



# DORSET LNP ANNUAL REPORT

## 2022-2023



# LNP ANNUAL REPORT

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It's always a privilege to write a foreword to Dorset LNPs annual report, before the evidence of how we have brought people together and enabled the development of partnerships to support and develop the opportunities for nature and our engagement with it in the beautiful county of Dorset. For example, our annual forum was a great success, bringing together a range of people and enabling new thinking on how we can both support nature, but also our own well-being.

This year marks a major reformulation of our strategic plan. Like all good plans, this will be a live document, evolving and developing over time. We do not intend for this to sit on shelf and gather dust. We can't. The world is facing a triple crisis, all of which are caused by humans and the way in which we have lived upon the planet, and which have accelerated dramatically since the industrial and agricultural revolutions. The immediate and pressing impacts of climate change, biodiversity degradation and a wider health and wellbeing crisis are interlinked, and as such we intend to work within, and between these priorities over the next few years.

We cannot exist without nature, we exist within it – if we are not ensuring that the sustaining connection is maintained and cherished, and the foundations upon which it is built are supported, we are in trouble. Humans are in the process of creating a situation where the intrinsic importance of the natural world is being forgotten. This is not a sensible approach! We need to work, play, and co-exist far more harmoniously with the natural world around us.

Dorset LNP exists to support, facilitate and enable the working of a range of bodies across the public, private and third sector to improve nature, and address the challenges above. In doing so we act as a conduit for a range of parties including Local Authorities, Healthcare Services, Land Management and others to find the best way forward as co-collaborators in nature-based solutions.



Luke Rake © Kingston Maurward College

It our aim to act on all three challenges thinking globally but acting locally. Our focus is to ensure Dorset is a place where nature thrives, and so do we.

We do all this with no direct funding from government but because of the much appreciated support from member organisations who see the value of a collaboration for the environment we continue our work. To those funders we are extremely grateful as our work could not continue without their understanding and foresight. We continue to work with NGOs and individuals, charities and elected members, so that together we can make Dorset not only naturally healthier, both on land and at sea, but also more resilient to change and minimising our impacts.

We always keen to broaden our reach so if you feel able to help, we would welcome an approach.

**Luke Rake – LNP Chair**

# NATURAL

## CAPITAL

**Strategic objective i:**  
INVEST IN DORSET'S NATURAL ASSETS

### Revising our Strategy and Vision

In May 2022 held a workshop with the LNP Board to begin the process of reviewing the Strategy and Vision, published in 2014. The board agreed that the strategy needed to highlight more urgency in the climate and ecological emergencies. Through the year the strategy was revised, and a further workshop held in November. The revised strategy is due to be published in Summer 2023.

**For more information:**  
[www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/dorset-lnp-vision-and-strategy](http://www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/dorset-lnp-vision-and-strategy)



# NATURAL

## VALUE

**Strategic objective i:**  
ADDING NATURAL VALUE TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

### The Great South West

The Local Enterprise Partnerships and the local authorities in the region have been working to develop a prospectus for The Great South West with the strapline of 'The UK's Natural Powerhouse'. The Great South West aims to deliver £45bn of economic benefit and become the leading region for the green and blue economy.

Luke Rake, Dorset LNP Chair, is leading a sub-group of the GSW board to consider Rural, Food, Farming and Fisheries, with the aim of developing an 'ask' to central government to enable resilience in these economic areas. The role of LNPs within this ask has been made explicit, and a draft proposal has been placed before the GSW board in July to create a Rural Economy Office, to act at scale across the region and enable coherent policy and investment development.

Following discussions with the GSW board, further work is planned over the summer of 2023 to now create a detailed model to enable discussions with DEFRA to occur in the Autumn.

More information at:  
[www.greatsouthwest.co.uk](http://www.greatsouthwest.co.uk)



# NATURAL HEALTH

Strategic objective iii:  
DEVELOPING DORSET'S NATURAL HEALTH SERVICE

## Health and Nature Dorset (HAND)

HAND continued to develop through the year with a series of three Theory of Change workshops held in the summer to refine the purpose of the collaboration. HAND secured funding from Natural England to undertake some insight gathering into potential barriers for people with long term health conditions for using nature to support their wellbeing.



The HAND Steering Group was launched in March 2023.

HAND ran a nature-based wellbeing programme for the Integrated Care System ICS (those working in NHS Trusts,

social care, primary care and the unitary councils – BCP and Dorset). A wide range of activities were held, including yoga and Tai Chi in parks, forest bathing, pony handling, arts in nature, wellbeing walks in nature reserves, and archaeological walks.

