



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Planning Review Panel
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	10 November 2020
BRIEF REPORT:	
<p>Since the last report the major part of the panel's time has been spent on the Council's response to the government proposals on planning. This is shown in the Members' weekly update for week commencing 16 November and does not therefore need to be included here. The panel has also discussed Planning Appeals decisions, future possible land availability and the following:</p> <p><u>Progress on Severn Estuary Recreation and Mitigation Strategy</u></p> <p>The Severn Estuary, of which some 22 kilometres of the Upper Severn Estuary is in the Stroud District, is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar site for its overwintering birds, estuarine habitats and associated migratory species of fish. The Estuary is known to attract visitors from wide ranging areas, who visit for recreational purpose. It is therefore essential that the area be managed so that both Wildlife, in particular migratory birds, and visitors may use the area without disturbance. With this in mind discussions are continuing on the following topics amongst many others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The creation of 'quiet' areas within the upper Severn Estuary where recreation and other activities are discouraged;• Working with and providing advice to landowners on how to increase the suitability and capacity of new habitat and alternative recreational areas;• Creation of new wildfowl feeding and roosting habitat in appropriate locations;• The proposal to divert the present Severn Way Footpath back to its original route; and• The promotion of particularly less sensitive sites or routes to dog walkers and raising of awareness of disturbance issues.	
FUTURE MEETINGS	15 December 2020, 12 January, 16 February, 16 March, 13 April 2021
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Nigel Studdert-Kennedy
DATE	23 November 2020