

Site Improvement Plan

Poole Harbour

Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) have been developed for each Natura 2000 site in England as part of the Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 sites (IPENS). Natura 2000 sites is the combined term for sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protected Areas (SPA). This work has been financially supported by LIFE, a financial instrument of the European Community.

The plan provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 features on the site(s) and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features. It does not cover issues where remedial actions are already in place or ongoing management activities which are required for maintenance.

The SIP consists of three parts: a Summary table, which sets out the priority Issues and Measures; a detailed Actions table, which sets out who needs to do what, when and how much it is estimated to cost; and a set of tables containing contextual information and links.

Once this current programme ends, it is anticipated that Natural England and others, working with landowners and managers, will all play a role in delivering the priority measures to improve the condition of the features on these sites.

The SIPs are based on Natural England's current evidence and knowledge. The SIPs are not legal documents, they are live documents that will be updated to reflect changes in our evidence/knowledge and as actions get underway. The information in the SIPs will be used to update England's contribution to the UK's Prioritised Action Framework (PAF).

The SIPs are not formal consultation documents, but if you have any comments about the SIP or would like more information please email us at IPENSLIFEProject@naturalengland.org.uk, or contact Natural England's Responsible Officer for the site via our enquiry service 0300 060 3900, or enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk

This Site Improvement Plan covers the following Natura 2000 site(s)

UK9010111 Poole Harbour SPA

Site description

Poole Harbour is a large natural harbour comprising of extensive tidal mudflats and saltmarshes, together with associated reedbeds, freshwater marshes and wetland grassland. It has a narrow entrance and a small tidal range and as a result, although classified as an estuary (several rivers flow into it) it has many of the qualities of a large lagoon.

Plan Summary

This table shows the prioritised issues for the site(s), the features they affect, the proposed measures to address the issues and the delivery bodies whose involvement is required to deliver the measures. The list of delivery bodies will include those who have agreed to the actions as well as those where discussions over their role in delivering the actions is on-going.

Priority & Issue	Pressure or Threat	Feature(s) affected	Measure	Delivery Bodies
1 Water Pollution	Threat	A026(NB) Little Egret, A048(NB) Common shelduck, A132(NB) Avocet, A156(NB) Black-tailed Godwit, A176(B) Mediterranean Gull, A193(B) Common Tern, Waterbird assemblage	Investigate, monitor and manage water pollution issues	Defra, Environment Agency, Natural England, North Dorset District Council, Purbeck District Council, Wessex Water Services Ltd, West Dorset District Council, National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA), Bournemouth University
2 Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition	Pressure	A026(NB) Little Egret, A048(NB) Common shelduck, A132(NB) Avocet, A156(NB) Black-tailed Godwit, A176(B) Mediterranean Gull, A193(B) Common Tern, A294(NB) Aquatic Warbler, Waterbird assemblage	Implement existing plans to manage aerial nitrogen deposition	Defra, Environment Agency, Wessex Water Services Ltd, National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA)
3 Fisheries: Commercial marine and estuarine	Pressure/Threat	A026(NB) Little Egret, A048(NB) Common shelduck, A132(NB) Avocet, A156(NB) Black-tailed Godwit, A176(B) Mediterranean Gull, A193(B) Common Tern, Waterbird assemblage	Investigate the impacts of some fishing activities, and enforce byelaws to manage fisheries	Natural England, Borough of Poole, Poole Harbour Commissioners, Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA), Landowner(s), Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

