

### **Wytch Farm Landscape & Access Enhancement Fund (Wytch Farm Fund)**

The Wytch Farm Fund originates from a s106 agreement negotiated alongside the extension of the lifespan of operation of the Wytch Farm oilfield, now managed by Perenco. £1.7 million was paid over to Dorset County Council (as the responsible planning authority for minerals) for disbursement to projects which mitigate the landscape and access effects of the presence of the oilfield in the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

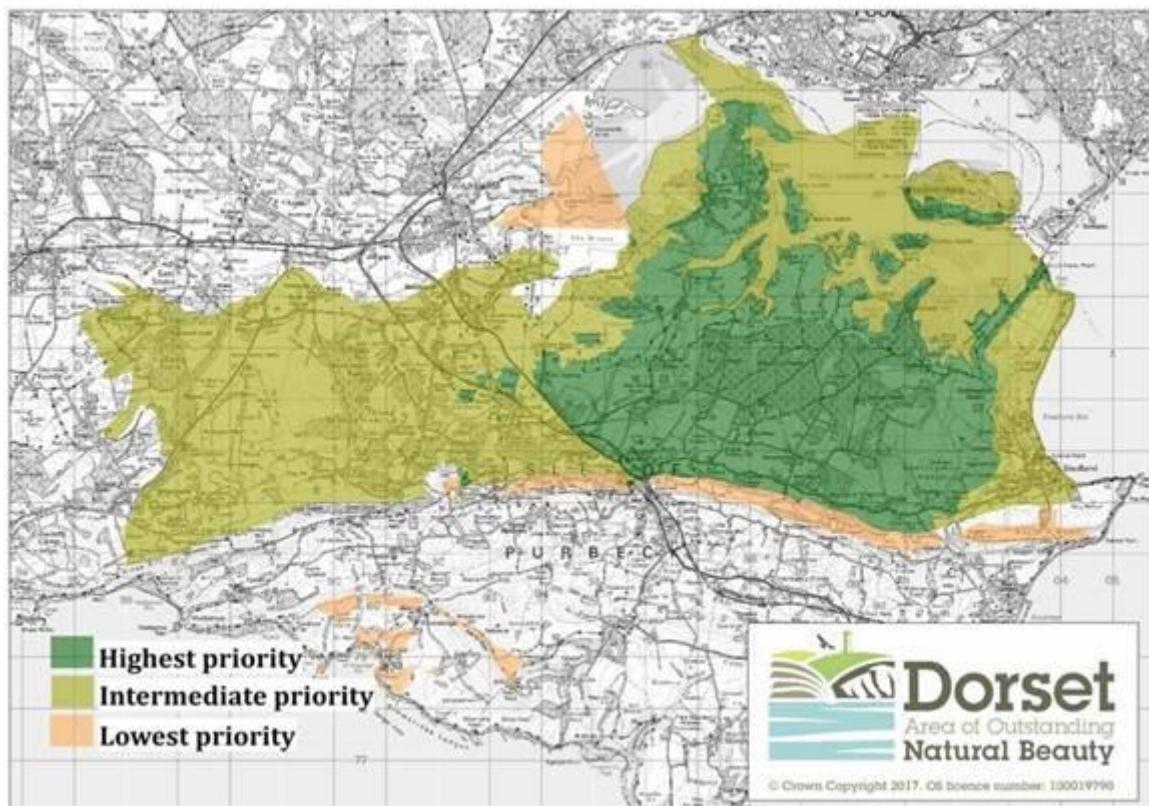
Applications to the fund are assessed by a panel meeting at least 3 times yearly. This panel makes a recommendation to the Dorset County Council portfolio holder with responsibility for the environment. Agreements can be made relatively quickly: usually within weeks of a panel meeting. These dates will be publicised on the AONB e-news and on the webpage (linked below).

### **What kinds of projects can be funded?**

Landowners, conservation and community groups or individuals can apply for funding for projects which meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Strengthen the character of the surrounding landscape by the creation, conservation, enhancement and management of heathland and acid grassland;
- Enhance biodiversity by the conservation, enhancement and management of boundary features (such as hedgerows, veteran trees and earthbanks), woodlands (such as rhododendron control) and rural lanes; and / or
- Improve rights of way and / or facilities to provide car-free access and conserve tranquillity.

Projects must be within the South Purbeck Heaths landscape character area and/or the area of visual influence of the oilfield – see map



Queries should be made to Alison Turnock [alisonturnock@purbeck-dc.gov.uk](mailto:alisonturnock@purbeck-dc.gov.uk) / 01929 557337

For further details and downloadable application forms, visit the webpage here:

<https://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk/local-action/wytch-farm-fund>