# **CNL Work Programme 2021-22**

### T-Map Business Plan Framework - Outputs

- 1. **People** Great people, inspiring others
- 2. Process Continuous improvement leading to effective working
- 3. **Customer Environment** Delivering for landscapes and nature
- 4. Customer People Promoting and broadening access opportunities
- 5. Customer Key Partners Value-added partnerships that benefit the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- 6. **Finance** Financially resilient and sustainable

| ✓ | Completed              |
|---|------------------------|
|   | In progress / on track |
| • | Not started            |
| X | Off track              |

| FUNCTION SUPPORT SERVICES   | Accountable | Responsible                     | By When   | Target Measures   | Progress     | Comments  |
|---|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------|---|--------------|---|
| SUPPORT SERVICES  | ı           | 1 1                             |           | Quarterly management accounts produced including YTD performance vs budget for  |              |   |
| Roll-out new quarterly management accounts  | AW          | MP                              | Jul-21    | all 'departments' / 'activity areas'.   | <b>√</b>     | Completed   |
| Introduce monthly cash-flow forecasting   | AW          | AW                              | May-21    | Monthly cash flow forecasts developed.  | X            | Head of Finance started work on this but now on maternity leave.  |
| Develop a Finance 'manual'  | AW          | DM, MP                          | Dec-21    | Key finance team tasks and processes documented to demonstrate the internal control environment and to increase team resilience.  | •            | Head of Finance to look at when she returns from maternity leave.   |
| Review, simplify and update the Board Constitution  | AW          | AW + Sue<br>Crawford            | May Exec  | Required changes identified and the Constitution reviewed for accuracy (e.g. references), simplified, reformatted and made more accessible.   | •            | In progress, a task for the Finance and Governance Sub-Committee.   |
| Develop a 3-year ICT plan   | AW          | MP                              | Sept Exec | IT hardware audit undertaken and rolling programme of replacement established. ICT strategy/plan developed with costed priorities.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Ensure effective GIS capability/accessibility within the Organisation                       | AW          | SS MP MC AF                     | Jul-21    | Needs analysis undertaken and GIS solution selected and implemented.  | $\checkmark$ | Completed   |
| Review data protection across the Organisation  | AW          | МР                              | Sept Exec | Data audit (what data do we hold and why) undertaken and measures taken to ensure compliance with the UK Data Protection Act. Development of relevant policy/guidance, i.e. Data Retention Strategy. To involve our Data Protection Officer where relevant. | •            | Review currently being undertaken around image consent forms, and the team will be working on a draft data retention schedule over the coming months. |
| Plan for the team to return to the office   | AP          | MP                              | May-21    | Plan agreed with the team and ready for implementation at the right time.   | $\checkmark$ | Completed   |
| Review and implement a new CRM system   | АР          | AH JW AP                        | Sep-21    | CRM system implemented and tangible benefits being realised across the Organisation.  |              | FiPL team trialling HubSpot, with the aim of a wider roll-out if deemed successful.   |
| Introduce a new Environmental Performance Policy  | АР          | tbc                             | Jan Exec  | Review current best practice and draft a new policy to reflect the Organisation's commitment to energy reduction, etc.  | ×            | Action will carry forward to 2022/23 Work Programme.  |
| BUSINESS PLANNING   |             |                                 |           |   |              |   |
| Develop and launch the new Vision for the Cotswolds   | AP          | AP AH + Task &<br>Finish Group  | May Exec  | T&F Group to develop ideas and themes; consult internally and externally. The Vision will help inform the direction of the next Management Plan.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Review Business Plan when government respond fully to Glover                                | АР          | All                             | tbc       | The Organisation demonstrates its ability to flex to change and identify (and act upon) the priorities from government.   |              | Business Plan Framework for 2023-26 will be presented later in 2022   |
| Develop early thinking for a future Workplace strategy                                      | АР          | AW                              | Mar-22    | An outline plan agreed and in place for workplace accommodation post July 2023.   |              | In progress   |
| Develop the Glorious Cotswold Grassland Business Plan to build towards a sustainable future | MC/SS       | MC HS AF SS +<br>Steering Group | Mar-22    | Income generated. Percentage of income from charged for services. New funding/income sources generated/lined up for 2022/23. Review business plan.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Start the development of the AONB Management Plan 2023-28                                   | SS          | All                             | Mar-22    | Gain Board approval for our 'approach' at the October meeting. Outline stakeholder engagement plan in place.  |              | In progress but with an Interim Plan 2023-25 and then a full, new Management Plan 2025-30   |

