

## **Item 11 - Adoption of Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plans**

The attached report was considered by the Development & Conservation Advisory Committee on 6 July 2021. The relevant Minute extract is below.

### **Development & Conservation Advisory Committee (6 July 2021, Minute 8)**

The Principal Planning Officer (Policy) presented the report which sought adoption of the management plan for the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which the Council is legally required to do. The role of the management plan was to set out the key components, characteristics and qualities of the AONB and to identify ways and opportunities to conserve and enhance the landscape. The Kent Downs AONB Management Plan review (2021-2026) was approved by the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) of the AONB unit on 26 January 2021.

Members discussed the report. It was clarified that the management plan supported national and local planning policy but was not a policy document in itself.

Cllr Hunter addressed the Committee as the Council's Member representative on the JAC. She highlighted that the management plan had been thoroughly researched and widely consulted on.

#### Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Cabinet that the adoption of the Kent Downs AONB Management Plan be recommended to Council.