

**THAMES BASIN HEATHS  
JOINT STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

Date: 3 June 2008

Subject: **Monitoring Strategy**

Report of: Kristoffer Hewitt, Natural England

**Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Consider draft monitoring strategies and updates which are attached.
2. Endorse consultation by Natural England of the monitoring strategies to member organisations of the JSPB and AMP between 9 June and 25 July 2008.
3. Support further investigation of upfront funding for monitoring officer with consideration of Access Management proposals with pay back from developer contributions
4. Support further investigation of upfront funding for baseline information (visitor counts, face to face surveys, car park surveys, postal surveys) with pay back from the developer contributions.

**Purpose of the Report:**

To update the JSPB on Monitoring Strategies.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 There is a requirement to ensure that funding from developer contributions for avoidance and mitigation measures on the Thames Basin Heaths SPA are adequately monitored. The monitoring strategy is being developed by Natural England.
- 1.2 The final monitoring strategy is to provide confidence for the avoidance and mitigation measures that have been put forward to either:
  - a. Demonstrate success or
  - b. Where parts are unsuccessful identify what mechanisms need to be changed.
- 1.3 A monitoring workshop was held in Reading 13 May 2008 and attended by 30 participants from member organisations of the JSPB and Access Management Partnership.

## **2. The Monitoring Strategy Summary**

- 2.1 The monitoring strategy is currently divided into 2 separate strategies reflecting the expertise of the consultants involved. These will be merged after the consultation period between 9th June and 25th July 2008.
- 2.2 The presentations held at the Monitoring Workshop (13 May 2008) are on the SEERA website.
- 2.3 Monitoring, reporting and research required for the SPA needs to be further consolidated to avoid duplication and inconsistency between internal reporting procedures within Local Authorities and to Natural England, SEERA, GOSE.
- 2.4 Funding for a monitoring officer, baseline analysis and equipment needs to be funded upfront and paid back over the period of the delivery framework.

## **3. Appendices**

Appendix A: Monitoring Strategy for SANGS, Access Management and Birds

Appendix B: Monitoring Strategy for Planning

Appendix C: Update on Monitoring - Planning

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