4 Coastal squeeze	Threat	A026(NB) Little Egret, A048(NB) Common shelduck, A132(NB) Avocet, A156(NB) Black-tailed Godwit, A176(B) Mediterranean Gull, A193(B) Common Tern, A294(NB) Aquatic Warbler, Waterbird assemblage	Implementation of appropriate coastal management for the area	Dorset Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, Local Authorities, National Trust, Borough of Poole, Poole Harbour Commissioners
5 Public Access/Disturbance	Pressure/ Threat	A026(NB) Little Egret, A048(NB) Common shelduck, A132(NB) Avocet, A156(NB) Black-tailed Godwit, A176(B) Mediterranean Gull, A193(B) Common Tern, A294(NB) Aquatic Warbler, Waterbird assemblage	Awareness-raising, education and management of public access and disturbance issues	Defra, Dorset Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, National Trust, Natural England, Borough of Poole, Poole Harbour Commissioners, RSPB, Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA), Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Dorset Dogs, Poole Harbour Steering Group, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), Local Government Association (LGA)
6 Deer	Pressure	A026(NB) Little Egret, A048(NB) Common shelduck, A132(NB) Avocet, A156(NB) Black-tailed Godwit, A176(B) Mediterranean Gull, A193(B) Common Tern, A294(NB) Aquatic Warbler, Waterbird assemblage	Monitoring and management of deer, and habitat restoration for damaged areas	National Trust, Natural England, RSPB, The Deer Initiative, East Holton Charities

Issues and Actions

This table outlines the prioritised issues that are currently impacting or threatening the condition of the features, and the outstanding actions required to address them. It also shows, where possible, the estimated cost of the action and the delivery bodies whose involvement will be required to implement the action. Lead delivery bodies will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of the action, but not necessarily funding it. Delivery partners will need to support the lead delivery body in implementing the action. In the process of developing the SIPs Natural England has approached the delivery bodies to seek agreement on the actions and their roles in delivering them, although in some cases these discussions have not yet been concluded. Other interested parties, including landowners and managers, will be involved as the detailed actions are agreed and delivered. Funding options are indicated as potential (but not necessarily agreed or secured) sources to fund the actions.

1 Water Pollution

Nutrient enrichment has resulted in extensive algal mats across the mudflats with potential consequential impacts on bird prey availability and bird foraging behaviour.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1A	Collect data during each Water Framework Directive planning cycle on the distribution, extent and biomass of macroalgae mats in the harbour.	Not yet determined	2014-27	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Not yet determined	Environment Agency	Natural England
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1B	Improve the evidence base, on the effects of algal mats on the feeding behaviour and prey availability (benthic invertebrates) of waders and wildfowl. This could help refine whether standards for Poole Harbour SPA need to be more stringent than Water Framework Directive (WFD) Good Ecological Potential (the harbour is classified as Heavily Modified).	£21,000	2014-15	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Natural England, Bournemouth University	Natural England	Bournemouth University

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1C	Regularly monitor Nitrogen and Phosphorus concentrations in Poole Harbour and Poole Bay, and Nitrogen concentrations throughout the catchment.	Not yet determined	2014-27	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Not yet determined	Environment Agency	n/a
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1D	Offset 25% of additional nitrogen inputs from new development through the adoption of a Supplementary Planning Document to Local Planning Authority Development Plans. See Actions 1F and 1G for the remaining 75%.	Not yet determined	2015 onwards	Integrated Nutrient Management Plan: Nutrient Reduction Management Plan	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), S106 Agreement	Borough of Poole	Natural England, North Dorset District Council, Purbeck District Council, West Dorset District Council
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1E	Offset nitrogen coming from Dorchester Sewage Treatment Works (STW), through the implementation of a PR14 (AMP 6) Nitrogen Offsetting Scheme by Wessex Water, in lieu of nitrogen removal at Dorchester STW.	Not yet determined	2015-20	Integrated Nutrient Management Plan: Nutrient Reduction Management Plan	Wessex Water	Wessex Water Services Ltd	Environment Agency, Natural England
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1F	Reduce Nitrogen loads from Sewerage Treatment Works (STWs) within the catchment through Periodic Review 19 programme onward, as required, to secure compliance in sensitive areas with the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.	Not yet determined	2018-30	Water Industry Asset Management Plan (AMP): Implement Plan Scheme	Wessex Water	Wessex Water Services Ltd	Environment Agency, Natural England

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1G	Reduce overflows from sewage systems within the catchment through the Periodic Review 14 onward programme as required, to secure compliance with the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.	Not yet determined	2015-25	Water Industry Asset Management Plan (AMP): Implement Plan Scheme	Wessex Water	Wessex Water Services Ltd	Environment Agency
1H	Reduce Nitrogen input from diffuse pollution (agriculture, septic tanks and via road run off) through agreeing an Implementation Plan with agricultural stakeholders as part of the Strategy for Managing Nitrogen in Poole Harbour to 2035 (See also Action 2B required to reduce nitrogen in relation to air pollution)	Not yet determined	2015-35	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Environment Agency	Natural England, Wessex Water Services Ltd, National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA)
1I	Reverse rising nitrate in groundwater drinking water sources in the Poole Harbour catchment through supporting the water company to deliver catchment schemes to maintain compliance with drinking water standards. (See also Action 2B required to reduce nitrogen in relation to air pollution)	Not yet determined	2015-20	Water Industry Asset Management Plan (AMP): Implement Plan Scheme	New Environmental Land Management Scheme (NELMS)	Wessex Water Services Ltd	Environment Agency, Natural England, National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA)

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1J	Reduce Nitrogen from agricultural diffuse pollution through securing and implementing the delivery of Catchment Sensitive Farming through out the catchment (part of implementation of the Agricultural Implementation Plan for the Strategy for Managing Nitrogen in Poole Harbour to 2035) (See also Action 2B required to reduce nitrogen in relation to air pollution)	Not yet determined	2015-20	England Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF)	Not yet determined	Poole Harbour Catchment Initiative	Natural England, Landowner(s), National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA)
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1K	Reduce nitrogen from agricultural diffuse pollution through catchment wide delivery of the options under the New Environmental Land Management Scheme (part of implementation of the Agricultural Implementation Plan for the Strategy for Managing Nitrogen in Poole Harbour to 2035)(See also Action 2B required to reduce nitrogen in relation to air pollution)	Not yet determined	2016 onwards	Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE): Common Agricultural Policy 2014-20 (New Environmental Land Management Scheme)	Rural Development Programme (RDPE)	Natural England	Wessex Water Services Ltd, Landowner(s), National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA), Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG), Poole Harbour Catchment Initiative
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1L	Reduce N from agricultural diffuse pollution through review and, as necessary, implementing tighter measures in the NVZ Action Programme especially in relation to thin (chalk) soils and drinking water source protection zones.	Not yet determined	2015-27	Regulation: Other - obtain appropriate permissions	Wessex Water	Defra	Landowner(s), National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA)

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1M	Assess the potential for a Water Protection Zone regulatory framework to control practices where a voluntary approach fails to sufficiently reduce catchment sources of nitrogen.	Not yet determined	2020	Regulation: Other - obtain appropriate permissions	Environment Agency	Environment Agency	n/a

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
1N	Secure funding and resource to run a public awareness campaign to raise awareness amongst recreational boat users in encouraging the use of shore-side toilet facilities, holding tanks where fitted, and disposal of waste at pump-out facilities. Where direct discharge of sewage is necessary, encourage this as far offshore as possible in areas where strong currents ensure dispersion and dilution.	Not yet determined	2015-17	Advice: Education & awareness raising	Not yet determined	Not yet determined	Not yet determined

