

Response to the Dorset Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) consultation findings

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Photo: Janna Bloice

Introduction

This report outlines responses to the content of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) consultation response analysis report. This response report does not repeat the findings explained in the analysis, such as levels of agreement with each priority or numbers of people willing to do the potential activities, instead it focuses on the consultation findings that require some clarification or an amendment to the strategy.

This response report is still in draft. Responses have been prepared by the LNRS team at Dorset Council, with some input from members of the LNRS steering group and advisory groups where required. The Dorset LNRS steering group have reviewed the changes proposed in this report. An informal briefing on this report was held with some members of Dorset Council Place and Resources Overview Committee. The report will now be presented to BCP Council and Natural England for formal pre-publication approval in October. Once agreed, changes will be made to the LNRS and the final version will be presented to Dorset Council Place and Resource Overview Committee in November, before proceeding to Dorset Council cabinet for final approval to publish on the 9th December 2025.

Some of the actions listed in our response refer to the ‘delivery phase’ of the strategy, this means they are actions we will take after the local nature recovery strategy is published.

Where page numbers and links are included, these refer to the [consultation draft LNRS](#). Please note that the page numbers and links will change in the final updated LNRS.

Responses are split into the following sections:

- [Feedback on overarching topics](#)
- [Feedback on the shared vision and joint mission](#)
- [Feedback on the priorities and potential activities](#)
- [Feedback on the maps](#)

Feedback on overarching topics:

This feedback was brought together from responses to a range of questions in the survey, where common themes were identified and best responded to together.

A. Strategy structure, style and preparation

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
1. Too long, complex and not accessible: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• overly wordy• contains jargon• difficult to navigate• tries to cover too much• some found the PDF easier to follow than the web version	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The LNRS required content was set out in the statutory guidance, therefore it was difficult to deviate away from this and hence the length of the strategy• The strategy used plain English as much as possible and defined technical words, including a glossary of useful terms and video summaries to help people delve into each priority.• The potential activities were grouped to enable people to find the activities most relevant to their sector• For accessibility, two options to view the strategy were provided – a plain text website and downloadable PDF

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> those without internet access or experience are excluded create a shorter, clearer summary for wider engagement 	<p>documents. However, we acknowledge some still had difficulties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper copies of the strategy were made available in libraries during the consultation and support to view the maps on library computers <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the website designers to look for ways to improve navigation around the web content for when final version is published Make a printed copy of the strategy and map available at libraries On the web version, include all activities as a list underneath the option to view just for one sector, for those who want to see them all Take a more targeted approach in sharing specific parts and summaries of the strategy as part of the delivery phase (after strategy publication)
<p>2. Vague or overly simple language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> too simplified lacked seriousness on nature recovery 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of plain English does not detract from the seriousness of the topic but ensure it can be used by a wide range of people across all sectors More technical detail can be found in the supporting documents The strategy is a high-level overview of the range of activities needed for nature recovery across Dorset, therefore further technical detail would only be considered as part of delivering specific nature recovery activities <p>No further action required</p>
<p>3. Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> nature recovery should involve changing cultural values and behaviours, not just restoring habitats the strategy needs to engage the wider public, beyond existing nature organisations concern that it was developed mainly by experts, with limited public input have more local meetings to find out what we can do to help groups offering to share their work and plans which stakeholders represented the BCP perspective? 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many non-environmental groups were involved in strategy preparation The Consultation and Engagement Report explains more about who was involved The public consultation was chance for more people to help shape the strategy Priority 10 sets out the aim to involve even more people and increase nature connection in local communities, in turn increasing involvement in planning and delivering collective action for nature. The Nature Recovery Dorset network was set up during strategy preparation to capture all the great nature activities local people and organisations are already doing across Dorset, and inspire others to get involved. We intend to keep growing the network Many of the representatives on the steering group and advisory group work across the BCP council area, such as Dorset Wildlife Trust, Community Action Network, National Trust and ARC. Communications were shared across BCP Council channels and BCP's greenspace team reached out directly to local environmental community groups <p>Action</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	1. Deliver the activities under priority 10 as part of the delivery phase

B. Balance

<p>4. Balance of nature and productive farmland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support for making space for nature on farmland but farmers also need to produce food and make a sustainable income 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nature in Dorset sections of the strategy notes that it is now widely recognised that some farming methods that were introduced after the war to boost food production have too much impact on the natural environment, wildlife and the soils. Therefore many farmers in Dorset are making changes to more sustainable practices (page 29 of PDF and webpage) The Dorset farm cluster group inputted into Pressure on Nature in Dorset and Opportunities for Recovery supporting document which includes the pressures on those working in land management that impact nature Priority 7 on sustainable farming is all about producing good quality food, in harmony with nature – it was written by the farmers on our advisory groups and includes potential activities local farmers told us they’re already doing or would like to do. It is made clear the shift to sustainable farming practices and making more space for nature needs to be financially sustainable for farm businesses which are a key part of the local economy. See page 59-62 of PDF or webpage) <p>No further action required</p>
<p>5. Landowner choice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting the rights of farmers/landowners avoid public bodies dictating habitat activities allowing landowners to decide if it’s appropriate and fits with other land use requirements the strategy is seeking to impose top-down centrally planned approach to managing rural landscape and urban greenspaces councillors shouldn’t tell farmers how to do their job Concern the county can’t afford to lose farming and forestry activities to achieve 30x30 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As stated within the purpose section of the strategy the LNRS does not replace existing plans, remove the need for expert advice or local assessments, dictate funding routes, override best practice or policy, or force landowners to act—maps are a guide, and landowners retain flexibility to choose suitable actions and funding. – See page 16 of the PDF or webpage. This co-produced strategy includes inputs to relevant sections from 75 reps on advisory groups, including farmers and landowners, plus specific farmer, forester and landowner events and feedback through the consultation process The strategy is a high-level guide for the county, site-specific assessments, landowner decisions and local inputs will be part of delivering nature recovery activities <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue and upscale farmer, forester and landowner engagement during the delivery phase
<p>6. Balance of habitat types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one habitat shouldn’t always be priority over another as it depends on the suitability of an area 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The priorities are explained to be of equal importance and are not listed in any specific order. The numbers are provided solely for ease of reference (pg 35 or webpage) In the local habitat map, to decide which habitat type to map as the primary activity, a hierarchy was used to reflect that some habitat types are particularly scarce in Dorset (see point

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> have joined up thinking across all species and habitat priorities. some habitats should be considered more important than others 	<p>2 under ‘how this layer was created’ in Guide to Dorset’s nature recovery maps for more detail)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific assessments and expert input are where the right balance of habitats for a particular site or project area will be decided <p>No further action required</p>
<p>7. Scepticism about council’s role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> nature recovery should not be the council’s responsibility, when people are facing financial struggles and housing shortages. worry about misuse of taxpayer money concern about effectiveness of council strategies due to past lack of real outcomes 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing the local nature recovery strategy is a legal requirement and we received specific funding to do this from national government. Nature recovery is a priority of both local authorities, alongside other key services The strategy is not a council strategy but a co-produced strategy for Dorset. The results from the consultation have been carefully considered to make further refinements to the strategy The strategy will be reviewed to track outcomes <p>No further action required</p>
<p>8. Balance access to nature for people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> balance with protecting wildlife habitat and other private land uses physical access is limited for many due to health, disability, transport, or landscape barriers 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The statutory guidance sets out that LNRS must focus on biodiversity, not on improving people’s access to nature Dorset LNRS does consider how increased access to nature could be delivered in appropriate places, in addition to biodiversity benefits of nature recovery work <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Link nature recovery delivery phase with wider work on increasing access to nature, green infrastructure, rights of way improvements and overcoming social and physical barriers to access edit <i>page 16, purpose, the strategy does not:</i> focus on improving people’s access to nature, however, this strategy does include activities to increase nature connectedness and map locations to create more nature rich areas near people’s homes. Wider work on access to nature is ongoing, such as the Rights of Way Improvement Plan, ongoing programmes along the South West Coast Path and King Charles III England Coast Path and projects supporting people to overcome barriers to accessing nature

C. Missing content

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>9. Nature decline and recovery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> definition of nature recovery missing baseline data current state of nature examples of biodiversity loss too-rosy a picture causes of nature decline pressure from development impacts of farming 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature recovery is defined in the introduction (webpage or page 11 in the PDF) The Nature in Dorset section includes data showing the approximate cover of semi-natural habitats in Dorset now, along with a summary of declines and causes (with links to relevant sources of this data). See Webpage or page 22-29 in the PDF

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further information on the pressures nature faces are can be found in the supporting document • Nature recovery isn't about aiming to recover nature back to a certain point in the past, it's about increasing biodiversity and ecosystem function to deliver what wildlife and people need, now and in the future • The strategy acknowledges the alarming declines in nature and impact of human activities, but focuses on what must be achieved in the next 10 years to start recovering nature and how every sector can play their part <p>No further action required</p>
<p>10. Urgency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • need for nature recovery doesn't feel urgent in the text • urgent need to tackle climate change at the same time 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The joint mission refers to “the urgent need and ambition to address the climate and nature emergencies through nature recovery”. • The links between nature and climate change are explained in the Nature in Dorset section, priority 9, and the pressures and opportunities supporting document <p>Actions:</p> <p>To ensure this urgency is reflected in other sections of the strategy, make the following edits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Page 11, Introduction, Nature recovery:</i> But over the years the amount and variety of wildlife in our county has reduced and many areas for nature have been split up or lost, leading to a nature emergency that needs urgent action 2. <i>Page 11, Introduction, 30by30:</i> The overarching ambition of Dorset's first local nature recovery strategy is to help achieve the national and international 30by30 target to protect and manage 30% of land and rivers for nature by 2030. This is just 5 years away, showing how urgently we need to help nature recover 3. <i>Page 15, Purpose:</i> provide a clear understanding of Dorset's current biodiversity, the need for urgent action and opportunities for nature recovery
<p>11. Why nature recovery is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • why 30x30 matters or what it will achieve. • what happens if we do nothing. • nature is essential to human survival, and this message should be clearer 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The benefits to wildlife and people of recovering nature are outlined in the following sections: introduction, purpose, and key pressures and opportunities. And priority 9 on nature-based solutions explains that nature gives us what we need to survive <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. edit the wording before the list of benefits of nature recovery in the introduction to show that these benefits are things we need, not just nice to have. <i>Page 11, introduction, nature recovery:</i> By making more space for nature, nature recovery will Nature recovery is needed to: 2. edit to show the impact of not acting to reverse declines in nature. <i>Page 27, Nature in Dorset, declines in Dorset's nature:</i> Nature (biodiversity) decline means that our ecosystems are not thriving and are less able to cope with change. This often results in a decline and degradation of essential ecosystem services, such as clean water and good air quality, which

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	<p>benefit people. Without urgent action to recover nature, people and wildlife will both suffer. The figures listed below highlight the scale of the declines in nature that must be recovered.</p>
<p>12. Too generic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • doesn't cover specific threats to nature in Dorset • needs to be more locally relevant to Dorset communities to encourage involvement and show how the strategy affects their local area. 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy is Dorset specific, prepared based on the views of local people, local evidence and Dorset data • Specific threats to nature in Dorset are covered in the Pressure on Nature in Dorset and Opportunities for Recovery supporting document • Nature recovery examples are all local to Dorset <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue promoting the Nature Recovery Dorset network, to celebrate local action, inspire and connect
<p>13. Specific guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requests for more detailed advice for specific habitat management • suggested specific habitat prescriptions • requests for plans to stop chemical use 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy is not the place for detailed guidance on how to deliver the potential activities as any guidance may change during the lifetime of the strategy <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signpost to relevant guidance and resources via Nature Recovery Dorset 2. Identify any gaps in guidance for specific activities or sectors during delivery phase
<p>14. Geology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern the strategy neglects geodiversity when describing nature, focusing only on biodiversity • Dorset's unique geodiversity is an important feature of nature – including World Heritage Site • geodiversity also underpins all other natural features and processes • more on geodiversity is needed to make the strategy useful and provide relevant context for nature recovery 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset's unique geology is recognised as an important factor in its biodiversity, within the Nature in Dorset section of the strategy • The habitat-based assemblage assemblages in the species recovery supporting document draw closer links between specific geodiversity features and the species they support • We have taken input from local geology group and the world heritage site officer to improve how geodiversity is reflected in the strategy <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add more on geodiversity in the Nature in Dorset section, see Appendix A – add geodiversity to Nature in Dorset 2. Add geodiversity definition to useful terms 'Geodiversity is the variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, landforms, sediments and soils, together with the natural processes which form and alter them' 3. Add geodiversity pressures and opportunities to the Pressure on Nature in Dorset and Opportunities for Recovery supporting document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure: Geodiversity is often not understood or thought about as much as biodiversity, so it can be neglected or mismanaged. This neglect and lack of understanding reduces range, quality, function and accessibility of Dorset's geodiversity features. • Opportunity: Utilise geodiversity data to improve habitat management and creation.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity: Identify and support activities that create and improve geodiversity features • Opportunity: Geodiversity helps understand our planet and its systems, including the causes and consequences of environmental change, critical biodiversity loss, mass extinctions, likely impacts of climate change. Celebrating geodiversity and protecting the crucial evidence it contains is an important part of nature recovery. • Existing activities in Dorset: The rocks, fossils and coastal landforms of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage site provide evidence for ancient climate change, evolution, past biodiversity, and the ways more recent processes continue to shape the landscape. It is a destination for scientific research, education, and tourism, and protected on behalf of present and future generations of all humanity. • Existing activities in Dorset: Dorset is a key reference point for global Earth science research, it's unique geodiversity helping understand climate and nature emergencies. <p>4. Work with partners during delivery phase to signpost to information on geodiversity features as tools to help those delivering nature recovery activities. Look at potential links with existing tools such as landscape character area descriptions and British Geological Survey open data</p>
<p>15. Impact of domestic pets: concern the strategy fails to acknowledge the ecological impact of domestic dogs and cats, especially on small wildlife along public footpaths.</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impacts of domestic pets on nature are covered in the Pressure on Nature in Dorset and Opportunities for Recovery supporting document, along with opportunities to reduce these negative impacts • It is for individual landowners to consider the need for restrictions on dog access or dogs on lead policies not the role of the strategy <p>No further action required</p>
<p>16. Everyday actions are harming nature: suggestions to raise awareness of how actions like tarmacking gardens, cutting trees, and planting non-native species are harming nature</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <p>These are all included in the potential activities in the strategy and promoted through Nature Recovery Dorset</p> <p>No further action required</p>
<p>17. Catchments as a useful concept for delivering nature recovery, with integrated human activities</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <p>The catchment-based approach is referred to mostly under priority 4 on rivers, lakes and wetlands, as well as the pressures and opportunities supporting document.</p> <p>No further action required</p>
<p>18. Hedgerows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • were referenced in a large number of responses • concern that hedgerows not having their own priority failed to recognise their importance as habitats and wildlife corridors, and this 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although hedgerows are contained within multiple priorities and the vision illustration, we acknowledge the importance of having a separate priority for hedgerows • In agreement with our supporting authorities we will add hedgerows as an additional priority <p>Action:</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
could negatively impact current efforts to restore hedgerows across the county	1. Add a hedgerow priority – see Appendix B – add hedgerow priority
19. Specific errors / typos were identified and require an edit.	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. P26 Map key: says ‘cenus’ not ‘census’ 2. P27 First paragraph: half way through it says ‘Taking steps to protect and enhance species and ecosystems’. This is unconnected to the sentences around it and feels more like a sub-heading. There is no context for having it here 3. P46 ‘Nature recovery in action’ box: the last sentence of the second paragraph ends ‘making ideal basking spots and insects’. Should it say ‘for insects’? 4. P73 Potential activity, ‘Make more space for nature nearby people’s homes’; is repeated as part of the final potential activity at the bottom of page 74 (ending ‘300m walk of nature’) 5. P87 Dorset’s high opportunity nature areas: Final sentence ends (ACB) then it says ‘together’ with no context 6. P89 Nature recovery in Dorset in the next ten years: the first bullet ends ‘made up of:’ but then no further breakdown of figures is given 7. P96 Dorset Council and BCP Council Local Plans: the third paragraph misspells ‘priority’
20. Transitional habitats, mosaics and ecotones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • often the most biodiverse habitats • do not necessarily fall into the habitat groupings given • areas of lower height vegetation with interspersed trees and shrubs 	our response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the strategy acknowledges the importance of allowing space for transitional habitats, encouraging habitat mixes where appropriate and buffers around built environment • this is covered under most of the priorities in turn, and then priority 8 is all about natural process-led approaches which encourage dynamic and transitioning habitats. no action required
21. Guidance for work on, or near, rivers or water courses	Action <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit this part of the guidance on potential activities in the Dorset’s nature recovery maps section (pg87) Additional advice on ecology, planning requirements, historic environment, flooding and funding options may be needed to deliver the activity suggested. There are lots of organisations and partnerships in Dorset that can help with this. More information on the advice and permissions that may be required when planning nature recovery activities is available in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps 2. Add these points to the Flooding heading in the Wider considerations when planning nature recovery activities section of the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in, or close to, rivers and water courses can affect water flow which can have impacts on drainage and flooding and would need to be considered by either the Environment Agency (EA) or Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any work on an ordinary water course (ditches, streams rivers and culverts) is likely to require an Ordinary Drainage Consent from the LLFA and may be covered by local byelaws. Similarly, any work on a “main river” (see map layer in Dorset Explorer) may require an Environmental Permit from the EA. Some of these proposals e.g. including engineering works /earthworks may also need planning permission. Before any such work is started the relevant consents will be required
<p>22. 30by30 clarification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all 3 of the 30by30 criteria must be met for an area to count, not just 1 or 2 nature recovery is needed everywhere, not just on 30% of land 	<p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit Pg 11 to clarify: Simply put, an area can count towards the 30by30 if the following 3 criteria are met Add to explanation of 30by30 on pg11 Nature recovery doesn't just focus on 30% of land though, it's about increasing nature-friendly management of the intervening land as much as possible. Change order of introduction so sub-headings 30by30 and making space for nature flow into each other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> introduction nature recovery local nature recovery strategies 30 by 30 target making space for nature
<p>23. Soil health should have more emphasis or its own priority as they are essential for our existence and a habitat for microbes, fungi and invertebrates</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We agree soils are essential and important Many of the potential activities in the strategy will benefit soil health, from wildlife-friendly gardening to reduced chemical use in farming Specific activities on farming for soil health are included in the strategy The strategy encourages more nature-friendly land management practices which will benefit soil health, as well as other ecosystem services such as water and air quality. <p>no action required</p>
<p>24. Land cover chart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> unequal pie chart segments request to include areas as well as % figures request to visually separate the land cover types that are more impacted by human activity as highlighted in the text above request to mention that coniferous plantation is mostly on land where broadleaved woodland or heathland used to be 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make pie chart segments in the pie chart of land cover equal for grassland & conifer 3% and broadleaved & urban 11%. Include areas if possible Consider ways to show the land cover types that are more or less impacted by human activity Edit explainer text ‘coniferous plantation – land used to grow a crop of trees, often with non-native species and often on land that used to be broadleaved woodland or heathland

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<p>25. Safeguarding biodiversity section needs clarification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wildlife reserves are only one part of the solution • also include expansion, connection and creation of additional suitable habitat. • needed at landscape scale • Nature reserve is more commonly used than wildlife reserve which could imply a wildlife enclosure 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit the final few sentences <p>One way this can be achieved is through the establishment of protected areas like nature reserves. And through bolstering the wider ecological network, involving native and local habitat communities but it also requires expansion, connection and creation of suitable habitat to recover nature at a much bigger landscape scale.</p>
<p>26. Pressures and opportunities suggestions to add to the list</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <p>The pressures and opportunities listed in the strategy (pg30-32) are a summary of a much more detailed list in the Pressure on Nature in Dorset and Opportunities for Recovery supporting document.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit the summary pressures and opportunities Pg31-32 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clean air opportunity: Air quality can be improved by increasing sustainable farming practices, wildlife-friendly gardening and low-emission sustainable transport. plus Specific habitat management practices and buffers near busy roads or creation can help mitigate impacts of air pollution on sensitive sites ○ Climate pressure: Climate change will increase pressure on nature through extreme weather (like flooding, drought and heatwaves), more pests and disease, coastal erosion, and species migration. This will impact how we manage habitats and farmland ○ Climate opportunity: Nature's climate resilience can be boosted by restoring damaged habitats, diversifying habitat structure, using resilient species, flexible management practices, preventing release of carbon from natural stores. Nature also offers solutions for climate mitigation and adaptation, benefiting people as well ○ Biosecurity opportunity: Sustainable management practices, including local native species, boost resilience to pests, diseases, and invasive species. Coordinated control and awareness programmes can further reduce or stop their impacts ○ Risk of harm from environmental hazards – Resilience can be increased by expanding habitats, creating buffer zones and increasing connectivity. Nature-based solutions can help with flood management, water quality and cooling extreme heat. Awareness raising and behaviour change can reduce human-caused risks 2. Check the other suggestions are covered in the supporting document.

