

Environment Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 3 February 2015

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

Review of Future of Countryside Sites

The Committee will be considering during this review:

- How can the Council build on its strong track record for developing and managing country parks, nature reserves and other countryside sites?
- What alternative management arrangements could be put in place for the Council's existing countryside sites, and how might the Council encourage greater partnership working between the public, private and third sectors to ensure the sustainable management of these sites in the future?
- How can these sites be developed, managed and promoted on an area-by-area basis for nature/activity-based tourism and recreation?

The Committee met on 8 December and had discussions with external service providers regarding the involvement of partnership working between the public, private and third sector to ensure nature-based and activity-based tourism and recreation benefitting local communities and the local economy.

The Committee then met on 19 January 2015 to discuss the summary of findings and possible recommendations before the tripartite meeting on 11 February. The Committee will finalise the report at an additional meeting on 16 February before presenting the final report with recommendations to Cabinet on 12 March 2015.