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From: [David Illsley](#)

To: sue@officeoverload.com

Sent: Monday, November 08, 2010 2:43 PM

Subject: National Park governance review

Sue,

Apologies for not being in touch since our meeting in October (I have been on annual leave from 30 October until this morning).

We have now received confirmation from Defra that the national consultation on the governance arrangements for National Park Authorities in England will be launched tomorrow (9 November 2010). The consultation will last for 12 weeks, closing on 1 February 2011, and all responses should be sent to Defra in the first instance.

To raise awareness of this imminent consultation oral updates were given at the National Park Authority meeting in Hythe on 29 October and at the New Forest Consultative Panel meeting in Lyndhurst on 4 November. These meetings were an opportunity to inform people that the consultation is timetabled to start in November and that the Authority will be organising a number of public meetings to allow people to find out more.

As soon as the national consultation is launched we will publicise the review on our website and issue a press release setting out the scope of the review and the public meetings organised. As you are aware, we have also held back the publication of the *Park Life* magazine to ensure that information on the governance review and the details of the public meetings can be publicised to as wide an audience as possible (including those without access to a computer). *Park Life* is due to be delivered to around 90,000 people over the next couple of weeks and an electronic version will also be available on the Authority's website shortly.

As we discussed in October, four meetings have now been arranged in each of the geographical quadrants within the National Park to engage local communities and stakeholders in the review. We've aimed to avoid the final week or so before Christmas, and also ensure that the meetings are held towards the start of the 12 week consultation to allow people ample opportunity to comment by 1 February 2011. As well as featuring in *Park Life*, details of these meetings will also appear on the Authority's website and the press release, thereby giving 3 weeks notice of the first meeting, and over 5 weeks notice of the final meeting.

- Tuesday 30 November 2010: Brockenhurst Village Hall, Highwood Road, Brockenhurst (2pm – 8pm)
- Tuesday 7 December 2010: New Forest Centre, main car park, Lyndhurst (2pm – 8pm)
- Thursday 9 December 2010: Landford Village Hall, Lyndhurst Road, Landford (2pm – 8pm)
- Wednesday 15 December 2010: Hyde Memorial Hall, Blissford Hill, Hyde (2pm - 8pm)

I hope this update is useful. I'm happy to email you a link to the Defra consultation website as soon as it is available (the consultation material is embargoed until Defra launch it tomorrow), and we will of course include a link to the Defra website from the Authority's website.

Regards

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