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27. Historic environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting heritage is part of nature recovery. Dorset's heritage assets are ecologically and culturally valuable. many nature-rich sites are also historic. nature recovery should support and enhance heritage. projects can help save assets on the heritage at risk register. improving heritage sites boosts greenspaces and local identity. land use changes like meadow creation can protect archaeology 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of the historic environment is outlined in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps, which encourages use of the Historic England and historic environment map layers on Dorset Explorer and provides a link to the Nature Recovery & the Historic Environment guidance. Registered parks and gardens are included in the nature areas of local important map layer Spatial files of the draft local habitat map layers were provided to Historic England at the pre-consultation phase to check for potential activities being mapped that are unsuited to management of a scheduled monument, decision made due to large coverage of the maps not possible to check every monument so instead to explain this best in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps which was done. Actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add to bullets under the historic environment subheading in Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider if your nature recovery project could support a heritage asset on the at risk register Consider how certain habitat creation or enhancement, such as tree planting, can cause damage to archaeology and the historic landscape, referring to guidance on Planting Trees for the Future Whilst Protecting the Past Add activity under priority 10 – nature connection 'Explore opportunities to deliver nature recovery projects in places with heritage assets or historical features, to benefit the natural and historic environment'
28. Cranborne Chase National Landscape is designated as an International Dark Sky Reserve	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Include this where the national landscapes are mentioned in the 'Delivery and funding' section

D. Targets and action plans

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
29. Targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not set measurable or quantifiable targets doesn't show what success looks like or scale of the challenge not enough on how this links to national policies. does not outline the monitoring required to meet the 30x30 target suggestion to use targets from NE favourable conservation status and/or the measurements outlined 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy sets out the overarching local, national and global 30x30 target to protect and manage 30% of land and rivers for nature by 2030 The national environmental improvement targets were used to structure consideration of pressures on nature and opportunities for recovery - the foundation for setting Dorset's nature recovery priorities The vision illustration was an attempt to show the ambition for what Dorset will be like in the next 10 years. The priorities set out the outcomes the strategy is seeking to achieve. LNRS are not required to set quantifiable targets – the focus is on agreeing shared priorities and potential activities Following learning from the Biodiversity Action Plan process, there was an intention to move away from setting very specific habitat area targets

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<p>in the Dorset Biodiversity Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> suggestion for a scoreboard of data on species abundance to encourage people and ways for people to help wildlife count data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary activities in the local habitat map give an indication of how the nature recovery network could grow (see figures in 'Achieving nature recovery' section of the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps) There is a measuring success section (page 98-99 or webpage) that provide some specific ways to measure nature After publication we hope to develop more plans to monitor progress, share updates and map where nature recovery activities have taken place <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add to the <i>achieving nature recovery</i> section pg 89: <i>The measuring success section gives an overview of how progress towards nature recovery could be tracked as activities happen on the ground. (include a link to the 'measuring success' page)</i> Edit this sentence in the <i>measuring success</i> section pg 98: Further guidance from Defra is expected to enable us to carry out this measurement, <i>including how we might access Dorset data from the national process for counting land that contributes towards 30by30.</i>
<p>30. Lacks actionable detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is more a vision, wish list rather than a clear, detailed action plan. it is impossible to disagree with the priorities, super to work together but what will it mean in practice? mission not linked to clear and quantifiable SMART aims and objectives 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LNRS are not intended to be prescriptive action plans – individuals, businesses, farmers, organisations will do their own detailed plans. The shared priorities are for local people and organisations to agree on the outcomes for nature over the next 10 years for Dorset. The potential activities are all the practical actions that will help deliver those priorities by everyone doing their bit. The priorities are the outcomes, measuring will be developed against these and will be SMART <p>No further action required</p>
<p>31. Concern about use of the Lawton principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> concern these are not strategic or targets based upon need, achievability and effectiveness. where is the evidence that suggests that improving existing "core" sites is a better strategy than expanding those sites, or linking them with wildlife corridors? for example, in rural areas, joining up scattered tracts of the same habitat may be most effective at increasing biodiversity; in urban areas, creating more woodlands 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These principles come from the widely commended and influential Making space for nature review led by Professor Sir John Lawton. The report was evidence-based and findings have been supported by subsequent research The Dorset LNRS explains that these principles are a useful basis for delivering nature recovery and are not intended as specific targets The evidence for the order of the importance of the principles is in Natural England's Nature Networks - a summary for practitioners Simply put, if you were to start expanding or joining up habitats that are in poor condition, not functioning well or with low biodiversity – your efforts are less likely to be effective. So best to start with improving management of the existing core site, then move on to 'bigger', 'more' and 'joined up' <p>No further action required</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
would help both biodiversity and climate resilience.	

E. Delivery and ways to get involved

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
32. Delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> unclear who is responsible for delivering the strategy and how it will be implemented, funded, and monitored action for nature needs to be embedded in everyday activities across all sectors. concerns around the cost of nature recovery being too expensive or unclear who will pay for it concern community and volunteer action isn't enough for nature to recovery A range of ideas to help deliver nature recovery were suggested, especially ways for communities and young people to get involved 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The delivery and funding section provides an overview of the multiple ways nature recovery can be delivered and funded, across multiple sectors (webpage or pages 90-97 in the PDF). Priority 9 sets out the importance of embedding nature recovery across all organisations As we move from strategy preparation to delivery, there will be chance to explore blended funding opportunities and share progress made via different delivery mechanisms. The strategy is a tool that will help target a range of public, private and third sector funding – it can help see how funding individual projects or initiatives might join up to achieve the overall priorities for the county The strategy highlights ways to involve communities in nature recovery, especially under priority 10, such as volunteering, school projects, and tailored guidance for specific sectors. No further action required
33. Managing the priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> who will be in charge of when will the strategy be reviewed 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within each priority there are potential activities that every sector can get involved therefore each sector or individual will be in charge of their own delivery. Dorset Council's role, working with BCP Council, will be to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> coordinate delivery of nature recovery actions with local partners monitor and report on progress and outcomes review and update the strategy periodically promote integration of LNRS into planning and funding decisions Dorset Council will be instructed to review the LNRS by the national government, this must be within 3 to 10 years of publication. No further action required
34. Clarity requested on how landowners can be encouraged or incentivised to manage habitats in sustainable ways	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We acknowledge there has been change and uncertainty around environmental funding for farmers. The strategy supports farmers in calling for the right funding from government to help them transition to more sustainable practices Funding and support routes are listed in the delivery and funding section, under 'sustainable farming and forestry' (webpage or pages 90-97 in the PDF)

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More detail could be included on the advice and support for farmers and land managers to consider wildlife and habitats in their management plans <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add a sentence <i>Page 92-92, Delivery, sustainable farming and forestry, add after the FiPL para:</i> Local advice and support to consider wildlife and the environment as part of land management is also available to farmers, land manager and landowners from a range of organisations. A few examples include: Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group South West, Dorset Wildlife Trust, The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Forestry Commission, Catchment Sensitive Farming (Natural England), Wessex Water After publication deliver more focussed work with farmers and landowners Add the big chalk partnership to <i>pg93 after FiPL:</i> Similarly, Big Chalk partnership and funding is available in parts of Dorset across the chalk and limestone landscapes.
<p>35. Referencing neighbouring counties local nature recovery strategies and Joint working</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the start we meet monthly with our neighbouring responsible authorities, through a Southwest regional group and meetings with Hampshire to the East Where possible we have joined up but each county was encouraged to deliver a strategy for their county Defra will be joining up all the maps nationally. We will then be able to further explore key locations where cross-boundary collaboration is essential for nature recovery Joint working has been identified as a key proposal for the Wessex Partnership region. Our mapping can only cover our own county boundary. But we know some of the land manager or project proposals, and nature opportunities do go beyond the county border. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make clearer the link to neighbouring LNRS in the following sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Page 12, introduction, local nature recovery strategies, add green:</i> These spatial strategies will provide the framework to drive forward a nature recovery network across England, by agreeing local priorities and mapping locations where activities will most effectively contribute to these goals. National government will join Dorset's strategy with 47 others to cover the whole of England with no gaps or overlaps <i>Page 96, delivery and funding, related plans and strategies:</i> The local nature recovery strategy will also help identify key opportunities to work together with neighbouring counties in delivering nature recovery activities on/near the county boundaries
<p>36. Land use, planning and development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a range of concerns were raised around the impact of 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose section outlines how the strategy can be used to inform planning and development decisions (pages 15-16 or webpage)

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>development, housing targets and economic growth on nature and how the local nature recovery strategy will link with planning policy and decision making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns that biodiversity measures agreed in planning decisions are not being enforced • specific planning policy and guidance for certain habitat types were also suggested. • how does high opportunity nature areas and potential activities map layers affect planning • concern that the maps could limit development potential unfairly or prevent meeting housing need • maps should be used to identify areas less suited to development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nature in Dorset section acknowledges how increased development has disrupted natural processes and negatively impacted the environment. It also acknowledges that development can be done sustainably and be required to deliver environmental benefits (page 29 or webpage). This is explored further in the Pressure on Nature in Dorset and Opportunities for Recovery supporting document • The priorities and potential activities include a range of actions that can be included in planning policy and in development site design • The delivery and funding section highlights several nature recovery delivery mechanisms that are linked to the planning system, including: Biodiversity Net Gain, environment mitigation delivery for development, and Local Plans • A separate webpage provides information on how the local plans and the local nature recovery strategy work together • The LNRS consultation cannot consider specific suggestions for changing planning policy and guidance. These should be submitted via the consultation processes for both Local Plans • High opportunity nature areas are not designations, and a site being mapped as a high opportunity nature area does not prevent development (including farm development) • The local habitat map can be used as one tool to inform allocation of housing sites in local plans, including identifying areas with high opportunity for nature that may be less suited for development • Where development is happening, the potential activities layer can guide habitat features to include in site design • Site-based assessments remain essential to decide the potential impacts of a proposed development on nature and this is considered on a case-by-case basis within the planning system <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Based on updated national guidance and local planning officer input, an update to the information currently on our website has been prepared to provide more detail and clarification – see Appendix D – updated webpage on nature recovery and planning 2. Share a summary of key consultation findings relating to planning with both local planning authorities 3. Work with planning colleagues during delivery phase to ensure nature recovery is embedded within planning policy and processes, alongside existing environmental policies
<p>37. Funding – BNG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concern the funding options are biased to BNG and other funding should be considered • concern about the long-term effectiveness 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The delivery and funding section is clear that there are multiple ways nature recovery can be delivered and funded, not just BNG • Biodiversity net gain (BNG) is a way to secure habitat management for 30 years by a legal agreement and funded by the developer to make it financially feasible • Delivery of the BNG must be monitored and can be enforced if not delivered

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rigorous pre and post development monitoring and enforcement required • concern about off-site credits not benefiting the area where habitat has been lost • cited evidence that only half of ecological enhancements promised by developers are delivered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BNG applications are assessed by ecologists and there is a hierarchy to deliver as much on-site habitat gains as possible, before looking for off-site gains. There is also an incentive to deliver off-site gains close to the development site. • We are aware of the report on delivery rates of ecological enhancements in developments, this is not specific to Dorset and does not reflect delivery rates since BNG and its new monitoring mechanisms have been introduced • Some specific questions asked about the BNG metric are out of scope of the LNRS and relate to national government <p>No further action required</p>
<p>38. Heathland mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns heathlands still under pressure despite mitigation work • concerns that increased development and housing targets will put pressure on heathland despite 5km buffer • concerns Suitable Alternative Green Spaces (SANGs) are not proven yet to work, not accessible for part of year if in river valleys, and wildlife value is secondary to recreation 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heathland mitigation work is ongoing and has to be considered as part of the planning process • Dorset Heaths Partnership carry out monitoring work and report on several aspects of heathland mitigation • The primary purpose of SANGs is to reduce recreational disturbance on other protected heathland sites. But the design, management plans and monitoring of SANGs can include nature recovery activities to ensure they deliver both public and ecological benefits <p>No further action required</p>
<p>39. Nutrient mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concern nature being used to offset and allowing damage to nature elsewhere • concern too much reliance on good will of people to change practices 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrient mitigation in relation to development is a response to excess nutrient levels occurring in our water catchments • It does involve offsetting the nutrient load that new developments would add by developers paying in to fund actions to prevent an overall increase in nutrient levels • Mitigation is not the only action proposed, there are other activities happening to reduce the nutrient pollution at source, such as wastewater treatment works upgrades and changes to farming practices • Using nature-based solutions to deliver nutrient mitigation is a way to enhance habitat and deliver wider environment benefits, at the same time as actions to address nutrient pollution <p>No further action required</p>
<p>40. Funding balance for BCP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concern nature mitigation funding from development in BCP Council area will be spent in the Dorset Council area – negatively impacting nature and people’s health in the BCP area • concern BCP is more nature depleted so needs more 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each area of mitigation is underpinned by a supplementary planning document (SPD) prepared jointly by BCP and Dorset Councils, so mitigation is delivered strategically across both areas. These documents set out the parameters of the delivery and guidance on how this should be delivered. • The mitigation officers develop projects using current data, monitoring, and stakeholder input, which are then reviewed and approved by a steering group specific to their area of mitigation. The steering groups are made up of key

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
funding and should have higher than 10% BNG	<p>representatives like Natural England, BCP Council and Dorset Council budget holders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% is the mandatory amount for BNG, some LPAs may be requesting a higher gain from developers but both Dorset Council and BCP Council have decided to follow the national 10% mandatory amount <p>No further action required</p>
41. Planning reforms and proposals in the Planning and Infrastructure Bill how will they link with LNRS?	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> we cannot give definitive answers on this yet but will update the website as further national guidance becomes available. <p>No further action required</p>
42. Local transport plan – how does the LNRS integrate?	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LNRS can inform Dorset's Local Transport Plan by identifying areas for green infrastructure, supporting active travel routes, and aligning nature recovery with transport planning to deliver shared environmental and health benefits. The draft Local Transport Plan is currently out to public consultation, it includes a policy A4: Take a nature positive approach to transport design, delivery and maintenance to boost biodiversity. <p>No further action required</p>
43. Organisations are not taking care of nature, are hard to work with or get licences from etc e.g. Dorset Council, Forestry England, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency, RSPB	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> local nature recovery strategy is a high-level document and therefore cannot comment on specific cases or locations Through Nature Recovery Dorset we commit to work with local residents and organisations and help overcome barriers to delivery where possible. <p>No further action required</p>
44. Council management of verges and greenspaces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> barbed grasses growing in verges that can injure dogs, walking through long grass reduces people's enjoyment long grass worsens hay fever symptoms reduce road visibility leave more wildflower areas plant more wildflowers don't cut April-August when young birds and mammals are needing cover 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> we acknowledge some people do not like verges and wild patches being left for wildflowers and others would like more Both Dorset Council and BCP Council have policies and management plans to balance wildlife and safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verge cutting – Dorset Council Report overhanging trees or shrubs BCP Report a problem with a plant, shrub or hedge in a park or open space BCP <p>No further action required</p>
45. Council's own nature recovery actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> concerns and suggestions on how the council manages its own land and meets its biodiversity duty. concern the current Dorset LNRS is too focused on rural than urban – suggestion for separate urban LNRS 	<p>Our Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the LNRS is for whole county so doesn't contain detail on each council's actions as they are in range of strategies, policies and plans and will be reported on via the biodiversity duty mechanism. The area for the LNRS is governed by the government and national guidance. Dorset's LNRS must cover the full county. Both local authorities have worked together from the start of strategy preparation to ensure the strategy includes the nature recovery activities needed across both the rural and urban

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<p>areas. This is reflected in the written strategy and maps, e.g. priority 6 Urban and use of the nature nearby mapping.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LNRS links to BCP Council initiatives that are delivering on the nature recovery e.g. GI strategy, urban forest strategy, nature towns and cities. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>46. Shooting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land managed for shooting encourages management and creation of a range of habitats that support wildlife advice is available to the shooting community to promote conservation alongside their sport shooting delivers health and wellbeing benefits so can be considered alongside other green social prescribing options 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The shooting community and associated land management is recognised as a delivery partner to nature recovery. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>47. Show how local groups and volunteers are helping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raise awareness mapping, surveying and testing delivering projects 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy recognises the great work happening for nature The measuring success section signposts to the work of volunteer projects such as water guardians Priority 10 includes activities to celebrate existing actions and collaborate with recording groups and other community projects It's not possible to mention every volunteer group in the strategy so we set up the Nature Recovery Dorset network and are pleased several groups have already joined <p>No further action required</p>
<p>48. Important role of Town And Parish Councils in providing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> nature-friendly greenspace management greenspaces that connect to wider countryside spaces for people to enjoy 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We recognise the key role of Town and Parish Councils in delivering nature recovery for their communities Dorset Council is working with Town and Parish councils on best ways to work together on climate and nature, an initial survey and successful event have taken place and more work is planned <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with Town and Parish councils in delivery phase to share successes and help overcome barriers
<p>49. Schools and education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> create lots of apprenticeships on nature recovery show how schools can be involved 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lots of Dorset schools are already doing great nature recovery activities Priority 10 includes nature activities within education settings, rural skills training and curriculum changes Schools in Dorset can join the Nature Recovery Dorset network to promote what they're doing <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expand work with schools during delivery phase – linking this to the School Climate Ambassador Scheme

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
50. Related strategies and plans supporting document: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> refers to East Dorset Forest Plan 2020, this has been updated in 2025 since the LNRS work was done links to wrong transport plan 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We acknowledge these errors and apologise Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Update supporting document to include the more recent forest plan Update supporting document to include correct transport plan for DC and BCP area

Feedback on the shared vision and joint mission

Shared vision: Nature in Dorset is thriving, resilient, and connected across our landscapes. It is accessible to and celebrated by all

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
51. The vision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> nature is in crisis - unclear if the vision was describing the current state or future goals. access to nature for people should be improved landowners concern the vision is promoting unrestricted access public understanding of nature's value is low, or people have more urgent priorities like housing or cost of living landowners, farmers, water companies and developers need to be part of achieving the strategy suggestion for a realistic, interim 10-year vision is needed alongside long-term aspirations 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the vision for the LNRS is a clear, aspirational statement that describes the desired long-term outcome the strategy aims to achieve. It sets the direction and purpose, helping guide decisions and actions access to nature is not the primary purpose of the LNRS accept that the vision wording may give the impression of access to all therefore needs amending. the strategy sets out activities that all sectors can deliver, from individuals to big water companies to farmers to developers Actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> edit the vision: Nature in Dorset is recovering, thriving, resilient and connected across our landscapes. Everyone in Dorset is able to access nature and be involved in nature recovery.

*Some feedback on the vision was quite detailed and related to other parts of the strategy – could not all be captured in a short vision statement so has been considered in relation to other sections.

