
Strategic Environmental Assessment Report for the 2025/30 National Landscape Management Plan

Cranborne Chase
National
Landscape
Partnership

Craggatak Consulting
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Figure 1: Outline map of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape

Strategic Environmental Assessment of the 2025/30 Cranborne Chase National Landscape Management Plan

Prepared for the Cranborne Chase National Landscape Partnership by Craggatak Consulting, August 2025

Non-Technical Summary

Introduction

Designation of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) was in 1981. Although AONB is still the legal name of the designation, it was rebranded as a 'National Landscape' (NL) for most purposes in June 2020. It extends over 981 square kilometres of Dorset, Wiltshire, Hampshire and Somerset. There are five relevant local authorities for the Cranborne Chase National Landscape; Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset Unitary Councils, Hampshire County Council, and the New Forest District Council. These councils have established a National Landscape Partnership, formed of representatives from the local authorities plus national and local organisations with an interest in the National Landscape to manage their obligations for the area. They have a legal duty to prepare and publish a Management Plan. This plan presents the special qualities and features of the National Landscape and sets out 23 outcomes and 52 policies needed to ensure their conservation and enhancement.

The purpose of this report

This report (known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment Report) describes the likely environmental effects of implementing the National Landscape Management Plan. The assessment helps to identify, describe and evaluate any significant environmental effects arising from applying the Management Plan's policies, or any reasonable alternative policies. It highlights any significant beneficial effects and records any remaining negative effects considering any measures that will make them less harmful.

Scope of the assessment

There was a scoping process during November and December 2024 to help ensure the assessment covered the key environmental and sustainability issues relevant to the National Landscape and its setting. The main bodies with environmental responsibilities were engaged in the scoping process. These were Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency, and their responses helped to shape the assessment framework.

A review of other plans and programmes helped develop a wider understanding of the issues and priorities relevant to the Chase and its setting as well as the wider area. There is wide recognition of the importance of the natural, cultural and built environment of the area. The Management Plan seeks to address eight key issues driving change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape:

- **Climate change** - Climate change is happening, and its impacts are unavoidable. There is already experience of the impacts of a rapidly heating climate and this threatens many of the defining characteristics and Special Qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.
- **Nature recovery** - Wildlife loss is well documented and understood. Climate change is threatening the loss of already diminished wildlife at an even greater scale and pace. There is a

need to create a robust and resilient nature recovery network – a landscape rich in joined up and well managed habitats. The need for action is urgent to avoid a mass extinction event.

- **Environmental quality** - Clean air, clean and plentiful water, and healthy soils are fundamental to nature recovery, as well as being the foundation for the ecosystem services that benefit those living in and around the National Landscape, and those visiting or working in it. The quality of these environmental resources is under pressure from a range of factors including urban development, road traffic, land management practices, water abstraction and recreation.
- **Land management** - Woodland and agricultural policies and practices have a major bearing on the natural beauty and special qualities of the Chase, as well as the quality of air, water and soil health. Government has targets for increasing woodland and tree canopy cover, the adoption of nature-friendly farming, and the restoration and creation of wildlife-rich habitats. There are declining farm and forest incomes.
- **Growth and development** - Development¹ maintains economic viability, sustains the population and supports those who manage the land. The demand for small-scale new build, conversion, renovation of existing structures and other minor development within the designated area can change the character of the landscape and negatively impact on landscape quality, biodiversity and heritage. The spread of built-up land around the National Landscape since its designation in 1981 has been extensive and has brought development hard up to the designated boundary in several places.
- **Tourism and recreation** - The quality of the visitor welcome and experience can have a lasting impression on people's perceptions about the National Landscape that will, in turn, influence their willingness to help look after it. Visitor-spend in the National Landscape brings economic benefits to local businesses, and increasing numbers of visitors may provide opportunities for the tourism sector, but pressures will need to be managed.
- **Health and wellbeing** - Connections within the National Landscape and with its setting are important. The mental and physical health benefits of accessing natural beauty are becoming increasingly understood and appreciated. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on human behaviour. For example, people have travelled less and many have worked from home. People are more aware of the importance of green and blue spaces.
- **Equality, inclusion and diversity** - Visitors to Cranborne Chase are not representative of the full spectrum of society and some people and communities experience unintentional barriers to engagement with the protected landscape, which leads to their exclusion or feelings of being unwelcome². Such groups include lower income households, people with underlying health conditions, young people and ethnic minorities.

Environmental baseline information

Baseline environmental information describes the current state of the environment and predicts how the conditions would progress if there is no management plan in place. It also highlights any existing relevant environmental problems in the area. The assessment uses nine Environmental Objectives to

¹ Defined in Section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operation's in, on, over or under land; or the making of any material change in the use of any buildings or other land.

² Cranborne Chase AONB Inclusion and Diversity Study. A. Meredith Associates and The Research Solution, 2022.

stand for the local environmental issues. They test whether the Management Plan policies (or their absence) create adverse effects on the special qualities of the National Landscape.

Summary of the appraisal

The proposed policies are well-matched. There are no tensions or sensitivities arising from where two or more policies interact. The proposed policy cascade has a beneficial, and in parts a significantly beneficial, effect on the Environmental Objectives. There are no adverse effects on the Environmental Objectives so there is no need to consider measures to increase the beneficial effects, but opportunities exist to do so. There is no recommendation for modifying actions.

The findings are that the proposed policies generally give greater environmental benefits than the 'do-nothing' situation. There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions. However, the proposed policies offer advantages over the do-nothing option as they support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, some opportunities may be lost.

Monitoring

The regulations require monitoring measures for all the significant effects, both positive and negative, identified in the assessment. The assessment of the draft management plan has identified no significant negative effects that are likely to arise from the implementation of management plan. Some significant positive effects are likely to arise from the implementation of the plan. The overall assessment of the current baseline data is that it is adequate. There are opportunities to strengthen it further but this is limited by the need to source and secure data on local distinctiveness, landscape and the local economy.

Consultation

The Scoping Report went out for consultation during November and December 2024. Both Historic England and the Environment Agency chose not to comment on the draft Scoping Report. They have confidence that the approach is in accordance with the regulations. Natural England stated that it had no comments to make. The agencies have confidence that the approach is in accordance with the regulations.

The Environmental Report went out for consultation in July 2025. Both Historic England and Natural England agreed with the assessment's conclusions that the proposed policies will not give rise to any significant adverse environmental effects. The Environment Agency offered no comments.

Conclusion

There is nothing in the management plan that will undermine the special qualities of Cranborne Chase. Implementation of the proposed Management Plan will have environmental and sustainability benefits for the National Landscape.

A full version of this version of the SEA Environmental Report is available from the Cranborne Chase National Landscape Partnership.

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1. Background

- 1.1 This Environmental Report has been prepared as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape (NL) Management Plan Review. A National Landscape is the everyday name for what is set out in legislation as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) must agree the scope and level of detail to be contained in the Environmental Report. The SEA Scoping Report went out for consultation during November and December 2024.
- 1.2 Both Historic England and the Environment Agency chose not to comment on the draft Scoping Report. Natural England stated that it had no comments to make.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.3 Strategic Environmental Assessment is a statutory requirement³ to ensure that land-use plans and programmes that are likely to have significant effects on the environment are the subject of a strategic assessment of options and alternative courses of action during plan preparation to avoid or mitigate any adverse effects. The approach for carrying out the SEA of the Management Plan Review is based on current best practice and the following guidance:
 - HMSO (September 2005) A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government, Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland.
 - Dodd et al (2007) The Appropriate Assessment of Spatial Plans in England: a guide to why, when and how to do it, RSPB.
 - Natural Scotland (September 2006) Strategic Environmental Assessment Toolkit. Scottish Executive.
 - Countryside Council for Wales (2008) The Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Wales - Guidance on the Review of Management Plans
 - Richard Partington et al (January 2008) Guidance to English AONB Partnerships and Boards on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of AONB Management Plans, Natural England
 - Historic England (2016): Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment – Advice Note 8
- 1.4 To integrate fully the SEA process with the production of the Management Plan there is close collaboration with the review team. There are five stages to a Strategic Environmental Assessment:

Stage A: Scoping and consultation with Environmental Bodies

Stage B: Assessment of plan content and analysis of alternatives

Stage C: Preparation of an Environmental Report

³ Directive 2001/42/EC “on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment”. Transposed into law by Statutory Instrument 2004 No. 1633 The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the “SEA Regulations”), <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si2004/sch1>

Stage D: Consultation and consideration of the SEA findings by the decision maker; and

Stage E: Monitoring the performance of the plan against the SEA findings.

15. This report supports Stages B and C. The SEA Scoping Report consultation responses have been considered and used to inform relevant sections of the SEA Environmental Report (this document).

Purpose of the Environmental Report

16. This Environmental Report sets out the findings of the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the AONB Management Plan review. Its primary purpose is to identify, describe and evaluate any significant environmental effects arising from implementing the management plan, or any reasonable alternatives. Any significant beneficial effects are highlighted, as well as recording any residual negative effects once mitigating measures are taken into account.
17. This assessment follows the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The methodology used follows the guidance set out in paragraph 14.

Cranborne Chase National Landscape

18. Designation of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was in 1981. It extends over 981 square kilometres of Dorset, Wiltshire, Hampshire and Somerset (Figure 1). As a landscape of national significance, the National Landscape forms part of the extensive belt of chalkland that stretches across southern England. The fertile, wooded Vale of Wardour divides the area into two main areas. To the south is Cranborne Chase with its smooth, rounded downs, steeply cut combs and dry valleys so typical of chalk landscapes. The dip-slope gently descends to the south-east where it meets the Dorset Heaths. To the north, the West Wiltshire Downs are more elevated with the landform rising to a subtle ridge at Great Ridge / Groveley Wood. Impressive scarps, cresting above the adjoining greensand terraces, fringe both areas.
19. The National Landscape is of great ecological importance. Its protected sites range from ancient downland, herb-rich fen and river meadow to scattered deciduous woodland that includes remnants of the ancient Cranborne Chase hunting forest and the former Royal Forests of Selwood and Gillingham. People have lived in and shaped the region for over 6,000 years. The landscape reflects how people have worked the land, shaping it to their needs over time. It is rich in prehistoric sites with many ancient monuments and field patterns on the downs, whilst large 18th and 19th century estates, parklands and associated villages, dominate the Vale of Wardour.
- 1.10. This is a deeply rural area with scattered villages and narrow roads. There are no large settlements in the area but nearby country towns such as Salisbury, Shaftesbury and Warminster are growth areas. Although there are a few sites attracting many visitors, such as Longleat, Stourhead and Centre Parcs, Cranborne Chase is not a developed tourist area, although demand is increasing.

Management Plan review

- 1.11.** Section 82 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 establishes the primary purpose of AONB designation as the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty. Section 85 of the CROW Act (as amended by section 245 of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023) places a duty on all public bodies (other than a devolved Welsh authority) to 'seek to further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area of outstanding natural beauty'. Under section 89, the relevant local authorities must prepare and publish a Management Plan for each AONB; and keep it under review. A plan under section 89 relating to an AONB in England must further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of that area.
- 1.12.** The Management Plan is a statutory document. It provides a policy framework that brings together partners to help them design, resource and implement the priorities set out specifically for the AONB designation. It guides and informs all other plans and activities that may affect the AONB so that they can contribute to the continued conservation and enhancement of the AONB designation.
- 1.13.** There are five relevant local authorities for the Cranborne Chase NL; Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset Unitary Councils, Hampshire County Council, and the New Forest District Council. These councils have established a National Landscape Partnership, formed of representatives from the local authorities plus national and local organisations with an interest in the National Landscape. The Partnership Board acts as the governing body for the National Landscape Team and is chaired by an independent person (it is a joint advisory committee under Section 102 (4) of the Local Government Act 1972). It guides the implementation of the Management Plan and oversees the specialist Topic Groups that work on the Annual Delivery Plan. A Steering Group provides advice and support to the National Landscape Team, whose task it is to ensure targets in the Management Plan are met.

Relationships with other assessments

Habitat Regulation Assessment

- 1.14.** The EU Natura 2000 network provides ecological infrastructure for the protection of sites that are of exceptional importance in respect of rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and species within the European Community. These sites, known as National sites, consist of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Offshore Marine Sites. It is common practice to treat RAMSAR sites (Internationally Important Wetlands) as if they were National sites. The guidance recommends taking into consideration National sites within the plan area and within 15 km of its boundary.
- 1.15.** The current Management Plan states that there are 19 National sites in the designated area or within 15 km of its boundary:

- Avon River SAC
- Avon Valley SPA & Ramsar site
- Chilmark Quarries SAC
- Dorset Heathlands SPA & Ramsar site
- Dorset Heaths (Purbeck & Wareham) & Studland Dunes SAC
- Dorset Heaths SAC
- Fontmell & Melbury Downs SAC
- Great Yews SAC
- Mells Valley SAC
- Mendip Woodlands SAC
- Mottisfont Bats SAC
- New Forest SAC
- New Forest SPA & Ramsar site
- Poole Harbour SPA & Ramsar site
- Porton Down SPA
- Prescombe Down SAC
- Rooksmoor SAC
- Salisbury Plain SAC
- Salisbury Plain SPA

1.16. The environmental assessment findings are, in part, based on findings from a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening of the Management Plan Consultation Draft. The HRA reports separately but its findings are relevant for the SEA Objective E3 (Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species). The results of the screening are that no policy areas would have a Likely Significant Effect on any National Sites.

Natural capital and an ecosystem approach

1.17. Natural capital is another term for the stock of renewable and non-renewable natural resources on earth (e.g., plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a flow of benefits or “services” to people⁴. These flows can be ecosystem services or abiotic services, many of which we depend on. Ecosystem services are the benefits to society from nature; abiotic services are benefits to people that do not depend on living processes. They arise from fundamental geological processes.

1.18. An ecosystem approach makes explicit the link between the status of natural resource systems and ecosystem services that support human well-being. It seeks to maintain the integrity and functioning of ecosystems to avoid rapid undesirable ecological change. It also recognises that the impacts of human activities are a matter of social choice, and are as integral to ecosystem interactions as ecosystems are to human activities.

Definition of an Ecosystem Approach

“a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way”

Convention on Biological Diversity definition⁵

⁴ Adapted from the Natural Capital Protocol, 2016

⁵ Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2004) The Ecosystem Approach, (CBD Guidelines) Montreal: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity 50 p.

- 1.19.** This approach provides a way to manage nature that combines three core themes⁶
- the ecology of the natural environment, including its functions and processes;
 - the benefits that people get from the natural environment (ecosystem services); and
 - the value of nature to society (in both monetary and non-monetary terms).
- 1.20.** The availability of expertise and data limits the application of the ecosystem approach to the management of protected areas. Ecosystem services provided in Cranborne Chase are likely to include:

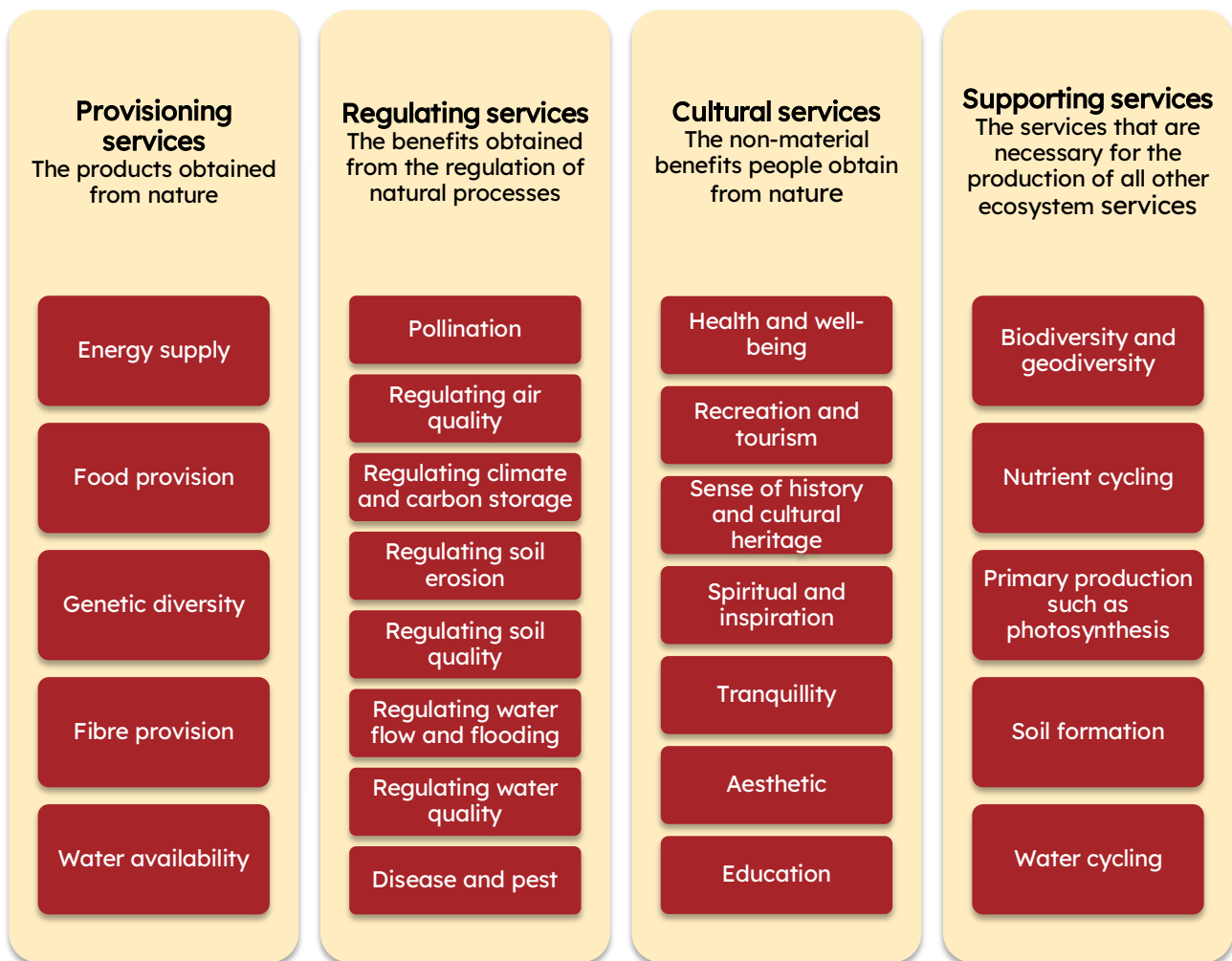


Figure 2: Suggested ecosystem services delivered in the Cranborne Chase National Landscape

- 1.21.** The data is not readily available to enable a full valuation of these services though the National Landscape has published some studies. However, even an initial assessment of ecosystem services affected by a policy choice can indicate how potentially significant impacts could be and where uncertainties and evidence gaps lie. Key indicators help

⁶ Hunt, D. Crosher, I., Wharton, A. & Hayes, G. (2012). Embedding the Ecosystem Approach into existing landscape scale or area based partnership delivery: Internal guidance for Natural England staff. Natural England, November 2012

monitor the condition of the ecosystem services. The effects of proposed or alternative actions on their status are considered.

- 1.22. This SEA supports an ecosystem approach. It will consider the possible indirect, direct and cumulative effects of projects implemented under this plan. It is not an ecosystem service valuation.

Relationship to other policies, plans and programmes

- 1.23. A key element in the SEA process is to review relevant international, national, regional and local policy guidance, plans and strategies, to:

- Ensure the Management Plan proposals and the SEA are consistent with and comply with the requirements of relevant plans and policies, especially where they refer to environmental priorities;
- Identify environmental objectives, key targets and indicators that should be reflected in the SEA;
- Provide evidence for the SEA rationale.

- 1.24. The selection criteria were:

- International documents having the status of a plan, policy or programme
- National documents having the status of a national strategy or a White Paper outlining intended policy
- Regional and local documents having the status of strategy or policy
- Other documents not having a statutory status but policy documents published by the statutory bodies

Appendix 2 list the documents under review. This review informs the SEA.

Legislation, conventions and national advice

- 1.25. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is a statutory landscape designation. The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, as modified by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, provides the primary legislation for the designation of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. From the Acts, a particular set of objectives is developed for AONBs⁷:

- The primary purpose of designation is to conserve and enhance natural beauty.
- In pursuing the primary purpose of designation, account should be taken of the needs of agriculture, forestry, other rural industries and of the economic and social needs of local communities. Particular regard should be paid to promoting sustainable forms of social and economic development that in themselves conserve and enhance the environment.
- Recreation is not an objective of designation, but the demand for recreation should be met so far as this is consistent with the conservation of natural beauty and the needs of agriculture, forestry and other uses.

⁷ Countryside Agency (2006), Guidance for the review of AONB Management Plans, CA221, Cheltenham, August 2006

- 1.26.** Ratification of the European Landscape Convention by the UK was in November 2006; and became binding on the 1 March 2007. The Convention aims to ensure the proper protection, management and planning of landscapes across Europe and aims to bring all countries up to the standard of the best.
- 1.27.** Following the passing of the European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Act 2017, the UK left the European Union on the 31st January 2020 (there followed a 12-month transition period. The new Management Plan takes account of the changed relationship between the UK and the EU. The natural environment of Cranborne Chase has benefited from some support from EU budgets, particularly for research and academic cooperation. That support is very likely to stop unless the UK government gives a clear undertaking to match any existing funding. There could be a period of inertia whilst building new resources and structures.
- 1.28.** In 2018, Defra launched its 25-year plan for the environment⁸ that set out the vision for a quarter-of-a century of action to help the natural world regain and retain good health. The plan set out ten complementary environmental goals. And Defra undertook to refresh the plan every 5 years. The Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP), published in January 2023 is the first five-year refresh of the government's 25-Year Environment Plan⁹. The EIP uses the ten 25-year plan goals as its structure. Defra state that 'Thriving plants and wildlife' is their 'apex goal', which the nine other goals will help to achieve. The EIP is one of the core drivers of a Management Plan. Some of the goals and targets established in the EIP are reflected in a new Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. The framework includes 10 target indicators for the NL.
- 1.29.** A general election took place on Thursday 4 July 2024. The new secretary of state for the environment, food and rural affairs unveiled 5 core priorities for Defra:
- to clean up rivers, lakes and seas;
 - create a roadmap to move Britain to a zero-waste economy;
 - to boost food security;
 - to ensure nature's recovery and
 - protect communities from the dangers of flooding.
- 1.30.** The National Planning Policy Framework (2024) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how to apply them. Paragraph 189 says that great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. It goes on to state that the conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas.

Local Authorities

- 1.31.** The NL lies with the bounds of five local authorities. They are Staffordshire County Council, Cranborne Chase Council, Lichfield District Council, South Staffordshire Council

⁸ Defra (2018) *A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment*, HMSO

⁹ Defra (2023) *Environmental Improvement Plan 2023, first revision of the 25 Year Environment Plan*, HMSO

and Stafford Borough Council. The County Council has many responsibilities but two have a direct effect on the Cranborne Chase. As the minerals and waste authorities, it produces minerals and waste local plans. It also deals with local transport, highways and tourism. The District Councils are required to produce local plans to guide spatial change and growth within their areas. These plans set out the and framework for future development in their area. They address needs and opportunities in relation to the economy, housing, community facilities and infrastructure; as well as provide a basis for safeguarding the environment (including the National Landscape), adapting to climate change and securing good design.