2 Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition

Aerial nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads. Aerial nitrogen deposition is part of the overall nitrogen pressure on the SPA, the vast majority of which comes from agriculture, from much the same agricultural activities that lead to water pollution. The aerial nitrogen contribution however originates from a much bigger area than the water catchment, mainly going westward. Deposition in the wider catchment is then conveyed to the site by water, either through surface drainage or via groundwater into rivers (adding to the groundwater load), then to the rivers that finally flow into the harbour-in some instances decades later. In addition nitrogen deposition can have direct local effects in altering the vegetation structure of roosting and breeding sites, although these effects locally are unknown.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
2A	Reduce aerial nitrogen from diffuse and point sources through agreeing a Site Nitrogen Action Plan with agricultural stakeholders and the aerial emissions regulator (Environment Agency), as part of the Strategy for Managing Nitrogen in Poole Harbour to 2035. (This action also needs to be delivered westwards of the water catchment). (See Actions 1H, 1I, 1J, 1K, 1L and 1M)	Not yet determined	2015-20	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Natural England	Environment Agency
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
2B	Control, reduce and ameliorate atmospheric nitrogen impacts from agriculture through catchment schemes and NELMS (See Actions 1H, 1I, 1J, 1K, and 1L)	Not yet determined	2015-20	Site Nitrogen Action Plan	Not yet determined	Natural England	Wessex Water Services Ltd, Landowner(s), National Farmers' Union (NFU), Country Land and Business Association (CLA), Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)

3 Fisheries: Commercial marine and estuarine

Commercial fishing activities categorised as 'amber or green' under Defra's revised approach to commercial fisheries in European Marine Sites (EMS) require assessment and (where appropriate) management. This assessment will be undertaken by Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (SIFCA). Baitdigging, baitdragging and unlicensed fishing were identified as high risk activities to the European Marine Site in the EMS Risk Review (2010) due to high levels of the activity at key times of year for birds in sensitive locations and potential impacts through disturbance and bird prey availability.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
3A	Where these assessments indicate management is required, appropriate measures will be introduced by the Regulator, with those activities assessed by SIFCA as being of high risk to the conservation objectives for the site (termed high risk ambers) being managed appropriately by 2016 (ie baitcollection (baitdigging and baitdragging) and shellfish dredging). If management measures are established to protect the features, ongoing work will be required by the Regulator to ensure compliance and an appropriate level of reporting to ensure sites are well managed and to enable Natural England to provide advice on the condition of features and potential condition threats.	Not yet determined	2016	Enforcement: Other	Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	n/a
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
3B	Assess the impacts of bait collection on the EMS features	Not yet determined	2014 onwards	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Natural England, Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Natural England

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
3C	Monitor bait collection activity and compliance by bait collectors with the voluntary management measures agreed at SIFCA's 2014 bait working group and the byelaw prohibiting hand gathering in seagrass beds	Not yet determined	2014 onwards	Enforcement: Other	Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Natural England, Borough of Poole, Poole Harbour Commissioners , Landowner(s), Local angling club(s), The Angling Trust
3D	Ensure sufficient management measures in place to ascertain bait collection activity (high risk amber activity) is compatible with the conservation objectives of the site by the end of 2016	Not yet determined	2016	Enforcement: Other	Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	n/a
3E	Investigate implementation of a byelaw to prohibit bait digging (commercial and personal use) in parts of Holes Bay (dependent on gaining agreement with landowners)	Not yet determined	2016	Enforcement: Byelaws	Not yet determined	Local partnership	Natural England, Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA), Landowner(s)
3F	Assess the impact of shelfish dredging activity on EMS features	Not yet determined	2014 onwards	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Natural England, Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Natural England

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
3G	Monitor compliance by shellfish dredgers (high risk amber activity) with management measures agreed as a result of the review of shellfish management in Poole Harbour in 2014 and the Bottom towed gear byelaw	Not yet determined	2014 onwards	Enforcement: Other	Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	n/a
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
3H	Unlicensed fishing activity - Continue to develop joint working to enforce regulation regarding licensing and registration of fishing vessels and licensing of specific activities within the Harbour	Not yet determined	2014 onwards	Enforcement	Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Local partnership	Environment Agency, Borough of Poole, Poole Harbour Commissioners, Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA), Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

