

An Introduction to Dorset Local Nature Partnership

9 September 2023

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Dorset LNP Manager



What is an LNP?

Drive positive change in the local natural environment.

Taking a strategic view of the challenges and opportunities involved.

Identifying ways to manage it as a system for the benefit of nature, people and the economy.

Contribute to achieving the Government's national environmental objectives locally.

Become local champions influencing decision-making relating to the natural environment and its value to social and economic outcomes.



The Challenge

The Climate Emergency

The Ecological Emergency

The Health and Wellbeing
Emergency

And cost of living crisis

Maximising the benefits of our natural
environment for wildlife, people and
businesses



Strategic Priorities

- **Natural capital** – increasing investment
- **Natural Economy** – adding value
- **Naturally healthy** – developing Dorset’s ‘natural health service’
- **Natural resilience** – improving environmental and community resilience
- **Natural understanding** – improving engagement in Dorset’s environment
- **Natural influence** – embedding natural value in policy and decision-making



Governance

Board

- 9 independent members
- 2 elected members (DC & BCP Council)
- 1 LEP rep (LNP Chair)
- 1 HWB rep
- 3 co-opted members
- Plus: Officer supports (inc. Defra family and 1.5 FTE LNP Staff - Manager and Assistant)

Forum

350+ members



Natural Capital

Ecological Network Mapping: DERC (2018 & 2020)



DERC
Dorset Environmental Records Centre

How I See The Challenges Of British Farming In 2022



DERC
Dorset Environmental Records Centre

Regenerative Agriculture



Natural Economy



Dr Simon Cripps,
and the Board and Officers of the Dorset LNP



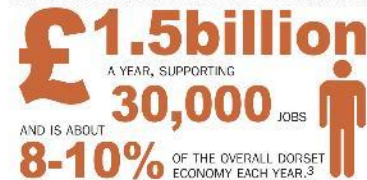
NATURAL VALUE



OF LOCAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT RAISED BY DORSET COMMUNITY ENERGY IN 2015¹



THE ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMY IS WORTH APPROXIMATELY



417.19^{MW} 2019⁴
OF RENEWABLES ENERGY CAPACITY GENERATED IN



References: 1. Dorset Community Energy (2016) 2. South West Research Company (2020) 3. Ash Futures (2015) 4. BEIS (2019)

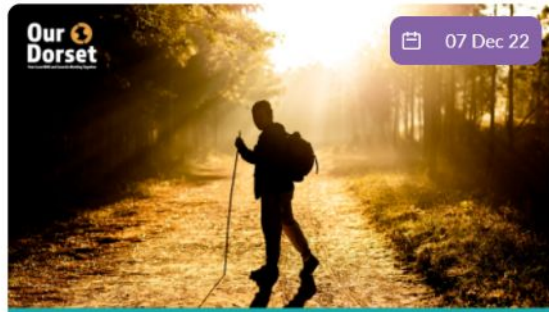


Naturally Healthy



HEALTH
AND
NATURE
DORSET

Working together to connect people
with nature for health and wellbeing



Give Nature a Go Nordic Walking

Give Nature a Go: Nordic Walking

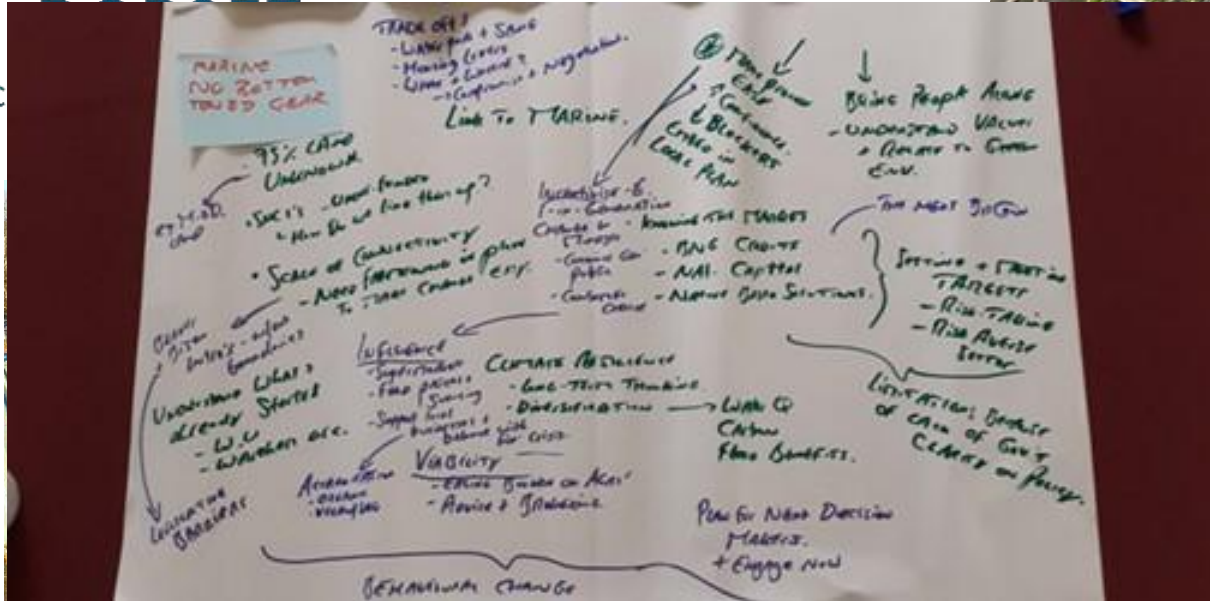
Join Helen Gilchrist for a lesson in the technique of Nordic Walking to enhance fitness and wellbeing.



