



High Weald AONB Management Plan 2014-17

Monitoring the Condition of the AONB & the Performance of the AONB Management Plan

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For further information please contact

High Weald AONB Unit
Woodland Enterprise Centre
Hastings Road
Flimwell, East Sussex
TN5 7PR
01424 723011



Introduction

The High Weald Management Plan is a 20 year strategy which identifies and describes the character of the components which comprise *natural beauty*, as well as providing clear objectives for their management and condition. Accompanying 'indicators of success' for each objective identify how success might be monitored and set the preferred direction of travel. Targets suggest priority actions or activities that might contribute to success and indicate milestones that are achievable within the Plan's five-year period. This report considers the progress of the Plan towards its objectives and the condition of the key components of the High Weald's natural beauty.

Current methods for landscape condition monitoring tend to be based on measureable indicators supported by nationally or locally collected data sets. Natural England provides national data sets for each AONB and those compiled for the High Weald AONB are shown in Appendix A at the end of this document. Although useful indicators of the health of some habitats, the data does not relate directly to the components of natural beauty, does not illuminate the mechanisms that are driving change nor judge whether that change is 'good' or 'bad'. Inevitably national data sets are vulnerable to the vagaries of cost, sampling method and subjective assessment of threat, risk and value. Even where they provide a useful proxy for landscape condition, they tend to demonstrate what has happened rather than what might happen in the future.

Condition monitoring

The High Weald Management Plan uses a qualitative approach to condition monitoring, seeking to gain insights into the state of the components of natural beauty and an understanding of the underlying causes of landscape change in order to develop better management policy. This approach recognises that landscapes are complex systems in a state of continuous change. Where available national and local data sets are considered as part of the evidence base but the method focuses primarily on individual observations, expert judgement and focus groups to assess the current state of the landscape, the drivers for change and their likely future trajectory. The decision to use expert judgement rather than quantitative data – such as GIS data – was taken in part due to the lack of relevant, high quality, repeatable datasets with AONB wide coverage. The AONB is judged to be in '**good**' condition if the current extent and character of the components of natural beauty is maintained and the drivers for change are moving in the appropriate direction. The AONB may be judged to be in '**poor**' condition if the drivers for change are moving the components in the opposite direction to the objectives and/or if current interventions or influences are considered unable or unlikely to reverse the trend.

Performance monitoring

Measuring the Plan's 'performance' is complex. As a strategic policy document the Plan is reliant for its delivery on influencing the actions and resources of stakeholders - local authority partners, the High Weald Joint Advisory Committee, Government departments, landowners, communities, businesses, individuals and others. However, an indication of the contribution made by the Plan towards ensuring the components of natural beauty remain in 'good' condition (the Plan's 'performance'), may be gauged by assessing progress towards the Plan's objectives through the achievement of Plan targets and 'Indicators of Success'.

Condition Monitoring: Results

The overall state of the AONB remains average or good (30% - good, 35% - average). The remainder (35%) is however in a poor state and this remains a cause for concern and future action. Only 18% of the landscape is in a stable condition, with under two thirds (58%) under threat. 24% is vulnerable or declining i.e. at great risk. While the overall condition is reasonably good, most of the landscape is under threat or at a severe risk of being damaged or its condition deteriorating.

Urgent and deliberate action and intervention to mitigate for these threats and vulnerabilities is urgently required to continue to conserve and enhance this landscape.

Condition	Threat level	Component sub-element	
Poor	Vulnerable	agriculturally productive fields unimproved and semi improved grassland	
	Under threat	river catchments climate change routeway ecology timber economy	
	Stable		
Average	Vulnerable	dispersed settlement & farmsteads woodland ecology	
	Under threat	historic built form archaeology field and heath	
	Stable	reconnecting settlements tracks and paths	
Good	Vulnerable		
	Under threat	sandrock woodland archaeology historic field boundaries heathland	
	Stable	woodland extent	

Component		Sub element	condition assessment
Geology, landform, water systems & climate	G1	River Catchments	'Poor' condition and 'under threat'
	G2	Sandrock	'Good' condition but 'under threat'
	G3	Climate Change (CC)	'Poor' condition and 'under threat'
Settlement	S1	Reconnect settlements with surrounding countryside	'Average' condition 'stable'
	S2	Dispersed Settlement Pattern incl. Historic farmsteads	'Average' condition but 'vulnerable'
	S3	Historic Built Form	'Average' condition but 'under threat'
Routeways	R1	Tracks and paths	'Average' condition and 'Stable'
	R2	Ecology of routeways	'Poor' condition and 'under threat'
Woodland	W1	Woodland extent	'Good' condition and 'stable'
	W2	Woodland ecology	'Average' but 'vulnerable'
	W3	Woodland archaeology	'Good' condition and 'under threat'
	W4	Timber economy	'Poor' Condition but 'under threat'
Field and Heath	FH1	Agriculturally productive use of fields	'Poor' and 'vulnerable'
	FH2	Historic field boundaries	'Good' condition but 'under threat'
	FH3	Unimproved & semi improved grassland	'Poor' condition and 'vulnerable'
	FH3	Heathland	'Good' condition and 'under threat'
	FH4	Archaeology of field and heath	'Average' condition and 'under threat'

Condition Monitoring: Supporting Evidence

Source – Expert witness and technical working groups held summer 2017

Selected national data sets

Local data sets

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
G1: River catchments	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ghyll water systems identified but not well managed River catchments known, mapped & actively managed by Environment Agency. Extensive legislation and licences protects use and management. May not be delivering AONB objectives due to the type and form of management used Water courses and streamside habitat are under threat from Himalayan Balsam – grazing cattle may be an effective control option in the right place <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing extraction, flood risk (erosion), pollution (point source, such as overflowing septic tanks, and diffuse, such as runoff from arable fields), & general pressure on water resources Continuing interventionist catchment management by EA incompatible with AONB Vulnerable smaller water courses potentially more likely to meet AONB objectives due to the lower active management of them, their remoteness and small scale Increasing threat to small water course from contamination (fly tipping) silting and blockage, and general neglect as they are no longer agriculturally managed. New Water Framework Directive (WFD) - Catchment Management Plans introducing a more sensitive and appropriate level of management Increasing threat of climate change leading to dryer more volatile conditions, sea level impacts on estuaries 	<p>‘Poor’ condition and ‘under threat’</p> <p>The major river catchments are well understood and actively managed by the Environment Agency, however practice is not generally compatible with AONB objectives. Condition is controlled but not ideal in approach. Ghyll streams are more vulnerable and less well ‘policed’ and vulnerable from neglect. CMP are beginning to have a positive effect.</p> <p>There is a threat to landform and water courses from agricultural practices by repeatedly ploughing soil downhill when following the contours and causing erosion and stream pollution when they plough across contours</p>

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
G2: Sandrock	<p>Current knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological interest of main sites well mapped and significant ones notified as SSSI's therefore condition is monitored • 17 outcrops listed for their geological interest • Clear code of practice exists on managed sites with high recreation pressure • Wider occurrence of cryptogams (mosses, lichens and filmy ferns) less well mapped • Better understanding of geology leading to better advice and recording <p>Drivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing demand for sandstone for building and restoration likely to continue due to local distinctiveness meaning increased mineral extraction. • Increasing popularity of outdoor climbing in the South East leading to recreation pressure on smaller sites • Continuing threat from rhododendron encroachment in absence of large scale programmes for removal • Rising carbon emissions leading to climate uncertainty particularly warmer drier summers and increased rainfall threatening available microclimates for cryptogams 	<p>'Good' condition but 'under threat'</p> <p>Geology is a stable component but the ecological value of sandstone outcrops and gill streams is vulnerable to change.</p> <p>Climate is a significant variable into the future but its impact on the components is hard to predict with certainty.</p>
G3: Climate	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CC is little understood in terms of the impact on the components of natural beauty • Known affects may include sea level rise, hotter drier conditions and wetter and more extreme weather events • distinction between responding to methods to <i>mitigate</i> against climate change, and actions to <i>adapt</i> to effects of climate change is important • need to recognise that actions to mitigate against, and adapt to, CC can be just as damaging to the landscape as the effects of climatic changes themselves <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survival most species native to the High Weald will survive or adapt to the predicted temperature changes • Vulnerable specialist or localised habitats, e.g. liverworts or sandrock micro-habitats, may not survive • Increasing risk from mitigation systems that may alter management practice & threaten traditional management practices and features • Increasing challenge from biofuel crops that threaten field boundaries and small scale farming practices • Increasing or high demand for renewable sources e.g. woodfuel that create pressure on existing uses and resources 	<p>'Poor' condition and 'under threat'</p> <p>Management policies and approaches should be seeking more sustainable and low carbon impact solutions to contribute to offsetting the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Little detailed knowledge of the impacts and threats from climate change, and confusion between mitigation and adaptation and the appropriate responses.</p>

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
S1: Reconnect settlements with surrounding countryside	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mixed use of farmsteads, style and type of occupation Barriers to local supply Changing leisure patterns Retail economics Affordable housing <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing demand and knowledge/aspiration of residents Increasing local farmers markets Increasing educational influencing young generation Increasing woodfuel local renewables Decreasing affordability of housing Rising profile of sustainable (local) lifestyles 	<p>‘Average’ condition ‘stable’/‘under threat’</p> <p>Desire for rural quality of life and personal privacy are threats to a connected rural community. Climate change and local supply green awareness are all helping to educate and raise awareness of what the local environment can supply.</p> <p>However economic and service supply trends present considerable barriers to achieving a local lifestyle based on rural services.</p>
S2: Dispersed Settlement Pattern	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate ‘sustainable’ development policy (key settlement) Significant stock of farmsteads unconverted and vulnerable to inappropriate development Poor response to local distinctiveness Settlement is well mapped with clear hierarchies and types of settlement and boundaries Key settlement planning threatens to isolate and marginalise rural settlement by assuming they are inherently unsustainable <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing threat of Sub-urbanization Increasing house building pressure Deterioration of stock from unsympathetic redevelopment Increasing house building pressure as well as Increasing market forces seeking residential uses in the countryside. Lack of understanding of settlement pattern within LPA’s creates a tension in development distribution. Inappropriate rural sustainable policy and affordable housing demand creates an alternative strategy for rural development. 	<p>‘Average’ condition but ‘vulnerable’</p> <p>Extensive loss of farmsteads to residential use has already occurred with a high proportion of very affluent owners. Farmsteads command very high market prices and lead to variable quality conversion and adaptation. Farmsteads are vulnerable to change and redevelopment and are at risk.</p> <p>Key settlement planning threatens to isolate and marginalise rural settlement by assuming they are inherently unsustainable. The High Weald retains a landscape of settlement pattern that is the most coherent surviving example of a medieval landscape this condition is threaten by the current policy direction</p>

