

# CONSTITUTION - PART 3 - RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNCTIONS

## 4. Joint Arrangements

Neither the Council nor the Cabinet have joint Committees as described in Article 11 with delegated powers.

The following Advisory Committees and Advisory Groups with formal constitutional arrangements have been established. These bodies do not exercise any functions of the Council or the executive, but act as advisory bodies to the Council or the executive.

### **(i) Nidderdale Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty - Joint Advisory Committee**

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Membership - | 12 Councillors of whom up to 6 from Harrogate Borough Council |
| -            | 15 representatives of other bodies in the AONB                |

Local authorities to give priority to elected members with wards in the AONB.

Chair or Vice-Chair to be a Councillor.

#### **Terms of Reference**

- (a) To promote awareness and understanding of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty for the purposes for which it was designated.
- (b) To advise the local authorities and other bodies on countryside conservation, informal recreation and environmental management issues affecting the AONB.
- (c) To advise on the preparation and implementation of a Management Plan for the AONB.
- (d) To consider and offer advice on development plan policies, proposals and reviews insofar as they relate to the AONB.
- (e) To act as a forum for the discussion of major issues affecting the character of the AONB and, where appropriate, make recommendations.
- (f) To act as a forum where the local authorities can discuss and co-ordinate their activities in the area.

- (g) To agree and monitor an annual programme of work, within resources made available by the constituent bodies and others.

## **(ii) Action for the Environment**

### **Membership**

Members include:

- 2 Councillors: (Cabinet Member for Environment and Cabinet Member for Resources)
- Environmental Strategy Manager (and other officers as required to address or respond to specific issues)
- Representatives of public, private, voluntary and community organisations covering the environmental interests of the Harrogate District; and individuals with an interest in environmental issues.

The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected annually by Action for the Environment Group members.

### **Purpose**

The Action for the Environment Group brings together key organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors in order to champion environmental causes throughout the Harrogate District, and to improve the district's environmental wellbeing through a coordinated approach.

### **Aims**

- To help identify key environmental issues and priorities for local environmental policy.
- To help inform the process of Harrogate Borough Council's policy development as regards environmental issues and provide an avenue for views to be fed back to the relevant Council Cabinet Member or Council meeting.
- To be an influential body on the Harrogate District Strategic Partnership and to contribute to the development and implementation of the Harrogate District Sustainable Community Strategy.
- To develop, promote, implement and monitor initiatives and actions, which engage a wide range of organisations and individuals in collaborative work and contribute to the environmental wellbeing of the Harrogate District.

### **Functions**

Group members who attend meetings as representatives of their own organisations should report back to their own organisation and inform the Group of their organisation's news when relevant.

The Group is a member organisation of the Harrogate District Strategic Partnership, and nominates one member to sit on the Partnership's Executive Committee.

The Group will identify two environmental themes each year, to form the basis of two six month campaigns.

The Group will respond to major planning applications in order to suggest environmental improvements where this is deemed appropriate.