## Item 7 Appendix A

| FUNCTION   | Accountable | Responsible               | By When | Target Measures   | Progress     | Comments  |  |  |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|---------|---|--------------|---|--|--|
| PARTNERSHIPS AND FUNDRAISING   |             |                           |         |   |              |   |  |  |
| Deliver the Kingfisher Sculpture Trail and Fundraising Auction   | JW          | JW AP AH                  | Nov-21  | Engaging new and existing audiences in the Cotswolds and beyond. Financial targets met.   | $\checkmark$ | Completed   |  |  |
| Grow and develop Caring for the Cotswolds  | JW          | JW                        | Mar-22  | Defined membership offering and increased membership.   | ✓            | Organic growth over the year, plus a presentation delivered with Cotswold Tourism (DMO) to promote the scheme to their large membership base in February.   |  |  |
| Build relationships with Funders - Trusts, Donors, Corporates, etc.  | JW          | JW AP +<br>Working Group  | Mar-22  | Review of relevant local, regional and national funders with introductions made and funding applications submitted, as appropriate.   |              | Ongoing, new funding received from two different trusts and a large corporate funder (Thames Water) so far this FY.   |  |  |
| Build on the new fundraising MOU with the Cotswold Way Assoc.  | JW          | JW RJ                     | Sep-21  | Implementation of the agreed responsibilities in the MOU.   | $\checkmark$ | Completed   |  |  |
| Deliver the Cotswold Way at 50 fundraising and engagement event  | RJ          | RJ AP AH JW               | Sep-21  | Event held on 19 September. Relay walk week beginning September 13, in partnership with John Lewis and Robert Welch. Robert Welch to produce Cotswold Way products. Successful fundraising partnership with CWA.  | ✓            | Completed   |  |  |
| Understand how 'blended finance' opportunities (public and private sector funding) could be realised to benefit the National Landscape | АР          | AP JW + Steering<br>Group | Mar-22  | Research what is currently happening. Seek advice from experts. Create early thinking on how the Organisation can build its reputation in this space.   | •            | Ongoing. Private sector funding received through Severn Trent Water (we are now a Strategic Partner of the Great Big Nature Boost programme) and Thames Water (community fund for rural skills outreach work). Attended a 'Green Gains' event hosted by Ground Control, focusing on cross-sector partnerships. This is clearly a Defra priority so further consideration will be given. |  |  |
| COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT   |             |                           |         |   |              |   |  |  |
| Review and make a decision on the publication and distribution of the Cotswold Lion  | АН          | АН АР                     | Ongoing | Due to Covid-19, Cotswold Lion will continue as usual for 2021, with flexibility included for pandemic progression/recovery. Aug/Sept 2021 = consider options for 2022. Work to track online downloads of issues.   | ✓            | Completed   |  |  |
| Ensure an effective implementation/ roll-out of the Rural Skills website project   | АН          | EB DM                     | Apr-21  | Include rural skills pages in google analytics reports.   | ✓            | Completed   |  |  |
| Devise a plan for conducting audience surveys/ deliver surveys to inform future priorities   | АН          | AH AP JW SS               | Mar-22  | Survey participation/completion, and results analysis.  | ✓            | Completed   |  |  |
| Build wider team capability to broaden social media posts/ coverage  | АН          | All                       | Ongoing | Team participation, activity/subject variety in posts.  |              | Ongoing training in place   |  |  |
| Promote the completed Cotswolds Gateways project on the website and owned channels   | RJ          | AH RJ                     | Apr-21  | Promotion of walks on website and through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.  | ✓            | Completed   |  |  |
| Landscape Strategy and Guidelines - develop an interactive map on the website  | MC          | MC AH                     | Sep-21  | Interactive map created and on the website.   |              | Due to completed in Q1 of 2022/23   |  |  |
| Review the status of, and maintain, the AONB boundary markers. Review the scope for new markers.                                       | JW          | JW AP                     | Mar-22  | Complete review including potential funding options.  | •            | Ongoing. Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens completing a location and condition survey. Once completed a plan will be put in place for maintenance and replacements (if required). New CNL marker placed in Elmley Castle (funded by the parish).  |  |  |
| Continue to improve external/regional relationships, e.g. LAs, MPs, LEPs, LNPs   | АР          | MC JM JW SS               | Mar-22  | Continue regular meetings; 1-1s, etc. to clearly demonstrate the value-add of the Organisation's work and willingness to work in partnership.   | •            | Ongoing   |  |  |
| Establish the Health, Wellbeing and Social Inclusion Working Group   | АР          | AW + Working<br>Group     | May-21  | HWSI WG meetings established and priorities and action plan developed.  | ✓            | Completed   |  |  |
| Develop networks to enhance outcomes for HWSI Working Group  | АР          | AW + Working<br>Group     | Dec-21  | The focus for network development set by the direction of travel of the HWSI WG - networks may include establishing links with Health and Wellbeing Boards and ICSs (Integrated Care Systems), local authority / district council Race and Diversity Working Groups, etc. | •            | Ongoing   |  |  |

