

# Cornwall State of the AONB Report 2021

## Cornwall AONB Unit

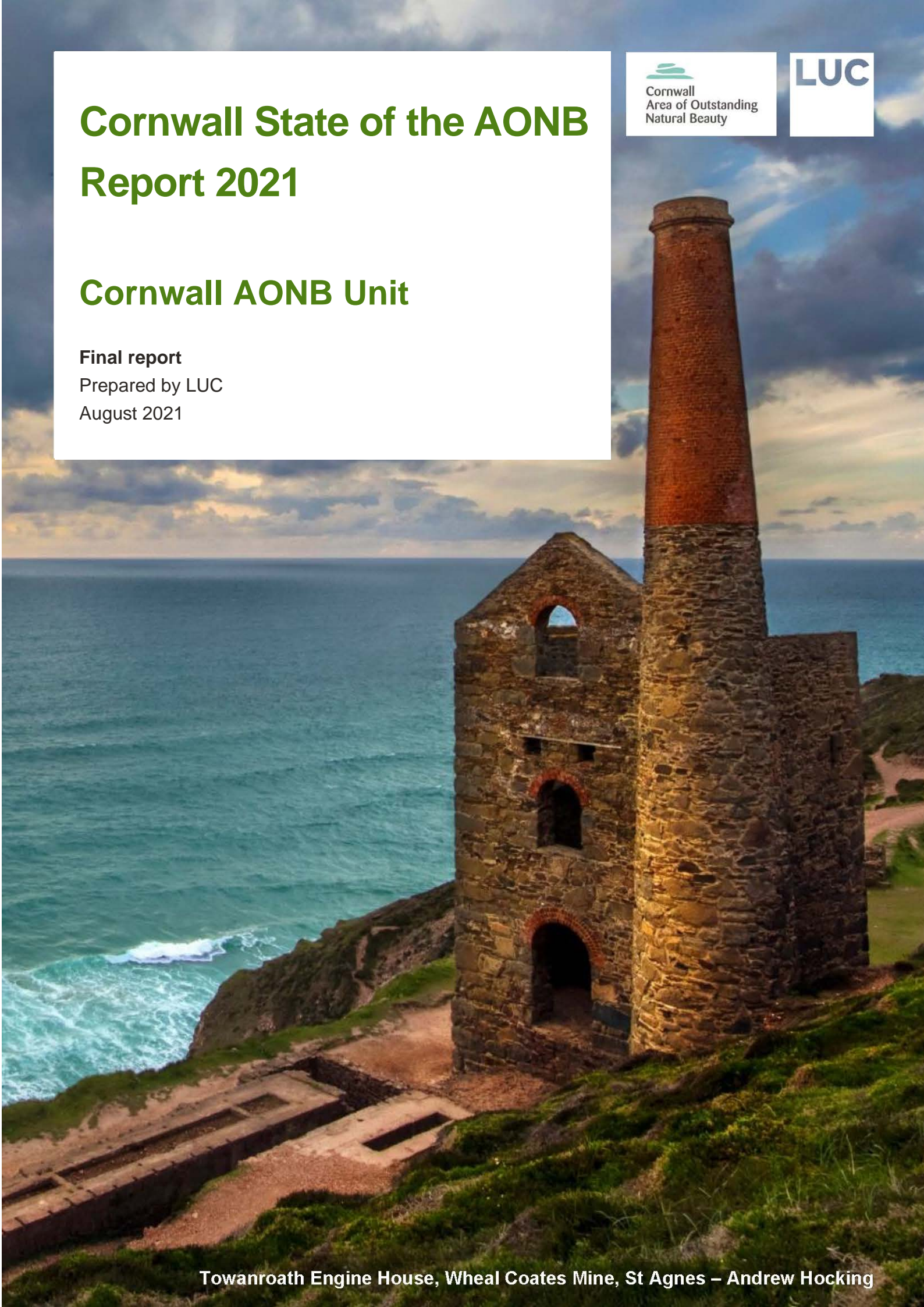
### Final report

Prepared by LUC

August 2021

  
Cornwall  
Area of Outstanding  
Natural Beauty

**LUC**



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# Chapter 1

## Introduction



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### The Cornwall AONB Monitoring Project

**1.1** In 2007, the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) pioneered the first landscape monitoring project in the UK. A report published in 2008 (hereafter referred to as the 'Phase 1 study') set out the detailed methodology and baseline information to instigate the programme of landscape monitoring throughout the AONB. The Phase 1 study was supplemented by a range of other information about the AONB, collected and presented interactively in the Cornwall AONB Atlas which was launched in early 2010. The project was updated in 2013 (hereafter referred to as the 'Phase 2 study') and included an analysis of landscape change since the Phase 1 study, as well as a consideration of additional trends impacting on the landscapes of the AONB. The Phase 2 study formed the primary evidence base for the current AONB Management Plan (2016-2021) [See reference 1], helping to shape its policies and actions.

**1.2** The current AONB Management Plan (2016-2021) is in the process of being reviewed and is a timely opportunity to re-visit the baseline information collected during the last (Phase 2) study, under a new 'Phase 3' of the monitoring project. This facilitates a continuation of landscape change analysis which began in 2007. Phase 3 also seeks to capture new trends impacting on the landscapes of the AONB including those associated with climate change and the push in nature recovery. For simplicity and to be consistent with other AONBs, this report for Phase 3 has been re-named as 'Cornwall State of the AONB Report, 2021'.

**1.3** Throughout 2020 and continuing into much of 2021, the Coronavirus pandemic has had a devastating impact upon people's lives and the economy. As the UK was plunged into numerous lockdowns to help tackle the virus, there



has been an increased awareness around the value of our landscapes and nature, and the positive effects they can have on our mental wellbeing. It has also shone a light on the importance of our protected landscapes, and for these to be accessible landscapes to all. There is a need for the Cornwall AONB to continue to be managed appropriately in order to maintain and enhance the qualities that make it special whilst meeting the needs for those who use and enjoy it. It is therefore important that an up-to-date picture of the current state of this nationally designated landscape is produced to facilitate future management.

## Method undertaken for Phase 3

**1.4** To ensure consistency and to enable trends to be analysed effectively, the method for this study is consistent with Phase 2. Analysis is presented for the AONB as a whole, with further detail provided for the 12 AONB sections (see **Figure 2.1**) wherever possible.

**1.5** In some cases, new data has emerged since Phase 2 that has been used to monitor some of the indicators. In these cases, a new baseline has been laid down for future monitoring. Phase 3 has also introduced new themes that reflect the changing nature and the importance of issues affecting the AONB now and into the future. These new themes relate to the State of Nature and Nature Recovery; Health and Wellbeing; Tourism and Recreation; and Climate Change.

**1.6** In addition, some of the data used to inform the indicators analysed in the Phase 2 study has not been updated since; meaning an equivalent analysis to monitor change has not been possible. These comprise the following:

- Settlement pattern;
- Field patterns and size;
- Field boundary type and condition;
- Extent of biomass planting; and
- Character of rural roads.

## Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021

**1.7** This State of the AONB Report is supported by an online mapping tool known as the 'Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021'. This resource displays the spatial data that has been collected to inform this study and is presented interactively. The Atlas is organised by the 11 themes considered in this report plus an overview of landscape and seascape character. The report makes it clear when spatial data should be viewed in the Atlas to supplement the written findings. The Atlas can be accessed by clicking on any of the references to the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#) included throughout this report.

## Structure of this report

**1.8** The selected indicators for Phase 3 are structured in a clear way under 11 themes, with an additional contextual overview of 'Landscape and Seascape Character' provided at the start of the report. These themes are also chosen to align with the emerging themes of the new AONB Management Plan:

- **Landscape and Seascape Character** (see [Chapter 2](#))
- **Planning and Development** (see [Chapter 3](#))
- **Farming and Food** (see [Chapter 4](#))
  - Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Nature Recovery and Land Management' theme
- **Woodland and Forestry** (see [Chapter 5](#))
  - Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Nature Recovery and Land Management' theme
- **Biodiversity and Geodiversity** (see [Chapter 6](#))
  - Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Nature Recovery and Land Management' theme
- **Nature Recovery** (see [Chapter 7](#))

- Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Nature Recovery and Land Management' theme
- **Heritage and Culture** (see [Chapter 8](#))
- **Community and Economy** (see [Chapter 9](#))
  - Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Sustainable Communities and Economy' theme
- **Health and Wellbeing** (see [Chapter 10](#))
- **Transport and Access** (see [Chapter 11](#))
  - Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Responsible & Sustainable Access' theme
- **Tourism and Recreation** (see [Chapter 12](#))
  - Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Responsible & Sustainable Access' theme
- **Climate Change** (see [Chapter 13](#))
  - Relevant to the AONB Management Plan's 'Climate change – Building Resilience' theme

**1.9** The remainder of this report is structured using the above themes, with a chapter on each. For each theme, an overall summary of the key findings is presented in a green box at the start of the chapter. Information collected for the relevant indicators is then presented in turn; with an analysis of change provided, where directly comparable information is available. A summary of recommendations for future monitoring is listed at the end of each chapter, along with the data used for measuring each indicator. The report ends with a summary of 'Next Steps' ([Chapter 14](#)), recommending how the AONB and its partners should use the information to shape policies and activities over the next five years.



## Chapter 2

# Landscape and Seascape Character



Walker on coast path, The Rumps, Pentire Head – Sue Rowlands



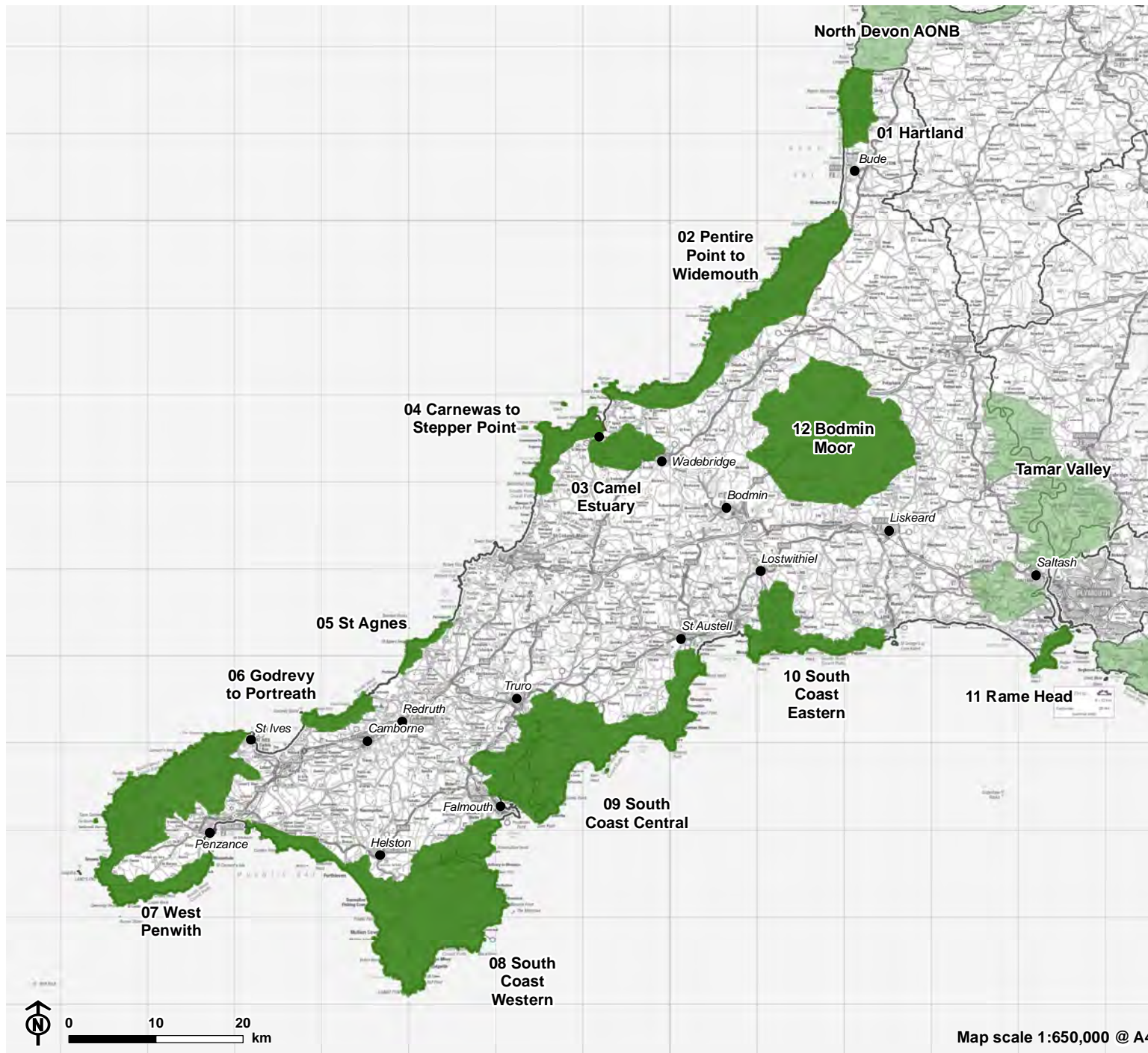
## Chapter 2

# Landscape and Seascape Character

**2.1** Although there are no monitoring indicators relating to Landscape and Seascape Character, this chapter sets out its relevant context.

**2.2** The Cornwall AONB was designated in 1959, with the addition of the Camel Estuary following in 1981. The AONB covers 96,403 hectares (ha) - 27% of the total area of Cornwall. It is the only AONB to comprise separate geographical areas managed under the same designation. There are 12 sections as shown on Figure 2.1. The majority of the AONB sections include coastal areas, excepting Bodmin Moor, although many extend significantly inland to include the rural agricultural landscape. Distinctive features of the different sections of the AONB include; the craggy and dramatic coast interspaced with rocky coves in the Pentire Point to Widemouth section, the distinctive granite-based upland landscape of Bodmin Moor, the large Fal Ria systems with sinuous creeks at the South Coast Central section, a coastline of headlands punctuated by cliff chasms or 'zawns' at the West Penwith section, and mixed agricultural land use including small medieval field enclosures in the South Coast Western section.

**2.3** The Cornwall Landscape Character Study (2005-2007) [\[See reference 2\]](#) divides the whole of Cornwall up into Character Areas (CAs) and each of the 12 sections of the AONB encompass one or more CAs. At the time of writing, Cornwall Council has commissioned LUC to update the current assessment, meaning that by the time of the next State of the AONB report, new landscape evidence should be available. There are no existing local-scale seascape character assessments covering the marine areas of Cornwall. At a national level, coverage is provided by the Marine Management Organisation's Seascape Assessment for the South West (2018) [\[See reference 3\]](#). This defines Marine Character Areas (MCAs) around the coastline (up to the High-Water Mark) and out to the territorial limits of England's waters.



Cornwall State of the AONB  
Monitoring: Phase 3 (2021)  
Cornwall AONB



Figure 2.1: Cornwall AONB

Cornwall AONB  
 Other AONB

**2.4 Table 2.1** provides an area breakdown for each of 12 AONB sections. It also indicates the CAs that fall within each AONB section as well as the associated MCAs. Both the CAs and MCAs can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**Table 2.1: Area (ha) of Cornwall AONB sections with associated landscape and seascape character areas**

AONB section	Area (ha)	% of total AONB area	Cornwall Character Areas	Marine Character Areas covering the coast / adjacent waters
01 Hartland	2,601	2.7%	CA37: Western Culm Plateau CA38: Bude Basin	MCA 44: Hartland Point to Port Isaac Bay
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	11,879	12.3%	CA34: Camel Estuary CA37: Western Culm Plateau CA38: Bude Basin CA35: Kellan Head to Millook Haven Coast CA36: Delabole Plateau	MCA 44: Hartland Point to Port Isaac Bay MCA 45: Port Gaverne Bay to St Ives Bay
03 Camel Estuary	2,468	2.6%	CA19: Trevoze Head and Coastal Plateau CA33: Camel and Allen Valleys CA34: Camel Estuary	MCA 45: Port Gaverne Bay to St Ives Bay
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	2,365	2.5%	CA19: Trevoze Head and Coastal Plateau	MCA 45: Port Gaverne Bay to St Ives Bay

## Chapter 2 Landscape and Seascape Character

AONB section	Area (ha)	% of total AONB area	Cornwall Character Areas	Marine Character Areas covering the coast / adjacent waters
			CA34: Camel Estuary	
05 St Agnes	627	0.7%	CA12: St Agnes CA14: Newlyn Downs	MCA 45: Port Gaverne Bay to St Ives Bay
06 Godrevy to Portreath	1,165	1.2%	CA11: Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap CA28: North Coast- Reskeage Downs	MCA 45: Port Gaverne Bay to St Ives Bay
07 West Penwith	13,762	14.3%	CA01: West Penwith South (Lands End to Newlyn) CA02: West Penwith North and West Coastal Strip CA03: Penwith Central Hills CA04: Mount's Bay	MCA 46: Penwith Maritime
08 South Coast Western	19,258	20.0%	CA06: Mount's Bay East CA07: South Lizard Peninsula CA08: North East Lizard Peninsula CA09: Helford Ria	MCA 48: Mount's Bay and The Lizard MCA 49: South Cornwall Coastal Waters and Estuaries
09 South Coast Central	15,993	16.6%	CA11: Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap CA13: Fal Ria, Truro and Falmouth CA16: Mid Fal Plateau	MCA 49: South Cornwall Coastal Waters and Estuaries



## Chapter 2 Landscape and Seascape Character

AONB section	Area (ha)	% of total AONB area	Cornwall Character Areas	Marine Character Areas covering the coast / adjacent waters
			CA40: Gerrans, Veryan and Mevagissey Bays	
10 South Coast Eastern	4,630	4.8%	CA21: Fowey Valley CA22: South East Cornwall Plateau CA39: St Austell Bay and Luxulyan Valley	MCA 49: South Cornwall Coastal Waters and Estuaries
11 Rame Head	780	0.8%	CA22: South East Cornwall Plateau CA25: Lynher and Tiddy River Valleys	MCA 49: South Cornwall Coastal Waters and Estuaries
12 Bodmin Moor	20,878	21.7%	CA21: Fowey Valley CA22: South East Cornwall Plateau CA26: East Cornwall and Tamar Moorland Fringe CA29: Middle Tamar Valley CA32: Bodmin Moor CA33: Camel and Allen Valleys	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,403</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	N/A	N/A

Source: Cornwall Council (2007) and Marine Management Organisation (2018)

## Chapter 3

# Planning and Development



## Chapter 3

# Planning and Development

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- There is an increasing development pressure on the AONB, particularly within West Penwith, South Coast Western and South Coast Central.
- The majority of planning applications received since 2016 have been in the 'Householder / dwellings' category, over half of which were within AONB settlements.
- Major developments only accounted for just 1% of all applications and were the most likely to be refused – particularly on the edge and within settlements.
- South Coast Western continued to receive the most planning applications over the five-year time period up to 2021.
- CPRE's Night Blight map from 2016 indicated that over 63% of the AONB experienced the darkest level of skies with the lowest levels in remote locations away from towns and villages.
- In 2016 the Cornwall AONB was ranked as the 7th darkest AONB in England.
- West Penwith recorded the most stars counted in CPRE's Big Star Count and is bidding to become an International Dark Sky Park.
- There was a marked increase in single/twin turbine wind energy developments (mainly farm-based) between 2013 and 2020.
- Energy produced from major onshore renewable energy developments has almost doubled since 2013. There are now significant solar PV developments within the South Coast Western section.
- The development of offshore renewables is likely to become a key force for change over the coming years, particularly following the UK's climate emergency declaration in 2019.

