

COUNCIL
3RD MARCH 2020

BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY (BBNPA)

RECOMMENDATIONS/KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

It is recommended that the Council's representation on the BBNPA be revised in accordance with the decision of Welsh Government and that Cllr Andrew James be appointed as the Council's sole representative on the BBNPA.

REASONS:

To comply with a change in legislation to Parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 2 to the National Park Authorities (Wales) Order 1995.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted	N/A
Exec Board Decision Required	NO
Council Decision Required	YES

Executive Board Portfolio Holder: Cllr Emlyn Dole (Leader)

Directorate	Chief Executive's	Tel Nos.
Name of Head of Service:	Designations:	01267 224012 LRJ
Linda Rees Jones	Head of Administration & Law	01267 224026 GM
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
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3RD MARCH 2020

BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

On 11 April 2017 the Welsh Government commenced a consultation on proposals for the reduction in the membership of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA). The proposal within the consultation was to reduce the membership from 24 to 18 members to be achieved by reducing the number of Local Authority members from 16 to 12 and the number of Welsh Minister appointees from 8 to 6.

The Council, formally objected to reducing Carmarthenshire's membership to 1 member as it was disproportionate to the proportion of Carmarthenshire land located within the park, and proposed that Carmarthenshire's representation should be unchanged.

The Council has now been advised by the Deputy Minister for Local Government and Housing that the reduction in Carmarthenshire County Council representation on the National Park Authority (from the current 2 members to 1 member) will take effect from 1st April 2020.

Schedule 7 of the Environment Act 1995 states that the Council should "have regard" to the desirability of appointing members onto the NPA who represent different electoral divisions situated either wholly or partly within the Park and the largest percentage of land is currently within electoral wards held by the Plaid Cymru Group.

The Council is currently represented on the park by Councillors Andrew James (80% of ward within park area) and Kevin Madge (50% of ward within park area), as such it is recommended that the Council's representation on the BBNPA be revised in accordance with the decision of Welsh Government and that Cllr Andrew James be appointed as the Council's sole representative on the BBNPA.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities NONE	Legal YES	Finance NONE	ICT NONE	Risk Management Issues NONE	Staffing Implications NONE	Physical Assets NONE
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Legal

Schedule 7 of the Environment Act 1995 states that the Council should “have regard” to the desirability of appointing members onto the NPA who represent different electoral divisions situated either wholly or partly within the Park.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

1. **Scrutiny Committee** - Not applicable
2. **Local Member(s)** - Not applicable
3. **Community / Town Council** - Not applicable
4. **Relevant Partners** - Not applicable
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Environment Act 1995 - Schedule 7		https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/25/schedule/7
Letter from the Deputy Minister for Housing and Local Government	GM/OB	Democratic Services, County Hall, Carmarthen