# Item 7 Appendix A

| FUNCTION  | Accountable | Responsible                  | By When  | Target Measures   | Progress     | Comments  |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|----------|---|--------------|---|
| PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE  |             | 1                            |          |   | Ī            |   |
| Influence planning policy   | JM          | JM + Working<br>Group        | Mar-22   | % of 'high priority' planning policy consultations responded to (Target = 75%).   | ✓            | 2021/22 average = 75% (4 out of 6). Responded to Local Plan consultations for the following areas - B&NES, Stroud, South Warwickshire, Tewkesbury. Didn't respond to Local Plan consultations for the following areas - Worcestershire (Minerals Local Plan); Oxfordshire (Oxfordshire Plan). |
| Influence development management  | JM          | JM + Working<br>Group        | Mar-22   | % of planning decisions in-line with recommendations.   | ✓            | 2021/22 average = 67% (12 out of 18). Q1= 0% (0 out of 2); Q2 = 60% (6 out of 10); Q3 = 100% (4 out of 4); Q4 = 100% (2 out of 2).  |
| Statutory consultee (i.e. how we perform against statutory consultee requirements)  | JM          | JM + Working<br>Group        | Mar-22   | % of development management consultations, above consultation thresholds, where we provided a substantive response within the original deadline (Target = 75%).   | ✓            | 2021/22 average = 70% (60 out of 86). Q1= 57% (16 out of 28); Q2 = 67% (12 out of 18); Q3 = 71% (17 out of 24; Q4 = 94% (15 out of 16). [N.B. The target range for the KPI is 50-74%, rather than 75%, so the average for 2021/22 was well within the target range.]                          |
| Promotion and support of Biodiversity Net Gain  | JM          | JM SS                        | Mar-22   | Continued engagement with LPA partners in their formulation and delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain objectives, aligned with and delivering Cotswolds National Landscape priorities.  | •            | Addressed BNG issues in local plan consultation responses and in some development management consultation responses.  |
| Identify and support the delivery of new undergrounding projects  | JM          | ЈМ МС                        | Mar-22   | WPD undergrounding schemes completed at Cranham and Pitchcombe.   |              | Pitchcombe scheme completed. Cranham scheme still in discussions with landowners.   |
| Deliver current Landscape Enhancement Initiative (LEI) projects and develop new ones  | SS          | SS AW MP MC                  | Mar-22   | Existing projects delivering on the ground and reporting/claiming to schedule. Lodge Park submitted by deadline.  | ✓            | Funding received for three projects (over £500k), and a fourth project recently approved.   |
| Continue to be involved with the A417 Missing Link Road Scheme  | АР          | AP JM MC +<br>Steering Group | Mar-22   | Attend all meetings, including Statement of Common Ground; Strategic Stakeholder Panel; Collaborative Sessions, etc. Ensure the Cotswolds National Landscape has a clear and well communicated position ahead of Highways England submitting the Development Consent Order (DCO). | ✓            | DCO Examination completed and now awaiting decision from DfT.   |
| Revise and consult on a minimum of two Position Statements  | JM          | JM + Working<br>Group        | Mar-22   | Renewable Energy and Neighbourhood Planning.  | •            | Renewable Energy PS will be presented to October 2022 Board for adoption. Neighbourhood Planning will be presented to February 2023 Board for adoption.   |