Joint mission: “Collectively work together to meet the urgent need and ambition to address the climate and nature emergencies through nature recovery”

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>52. The mission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lack of targets or action plan would lead to complacency and tick-box exercises rather than action urgent need to recover nature and address climate change not addressed unhelpful or alarming language, use ‘crises’ instead not an emergency: a few felt there is no climate and/or nature emergency, some felt locally the key issues are development, pollution and litter. concern mission not agreed by all stakeholders. ‘collectively’ and ‘together’ have similar meaning Some suggested redrafts but often with complex language Suggestion ‘join together to make Dorset a national and global exemplar of humanity re-engaging with nature, unleashing substantial benefits in health, prosperity and happiness personally and for our communities while enhancing our safety – and that of nature – from the risks and crises in the climate and in nature’. 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mission drives collaborative, place-based action that restores nature, supports biodiversity, and connects people with the natural environment across Dorset. It provides the overall direction of everyone who is agreeing to support delivery of the strategy. It cannot detail all the actions involved Both local authorities have declared climate and nature emergencies, as a decline in nature is widely evidenced. Urgent and emergency are now commonly used language to refer to these issues. The mission was created by the 75 advisory group reps and overall 85.7% agreement with the joint mission in the consultation <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit mission: Collectively Work together to meet the urgent need to address the climate and nature emergencies through nature recovery, bringing benefits for our wellbeing and communities

Feedback on the priorities and potential activities

This feedback are specific comments or concerns people raised in relation to each priority and it’s potential activities.

Priority 1 – Grassland

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>53. Knowledge and equipment requests:</p>	<p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add new activity under priority 10 nature connection ‘Increase training of greenspace maintenance contractors to include

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> access to contractors who know how to maintain grasslands with nature recovery in mind contractors with the relevant equipment or be able to hire this from the council e.g. wildflower seed harvester or scythes 	<p>managing grassland and other habitats with nature recovery in mind, including training on the equipment required and where this is available for hire’.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Potentially create procurement criteria guide in delivery phase
<p>54. Footpaths and national trails: Verges along paths and trails can be managed to be more species-rich, similar to verges on road and rail</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity under priority 1 grassland ‘Manage verges alongside National Trails and Public Rights of Way to act as species-rich corridors, helping wildlife connect and allowing people to travel along and enjoy access to nature. This may involve a mix of grassland, hedgerows and trees’
<p>55. Sewage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sludge (treated human waste) applied to farm fields should be free of forever chemicals, hormones, pharmaceuticals, microplastics prevent leaks of these pollutants from cesspits. 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is not possible to add a potential activity on removing pollutants from sewage sludge in Dorset LNRS as national work is ongoing to find a solution to this problem <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add to the pressures and opportunities supporting document, in the section on farming ‘Follow updates from national work looking at ways to reduce the presence of forever chemicals and microplastics in treated sewage sludge, before it is used as farm fertiliser’ Edit potential activity under priority 4 to include cesspits: Improve maintenance of septic tanks, cesspits and sewage treatment works to reduce pollution reaching waterbodies
<p>56. Grazing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> graziers becoming rare in Dorset opportunity for traditional cattle breed rearing and grazing as demand increases as part of grassland habitat management 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add potential activity under priority 10 with similar activities on rural skills ‘Promote the opportunity for traditional livestock breed rearing and grazing to meet the demand for conservation grazing as part of habitat management’
<p>57. Acid grassland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> create and maintain species-rich grassland within woodland tracks, open spaces and woodland edges’ should also apply to acid grassland 	<p>our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species-rich grassland was used in this activity to include acid grassland, along with other types like calcareous grassland or lowland meadows. But note that acid grassland is not always species-rich but is still important habitat, so refer to semi-improved and unimproved grasslands as defined in the grassland priority explainer. <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> For clarity edit activity slightly: ‘create and maintain species-rich unimproved and semi-improved grassland within woodland tracks, open spaces and woodland edges’ <p>No further action required</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
58. Run off: incentivise arable neighbours of species-rich grassland on steep slopes to reduce nutrient run-off	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1 and 7 both include activities to reduce run-off • The delivery and funding section will signpost to some of the funding that support farmers to reduce run off, such as Catchment Sensitive Farming. No further action required
59. Protecting existing sites: importance of ensuring designated sites are being managed effectively	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy includes activities to protect and enhance existing grassland sites, which can include designated sites • There are separate processes for ensuring designated site responsibilities are being met. They often require specific forms of management to retain their ecological interest and ensure this is delivered long-term. No further action required
60. Dairy farms - how can you deliver nature recovery activities within a dairy farm, concerns include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wildflowers not compatible with growing winter forage crops for dairy cattle (silage and hay) • smaller paddocks are not a helpful solution in units milking 600 heads as harvesting would be more expensive • mixing poor and better quality grasses for diverse sward height is not better use of the land. 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers don't have to do every activity in the strategy, and have flexibility to decide what works for their farm • Overall, the strategy promotes sustainable farming practices, particularly in priority 7, but there are lots of potential activities relevant to farmers across all the priorities. • The potential activities under priority 1 are based on increasing examples and best practice of nature-friendly ways to manage grassland with livestock. • Subdivisions can be made using temporary electric fencing to manage units. • Many farmers find diversity in grassland species is beneficial for nature and food production. • In this video for priority 7 local farmer Sam describes how they manage permanent pasture and species-rich grassland on a dairy farm Action <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add activity under priority 1 'Create and maintain herbal leys as temporary grasslands on farmland to support pollinators, improve soil health and structure, capture carbon, reduce runoff and increase diversity of livestock forage' (farmer icon)
61. Improved grassland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • why it's called improved as that implies it's good for nature and its not? • is it possible to restore improved grassland to unimproved? 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The priority explains the 3 broad types of grassland -improved, unimproved and semi-improved (pg37) • We understand 'improved' grassland can be confusing if you're thinking about improved from a nature perspective, but the strategy explains the term means it was improved for agricultural productivity. This term has been used for decades so is understood by many working in land management and environmental sectors. • Improved grassland can't change back to unimproved, but can be managed to become semi-improved grassland with more natural features No further action required
62. local seeds – should use local seeds rather than commercial mixes of unknown provenance	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local seed sourcing is already included under this priority No further action required

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
63. Carbon sequestration offered by grassland could be made clearer	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An activity under priority 9 – nature-based solutions is to ‘Enhance and create habitats to help mitigate climate change’ This activity lists peatland, broadleaved woodland and saltmarsh as examples of habitats that tend to be larger carbon stores, but explains many other habitat types also provide carbon storage and diversity of habitats is key - this would include grassland. Species-rich grassland can be important and significant carbon stores, keeping carbon in their soils and roots. But once grassland is established the process of removing (sequestering) carbon from the atmosphere is relatively slow. <p>No further action required</p>

Priority 2 – Woodland

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>64. Existing woodlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> clarify difference between management and tree planting long-term biodiversity value of existing woodlands greater priority given to protecting existing woodlands and restoring PAWS than to new tree planting 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The explainer paragraph sets out the importance of making existing woodland better managed, connected and bigger, with an emphasis on restoring ancient woodland. The paragraph then goes on to explain new woodland creation. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>65. Right tree, Right place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> needs more guidance on where the right places are and what the right trees are avoid trees being planted in inappropriate places as part of climate change projects, e.g. where it should be grassland habitat what to do when the wrong trees are in the wrong place. Ancient and veteran trees outside of woodland should be highlighted in the explanation of the priority, not just the potential activities 	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy is a high-level guide for the county and the maps indicate where it may be appropriate to enhance or create woodland Individual tree planting or woodland creation projects require detailed planning with expert input and the relevant permissions Priority 11 includes activities to control invasive non-native species, pests and diseases, including exotic tree species growing in the wrong places in the wider countryside <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increase promotion of resources during delivery phase, such as Dorset Council Tree Planting Checklist for the public, businesses and community groups and Dorset Community Tree Fund. Add text to woodland priority explainer <i>Page 41</i>, before typical woodland species: Trees outside of woodland are important connectors across the landscape, especially ancient and veteran trees. Activities to support trees outside of woodland are therefore included under several priorities, such as 2, 6 and 7
66. Grow trees from seed – encourage people grow from	Action:

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
seed, share with others, collecting seeds from walks in the autumn	1. Edit this activity - <i>page 44</i> : Set up or use a community tree nursery to supply, bio-secure, locally sourced and grown native trees for community tree planting projects. This could include individuals growing trees from seed at home before sharing with others.
67. Leave trees to decompose naturally where practicable and not be tidied up or removed	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 2 – woodland includes an activity which includes deadwood ‘...As well as retaining and creating open space and standing and fallen deadwood’ • Priority 6 – urban includes an activity on dead wood: Create dead wood habitats such as standing dead wood, log piles and dead hedges to provide homes for wildlife, using locally sourced material. <p>No further action required</p>
68. Add pond creation or enhancement as a specific activity in addition to keeping wet features and re-wetting land	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ponds are covered under priority 4 and some under priority 6, 8 and 9 <p>Action:</p> <p>1. edit this activity to mention ponds within woodland <i>page 43</i>: As part of woodland habitat creation or enhancement, keep existing wet features like depressions or re-wet historically wet areas of the land, creating or enhancing ponds where appropriate.</p>
69. Typical species:	<p>Action:</p> <p>1. Change the typical species to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great spotted woodpecker • Tawny owl • Silver-washed fritillary
<p>70. Non-native tree species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • do not mention non-natives at all, due to the risk of invasives like rum cherry and Amelanchier on heathlands • non-native or near-natives species have some benefits for climate resilience and biodiversity, caution against an overly narrow focus on native species alone • source and use a diverse range of trees should more explicitly state this will assist with climate resilience • balance the need for more climate tolerant species with the risk from invasive species and disease • concern that this activity could be used to justify damaging practices 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy identifies the threat of invasive non-native species in the pressures and opportunities section, and under priority 11 includes activities to respond to this • The sourcing local and native seeds or plants is encouraged • The strategy does not propose never using non-native species, as there may be carefully assessed circumstances where non-native trees can be used to deliver a specific environmental purpose and managed to control any impacts. The strategy is clear that woodland management should be UK Forestry Standard compliant, which would cover this in more detail <p>Action:</p> <p>1. Edit potential activity ‘Source and use a diverse range of bio-secure trees and plants for tree and woodland establishment projects. Use a broad and mixed palette suited to objectives. Use native species where possible, if using non-native species to provide climate resilience, prioritise near-native species and never use species that are likely to become invasive or plant large scale monocultures’</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>71. Coppicing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add the farmer icon to the coppicing activities • recognise that increased demand from local people for natural wood products is needed for there to be an increase in coppicing • add cospes as their own priority 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agree the farmer landowner and land manager icon should be added to the coppicing activities • support for the coppicing industry could involve campaigns and marketing to increase public support for purchasing these products • a separate priority is not needed as coppicing occurs in woodland and within this priority. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add the farmer, landowner and land manager icon to these activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain active management of coppice stands and woodlands, and restore lapsed coppice woodlands, bringing these into management, delivering environmental benefits, wood products and economic benefit • Support the continuation of the hazel coppice industry and related rural industries such as hedge laying, to ensure associated woodland and hedgerow management continue
<p>72. Woodland on acid soils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • guidance on restoring heathland on acid soils with conifer plantation is too weak • specifically state that management of rides would provide connectivity • remove conifers shouldn't just be considered, it should be priority where heathland restoration is possible 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Redraft this potential activity 'In woodlands on acid soils, retain, buffer and connect heathland remnants to support species movement and restoration, for example by managing rides and tracks. Also consider removing conifers, disrupting historic drainage, and developing In these areas it should be a priority to remove conifers, and restore and developing mire systems with scrub and wet woodland components'
<p>73. Low impact silviculture systems and regenerative forestry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concern it is more suited to native woodland • not suited in conifer plantation on former heathland • concerns about soil compaction and damage to the woodland understory • clear felling suggested as more appropriate in conifer plantations on former heath and can provide temporary heathland that benefits species • UKWAS standards identify that 'Use of lower-impact silvicultural systems may not be appropriate where there 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, case studies and managed woodlands demonstrate that Low Impact Silviculture Systems (LISS) and Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) systems work equally well within broadleaf or conifer woodlands. The suitability of a site for LISS, will vary and be driven by the condition, composition and structure of the existing canopy as well as site objectives. • LISS/CCF causes less soil disturbance, compaction and carbon losses than clear fell. • All forestry operations have temporal impacts upon soils and ground flora. In general, LISS management that is UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) & UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) compliant will cause the least damage of all silvicultural operations. Multiple, permanent but narrow extraction racks reduce impacts upon remaining forest soils and add additional open space also. • Some heathland species do benefit from clear fell, and the resultant temporary open space and successional habitats created. UKFS & UKWAS compliant forestry operations will consider and address protected species and open habitats during planning and implementation.

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
is evidence that clearfelling is necessary for the conservation of priority habitats or species'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site assessment during planning stages and site objectives will inform the most appropriate silvicultural practices to use for a specific site i.e. LISS vs clear fell. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit the explanation of sustainable woodland management in the priority explainer <p>Sustainable woodland management, known as forestry or silviculture, balances our need for forest products and benefits with the need to keep forests healthy and usable for future generations. Management practices will be chosen based on assessment of existing habitat and species and the site objectives. Below are some of the more nature-rich management practices:</p> <p>These are different types of sustainable management types including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regenerative forestry and low impact silvicultural systems (sometimes known as 'continuous cover forestry') delivers benefits for climate, nature and people by taking a whole system approach. These systems increase species and structural diversity, improving resilience and provision of ecosystem services irregular silviculture is an example of a low impact silviculture system, it involves cutting down selected single or groups of trees, developing an irregular structure of varied sizes, ages and canopies coppice is another example of regenerative forestry that has a long tradition in Dorset, providing sustainable products and creating a variety of age and canopy structure across a woodland <p>In some circumstances these nature-rich management practices won't be appropriate, but other sustainable woodland management can be delivered that still makes some space for nature.</p>
74. Deer and grey squirrel management should be mentioned here due to significant impacts on woodland, or signpost to where it's covered in priority 8 and 11	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is included under priority 11 as it applies to multiple habitat types but several respondents felt it required special mention under woodland so we will add <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity 'Coordinate landscape management of deer, grey squirrel and invasive species as outlined under priority 11'
75. Wood pasture is important too	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wood pasture is covered under priority 1 grassland <p>No further action required</p>
76. Error in the photo caption , the example is not of a Norway spruce plantation, it is a Norway plantation in conversion to an irregular forest	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We acknowledge this error and have apologised <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> update photo caption 'Norway spruce plantation in conversion to an irregular forest'

Priority 3 – Heathland

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
77. Restoration on coniferous forestry:	Our response:

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restore heathland from conifer plantations • promote restoring and linking heathland on conifer plantation • restoration of the natural catchment of valley mires within woodland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of mires and peatland is covered under priority 4. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. add potential activity under priority 3 ‘Explore opportunities to restore heathland from conifer plantation, especially where this can expand and connect existing heathland, restore disrupted hydrology to favour peat formation or utilise less productive conifer plantations.’
<p>78. Acid grassland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acid grassland is rarer than lowland heath and should be protected, not converted. • not priority for heathland restoration over conifer plantation • heathland may expand on acid grassland naturally but shouldn't be promoted 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response above addresses concerns about promoting heathland restoration on conifer plantation • The activity does not promote converting acid grassland to heathland restoration but recognises that in some cases it may be appropriate to consider a habitat mix or connectivity <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit this activity under priority 1 to better reflect the need for site-specific considerations ‘To enhance acid grassland (former heath), When considering acid grassland management, consider if it is appropriate to use rotational and conservation grazing to develop a mix of heathland and grassland, thereby increasing habitat and species diversity and helping join up heathland fragments’
<p>79. Former minerals and waste sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns that soil restoration on minerals sites can fail to retain heather and become gorse dominant • concern heathland restoration not always delivered • concern granting mineral extraction permission could impact other heathland restoration opportunities 	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As recognised by the BNG metric, minerals extraction permissions have the potential to deliver significant gains at a large scale • Impacts of minerals permissions on habitats are considered via the planning system • Whether suitable habitat restoration for a site could include heathland or other habitat types would be decided as part of the specific site restoration plan • On reflection, the activity of habitat restoration on former minerals and waste sites is not heathland specific so should not be under this priority <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove activity ‘Restore heathland habitat on former minerals and waste sites’ 2. Add activity under priority 11 covering the opportunity for habitat restoration in general on former minerals and waste ‘On former minerals and waste sites, restoration should prioritise nature recovery in accordance with planning authorities. Explore options to encourage longer-term management beyond the aftercare period’
<p>80. Manging open areas in forests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • include heathland connectivity in the activity • avoid new conifer plantation over heathland • manage natural regeneration • remove conifers from heathland sites 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • modern UK forestry standard (UKFS) practice and statutory processes (afforestation EIA) would not support conifer plantation on heathland <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit activity – ‘Manage some open areas in forests, such as heathland, wetland and peatland, to provide a network of habitats for wildlife, connected with existing habitats beyond

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> manage tracks and rides to avoid loss of heathland habitat and connectivity 	<p>the woodland site. Maintain woodland tracks, edges and rides to support heathland connectivity.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity 'Restore heathland where appropriate, following the open habitats policy. This may include removing conifers and managing natural regeneration'. Edit activity 'Protect existing heathland sites, managing them to improve their condition and increase connectivity between fragmented sites, for example by managing rides and tracks'
81. Fire risk and recreation pressures: support for continuing or expanding existing initiatives like BBQ bans, SANGs, school visits, buffer zones, dog control campaigns, ground nesting bird season	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These activities are included under this priority <p>No further action required</p>
82. Public engagement: have more opportunities to help with conservation / taking care of heathland, like offered in parks and woodlands – to encourage more people to take care of it and not leave rubbish	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While we welcome responsible engagement, we're not aiming to attract more visitors to heathland sites, as our priority is protecting sensitive habitats from increased pressure <p>No further action required</p>
83. Invasive species control should be included	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is included under priority 11 as it applies to multiple habitat types <p>No further action required</p>
84. Heathland shouldn't be prioritised because it's not natural and is manmade	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset heaths are internationally important and rare. They support lots of important wildlife and are some of the biggest remaining areas in the UK so it is important they are protected and enhanced <p>No further action required</p>
85. Pigs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pig grazing as part of heathland management is experimental and requires more input than cattle or ponies the photo and illustration of pigs may encourage inappropriate pig grazing 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pigs are used on the Purbeck Heaths National Nature Reserve as part of a conservation grazing strategy to mimic the natural processes once carried out by wild boar. They restore habitat diversity replacing the need for mechanical methods. Natural England consent is required to introduce pigs into any SSSI <p>No further action required</p>
86. Forestry England and Forestry Commission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> land is shown in the maps but not showing detail of how they're managing for nature recovery may miss opportunities to restore heathland from conifer. Issues with forest plans and open habitats policies 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry England (FE) land is included as a land manager or project proposal; the primary activity is shown as: create or enhance habitat according to forest plan When you click on the potential activities layer where it covers FE land you can also see the secondary activities which include habitat types identified through the habitat and ecosystem service modelling – which in many cases include heathland and wetland. In the preparation of their Forest Plans, FE will have regard to the LNRS, including these related data sets

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues with felling licences for heathland management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Plans detail all operations proposed, including habitat restoration and creation, and the enhancement of natural processes FE are working collaboratively with numerous partners to restore a wildlife rich mosaic of habitats within Dorset, including heathland, valley mires and peatland. This work is a priority for FE as demonstrated through their commitment to 'Wild Purbeck' The Purbeck Forest design plan will operationalise the FE's Wild Purbeck Issues with plans and licences are policy, procedural and operational issues that national and local FE and NE teams are addressing to remove barriers to nature's recovery ongoing collaboration between statutory organisations, NGOs and private landowners will be essential and as part of strategy delivery we will look to help overcome obstacles to delivery. <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add potential activity 'Apply learning from recent changes in the management of conifer forests on former heathland in Purbeck to other relevant parts of Dorset'