Natural Resilience



Catch



Natural Understanding



Case Study: Dorset's Natural Capital at its best

Growing for Pollinators: tenant farmer engagement for the benefit of pollinators



How partnership working benefited the project

The project has enabled future partnership working between the National Trust and Bournemouth University. This includes setting up student placements for summer 2018, when BU students will work on projects at National Trust grassland sites, monitoring the progress of habitat restoration and the impact on pollinator species.



Harrowing a field at Burton Bradstock in preparation for re-seeding in 2017 © National Trust

Sharing good practice across the National Trust

An article about the project was included in a tenant farmer newsletter during the year to share good practice.

Future monitoring

The follow up monitoring will be undertaken in the Spring/summer 2018 and subsequent years, and the results will feed into future habitat restoration plans.



The National Trust team hand-broadcast meadow seed at Burton Bradstock in 2017 © National Trust

"Our tenant has started the restoration process by removing dock and thistle from the fields in 2017, both of which have reduced in abundance this year. Later this summer he will be sowing strips of locally sourced green hay to help increase the diversity of the sward and introduce some wildflower seed which will provide a pollen and nectar source for pollinators in future years. He manages the land in a low intensity way, cutting and grazing with belted Galloway cattle and sheep, and this management will help to maintain the restored grassland into the future." Ecology Officer, National Trust

More Information:
West and North Dorset Countryside Team
westdorset@nationaltrust.org.uk
www.dorsetnp.org.uk/case_studies
2018



Case Study: Dorset's Natural Influence at its best

Biodiversity Net Gains from the Weymouth Relief Road construction



Lead Partner: Natural England and Dorset County Council (project completed prior to local government reorganisations)

Other Partners: DWT, RSPB, Dorset AONB

Project Summary

The Weymouth Relief Road is a single carriageway route improving the A354 and bypassing the communities of Broadway, Littlemoor and Upwey. A relief road had been included in Local Plans since 1949.

Over the course of the planning process, the original route which would have crossed the Lorton Valley, dividing the Ladmoor Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), was changed to a less ecologically damaging one, alongside a railway line. The revised route left the valley with an intact, and over time enhanced, network of high quality habitats including nationally important grasslands, woodlands and wetlands.



Flower rich chalk cuttings © John Stobart (NE)

Ecological Losses

Although less damaging, the new road alignment resulted in significant loss to Dorset Wildlife Trust's (DWT) Lorton Meadows Nature Reserve, as well as the Woodland Trust's Two Mile Coppice, which forms part of the Lorton SSSI. The scheme also impacted on the Dorset AONB landscape.

Summary of ecological losses associated with the new road

- 0.6 hectares (ha) of the western edge of Two Mile Coppice, part of the Lorton SSSI. Of this 0.25ha was considered to be ancient woodland though later found not to be and 0.35ha was secondary woodland.
- 0.5ha of other woodland.
- 20.8ha of semi-improved neutral grassland, including 5.5ha approaching Local Wildlife Site (SNCI) quality, 3.1ha of which was in DWT's Lorton Meadows Nature Reserve.
- 1.5ha of semi-improved calcareous grassland.
- 2.9km of mature hedgerow.
- 2.7ha of scrub.



One of the four green bridges © John Stobart (NE)



View of the road with the Southdown Ridge road cutting on skyline © John Stobart (NE)



Former road narrowed with flower rich limestone spoil verges © John Stobart (NE)

Dorset's Nature Young Journalists - Nature and Mental Health

DORSET'S NATURE YOUNG JOURNALISTS

MENTAL HEALTH NATURE WELLBEING

2/3 SERIES

Participation People

Watch on YouTube

Natural Influence



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Consultation Hub Find Consultations We Asked, You Said

Marine Conservation Society

June 2018

National Food Strategy - Call for Evidence

VOICES FOR DORSET

DORSET'S RESPONSE TO THE 25 YEAR ENVIRONMENT PLAN

March 2020

Water Management in Dorset

A Dorset Local Nature Partnership Position Paper

Aim

Dorset Local Nature Partnership wants to see Dorset boasting some of Europe's best drinking water, the highest quality river, estuarine and bathing water and healthy, wildlife-rich and resilient wetland habitats benefiting both local communities and nature.