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
S3: Historic Built Form	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving situation , increasing awareness and use of local materials (brick, timber etc) Increasing supply and improved technology increases the quality/character of local work Listed buildings and conservation areas protected but backlog of buildings at risk. Increased awareness and coverage of the HER <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing lack of good design skills Increasing range of buildings at risk and unlisted resource of historic buildings remain at high risk and vulnerable to incremental and small scale change Increasing threat from inappropriate development/redevelopment, poor designs Continuing challenge from contemporary & eco-friendly design solutions Lack of recording is diminishing the historic record and slowly taking away our knowledge of the built form 	<p>‘Average’ condition but ‘under threat’</p> <p>Current protectionist approaches to historic buildings concentrate on the architecture in isolation which helps to protect individual features but not the use and character of the historic stock. A wider appreciation of the role buildings play in the landscape and contribution to rural character will assist in raising the profile. Poor understanding at a local level leaves these features under threat</p>
R1: Tracks and paths	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improving understanding and knowledge of routeways historic background evidence being brought together and synthesised, and High Weald historic routeway network being set in the national context in-depth historic routeway character statement being produced appropriate management regime being developed through volunteer program better integration with Rights of Way teams and advice on diversions improving risk <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changing agricultural/land management activity threatens routeways Increasing recreational use placing an additional burden on existing and known routes. Inappropriate highway management quality where they coincide with rural lanes Increasing threat of small hard engineering and highway management systems Increasing highway improvements / access / junctions, kerbing and banking Inappropriate footpath diversion and rights of way management Increasing threat from uncontrolled loss and damage to unidentified features 	<p>‘Average’ condition and ‘Stable’</p> <p>Lack of understanding and appreciation means that features may be being affected or damaged in isolation. Recreational use is probably expanding and placing an additional burden on existing and known routes. Undirected highway management is a threat to the character and quality of routeways where they coincide with rural lanes, increasing threat of small hard engineering and highway management systems.</p>

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
R2: Ecology of routeways	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor understanding of local ecosystems Research project underway to survey and characterise routeways has improved our understanding Management of over-stood roadside coppice neglected <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of management Inappropriate small scale local action and incremental change Increasing long term threat from climate change affecting micro habitats 	<p>‘Poor’ condition and ‘under threat’</p> <p>Cutting of lane verges in spring/early summer is allowing large vehicles to ride the banks to pass each other and, because the cut is so severe, it destroys much of the floral diversity.</p>
W1: Woodland extent	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High level of protection and awareness and active involvement of government agencies Mapping of ancient woodland and PAWS more sensitive management systems in place. Many small woodlands remain isolated and unmanaged, directed management. <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving public engagement and appreciation of woodland Increasing impacts of wood fuel Increasing threat of mechanisation and impact on forestry skills and management practices Increasing threat from pests and diseases 	<p>‘Good’ condition and ‘stable’</p> <p>High profile of woodland and planning protection for ancient woodland has minimised losses.</p>
W2: Woodland ecology	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General good woodland conditions but un-managed for specific species Lack of financial incentives – market of subsidies/grants – to stimulate widespread active woodland management Lack of variety in habitats Poor management leading to neglected habitats <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing mechanisation and inappropriate management regimes that may lead to grubbing up and damage to habitats Increasing uncertainty over future woodland grant scheme funding as a result of Brexit Improving sector with a good profile and strong active management regimes and supporting industry 	<p>‘Average’ but ‘vulnerable’</p> <p>Undermanaged/unmanaged status of the majority of woods in the High Weald, dramatic fall in woodland bird populations.</p>

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
W3: Woodland archaeology	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeology is a major driver of change in woodland and a key impetus on owners to improve management systems • Lidar survey improving knowledge and HER • Additional surveys and projects have greatly improved understanding and awareness <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing mechanisation and inappropriate management regimes that may lead to grubbing up and damage to woodland archaeology. • Increasing awareness and knowledge of these issues 	<p>‘Good’ condition and ‘under threat’</p> <p>Growing awareness and local action with dedicated local groups but lack of recording and official recognition leaves it vulnerable</p>
W4: Timber economy	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing and growing market for wood products, principally woodfuel, • changing market forces places challenges and threats on woodlands • potential for clear felling or replanting making small woodlands in particular vulnerable to change from market forces <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing mechanisation • Regulated industry • Increase in FCS certified timber • Increase in woodfuel demand • Decreasing skills base • Decreasing capital investment 	<p>‘Poor’ Condition but ‘under threat’</p> <p>Poor economic conditions in recent years with currently improving prices and market conditions, a changing situation.</p>

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
FH1: Agriculturally productive fields	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decline in agricultural ownership • Falling farm incomes • Economic vulnerability • Supply to local markets • Structural changes in industry • Significant uncertainty in terms of future governmental support for the agricultural sector <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing economic pressures • Increasing uncertainty over future of Countryside Stewardship and Single Farm Payment schemes following Brexit negotiations • Increasing uncertainty over the availability of labour • Changing crop values • Challenge of Bio fuels and other case crops • Decreasing value of traditional produce 	<p>‘Poor’ and ‘Vulnerable’/‘Under Threat’</p> <p>Changing economics of farming make this a very challenging time for the efficient and economic use of farmland and the future is highly changeable.</p> <p>Brexit has introduced a significant extra degree of uncertainty as support previously provided through the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is no longer guaranteed. This is especially troubling given the Single Farm Payment alone provides close to 100% of the financial return to farmers on small mixed farms, highlighting just how vulnerable they are to a significant reduction, or even loss, of such support.</p>
FH2: Historic field boundaries	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known loss and under threat • Boundaries highly vulnerable to changing farming practices and land holding changes – • Fragmentation and breaking up of holdings. • Better understood and mapped resource needing greater management guidelines to support practice <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreasing management • Lack of understanding • Poor archaeological record 	<p>‘Good’ condition but ‘under threat’</p> <p>Substantial survival but not well understood or appreciated in policy</p> <p>A significant threat to these boundaries is probably where they are (or become) part of a domestic curtilage, and are outside the scope of the Hedgerow Regs.</p>

Assessment of current knowledge of condition and trajectory of drivers for change		Summary condition assessment
FH3: Unimproved grassland	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Known loss of unimproved meadows, highly vulnerable feature, very hard and uneconomic to maintain poor landowner appreciate and understanding of management Large block management has broadly been secured but smaller scale elements under threat and will be lost either through neglect and reversion of active management change <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing vulnerabilities to markets Increasing uncertainty over future of Countryside Stewardship Reducing funds from existing Stewardship Decreasing grazing stock – sheep & cattle – continues to be the long-term trend 	<p>‘Poor’ condition and ‘vulnerable’</p> <p>Changing agricultural practices and economy reducing the economic incentives for the management and the productive use of small scale fields.</p> <p>A rise in the ownership of unimproved grassland intended for leisure use, rather than traditional management (i.e. grazing), is also a potential issue; although it can be a positive force if harnessed through good land management advice and support</p>
FH3: Heathland	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of major heaths is good and protection and awareness is good Small isolated fragments of heathland highly vulnerable and under decline Large heathland areas well protected and under appropriate management e.g. Ashdown Targeted funding on major heaths through Countryside Stewardship Smaller scale elements under threat and will be lost either through neglect and reversion of active management change Nitrogen levels and traffic impacts on Ashdown Forest breach Appropriate Assessment levels <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing vulnerabilities to markets Decreasing grazing stock Increasing damage from pests (grey squirrel, fallow deer) 	<p>‘Good’ condition and ‘under threat’</p>
FH4: Archaeology	<p>Current Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significantly under threat and not appreciated, highly vulnerable to changing farming practices and land holding changes – Fragmentation and breaking up of holdings. Better understood and mapped resource needing greater management guidelines to support practice <p>Drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing mechanisation and inappropriate management regimes that may lead to grubbing up and damage to features 	<p>‘Average’ condition and ‘under threat’</p> <p>Lack of recording and profile of these features make them highly vulnerable and are also very sensitive to changes in farming practices and mechanisation. Awareness is increasing but no adequate protection or recognition</p>

Performance monitoring: Results

Method

The first step involves individual AONB Unit officers undertaking a systematic review of the direction of travel for each of the IoS and achievement of targets listed in the 2014-2019 Management Plan, assigning scores to each IoS using the following scoring system:

↓ declining (0 points), ~ no change (1 point), ≥ minor improvement (2 points), ↑ improving (3 points), √ partially met (4 points), ☺ currently met (5 points).

The scores are discussed and amended as a group. The second stage involves engaging a range of external experts through a series of workshop events. These events are themed by character component and experts attend the event(s) most relevant to their specialist knowledge. The views gathered at these events are then used to inform the scores initially assigned by the AONB Unit. In this way alterations are made where necessary and the robustness of the scores thereby increased.

Results

Geology

In 2017 % achievement of geology indicators of success have returned to the 2009 baseline level of 60%, dipping in the intervening years (i.e. 2010 to 2012) to 49%.

Settlement

% achievement of the Settlement indicators of success increased steadily from 2009 to 2012 (going from 40% to 60%), but declined sharply to their lowest level in 2017 at 25%.

Routeways

For Routeways, % achievement indicators of success again increased steadily between 2009 and 2012 (going from 24% to 40%), but unlike Settlement maintained this increase in 2017 by remaining at 40%.

Woodland

Between 2009 and 2017 % achievement indicators of success for Woodland increased by 17%, from 55% in 2009 to 72% in 2017. This, however, masks a slight dip in % achievement between 2012 and 2017 of 8% (going from 80% in 2012 to 72% in 2017).