Priority 4 – Rivers, lakes and wetlands

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>87. Support and more focus for activities to reduce how much pollution enters water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> financial accountability for polluters and change their practices stop sewage discharges slurry tanks and management upgrade wastewater infrastructure greywater separation statutory agencies and local authorities should allocate resource to scrutinise and support monitor and regulate farms mention water companies as a specific group like farmers more buffer strips, cover crops, reduced tillage, reduced chemical use reduce agricultural run-off more hedge and tree planting, wetland creation, natural flood management 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water pollution from agriculture, wastewater and road run-off are covered in the strategy and in the pressures and opportunities supporting document Priority 4 and 7 includes activities to reduce water pollution from farming – including reducing run-off, reducing chemical use, having buffer strips near water bodies and slurry trading Priority 4 and 9 include activities to reduce water pollution from wastewater – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved maintenance of sewage treatment works Wetland creation as part of wastewater treatment Permeable materials and SuDS to redirect water in urban areas into natural soakaways, rather than the wastewater system, to reduce the number of storm overflow discharges It is not the responsibility of the LNRS to cover monitoring as this is carried out by the Environment Agency Dorset Catchment Partnerships is a good example of people from all sectors working together in the Catchment based approach to reduce pollution and improve water quality and help nature recovery It is good to see support for many of these activities and hear from those who are already involved in delivering them <p>Actions:</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • septic tank maintenance • special protection for chalk streams • peat, ponds and nutrient mitigation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add activity under priority 4 'Create buffers of plants and trees along highways to slow water and reduce run-off of pollution from the roads' 2. Edit activity under priority 4 'Improve maintenance of septic tanks, cesspits and sewage treatment works, and upgrade infrastructure, to reduce pollution reaching waterbodies' 3. Add activity under priority 4 'Improve slurry management to make best use of slurry as a source of organic nutrients, while also reducing risk of pollution into water courses' 4. Edit activities under priority 4, copying the wording from priority 9 that links permeable materials and SuDS to reducing risk of storm overflows
<p>88. Use of chemicals like glyphosate should be completely stopped – not just reduced as their continued use impacts ability to achieve all the priorities</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy cannot ban specific chemicals, instead it promotes stopping chemical use where possible and elsewhere having a clear plan to reduce chemical use, through practices such as sustainable farming and wildlife-friendly gardening. • Dorset Council is committed to using herbicides responsibly and only where absolutely necessary to protect highway infrastructure and to assist in their statutory duties. Dorset Council is currently running a pilot project to test alternatives to glyphosate and remains committed to reducing environmental impact wherever possible – read more about the pilot <p>No further action required</p>
<p>89. Flooding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent development on flood plains • deliver habitat enhancements and natural flood management together • how can the strategy help reduce flooding? 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the strategy draws links between activities to recover nature and the ability to deliver wider environmental benefits like flood protection (priority 4 includes reference to this, but more detail on activities for natural flood management are included under priority 9) • the strategy is a high level guide for the county, it may give ideas of how to use natural features to reduce flood risk but projects will require expert inputs, site-specific assessments and input from the Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authority <p>No further action required</p>
<p>90. Seepage springs / spring lines / small wetland features associated with geology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain more in Nature in Dorset about the geological relationship – porous permeable greensand and chalk overlaying impermeable clay • help makes better sense of the opportunities that exist, where, and why. • Likely to be affected by climate change – less active 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of the geology is explained under priority 4 • Opportunities to support these features are identified on the local habitat map by using greens and geology data (see final paragraph, potential activities layer in Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps) • Based on this feedback we will increase how these opportunities are highlighted in the strategy <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase explanation of link between geodiversity and nature recovery in Nature in Dorset (appendix A) 2. Add to the pressures and opportunities document 'pressure: human activities have disrupted seepage springs which are important small wetland features. They occur in specific

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>in drought, or more active and more in number in wetter winters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the past these were sources of water for farming, explore the sustainable use of springs as an opportunity to protect farming from pressures and threats 	<p>locations due to Dorset's complex geology, where porous permeable greensand and chalk overlay various impermeable clays. They are likely to be under further pressure from climate change, being less active in drought, or more active and more in number in wetter winters'</p> <p>'opportunity: conserve and recover seepage springs with sustainable management to benefit biodiversity and explore potential for sustainable use of springs to provide water supply to farming, increasing resilience against groundwater shortages'</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit the explainer paragraph that mentions these features and add a specific potential activity relating to their management – 'Small wetland features like seepage springs are important for wildlife, they are found where permeable geology overlays impermeable geology (typically Greensand), and often on valley sides above headwater streams. If working near small wetland features, seek specialist advice about their conservation and recovery' Add activity: 'If working on greensand or chalk geology that may contain small wetland features like seepage springs, seek specialist advice about their conservation and recovery. Explore opportunities for sustainable use of spring water to increase water supply resilience in farming'
<p>91. Mention key target sites for better water management and permeable surfaces and SuDS – schools, holiday parks, car parks, business parks</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is for the Local Plan to consider, using the LNRS as a tool to enable better water management <p>No further action required</p>
<p>92. Current state of rivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> not enough on poor condition and water quality river ecological status data is not that helpful data on water quality and species populations would be better 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information is provided in the Nature in Dorset section and pressures and opportunities supporting document Spatial information on the current state of river and riparian habitats is provided in the Dorset river habitat mapping (more info Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps) <p>No further action required</p>
<p>93. Chemicals in veterinary medicines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> caution that reducing medication can put domestic animals, livestock and humans at risk both internal and external treatments can result in chemicals deposited in environment 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wording is clear that this is about reduction, not stopping medication Individual decisions would come down to the advice from a veterinary professional and the pet/livestock owner's decision and not within the scope of the LNRS <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> edit activity 'Reduce the use of chemicals in farming, gardening and veterinary medicines. This includes preventative use of pesticides used to treat external parasites of domestic pets (as these often end up contaminating water bodies)'
<p>94. Concern methane emissions from wetlands exceed methane emissions from beef and dairy</p>	<p>Our response:</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
farming, but wetlands don't provide food and employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livestock farming is a human-caused source of methane, but sustainable farming practices are being introduced to reduce methane emissions Wetlands are a naturally occurring source of methane Wetlands also store carbon, support biodiversity, offer natural flood management and can offer employment through land management roles Having a range of habitats in a functioning ecosystem also indirectly supports food production <p>No further action required</p>

Priority 5 – Coastal

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
95. Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site not mentioned including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> geodiversity coastal change and retreat are a key component of its Outstanding Universal Value key habitats associated with the site including fleet lagoon 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site is included in the Nature in Dorset section It is an omission not to refer to it again in the coastal priority <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add to the coastal priority explainer paragraph 'The Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site and it's internationally recognised rocks, fossils and landforms support a range of ecosystems, such as rocky and sandy shorelines, coastal saltmarshes and reedbeds, and deciduous temperate forests.'
96. Coastal retreat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> habitats lost to erosion – conflict between this wording and priority 8 natural processes coastal retreat and its driving processes create a complex and highly valuable mosaic of habitats on the cliff slope and foreshore erosion is generative as well as causing the rollback of land more precise way to describe – maintain connectivity between the complex/pioneering coastal and mature/established inland habitats raise awareness of the benefits of coastal change for nature, using the Jurassic coast as a case study 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledge the need to add/change wording within this priority to clarify that the importance of making space for both coastal, intertidal and cliff top habitats in places where the coastline is naturally changing or being managed to be a more natural coastline. <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit the priority – 'The coastal strip is enhanced and restored to safeguard key habitats that protect rare and vulnerable species and space is created for cliff top and intertidal habitats as the coastline retreats coastal retreat as habitat is lost to erosion and sea level rise Edit priority explainer paragraph as outlined in Appendix C – edit priority 5 - coastal Add potential activity under priority 5 'Connect habitats along the coast with habitats inland and support wildlife corridors' Work with partners to raise awareness of links between nature recovery and coastal change during delivery phase

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>97. Concern about long-term economic impacts of coastal managed realignment</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is not within scope of the LNRS as it does not make decisions about coastal managed realignment. Shoreline Management Plans set out a planned approach to managing flood and coastal erosion risk • The local nature recovery strategy and shoreline management plans should be used together when considering activities along the coast <p>No further action required</p>
<p>98. Suggestions relating to the activities on recreation and disturbance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • change to <i>significant</i> disturbance, not just any disturbance, wildfowling can be done to sustainable levels without negatively impacting distribution, location, abundance or breeding of species • reference dog walkers • where it is not possible to protect habitat through education and behaviour change initiatives alone, use enforcement tools such as zonation, new byelaws, Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) • create and enhance alternative sites for recreation such as dog walking that reduce pressure on sensitive coastal areas e.g. SANGs • more signs and restrictions during winter and nesting times • need to balance areas enjoyed by people, not just areas for habitat – still provide opportunities to enjoy coastal nature • continue work of BARI • educate to put crabs back not leave in buckets all day 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although one disturbance event may be 'insignificant', cumulative impacts must be considered, as the pressures from each 'insignificant' event may combine • Edits will be made to the activities on reducing recreational disturbance and balancing nature with space for people to enjoy, based on feedback • Some of the specific details will not be added as they are captured by the general activities included e.g. zonation and bye laws could be one way to deliver 'changing access patterns' <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit activity - 'Reduce pressures from recreational disturbance, for example, helping water sport users, tourists, wildlife spotters and coastal dog walkers understand how to enjoy the coast without disrupting sensitive habitats and species. For example, by continuing the work of BARI – The Bird & Recreation Initiative' 2. Edit activity - 'For coastal areas with high numbers of people visiting, use a mixture of methods to make more space for wildlife, such as. For example, changing access patterns to give wildlife more space and providing alternative opportunities for people to connect with coastal nature, or creating areas for wildlife on nearby land that will be less disturbed, for example, ground nesting habitat for birds on adjacent undisturbed fields' 3. Add activity – 'Create and enhance alternative sites for people to enjoy recreation, such as dog walking, to reduce pressure on sensitive coastal areas'
<p>99. Pollution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sewage discharges • microplastics • litter on beaches 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The coastal priority includes an activity about reducing pollution from wastewater treatment <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add activity 'Tackle plastic pollution in coastal waters by promoting ways to reduce single-use plastic and

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	microplastics and reducing litter left on beaches and further up the river catchment’.
100. The South West Coast Path and the King Charles III England Coast Path (and its associated coastal margin) can be green corridors connecting habitats along the coast	Action: 1. Add activity ‘ Manage The South West Coast Path and the King Charles III England Coast Path as green corridors connecting habitats along the coast ’
101. Reduce brightness of lighting over water	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An activity to increase natural darkness is included under priority 6 in the urban environment, this would apply to artificial lighting near the coast too. No further action required
102. Topsoil loss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> silt in rivers and harbours silt mitigation DNL project calculations could be used to show cost/benefit of tonnage lost and value 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of activities to reduce top soil run off are included in the strategy under various priorities Action: 1. Work with partners on ways to show the risks of top soil loss and benefits of mitigation during delivery phase
103. Include artificial nesting islands/platforms into design of flood defence	Action: 1. Edit activity ‘Design habitat creation into flood defence and other coastal engineering works, for example, artificial reefs, rockpools, sand dunes and artificial nesting sites ’
104. Marine nature recovery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stop bottom trawling 30by30 includes land and sea but isn’t in the strategy deploy eco moorings in other locations following success of Studland project to protect seagrass 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy covers all the land and freshwater, up to the inter tidal zone as far as mean low water, the strategy does not cover the marine environment National government initially permitted us to do a voluntary extension into the marine environment but then instructed us we were not to do this. The nature areas of national important layer includes marine sites beyond the council boundaries because potential activities on the land can have a positive effect on them. But we cannot map high opportunity nature areas and potential activities in marine areas Separate work for the marine environment is planned No further action required

Priority 6 – Urban

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
105. Light pollution can also be reduced by drawing curtains after dark and using blackout linings in curtains	Action: 1. Edit activity – ‘Increase natural darkness by using timers and movement sensors on household and street lighting, to reduce light pollution that disturbs the natural rhythms of wildlife, for example, bats, birds, insects. Choose lights that are not too bright and warmer shades, then position the lights as low as possible and pointing downwards rather than into the sky. Also draw curtains or blinds after dark once the lights are on, if possible use thick or blackout lined curtains ’

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
106. Urban nature recovery must go beyond creating parks, it should address housing and carbon emissions of the built environment	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local plans will be able to refer to the Dorset local nature recovery strategy in relation housing and carbon emissions of the built environment No further action required
107. Request for training for grounds maintenance teams on nature-friendly management practices	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An activity related to this was also suggested for priority 1 so will be added under priority 10 nature connection, where there are other activities relating to skills and training.
108. Request for more advice to avoid people planting invasive or near-invasive species	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity on priority 11 'Raise awareness of which invasive or near-invasive species to avoid planting in gardens or community projects'
109. Add an activity on reducing noise pollution which impacts wildlife	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise pollution and actions to reduce or mitigate are best considered on a case-by-case basis, via relevant systems such as planning, licencing and environmental health No further action required
110. Cycle lanes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> concern tarmacking over verges destroys nature 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is often a careful balance to strike when creating infrastructure for people to use and protecting nature areas. Cycle paths play an important role in enabling more sustainable, active travel options for residents. By encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reliance on cars, we can lower carbon emissions and improve air quality locally—both of which are essential in addressing climate change, a major threat to wildlife and natural habitats. Where possible cycle paths are designed to have natural verges alongside them, but these areas can take time to grow when the paths are newly created. As noted in an earlier response in this report, the draft Local Transport Plan includes a policy A4 on taking a nature-positive approach to transport design. No further action required
111. Support for activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife-friendly gardening Avoiding artificial grass Water recycling Habitat creation and natural features within development Wildflower verges and 'untidy' areas are good Tree planting Green corridors to help nature and people Balance needs of wildlife and people Reduce light pollution Permeable materials if converting garden into parking space 	Our response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are all included in the strategy so it's good to see so much support for them No further action required

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate resilient trees • Nature-rich spaces boost mental health • Nature-rich spaces in golf courses and sports pitches 	
<p>112. Ways for community groups to help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on how to manage grassy areas between houses for nature • If maintenance costs prevents urban tree planting, see if community groups can manage trees 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing nature spaces in urban areas would require landowner permission and other considerations like nearby highways – but there is scope for community involvement in a planned way <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider how to enable community groups get involved in taking care of nature in urban spaces during delivery phase
<p>113. Consider adopting the 3x30x300 rule, which states that individuals should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • see three trees from their dwelling • have 30 % tree canopy in their neighborhood • and live within 300 m of a high-quality green space 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is for the councils to decide if they wish to consider adopting this through the local plans. This will be passed to both councils <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pass 3x30x300 rule to relevant teams within both councils
<p>114. Geodiversity in urban areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building stone • Natural and human made rock outcrops • Hard substrate surfaces • Cuttings • Inland rock • Host rare and diverse species • Volunteers could monitor lichens on rock in towns 	<p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add potential activity ‘Protect or create patches of bare rock habitat amongst other habitat in urban spaces because these support wildlife such as invertebrates, lichens and mosses. For example, leaving bare rock exposed in cuttings, natural stone buildings or keeping a rock face in quarry restoration’ 2. Idea for volunteer involvement in monitoring lichens on bare rock and buildings in towns and villages can be taken forward into delivery phase
<p>115. Footpaths and national trails: Verges along paths and trails can be managed to be more species-rich, similar to verges on road and rail</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add a potential activity under priority 6 (same as one added under 1) ‘Manage verges alongside National Trails and Public Rights of Way to act as species-rich corridors, helping wildlife connect and allowing people to travel along and enjoy access to nature. This may involve a mix of grassland, hedgerows and trees’.
<p>116. Mention community farms – currently missing</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy does refer to community growing projects, which could include community farms <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add activity ‘Continue and grow the number of community farms, allotments and other growing projects using nature-friendly practices such as no chemicals and rainwater harvesting’.

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
117. Barriers to making space for nature in urban areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landlord willingness to do nature activities Density of urban areas preventing tree planting Council focus on larger greenspaces rather than smaller patches Community group access to resources to do things 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy encourages making space for nature in larger open spaces, as well as in smaller patches and in streets where possible Exploring ways to overcome these barriers will be part of delivery of the strategy – including support for community groups Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunity to provide advice to landlords on nature-friendly management in properties during delivery phase
118. Pollution from transport is a threat to local environment but the strategy doesn't include activities to reduce people travelling in vehicles	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy cannot cover ways to change vehicle use in detail as these are covered by the Local Transport Plan and Active Travel initiatives, which the local nature recovery strategy will be delivered alongside. Pollution from transport is identified in the strategy as one of the pressures on nature The strategy includes some activities that are nature-based solutions to tackle pollution No further action required
119. Tree strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset Council should have a tree strategy similar to BCP Urban Forest strategy to help increase urban tree planting and increase canopy cover 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will pass this on to Dorset Council to consider No further action required

Priority 7 – Farming

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
120. Activity on hedgerows should include allowing hedgerows to expand in width and height	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The words 'enhance' and 'manage' in the activity would include expanding width and height The new hedgerow priority will cover more on hedgerow management No further action required
121. Promote agriTech where it can help increase productivity and sustainability, and the one health agenda	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity 'Explore how Agri-Tech can help deliver sustainable farming practices and healthy food production (icons – business, public, farm)' Add Dorset One Health approach, The UK Agri-Tech Centre farming & food innovation and Farming & Agriculture including Agritech Business Growth Dorset as an existing opportunity in the pressures and opportunities supporting document
122. Dorset Council's own land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council owns great tracts of land including 46 farms. Less productive land should be restored for nature 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset Council is working on a new Farms Strategy for their council farm estate. A key part of that strategy is making sure they are managing the estate responsibly and sustainably. The Dorset Council plan includes a target for "70% of our county farms land will be managed using sustainable farming

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with its tenant farmers to encourage more sustainable farming. 	<p>practices that balance food production and nature by 2030”, this will be achieved by working with tenants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council is also looking at delivering more for nature elsewhere <p>No further action required</p>
<p>123. Support and agreement with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing hedges • hedgerow management • farm clusters • reduced chemical use • buffer strips • reduced hay cutting • sharing sustainable practices with more farmers 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These activities are all covered in the strategy so it’s good to see support for them <p>No further action required</p>
<p>124. Support for farmers needed to adopt sustainable farming practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • farms to be viable, productive and sustainable • financial certainty – guarantee funding for nature recovery alongside food • advice on nature recovery • recognise key role of farmers in delivering nature recovery • farmers help deliver all priorities not just this one • make economic case of sustainable practices clear and compelling 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many of the potential activities under all the priorities are indicated as most relevant to farmers, landowners and land managers • Other responses in this document cover the support we acknowledge is needed for farmers <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver targeted events and signposting during delivery phase
<p>125. Food system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low food prices put pressure on farm viability and productivity • reduce reliance on imports • effect of nature recovery on amount of food grown in Dorset • focus on more plant-based eating, support farmers to use land to grow a diversity of food not just animal products and have some nature areas • grow more food for humans and less for animals 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable farming can be compatible with nature alongside profitable food production, food production is not the primary aim of the LNRS <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue working with farmers and others during delivery phase on overlapping issues within the food system that are barriers to delivery of nature recovery
<p>126. Land not being used for food production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • land bought by large companies, hedge funds and others viewing land as an 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The planning system is where most land use changes are considered. Planning decisions will increasingly be asked to consider how this could impact delivery of nature recovery