Government Agencies

- 1.32. There is a range of Government Agencies whose actions impact upon Cranborne Chase. Their strategies set high-level policy and generally cover the whole of the country. Any mention of a particular site, such as the Chase, within these policies indicates the high national importance of the topic.
- 1.33. Natural England's purpose is to help conserve, enhance and manage the natural environment for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development. It seeks a well-managed Nature Recovery Network across England which connects people to the natural environment for their own and society's wellbeing, enjoyment and prosperity. It is directly responsible for the management of the national sites and prepares plans to ensure that these sites reach a favourable ecological condition. The Targets and Outcomes Framework establishes a core, shared set of indicators for Protected Landscapes. Natural England will supply data to Protected Landscapes on these indicators, undertaking a significant part of the data gathering and processing effort for Protected Landscapes. The Targets and Outcomes Framework replaces the Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes data, supplied by Natural England since 2012.
- 1.34. Historic England protects historic places such as Scheduled Monuments, archaeological sites, registered parks and gardens, scheduled landscapes, and listed buildings; *and protected wrecks*. The Agency prepares plans and advice to ensure decisions serve people, places and the economy
- 1.35. It is the Environment Agency's duty to protect and improve the environment. In England it regulates major industry and waste, and the treatment of contaminated land. It is responsible for water quality, resources and fisheries; inland river, estuary and harbour navigations; and conservation and ecology. It is also responsible for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea.

2. Environmental and sustainability baseline information

Key local environmental trends

- 2.1. The SEA Directive requires detailed baseline information to be gathered as part of the assessment process. Information must be gathered on "relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the

plan” and the “environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected” (Annex I (b) & (c)).

- 2.2. The baseline data is also required to highlight “any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC (Birds Directive) and 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive)” (Annex I (c)).
- 2.3. The assessment of impacts of a plan must be based on the current state of the environment, the ‘baseline’. The source of baseline information will be in line with the Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations. We use PLTOF (protected landscapes targets and outcomes framework) Reports, State of the NL Report, Natural England’s State of the Environment (West Midlands) Report, Natural England’s National Cranborne Chase Character Area Profile and the evidence-base attached to the preparation of the local authority Local Plans. The baseline is, therefore, informed by factual data and professional judgement based on survey. The data is set out in **Appendix 7**.
- 2.4. The Partnership identifies eight key issues driving change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape:
 - **Climate change** - Climate change is happening, and its impacts are unavoidable. There is already experience of the impacts of a rapidly heating climate and this threatens many of the defining characteristics and Special Qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape. The National Landscape can expect to experience warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers along with more unpredictable weather events causing drought, flooding and soil erosion. Cultural heritage assets may be at risk to extreme weather fluctuations including increasing temperatures (heatwaves or fires), precipitation and flooding, and from unintended consequences of climate mitigation and adaptation measures. Commercial renewable energy development has the potential to result in direct and indirect physical impacts on the historic environment that can impact on its significance. Direct physical impacts include impacts on surface features or buried archaeological remains; indirect physical impacts include those which occur offsite, such as impacts to groundwater levels.
 - **Nature recovery** - The fourth UK State of Nature Report published in 2023¹⁰ lays bare the stark fact that the UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world, and that nature is still declining. Wildlife loss is well documented and understood. Climate change is threatening the loss of already diminished wildlife at an even greater scale and pace. There is a need to create a robust and resilient nature recovery network – a landscape rich in joined up and well managed habitats. The need for action is urgent to avoid a mass extinction event. Cranborne Chase National Landscape still supports extensive areas of high value for nature. There are concerns, however, about the condition of protected sites, the

¹⁰ State of Nature 2023 – report on the UK’s current biodiversity.

management of priority habitats, the decline of wildlife in the wider countryside, and the status of some of our plants and animals.

- **Environmental quality** - Clean air, clean and plentiful water, and healthy soils are fundamental to nature recovery, as well as being the foundation for the ecosystem services that benefit those living in and around the National Landscape, and those visiting or working in it. The quality of these environmental resources is under pressure from a range of factors including urban development, road traffic, land management practices, water abstraction and recreation.
- **Land management** - Woodland and farmland together cover over 75% of the National Landscape. Forestry and agricultural policies and practices have a major bearing, therefore, on the natural beauty and special qualities of the Chase, as well as the quality of air, water and soil health. For agriculture, there is a transition to the new Environmental Land Management Scheme that centres on rewarding farmers and land managers for sustainable farming practices, as well as delivering Government targets for increasing woodland and tree canopy cover, the adoption of nature-friendly farming, and restoration and creation of wildlife-rich habitats. There are declining farm and forest incomes. Land managers must find either additional or new sources of income. They may grow new crops and/or move into other sectors, such as warehousing, business parks, tourism and recreation. They may use their land for energy or communication structures. This can help to maintain a viable business and improve the products and services on offer to the community and visitors.
- **Growth and development** - Development maintains economic viability, sustains the population and supports those who manage the land. The demand for small-scale new build, conversion, renovation of existing structures and other minor development within the designated area can change the character of the landscape and negatively impact on landscape quality, biodiversity and heritage. The spread of built-up land around the National Landscape since its designation in 1958 has been extensive (a 365% increase within a 10km radius) and has brought development hard up to the designated boundary in several places. Significant new areas of housing and employment continue to be built close to the National Landscape, and further areas are being allocated in Local Plans.
- **Tourism and recreation** - Cranborne Chase has the highest density of visitor footfall of any Protected Landscape in the UK. The forecast growth in population in surrounding areas over the next 20 years will further increase visitor numbers, adding to the pressures on the special qualities as well as visitor services, facilities and infrastructure. The quality of the visitor welcome and experience can have a lasting impression on people's perceptions about the National Landscape that will, in turn, influence their willingness to help look after it. Visitor-spend in the National Landscape brings economic benefits to local businesses, and increasing numbers of visitors may provide opportunities for the tourism sector, but pressures will need to be managed.

- **Health and wellbeing** - Connections within the National Landscape and with its setting are important. The mental and physical health benefits of accessing natural beauty are becoming increasingly understood and appreciated. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on human behaviour. For example, people have travelled less and many have worked from home. People are more aware of the importance of green and blue spaces.
- **Equality, inclusion and diversity** - National Landscapes are protected for the nation and are available for everyone to enjoy. Visitors to Cranborne Chase are not representative of the full spectrum of society, however, and some people and communities experience unintentional barriers to engagement with the protected landscape which leads to their exclusion or feelings of being unwelcome¹¹. Such groups include lower income households, people with underlying health conditions, young people and ethnic minorities

The key issues associated with the environmental trends within the AONB and the likely outcomes if no action is taken are shown in **Appendix 3**.

Environmental appraisal framework

- 2.5. The Natural England Guidance sets out a generic list of SEA Objectives. For the SEA Assessment, we use 9 SEA Environmental Objectives. These ensure that the Objectives and accompanying issues and criteria are appropriate for this SEA. **Appendix 4** presents the SEA Environmental Objectives, complete with key sustainability issues arising from the scoping exercise. The key issues will help ensure that the SEA is as locally specific as possible
- 2.6. We also set out indicators that link the SEA Objectives to data and provide the basis for monitoring. In the consultation Scoping Report, we identified 30 Key Indicators thought to be useful when undertaking the SEA assessment. After consultation, this was increased to 31 deliverable Headline Indicators that can monitor the application of the management plan's policies. Monitoring also occurs through other programmes and we show additional indicators for which data may be available.






3. Environmental assessment

Methodology

- 3.1. Step 1 is to consider the Management Plan draft text and test the compatibility of its policies and objectives. The intent is to identify potential tensions or sensitivities where two or more interventions interact. We collect the findings in a **Compatibility Matrix** and summarise them in a chart.

¹¹ Cranborne Chase AONB Inclusion and Diversity Study. A. Meredith Associates and The Research Solution, 2022.

3.2. Using professional judgement, each relationship is plotted as:

	= strong positive
	= positive
	= weak positive
Blank	= minimal interaction
	= weak negative
	= negative

A commentary develops the findings to take account of the varying environmental sensitivities of the different topic areas. The consideration of the compatibility of the vision for the NL and the defined attributes of the site is a part of this stage. We will express this as a **Policy Cascade** supported by the commentary.

3.3. Step 2 will check each policy against the full range of SEA Objectives, as shown in the SEA Scoping Report. The intent is to measure the significance of the effect in terms of:

- Beneficial or adverse effects;
- Magnitude of the effects;
- Direct and indirect effects;
- Cumulative effects; and
- Reversible or irreversible effects.

3.4. The findings will emerge in a **Consistency Matrix** for each objective area and summary tables and charts present the combined effects of the policies. A plot of each relationship will use the same discipline as for the Compatibility Matrix.

3.5. Step 3 will consider **Alternative Solutions** to the issues found during the Management Planning process. As there is no alternative solution published, we will make a '**do-nothing**' comparison. The purpose is to show that the chosen pathway is the most-sound in terms of the environment and wider sustainability. This analysis tests the proposed actions and the 'do-nothing' scenario against the trends shown in the SEA Scoping Report (as shown in **Appendix 3**).

3.6. Finally, we draw and present our **Conclusions**.

Compatibility between Management Plan policies

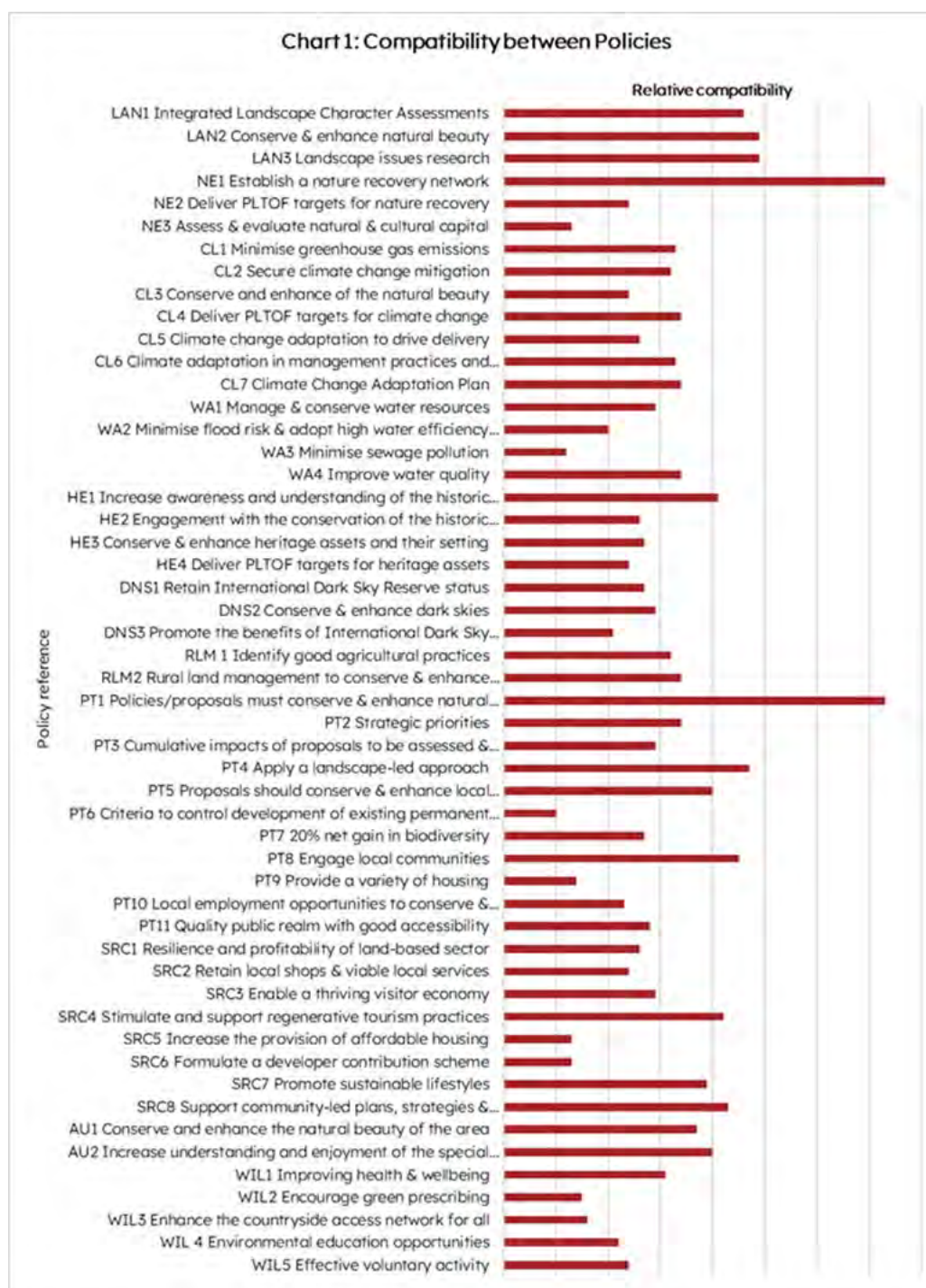
3.7. The first task was to check each policy of the Management Plan against each other in **Compatibility Matrix** to see whether there were any potential tensions or sensitivities arising where two or more interact. The full policy cascade is set out in **Appendix 1**.

3.8. The findings are set out in **Table 1**. The policies run both horizontally and vertically, so each interaction appears twice (appearing either side of the diagonal grey band). The grey squares are where each separate policy meets and are not a part of the assessment.

Table 1: Compatibility between Management Plan Policies

[illegible]

- 3.9.** Squares close to the grey band represent policies that lie together in the plan. Most of the interactions along this line are positive (green squares). However, there is a large cluster of green associated with the planning and transportation policies. This suggests that there are many interactions between these policies and the other policy areas. There are two other smaller clusters. One is between climate change, nature recovery and landscape and the other is between sustaining rural communities, awareness and understanding and wellbeing. Away from these areas, there are many minimal interactions (white squares). This is not surprising as the policies are generally quite specific in their intent. There is very little duplication of actions. There are no negative interactions.
- 3.10.** It is important to consider the strong positive relationships. These are what will focus the plan. This is clearer in **Chart 1**; a chart showing the indicative strengths of each policy.



3.11. No policies work in isolation. The policies with the strongest positive relationships with other policies are **NE1** Establish a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the designated area and in its setting (this supports Defra's call for national landscape management plans to give priority to nature recovery¹²) and **PT1** All development and transport policies and proposals in the National Landscape and its setting must seek to further the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the area (reflecting the strengthened duty in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000).

¹² Defra (2023): Environmental Improvement Plan 2023, first revision of the 25 Year Environment Plan, page 16, HMSO

3.12. These are closely followed by those policies linked to landscape topics (**LAN1**, **LAN2**, **LAN3** and **PT4** - all supporting the primary purpose of designation) and supporting local communities (**PT8** and **SRC8**). Increasing awareness and understanding also links well across the policy framework (**HE1**, **SRC4** and **AU2**).

3.13. The policies with the weakest relationships with other policies are:

- **PT6** Criteria to control the development of existing permanent buildings.
- **PT9** Support the provision of a variety of housing that is appropriate to the character of the area and meets evidenced local community needs.
- **SRC5** Developers and Local Authorities must commit to increasing the provision of affordable housing in and around the National Landscape where that is consistent with the primary purposes of its designation.
- **WA3** Sewage pollution from storm overflows and continuous outfalls must be minimised and be well within legal and regulatory requirements.
- **NE3** The natural and cultural capital of the National Landscape, and the services they provide, should continue to be assessed and evaluated by the responsible authorities.
- **SRC6** By the end of 2026, formulate a developer contribution scheme to secure monies from the enhanced property values to support the management of this National Landscape's character, qualities, and landscapes which bring about those heightened values.
- **WIL2** NHS Boards, networks and partnerships, relevant health professionals, Local Nature Partnerships and relevant funding initiatives should make greater use of the benefits that the National Landscape provides for the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors.
- **WIL3** The National Landscape Team and partners should investigate further funding opportunities to enhance the Rights of Way / countryside access network for all, including enabling better and more inclusive access for the less able.

As drafted, these policies are focussed very narrowly and do not rely on supporting actions from other policy areas within the plan. Their purpose is very specific.

Findings

- 3.14.** There are no contradictions between the policies and the framework is generally well balanced. The findings are that there is compatibility between all the policies, there is no need to consider measures to reduce any tensions or sensitivities.

Consistency with SEA Objectives

- 3.15.** The next task is to check the proposed intentions of the Management Plan against the SEA Environmental Objectives in a **Consistency Matrix**. This was to see whether there were any significant beneficial or adverse effects; and to gauge the magnitude of that effect. Where appropriate, there is consideration as to whether the effect is reversible.

- 3.16.** A brief commentary on this analysis is set out in **Appendix 5** where we test the Management Plan Policies against the SEA Objectives. **Table 2** summarises this analysis and shows that there are no negative interactions between the SEA Objectives and Management Plan policies. Where there are links between the SEA Objectives and Management Plan policies, all are positive with only a few are weak (yellow squares). There are many minimal interactions (white squares).

- 3.17.** It is useful to consider the material in Table 2 in two ways.

Table 2: Consistency between SEA Objectives & Management Plan Policies

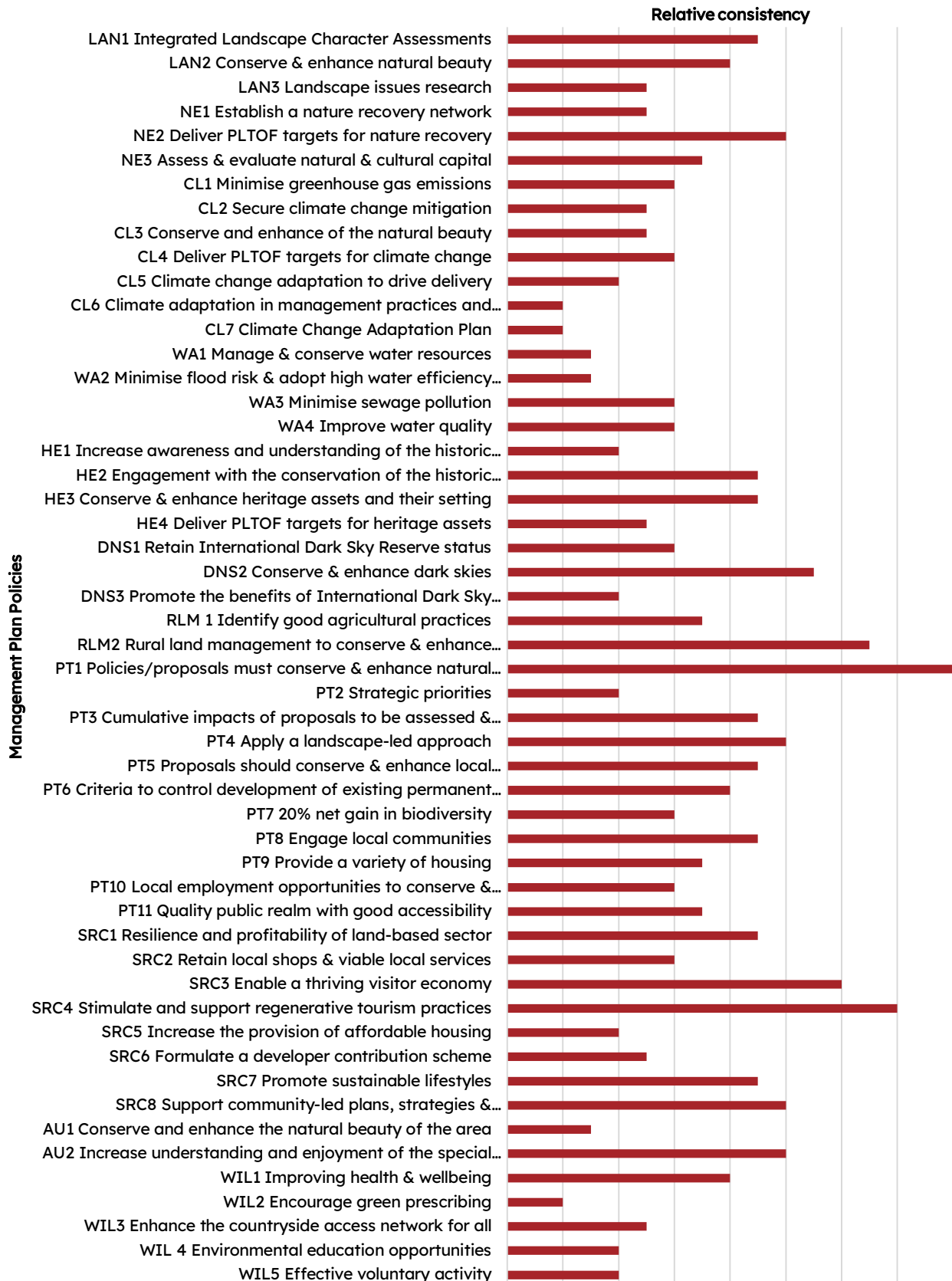
Management Plan Policies	SEA Objectives								
	E1 Climate change	E2 Soils, air & water	E3 Biodiversity, habitats & species	E4 Landscape	E5 Cultural heritage	E6 Local distinctiveness	E7 Human health	E8 Local economy	E9 Cumulative impacts
LAN1 Integrated Landscape Character Assessments									
LAN2 Conserve & enhance natural beauty									
LAN3 Landscape issues research									
NE1 Establish a nature recovery network									
NE2 Deliver PLTOF targets for nature recovery									
NE3 Assess & evaluate natural & cultural capital									
CL1 Minimise greenhouse gas emissions									
CL2 Secure climate change mitigation									
CL3 Conserve and enhance of the natural beauty									
CL4 Deliver PLTOF targets for climate change									
CL5 Climate change adaptation to drive delivery									
CL6 Climate adaptation in management practices and rural support									
CL7 Climate Change Adaptation Plan									
WA1 Manage & conserve water resources									
WA2 Minimise flood risk & adopt high water efficiency standards									
WA3 Minimise sewage pollution									
WA4 Improve water quality									
HE1 Increase awareness and understanding of the historic environment									
HE2 Engagement with the conservation of the historic environment									
HE3 Conserve & enhance heritage assets and their setting									
HE4 Deliver PLTOF targets for heritage assets									
DNS1 Retain International Dark Sky Reserve status									
DNS2 Conserve & enhance dark skies									
DNS3 Promote the benefits of International Dark Sky Reserve status									
RLM 1 Identify good agricultural practices									
RLM2 Rural land management to conserve & enhance natural beauty									
PT1 Policies/proposals must conserve & enhance natural beauty									
PT2 Strategic priorities									
PT3 Cumulative impacts of proposals to be assessed & addressed									
PT4 Apply a landscape-led approach									
PT5 Proposals should conserve & enhance local distinctiveness									
PT6 Criteria to control development of existing permanent buildings									
PT7 20% net gain in biodiversity									
PT8 Engage local communities									
PT9 Provide a variety of housing									
PT10 Local employment opportunities to conserve & enhance									
PT11 Quality public realm with good accessibility									
SRC1 Resilience and profitability of land-based sector									
SRC2 Retain local shops & viable local services									
SRC3 Enable a thriving visitor economy									
SRC4 Stimulate and support regenerative tourism practices									
SRC5 Increase the provision of affordable housing									
SRC6 Formulate a developer contribution scheme									
SRC7 Promote sustainable lifestyles									
SRC8 Support community-led plans, strategies & statements									
AU1 Conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area									
AU2 Increase understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities									
WIL1 Improving health & wellbeing									
WIL2 Encourage green prescribing									
WIL3 Enhance the countryside access network for all									
WIL 4 Environmental education opportunities									
WIL5 Effective voluntary activity									

Firstly, to study the interactions of each plan policy against the combination of the SEA Objectives (**Chart 2**); and then of the combination of the policies against each SEA Objective (**Chart 3**).