Field & Heath

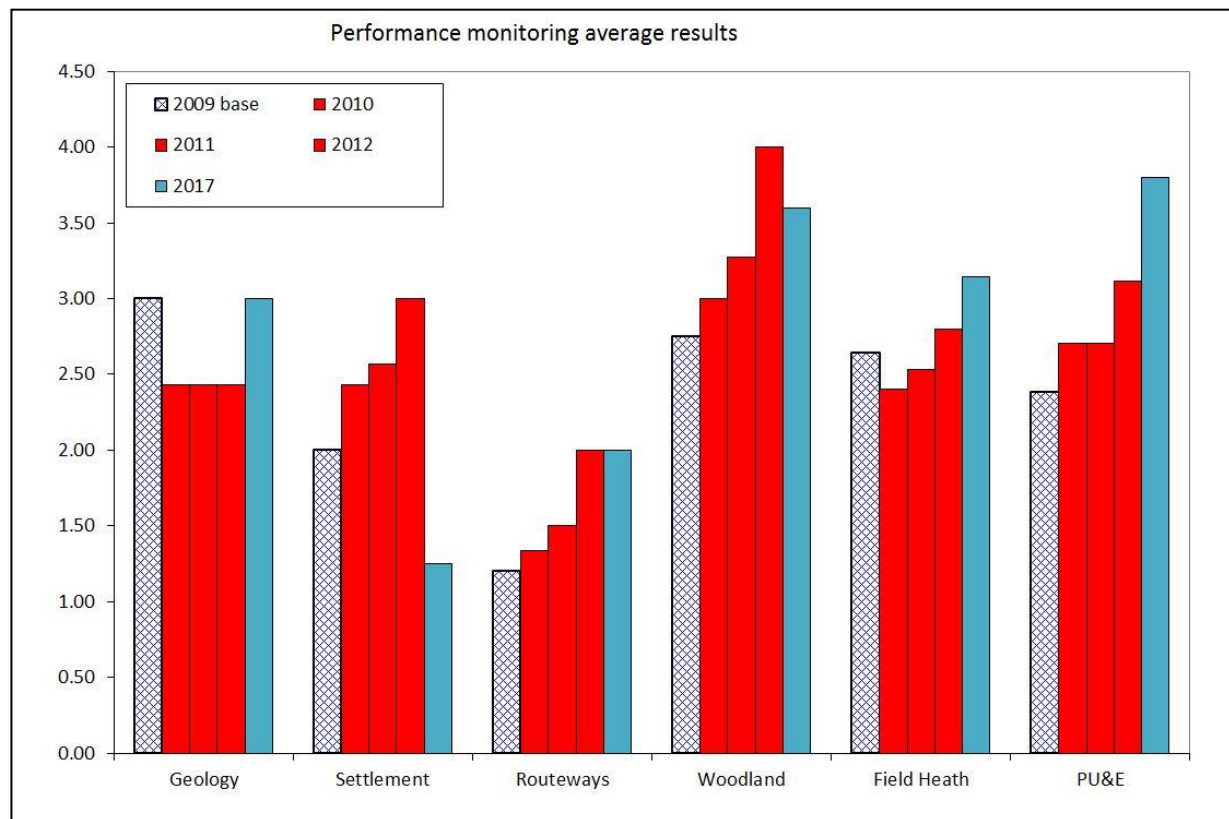
% achievement of the Field & Heath indicators of success have undergone a 10% increase between 2009 and 2017, going from 53% in 2009 to 63% in 2017. During the intervening period there were some fluctuations (with dips to 48% and 51% in 2010 and 2011 respectively), but over the entire period the overall trend has been an increase.

PU&E

PU&E has experienced the largest improvement between 2009 and 2017, going from 48% to 76% achievement indicators of success - i.e. an increase of 28%. This increase has also experienced no decline since the 2009 baseline.

Overall

Based on average scoring across all indicators the results show a slight decline since the last assessment in 2012, from 58% to 56% in 2017. However, this should be placed in the context of a generally improving picture since the 2009 baseline, with aggregate averages across all indicators up 9%, from 47% in 2009 to 56% in 2017 – an increase of 9%. Overall, therefore, the plan continues to steadily meet its own indicators of success.



Performance Monitoring: Supporting Evidence

Indicator of Success (IoS) assessment (↓ declining, ~ no change, ≥ minor improvement, ↑ improving, √ partially met, 😊 currently met, ND = No Data).

NB: Greyed out boxes highlight indicators of success that were dropped from the 2014 Plan. Olive green boxes highlight indicators of success that did not appear in the 2009 Plan but are new to the 2014 Plan. Where an indicator of success has been modified from the 2009 Plan to the 2014 Plan, both versions are included and respective dates indicated. However, where this occurs the indicators of success are considered sufficiently similar to be directly comparable and the two versions are provided simply for reference.

Objectives			Indicators of success	2009	2010	2011	2012	2017
G1	To restore the natural function of river catchments	i)	reduction in the rate at which flood waters pass down the middle and upper reaches of the AONB’s catchments, and reduction of sediment	~	~	~	~	≥
		ii)	shift in the balance between the quantity of floodwater conveyed directly to the outfalls and the quantity diverted into temporary storage on floodplains	~	~	~	~	≥
G2	To protect the sandstone outcrops and other important geological features of the AONB	i)	no change in extent of sandstone outcrops from 2012 baseline (2014 Plan)/ no loss of sandstone outcrops (2009 Plan)	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
		ii)	favourable ecological condition achieved at important sandstone outcrops (2014 Plan)/favourable condition achieved at important outcrops including Hastings Cliffs SAC (2009 Plan)	😊	😊	😊	😊	√
G3	Climatic conditions and rates of change which support continued conservation and enhancement of the High Weald's valued landscape and habitats	i)	a low carbon economy in the High Weald	ND	≥	≥	≥	≥
		ii)	adoption of appropriate land management practices in place that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and store carbon	ND	≥	≥	≥	↑
		iii)	land management systems flexible and responsive to the changing conditions associated with a warming and less predictable climate	ND	~	~	~	N/A
Objectives			Indicators of success	2009	2010	2011	2012	2017
S1	To reconnect settlements, residents and their supporting economic activity with the surrounding countryside	i)	better understanding of the role of dispersed settlement in sustainable management of the AONB	≥	√	√	😊	N/A
		i)/ii)	increase in the range of skills and economic activity related to local landscape products	~	≥	≥	≥	≥
		ii)/iii)	facilitation, through farm diversification and other mechanisms, of affordable workspace and yards supporting land based economic activity (2014)/a reversal of the decline in farmsteads engaged in land based economic activity (2009)	ND	~	≥	≥	~

S2	To protect the historic pattern of settlement	i)	better understanding of the capacity for change within historic farmsteads and small settlements	ND	√	√	☺	N/A
		i)/ii)	development schemes respecting and reinforcing the historic settlement pattern	ND	≥	≥	≥	~
		ii)	increase in character-based evidence and guidance informing development proposals and enhancing the design of rural development	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	↑
S3	To enhance the architectural quality of the High Weald	i)	improvement in condition and setting of historic environment	≥	≥	≥	≥	N/A
		i)	increased uptake of building conservation advice and advice; on layout and spaces reflecting High Weald character	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	~
		ii)	wider use of local materials in development (2014)/better design of new buildings and alterations, and wider use of locally-sourced materials (2009)	≥	≥	≥	↑	~
Objectives			Indicators of success	2009	2010	2011	2012	2017
R1	To maintain the historic pattern and features of routeways	i)	increased protection for the best preserved examples of networks of historic routeways (2014)/increased protection for and awareness of the best preserved examples of networks of historic routeways (2009)	~	≥	↑	√	√
		ii)	historic street furniture retained	~	~	~	~	N/A
		ii)	reduction in footpath diversions along ancient routeways	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		iii)	the undeveloped nature of rural lanes maintained	~	~	~	≥	~
		iv)	increase in non-motorised use of rural lanes and tracks	ND	~	~	~	N/A
R2	To enhance the ecological function of routeways	i)	favourable ecological condition achieved along routeways	≥	≥	≥	≥	N/A
		i)/ii)	increase in highway management schemes tailored to the needs of species rich road verges (2014)/better protection secured for routeways of ecological value (2009)	~	~	~	≥	~
Objectives			Indicators of success	2009	2010	2011	2012	2017
W1	To maintain existing extent of woodland and particularly ancient woodland	i)	no further loss of ancient woodland from 2004 baseline; (including woodlands under 2ha now identified in the Revised Ancient Woodland Inventory completed in 2012 for the High Weald) (2014)/ no further loss of ancient woodland (2009)	☺	☺	☺	☺	√
W2	To enhance the ecological functioning of woodland at a landscape scale	i)	favourable condition for wildlife achieved in important woodland areas, focusing on appropriate management for key habitats and species	~	↑	↑	↑	N/A
		i)	increase in the proportion of ancient woodland designated as SSSI or equivalent	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	↑

		ii)	increase in connectivity	↑	↑	↑	√	N/A
		iii)	appropriate restoration of Plantations on Ancient Woodland	≥	√	√	😊	N/A
		iv)	increase in priority woodland sites under active management (2014)/increase in woodland sites under active management (2009)	ND	≥	↑	↑	↑
W3	To protect the archaeology and historic assets of AONB woodlands	ii)/i)	increase in woodland managers and contractors trained in woodland archaeology (2014)/increased identification, recording, management, promotion and understanding of woodland archaeology (2009)	~	≥	↑	😊	√
		ii)	improved management and understanding of the historic environment	~	↑	↑	√	N/A
		iii)	increase in appropriate level surveys within woodlands	ND	↑	↑	√	N/A
		i)/iv)	increase in Historic Environment Records (HER) records for woodland (2014)/increased number of HER records for woodland (2009)	ND	≥	↑	√	😊
W4	To increase the output of sustainably produced high-quality timber and underwood for local markets	i)	a growing woodland industry supporting sustainable woodland management within the AONB	√	√	√	√	N/A
		ii)	increase in number of skilled woodland workers	ND	≥	≥	≥	≥
		ii)	increase in residential dwellings utilising locally sourced wood fuel and/or timber in construction	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	≥
Objectives			Indicators of success	2009	2010	2011	2012	2017
FH1	To secure agriculturally productive use of the fields of the High Weald AONB, especially for local markets, as part of sustainable land management	i)	increase in local food produce and sustainably produced non-food products that add value to the farm-gate enterprise	≥	↑	↑	↑	N/A
		ii)	increase in environmentally responsible and biodiversity rich farming practices facilitating profitable farming enterprise	ND	↑	↑	↑	N/A
		ii)	increase in business activity and numbers of people employed in agriculture, horticulture and related business	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	~
		i)/iii)	increase in grazing animals (cattle and sheep) contributing to land management	ND	≥	≥	≥	↑
		iii)	capacity for land management maintained within existing farmsteads and small settlements	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	~
FH2	To maintain the pattern of small irregularly shaped fields bounded by hedgerows and woodlands	i)	increase in area covered by Environmental Stewardship for field boundaries, old meadows and pastures	ND	↑	↑	↑	N/A
		i)/ii)	existing extent of surviving historic field boundaries maintained (2014)/maintain extent of and prevent further loss or degradation of existing historic field boundaries (2009)	ND	√	√	√	√
		ii)/ iii)	no loss of historic small fields (2014)/increased protection for small fields (under 2ha) (2009)	ND	~	~	~	~

