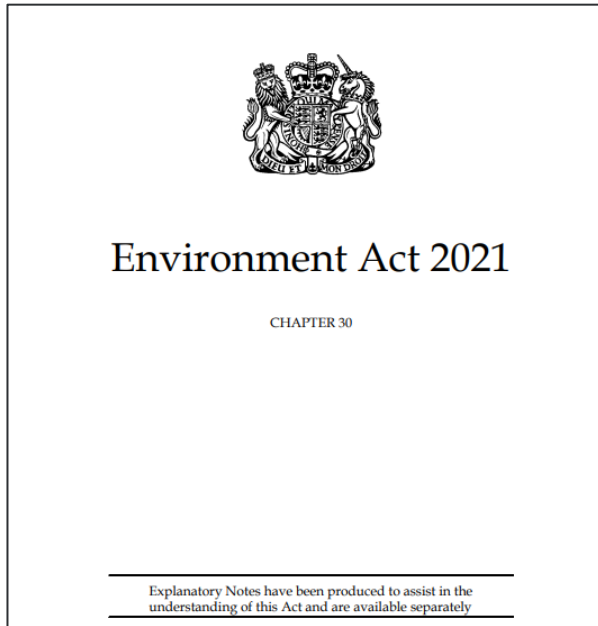


Dorset local nature recovery strategy

Planning agents' forum 14th November 24



Local nature recovery strategies



Local people working together to:

- **Map** important nature areas
- **Describe** nature in Dorset and opportunities for recovery
- Set Nature Recovery **Priorities**
- Propose **activities** to recover nature
- **Map** high opportunity nature areas

Required by The **Environment Act** to help deliver government's Environmental Improvements Targets & a National **Nature Recovery Network**

Preparing Dorset's local nature recovery strategy



Dorset Council are the Responsible Authority appointed by Defra.



BCP Council and Natural England are our Supporting Authorities.



Co-produced by lots of local people and organisations



Components of Dorset's local nature recovery strategy

Statement of Nature Recovery Priorities

Description of

- Dorset's habitats and species
- Pressures on nature
- Opportunities for recovery

Nature Recovery **Priorities**

Potential **Activities**

Species priority list

Nature Recovery Dorset Maps

Local Habitat Map

Plus **extra Dorset layers**

Supporting documents

- Dorset local nature recovery strategy within planning policy
- Consultation and engagement report
- Mapping and data methodology
- Species longlist and methodology

Draft Nature Recovery Priorities



1. Increase and enhance species-rich **grassland** across Dorset by creating larger, better-managed, and interconnected areas

2. Dorset's **woodland** habitats of broadleaved, mixed, wet woodland, and scrub have improved management, are expanded, and are better connected

3. **Heathland** habitats are better, bigger, and connected, and where there are gaps, more wildlife habitat is created

4. **Rivers and lakes** are naturally functioning, and **wetland** habitats are better, bigger, and connected to support wildlife and provide clean water and flood protection.

5. The **coastal** strip is enhanced and restored to safeguard key habitats that protect rare and vulnerable species and space is created for coastal retreat as habitat is lost to erosion and sea level rise.

6. Our **towns and villages** have increased nature-rich spaces, so wildlife can travel between buildings, roads, parks, gardens and the wider countryside.

7. **Sustainable farming** practices are widely adopted to produce good quality food in harmony with nature

8. **Natural process-led** conservation approaches are used more widely to support an ever-changing landscape and functioning ecosystems

9. **Nature-based solutions** are used as the first choice to address wider environmental issues, such as flooding, climate change and pollution.

10. Abundance and diversity of local **species** increases so that sustainable populations are reached and maintained, while invasive non-native species are controlled.

11. More people are informed on nature recovery in Dorset with more people doing something for nature by joining the **Nature Recovery Dorset network**.

12. Dorset's **priority species** needing bespoke conservation action are supported and sustained

Each priority has:

- an explainer paragraph
- a list of potential activities
- a Dorset example

Priority species

- Process set by Defra
- Species task and finish group – 14 local taxonomic experts
- Dorset's species longlist contains **over 800** species
- Species priority list has around **50 individual species or assemblages**, for example salmon, barberry carpet moth
- The species on the priority list require bespoke activities to support their recovery, outside of the general habitat creation/enhancement in the strategy
- Species reintroductions can be part of nature recovery but require careful planning and balancing different viewpoints



Nature Recovery Dorset maps

Local Habitat Map (statutory)

- Three layers
 1. Nature Areas – National Importance [Defra name: APIB]
 2. High Opportunity Nature Areas [Defra name: ACB]
 3. Potential activities [Defra name: Measures]
- Submit to Defra
- Joined up across England
- Static / not changed until local nature recovery strategy review instructed (3-10yrs)

Local nature recovery maps

- 5 additional layers for Dorset
 4. Nature Areas – Local Importance
 5. Habitats and ecological networks
 6. Nature Recovery Dorset network
 7. Wider environmental benefits
 8. Nature nearby
- Access via Dorset Explorer

Nature
areas –
national
importance

- Map in development

Draft high
opportunity
nature
areas

- Map in development

Current timeline



Summer 2023: Formation of steering group and advisory groups

Autumn 2023 – Spring 2024:

Advisory groups working on:

- draft pressures and opportunities for nature in Dorset
- mapping areas for nature- national importance
- communications plan and Nature Recovery Dorset branding

May – June 2024: Advisory groups propose Nature Recovery Priorities. Start preparing Nature Recovery Dorset maps.

October 2024 – January 2025: Writing the draft Dorset local nature recovery strategy including review by advisory groups.

July - August 2025: Final draft of the Dorset local nature recovery strategy using consultation responses

July 2023: Dorset Council appointed as the Responsible Authority for producing the Local nature recovery strategy for Dorset. BCP Council and Natural England Appointed as Supporting Authorities.

September – March 2024: Opportunities for people to input:

- Dorset COP
- Dorset Coast Forum annual conference
- Local Nature Partnership Annual Forum
- Making Dorset Local Nature Recovery Strategy work for farm businesses
- Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils

Spring 2024: Analysis of outputs and feedback from engagement. Formation of the farmer clusters group.

July – September 2024: Wider engagement on the priorities, activities, and maps

February – June 2025: Consultation on the draft Dorset local nature recovery strategy. Formal statutory consultation April – June.

Autumn 2025: Publishing of the Dorset local nature recovery strategy



The Nature Recovery Dorset network

- Nature Recovery Dorset celebrates and supports individuals, farmers, landowners, communities and organisations who are helping restore nature in Dorset
- Anyone can [join the network](#) – schools, farms, organisations, businesses, community groups
- By joining you will:
 - help show where activities for nature are happening
 - connect with others
 - get access to free resources to promote your activities
 - share successes, exchange ideas and inspire others
- There's no cost to join