Dorset Local Nature Partnership therefore makes the following recommendations:

Recommendations for water management in Dorset

- 1) Progress already made should be continued and best practice measures trialled and then widely adopted, for example those already in place in the Poole Harbour catchment and through soft engineering solutions as outlined below. Greater awareness raising of integrated catchment partnership approaches are needed (e.g. through the development of case studies and a cost/benefit analysis to demonstrate the advantages).
- 2) An holistic ecosystem services approach is needed in decision making and Dorset Local Nature Partnership would like to see the following principles utilised when judging proposals:
 - Water management should be integrated into all development plans.
 - Flood defences should be designed and managed to work with nature, and, wherever possible, should take all opportunities to enhance the natural environment.
 - Soft engineering solutions should be adopted as a first and preferred option.
 - Development should not result in upstream or downstream problems such as increased nutrient load, siltation or flooding.
 - Water quality and quantity both for humans and the natural environment should be maintained and enhanced, without compromising future ability to meet Water Framework Directive good ecological status.
 - Ensure that the essential food supplies produced in Dorset do not damage the water cycle, either directly or through the aquifers, and ensure that the true cost of sustainable food is understood by the consumers.
- 3) A public engagement and education programme is needed to raise awareness about water management in Dorset.

Overview

On 27 June, Defra's Secretary of State commissioned an independent review to help the government develop the National Food Strategy for 75 years.

BY
The Board, officers and partners of
the Dorset Local Nature Partnership



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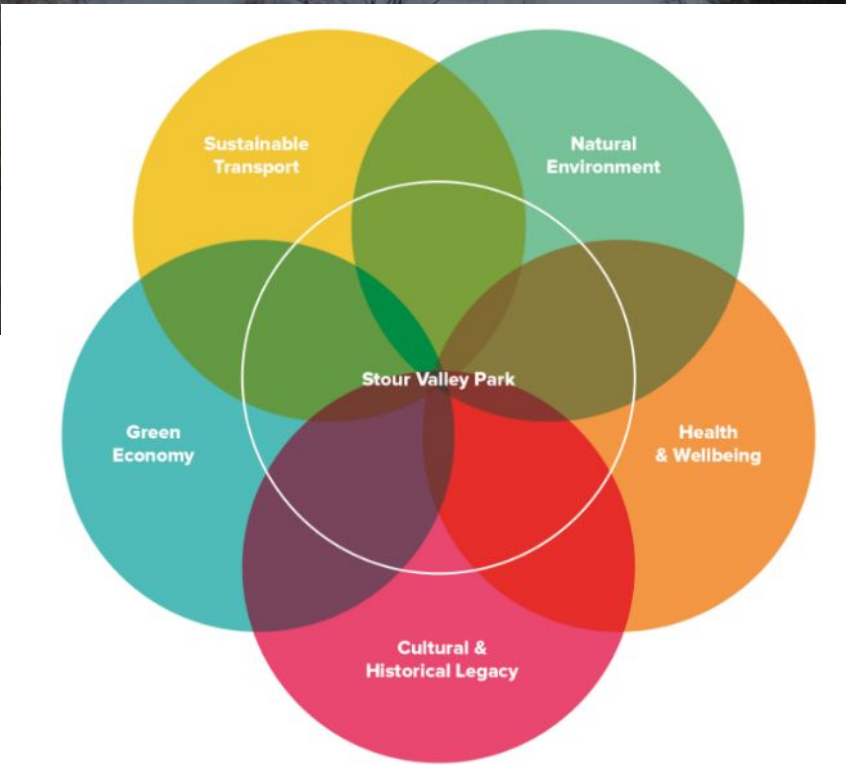
Cross Cutting

STOUR VALLEY PARK

About Story Strategy Webmap Events Lectures Contact

The Stour Valley Park

The UK's First Health and Nature Park



The diagram consists of five overlapping circles: Sustainable Transport (yellow), Natural Environment (green), Health & Wellbeing (orange), Green Economy (teal), and Cultural & Historical Legacy (pink). A central white circle is labeled 'Stour Valley Park'.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Local nature recovery statute

What a local nature recovery statute can do

Presented to
2021
March 2023



The diagram features a central blue circle labeled 'LNRS' (Local Nature Recovery Statute). It is connected to seven surrounding circles: Biodiversity Net Gain (grey), Farmers' nature recovery projects (green), Green Finance (yellow), Public authority 'biodiversity duty' (dark blue), Small scale & individual nature recovery projects (blue), Local Plans & other related strategies (dark blue), and Landscape scale nature recovery projects (orange).



Future Work

Local
Nature
Recovery
Strategy

Green
Finance

Health and
Nature
Dorset

Addressing
Climate
Change

Youth
Engagement

Local Plans

Stour Valley
Park



Thank you

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