

# NAAONB Update

## July 2015



11 High Street, Fairford, Gloucestershire GL7 4AD 07969 888823 [Jill.Smith@landscapesforlife.org.uk](mailto:Jill.Smith@landscapesforlife.org.uk) @NAAONB @AONBFamily

### Landscapes for Life Conference 2015

The NAAONB is pleased to be welcoming over 130 delegates to Winchester for **Landscapes for Life Conference 2015 “Sharing, Learning, Inspiring”**.

We are grateful to our sponsors [National Grid](#), [eftec](#), [Greentraveller](#) and [Craggatak](#) who make this event possible and we look forward to learning about how their collaborative work with AONB partnerships is helping to conserve and enhance our cherished landscapes. For more information see [A note from our supporters](#).

For those unable to join us in Winchester, please get involved by following proceedings on the conference blog [www.landscapesforlifeconference.org.uk](http://www.landscapesforlifeconference.org.uk)

### BBC Radio 4 File on Four’s Alun Urry investigates “How can we build more houses and still protect our landscape?”

The NAAONB were approached to give examples of the effect of the NPPF and increased planning and development applications within our protected landscapes. A BBC producer met with the NAAONB and a number of AONB Lead Officers at a meeting arranged by the NAAONB last month and we were able to assist in the collation of information to feed into the programme.

A recording of the programme, featuring North Wessex Downs AONB Director, Henry Oliver can be found on <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b05xggjy>

### AONBs and the LEPs network

Read about why Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) are important for the LEPs on <http://www.lepnetwork.net/blog/why-aonbs-are-important-to-the-leps/>

### Visitor Economy Briefing

VisitEngland has agreed to co-ordinate two briefings per year for the National Association for AONBs. The briefing is an opportunity to  
Share information and intelligence,  
Update on key tourism projects and initiatives of potential interest, and  
Update on any potential issues, challenges or opportunities.

For the summer briefing see [VisitEngland Visitor Economy Briefing](#)

### Funding towards new light pollution maps – can your AONB help?

Many of you will be familiar with the Campaign to Protect Rural England’s (CPRE) maps of light pollution which were published in 2003. The data revealed that light pollution increased by 26% in England and 24% across the United Kingdom as a whole between 1993 and the year 2000.

The most recent dataset for 2014 is now available and CPRE is hoping to secure funding to commission new light pollution maps of England. The new data and maps would be an important baseline for mapping change over time, could be incorporated into AONB Management Plans and support applications for Dark Sky status. CPRE is looking for ‘expressions of interest’ from AONBs who would like to contribute a small amount of funding towards the project. CPRE plans to apply for the bulk of the funding from Trusts (the project would cost £36k in total) and at this stage, they would just like to get a sense of the interest amongst AONBs. Please contact Emma Marrington for more information [emmam@cpre.org.uk](mailto:emmam@cpre.org.uk)