

**AGENDA ITEM No.4**

**PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

**URGENT BUSINESS ITEMS SUB-COMMITTEE**

**7 JUNE 2002**

**REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT NATIONAL PARK OFFICER - HEAD OF PLANNING**

**PART A**

**1. PROTOCOL WITH POLAND/PORTUGAL (A.9221/A.9224/WER)**

**Introduction**

- 1.1 This report and recommendation are represented to Urgent Items Sub-Committee at the request of the Resources Committee (Minute 29/02) with additional facts relating to the Europarc Conference on the same date.

**Europarc Conference**

- 1.2 The Europarc AGM and Conference attendance has in the past usually been by the Chair or Deputy and National Park Officer or an Assistant National Park Officer. It is difficult to justify larger attendance due to costs of travel and a decision was taken some years ago to support Europarc only with this profile, because it was seen as extravagant for a larger group of Peak Members to attend. The Authority Chair has attended over the previous four years as an Association of National Park Authorities representative. Last year, the Authority representatives were Tony Hams and John Lomas, in 2000 they were Tony Hams and John Thompson. The Corporate & Democratic Core Best Value Review looked at the situation in 2001 and did not recommend any change. The budget provision in 2001/02 was £2,000 for subscription of £342.74 and attendance for two people.
- 1.3 In 2002/03 the same budget is allocated but the AGM and Conference is in Snowdonia, involving far less travel. However, the current corporate budget spending is higher and the earlier view about several members is still relevant.
- 1.4 The National Park Officer recommends the same attendance as in recent years of two representatives, producing a saving of about £700.

**Proposal**

- 1.5 The attached report (Appendix 1) and recommendation remain unaltered.

**Human Rights**

Any human rights issues have been considered and addressed in the preparation of this report.

**1.6. RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **That a study visit to Ojcow National Park Poland be an authorised visit for Members and officers at their own cost.**

2. That invitations be made to Members and officers with the Chair and Vice-Chair making a selection of up to 8 Members and 8 officers, based on greatest benefit to the Authority.
3. That a subsidy of up to £200 for Corporate costs funded from the Corporate Budget and five days authorised paid leave.
4. That attendance be authorised, but the costs are paid by those attending with 5 authorised days leave for Officers attending.
5. That any vacant places be filled by interested parties at their own cost and time.

List of Background Papers (not previously published)

Nil