Consistency of Management Plan Policies with combined SEA Objectives

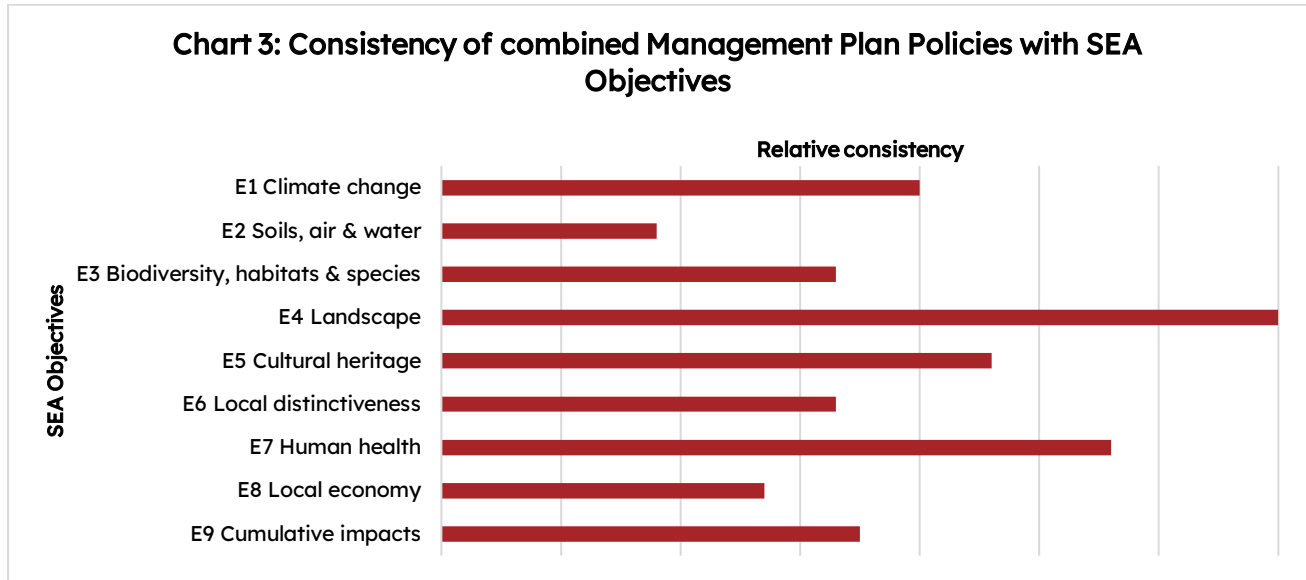
- 3.18.** **Chart 2** shows that a few policies interaction quite strongly with a few SEA Objectives. The most noticeable is PT1 (Policies/proposals must conserve and enhance natural beauty). This is a policy that embraces several subject areas, as was shown in the compatibility testing.
- 3.19.** Other well-connected policies are SRC4 (Stimulate and support regenerative tourism practices) and SRC3 (Enable a thriving visitor economy). SRC4 ties natural, social and economic factors together. SRC3 links well with the landscape, cultural heritage, social and economic SEA Objectives. RLM2 (Rural land management to conserve and enhance natural beauty) ties to the natural, cultural and economic objectives. This policy
- 3.20.** The least interactions are shown by some of the climate and water policies. These policies have a narrow purpose that focus on single environmental issues. WIL2 (Encourage green prescribing) only links to the human health objective.

Chart 2: Consistency of Management Plan Policies with combined SEA Objectives



Consistency of combined Management Plan Policies with SEA Objectives

- 3.21.** Each SEA Objective gains support from the Management Plan policies working in combination (see **Chart 3**). The greatest support is given to E4 (landscape) followed closely by and E7 (human health), E5 (cultural heritage), and E1 (climate change). This reflects the primary purpose of designation but also the desire to support local communities. The planning policies are quite dominant in this analysis. The rest of the objectives gain reasonable consistency.



- 3.22.** The SEA Objective interacting least with the combined Management Plan policies is E2 (soils, air & water). In this policy area, there is strong coverage for water, but the conservation of soils is less domination. Air quality lies more with the local authorities.

Findings

- 3.23.** There are no adverse effects and some significant beneficial effects. There is no need to consider measures to increase the beneficial effects of the Management Plan policies

Review of alternative policies

- 3.24.** To meet with the requirements of the SEA Directive, the assessment needs to consider alternative options to decide whether the chosen pathway is the soundest in terms of the environment and wider sustainability. There is no record of any alternative options considered as a part of the management planning process.
- 3.25.** In this situation, the approach is to compare the effect of the proposed outcomes (and supporting policies) with a 'do-nothing' scenario informed by the trends shown in the SEA Scoping Report (as shown in **Appendix 3**). The task is to show the environmental and sustainability benefits of the proposed policies over the 'do-nothing' situation. This comparison is set out in **Appendix 6** and summarised in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Summary of the comparison of the Management Plan Outcomes with the ‘do-nothing’ option**The climate change**

There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions. However, the proposed policies offer advantages over the do-nothing option as they support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, some opportunities may be lost.

Water storage

There are several organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions to improve water quality. However, the proposed policies offer advantages over the do-nothing option as they take account of the designation purposes and support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, some opportunities may be lost.

Nature recovery

There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful nature recovery actions. The management plan adds value to the actions of others and, in a few instances, offers a more certain approach for the Chase by taking account of the special qualities of the area. Some of the proposed policies offer limited advantages over the do-nothing option by supporting an area-wide approach. Others will also act but without coordination, opportunities may be lost. Several management plan policies support the actions of others rather than adding extra initiatives. Actions, like regenerative tourism, volunteering and enhanced BNG receipts will only happen with active support from the management plan.

Pests and diseases

Defra and its agencies have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions in relation to pests and diseases. The management plan advocates some limited support for their management cannot deliver financial contributions. Where applied, the management plan policies will give a marginally greater benefit by considering the effects on the area’s special qualities, which others may not do, and by supporting citizen science monitoring programmes to inform action planning.

Land management

Defra and its agencies have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions in relation to land management, but it is reported that there are difficulties in delivering that support. The management plan does advocate support for land managers but cannot deliver financial contributions. It sets out practical actions that will help the sector. On balance, the management plan is better than the do-nothing option and will remain so until Defra is able to fully establish its ELMs support packages.

Growth and development

The local planning authorities have statutory responsibility for the management of development, and each have a development plan that has strong national landscape policies. However, these policies are not identical and there can be inconsistencies in decision making across the area. Further, the interpretation of these policies and the weight they are given can also vary. The management plan does not (and cannot) replace the development plans, but it does present evidence and guidance to further the understanding of the purposes of designation and the implications for development proposals. The management plan gives a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.

Health and well-being

Health and wellbeing is a far-reaching area of policy. There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority, and resources to take meaningful actions. The management plan does not spell out the health and well-being benefits in each of its sections when others do (for example, in the nature section). However, overall, the proposed policies offer some advantages over the do-nothing option as they support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, opportunities may be lost.

Equality, inclusion and diversity

There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions to address equality, inclusivity and diversity issues. The management plan acknowledges that visitors to the Chase are not representative of the full spectrum of society, and that some people and communities experience unintentional barriers to engagement with the protected landscape. This leads to their exclusion or feelings of being unwelcome. Though only a few policy areas address these issues, the proposed policies offer some advantages over the do-nothing option as they support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, opportunities may be lost.

Findings

- 3.26.** The findings are that the proposed outcomes and policies generally give greater environmental benefits than the ‘do-nothing’ situation, though there is not always a significant difference.

4. Monitoring

Monitoring of significant environmental effects

- 4.1.** The SEA Regulations require monitoring measures for all the significant effects, both positive and negative, shown in the assessment. The SEA of the draft management plan has found no significant adverse effects that are likely to arise from the implementation of management plan. Some significant positive effects are likely to arise from the implementation of the plan. The assessment has also found some areas of uncertainty over the significance of some of the predicted effects and monitoring will cover these effects as well.
- 4.2.** There are likely to be several benefits in monitoring any environmental effects arising from the implementation of the management plan, including:
- Identifying when action should be taken to reduce or offset any potential environmental effects of the plan;
 - Enhancing understanding of how the environment is changing in the National Landscape;
 - Tracking whether the plan has had any unforeseen environmental effects; and
 - Providing baseline data for future SEAs.

The advice is to incorporate the monitoring requirements of the SEA Regulations into a State of the National Landscape Report.

Monitoring Measures

- 4.3.** The SEA Scoping Report named 29 potential indicators to monitor the environmental effects of implementing the Management Plan. These are described **Appendices 4 and 6**.

Data limitations

- 4.4. There were some difficulties in securing all the data necessary for this assessment. This relates to the time available to search and secure data. There was only time to use existing data, it was not possible to commission any new studies.
- 4.5. Strategic Assessment uses a combination of quantitative information from many sources (e.g. National Statistics and commissioned studies) and qualitative assessment using considered judgement. The qualitative approach is robust, given the strategic nature of the Management Plan. Detailed quantitative information relating to the effects of the plan is likely only to be available at a later stage.
- 4.6. Monitoring data are often subject to changes in methodology or reporting that may prevent the establishment of trend data from a known baseline date. Trend data and targets are the significant data gaps and these affect certain topics; in particular, effective and up-to-date reporting on the natural environment¹³. Pollution emission trends and aspects of air, soil (including contaminated land) and water quality are lacking. Consequently, the effects of diffuse pollution and other environmental impacts, such as recreation damage, are often difficult to find.
- 4.7. Natural England's advice is to develop bespoke indicators to reflect the outcomes of National Landscape management decisions. The responsible authority agrees but it will take time to develop effective base-line data. Defra is currently working on its suite of national targets for protected landscapes. These cover the same three key areas of this plan, climate, nature and people. A monitoring framework, developed by Natural England, supports these targets. This work will enable the development of relevant and supported indicators for the 2025 plan.
- 4.8. Census statistics help paint a picture of the nation and how we live. They provide a detailed snapshot of the population and its characteristics and underpin funding allocation to provide public services. There was a Census in 2021.

5. Technical review

- 5.1 The prime purpose of the SEA process is to review the potential impacts of the Management Plan on the key environmental aspects of the National Landscape. There is also a requirement, however, to monitor the implementation of the Management Plan and its impact on the environment over time. The baseline indicators (Appendix 4) were selected with this in mind. They are expected to be a part of the State of the NL reporting; many are already a part of this reporting. The National Landscape Partnership must confirm its monitoring programme for the management plan, once adopted; and ensure that there is a collection programme to fully inform the next State of the NL report.

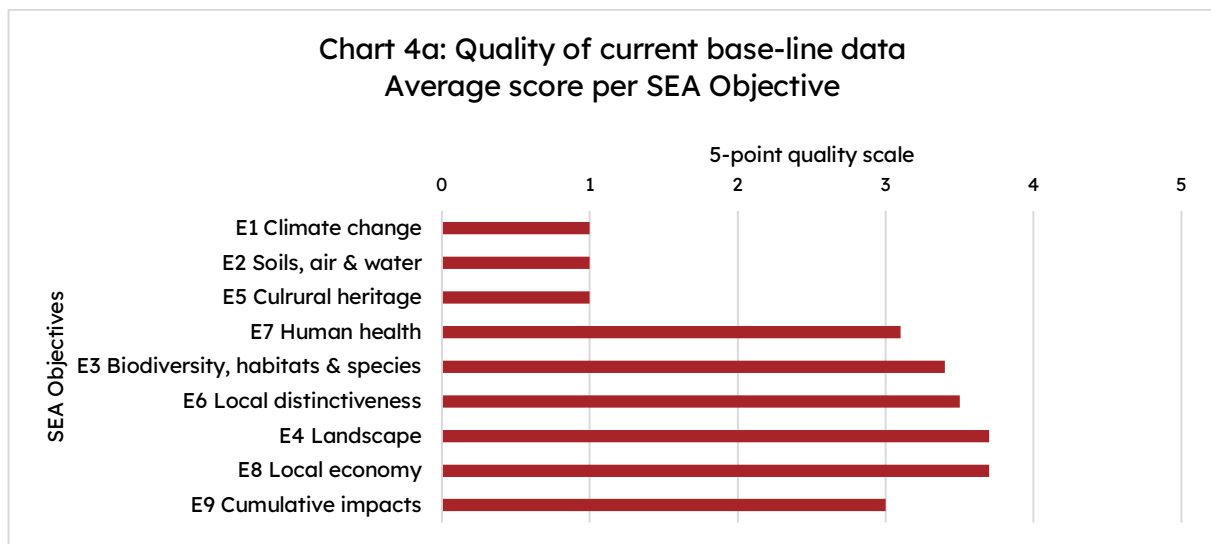
¹³ Defra, Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency, provide data cut to national landscape boundaries each year through the June Survey of Agriculture and the 'Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework' (PLTOF).

Quality of existing baseline data

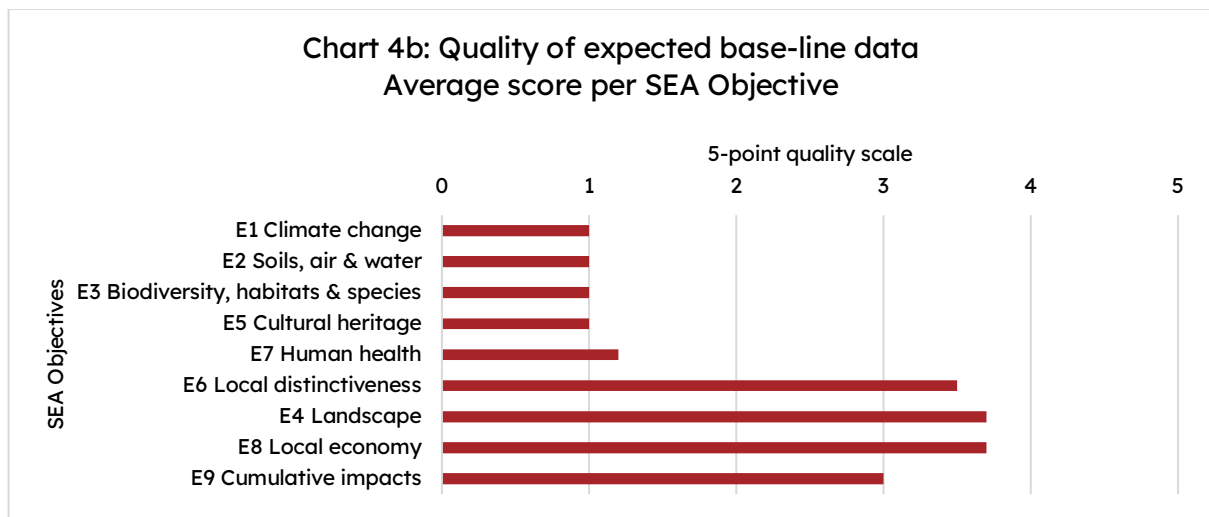
- 5.2. The assessment of the 29 SEA indicators is by a five-point quality scale. The analysis shows where required data is weak or absent, so providing a framework for future data collection.

Indicator 5-point quality scale			Comment
1	Fit for purpose		
2	Adequate	Some minor improvements desirable	
3	Indicative only	Not considered accurate	
4	Inadequate	Little relevance to the NL	
5	Absent	No available data	

- 5.3. The full assessment of each indicator against the nine SEA Objectives is set out in **Appendix 7**. Twelve indicators (43% of the data set) are absent. In part, this is because there is a delay in receiving seven Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework data sets from Defra. These will arrive in due time. Indicator 16, the percentage of development decisions against Partnership advice, is not recorded. It is difficult, therefore, to test whether the planning authorities are taking their new duty to conserve and enhance the national landscape into account when deciding on applications. The remaining four indicators need local surveys to record:
- the length of powerlines moved underground;
 - the condition of the rights of way;
 - the number of visitors; and
 - the number of businesses following regenerative tourism initiatives.
- 5.4. Considering the data currently available, 50% are 'fit for purpose' (14 indicators) and 7% are 'adequate' (2 indicators). **Chart 4a** shows the assessment for each of the SEA Objectives using the data currently available.



- 5.5. Monitoring measures are weak. Climate change (E1), Soils, air & water (E2) and Cultural heritage (E5) are adequate, or better. But Biodiversity (E3), Defra's highest priority, is showing as indicative. This is because some Defra data is missing. The Local distinctiveness (E6), Landscape (E4) and Local economy (E8) indicators are at best adequate but may be indicative. This is because there is still a need to source and secure relevant data. E9 Cumulative impacts will always remain as indicative but monitoring for this topic is by annual reporting.
- 5.6. Taking account of the missing Defra data sets, 75% will be 'fit for purpose' (21 indicators) and 7% are still 'adequate' (2 indicators). The remaining five indicators (18%) will remain absent until there are resources to complete local surveys and analysis. **Chart 4b** shows the assessment for each of the SEA Objectives using the expected data.



- 5.7. Defra's priorities of climate change, natural resources and nature recovery are all 'fit-for-purpose'. Monitoring measures are stronger but there are still weaknesses. Without further data collection and analysis, or new indicators supported by existing data, Local distinctiveness (E6), Landscape (E4) and the Local economy (E8) will be indicative at best. Cumulative impacts will always remain as indicative but monitoring for this topic is by annual reporting.

Findings

- 5.8. The current indicators will deliver an adequate monitoring framework for Defra's priorities, once all data is sourced and secured. Data still needs to be secured to properly assess local distinctiveness, landscape and the local economy.

6. Response to Environmental bodies comments

- 6.1. In line with the SEA Regulations, the statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) reviewed a copy of this report during July 2025. Both Historic England and Natural England agreed with the assessment's conclusions that the proposed policies will not give rise to any significant adverse environmental effects (précis in **Appendix 8**). The Environment Agency offered no comments.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1** The proposed Management Plan has a cascade of 23 outcomes addressed through 52 policies. The proposed policies are compatible. There are no tensions or sensitivities arising from where two or more interact. The proposed policy cascade has a beneficial, and in parts, a significantly beneficial, effect on the SEA Environmental Objectives.
- 7.2** Each SEA Objective gains strong support from the Management Plan Policies operating in combination, there are no weak relationships. The greatest interaction is with SEA Objectives E4 (landscape) followed closely by and E7 (human health), E5 (cultural heritage), and E1 (climate change). This reflects the primary purpose of designation but also the desire to support local communities. The planning policies are quite dominant in this analysis. The rest of the objectives gain reasonable consistency. The SEA Objective interacting least with the combined Management Plan policies is E2 (soils, air & water). In this policy area, there is strong coverage for water, but the conservation of soils is less domination.
- 7.3** There are no adverse effects on the SEA Environmental Objectives so there is no need to consider measures to increase the beneficial effects. There is no recommendation for mitigating actions.
- 7.4** The proposed policies generally give greater environmental benefits than the ‘do-nothing’ situation. The plan deals with the key issues of climate change and nature recovery but most of the actions are mirrored by other players but without coordination, opportunities may be lost. The plan sets out a landscape-led approach and it is not certain that other players would develop this approach. Actions, like regenerative tourism, volunteering and enhanced BNG receipts will only happen with active support from the management plan.
- 7.5** The overall assessment of the current baseline data is that it is adequate. The current indicators will deliver an adequate monitoring framework for Defra’s priorities of climate change, natural resource management and nature recovery, once all data is sourced and secured. Data still needs to be secured to properly assess local distinctiveness, landscape and the local economy.
- 7.6. In conclusion:** There is nothing in the management plan that will undermine the special qualities of Cranborne Chase. Implementation of the proposed Management Plan will have environmental and sustainability benefits for the National Landscape.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Management Plan policy framework

Vision

In 2030, the Cranborne Chase National Landscape will be an inspirational example of sustainable management in action. A nationally appreciated place where:

- its distinctive local landscapes, historic heritage, and wildlife are conserved and enhanced by those who work and manage the land, nurturing a valued and treasured countryside for future generations;
- its healthy soils, clean air and water are appreciated, prized and respected by all
- its characteristic vibrant villages, profoundly rural character, local economies and sense of pride are tangible to all who live and visit here, or just pass through;
- the breadth and depth of historic land use offers up its stories in the landscape today;
- its cultural heritage is conserved, understood, enhanced, valued and enjoyed;
- the aesthetic qualities of the landscape and environment, Rights of Way and Open Access, along with the sense of wonder and enjoyment, are appreciated by all; and
- the quality of life remains high and the aspirations of those who live and work here are supported.

