

Purbeck District Council Local Development Framework, Core Strategy.

Matters and Issues for examination.

Updated comments following the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework.

The following are additions submitted by Dr.A.C.Warne an Ecologist and Entomologist who as a member of the Army's Bovington Training Area Conservation Committee has done surveys for 15 years of plants and insects on the MoD land as well as adjoining areas of Wool. The attached appendix "An evaluation of the Wildlife of Wool" was prepared by A.C.Warne for Wool Parish Council but is also relevant to the comments below.

1.2

The strategy is not based on a sound assessment of the environmental characteristics of the area because there is a thorough treatment of the Lychett Minster area (supporting paper by Footprint Ecology for PDC – Nature Conservation Representation to the Secretary of State with regard to the Regional Spatial Strategy changes on behalf of PDC) but no similar consideration for Wool. This biases the assessments used in other sections of the strategy.

The strategy also fails to take account of the wider biodiversity by focussing on internationally designated heathland.

11.1

Heathland mitigation proposals are negligible for the Wool area compared with Lychett and Wareham. Most of the problems at the east end of the district are also present at the west end.

The new National Planning Policy Framework restates in Paragraph 109 the need to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment that includes managing impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible contributing to the Governments commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity including establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures. This plan contains no provision for this.

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