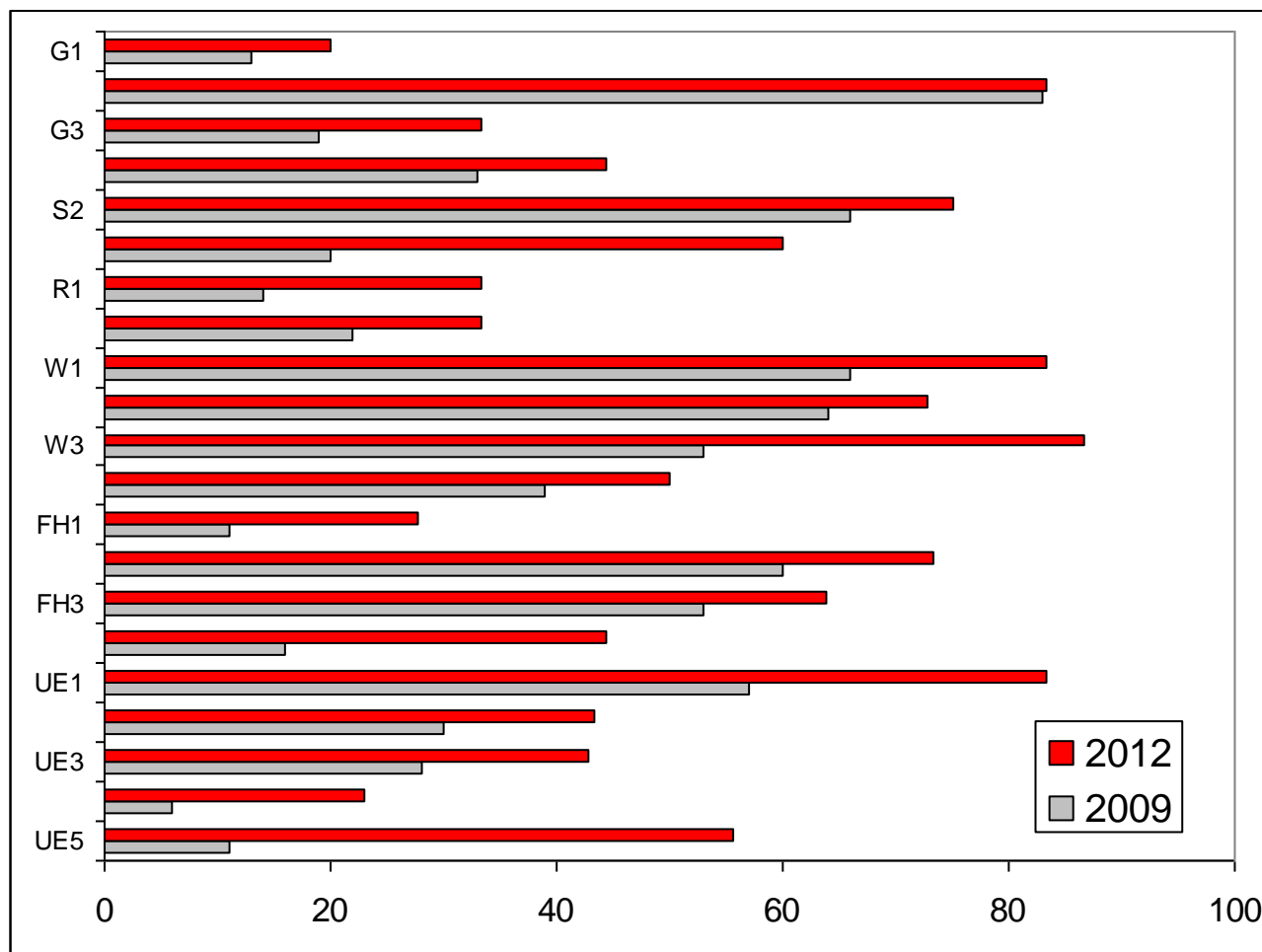
		iii)	Increase in hedges in appropriate management	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	↑
FH3	To enhance the ecological function of field and heath as part of the complex mosaic of High Weald habitats	i)/i)	no further loss or degradation of known unimproved grassland sites (2014)/maintain extent and prevent further loss or degradation of unimproved grassland and heathland (2009)	ND	≥	↑	↑	↑
		ii)	increase in all unimproved grassland and heathland sites in favourable condition	~	≥	↑	↑	N/A
		ii)	increase in area of enhanced flower rich grassland	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	≥
		iii)	traditional land management skills and practices retained	~	≥	≥	≥	N/A
		iii)/iv)	increase in proportion of national and locally designated sites important for grassland and heathland in favourable condition (2014) locally designated sites (e.g. SNCI, LWS, SINC) appropriately managed and expanded/enhanced (2009)	ND	≥	≥	↑	≥
FH4	To protect the archaeology and historic assets of field and heath	ii)/i)	increase in assessments of significance or management plans for individual sites (2014)/increased identification, recording, management, promotion and understanding of archaeology in field and heath (2009)	ND	≥	≥	↑	✓
		ii)	improved management and understanding of the historic environment	ND	↑	↑	✓	N/A
		iii)	increase in appropriate level surveys within field and heath	ND	≥	≥	≥	N/A
		i)/iv)	increase in archaeological surveys and Historic Environment Records (2014)/increased number of HER records for field and heath (2009)	ND	≥	≥	↑	😊
		v)	increase in Higher Level Stewardship agreements promoting historic environment	ND	↑	↑	↑	N/A
Objectives			Indicators of success	2009	2010	2011	2012	2017
UE1	To increase opportunities for learning about and celebrating the character of the High Weald	i)/i)	increased participation of residents in community events that develop an understanding of the rural environment (2014)/increased participation of residents in community events that develop understanding of the rural environment (2009)	≥	✓	✓	✓	✓
		ii)	increased amount of high quality (particularly character-based) AONB information and interpretation material	≥	✓	✓	✓	N/A
		ii)/iii)	increase in scope and coverage of character-based education and interpretation programmes and resources(2014)/increase in scope and coverage of character-based education programmes (2009)	↑	✓	✓	😊	😊
UE2	To increase the contribution of individuals to the conservation and enhancement of the AONB	i)	increased residents’ understanding of the positive role individuals can play in conservation of the High Weald	≥	✓	✓	✓	N/A
		ii)	increased action by local residents	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A
		ii)	increase in membership of local ecological or heritage recording groups	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	≥
		i)/iii)	increase in volunteering for countryside management activities	≥	✓	✓	✓	✓

			(2014)/increased residents' practical involvement in the care of the AONB (2009)					
		iv)	improvement in the maintenance of the rural character of AONB properties	~	≥	≥	≥	N/A
UE3	To increase community involvement in conservation and enhancement of the AONB	i)	communities actively identifying what they value and participating in setting priorities for its sustainable management	≥	≥	≥	↑	N/A
		i)	increase in community led initiatives related to AONB conservation such as local character studies or conservation projects	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	↑
		ii)	increased number of community led initiatives that enable sustainable patterns of behaviour	ND	≥	≥	≥	N/A
		iii)	community support to enable environmental projects in place across the AONB	≥	≥	≥	≥	N/A
		iv)	increase in number of schools signed up to High Weald Heroes and taking action	ND	√	√	😊	N/A
UE4	To develop and manage services that support informal open-air recreation to facilitate 'green' use by all residents and visitors (2014)/Integrated management of the infrastructure for informal open-air recreation to facilitate 'green' use by residents and visitors (2009)	i)	quality of the Rights of Way (RoW) network improved in areas close to towns, villages, visitor attractions and within AONB rural tourism hubs	≥	≥	≥	↑	N/A
		i)	County Countryside Access Improvement Plans prioritising AONB works in recognition of their national role in enabling access and leisure use	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	~
		ii)/ii)	increase in the range and extent of access opportunities to better meet the needs of the diversity of leisure users (2014)/increased range of high quality access opportunities that meet the needs of all users (2009)	≥	≥	≥	≥	≥
		iii)	development of key strategic links in the Rights of Way network for all walkers, cyclists and riders	~	~	~	≥	N/A
		iv)	improved links between promoted informal access opportunities and public transport provision	~	~	~	≥	N/A
		v)	integrated approach to the development and promotion of 'green' tourism	↑	↑	↑	↑	N/A
UE5	To promote the perceptual and aesthetic qualities that people value (2014)/To increase people's understanding of our shared cultural values and aspirations (2009)	i)/i)	baseline information in place on the special qualities residents and users of the AONB value (2014)/improved understanding of peoples experience of, and aspiration for, the landscape (2009)	ND	~	~	≥	↑

Plan 5 year Target scoring results

Each Target (5 YrT) in the plan has been assessed regarding any projects, activity or partner and stakeholder involvement that indicates whether the target is being achieved. The scoring is a simple and uses a 1-3 point scale for degree of success (1 = poor, 3=high). The total points scored and maximum score possible is calculated for each separate objective and a total score derived (see table below). Overall the plan is currently achieving a score of 51% completion of its targets, a 17% increase on the 2009 baseline.

Objective	scored	% (2012)	Change (2009-12)
G1	3 out of 15	20	+7
G2	5 out of 6	83	0
G3	7 out of 21	33	+14
S1	8 out of 18	44	+11
S2	9 out of 12	75	+9
S3	9 out of 15	60	+40
R1	7 out of 21	33	+19
R2	3 out of 9	33	+11
W1	5 out of 6	83	+17
W2	24 out of 33	73	+9
W3	13 out of 15	87	+34
W4	9 out of 18	50	+11
FH1	5 out of 18	28	+17
FH2	11 out of 15	73	+13
FH3	23 out of 36	64	+11
FH4	8 out of 18	44	+28
UE1	25 out of 30	83	+26
UE2	13 out of 30	43	+13
UE3	9 out of 21	43	+15
UE4	11 out of 48	23	+17
UE5	5 out of 9	56	+45
	212 out of 414	51%	+17%



Management Plan Objective		Targets for 2014 &2019	Score 2012	Score 2017
G1	To restore the natural function of river catchments	a)/a) Integrated water and land management strategies for river catchments within the AONB, identifying the potential for restoring natural functions and complementary with the Water Framework Directive (2014)/integrated water and land management strategies for river catchments within the AONB complementary with the Water Framework Directive (2009)	0	2
		d)/b) integration of AONB policy objectives with Environment Agency's River Basin Management Plans, Shoreline Management Plans and Water Companies' Water Resource Management Plans to ensure they fulfil their statutory duty to the AONB (2014)/provision of advice on the management of the AONB to ensure that River Basin Management Plans fulfil the Environment Agency's statutory duty (2009)	1	1
		b) Sites which demonstrate river restoration techniques developed and promoted	N/A	1
		f)/c) Land use measures fully attuned to the requirements of river restoration, contributing to an ecosystem services approach (2014)/land use measures fully attuned to the requirements of river restoration, contributing to ecosystem services (2009)	0	1
		d) one or more river restoration schemes delivered	1	N/A
		c)/e) review and supplement if necessary advice and support provided to ensure development and land management delivers sustainable water management (2014)/advice and support provided to land managers regarding sustainable water management (2009)	1	2
		e) integration of environmentally responsible water policy objectives into other policy area, such as the Common Agriculture Policy (including agri-environment schemes), water resource and land use planning to ensure a sustainable balance between water demand and supply	N/A	2
		g) consultation facilitated on medium and long term objectives for the lower reaches of the Rother and Brede.	N/A	2
G2	To protect the sandstone outcrops of the AONB	a)/a) no change in extent from 2004 baseline (2014)/No loss of sandstone outcrops (2009)	3	3
		d)/b) Integrated management plans in place for popular sandrock sites with vegetation management informed by the needs of key species; reflecting the views of all users and linked to climbing good practice guides(2014)/important outcrops identified and management plans produced that accommodate sensitive use for climbing where appropriate and reflect the sensitivity of sand rock communities to changing microclimate (2009)	2	2
		b) Environmental management plan for the Brightling Gypsum mine and works complex reflecting AONB priorities;	N/A	1
		c) A coordinated campaign to promote the unique geological heritage of the High Weald with publically owned sites providing a lead in line with Geodiversity Action Plan;	N/A	1
		e) Guidance provided to allow small scale utilisation of the geological resources of the High Weald where this does not damage the AONB.	N/A	1
G3	Climatic conditions and rates of change which support continued conservation and enhancement of the High	a)/a) Use of renewable energy appropriate to the local landscape encouraged (2014)/widespread use of renewable energy appropriate to the local landscape (2009)	0	2
		b)/b) Site specific design briefs for new development seeking zero carbon standards and use of materials with low embodied energy(2014)/new developments meeting carbon neutral standards (2009)	1	1

