

Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Youth Version

Dorset is home to lots of plants and animals. But the number of animals and plants is getting smaller, and there are fewer places for wildlife to live. Nature recovery is about fixing this and making more, better, bigger and joined up spaces for nature across the countryside, coast and towns.

So, we've been working with people across Dorset on a plan to help nature – called a local nature recovery strategy. This survey has been created for young people to help shape this new plan for nature.

There is a [different survey for adults](#)

[<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/nr/lhrs>] that is a bit longer, but young people can fill that one out too if you are really interested in nature and have more to tell us.

If you want to, you can find out more about nature recovery before you do the survey by exploring the information below:

- read the nature recovery fact file. This is available online [<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/nr/yv>], at all libraries in Dorset, by emailing LNRS@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk, or calling 01305 221000
- watch videos of local people talking about nature recovery in this [playlist](#) [<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4QCF5PXxl-uuT0jQXHdAtvfn1r52637&si=LsOgMESTh0hwqh1S>]
- explore the [Dorset local nature recovery strategy](#) webpages [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/nature-recovery-strategy]

Please note, any data collected follows [Dorset Council's privacy policy](#) [<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/dorset-council-privacy-notice>]



Q1. How old are you?

Please tick one.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Under 10 years old |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 to 13 years old |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 14 to 16 years old |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 16 to 17 years old |

Q2. Are you answering this survey on your own or in a group?

Please tick one.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | By myself (tick this if you're in a group but giving your own answers) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | With my family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | As a school, class, college or nursery (tick this if you talked about the questions together and these are your group answers) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | As a youth club or activity group (tick this if you talked about the questions together and these are your group answers) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify) |

If you ticked other, please specify here:

Q3. Which town is near where you live or go to school?

Please tick one.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Beaminster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Blandford Forum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bridport |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bournemouth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Christchurch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Dorchester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ferndown |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Gillingham |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Lyme Regis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Poole |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Portland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Shaftesbury |

[Answers keep going on the next page]

| | |
|--|---|
| | Sherborne |
| | Stalbridge |
| | Sturminster Newton |
| | Swanage |
| | Verwood |
| | Wareham |
| | Weymouth |
| | Wimborne Minster |
| | Don't know |
| | I do not live or go to school in Dorset |

Priorities

Awesome people working with nature in Dorset have come up with a list of things they think will help our environment over the next 10 years.

Q4. Tell us what you think about these ideas.

Please tick one box for each idea.

| The idea | This is important | This is not important | This does not make sense |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Make our grassy areas better with more wildflowers | | | |
| Make our woods better and bigger with lots more trees | | | |
| Take care of our heathlands and make them bigger | | | |
| Make our rivers healthy and have more wetland areas for wildlife that need patches of water covered land | | | |
| Take care of our beaches, cliffs and rocks along the coast | | | |

| The idea | This is important | This is not important | This does not make sense |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Create more wildlife-friendly spaces in our parks, gardens, along roads and on buildings | | | |
| Take care of nature as we take the things we need from it, like food and wood | | | |
| In some places, leave nature to take care of itself. For example, let wild flowers grow and let rivers flow in a wiggly path across our land | | | |
| Use nature to help people. For example, plant trees to help clean our air and fight climate change | | | |
| Give people more ways to help nature | | | |
| Help more plants, animals and other wildlife live happily in Dorset | | | |
| Give an extra helping hand to wildlife that are most in need | | | |

Q5. Can you suggest better words to explain any of the priorities?

Sometimes people use big words to talk about nature. Please share any words you think would make it easier for everyone to understand things about nature on the next page.

No worries if you can't think of anything, you can leave this box blank.

You can answer Q5 in this box:

Activities

Everyone in Dorset can help nature by doing different things at home, at schools, in community spaces, in businesses or on farms.

Some children and young people told us nature activities they would like to happen in Dorset.

Q6. Would you like to do any of these activities to help nature?

Please tick as many as you like.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Take part in nature activities at school like gardening, forest school, eco-clubs, assemblies or trips |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Do nature activities in your town or village like walking, gardening or volunteering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Learn how you can enjoy nature without harming wildlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Find out about what plants to grow to help bees and other insects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I do not want to do any of these |

Q7. Do you think other people should join in activities to help nature?

Please tick one.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes – if you ticked this box, please go to Q8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | No – if you ticked this box, please go to Q9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't know - if you ticked this box, please go to Q9 |

If you ticked 'Yes' for question 7, please go to question 8. If you ticked 'No' or 'Don't know' please go to question 9.

Q8. What activities, if any, do you think people should do to help nature?

Please tick as many as you like.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Use less chemicals in their gardens or farms to reduce pollution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Buy things from businesses that are kind to nature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Grow trees and plants along roads and on buildings (sometimes called living walls and roofs) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Put up posters about how to enjoy nature without hurting animals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Join nature activities like walking, gardening or volunteering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Grow local plants at home to help bees and other insects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Work together to help nature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | None of these activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't know |

Q9. Are there any other activities that you would like to do or think others should do for nature?

You can let us know by writing in the box.

Q10. Do you have anything else you want to tell us?

You can let us know by writing in the box.



Thank you for your completing our survey!

Please return your completed survey by 1st August 2025. You can do this:

- by hand to any library in Dorset
- by post to: Natural Environment Team E4, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ
- by scanning and emailing to LNRS@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Join the Nature Recovery Dorset network

Are you doing something to help nature at home, school or a club?

If so – ask your parent, guardian, teacher or group leader if they would like to [join the Nature Recovery Dorset network](#)

[<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/nr/network/>]

It is free to join – they just need to tell us how you are helping make space for nature. Then you can put your action on the map and get stickers or posters to celebrate what you're doing.