

Report to: East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board

Date of meeting: 25 July 2017

By: Countryside & Policy Manager, South Downs National Park, and
Deputy Director Health and Wellbeing, Public Health England South
East

Title: Health and Wellbeing in the National Park and the new national
accord

Purpose: To update the Board on the role of National Parks in Health and
Wellbeing

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Note the role the South Downs National Park could play in supporting the delivery of Health and Well Being in East Sussex;
 2. Ensure future links with the South Downs National Park; and
 3. Noted members invited to attend the SDNP H&WB conference on 11 Oct 2017 in Midhurst
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1. Background

1.1 The benefits of nature on health and wellbeing are now well evidenced. The future role of National Parks in supporting public health is set out in the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs' (Defra) National Parks: 8-point plan for England (2016 to 2020) (Mar 2016) and there are a number of national and regional projects already underway in National Parks across England.

1.2 The purpose of the presentation, to be given at the Board meeting, is to raise awareness of the work of the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) and its partners in relation to health and wellbeing and to invite the Board to consider how the National Park might support the delivery of health and wellbeing priorities in East Sussex.

1.3 National Parks England has signed an Accord with Public Health England to work together to create opportunities for jointly delivering health improvements and promoting national parks.

1.4 The SDNPA is organising a sub-regional conference on 11 October 2017 primarily aimed at policy makers and partners, to promote the role of the National Park in Health and Wellbeing, to promote the National Park as a resource and to encourage partnerships and networks.

2. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

2.1 Following the presentation, the Board is recommended to:

1. Note the role the South Downs National Park could play in supporting the delivery of Health and Well Being in East Sussex;
2. Ensure future links with the South Downs National Park; and
3. Noted members invited to attend the SDNP H&WB conference on 11 Oct 2017 in Midhurst

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