	Weald's valued landscape and habitats	c)/c) Support in place for businesses seeking to encourage the meeting of local needs through local networks (e.g. food, materials, energy) (2014)/wherever practical local needs (e.g. food, materials, energy) being locally produced (2009)	1	1
		d)/e) Guidance on transition to a low carbon landscape promoted (2014)/guidance on transition to a low carbon economy (2009)	1	1
		f) study to understand impacts of climate change on key AONB features (2009)	1	N/A
		g) guidance provided on the potential impact of mitigation and adaptation measures on the AONB	1	N/A
		e) Climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies taking account of AONB features	N/A	1
		h) enhanced existing ecological networks in the High Weald	2	N/A
Management Plan Objective		Targets for 2014 &2019	Score 2012	Score 2017
S1	To reconnect settlements, residents and their supporting economic activity with the surrounding countryside	a) partnership project to develop guidance for sustainable rural communities in areas of dispersed settlement	1	N/A
		a) Needs analysis to understand the built development requirements of land based and traditional craft businesses across the High Weald	N/A	1
		b) development of guidelines and active support for domestic scale renewable energy applications	2	N/A
		b) The important role land based enterprises play in maintaining the attractiveness of the South East Region as a location for business fully reflected in Local Enterprise Partnership programmes	N/A	2
		c) 15% growth in local food producers and outlets	1	N/A
		c)/d) The provision of affordable housing tailored to the needs of rural key workers embedded in housing policy and programmes (2014)/dedicated provision for affordable housing for key workers and, especially, land-based workers (2009)	1	1
		d) New initiatives and methods to reinforce or rebuild capacity for land management	N/A	1
		e) 15% growth in local goods and services derived from the landscape	2	N/A
		e) Opportunities for the imaginative re-use of rural buildings to be explored, including to revive local markets, support economic activity and provide seasonal outlets for local produce	N/A	1
		f) development of guidance directed at achieving mixed use settlements with capacity to respond to future demands for local food production and the processing of local landscape products for materials and energy use	1	N/A
		f) Community growing schemes; social forestry initiatives, and other activities promoting engagement with local land managers facilitated and supported	N/A	2
		g) Schools, colleges and public institutions in active partnership with local land based businesses e.g. supplying local food; wood fuel; utilising wood in construction or mentoring rural skills training	N/A	2
		h) Initiatives to improve rural settlements as habitats for wild species including support for wild flower gardening; bird and bat boxes to replace nesting sites lost from old farm buildings and information on managing land for invertebrates	N/A	1
S2	To protect the historic pattern of settlement	a) a study to identify and characterise small rural settlement	2	N/A
		a)/f)/b) Settlement character and relationships within the setting of the AONB, and crossing the AONB boundary, reflected in planning policy documents (2014)/Dispersed historic settlement character including their hinterlands, functional relationships and separation reflected in local development plan documents and supporting reports including green infrastructure strategies and landscape character assessments (2014/policy reflecting the distinctive settlement character of the AONB (2009)	2	1

		c) an awareness of historic settlement patterns influencing development decisions by Council or on appeal	2	N/A
		c) The preparation of local settlement form and building design studies facilitated for villages and small settlements without an Extensive Urban Survey, with support provided for community engagement	N/A	2
		b)/d) Guidance produced on re-use of historic farmsteads in the Weald (2014)/English Heritage guidance on re-use and redevelopment of historic farmsteads in the Weald adopted (2009)	3	2
		d) Investigate the incorporation of 'character' as a dimension within assessments of sustainable development	N/A	1
		e) Information on the historical development of settlements and their surrounding landscapes, including access to historic maps, readily accessible online	N/A	3
		g) Explicit regard to be given to the core components of natural beauty in the planning of development in and adjacent to the AONB	N/A	3
S3	To enhance the architectural quality of the High Weald	a) Request prioritisation of a review of listed buildings in the Weald with all historic rural and farm buildings to be included on the Historic Environment Register (HER) as heritage assets and provision of building conservation advice and funding support extended (2014)/recognition and inclusion of historic rural buildings in the HER and heritage designations (2009)	2	1
		b) guidance produced on historic built form and development respecting historic character	2	N/A
		b) Widespread use of local materials particularly timber (reflecting the tradition of timber frame building) in construction, with coordinated support for good design and specification; improving the supply chain and fusing traditional skills with new technologies	N/A	1
		c) Identify locally distinctive features in partnership with communities	2	N/A
		c)/d) Improved design quality supported by production of High Weald specific design guidance on built form, architectural detail, composition and layout of spaces, and local materials (2014)/Design guidance produced that enhances the public realm, promotes high specification design, local materials, local distinctiveness, best environmental practice and sustainable construction techniques (2009)	1	3
		d) Design of highways, hard landscaping and the Public Realm associated with development to have regard for local distinctive character and avoid over-suburbanisation	N/A	2
		e) craft skills to maintain historic features and buildings	2	N/A
Management Plan Objective		Targets for 2014 &2019	Score 2012	Score 2017
R1	To maintain historic pattern and features of routeways	a) the best examples identified through research project and protected through national heritage designations	2	N/A
		a) Baseline mapping of the ancient routeway network extended to cover public rights of way, private tracks and abandoned paths; utilising community initiatives where possible	N/A	3
		c)/b) Partnership working with Highways Authorities, parish councils and others to develop a design code for rural lanes promoting the use of characteristic boundaries and minimising the impact of intrusive highway engineering and signage (2014)/partnership working with Highways Authorities to develop a design code for rural lanes (2009)	0	1
		b) Formal identification of ancient routeways as a heritage asset within the planning system with the best designated for further protection at a local level	N/A	1
		c) historic routeways included in Rights of Way Improvement plans so that they become part of the overall access planning for the AONB	1	N/A
		d) A Weald wide initiative to support the retention and restoration of turnpike features (e.g. milestones, toll houses); finger posts and boundary stones (2014)/turnpike-related features (e.g. milestones) and timber finger posts identified, retained and maintained (2009)	1	2

		e) Study to identify the potential role of historic routeways in sustainable transport and communication planning including opportunities for 'shared space' initiatives and promotion of cycling as a mode of transport	1	N/A
		e) An understanding of ancient routeways and their associated settlements informing rights of way planning and management including footpath diversions	N/A	2
		f) new guidelines adopted by LAs throughout AONB to promote use of characteristic boundaries and the reduction of the impact of intrusive highway engineering and signage	0	N/A
		f) Archaeological research to better understand the origin and function of ancient routeways and their associated features	N/A	1
		g) archaeological research to understand the historic features of routeways and their conservation	2	N/A
		g) An awareness campaign targeted at all users of the network, motorised and non-motorised, to raise awareness of the sensitive character of ancient routeways	N/A	1
		h) Parish councils and community groups increasingly engaged in conserving and protecting ancient routeways	N/A	3
R2	To enhance the ecological function of routeways	a)/a) Community and expert led initiatives to identify the ecological features of routeways supported and baseline mapping of species rich routeway verges completed across the AONB (2014)/key types of ecological feature of routeways identified and guidelines for good management produced, promoted (2009)	2	1
		b) subsidy and support mechanisms targeted at ecology of routeways	0	N/A
		b)/c) A designation programme of roadside nature reserves or equivalent extended across the AONB with guidelines for their conservation and enhancement informing the actions of highways authorities, land owners and other managing agents (2014)/routeways of ecological importance identified and protected thru designations such as SNCI and designated verge (2009)	1	1
		c) The contribution ancient routeways make to a well-functioning ecological network, particularly for ancient woodland species, informing green infrastructure planning	N/A	1
		d) Partnership working with highways authorities, landowners and relevant experts to review and develop approaches to the management of roadside trees and overstood coppice	N/A	1
Management Plan Objective		Targets for 2014 &2019	Score 2012	Score 2017
W1	To maintain existing extent of woodland and particularly ancient woodland	a)/a) No loss of ancient woodland (2014)/no loss of ancient woodland from 2004 baseline (2009)	3	3
		b) planning applications complying with PPS9	2	N/A
		b) An understanding of the national value of the woodland network as a whole, with its density of core sites supplemented by mosaics of small sites, recognised in ecological network mapping, green infrastructure and carbon management strategies	N/A	2
		c) Any proposed increase in woodland cover to be informed by knowledge of the historical ecology of the landscape with small scale woodland creation buffering high value sites such as gills and enhancing landscape connectivity without 'cutting across the grain' of the historic landscape taking precedence over large plantations on historically open land	N/A	2
W2	To enhance the ecological functioning of woodland at a landscape scale	a) The extent of key woodland types and UK BAP priority woodland habitats identified and mapped	3	N/A
		a) Public bodies and charities owning woodland taking the lead, supported by targeted grant and advice mechanisms, in securing active management across large areas in multiple ownerships to i) maintain interconnected ride and open habitat systems across more extensive blocks of woodland particularly wooded heaths and ii) provide appropriate conditions to reverse the decline of key priority species such as the Pearl-bordered Fritillary	N/A	2
		b) appropriate advice and support mechanisms in place for key woodland habitats and species	3	N/A

