The New Forest will be England’s ninth National Park (including the Broads which has similar status), ensuring that this unique area is enhanced and conserved for future generations. A National Park Authority (NPA) is in the process of being created. Its statutory purposes will be:

1. To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park;
2. To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.

Further information, including a map detailing the boundary, can be found on the Defra website: www.defra.gov.uk

National Park Authority Members

Members appointed by the Secretary of State - Closing date 18 October

As noted in Issue 2, Margaret Beckett, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is looking for 6 individuals to appoint as members. Suitable applicants will have knowledge, expertise and experience in areas relevant to the purposes of the National Park.

Further details on this appointment and an application form can be obtained from:

Carol Foster
The Countryside Agency
John Dower House
Crescent Place
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL50 3RA
Tel: 01242 533 284
Fax: 01242 584 270
E-mail: carol.foster@countryside.gov.uk

Application forms are also available on the Defra website at: http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/appointments/index.htm

Completed application forms must be returned to the Countryside Agency by no later than Monday, 18 October 2004.

Members from Local Authorities

Defra’s proposals on how many appointments each local authority should make were described in Issue 2. Comments from local authorities and others with an interest should be sent by 6 December to:

Alasdair Grant
CYD 6
Defra
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6EB
**Additional National Park areas**

Following consultation, running from 26 July to 23 August, there have been 3 objections to the proposed additional areas. There will therefore be an inquiry, with the date yet to be fixed.

**Work of the Establishment Team**

The Establishment Team have been working with the support team for the New Forest Committee to plan just what needs to be done so that the National Park Authority can run effectively from April 2005. They are also continuing to familiarise themselves with New Forest issues.

The Preparations Group still meets monthly to advise the Establishment Team on their work. (For more information on the Preparations Group please see Issue 1.)

The Establishment Team can be contacted at:

**Queen’s House**  
**High Street**  
**Lyndhurst**  
**SO43 7BD**  
Tel: 023 8028 6821  
E-mail: newforestnpa@defra.gsi.gov.uk

**Useful contacts**

**Websites:**

- Defra:  
  www.defra.gov.uk
- Countryside Agency:  
  www.countryside.gov.uk
- New Forest Committee:  
  www.newforestcommittee.org.uk

**E-mail addresses:**

- New Forest National Park Establishment Team:  
  newforestnpa@defra.gsi.gov.uk

New Forest National Park Establishment Team

This news update is produced by the Establishment Team, who have been brought together to deal with the process of establishing a National Park Authority for the New Forest National Park. Issues 1 and 2 can be found on the New Forest National Park page on the Defra website:  