## Indicators selected for this theme

**3.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Planning and Development' theme:

- PD1: Extent of dark night skies
- PD2: Levels and type of development in the AONB
- PD3: Number and area of Conservation Areas

**3.2** In the Phase 1 study, baseline information for this indicator came from CPRE's Night Blight map (2000), which provided a spatial indication of relative levels of light pollution for the AONB as a whole. This data had not been updated in time for the Phase 2 study; however CPRE updated the map in 2016. The method and notably the unit of measurement applied differs between the data from 2000 and 2016 and therefore a comparison is unable to be made.

**3.3** The results of CPRE's Night Blight map from 2016 are set out in **Table 3.1**. This indicates that in 2016 over 63% of the AONB experienced the darkest skies and that no part of the AONB experienced any of the three brightest value categories (which can be found within the main urban areas outside of the AONB). The CPRE project showed that the Cornwall AONB was ranked as the 7th darkest AONB in England. The results of CPRE's Night Blight map from 2016 can also be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). This illustrates that small pockets of brighter skies are scattered throughout the AONB where towns and villages exist. This is the case within most sections of the AONB although Bodmin Moor mostly contains the darkest level (of brightness value) and is designated as an International Dark Sky Park.



**Table 3.1: Results of CPRE's Night Blight map (2016) for the AONB**

Brightness Values (NanoWatts / cm2/ steradian)	Proportion of AONB
<0.25 (Darkest)	63.2%
0.25 – 0.5	24.9%
0.5 – 1	8.1%
1 – 2	2.7%
2 – 4 (Brighter)	0.9%
4 – 8	0.1%
8 – 16	0%
16 – 32	0%
>32 (Brightest)	0%

Source: CPRE (2016)

**3.4** To supplement the data for this indicator, the Phase 2 study laid down a new baseline using results from the CPRE Big Star Count in 2013, where members of the public were asked to record how many stars in the constellation of Orion were visible from their geographic point. This is a national project, designed to measure how much light pollution is affecting visibility of the night sky. CPRE currently repeats this initiative annually, forming a reliable source of ongoing monitoring information for this indicator.

**3.5** The results of CPRE's Big Star Count in 2021 are set out in **Table 3.2** and a comparison is provided with the results presented in the Phase 2 study from 2013. Counts were undertaken from different locations within an AONB section with the number of stars varying between each location as shown in **Table 3.2**. Due to the voluntary nature of the Big Star Count, full coverage of the AONB is



never guaranteed, although it is encouraging to see that counts were undertaken from more sections of the AONB in 2021 than in 2013.

**Table 3.2: Results of CPRE's Big Star Count by AONB Section (2013 and 2021)**

AONB Section	Number of stars counted (2013)	Number of stars counted (2021)
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	10 (at Boscastle)	12 (at Pendoggett)
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	48 (at Padstow) 5 (at St Merryn)	--
07 West Penwith		28 (St Just)
08 South Coast Western	--	4 (at St Keverne) 18 (at Traboe)
09 South Coast Central	26 (at Mylor Bridge) 31 (St Ewe)	20 (at Carclew) 20 (at Philleigh) 20 (at Portholland) 10 (at St Clement)
10 South Coast Eastern	18 (at Fowey)	16 (at Porthallow)
12 Bodmin Moor	--	10 (at Blisland)

Source: CPRE (2013 and 2021)

**3.6** West Penwith recorded the most stars counted in 2021. Since 2019 this section of the AONB has been preparing a bid to become recognised internationally for its dark skies as an International Dark Sky Park. In April 2021 evidence was submitted to the International Dark Sky Association (IDA) for consideration.

## PD2: Levels and type of development in the AONB

### Overview of development pressure within the AONB

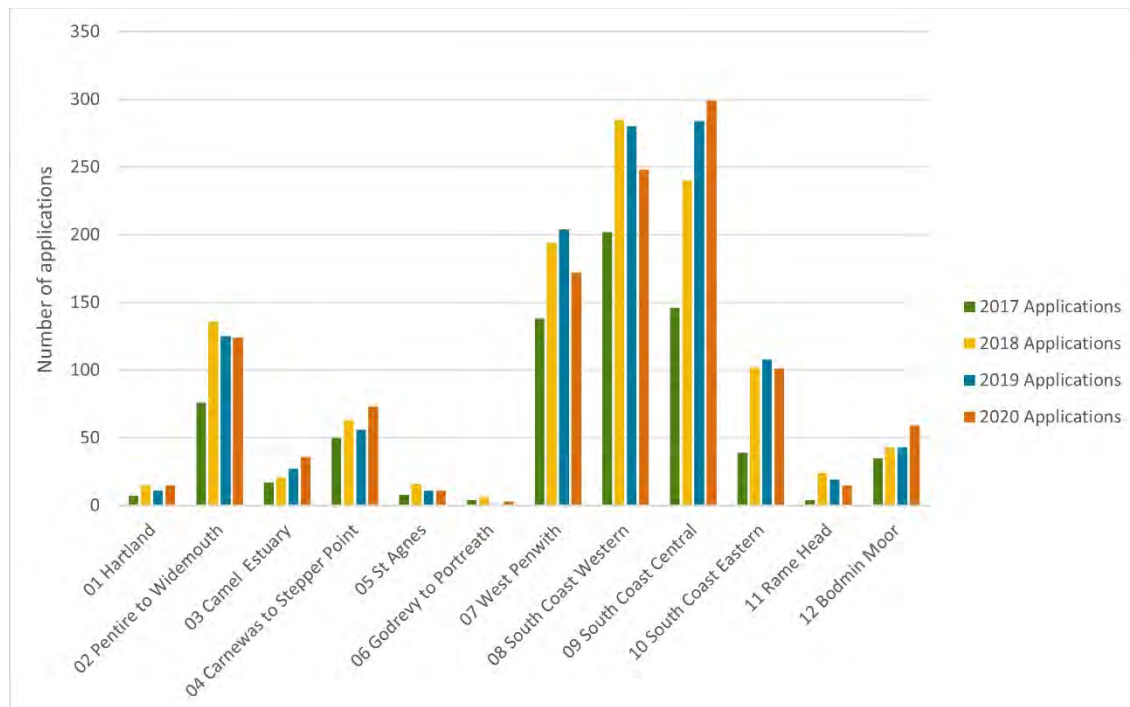
**3.7** The observations made under the following section are those of the Cornwall AONB Unit alone. The AONB has undertaken their own detailed analysis of planning records to understand the development pressure impacting on the designated landscape.

### Extent of development

**3.8** The AONB continues to receive high and increasing levels of development pressure which in some cases causes concern to the primary purpose of the designation. Whilst the AONB only occupies approximately 27% of the total land area of Cornwall, it accounts for more than 60% of the county's valuable coastal landscapes. The coastal landscapes are valuable in landscape, seascape and environmental terms but also in terms of development. This further elevates the pressures and potential effects of development on the special qualities of the coast.

**3.9** The volume of planning application consultations received by the AONB over recent years clearly shows the increasing development pressure (**Figure 3.1**). Whilst these numbers represent planning applications within the AONB boundary, the AONB Unit also receives consultations for development within its setting.

**Figure 3.1: Planning application consultations recieved by the AONB (2017-2020)**



Source: Cornwall AONB (2017 - 2020)

**3.10** Figure 3.1 demonstrates the particular intensity of development pressure in three ‘hot spot’ sections – South Coast Central, South Coast Western and West Penwith. These three sections account for approximately 65% of the total number of planning applications for the whole AONB.

**3.11** Early indications suggest that the volume of planning applications for 2021 is higher than 2020.

## Types of development

**3.12** Around 30% of planning applications relate to new and replacement dwellings. A slightly higher proportion of the planning applications relate to extensions (including annexes), and this type of development appears to be

increasing. This demonstrates that there is substantial investment in residential property within the AONB. The results of this in terms of cumulative effects on the designated landscape are now clearly evident, with the character of some areas and settlements already much changed and this trend continuing.

**3.13** The areas experiencing the most development pressure closely match the areas of Cornwall which have the highest rates of unoccupied households. This suggests that much of the development pressure within the AONB is not providing additions to the “available” housing stock but could be associated with second or holiday homes.

### Development trends

**3.14** Behind the findings mentioned above, there is a very broad spectrum of development.

**3.15** The AONB has observed that the residential re-use of agricultural buildings can lead to encroachment into the designated landscape or the disruption of an otherwise undeveloped agricultural setting. Within AONB settlements, replacement dwellings, together with extensions, serve to ‘intensify’ what might be an otherwise characteristic village scene.

**3.16** Other observations relate to the contemporary design and ‘requirement for modern living’ which favour large open plan dwellings of often uncharacteristic scale, form, massing, textures, materials and colours and there is a strong move towards extensive glazing replacing more modest domestic fenestration. There also appears to be a move away from contextual design responses in many cases, with contemporary development seeking to take advantage of its location within the designated landscape, rather than deriving from its characteristics and contributing to it in a contemporary idiom.

**3.17** Light spill and glint and glare are particular issues arising from some contemporary development with its extensive areas of curtain glazing, full height gable-end windows and glazed balustrades. The AONB feels that this is

particularly problematic in relation to visual amenity and effects on dark night skies which are such an important attribute of the designated landscape.

### Effective use of resources

**3.18** The planning consultation responses provided by the AONB Unit from 2017 to 2020 are shown in **Table 3.3** below. This highlights the limited number of objections raised by the AONB Unit in comparison to the number of applications being made. A review of the outcomes of the planning applications shows that AONB input is frequently incorporated into design changes and conditions applied when public applications are approved.



**Table 3.3: Number of consultation responses provided by the AONB Unit from 2017 to 2020**

Year	Number of applications the AONB commented on	Number of applications the AONB commented on and were subsequently refused	Number of applications the AONB commented on and were subsequently withdrawn	Number of applications to which the AONB objected	Number of applications to which the AONB objected and were subsequently refused	Number of applications to which the AONB objected and were subsequently withdrawn
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	87	32	N/A
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	122	47	23
2019	90	6	2	69	25	8
2020	70	11	6	100	30	18

Source: Cornwall AONB (2017 - 2020)

## Number and type of planning applications

**3.19** Trends of development in the AONB were analysed using planning application data obtained from Cornwall Council. The data covered planning applications within the AONB boundary over a five year period, from the 1st January 2016 to 31st December 2020. Only full applications that were approved or refused were included in the analysis. Other application types and those that were withdrawn were not included. A comparison is also made with equivalent data for the Phase 2 study, which covered planning applications from the 1st April 2008 to 31st March 2013.

**3.20** In order to make the planning data more manageable and meaningful to analyse, the raw data was amalgamated into four overall categories (consistent with Phase 2), as follows:

- **Major development:** including the development types, 'Small scale major dwellings', 'All other large scale development', 'All other small scale major development' and 'Small scale major distribution/servicing'.
- **Householder/dwellings:** including the development types 'Householder' and 'Minor – Dwelling'.
- **Minor developments (excluding dwellings):** including the development types, '(Gen) All other minor developments', 'All other minor developments', 'Minor – Offices/light industry' and 'Minor – Retail distribution/servicing'.
- **Changes of use**

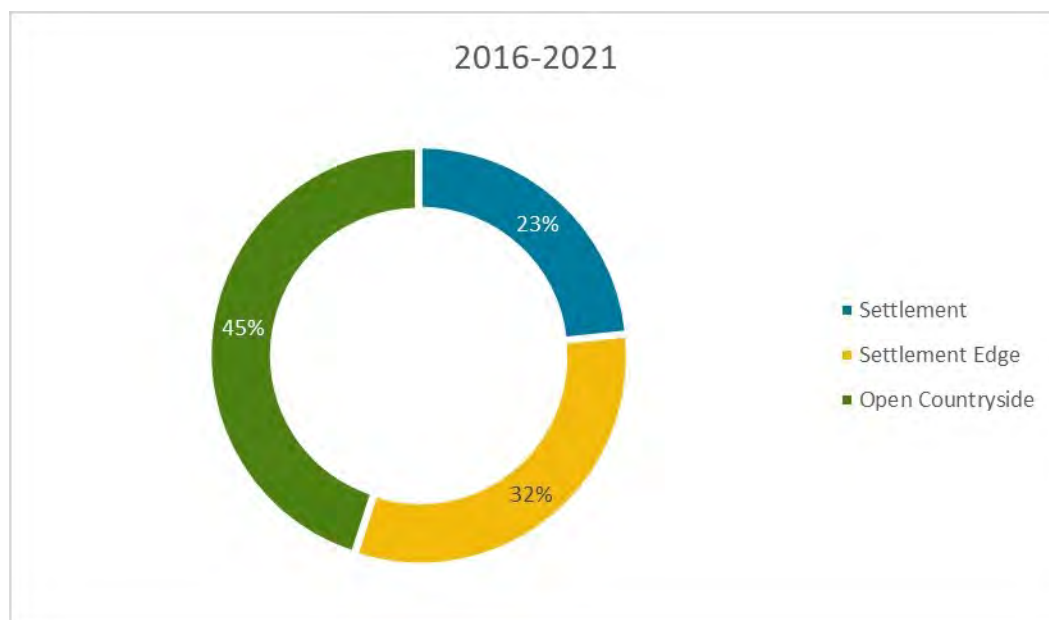
**3.21** For each of these categories, location (settlement, settlement edge or open countryside) and approval rates were analysed. Settlements were defined using Ordnance Survey Strategi GIS dataset for urban regions in the UK, with a 0.5km buffer area defining the settlement edge. This followed the same approach as Phase 2 to allow trends to be monitored accurately. The data was analysed spatially by AONB section.

## General patterns of application type and location

**3.22** Within the five-year period up to 2021, the total number of applications was 5,222 with the majority within the 'Householder/dwellings' category (4,162). A significant proportion of these were located within settlements (51.8%). This translates to a 13.5% increase when compared to the five-year period between 2008 and 2013. During this earlier period the majority of this type of application were located on the edge of the AONB's settlements.

**3.23** A total of 60 applications were made in the 'Major Development' category within the five-year period up to 2021, with 45% (27) of these located within the open countryside (see **Figure 3.2**). This is a 16.7% decrease of applications within this category, when compared to the five-year period between 2008 and 2013. Previously, most applications were located on the edge of the AONB's settlements.

**Figure 3.2: Location of major development applications in the AONB (2016-2021)**



Source: Cornwall Council (2016 – 2021)

**3.24** The total applications for 'Minor developments (excluding dwellings)' (791) were relatively uniform across all locations. Interestingly, there has been a 19.6% decrease in the number of applications within this category, when compared to the five-year period between 2008 and 2013.

**3.25** The latest period saw a total of 209 applications in the 'Changes of use' category, with 38.3% (80) of these located on the edge of the AONB's settlements. This represents a 24.4% increase of applications within this category, when compared to the five-year period between 2008 and 2013. Previously, most applications were located within settlements.

### Approval rates

**3.26 Table 3.4** sets out the total number of applications received in the three different location categories, along with their planning decision. A comparison is provided between the different time periods.

