

STEERING GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE

TITLE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Steering Group (the Group) will be known as St Catherine's Hill and Town Common Management Steering Group (SG).

BACKGROUND

The site, Town Common including St Catherine's Hill, comprises two adjoining areas of land that are managed separately by Christchurch Borough Council (CBC) and by Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ARC).

Following advice given by the Forestry Commission Regional Advisory Committee a steering group was formed from representatives of key relevant interests, to formulate a joint management plan for the site. Upon completion of this plan it was agreed that a new steering group will be established to oversee implementation of the plan.

The management plan provides an overview of the site and contains interlinked proposals for the future management of the site. The Group will meet to discuss the actions in the plan and advise and assist the land managers on their implementation. The Group will draw upon outside expert for advice and guidance as required.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Group will consist of the following organisations

- CBC Ward Councillors
- CBC Officers
- Friends of St Catherine's Hill
- Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
- Hurn Parish Council
- Natural England
- Urban Heaths Partnership
- West Christchurch Residents' Association
- Sembcorp Bournemouth Water Company Ltd

A condition of membership is to agree to the objectives below

OBJECTIVES

- To support and promote the priorities of the management plan, including all its objectives and actions
- To assist CBC and ARC to meet their statutory and other responsibilities to their nature conservation and other obligations of the site
- To work together and in partnership with the other representatives, in a conciliatory way, with the aim of implementing the objectives as set out in the management plan
- To champion the management plan and the work of the group to the wider community and support and encourage the exchange of information to assist with these causes
- Meet regularly and as necessary but at least quarterly to monitor the implementation of the actions in the plan

It should be noted that the Group does not have executive powers over the landowner, but acts in an advisory and consultative capacity to the landowners as required.