		b) The under-representation of the High Weald's Ancient Semi-natural Ancient Woodland (ASNW) resource in the national network of protected sites, remedied through complexes of small ancient woodlands, either independently or in association with larger ancient woodlands, designated as SSSIs or equivalent with support for appropriate management	N/A	1
		d)/c) Integration of habitat, species and management data across the Weald and support for landscape scale programmes targeted to reverse the decline in key species and protect vulnerable habitats such as gill woodlands; wet woodlands; veteran trees; wood pasture and parkland (2014)/decline in key species reversed through landscape-scale species analysis, leading to focussed management in critical areas (2009)	2	2
		c) Active interventions in place to control rhododendron and eliminate it from the most sensitive sites e.g. gill woodlands, with public bodies and charities taking a lead	N/A	2
		d) relevant Habitat Action Plan commitments fulfilled by partner organisations	2	N/A
		e) landscape-scale management strategies for damaging and/or invasive species agreed	2	N/A
		f) supporting ecological information for Ancient Woodland Inventory sites registered with Local Record Centres	2	N/A
		f) Establishment of a long term ecological monitoring and research programme to assess the management status of woodlands, and the impact of pests and diseases such as Ash dieback; climate change; deer browsing pressure and increased mechanisation on the woodland resource to inform future policy	N/A	2
		g) identify key mechanisms for, and potential of, actions to increase habitat connectivity at a landscape scale	2	N/A
		g) Rural development support targeted at woodland businesses that can deliver small scale and sensitive management of ancient woodlands, with support also provided for businesses developing a supply of 'local seed' tree planting stock	N/A	2
		h) best practice forestry guidelines regarding implementation of EU habitat regulations (e.g. bats, dormice, newts)	2	N/A
		h) Planning policies and decisions taking account of the low resistance and longer recovery times of woodlands; recognising the significance of incremental damage from trampling and disturbance by livestock, machinery and recreational pressure	N/A	1
		e)/i) Continuing support for the restoration of planted ancient woodland sites (PAWS) building on the success of the High Weald Ancient Woodland Restoration Project with public bodies and charities taking a lead (2014)/90 % of PAWS sites being gradually restored and in grant schemes and/or with site management plans (2009)	2	3
		i) Woodland owners and managers, and woodland contractors able to access specialised advice and training to support management of sensitive ancient woodland habitats and associated species	N/A	2
		j) Promotion and advice in support of Forestry Commission grants and management plans in High Weald woodland.	2	N/A
		j) Felling licences and woodland grant schemes considering the potential impact on woodland ecology in the wider landscape, connected and adjacent woods as well as other habitats	N/A	2
		k) Application of research to understand the role of trees and woodlands in a changing climate and impact of climate change on them to land management policies and practices	2	N/A
		k) Application of Natural England's Standing Advice on Ancient Woodland applied across the AONB in all relevant land use decision making with a minimum 15m buffer ³³ and having regard for individual context	N/A	2
		l) Support for veteran tree surveys to establish a baseline for monitoring and protecting such trees	N/A	2
		m) Implement developing UK tree and plant health biosecurity policies and ensure effective liaison and communication between forest managers and plant health specialists	N/A	1
W3	To protect the archaeology and historic assets of AONB woodlands	a) system and processes established to identify and record archaeological sites found within woodlands	3	N/A
		a)/b) Support provided for archaeological survey and research to remedy the under-recording of the woodland archaeological resource and inform its future management; integration of woodland archaeology data with the	3	2

		Historic Environment Records (HER), and improved dissemination of information online (2014)/recording and inclusion of woodland archaeology (historic assets) in Historic Environment Record (2009)		
		b) Public bodies and charities owning ancient woodlands leading on proactively identifying and promoting the archaeology and historic assets of woodlands	N/A	2
		c) development of a research framework for understanding the contribution of woodland archaeology to inform future best practice for its management	3	N/A
		c) Training in soil conservation and woodland archaeology accepted by forestry bodies and land based training providers as a minimum standard for machinery operators in ancient woodlands	N/A	1
		d) to ensure that archaeological surveys are undertaken prior to projects and works in wooded sites.	2	N/A
		e) To undertake an assessment of potential registration of additional historic assets arising to meet the requirements of emerging heritage legislation	2	N/A
W4	To increase the output of sustainably produced high-quality timber and underwood for local markets	a) new products and markets developed for locally-sourced timber and underwood	2	N/A
		a) Public subsidy and support mechanisms for biomass and wood fuel tailored to the character of the High Weald, focusing on small scale residential and business log wood or mixed installations; local log wood networks and support for woodland businesses delivering sensitive management of ancient woodlands	N/A	2
		b) woodfuel and wood use marketing to connect local woodland owners with local demand	2	N/A
		b) The Deer Initiative expanded and effective deer control secured over large areas in multiple ownership with public bodies actively promoting venison consumption	N/A	2
		c) Coordination of woodfuel projects to maximise benefits and opportunities for sustainable woodland management	1	N/A
		c) Commitment by public bodies to promote and procure local wood products including chestnut fencing and timber in residential construction	N/A	1
		f)/d) Investigate and consult on possible control and eradication proposals for grey squirrels (2014)/landscape-scale strategies for pests and diseases such as grey squirrels agreed and implemented (2009)	1	1
		d) Support for innovation and product development focused on utilising small diameter hardwood and softwood thinning for higher value local uses	N/A	2
		e) appropriate training and apprenticeship schemes for woodland workers	2	N/A
		e) Coordination with other bodies to lobby for tighter controls on the global trade in plants and improve biosecurity measures to minimise pest and disease threats	N/A	1
		h)/f) Training geared to efficient coppice harvesting and utilisation; programmes expanded to facilitate farmers and growers utilising wood on the farm, and vocational training in schools and colleges to support careers in woodland management and timber processing (2014)/vocational training in schools and colleges to support careers in woodland management and timber processing (2009)	1	2
		g) A partnership between forestry bodies, planning authorities and rural development initiatives to provide business support, training and planning advice in an integrated manner with a joint initiative established to tackle housing and yard space affordability	N/A	1
		i) Baseline assessment of the state of the woodland industry undertaken with special attention given to coppice workers and the extent of coppicing activity	N/A	1
Management Plan Objective		Targets for 2014 &2019	Score 2012	Score 2017
FH1	To secure agriculturally productive use of the fields of	a) expansion of schemes that support sustainable farm-gate enterprise and profitability	1	N/A
		a) Rural development funds better focused on support for livestock farmers and businesses associated with livestock	N/A	2

	the High Weald AONB, especially for local markets, as part of sustainable land management	farming including new technologies, dedicated support for new entrants and an increase in support for the maintenance and reinstatement of livestock infrastructure such as fences and gates, with a requirement to utilise local timber		
		b) increase in cooperative enterprises such as farm machinery rings	0	N/A
		b) Support provided for industry initiatives to match graziers with rented grazing at sufficient scale and tenancy length to offer sustainable businesses that are attractive to young farmers and new entrants	N/A	2
		c) support and promotion of ecologically responsible farming and food production (e.g. local meat)	1	N/A
		c) Facilitation and encouragement provided for expansion in collaborative farming projects such as meat producer organisations; area networks for communal Stewardship applications and producer/processor collaborations	N/A	2
		d) active financial support of, and partnership working with, farmers markets, and other local food outlets	2	N/A
		d) A new High Weald initiative established integrating planning and land management support to foster small scale horticulture, community agriculture and innovative small scale processing activity	N/A	1
		e) Research to understand the role and needs of small producers, smallholders and part time farmers	1	N/A
		e) Local authority and public body purchasing protocols reviewed to favour purchasing of local land management products where possible	N/A	1
		f) schemes to increase the value of grazing livestock (e.g. marketing and branding to add value)	0	N/A
		f) Advice and assistance provided to small scale farmers and growers to help them utilise new media platforms to tell the landscape story of their products, and maximise niche marketing opportunities	N/A	2
		g) Communication networks improved between farming and non-farming landowners, government agencies and specialist advisors to facilitate rapid adaptive responses to external events such as new pest outbreaks, and help maximise efficient production within environmental constraints	N/A	2
		h) Wider benefits of permanent grassland and heathland recognised including soil conservation, carbon sequestration and water regulation and methods of valuing these services developed	N/A	2
		i) The importance of diversified income streams to economic viability of small farm holdings in the High Weald recognised in policy and support mechanisms	N/A	2
		j) Analysis of the built infrastructure needed to support profitable mixed farming in the High Weald informing planning decisions and pro-active assistance provided to existing markets, abattoirs and cutting rooms	N/A	1
		k) A network of open heathland and wooded heath sites of varying sizes established with Ashdown Forest at the core to champion sustainable heathland management in the face of declining subsidy	N/A	2
		l) Support for organic farming which has proven environmental benefits	N/A	1
FH2	To maintain the pattern of small irregularly shaped fields bounded by hedgerows and woodlands	a) ensure relevant features of field and heath are included within Environmental Stewardship targeting	2	N/A
		a) Historic boundaries and areas of surviving medieval field systems recognised as significant heritage assets with protection embedded in planning and rural development policy	N/A	2
		b) mechanisms and supporting advice to achieve appropriate long term land management (e.g. grazing animals)	2	N/A
		c) no loss or degradation of existing historic field boundaries and field patterns	3	N/A
		c) Information about historic boundaries including data and maps made available to all landowners and land managers	N/A	3
		d) development approved or refused by Council or on appeal based on status of historic field patterns	2	N/A
		d) A Weald-wide initiative established to record hedgerows; support hedgelaying and hedge management, and explore opportunities for the economic utilisation of hedge and boundary products including log wood, faggots and late summer fodder	N/A	2
		a)/e) Agri-environmental schemes and other support mechanisms revised to provide a higher level of support for	2	2

		surviving medieval field systems and historic boundaries (2014)/Surviving field systems and features identified by Historic Landscape Characterisation and other research informing Environmental Stewardship targeting and development control decisions (2009)		
FH3	To enhance the environmental function of field and heath as part of the complex mosaic of High Weald habitats	a) 100 % retention of unimproved and semi-improved grassland sites	2	N/A
		b) long term management of key heathland sites secured	3	N/A
		b) Renewed support for a Weald Meadows initiative to foster the economic management of flower-rich grasslands; secure the supply of Weald Native Origin Seed and promote the uptake of cost effective grassland enhancement schemes	N/A	2
		c) enhance, buffer and connect existing grassland sites using Weald Native Origin Seed where appropriate	2	N/A
		d) restoration of species rich grassland and heathland sites supporting national and local Biodiversity Action Plans	2	N/A
		d) Support provided for contractor training on conservation management techniques and use of specialist machinery	N/A	1
		h)/e) Targeted business and rural development support provided for specialist conservation grazing enterprises including small capital grants or loans, and support for product development and niche marketing (2014)/conservation grazing schemes promoted (2009)	2	1
		e) A campaign initiated to encourage non-farming owners to be less 'tidy' and manage fields for structural complexity and species diversity	N/A	1
		f) ecological habitat to assist vulnerable species adapt to climate change including connectivity beyond AONB	1	N/A
		f) Preparation of a High and Low Weald connectivity map to inform green infrastructure strategies and CAP targeting and greening measures, identifying location and management state of landscape elements that contribute significantly to soil, air and water quality and reversing biodiversity loss, such as permanent pasture; semi-natural habitats; land maintained out of production or managed for conservation purposes for continuous periods over successive years and longer established features that tend to have high biodiversity and carbon sequestration benefits	N/A	2
		g) advice and support promoting environmentally responsible farming practices	2	N/A
		g) Agri-environment schemes refocused to: i) better meet the needs of small scale mixed farms and focus on more extensive management of target features over larger patches of land, or groups of farms, to maximise biodiversity gain; resource protection, pollination and pest control benefits; ii) focus on buffering and connecting the core unimproved grassland sites, encompassing support for management of grass margins/ patches to benefit invertebrates including reducing fertilizer inputs, improving structural complexity and enhancing the variety and seasonal range of nectar and pollen bearing plants; iii) target support for heathland at large sites such as Ashdown Forest	N/A	2
		h) wider markets for meadow hay	1	N/A
		i) vocational training and long term support targeted at traditional land management skills	1	N/A
		i) Baseline mapping of all unimproved grassland and valuable species rich grassland completed with species recording carried out utilising experts and community initiatives where possible	N/A	2
		a)/j) Specialist advice provided to enhance the management of grassland for multiple benefits including expert advice on soil and nutrient management; agronomy; ponds and water courses; farmland birds and invertebrates; horse pasture management (2014)/expert advice on specialist habitats and features of the AONB made available to all land managers (2009)	3	2
		k) HAP targets achieved, including SSSI and SNCI/LWS/SINC commitments	2	N/A
		c)/l) SSSIs and locally designated sites important for grassland and heathland assessed and support tailored to securing favourable condition in line with Biodiversity 2020 targets (2014)/locally designated sites surveyed and	2	2

