



LNP ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017



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FOREWORD

It has been a busy year for the Dorset LNP. Our advice has been sought on a wide range of issues. It is our aim to provide environmental guidance and leadership wherever possible.

Whilst we have covered many areas of work and have several active working groups, perhaps our main focus has been on health & wellbeing and on natural capital. For the former we are seeking to engage the healthcare sector to show how access to and activities in the natural environment can both produce measurable clinical benefits and form a major element of a prevention at scale strategy. With the developing concept of natural capital we are seeking to engage economic and business interests to show how investing and protecting our natural assets results in more sustained, successful and less risky economic development.

There is a growing realisation across sectors that Dorset's competitive business niche is the quality of its natural environment which sustains a wide range of industries from tourism, food & drink and education, to agriculture, fisheries and property development. The flow of businesses and high-quality workforce into the county presents both challenges to protect the very environment that makes Dorset so special, but also opportunities to focus investments and support for our shared environment.

Dr Simon Cripps
LNP Chair



Simon Cripps © Debbie Dye

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Governance, Communication and Resources

LNP Board Meetings

The Dorset LNP Board met four times during 2016-17 on: 15 June 2016, 7 September 2016, 14 December 2016 and 8 March 2017.

Board members

Two Board members stood down in May 2016. Following an open recruitment process two new Board members were recruited in June 2016. For more information visit: dorsetlnp.org.uk/Dorset_LNP_Board or contact the LNP Manager.

Communications

A Dorset LNP Twitter account was set up in December 2015 @dorset_lnp - by March 2017 it had 236 followers.

The LNP e-news bulletin was published in April, July, September 2016 and January 2017 and circulated to 222 forum members.

Funding

During 2016-17 Dorset LNP was financially supported by Borough of Poole, Bournemouth Borough Council, Dorset County Council, Dorset Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Chapman Lily Planning and RSPB.



Above: Board meeting © Maria Clarke

NATURAL CAPITAL

Strategic objective i:
Investing in Dorset's natural assets

Pollinators Bid

Defra launched a funding round in January for LNP to apply for funding to support local pollinator projects – to support the delivery the national pollinator strategy. Dorset LNP led the submission of a bid for a partnership project between Butterfly Conservation, Bournemouth University, Dorset Wildlife Trust and National Trust. The bid was successful and the LNP was granted £4,000. The project is one of only six projects funded across England and scored the second highest in the application assessment. The project will be delivered during 2017-18.

For more information:

dorsetlnp.org.uk/good_news_for_local_pollinators



Above: Bee © Maria Clarke

NATURAL VALUE

Strategic objective ii:
Adding natural value to the local economy

SW Ecosystem Mapping Proposal

Dorset LNP has been working with LNP colleagues across the South West and the Dorset Catchments Partnerships to develop a proposal for the development of a suite of ecosystem service maps and opportunity maps. If the proposal is agreed maps will be developed during 2017-18.



Above: Presentation slides on Ecosystem services © Maria Clarke

NATURAL HEALTH

Strategic objective iii:
Developing Dorset's natural health service

SW LNP Delivering the Health and Wellbeing Benefits of the Natural Environment

Dorset LNP worked with colleagues across the South West to raise the profile of nature-based health and wellbeing. A joint conference was held with the South Region Sustainability and Health Network (run by Public Health England and NHS England) in Bristol, in November. The event was aimed at health professionals and over 120 attended the conference. Two projects from Dorset were highlighted as part of the ten workshop sessions, raising the profile of local action.

The SW LNPs are continuing to work together for phase two of the project during 2017-18.

For more information:
dorsetlnp.org.uk/health_and_nature_conference_Bristol_2016



Above: Health conference © Jon Craig Photography



Natural Choices Roll Out

Above: Lorton Natural Choices
© Sam Dallimore

The Natural Choices programme continues to expand. By the end of March 2017 there were nine providers offering seventeen activities including, mindfulness, gardening, conservation volunteering, health walks and park yoga. The programme continues to work with LiveWell Dorset and is also working with carers support teams to offer activities to carers to offer respite activities to support their own wellbeing.

For more information:
dorsetlnp.org.uk/Natural.Choices

Natural Health Position Paper

Dorset LNP adopted its second position paper, this time on Natural Health in September 2016. The paper highlights evidence demonstrating the value of the natural environment for people's health and wellbeing and makes recommendations to ensure links with natural environment are included within health services.

For more information:
dorsetlnp.org.uk/Dorset_LNP_Position_Papers

NATURAL RESILIENCE

Strategic objective iv:
Improving environmental and community resilience

Climate Change Position Papers

Dorset LNP began drafting a position paper on climate change but agreed to split this into two papers, one on mitigation and one on adaptation, to enable a more detailed view.

The papers are due to be endorsed in June 2017.

Once endorsed it will be available at:
dorsetlnp.org.uk/Dorset_LNP_Position_Papers



Above: Solar farm © Maria Clarke. Flooding © M.Simons, DCC.

NATURAL UNDERSTANDING

Strategic objective v: Improving understanding of, and engagement in, Dorset's environment

30 Days Wild

The Dorset LNP Manager took part in The Wildlife Trust's 30 Days Wild campaign in June 2016. A blog about her activities was included on the LNP website to support the campaign and to raise awareness of the enjoyment of doing 'random acts of wildness'.

For more information:

dorsetlnp.org.uk/30_Days_Wild_Week_4



Above: Going wild © Maria Clarke

NATURAL INFLUENCE

Strategic objective vi:
Integrating natural value in policy and decision-making

LNP Annual Forum: Planning for a Healthy Dorset

The LNP Annual Forum was held in March on the theme of Planning for a Healthy Dorset: healthy environment, healthy people, healthy economy.

The forum was attended by over 70 people - attracting individuals and organisations who had not previously attended LNP events. The forum highlighted the importance of how a healthy environment supports both people's health and wellbeing and a strong economy.

For more information:

dorsetlnp.org.uk/annual_forum_2017_presentations



Above: Annual forum © Maria Clarke



Submissions to consultations and inquiries

The LNP has worked to influence policies and strategies at both the local and national level responding to a range of consultations and inquiries.

Local influence:

- Dorset Health and Wellbeing Strategy Consultation (July 2016)
- Poole Local Plan (Aug 2016)
- Purbeck Partial Review (Aug 2016)
- Waste and Minerals Plan (Aug 2016)
- NDDC sustainability appraisal scoping report (Sept 2016)
- Dorset Unitary Authority Consultation (Oct 2016)

National influence:

- Submissions to Natural Environment after the EU referendum Inquiry (Sept 2016)
- Submission to Future of local parks Inquiry (Sept 2016)
- South Marine Plan Consultation (Jan 2017)

Above: Consultations documents



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During 2016-17 the Dorset LNP was supported by:



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