# Our 20-year Vision for the Tamar Valley

The people of the Tamar Valley are stewards of this rare valley and water landscape, of high visual quality, a unique wildlife resource with a remarkable heritage, which is a legacy of thousands of years of human occupation. By supporting a thriving community with a sense of belonging and identity, we will ensure the sustainability of the area as a peaceful, tranquil breathing space, at a time of unprecedented change.

The AONB partnership comprises of 28 organisations that cover the geographic extent of the AONB and provide a breadth of expertise and insight into local issues.

### **Finances 2017-18**

# Unrestricted income Invasives Heritage Lottery Fund 1% Local Authority Grants Defra Grant 76% Expenditure Partnership Running Costs 0% Accommodation/Office Equipment 15% Staff and Associated Costs 68%

We receive our core funding from DEFRA, Cornwall Council, Devon County Council, West Devon Borough Council and South Hams District Council.



Total Income £246,888

www.tamarvalley.org.uk t: 01822 835030 e: info@tamarvalley.org.uk

Total Expenditure £246,888



# Working with partners

- TVAONB continued to work with Devon Ash dieback Resilience Forum to develop ways to mitigate and adapt to the impact of the spread of the disease.
- Contributed to the initial discussions around the implications of BREXIT on the UK's projected landscapes and the opportunities for AONBs post BREXIT.
- Produced 5 AQA units for the Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat Project to help recognise volunteers learning and contribution to the project.

# Conserving and enhancing the landscape

- TVAONB awarded £9,900 by the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Heralds of Spring project to encourage community recording of our heritage daffodils and promoting awareness of their importance as a heritage collection in the landscape.
- Work continued on putting together a Heritage Lottery Fund bid for the Tamara Landscape Partnership which was unsuccessful on first submission but encouraged to apply in 2018.
- TVAONB became partner in Plantlife's Heritage Lottery Fund supported Building Resilient Landscapes project, based on Atlantic Oak woodlands helping to manage and sustain their very important lower plant flora.

# Bringing the rivers back into focus

- Giant Hogweed programme successfully completed for the 2017 season. Number of plants in the Tamar for this season suggest 297 plants significantly down from around 3.658 in 2012.
- Tamara Landscape Partnership had the rivers as a key theme in shaping the project.
- Continued to provide input to the Tamar Estuaries and Consultative Forum.
- Hosted the Tamar Catchment Partnership at the Tamar Valley and provided a brief overview of work of the AONB and the Tamara Landscape Partnership.

# Supporting the economy and communities

- Tamar TLC set up to raise, manage and distribute funds to enhance, conserve and protect the Tamar Valley AONB.
- Continued to work with the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership to promote the Tamar Valley Line.
- TVAONB co-ordinated and hosted a successful Annual Forum around the theme of Health and Wellbeing with some excellent guest speakers which attracted around 60 attendees.
- Sport England awarded funding to a project developed by Active Devon and the
  Devon Nature Partnership for the Connecting Actively to Nature project and the
  TVAONB team highlighted a Healthy Walks programme centred around Bere Alston
  as a programme to deliver as part of this project.

### **Key statistics**

## In the community...

- Heralds of Spring project produced 352 records from 20 volunteer surveyors who contributed 223 volunteer surveying hours and identified 104 different historic daffodil varieties.
- The very successful Heralds of Spring daffodil conference was attended by 60 delegates.
- Around £5,000 has been awarded to 8 projects throughout the TVAONB by the Sustainable Development Fund.

## Spreading the word....

- Approximately 40 press releases have been issued to mainly local and regional media throughout the year to generate interest and awareness on a number of topics.
- Monthly e-bulletins continue to keep 1,638 people updated on progress with projects and provide opportunities to become involved.
- Social media –1,014 followers on Facebook, 1,584 on Twitter
- Number of Valleys distributed 14,000

### Sustainable planning for the Valley...

• Over the past year, 177 planning applications of varying complexity have been assessed by the AONB. 60 of these have been fully reviewed and responded to.