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>investment or tax advantage rather than a social asset</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • misuse of funds on rewilding / taking land out of food production • monocropping for energy crops with long road miles is not sustainable • fields used for solar energy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In some cases the council is involved in land being bought or used for environment mitigation which as an added benefit delivers nature recovery, this does not use the council's own funds but specific money from development or government grants <p>No further action required</p>
<p>127. Community initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interested farmers could work with local community groups who can help manage a small part of their land for nature recovery 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore options during delivery phase, work with partners and learn from existing examples where this is working well in the county e.g. interested farmers allocating small areas to market gardens
<p>128. Slurry management needs addressing e.g. include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternatives to the potential activity to transport slurry from dairy to arable farms that don't need transport • Reducing stock numbers • adaptive grazing techniques to use grass more strategically and reduce maize • covered slurry stores with 6 month+ storage capacity 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An activity on slurry management has been added under priority 4 based on feedback <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. add activity on slurry management under priority 7 'Explore options for improving slurry management e.g. covered slurry stores, larger 6 month+ capacity storage, adaptive grazing to use grass more strategically, reduction of maize planting and reducing stock numbers'
<p>129. Typical species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corn marigold is native of eastern mediterranean, corn poppy would be more appropriate • Corn bunting specifically rather than buntings as not all buntings are farmland birds 	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corn marigold is not native but is an ancient introduction so is now typical in Dorset farmland • Buntings should have been Corn Bunting <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change bunting to corn bunting
<p>130. Stopping glyphosate use should be a farming priority due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health risk to farmers and employees, to soils, wildlife and people consuming food and water • Economic risk relating to lawsuits • Council to do more to monitor and discourage use in farming, gardening and roadside management 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy encourages farmers to understand their current chemical use and then follow a plan to minimise use and losses • Any ban of glyphosate in farming and private land would be a national issue, not something this strategy can set • Both councils have policies and management plans for roadside management <p>No further action required</p>
<p>131. Illegal hunting, shooting and the badger cull:</p>	<p>Our response:</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset identified as the worst county for illegal foxhunting Hare coursing, Mink hunting etc disturbs habitats not just impacting the target species species introduced for shoots negatively impact native Badger cull both supported and not supported evidence that land managed for shooting (legal) provides more habitat such as hedgerows, cover crops, crops for pollinators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy includes an activity to continue the work of the Partnership Against Rural Crime, which includes wildlife crime (more info Country Watch) Dorset Police website contains information about illegal hunting. If you have concerns about potential illegal hunting or other wildlife crimes (e.g. destroying a bat roost) you can report this to Dorset Police The strategy includes an activity linking to the new national TB eradication strategy, which looks at things like the use of badger surveillance and cattle vaccination, to move away from badger cull BASC provide advice to landowners and those involved in legal hunts and shoots on managing land in ways that support wildlife as well as sport <p>No further action required</p>
<p>132. Geodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> another opportunity to work with neighbours on cross-holding features geology supports different habitats and land uses 	<p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit activity 'Work with neighbours to take an integrated approach to managing cross-holding features such as hedges, buffer strips, margins, water courses, slopes and geodiversity features.' Add activity 'If extracting small amounts of mineral for other works on farm, consider whether appropriate to leave some exposed bare rock, sand or gravel habitat for wildlife. This can also be a learning opportunity for others to observe and understand more about geology'
<p>133. Restrict intensive activities in flood plains and within 20-30m of water courses e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ploughing Chemical spraying Slurry spreading Growing conventional maize and cereals 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy cannot put in place specific restrictions but does include an activity to create buffer strips near waterbodies on farms The local habitat map includes an activity to 'create or enhance river and wetland habitat' along flood zone 2 <p>No further action required</p>
<p>134. Poole Harbour Nutrient Management scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support for the scheme concern it is not doing enough and wasting farmer/consultant time to fill in 	<p>Our Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is not for the LNRS to respond to this and should be addressed by those running the scheme. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>135. More education on sustainable agriculture</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities on increasing sustainable practices in farming and forestry curriculum, and peer learning events, are covered under priority 10 with other points on skills and knowledge <p>No further action required</p>
<p>136. Mixed farming not as viable in the modern farming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> bigger machinery and less workers makes smaller fields/paddocks harder 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers don't have to do every activity in the strategy, and have flexibility to decide what works for their farm As there is increasing evidence that some modern farming techniques and machinery are causing too much harm to the environment, alternative sustainable practices are being

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> price per tonne of wheat is much lower than the 70s trees in fields are hard to work around 	<p>developed and trialled which can overcome some of these challenges - local examples are shown in the strategy</p> <p>No further action required</p>

Priority 8 – Natural processes

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>137. Land boundaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues with dynamic habitats lacking clear boundaries System of land ownership and county jurisdiction has clear boundaries 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some landowners and projects are using natural process led conservation on a large scale especially where they have the available land and/or partnerships with neighbours e.g. through landscape recovery projects Natural process approaches can still be used to inform management of smaller sites and is cited in the strategy as an option <p>No further action required</p>
<p>138. This priority doesn't seem as detailed as other priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> less clearly defined than the other priorities to what extent will restoring natural processes overrule other land use plans 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The video for this priority provides more detail The strategy does not overrule any land use plans, it is a guide to consider incorporating more nature recovery activities into land use plans <p>No further action required</p>
<p>139. Some habitats still require specific targeted interventions, even if natural processes have been restored e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encroachment of scrub and secondary woodland successional processes on calcareous grassland to detriment of the grassland heath will need management to prevent succession to woodland, even if natural processes have been established. 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit the last sentence in explainer paragraph – ‘Enabling this landscape change is likely to require larger areas and sufficient time to work effectively, and some species and habitats will still require targeted interventions’.
<p>140. Raise awareness on ‘untidy’ areas are not neglected areas and why natural processes need to be restored</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit activity under priority 10 nature connection – ‘Support communities to understand and celebrate any changes happening through habitat restoration and why it is needed. For example, information signs on footpaths and near projects, volunteer days, and explaining the positives of having wilder areas that may seem ‘untidy’ to some
<p>141. Support and agreement with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> natural river processes 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are all included in the strategy and pleased they are supported

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beavers Deer and grey squirrel management 	No further action required
142. Restoration opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> oyster, muscles and shellfish beds to poole harbour seagrass to Poole, Bournemouth and Christchurch bays 	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit activity under priority 5 – ‘Seek to restore lost coastal and intertidal habitats such as seagrass beds, oyster reefs, mussel beds, saltmarsh and sand dunes, as improvements in underlying environmental conditions allow
143. Beavers would help improve natural processes of rivers and wetlands	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beavers and their role as ecosystem engineers is covered in priority 12 - priority species No further action required
144. Farmers to have 20m along rivers as wild places for nature	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An activity to include buffer strips near waterbodies is included under priorities 7 and 4 No further action required
145. Wet woodland is covered in the priority explainer but not a potential activity , could the strategy suggest planting trees which favour wet conditions such as alder, willow and aspen in wetter areas?	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wet woodland is mentioned under priority 2 and this priority 8 The strategy does not get into the detail of recommending specific species for habitat types Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Work with partners to identify if more advice on wet woodland is required in delivery phase
146. Geodiversity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> natural processes largely driven by underlying geodiversity geodiversity characteristics essential to understand processes active in an area 	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add to the explainer paragraph of the priority ‘Understanding of the geology in an area is essential to inform what natural processes are, or could be, active there’
147. Opportunity-cost decisions may be needed for trade-off decisions between ecosystem services, including food production.	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy does not replace detailed decisions about the best use of a piece of land It does not always have to be a trade-off between different ecosystem services, it can be possible to restore functioning natural processes on productive farmland, in ways that benefit wildlife and food productivity No further action required

Priority 9 – Nature-based solutions

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
148. First choice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature-based solutions might not be right every time Each case should be judged on its merits Consider unintended consequences 	Our response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of the words ‘first choice’ means nature-based solutions are the first options considered when responding to wider environmental issues This doesn’t mean they must be used every time if the evidence suggests another solution would be more effective. Action:

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<p>1. Edit priority wording ‘Nature-based solutions are used as the first choice option to address wider environmental issues, such as flooding, climate change and pollution’</p>
<p>149. A decision framework should be introduced to ensure nature-based solutions are looked at first by local authorities, water companies, national grid and other infrastructure</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature-based solutions are increasingly being considered first by many organisations, but this priority is about ensuring that happens The priority includes an activity to embed nature recovery across all organisations and ensure nature-based solutions are considered as part of decision making <p>Action</p> <p>1. Ensure nature recovery is embedded in decision making as we move into delivery phase</p>
<p>150. Natural stone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lower carbon footprint than importing or using synthetic materials like concrete should we be advocating for the use of local stone where possible supports jobs associated with quarrying opportunities for bare rock habitats and geodiversity 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is often best to use natural stone and there are opportunities for habitat restoration on former minerals sites, which could include leaving bare rock habitat But natural stone isn’t in itself a nature-based solution so not to be added under this priority <p>No further action required</p>
<p>151. Seagrass:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> good for carbon sequestration not just seahorses possibly also help with eutrophication charge a seagrass levy on every harbour mooring allocate areas for seagrass restoration in Poole harbour 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an activity under this priority to ‘Enhance and create habitats to help mitigate climate change’ This activity lists peatland, broadleaved woodland and saltmarsh as examples of habitats that tend to be larger carbon stores, but explains many other habitat types also provide carbon storage and diversity of habitats is key. Seagrass beds can store carbon A seagrass assemblage is included under priority 12, and the potential activities listed in the species recovery supporting document include restoration and some byelaws <p>No further action required</p>
<p>152. Food and farming are also a nature-based solution for our health as well as nature</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a good example of the connection between priorities, as priority 7 is all about sustainable farming to produce food in harmony with nature As green social prescribing has been included here as a nature-based solution for health, sustainable food production could also be listed <p>Action</p> <p>1. Add activity to priority 9 ‘Use sustainable farming practices to produce healthy food and support initiatives to connect people with local sustainably produced food’</p>
<p>153. Rainwater harvesting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for individual use: residents to have water butts 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an activity on water butts for rainwater harvesting under priority 6 <p>Actions:</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> for community use: install intermediate bulk containers in public spaces 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity under this priority 'Use rainwater harvesting to capture rainwater and use this to water plants in residential and community spaces Work with partners to promote rainwater harvesting in residential and community spaces during delivery
154. Support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hedgerows Permeable materials Natural flood management Tree planting Sustainable drainage systems 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are all included in the strategy so it's good to see so much support for them No further action required
155. Wetlands for sewage treatment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern about health risks Especially in dry summers 	Our response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One activity refers to using wetlands for final treatment of wastewater that has already been treated. Another activity refers to untreated sewage, but specifically where this sewage would be discharged from storm overflows. Use of wetlands does not replace wider work to reduce the occurrence of storm overflow discharges. Water companies are actively trialling different options to use wetlands, and each project requires detailed planning and consideration of potential risks. No further action required

Priority 10 – Nature connection

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
156. Nature connection is most important <ul style="list-style-type: none"> essential to the rest of the strategy focus should be more on nature connection not necessarily more involvement in nature recovery 	Our response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As outlined in response 6, all the priorities are of equal importance This priority recognises the need for more people to connect with nature for nature recovery to be achieved The LNRS is not able to focus on nature connection in isolation, so instead we included this priority to show how nature connection can lead to more action for nature recovery No further action required
157. Support for raising awareness and more opportunities for people to connect with nature e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> explaining why 'wild' areas are left citizen science guided nature walks climate change/ nature links 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are all included in the strategy so it's good to see so much support for them Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with partners during delivery phase to expand these opportunities and overcome barriers
158. Access to nature is a key way for people to connect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support the rights of way and open access land balance opportunities for people and nature 	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity under this priority 'Promote ways for people to connect with nature when using footpaths, national trails, rights of way and open access land.

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>159. Geodiversity awareness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raise awareness of the ways geodiversity supports nature recovery and protecting geodiversity as its own important part of nature • river restoration is about geomorphology, not just the diversity of wildlife • nature is not just the living things but the systems that support them • tourist literature, interpretation boards, QR codes • volunteering to conserve geological sites • museums to learn natural history and stories 	<p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add potential activity under nature connection ‘Share opportunities for people to learn more about local geodiversity, how it supports the natural environment, what nature recovery activities are supported by different geology, and opportunities to conserve geology through volunteering. 2. During delivery phase encourage those creating communications about nature recovery projects to refer to geodiversity as well as biodiversity
<p>160. Important to fund the publicity and outreach around delivering nature recovery</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra have funded Dorset Council initially for one year to convene and facilitate delivery of the strategy, this will include spending funds on publicity and engagement <p>No further action required</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>161. Suggestions that Dorset Council could have a role in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> giving people a range of opportunities to get involved, not just ‘informing’ but inspiring and organising supporting administrative aspects of volunteer work e.g. template documents, insurance policies catchment-based landowner clusters to help farmers, householders and businesses along the same river system work together supporting local initiatives to stop using chemicals co-ordinating the many community river initiatives and groups replication of successful landscape-scale recovery projects facilitating the involvement of Town and Parish Councils to produce action plans via funding, information, community workshops and advisory groups 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy contains a wide range of different potential activities that all sectors can deliver Priority 10 includes an overview of the many ways that Dorset Council and other partners can create opportunities for more people to get involved Many of these suggestions are more relevant for the delivery of the strategy, rather than its content. Some of these suggestions are already delivered by partner organisations Dorset Council is involved in several developing landscape scale recovery projects that are included in the local habitat map, awaiting future funding rounds As outlined earlier in this report, Dorset Council is working with Town and Parish councils Dorset Council will have a coordinating role, through Nature Recovery Dorset, but it requires support from everyone to help grow the network, join up existing work and get more people involved <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Explore these suggestions with partners and community groups during delivery phase

Priority 11 – Species abundance and diversity

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>162. Which species should be increased and which controlled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> some confusion that some non-natives are ok, but others should be destroyed if some non-natives are ok, then you need a fuller list of the non-natives that should be controlled and not introduced additional invasive non-native species or those which spread from gardens easily were suggested to be added to the list some species/diseases are a direct pressure on wildlife, 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LNRS cannot provide a complete list of every invasive non-native species in Dorset, especially as evidence and best practice guidance changes. This is done by the Non-native Species Secretariat, the best source for the latest information. In the key pressures and opportunities section of the strategy (pg33-34 or webpage) we included a summary of some of the key biosecurity pressures in Dorset with links to find out more. On reflection, this list could be misleading as it will never be complete or up to date. Priority 11 includes specific examples of invasive non-native species, pests or diseases and suggested activities in response to them. <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the list of biosecurity pressures and images from the pressures and opportunities section.

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
others are a pressure on land managers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Add activity 'Stop introduction or spread of invasive non-native species by increasing understanding of the risks and how they spread' 3. Edit activity 'Undertake targeted and sustained control of non-native and invasive plants and animals, for example, rhododendron, Himalayan balsam, snowberry, sour fig, cotoneaster, Japanese rose, giant hogweed, water fern and mink. Use resources from the non-native species secretariat for further information and examples. 4. Edit activity 'Monitor tree stocks for pests and disease, and where impacts are high, adapt woodland management plans and practices to respond. Refer to Forest Research for further information. 5. Add activity 'Follow guidance and regulations set by the Animal and Plant Health Agency'
<p>163. Suggestions for delivery of actions on biosecurity pressures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raise awareness that some plants that are ok in gardens cause harm in the countryside • work with garden centres and local and national horticultural societies • is it realistic to control species that are available in garden centres or widely accepted • build in action on invasive non-natives to existing projects • encourage local native plants via planning process • promote volunteer activities on controlling invasive species and information • BASC offer guidance on deer stalking and grey squirrel management 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore these ideas further during delivery phase, linking in with national initiatives to raise awareness such as RHS
<p>164. Concern reducing all chemical use may impact food growing on allotments</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy promotes reducing chemicals, for some this may be a more gradual process • Advice is available on wildlife-friendly gardening practices with alternative methods of pest control to chemicals e.g. Dorset Wildlife Trust and Soil Association <p>No further action required</p>
<p>165. Concern about the efficacy of badger vaccination for bovine TB reduction</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy supports following the new national TB eradication strategy, it will be important to follow updates and reports on this as the work progresses <p>No further action required</p>
<p>166. support for</p>	<p>Our response:</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deer management • Grey squirrel management • Invasive non-native species control • Habitat connectivity • Ash dieback coordinated response including trees in hedgerows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are all included in the strategy so it's good to see so much support for them <p>No further action required</p>
<p>167. Deer population management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the activity separates management of muntjac and sika deer identifying the former as a non-native invasive species • both species are non-native and invasive requiring control. 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wording of this activity was based on Forestry Commission advice • Although both species are non-native, Muntjac is also considered invasive • So future work to coordinate management of deer populations would be looking to eradicate Muntjac, while managing sustainable Sika populations <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. edit the activity 'Coordinate landscape scale management of sustainable deer populations to improve the ecological condition of semi-natural habitats, supporting the natural regeneration of trees, woody shrubs and ground flora, and to protect agricultural crops. Control muntjac deer (as an non-native invasive species). Within both Wareham and Purbeck focus management actions upon sika deer populations.
<p>168. Diverse species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if re-planting trees lots to disease, use more resistant and more diverse species 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit activity 'If plants or trees are lost to disease, re-plant with a more resistant and diverse species mix but make sure these perform similar or enhanced ecological functions and are native if possible
<p>169. Where should there be more abundance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More abundance and diversity is not always better at some sites • every street, every garden, every field, every 1km square – people will be motivated if where they live matters, abundance on their doorstep as well as whole county 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The priority is about increasing overall abundance and diversity of species across Dorset, this is essential due to significant declines in biodiversity in the county • It can be delivered at every scale <p>No further action required</p>
<p>171. Geodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • geodiversity features support diverse species • so supporting and enhancing biodiversity will support species • local geological sites are an opportunity to do this 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add activity 'Maintain local geological sites in order to support geodiversity and species diversity

Priority 12 – Priority species

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>172. Priority species list too limited:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • biased to a few taxa • wider range of organisms and habitats needed to achieve nature recovery • balance between restoring habitat function and conserving specific species • concern reintroductions could detract from core nature conservation • some species that have been lost may no longer be suited to current times • unclear the relationship of the excellent multi-taxa habitat assemblages with the rest of the plan • difficult to see the species ruled out of the priority list • not ambitious enough • concern flagship species are chosen for their visual appeal but aren't typical 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The priority species list is one part of the LNRS, it is not to be used in isolation, the rest of the priorities cover the full range of species, habitats, natural processes and enabling actions required for nature's recovery • The species recovery supporting document sets out the criteria for selection of priority species set by Defra and the range of taxa experts involved in the process. • The species longlist contains a much wider range of taxa. It was not just a step in the process of identifying the priority species, it can be used as a tool in it's own right, along with the multi-taxa habitat-based assemblages. • Any activities delivered for species on the priority list should consider how they might also deliver benefits for a wider range of species • Based on feedback we will strengthen the link between the longlist, habitat-based assemblages and the priorities in the rest of the LNRS. • The longlist spreadsheet indicates the species ruled out of the priority list (Appendix A of the species recovery supporting document includes link to download spreadsheet) • The species task and finish group endeavoured to strike a balance between ambition and realistic delivery – meaning the priority species list is considered too ambitious by some, and not ambitious enough by others. • Some examples of typical species are included in each of the habitat-based priorities 1-7. <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit explainer in priority 12 <p>Making more space for nature across the landscape will lead to an increase in the abundance and diversity of wildlife across Dorset. By delivering activities under the other nature recovery priorities, we expect to see increases in populations of species associated with specific habitats, such as woodlark benefiting from the heathland priority. However, some species need bespoke action to enable their numbers to recover, increase and be sustained.</p> <p>To identify which species should be on this priority list, a group was formed with experts representing amphibians and reptiles, birds, fish, fungi, invertebrates, lichens, mammals and plants.</p> <p>The group followed a process set out by Defra to: Following a process set by Defra, the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • created a longlist of almost 1,000 species that are characteristic of Dorset, at high risk of extinction or otherwise locally significant • selected the 54 priority species from the longlist by identifying species requiring bespoke activities, and considering factors such as urgency, feasibility, climate change and existing work

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<p>The species recovery supporting document explains the methodology, who was involved, and which species were selected for the long list. While the priority list focuses on species requiring bespoke action, the longlist is a useful tool for planning nature recovery projects. The longlist species are grouped into habitat-based assemblages, each with their own guide explaining which species have similar habitat requirements and the pressures they face. These guides provide useful information to understand how activities under other priorities in this strategy will help species. For example, the potential activities under priority 5 – coastal can support the assemblage ‘species of soft rock and slumping cliffs’. This is the first time this approach has been taken for such a large range of important species in the county, bringing together key information on species requirements to inform habitat management and restoration.</p> <p>Priority species</p> <p>There are 73 individual priority species but some have been grouped into assemblages where they require the same bespoke activities to reduce the list to 54. The potential activities for each species can be found in the species recovery supporting document. Here you can also find details on the methodology, who was involved, and what species are on the long list.</p> <p>For the first section of the priority list the ambition is to reverse declines, for the second section of the list the ambition is to explore the potential for conservation translocation. It may not be possible to recover or reintroduce some of the priority species within the lifetime of the local nature recovery strategy, instead the potential activities for some species focus on better understanding evidence, risks, local views and deliverability.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit sentence in explainer under priority 11 ‘This will be achieved by combining potential activities listed under a number of the other nature recovery priorities’ Add link to the habitat-based species assemblages in the pressures and opportunities supporting document under the thriving plants and wildlife section ‘The species recovery supporting document includes habitat-based species assemblage guides, which summarise the key pressures on groups of species in Dorset that share similar habitat requirements’ Work with partners during delivery phase on how the habitat-based assemblages can be promoted as useful tools to inform delivery of nature recovery projects
<p>173. Conservation translocations, or re-introductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> must adhere to the code and guidance for reintroductions and other conservation translocations in England 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These points are covered in the explanation of conservation translocations within the LNRS (pg83 or webpage see subheading ‘priority species for conservation translocation’) Further explanation and links to national code and guidance are provided in the species recovery supporting document

