

Dorset Steering Group Minutes**18th July 2019 10.00 – 1.00pm****Wessex Water, The Admiralty, Corfe Mullen****Attendees;**

Name	Role	Present
Fiona Bowles	Chair	Y
Ruth Barden	Wessex Water	Y
Ian Withers	EA	Y
Scott West	WRT	N
Steve Dring	BoP	N
Andrew Pollard	DWT	N
Dominic Stubbing	FP&WDRA	N
Jon Bass	WCSRT	N
Bridget Betts	DC	Y
Brian Richards	DC Flood Risk Manager	Y
Kath Burt	EA	N
Nicola Hopkins	Catchment Coordinator	Y
Louise Stratton	NFU	N
Ian Rees	DAONB	N
Emma Sumner	Catchment Partnership	Y
Jane Wright	NE	Y
Paul Cottingham	NFU	N
Luke Rake	LEP	N
Maria Clarke	LNP Manager	Y

Guests; Ian Alexander, Mark Holloway**1. Minutes***Summary presentation including actions will be circulated with these minutes*

BB reported on progress of recruitment of management posts in Dorset Council. Service manager for newly formed council is now in place, structure for Environment team is not changing in the short term.

FB reported that a joint PH and Stour delivery group meeting was successful and that partners had agreed to have an annual joint meeting.

The style and reporting of meetings were discussed. It was agreed that the delivery groups required detailed reporting whereas Strategy group would prefer high-level notes and action points from meetings.

The DSG supports that minutes be put on the Wessex website.

ACTION: ES circulate GDPR sign in sheet for members to confirm their organisation's support that notes of meetings be publicly available via the Catchment Partnership website.

2. Local Industrial Strategy.

FB reported outcomes from a meeting with Simon Cripps (DWT) and Luke Rake (LEP) discussing the Catchment Partnership, LNP and LEP delivering aligned strategies and ensuring minimal duplication between the partnerships operating in Dorset. FB has been offered a co-opted place on the LNP Board to represent CPs.

Martine Hanulova provided a written note on the LIS (appended)

BB reported that the Draft Industrial Strategy report has been produced but that this has not been shared widely, only to a limited number of stakeholders including the Dorset LNP. Dorset Coast Forum is working with the LEP to 'deep dive' into marine and aquaculture businesses to inform the LIS. FB queried whether members knew why Defra funding calls relating to environment and climate resilience, available to LEPs have not been sought by Dorset LEP?

ACTION: FB to query with Dorset LEP (Luke Rake) and Martina Hanulova why Dorset has not been included in this list of calls.

Concern was expressed that opportunities to access funding (prosperity fund) that supports both growth and the environment will not be available to partners if the quality of Dorset's natural capital is not identified in the LIS. Other LEPs have included environmental investment in their strategies but this was understood to be not a feature of Dorset's LIS because it was deemed not to be 'original'. The Group questioned whether this was appropriate for a county whose own green accounts identify the environment as its key asset.

RB stated that the development of Poole Harbour Nutrient Management Scheme (PHNMS) would be unable to leverage funding from the Industrial Strategy funding streams at present despite delivering rural business gain and improving natural capital such as improved WQ, reducing flood risk and the health of Poole Harbour. It was agreed that there is a need for a board member on the Dorset LEP to champion environmental issues and promote how this links to growth.

Horizon 2030 document- the 'Clean Growth' grand challenge includes the environment, e.g. such as natural flood management, but it largely focused on energy. There is little time available to influence the Industrial Strategy as it is due to be published December 2019 although the deadline is early 2020.

Agreed that the catchment partnership could be used to run the Deep Dive workshop on rivers and catchments.

ACTION: RB to ask WxW and South West Water if they have been engaged with the Industrial Strategy.

ACTION: MC to feed back to the group when consultation opens to wider stakeholders

ACTION: MC to inform partnership of date of application for new LNP and LEP board members

ACTION: FB to request a copy of the Draft Local Industrial Strategy for discussion at the next meeting.

