

Julian Glover
England's National Parks and AONB Review
Defra
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF



11th December 2018

Dear Julian

**National Parks and AONB Review, Call for Evidence
A Cotswolds National Park**

The Cotswolds Conservation Board has submitted its response to the call for evidence.

As you may be aware there has been a growing debate over the potential for a Cotswolds National Park. A debate that has steadily developed over the last two years and now coincides with your national review.

Question 20 in the call for evidence asks if there are potential new National Parks. The Conservation Board has answered yes and outlines that the recently adopted Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2018 – 2023 includes the ambition “To promote the case for the Cotswolds being designated as England’s next National Park”.

We would like to add to that concise response with the attached;

A Cotswold National Park Position Statement: Outlines the case for the Cotswolds being a National Park. It shares the Board’s thinking on how the Cotswolds meets the current Park designation criteria, the benefits the area offers wider society and its consideration of Park purposes, governance structures, boundary reviews and potential timescales.

A series of Frequently asked Questions: FAQs generated from discussions amongst Board members and a wide range of partner organisations.

A media article written by a local writer / journalist: Explores the ambition for a Cotswolds National Park.

and trust that you will be able to consider these documents alongside our answers to the earlier questions.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet to discuss the lessons from the establishment of the Conservation Board (modelled on a Park Authority) and the case for considering the Cotswolds as a new National Park.

Yours sincerely


Martin Lane
Director

Conserving, enhancing, understanding and enjoying the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty