

24 December 2019

Your ref: PDB/sjr



Mr P Bungard
Chief Executive
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Dear Mr Bungard,

Cotswolds National Park

Thank you for your letter of the 3rd December regarding the future of the Cotswolds AONB, which I'm replying on Marian's behalf.

We welcome your Council's resolution to work with other local authorities and the Conservation Board to address the challenges and opportunities highlighted in the recent Landscapes Review. Natural England has also welcomed the Review and the message that 'National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty should be greener, more beautiful and more accessible to everyone'.

We note your Council's resolution to reject the notion of National Park designation for the Cotswolds. As you will appreciate, action for any future landscape designations will be guided by Government's response to the Landscapes Review and by Natural England's assessment of priorities within the context of severely constrained resources. We expect both of these to be clearer in coming months.

We look forward to continuing to work with you in the Cotswolds and to developing further opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

Tim

Dr Tim Hill
Chief Scientist