ACTION: FB to request opportunity for 'deep dive' with the catchment forums for LIS and a talk from Martina Hanulova at a future DSG meeting.

3. Climate Change Adaptation Workshop Maria Clarke

LNP/LEP workshop took place on 18th June. There was a call for evidence to enable a review of strategies and adaptation to climate change in Dorset.

ACTION: MC to circulate the link to the call for evidence covering existing work and planned work on climate change adaptation (Open until 31st July).

Further sessions to be planned, overarching strategy or collaborative statement. It was observed that there were few businesses represented. Finding other ways to communicate the message to those not currently engaged is key. It was agreed that this would be integrated in the catchment plans for PH and Stour when they are revised.

BCP and Dorset have announced a Climate Emergency.

BR reported that the LLFA recognise the value of SUDs and the ability to incorporate as part of SANGs. Dorset Council figures to reduce flood risk to 300,000 properties across country in next 5 years takes into account climate change

Partners supported a follow up workshop on linking existing mapping together for LNP and CPs, Task Finish Group. FB reported River Restoration Centre development project for mapping in river corridors includes Stage zero- i.e. the 'natural floodplain opportunities and beaver suitability and impact mapping. Wessex region may be selected for the former (EA geomorphology national team) and the latter is underway for Dorset (NT) and nationally (EA- Elly Andison). These may add a more useful layer for wetland opportunity mapping. IW to follow up with EA.

ACTION: IW to feedback on climate change feasibility mapping project to John Philips

ACTION: ES to organise task/finish group to bring together mapping opportunity.

4. Future Parks Accelerator- Mark Holloway and Ian Alexander

Dorset Horizon 2030 strategy includes a target of 78,000 new homes and 80,000 new jobs by 2038. Stour Valley Park aims to safeguard the natural environment, using opportunities to improve environmentally degraded land to provide benefits to communities, environment and growth. Opportunities for sustainable transport, recreation and links to Defra 25year plan were outlined.

Linking the presentation to profitability for LEP, how this sort of green space facilitates growth, health and wellbeing in the labour force and tourism.

MH presented on the Stour Valley park and the Future Parks accelerator bid which will provide long term funding.

It was agreed that the presentation to the LEP on the SVP needs to outline more clearly the benefits to growth in the face of an aging (and therefore potentially healthier aging) community. It will require match funding; potentially from flood alleviation budget.

JW noted that the lower Stour has a restoration plan, linked with Moors river SSSI restoration plan but the delivery is currently unfunded.

FB noted the benefits of accessing the 'stage zero modelling' for the Stour as part of the planning process as this may provide further flood alleviation options.

ACTION MH to request support from WxW and SWW for the Future Parks Accelerator Project

5. Financing Catchments- FB/RB

RB reported back on PHNMS- led by NFU to set up a voluntary nitrogen offsetting scheme in response to the Judicial Review Consent Order. The NFU has consulted with farming community, covering about 60% of the land ownership and achieving 99% sign up from those engaged. There has been a bid to Triodos/Esme Fairburn Foundation for investment funding to develop the initiative. This approach has the potential to develop into a Natural Capital reporting tool.

It was agreed that a letter of broad support from the catchment partnership should be drafted although some partners are not comfortable until regulatory support for a scheme in place.

With regard to the Judicial Review Consent Order, JW advised that there was agreement on the direction of travel but here is some disagreement on the interpretation of fair share and the final targets (WFD and habitat drivers). This will be discussed by the joint leadership team (NE and EA).

BB provided a spreadsheet of DC environment funds. There was discussion on the best approach to capture all of the environmental funding that Dorset partners influence or have access to. It was agreed that the potential to capture this spend in Dorset would be a good influencing tool, highlighting gaps, opportunities and target areas. Partners agreed to provide data for the last 3 financial years.
ACTION: ALL to provide data on their organisation's environmental funding in last 3 financial years.