Topic	Outcomes	Policies
Landscape	LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	<p>LAN1 Promote awareness and use of 2024 Cranborne Chase National Landscape Integrated Landscape Character Assessment and the 2018 Chase and Chalke Landscape Character Assessment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidance for the Landscape Character Types/Areas to inform land use planning and landscape management, to include updating the landscape and planning and landscape and land management documents. • Promote and champion the conservation and enhancement of the landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its setting, particularly those that are sensitive to change. • Promote understanding of the factors that contribute to, or detract from, tranquillity to ensure that policies and actions will more effectively conserve and enhance levels of tranquillity. • Provide appropriate training across the range of landscape matters to relevant partners and stakeholders.
	LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National	LAN2 Proposals that are likely to impact on, or create change in, the landscape of the National Landscape must seek to further the

	<p>Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).</p>	<p>conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the landscape with reference to key documents such as the 2024 Cranborne Chase National Landscape Integrated Landscape Character Assessment, the 2018 Chase and Chalke Landscape Character Assessment, the 2008 Historic Landscape Characterisations and National Landscape Partnership guidance documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a presumption against the loss of key characteristics identified in the landscape character assessments. • Degraded distinctive landscapes and landscape features should be restored. • Positive landscape change should be promoted to landowners, managers, government and all those with an influence over land. • Planting and amenity projects should conserve and enhance landscape character. • Opportunities should be pursued to underground and remove visually intrusive power and telecommunications lines, poles, and masts, and other incongruous features, especially where they detract from the Special Qualities.
	<p>LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.</p>	<p>LAN3 Encourage, support and analyse research on landscape issues affecting the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its surroundings to inform policy formulation and the consequent action required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake fixed point photography biennially to identify areas where landscape character, condition, or quality has been or is being lost. This will inform potential restoration and enhancement measures.
<p>Nature Recovery</p>	<p>NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.</p>	<p>NE1 Biodiversity in the Cranborne Chase National Landscape should be conserved and enhanced by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the designated area and in its setting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This should be achieved in accordance with the outcomes, priorities, targets and measures within the Cranborne Chase Nature Recovery Plan and Local Nature Recovery Strategies, and focus on the key habitats and species listed as special features in this management plan.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic documents or initiatives that are likely to impact on the biodiversity of the National Landscape should seek to further the Cranborne Chase Nature Recovery Plan. This would include, but is not limited to, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plans. • Neighbourhood Development Plans. • Green Infrastructure Strategies. • Tree and Woodland Strategies. • Climate Change Strategies. • Local Nature Recovery Strategies • National and local guidance (including guidance from Government Agencies and the Non-Native Species Secretariat) on invasive non-native species, pests and diseases should be followed and appropriate biosecurity measures promoted, for example; • The population of grey squirrel and deer in the National Landscape should continue to be controlled and managed. This should be undertaken and coordinated at a landscape scale. • National guidance on Ash Dieback should be followed to ensure any measures implemented will conserve and enhance the qualities of the landscape. • Programmes should be developed at an appropriate scale to control the spread of invasive non-native plants
		<p>NE2 All stakeholders should work towards the delivery of the relevant targets for nature recovery within the national Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. The apportioned targets for the Cranborne Chase National Landscape have been set out at a local level. At the time of publication, the targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 1 - Restore or create more than 1,946.8 ha of a range of wildlife-rich habitats outside protected sites by 2042 (from a 2022 baseline). • Target 2 - 80% Percent of SSSIs in favourable condition by 2042 • Target 3 - 60% Percent of SSSIs assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition by 31 January 2028. • Target 4 - Continuing favourable management of all existing priority

		<p>habitat already in favourable condition outside of SSSIs (from a 2022 baseline) and increasing to include all newly restored or created habitat through agri-environment schemes by 2042.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 5 - 65% to 80% of land managers adopting nature-friendly farming on at least 10% to 15% of their land by 2030. • Target 8 - Increase tree canopy and woodland cover (combined) by 3% of total land area in Protected Landscapes by 2050 (from 2022 baseline) . <p>Note: changes to targets will be shown in the on-line version of this plan.</p>
	NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	<p>NE3 The natural and cultural capital* of the National Landscape, and the services they provide, should continue to be assessed and evaluated by the responsible authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of natural and cultural capital accounting should inform policy, investment, development and management decisions. • The financial and non-financial benefits of natural and cultural capital and the services they provide should be promoted. • Continue to build and sustain a robust environmental records base for the National Landscape and its surrounds through expanding the network of biological recorders and transferring their records to the four Environmental Records Centres. <p><i>* the stock of natural and cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) assets</i></p>
Climate Change	CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	<p>CL1 Greenhouse gas emissions should be minimised through a range of measures, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognising and highlighting the whole lifecycle carbon footprint in policies and decision making associated with housing and any other development proposals • Recognising the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the destruction or removal of soil and vegetation for development. • Reducing energy demand in existing and new buildings and infrastructure • Reducing energy demand by supporting the transition to zero emission vehicles

		<p>and public transport options and active travel¹⁴</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generating energy from low carbon sources only in a manner consistent with the purpose of conserving and enhancing the National Landscape designation • Supporting the development of various initiatives such as community food and heat networks, linking farmers and businesses to each other and consumers; • Green Infrastructure plans, promoting the purchase of locally produced food products and services and encouraging small-scale vegetable growing in gardens and allotments.
		CL2 Climate change mitigation, including the role natural systems play in carbon sequestration, should be a key component of land management practices and rural development support mechanisms in the National Landscape, using accepted forms of emissions calculations
		CL3 Climate action should be undertaken in ways that must seek to further, and is compatible with, the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the National Landscape.
		<p>CL4 Stakeholders should work towards the delivery of the relevant targets for climate change within the national Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. The apportioned targets for Cranborne Chase National Landscape to be achieved are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 6. Reduce net greenhouse gas emissions in Protected Landscapes to net zero by 2050 relative to 1990 levels. • Target 8. Increase tree canopy and woodland cover (combined) by 3% of total land area in Protected Landscapes by 2050 (from 2022 baseline).
	CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help	CL5 Climate change adaptation should be a significant driver in all new development, infrastructure and transport provision.

¹⁴ Active travel: increasing levels of walking and cycling in England
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmtrans/1487/148704.htm>

	people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	<p>CL6 Climate change adaptation should be a key component of land management practices and agri-environment/rural development support mechanisms, in the National Landscape</p> <p>CL7 By the end of 2028 , the National Landscape Partnership will adopt a Climate Change Adaptation Plan that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the key assets and features of the landscape. Assesses the vulnerability of these assets and features to the impacts of Climate Change. Considers sectoral impacts for principal land uses such as farming and forestry, as well as the natural, built and historic environment. Assesses the impacts based upon current climate change projections. Scores these risks and opportunities based on their likelihood, impact and risk over the short, medium and long term. Identifies possible high-level mitigation actions. Identifies existing policy responses and identify any gaps. Identifies relevant local stakeholders that can support or lead the action. Assesses the acceptability of these options, their interdependencies, and potential barriers to delivery. Sets out planned actions for the short, medium and long term. <p>On adoption, the Climate Change Adaptation Plan will be embedded within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape Management Plan.</p>
Water	WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	<p>WA1 Water resources should be carefully and legally managed and conserved to the highest of standards within this National Landscape to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve water quality; ensure adequate aquifer recharge; ensure adequate flows; avoid flooding; and contribute to natural flood management systems.

		<p>WA2 Development (new and existing sites) must assess and minimise flood risk and implement sustainable drainage schemes, adopt high water efficiency standards in line with RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge targets, and water conservation measures, for example rainwater harvesting and/or water recycling and grey water systems.</p> <p>WA3 Sewage pollution from storm overflows and continuous outfalls must be minimised and be well within legal and regulatory requirements.</p> <p>WA4 Practical opportunities to improve water quality should be implemented including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The restoration of water courses and wetland habitats. • New wetland habitats could be sited to intercept runoff from roads and reedbeds could be created to filter potentially polluted water from settlements before it is discharged to rivers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Minimising soil erosion and run off by implementing soil conservation measures. ii. Minimising pesticide and fertiliser use and implementing measures to reduce pollution from agriculture. iii. Promote individual measures and behaviours in the home and workplace that protect water volume and quality in rivers. <p>Citizen science programmes to monitor water quality.</p>
Historic and cultural heritage	HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	<p>HE1 Promote opportunities to increase awareness and understanding of the historic environment using existing resources such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Environment Records • Conservation Area Appraisals • Historic Landscape Characterisation • Historic Environment Action Plans and • Heritage Assessments. <p>These should be used to improve the identification, recording and management of the distinctive historic landscapes of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and encourage positive action regarding the</p>

		management of the National Landscape's historic environment and cultural heritage.
		HE2 Promote greater public understanding of, and engagement with, the conservation of the historic environment of the National Landscape and celebrate it in arts, cultural, and social activities across the area.
	HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it.	HE3 Proposals that are likely to impact on the historic environment and cultural heritage of the National Landscape should be compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of these heritage assets and their setting. This should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeking to sustain and enhance the significance, and minimising any harm to, the area's historic assets. • respecting the historical elements of landscape character including features such as; buildings, sites, archaeological monuments, layout and context, including the relationship between the existing feature or settlement and the landscape. • ensuring the sustainable use of historic buildings and other heritage assets, particularly those identified as being at risk.
		HE4 Stakeholders should work towards the delivery of the relevant targets for heritage assets within the national Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. The apportioned targets for Cranborne Chase to be achieved are: Target 10 - Decrease the number of nationally designated heritage assets at risk in Protected Landscapes.
Dark night skies	DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	DNS1 All stakeholders should actively seek to retain International Dark Sky Reserve status through the continuous improvements to lighting/retrofitting schemes. Lighting schemes should be kept to a minimum and only installed where it is necessary. The Cranborne Chase National Landscape Partnership will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit an annual report of activities to maintain the International Dark Sky Reserve status. • Support parish councils in promoting good practice lighting to their residents

		<p>and businesses, offering Dark Sky Friendly Parish Awards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the potential for sponsorship/ provision of low-cost good practice outside light fittings within the National Landscape <p>DNS2 Proposals that are likely to impact on the dark skies and tranquillity of the National Landscape should be delivered in a way that is compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of these dark skies, by seeking to avoid and, where avoiding is not possible, minimise lighting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Such proposals should have regard to, and be compatible with, best practice standards and guidance, in particular the Cranborne Chase National Landscape Guidance on Lighting¹⁵ as well as that published by the Institution of Lighting Professionals, the Bat Conservation Trust and the Commission for Dark Skies. <p>The Local Authorities should embed good practice lighting guidance within their Local Plans and require substantial lighting schemes, such as those for schools, businesses and sports areas, to be competently designed to meet Dark Night Sky and other environmental criteria.</p>
	<p>DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.</p>	<p>DNS3 Actively promote the benefits of International Dark Sky Reserve (IDSR) status to all partners and communities to elicit appropriate action and support for the IDSR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support tourism and related businesses to jointly promote, and benefit from, the area as a prime destination for stargazing holidays. Continue to implement a Dark-Sky Friendly Accreditation Scheme for local tourism and allied businesses. Develop a Cranborne Chase National Landscape observatory to offer regular stargazing activities together with educational and study opportunities for residents, visitors and schools. Determine a potential location, design criteria and funding requirements necessary to establish an NL Observatory within the time-frame of this Plan.

¹⁵ Guidance on lighting criteria: [International Dark Sky Reserve - Cranborne Chase National Landscape](#)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with other UK 'Dark Sky Places' and related organisations to improve awareness and understanding across the country of the need to reduce light pollution.
Rural land management	RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	<p>RLM 1 Identify good agricultural practices that that are appropriate to the challenges facing the land managers of the National Landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate case studies through networks and information hubs. Support the formation of further farm clusters across the area. Offer National Landscape focused landscape and land management familiarisation and training, as appropriate.
	RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	<p>RLM2 Rural land management practices in the National Landscape and its setting should be compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the area. Land managers should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> access to clear and consistent sources of advice, guidance and support (including on regenerative and nature-friendly practices); fair access to markets including the promotion of local and seasonal produce and the development of local services and markets; and payments for environmental services that benefit the distinctive natural and historic environment of the National Landscape. <p>The Cranborne Chase National Landscape Partnership will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work with partners, such as the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, to disseminate appropriate information and advice on how game management practices can positively contribute to National Landscape purposes, and support research to this end. Support and encourage environmental enhancement of the best and most versatile land being maintained in regenerative food production. support and encourage landscape sensitive and appropriate woodland management, encouraging skills training, reconnecting supply chains and

		<p>increasing biodiversity, including PAWS restoration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work with, and support partners such as the Wessex Rivers Trust, Environment Agency, private land owners, fishery managers, Wildlife Trusts and Natural England, to deliver programmes and projects that bring environmental benefits to water catchments while securing a viable future for fisheries.
Planning & transport	<p>PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.</p>	<p>PT1 All development and transport policies and proposals in the National Landscape and its setting must seek to further the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the area. Justification for policies and proposals within the area should either have regard to, or be based on convincing evidence of, local need arising from within the national landscape. In doing so, they should be compatible with the National Landscape Management Plan and guidance produced by the National Landscape Partnership, including the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape Character Assessments; Landscape Sensitivity Study; Historic Landscape Characterisation; Guide to Conserving and Enhancing the Landscape Setting of our Rural Highways; Nature Recovery Plan; International Dark Sky Reserve designation criteria; Climate Change Adaptation Plan (when published); and Its Position Statements and Good Practice Guides / Notes. <p>PT2 The purposes of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape and increasing the understanding and enjoyment of the area's special qualities should be identified as strategic priorities in Local Plans (including Minerals and Waste local Plans), Neighbourhood Plans, Local Transport Plans and other relevant plans and strategies. These plans and strategies should explicitly identify the Cranborne Chase National Landscape (AONB) Management Plan as a material consideration and recognise National Landscape guidance documents and position statements as appropriate.</p>

		<p>PT3 The cumulative impacts of development and transport proposals on the natural beauty of the National Landscape should be fully assessed and addressed in accordance with the National Landscape's Landscape Character Assessments, Sensitivity Study and any relevant position statement or guidance published by the Partnership.</p> <p>PT4 A landscape-led approach should be applied to development and transport proposals in the National Landscape and its setting, proportionate to the type and scale of development being proposed, whereby proposals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> address the natural beauty of the National Landscape as primary consideration at all stages of the development process (including design), from initial conception through to implementation; address all the factors that contribute to the natural beauty of the area; protect and/or enhance key views to and from the National Landscape; address access to natural beauty, including the character of the public rights of way network and its role within wider green infrastructure; reflect and enhance the character of the local area; avoid adverse effects where possible and, if adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimise them; seek opportunities to enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape; and deliver substantially more beneficial effects than adverse effects for the natural beauty of the National Landscape. <p>This landscape-led approach is particularly important for major development.¹⁶</p> <p>PT5 Proposals that are likely to impact on the local distinctiveness of the National Landscape should be compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of this local distinctiveness. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> being informed by the National Landscape's Landscape Character
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¹⁶ 'Major development', in this context, equates to the definition provided in Footnote 67 of the NPPF 2024

		<p>Assessments and any relevant position statement or guidance published by the Partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being designed and, where relevant, landscaped to respect local and historic settlement patterns, building styles, scale and materials and in accordance with design guidance adopted by local planning authorities and as part of Neighbourhood Development Plans. • being compatible with the conservation and enhancement of dark night skies, by seeking to avoid and, where avoiding is not possible, minimise lighting. <p>The reuse and redevelopment of existing buildings should be supported where this helps retain the distinctive character of the National Landscape.</p> <p>There should be a presumption against the loss of distinctive qualities and features.</p> <p>PT6 Planning Authorities will ensure that development associated with existing permanent buildings in the National Landscape and its setting are only supported where all the following criteria are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. replacement buildings are not materially larger than the ones they replace; ii. replacement buildings are in the same use as the ones they replace; iii. proposed buildings do not materially impact on the special qualities of the National Landscape, especially through height or bulk, the size and scale of any proposed extension is not disproportionate to the existing building; iv. the proposed development will incorporate all additional ancillary development including storage, parking and hard surfacing. v. any proposed permanent dwelling does not replace a temporary structure or one where the residential use has been abandoned. vi. the size and scale of any garage or outbuilding within the curtilage of a dwelling is proportionate to the dwelling. <p>PT7 Development proposals should aim to provide a net gain in biodiversity of at least 20% particularly regarding the priority</p>
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		habitats listed in the Cranborne Chase Nature Recovery Plan* *viability justification set out in Appendix 8 of this National Landscape Management Plan
		PT8 Local communities should be inspired to engage with the good planning of this National Landscape by being encouraged and assisted to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> prepare and adopt Neighbourhood Plans and other similar initiatives, such as Village Design Statements, that respect the special landscapes and dark night skies of the National Landscape and the objectives of this Management Plan. identify local needs / environmental projects that help offset impacts of development, conserve and enhance local character and distinctiveness, and utilise the Neighbourhood proportion of Community Infrastructure Levy.
	PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	PT9 Support the provision of a variety of housing that is appropriate to the character of the area and meets evidenced local community needs. The priority is to meet affordable housing requirements, particularly housing that is affordable in perpetuity, such as social rented housing. In doing so, development policies and development proposals should be compatible with the National Landscape Partnership's Position Statement 10 – Housing within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape. When considering proposals for housing development in the National Landscape, LPA partners will give emphasis to affordable housing, and will treat the National Landscape as a rural area (NPPF Dec 2024 Para 65) where the government's restriction on the requirement to provide affordable housing does not apply.
		PT10 Consideration should be given to supporting local employment opportunities that conserve and enhance the National Landscape, maintain and enhance local community amenities and services, ensuring improved access to these amenities and services. PT11 Provide a quality public realm with good access and accessibility by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> developing and promoting an integrated system, whereby roads,

		<p>railways, public transport and Rights of Way networks are more accessible and interconnect, minimising the impact of traffic on the National Landscape and encouraging a safer and more attractive environment for walking, cycling and horse riding, to include parking provision for trailers/horse-boxes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimising freight transport through the National Landscape to help protect tranquillity, the rural nature of settlements, and the special qualities of the area. • providing affordable parking facilities at public transport nodes, car sharing and community transport initiatives to enable and encourage a reduced reliance on private cars.
Sustaining rural communities	SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	SRC1 Work collaboratively with landowners, farmers and allied businesses to improve the land-based sectors' resilience and profitability whilst helping to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Landscape.
		SRC2 Seek new, inventive and sensitive solutions to the retention of local shops and provision of viable local services, for example, through the integration of local service delivery and through the delivery of universal high-speed broadband.
		SRC3 The development of suitably located and appropriate recreation and tourism facilities, including a range of quality accommodation, including B&B specifically for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders, will be supported that enables a thriving visitor economy whilst promoting and enhancing the special qualities of the National Landscape.
	SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	<p>SRC4 Stimulate and support regenerative tourism practices* in the National Landscape that sustain its natural beauty, support nature recovery and enhance the well-being of local communities. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Ensuring that the tourism sector recognises the benefits of conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the National Landscape and minimising the emission of greenhouse gases, reflecting this in policy and practice.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Visitors, residents, local businesses and communities should be provided with opportunities to contribute directly to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape and improve access to the area through local individual, community, and employee volunteering opportunities; and visitor-gifting schemes. iii. Developing collaborative and joined-up working between public, private and voluntary sector tourism organisations across the National Landscape, enabling greater overall efficiency and use of resources. iv. Visitors (particularly walkers, cyclists and horse-riders¹⁷) should be provided with a variety of accommodation options over a range of prices. The siting and design of visitor accommodation should be compatible with conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape, including its special qualities. v. Directing tourism businesses to information and skills training to promote better the special qualities of the National Landscape to visitors. vi. Exploring the potential for a public art trail for 2027 to encourage increased footfall to businesses within and around the National Landscape whilst raising the profile of the area. <p><i>* visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it</i></p>
	SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	<p>SRC5 Developers and Local Authorities must commit to increasing the provision of affordable housing in and around the National Landscape where that is consistent with the primary purposes of its designation.</p> <p>SRC6 By the end of 2026, formulate a developer contribution scheme to secure monies from the enhanced property values to support the management of this National Landscape's character, qualities, and landscapes which bring about those heightened values.</p>

¹⁷ Changing Lives through Horses <https://www.bhs.org.uk/support-us/our-campaigns/changing-lives-through-horses/>

		<p>SRC7 Support community initiatives that promote sustainable lifestyles, such as those embracing community shops or combined/mobile community facilities, appropriate renewable energy schemes, energy efficiency, community woodlands, recycling and community transport, that conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Landscape to encourage and maintain the viability and diversity of rural community life.</p>
		<p>SRC8 Support the production of community-led plans, strategies and statements (such as Neighbourhood Plans) that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape and encourage and maintain the vitality and diversity of rural community life.</p>
Awareness & understanding	<p>AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.</p>	<p>AU1 All partners, stakeholders and other organisations operating in and around this National Landscape will be working actively to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing relevant professional development information and learning opportunities (training, seminars) to increase their understanding of the purpose of designation. • developing a co-ordinated approach to information, interpretation and marketing activity to promote the special qualities of the area and appropriate behaviour within it. • promoting the designation, its meaning and special qualities of the area to their internal and external audiences • progressing the distinctive National Landscape signage at boundaries of the area, and within it.
	<p>AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.</p>	<p>AU2 Visitors, residents and local communities should be provided with opportunities to increase their understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure a team of knowledgeable rangers to help plan, manage and deliver an array of outreach activities and practical conservation work throughout the National landscape. • Provide easily accessible online, downloadable and onsite resources to help promote access to the National

		<p>Landscape and understanding and appreciation of its special qualities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote awareness, understanding and engagement with the area to young people, continuing the legacy of the Chase & Chalke LP Scheme • Develop strategies to reach people or communities with protected characteristics such as people without English as a first language (including the Deaf community), people with disabilities, diversity of ethnicity and those with cognitive/learning and other hidden disabilities. • Promote the Countryside Code to educate visitors and communities to act appropriately in the countryside and to improve understanding between visitors and those living and working in the area. • Promote products and services that support the special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape. • Provide arts and cultural experiences to encourage people to deepen their emotional connection to the landscape and support the engagement of new and existing audiences.
Wellbeing, involvement & learning	WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	<p>WIL1 Opportunities for improving health and wellbeing in the National Landscape should be created, improved and promoted, removing barriers to access, including where appropriate, the provision of: green and blue spaces within easy reach of communities; walking, cycling and riding routes, including routes for less able people, those with pushchairs or mobility scooters; opportunities to access and interact with nature; and volunteering and personal development opportunities.</p>
		<p>WIL2 NHS Boards, networks and partnerships, relevant health professionals, Local Nature Partnerships and relevant funding initiatives should make greater use of the benefits that the National Landscape provides for the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors. Green prescribing can include supporting exercise and activities in the area's countryside; the popular Walking Festival and other opportunities to improve health and wellbeing of communities and visitors alike</p>

		<p>WIL3 The National Landscape Team and partners should investigate further funding opportunities to enhance the Rights of Way / countryside access network for all, including enabling better and more inclusive access for the less able.</p>
	<p>WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.</p>	<p>WIL 4 Children and young people resident within and around the National Landscape should be provided with environmental education opportunities to experience the area through direct contact with the natural environment that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support confidence building by overcoming challenges; • build social skills through teamworking; • improve mental well-being by reducing stress and anxiety, and improving mood; and • reinforce learning and improve memory retention by involving multiple senses, such as touch, sight, and hearing. • Activities should develop an appreciation of the area and introduce an understanding of how to conserve it.
		<p>WIL5 Support and encourage effective voluntary activity, in all its shapes and forms, that helps deliver the National Landscape Management Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an Involvement and Learning Strategy to increase learning, training and volunteering opportunities, improving countryside and heritage skills, throughout the National Landscape by the end of 2026. • Develop and support networks of volunteers able to assist in specialist activities. • Engage a team of rangers to harness community and volunteer commitment and community engagement in the National Landscape and to develop programmes of volunteer and community activities. • Establish an environmentally and financially sustainable 'Living Landscape Centre' to act as the resource hub for the National Landscape Partnership, volunteers, trainees, students, residents and visitors.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop citizen science programmes to monitor the condition of the National Landscape.• Encourage and support Parish Councils to achieve high standards in working closely with each other, and with voluntary and community groups and meeting local needs and aspirations within the National Landscape.
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Appendix 2: Other plans and policies

INTERNATIONAL

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971)
www.ramsar.org

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WENP Strategy 2021-2023, Joining up the dots for nature, West of England Nature Partnership 2021

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Wiltshire Council

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<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/adopted-local-plan-jan16-low-res.pdf>

Wiltshire & Swindon Minerals Core Strategy Development Plan Document 2006 – 2026 (June 2009)

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Wiltshire & Swindon Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document (July 2009)

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Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 3 - April 2011 to March 2026.

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The current plan (LTP3) ends in 2026 and the Council is drafting the fourth edition, which will be known as Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4), covering the period to 2038.

Wiltshire Countryside Access Improvement Plan 2015 – 2025 (Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2)

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/recreation-rights-of-way>

Wiltshire Council Business Plan 2022-2032

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-democracy-business-plan>

Wiltshire's Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2023 to 2032 (2023)

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/8528/Wiltshire-s-Joint-Local-Health-and-Wellbeing-Strategy-2023-to-2032>

Wiltshire Climate Strategy 2022-2027 (Feb 2022)

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/green-economy-climate-change>

Wiltshire Council is preparing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy. A draft version of the LNRS is in production. The National Landscape Management Plan should seek to embed appropriate policies.

