

Management Plan Priorities to deliver through the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme Cannock Chase AONB

FiPL projects will be expected to deliver against the following Themes and Objectives of the [Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan 2019-2024](#).

Theme	Objectives	Indicative projects (these are illustrative only and not inclusive)
Landscape Character and Planning (pages 18-23)	Maintain the quality and distinctiveness of the AONB's landscape character	<p>Two isolated areas of woodland are linked by a fenced area (stock and deer proof) which allows for natural regeneration.</p> <p>A landowner provides succession planning for in-field and hedgerow trees to ultimately replace significant trees in the landscape.</p> <p>New individual trees and small groups of trees are planted and fenced to re-instate historic wood pasture or parkland, along with 'halo' thinning around existing veteran trees.</p> <p>An area of floodplain grassland is managed to encourage species diversity and seasonal flooding.</p> <p>Birch and pine seedlings are cleared from an area of relict heath and the area of heath extended.</p>
	Enhance the setting of the Chase within its urban and rural landscape	<p>Important views from the AONB out into the surrounding countryside are framed with new planting or managed by careful removal of selected vegetation.</p> <p>New tree belts, small woodlands, hedgerows and hedgerow trees are planted to soften the impact of adjoining urban edges.</p> <p>A shelter belt of trees is planted downwind of an animal housing barn to capture airborne nitrogen pollution.</p> <p>New woodland or hedges are planted to reinstate and strengthen field pattern and help screen visual detractors in the setting of the AONB</p>

Wildlife and Nature (pages 24-31)	Improve conditions for nature in the Chase	<p>Scrapes, ponds or other wetlands are created to encourage wildlife.</p> <p>Invasive, non-native species are removed to encourage the development of native flora.</p> <p>A woodland ride is scalloped to encourage the development of scrub and grassland for invertebrates.</p>
	Enlarge and connect habitats	<p>A straightened watercourse is re-wiggled and re-contoured, creating new habitat, enhancing the landscape and reducing flood risk.</p> <p>A network of hay meadows is restored, using species rich donor sites to spread green hay on recipient meadows close-by.</p> <p>Two isolated areas of heathland are connected by converting an area of arable/improved grassland.</p>
Historic Environment and Culture (pages 32-35)	Conserve the Chase's historic environment	<p>An historic feature close to a right of way is consolidated and interpreted.</p> <p>Trees and scrub are selectively thinned from earthworks to prevent damage to the underlying archaeology.</p>
	Connect communities with the Chase's history and culture	<p>A local archaeology group undertakes a study of a site through a community archaeology project and interprets the location's historic significance.</p> <p>A tree and plant survey is conducted within an historic park to identify the presence of historic species, leading to proposals for a new planting programme to restore the landscape.</p>
Experience and Enjoyment (pages 36-41)	Treading lightly on the Chase	<p>New waymarking signage is installed to help people keep to public rights of way and an interpretation panel is erected to explain local features of interest on the route.</p> <p>A stile on a public right of way is replaced by a kissing gate to improve accessibility of the network.</p>

		<p>Seasonal landscape rangers are appointed to engage visitors and support farmers and land managers.</p>
	<p>A greener experience</p>	<p>A permissive path is created and waymarked to allow visitors to experience an historic feature.</p> <p>Parking improvements are made at a key site to provide safe access to popular walking routes and reduce congestion for visitors and local residents.</p> <p>A volunteer group is supported to look after sections of a long-distance recreational route.</p> <p>A series of farm walks is devised and delivered to increase confidence in visitor exploration of the landscape and understanding of farming activities.</p>
<p>Communities and Business (pages 42-45)</p>	<p>Natural benefits for the community</p>	<p>A project engaging with local care homes reconnects elderly people with their landscape through short walks and sensory activities in nature – back at the care home they are supported to grow on plug plants for hay meadow restoration.</p> <p>Engagement with a group supporting visually impaired people leads to a programme of engagement activities introducing groups to their local natural and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Part of a barn is converted into an education facility for school visits from urban areas beyond the AONB boundary where the participants discover more about the source of their food and public goods like clean air and water, and more about themselves.</p>
	<p>Business supporting the special qualities</p>	<p>A pop-up camping facility is supported on a farm, alongside the provision of new walking trails and on site activities, including stargazing and dawn chorus walks.</p> <p>A locally Cannock Chase branded beef and lamb initiative is supported promoting the links between the product and the landscape in which it is reared.</p>

		A training course for farmland bird identification and conservation is organised for local farmers.
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