		support for appropriate management provided (2009)		
FH4	To protect the archaeology and historic assets of field and heath	a)/a) Recording and assessment of non-designated heritage assets carried out consistently across the High Weald, working with experts and community initiatives where possible, and contributing to a wider understanding of features such as historic parks and gardens; veteran trees; abandoned settlements; commons; military features; wharves and harbours (2014)/system and processes established to identify and record archaeological sites found within field and heath (2009)	2	2
		b) recording and inclusion of field and heath archaeology (historic assets) in Historic Environment Record	2	N/A
		b) Understanding of the historic role of small quarries and pits in the socio-economic development of the High Weald recognised and informing decisions on future small scale extraction required to repair heritage assets	N/A	2
		c) a single management plan produced for the Ashdown Forest	1	N/A
		d) To undertake an assessment of potential registration of additional historic assets arising to meet the requirements of emerging heritage legislation.	1	N/A
		e) archaeological features identified through Historic Landscape Characterisation and Historic Landscape Survey	2	N/A
		f) economic incentives to support sensitive fencing of historic boundaries	0	N/A
Management Plan Objective		Targets for 2014 &2019	Score 2012	Score 2017
UE1	To increase opportunities for learning about and celebrating the character of the High Weald	a) new character-focused AONB events established	3	N/A
		a)/b) Joint working between tourism, countryside, education and arts sectors to develop innovative, celebratory countryside events and competitions for a wider audience(2014)/joint working between tourism, countryside, arts and education sectors to develop a programme of AONB events (2009)	3	2
		b) Increase in landowner-led events that further understanding of land management	N/A	3
		c) new and stronger links established between land managers and the area’s residents and visitors	3	N/A
		d) information and interpretation guidelines for the AONB developed and promoted	2	N/A
		d) Parish websites and magazines highlighting AONB character components within their area	N/A	3
		e) organisations and visitor service providers actively providing information on, the AONB and its character	2	N/A
		e)/f) Increased promotion of the AONB story and special qualities in tourism sector marketing activities and promoted through countryside sites, attractions and visitor information centres (2014)/increased promotion of the AONBs local distinctiveness in tourism sector marketing activities (2009)	2	2
		f) Promotion of authentic experiences by the tourism sector based on local identity	N/A	2
		g) AONB profile raised at all major countryside sites, attractions and visitor information centres	2	N/A
		j)/h) Continuation of the AONB-focused primary school education programme, High Weald Heroes (2014)/High Weald character-based education resources developed and promoted to schools (2009)	3	3
		h)/i) High Weald introductory sessions/materials provided for training and education providers together with production of new videos and apps that promote AONB issues and development and promotion of character-focused heritage survey toolkits (2014)/new site-based education resources, in particular self led-activities for teachers (2009)	3	3
		i) AONB boundary project to raise awareness of the High Weald’s location and character	N/A	2
		j) development of High Weald character-based adult learning activities	2	N/A
		k) Increase in Learning Outside the Classroom activities, for example Forest Schools initiatives that utilise local woodlands to teach personal, social and technical skills	N/A	3
l) Continued coordination of support for green tourism and tourism businesses through joint protected landscape initiatives such as ‘Our Land’	N/A	3		

UE2	To increase the contribution of individuals to the conservation and enhancement of the AONB	a)/a) Awareness campaign focused on the Caring for the High Weald Charter issues and actions and support for projects that promote and enable residents and businesses to undertake such activities as: using less water; reducing, reusing, recycling (2014)/Caring for the High Weald Charter promoted to residents, visitors and businesses (2009)	3	1
		b) increased number of LA21 activities that make links to the AONB context as well as the global and local context	0	N/A
		b) AONB introductory information provided for new residents	N/A	1
		c) programme established to increase the links between consumers, local products and the High Weald landscape	0	N/A
		d) district and local projects that promote and enable residents and businesses to undertake such activities as: using less water; reducing, reusing, recycling etc.	0	N/A
		e) increase in direct purchasing of local products	2	N/A
		e) Support for charitable trusts that support AONB work, for example the High Weald Landscape Trust	N/A	3
		d)/f) Support for training events that offer opportunities for individuals to develop skills in countryside crafts; land management and heritage/ecological surveys and monitoring (2014)/development and promotion of a training and events programme that offers opportunities for all to develop skills in countryside crafts and management (2009)	1	2
		g) increase participation of residents in local and national wildlife surveys and monitoring	2	N/A
		h) improved control of invasive species	2	N/A
		c)/i) production of AONB guidelines on maintaining the rural character of properties (2014)/production and promotion of AONB guidelines on maintaining the rural character of properties (2009)	2	1
		j) loss of natural property boundaries halted	1	N/A
UE3	To increase community involvement in conservation and enhancement of the AONB	a) The role of existing consultation mechanisms, such as parish appraisals to facilitate this reviewed, and new mechanisms piloted where appropriate	2	N/A
		d)/b) Support for parish and other community group led initiatives to identify and conserve locally distinctive features and characteristic sites (2014)/new initiatives developed to assist the public express their knowledge and understanding of local distinctiveness (2009)	2	2
		b) Support for community initiatives to record the AONB and manage threats such as Ash dieback	N/A	2
		c)/c) Support and facilitation provided for community projects that support AONB management objectives such as changing the behaviour of drivers; encouraging responsible dog behaviour; encouraging use of public transport (2014)/community projects to change driver's attitudes and behaviours (2009)	0	1
		d) maintenance and increase in farmer's markets	1	N/A
		e) Increased community awareness and support for the High Weald Landscape Trust	2	N/A
		a)/f) Continuing support for community environmental projects and maintenance of AONB character-influenced grant schemes (2014)/Maintenance and development of AONB character-based grant schemes (2009)	2	3
		g) Countryside management services maintained and expanded	0	N/A
UE4	Integrated management of the resources for informal open-air recreation to facilitate 'green' use by residents and visitors	a) 100% of network in key areas meeting basic RoW standards	1	N/A
		a)/b) Quality of the Rights of Way (RoW) network prioritised in areas close to towns, villages, visitor attractions and within AONB rural tourism hubs (areas with a high concentration of visitor services and products) (2014)/20% of networks in key areas meeting higher standards (e.g. stiles replaced with kissing gates) (2009)	0	1
		b)/c) Public-sector promoted routes rationalised and updated against best practice criteria and maintained to high standards by Rights of Way teams (2014)/all promoted routes meeting higher route standards (2009)	0	1
		d) AONB promoted routes given high priority for appropriate maintenance in Rights of Way Improvement Plans	0	N/A
		d)/e) Consultation exercises undertaken to understand the needs of existing and potential leisure users leading to improved welcome and orientation information at countryside sites to meet the user needs (2014)/understanding of	1	2

		the needs of existing and potential leisure users through consultation exercises (2009)		
		e)/f) A coordinated approach to improving the number of access projects that meet the needs of users with impaired mobility (2014)/new promoted access opportunities for users with impaired mobility (2009)	1	2
		f)/g) Identification and promotion of viewpoints that enable appreciation of the High Weald landscape by people of all abilities (2014)/identification, development and promotion of High Weald viewpoints (2009)	0	1
		h) High Weald long-distance bridle route maintained	0	N/A
		i) SE Toll ride network expanded to create links and fill gaps in the bridleway network	0	N/A
		d)/j) Strategic gaps in the High Weald ROW network for walkers, cyclists and horse riders identified with joint working to develop projects that address strategic gaps (2014)/permissive paths and footpaths created to improve links between villages and attractions (2009)	0	1
		g)/k) A requirement for new, and encouragement for existing, accommodation providers and attractions to produce and implement 'green' travel plans (2014)/service providers producing and implementing 'green' travel plans (2009)	1	1
		l) information on public transport links provided for all visitor products	0	N/A
		l) Support for parish led initiatives to identify and conserve locally distinctive features	N/A	2
		j)/m) Joint working to produce visitor management plans for sensitive sites and areas, for example Ashdown Forest (2014)/visitor management plans produced for sensitive sites and areas (2009)	1	2
		m) Increase the variety of walking opportunities (self-guided and themed) to raise awareness of the positive health and wellbeing benefits of the AONB on your doorstep	N/A	1
		h)/n) Identification and promotion of themed High Weald character short breaks that can be taken using public transport (2014)/identification, development and promotion of a range of new AONB high quality visitor products (e.g. themed short break 'green' itineraries) (2009)	2	1
		k)/o) Networking events that enable sharing of best practice in the development of responsible tourism, behaviour of drivers; encouraging responsible dog behaviour; encouraging use of public transport (2014)/visitor business networks setting and achieving sustainable tourism objectives (2009)	2	2
		i)/p) Increase in service providers achieving Green Tourism Business Accreditation or similar (2014)/service providers achieving tourism industry quality standards, in particular Green Tourism Business Accreditation (2009)	2	1
UE5	To acknowledge and increase people's understanding of our shared cultural values and aspirations	a)/a) An understanding of cultural traditions that have shaped people's aesthetic appreciation of the landscape (2014)/an understanding of cultural and social landscape values (2009)	2	2
		c)/b) Guidance on the conservation and management of special qualities and locally valued features produced such as: • tranquillity and dark skies • protection of views and assessment of visual impact • historic features – abbeys, hop gardens etc. (2014)/guidance produced regarding locally important features such as • tranquillity, dark skies • visual impact • historic features – abbeys, hop gardens etc. (2009)	1	2
		b) Information on valued locally distinctive features generated by communities	N/A	2
		c) an understanding of historic landscape character and threat to historic features promoted	2	N/A
		d) Consultation exercises with residents, visitors and businesses to understand how people value the landscape	N/A	2
		e) Support for projects that enable people to develop joint visions for their local landscape	N/A	1

Appendix A:

Natural England protected landscape facts & figures for the High Weald AONB

Management and Protection of Archaeological / Historic Features under ES																
			ED4	ED5	HC12	HC13	HD2	HD3	HD4	HD5	HD7	HD9	OD5	OHD2	OHD5	Sum
AONB	Number of Agreements	GIS Area	Management of scrub on archaeological features	Management of archaeological features on grassland	Maintenance of wood pasture and parkland	Restoration of wood pasture and parkland	Take archaeological features out of cultivation	Low depth, non-inversion cultivation on archaeological features	Management of scrub on archaeological features	Management of archaeological features on grassland	Arable reversion by natural regeneration	Maintenance of designed/engineered water bodies	Management of archaeological features on grassland	Take archaeological features out of cultivation (Org)	Management of archaeological features on grassland	% Option Area in AONB
		(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)
High Weald	49	146,173	87.0	141.1	665.5	228.6	0.5	1.2	4.8	37.1	4.8	1.0	0.5	0.1	17.2	1,189.4