4 Coastal squeeze

Sea level rise is predicted to result in the substantial loss of supporting habitats for the SPA, including intertidal mudflats, saltmarsh and Brownsea lagoon.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
4A	Implement managed realignment schemes in line with recommendations in the coastal strategy to enable landward movement of intertidal mudflat, saltmarsh etc. with the expected rise in sea level over coming decades.	Not yet determined	2015-40	Shoreline Management Plan and Strategies	Not yet determined	Environment Agency	Local Authorities, Natural England, Poole Harbour Commissioners, Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
4B	Provide alternative freshwater grazing marsh habitat to compensate for this habitat lost to the SPA as a result of managed realignment schemes	Not yet determined	2015-40	Shoreline Management Plan and Strategies	Grant in aid, Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) 2015-21, Flood Risk Capital Programme	Environment Agency	Local Authorities, Natural England, Borough of Poole
4C	Adjust the management of Brownsea Lagoon to minimise any impact on the SPA through sea level rise. If this becomes unsustainable, plan to provide alternative supporting SPA habitat to replace any habitats lost to sea level rise.	Not yet determined	2015-40	Shoreline Management Plan and Strategies	Not yet determined	Local partnership	Dorset Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, Natural England
4D	Ensure soft engineering also helps to achieve the conservation objectives, ensuring these are compatible with the system, and sustainable.	Not yet determined	2015-40	Shoreline Management Plan and Strategies	Grant in aid, Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) 2015-21, Flood Risk Capital Programme	Borough of Poole	Environment Agency

5 Public Access/Disturbance

The recent recreational disturbance study (2012/2013) indicated that disturbance from recreation was a significant factor influencing the distribution of birds in Poole Harbour. An increase in residential development in the locality is expected to increase the recreational pressure on the Harbour.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
5A	Improve users' awareness of the bird sensitive areas (refuge areas agreed in the Poole Harbour aquatic management plan) and how they can minimise disturbance. Develop and disseminate Codes of Conduct for both recreational and commercial users using leaflets and interpretation boards	£50,000	2015-25	Advice: Education & awareness raising	Not yet determined	Natural England	Dorset Wildlife Trust, National Trust, RSPB, Poole Harbour Steering Group
5B	Improve awareness of dog owners of impact of bird disturbance by dogs, bird sensitive areas and alternative locations for their activity through liaison with dog owners, interpretation and updating of a website	£44,000	2015-25	Advice: Education & awareness raising	Not yet determined	Local partnership	Dorset Dogs, Poole Harbour Steering Group
5C	Limit access and disturbance to sensitive areas by managing visitor numbers and intensity, by screening, setting back paths and encouraging inland routes. Find alternative locations that could be made more attractive for users for activities such as dog walking, walking and cycling.	Not yet determined	2015-25	Advice: Other	Not yet determined	Local partnership	Dorset Dogs, Poole Harbour Steering Group

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
5D	Increase the level of water based wardening by Poole Harbour Commissioners, and increase awareness through boat trips of the wildlife value of site, bird sensitive areas and how water based activities could potentially impact on the birdlife through disturbance.	£200,000 (+£35,000)	2015-25	Advice: Education & awareness raising	Developer Contributions Scheme (DCS)	Borough of Poole	Natural England, Poole Harbour Steering Group
5E	Increase shore based wardening working with landowners such RSPB, Dorset Wildlife Trust, National Trust and Borough of Poole, to include guided walks and talks to improve appreciation of the wildlife value of the site and raise awareness around 'bird sensitive areas' and how activities such as walking and dog walking can result in bird disturbance issues at some locations.	£200,000	2015-25	Advice: Wardening	Developer Contributions Scheme (DCS)	Local partnership	Dorset Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Natural England, RSPB, Dorset Dogs, Poole Harbour Steering Group
5F	Undertake surveys to detect any change in the numbers and behaviour of water craft using the Harbour to provide information on which activities and locations may need better management .	£24,000	2015-25	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Developer Contributions Scheme (DCS), Other partnership	Local partnership	Natural England, Poole Harbour Steering Group