The follow up to pilot business water stewardship was discussed. FB noted that it would be useful to attend more business cluster meetings to attend to introduce the concept and identify further businesses engagement. BB reported that a LEP contact (Jo Rufus) had a list which would be obtained.

ACTION: IA to obtain similar NE project funding spreadsheet with sources, recipients on and send to ES

ACTION: ES to review the two spreadsheets (from BB and IA) and amend to create a single spreadsheet to capture funding streams and to help identify target areas and circulate.

ACTION: All to populate with their additional funding information.

ACTION: ALL to provide business cluster details to ES to enable the Partnership to attend and present at potential breakfast meetings with aim of business contributions for future projects.

6. Coordinator and Chair update

BR provided an update on the Piddle Valley NFM- community scale project, year 3 of 4. Information gathering- CSF providing farm infrastructure report, FWAG wet weather work overs and ADAS. Looking at land management interventions to reduce flood risk and run-off. Partnership project with Wessex Water contribution- £5,000 pa.

ACTION: ES to contact Wessex Water for payment of £5,000 funding to Dorset Council

ACTION: BR to provide a short summary document on the Piddle Valley project for circulation

IW updated on recruitment plan for EA's catchment support; 2 catchment officers and four technical support posts for the 4 catchments of Wessex Region which is an increase in resource.
(footnote- to be advertised w/c 5/8/19, for circulation)

WxW to interview new Dorset Catchment Co-ordinator on July 30th. RB thanked NH for her support over the last 5 years and wished her well in FWAG.

Beaver Projects in Dorset

The potential for the movement of Beavers into wider catchments in Dorset was discussed. Already found on the Somerset Frome. The R. Otter Management plan to be released shortly- University of Exeter and Devon WT, once issued to Michael Gove. This report will identify clear issues and impacts. NT has employed an officer to look at engagement in Purbeck.

It was agreed that a Beaver task group would focus on the potential for Beavers to move across Dorset and strategic management issues, whilst the projects will look at local catchment issues and short-term management (5 years).

ACTION: ALL to provide thoughts and volunteers to FB on Dorset Beaver Task Group.

ACTION: FB to work with NT and DWT to develop Beaver Task Group to meet in Sept outlining governance and programme

Stoborough Enforcement Undertaking;

NH reported that £25,0000 given to RSBP and £10,000 to NE due to an accidental discharge from a WxW sewer happening directly adjacent to their land in Stoborough.

Following an agreed project bid and assessment criteria, the catchment partnership allocated £5,000 to the Corfe River (DWR) and £5000 to LFC&S for a sewer misuse project in Wareham (based on the learning from a similar project in Swanage). NE are yet to allocate their funding as they need to go through a tender process.

NOTE: IW and RB abstained from comments regarding this Enforcement Undertaking.

NH reported that the Bournemouth University Valuing Nature report is now available on website.

<https://dorsetlnp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/TPAL-Dorset-Natural-Capital-Trends-Report-2019.pdf>

ACTION: ES to invite Adrian Newton (Bournemouth University) to present at the next strategy group meeting on Valuing Nature.

ACTION: ES to ensure the minutes are succinct with key points highlighted. Papers/slides to be issued before where feasible and attached/linked with minutes.

ACTION: ES to circulate actions from minutes as soon as possible with minutes to follow once checked by the Chair

ACTION: IW to pass on the Partnerships' thanks to Kath Burt, Sarah Healy, Aly Maxwell- for their support in the absence of an EA catchment coordinator.

ACTION: ES to start a discussion with Kath Burt on the EA's Medium-Term Plan- Task finish group to be set up before sept 1st deadline.

