

Devon Local Nature Partnership

Working together to secure Devon's natural value



Great Hangman, Exmoor taken from the SW Coast Path. Photographer: Elizabeth Harris

Newsletter 1 - February 2013

Firstly, thank you to everyone for their input to last year's LNP development process and apologies for the lack of communication since. You will hopefully be aware that the resulting bid to Defra led to us receiving Ministerial support for the Devon Local Nature Partnership (LNP) in September 2012. This is the first LNP newsletter and aims to give you a quick overview of work to date. **Please join the Forum** (see below) in order to help to make the LNP a strong and effective partnership, **help us find a strong Chair for the LNP**, and do visit the [Devon Local Nature Partnership website](#) for further information.

This is still very early days for the LNP and we need your support and input in order to make it work.

Devon LNP's high level (overlapping) priorities

- **Protect and improve Devon's natural environment**
- **Grow Devon's Green Economy** – in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other.
- **Reconnect Devon's people and nature** – strengthening the connections between people and nature to the benefit of both.

Initial actions for the LNP are set out in an interim action plan, click [here](#) to view. This will be replaced by a **Business Plan in spring 2013**. If you would like to input into development of the Business Plan please join the LNP Forum (see below).

LNP Chair sought

The Board is currently seeking a high performing, enthusiastic individual to Chair the LNP. More information can be found on our [website](#). **The closing date for applications is Sunday 03 March 2013.**

Devon LNP Board established

An LNP Board has been established and the first meeting was held on 3rd December 2012. Members are:

Member	Sector represented
Professor Martin Attrill (Director of the Marine Institute, Plymouth University)	Academia
Harry Barton (CEO, Devon Wildlife Trust)	Natural Environment - non governmental organisations
Nicola Bulbeck (CEO Teignbridge District Council)	Local Authority
Elaine Cook (CEO, Community Council of Devon)	Communities
Mark Jones (Area Manager, Natural England)	Defra (Natural England, Forestry Commission and Environment Agency)
Robin Milton (Exmoor farmer)	Landowner / Land Manager
Dr Virginia Pearson (Director of Public Health)	Health and Wellbeing Board
Corinna Woodall (Tamar Valley AONB Manager)	Protected landscapes

Dr Stephen Bird, Operations Director, South West Water and Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board Member, acts as the main LEP contact for the LNP.

More information on Board members, selection of Board members and minutes from Board meetings can be found [here](#).

EU funding 2014 - 2020

A priority for the LNP is to maximise the benefits to Devon from the 2014 – 20 EU funding programme (The Common Strategic Framework Funds include the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund). Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) are being given a key role in helping to allocate some of these funds. There is an expectation from Ministers that LEPs will work in partnership with others, such as Local Nature Partnerships. If you are interested in engaging in this area of work please [contact the LNP secretariat](#).

State of Environment Report

The LNP is commissioning a Devon State of the Environment Report, to be published spring 2013. This will provide an overview, and simple analysis, of the current state of Devon's environment and its relevance and value to social, health and economic issues. The report will feed into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, which is being produced by the Devon and Torbay Health and Wellbeing Boards and looks at the current and future health and care needs of Devon.

Duty to co-operate

LNPs (along with LEPs, Natural England, Environment Agency and others) are 'prescribed bodies' which have a duty to co-operate in relation to the planning of sustainable development. This includes the preparation of development plan documents, marine plans and related activities. The Devon LNP will be setting out how it intends to undertake this duty.

Devon County Council and Exeter City Council are currently drafting a duty to cooperate protocol to cover the Devon area. It is anticipated that the protocol will cover activities of Local Authorities, Government Agencies and other bodies such as the Local Nature Partnership.

Please join the Forum

The Forum is a crucial part of the LNP structure. Members will act as a 'critical friend' to the Board, contribute to the development of priorities and objectives, and, critically ensure delivery on the ground.

To join the forum and receive future newsletters please email nature@devon.gov.uk

Please provide the details of one individual in your organisation to provide a point of contact for consultations.

Ministerial event

Board member Corinna Woodall (Tamar Valley AONB Manager) represented Devon LNP at the first LNP Ministerial event which was held on 11th February. Details will be placed on the [Devon LNP news page](#) when available.