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be subject to scrutiny to ensure that proposals provide clear benefits, recognise any risks and avoid negative environmental, economic or social impacts • important in the feasibility stage to avoid focus on the initial years and consider what the species and its interaction with people will look like in the long-term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each conservation translocation will require its own plan of action and cannot rely solely on being mentioned in the priority species list. • The strategy is clear that species on the conservation translocation section of the priority list are included to better understand evidence, risks, local views and deliverability, before any translocation were to take place. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>174. Water vole and hedgehog are endangered and in severe decline so should be on the priority list. An important water vole population is reported in the Asker Meadows.</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <p>Hedgehogs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not require bespoke actions for their recovery so will be supported by the other activities listed under the other priorities in the strategy. • Priority 6 lists hedgehog as a typical urban species and includes an activity on wildlife-friendly gardening which can include actions for hedgehogs. There is an activity encouraging the use of 'hedgehog highways' in new development, we note these can be added in existing buildings and outdoor spaces too • Priority 11 includes a potential activity on wildlife-friendly gardening, listing hedgehog house as an example. <p>Water vole:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some activities that would benefit water vole will be delivered by general habitat improvements, such as re-naturalising the riparian zone through environmental land management schemes • Water voles would also benefit from the complex wetlands created by Beavers, already on the priority species list • The main bespoke action required by water vole is tackling predation from American mink, a non-native species. There was previously no credible method for mink eradication but a new method has been shown to be effective in East Anglia at a sub-regional scale. • Multiple species may benefit from mink control, so water vole are a good flagship species for this <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit activity under priority 6 urban (pg58) 'Include species enhancements in the design of new buildings and developments. For example, bird and bat boxes/bricks, bee bricks, hedgehog highways. And add these to existing buildings and gardens too.' 2. Add water vole to the species priority list with the following potential activities added in the supporting document: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the geographic extent of suitable habitat • Increase the quality and complexity of habitat, especially wetlands

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove predation pressure from non-native American mink Learn from new mink control methods from the Waterlife Recovery Trust project Learn from previous Dorset project to remove mink to protect water vole on the Brit and Bride catchment delivered by BASC, SITA Trust and EA.
<p>175. Swifts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> add an activity to protect existing nest sites. Because Swifts are nest faithful and if, on returning from Africa, they find their nest entrance is blocked they are often fatally injured whilst repeatedly trying to gain access. They are only in the UK three months of the year to breed and have little time to find a new site and breed in the same season. fit swift boxes to old properties and new builds. refer to NPPF guidance refers to swift bricks as universal nest bricks require a minimum of one nest box per unit in a development nest bricks can benefit other species such as starlings and sparrows artificial nest cups for House Martins should be similarly considered guidance available in National Design Guide, National Model Design Code, British Industry Standard BS 42021:2022, Homes for Nature, RSPB Guide to Nestboxes. 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not deemed credible to prevent any property maintenance when former nest sites are unoccupied, it is already a crime to disturb birds that are nesting. The focus should be on raising awareness, signposting to relevant guidance and encouraging to place a swift brick as part of any maintenance. Two of the potential activities for swift refer to adding nest sites within new builds and mandating action via the planning system. The LNRS is not the place for detailed planning guidance or policy, but this is an example of how the LNRS can inform planning and help embed nature recovery across decision-making processes. The Dorset Biodiversity Appraisal Protocol (DBAP) already includes a requirement for all new residential development to include built-in bird boxes/bricks in 50% of all new houses, all householder applications for alterations and extensions must provide a minimum of 1 nest box/brick and this is extended to non-residential development where appropriate. Whilst this is guidance and not policy, it has become common practice within the Dorset Council area. The choice of provision is guided by biological records, the information collected by the consultant ecologist, and our own local knowledge to ensure the boxes selected are the most appropriate for the species present locally - swift, swallows, house martins or sparrows. Best practice guidance can be shared during delivery phase <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit potential activity 'raise awareness among householders, developers, builders and planners of the need to accommodate swift nesting during household renovations' Edit the activity 'raise awareness among planners, builders and architects of the options for incorporating swift nest sites into new builds, such as universal nest bricks' Edit the activity 'use the planning system to mandate action for swifts, such as a minimum of one universal nest brick per unit where appropriate'

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>176. Reptiles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> concern no reptiles on the list suggestion that Hampshire LNRS is including Smooth snake, Sand lizard, Natterjack Toad and Adder targeted habitat management needed to conserve existing populations habitat restoration needed to allow for population increase Dorset has majority of the national population of sand lizard and is also significant for smooth snake 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natterjack toad is on the priority list (amphibian) Smooth snake, sand lizard and adder require the same habitat enhancement and creation as others in their habitat-based assemblage, not something bespoke, so it is best to focus on delivering the requirements for all species in the Species of dry and humid heath assemblage. Sand Lizard require bare ground in addition to general heathland management, but bare ground is beneficial to a range of other plant and invertebrate species, as shown in the Species of bare ground on dry and humid heath assemblage and is therefore not bespoke. Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is an example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist and the other priorities in the LNRS – the priority list includes those that need bespoke action, but all species and habitats require recovery activities Sand lizard and other species are affected by unfavourable conservation status of heathland sites, including fire, loss of mature dry heath, inadequate bare ground (egg laying/recruitment) and poor site connectivity. And some management choices lack balance between the needs of different species and land uses. Heathland management can be delivered to benefit multiple species, and reducing disturbance from recreation and non-native grazing pressures can enhance the habitat and its species. Some additional management, such as increasing bare ground, can support specific species such as sand lizard. Priority 3 on heathland could be edited to better reflect this. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add activity to priority 3 heathland - Create and enhance bare ground areas on heathland to benefit plants, invertebrates, and sand lizard' Update assemblages to include heathland reptiles (sand lizard) within the species of bare ground and pioneer stages of dry and humid heath
<p>177. Priority species are important but trees are more important</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees feature in more than one priority as they are fundamental to many habitats All priorities are considered equal so priority species are not placed above trees, but the priority species are those requiring bespoke action for recovery Black poplar and elm are 2 trees identified as priority species due to their need for bespoke action <p>No further action required</p>
<p>178. Could Brown Hare be added to the priority list</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brown hare doesn't meet the first few criteria for inclusion on the longlist as it's not under IUCN threat categories, but was added to the longlist under the criteria of species of local significance

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We acknowledge many farmers are working to support this species • Priority 7 lists Brown hare as a typical farmland species • Priority 10 includes an activity on preventing rural wildlife crime, which would include hare coursing • The sustainable farming practices encouraged in the rest of the strategy will create/enhance habitat to support brown hare so there is no need to add to the priority list • Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is another example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist, assemblages and the other priorities in the LNRS <p>No further action required</p>
<p>179. Great bustard should be reintroduced</p>	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reintroduction project is happening on Salisbury Plain for this species • It is too soon to know if this would be appropriate or effective in Dorset • Following lessons learned from the Salisbury project, this can be reconsidered at the next LNRS review <p>No further action required</p>
<p>180. No lichens on the priority list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 of the micro-habitat assemblages could be on the priority list • 'Lichens, fungi and bryophytes of mature and veteran wayside and pasture trees' because Dorset has the richest surviving example of this assemblage in UK • 'Lichens of coastal rocks and bounders' because the lichen assemblage on Portland is unique in Britain and highly threatened • The micromoths of limestone cliffs assemblage are included but have no IUCN status and no threats 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is another example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist, assemblages and the other priorities in the LNRS. • Lichens can be supported by the habitat management activities proposed under the other priorities in the LNRS. For example, priority 5 coastal has activities that will benefit the lichens on Portland. • Lichen translocation is not yet successful so not enough evidence to add species that could benefit from this to the priority list. Similarly learning about fungi is ongoing but not yet sufficient to include any fungi on the priority list. This can be reconsidered at the LNRS review. • The micromoths of limestone cliffs are included in the longlist as they are listed as Nationally Rare or Nationally Scarce in Great Britain, with Dorset supporting nationally or regionally important populations. They are included in the priority list due to the pressure that rock-climbing on Portland puts on these species – and the simple opportunity to work collaboratively with rock-climbers to reduce this pressure. Activities for these moths will benefit other taxa using cliff ledge habitat. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add the 'sports, tourism and leisure activities' threat to the micromoths of limestone cliffs (cliff plume and samphire knot-horn) in the assemblage guide
<p>181. Stone curlew:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create nesting plots in arable farmland on the chalk downs 	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stone curlew plots are beneficial for other species too so a good thing to encourage

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>e.g. central Dorset and Cranborne Chase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stone curlew might benefit from translocation as it may take time for them to spread naturally from neighbouring Wiltshire and Hampshire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translocation is likely to be very expensive and not aware of any UK projects to date, focus should be on habitat creation/enhancement initiatives first <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit the potential activity 'Incentivise the provision of fallow / nesting plots on farmland nearest to the existing Wiltshire and Hampshire populations (also beneficial to other wildlife)'
<p>182. Curlew is pressing priority in the UK</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects are underway to 'headstart' curlew and some have encountered issues, so it is best to wait and learn from the outcomes of existing projects As general habitat creation and enhancement delivers nature recovery at a landscape scale, Dorset may become more suitable for Curlew in the future. In particular, the peat restoration work covered under priority 4. This can be reconsidered at the next LNRS review <p>No further action required</p>
<p>183. Cliff nesting birds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> annual Purbeck Seabird Survey report documents the declines in Kittiwakes, Cormorants, Fulmars, Herring Gulls and Great Black-backed Gulls as well as Puffins actions for Puffin on the priority list may not benefit the other species 50 Kittiwake pairs were recorded at Portland Bill, nests with eggs were predated by Ravens and no fledged young recorded 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Puffins are included on the priority list as there is current research and feasibility work happening in Dorset to deliver bespoke actions for this species In Purbeck, the puffins are unusually on ledges adjacent to other cliff breeding birds so actions for Puffin can also benefit other species For the other seabirds mentioned, some of the pressures such as industrial fishing practices and raven predation are outside the scope of what the LNRS can propose Priority 5 – coastal includes potential activities to reduce recreational disturbance and promote ways for people to enjoy the coast responsibly, such as coasteering and boat trips, which will benefit these birds Several of the birds are within the Species of maritime cliffs, undercliffs and coastal slopes Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is another example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist, assemblages and the other priorities in the LNRS <p>No further action required</p>
<p>184. Bats relevant to additional habitat-based assemblages</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make the following edits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species of freshwater and brackish reedbeds: Does not include bats of riparian habitats and this sort of habitat is a hugely important resource for bats Species of open woodland, glades, rides and early-stage coppice: does not include woodland bats, which will use these features as well as the main woodland Species of wet woodland: Does not include woodland bats Species of wayside and pasture trees: Does not include woodland bats. I know its not woodland, as such, but these sorts of trees, especially when sat in a rich landscape, can be hugely important for bats

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species of the built environment, greenspaces and brownfield habitats could the following sentence be amended, slightly, to 'Also included are recently abandoned mineral workings plus old mine adits and man-made caves, these are mostly found in the wider landscape rather within urban environments'. These are an under-recognised resource for bats and some of the static work we are doing is showing them to be used by multiple species, even in winter. They may also, if big enough and complex enough, be swarming sites.
<p>185. What was the rationale for not including heathland invertebrate assemblage on the priority list</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are multiple invertebrate assemblages relevant to heathland, which are grouped into habitat-based assemblages with other taxa. These can't all be placed on the priority list Heath tiger beetle was selected for the priority list due to it's requirements for bespoke action The other species within the assemblages will benefit from general habitat activities under priority 3 – heathland Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is another example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist, assemblages and the other priorities in the LNRS <p>No further action required</p>
<p>186. Slow worm and nightjar should be protected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why were nightjar excluded from the priority list? Slow worm are listed as typical species under priority 6 Concern about protections for these species in specific planning cases 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 6 lists slow worm as a typical urban species, and Priority 3 lists nightjar as a typical heathland species These species were not selected for the priority list because general habitat enhancement activities delivered under those priorities will support them. They do not require bespoke activities to be included in the priority list. Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is another example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist, assemblages and the other priorities in the LNRS <p>No further action required</p>
<p>187. How many species on the priority list are in the BCP Council area?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are other species which are uniquely dependent on the environments within BCP For example, Common Lizards and Grass Snakes can thrive in neglected urban green spaces, railway embankments, heathland, allotments, and larger gardens but are vulnerable to habitat loss and fragmentation. 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several of the priority species are relevant to the BCP area and experts working in this area were represented on the species task and finish group The activities listed under the other nature recovery priorities, especially priority 3 Heathland, include protecting sites and reducing fragmentation which would benefit these species. Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is another example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist, assemblages and the other priorities in the LNRS <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> During delivering phase, work with partners to identify the priority species most relevant to BCP

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As well the as the Dartford Warbler and Hen Harrier. 	
188. Dorset Biodiversity Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why are some species on the 2003 priority list still a priority? Why are some not? What actions were taken? 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firstly, the process set by Defra for the priority species list in LNRS is different to the criteria used in the 2003 biodiversity strategy. The LNRS process was set based on lessons learned from previous biodiversity strategies and action plans. Secondly, progress has been made with conserving some of the species previously listed, while others remain in need of support. At the review of Dorset Biodiversity Strategy it was decided it would be more effective to focus Section 41 habitats and species to be considered and actioned by relevant planning authorities No further action required.
189. Shrill carder bee – incorrect photo	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Photo requested from Bumblebee Conservation Trust of a Shrill carder bumblebee
190. Longlist criteria should have included birds that have historically bred in Dorset, not just resident breeders but also migrants	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some migrant species that have bred in Dorset are included Corncrake and red-backed shrike are on the priority list No further action required.
191. The focus seems to be very Purbeck and East Dorset orientated	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The species task and finish group considered species across Dorset The geographic location of some species selected for the priority list is based on where the remaining populations and supporting habitats are present No further action required
192. Nightingales and turtle doves are missing from the priority list	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nightingales and turtle doves would both benefit from general habitat enhancements under the other priorities in the LNRS, such as scrub creation, wet scrub and dynamic habitats Not being on the priority list doesn't mean these species aren't important - this is another example that the priority species list must not be used in isolation from the longlist, assemblages and the other priorities in the LNRS No further action required
193. Black poplar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of native and local black poplars (<i>Populus nigra</i> subsp. <i>betulifolia</i>) to repopulate riparian zones increase the amount of male/female pairs to allow for increased genetic diversity and natural propagation 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genetic diversity is key to propagation, but longer term the mix of male and female trees remains essential for sexual reproduction to allow response to climate change etc The need for suitable conditions for natural seed germination and growth should be addressed through wider riparian habitat actions in LNRS (under priority 4 in particular) Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit potential activity for Black poplar 'build on the established project looking at DNA to establish parentage of remaining plants and propagation/reintroduction of new plants of both sexes'

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
194. Add 3 species to longlist that have been found in Dorset since the list was created	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add fringeless nomad bee to longlist 2. Add long fringed mini miner to longlist 3. Add scarce forester to longlist
195. Grazing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reference to intensive grazing as a threat • insufficient grazing is also a threat for some habitats 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both over-grazing and under-grazing were considered as pressures on the habitat-based assemblages – as explained in the species recovery supporting document No further action required
196. Suggestions for delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring with local groups • Supermarket sponsor a species £1 with every meal deal • Groups interested in supporting the priority species • Explain how individuals can help these priority species in simpler toolkit 	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore these ideas during delivery phase

Feedback on the maps

General

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
197. Hard to use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rich in detail but hard to interpret and too cluttered • lots of time and computer skills needed • multiple map layers • better explanation needed • make it easier for people to see how their activities connect to others and ways to get involved • pale colours on pale colours not accessible • can't find the key / legend • daunting for a one-off user • not suited to a phone screen • more detail wanted for each opportunity • can't see the landowners or project information 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset's nature recovery maps are tools that can be used to identify opportunities and guide nature recovery activities • The maps are high-level maps covering the whole county and are not intended to replace site-based feasibility assessments or management plans. They are a guide, not a prescription • We acknowledge the maps are complex for new users, which is why we provided the video and Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps. The guide explains the purpose of each layer and suggested ways to use it • To get the best experience, users will need to take some time to get used to navigating the maps and read the guide • The Dorset Explorer help documentation also provides general tips to navigate, find layers, open the legend/key, and reduce transparency/opacity of background map or other layers • The Nature Recovery Dorset network layer is a way for people to see how their actions connect with others and ways to get involved in other local nature activities • The land manager or project proposal layer provides extra information about the proposals included in the high opportunity nature areas

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There may have been issues/delays with the map loading in within the survey due to the amount of data <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Run some webinars during delivery phase on how to use the maps and what they mean in practice Work with partners during delivery phase to find out how they are using the maps, what works well or what is challenging – and share this learning with others, tailoring advice to different sectors and user-groups.
<p>198. Link between map and written strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> list of activities in written strategy may be overwhelming map doesn't seem to help decide where to do different habitat activities when you click on an area could it link directly to the relevant LNRS section to show the potential activities? 	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is explained in the 'using the mapped and written activities together' section of the strategy (pg88 and more detail in Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps) The potential activities layer is colour-coded by primary activity, many of which relate directly to the priorities in the written strategy. You can click/tap on an area on the map to open a pop-up box summarising the primary and secondary activities. Where possible we have included the number of the 'most relevant priority' to the primary activity. But if primary activity is a mix of habitat type(s) the numbers will not show, but you should still refer to the relevant parts of the written strategy. It is not possible to include a direct link. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>199. Nature areas of national importance layer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when I click on the site, the map indicates that there are no known features no potential activities in specific sites 	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This layer is about showing you where the nature areas of national importance are in one merged layer Information about some of the sites included in this layer are available via other layers in the layers menu on Dorset Explorer such as Special Areas of Conservation or Local Nature Reserves The strategy does not actively seek to map potential activities in nature areas of national importance which have their own management plans and legal frameworks. Except for areas of irreplaceable habitat outside of designated sites and some specific land manager proposals. More info in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Explore whether we can add a pop-up box for the nature areas of national importance layer when you click/tap on the map, to tell you what the site is Add links to the separate layers on Dorset Explorer for these sites, in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps Add summary explanation to the strategy under subheading pg87 <i>potential activities</i>: The strategy does not actively seek to map potential activities in nature areas of national importance because these have their own management plans and legal frameworks. So activities are mostly mapped in the high opportunity nature areas, with a few exceptions where potential activities are mapped for irreplaceable habitat and some specific restoration projects.

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>200.No features found when you click on the high opportunity nature areas</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This layer is about showing you where the high opportunity nature areas have been identified, there is no additional information when you click on the map • Please turn on the potential activities layer to view the guide to what nature recovery activities could be delivered in those areas. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>201.Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) also known as local wildlife sites (LWS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not included in the local habitat map • underestimates the extent of existing biodiversity hotspots 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNCI are on Defra's inclusion criteria for the nature areas of national importance layer • But the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps explains that SNCI are not included due to data sensitivity issues that the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (LERCs) and Defra are seeking a solution to in future • Some SNCI are likely picked up in the high opportunity nature areas but have not been included as a specific data set <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with partners on the SNCI panel to find a solution to include SNCI in the local habitat map
<p>202.Potential activities on grassland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • areas with existing grassland have a primary activity of heathland or woodland • incorrect impression there is huge scope for heathland restoration on unsuitable areas that are too nutrient-rich or ecologically valuable as grassland 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific location suggestions to change the primary activity have been considered in turn • The potential activities layer provides a guide to the primary activity based on land manager proposals and modelling. But it is not a prescription, and site-specific assessments and plans are still needed • In some places, on-the-ground evidence may show it would be more appropriate to maintain and enhance the current habitat on the site, rather than create the habitat shown as a primary activity • In other cases it might be possible to deliver elements of the current habitat and the opportunity identified in the potential activities layer, such as enhancing existing grassland and tree planting in a corridor that connects with nearby woodland. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>203. Heathland restoration potential - use map produced by RSPB</p>	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From an initial visual review of Heathland extent and potential (HEaP), it seems it may have identified similar areas to the heathland network mapping used in Dorset LNRS but we will check <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check how it differs to areas identified with a primary activity of heathland in the local habitat map 2. Add link to list of other maps and tools section of the guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps
<p>204.Lack of nature activities in urban areas and public access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban areas need more nature 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The high opportunity nature areas can't cover the whole county, it is a guide to the highest opportunities • Buildings and man-made surfaces were cut out of the high opportunity nature areas and potential activities layers.