**3.27 Figure 3.3** then illustrates the approval rates for the different development categories and locations, again with a comparison between the two time periods. Applications within the 'Major development' category between 2016 and 2021 had the highest overall rate of refusal (28.3%) and showed a clear trend with those located within settlements and on the edge of settlements. In these locations the refusal rate for applications within the 'Major development' category was 50% and 42.1% respectively. Interestingly, the highest rate of refusal for applications within the 'Major development' category between 2008 and 2013 was for those located within open countryside (29%). However, between 2016 and 2021 the refusal rate in this location was 7.4%, which is likely to cause concern for the AONB.

**3.28** Approval rates for applications classed as 'Householder/ dwellings' and 'Minor development (excluding dwellings)' did not vary significantly between the different location categories (as was the case for the previous time period). Generally, applications in these categories had a high rate of approval (between 91% and 93%).



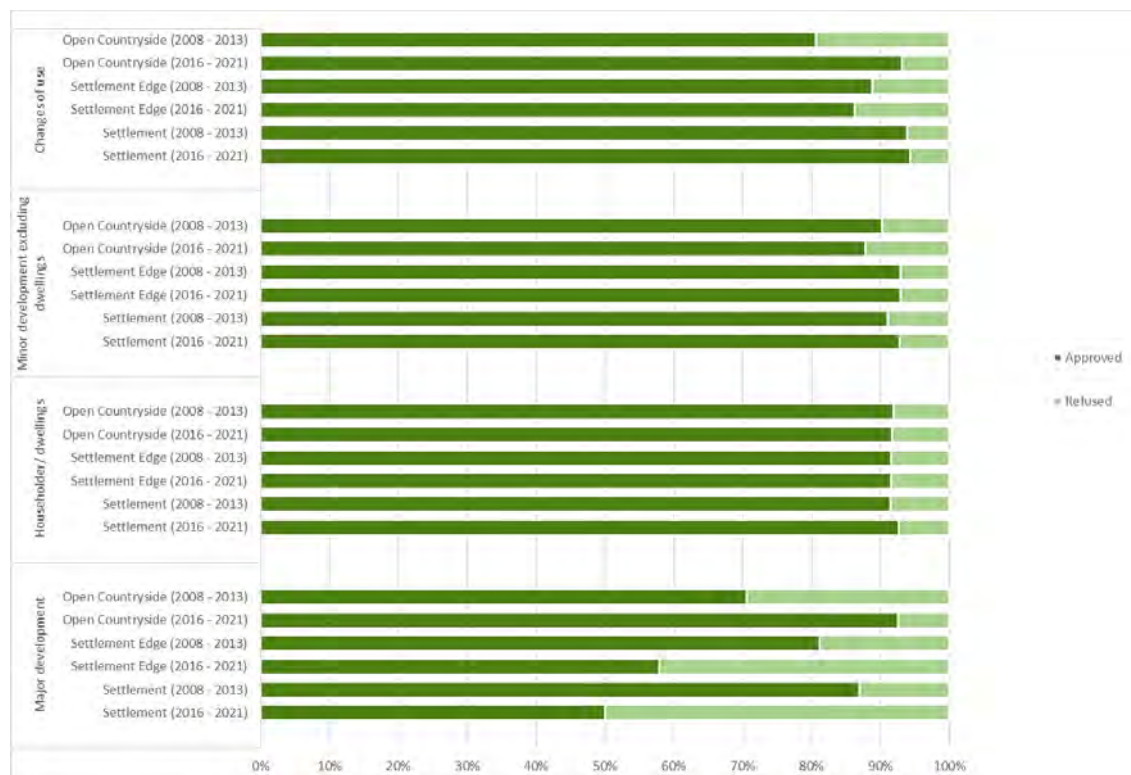
**3.29** Approval rates for 'Changes of use' between 2016 and 2021 were higher within settlements (94.4%) and open countryside (93.1%) than on the edge of settlements (86.3%). Between 2008 and 2013, applications for 'Changes of use' in open countryside had the lowest approval rate (81%).

**Table 3.4: Planning application totals by development type, location and outcome (2008-2013 and 2016-2021)**

Development Type	Location	2008-2013 Approved	2016-2021 Approved	2008-2013 Refused	2016-2021 Refused	2008-2013 Total	2016-2021 Total
Major development	Settlement	20	7	3	7	23	14
Major development	Settlement Edge	26	11	6	8	32	19
Major development	Open Countryside	12	25	5	2	17	27
Householder/ dwellings	Settlement	1197	1998	112	156	1309	2154
Householder/ dwellings	Settlement Edge	1581	1185	145	108	1726	1293
Householder/ dwellings	Open Countryside	580	656	51	59	631	715
Minor development (excluding dwellings)	Settlement	307	205	30	16	337	221
Minor development (excluding dwellings)	Settlement Edge	287	262	22	20	309	282
Minor development (excluding dwellings)	Open Countryside	305	253	33	35	338	288
Changes of use	Settlement	62	67	4	4	66	71
Changes of use	Settlement Edge	40	69	5	11	45	80
Changes of use	Open Countryside	46	54	11	4	57	58

Source: Cornwall Council (2008 – 2013 and 2016 – 2021)

**Figure 3.3: Approval rates of planning applications within the AONB by development type and location (2008-2013 and 2016-2021)**



Source: Cornwall Council (2008 – 2013 and 2016 – 2021)

## Analysis by AONB section

**3.30** The planning data was also analysed for each of the 12 AONB sections, firstly by development category. **Figure 3.4** shows the total number of planning applications by AONB section, received between 2016 and 2021. The most common application type in all AONB sections was in the 'Householder/dwellings' category, followed by 'Minor development (excluding dwellings)' and 'Change of Use'. Major development applications were the least common, accounting for 1.1% of the total. This followed the same pattern as for the applications made between 2008 and 2013.

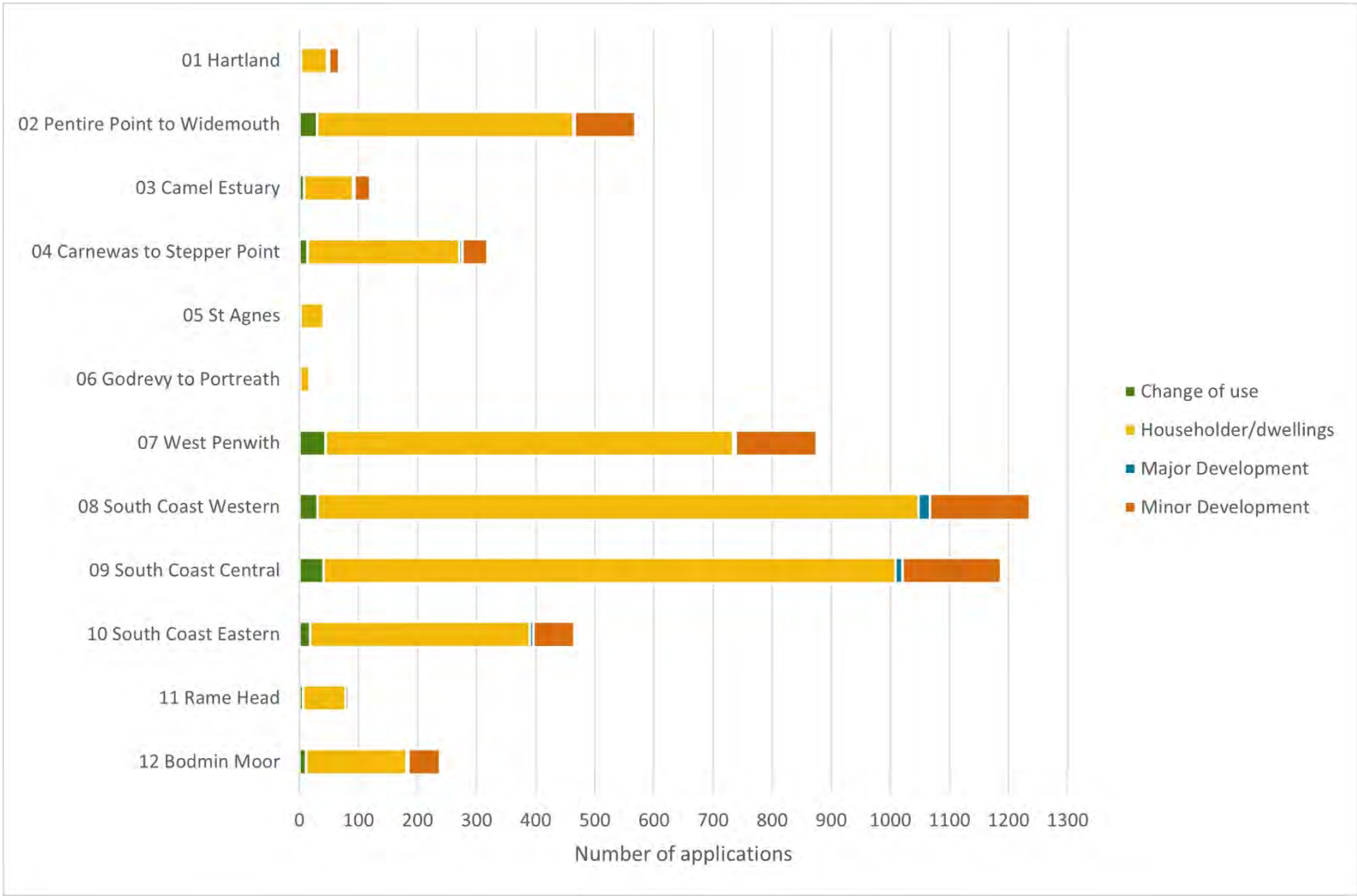
**3.31** **Figure 3.4** shows that South Coast Western continued to have the highest amount of planning applications, with 1,236 received over the five-year period up to 2021. 1,017 of these (82.3%) were in the 'Householder/dwellings' category, 169 (13.4%) in 'Minor development (excluding dwellings)' 31 (2.5%) in the 'Changes of use' category and 19 (1.5%) were 'Major developments'. South Coast Central and West Penwith also continued to have a large number of planning applications (1,187 and 875 respectively).

**3.32** Approval rates were varied between AONB sections (shown on **Figure 3.5**). Between 2016 and 2021 the highest was in St Agnes (97.8%) and the lowest in Godrevy to Portreath (85%). This was also the lowest between 2008 and 2013, but Hartland received the highest approval rate during that five-year period.

**3.33** Approval rates did not correlate with the geographical or population sizes of the different AONB sections. The distribution of approved planning applications and types can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

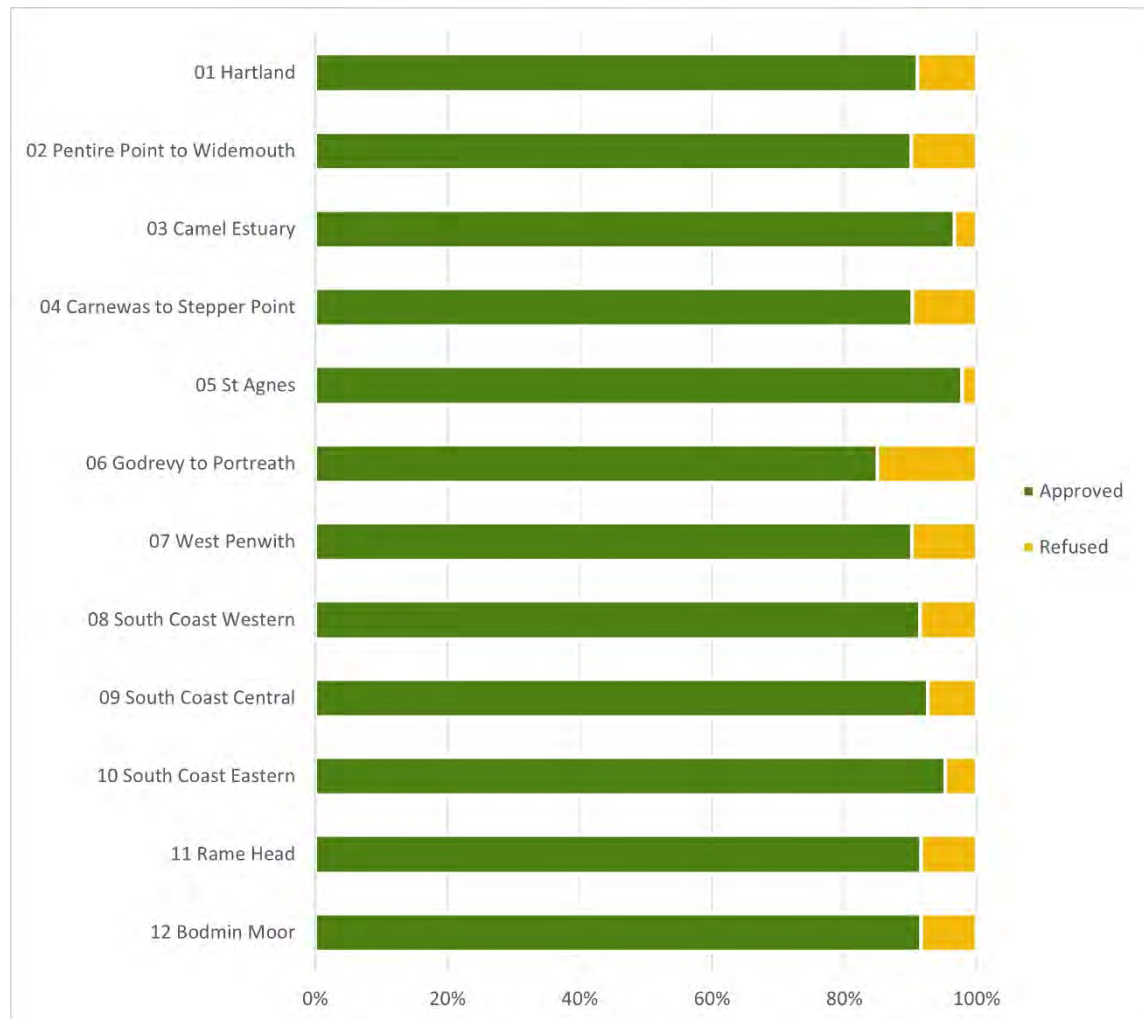


Figure 3.4: Total number and development type by AONB section (2016-2021)



Source: Cornwall Council (2016 – 2021)

Figure 3.5: Approval rates by AONB section (2016-2021)



Source: Cornwall Council (2016 – 2021)

## Number of onshore wind energy and solar PV developments within the AONB

**3.34 Table 3.5** and **Table 3.7** show that in 2020 there was 23.05 megawatts (MW) of capacity generated from operational onshore wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) developments in the AONB. This is an increase of 11.03 MW since 2013. This change is largely explained by the solar PV developments in the South Coast Western section that became operational after 2013. No new large-scale onshore wind energy developments have been constructed or become operational in the AONB since 2013, nor has there been any repowering or extensions to existing schemes. However there has been a proliferation of small single and twin turbine developments, providing an additional combined capacity of 0.8 MW. The location of these developments can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). As of 2020 there were no undetermined planning applications for either wind energy or solar PV developments.

**Table 3.5: Operational wind energy developments within the AONB (2020)**

AONB Section	Name	Number and tip height of turbines	2020 Capacity (MW)
01 Hartland	S of Trevona	1 x 17.8m	0.006
01 Hartland	Land Adj Endslee Farm	1 x 40m	0.05
01 Hartland	Stanbury Manor	1 x 12m	0.006
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	East Dizzard	1 x 20.2m	0.02
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Glencove	1 x 14.75m	0.006

<b>AONB Section</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Number and tip height of turbines</b>	<b>2020 Capacity (MW)</b>
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Higher Trewint	1 x 27m	0.02
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Rose Cottage	1 x 21.6m	0.01
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Collamoor Head	1 x 35m	0.05
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Pencuke Farm	1 x 24.5m	0.011
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Carwitham Barton	1 x 34.2m	0.055
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Cargurra Farm	2 x 24.8m	0.022
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Halwill Barton	1 x 34.2m	0.05
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Condolden Farm	1 x 34.2m	0.05
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Land at Condolden Farm	1 x 35m	0.05
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Tregragon Farm	1 x 20m	0.015
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Fentafriddle Farm	1 x 23.2m	0.02
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	Trethillick Farm	1 x 20m	0.011
07 West Penwith	Castallack Farm	1 x 12.6m	0.005
07 West Penwith	Lower Numphra Farm	1 x 14.4m	0.005
07 West Penwith	Stone Farm	1 x 14.25m	0.01
07 West Penwith	Carn Farm	1 x 21.8m	0.011
07 West Penwith	Calartha Farm	1 x 12.75m	0.005



<b>AONB Section</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Number and tip height of turbines</b>	<b>2020 Capacity (MW)</b>
07 West Penwith	Tregaminion Manor Farm	1 x 21.8m	0.011
07 West Penwith	Chypraze Farm	1 x 12.75m	0.005
07 West Penwith	Leswidden Concrete Products	1 x 34.2m	0.05
07 West Penwith	Cryor Farm	1 x 13.05m	0.006
08 South Coast Western	Connings Farm	1 x 17.75m	0.005
08 South Coast Western	Goonhilly Downs	6 x 107m	12
08 South Coast Western	Goonhilly Satellite Earth Station	1 x 11.75m	0.006
08 South Coast Western	NE of Bonython Manor	1 x 34.6m	0.055
08 South Coast Western	Trelease Farm	1 x 16m	0.01
08 South Coast Western	An-hay	1 x 19.25m	0.015
08 South Coast Western	Tregeague Farm	1 x 19.25m	0.015
08 South Coast Western	Trewince	1 x 9.7m	0.006
08 South Coast Western	Treworgie Farm	1 x 20.9m	0.015
08 South Coast Western	Lestowder Farm	1 x 19.8m	0.01
09 South Coast Central	Calendra Farm	1 x 17.7m	0.005
12 Bodmin Moor	Fernacre	1 x 22.95m	0.01
12 Bodmin Moor	Wallhouse	1 x 20.75m	0.005
12 Bodmin Moor	Harrowbridge Hill Farm	2 x 20m	0.03
12 Bodmin Moor	Cheesewring Farm	1 x 17.78m	0.006
12 Bodmin Moor	Cabilla Manor	1 x 20m	0.02
12 Bodmin Moor	Castle Dewey Cottages	1 x 17.2m	0.005

AONB Section	Name	Number and tip height of turbines	2020 Capacity (MW)
12 Bodmin Moor	Gazeland Farm	2 x 17.75m	0.01
12 Bodmin Moor	Upton Cross C.P School	1 x 15m	0.005
<b>Total:</b>			<b>12.8</b>

Source: Cornwall Council (2020)

**Table 3.6: Consented (awaiting construction) wind energy developments within the AONB (2020)**

AONB Section	Name	Number and height of turbines	2020 Capacity (MW)
07 West Penwith	Garden Mine Cottage	Micro wind turbine mast attached garage outbuildings	0.00016

Source: Cornwall Council (2020)

**Table 3.7: Operational solar PV developments within the AONB (2020)**

AONB Section	Name	Area (ha)	2020 Capacity (MW)
08 South Coast Western	Goonhilly Downs/Bonython Estate	8.5	5

<b>AONB Section</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>2020 Capacity (MW)</b>
08 South Coast Western	Higher Tregarne Solar Farm	10	5
08 South Coast Western	Worvas Farm Solar Park	0.5	0.25
<b>Total</b>			<b>10.25</b>

Source: Cornwall Council (2020)

**3.35** Renewable energy developments adjacent to and visible from the AONB are also important to monitor in terms of their potential impacts on the setting and character of the protected landscape. The 2020 data from Cornwall Council shows a number of large solar and wind farms that are in close proximity to the AONB boundary, particularly in the northern and western areas of the county. Examples of commercial scale wind farms on the border of the AONB include:

- Crimp Wind Farm (three turbines at 81m tip height) near to the Hartland AONB section.
- Delabole Wind Farm (four turbines at 99m tip height) next to the boundary of the Pentire Point to Widemouth section.
- Otterham Down Wind Farm (four turbines at 71m tip height) next to the boundary of the Pentire Point to Widemouth section.

