

**Rampion 2 Wind Farm
Category 8:
Examination Documents
Landscape Enhancement Scheme
Principles (South Downs National
Park Authority and Horsham District
Council)
Date: July 2024
Revision A**

Document Reference: 8.94

Pursuant to: The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure)

Rules 2010, Rule 8(1)(c)

Ecodoc number: TBC



Document revisions

Revision	Date	Status/reason for issue	Author	Checked by	Approved by
A	09/07/2024	Deadline 5 submission	Eversheds Sutherland	RED	RED

Landscape Enhancement Scheme Principles

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the agreed principles of the Landscape Enhancement Scheme which are to be secured under Requirement 41 of the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) (Document 3.1 of the Applicant’s Deadline 5 submission).
- 1.2 These principles will form the basis for the development and delivery of the Landscape Enhancement Scheme under one or more Section 106 planning agreements.
- 1.3 The agreed key principles of the Landscape Enhancement Scheme are set out in Table 1A long list of projects identified by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) and Horsham District Council (HDC) is provided in Section 3.

2. Key Principles

- 2.1 The agreed principles of the Landscape Enhancement Scheme are set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Principles of the Landscape Enhancement Scheme.

Principle	Detail
Mechanism for delivery	<p><u>Horsham District Council</u> For the compensation payment to HDC, a section 106 planning agreement, bound to land within HDC’s administrative area that is within the control of the Applicant, which shall be between the Applicant and HDC and substantially in accordance with the draft document attached at appendix 1.</p> <p><u>South Downs National Park</u> For the compensation payment to SDNPA, a section 106 planning agreement, which is either</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bound to land within SDNPA’s administrative area that is within the control of the Applicant; or - a tripartite agreement to be put in place with HDC, SDNP and the Applicant to secure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o payment to HDC on behalf of SDNPA of funds for compensation measures in SDNPA’s area pending the Applicant’s acquisition of a land interest to bind in the SDNPA administrative area, pursuant to section 106 o the planning obligation to be secured as enforceable by HDC at SDNPA’s request o a commitment for the Applicant to enter into a direct s106 agreement with SDNPA following its acquisition of a land interest in the SDNPA’s administrative area following which the equivalent obligation to HDC will be released <p>In the event that a tripartite agreement is required for the payment of compensation for the South Downs National Park the agreement will be substantially in accordance with the draft document attached at appendix 2. If a bilateral agreement between the Applicant and SDNPA is entered into the agreement will secure the obligation to pay the compensation fund, substantially in the form set out in the draft agreement attached at appendix 2, but directly to SDNPA by the Applicant.</p>
South Downs National Park	
SDNP Compensation Fund Spatial Scope	The Spatial Scope for application of the SDNP Compensation Fund comprises two areas which are not mutually exclusive:

Principle	Detail
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) those parts of the South Downs National Park where residual landscape and visual effects arise on a temporary basis from the construction of the onshore cable corridor forming part of the authorized development. 2) Areas within the SNDP that experience long term landscape and visual effects arising from the construction and operation of the wind turbine generators off the south coast
Project scope	<p>The scope for application of the SDNP Compensation fund secured as payable to SDNPA will be toward those projects identified by the parties as capable of compensating for the residual effects of the authorised development and conserving, enhancing and seeking to further National Park purposes</p> <p>The identification of projects will be based on long-list of projects provided by the SDNPA (indicatively set out in Section 3).</p> <p>The final project scope and application of the funding is to be determined by the Steering Group to be established pursuant to the Agreement.</p>
SDNP Compensation Fund timings	TBC
SDNP Compensation Fund size	TBC
SDNP Compensation Fund Payment profile	TBC
SDNP Compensation Fund start and index	TBC
SDNP Compensation Fund Steering Group	The Steering Committee to administer the Compensation Fund shall be made up of at least two representatives from the Applicant, at least two representatives from the SDNPA and at least one representative from West Sussex County Council. Terms of Reference (ToR) to be developed to define how the Steering Committee assigns funds.
1. Horsham District	
HDC Compensation Fund Spatial Scope	<p>The Spatial Scope for application of the HDC Compensation Fund comprises Landscape Character Areas within HDC's administrative area within which the authorised development will be undertaken and that will experience temporary residual effects as a result of the authorised development until planting is reinstated and established.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •J3 – Cowfold & Shermanbury Farmlands – corridor and substation within this area •O3 – Steyning & Henfield Brooks (near Shermanbury) • G1 – Ashurst & Wiston Wooded Farmlands • F1 – Pulborough, Chiltington & Thakeham Farmlands <p>-----</p>
Project Scope	The compensation funding will be applied to projects within the spatial scope as described above, towards landscape led enhancement projects within the host landscape areas as part of the Wilder Horsham District Initiative, a partnership project between Sussex Wildlife Trust and Horsham District Council
HDC Compensation Fund timings	TBC
HDC Compensation Fund size	TBC