Hedgerow and In-Field Trees Managed under ES													
AONB	Number of Agreements	GIS Area	EC1	EC2	HC1	HC2	HC5	HC6	OC1	OC2	OHC1	OHC2	Sum
			Protection of in-field trees (arable)	Protection of in-field trees (grassland)	Protection of in-field trees on arable land	Protection of in-field trees on grassland	Ancient trees in arable fields	Ancient trees intensively-managed grass fields	Protection of in field trees - rotational land	Protection of in field trees - grassland	Protection of in-field trees on rotational land	Protection of in-field trees on organic grassland	
			(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)	(No. of Trees)
High Weald	38	146,173	78	638		5				155			876

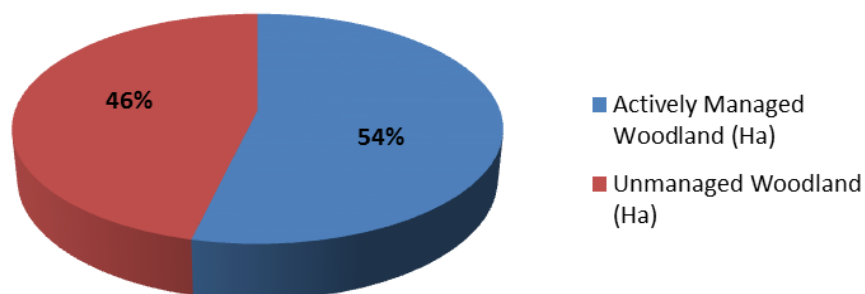
Hedgerow and In-Field Trees Managed under ES

AONB	No. of Agreements	GIS Area	EC24	EC25	OC24	OC25	Sum	% Option Area in AONB
			Hedgerow tree buffer strips on cultivated land	Hedgerow tree buffer strips on grassland	Hedgerow tree buffer strips on rotational land	Hedgerow tree buffer strips on organic grassland		
			(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	
High Weald	3	146,173	1.2	0.7			1.9	0%

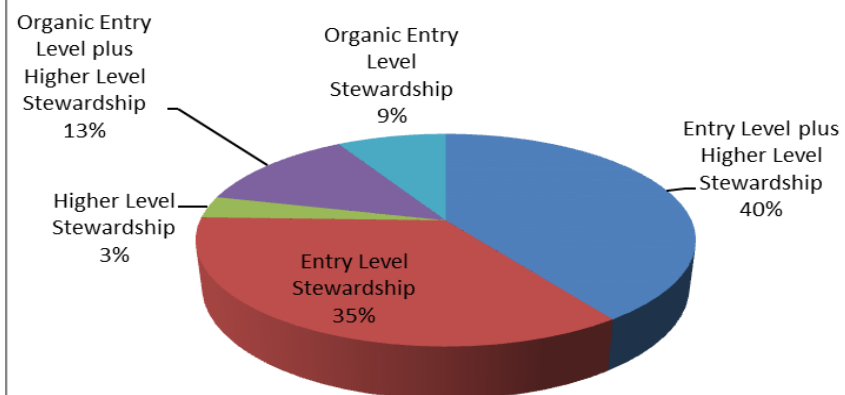
Woodland Managed and Created Under ES

AONB	Number of Agreements	GIS Area	EC4	HC10	HC4	HC7	HC8	HC9	OC4	OHC4	Sum	% Option Area in AONB
			Management of woodland edges	Creation of woodland outside of the SDA & ML	Management of woodland edges	Maintenance of woodland	Restoration of woodland	Creation of woodland in the SDA	Management of wood edges	Management of woodland edges		
			(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	
High Weald	73	146,173	16		1	494	275		3		788	1%

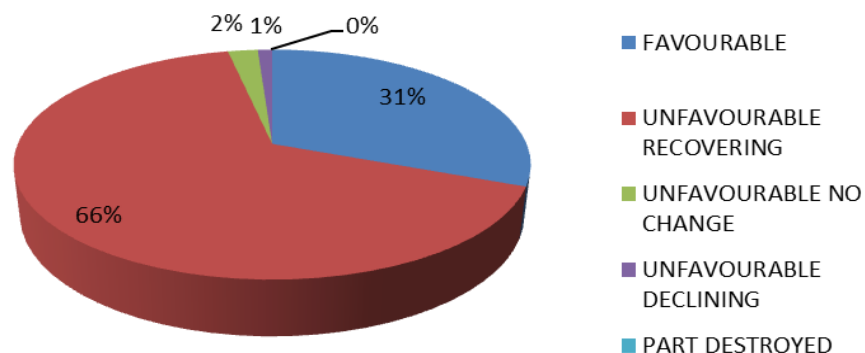
**Areas of unmanaged and actively managed
wodland in the High Weald AONB**



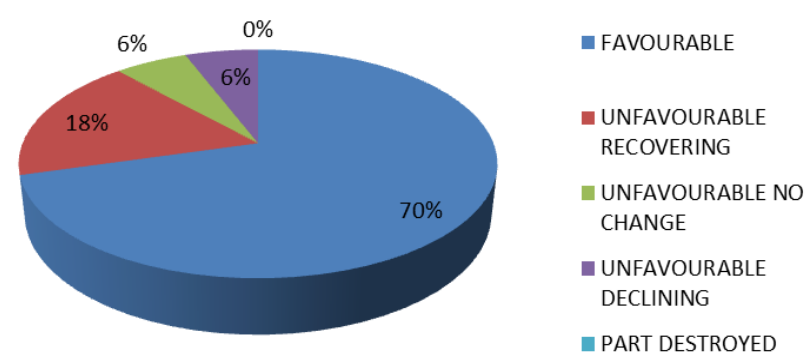
**Area (ha) by agri-environment
scheme type in the High Weald AONB**



**SSSI condition in the High Weald
AONB**

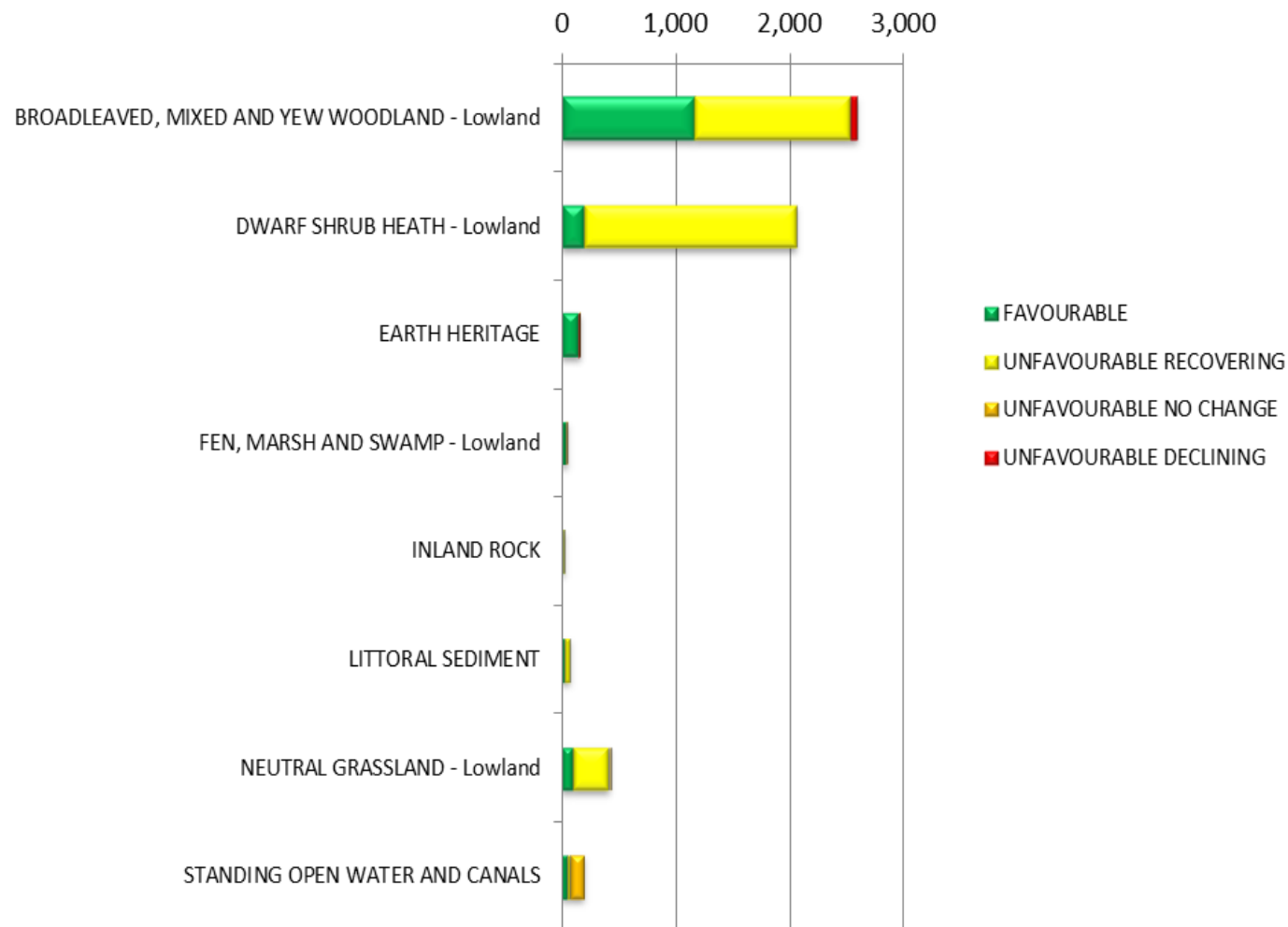


**Geological SSSI condition in the High
Weald AONB**



SSSI Priority Habitat condition in High Weald AONB

31-3-17



Priority Habitat Inventory within the High Weald AONB

AONB	CONDITION	In SSSI	In Higher Tier / HLS Outside SSSI	Outside SSSI Not in Higher Tier / HLS	Grand Total
High Weald	FAVOURABLE	1,457.54			1,457.54
	UNFAVOURABLE RECOVERING	3,105.07			3,105.07
	UNFAVOURABLE NO CHANGE	8.12			8.12
	UNFAVOURABLE DECLINING	54.79			54.79
	(blank)		4,310.54	23,934.61	28,245.15
High Weald Total		4,625.51	4,310.54	23,934.61	32,870.66

Ancient Woodland Area within the High Weald AONB

AONB	ASNW: Ancient and Semi Natural Woodland	PAWS: Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites	Grand Total	AONB GIS area (ha)	Percentage AONB under Ancient Woodland
High Weald	18,499	8,730	27,229	146,173	19%