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Dorset Council

North Dorset Local Plan (January 2016)

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East Dorset & Christchurch Local Plan (April 2014)

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Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy (2014)

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Dorset Council Plan 2024 to 2029

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Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 (LTP3) 2011

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/local-transport-plan-3>

A new joint Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) is in preparation.

Dorset Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP) 2011-2021

https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/rights-of-way-improvement-plan?p_l_back_url=%2Fsearch%3Fq%3DRights%2Bof%2BWay

Dorset Council Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2020 to 2023 (2020)

https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/health-and-wellbeing-strategy-2020-to-2023?p_l_back_url=%2Fsearch%3Fq%3DHealth%2Band%2BWellbeing

Dorset Cultural Strategy 2021 to 2026

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Dorset's Economic Growth Strategy 2020 to 2024

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Natural Environment, Climate and Ecology Strategy 2023 to 25 Refresh

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Serving Hampshire - Strategic Plan 2021 to 2025 updated in 2023

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/strategiesplansandpolicies/corporatestrategy>

Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton, New Forest National Park and South Downs National Park Minerals and Waste Plan (the 'Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan') 2013

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

Local Transport Plan 4 (2024)

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/localtransportplan>

Hampshire countryside access plan 2015-2025

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/countryside/accessplan>

Hampshire County Council Climate Change Strategy 2020-2025

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/environment/Hampshire-Climate-Change-strategy-2020-2025.pdf>

Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/nature-recovery-hampshire/hampshire-strategy>

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<https://www.newforest.gov.uk/developmentplan>

New Forest District Council Corporate plan 2024 to 2028 - For people, place, prosperity

<https://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/3645/Corporate-plan-2024-to-2028>

Somerset Council

(Note: only a very small part of the National Landscape lies within this administrative area)

Somerset- Mendip Local Plan 2006-2029 (December 2014)

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/adopted-local-plans/?district=Mendip>

Somerset South Somerset local plan 2006-2028 (March 2015)

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/adopted-local-plans/?district=South+Somerset>

Appendix 3: Outline of future trends in the National Landscape

Key Issues	Outcomes without mitigating actions
<p>Climate change</p> <p>Climate change is happening, and its impacts are unavoidable. There is already experience of the impacts of a rapidly heating climate and this threatens many of the defining characteristics and Special Qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.</p> <p>The National Landscape can expect to experience warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers along with more unpredictable weather events causing drought, flooding and soil erosion.</p>	<p>The character of historic and designed landscapes will change, habitats and wildlife will come under pressure, and the fabric of historic buildings will be threatened.</p> <p>Unplanned or controlled mitigation actions could negatively impact on the special qualities, landscape, biodiversity, cultural heritage and the economy.</p> <p>Changes in the vegetation cover will reduce the amount of carbon stored in the soil and increase global warming.</p> <p>Changes soil temperatures and moisture levels will make farming and forestry planning less certain.</p> <p>Climate change may result in the migration of new species moving north. This could see species diversity maintained but there is a risk of new plant and animal pests and diseases.</p> <p>Higher temperatures may encourage the introduction of new crops into the landscape, as well as different crop timings.</p> <p>Warmer winters could promote increased tree growth, as well as the suitability of new non-native species or native species of a different provenance.</p> <p>Droughts may cause rivers, streams and ponds to dry up, which will affect wildlife, agriculture and tourism. There is the risk of reduced nectar production in response to drought in wildflowers.</p> <p>Drought conditions may cause stress on trees making them less resilient to storm events. There may be an increased risk of uprooting and increased fire risk.</p> <p>Drier warmer summers may lead to a parched landscape of bleached heathland, and wilting trees and hedges.</p> <p>Heavier rainfall may lead to an increase in surface water flooding and soil erosion.</p>
<p>Water storage</p> <p>Climate change is affecting rainfall and river flow. Reduced summer rainfall and increased rates of evaporation may see a reduction in the volumes of water percolating into the aquifer and charging groundwater supplies.</p> <p>Agriculture, especially arable, needs a resilient water supply. Farmers need to consider options</p>	<p>Mains water will be supplied to farms by wholesalers as part of the public supply network. When using water from the mains, farms must include a break tank between the incoming mains supply and any irrigation system to prevent any risk of mains contamination through back-siphoning.</p> <p>Abstracted water/private water supply is taken from rivers, streams, ponds, wells, boreholes and drains. This is controlled by abstraction licence.</p>

<p>for recycling or storing water and improving the efficiency of water use.</p> <p>Increasingly, ‘catchment approaches’ are being used for specific water-related challenges. These attempt to bring all stakeholders into the discussion rather than placing responsibility solely with the regulator.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to supporting industry-organised abstractor or storage groups to coordinate activities and communications.</p>	<p>Increased water abstraction will degrade water flows in the watercourses that drain the Chase, as well as hydrological integrity of the wetland habitats.</p> <p>Water harvesting/recycled water is collected from roofing or captured to be reused, potentially after storage; this reduces water flowing into the aquifers. Adequate on-site water storage capacity is required to improve the water supply resilience of businesses undertaking rainwater harvesting.</p> <p>Stored water is held in reservoirs, ponds and tanks; this may change the local landscape character.</p> <p>Reservoirs can greatly improve business water supply resilience throughout the season. Taking water daily and storing it requires little energy and can accommodate a low source flow. Larger reservoirs also offer the capacity to store water abstracted or harvested through the winter at peak flow or rainfall periods. If a reservoir cannot be built, then the short-term water supply resilience of a business can be improved via the installation and use of water storage tanks.</p> <p>Emergency water supplies can be tankered onto the farm by specialist companies; this will increase HGV movements in the National Landscape.</p>
<p>Nature recovery</p> <p>The fourth UK State of Nature Report published in 2023¹⁸ lays bare the stark fact that the UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world, and that nature is still declining.</p> <p>Wildlife loss is well documented and understood. Climate change is threatening the loss of already diminished wildlife at an even greater scale and pace. There is a need to create a robust and resilient nature recovery network – a landscape rich in joined up and well managed habitats. The need for action is urgent to avoid a mass extinction event.</p> <p>Cranborne Chase National Landscape still supports extensive areas of high value for nature. There are concerns, however, about the condition of protected sites, the management of priority habitats, the decline of wildlife in the wider countryside, and the status of some of our plants and animals.</p>	<p>Habitats will remain isolated with no ‘corridors’ to allow species to adjust naturally to climate change by moving northwards to a new ecological niche. Some populations will become too small to remain viable, and species will be unable to adapt by adjusting to new climatic conditions without large and varied sites.</p> <p>Invasive non-native species will increase resulting in a loss of biodiversity. Chalara ash die-back and Oak Processionary Moth will have a considerable effect upon the area’s habitats, landscape character and landscape integrity.</p> <p>Degraded ecosystems will not deliver benefits to people (ecosystem services). These services are critically important to the wellbeing and economy of people living in and around the Cranborne Chase. For example, they deliver good quality water and food, spiritual refreshment and a sense of history and cultural heritage.</p>

¹⁸ State of Nature 2023 – report on the UK’s current biodiversity.

<p>Pests and diseases</p> <p>The risk from invasive pests and diseases is significant and constantly growing because of increasing globalization and environmental change. Pests and diseases can have a devastating impact on the natural environment, including plant populations, biodiversity, and ecosystems.</p> <p>The improvement and application of pest and disease models to analyse and predict biodiversity impacts and crop yield losses, including those due to climate change, is a challenge for the scientific community.</p>	<p>Non-native plants, animals, insects, and pathogens may change ecosystem structure and function through direct damage, competition, hybridization, infestation, and/or disease.</p> <p>Continued influxes of new pests and diseases will threaten agricultural and silvicultural crops (particularly large areas of monoculture). Native flora and fauna will be at risk from the arrival of new species and pathogens. Intensive farming with limited diversification of crop and cultivar genetics, common cultivation practices and constraints on applying pest control measures will offer ideal conditions for new pest establishment.</p> <p>Populations of wild deer and grey squirrels in the National Landscape will increase. The damage caused by deer and grey squirrels will increase with devastating impacts on woodland regeneration and tree growth.</p> <p>Deer will cause damage to crops and vegetables. They may cause road traffic accidents and spread diseases that can affect farm livestock and in some cases humans.</p> <p>Loss of trees will change local character, reduce wind-shelter effects, and remove the screening of incongruous structures in the landscape.</p>
<p>Land management</p> <p>Woodland and farmland together cover over 96% of the National Landscape. Forestry and agricultural policies and practices have a major bearing, therefore, on the natural beauty and special qualities of the Chase, as well as the quality of air, water and soil health. For agriculture, there is a transition to the new Environmental Land Management Scheme that centres on rewarding farmers and land managers for sustainable farming practices, as well as delivering Government targets for increasing woodland and tree canopy cover, the adoption of nature-friendly farming, and restoration and creation of wildlife-rich habitats.</p> <p>There are declining farm and forest incomes. Land managers must find either additional or new sources of income. They may grow new crops and/or move into other sectors, such as warehousing, business parks, tourism and recreation. They may use their land for energy or communication structures. This can help to maintain a viable business and improve the products and services on offer to the community and visitors.</p> <p>The area is one of the most intensively managed game landscapes in the country.</p>	<p>A longer growing season with increasing temperatures may encourage the expansion of arable production, putting more easily cultivated areas of pasture under pressure.</p> <p>A longer growing season could see an increase in timber and biomass production that will increase carbon capture and support nature recovery.</p> <p>Without adaption to farming practices, there may be a decline in soil quality/nutrient levels, soil loss to erosion, release of carbon from soils and timber, a reduction in water quality and increased flooding.</p> <p>Carbon markets will put a tradable value on carbon in soils and vegetation; and in other 'nature-based' solutions.</p> <p>Changes to agriculture will increase nutrients entering local catchments and increased pressure on drinking water resources.</p> <p>Intensive agricultural and forestry operations may damage soil structure.</p>

<p>Growth and development</p> <p>Development maintains economic viability, sustains the population and supports those who manage the land. But it can change the character of the landscape and negatively impact on landscape quality, biodiversity and heritage.</p> <p>There are frequent proposals for renewable energy generation, communications masts, waste treatment, large-scale agricultural storage and general warehousing and distribution. There is an inconsistent approach to replacement dwellings and additional 'essential worker' dwellings across the National Landscape; and a shortage of affordable housing for local people.</p> <p>Significant new areas of housing and employment continue to be built close to the National Landscape, and further areas are being allocated in Local Plans.</p>	<p>Developments may have negative visual impacts on the landscape. Inappropriate development adjacent to the National Landscape may degrade landscape character within the designation, through associated noise and disturbance.</p> <p>Air quality may degrade due to traffic and industry. There may be missed opportunities to reach net zero if sustainable building solutions are not incorporated into the design of developments.</p> <p>A reduction in the tranquillity that can be experienced in the area (for instance dark night skies) and growing numbers of recreational users and attendant infrastructure (car parks and toilet blocks) putting pressure on its natural environment.</p> <p>Population growth and the rising demand for housing increases the amount of agricultural and rural land being built on. Once soil is lost, its ability to deliver its functions is very difficult to retrieve. Development seals up soils, preventing them from accumulating organic matter in addition to providing other important ecosystem services, such as, water storage.</p>
<p>Health and wellbeing</p> <p>Connections within the National Landscape and with its setting are important. The mental and physical health benefits of accessing natural beauty are becoming increasingly understood and appreciated. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on human behaviour. For example, people have travelled less and many have worked from home. People are more aware of the importance of green and blue spaces.</p>	<p>People will not feel welcome and currently underrepresented groups will be unable to enjoy the benefits of accessing natural beauty.</p> <p>People who cease visiting heritage sites will experience a decline in physical health, mental health and life satisfaction.</p> <p>Voluntary support for local organisations and activities will become harder to sustain.</p> <p>The bond between people and place will break down due to a reduced functional relationship. Communities will lose their links to the land and will not benefit from a natural environment that brings economic benefits and supports livelihoods. Some connections are understood but others will need strengthening.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The link between personal consumption patterns and land-use. • Between choices relating to private property, nature and other public goods (hard surfacing, boundaries, outdoor lighting)
<p>Equality, inclusion and diversity</p> <p>National Landscapes are protected for the nation and are available for everyone to enjoy. Visitors to Cranborne Chase are not representative of the full spectrum of society, however, and some people and communities experience unintentional barriers to engagement with the protected landscape</p>	<p>Barriers to engagement will increase. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical obstructions, • lack of knowledge, • lack of confidence, • fear of abuse, • inability to access transport, and

which leads to their exclusion or feelings of being unwelcome.

Such groups include lower income households, people with underlying health conditions, young people and ethnic minorities.

- underlying socio-economic circumstances.

Appendix 4: SEA Objectives and baseline data

Nº	Environmental Objectives	Will the plan help to?	Headline indicators (29)
E1	<p>Climate change</p> <p>Address the causes and consequences of climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce greenhouse gas emissions • Increase greenhouse gas capture and storage through land management • increase cycling and walking • maximise the role of soil as a carbon store • increase recycling • increase the renewable energy capacity • ensure tourism is compatible with the climate change agenda • improve energy efficiency • improve public transport • deliver a more sustainable pattern of transport 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Level of greenhouse gas emissions within Protected Landscapes (PLTOF TI 6) 2. Extent of tree canopy and woodland cover in Protected Landscapes (PLTOF TI 8)
E2	Soils, Air and Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce soil compaction • reduce leaching of nutrients and organic matter • prevent soil erosion • increase soil organic matter and carbon storage • avoid soil sealing, prevent soil contamination, improve water quality • maintain and enhance air quality • meet national air quality standards • promote sustainable water resource management • encourage a catchment-based approach to addressing water issues • maintain natural river geomorphologies • reduce nutrient-rich run-off • protect drinking water • manage flood risk • increase use of sustainable drainage systems 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Average carbon stock by tonnes of carbon per hectare. 4. WFD quality of the water environment data (PLTOF AS 5) 5. Area at risk from flooding (Environment Agency)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve efficiency in use of water 	
E3	Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent loss of key species • prevent loss of habitat • Increase area and connectivity of habitat • improve management, linkage and condition of designated and undesignated habitats • maintain integrity of current ecological networks • create opportunities to enhance biodiversity • safeguard options for future habitat connectivity • prevent pollution • maintain and enhance access to sites whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts • support agricultural activities whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Extent of wildlife rich habitat created or restored outside of protected sites (PLTOF TI 1) 7. Percentage of SSSI Features in favourable condition (PLTOF TI 2) 8. Percentage of SSSIs assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition (PLTOF TI 3) 9. Extent of priority habitat, outside of protected sites, in favourable management through agri-environment schemes (PLTOF TI 4) 10. Percentage of land managers adopting nature friendly farming on a percentage of their land (PLTOF TI 5)
E4	Protect and enhance the landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conserve and enhance visual amenity • conserve and enhance landscape character • conserve and enhance townscape character • conserve geodiversity • avoid the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land • ensure the sustainable use of mineral resources including the use of recycled and secondary aggregates 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Fixed-point photography (survey points in place but needs a new survey programme) 12. Length of existing powerlines moved underground (local survey) 13. Number of geological and geomorphological SSSI unit features and % in favourable or recovering condition (PLTOF SA 15)
E5	Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conserve and enhance architectural heritage • conserve and enhance archaeological heritage (including unknown) • conserve and enhance cultural heritage • reduce risks to heritage • improve access to historic places for residents and visitors • enhance local distinctiveness 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Number and percentage of nationally designated heritage assets in Protected Landscapes to be deemed at risk (TI 10)

E6	Local Distinctiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure any new developments or redevelopments are in keeping with local character • take account of the environment in design and construction 	<p>15. Number of planning authorities with vernacular design guidance mentioning the Cranborne Chase NL</p> <p>16. % of development decisions against Partnership advice</p>
E7	Safeguard and enhance human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce and avoid noise pollution • reduce and avoid light pollution • avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing green infrastructure as a recreational asset • support the provision of affordable housing • improve access to services • improve access to employment • improve access for outdoor recreation • retain and enhance sustainable transport to and from market towns • promote art, craft and cultural interests • improve safety 	<p>17. Light pollution maps</p> <p>18. Road noise maps</p> <p>19. Number and % increase of volunteer hours supporting the management and enjoyment of the National Landscape</p> <p>20. Metres of accessible path as a % of total path (PLTOF TI 9a)</p> <p>21. % Public Rights of Way in good condition</p> <p>22. Number of disability accessible parking spaces (PLTOF TI 9c)</p> <p>23. Number of accessible gates and gaps (PLTOF TI 9d)</p> <p>24. Number of accessible or easy access routes for which wayfinding has been created or improved PLTOF TI 9h)</p> <p>25. Deprivation statistics (PLTOF AS 23)</p> <p>26. Housing affordability (PLTOF AS 21)</p>
E8	To support a locally embedded economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoid the loss of local jobs and local services • promote economic activity that adds value to local products and helps support the conservation of the area's special qualities • increase availability of locally sourced food • support the long-term viability of commercial activities, including agriculture and tourism • promote a career in land-based and traditional building skills • encourage apprenticeships and training 	<p>27. Number of visitors</p> <p>28. Number of local units of registered businesses by industry type (PLTOF AS 22)</p> <p>29. Number of businesses following regenerative tourism initiatives (survey required)</p>

E9	<p>Cumulative Impacts</p> <p>Avoid significant adverse effects between the above interrelationships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote the importance of environmental services • moderate the interaction between natural, social and economic actions • in combination with another policy, does it prejudice the achievement of any of the SEA Objectives 	<p>No indicator but monitored through annual reporting</p>
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Appendix 5: Commentary on interactions between the Management Plan and SEA objectives

Management Plan Policies	Interaction with the SEA Objectives (<i>in Appendix 4</i>)
Landscape	
<p>LAN1 Promote awareness and use of 2024 Cranborne Chase National Landscape Integrated Landscape Character Assessment and the 2018 Chase and Chalke Landscape Character Assessment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidance for the Landscape Character Types/Areas to inform land use planning and landscape management, to include updating the landscape and planning and landscape and land management documents. • Promote and champion the conservation and enhancement of the landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its setting, particularly those that are sensitive to change. • Promote understanding of the factors that contribute to, or detract from, tranquillity to ensure that policies and actions will more effectively conserve and enhance levels of tranquillity. • Provide appropriate training across the range of landscape matters to relevant partners and stakeholders. 	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance landscape character</p> <p>Some support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by enhancing local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by seeking to retain tranquillity.</p>
<p>LAN2 Proposals that are likely to impact on, or create change in, the landscape of the National Landscape must seek to further the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the landscape with reference to key documents such as the 2024 Cranborne Chase National Landscape Integrated Landscape Character Assessment, the 2018 Chase and Chalke Landscape Character Assessment, the 2008 Historic Landscape Characterisations and National Landscape Partnership guidance documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a presumption against the loss of key characteristics identified in the landscape character assessments. • Degraded distinctive landscapes and landscape features should be restored. • Positive landscape change should be promoted to landowners, managers, government and all those with an influence over land. • Planting and amenity projects should conserve and enhance landscape character. <p>Opportunities should be pursued to underground and remove visually intrusive power and telecommunications lines, poles, and masts, and other incongruous features, especially where they detract from the Special Qualities.</p>	<p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by preventing the loss of habitat. And creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity and landscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by conserving and enhancing architectural and cultural heritage.</p>

	Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by requiring developments to be in keeping with local character.
<p>LAN3 Encourage, support and analyse research on landscape issues affecting the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its surroundings to inform policy formulation and the consequent action required:</p> <p>Undertake fixed point photography biennially to identify areas where landscape character, condition, or quality has been or is being lost. This will inform potential restoration and enhancement measures.</p>	<p>Some support to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by ensuring policy development and implementation is well informed.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by monitoring the impacts of decisions.</p>
Nature Recovery	
<p>NE1 Biodiversity in the Cranborne Chase National Landscape should be conserved and enhanced by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the designated area and in its setting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This should be achieved in accordance with the outcomes, priorities, targets and measures within the Cranborne Chase Nature Recovery Plan and Local Nature Recovery Strategies, and focus on the key habitats and species listed as special features in this management plan. • Strategic documents or initiatives that are likely to impact on the biodiversity of the National Landscape should seek to further the Cranborne Chase Nature Recovery Plan. • National and local guidance (including guidance from Government Agencies and the Non-Native Species Secretariat) on invasive non-native species, pests and diseases should be followed and appropriate biosecurity measures promoted, • Programmes should be developed at an appropriate scale to control the spread of invasive non-native plants 	<p>Supports E1 Climate change by maintaining and extending habitats that will capture and hold carbon.</p> <p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by increasing the area and connectivity of habitat, improving the management, linkage and condition of designated and undesignated habitats, maintaining the integrity of current ecological networks, and creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity</p>
<p>NE2 All stakeholders should work towards the delivery of the relevant targets for nature recovery within the national Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. The apportioned targets for the Cranborne Chase National Landscape have been set out at a local level. At the time of publication, the targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 1 - Restore or create more than 1,946.8 ha of a range of wildlife-rich habitats outside protected sites by 2042 (from a 2022 baseline). • Target 2 - 80% Percent of SSSIs in favourable condition by 2042 	<p>Supports E1 Climate change by increasing the tree canopy; woodland will capture and hold significant levels of carbon.</p> <p>Some support to E2 Soils, Air and Water through the</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 3 - 60% Percent of SSSIs assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition by 31 January 2028. • Target 4 - Continuing favourable management of all existing priority habitat already in favourable condition outside of SSSIs (from a 2022 baseline) and increasing to include all newly restored or created habitat through agri-environment schemes by 2042. • Target 5 - 65% to 80% of land managers adopting nature-friendly farming on at least 10% to 15% of their land by 2030. • Target 8 - Increase tree canopy and woodland cover (combined) by 3% of total land area in Protected Landscapes by 2050 (from 2022 baseline). 	<p>favourable management of priority habitats.</p> <p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by preventing the loss of key species and habitats, maintaining the integrity of current ecological networks and supporting agricultural activities whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by monitoring the impacts of decisions.</p>
<p>NE3 The natural and cultural capital of the National Landscape, and the services they provide, should continue to be assessed and evaluated by the responsible authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of natural and cultural capital accounting should inform policy, investment, development and management decisions. • The financial and non-financial benefits of natural and cultural capital and the services they provide should be promoted. • Continue to build and sustain a robust environmental records base for the National Landscape and its surrounds through expanding the network of biological recorders and transferring their records to the four Environmental Records Centres. 	<p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by valuing the management, linkage and condition of designated and undesignated habitats.</p> <p>Limited support to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by valuing geodiversity, preserving the best and most versatile agricultural land and ensuring the sustainable use of mineral resources including the use of recycled and secondary aggregates.</p> <p>Limited support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts</p>

	by monitoring the impacts of decisions.
Climate Change	
<p>CL1 Greenhouse gas emissions should be minimised through a range of measures, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognising and highlighting the whole lifecycle carbon footprint in policies and decision making associated with housing and any other development proposals • Recognising the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the destruction or removal of soil and vegetation for development. • Reducing energy demand in existing and new buildings and infrastructure • Reducing energy demand by supporting the transition to zero emission vehicles and public transport options and active travel • Generating energy from low carbon sources only in a manner consistent with the purpose of conserving and enhancing the National Landscape designation • Supporting the development of various initiatives such as community food and heat networks, linking farmers and businesses to each other and consumers; • Green Infrastructure plans, promoting the purchase of locally produced food products and services and encouraging small-scale vegetable growing in gardens and allotments. 	<p>Supports E1 Climate change by minimising greenhouse gas emissions. In particular, encouraging active travel and reducing energy demand.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments take account of the environment in design and construction.</p>
<p>CL2 Climate change mitigation, including the role natural systems play in carbon sequestration, should be a key component of land management practices and rural development support mechanisms in the National Landscape, using accepted forms of emissions calculations</p>	<p>Supports E1 Climate change by encouraging appropriate land management and development support.</p> <p>Some supports to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by preserving the best and most versatile agricultural land.</p>
<p>CL3 Climate action should be undertaken in ways that must seek to further, and is compatible with, the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the National Landscape.</p>	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by seeking to conserve and enhance landscape character.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by considering interactions.</p>
<p>CL4 Stakeholders should work towards the delivery of the relevant targets for climate change within the national Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. The apportioned targets for Cranborne Chase National Landscape to be achieved are:</p>	<p>Supports E1 Climate change by reducing net greenhouse gas emissions and</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 6. Reduce net greenhouse gas emissions in Protected Landscapes to net zero by 2050 relative to 1990 levels. • Target 8. Increase tree canopy and woodland cover (combined) by 3% of total land area in Protected Landscapes by 2050 (from 2022 baseline). 	<p>increasing tree canopy cover.</p> <p>Limited support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by monitoring the impacts of decisions.</p>
<p>CL5 Climate change adaptation should be a significant driver in all new development, infrastructure and transport provision.</p>	<p>A general statement giving limited support to the E1 Climate change ambitions</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments take account of the environment in design and construction.</p>
<p>CL6 Climate change adaptation should be a key component of land management practices and agri-environment/rural development support mechanisms, in the National Landscape</p>	<p>A commitment to support the E1 Climate change ambitions</p>
<p>CL7 By the end of 2028, the National Landscape Partnership will adopt a Climate Change Adaptation Plan that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> xi. Identifies the key assets and features of the landscape. xii. Assesses the vulnerability of these assets and features to the impacts of Climate Change. xiii. Considers sectoral impacts for principal land uses such as farming and forestry, as well as the natural, built and historic environment. xiv. Assesses the impacts based upon current climate change projections. xv. Scores these risks and opportunities based on their likelihood, impact and risk over the short, medium and long term. xvi. Identifies possible high-level mitigation actions. xvii. Identifies existing policy responses and identify any gaps. xviii. Identifies relevant local stakeholders that can support or lead the action. xix. Assesses the acceptability of these options, their interdependencies, and potential barriers to delivery. xx. Sets out planned actions for the short, medium and long term. 	<p>Supports E1 Climate change by committing to appropriate actions.</p>