Principle	Detail
HDC Compensation Fund Payment profile	TBC
HDC Compensation Fund start and index	The Payments to start at commencement of construction. The fund shall not be indexed.
Additional Obligations	The Agreement will also secure the payment to HDC of payments to mitigate the impacts of the Proposed Development on air quality as set out in the Air Quality Mitigation Strategy [REP3-053] as updated at Deadline 5

3. **SDNP Project Long-List of projects**

The final project long-list is to be determined, however as identified in Table 1, the Landscape Enhancement Scheme is to be based on a long-list of projects provided by SDNP, listed in the bullet points below:

3.1 **Re-Nature Fund**

Aims to protect, enhance and create a network of green and blue spaces, which sustainably meet the needs of local communities, support natural ecosystem services and respects the special qualities of protected landscapes by proposing the strategic principles for the planning, delivery and management of natural capital assets in the area.

3.2 **Pounds for Ponds**

Dew ponds are synonymous with the chalk grassland of the South Downs, historically being dug by farmers as a watering hole for livestock and some dating back several hundred years. Over many decades, these have fallen into disrepair or been lost completely. The project aims to reverse this decline by providing vital funding to transform derelict ponds and create some new ones.

3.3 **Beelines**

Working with landowners across the South Downs, Beelines is planting new wildflower corridors to connect pockets of species-rich chalk grassland.

3.4 **Trees for the Downs**

Plant 100,000 trees over the next 5 years, in community spaces, along roads and popular walking routes.

3.5 **Weald to Waves – Arun Valley Landscape Recovery**

Nature Recovery in the Arun Valley project will create a contiguous 2253 ha corridor from Pulborough to Climping in the South Downs National Park into a mosaic of habitats. This initiative, addressing threats like climate change and flooding, aims to support biodiversity, particularly the declining lapwing population.

3.6 **Himalayan Balsam Removal**

A comprehensive strategy for the removal of invasive Himalayan Balsam along the River Rother in the South Downs, promoting both environmental conservation and community participation.

3.7 **Lapwing Project**

The South Downs Cluster Farm Lapwing Project seeks to address the declining lapwing population in Sussex and Hants, focusing on areas like the Arun Valley and Norfolk Estate.

3.8 **East Sussex Hedgehomes**

Creating larger, improved, and interconnected hedgerows, forming crucial wildlife corridors within the UK's South Downs National Park. Hedgerows, identified as a Priority Habitat, hold immense ecological and cultural significance in the farmed landscape.

3.9 **Ouse Valley Nature Reserve Expansion**

Rooted in a rich history of collaborative efforts involving stakeholders like the Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust, local authorities and community groups, the objective is to expand the Nature Reserve from Newhaven to Bishopstone.

3.10 **Cultural Heritage Public Engagement**

Funding to enable National Park-led, in association with partners including Worthing Museum to run events such as archaeologist-led walks, additional schools engagement programme, project film, loans boxes and a free lecture/talks event. This would be in addition to any package secured through the WSI and would deliver social as well as economic value to the local area.

3.11 **Creation of Super National Nature Reserve at Lullington Heath and Seven Sisters Country Park**

Chalk Coast National Nature Reserve proposal which would become the first "ground water inspired" super National Nature Reserve (sNNR). Connecting drinking water, chalk geology and habitats and regenerative farming to provide vital services for people living, working, and visiting this part of the South Downs. Funds would go towards resources to help with the implementation, post-declaration.

3.12 **South Downs - Way Ahead**

This proposal advocates for vital improvements to road crossings along the South Downs Way, with a specific focus on enhancing connections around the A24, A283 and A273, enhancing visitor safety, addressing potential hazards and streamlining pedestrian access.

3.13 **Mend our Way**

Responding to our recent South Downs Way Accessibility Assessment, which highlighted the need for enhanced access for individuals with diverse mobility challenges, including those with sight loss/impairment and neurodiversity.

APPENDIX 1

Draft S106 Agreement with Horsham District Council

[to be appended at Deadline 6]

APPENDIX 2

Draft Tripartite Agreement with South Downs National Park Authority and Horsham District Council

[to be appended at Deadline 6]