**3.36** There are also a number of commercial scale solar farms found throughout Cornwall that may be visible from parts of the AONB. Some examples of these solar farms include:

- Land near Eastcott Cross (5 MW capacity) adjacent to the Hartland section.
- Treswarrow Farm (6 MW capacity) near to the Pentire Point to Widemouth section.

- Middle Treworder Farm (5 MW capacity) next to the Camel Estuary section.
- Land East of Hawksland (5MW capacity) near to the Camel Estuary section.
- Land south of Nanterrow Cottage (5 MW capacity) near to the Godrevy to Portreath section.
- Langunnett Solar Farm (6 MW capacity) near to the South Coast Eastern section.

**3.37** In January 2019, Cornwall Council declared a 'climate emergency' in recognition of the need to take urgent action to address the climate crisis. The Council has since prepared a report outlining how Cornwall can reduce carbon emissions and work towards becoming carbon neutral by 2030. The plan provides a roadmap for achieving carbon neutrality a full twenty years ahead of the Government's target of 2050. To support this goal the Council is preparing a Climate Emergency Development Plan Document (DPD) [\[See reference 4\]](#). The DPD will help Cornwall Council plan positively for measures to address and mitigate climate change and strengthen policies of the Cornwall Local Plan.

**3.38** On 17 June 2020, the Council announced its intention to accelerate its Climate Emergency Plan, with the COVID-19 recovery and renewal process bringing further impetus to drive this forward. The Climate Change DPD is considered key for the Plan's delivery, covering the period up to 2030 to align with the plan period of the Local Plan: Strategic Policies (2010 – 2030). To meet the target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 there is an accepted need to generate additional power through renewable energy. The Council recognises that the development of renewable energy needs to be managed carefully to achieve the greatest contribution towards energy needs, while at the same time, ensuring that the important characteristics of the landscape are not unacceptably harmed.

**3.39** In December 2020, a draft updated strategy for accommodating new renewable generation infrastructure (wind energy and solar PV development) in Cornwall's landscapes was produced by LUC. This is known as the Renewable



Energy Landscape Sensitivity (RELS) Assessment and has formed part of the evidence base for the DPD. As part of this assessment, a series of opportunity maps indicate areas within Cornwall that would be most suitable for accommodating new wind energy and solar PV development, including through repowering or extending existing (older) schemes.

### Number and type of offshore developments

**3.40** At present, there are no operational offshore renewable schemes adjacent to the AONB – this situation has remained unchanged since Phase 1 (2008).

**3.41** The Wave Hub development is located 16km north-east of St Ives and connects to a substation at Hayle and is used to test marine renewable energy technologies. The Wave Hub itself occupies 55 cubic meters of sea on an area of 8km<sup>2</sup> that has been leased for 25 years from the Crown Estate. In May 2021 it was announced that the £42m wave energy facility, which has not become operational, was to be sold by Cornwall Council (who acquired the site in 2017) to Swedish floating wind developer Hexicon. There are plans to install a maximum of four turbines on two floating foundations, with a total capacity of up to 40 megawatts. This would deliver power to about 45,000 homes a year and it is anticipated to become operational by 2025. Depending on their height, the turbines may be visible from the Godrevy to Porthreath and West Penwith AONB sections.

## PD3: Number and area of Conservation Areas

**3.42** Table 3.8 below provides a list of the number and area covered by Conservation Areas, comparing current figures with those presented in Phase 2. Their location can also be viewed in the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**3.43** There are a total of 52 Conservation Areas in the AONB - occurring in all AONB sections apart from Hartland, St Agnes and Godrevy to Portreath. This has not changed since 2009. Most Conservation Areas are found in the southern AONB sections. West Penwith and South Coast Central together contain 26 Conservation Areas; half the AONB total. However, the greatest coverage of Conservation Areas occurs on Bodmin Moor, with five Conservation Areas covering 740.57ha (or 53% of the total area of Conservation Areas found in the AONB).

**3.44** Overall, the area covered by Conservation Areas in the AONB has shown a marginal change of just over 1ha since the Phase 2 study (2013). However, this is likely due to updates in digitising of the Conservation Area data rather than any increases in coverage.

**Table 3.8: Conservation Area coverage (2009, 2013 and 2021)**

AONB section	Number of Conservation Areas	2009 Area (ha)	2013 Area (ha)	2021 Area (ha)	2013 - 2021 Change (ha)
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	3	115.34	115.34	115.34	0
03 Camel Estuary	1	3.11	3.11	3.11	0
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	1	5.82	5.82	5.82	0
07 West Penwith	13	139.12	139.12	139.12	0
08 South Coast Western	8	84.19	83.08	84.19	Minor change
09 South Coast Central	13	139.02	139.02	139.02	0
10 South Coast Eastern	6	152.02	152.02	152.02	0

AONB section	Number of Conservation Areas	2009 Area (ha)	2013 Area (ha)	2021 Area (ha)	2013 - 2021 Change (ha)
11 Rame Head	2	14.20	14.18	14.20	Minor change
12 Bodmin Moor	5	740.57	740.50	740.57	Minor change
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1393.40</b>	<b>1392.19</b>	<b>1393.39</b>	<b>+1.20</b>

Source: Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (2009, 2013 and 2021)

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**3.45** The AONB should repeat the monitoring of all indicators under the 'Planning and Development' theme every five years, to coincide with AONB Management Plan reviews.

**3.46** In addition, the AONB should:

- Consider commissioning an AONB specific project on dark night skies, including involving AONB communities to undertake their own star counts (see the protocol for indicator 1.3 in the Phase 1 monitoring report). This could focus on parts of the AONB felt to be most sensitive to light pollution, such as those on the fringes of the main urban areas.
- Explore (with partners) commissioning a locally-tailored study akin to the CPRE Night Blight mapping (2016), using the latest available satellite imagery to understand strategic 'hotspots' of light pollution and havens of dark skies.

- Consider undertaking periodic surveys of the known locations of approved minor / householder planning applications to gauge whether these are having an incremental impact on local landscape character (e.g. use of local vernacular styles/materials).
- Continue to provide input into planning decisions on onshore and offshore renewables, with particular reference to information contained in the Cornwall Landscape Character Assessment and Cornwall Council's Renewable Energy Landscape Sensitivity (RELS) Assessment (2021).
- Consider commissioning a local Seascape Character Assessment (in partnership with Cornwall Council and others) to provide baseline evidence to help inform marine planning decisions; with pressure for offshore development likely to be a growing force for change. The spatial framework should be compatible with the Landscape Character Assessment and 'nest' within the national classification of Marine Character Areas.

## List of data sources used for this theme

**3.47** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Cornwall Council Planning Records (2008 – 2013)
- Cornwall Council Planning Records (2016 – 2021)
- CPRE (2016) Night Blight map
- CPRE (2013 and 2021) Big Star Count maps
- Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (2009, 2013 and 2021) Conservation Areas



## Chapter 4

### Farming and Food





## Chapter 4

# Farming and Food

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- The total area of agricultural land in the AONB in 2016 had increased by just under 1% since 2010, covering 73.7% of the total land area of the protected landscape.
- All agricultural types had witnessed an increase in area coverage, apart from permanent grass and rough grazing (sole right), which decreased 1.3% and 15% respectively.
- There was a marginal increase (just under 0.5%) in the total number of agricultural holdings indicating a trend towards small farms with the greatest increase seen in smallholdings of 5ha or less.
- Land under Environmental Stewardship (ES) had more than halved in 2020 since 2013, but this is likely to be due to phasing out of the scheme from 2016 (replaced by Countryside Stewardship).
- In 2020 there was only an uptake of ES schemes that included a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) element. Entry Level plus HLS was the only scheme type to increase since 2013.
- There was 10,443ha of land under Countryside Stewardship in 2020, with 73% of this related to the Mid-Tier element.
- Rame Head had more areas under agri-environment agreements (a combination of both ES and Countryside Stewardship) in 2020 than in 2013.
- ES options covering the greatest land area in 2019 were for the maintenance, restoration or creation of moorland – increasing by 12.1% since 2013.

## Indicators selected for this theme

**4.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Farming and Food' theme:

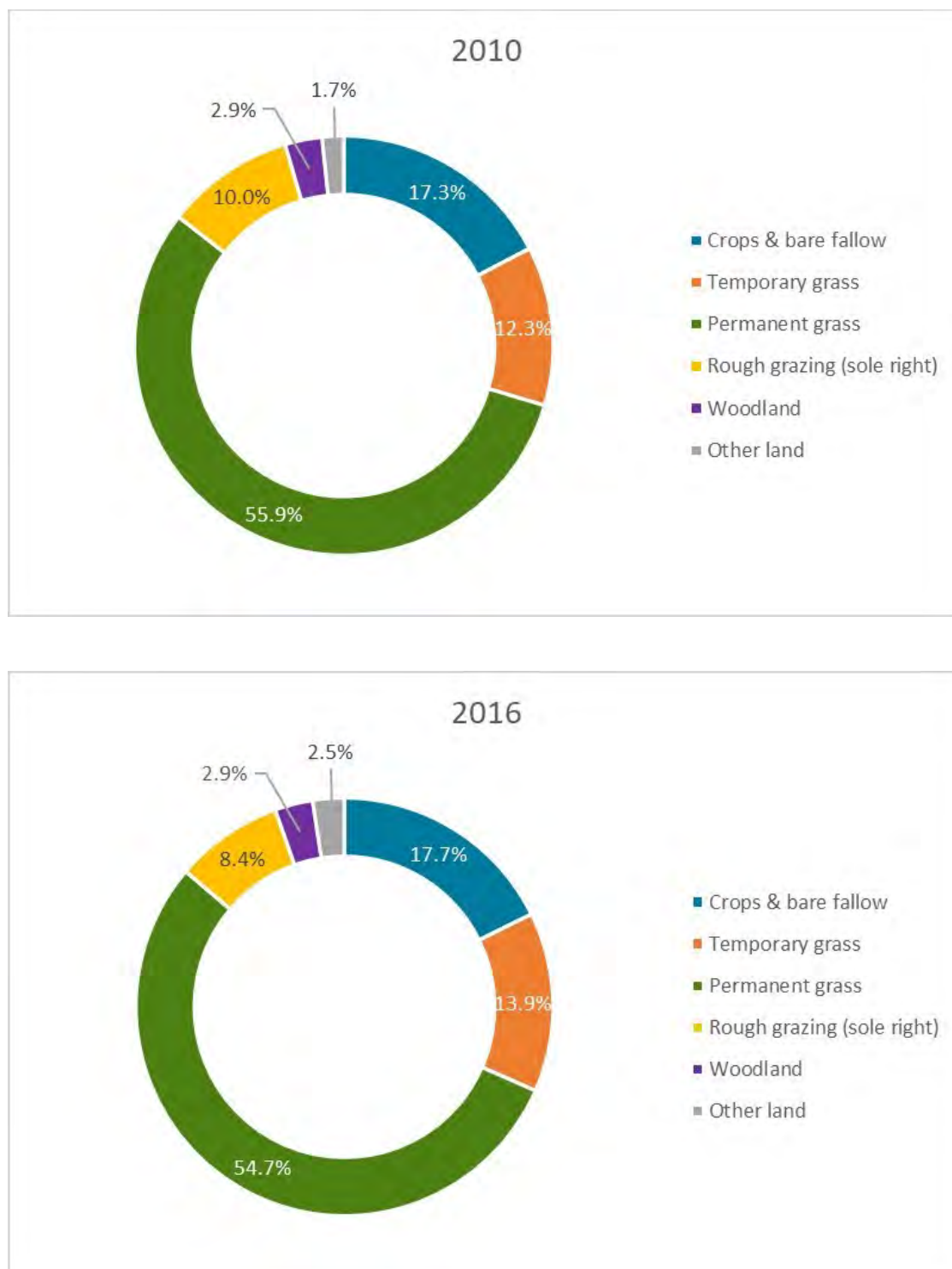
- FF1: Patterns of agricultural land use
- FF2: Levels of Environmental Stewardship uptake

### FF1: Patterns of agricultural land use

**4.2** There have been no updates to the data used to monitor this indicator (the June Agricultural Survey) since 2016. It is expected that the next release by the Department of Environment Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) will be in mid-2022.

**4.3** The total area of land under agricultural use in the AONB increased slightly from 70,409ha in 2010 to 71,091ha in 2016 – covering 73.7% of the AONB's total land area (an increase of just under 1%). This increase occurred across all different types of agricultural land use, except for permanent grass and rough grazing (sole right), which showed decreases of 1.3% and 15% respectively. This change is illustrated in the charts at **Figure 4.1**.

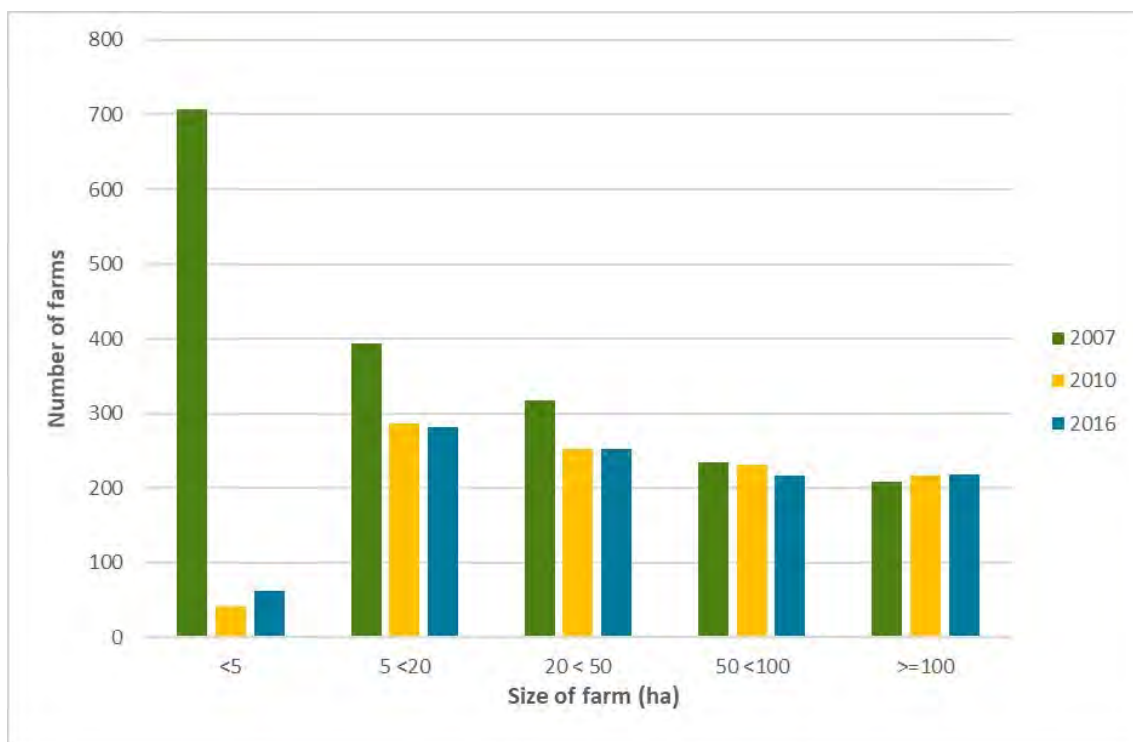
Figure 4.1: Agricultural land uses in the AONB (2010 and 2016)



Source: Department of Environment Food & Rural Affairs (2010 and 2016)

**4.4** The number of agricultural holdings also marginally increased by just under 0.5%, from 1,027 in 2010 to 1,032 in 2016 (**Figure 4.2**). The greatest increase was seen in smallholdings of 5ha or less, increasing by 22 to a total of 63. Large farms between 50ha and 100ha saw a decrease by 14 to a total of 217. Small farms between 5ha and 20ha decreased by five to a total of 281. These findings indicate a trend towards smaller farms or smallholdings (potentially ‘hobby farms’).

