

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL DECISION

**DECISION OF: COUNCILLOR PETER BRYANT.
THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

**WITH ADVICE FROM: THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND
ENVIRONMENT**



DECISION NO: 18/19 DE 385

SUBJECT: Adoption of the Worlebury Camp Hillfort Conservation Management Plan 2018-2025

KEY DECISION: NO

BACKGROUND:

Worlebury Camp is a large Iron Age hillfort located on a limestone promontory to the north of Weston-super-Mare. It sits at the western spur of Worlebury Hill covering an area of approximately 10 hectares, within the larger Weston Woods (130 hectares). It is afforded the highest protection for a heritage asset in England, as a Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List for England number: 1011260).

The land within which the hillfort sits is owned and managed by North Somerset Council. Worlebury Camp was placed on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register in 2016, categorised as vulnerable, with the principal threats being trees and vegetation.

An archaeological condition survey was commissioned in 2017 to identify the threats and risks to the scheduled monument, and the findings were used to help inform this Management Plan.

The Management Plan was subject to public consultation between 12th October and 9th November 2018, and all responses have been taken into consideration and included where feasible.

DECISION:

That North Somerset Council adopts the Worlebury Camp Hillfort Conservation Management Plan 2018-2015.

REASONS:

The purpose of the Management Plan is to provide a framework for coordinated management of this outstanding example of an Iron Age hillfort in North Somerset.

The adoption of the Management Plan will help conserve this part of Weston Woods and a nationally important heritage asset, and enable steps to be taken to ensure its preservation.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

None

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Delivery of the Management Plan is by North Somerset Council, together with others who have an interest in the site, including local community groups, volunteers, Weston-super-Mare Town Council, Weston Museum, and local schools.

The Plan cannot be implemented solely by North Somerset Council. It will depend on a proposal to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to enable the capital works set out in the plan's objectives, with support from North Somerset Council in the form of some match-funding, as well as in kind contributions from project partners.

Costs

No costs will be incurred to adopt the Management Plan, but funding will be required to implement the objectives it sets out.

Funding

Funding will be sought from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to implement the Management Plan's objectives, along with an element of match funding by North Somerset Council and in-kind contributions from project partners.

The procedures set out in the Council's Financial Regulations will be followed.

LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

CONSULTATION

The Management Plan was subject to public consultation between 12th October and 9th November 2018. Recommendations have been incorporated into this document.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Adopting this Management Plan will enable the Council to fulfil its duties to have regard to the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets, particularly scheduled monuments (under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979), when carrying out its operations and statutory duties.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? Yes / No

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

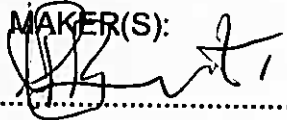
It is part of North Somerset Council's duty as the owner of this Scheduled Monument to ensure its preservation, and subsequent removal from the Historic England Heritage at Risk Register.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The full text of the Management Plan is available on the North Somerset Council website:
<http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/hillfort>


SIGNATORIES:

DECISION MAKER(S):

Signed: .....Executive Member for Environment

Date: 15/04/2019.....

WITH ADVICE FROM:

Signed: .....Assistant Director (Placemaking and Growth)
Development and Environment. In accordance with paragraph 1.5 of the Council's
constitution (May 2018), officer authorisations and delegations

Date: 5/4/2019.....

