

Blackdown Hills National Landscape MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025-2030



"Conserving & enhancing our special landscape over the next five years"



PLACE

strengthen **LANDSCAPE CHARACTER**, support **NATURE-FRIENDLY FARMING**, protect our **HERITAGE** and **ENVIRONMENT**

- ★ **HELP FARMERS INTO NEW environmental support schemes**
- ★ **EXPAND tree planting AND woodland restoration, INCLUDING ORCHARDS AND "TREES OUTSIDE WOODS"**
- ★ **ENHANCE natural capital & ecosystem services THROUGH SUSTAINABLE, REGENERATIVE, LANDSCAPE-LED MANAGEMENT**
- ★ **PROTECT historic buildings & features AND REDUCE heritage sites AT RISK**
- ★ **IMPROVE WATER QUALITY & FLOOD RESILIENCE VIA catchment projects & citizen science**
- ★ **STRENGTHEN OUR planning influence TO ENSURE DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTS OUR LANDSCAPE & RELATED GOALS**

- ★ **MAKE Paths, parking & facilities EASIER FOR EVERYONE TO USE**
- ★ **BRING MORE diverse voices INTO DECISION MAKING & IMPROVE INFORMATION WE COLLECT ABOUT inclusion**
- ★ **ENHANCE landscape & heritage interpretation**
- ★ **USE THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TO SUPPORT health & wellbeing**
- ★ **EMBED Volunteering & school engagement IN PROJECT DELIVERY**
- ★ **Community Collaboration ON CROSS-CUTTING RURAL ISSUES**

PEOPLE

improve **ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION, WELLBEING, INTERPRETATION & SUPPORT** for rural communities

NATURE

restore, expand & connect habitats to create a **RESILIENT, ECOLOGICAL NETWORK** across the Blackdown Hills

FOUR deeply connected THEMES

- ★ **RESTORE priority habitats AND SSSIs TO "FAVOURABLE CONDITION"**
- ★ **IMPROVE HABITAT DATA THROUGH BETTER mapping, surveys and ground-truthing**
- ★ **DELIVER KEY nature recovery measures, INCLUDING SLOWING WATER FLOW AND creating wetlands**
- ★ **PROTECT & RESTORE THE characteristic patchwork ESPECIALLY Springline mires**
- ★ **CREATE NEW wildlife-rich areas IN BEST LOCATIONS, FOLLOWING THE IDEA OF "bigger, better & more joined"**



... action on one theme strengthens **ALL**

CLIMATE

cut **CARBON**, protect **CARBON-RICH** places & help the landscape & communities cope with a **CHANGING CLIMATE**

- ★ **PROTECT peat, wetlands, heaths AND OTHER SOILS THAT STORE CARBON**
- ★ **MAKE SURE CLIMATE ACTION SUPPORTS natural recovery AND VICE VERSA**
- ★ **USE nature-based solutions TO REDUCE FLOODING, IMPROVE WATER STORAGE & BUILD RESILIENCE FOR COMMUNITIES**
- ★ **DEVELOP A climate adaptation PLAN TO HELP US PREPARE FOR RISING RISKS**
- ★ **WORK TOWARDS net zero WITH COUNCILS, LANDOWNERS & BUSINESSES**

Key Challenges & FORCES FOR CHANGE

- ! **CLIMATE EMERGENCY**
- ! **NATURE RECOVERY NEEDS**
- ! **FARMING TRANSITION**
- ! **DEVELOPMENT & LAND USE**
- ! **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PRESSURES**
- ! **RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS**

DELIVERING THROUGH:

- ✓ **EVIDENCE-BASED monitoring**
- ✓ **INNOVATION**
- ✓ **BEST-PRACTICE**
- ✓ **PROMOTING PARTNERSHIP working**