**Figure 4.2: Number of agricultural holdings in different size categories in the AONB (2007, 2010 and 2016)**



Source: Department of Environment Food & Rural Affairs (2010 and 2016)

## FF2: Levels of Environmental and Countryside Stewardship uptake

**4.5** Environmental Stewardship (ES) closed to new applicants in December 2014 and was replaced by a new agri-environmental scheme - Countryside Stewardship (CS), for which agreements started in January 2016. However, some ten-year agreements under ES remain and will continue until they expire.

### Overall levels of agri-environment scheme uptake

**4.6 Table 4.1** illustrates the changes in ES agreements in the AONB since the production of the AONB Atlas (2009) and Phase 2 study (2013). These show that in 2020 there was a significant decrease (-56.7%) in the area of the AONB under some form of ES agreement. This significant change is explained by the cessation of the scheme in 2016, with its replacement by Countryside Stewardship (as explained above).

**4.7 Table 4.2** presents the equivalent CS scheme tier uptake in 2020, which indicates that CS agreements covered 10,443ha. This equates to only 10.8% of the total AONB area being under CS agreement. Overall, there has been a decline of agri-environment scheme coverage by 16,236.02ha (or -34.9%) since 2013. Anecdotal evidence nationally suggests that CS take-up has generally been low compared to ES. It will therefore be extremely important to monitor how this trend evolves as we enter another period of new scheme design following Brexit (see further below).



**Table 4.1: Environmental Stewardship agreements in the AONB (2009, 2013 and 2020)**

ES Scheme	2009 Area in AONB (ha)	2009 % of all ES	2013 Area in AONB (ha)	2013 Cost (£)	2013 % of all ES	2020 Area in AONB (ha)	2020 Cost (£)*	2020 % of all ES	% change 2013 - 2020
Entry Level Stewardship	23,361	77%	23,721	£751,532	51%	0	--	3%	-100%
Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	2,602	9%	15,873	£2,246,003	34%	17,047.84	--	86%	7.4%
Higher Level Stewardship	247	1%	2,334	£253,113	5%	1,513.78	--	7.6%	-35.1%
Organic Entry Level Stewardship	3,752	12%	2,135	£198,340	5%	0	--	1.3%	-100%
Organic Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship	470	2%	2,448	£364,027	5%	1,269.36	--	6.4%	-48.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,433</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>46,510</b>	<b>£3,813,016</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>19,830.98</b>	<b>£2,923,673</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-56.7%</b>

\* A breakdown of cost for the individual ES scheme type is not available in the 2019 data.

Source: Natural England (2009, 2013 and 2020)

**Table 4.2: Countryside Stewardship agreements in the AONB (2020)**

CS Scheme	2020 Area in AONB (ha)	2020 % of all CS
Higher Tier	2,431.25	23.3%
Mid-Tier	7,627.32	73.0%
Capital Grants	384.45	3.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,443</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Natural England (2020)

## Specific scheme uptake

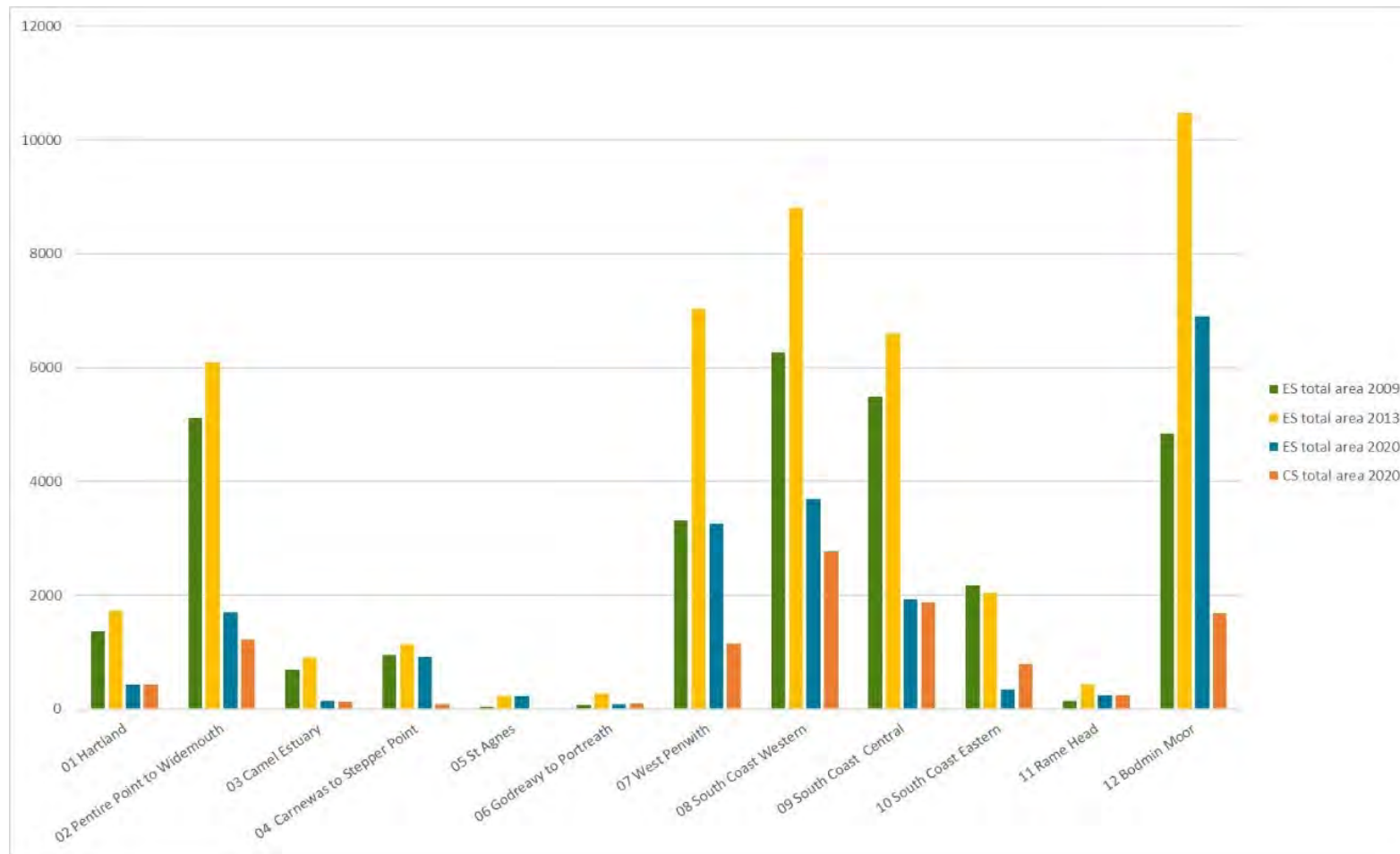
**4.8** In terms of specific scheme uptake, in 2020 there was a significant change in proportion of the different tiers of ES implemented in the AONB – again likely to be due to the scheme being phased out since 2016. There was no record of Entry Level Stewardship (ELS) or Organic Entry Level Stewardship (OELS). The Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) and Organic Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship tiers experienced significant decreases by 35.1% and 48.1% respectively. Entry Level plus HLS was the only tier to increase (by 7.4%) becoming the most popular ES scheme in 2020 and accounting for 86% of ES uptake in the AONB.

**4.9** Turning to CS, the Mid-Tier scheme was the most widespread agreement type in 2020, making up 73% of the total area of the AONB under CS.

**4.10** Looking at the AONB sections in more detail, all have experienced a decrease in ES uptake since 2013, again reflecting the phasing out of the scheme. The graph at **Figure 4.3** shows these changes and the results in mapped format are shown on **Figure 4.4**. These show that despite a 34.2% decrease, Bodmin Moor continued to be the AONB section with the greatest amount of ES uptake in 2020. CS uptake is also shown on **Figure 4.3** and mapped on **Figure 4.4** showing most to be within the South Coast Western area. Both the latest ES and CS uptake can also be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

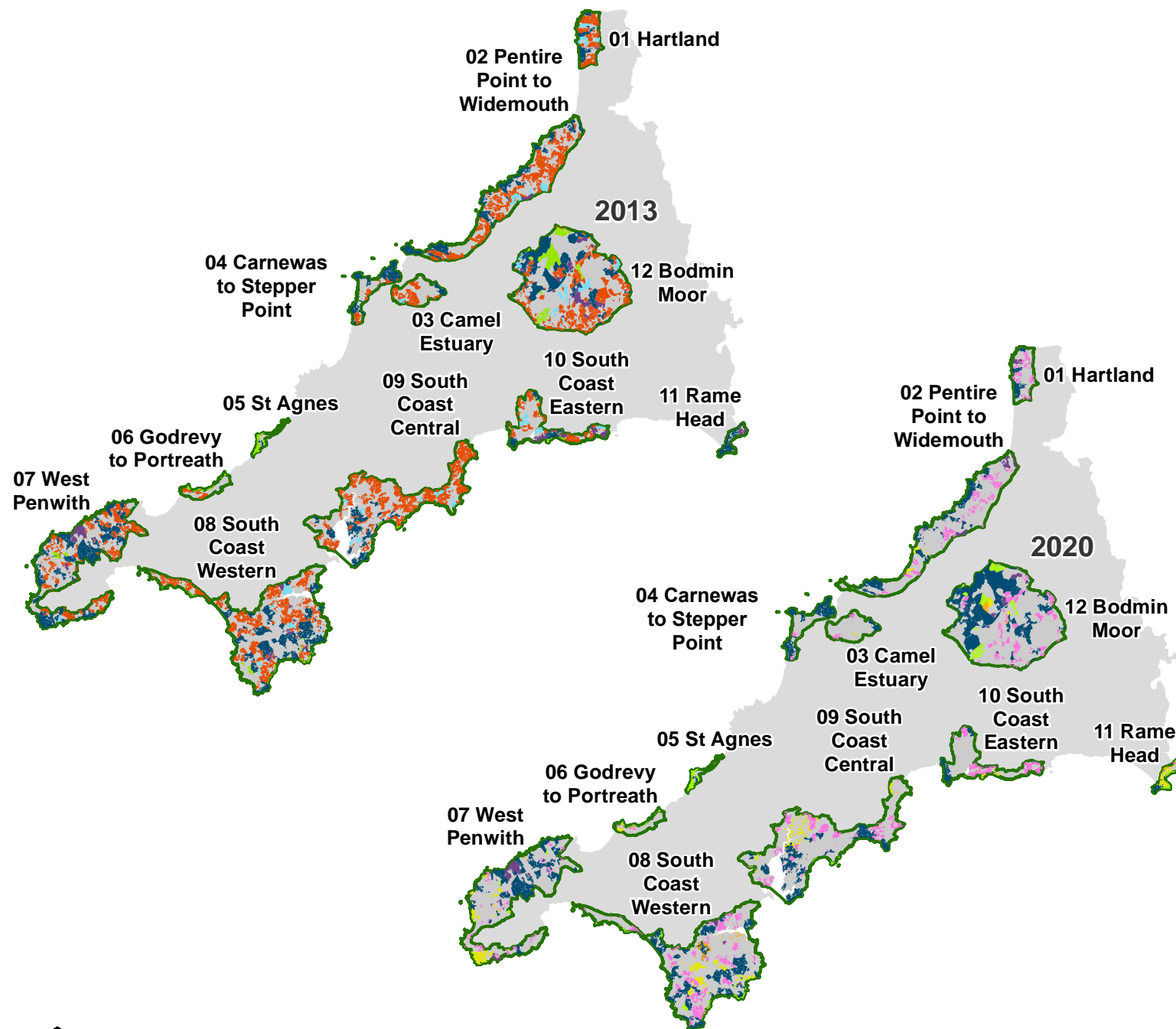
**4.11** **Figure 4.5** shows both ES and CS uptake by scheme for each AONB section. It demonstrates that the remaining ES schemes all include a HLS element. It also shows that Rame Head was the only AONB section to have more areas under agri-environment agreement (a combination of both ES and CS) in 2020 than in 2013.

**Figure 4.3: Total ES and CS uptake area per AONB section (2009, 2013 and 2020)**



Source: Natural England GIS data (2009, 2013 and 2020)

Figure 4.4: Agri-environmental Scheme Uptake



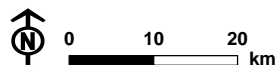
Cornwall AONB

#### ES Scheme type

- Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship
- Entry Level Stewardship
- Higher Level Stewardship
- Organic Entry Level plus Higher Level Stewardship
- Organic Entry Level Stewardship

#### CS Scheme type

- Higher Tier
- Mid Tier
- Capital grants



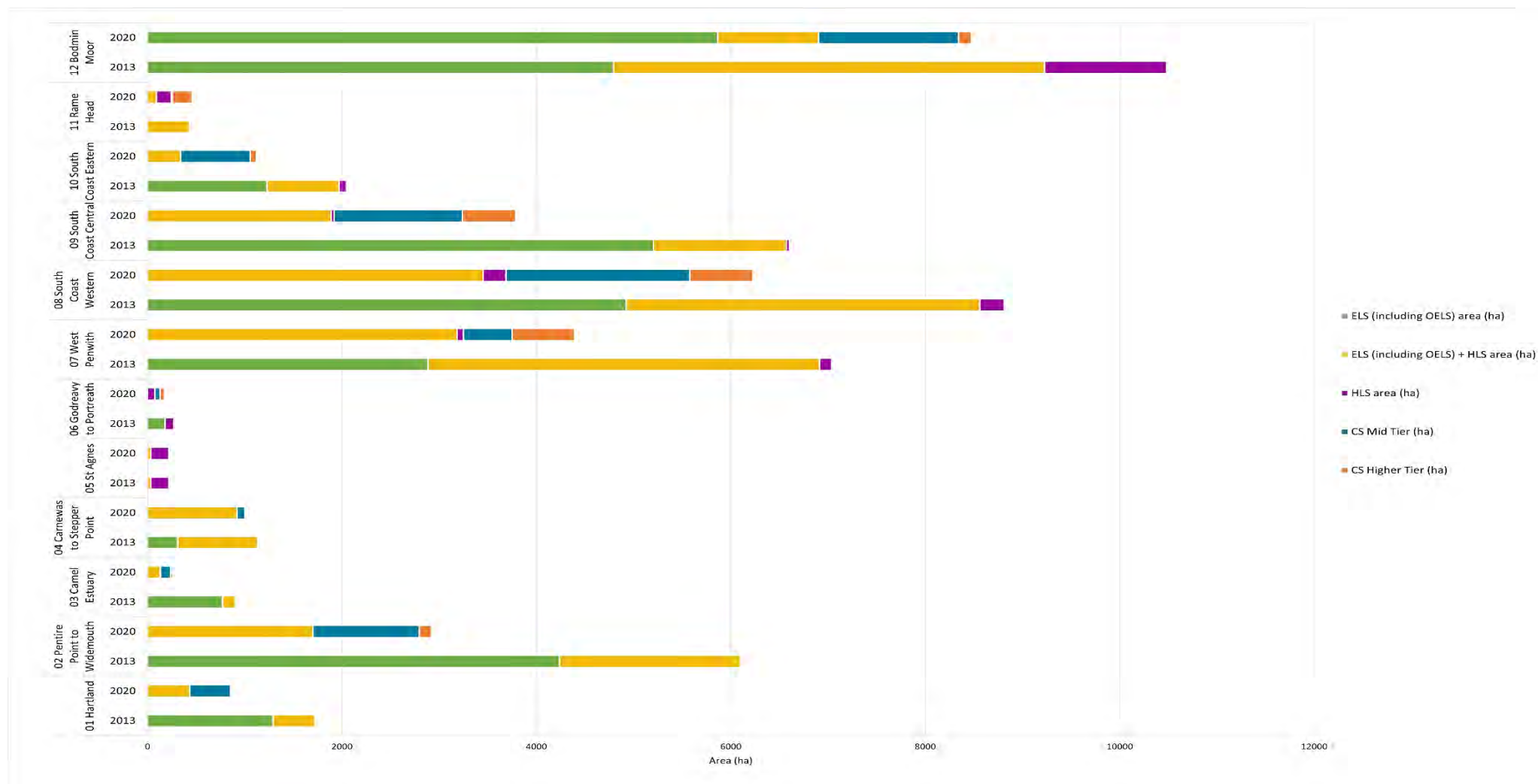
Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2021

Map scale 1:900,000 @ A4

CB:CB EB:Bean\_C LUC FIG4\_4\_11401\_r0\_Agri\_enviro\_A4L 04/08/2021  
Source: OS, LUC, MHCLG



Figure 4.5: ES and CS uptake by scheme and AONB section (2013 and 2020)



Source: Natural England (2013 and 2020)

## Option uptake

**4.12 Table 4.3** provides a breakdown of ES option coverage in the AONB, by the main option groupings. This analysis comes from Natural England's 2019 dataset for the Monitoring of Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes (MEOPL) framework, which is issued to protected landscapes on an annual basis. It shows that, since 2013, there have been increases in the coverage of land under ES for the purposes of managing, restoring and creating both woodland and moorland. The coverage of land under ES for all other options has decreased.