| Finalise selection of Cotswolds Champions Programme supported projects and ensure legacy plans are in place.                      | MC          | SB                           | Mar-22   | Number of supported projects/total funds allocated.   | •            | All Cotswolds Champions projects identified and only a small amount of underspend remains in the Project Sum. Mitigation Sum still has majority of budget and Rail Corridor Enhancement Project now extended by 1 year.   |
| LAND MANAGEMENT   | L           |                              |          |   |              |   |
| Continue to grow knowledge of ELM, representing the organisation at both a National and Cotswolds level                           | MC          | МС                           | Mar-22   | Continued engagement with the ELM Scheme Design and Marketing Board and the Stakeholder Comms Working Group. ELM Pilot aligned with and delivering Cotswolds National Landscape Priorities.   |              | Ongoing   |
| Understand the organisational implications, and commence delivery, of the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) funded programme | MC          | MC AP AW                     | Mar-22   | Cotswolds FiPL launched with resources to deliver. Review panel established. Number of applications received, number and value of agreements, amount of year 1 budget committed/spent.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Host the Annual Farming Forum   | MC          | MC AH                        | Mar-22   | Theme agreed, speakers invited, audience engaged, event delivered.  | ×            | Off track   |
| Obtain Board adoption for the updated Climate Change Strategy   | MC          | MC SS + Steering<br>Group    | May Exec | Climate Change Strategy adopted.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Respond to consultations on land management proposals, inc. Woodland & Natural Flood Management.                                  | MC          | МС                           | Mar-22   | Responses submitted and recorded as required.   | ✓            | Responded to 108 FC Felling Licence, 11 Woodland creation (EIA Scoping)/tree planting consultations, 8 Woodland Management Plan consultations, 2 Ag EIA consultations, 2 National Highways consultations.   |
| Consider forming a 'Woodland' cluster group or Woodland Forum   | MC          | MC                           | Dec-21   | Decision taken whether to proceed and on which model. If proceed, first meeting held.   | •            | No progress   |
| Identify locations to plant the community grown 'Ourboretum' trees  | MC          | MC                           | Dec-21   | Number of locations and number of Ourboretum trees planted.   | $\checkmark$ | Completed   |
| Develop a plan for furthering our Dark Skies programme  | МС          | MC                           | Mar-22   | Plan developed and presented to Executive Committee.  | ✓            | Awarded feasibility funding of £25,000 from National Highways' Designated Funds to work up a potential programme of work.   |
| Engage with the Thames Water 'Smarter Catchment' project in the Evenlode catchment  | MC          | MC SS JM                     | Mar-22   | Smarter Catchment projects are in line with the AONB Management Plan and help deliver priorities. Grassland/meadow restoration project included.  | ✓            | Three roles recruited for community outreach and educational work. Data collation contract with Atkins commissioned and progressing. 2022/23 TWSC programme/budget finalised.   |