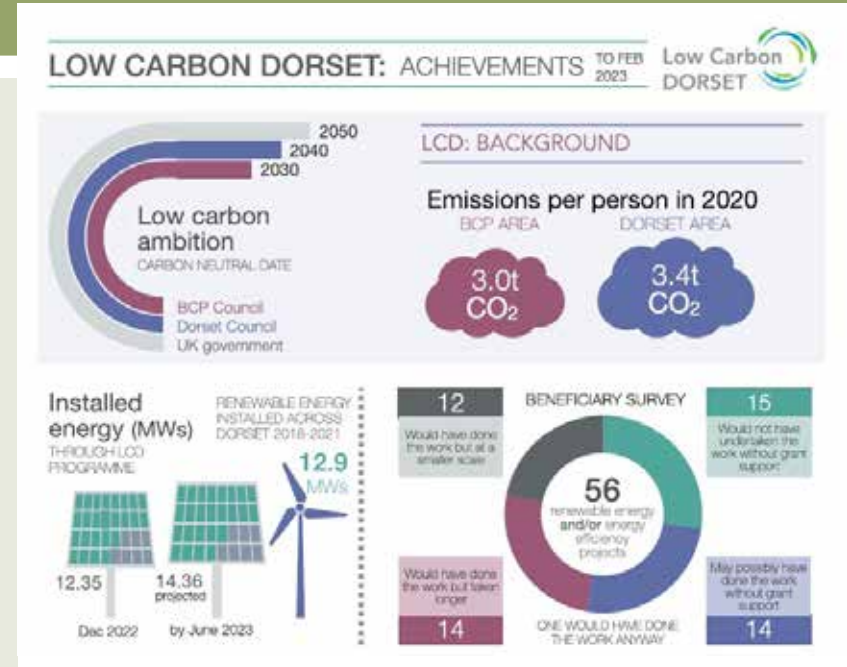
More information:  
[www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/hand](http://www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/hand)

# NATURAL RESILIENCE

Strategic objective iv:  
IMPROVING DORSET'S RESILIENCE

## Low Carbon Dorset Panel

Dorset LNP continued to be the assessment panel for larger-scale bids to the Local Carbon Dorset programme to ensure transparency. One panel meeting was held during in June 2022, as the programme came to an end. Funding was granted to the one project assessed. The project was expected to deliver the outcomes below:



Objective	Measurable output
Increasing the amount of renewable energy capacity in Dorset	0.160 Mega Watts (MW)
Reducing greenhouse gas emissions	43 tonnes CO2e per annum
Grant funding approved	£302,082.00
Total project costs of projects approved	£755,205.00

The Low Carbon Dorset programme support climate change mitigation aims.

More information available at:  
[www.lowcarbondorset.org.uk/our-partners](http://www.lowcarbondorset.org.uk/our-partners)

# NATURAL

## UNDERSTANDING

**Strategic objective v:**  
UNDERSTANDING NATURAL VALUE

### Improving Engagement: Dorset's Nature Young Journalists

Working with Dorset Wildlife Trust and Participation People (a national Youth Voice organisation) we ran a Young Journalist programme, training a group of eleven 14–18-year-olds from across Dorset in journalism skills with a focus on environmental issues. The project was funded through the Nature Heals programme from the Fine Family Foundation. The project raised awareness in the group of the climate and ecological emergencies and gave a greater understanding of the wellbeing benefits nature can give. A blog and three podcasts were produced by the Young Journalists.

More information: [www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/young-journalists](http://www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/young-journalists)

### Improving Communication

The Dorset LNP twitter account was set up in November 2015 @dorset\_lnp. In March 2023, the account had 682 followers (up 40 over the year).

E-news bulletins were published in December and February. In March 2023 there were 370 Forum Members (up 38 over the year).

Four LNP Blogs were published: [www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/category/blog](http://www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/category/blog)

The LNP's communication tools help promote the work of the LNP and its partners, and helps engage with new audiences.

# NATURAL

## INFLUENCE

**Strategic objective iv:**  
INTEGRATING NATURAL VALUE IN POLICY AND DECISION-MAKING

### Submissions to engagement and consultations:

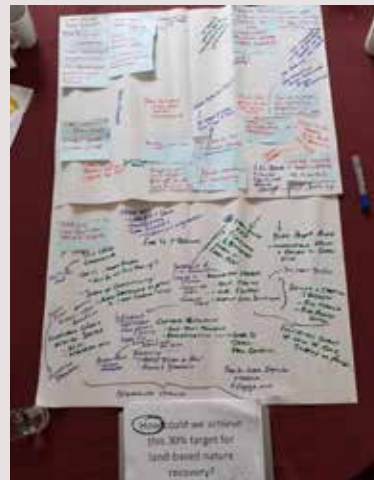
#### Local influence:

- Dorset Council's Review of Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy (The LNP hosted a workshop in November 2022 and commented on revised draft January 2023).

#### National influence:

- Defra Draft Environmental Targets (June 2022)
- Nature Recovery Green Paper Consultation (May 2022)
- Biodiversity Net Gain Consultation (April 2022)
- Landscape Review Consultation (April 2022)

Responding to local and national consultations promotes the LNP's views and aims to shape policies and decision making.



## Governance and Resources

### LNP Board Meetings

The Dorset LNP Board met four times during 2022-23 on 8 June 2022, 16 Sept, 14 Dec 2022 and 8 March 2023, these continued to be held via Zoom due to the pandemic with an in-person meeting in March 2022. The LNP Forum was held on 17 March 2023.

For more information:

[www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/dorset-lnp-board](http://www.dorsetlnp.org.uk/dorset-lnp-board)  
(or contact the LNP Manager).

### Staffing

Dorset LNP is staffed by the LNP Manager (1 FTE) and the LNP Assistant (0.6 FTE).

### Funding

During 2022-23 the Dorset LNP was supported with core funding by:

- BCP Council
- Dorset Council
- Dorset Wildlife Trust
- Public Health Dorset
- Wessex Water





**Maria Clarke**  
Dorset LNP Manager

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During 2021-22 the Dorset LNP was supported by:

