



The Dorset Coast Strategy

2011-2021



Foreword

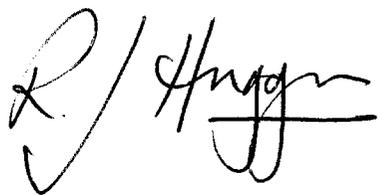
There has been a great deal of progress in the management of the Dorset coast in the last 12 years, but coastal management and the Dorset Coast Strategy, like the coast, is not fixed. New issues and problems continue to arise and these should be addressed following the guidelines set out within the initial Strategy. There are continuing challenges for our local inshore fishing industry. The beaching and subsequent incident management and removal of the MSC Napoli highlighted the vulnerability of the Dorset coast to pollution events, and over the last few years complex issues concerning wind and tidal energy production have also come to light.

Following the introduction of the Marine and Coastal Access Act at the end of 2009, there is a new national organisation, the Marine Management Organisation, who we look to for guidance but also offer our assistance.

We need to continue to embrace opportunities such as the chance given to us to be a 'pathfinder' in DEFRA's initiative identifying ways to deal with adaptation to coastal change. Funding support from DCF members and European programmes allowed us to develop the original Dorset Coast Strategy, and since, to deliver innovative projects such as C-SCOPE. We would hope in the future to utilise such opportunities to develop our understanding and apply our knowledge to the management of the Dorset coast.

We must continue to assist in the evolution of advanced and robust ICZM policies and the development of a marine spatial plan for the Southern inshore and offshore marine plan areas.

I am committed to the work of the Dorset Coast Forum and hope to maintain, and enhance, the excellent work that the Forum has done already. I endorse this revised strategy which provides a framework for all organisations and groups to work together to achieve integrated coastal management along the Dorset coast.



Bob Huggins
Chairman
Dorset Coast Forum



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1. What is the Dorset Coast Strategy 2011 – 2021?

The Dorset Coast Strategy 2011-2021 (DCS) is a high level non-statutory document which aims to set out a consensus view on the way in which the members of the Dorset Coast Forum will work together to improve the planning and management of the Dorset Coast and inshore waters.

The goals of the Strategy are to:

- Establish integrated policy
- Establish guidelines for more detailed coastal management plans
- Identify strategic opportunities for resource development
- Engage and develop participation of a wide range of partners
- Develop a co-ordinated approach to strategy implementation
- Identify solutions for sustainable coastal development, management and access
- Evaluate success and report results throughout Europe and the UK

Background on the Dorset Coast Strategy

The Dorset Coast Strategy (2011–2021) is the first formal revision of the original Dorset Coast Strategy (1999–2011) developed as part of a European demonstration programme. It builds on its predecessor and an interim progress report published in 2005. There is a new vision, and five key objectives, but some of the policies are still as relevant today as they were in 1999 and so have been included in the revised Strategy.

Key changes and events that have occurred since 1999 that have been taken into account in the updated Strategy include:

- The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009
- Advancements in climate change science and predictions
- Predicted increases in flood and storm events at the coast
- New coastal developments
- Weymouth Bay and Portland chosen as hosts to the 2012 Olympic sailing and windsurfing events.
- The Navitus Bay Wind Park
- Proposed Marine Conservation Zones and SACs
- Designation of the Dorset & East Devon World Heritage Site in 2001

- Changes in fisheries management with new Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities
- The review of the Shoreline Management Plans (SMP) in 2010
- New management plans e.g. the World Heritage Site Management Plan and AONB Management Plan
- The Dorset Integrated Seabed Study (DORIS) has provided a huge increase in the understanding of seabed habitats and geology
- The intentional beaching of the container ship MSC Napoli following catastrophic storm damage to its hull
- The recent and current economic situation
- New Planning Policy and Legislations
- New UK targets for renewable energy and the need for new technology

The Topic Papers

There are fifteen topic papers that cover a range of sector information from military to maritime industries to biodiversity and land and seascapes that help draw together the information necessary for this Strategy. They contain detailed information that support the Strategy. Updated versions of the topic papers (2010) are available on the Dorset Coast Forum website www.dorsetcoast.com



2. What is the Strategy's purpose and who is it for?

This is a Strategy for the whole of the Dorset coast and for the members of the Dorset Coast Forum. It is a document that promotes sustainable coastal and marine management. The philosophy behind the objectives and policies presented in the Strategy are supported in the many management plans, spatial plans, action plans and policy documents relevant to the management of the Dorset coast and sea.

3. The Dorset Coast Forum

The Dorset Coast Forum (DCF) is a strategic coastal partnership, established in 1995, which looks at the long-term, broad-scale issues facing the Dorset coast and its inshore waters. The overriding aim of the Forum is to promote a sustainable approach to the management, use and development of Dorset's coastal zone, which will ensure that its inherent natural and cultural qualities are maintained and enhanced for the benefit of future generations.

To do this it will:

- Encourage co-operation and dialogue between the different interests and users of the Dorset coast;
- Encourage the gathering and dissemination of knowledge, and the carrying out of necessary research in relation to the physical processes, natural environment and human use of the Dorset coastal zone;
- Review existing national, regional and local coastal policies and work towards the production of integrated policies specific to the Dorset coastal zone.

The DCF has over 260 organisations as members from the private, voluntary and public sectors. Its membership has expertise, local knowledge and a deep understanding of Dorset's coast and its inshore waters. DCF wishes to develop and work with all the commercial sectors in the future. To date the Dorset Coast Forum has been resourced through a number of funding organisations, including Dorset County Council, which acts as the Forum's host (for current funders please see the DCF website www.dorsetcoast.com). The partnership includes the towns of Poole and Bournemouth. The Forum has no executive powers, its members have no voting rights and as far as possible it operates on an 'equal partners' basis.

To assist the work and direction of the Forum an independent Chairman and a Steering Group of representatives from a variety of organisations has been established. There is a core DCF team, which includes a secretary to the Forum, a Coordinator, and an assistant, and project staff. Much of the work carried out by the DCF team involves stakeholder engagement through the DCF's membership. Project funding is key to the growth of the DCF and to what the Forum team can deliver.

DCF members work together to maximise opportunities an example of which is the Olympic 2012 sailing events that will showcase Dorset to the world in 2012. The DCF continues to bring together the leading players and its Strategy is revised on a regular basis to ensure its validity.



4. Key DCF Achievements include:

World Heritage Site status for the Dorset and East Devon coast – the Forum was the source, catalyst and main consultative body for the development of the bid for World Heritage Site status. The Dorset & East Devon World Heritage Site was added to the UNESCO World Heritage Site list in 2001. It is more commonly known as the Jurassic Coast.

Inshore Fisheries – the DCF supported the local fishing industry in retaining the EU 6-12 mile derogation and banning of foreign pair trawling within 12 nautical miles. It also raised the profile of Dorset's fisheries through the 'Seafood from the Dorset Coast Cookbook', the 'Seafood Cookbook 2012' and helped with the successful Dorset Seafood Festival. DCF has worked with fishermen on developing the network of national Marine Conservation Zones.

Collaborative Working – utilising the DCF membership to address issues, such as climate change, sea level rise, Marine Conservation Zones and coastal defence decision making in Dorset. The DCF Team has facilitated groups such as the Christchurch Harbour Group in compiling the Christchurch Harbour Management Plan as well the Dorset Marine Conservation Zone Group in providing advice and maps to the regional Finding Sanctuary Project. The DCF has worked with the Environment Agency to deliver effective projects on coastal change and flooding, involving local communities and businesses.

C-SCOPE (2008-2012) – a European funded project, aimed at delivering a local Marine Plan, an innovative planning tool (Coastal Explorer Planning) and iCoast, a public facing website providing recreational information and information on the sustainable use of the coast: www.cscope.eu/en and www.icoast.co.uk. All the C-SCOPE project work has been carried out with DCF members to ensure there is local input from those who use the coast most.

Coastal Change Pathfinder Project (2009-2011) - a DEFRA funded project working with communities along the Jurassic Coast to explore how they can adapt to coastal change. The Coastal Change Pathfinder Officers were hosted within the Dorset Coast Forum Team and used the scenario tools developed by the DCF to engage with coastal communities about planning to adapt to coastal change. The project helped ensure communities were well-equipped to understand, debate and take part in the decision making processes involved in managing coastal change. Find out more about the [Coastal Change Pathfinder Project](#).

Marine and beach litter - providing a lead in the Dorset & East Devon marine and beach litter campaign 'Litter Free Coast & Seas'.



5. The Dorset coast

The coast of Dorset stretches for 177miles/285 km from Lyme Regis in the west to Chewton Bunny (Christchurch) in the east. It includes the Dorset section of the Jurassic Coast and part of the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). For management purposes the inland geographical range depends on the activity involved and the impact this may have on the coast. Seawards most activities affecting the coast are constrained within the inshore waters but projects have extended out to the 12nautical mile territorial limit.

Over two-thirds of the population of Dorset live in the coastal area and its high quality environment supports a great diversity of wildlife and beautiful land and seascapes. Furthermore, Dorset's marine environment is rich and diverse and has an important maritime history. Along the coast there are small, medium and large resorts, all of which contribute to the local economy. Two ports, Portland and Poole, together with a number of smaller harbours, are important to the economic development of the area. The coast and its inshore waters are probably Dorset's most important asset and this simple recognition provides the basis for the work of the Dorset Coast Forum.

Substantial recreational use is made of the coastal waters with major sailing activity taking place in Poole Harbour and in Weymouth and Portland, the hosts of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic sailing events.



6. The wider context

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)

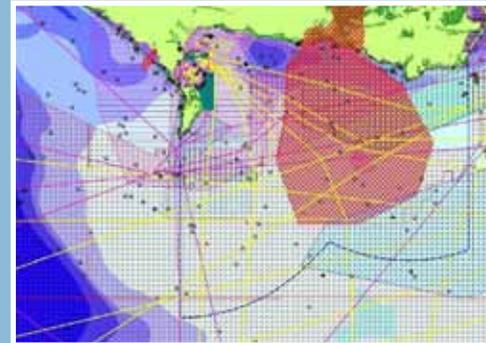
ICZM is a process for the management of the coast using an integrated approach, regarding all aspects of the coastal zone, including geographical and political boundaries, in an attempt to achieve sustainability. This concept was born in 1992 during the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro.

The European Commission defines ICZM as “a dynamic, multidisciplinary and iterative process to promote sustainable management of coastal zones. It covers the full cycle of information collection, planning (in its broadest sense), decision making, management and monitoring of implementation. ICZM uses the informed participation and cooperation of all stakeholders to assess the community goals in a given coastal area, and to take actions towards meeting these objectives. ICZM seeks, over the long-term, to balance environmental, economic, social, cultural and recreational objectives, all within the limits set by natural dynamics¹. “

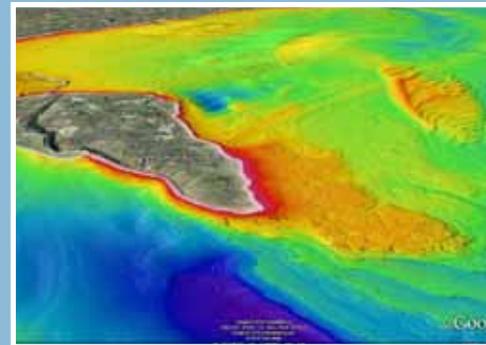
Marine Spatial Planning (Marine Planning)

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is a practical way to create and establish a more rational use of marine space, to balance demands for development with the need to protect marine ecosystems, and to achieve social and economic objectives in an open and planned way².

MSP does not lead to a one-time plan. It is a continuing, iterative process that learns and adapts. The development and implementation of MSP involves a number of steps that accommodate changes as the process evolves over time³.



Dorset's pilot Marine Management Area and the Seabed mapping of the Dorset coast from the DORSET Integrated Seabed survey (DORIS) Project.



This image was produced using data from a collaborative project involving the Dorset Wildlife Trust, Maritime & Coastguard Agency, Channel Coast Observatory and Royal Navy. Other partners include: National Oceanographic Centre, Natural England, University of Southampton and Dorset Strategic Partnership.

1 Communication from the Commission to the council and the European parliament on Integrated Coastal Zone Management: A Strategy for Europe 2000

2 DEFRA 2008

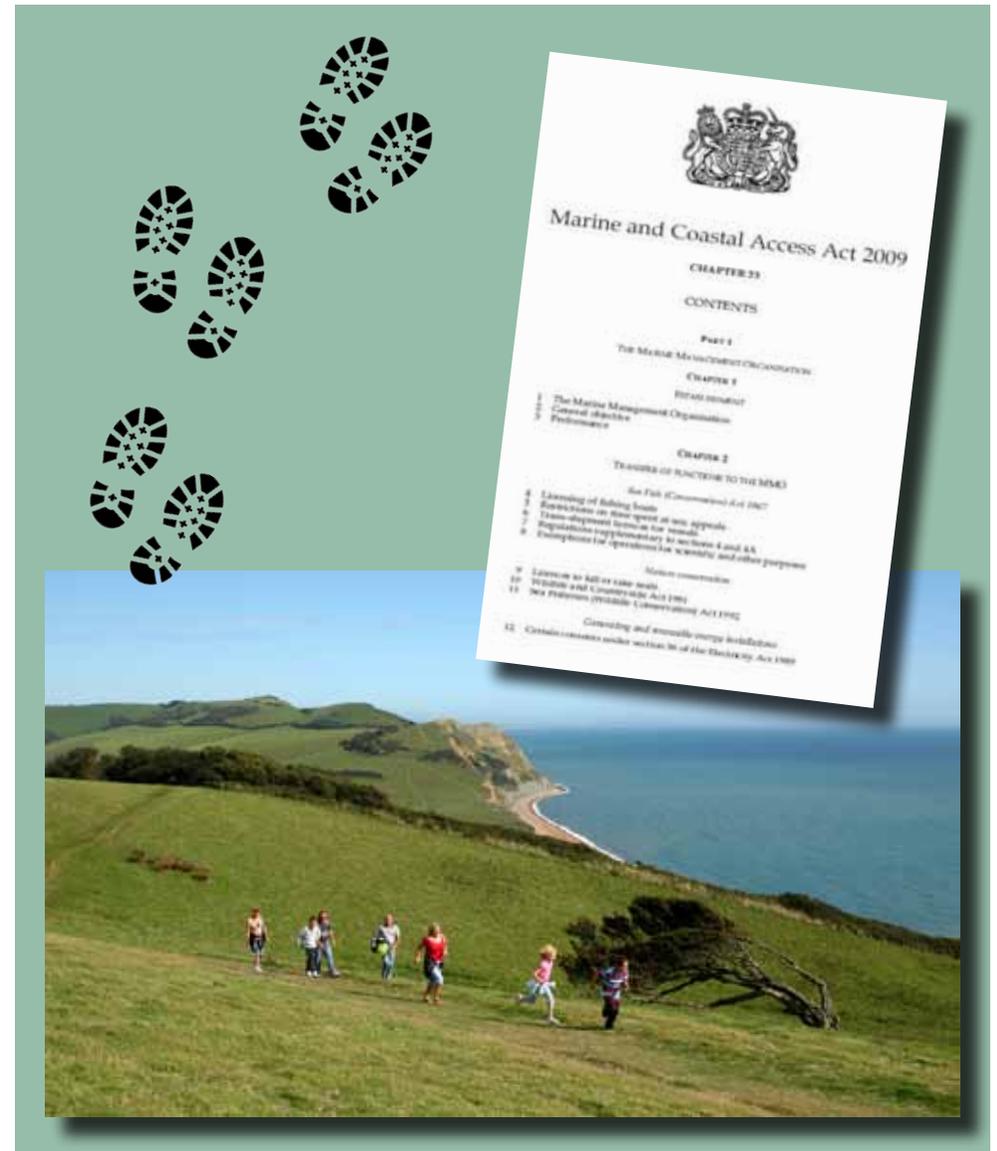
3 Marine Spatial Planning, a step by step approach towards ecosystem-based management, IOC, UNESCO 2009

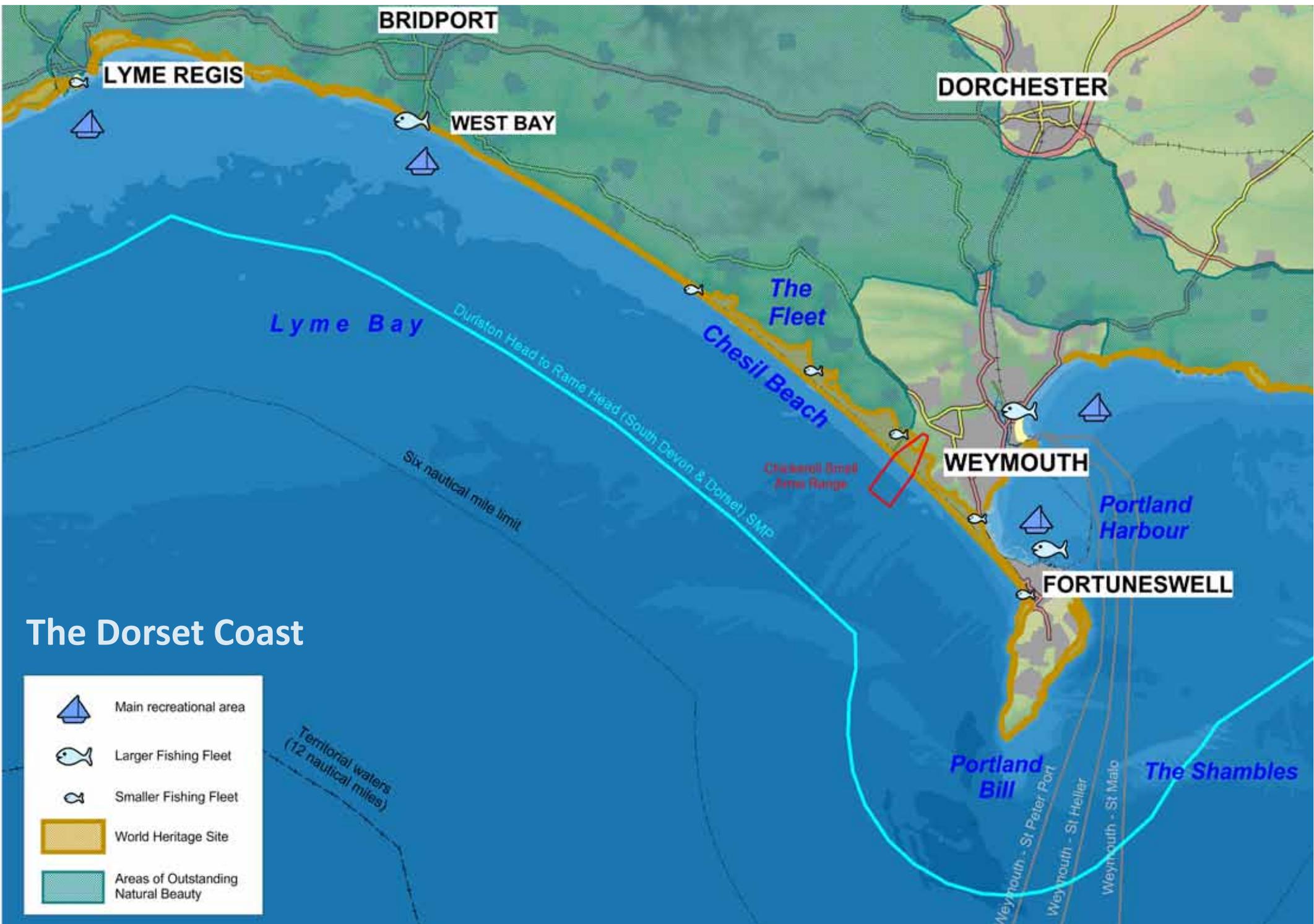
The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009

The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009) introduces a new system of marine management to the UK. The Act;

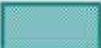
1. Has established an independent body, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) who are responsible for delivering a number of marine functions on behalf of UK Government. The MMO is:
 - Responsible for drawing up marine plans
 - Responsible for administering marine environmental licensing and harbour regimes
 - Responsible for the management of marine fisheries, undertaking nature conservation functions and using powers to enforce fisheries, licensing and nature conservation legislation.
2. Introduces a new system of marine planning to ensure a sustainable future for the coastal and offshore waters through managing and balancing the many activities, resources and assets in our marine environment. Marine planning will link together with terrestrial planning to help achieve integration of coastal zone management.
3. Provides a UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS) which presents the framework for Marine Plans and ensures consistency across the UK providing direction for the new marine licensing system. The MPS sets out the general environmental, social and economic considerations that need to be taken into account in marine planning as well as providing guidance on the pressures and impacts which decision makers need to consider when planning for, and permitting development in, the UK marine area.
4. Establishes new marine licensing provisions that are less complex.
5. Provides powers to designate new Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) which will help towards establishing an ecologically coherent network of marine protected areas within UK waters.
6. Has established, in England, Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs) - these have replaced the Sea Fisheries Committees. IFCAs are tasked with the sustainable management of inshore sea fisheries resources in their local area and their responsibilities include both fisheries and nature conservation.

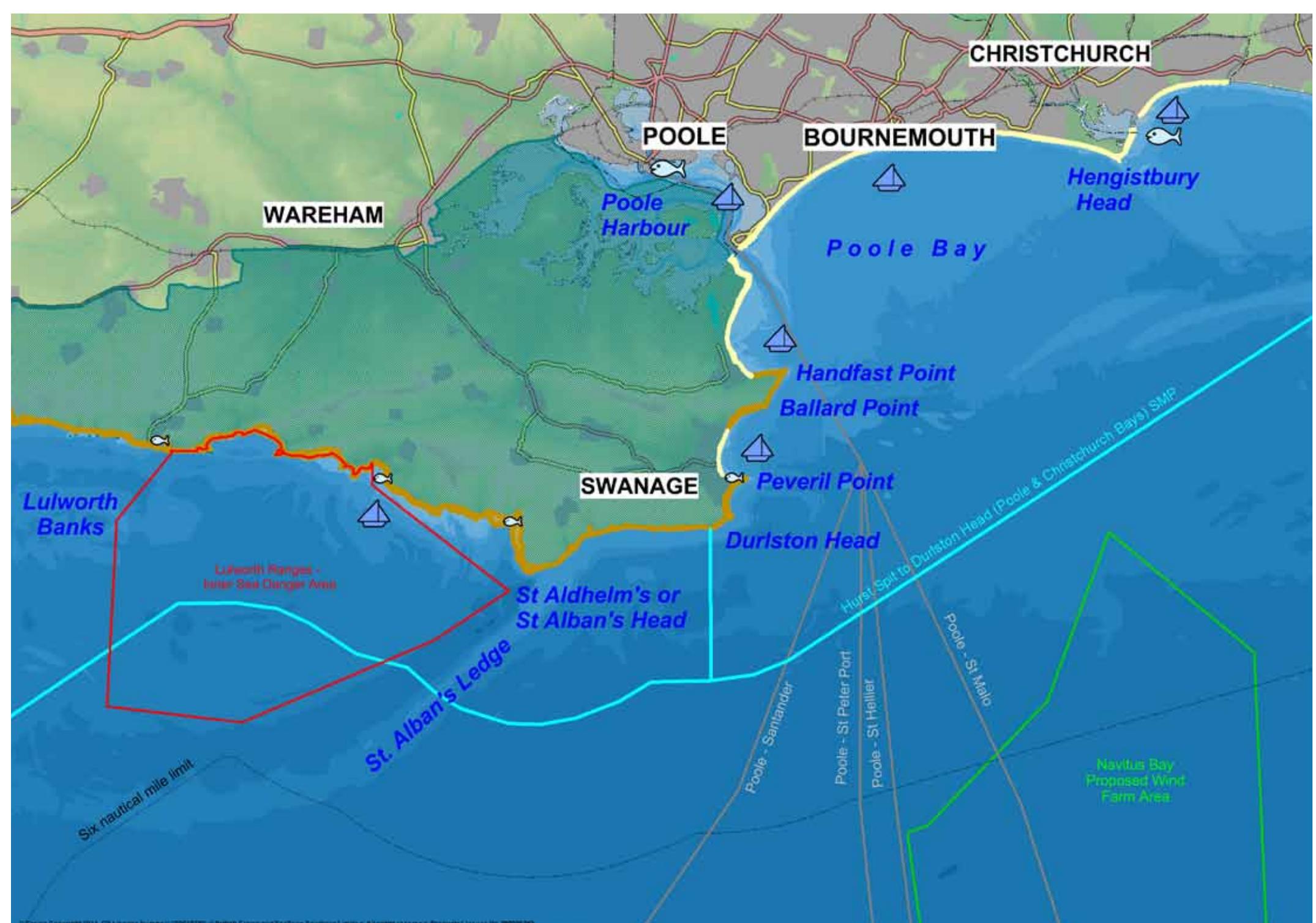
7. Introduces new powers to extend recreational access to the English coast and to enable the creation, as far as is possible, of a continuous route around the coast wide enough to allow unconstrained passage on foot and recreational space. Rufus Castle to Lulworth in Dorset is one of the pilot routes for the coastal access scheme.





The Dorset Coast

-  Main recreational area
-  Larger Fishing Fleet
-  Smaller Fishing Fleet
-  World Heritage Site
-  Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty



7. The key elements of the Dorset Coast Strategy

There are four key elements to the Dorset Coast Strategy:

VISION	A vision of the future of the Dorset Coast
PRINCIPLES	The basis for widespread agreement on future planning and management of the Dorset coast
OBJECTIVES	Five key objectives
POLICIES	A number of policies for the future management of Dorset's coast

8. The Vision

“In 2050, the Dorset coast and marine environment, its landscapes and seascapes, cultural heritage and rich biodiversity, are protected and enhanced for current and future generations. Communities living there are healthy, resilient and living in harmony with natural processes, whilst a diverse and thriving coastal economy which uses natural resources sustainably supports those communities. Both residents and visitors alike are using the coast responsibly for enjoyment, education and inspiration.”

”



9. The Principles for planning and managing the Dorset Coast

The principles should steer the future planning and management of the Dorset coast and its inshore waters. The success of the Strategy relies in putting them all into effect.

Principle 1: Embed Sustainable Development at the core of coastal management.

What is sustainable development?

“Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” (Our Common Future, Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987).

Principle 2: Effective partnership working.

Effective local involvement in decision-making over the planning and management of the coast should be supported. Statutory organisations within Dorset which have coastal responsibilities, together with those who have responsibilities within the Ports and inshore waters, need to work together through the Dorset Coast Forum and elsewhere, to:

- Provide effective local consultation which allows sufficient time for an informed response
- Develop open and co-operative approaches to resolve conflict

- Make the best use of scarce financial resources to plan, manage, monitor and use the coast
- Ensure management and development decisions, when taken and implemented, are of the highest possible quality and based on the best possible information
- Liaise and consult openly with representatives of the owners, users and interests which they regulate, or whose actions they affect

Principle 3: Use and share best available data and information.

Using and sharing best available data will support the future management and planning of the Dorset coast and its inshore waters. Information gathered at public expense should be placed in the public domain, and made as freely available as possible.

Principle 4: To ensure Global awareness.

Dorset is not isolated in the world: our actions in Dorset may have consequences for other areas and vice versa. The Coast Forum will ensure that the consequences of local action are explored wherever possible, and also has a remit to engage across a wider geography to address consequences that are the product of actions beyond the Dorset coast.

10. Objectives and Policy areas

Objectives and policies within the Dorset Coast Strategy should be reflected in the many management plans, spatial plans, action plans and policy documents that are relevant to the Dorset coast and sea.

OBJECTIVE 1 - A coast that is at least as beautiful, and as rich in wildlife and cultural heritage, as it is now.

Inspiring coastal landscapes and seascapes, the diversity of wildlife and marine life and the historic environment onshore and offshore will be protected and enhanced. High quality development, good design, creative and cultural activity within vibrant coastal towns and villages will be promoted.



Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
1.0 Ensure development of the coast and its inshore waters is sustainable and appropriate for the proposed location.	Sustainable development of the Dorset coast and its inshore waters is fundamental to the social and economic well-being of the population. It should take into account the potential impacts to the transport system and local land and seascape characteristics, and ensure that the scale and design of all development enhances Dorset's coastal areas. This policy is supported and delivered through relevant management plans such as those of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site, Local Authority Development plan policies and Shoreline Management Plans.	LAs, JCWHP, NT, Landowners, AONB
1.1 Promote and support geological conservation and the understanding of coastal processes through the World Heritage Site Management Plan.	The geology and geomorphology of the Jurassic Coast is of world-wide importance, and was recognised through the successful designation of the Dorset and East Devon Coast as a World Heritage Site in 2001. Continued partnership work and management is needed in order to retain the status of the World Heritage Site.	JCWHP
1.2 Promote integrated planning on land and at sea	Strong planning policies should be maintained and implemented where Marine Planning policy, SMPs, management plans for Ports and Harbours and the Local Development Frameworks are all important.	DCF Team - C-SCOPE, LAs, EA, NE, PP, PHC, Harbour Authorities

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
1.3 Support the local delivery of biodiversity conservation through the national and the Dorset Biodiversity Strategy.	The Government's UK Biodiversity Action Plan was published in 1994 as a result of signing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. The new national Biodiversity Strategy published October 2011 and the Dorset Biodiversity Action Plan (2003 -2013) outline actions to help conserve, restore and recreate biodiversity. The plan also presents priorities and actions for the coastal and marine environment. Dorset Marine Biodiversity Group has been established to coordinate local delivery through strong support and commitment from a large number of sectors and organisations.	AONB, DWT, Southern IFCA, MMO, DCF Team, NE, WW, EA, RSPB, DCC, CEFAS, Universities, NT, JCWHT, DMB, Landowners, JNCC
1.4 Promote pro-active marine wildlife conservation to ensure Dorset's coastal and marine species and habitats are maintained and/or enhanced.	Marine wildlife conservation within Dorset is still a priority. Having a healthy marine environment provides many benefits to different maritime sectors including tourism and recreation, from diving to beach holidays, and fishing where fish stocks are maintained at sustainable levels.	DWT, Southern IFCA, MMO, NE, DCF Team, RSPB, JNCC, Port Authorities, Harbour Authorities, EA
1.5 Ensure there is balanced debate on issues relating to marine conservation and any new management measures from local, regional, national and European levels are developed and implemented fairly.	It is essential that all sectors are brought into any decisions/debate regarding the development of conservation objectives and management measures for Marine Protected Areas. For example, with the creation of Marine Conservation Zones. The Southern IFCA has a responsibility for managing the inshore fisheries and the management of conservation interests in the Southern IFCA district.	DCF Team, NE, EA, LFA, DWT, MMO, PP, PHC, JNCC, Southern IFCA
1.6 Minimise point source pollution and diffuse pollution, prioritising activity according to relative benefits and costs.	Improving water quality and reducing pollution remains a priority for the Dorset coast as poor water quality can have a negative impact on the environment, communities and the economy.	EA, WW, Landowners, NT
1.7 Promote best land management practices to reduce pollution and the associated impacts on coastal and river water quality.	Upstream development and land management practice inevitably has impacts on the marine environment, for example Poole Harbour is artificially nutrient rich due to human activity upstream.	EA, WW, AONB, DWT, NT, Landowners, LAs, NE, NFU

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
1.8 Minimise the impacts of unavoidable pollution on local wildlife and the economy.	Pollution incidents can be extremely detrimental to the environment, the local community and the economy and best efforts should be made to minimise these impacts with clear communication between stakeholders and effective plans in place.	EA, WW, LAs, DWT, NE, NT, JCT, MCA, Landowners, EA
1.9 Promote widespread and realistic public awareness of environmental quality standards, the action that is being taken to attain them, and the levels of success being reached.	It is important that water quality results are made available to both the public and to organisations.	WW, CE, EA
1.10 Support the “polluter pays” principle which should be applied to accidental or unregulated pollution.	Where pollution creates a cost to Dorset, the polluter should pay for the necessary treatment, clear up or other action required. In order for this principle to apply, greater research needs to be carried out into the costs and possible polluters and pollution sources affecting the Dorset coast. Lessons should be learned from the MSC Napoli event and subsequent reports to improve the response to such incidents. Consideration should also be given to cost recovery in the event that the polluter is unwilling or unable to pay.	DCF members, MCA, NE, EA, DP, LAs, LRF, HA, WW
1.11 Provide co-ordinated arrangements for oil and chemical pollution contingency planning.	Coordination is essential, to maintain effective, regularly exercised coastal emergency plans and properly resourced response capabilities. There is a Dorset Coastal Pollution Clearance Plan which is a Local Resilience Forum Plan. The National Contingency Plan where the MCA takes the lead on the National Plan ownership.	LRF, MCA, WW, LAs, Emergency Response & Recovery Planning, Harbour Authorities, EA, Oil Companies, Landowners, NT
1.12 Promote and support measures to reduce coastal and marine litter both in Dorset and nationally.	Marine and beach litter is an issue for the Dorset coastline with implications for the marine environment, industry and coastal communities. Since the Marine Litter Summit held in Dorset in 2009, work has continued to look at identifying the source of litter and raising awareness through education. The Dorset Marine Litter Group has been established to drive this work forward.	DCF Team, WHS, AONB, DWT, DCC, NE, EA, Landowners, DC, NT, Dorset & East Devon Marine Litter Group

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
1.13 Promote a greater recognition of Dorset coast's cultural and historical resources.	The historical and archaeological resource on our coast and our inshore waters is of great importance as it constitutes both a cultural as well as economic resource. Preservation by record is likely to become an increasingly necessary procedure as the coast continues to erode and the pressures increase for development offshore.	DCC, AONB, EH, NT, LAs, JCWHT
1.14 Make sure Shoreline Management Plans and any coastal defence schemes are considered within the context of working with nature.	There is a requirement that coastal defence schemes are technically sound, economically viable and environmentally acceptable. There is also the presumption that natural processes should not be disrupted except where life or important natural or man-made assets are at risk.	LAs, EA, NT, DCF Team, NE, JCWHT
1.15 Provide a continued programme of research and monitoring of the Dorset coast that is shared and disseminated widely.	Management decisions should be informed by high quality and robust scientific information and from the strategic regional coastal monitoring programmes for the south east and south west.	CCO, JCWHT, EA, NE, DWT, LAs, Southern IFCA, DERC, Universities, CEFAS

OBJECTIVE 2 - A thriving and diverse coastal economy which uses the resources of the coast sustainably.

The quality of the visitor offer in coastal areas will be continuously improved, taking advantage of and contributing to the maintenance of the high quality environment which underpins the economy. Thriving and dynamic ports, maritime businesses, agriculture and a strong local fishing community will play a positive role in the good management of the coast and sustainable exploitation of natural resources in the coastal and marine environment. The Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership's vision for a Green Knowledge Economy will be developed, with renewable energy and eco-tourism providing a particular focus for future development.



Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
2.0 Support the regulation of offshore development via transparent consultation.	For the foreseeable future significant offshore development and activities will continue to be regulated at a national level through the activities and various consent procedures operated by the Marine Management Organisation, Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS), Department for Transport (DfT), Ministry of Defence (MOD), Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), Crown Estate, and the Infrastructure Planning Commission/Major Infrastructure Unit. DCF members should be encouraged to engage with these authorities and inform them of any issues surrounding future proposals for the Dorset Coast.	DCF Team, DCC Sustainability Team, LAs
2.1 Support the regeneration of appropriate brownfield sites (vacant, previously developed urban land) within coastal areas, with priority consideration given to uses which require a coastal location.	Bringing forward such sites requires a partnership approach including the private sector, local authorities, landowners, Government agencies.	Landowners, Private Sector, EA, NE, LAs, DMN

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
2.2 Support the use of local materials for coastal engineering schemes.	Sustainable coastal management will involve the support of Shoreline Management Plan policies. Beach replenishment is one of the most popular soft engineering techniques in coastal defence management schemes and has become fundamental to coastal protection using appropriate materials for beach replenishment is fundamental in order to avoid adverse changes to the geomorphology, ecology and hydrology of the coast. It is essential that beach replenishment works use resources which are similar as possible to existing sediments or shingle. Local materials are more likely to match existing beach material and be cost effective and environmentally sustainable to source and replenish.	LAs, EA, Harbour Authorities, Port Authorities, DMN
2.3 Provide high quality coastal development in Dorset where the design and suitability in relation to the natural and built environment is acceptable.	Location and design of new development needs to be sympathetic to and in-keeping with local character.	LAs, AONB, Port Authorities, Harbour Authorities
2.4 Support the coast's World Heritage status, continuing to be a leading feature of the marketing of sustainable tourism for Dorset under the brand of 'Jurassic coast' brand.	DCF will support the work of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage team and the work of the World Heritage Steering Group through the implementation of the World Heritage Site Management Plan.	JCWHP, LAs, DCF, DWT, Coastlink, NE, NT
2.5 Promote sustainable tourism markets along the Dorset coast through more joined-up working between accommodation businesses, visitor attractions, transport operators and communities.	A healthy and sustainable tourism industry requires a longer visitor season and priority should be given to promoting out of season tourism based on a series of niche markets which are available in Dorset e.g. geotourism market. Possible new markets should look at working across sectors and teams/organisations. The development of MCZs may present opportunities for eco-tourism development.	LAs, Visit Dorset, Coastlink, DWT, AONB, JCWHP, Port Authorities, Harbour Authorities
2.6 Promote tourism and sustainable transport solutions which allows people to experience the unique natural features of the Dorset coast with minimum impact on the environment, including the World Heritage Site, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and other designations.	There is a need to balance tourism and conservation whilst developing the unique opportunity that Dorset's various designations provide for eco-tourism. Various tools such as websites and informative literature can highlight codes of conduct for people who use Dorset's natural environment and can provide useful ways to promote the right messages to the public. Particular regard should be given to sustainable travel choices.	LAs, AONB, Coastlink, Port Authorities, EA, RNLI, RSPB, DWT, JCWHP, NT

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
<p>2.7 Support the regeneration of coastal resorts and Jurassic Coast gateway towns by ensuring the principles of high quality urban design that take into account the needs of all users are applied to any changes to the local built environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining and improving the appearance and quality of sea fronts to a high standard • Maintaining and increasing the range of high quality attractions and accommodation • Provision of increased facilities for water-based recreation, and maintenance of high standards of beach management & water quality • Increasing sustainable accessibility of coastal attractions through the provision of improved public transport and walking and cycling infrastructure. 	<p>Coastal towns often show similarities which can impact on the social and economic well-being of the community; seasonal employment, high unemployment; an ageing population and a lack of skilled workers are common issues for coastal towns. It is therefore important that the DCF is mindful of this and initiates improvements where possible.</p>	<p>LAs, DCF, JCWHP, Dorset Towns Forum</p>
<p>2.8 Build on the current economy and the legacy of the 2012 Olympic sailing events to ensure that there are opportunities for a thriving and diverse economy in Weymouth and Portland and wider Dorset.</p>	<p>The Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy has a strategy to attract a continuing series of maritime events to Weymouth and Portland to capitalise on what are widely regarded as the best sailing waters in the world. Other 2012 local legacy projects include the redevelopment of Osprey Quay and the Wreck to Reef project to help stimulate the diving industry in Weymouth Bay and encourage marine life in the area with the restocking of lobsters.</p>	<p>W&PBC, DCC, Team Dorset, PP, MCA, DMN, W&PNSA</p>
<p>2.9 Support of the sustainable development of Dorset's ports and harbours and ensure there is a greater understanding of the needs, constraints and opportunities of industry.</p>	<p>Dorset's ports play a significant public role as harbour authorities for some important areas of the coast. There is a need to assist the ports to maintain or develop good relationships with the public and user groups who impact upon port activities, and to develop, implement and publicise clear management policies.</p>	<p>PP, CHA, PHC, W&PBC, Harbour Authorities, Port Authorities</p>

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
2.10 Support the development of marine and coastal industries which aim to operate with the highest environmental standards and contribute positively to the local economy.	It is in industry's interest to demonstrate clearly its environmental commitments and policies. There are potential commercial markets for technology and knowledge relating to the improvement of environmental performance, and this should be encouraged and exploited to make environmental improvements.	DMN, PP, PHC, LAs, NE, EA, CHA, CE, Chamber of Commerce
2.11 Support the use of Marine Planning to locate offshore marine industry in appropriate locations.	The appropriate location of offshore industry is important in order that a balance can be made between the social, economic and environmental needs of Dorset's population. The Marine Planning process is a means by which environmental sensitivities, social and economic needs, existing uses and management are taken into account to assess the most suitable locations for future development.	DCF Team, MMO, CE, Developers
2.12 Support the development of marine industries by linking with existing networks.	DCF has the capacity to help in the development and establishment of maritime business, providing networking opportunities and a significant knowledge base which may help cut costs for new business initiatives. The DCF Team can also provide advice on process and procedures for licensing.	DMN, DCF Team, LAs
2.13 Maintain and support the development of a strong local inshore fishing industry that is sustainable and uses low impact fishing techniques.	Having a strong local fishing industry is important for both the community and the economy. The way fish are caught is also important and methods that have minimal impact on the wider environment should be supported. Supporting the development of more sustainable fishing practices is important together with promotion of locally and sustainably caught fish e.g. through the Dorset Seafood Campaign.	DCF, Southern IFCA, MMO, DWT, LFAs, RSPB

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
2.14 Ensure the engagement of all stakeholders with Marine Planning on the Dorset coast, the regional Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ) network and the areas of Special Areas of Conservation together with any other regional and national initiatives.	Engagement with harder to reach commercial sectors such as the fishing industry and business sector in the marine planning and MCZ development process is very important. The inclusion of these sectors in this process will not only increase understanding, but will improve compliance and make enforcement of management measures easier.	DCF Team, Southern IFCA, NE, DWT, LFA, RYA, DMN, Harbort Authorities, RSPB
2.15 Effective regulation of development both on and off the Dorset Coast, with reference to current strategic Local Plans.	The Dorset Coast Forum can provide support and advice to assist debate and consultation on development issues, including information and relevant data.	LAs, DCF, MMO, CE
2.16 Assist with wide and effective local consultation on Environmental Assessments for coastal and offshore developments and activities.	Environmental Assessment has a particularly important role on the coast, where there are significant information gaps, which need to be addressed on a case-by-case basis.	DCF Team, NE, LAs, Developers, AONB, JCWHT, MMO, CE, RSPB

OBJECTIVE 3 - A coast that is used, enjoyed and appreciated by the people of Dorset and visitors.

An understanding of the coast, the opportunities it provides and the responsibilities which go with them will be promoted. Access to and enjoyment of the coast will be encouraged using effective long-term public and waterborne transport, walking and cycling opportunities. Sensitive, user-friendly interpretation that uses new technology will be encouraged wherever appropriate, and will be mindful of the carrying capacities of individual, particularly smaller, communities.



Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
3.0 Support the promotion of coastal and water recreation activities on the Dorset coast and a variety of approaches to manage the impacts of these activities on communities and infrastructure.	There is scope for growth in both quiet and active recreational activity on the Dorset Coast, provided that it is accompanied by effective management to avoid conflicts between users and with the environment. Promotion of water recreation has been carried out by the DCF, creating iCoast (www.icoast.co.uk). This needs to be supported and promoted by all.	DCF, NT, AONB, LAs, Port Authorities, Harbour Authorities, RSPB
3.1 Promote the provision of site safety, environmental information and codes of conduct for water users to a consistently high standard.	Management to promote safer recreation should focus on developing the personal responsibility of recreational users for their own safety and training, and the safety of others. It should also take precautions to ensure conflicting activities are kept separate or that codes of practice can be developed through partnership working and where locally appropriate.	DCF, MCA, DC, Landowners, NT, AONB, RNLI, RSPB
3.2 Provide effective management measures to allow coastal and water recreation activities to co-exist in harmony, therefore minimising conflict between recreation and other coastal uses, and avoiding long-term environmental damage.	The development of new by-laws to regulate recreational use will be supported where they can be shown to be necessary on environmental or safety grounds. Zoned areas which help reduce conflict between recreational users and improve safety within harbours and along Dorset's beaches will be supported.	LAs, Port Authorities, Harbour Authorities, NE, DWT, RSPB

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
3.3 Support the delivery of waterborne transport along the Dorset and East Devon coast.	With increasing pressure on our road infrastructure from traffic travelling to and along the coast, it is important to look at alternative methods of transport which will reduce congestion and emissions.	AONB, JCWHT, DCC, DCF, NT, PDC, Swanage Town Council, Private Sector Operators, LAs
3.4 Ensure that the SW Coast Path remains a priority in Dorset with high quality and locally applicable signage, maintenance and publicity.	The South West Coast Path is a recreational resource of the highest importance. This should be reflected in the resources allocated to its maintenance and the promotion of its use.	SW Coast Path Team, Landowners, PDC, AONB, NT, DC, NE, LAs
3.5 Ensure better coordination of events and improved interpretation along the coast.	Raising awareness and improving peoples' experience on the coast may be accomplished through better coordination of events and improved interpretation. This may lead to more successful visitor management, repeat visitation and benefits by developing a good reputation.	Coastlink, NT, Landowners, LAs, AONB, JCWHT, DWT, DCF Team
3.6 Keep a high profile for the Dorset Coast at national and international level.	The Dorset coast has gained a high profile as a result of World Heritage Site status and more recently because of significant coverage of the 2012 Olympic sailing events. A high profile and excellent reputation may have significant social and economic benefits, as Dorset remains a desirable place to live, visit and to develop business.	DCF members, DCF Team, W&PNSA, LAs
3.7 Building local support and pride for the coast to ensure that it is used, enjoyed and appreciated by all.	A coastal environment that is viewed with pride is more likely to be cared for by the local community and visitors. Opportunities should be taken to reinforce how unique and special Dorset's coast is to engender appreciation and respect for this resource.	DCF members

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
3.8 Improve and maintain sustainable coastal accessibility, ensuring that the needs of all users are met, by supporting well designed and managed improvements to public transport provision and infrastructure, walking and cycling infrastructure, public facilities, as well as launch points and slipways for water-based activities.	The provision of multiple means of coordinated public transport, cycling and walking opportunities and a number of access points to the sea will help in the reduction of congestion and emissions along the Dorset coast.	Landowners, NT, LAs, AONB, JCWHT, Sailing Clubs, Port Authorities, Harbour Authorities
3.9 Promote the Dorset coast as a learning resource.	The Dorset coast offers an important learning resource from cultural heritage, coastal geology, historic environment, marine conservation and marine planning and Coastlink. It has centres who provide excellent opportunities to both visitor and schools.	DCF Team, JCWHT, NT, DWT, DCC, Coastlink
3.10 Manage and minimise the impacts of visitor travel in the coastal corridor.	The majority of visitors arrive and use their cars to get around with significant impacts on communities, roads, car parks and landscape. Visitor travel planning can help manage these impacts.	LAs, JCWHT, AONB

OBJECTIVE 4 - A coast where Dorset is a world-leading area in coastal management, where all the key partners are taking decisions and acting together to deliver the highest practical quality of management possible.

Effective and efficient partnership working will be encouraged between public, private and voluntary sectors, pooling resources to engage communities and other stakeholders in the sustainable management of the coast. Coastal interests will continue to come together under the auspices of the Dorset Coast Forum to build consensus and maximise Dorset’s influence on coastal and marine policy nationally and internationally.



Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
<p>4.0 Identify and input into National and European coastal policy and ensure these policies are reflected at the local level. Provide links for National and European policy makers with Dorset’s Coastal and Marine stakeholders to improve emerging coastal and marine policy.</p>	<p>Members of the Dorset Coast Forum, and other key Dorset interests should be encouraged and supported to respond to and debate new policy development and consultation leading to improved national and European coastal/marine policies. Strengthened working relationships between Dorset’s coastal and marine stakeholders, the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership and National, European and International policy makers may provide a county/regional scale perspective on a variety of issues leading to improvements in emerging policy.</p>	<p>LAs, DCF members, EA, DCF Team, NE, NT,</p>
<p>4.1 Retain commitment from Dorset Coast Forum members and ensure its membership represents the full range of interests/sectors on the coast.</p>	<p>The Dorset Coast Forum should improve its contacts with the more dispersed coastal user groups. It would be of benefit to promote more cohesion within these groups, and provide opportunity for improved/increased communications with the public sector. In addition the benefits of membership should be promoted to local marine industry to encourage their involvement with the DCF.</p>	<p>DCF Team, DCF members</p>
<p>4.2 Continue to develop work and dialogue recognising the Dorset coast’s relevance to the UK and Europe in terms of Integrated Coastal Zone management and Marine planning.</p>	<p>Building on project experience to date, and the delivery of useful and innovative outputs, DCF should continue to be at the forefront of new initiatives in coastal management, and strive to inform coastal stakeholders including coastal management practitioners on management issues and best practice.</p>	<p>DCF Team, MMO, LAs</p>

Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
4.3 Engage with the Common Fisheries Policy and push for the derogation of the national 6 and 12 nautical mile fishery limits to become permanent to ensure that there is a strong inshore fishery whose management is environmentally sustainable.	There is a derogation from the CFP which allows exclusive access to UK Vessels inside 6 nautical miles. The derogation also allows EU vessels with Historic Rights to fish between the 6 and 12 nautical mile limits and off the coast of Dorset some French vessels have such rights. Abolition of the derogation would lead to any EU vessel having equal access to a common resource which would mean that they could fish up to the shoreline to the detriment of the Dorsets inshore fishery and marine habitats.	Southern IFCA, DCF members, LFA
4.4 Increase dialogue with Ministry of Defence (MOD) to help deliver effective Marine planning and marine and coastal conservation objectives.	The MOD are important users of the Dorset coast, they have substantial land-holdings and undertake significant offshore activity. There is an overall long-term need to strengthen communication between the Ministry, and the other interests on the coast, and to promote wider understanding of the nature and trends in military activity.	DCF Team, DWT, PDC, W&PBC, MOD
4.5 Provide a local influence in decisions regarding Marine Planning by working with the Marine Management Organisation to deliver national scale marine plans for the southern Marine Plan Area.	Marine planning is a high priority at the national level. Input at the local level is needed to help influence national policy. Experience with the C-SCOPE marine planning pilot put the DCF in a unique position to assist in the development of statutory marine plans in the southern marine plan area.	DCF Team, LAs, EA , NE, MMO
4.6 Provide better systems to hold and disseminate information to coastal managers and users to ensure management of the coast remains effective.	Up-to-date information and data is key to making decisions regarding ICZM and marine planning. Access for all coastal managers, planners and developers is essential if informed decisions are to be made.	DCF Team, LAs, EA, CCO, DERC
4.7 Support management plans of harbours, estuaries and the open coast that have been developed with wide stakeholder engagement.	Effective management arrangements are required for harbours and estuaries in Dorset. Successful existing initiatives such as the Poole Harbour Aquatic Management Plans and the Christchurch Harbour Management Plan, should be supported, and new initiatives developed where needed. Management plans and multi-sector steering groups are a good way to achieve this. The Shoreline Management Plan should be promoted together with beach management plans as a way to help with the management of the coast.	Harbour Authorities, Port Authorities, LAs, DCF Team, NE, EA, RSPB, RYA

OBJECTIVE 5 - A coast that is managed to adapt to the issues of changing climate, economy and communities.

Change and development on the Dorset coast will take account of both its contribution to climate and other environmental change, and of the impacts of those changes to ensure that Dorset's coastal environment, economy and communities are resilient and well adapted to future change. Decision-making will be informed by robust evidence on the nature of social and economic trends and pressures as well as the environmental context in which they take place.



Policy areas	Justification/detail	Key Commitment from
5.0 Ensure coastal managers are involved in continuing dialogue with coastal residents and businesses on issues of climate change and/or coastal change.	Increasing dialogue with Defra over coastal defence provision and policies and with recognised climate change organisations, the Environment Agency and coastal communities is essential to continue to develop effective adaptation strategies for the future. The Jurassic Coast Pathfinder Project worked with 6 local communities and started an important dialogue between government agencies and the community. It is important this dialogue continues.	LAs, EA, Landowners, NT, JCWHP, NE, DCF Team
5.1 Promote the need to adapt to coastal change, reconciling the inevitability of change and the need to work with natural processes on the one hand with the legitimate desire of coastal communities to thrive and develop on the other.	Initiatives such as the Defra Coastal Change Pathfinder have been instrumental in identifying the coastal adaptation issues for communities on Dorset's coast. It is clear that more work is needed in this area to help communities address their concerns and aspirations following this initial work. Future developments in this area should be encouraged and supported. DCF should maintain dialogue with coastal communities about coastal change and adaptation.	DCF Team, EA, NE, NT, Landowners, JCWHP, AONB, Swanage Coastal Change Forum, Southern Coastal Group, SCOPAC, LAs, SDADCA, LGA, Coastal SIG
5.2 Provide relevant information and dialogue on offshore developments such as renewable energy developments, aquaculture and other evolving technologies and potential developments.	Dialogue with offshore developers should be established to keep DCF members informed of proposals. Opportunities for local ports to provide maintenance and support services to offshore development should be promoted where proposals do not impact on the environment and provide positive social and economic outcomes.	Port Authorities, DMN, LAs, DCF, Developers, DCF Team, DCC, Port Authorities

11. Review and monitoring

The Dorset Coast Strategy will be used to develop the work programme of the Dorset Coast Forum, but there is also an expectation that DCF members will use the Strategy to shape management plans and policy documents and to steer coastal management decisions in their own areas of work. The Strategy will be reviewed in 2021 by the Dorset Coast Forum membership.

The Dorset Coast Forum team and Steering Group will monitor how policy in the Dorset Coast Strategy is being used in Coastal Management decision making to identify strengths and weaknesses in policy and whether policy is fit for purpose. This will feed back into the Strategy Review in 2021. With the commitment from DCF members and through working in partnership, the Dorset Coast Strategy will ensure a more integrated approach and improved planning and management of the Dorset coast and its inshore waters.

Acronyms

<u>AONB</u>	<u>Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty</u>
<u>CCO</u>	<u>Channel Coast Observatory</u>
<u>CE</u>	<u>Crown Estate</u>
<u>CEFAS</u>	<u>Centre of Environment Fisheries & Aquaculture Science</u>
<u>CHA</u>	<u>Christchurch Harbour Association</u>
<u>C-SCOPE</u>	<u>Combining Sea & Coastal Planning in Europe Project</u>
<u>DC</u>	<u>Dorset Countryside</u>
<u>DCC</u>	<u>Dorset County Council</u>
<u>DCC Sustainability Team</u>	<u>Dorset County Council Sustainability Team</u>
<u>DCF Team</u>	<u>Dorset Coast Forum Team</u>
<u>DERC</u>	<u>Dorset Environmental Records Centre</u>
<u>DMB</u>	<u>Dorset Marine Biodiversity</u>

<u>DWT</u>	<u>Dorset Wildlife Trust</u>
<u>DP</u>	<u>Dorset Police</u>
<u>DMN</u>	<u>Dorset Marine Network</u>
<u>EA</u>	<u>Environment Agency</u>
<u>EH</u>	<u>English Heritage</u>
<u>JCT</u>	<u>Jurassic Coast Trust</u>
<u>JCWHT</u>	<u>Jurassic Coast World Heritage Team</u>
<u>JCWHP</u>	<u>Jurassic Coast World Heritage Partnership</u>
<u>JNCC</u>	<u>Joint Nature Conservation Committee</u>
<u>LAs</u>	<u>Local Authorities</u>
<u>LFA</u>	<u>Local Fishing Association</u>
<u>LGA Coastal SIG</u>	<u>Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group</u>
<u>LRF</u>	<u>Local Resilience Forum</u>
<u>MCA</u>	<u>Marine & Coastguard Agency</u>
<u>MMO</u>	<u>Marine Management Organisation</u>
<u>MOD</u>	<u>Ministry of Defence</u>
<u>NE</u>	<u>Natural England</u>
<u>NFU</u>	<u>National Farmers Union</u>
<u>NT</u>	<u>National Trust</u>
<u>PA</u>	<u>Port Authorities</u>
<u>PDC</u>	<u>Purbeck District Council</u>
<u>PHC</u>	<u>Poole Harbour Commissioners</u>
<u>PP</u>	<u>Portland Port</u>
<u>RNLI</u>	<u>Royal National Lifeboat Association</u>
<u>RSPB</u>	<u>Royal Society for the Protection of Birds</u>
<u>RYA</u>	<u>Royal Yachting Association</u>
<u>SCPAC</u>	<u>Standing Committee on Problems Associated with the Coast</u>
<u>SDADCAG</u>	<u>South Devon & Dorset Coastal Advisory Group</u>
<u>SOUTHERN IFCA</u>	<u>Southern Inshore Fisheries Authorities</u>
<u>W&PNSA</u>	<u>Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy</u>
<u>W&PBC</u>	<u>Weymouth & Portland Brough Council</u>
<u>WW</u>	<u>Wessex Water</u>

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