

Arun Valley Vision Group (AVVG)

Terms of Reference (March 2017)

Aims of the Arun Valley Vision Group

- The Arun Valley Vision Group (AVVG) will carry out a new community-led partnership project to develop a sustainable long-term 'Vision' for what interested stakeholders and the wider community want for the lower Arun and how it could be achieved and managed.
- Reflecting our sense of pride and place in the Arun Valley and its special qualities, our aim is to provide a landscape-wide context for the consideration of flood management issues.
- Working collaboratively we will aim to find a sensible and affordable balance between the needs of conservation, land management and protection of people and properties against flood risk as time passes.

Objectives of the Arun Valley Vision Steering Group

- Working together to understand the strategic challenges and opportunities that exist within the Arun Valley.
- Production of a strategic long-term 'Vision' (including an action plan) that identifies agreed outcomes and details what on the ground activity is needed in order to achieve them. The 'Vision' and action plan will focus on working in partnership and implementing actions that will seek to reduce flood risk, improve water resources and water quality and identify opportunities for improved nature conservation, access and recreation in the Arun Valley.
- Ensure that work to improve rivers and reduce flood risk in the Arun Valley is well informed by evidence/data and best practice. Ensure that the work of the steering group and wider partnership takes account of all relevant plans and strategies that include the Arun catchment area.
- Co-ordinate and integrate existing collaborative groups and activity with relevant aims into the Arun Valley 'Vision' where appropriate.
- Maximise the use of steering group resources/skills and develop a funding strategy identifying key funding sources.
- Direct and oversee the work of any task and finish groups in order to deliver work on the ground that achieve the agreed outcomes.

Ensure effective communication and engagement by adopting a joined up approach to engagement with communities, government and MPs.

- Ensure completion of all of the above at the latest by January 2019

Membership responsibilities

Members of the Arun Valley Vision Steering Group commit to:

- Work collaboratively, using an honest and transparent approach.
- Regular meeting attendance, avoiding delegation.
- Contribute to agenda setting and agreeing the direction for the group.
- Share organisational priorities for managing flood risk
- Bring strategic issues raised within their organisation to the group for discussion.
- Feedback relevant information to colleagues within their organisation.
- Developing and communicating partnership key messages externally.

Ways of working

- Agenda items will be led and owned by a variety of organisations.
- Actions will be delivered by all group members.
- Discussion will focus on issues relating to flood risk management, which are within the control of the represented organisations.

Meetings and secretariat

- **Frequency** - The Arun Valley Vision Steering Group will meet approximately every 6 weeks. The frequency of meetings will be reviewed as the project progresses. Where members agree, additional telecons or meetings may be arranged.
- **Location** - A programme of meeting dates and locations will be agreed in advance.
- **Chair** – The group will be independently co-chaired by Dr John Godfrey and Gill Farquharson.
- **Secretariat** - The Environment Agency will provide the secretariat for the group, including distributing papers before the meeting, producing action notes and issuing external communications about the partnership. All group members are expected to contribute to meeting papers for agenda items on which they are leading.

Steering Group Members

Name	Organisation	Endorsement
Dr John Godfrey	Independent Chair	
Gill Farquharson	Independent Chair	
Gordon Wilson/Joss Carter	Environment Agency	
Kate Rice	Southern Water	
John Archer	Arun and Rother Rivers Trust	
Jayne Field	Natural England	
Claire Kerr	RSPB	
Tony Whitbread	Sussex Wildlife Trust	
Peter Knight	Duke of Norfolk Estate	
Adrian Waller	Amberley Landowners	
Matt Jackson	West Sussex County Council	
Tom Ormesher	NFU	
Roger Spencer	Arun District Council	
Anne Harriott/Derek Waller	Arundel Town Council	
Matthew Woodcock	Forestry Commission	
Jeremy Burgess	SDNPA	