**Table 4.3: ES option group uptake**

ES option groups	2013 Area (ha)/length (m)/number of trees	2019 Area (ha)/length (m)/number of trees
Area of low input grassland managed, restored or created under ES (ha)	7,050	3,577
Linear access (m)	6,761	4,768
Area of land under ES for the maintenance, restoration or creation of moorland (ha)	3,842	4,306
Area of land under ES for the management, restoration or creation of lowland heathland (ha)	2,036	1,841
Area of land under ES specifically for the management and protection of archaeological features (ha)	1,070	771
Number of hedgerow trees and in-field trees managed under ES	311	39
Area of woodland managed and created under ES (ha)	272	302
Open access (ha)	233	170

Source: Natural England (2013 and 2019)

**4.13** It is expected a similar analysis for CS will be provided later in 2020/2021 when Natural England release their latest MEOPL data.

# Environmental land management schemes

**4.14** The UK's departure from the European Union and Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) offers the opportunity to rethink the aims, implementation and operation of agri-environmental schemes in England. Concurrently, the Government has an ambitious agenda to enhance and protect the natural environment and achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions.

**4.15** At the time of writing, Defra is in the process of developing new environmental land management schemes which will replace the current schemes. Currently, three schemes are planned:

- **The Sustainable Farming Incentive** will pay farmers for the actions they take to manage their land in an environmentally sustainable way. Actions will be grouped into simple packages to make it as easy as possible for farmers to identify what actions are best suited to their land. This will be available to all farmers.
- **Local Nature Recovery** will pay for actions that support local nature recovery and deliver local environmental priorities; making sure the right things are delivered in the right places. The scheme will also encourage collaboration between farmers, helping them work together to improve their local environment. This scheme may have elements that are competitive.
- **Landscape Recovery** will support the delivery of landscape and ecosystem recovery through long-term, land use change projects, including projects to restore wilder landscapes in places where that is appropriate, large-scale tree planting and peatland restoration projects. These projects can deliver a wide variety of environmental outcomes and support local environmental priorities while making an important contribution to national targets. It is expected that this scheme will be competitive.

**4.16** Defra is working towards all three environmental land management schemes being fully available from 2024. These will be major delivery mechanisms for many of the AONB's aspirations for the environment and nature recovery – so it will be interesting to report on the impact they are starting to have in the next State of the AONB Report.

### Farming in Protected Landscapes

**4.17** The Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme opened for applications in July 2021. This is a programme of funding offered by Defra for one-off projects. It will support farmers and land managers within an AONB or National Park in England to carry out projects that support nature recovery, mitigate the impacts of climate change, provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and its cultural heritage, and to support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses. Again, it will be insightful to report on the delivery of FiPL in the next State of the AONB Report.

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**4.18** All indicators in the 'Farming and Food' theme outlined above should continue to be monitored, using the same methods/scales of analysis, every five years to coincide with future AONB Management Plan reviews. The next report will need to consider how the roll-out of the new environmental land management schemes will be monitored and compared against the previous schemes analysed in the first three monitoring phases. It will also need to consider the impact of FiPL activity, following its launch in July 2021.

**4.19** Ideally, Indicators FF1 and FF2 should be re-visited in the intervening period once up-to-date data has been received from Natural England (MEOP).

## List of data sources used for this theme

**4.20** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Natural England (2009, 2013 and 2020) Environmental Stewardship GIS data
- Defra (2010 and 2016) June Survey of Agriculture. Detailed breakdown within AONB provided by Defra Farming Statistics team
- Natural England (2013) Protected Landscapes Monitoring Framework
- Natural England: Monitoring of Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes (2019 dataset)
- Natural England (2020) Countryside Stewardship GIS data





## Chapter 5

# Woodland and Forestry



## Chapter 5

# Woodland and Forestry

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- There has been a very small overall increase in woodland/forestry cover across the AONB since 2013, with a 3% decrease witnessed on Bodmin Moor.
- Broadleaved woodland continues to be the dominant woodland type (73.6%), with areas of ancient woodland particularly concentrated along the valleys in the southern AONB sections.
- Coniferous forestry has significantly decreased by 21.4% as a result of felling, resulting in a large increase in areas categorised as 'felled/ground prepared for planting'. Bodmin Moor continues to contain the greatest coverage of coniferous woodland.
- Tree canopy covers 6.8% of the AONB's total area, with the largest coverage being across the South Coast Central section.
- ES options for woodland maintenance and restoration covered 300ha of woodland in the AONB in 2019 – an increase of just under 15% since 2013.
- In 2020, CS options for woodland improvement covered 533.36ha of woodland in the AONB.

## Indicators selected for this theme

**5.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Woodland and Forestry' theme:

- WF1: Woodland cover and type
- WF2: Levels of woodland management

## WF1: Woodland cover and type

### Distribution of main woodland/forestry types (as recorded by the Forestry Commission)

**5.2** The National Forestry Inventory is a nationwide dataset on the size, distribution, composition and conditions of forests and woodland. It covers all forest and woodland area over 0.5ha with a minimum of 20% canopy cover (or the potential to achieve it) and a minimum width of 20 metres. The distribution of different woodland types throughout the AONB can be viewed within the Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021.

**5.3 Table 5.1** shows the woodland and forestry types in the AONB. The most up to date figures (2020) show that there is a total of 7777.92ha of woodland/forestry in the AONB, an increase of just 0.71% (or 54.97ha) since 2013. Broadleaved woodland remains the predominant woodland type, increasing by 1.4% (since 2013) to 5725.44ha. Coniferous forestry has decreased significantly by 21.4% (since 2013) to 823.43ha. This is a result from the felling of coniferous plantation including those on Goonhilly Downs (South Coast Western), within the Fal and Tresillian valleys (South Coast Central) and on Bodmin Moor. Subsequently there has been a significant increase of 215.9% (since 2013) of areas categorised as 'felled/ground prepared for planting' which cover 343.47ha. There have also been significant decreases of low density/open areas and assumed woodland by 54.8% and 25.2% respectively. This is as a result of parts of these woodland types being reclassified as either broadleaved woodland or young trees.

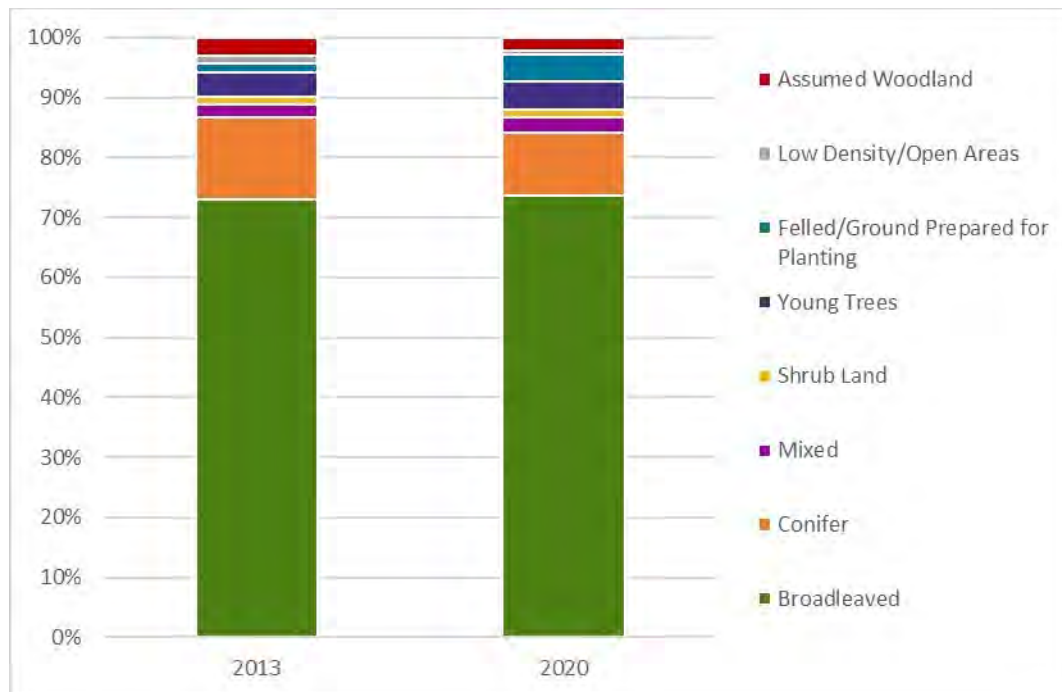
**Table 5.1: Breakdown of woodland/ forestry types in the AONB (2013 and 2020)**

Woodland/Forestry Type	2013 Area (ha)	2020 Area (ha)
Broadleaved	5646.60	5725.44
Conifer	1047.61	823.43
Mixed: Predominantly Broadleaf	64.63	78.62
Mixed: Predominantly Conifer	110.30	118.54
Shrub land	96.00	90.48
Young Trees	314.28	377.23
Felled/Ground Prepared for Planting	108.74	343.47
Low Density/Open Areas	100.93	45.61
Assumed Woodland	233.94	175.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,722.95</b>	<b>7,777.92</b>

Source: Forestry Commission (2013 and 2020)

**5.4 Figure 5.1** indicates that broadleaved woodland now accounts for 73.6% of all woodland coverage (a marginal increase of 0.5% from 2013). Coniferous forestry has shown a decrease of 3% and now accounts for 10.6% of all woodland coverage. 'Felled/ground prepared for planting' has increased by 3% and now accounts for 4.4% of all category areas in the AONB. There were also decreases in coverage for shrub land, low density/open areas and assumed woodland which together account for 4% of woodland coverage. Both categories of mixed woodland/forestry and young trees all showed increases and together account for 7.4% of woodland coverage.

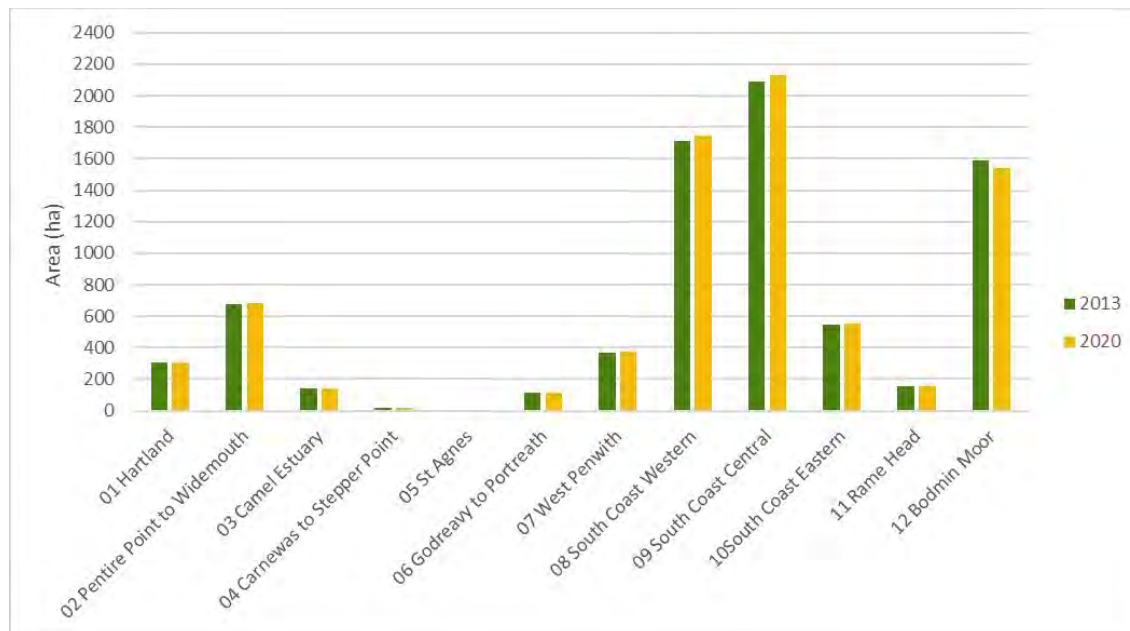
**Figure 5.1: Woodland/ forestry composition in the AONB (2013 and 2020)**



**5.5** As shown on **Figure 5.2**, the most wooded section of the AONB continues to be the South Coast Central area with 2132.67ha (an increase of just over 2% since 2013). Bodmin Moor and South Coast Western also continue to have significant amounts of woodland (1538.66ha and 1749.58 respectively), although coverage on Bodmin Moor has shown a decrease of just over 3% (owing to conifer felling, as explained above), whilst in South Coast Western it has increased by 2%. The AONB sections on the west coast generally have sparse broadleaved woodland coverage, reflecting their exposed aspect.



**Figure 5.2: Total woodland/ forestry coverage by AONB section (2013 and 2020)**



## Coverage of ancient woodland in the AONB

**5.6** In addition to the data recorded nationally by the Forestry Commission as part of their National Forest Inventory, Natural England holds inventories showing the distribution of ancient woodland within the AONB, including replanted sites (Previous Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS)).

**5.7** A comparison of the current situation with both the Phase 1 and 2 studies is set out in **Table 5.2** below, showing that there is currently a total of 1354.14ha of ancient woodland within the AONB. Since 2013 there has been a slight increase in the coverage of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, and a slight decrease in Ancient Replanted Woodland. This is likely due to improved accuracy of the dataset.

**5.8** The distribution of ancient woodland throughout the AONB can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). Most ancient woodland is located within the southern AONB sections along the heavily wooded river valleys such as

those of the Helford, Fal and Fowey. The South Coast Central section continues to have the largest amount with 37.5% of the AONB's total.

**Table 5.2: Ancient woodland coverage in the AONB (2007, 2012 and 2021)**

Ancient Woodland Type	2007 Area (ha)	2012 Area (ha)	2021 Area (ha)	Change (ha and %) between 2012 and 2021
Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	862.11	861.80	882.77	+20.97 (+2.43%)
Ancient Replanted Woodland	487.17	489.09	471.36	-17.73 (-3.62%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349.28</b>	<b>1350.89</b>	<b>1354.14</b>	<b>+3.25</b> <b>(+2.4%)</b>

Source: Natural England (2007, 2012 and 2021)

## Tree canopy cover

**5.9** To supplement the data for this indicator, the Phase 3 study has included new tree canopy mapping produced by the Forest for Cornwall. This is a detailed dataset, achieved by using infrared to detect and quantify tree canopy coverage at a 50cm resolution and through calculating the height difference between Digital Surface Model (DSM) and Digital Terrain Model (DTM) data sets (collected in 2016). Some limitations of the mapping mean that any vegetation less than 4m tall in 2016 was not identified and in some cases, other objects over 4m tall may have been identified as tree canopy cover. The results of the mapping are shown at **Figure 5.3** and a breakdown of the tree canopy coverage in each AONB section is provided in **Table 5.3**. This shows that 6.8% of the AONB consists of tree canopy cover (6,535.34ha) with the largest coverage concentrated in the South Coast Central section (2,258.76ha), making

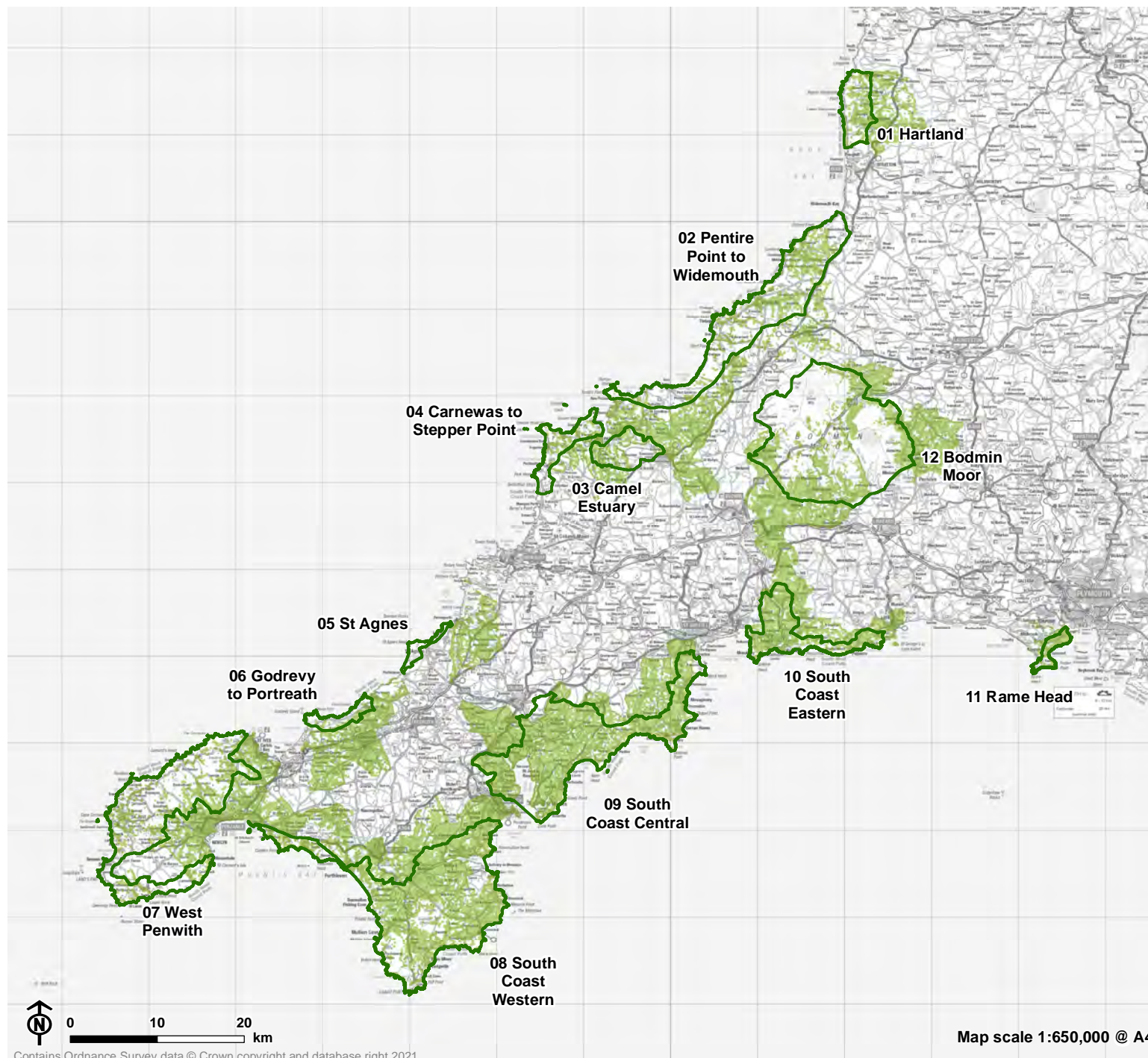
up 34.6% of the total tree canopy area. No tree canopy cover has been recorded in St Agnes, reflecting its open and exposed character. This aligns with the findings from the National Forestry Inventory.