## Item 7 Appendix A

| FUNCTION  | Accountable | Responsible             | By When | Target Measures  | Progress     | Comments  |
|---|-------------|-------------------------|---------|--|--------------|---|
| NATURE RECOVERY   |             |                         |         | T  |              | T   |
| Publish the Cotswolds National Landscape Nature Recovery Plan   | SS          | SS AH                   | Dec-21  | Plan adopted by the Board as guidance and published.   | ✓            | Completed   |
| Continue to support the Cotswolds Nature Recovery Forum   | SS          | SS                      | Mar-22  | 2+ meetings per annum. Membership 70+ individuals, 35+ organisations.  |              | Ongoing   |
| Continue to facilitate the Big Chalk programme  | SS          | SS                      | Mar-22  | Vision & ToR agreed. 2x proposals inc. with Colchester Declaration WG.   |              | Funding secured from Natural England (£30k) to take the development to the next stage. Ongoing. |
| Deliver Yr3 of the Glorious Cotswold Grassland project  | HS          | HS AF                   | Feb-22  | Continue delivering to project targets using proven and refined methodology, plus new strands of work for developing income streams e.g. Severn Trent Water agreement. | ✓            | Completed   |
| Ensure a plan in place to deliver engagement events for GCG when Covid-<br>19 restrictions ease   | AF          | AF HS                   | Feb-22  | Equine workshop rebooked for May 2021 and several outdoor small group events planned for summer 2021. Larger/indoor events unlikely in 2021-22.                        | ✓            | Completed   |
| Develop new partnerships to better inform the 'State of the Cotswolds'  | SS          | SS MC AP                | Oct-21  | Work with Imperial College on a Masters Research project around tree capacity/<br>Work with the NAAONB to have a Natural Capital Assessment of the Cotswolds.          | ✓            | All three research projects completed.  |
| RURAL SKILLS  |             |                         |         |  |              |   |
| Ensure Rural Skills becomes sustainable through a new Business Plan (3-years) and Detailed Programme (1-year)   | JW          | EB                      | Apr-21  | Business Plan produced setting out direction of travel for a sustainable and profitable Rural Skills programme within three years.                                     | ✓            | Plan adopted and Year 1 delivery underway.  |
| Identify the optimal business mix of: courses; experiences; youth work; corporate days  | JW          | ЕВ                      | Apr-21  | Excellent selection of courses, development of youth work and corporate days and expansion into experiences market.  | ×            | Decision made to cease rural skills operations.   |
| TRAILS AND ACCESS   |             |                         |         |  |              |   |
| Lead required improvements to the Cotswold Way National Trail (inc. infrastructure) as a result of high footfall, weather issues and a reduction in maintenance work during C-19. | RJ          | RJ + CVWs               | Mar-22  | Identify projects with partners and Highways to improve the Trail.   | ✓            | Completed   |
| Create new family-friendly and disability routes connected to the Cotswold Way  | RJ          | RJ AH + CVWs<br>and CWA | Sep-21  | Produce a series of four family friendly walks linked to the Trail. Identify three disability routes linked to the Trail.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Update the Cotswold Way online educational resource   | RJ          | ND, RJ AH               | Mar-22  | Update and offer online educational resources based along the Trail.   |              | Class based resources based on the Trail being drafted for first stage completion.              |
| Host the family of National Trails' Annual Forum  | RJ          | RJ AP AH                | May-21  | Organise and lead on a two-day visit by the Trails Family.   | $\checkmark$ | Becky Jones chaired an online meeting (due to Covid-19).  |
| Deliver the first year of the Bathscapes project - access element   | RJ          | ND                      | Mar-22  | Recruit a part-time role to support the project. Establish and mark the Bath circular walk.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Complete the Cotswolds Riders Way   | RJ          | SS                      | Dec-21  | Create a cycling route parallel to the Cotswold Way.   |              | In progress. Northern end to be worked up.  |
| VOLUNTEERS  |             |                         |         |  |              |   |
| Ensure a safe restart to the Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens work schedule  | RJ          | RJ MR MC                | Mar-22  | Support safe working practices for all warden activities in line with Government restrictions.   | ✓            | Completed   |
| Launch the guided walks booking system  | RJ          | RJ AH                   | May-21  | Offer the walks booking system to the public when restrictions lift / ease in line with numbers allowed safely on walks.   | ✓            | Completed   |
| Continue to support and develop the diversification of the Cotswolds Voluntary Warden membership  | MR          | MR MC RJ AP             | Dec-21  | Review membership of wardens to gauge progress.  |              | Ongoing   |
| Develop a programme of presentations that team members can deliver at CVW Executive meetings/ further interests, etc.   | MR          | MR RJ                   | Mar-22  | Create a programme of four Autumn sessions based on Farming, Nature Recovery, Planning and Grassland for wardens and employees.  |              | Ongoing   |
| Revise CVW publicity materials/ clothing in line with new brand   | RJ          | RJ AH                   | Jun-21  | Provide updated material for use at shows and events and fleeces for warden membership.  | ✓            | Completed   |
| Develop a plan for volunteer engagement to complete conservation and environmental surveys  | SS          | RJ EB HS AF             | Mar-22  | Plan with stakeholder research, analysis and proposals presented to CNL and the Cotswolds Nature Recovery Forum.   | •            | Ongoing   |