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some areas aren't covered by joined up opportunity areas or activities • show which areas public can improve by having access • many urban areas are nature depleted and have deprivation • if one of the aims is to help people in nature-deprived areas form a connection with the natural world, would it not be more effective to focus on protecting, enhancing, and recovering nature within the urban, nature-deprived areas of BCP? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local habitat map does not show all the places that nature recovery is required, the strategy explains the importance of using the mapped and written activities together (pg88 and more detail in Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps). • Wildlife-friendly gardening and urban greening are examples of activities that aren't shown on the map but still need to be delivered in all towns and villages to provide important stepping stones and wildlife corridors that link up to the larger areas of habitat across the countryside, as well as delivering ecosystem services that benefit the people living there. • The LNRS local habitat map must focus on opportunity to enhance biodiversity, rather than increase people's access to nature. But we have looked for opportunities to deliver both - by using the 'priority areas for creating nature nearby' layer which shows areas where the nature nearby modelling suggests 30% or less of the population live within 300m of a nature-rich space or right of way. This is one of the nature nearby layers from a separate project by Public Health Dorset and University of Exeter. • In the BCP Council area there is quite a high level of overlap between the 'priority areas for creating nature nearby' and the 'high opportunity nature areas'. In the 'potential activities layer' these areas have an ecosystem service opportunity of 'reducing inequality in nature nearby'. If nature recovery activities are delivered in these high opportunity nature areas this should in turn increase the percentage of the population with 'nature nearby' • BCP council greenspaces team are actively looking to bring forward nature recovery projects in the high opportunity nature areas, and areas identified through their Green Infrastructure strategy and Urban Forest strategy. The LNRS can't include the same level of detail as those more localised plans and projects for BCP. • For clarity, the layer 'nature nearby and deprivation' does not specifically show "nature deprivation" rather it shows the nature nearby modelling of the % of the population in an area likely to live with a nature rich space or path within a 300m walk, alongside Index of multiple deprivation data. <p>no further action required</p>
<p>205.Farmland and farmer views:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concern there may be spillover from land put forward by participating farmers onto non-participating farmers' land • use data on agri-environment schemes such as Countryside Stewardship (available on Magic Maps) if agreed by the farmer/landowner 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The high opportunity nature areas layer is made up of land manager or project proposals, complemented by habitat and ecosystem service modelling • Some land has been 'put forward' by the landowner or farmer, and some has not. Either way, being included in the high opportunity nature areas does not commit the landowner to take any action • Some landowners who put land forward requested that the boundary of their land was blurred slightly – in those cases we applied a 100m buffer • We recognise people delivering or interested in nature recovery is a big opportunity, so we invited people to put their

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider farm level data where relevant use ground-truthed data proposing nature recovery or land use change on the Best and Most Versatile agricultural land could have unintended consequences and may not be in line with farmers own ambitions more farmer engagement would have been possible if further guidance was provided given the planning implications of the mapping 	<p>land forward. This also gave land managers the chance to tell us what they planned for the site based on their knowledge on the ground and/or any schemes there are part of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential activities layer does not include high levels of detail about each parcel of land, as this detail is best decided in site-based assessments and plans based on the local evidence and landowner choice The Best and Most Versatile agricultural land is Grades 1, 2 and 3a. Grade 1 and grade 2 agricultural land was taken out of the high opportunity nature areas, except for where the land is within flood zone 2, or was put forward in a land manager or project proposal. Sufficient data on grade 3a land is not available We created a dedicated page for farmers, landowners, and land managers and what it means to put land forward as a high opportunity nature area <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As we move into delivery, we will continue speaking to Defra about ways to share summary data around what is being achieved via Environmental Land Management schemes in Dorset, to recognise farmers contribution and avoid them having to report on this to national and local government. We will also continue to request Defra make data for grade 3a land available
<p>206. Geology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> local geological sites (LGS) should be in the nature areas of national importance local geological sites are included in the Dorset's eco networks so could be in the local habitat map local geological sites would benefit from a greater degree of recognition within the land-use planning system understanding geodiversity gives context for nature recovery 'Create or enhance geodiversity' could be an activity on the potential activities layer 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The inclusion criteria for the nature areas of national importance layer were set by Defra so we cannot include Local Geological Sites there, although some are covered as they have another nature designation Several local geological sites do overlap with high opportunity nature areas in the local habitat map Local geological sites layer is available on the Nature Recovery Dorset version of Dorset Explorer, so can be viewed alongside the local habitat map Inclusion in the local habitat map is not the way to give these sites increased recognition within the planning system. Changes to the written strategy will emphasise the importance of geodiversity in nature recovery Enhancing geodiversity is something that should be done everywhere– so not appropriate to add as a mapped activity <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add local geological sites to the nature areas of local importance layer Add to the list of activities that aren't shown on the map in the 'using the mapped and written activities together' section (pg88 and more detail in Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps). <p>Understanding and enhancing geodiversity is something that should be done as part of all nature recovery activities, not just those shown on the map.</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<p>3. Add geodiversity to the wider considerations when planning nature recovery activities section of the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps</p> <p>Geodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geodiversity underpins what habitats, species and natural processes are supported in an area, so your nature recovery plans need to be informed by the geology and other features in the area You should consider ways your activities can protect and enhance geodiversity features Please refer to the Local Geological Sites layer on Dorset Explorer to see if your activities could support nearby sites You can also refer to the BGS Geology Viewer - British Geological Survey for detailed information about bedrock and superficial geology, and explanations of how certain features were formed. The Geological Conservation Review (GCR) sites provide further information about statutory geological and geomorphological site conservation in Great Britain <p>4. Find out if we can republish any of the BGS data on Dorset Explorer to view alongside the local habitat map and other nature recovery layers.</p>
<p>207. Council management plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Areas put forward by BCP Council and Dorset Council have an activity 'create or enhance a mix of habitats as per the management plan' – are they available? Be transparent, especially near urban areas 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset Council's website includes information about management of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Countryside sites and nature reserves Wider Countryside management including verges and trees Other Countryside, coast and parks BCP Council's website includes information about <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How we manage green spaces Countryside Parks, nature and green spaces <p>No further action required</p>
<p>208. Other tools and maps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape character areas Dynamic Dunescapes Sand Dune Managers Handbook Making seagrass visible - Ocean Conservation Trust Technology furthering seagrass mapping and monitoring efforts - Ocean Conservation Trust Priority Habitat data DERC data 	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add link to list of other maps and tools section of the guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps
<p>209. Links to existing maps - how will the new 'habitats and ecological network' layers relate to or integrate with the existing Dorset's Eco Networks</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners involved in preparing the existing Dorset's Eco Networks maps were on the advisory groups preparing the LNRS

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons learned from preparing these eco network maps informed the slightly different method used by Dorset National Landscape to prepare the habitat and ecological network maps that are available through Dorset's nature recovery maps and fed into certain of the local habitat map in the LNRS The eco-network map layers are available on the Nature Recovery Dorset version of Dorset Explorer, so can be viewed alongside the new habitat and ecological network layers. Dorset's Eco Network maps are still used by partners across Dorset, including both Local Planning Authorities. Once the LNRS is published the local habitat map in the LNRS will have a direct link to BNG, but LPAs can still choose to refer to the eco network maps <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> During delivery phase work DERC, planning officers and other partners to establish how the different map layers will work together moving forward
<p>210. Habitat and ecological network layers - suggest using 'core' in the layer name to match the description of the Lawton principles in the written strategy</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss with Dorset National Landscape officer who led this part of the mapping work whether it is appropriate to change layer names on Dorset Explorer and in the guide
<p>211. Cycle access not noted</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycle access is out of scope to show on the local habitat map The cycling map layers are available to view over the top in Dorset Explorer (see Cycling folder). <p>No further action required</p>
<p>212. High opportunity nature areas - description should also state the ambition within these areas is to create coherent ecological networks by joining up High Opportunity Nature Areas with each other and with nature areas of international importance</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Edit the high opportunity nature areas description (p87) <p>The high opportunity nature areas do not overlap with the nature areas of national importance. This is because lots of the nature areas of national importance already have statutory management plans that include nature recovery activities. The ambition is to join up these existing nature areas with the high opportunity nature areas and grow the nature recovery network.</p>
<p>213. Will hedgerows be added to future mapping opportunities?</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing or creating hedgerows is an example of one of the potential activities in the written strategy that there is opportunity to do in lots of places across Dorset and therefore isn't shown on the map We did look at options to map hedgerow opportunities but found hedgerow data is not currently available for the county, and some national data was considered but felt to contain too many errors We can look at option to include hedgerow data in future rounds of LNRS where appropriate <p>No further action required</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
<p>214. Heathland and grassland primary activity colours very similar</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make the colour for a heathland primary activity darker and the colour for a grassland primary activity brighter, to make it easier to see the difference between the two.
<p>215. General statements from developers/planning agents in some cases referring to specific development sites</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to the local habitat map has been requested. • These comments support that the local nature recovery strategy explains that a site being mapped as a high opportunity nature area wouldn't necessarily prevent development, and that site-based assessments are needed to decide exactly what activities and habitat(s) would be most beneficial in the area. • This is the sort of detail that would be considered on a case-by-case basis within the planning system. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>216. Does the map show the best opportunities for nature improvement? Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not based on scientific analysis of the most nature-depleted areas • based on locations where farmers and landowners have put forward their own projects for nature recovery – often for commercial reasons • map is misleading • cannot be used to test whether proposed housing development sites are in conflict with, or supportive of, nature recovery 	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The habitat and ecological connectivity modelling used a scientifically based method that buffers from existing habitat to identify opportunities to expand and connect habitat, thus strengthening and growing the habitat/ecological network. This aligns with the Lawton principles of making better, bigger, joined and more space for nature. The method therefore does not start from the most nature-depleted areas as suggested by this response • In Dorset it was decided that habitat/ecological network modelling is not the only way to identify opportunity, as opportunity also comes from where people are taking/considering actions for nature recovery. These land manager or project proposals were therefore also included in the high opportunity nature areas map • Delivering nature recovery does cost money and funding is changing. It is positive that land managers are aware that nature recovery needs to be part of their business. The local habitat map will be one tool that helps target funding to areas where nature recovery activities can be delivered. But it won't replace site-based assessments • The purpose of the local habitat map is not to test whether a proposed development site is in conflict or supportive of nature recovery. But it will be a tool used to inform planning, as explained in the responses under 'delivery and ways to get involved' earlier in this report <p>No further action required</p>
<p>217. Update flooding links and layers only giving limited picture of flood risk</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update Wider considerations when planning nature recovery activities in Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) – update to the BCP SFRA Level 1 (page currently being updated and relocated, new link will be provided for future LNRS and an explanatory note on how to use the SFRA) 2. Find out if we can include additional EA data “Check Your Long-Term Flood Risk” and “Flood Map for Planning” on Dorset Explorer, if not can it be linked to in the layer

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	description or a pop-up on the other flood layers available on Dorset Explorer
218. Add King Charles III England Coast Path layer	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> King Charles III England Coast Path layer added to Natural England folder on Dorset Explorer.
219. Clarification on the ask <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you asking landowners to suggest land use change? How does this fit with landscape recovery projects? What about problems from development? 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local nature recovery strategies do not replicate landscape recovery projects, it sits at an overarching level for the whole county whereas the landscape recovery projects get into more detail and delivery in their areas. Several landscape recovery projects are therefore included in the local habitat map to capture this The ask for landowners during the strategy preparation and consultation was to tell us where there is opportunity for nature recovery on their land - this could be continuing work they're already doing or land use change they're thinking of. The LNRS does not allocate funds directly but will be a tool used to target funding and resources in future The local habitat map will be a tool used to inform development and planning, as explained in the responses under 'delivery and ways to get involved' earlier in this report No further action required

Specific locations

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
220. National landscapes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> boundaries should be changed should be included in the map Cranborne Chase FiPL projects should be in the FiPL layer 	Our response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National landscape boundaries are set nationally It is not possible to show the national landscape boundaries as part of the local habitat map, as they cover such a large part of the county. But their importance is raised in the written strategy, and they national landscape map layer is available in the Dorset Explorer map viewer (Natural England folder). FiPL teams at Dorset National Landscape and Cranborne Chase National Landscape to liaise about possible shared mapping. No further action required
221. Requests to add land manager or project proposal added to the map	Action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add land manager or project proposal to the map <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper Frome cluster GWCT Chalkstream and Salmon Restoration Farmer-led Partnership Project Gorwell farm Shaftesbury's Green Wheel project Northfield Farm Dorset Catchment Partnerships – Stour project Branksome Meadows Project (noting that this does not confer any designation or nature reserve status, aside from the existing SNCI, any decisions for future use of the site will need to be discussed with the landowner and decisions made via the planning process)

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Erica Trust x5 sites • National Trust Kingston Lacy • Charminster Parish Council • Lower Brimley Coombe Farm • The Escarpment Cluster • Family field • Weymouth Town Council <p>2. Land manager or project proposal not added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studland MCZ not added because the high opportunity nature areas and potential activities layers are not permitted to cover marine areas.
222. Requests to edit an existing land manager or project proposal	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edit existing land manager or project proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cranborne Chase Farmer Cluster – change boundary • BCP Council development site – change primary activity based on site evidence • Lower Barton Farm – change boundary and activity • Brit valley project – change activity • Dorset Downs Cluster – change boundary
223. Request to change primary activity – old Leigh farm near Wimborne	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 different responses were received relating to woodland being an inappropriate opportunity for this site, due to it being existing grassland and some scrub. This is supported by the survey evidence submitted through the draft local plan process. • Note that the local habitat map cannot be used to block development and any decisions to allocate the site for development are part of the local plan process. If the site is developed, the local habitat map can be a guide to help inform how nature is considered within site design. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change the primary activity to grassland and scrub.
224. Request to add primary activity – Pennington's Copse	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No potential activity has been mapped because the area suggested is within the nature areas of national importance. • The strategy does not actively seek to map potential activities in nature areas of national importance which have their own management plans and legal frameworks. More info in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps <p>No further action required</p>
225. Request to change primary activity – Colehill scarp	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of this response referred to old leigh farm actioned above • This response identified some other areas where there is existing grassland with trees and woodland features, that are currently showing with a primary activity of woodland. This will be changed to grassland and wood pasture. More detailed plans for this site may consider enhancing existing trees in this area but also the open grassland spaces • The areas where there is a 'river and wetland' as primary have not been changed, as the written guidance explains that these

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<p>could involve a mix of other habitats e.g. wet grassland, 'river and wetland' is made primary to highlight the importance of considering links and impact on nearby river habitat in these areas</p> <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change the grassland areas to 'create or enhance grassland or wood pasture'.
<p>226. Request to add/change primary activity – cannon hill</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of this proposal is to create grassland or heathland on an area that isn't currently in the high opportunity nature areas, this means was not identified via the land manager/project proposals or modelling that identified the highest opportunities, and as this isn't a land manager or project proposal it won't be added now • The other part of this proposal is to change an activity from woodland to grassland. The area has been picked up as a possible woodland opportunity through the habitat and ecological network modelling, likely due to proximity to the existing woodland sites. So the activity will not be changed, but as with all the mapping, site-based assessments may identify that grassland or a habitat mix may be appropriate for the site <p>No further action required</p>
<p>227. Request to change primary activity – Pilford valley</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The primary activity was not changed because having grassland and woodland mapped as primary in this area does not mean that wet grassland or wet woodland cannot be supported or encouraged • This is an example of where the map shouldn't be used in isolation from the written strategy, it is a high level guide suggesting woodland and grassland are important in this area, the user should then refer to the detailed potential activities listed under the grassland and woodland priorities, which both include reference to keep existing wet features as part of managing those habitats. <p>No further action required</p>
<p>228. Request to change primary activity – Ferndown to Uddens</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The activity wasn't changed because this appears to be an existing woodland. • An example of where the map is a guide not to be used in isolation from the written strategy, having a potential activity of woodland mapped here, should guide someone to look at the activities listed under the woodland priority, which include some specifically aimed at changing woodland management to help blend and connect with heathland habitat. • Further site-based assessment and plans for delivering nature recovery here would identify the most appropriate habitat(s) for this site and management to help connectivity with other nearby habitats <p>No further action required</p>

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
229. Request to change primary activity – Nightingale land off Birchdale road	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary activities of 'create or enhance woodland' and 'create or enhance grassland or wood pasture' were identified as primary activities over this site from the habitat and ecological network modelling. Landowner request and ecological surveys for the site show grassland and scrub are present and could be enhanced. <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Change primary activity to include grassland and scrub
230. Request to change primary activity – SANGs	<p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Change primary activity on some SANGs to better align with the agreed management plans for these sites
231. Request to change primary activity – large private gardens	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary activity was showing as heathland, but landowner explained these private gardens have existing woodland with ponds that are to be retained Grassland and woodland were already listed as secondary activities Surrounding areas continue to have heathland as the primary activity <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Primary activity changed from heathland to woodland, rest kept the same
232. Request to add primary activity – Askers Meadow Local Nature Reserve	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No potential activity has been mapped to this site because local nature reserves are within the nature areas of national importance. The strategy does not actively seek to map potential activities in nature areas of national importance which have their own management plans and legal frameworks. More info in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps Not having a potential activity mapped doesn't mean that local nature reserves don't have potential to contribute to nature recovery Any concerns regarding current management of the site should be discussed with the landowner. Funding for nature recovery can be a challenge, but there are some opportunities for public sector projects as well as private landowners. <p>No further action required</p>
233. Request to add primary activity – Radipole Lake (beavers, current management concerns)	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No potential activities are currently mapped in the area drawn as it is nature area of national importance The strategy does not actively seek to map potential activities in nature areas of national importance which have their own management plans and legal frameworks. More info in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps Part of the suggested activity may not be ecologically appropriate and would require much more detailed assessment of the site and impacts We understand concerns regarding current management of the site have been shared with the landowner/manager

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	No further action required
<p>234. Request to add primary activity – urban tree planting in Poole, tree planting across whole county</p>	<p>Our response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We cannot map tree planting as an activity across the whole county. Priority 2 woodland and priority 6 urban both support more tree planting and woodland, following the right tree, right place principles • Urban tree planting cannot be mapped as a potential activity in the local habitat map as this would cover large urban areas. • This is an example of how the maps should not be used in isolation from the written strategy <p>For BCP area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ecosystem service opportunity ‘increase tree equity score’ is shown where the high opportunity nature areas overlap with the 10 wards identified in BCP Council’s Urban Forest Strategy as having the lowest tree equity score • Both the BCP Urban Forest Strategy and the BCP Urban Greening Design Guide contain more detail than the LNRS which will help deliver more urban trees in Poole • The BCP council greenspace team are seeking opportunities to deliver tree planting projects and recently secured some funding to support this in Poole <p>No further action required</p>
<p>235. Request to add primary activity – Waterston Ridge</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area submitted is not already in the high opportunity nature areas, meaning it was not identified via the land manager/project proposals or modelling that identified the highest opportunities • This proposal is not part of a developing project to work with the landowners so cannot be added as a land manager or project proposal • Not being included in the map doesn’t mean nature recovery is not possible, and the proposer might be able to work with the landowners during the delivery phase <p>No further action required</p>
<p>236. Request to change primary activity – area adjacent to Branksome Park Woods</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some areas adjacent to Branksome Park Woods are included as land manager proposal as BCP owned or managed land, but aren't all pulling through to the map, we will get this corrected • The other areas mentioned are private gardens so have not been added to the map • Note the high opportunity nature areas map does not prevent development but can be a tool to guide site design and nature actions within a development <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fix mapping error
<p>237. Request to add primary activity – Woodland Walk</p>	<p>Our response :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Error identified in the mapping, the woodland walk area is a land manager or project proposal from BCP Council but is not pulling through into the high opportunity nature areas and potential activities layer. This will be rectified.