DONM: October 17th

ACTION: BB to check the availability of room at DCC for October 17th meeting. – Action complete
10:00 – 13:00 in Committee Room 3 in County Hall

Actions Grid

Who	What	When
ES	Circulate GDPR sign in sheet for members to confirm their organisation's support that notes of meetings be publicly available via the Catchment Partnership website.	
FB	To query with Dorset LEP (Luke Rake) and Martina Hanulova why Dorset has not been included in this list of calls.	
RB	To ask WxW and South West Water if they have been engaged with the Industrial Strategy.	
MC	To feed back to the group when consultation opens to wider stakeholders	
MC	To inform partnership of date of application for new LNP and LEP board members.	
FB	To request a copy of the Draft Local Industrial Strategy for discussion at the next meeting.	
FB	To request opportunity for 'deep dive' with the catchment forums for LIS and a talk from Martina Hanulova at a future DSG meeting.	
MC	To circulate the link to the call for evidence covering existing work and planned work on climate change adaptation (Open until 31st July).	
IW	To feedback on climate change feasibility mapping project to John Philips.	
ES	To organise task/finish group to bring together mapping opportunity.	
MH	To request support from WxW and SWW for the Future Parks Accelerator Project.	
All	To provide data on their organisation's environmental funding in last 3 financial years.	
IA	To obtain similar NE project funding spreadsheet with sources, recipients on and send to ES.	
ES	To review the two spreadsheets (from BB and IA) and amend to create a single spreadsheet to capture funding streams and to help identify target areas and circulate.	
All	To populate with their additional funding information.	
All	To provide business cluster details to ES to enable the Partnership to attend and present at potential breakfast meetings with aim of business contributions for future projects.	
ES	To contact Wessex Water for payment of £5,000 funding to Dorset Council.	
BR	To provide a short summary document on the Piddle Valley project for circulation.	Complete
All	To provide thoughts and volunteers to FB on Dorset Beaver Task Group.	
FB	To work with NT and DWT to develop Beaver Task Group to meet in Sept outlining governance and programme.	
ES	To invite Adrian Newton (Bournemouth University) to present at the next strategy group meeting on Valuing Nature.	

ES	To ensure the minutes are succinct with key points highlighted. Papers/slides to be issued before where feasible and attached/linked with minutes.	
ES	To circulate actions from minutes as soon as possible with minutes to follow once checked by the Chair	
IW	To pass on the Partnerships' thanks to Kath Burt, Sarah Healy, Aly Maxwell- for their support in the absence of an EA catchment coordinator.	
ES	To start a discussion with Kath Burt on the EA's Medium-Term Plan- Task finish group to be set up before sept 1 st deadline.	
BB	To check the availability of room at DCC for October 17 th meeting.	Complete

Appendix Talks

Dorset LIS Martina Hanulova, Strategy Development Manager, Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership

Dorset LEP is leading the development of Dorset's Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). We are committed to work in close collaboration with local businesses, organisations and institutions, including the two new councils.

To date we have held various public consultation events across the county enabling businesses and stakeholders to input and influence the development of Dorset's LIS. The events have discussed various challenges for Dorset such as house price affordability, connectivity, climate change, talent retention, social mobility and the ageing population. Points from the audience have also included the importance of consultation with younger people, the idea of branding Dorset as 'well-being' capital, and the need for more attractive town centres.

As we develop our emerging thinking, we will continue to engage with businesses and local authorities. Current emerging priorities are outlined in a publication we introduced during our Annual Conference in May. This publication can be accessed [here](#).

However, this is not our final economic proposition for Dorset. Prior to writing the Local Industrial Strategy, we welcome your views on Dorset's economy to help further identify our local and very specific competitive advantages and opportunities. We are currently running a business survey and would appreciate that any local business that has a few minutes to spare helps us in completing it. The survey is attached.

We are also publishing monthly blogs with LIS themes and, to date, we have published three articles written by Jim Stewart, Chair Dorset LEP; Liz Willingham, President, Dorset Chamber; and John Vinney, Vice-Chancellor at Bournemouth University. Check out our blogs on our [website](#).

The Dorset Local Industrial Strategy will be drafted in early autumn and launched in early 2020.

To learn more on the Dorset LIS, please visit our website here: <https://www.dorsetlep.co.uk/local-industrial-strategy>