

## Board Retained Authority

The Board has specifically reserved the following schedule of matters to itself for decision. This guide highlights the matters that need to come before the Board for decision. All other authority is delegated to the Chief Executive and distributed through the organisation according to the Executive Governance Documents - Financial Scheme of Delegation (N2) and Non-Financial Scheme of Delegation (N3). This retained authority was approved at the September 2006 meeting of the Natural England Skeleton Body, confirmed at the October 2006 meeting of the Board of Natural England.

<p><b>Governance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Governance policy for the Board and its Committees including, but not limited to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Board Committee Terms of References;</li> <li>▪ Establishment and Appointment to Board Committees;</li> <li>▪ Assessment of the Board's own performance.</li> </ul> </li> <li>&gt; The power to grant and revoke financial and non-financial delegations to the Chief Executive.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Financial Delegations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Endorsement of any expenditure that requires Defra approval.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategy and Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Approval of Corporate Strategy and Corporate Plan.</li> <li>&gt; Approval of major changes in agreed strategy.</li> <li>&gt; Approval of significant internal policies.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Appointment and remuneration of the Chief Executive (CE)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Appointment and removal of the CE.</li> <li>&gt; Terms and conditions for the CE.</li> <li>&gt; Performance review of the CE.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Finance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Approval of the annual budget.</li> <li>&gt; Approval of the annual Financial Statements.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Organisational Policies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Approval and review of key organisational policies as determined from time to time, which would include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Occupational Health and Safety;</li> <li>▪ Equal opportunity;</li> <li>▪ Data protection;</li> <li>▪ Intellectual Property;</li> <li>▪ Freedom of information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Compliance, Monitoring and Reviewing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Approval of the internal control, risk, compliance and reporting frameworks.</li> </ul>	

## **SUMMARY OF NON-FINANCIAL DELEGATIONS THAT THE NATURAL ENGLAND BOARD HAVE RETAINED**

### **PART 1 – National Policy and Strategies**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1 Approval of National Policy and Strategies involving potential significant impact on the environment, the organisation or Natural England's reputation

### **PART 2 – Sites of Special Scientific Interest**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. Confirmation of notification, variation, enlargement, notification of additional land, or de-notification (contentious cases)
2. Notification/confirmation in an emergency (Chair)
3. Making Bye-laws

### **PART 3 – National Nature Reserves**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. Acquisition and Declaration of a new NNR; de-declaration of the whole of an NNR on a permanent basis.

### **PART 4 – Marine Nature Reserves**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. Application to SoS for designations of Marine Nature Reserves

### **PART 5 – Advice and responses to consultations**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. Advise SoS on schedules of animals and plants
2. Advise the SoS on planning/ development and other issues affecting the accomplishment of National Park and AONB purposes.
3. Response to consultation from SoS on order for AONB Conservation Board

### **PART 6 – Compulsory Purchase**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. To seek approval for a compulsory purchase

### **PART 7 – National Trails**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. Recommendation to designate a new National Trail
2. Agreement on an extension of a National Trail

### **PART 8 – Planning**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. Significant National Planning policy and responses to significant consultations

### **PART 9 – National Parks (see also 'Policy' for designation policy)**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1. Recommend to designate or vary boundary
2. Approve annual advice to Ministers on level / distribution of NP grants
3. Recommend to Ministers candidates for specific NP Authorities
4. Recommend candidates for Chief Officer for NPs
5. Duty to keep under review progress in accomplishing National Park purposes

**PART 10 – Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1.Recommend to designate or vary boundary 2.Recommend to Ministers candidates for specific Conservation Boards 3.Duty to keep under review progress in accomplishing AONB purposes

**PART 11 – Open Access**

<b>SUBJECT</b>
1.Approve statutory CROW access maps for publication 2.Approve revisions to CROW Mapping Methodology for England