**Table 5.3: Tree canopy cover within the AONB (2021)**

<b>AONB section</b>	<b>Area of canopy (ha)</b>	<b>% of total tree canopy</b>	<b>Proportion of total AONB area</b>
01 Hartland	118.80	1.8%	4.6%
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	149.43	2.3%	1.3%
03 Camel Estuary	89.66	1.4%	3.6%
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	27.32	0.4%	1.2%
05 St Agnes	0	0.0%	0.0%
06 Godrevy to Portreath	114.55	1.8%	9.8%
07 West Penwith	273.97	4.2%	2.0%
08 South Coast Western	1,804.21	27.6%	9.4%
09 South Coast Central	2,258.76	34.6%	14.1%
10 South Coast Eastern	651.58	10.0%	14.1%
11 Rame Head	143.71	2.2%	18.4%
12 Bodmin Moor	903.36	13.8%	4.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,535.34</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>

Source: Forest for Cornwall (2021)

Figure 5.3: Tree Canopy Cover



Cornwall AONB  
 Canopy cover

## WF2: Levels of woodland management

### Take-up of relevant agri-environment scheme options

**5.10** As of 2019, ES options relating to woodland management covered 300ha of woodland in the AONB – an increase of just under 15% since 2013. **Table 5.4** shows that 193.1ha was dedicated to the maintenance of woodland (through HLS option HC7), although this was a 14% decrease since 2013. However, there was an increase of just over 200% for the area under the restoration of woodland option (HC8). It should be noted that fluctuations in areas of woodland under agri-environment agreements can occur over time as a result of the introduction of new schemes (i.e. CS) and the ending of previous scheme agreements (i.e. ES), as explained under FF2 in **Chapter 4**.

**Table 5.4: Area of AONB under ES options relevant to woodland (2013 and 2019)**

Option	Option name	2013 Area (ha)	2019 Area (ha)
HC7	Maintenance of woodland	225.7	193.1
HC8	Restoration of woodland	35.6	106.9
<b>Total</b>		<b>261.4</b>	<b>300</b>

Source: Natural England (2013 and 2019)

**5.11** **Table 5.5** presents the equivalent CS options uptake in 2020 relating to woodland management, showing these cover 533.36ha of woodland in the AONB. As also discussed in the previous chapter, Defra is currently designing new environmental land management schemes – how these will be applied to

woodland and forestry management is unclear at the time of writing. Other funding relating to woodland creation is also available from the Forestry Commission and includes:

- **England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) opened** for applications in June 2021 replacing the Woodland Carbon Fund. The grant is administered by the Forestry Commission and is funded through the Nature for Climate Fund. Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply to the EWCO for support to create new woodland, including through natural colonisation, on areas as small as 1 hectare. Woodland creation schemes that clearly demonstrate they will deliver environmental or social benefits can receive additional contributions, for example where they will support nature recovery, provide new public access, or reduce flood risk.
- **Woodland Creation Planning Grant (WCPG)** opened for applications in May 2021. It provides funding to help cover the costs of producing a UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) compliant woodland creation design plan, which can support applications to other funding sources for woodland creation. This grant contributes to the costs of gathering and analysing information needed to make sure that the proposal for woodland creation (over 5 hectares) considers impacts on biodiversity; landscape; water; the historic environment; and local stakeholders.

**Table 5.5: Area of AONB under CS options relevant to woodland (2020)**

Previous ES Option	Equivalent CS Option	2020 Area (ha)
HC7 Maintenance of woodland HC8 Restoration of woodland	WD2 Woodland Improvement	533.36
<b>Total</b>		<b>533.36</b>

Source: Natural England (2020)



**5.12** Both ES and CS options uptake relating to woodland management can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**5.13** The AONB should repeat the monitoring of all indicators under the 'Woodland and Forestry' theme every five years, to coincide with AONB Management Plan reviews. The next report will need to consider woodland and forestry management relating to the new environmental land management, and how this will be monitored and compared against the previous schemes analysed in the first three monitoring phases. It will also need to consider the uptake of the grants relating to woodland creation available from the Forestry Commission.

**5.14** An emerging force for change, accelerated through climate change, is the increasing prevalence of pests and diseases threatening native woodland species, such as ash dieback, bleeding canker (impacting on horse chestnut), oak processionary moth and phytophthora pathogens affecting species including oak, alder and beech. Targeted surveys of areas of woodland/trees/hedges in the AONB felt to be at risk could be instigated with local communities, working in partnership with the Forestry Commission who are leading national research into the management and control of tree pests and diseases [\[See reference 5\]](#), including through their Tree Health Diagnostic and Advisory Service [\[See reference 6\]](#).

**5.15** It is anticipated that the AONB will see a significant increase in the amount of tree/woodland planting over the next few years, instigated by Cornwall Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan [\[See reference 7\]](#), the Forest for Cornwall Programme [\[See reference 8\]](#) and new grants, including through the Forestry Commission (as above). Cornwall AONB could consider commissioning a landscape sensitivity assessment (potentially in partnership with Cornwall Council and others) to guide where the most appropriate locations

are for new tree/woodland planting so that landscape character is not compromised.

## List of data sources used for this theme

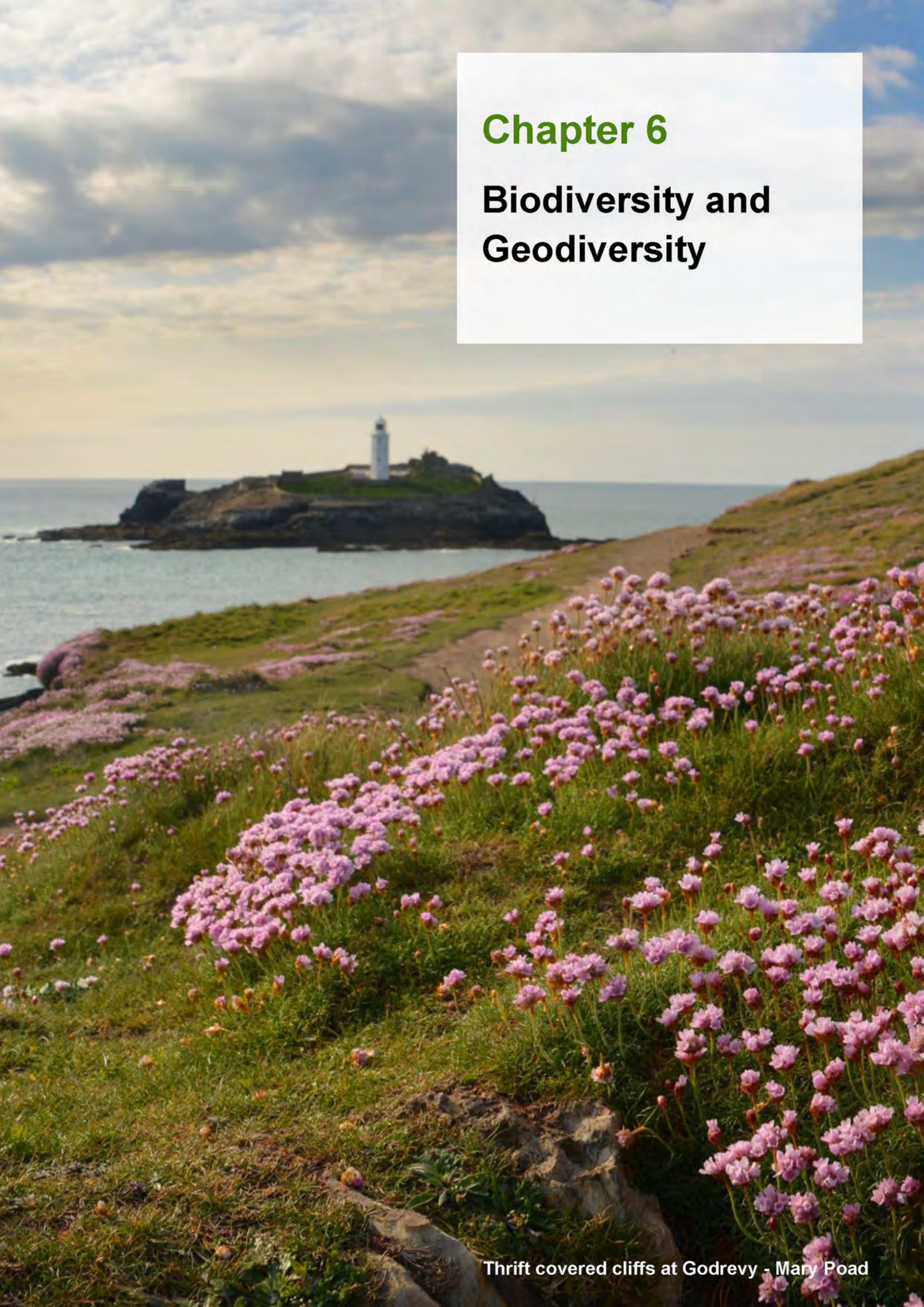
**5.16** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Natural England (2007, 2012 and 2021) Ancient Woodland Inventory
- Natural England (2013) Protected Landscapes Monitoring Framework
- Forestry Commission (2013 and 2020) National Forest Inventory
- Natural England: Monitoring of Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes (2019 dataset)
- Natural England (2020) Countryside Stewardship GIS data
- Forest for Cornwall (2021) Tree Canopy mapping



## Chapter 6

# Biodiversity and Geodiversity



Thrift covered cliffs at Godrevy - Mary Poad

## Chapter 6

# Biodiversity and Geodiversity

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- Three new marine Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) have been formally designated since Phase 2, including parts of the AONB shoreline.
- There are also nine new Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) within and along the shoreline of the AONB, covering an area of 1,107ha.
- The Lizard National Nature Reserve (NNR) was extended in 2016, increasing its coverage by almost 450ha.
- There are slightly more SSSI units classed as in 'favourable' condition than in 2013 (51.1%).
- SSSI land in the 'Unfavourable – no change' category has seen the greatest increase (by 582.3%) followed by 'Unfavourable – declining' (by 558.6%).
- Just over half of SSSIs have remained in favourable condition (51.1%), although parts of Bodmin Moor and some coastal sites have seen a decline in overall condition.
- Habitats of principal importance cover 25% of land in the AONB, with lowland heathland providing the most coverage.
- The total area of traditional orchards has increased slightly since Phase 2.



## Indicators selected for this theme

**6.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Biodiversity and Geodiversity' theme:

- BG1: Number and area of designated sites
- BG2: Condition of SSSIs
- BG3: Extent of habitats of principal importance
- BG4: Extent and management of traditional orchards

## BG1: Number and area of designated sites

**6.2** **Table 6.1** and **Table 6.2** provide a breakdown of the number and extent (in hectares) of nature and geodiversity conservation sites in the AONB. At an international level this includes designated Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). National designations include National Nature Reserves (NNRs), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and Important Bird Areas (IBAs). At a local level, County Wildlife Sites (CWS), County Geological Sites (CGS) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) have been considered. A comparison between the number and area presented in the Cornwall AONB Atlas (from 2009), the Phase 2 study (from 2013) and the current picture is also provided in **Tables 6.1, 6.2** and **Figure 6.1**. In addition, the coverage of Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) designation, introduced by the UK Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, has been laid down as a new baseline for this Phase 3 study. The current distribution of international/national and county/local designations can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**6.3** In 2013 there were 10 SACs covering a total of 7,122ha. The latest data show that there are now 13 SACs designated in the AONB, covering just over 7,141ha. The additional three SACs are:

- Lizard Point which covers a large marine area to the west of Cornwall, although a small part of this designation (3.76ha) includes the shoreline of the South Coast Western area. It was designated a SAC in 2017 for its underlying geology with a variety of bedrock origins and reef habitats.
- Bristol Channel Approaches which covers a large marine area to the west of Cornwall, although a small part of this designation (11.77ha) includes the shorelines of Hartland, Pentire Point to Widemouth, Carnewas to Stepper Point, St Agnes and Godreay to Portreath. It was designated in 2019 for the protection of harbour porpoise.
- Land's End and Cape Bank which covers a large marine area to the west of Cornwall, although a small part of this designation (3.5ha) includes the shoreline of West Penwith. It was designated in 2017 for its network of reefs.

**6.4** All AONB sections except for the Camel Estuary contain a SAC. The largest is The Lizard, located in the South Coast Western area, which covers 3085.3ha (43% of the total SAC area in the AONB).

**6.5** There are nine MCZs within the AONB (all designated between 2013 and 2019) that cover an area of 1,107ha. These are located along the shorelines of Hartland, Pentire Point to Widemouth, Carnewas to Stepper Point, West Penwith and Rame Head. A MCZ is also designated along the Helford River within the South Coast Western area, along part of the River Camel in the Camel Estuary and along part of the River Fowey in the South Coast Eastern area.

**6.6** There have been no new NNRs, SSSIs or Important Bird Areas designated in the AONB since 2013. The area of NNRs has, however, increased from 1,969.78ha in 2013 to 2,418ha as a result of the extension of the Lizard NNR in 2016 [\[See reference 9\]](#). This extension includes the coastline at Kynance Cove, Lizard Point and Black Head, as well as Cornwall Wildlife Trust's nature reserve at Windmill Farm.



**6.7** There have also been no new CWSs or LNRs designated in the AONB since 2013. The area of CWSs has however decreased by 101ha. There has been an increase in the number of CGSs by seven, although the area has decreased by 38ha. The reasoning for these changes is not clear as the earlier data was not available to compare against.

**Table 6.1: Number and area of internationally/ nationally designated sites in the AONB (2009, 2012 and 2021)**

<b>Designation</b>	<b>2009 Number</b>	<b>2009 Area (ha)</b>	<b>2013 Number</b>	<b>2013 Area (ha)</b>	<b>2021 Number</b>	<b>2021 Area (ha)</b>
SAC	9 (Candidate sites)	7,121	10 (Designated Sites)	7,122.16	13 (Designated Sites)	7,141.2
NNR	2	1,969	2	1,969.78	2	2,417.97
SSSI	67 sites	12,621	68 sites	12,625	68 sites	12,624.17
Important Bird Area	3	12,691	3	12,691	3	12,699
MCZ	--	--	--	--	9	1,106.78

Source: Various (see end of Chapter)

**Table 6.2: Number and area of county/ locally designated sites in the AONB (2009, 2012 and 2021)**

Designation	2009 (AONB Atlas) Number	2009 (AONB Atlas) Area (ha)	2013 Number	2013 Area (ha)	2021 Number	2021 Area (ha)
CWS	284	29,868	173	16,082	173	15,981
CGS	55	1,144	64	1,457	71*	1,455
LNR	3	16	3	16	3	16.5

\* The CGS sites at the 'New Mexico Shaft Complex' (P12) have been grouped together as one. There are two entries in the CGS list for 'The Hutches' (K/7) which has also been counted once.

Source: Various (see end of Chapter)

## BG2: Condition of SSSIs

**6.8 Table 6.3** and **Figure 6.1** provide a comparison of the condition of the AONB's SSSIs, using Natural England's condition assessments from the AONB Atlas (2009) and from Phase 2 (2013), with the most up-to date data available. This uses the six condition categories used for Natural England reporting on condition, from 'favourable' to 'destroyed'. The current condition of SSSI land in the AONB can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#), and is also mapped in **Figure 6.2**.

