscapes, their wildlife habitats and historic features, and to provide opportunities for public access. DEFRA</i>
Deciduous Woodland	<i>Wooded land on which more than 75% of the tree crown cover consists of deciduous species. EEA</i>
Definitive Map	<i>The legal record of public rights of way held by Surveying Authorities which are normally also Highway Authorities.</i>
Development Plan	<i>Document (a structure or local plan) that sets out in writing and/or maps and diagrams a local planning authority's policies and proposals for the development and use of land and buildings in the authority's area. ODPM A 'Development' Plan would consist of the Structure Plan, Minerals Plan, Waste Local Plan and the Local Plans adopted in each District, this arrangement is likely to undergo change as a result of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Bill currently passing through Parliament.</i>

Enclosure	<i>Refers to planned enclosures, common in 18th Century England, when open fields, or previously open commons, were divided into privately-owned plots with boundary hedgerows, normally to facilitate livestock farming.</i>
Environment Land Management Schemes	<i>Collective term for Countryside Stewardship Scheme, Environmentally Sensitive Areas, Wildlife Enhancement Agreements & Schemes and Woodland Grant Scheme. DEFRA</i>
Geographic Information System	<i>A computer-based system which combines layers of information about a place, in relation to 2 or 3-dimensional mapping. The resulting geo-referenced data can be used to capture, store, extract, measure, transform, analyse and map phenomena and processes in a given geographic area.</i>
Geomorphology	<i>The branch of physical geography which deals with the form of the earth, the general configuration of its surface and the distribution of land and water etc. together with the natural processes that contribute to the evolution of landscapes.</i>
Geopark	<i>European Geoparks are areas in Europe with a particular outstanding geological heritage, where there is considerable local effort to conserve this heritage and encourage its enjoyment and understanding by the public. International Geoparks are designated by UNESCO in consultation with the International Union of Geological Sciences – IUGS – to enhance sites that act as key witnesses to the Earth’s History while promoting regional economic development based on geotourism.</i>
Geotourism	<i>Tourism that sustains or enhances the geographical character of the place being visited, including its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage and the wellbeing of its residents. TIA</i>
Grazier	<i>Commoners who exercise their right to ‘common of pasture’ turning their stock onto a common to graze, and/or grazing undertaken by the landowners own or landowners’ nominee stock.</i>
Habitat	<i>The place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs.</i>

Heath	<i>A tract of uncultivated, generally nutrient poor land, with an open character, whose vegetation is dominated by dwarf shrubs, most typically belonging to the family Ericaceae – Heathers. Depending on levels of moisture heaths are further subdivided as dry heath, heather moor and moss-moor. Heath under 300 metres above sea level is referred to as Lowland Heath.</i>
Hedgerow	<i>Lines of trees and/or shrubs which delineate the boundaries of fields.</i>
Highway	<i>Any way over which the public have a right to pass and repass. DfT</i>
Highway Authority	<i>The Highways Act 1980 defines a Highways Authority as the body responsible for maintaining all highways maintainable at public expense and keeping them free of obstruction, including responsibility for public rights of way. The Highway Authority in England may be a County Council, Unitary Authority, Borough or Metropolitan Council.</i>
Historic Hedgerow	<i>Means a hedgerow in existence before 1850 AD.</i>
Historic Landscape Assessment	<i>Recognises the ways in which the present countryside reflects how people have exploited, changed and adapted to their physical environment through time, with respect to different social, economic, technological and cultural aspects of life.</i>
Historic Landscape Characterisation	<i>Formal programme of Historic Landscape Assessment identifying areas of similar character undertaken by County Councils in partnership with English Heritage - EH.</i>
Honeypot Site	<i>Features or facilities which attract significant numbers of visitors through their reputation or position.</i>
Improved Grassland	<i>Land for grazing where over one third of the sward comprises</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Singularly or in mixture ryegrass, timothy or coxsfot</i> • <i>Land improved by management practices such as liming or top dressing</i> • <i>Where there is not a significant presence of sensitive plant species indicative of native unimproved grassland.</i>
Infilling	<i>The filling of a small gap by development within a substantially built-up frontage.</i>

