

### Summer 2021

Natural England began work on the Surrey Hills Boundary Review following a Written Ministerial Statement on the 24th June 2021 by The Rt Hon George Eustice MP, Secretary of State (Defra) which included reference to Natural England taking forward the government's commitment to designate additional protected landscapes.

### 2021 – Autumn 2022

Natural England appointed consultants experienced in this area of work to assist in undertaking the technical assessment of natural beauty and work with local people and stakeholders to ensure that we have access to the best available evidence. This has involved desk-based assessment, field surveys and a public call for evidence exercise (December 2021 – January 2022).

A review of all evidence and field work has been undertaken and used to inform a series of technical assessments which have led to a proposed variation to the Surrey Hills AONB boundary.

### Winter 2022

The technical assessments were submitted to the Natural England Board for approval to undertake a statutory and public consultation on the proposed boundary variation.

### Spring 2023

Documentation was prepared for the subsequent formal statutory and public consultation.

### 7th March – 13th June 2023

Statutory and public consultation period.