On adoption, the Climate Change Adaptation Plan will be embedded within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape Management Plan.	
Water	
<p>WA1 Water resources should be carefully and legally managed and conserved to the highest of standards within this National Landscape to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve water quality; • ensure adequate aquifer recharge; • ensure adequate flows; • avoid flooding; and • contribute to natural flood management systems. 	Supports E2 Soils, Air and Water by promoting sustainable water resource management, maintaining natural river geomorphologies, and managing flood risks.
<p>WA2 Development (new and existing sites) must assess and minimise flood risk and implement sustainable drainage schemes, adopt high water efficiency standards in line with RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge targets, and water conservation measures, for example rainwater harvesting and/or water recycling and grey water systems.</p>	Supports E2 Soils, Air and Water by managing flood risks, increasing the use of sustainable drainage systems, and improving efficiency in use of water.
<p>WA3 Sewage pollution from storm overflows and continuous outfalls must be minimised and be well within legal and regulatory requirements.</p>	<p>Some support to E2 Soils, Air and Water by reducing nutrient-rich run-off and protecting drinking water.</p> <p>Limited support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>Some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by seeking to improve safety.</p>
<p>WA4 Practical opportunities to improve water quality should be implemented including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The restoration of water courses and wetland habitats. • New wetland habitats could be sited to intercept runoff from roads and reedbeds could be created to filter potentially polluted water from settlements before it is discharged to rivers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Minimising soil erosion and run off by implementing soil conservation measures. 	<p>A general statement giving limited support to the E1 Climate change ambitions through habitat creation.</p> <p>Supports E2 Soils, Air and Water by promoting</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Minimising pesticide and fertiliser use and implementing measures to reduce pollution from agriculture. iii. Promote individual measures and behaviours in the home and workplace that protect water volume and quality in rivers. • Citizen science programmes to monitor water quality. 	<p>sustainable water resource management, reducing leaching of nutrients and organic matter and nutrient-rich run-off, preventing soil erosion, and improving water quality.</p> <p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity, and supporting agricultural activities whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts.</p>
Historic and cultural heritage	
<p>HE1 Promote opportunities to increase awareness and understanding of the historic environment using existing resources such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Environment Records • Conservation Area Appraisals • Historic Landscape Characterisation • Historic Environment Action Plans and • Heritage Assessments. <p>These should be used to improve the identification, recording and management of the distinctive historic landscapes of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and encourage positive action regarding the management of the National Landscape's historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity, and landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by raising awareness of the need to conserve and enhance architectural and cultural heritage.</p>
<p>HE2 Promote greater public understanding of, and engagement with, the conservation of the historic environment of the National Landscape and celebrate it in arts, cultural, and social activities across the area.</p>	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity, and landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including</p>

	<p>heritage assets and their settings by encouraging engagement in the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment and improving access to historic places for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by promoting art, craft and cultural interests..</p>
<p>HE3 Proposals that are likely to impact on the historic environment and cultural heritage of the National Landscape should be compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of these heritage assets and their setting. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeking to sustain and enhance the significance, and minimising any harm to, the area's historic assets. • respecting the historical elements of landscape character including features such as; buildings, sites, archaeological monuments, layout and context, including the relationship between the existing feature or settlement and the landscape. • ensuring the sustainable use of historic buildings and other heritage assets, particularly those identified as being at risk. 	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity, and landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by conserving and enhancing architectural and cultural heritage, reducing risks to heritage, and enhancing local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character</p>
<p>HE4 Stakeholders should work towards the delivery of the relevant targets for heritage assets within the national Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. The apportioned targets for Cranborne Chase to be achieved are:</p> <p>Target 10 - Decrease the number of nationally designated heritage assets at risk in Protected Landscapes.</p>	<p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by reducing risks to heritage.</p>

	Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by monitoring the impacts of decisions.
Dark night skies	
<p>DNS1 All stakeholders should actively seek to retain International Dark Sky Reserve status through the continuous improvements to lighting/retrofitting schemes. Lighting schemes should be kept to a minimum and only installed where it is necessary.</p> <p>The Cranborne Chase National Landscape Partnership will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit an annual report of activities to maintain the International Dark Sky Reserve status. • Support parish councils in promoting good practice lighting to their residents and businesses, offering Dark Sky Friendly Parish Awards. • Investigate the potential for sponsorship / provision of low-cost good practice outside light fittings within the National Landscape 	<p>Gives limited support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by seeking to reduce night-time lighting that may help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by seeking to avoid and reduce light pollution.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by monitoring the impacts of decisions.</p>
<p>DNS2 Proposals that are likely to impact on the dark skies and tranquillity of the National Landscape should be delivered in a way that is compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of these dark skies, by seeking to avoid and, where avoiding is not possible, minimise lighting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Such proposals should have regard to, and be compatible with, best practice standards and guidance, in particular the Cranborne Chase National Landscape Guidance on Lighting as well as that published by the Institution of Lighting Professionals, the Bat Conservation Trust and the Commission for Dark Skies. <p>The Local Authorities should embed good practice lighting guidance within their Local Plans and require substantial lighting schemes, such as those for schools, businesses and sports areas, to be competently designed to meet Dark Night Sky and other environmental criteria.</p>	<p>Gives support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by seeking to reduce night-time lighting that may help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by maintaining the integrity of current ecological networks, nocturnal creatures can be adversely affected by artificial light.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity, and landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Supports E7 Safeguard and</p>

	enhance human health by looking to avoid and reduce light pollution.
<p>DNS3 Actively promote the benefits of International Dark Sky Reserve (IDSR) status to all partners and communities to elicit appropriate action and support for the IDSR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support tourism and related businesses to jointly promote, and benefit from, the area as a prime destination for stargazing holidays. Continue to implement a Dark-Sky Friendly Accreditation Scheme for local tourism and allied businesses. • Develop a Cranborne Chase National Landscape observatory to offer regular stargazing activities together with educational and study opportunities for residents, visitors and schools. Determine a potential location, design criteria and funding requirements necessary to establish an NL Observatory within the time-frame of this Plan. • Work with other UK 'Dark Sky Places' and related organisations to improve awareness and understanding across the country of the need to reduce light pollution. 	<p>Some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by looking to avoid and reduce light pollution.</p> <p>Some support to E8 Support a locally embedded economy by supporting local tourism businesses and adding value to local activities.</p>
Rural land management	
<p>RLM 1 Identify good agricultural practices that that are appropriate to the challenges facing the land managers of the National Landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminate case studies through networks and information hubs. • Support the formation of further farm clusters across the area. • Offer National Landscape focused landscape and land management familiarisation and training, as appropriate. 	<p>Some support to E2 Soils, Air and Water by advocating good practice that could reduce soil compaction, reduce leaching of nutrients and organic matter, reduce nutrient-rich run-off, prevent soil erosion, increase soil organic matter and carbon storage, avoid soil sealing, prevent soil contamination, and improve water quality.</p> <p>Limited support to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by preserving the best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>Supports E8 Support a locally embedded economy by supporting the long-term viability of agriculture.</p>

<p>RLM2 Rural land management practices in the National Landscape and its setting should be compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the area. Land managers should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to clear and consistent sources of advice, guidance and support (including on regenerative and nature-friendly practices); • fair access to markets including the promotion of local and seasonal produce and the development of local services and markets; and • payments for environmental services that benefit the distinctive natural and historic environment of the National Landscape. <p>The Cranborne Chase National Landscape Partnership will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work with partners, such as the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, to disseminate appropriate information and advice on how game management practices can positively contribute to National Landscape purposes, and support research to this end. • Support and encourage environmental enhancement of the best and most versatile land being maintained in regenerative food production. • support and encourage landscape sensitive and appropriate woodland management, encouraging skills training, reconnecting supply chains and increasing biodiversity, including PAWS restoration. • work with, and support partners such as the Wessex Rivers Trust, Environment Agency, private land owners, fishery managers, Wildlife Trusts and Natural England, to deliver programmes and projects that bring environmental benefits to water catchments while securing a viable future for fisheries. 	<p>Gives limited support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by encouraging regenerative food production and woodland management.</p> <p>Some support to E2 Soils, Air and Water by promoting sustainable water resource management, encouraging a catchment-based approach to addressing water issues, maintaining natural river geomorphologies, and reducing nutrient-rich run-off.</p> <p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by supporting agricultural activities whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by conserving and enhancing landscape character preserving the best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by raising awareness of the need to conserve and enhance archaeological heritage (including unknown) and reduce risks to heritage</p>
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	<p>through agri-environment support.</p> <p>Some support to E8 Support a locally embedded economy by supporting the long-term viability of agriculture.</p>
Planning & Transport	
<p>PT1 All development and transport policies and proposals in the National Landscape and its setting must seek to further the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the area. Justification for policies and proposals within the area should either have regard to, or be based on convincing evidence of, local need arising from within the national landscape. In doing so, they should be compatible with the National Landscape Management Plan and guidance produced by the National Landscape Partnership, including the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ix. Landscape Character Assessments; x. Landscape Sensitivity Study; xi. Historic Landscape Characterisation; xii. Guide to Conserving and Enhancing the Landscape Setting of our Rural Highways; xiii. Nature Recovery Plan; xiv. International Dark Sky Reserve designation criteria; xv. Climate Change Adaptation Plan (when published); and xvi. Its Position Statements and Good Practice Guides / Notes. 	<p>Gives support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by taking account of the Climate Change Adaption Plan.</p> <p>Gives support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by taking account of the Nature Recovery Plan.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance landscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by looking to conserve and enhance historic and cultural character.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character</p> <p>Some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by seeking to avoid and reduce noise and light pollution.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts</p>

	by moderating the interaction between natural, social and economic actions
PT2 The purposes of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape and increasing the understanding and enjoyment of the area's special qualities should be identified as strategic priorities in Local Plans (including Minerals and Waste local Plans), Neighbourhood Plans, Local Transport Plans and other relevant plans and strategies. These plans and strategies should explicitly identify the Cranborne Chase National Landscape (AONB) Management Plan as a material consideration and recognise National Landscape guidance documents and position statements as appropriate.	Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance landscape character and ensure the sustainable use of mineral resources including the use of recycled and secondary aggregates. Limited support to E9 Cumulative impacts by moderating the interaction between natural, social and economic actions
PT3 The cumulative impacts of development and transport proposals on the natural beauty of the National Landscape should be fully assessed and addressed in accordance with the National Landscape's Landscape Character Assessments, Sensitivity Study and any relevant position statement or guidance published by the Partnership.	Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity and landscape character. Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by seeking to avoid and reduce noise and light pollution. Limited support to E9 Cumulative impacts by seeking to avoid significant adverse effects between a range of interventions.
PT4 A landscape-led approach should be applied to development and transport proposals in the National Landscape and its setting,	Gives limited support to E2 Soils, Air and Water as a

<p>proportionate to the type and scale of development being proposed, whereby proposals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> address the natural beauty of the National Landscape as primary consideration at all stages of the development process (including design), from initial conception through to implementation; address all the factors that contribute to the natural beauty of the area; protect and/or enhance key views to and from the National Landscape; address access to natural beauty, including the character of the public rights of way network and its role within wider green infrastructure; reflect and enhance the character of the local area; avoid adverse effects where possible and, if adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimise them; seek opportunities to enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape; and deliver substantially more beneficial effects than adverse effects for the natural beauty of the National Landscape. <p>This landscape-led approach is particularly important for major development.</p>	<p>landscape-led approach will encourage a catchment-based approach to addressing water issues and help promote sustainable water resource management.</p> <p>Gives support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity and safeguard options for future habitat connectivity.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity and landscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by enhancing local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by seeking to avoid significant adverse effects between a range of interventions.</p>
<p>PT5 Proposals that are likely to impact on the local distinctiveness of the National Landscape should be compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of this local distinctiveness. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> being informed by the National Landscape's Landscape Character Assessments and any relevant position statement or guidance published by the Partnership. being designed and, where relevant, landscaped to respect local and historic settlement patterns, building styles, scale and materials and in accordance with design guidance adopted by local planning authorities and as part of Neighbourhood Development Plans. 	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity and townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> being compatible with the conservation and enhancement of dark night skies, by seeking to avoid and, where avoiding is not possible, minimise lighting. <p>The reuse and redevelopment of existing buildings should be supported where this helps retain the distinctive character of the National Landscape.</p> <p>There should be a presumption against the loss of distinctive qualities and features.</p>	<p>enhancing local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character</p>
<p>PT6 Planning Authorities will ensure that development associated with existing permanent buildings in the National Landscape and its setting are only supported where all the following criteria are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> replacement buildings are not materially larger than the ones they replace; replacement buildings are in the same use as the ones they replace; proposed buildings do not materially impact on the special qualities of the National Landscape, especially through height or bulk, the size and scale of any proposed extension is not disproportionate to the existing building; the proposed development will incorporate all additional ancillary development including storage, parking and hard surfacing. any proposed permanent dwelling does not replace a temporary structure or one where the residential use has been abandoned. the size and scale of any garage or outbuilding within the curtilage of a dwelling is proportionate to the dwelling. 	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by conserving and enhancing architectural heritage</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character and take account of the environment in design and construction.</p>
<p>PT7 Development proposals should aim to provide a net gain in biodiversity of at least 20% particularly regarding the priority habitats listed in the Cranborne Chase Nature Recovery Plan*</p> <p>*viability justification set out in Appendix 8 of this National Landscape Management Plan</p>	<p>Gives limited support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by increasing biodiversity that may hold carbon.</p> <p>Supports E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by promoting the importance of environmental services.</p>

<p>PT8 Local communities should be inspired to engage with the good planning of this National Landscape by being encouraged and assisted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepare and adopt Neighbourhood Plans and other similar initiatives, such as Village Design Statements, that respect the special landscapes and dark night skies of the National Landscape and the objectives of this Management Plan. • identify local needs / environmental projects that help offset impacts of development, conserve and enhance local character and distinctiveness, and utilise the Neighbourhood proportion of Community Infrastructure Levy. 	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by conserving and enhancing architectural heritage and local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character and take account of the environment in design and construction.</p> <p>Limited support to E8 Support a locally embedded economy by avoiding the loss of local jobs and services.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by moderating the interaction between natural, social, and economic actions.</p>
<p>PT9 Support the provision of a variety of housing that is appropriate to the character of the area and meets evidenced local community needs. The priority is to meet affordable housing requirements, particularly housing that is affordable in perpetuity, such as social rented housing. In doing so, development policies and development proposals should be compatible with the National Landscape Partnership's Position Statement 10 – Housing within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.</p> <p>When considering proposals for housing development in the National Landscape, LPA partners will give emphasis to affordable housing, and will treat the National Landscape as a rural area (NPPF Dec 2024 Para 65) where the government's restriction on the requirement to provide affordable housing does not apply.</p>	<p>Some support to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance townscape character.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character and take</p>

	<p>account of the environment in design and construction.</p> <p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by seeking to provide affordable housing.</p>
<p>PT10 Consideration should be given to supporting local employment opportunities that conserve and enhance the National Landscape, maintain and enhance local community amenities and services, ensuring improved access to these amenities and services.</p>	<p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by seeking to improve access to employment.</p> <p>Supports E8 Support a locally embedded economy by promoting economic activity that adds value to local products and helps support the conservation of the area's special qualities.</p>
<p>PT11 Provide a quality public realm with good access and accessibility by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing and promoting an integrated system, whereby roads, railways, public transport and Rights of Way networks are more accessible and interconnect, minimising the impact of traffic on the National Landscape and encouraging a safer and more attractive environment for walking, cycling and horse riding, to include parking provision for trailers/horse-boxes. • minimising freight transport through the National Landscape to help protect tranquillity, the rural nature of settlements, and the special qualities of the area. • providing affordable parking facilities at public transport nodes, car sharing and community transport initiatives to enable and encourage a reduced reliance on private cars. 	<p>Gives support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by ensuring a more sustainable pattern of transport and increasing cycling and walking.</p> <p>Gives a little support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by maintaining and enhancing access to sites whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts.</p> <p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access and enhancing sustainable transport to and from market towns.</p>

Sustaining rural communities	
<p>SRC1 Work collaboratively with landowners, farmers and allied businesses to improve the land-based sectors' resilience and profitability whilst helping to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Landscape.</p>	<p>Gives support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by supporting agricultural activities whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by conserving and enhancing landscape character preserving the best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>Gives some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access to employment.</p> <p>Supports E8 Support a locally embedded economy by supporting the long-term viability of commercial activities, including agriculture and tourism</p>
<p>SRC2 Seek new, inventive and sensitive solutions to the retention of local shops and provision of viable local services, for example, through the integration of local service delivery and through the delivery of universal high-speed broadband.</p>	<p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by retaining access to services.</p> <p>Supports E8 Support a locally embedded economy by avoiding the loss of local jobs and local services.</p>
<p>SRC3 The development of suitably located and appropriate recreation and tourism facilities, including a range of quality accommodation, including B&B specifically for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders, will be supported that enables a thriving visitor economy whilst promoting and enhancing the special qualities of the National Landscape.</p>	<p>Some support to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural</p>

	<p>heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by improving access to historic places for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character and take account of the environment in design and construction.</p> <p>Gives some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access for recreation and supporting local employment.</p> <p>Supports E8 Support a locally embedded economy by promoting economic activity that adds value to local products and helps support the conservation of the area's special qualities</p>
<p>SRC4 Stimulate and support regenerative tourism practices in the National Landscape that sustain its natural beauty, support nature recovery and enhance the well-being of local communities. This will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that the tourism sector recognises the benefits of conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the National Landscape and minimising the emission of greenhouse gases, reflecting this in policy and practice. Visitors, residents, local businesses and communities should be provided with opportunities to contribute directly to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape and improve access to the area through local individual, community, and employee volunteering opportunities; and visitor-gifting schemes. Developing collaborative and joined-up working between public, private and voluntary sector tourism organisations across the National Landscape, enabling greater overall efficiency and use of resources. 	<p>Gives support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by seeking to minimise the emission of greenhouse gases.</p> <p>Gives support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by creating opportunities to enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity, and</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Visitors (particularly walkers, cyclists and horse-riders¹⁹) should be provided with a variety of accommodation options over a range of prices. The siting and design of visitor accommodation should be compatible with conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape, including its special qualities. v. Directing tourism businesses to information and skills training to promote better the special qualities of the National Landscape to visitors. vi. Exploring the potential for a public art trail for 2027 to encourage increased footfall to businesses within and around the National Landscape whilst raising the profile of the area. 	<p>landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments take account of the environment in design and construction.</p> <p>Gives some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by promoting art, craft and cultural interests.</p> <p>Supports E8 Support a locally embedded economy by promoting economic activity that adds value to local products and helps support the conservation of the area's special qualities</p>
<p>SRC5 Developers and Local Authorities must commit to increasing the provision of affordable housing in and around the National Landscape where that is consistent with the primary purposes of its designation.</p>	<p>Some supports to E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping take account of the environment in design and construction.</p> <p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by providing affordable housing.</p>
<p>SRC6 By the end of 2026, formulate a developer contribution scheme to secure monies from the enhanced property values to support the management of this National Landscape's character, qualities, and landscapes which bring about those heightened values.</p>	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance visual amenity; and landscape and townscape character.</p>

¹⁹ Changing Lives through Horses <https://www.bhs.org.uk/support-us/our-campaigns/changing-lives-through-horses/>

	<p>Supports E9 Cumulative impacts by promoting the importance of environmental services</p>
<p>SRC7 Support community initiatives that promote sustainable lifestyles, such as those embracing community shops or combined/mobile community facilities, appropriate renewable energy schemes, energy efficiency, community woodlands, recycling and community transport, that conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Landscape to encourage and maintain the viability and diversity of rural community life.</p>	<p>Gives support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by supporting appropriate renewable energy schemes, energy efficiency and recycling.</p> <p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by conserving and enhancing cultural heritage.</p> <p>Gives some support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access to services and access to market towns.</p>
<p>SRC8 Support the production of community-led plans, strategies and statements (such as Neighbourhood Plans) that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape and encourage and maintain the vitality and diversity of rural community life.</p>	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance landscape and townscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by conserving and enhancing cultural heritage.</p>

