

Chairman's Announcements

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| Subject: | The public consultation of the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage (WHS) Site Management Plan 2015 |
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Summary of announcement:

The WHS Coordination Unit wants to make members of Community Area Boards aware of the public consultation taking place December 2014* – February 2015 on the Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Management Plan 2015 and to give members an opportunity to comment if they so wish.

The WHS Coordination Unit is based in the Heritage and Arts team at the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre in Chippenham. The Unit is a partnership between English Heritage, the National Trust and Wiltshire Council.

The Unit has produced the first joint Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage (WHS) Management Plan for publication in 2015. The Plan provides a long term strategy to protect the World Heritage Site for this and future generations.

The primary aim of the Plan is to protect the Site by sustaining its Outstanding Universal Value, and to achieve an appropriate balance with other interests such as tourism, farming, nature conservation, roads and traffic, research, education and the local community.

This document sets out the management issues of the WHS and how these will be dealt with by the many partners who are involved in the management of the WHS. Partners include: English Heritage, the National Trust, MoD, the North Wessex Downs AONB, Natural England, Wiltshire Council and town and parish councils amongst others.

The public consultation process gives people an opportunity to review the Management Plan to ensure that it addresses the key issues which impact upon the WHS and the aims, policies and actions set out address these issues.

The consultation will be available on the Wiltshire Council website** and members of the public can comment directly through the website, by email to stonehengeandaveburywhs@wiltshire.gov.uk

or by post to:
The WHS Coordination Unit
Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre
Cocklebury Road
Chippenham
SN15 3QN

The final Management Plan will be sent to the Department of Culture Media and Sport and then to the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO.

*Dates TBC

**The web link will be provided once available.