

Report of Chief Executive

SUBJECT: To set up a group to support Income Diversification

Purpose of Report

This paper seeks agreement to set up a group to guide and support the work of the Authority in relation to Income Diversification.

Introduction

The Authority, like other organisations in the public sector, is facing significant financial challenges, due to a combination of flat line public sector settlements and significant inflationary and cost pressures. This situation is likely to continue for the foreseeable future and therefore the Authority needs to consider how it manages its finances.

Over the past decade the Authority has placed a focus on diversifying its income and has managed to deal with a significant real terms reduction in public funding. However, the scale of the challenge it now faces means that we need to increase our work in this area if we are to avoid making significant budget cuts.

Earlier this year, Audit Wales undertook work to assess the work of Welsh National Park Authorities in relation to income diversification. Their report recommended that the Authority review its work against a Self-Evaluation Checklist. The Authority has begun this process, and it has been recommended that the Authority should set up an Income Diversification Group to guide and support this work.

This group should:

- Include Members and Officers;
- Consider co-opting members from outside the Authority who can bring valuable skills and experiences that can assist the Authority in this work;
- report its recommendations, initially to the Audit and Corporate Services Review Committee, and for any necessary decisions to the National Park Authority.

It is therefore proposed that the Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix A be agreed.

Financial, risk and compliance considerations

The group could play a key role in enabling the Authority meet some of its financial challenges.

Recommendation:

Members are asked to:

- 1. approve the setting up of an Income Diversification Group;**
- 2. agree the Terms of Reference included as Annex A, and**
- 3. appoint Members to the Group**

Author: Tegryn Jones, Chief Executive

Consultees: Caroline Llewellyn, Democratic Services Manager

INCOME DIVERSIFICATION GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Role/purpose

To guide and support of the Authority in relation to Income Diversification.

Membership

To comprise:

6 Members of the Authority, on a 2:1 ratio of Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) and Welsh Government (WG) Members.

The Chief Executive to nominate relevant officers.

The group may co-opt up to three additional members from outside the Authority who can contribute to the work of the Authority in relation to income diversification.

Members to determine Chairmanship at the inaugural meeting.

Quorum

To include at least two members appointed by Pembrokeshire County Council and one member appointed by the Welsh Government.

Accountability

The Group is of an advisory nature and will support the Chief Executive on work undertaken under delegated authority.

Any decisions which cannot be undertaken under delegated authority will be presented for approval to a National Park Authority meeting.

Minutes of the Group, with the exception of items deemed commercially sensitive, will be reported to the Audit and Corporate Services Review Committee.

The Group will present an annual report on progress to the Authority at its June meeting. The Authority will then decide whether to extend the remit of the group for a further 12 months.

Mode of operation

Meetings will be arranged every two months, or as and when necessary, and will be held via MS Teams.