	<p>Supports E6 Local distinctiveness by ensuring any new developments or redevelopments is in keeping with local character and take account of the environment in design and construction.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by moderating the interaction between natural, social, and economic actions.</p>
Awareness & understanding	
<p>AU1 All partners, stakeholders and other organisations operating in and around this National Landscape will be working actively to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing relevant professional development information and learning opportunities (training, seminars) to increase their understanding of the purpose of designation. • developing a co-ordinated approach to information, interpretation and marketing activity to promote the special qualities of the area and appropriate behaviour within it. • promoting the designation, its meaning and special qualities of the area to their internal and external audiences • progressing the distinctive National Landscape signage at boundaries of the area, and within it. 	<p>Supports E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to conserve and enhance landscape character.</p>
<p>AU2 Visitors, residents and local communities should be provided with opportunities to increase their understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure a team of knowledgeable rangers to help plan, manage and deliver an array of outreach activities and practical conservation work throughout the National landscape. • Provide easily accessible online, downloadable and onsite resources to help promote access to the National Landscape and understanding and appreciation of its special qualities. • Promote awareness, understanding and engagement with the area to young people, continuing the legacy of the Chase & Chalke LP Scheme • Develop strategies to reach people or communities with protected characteristics such as people without English as a first language (including the Deaf community), people with disabilities, diversity of ethnicity and those with cognitive/learning and other hidden disabilities. • Promote the Countryside Code to educate visitors and communities to act appropriately in the countryside and to 	<p>Limited support to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to engage people with the conservation and enhancement of landscape character.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by improving access to historic places for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access to outdoor</p>

<p>improve understanding between visitors and those living and working in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote products and services that support the special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape. Provide arts and cultural experiences to encourage people to deepen their emotional connection to the landscape and support the engagement of new and existing audiences. 	<p>recreation and promoting art, craft and cultural activities.</p> <p>Limited support to E8 Support a locally embedded economy by promoting economic activity that adds value to local products and helps support the conservation of the area's special qualities.</p> <p>Some support to E9 Cumulative impacts by moderating the interaction between natural, social, and economic actions.</p>
Wellbeing, involvement & learning	
<p>WIL1 Opportunities for improving health and wellbeing in the National Landscape should be created, improved and promoted, removing barriers to access, including where appropriate, the provision of: green and blue spaces within easy reach of communities; walking, cycling and riding routes, including routes for less able people, those with pushchairs or mobility scooters; opportunities to access and interact with nature; and volunteering and personal development opportunities.</p>	<p>Gives support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by encouraging cycling and walking.</p> <p>Support to E5 Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings by improving access to historic places for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving safety and access to outdoor recreation.</p>
<p>WIL2 NHS Boards, networks and partnerships, relevant health professionals, Local Nature Partnerships and relevant funding initiatives should make greater use of the benefits that the National Landscape provides for the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors. Green prescribing can include supporting exercise and activities in the area's countryside; the popular Walking Festival and other opportunities to improve health and wellbeing of communities and visitors alike</p>	<p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving safety and access to outdoor recreation.</p>
<p>WIL3 The National Landscape Team and partners should investigate further funding opportunities to enhance the Rights of Way /</p>	<p>Gives support to the E1 Climate change ambitions by</p>

<p>countryside access network for all, including enabling better and more inclusive access for the less able.</p>	<p>encouraging cycling and walking. Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access to outdoor recreation.</p>
<p>WIL 4 Children and young people resident within and around the National Landscape should be provided with environmental education opportunities to experience the area through direct contact with the natural environment that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support confidence building by overcoming challenges; • build social skills through teamworking; • improve mental well-being by reducing stress and anxiety, and improving mood; and • reinforce learning and improve memory retention by involving multiple senses, such as touch, sight, and hearing. <p>Activities should develop an appreciation of the area and introduce an understanding of how to conserve it.</p>	<p>Gives a little support to E3 Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species by maintaining and enhancing access to sites whilst avoiding and reducing adverse impacts.</p> <p>Limited support to E4 Protect and enhance the landscape by looking to engage children with the conservation and enhancement of landscape character.</p> <p>Supports E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access to outdoor recreation.</p>
<p>WIL5 Support and encourage effective voluntary activity, in all its shapes and forms, that helps deliver the National Landscape Management Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an Involvement and Learning Strategy to increase learning, training and volunteering opportunities, improving countryside and heritage skills, throughout the National Landscape by the end of 2026. • Develop and support networks of volunteers able to assist in specialist activities. • Engage a team of rangers to harness community and volunteer commitment and community engagement in the National Landscape and to develop programmes of volunteer and community activities. • Establish an environmentally and financially sustainable 'Living Landscape Centre' to act as the resource hub for the National Landscape Partnership, volunteers, trainees, students, residents and visitors. • Develop citizen science programmes to monitor the condition of the National Landscape. • Encourage and support Parish Councils to achieve high standards in working closely with each other, and with voluntary 	<p>A little support to E7 Safeguard and enhance human health by improving access to outdoor recreation.</p> <p>Supports E8 Support a locally embedded economy by promoting careers in land-based and traditional building skills, and encouraging apprenticeships and training</p>

and community groups and meeting local needs and aspirations within the National Landscape.	
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Appendix 6: Review of alternative policies

Table 1: Climate change

Climate change is happening, and its impacts are unavoidable. There is already experience of the impacts of a rapidly heating climate and this threatens many of the defining characteristics and Special Qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	The character of historic and designed landscapes may change. The policies will ensure that the impacts of these changes are understood.	Owners of the historic and designed landscapes will prepare management strategies to deal with climate change but they may not directly address the impacts on the special qualities of the area. The management plan will give a marginally better benefit.
LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).	The policy concerns proposals made by third parties that may impact on or change the landscape. It sets parameters for decision makers to follow.	Statutory bodies, local authorities and NGOs will take similar steps but may not use the National Landscape assessments as a key source. There is not likely to be a material difference.
LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape	The policy encourages research on landscape issues. This will inform decision making.	Statutory bodies, local authorities and NGOs will take similar steps but will not focus narrowly on the National Landscape. The resulting advice may be more generic. The management plan gives greater benefit.
NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	Habitats and wildlife will come under pressure. The policies seek to develop a resilient nature recovery network and ensure actions are monitored and reported.	The local authorities prepare the definitive nature recovery strategies; the National Landscape initiatives must be a part of these wider strategies. There is not likely to be a material difference.
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	None	None

CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	Unplanned or controlled mitigation actions could negatively impact on the special qualities, landscape, biodiversity, cultural heritage and the economy. The policies set out general statements to minimise this effect and seek to advise third parties.	Statutory bodies and the local authorities will be responsible for effective strategies and interventions. There is not likely to be a material difference.
CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	The policies call for climate change adaptation to be a key part of all land management, development and infrastructure decisions. There is also a proposal to prepare and adopt a local Climate Change Adaptation Plan.	Defra, Natural England and the local authorities are preparing Climate Change Adaptation Plans and these will inform national and local policy. They may not address local import aspects of the National Landscape's area. There is not likely to be a material difference.
WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	There may be longer periods of drought as well as an increase in surface water flooding. The policies focus on water quality and its sustainable use. They reference the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge targets.	The National Landscape can only call for actions. It will be for the Environment Agency, water companies and the local authorities to develop or implement regulations address climate change issues. There is not likely to be a material difference.
HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	Neutral	Neutral
HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	Neutral	Neutral

DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	Neutral	Neutral
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.	Neutral	Neutral
RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	Changes in soil temperatures and moisture levels will make farming and forestry planning less certain. The policy looks to deliver advice and support to land managers	Defra, the NFU and others will offer advice and support. This may not be adjusted to take account of the national landscape. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.
RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	The policy looks to promote regenerative and nature-friendly practices; this may help with climate change adaptation.	Defra, the statutory bodies, the NFU, the game and wildlife and river trusts will offer advice and support. This may not be adjusted to take account of the national landscape. There is not likely to be a material difference.
PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	The policies advocate good practice and point to useful guidance on the local characteristics.	The local planning authorities will produce the policies and strategies that manage development. Their policies do reference the guidance cited in the management plan. The principal councils must produce the definitive climate adaptation plans. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.
PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	Neutral	Neutral

SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	Neutral	Neutral
SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	A limited impact but the policy does look to minimise greenhouse gas emissions.	The principal councils must produce the definitive climate adaptation plans and they will look to minimise greenhouse gas emissions. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.
SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	The policies look to support sustainable lifestyles within the area by offering support to local community initiatives.	The principal councils must produce the definitive climate adaptation plans and they will advocate sustainable living options. These councils will be faced with many demands on their services; local opportunities will be lost. The management plan gives greater benefit.
AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.	Neutral	Neutral

WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.	Neutral	Neutral

There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions. However, the proposed policies offer advantages over the do-nothing option as they support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, some opportunities may be lost.

Table 2: Water storage

Climate change is affecting rainfall and river flow. Reduced summer rainfall and increased rates of evaporation may see a reduction in the volumes of water percolating into the aquifer and charging groundwater supplies.

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	Water storage can change local landscape character. The management plan looks to give guidance and training to inform land use planning and management.	Water storage facilities are likely to be the subject of a planning application. This will be decided by the local planning authorities based on the statutory development plans. These councils will consider the impact on landscape, including using NL guidance, but they may have other priorities. The management plan gives marginally greater benefit.
LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).	Neutral	Neutral

LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape	The policy looks to support and analyse research on landscape issues that will inform potential restoration and enhancement measures.	The local planning authorities will consider the impact of water storage on landscape character but may not consider the fine detail when considering landscape sensitivity to change. The management plan gives marginally greater benefit.
NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	Increased water abstraction can degrade water flows in the watercourses that drain the Chase, as well as the hydrological integrity of the wetland habitats. The policies call for a coherent and resilient nature recovery network; and promotes the national targets.	The Environment Agency, local councils and NGOs will monitor the effects of water abstraction on water flows and may consider the effects of wetland habitats. However, the reporting of the national targets set out in the management plan may help to focus actions. The management plan gives marginally greater benefit.
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	Neutral	Neutral
CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	Neutral	Neutral
CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	Neutral	Neutral
WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	The policies advocate the improvement of water quality and its sustainable use as well as the restoration of water courses and wetland habitats.	The Environment Agency and Rivers Trust will seek similar objectives. There is not likely to be a material difference.

HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	Neutral	Neutral
HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	Neutral	Neutral
DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	Neutral	Neutral
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.	Neutral	Neutral
RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	The policy looks to identify and share good practice.	Defra and its associates will follow a similar course but are likely to look to the national landscape to create opportunities on the ground. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.
RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	The policy looks to identify and share good practice.	Defra and its associates will follow a similar course but are likely to look to the national landscape to create opportunities on the ground. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.

PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	The policy sets out worthy principles but limited as the policies are high level. The call to consider cumulative impacts and take a landscape-led approach will bring benefits.	The local planning authorities will develop policies to manage water storage. They will generally consider cumulative effects, but they may not always take a landscape-led approach. The management plan gives marginally greater benefit.
PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	The call to match local need with enhancing the special qualities and characteristics of the national landscape is positive but the policies do not mention water supply.	The Environment Agency and local planning authorities will take careful note of local needs but they may not balance this need against the sensitivities of the national designated landscape. The management plan gives marginally greater benefit.
SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	The policies look to improve the land-based sectors' resilience and profitability whilst helping to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Landscape. This is very likely to include the supply of water. But they are expressed as general aspirations.	The local authorities will wish to improve the viability of local communities. There is not likely to be a material difference.
SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	Neutral	Neutral
SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	Neutral	Neutral
AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Neutral	Neutral

AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.	Neutral	Neutral

There are several organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions to improve water quality. However, the proposed policies offer advantages over the do-nothing option as they take account of the designation purposes and support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, some opportunities may be lost.

Table 3: Nature recovery

The fourth UK State of Nature Report published in 2023 lays bare the stark fact that the UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world, and that nature is still declining. Wildlife loss is well documented and understood. Climate change is threatening the loss of already diminished wildlife at an even greater scale and pace. There is a need to create a robust and resilient nature recovery network – a landscape rich in joined up and well managed habitats. The need for action is urgent to avoid a mass extinction event.

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	The policies focus on wider landscape character rather than a specific issue.	Neutral

LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).	Neutral	Neutral
LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape	Neutral	Neutral
NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	The policies look to set up a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the designated area and in its setting. There is strong emphasis on coordination by all parties. There is a call to manage the effects of invasive non-native species, pests and diseases. The national targets are set out.	The principal councils will publish statutory nature recovery plans. These will provide the strategic direction across their areas. NGOs will also support nature recovery initiatives. Action will happen without the management plan, but it is not certain that there would then be coordinated action across the area. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	A general call to assess and evaluate the natural and cultural capital of the National Landscape, and the services they provide. Direct action relates to the building of environmental records.	It is not certain that the call to embed natural capital accounting into decision making will take hold. If the desire to improve record keeping materialises, then the management plan gives greater benefit.
CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	The policies do not consider nature recovery though there is a target to increase the tree canopy and woodland cover.	There is not likely to be a material difference.
CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	There is an aspiration to publish a climate change adaptation plan. Its content is not certain, but nature recovery may feature.	The principal councils must produce climate change adaptation plans. There is not likely to be a material difference.

WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	The policies advocate the improvement of water quality and its sustainable use as well as the restoration of water courses and wetland habitats.	The Environment Agency and Rivers Trust will seek similar objectives. There is not likely to be a material difference.
HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	Neutral	Neutral
HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	Neutral	Neutral
DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	Policies to protect and enhance the nighttime environment. This will help nocturnal wildlife.	Though several authorities have initiatives to reduce light spillage, these are unlikely to affect the wider areas of countryside required to help with nature recovery. The management plan gives greater benefit.
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.	Neutral	Neutral
RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	The policy supports networking and the dissemination of good practice. This is likely to include nature recovery initiatives.	Defra, its agencies and wildlife NGOs will provide similar information. They may not have the resources to support local networks and initiatives. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.

RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	The policy sets out worthy principles, but these require third parties to act. The policy goes on to set out some actions that will help land managers to conserve nature.	Defra, its agencies and wildlife NGOs will support similar initiatives but may not be able to work across the national landscape. There is not likely to be a material difference, but local opportunities may be lost.
PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	The policy sets out worthy principles but limited as the policies are high level. The call to consider cumulative impacts, take a landscape-led approach and secure 20% BNG will bring benefits to nature recovery.	The policy is intended to inform the actions of the local planning and highway authorities. Defra, its agencies and the wildlife NGOs will also provide guidance and advice to those authorities. However, few of these bodies will seek a 20% BNG, as it is above Defra's guide level. The 20% BNG means that the management plan offers a significantly greater benefit to nature recovery (but this is subject to its adoption by the LPAs).
PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	Neutral	Neutral
SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	Limited as the policies focus more on socio-economic issues, but they may encourage the land-based sector to conserve nature.	There is not likely to be a material difference.
SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	A new topic area that is still evolving. The policy may encourage businesses and visitors to support nature recovery actions.	Regenerative tourism may not develop without the management plan though other agencies will explore visitor giving models. The management plan gives greater benefit.
SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	Limited support to nature recovery.	Other organisations will offer similar support. There is not likely to be a material difference.

AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	Limited support to nature recovery but working with Local Nature Partnerships will give opportunities for nature recovery.	NHS Boards, networks and partnerships, relevant health professionals, Local Nature Partnerships and relevant funding initiatives will deliver similar initiative. There is not likely to be a material difference.
WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.	Some support to nature recovery by inspiring young people and support volunteers to help with nature recover projects.	Several organisations will encourage young people to experience the countryside and offer support to volunteers. They are not likely to develop a comprehensive package across the national landscape. The management plan gives greater benefit.
There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful nature recovery actions. The management plan adds value to the actions of others and, in a few instances, offers a more certain approach for the Chase by taking account of the special qualities of the area. Some of the proposed policies offer limited advantages over the do-nothing option by supporting an area-wide approach. Others will also act but without coordination, opportunities may be lost. Several management plan policies support the actions of others rather than adding extra initiatives. Actions, like regenerative tourism, volunteering and enhanced BNG receipts will only happen with active support from the management plan.		
Table 4: Pests and diseases		
The risk from invasive pests and diseases is significant and constantly growing because of increasing globalization and environmental change. Pests and diseases can have a devastating impact on the natural environment, including plant populations, biodiversity, and ecosystems.		

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	Neutral	Neutral
LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).	Neutral	Neutral
LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape	Neutral	Neutral
NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	Non-native plants, animals, insects, and pathogens may change ecosystem structure and function through direct damage, competition, hybridization, infestation, and/or disease. The policy advocates biosecurity measures and pest control. All measures taken must conserve and enhance the qualities of the landscape.	Defra and its agencies will, with local authority support, undertake similar actions. However, they may not consider the effects on landscape and the area's special qualities. The management plan gives marginally greater benefit.
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	Neutral	Neutral
CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	The policies are narrow in scope so a limited effect.	Uncertain but other agencies may take actions that address the introduction of pests and diseases.

CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	The policies set out high-level aspirations but do not address pests and diseases.	Uncertain but other agencies may take actions that address the introduction of pests and diseases.
WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	The policies consider water quality and the reduction of pollution. They do not consider pests and diseases.	Uncertain but other agencies may take actions that address the introduction of pests and diseases.
HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	Neutral	Neutral
HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	Neutral	Neutral
DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	Neutral	Neutral
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.	Neutral	Neutral

RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	Limited support: the policies look to disseminate good land management practices, and this should include biosecurity but there is no specific reference.	Uncertain but other agencies may take actions that address the introduction of pests and diseases.
RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	Limited support: the policies advocate nature friendly farming and good woodland management but there is no reference to pests and diseases.	Uncertain but other agencies may take actions that address the introduction of pests and diseases.
PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	Neutral	Neutral
SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	Neutral	Neutral
SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	Neutral	Neutral

SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	Neutral	Neutral
AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.	Limited support: the policies look to develop citizen science programmes to check the condition of the National Landscape. This may help with the management of pests and diseases.	Uncertain but other agencies may take actions that address the introduction of pests and diseases. The management plan gives marginally greater benefit.
Defra and its agencies have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions in relation to pests and diseases. The management plan advocates some limited support for their management cannot deliver financial contributions. Where applied, the management plan policies will give a marginally greater benefit by considering the effects on the area's special qualities, which others may not do, and by supporting citizen science monitoring programmes to inform action planning.		
Table 5: Land management		

Woodland and farmland together cover over 96% of the National Landscape. Forestry and agricultural policies and practices have a major bearing, therefore, on the natural beauty and special qualities of the Chase, as well as the quality of air, water and soil health. For agriculture, there is a transition to the new Environmental Land Management Scheme that centres on rewarding farmers and land managers for sustainable farming practices, as well as delivering Government targets for increasing woodland and tree canopy cover, the adoption of nature-friendly farming, and restoration and creation of wildlife-rich habitats.

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	Neutral	Neutral
LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).	The policies focus on landscape characterisation, but they promote positive landscape change to landowners, managers, government and all those with an influence over land.	Defra and its agencies already have similar policies. No difference.
LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape	Neutral	Neutral
NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	Neutral	Neutral
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	The policies advocate financial support for delivering natural and cultural capital.	Defra and its agencies already have policies to support ecosystem service delivery. No difference.
CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	The policies support the development of community food networks, linking farmers and businesses to each other and consumers; and promote the purchase of locally produced food. They advocate funding for carbon sequestration.	Local authorities and NGOs are likely to support community food networks but they may not have the contacts to link in the Cranborne Chase growers. Defra and its agencies already have policies to support carbon sequestration. The management plan may be marginally better.

CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	The policies call for adaption strategies to be implemented and commit to publishing a Climate Adaption plan that will, among other things, consider sectoral impacts for principal land uses such as farming and forestry. This will lead to active implementation.	Other agencies will adopt adaption strategies but they will not be focussed on the needs of the Chase. The management plan will be marginally better.
WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	The policies seek to conserve soil and minimise pesticide and artificial fertiliser use, to reduce water pollution from agriculture.	Defra and its agencies have similar policies, but problems persist. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions. The management plan is marginally better.
HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	Neutral	Neutral
HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	Neutral	Historic England and the local authorities have strategies and policies to protect historic assets from land management activities (such as cultivation and chemical sprays).
DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	Neutral	Neutral
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.	Neutral	Neutral

RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	The policies support tourism and related businesses to jointly promote, and benefit from, the area as a prime destination for stargazing holidays. This may aid farm diversification.	The local authorities support the Dark Sky designation, but they look to the national landscape to promote it. The management plan gives greater benefit.
RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	The policies set out a proactive call for actions to support farming and forestry, including payments for environmental services that benefit the distinctive natural and historic environment of the National Landscape.	Defra and its agencies have similar policies and the resources to deliver action. However, Defra has experienced difficulties in delivering that support to the smaller land management businesses. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions.
PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	Limited support: the policies do support local employment opportunities that conserve and enhance the National Landscape.	The local authorities have proactive economic development programmes, but these may not focus on small scale operations. There may not be a material difference.

SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	The policies advocate collaboration with landowners, farmers and allied businesses to improve the land-based sectors' resilience and profitability, and develop appropriate recreation and tourism facilities, whilst helping to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Landscape.	Defra and its agencies have similar policies and the resources to deliver action. However, Defra has experienced difficulties in delivering that support to the smaller land management businesses. The local authorities have policies to develop recreation and tourism. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions.
SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	The policy looks to stimulate and support regenerative tourism practices in the National Landscape that sustain its natural beauty, support nature recovery and enhance the well-being of local communities. This will enable farm diversification and the further development of game tourism.	Though the local authorities and destination management boards will promote a wide range of tourism initiatives, these may not deliver a regenerative model that supports the national landscape. The management plan is marginally better.
SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	Neutral	Neutral
AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.	Neutral	Neutral

WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.	Neutral	Neutral

Defra and its agencies have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions in relation to land management, but it is reported that there are difficulties in delivering that support.

The management plan does advocate support for land managers but cannot deliver financial contributions. It sets out practical actions that will help the sector. On balance, the management plan is better than the do-nothing option and will remain so until Defra is able to fully establish its ELMs support packages.

Table 6: Growth and development

Development maintains economic viability, sustains the population and supports those who manage the land. But it can change the character of the landscape and negatively impact on landscape quality, biodiversity and heritage.

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	The policy advocates the 'good practice' approach to decision making, highlights the guidance on development in the landscape, and offers training to partners and stakeholders.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan, and they will each have supplementary guidance. However, though they will have access to landscape characterisation reports, they may not take the local distinctiveness of the Chase into account. The management plan is marginally better as support for local distinctiveness may be lost and changes in the landscape may not be monitored.
LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).		
LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape		

NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	The policies advocate development proposals taking account of nature recovery plans and a mitigation hierarchy.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan. They will each have a nature recovery plan. Little difference.
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	The policy calls for the assessment and management of the natural and cultural capital of the area.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan and they each have strong national landscape policies. They may not actively manage the natural and cultural capital assets. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions. The management plan gives a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.
CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	The policies seek to minimise greenhouse gas emissions. This will help to improve air quality and may encourage sustainable building solutions.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan and a climate emergency strategy but may not also seek to conserve and enhance the national landscape. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions. The management plan is marginally better.
CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	The policies call for climate change adaptation to be a significant driver in all new development, infrastructure and transport provision. They commit to publishing a Climate Adaption plan. This will lead to active implementation.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan and a climate adaption plan but may not also seek to conserve and enhance the national landscape. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions. The management plan is marginally better.

WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	The policies call for development to assess and minimise flood risk and implement sustainable drainage schemes, adopt high water efficiency standards (in line with RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge targets) and water conservation measures.	The planning authorities do take advice on flood risk before making decisions but there are examples of development on flood plains and inadequate drainage schemes. The management plan advocates good practice, but this is already adopted by the planning authorities. Little difference.
HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	The policy advocates the 'good practice' approach to decision making, highlights the guidance on development in the historic environment.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan, and they will each have supplementary guidance and access to the HER and record centres. They will have Conservation Area appraisals, but these may not be up to date. There may not be Historic Landscape Characterisations or heritage assessments. The management plan is marginally better as support for local distinctiveness may be lost and changes in the landscape may not be monitored.
HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	The policies call for proposals that are likely to impact on the historic environment and cultural heritage of the National Landscape to be compatible with, and seek to further, the conservation and enhancement of these heritage assets and their setting.	Historic England and local conservation staff will advocate a similar position. The management plan supports the actions of others rather than adding extra initiatives.
DNS A Protect and enhance the nighttime environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	The policies look to remove light pollution and enhance tranquillity.	The local authorities may have policies on light pollution, but it is not likely that these will drive their decision making. The management plan gives a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.	Neutral	Neutral

RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	Neutral	Neutral
RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	Neutral	Neutral
PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	The policies advocate the 'good practice' approach to decision making and highlight the guidance on development in the landscape. They call for the effects of the cumulative impacts of development to be assessed. The policies support innovative design solutions but only where compatible with local distinctiveness, guidance is offered. They call for development proposals to provide a net gain in biodiversity of at least 20%.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan, and they will each have supplementary guidance. However, they may not take the local distinctiveness of the Chase into account, nor are they likely to set the BNG at 20%. The management plan is marginally better as layout and design best suited to support local distinctiveness and a high level of BNG may be lost.
PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	The policies support development that delivers appropriate local housing, employment and services, improves the public realm, and conserves and enhances the national landscape.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan supported by socio-economic data. However, they may not take the local distinctiveness of the Chase into account. The management plan is marginally better as support for local distinctiveness may be lost.
SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	The policies support development that delivers local shops and services, and the development of suitably located and appropriate recreation and tourism facilities that promote and enhance the special qualities of the National Landscape.	The local authorities will have socio-economic and tourism policies in place. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions.

SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	The policy looks to stimulate and support regenerative tourism practices that sustain natural beauty, support nature recovery and enhance the well-being of local communities.	<p>The local authorities and tourism bodies will have destination management and market development strategies and policies.</p> <p>They may not link these initiatives to sustaining natural beauty, nature recovery or enhancing the well-being of local communities.</p> <p>The management plan gives a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.</p>
SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	The policies support development that delivers affordable local houses and offers a developer contribution scheme to secure monies from the enhanced property values to support the management of this National Landscape's character, qualities, and landscapes which bring about those heightened values.	<p>The local authorities will have housing policies in place.</p> <p>The planning authorities' development policies will have only a limited impact on wider countryside action; they are unlikely to seek compensation for harms.</p> <p>The management plan gives a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.</p>
AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.	Neutral	Neutral
WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	Neutral	Neutral

WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.	Neutral	Neutral
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The local planning authorities have statutory responsibility for the management of development, and each have a development plan that has strong national landscape policies. However, these policies are not identical and there can be inconsistencies in decision making across the area. Further, the interpretation of these policies and the weight they are given can also vary. The management plan does not (and cannot) replace the development plans, but it does present evidence and guidance to further the understanding of the purposes of designation and the implications for development proposals. The management plan gives a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.

Table 7: Health and well-being

Connections within the National Landscape and with its setting are important. The mental and physical health benefits of accessing natural beauty are becoming increasingly understood and appreciated. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on human behaviour. For example, people have travelled less and many have worked from home. People are more aware of the importance of green and blue spaces.

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	The policies take a narrow view of landscape but do refer to maintaining tranquillity. Though not mentioned, this will include health and well-being.	It is unlikely that other agencies will use their landscape policies to promote a health and well-being agenda. The management plan is likely to give a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.
LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).		
LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape	Neutral	Neutral

NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	The policies take a narrow approach to nature recovery. The links to well-being are not made.	Some agencies will advocate the links between wellness and nature. The management plan is weaker than other plans.
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	The policies take a narrow approach to natural capital accounting. The links to social capital and well-being are not made.	Some agencies will advocate the links between wellness and nature. The management plan is weaker than other plans.
CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	The policies look to minimise greenhouse gas emissions. This will help to improve health and well-being though the point is not made in the policies.	Each local authority has a climate emergency strategy but may not also look to conserve and enhance the national landscape. The management plan may help in the lobbying for action by focusing on practical solutions but is silent on the health benefits. The management plan may be weaker than other plans.
CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	The policies call for adaption strategies to be implemented and commit to publishing a Climate Adaption plan. It lists assets and features and some sectors. It is not clear how it will link into health and well-being.	Other agencies will adopt adaption strategies that are community based but they will not be focussed on the needs of the Chase. The management plan may be weaker than other plans.
WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	Neutral	Neutral
HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	The policy promoting greater public understanding of, and engagement with, the historic environment of the National Landscape and celebrating it in arts, cultural, and social activities across the area will help improve people's health and well-being.	Historic England, tourism bodies and some NGOs will promote similar policies. Little difference.

HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	Neutral	Neutral
DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	The policies seek to remove light pollution and enhance tranquillity. There will be health and well-being benefits – such as star gazing and being able to explore in peace and quiet.	The local authorities will have some policies on light pollution. The management plan may give a marginally greater benefit than the do-nothing option.
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.		
RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	Neutral	Neutral
RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	Neutral	Neutral
PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	Neutral	Neutral

PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	The policies support development that delivers appropriate local housing, employment and services, improves the public realm, and conserves and enhances the national landscape. Though not mentioned, this will deliver health and well-being benefits.	Each planning authority will prepare a statutory development plan supported by socio-economic data. They are likely to consider the health and well-being benefits of their policies. Uncertain.
SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	The policies support the delivery of practical local services and the provision of recreation facilities. Though not mentioned, this will deliver health and well-being benefits.	Other agencies will adopt a similar approach, but some will make the connection to health and well-being. Uncertain.
SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	Support regenerative tourism practices might deliver some health and well-being benefits to the local population.	The local authorities and destination management bodies may not focus on securing health and well-being benefits for the local population. The management plan may give a marginally greater benefit than the do-nothing option.
SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	Securing affordable housing and promoting sustainable lifestyles can deliver health and well-being benefits, though this is not mentioned.	The local authorities and NGOs will pursue similar policies. No difference.
AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Neutral	Neutral

<p>AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.</p>	<p>The policies seek opportunities to engage and support individuals who are not currently enjoying the benefits of the National Landscape, including people from areas of high deprivation. The call is for visitor facilities and routes to be accessible to those of all abilities guided walks and activities should be offered to those who are not confident walking or riding in the countryside to increase confidence, and there should be the effective use of a range accessible communication formats to support inclusivity. This will support the health and well-being needs in and around the area.</p>	<p>Several authorities will develop effective access initiatives but the management plan gives a greater benefit than the do-nothing option.</p>
<p>WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.</p>	<p>Policies seek opportunities for improving health and wellbeing in the National Landscape with a range of initiatives suggested. There is mention of outdoor education opportunities that will help with young people's mental well-being. And the health sector is urged to engage with the national landscape by prescribing exercise and activities in the area's countryside.</p>	<p>Various authorities and NGOs will develop activities to support health and well-being. Most will be local to communities. The NHS may encourage engagement with the natural environment but only if there are local resources. Without the national landscape input it is unlikely that there will be much activity within the area.</p>
<p>WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people's mental and physical health.</p>	<p>A general policy to encourage and support volunteering. This will address health and well-being issues.</p>	<p>Other agencies will adopt a similar approach but some will make the connection to health and well-being. Uncertain.</p>
<p>Health and wellbeing is a far-reaching area of policy. There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority, and resources to take meaningful actions. The management plan does not spell out the health and well-being benefits in each of its sections when others do (for example, in the nature section). However, overall, the proposed policies offer some advantages over the do-nothing option as they support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, opportunities may be lost.</p>		

Table 8: Equality, inclusion and diversity

National Landscapes are protected for the nation and are available for everyone to enjoy. Visitors to Cranborne Chase are not representative of the full spectrum of society, however, and some people and communities experience unintentional barriers to engagement with the protected landscape which leads to their exclusion or feelings of being unwelcome.

Management Plan Objectives	Benefits of the proposed objective policies	Do nothing situation
LAN A The landscape character, tranquillity and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are fully understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	Neutral	Neutral
LAN B The landscape character, tranquillity, and special qualities of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and its settings are conserved and enhanced (particularly those that are the most sensitive to, or have little capacity for, change).	Neutral	Neutral
LAN C Understand the rate and degree of landscape change within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape	Neutral	Neutral
NE A There is concerted unified action for a widespread recovery of nature by establishing a coherent and resilient nature recovery network across the National Landscape and its setting.	Neutral	Neutral
NE B The benefits and services provided by the natural environment are understood and accurately valued by decision-makers at all levels.	Neutral	Neutral
CL A Mitigation actions are taken to help lessen the severity of climate change effects by encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases and preventing their release into the atmosphere.	Neutral	Neutral


CL B Systems, behaviours and ways of life in the National Landscape are adapted to help people and the environment withstand the current and future effects of climate change.	Neutral	Neutral
WA A The water stored, particularly in the chalk aquifers, and flowing within and from the National Landscape is clean and safe, helping to restore nature, improve people's health and well-being, and contribute to the local economy; flooding is managed in harmony with nature.	Neutral	Neutral
HE A By the end of the Plan period, we will ensure that the historic environment, cultural heritage and traditions of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape are much better understood; and are being valued and celebrated by all.	The move to improve understanding of the significance, relative importance and condition of heritage assets within the National Landscape will increase knowledge and may encourage new visitors.	Historic England and third sector bodies will promote access opportunities, and they have effective diversity and inclusion policies. There is unlikely to be any materially different effects.
HE B The historic and cultural heritage of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape is conserved and enhanced by all those whose work programmes may affect it	Neutral	Neutral
DNS A Protect and enhance the night time environment and dark skies across the Cranborne Chase National Landscape so that current and future generations can experience the wonder and tranquillity of a truly dark sky, and to benefit wildlife and human health.	Neutral	Neutral
DNS B The multiple benefits of dark night skies are understood, valued and enjoyed by all.	Neutral	Neutral

RLM A Land managers understand landscape character and are aware of how their activities can impact on the landscape and environment of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.	Neutral	Neutral
RLM B Land management in the National Landscape integrates productive commercial activity with the conservation of cultural, natural and social heritage.	Neutral	Neutral
PT A Strategic and local decisions are formulated taking full account of the purposes of designation and are implemented in a comprehensive, coherent and consistent way with regard to the character and quality of the area and its setting, together with views into and out of the National Landscape, such that these decisions result in no net detriment to the special qualities of the area.	Neutral	Neutral
PT B Policies and schemes aimed at meeting local needs enhance the special qualities and characteristics of the National Landscape, including its built heritage.	Neutral	Neutral
SRC A Local communities benefit from a thriving rural economy, based on the natural, historic and cultural resources of the National Landscape, that also conserves and enhances its landscape character and special qualities.	Neutral	Neutral
SRC B By the end of this plan period, the National Landscape will become a high quality Regenerative Rural Tourism destination where visitors have a positive impact on their destination, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.	Neutral	Neutral

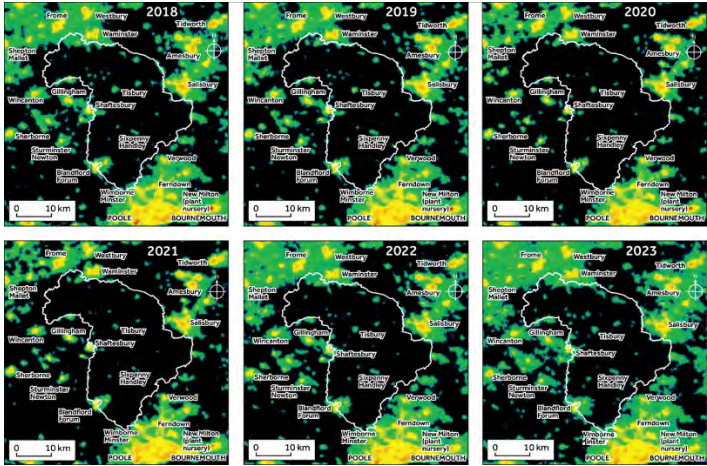
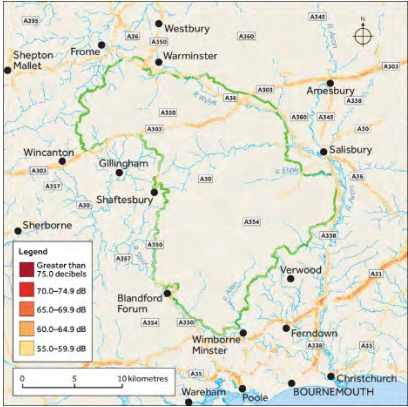
SRC C Proactive and cohesive communities enjoy a high quality of life.	Neutral	Neutral
AU A The purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners, stakeholders and other organisations whose programmes of work may affect the natural beauty of the area.	Engaging local communities and visitors to enjoy and appreciate the Chase through education, interpretation and events will increase knowledge and may encourage new visitors.	The local authorities and third sector bodies already have good education, interpretation and events programmes, and they have effective diversity and inclusion policies. They may lack the resources to sustain regular opportunities on the Chase. There is unlikely to be any materially different effects.
AU B By the end of the Plan period, the purposes of National Landscape designation are known and understood by all partners and stakeholders; and the landscapes, natural beauty and high-quality environment are better understood, valued and supported by the widest range of stakeholders, local communities and visitors.		
WIL A Improved health and well-being opportunities for everyone within and around the National Landscape are further developed and promoted throughout the area and beyond.	By strengthening people’s emotional connections with and attachments to the Chase, it will improve knowledge and may increase confidence, so encouraging new visitors. Encouraging people to value and celebrate being part of a nationally recognised landscape and increasing the understanding and enjoyment of its special qualities will make people feel better in themselves.	Health bodies, local authorities and third sector bodies create and support a series of networks, some of which consider green prescribing but the application is ad-hoc. There may be a more proactive approach with the plan in place.
WIL B A wide range of opportunities exist for schools, residents and visitors to learn more about the area, volunteer, or develop heritage and countryside skills that conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the National Landscape, while improving people’s mental and physical health.		
There are many organisations that have the opportunity, authority and resources to take meaningful actions to address equality, inclusivity and diversity issues. The management plan acknowledges that visitors to the Chase are not representative of the full spectrum of society, and that some people and communities experience unintentional barriers to engagement with the protected landscape. This leads to their exclusion or feelings of being unwelcome. Though only a few policy areas address these issues, the proposed policies offer some advantages over the do-nothing option as they support an area-wide approach. Others will act but without coordination, opportunities may be lost.		

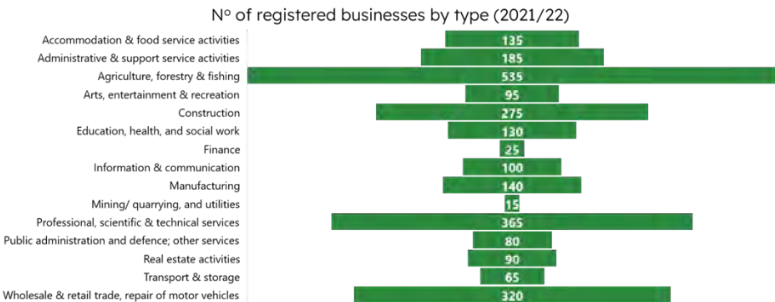
Appendix 7: SEA Objectives and links to data monitoring

Indicator 5-point quality scale				
<i>Score</i>		<i>Comment</i>		
1	Fit for purpose			
2	Adequate	Some minor improvements desirable		
3	Indicative only	Not considered accurate		
4	Inadequate	Little relevance to the National Landscape		
5	Absent	No available data		
N°	Environmental Objectives	SEA indicators	Quality	Commentary
E1	Climate change Address the causes and consequences of climate change	1. Level of greenhouse gas emissions within Protected Landscapes (PLTOF TI 6)	1	Total emissions in 2022 354.6 Kt CO ₂ e (down from 467.5 in 2012) UK Protected Landscapes greenhouse gas emissions statistics: 2005-2022 (DfES&NZ)
		2. Extent of tree canopy and woodland cover in Protected Landscapes (PLTOF TI 8)	1	Total canopy in 2024 14,467 ha
E2	Soils, Air and Water	3. Average carbon stock by tonnes of carbon per hectare. (PLTOF AS 7)	1	Carbon stock in 2024, 208 t/ha Sequestration, 5.1 t co2 equivalent /ha
		4. WFD quality of the water environment data (PLTOF AS 5)	1	In 2024, 34.4% of rivers and 29.5% of water catchments have a good ecological status; there are 3 groundwater bodies, and all are in a poor state.
		5. Area at risk from flooding (Environment Agency)	1	Generally, there is a very low flood risk within the National Landscape but a high risk of localised flooding along the banks of the rivers Allen, Ebble, Nadder and Wylfe. The large majority of the National Landscape is at very low risk of flooding from surface water. There is a medium to low risk of localised surface water flooding along the valleys of the rivers Allen, Ebble, Nadder and Wylfe. High velocity flood water is noted in the upper reaches of

				the River Nadder but it is confined.
				
E3	Protect and enhance biodiversity habitats and species	6. Extent of wildlife rich habitat created or restored outside of protected sites (PLTOF TI 1)	5	Awaiting publication
		7. Percentage of SSSI Features in favourable condition (PLTOF TI 2)	1	In 2024, there are 55 designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the National Landscape, occupying 3,413 ha (3.5%) of its area. 32.7% of the SSSI features are in favourable condition
		8. Percentage of SSSIs assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition (PLTOF TI 3)	1	8.9% assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition.
		9. Extent of priority habitat, outside of protected sites, in favourable management through agri-environment schemes (PLTOF TI 4)	5	Awaiting publication
		10. Percentage of land managers adopting nature friendly farming on a	5	Awaiting publication

		percentage of their land (PLTOF TI 5)		
E4	Protect and enhance the landscape	11. Fixed-point photography	5	Survey points in place but needs a new survey programme
		12. Length of existing powerlines moved underground (local survey)	5	Needs local survey
		13. Number of geological and geomorphological SSSI unit features and % in favourable or recovering condition (PLTOF SA 15)	1	13 features and 53.8% in favourable or recovering condition
E5	Sustain and enhance cultural heritage, including heritage assets and their settings	14. Number and percentage of nationally designated heritage assets in Protected Landscapes to be deemed at risk (TI 10)	1	In 2022, 62 assets are at risk (2.5% of total assets).
E6	Local Distinctiveness	15. Number of planning authorities with vernacular design guidance mentioning the Cranborne Chase NL	2	Two, Wiltshire and Dorset Councils
		16. % of development decisions against Partnership advice	5	Data not available
E7		17. Light pollution maps	1	Data from local surveys and from NASA Earth data

Safeguard and enhance human health			
	18. Road noise maps	1	Data from Defra Lden Road Noise surveys
			
	19. Number and % increase of volunteer hours supporting the management and enjoyment of the National Landscape	2	Over 500 volunteers signed up for Big Chalk; need a count of all voluntary activity.
	20. Metres of accessible path as a % of total path (PLTOF TI 9a)	5	Awaiting survey
	21. % Public Rights of Way in good condition	5	In 2024, there is 1,553 kilometres of rights of way in the NL; there is no data on their condition.
	22. Number of disability accessible parking spaces (PLTOF TI 9c)	5	Awaiting survey

		23. Number of accessible gates and gaps (PLTOF TI 9d)	5	Awaiting survey																														
		24. Number of accessible or easy access routes for which wayfinding has been created or improved PLTOF TI 9h)	5	Awaiting survey																														
		25. Deprivation statistics (PLTOF AS 23)	1	Across the NL, the average decile of deprivation is 5.																														
		26. Housing affordability (PLTOF AS 21)	1	Affordability Ratio = 11 In 2021, average earnings per month were £2,150 in the NL (English average for rural areas was £2,300). Full-time employees in the NL could expect to spend 11 times their earnings on buying a home																														
E8	Support a locally embedded economy	27. Number of visitors	5	Not collated																														
		28. Number of local units of registered businesses by industry type (PLTOF AS 22)	1	2,555 registered business units																														
		<p>Nº of registered businesses by type (2021/22)</p>  <table><thead><tr><th>Business Type</th><th>Nº of registered businesses</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Accommodation & food service activities</td><td>135</td></tr><tr><td>Administrative & support service activities</td><td>185</td></tr><tr><td>Agriculture, forestry & fishing</td><td>535</td></tr><tr><td>Arts, entertainment & recreation</td><td>95</td></tr><tr><td>Construction</td><td>275</td></tr><tr><td>Education, health, and social work</td><td>130</td></tr><tr><td>Finance</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>Information & communication</td><td>100</td></tr><tr><td>Manufacturing</td><td>140</td></tr><tr><td>Mining/ quarrying, and utilities</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Professional, scientific & technical services</td><td>365</td></tr><tr><td>Public administration and defence; other services</td><td>80</td></tr><tr><td>Real estate activities</td><td>90</td></tr><tr><td>Transport & storage</td><td>65</td></tr><tr><td>Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles</td><td>320</td></tr></tbody></table>			Business Type	Nº of registered businesses	Accommodation & food service activities	135	Administrative & support service activities	185	Agriculture, forestry & fishing	535	Arts, entertainment & recreation	95	Construction	275	Education, health, and social work	130	Finance	25	Information & communication	100	Manufacturing	140	Mining/ quarrying, and utilities	15	Professional, scientific & technical services	365	Public administration and defence; other services	80	Real estate activities	90	Transport & storage	65
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Transport & storage	65																																	
Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles	320																																	
		29. Number of businesses following regenerative tourism initiatives	5	Survey required																														
E9	Cumulative Impacts – to avoid significant adverse effects between the above interrelationships	No indicator		monitored through annual reporting																														

Appendix 8: Précis of consultation responses

Historic England

4th August 2025

We note the assessment's conclusion that the MP is 'fit for purpose' with regard to positively responding to the rich and diverse historic environments of the Chase.

Rohan Torkildsen, Partnerships Team Leader South West.
Historic Environment Planning Advisor South West.

Natural England

28th July 2025

Natural England have assessed the SEA report against the criteria set out in the SEA Directive and I can advise that we concur with the conclusions of the report that the proposed policies will not give rise to any significant adverse environmental effects.

Kyle Conroy, Sustainable Development Higher Officer

Wessex Area Team

Environment Agency

No comment