Summary of key feedback points	Our response or actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are lots of nature recovery activities happening in Woodland Walk <p>Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fix mapping error
<p>238. Request to change primary activity – near Boscombe & Southbourne Overcliff Local Nature Reserve</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area is already included as a high opportunity nature area, as a BCP council owned or managed openspace. The detailed suggestion on making a nature discovery area in this space will be shared with BCP Council <p>No further action required</p>
<p>239. Request to add primary activity - Poole Harbour</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No activity currently mapped in this location because it's in nature areas of national importance The strategy does not actively seek to map potential activities in nature areas of national importance which have their own management plans and legal frameworks. More info in the Guide to Dorset's nature recovery maps As we move into delivery of the strategy it might be possible to develop a project around seagrass as suggested, but this would require involvement from those responsible for managing the area, it could consider which actions would be most beneficial and effective such as no anchor zone, dredging, maps and posters <p>No further action required</p>
<p>240. Request to change primary activity – winter gardens</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This area is already included as a land manager proposal as a BCP council owned or managed open space in the high opportunity nature areas the potential activity is for a mix of habitats. This is compatible with the response that the development for the site will consider how to address Biodiversity Net Gain requirements <p>No further action required</p>
<p>241. Request to add primary activity – corridor near Knapp Mill Waterworks</p>	<p>Our response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This suggestion related to a wildlife/migratory corridor mostly along bridleways and footpaths. This is the sort of thing that is better captured in the written part of the strategy, as we can't add a nature recovery activity on every bridleway and footpath on the map It's an example of why it's important that the map is never used in isolation from the written strategy, because the written strategy provides much more detail on the broad range of nature recovery activities needed across the county There is already an activity under priority 6 to 'protect and enhance green corridors that connect up nature areas to help wildlife travel'. We will look to add something more specific to public rights of way as wildlife corridors <p>No further action required</p>

Appendices

Appendix A – add geodiversity to Nature in Dorset

As outlined in point 14, the Nature in Dorset section will be edited to better reflect the role of geodiversity in Dorset's natural environment. The updated text is below:

Nature in Dorset

Dorset is known for its natural beauty, with a network of habitats that provide homes to a wide range of wildlife. Fifty-two per cent of Dorset is designated as National Landscape, the highest proportion of any English county, **while its coastline forms part of the only natural World Heritage Site in England.** For a small county, Dorset punches far above its weight for biodiversity **and geodiversity** but has still been affected by the declines in nature observed across the world

Dorset's Geodiversity

Dorset's geological diversity is a key factor in the county's wildlife **and landscape** richness. From extensive acidic and infertile sands, gravels and clays in the south-east **supporting heathland**, to a central broad sweep of high, rolling chalk country and downland, with clay to the north and west **forming broad and** narrow vales, and a sequence of Jurassic, Cretaceous and Paleogene rocks along its coastline **creates a complex and spectacular series of cliffs, headlands, bays and beaches** ~~the stage is set for an impressive range of habitats.~~

Geodiversity is the term given to the variety of non-living elements of nature, such as rocks, minerals, fossils, soils, landforms, along with active processes like rivers, flooding and landslides. Together with climate and weather, geodiversity underpins everything in Dorset's natural environment and provides the fundamental conditions for nature recovery.

Rock type, soils and landforms determine the mix of habitats and natural processes that occur in an area, and certain geodiversity features can support particular species. For example, post-glacial gravel riverbeds support Atlantic salmon spawning, limestone cliffs support rare moths, bare ground and stones in heathland support sand lizards and ants, and active processes like landslides create perfect conditions for pioneering plants. Geodiversity features range tremendously in scale, from small natural rock outcrops to ridges and escarpments that run the length of the county. They can also be manmade, including stone built walls in towns and field boundaries, the remnants of disused quarries and the dark depths of abandoned mine adits.

The Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site is the jewel in the county crown, inscribed for its globally unique geodiversity. Further inland, many geological features are protected as part of Sites of Special Scientific Interest. These are further supported by Dorset's network of 50 Local Geological Sites (also known as Regionally Important Geological Sites).

Dorset's exceptional geodiversity helps us understand the function of Earth systems over very long periods of time, including the causes and consequences of environmental change, critical biodiversity loss, and mass extinctions. Fossil data from more recent times is being used to confirm environmental baselines, which help guide water management and rewilding projects, and predict climate change impacts on wildlife and habitats. Dorset is a key reference point for this type of

research at a global scale, helping improve understanding of the current climate and nature emergencies. Locally, understanding geodiversity can help improve the identification of nature recovery opportunities and forecast the likely resilience of landscape and habitats to environmental change.

Dorset's biodiversity

Fine examples of chalk downland survive on steeper slopes where grazing maintains species-rich grassland featuring fine grasses, aromatic herbs, and a select band of orchids. Dark green fritillary and Adonis blue butterflies still flourish in places, alongside stripe winged grasshoppers, and countless other insects.... ~~Text to continue as it is on pg23-26, but this sentence to be deleted from pg25 to avoid repetition: Dorset's coastline forms part of the Jurassic Coast, a UNESCO World Heritage Site recognised for its outstanding rocks, fossils and landforms. It stretches 95 miles across parts of Dorset and East Devon.~~

Appendix B – add hedgerow priority

As outlined in point 18, an additional priority will be added on hedgerows, the priority, explainer paragraph and potential activities are below:

Hedgerows are maintained, enhanced and expanded to support wildlife and provide corridors that connect habitats across the county.

The priority is to protect and expand existing hedges, increase wildlife-friendly hedgerow management methods, and establish new hedgerows.

Hedgerows are lines of trees or shrubs, often planted as boundary lines around fields or gardens, they can include features like banks, walls, ditches, fences and gates within the hedge. Hedgerows are a Habitat of Principle Importance and are of high ecological value, even hedgerows consisting of mainly one native species qualify as priority habitat.

In Dorset, hedgerows are a key feature of the landscape, they perform a vital role in supporting some of the UK's rarest species such as brown hairstreak butterflies and dormice. When managed to have a diverse structure and species mix, hedges can support a variety of wildlife, such as birds, bats, hedgehogs, lizards and pollinators. Hedgerows are also corridors that help wildlife travel between nature-rich areas, providing important connectivity across the farmed landscape and between urban areas. Hedgerows are integral to the landscape and its ecological function.

Hedgerows also help reduce soil erosion, run-off, and flooding by slowing the flow of water across the landscape, which can in turn help improve water quality. They help absorb pollution and carbon from the air, helping to improve air quality and tackle climate change, as well as providing shelter and shade for livestock.

The goal is to have thick, diverse and dense hedgerows, but hedgerows are dynamic living habitats, so their management also needs to be adaptive. Managing hedgerows on a cycle can help ensure they continue to thrive for nature. The [Adams Hedgerow Management Scale adapted by PTES](#) is a helpful tool to understand where a hedge currently is within the management cycle:

- dense and well managed hedges

- over-trimmed hedges
- tall and overgrown hedges
- recently rejuvenated hedges

Typical species

1. Hawthorn
2. Oak
3. Bumblebees (buff-tailed bumblebee if need specific one)

Nature recovery in action

The [Great Big Dorset Hedge project](#) connects community volunteers and farmers in a shared goal of restoring and expanding hedgerows across Dorset. Farmers can sign up to have their hedgerows surveyed by volunteers, the survey report provides farmers with key information on hedge health to inform their management plan and to secure funding to maintain and enhance their hedges through Environmental Land Management schemes.

The project supports hedge planting activities, and some volunteers have been learning about traditional hedge laying practices from local experts. Currently, over 400 volunteers are coordinated by a team of specialist contractors, as they undertake surveys and planting projects across more than 100 farms. More volunteers, more specialist contractors and more farmers are welcome - if you'd like to get involved email greatbigdorsethedge@gmail.com

Potential activities

Survey hedgerows to understand current structure and diversity and identify what restoration work is needed. Community volunteers can be a great help to do this at scale.	all sector icons
Manage a hedge on a cycle, such as the Adams Hedgerow Management Scale adapted by the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES).	all
Improve hedge structure by avoiding cutting the hedge to the same height each year, instead use incremental cutting to trim hedges about 10cm higher and wider each time.	all
Reduce hedge cutting to every 2 or 3 years. Over a larger site, cut a selection of hedges across different parts of the site on rotation.	all
Leave cutting until late winter (December to January) to allow wildlife to feed on berries and fruit through winter, but before the hedges start growing in spring.	all
Do not cut hedgerows during the bird nesting season (1 st March – 31 st August) to avoid disturbing nests, eggs or chicks which are protected by law. If you discover nesting birds outside of the bird nesting season dates, it is still a crime to disturb them. Birds often start setting up territory before the season begins, so it is ideal to get cutting done in December to January. Follow national hedgerow management rules , which include exemptions for situations like managing hedgerows overhanging roads for driver safety.	all
Protect old trees within the hedgerow, and identify some new plants within the hedge that will be allowed to grow up into mature hedgerow trees	all
Fill in gaps in hedgerows by planting native shrubs and trees to improve structure and diversity	all

Encourage a diverse range of tree, shrub and plant species in hedges, as well as scrub and wildflower banks alongside hedgerows	all
Create grassy buffer strips alongside hedges with a variety of wildflowers to increase diversity and connectivity	all
Plant new hedges with native trees (ideally every 20m) and shrub species that are found in the local area, and use a mix of different species to support a variety of wildlife	all
When creating or enhancing hedgerows, plant double hedgerows where possible as these provide sheltered corridors favoured by bats	all
Maintain or establish hedges in places that will connect habitats, such as other hedges, woodlands, grasslands or orchards	all
Consider using hedge laying or hedge coppicing to help restore hedgerows	all
Keep and enhance existing hedgerows within building developments, and use hedgerows rather than fences and walls around homes, gardens, footpaths, roads and public greenspaces	business, public bodies, communities
Where appropriate, allow hedges to grow wide and tall (over 3m and at least 2m in width) to give bats the opportunity to hang up and feed.	all
Create or enhance scrub alongside hedgerows as important transitional habitat and increase connectivity between hedgerows and other habitat types	all

Appendix C – edit priority 5 - coastal

As outlined in point 96 on coastal retreat, priority 5 - coastal will be edited to better capture the importance of making space for coastal, intertidal and cliff top habitats as the coastline changes. The updated priority and explainer paragraph is below:

The coastal strip is enhanced and restored to safeguard key habitats that protect rare and vulnerable species and space is created for cliff top and intertidal habitats as the coastline retreats

Dorset's coastal habitats include cliffs, rocky shores, saltmarshes, sand dunes, shingle and sandy beaches, intertidal habitats and seagrass meadows. The priority is to restore these habitats to good condition, support natural processes to take place, and build resilience to future pressures such as erosion, sea level rise, tourism, recreation and industry.

Protecting and enhancing the coastal strip is essential for the important species and ecosystems that depend on it. Restoration of historical coastal habitats, such as oyster reefs, that were destroyed by over exploitation a long time ago is particularly important.

The Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site and its internationally recognised rocks, fossils and landforms supports a range of ecosystems, such as rocky and sandy shorelines, coastal saltmarshes and reedbeds, and deciduous temperate forests. Key coastal water bodies such as Poole, Christchurch, Portland, and Weymouth harbours, along with The Fleet, host a wide variety of wildlife in their mudflats, saltmarsh and shallow waters. Protection and recovery of nature in these harbours is closely linked to nature's recovery along the river catchments that flow into them.

Cliff top habitats are particularly vulnerable to being squeezed by coastal retreat and should be given more room to spread and retreat landward. Similarly, intertidal habitats face pressure where rising sea levels meet man-made flood defences, creating new space for these habitats is essential. All flood

defence and coastal infrastructure projects should embed nature recovery into their design from the outset, building ecological resilience into future coastal management.

Appendix D – updated webpage on nature recovery and planning

Update to this webpage: [How the Dorset local nature recovery strategy will work with planning policy - Dorset Council](#). The content below will replace the information currently on the Dorset Council website, a new page on the BCP Council website will be added to summarise this information and then link across to the Dorset Council webpage for full information.

Nature recovery in planning and development: how Dorset's local nature recovery strategy works with planning

Purpose and local context

The development plan

The Development Plan consists of the adopted Local Plan, the Minerals and Waste Local Plans and any made neighbourhood Plans. A local plan sets out a strategy for meeting the development needs of an area, it must contain strategic policies (which address the priorities for an area) and can contain non-strategic policies (which deal with more detailed matters). Whereas Neighbourhood Plans can only contain non-strategic policies. Proposals for development are considered against the policies in the development plan. This includes allocations for specific types of development, such as housing, employment, transport infrastructure, education, health or leisure.

In Dorset, there are two Local Planning Authorities, Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council. Their role is to strategically plan to meet the development needs of the area and decide whether to give permission to planning applications for development.

Find out more about the developing [BCP Local Plan or view the Adopted Local Plans](#).

Find out more about the developing [Dorset Council Local Plan](#) or view the [Adopted Local Plans](#).

Local nature recovery strategies

A local nature recovery strategy identifies shared [priorities](#) for nature recovery and the potential activities that different sectors can do to achieve those priorities. The strategy includes a [local habitat map](#) with three layers showing:

- Nature areas of national importance: sites currently recognised and protected within the land-use planning system for their biodiversity value
- High opportunity nature areas: where effort should be targeted to deliver the most for nature recovery and the wider environment
- Potential activities: a guide to the most beneficial habitat enhancement or creation activities in an area

In Dorset, the local nature recovery strategy covers the whole county and has been co-produced with a wide range of stakeholders, including planning policy officers from both Local Planning Authorities.

Find out more about [Dorset's local nature recovery strategy](#).

Tools to inform sustainable development

Local nature recovery strategies are intended as a new tool to help Local Planning Authorities continue delivering on requirements to protect and enhance biodiversity.

The local nature recovery strategy will be used alongside other planning policy documents and evidence such as:

- local housing needs assessments
- Green Belt Review
- employment needs assessment
- landscape character areas
- design codes and guides
- green infrastructure guidance
- housing and economic land availability assessments
- habitat and species data

There are some similarities between what the Dorset local nature recovery strategy provides and what the local plan must achieve.

Local nature recovery strategy	Local plan
Agree nature recovery priorities	Identify Strategic Priorities for the development and use of land, and to provide strong development management policies and guidance to support the natural environment
Map sites that are recognised and protected within the land-use planning system for their nature value (Nature areas of national importance)	Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats, sites designated for their natural or cultural importance, and wider ecological networks
Map opportunities for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals (High opportunity nature areas and potential activities)	Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of protected species. Identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

The planning balance

In drafting policies and allocations for development the Local Planning Authority balances many different planning issues such as the requirement to provide houses in sustainable locations, or key infrastructure such as new roads and community facilities, against the potential impacts of that development.

Dorset's local nature recovery strategy will become part of this planning balance. It will also inform actions Local Authorities take to meet their biodiversity duty.

Local planning authorities have a legal duty to have regard to the local nature recovery strategy. This may include:

- Considering how the areas identified in the local habitat map should be reflected in the developing local plan
- Referring to the nature recovery priorities and potential activities within local plan policies
- Deciding to use relevant evidence from the local nature recovery strategy as a material consideration to support appropriate planning decision-making, in balance with other evidence about that site
- Using the local habitat map to help in the delivery of biodiversity net gain (BNG) (find out more in the BNG section below)

It is important to note the high opportunity nature areas in the local nature recovery strategy are not a planning constraint or designation, and do not prevent the development of new homes and infrastructure. Instead, the strategy helps guide nature recovery and environmental activities that can be delivered as part of sustainable development. The strategy also does not force the owners and managers of the land identified as high opportunity nature areas to make any changes, they have flexibility to identify what, if any, activities and funding options will work best for them.

Using this tool to deliver nature recovery within development

Planners, developers, agents and consultants can all use the local nature recovery strategy in their work to deliver sustainable development. This may include considering:

- how a development can contribute to achieve the nature recovery priorities and deliver some of the potential activities e.g. urban greening, sustainable drainage systems, and natural darkness.
- how a development site may impact on existing habitats, especially those in the nature areas of national importance layer in the local habitat map
- how a development site could contribute to creating or enhancing habitats and increasing habitat connectivity, in particular by referring to the high opportunity nature areas in the local habitat map
- how the activities shown in the potential activities layer in the local habitat map could be delivered within the development site. For example, if the activity shown for a development site is woodland or wood pasture, designs could make an additional effort to include native trees and wooded corridors.
- how natural features could be used within the development site design to deliver ecosystem service benefits such as flood management or cooling and shading, to benefit people and wildlife
- how any off-site biodiversity gains could be delivered in locations identified in the local habitat map

Site-specific assessments and expert inputs will continue to inform exactly what nature recovery activities would be best to deliver as part of a development, the local nature recovery strategy simply provides a new tool and evidence base to guide this across the county.

Biodiversity Net Gain

The local habitat map can be used to guide [biodiversity net gain](#) (BNG) delivery, both on-site and off-site.

Delivery of nature recovery activities in the locations proposed in the local habitat map is incentivised by an uplift in the biodiversity metric, as long as all other elements of the metric have been completed correctly.

Once the LNRS is published, a 15% “strategic significance” uplift can be applied post-intervention, but only if the intervention is:

- in a location where a potential activity has been proposed
- consistent with the potential activity proposed in that location

For example, if an applicant is proposing a broadleaved woodland intervention in an area identified with a primary activity of woodland in the potential activities layer of the local habitat map, then this uplift would apply.

Ideally the habitat type proposed by the applicant will match the primary activity proposed in the potential activities layer, but there may be cases where a slight variation is still considered to be consistent.

For example, if an applicant’s site surveys and ecological expertise have led them to propose a semi-improved grassland intervention in an area identified with a primary activity of woodland in the potential activities layer of the local habitat map, they could submit a justification for why their assessment of the conditions on the ground suggest that would be a desirable habitat in that location. The local planning authority could then consider whether the proposed habitat type would be consistent with the primary or secondary activities in the local habitat map and help deliver the overall nature recovery priorities and activities.

This flexibility reflects that the local nature recovery strategy is not definitive or exhaustive, some of the mapping is based on modelling that will not produce an exact prescription for action on the ground, and some of the important nature recovery activities included in the written strategy are not shown on the map. It is a high-level strategy to guide delivery, the finer detail of exactly what nature recovery activities will be best to deliver on the ground will come from site-based information, such as:

- ecological and environmental surveys of the site
- advice from the applicants’ ecological consultants
- wildlife data searches from Dorset Environmental Records Centre (DERC)
- expertise from the Local Planning Authority ecologist

If a development site is covered by multiple primary activities in the potential activities layer, the site-based assessments should consider whether a mixture of all or some of these habitats should be included in the design. This can then be considered as part of the application.

Further information

For those working across multiple local nature recovery strategy areas, the table below shows the names given to the layers in the local habitat map in Dorset, alongside the names Defra gives these layers in the statutory guidance.

Dorset name	Defra calls this layer
Nature areas of national importance	Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity (APIB)
High opportunity nature areas	Areas that could become of Importance for Biodiversity (ACB)
Potential activities	Potential Measures (PM)

Useful links

- [Dorset Council Biodiversity Net Gain](#)
- [Incorporating Local Nature Recovery Strategies when planning for Biodiversity Net Gain – GOV.UK Environment](#)
- [Sell biodiversity units as a land manager - GOV.UK](#)
- [Savills UK | Webinar: Local Nature Recovery Strategies: a new factor in Planning and Development](#)
- [Biodiversity Net Gain: Good practice Principles for Development, a Practical Guide](#) by CIRIA, CIEEM and IEMA
- The [Building with Nature standards](#)
- [Homes for People and Wildlife - The Wildlife Trusts](#)
- [BS8682:2021 Process for designing and implementing BNG](#)