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
5G	Undertake surveys to detect any change in the numbers and behaviour of shore-based recreation users to provide information on which activities and locations may need better management .	£22,500	2015-25	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Poole Harbour Commissioners	Natural England	Dorset Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Borough of Poole, RSPB, Dorset Dogs, Poole Harbour Steering Group
5H	Monitor bird response to disturbance; this should include surveying breeding terns and mediterranean gulls, wader and wildfowl roosts and offshore waterfowl and analysing Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) data.	£100,000	2015-25	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Conservation bodies	Natural England	Dorset Wildlife Trust, National Trust, RSPB, Poole Harbour Steering Group
5I	Ensure the strategic delivery of projects is overseen eg by employment of European Marine Site officer - the most appropriate management struture for the European Marine site will be identified nationally by key agencies. An independent point of contact is required for recreational users eg through liason groups, record keeping of activities and incidents taking place in the Harbour, data storage and reporting.	£300,000	2015-25	Advice: Other	Not yet determined	Local partnership	Defra, Environment Agency, Natural England, Borough of Poole, Southern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA), Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Poole Harbour Steering Group, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), Local Government Association (LGA)

6 Deer

The main effects are: trampling; creating bare areas within saltmarsh; modification of saltmarsh to a short grassy sward, and conversion of reedbed to rushy swamp. Saltmarsh effects are mainly confined to Arne. The reedbed has been affected in several areas (Brownsea, Arne and parts of Lytchett Bay).

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
6A	Deer monitoring and management plan	Not yet determined	2015-20	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Other	National Trust, Natural England, RSPB, The Deer Initiative, East Holton Charities
<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
6B	Habitat Restoration of reedbeds damaged by deer	Not yet determined	2015-20	Habitat creation / restoration strategy: Other	Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) capital works	RSPB	Natural England

Site details

The tables in this section contain site-relevant contextual information and links

Qualifying features

#UK Special responsibility

Poole Harbour SPA

A132(NB) *Recurvirostra avosetta*: Pied avocet

A176(B) *Larus melanocephalus*: Mediterranean gull

A156(NB) *Limosa limosa islandica*: Black-tailed godwit

A048(NB) *Tadorna tadorna*: Common shelduck

A193(B) *Sterna hirundo*: Common tern

Waterbird assemblage

Site location and links

Poole Harbour SPA

Area (ha) **2271.99** Grid reference **SY982869** [Map link](#)

Local Authorities Dorset; Poole

Site Conservation Objectives [Poole Harbour SPA](#)

European Marine Site conservation advice [Poole Harbour SPA](#)

Regulation 33/35 Package [Regulation 33/35 package link](#)

Marine Management Organisation site plan [n/a](#)

Water Framework Directive (WFD)

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) provides the main framework for managing the water environment throughout Europe. Under the WFD a management plan must be developed for each river basin district. The River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) include a summary of the measures needed for water dependent Natura 2000 sites to meet their conservation objectives. For the second round of RBMPs, SIPs are being used to capture the priorities and new measures required for water dependent habitats on Natura 2000 sites. SIP actions for non-water dependent sites/habitats do not form part of the RBMPs and associated consultation.

Poole Harbour SPA

River basin

[South West RBMP](#)

WFD Management catchment

Dorset

WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)

GB108044009690, GB108044010020, GB108044010100, GB30846102

Overlapping or adjacent protected sites

Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	
Poole Harbour SPA	Holton & Sandford Heaths SSSI
	Studland & Godlingston Heaths SSSI
	Wareham Meadows SSSI
	The Moors SSSI
	Arne SSSI
	Poole Harbour SSSI
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	
Poole Harbour SPA	Arne Reedbeds NNR
	Holton Heath NNR
	Studland and Godlingston Heath NNR
Ramsar	
Poole Harbour SPA	Dorset Heathlands
	Poole Harbour
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA)	
Poole Harbour SPA	Dorset Heaths SAC
	Dorset Heaths (Purbeck & Wareham) & Studland Dunes SAC

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>
0.4	30/10/14	

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