Iron Age	<i>Period of human culture that followed the Bronze Age, characterised by the use of iron tools and weapons. In Britain spans 700BC to 43AD.</i>
Landscape Character	<i>A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from one another, rather than better or worse. Countryside Character Network</i>
Landscape Character Area	<i>Are unique individual geographical areas in which landscape types occur, which share generic characteristics with other areas of the same type but have their own particular identity. CA/SNH</i>
Landscape Character Assessment	<i>Is a method for identifying, understanding and expressing the different patterns and features i.e. woodlands, hedgerows, building styles and historic artefacts which give a place a distinctive character. CA</i>
Landscape Character Types	<i>A landscape type will have a broadly similar, or common, pattern of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use, settlement and field pattern in every area it occurs. CA/SNH</i>
Listed Building	<i>A building of architectural or historical importance, graded according to its merit (I, II*, II) and subject to special controls.</i>
Local Access Forum	<i>Established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the LAF represents a balance of local interests and views, providing independent guidance to the relevant local authorities and the Countryside Agency - CA - on how to make the countryside more accessible and enjoyable for open air recreation in ways that address social, economic and environmental interests.</i>
Local Authority	<i>An administrative unit of local government, specifically any body listed in section 270 of the Local Government Act 1972 or section 21(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.</i>
Local Distinctiveness	<i>Is essentially the sum of points of connection between the place and the person. Local distinctiveness is fundamentally about giving professionals a mandate to care for landscape detail, by linking meaning, identity, patina and authenticity. – Common Ground Is where sustainable landscapes are valued as places which have a distinctiveness and significance that communities cherish as their own. Ecoregen Seeks to find alternatives to the spread of uniformity in the countryside.</i>

Local Nature Reserve	<i>Site acquired, declared and managed by local authorities in co-operation with EN in order to protect its wildlife value for the benefit of the local community.</i>
Local Plan	<i>Local policies, proposals and opportunities for the physical development of an administrative unit as a basis for development control. The text and proposals for the statutory Local Plan, together with the Structure Plan, form the Development Plan for the area. ODPM</i>
Local Planning Authority	<i>The Local Authority, normally the local borough or district council, which is empowered by law to exercise planning functions. ODPM</i>
Local Produce	<i>The Forestry Commission recognises local production within a 20 mile radius from the place of work. The National Association of Farmers Markets' recommends either drawing local producers from within a radius of 30 miles of a market, or 50 miles in the case of large cities or remote areas, but never more than 100 miles, or using a defined county boundary or other geographical designation such as a protected landscape. Waitrose Supermarkets recognises a 30 mile radius of a store as a suitable measure of local supply.</i>
Local Transport Plan	<i>A plan produced by the Highway Authority setting out future proposals for transport infrastructure over the following 5 years and attracting possible Government funding.</i>
Natural Beauty	<i>Legislation and associated guidance defines natural beauty as including the physical elements of flora, fauna, geology and physiographic or geomorphological, the cultural and heritage elements, together with less tangible values such as intactness, rarity, wildness, remoteness, tranquillity and the appeal to the physical senses. CA.</i>
Nitrate Sensitive Areas	<i>Introduced in 1990 as a method of reducing the level of nitrate in groundwater. Within the designated areas farmers were encouraged to undertake voluntary agricultural measures and were paid for complying with certain agricultural practices to reduce nitrate pollution. Phased out in 1999 in favour of Nitrate Vulnerable Zones - NVZs</i>

Nitrate Vulnerable Zones	<i>The EU Nitrates Directive requires the designation of all land draining into nitrate polluted waters to be designated Nitrate Vulnerable Zones. Within the zone farmers are required to adhere to a programme of measures designed to reduce the amount of nitrate lost to groundwater. DEFRA</i>
Overgrazing	<i>Intensive grazing by livestock that exceeds the environmental carrying capacity of a given piece of land, adversely affecting the growth, quality and species composition of vegetation (other than that normally removed by grazing) and leading to soil erosion and even a complete loss of vegetation.</i>
Pollard	<i>A tree having its top cut off at some height above the ground to promote new and multiple growth, either to avoid the reach of browsing animals or to create aesthetically pleasing forms.</i>
Public Right of Way	<i>A route where the public has a right to walk, and in some cases ride horses, bicycles, motorcycles, wheeled carriages or drive motor vehicles which is designated either a footpath, a bridleway, a road used as a public path (RUPP) or a byway open to all traffic (BOAT). DfT</i>
Quality of Life Capital	<i>Is a decision-support tool for maximising environmental, economic and social benefits as part of any land use planning or other management decision. Developed by Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature and Environment Agency as a sound and reliable means of allowing local communities to reach consensus and conclusions on the change they want to see and are prepared to support in their locality.</i>
Quality of Life Indicators	<i>Locally set performance measures designed to show performance against measures, which are deemed to be a predictor of quality of life in a locality, linking to community strategies. ODPM</i>
Quiet Lane	<i>Section 208 of the Transport Act 2000 makes provision for local traffic authorities to designate roads for which they are responsible as Quiet Lanes, enjoying voluntary speed restrictions and promotion for non-motorised traffic.</i>
Red List	<i>A publication listing the conservation status of different species in a given geographic region.</i>
Regional Planning Guidance	<i>Policy guidance and advice issued for each region in England by the Secretary of State on the basis of advice provided by Regional Planning Bodies. ODPM (Revised)</i>

Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites	<i>Non-statutory sites of regional geological or geomorphological importance recognised by English Nature and local authorities.</i>
Scheduled Ancient Monument	<i>A structure identified by English Heritage for protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.</i>
Section 106 agreement	<i>A binding agreement between a local planning authority and a developer associated with a grant of planning permission and regarding matters linked to the proposed development. ODPM</i>
Sense of Place	<i>Concept used to describe the memories and feelings of connectedness evoked by places where people live and work.</i>
Single Farm Payment	<i>Resulting from the 2003 reform of the Common Agricultural Policy – CAP – which allows for a single farm payment for EU farmers independent from production.</i>
Site of Special Scientific Interest	<i>Area identified by English Nature under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 for protection by reason of the rarity of its nature conservation, wildlife features or geological interest.</i>
Sites and Monument Record	<i>A database of sites of archaeological interest and potential within a particular area, usually a county.</i>
Special Wildlife Sites	<i>Categorisation developed by County Wildlife Trusts to identify the best places for wildlife outside legally protected areas.</i>
Structure Plan	<i>A statutory plan setting out key strategic policies which provide the framework for more detailed policies in local plans. ODPM</i>
Sudden Oak Death	<i>Popular name given to the fungus <i>Phytophthora ramorum</i>, which infects foliar (leaf) hosts such as <i>Rhododendron</i> and <i>Viburnum</i> and fatally infects bark canker hosts, principally oaks. First identified in Germany in 1993, and then US in 2001, SOD possibly threatens a number of British Deciduous varieties.</i>
Supplementary Planning Guidance	<i>Guidance on specific planning issues which adds detail to policies in the local plan.</i>

Sustainable Development	<p>Means meeting four objectives at the same time in the UK and the world as a whole:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social progress that meets the needs of everyone; • Effective protection of the environment; • Prudent use of natural resources; and • Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment. <p>- HM Government's Sustainable Development Strategy (DETR 1999)</p>
Tranquil Areas	<p>Mapping jointly published by CA and CPRE identifying areas of tranquillity.</p>
Tranquillity	<p>Composite feature which seeks to characterise elements of wildness, solitude, peace and quiet, relating principally to low levels of built development, traffic, noise and artificial lighting.</p>
Unimproved Grassland	<p>Grassland consisting of native grasses and herbs which have not been significantly affected by treatment with mineral fertilizers, pesticides, intensive grazing or drainage.</p>
Unitary Development Plan	<p>A local plan produced by certain unitary district authorities which have responsibility for the full range of local authority services.</p>
United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan	<p>Launched in 1994 by UK government in response to Article 6 of the Biodiversity Convention establishing 5 principles for biodiversity conservation in the UK and outlined 59 broad activities for conservation work over the following 20 years.</p>
Veteran Tree	<p>Tree which by virtue of its great age, size or condition, is of exceptional value whether in cultural terms, for its landscape contribution or for the benefit of wildlife.</p> <p>'Great age' is further defined as an individual tree older than half the natural lifespan for that species. EN</p>
Whole Farm Conservation Plans	<p>Plans that consider individual farms as a whole, producing tailor-made conservation plans considering farm type, location and any particular wildlife value, identifying adjustments to management practices that can significantly benefit wildlife. FWAG</p>

Wildlife Corridor	<i>A continuous feature, normally broadly linear, which facilitates the movement of wildlife through rural or urban environments. EEA</i>
Wildlife Enhancement Schemes	<i>Schemes applying to Sites of Special Scientific Interest, offering money for the maintenance and enhancement of the site's wildlife interest. Payments are available based on the cost of managing the land, or for capital works which will improve the land for wildlife. DEFRA</i>
Woodland Grant Scheme	<i>A scheme administered by the Forestry Authority to provide grants to help create new woodlands and to encourage the good management and regeneration of existing woodlands. DEFRA</i>

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This list has been compiled with the greatest possible care and attention to help inform the reading and interpretation of AONB Management Plans. Neither the AONB nor The Countryside Agency can be held responsible for any misleading or ambiguous statement or definition contained within the glossary.

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