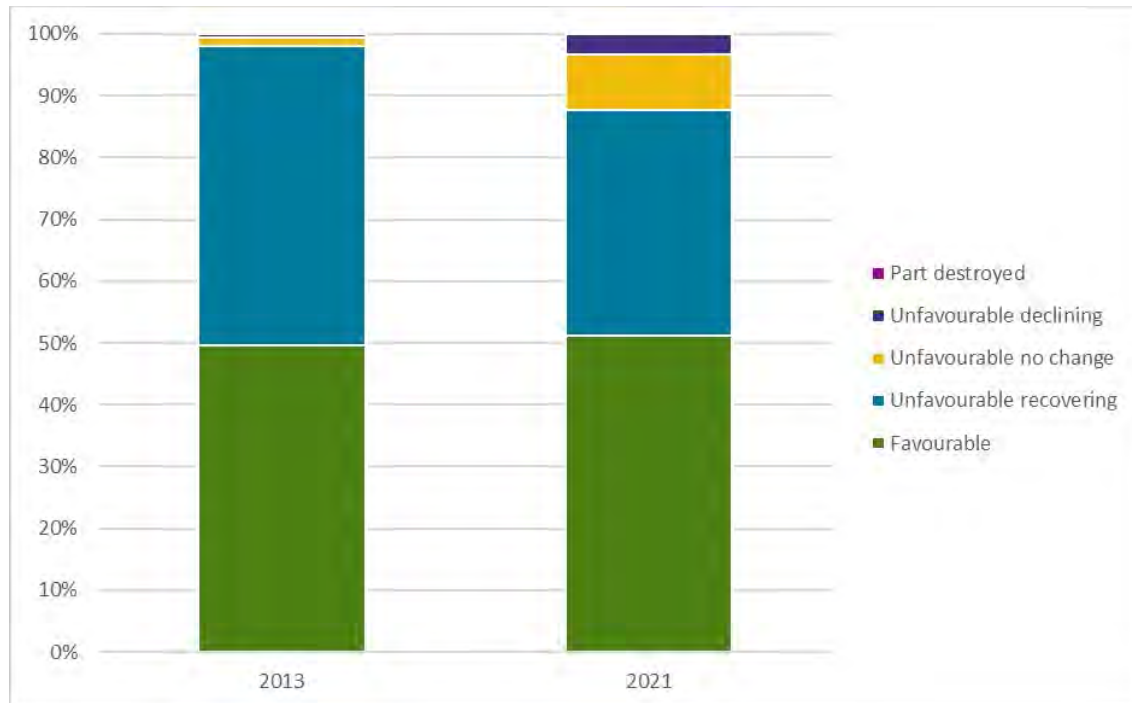
**Table 6.3: SSSI condition over time (2009, 2013 and 2021)\***

Condition Category	2009 Area (ha)	2009 %	2013 Area (ha)	2013 %	2021 Area (ha)	2021 %
Favourable	6,939.54	54.98%	6,257.00	49.6%	6,338.74	51.1%
Unfavourable recovering	4,796.02	38.00%	6,135.23	48.6%	4,531.47	36.5%
Unfavourable no change	438.69	3.48%	163.91	1.3%	1,118.45	9.0%
Unfavourable declining	431.61	3.42%	61.77	0.5%	406.88	3.3%
Part destroyed	15.51	0.12%	6.78	0.1%	6.78	0.1%
Destroyed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Please note that some SSSIs will extend beyond the AONB boundary.

Source: Natural England (2009, 2013 and 2021)

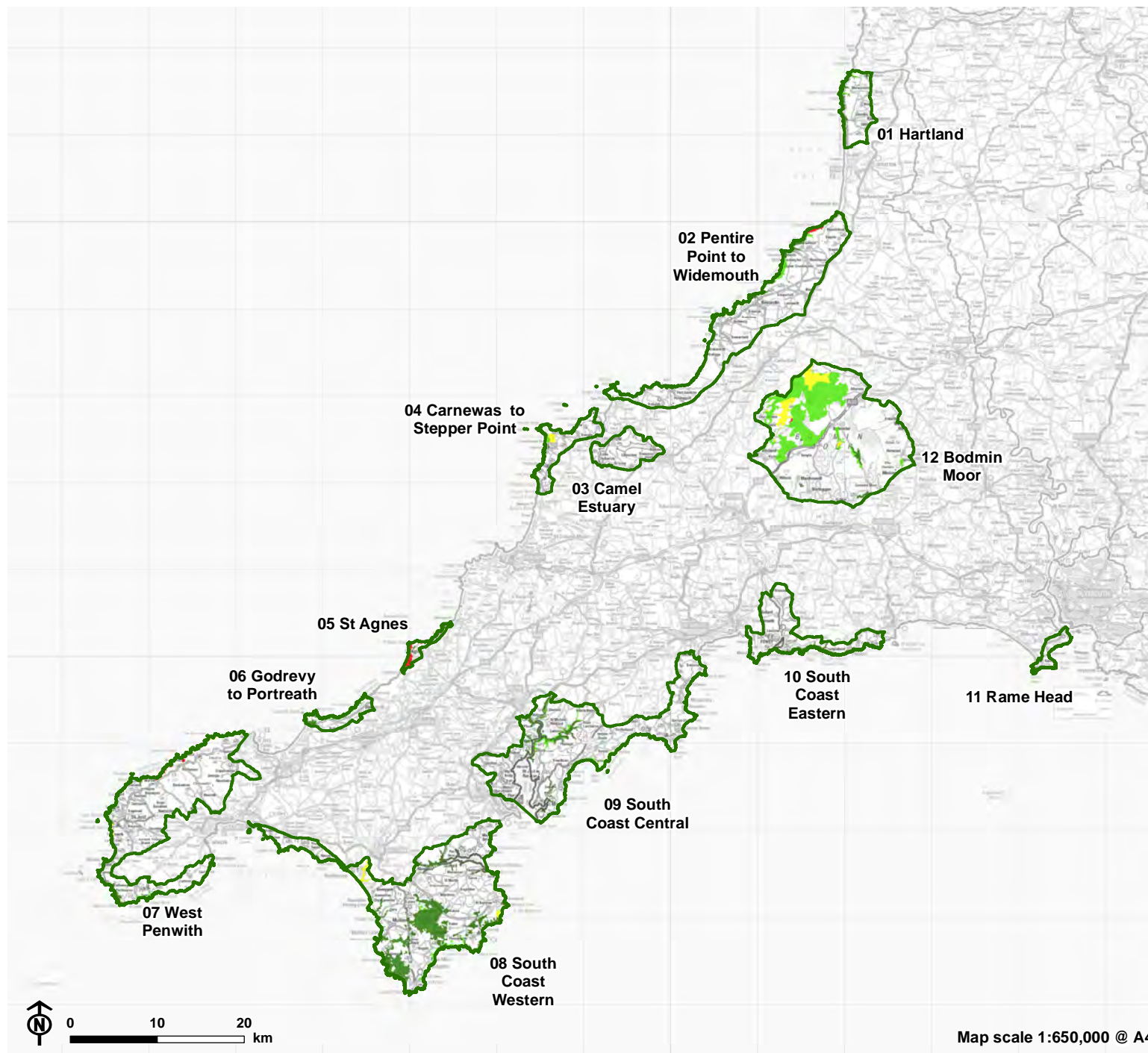
**Figure 6.1: Percentage of SSSI land in different condition categories (2013 and 2021)**



**6.9** The total area of SSSIs considered to be in 'Favourable' condition has marginally increased since 2013 by 1.3% to 6,338.74ha and remains the largest condition category overall. The total area of SSSIs considered to be in 'Unfavourable – recovering' condition has dropped by 26.1% to 4,531.47ha. The total area of SSSIs in the 'Unfavourable – no change' category has increased substantially to 1,118.45ha (a 582.3% increase) and now accounts for just under a tenth of all SSSI land in the AONB. This is largely a result of areas on Bodmin Moor having changed to this category (see more below). The total area of SSSIs in the 'Unfavourable – declining' category has also increased substantially by 558.6% to 406.88 ha. This is largely due to the declining condition of coastal sites across the AONB.

**6.10** Overall, these trends suggest that there have been decreases in SSSI condition across the AONB, with more detail able to be obtained at a site-specific level from Natural England.

**Figure 6.2: SSSI Condition**



Cornwall AONB

**SSSI Condition**

- Favourable
- Unfavourable recovering
- Unfavourable no change
- Part destroyed
- Unfavourable declining



**6.11** As shown on **Figure 6.2**, the greatest SSSI coverage in the AONB is on Bodmin Moor (comprising 38% of the total SSSI land). 80% of the Moor's SSSI land is in 'Unfavourable – Recovering' condition. Natural England's condition assessments undertaken between 2015 and 2018 for the Bodmin Moor, North SSSI site indicate that there was some undergrazing in an area under HLS agreement. It suggests that under new stewardship agreements, more cattle grazing should be a requirement but it is unclear whether that is now in place. There are also areas dominated by *Molinia* which require more targeted grazing/ management to diversify vegetation and structure. Another SSSI on the Moor, Upper Fowey Valley SSSI, is recovering and grazing is generally appropriate with wet heath/ mire in favourable condition. No update has been provided for the Dozmary Pool SSSI (also located on the Moor). The Phase 2 study reported that this area was recovering from previous overgrazing and excessive poaching, as well as some damage by vehicle rutting.

**6.12** Natural England's condition assessments for other SSSIs in the AONB classed as in unfavourable condition give a flavour of the management issues affecting the sites. Please note that explanations for the SSSI unit condition assessments are not always available, and timings of surveys are not consistent – with some site assessments being up to or over 10 years old now. Some examples include:

- **Boscastle to Widemouth** (Pentire Point to Widemouth) – the condition assessment has not been updated since 2010/2011. At this time the SSSI was mainly in favourable condition but some areas classed as 'unfavourable – recovering' due to excess bracken and scrub.
- **Trevose Head and Constantine Bay** (Carnewas to Stepper Point) – the last condition assessment was undertaken in 2017 which indicated that scrub clearance / management works had been undertaken to clear a dense area of scrub on sand dunes. However, there was still significant areas of scrub to be managed but a programme of works had been planned over the course of a Conservation and Enhancement Scheme (CES) agreement until 2021.
- **Aire Point to Carrick Du** (West Penwith) – the last condition assessment was undertaken in 2017. At this time this SSSI was mainly in favourable

condition but some areas classed as 'unfavourable – no change' due to excess bracken and scrub. There were also some 'unfavourable – declining' areas due to their being just one vascular plant species (Coral-necklace).

- **Treen Cliff** (West Penwith) – the site's condition assessment has not been updated since 2010. At this time there were some issues with scrub and bracken encroachment, lack of grazing, invasive species and absent maritime habitat types that would be expected to be present on the site.
- **Upper Fal Estuary & Woods** (South Coast Central) – the condition assessment has not been updated since 2010. At this time there were some issues with browsing/damage to woodlands by fallow deer, spread of non-native woodland trees (e.g. beech and sycamore) and invasive species such as rhododendron.

**6.13** A mapped representation for how the condition of the AONB's SSSIs has changed since 2013 can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). It should be noted that some sites have not been re-assessed by NE since that time. This uses the following categorisation:

- **Stable Favourable:** for sites that have remained in 'Favourable' condition.
- **Improved:** for sites that have 'moved upwards' in the condition categories, therefore improving in condition since 2013.
- **Stable – Unfavourable:** for sites that have remained in the same 'Unfavourable' condition category.
- **Declined** - SSSIs that have 'moved downwards' in the condition categories, therefore declining in condition since 2013.

**6.14** This shows that a significant proportion of SSSI land has been retained in favourable condition since 2013, including particularly on the Lizard (South Coast Western), within the Fal and Tresillian valleys (South Coast Central) and along some sections of the coast. However, some SSSIs have witnessed a decline in condition as previously reported, including parts of Bodmin Moor, parts of the north coast around St Agnes, south of Widemouth and east of Constantine Bay (Carnewas to Stepper Point section). There has also been a

decline in condition for parts of the south coast including within West Penwith, the Lizard (South Coast Western) and around Nare Head (South Coast Central).

**6.15** Bodmin Moor has seen the majority of its SSSI land remaining in unfavourable condition, with some small areas improving in condition (and some areas declining as noted above).

## **BG3: Extent of habitats of principal importance**

**6.16** The Phase 2 study presented a breakdown of the national Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats present in the AONB, providing a picture of habitat distribution at the time. This data underwent a review by the Biodiversity Reporting and Information Group (BRIG) in 2007 [\[See reference 10\]](#) which subsequently led to additional habitats being added to the list. The previous individual BAP habitat inventories have also since been combined into one national dataset known as the Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI). This is a spatial dataset that describes the geographic extent and location of habitats of principal importance (as defined by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) Section 41) [\[See reference 11\]](#). Due to the significant changes between the previous BAP habitat data used and the 2020 PHI data, a comparison between the two is not possible. Therefore, the 2021 State of the AONB Report has considered the PHI data as a new baseline for this indicator.

**6.17** Table 6.4 provides a breakdown of the coverage of habitats of principal importance in 2020. The coverage of these habitats can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**Table 6.4: Area of habitats of principal importance within the AONB (2020)**

<b>Upland heathland</b>	<b>2020 Area within AONB (ha)</b>
Lowland heathland	5,178.65
Deciduous woodland	5,164.37
Maritime cliff and slope	3,662.40
Upland heathland	2,988.03
Grass moorland	2,935.23
No main habitat but additional habitats present	1,128.62
Mudflats	850.29
Good quality semi-improved grassland	644.62
Blanket bog	451.82
Fragmented heath	365.73
Coastal sand dunes	216.65
Upland flushes, fens and swamps	141.15
Lowland fens	106.89
Lowland dry acid grassland	106.79
Purple moor grass and rush pastures	79.30
Coastal saltmarsh	66.37
Traditional orchard	65.72
Lowland meadows	36.08
Calaminarian grassland	19.64
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	15.80
Upland hay meadow	9.93

<b>Upland heathland</b>	<b>2020 Area within AONB (ha)</b>
Lowland calcareous grassland	9.71
Saline lagoons	7.42
Reedbeds	1.89
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,253.1</b>

Source: Natural England (2020)

**6.18** In 2020 a total of 24,253.1ha (25%) of land in the AONB was covered by habitats of principal importance. Lowland heathland formed the largest area (5178.65ha) with 49% found within the South Coast Western area and 40% within West Penwith. Deciduous woodland covered an area of 5,164.37ha and was present in all of the AONB sections, particularly along river valleys, and particularly dense in South Coast sections where associated with the characteristic ria landscapes. Maritime cliff and slope features covered 3,662.40ha and were prevalent along much of the AONB's coastline. Grass moorland and upland heathland were also extensive habitats covering areas of 2,935.23ha and 2,988.03 respectively, mostly found on Bodmin Moor.

**6.19** In sections such as the Camel Estuary and South Coast where estuaries are present, mudflats provide an important habitat for birds and other wildlife. This is also reflected in the designations afforded to these areas, such as the internationally designated Fal to Helford and Polruan to Polperro SACs.



## BG4: Extent and management of traditional orchards

### Extent of traditional orchards in the AONB

**6.20** The PHI indicates that in 2020 there was 65.72ha of traditional orchards found within the AONB. A breakdown by AONB section is included in **Table 6.5**, showing the majority of traditional orchards to be within the southern sections of the AONB.

**Table 6.5: Distribution of orchards across the AONB (2012 and 2020)**

AONB Section	2020 Area (ha)
01 Hartland	1.49
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	2.2
03 Camel Estuary	0.85
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	0.81
05 St Agnes	0.0
06 Godreavy to Portreath	0.14
07 West Penwith	0.69
08 South Coast Western	16.76
09 South Coast Central	19.73
10 South Coast Eastern	20.74
11 Rame Head	0.97
12 Bodmin Moor	1.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>65.72</b>

Source: Natural England (2012 and 2020)

## Management of traditional orchards

**6.21** As of 2019 there was a total land area of 5.06ha within the AONB under ES options relating to the maintenance, restoration and creation of traditional orchards. This has decreased from 6.7ha since 2013 as shown in **Table 6.6**. This decrease may well be as a result of the phasing out of ES since 2016, and previous agreements since ending.

**6.22** **Table 6.7** presents the equivalent CS options uptake in 2020 relating to the management of traditional orchards, covering 1.05ha within the AONB. As discussed in **Chapter 4**, Defra is currently designing new environmental land management schemes – how these will be applied to traditional orchard management is unclear at the time of writing.

**6.23** Both ES and CS options uptake relating to the management of traditional orchards can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**Table 6.6: Area of AONB under ES options relevant to traditional orchards (2013 and 2019)**

Option	Option name	2013 Area (ha)	2019 Area (ha)
HC18	Maintenance of high-value traditional orchards	1.3	1.51
HC19	Maintenance of traditional orchards in production	0	0
HC20	Restoration of traditional orchards	4.6	3.55
HC21	Creation of traditional orchards	0.9	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>6.7</b>	<b>5.06</b>

Source: Natural England (2013 and 2019)

**Table 6.7: Area of AONB under CS options relevant to traditional orchards (2020)**

Previous ES Option	Equivalent CS Option	2020 Area (ha)
HC21 Creation of traditional orchards	BE5 Creation of traditional orchards	0.62
HC 18 Maintenance of high-value traditional orchards HC 19 Maintenance of traditional orchards in production HC 20 Restoration of traditional orchards	BE4 Management of traditional orchards	0.43
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.05</b>

Source: Natural England (2020)

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**6.24** All indicators in the ‘Biodiversity and Geodiversity’ theme outlined above should continue to be monitored, using the same methods/scales of analysis, every five years to coincide with future AONB Management Plan reviews.

**6.25** In addition, the AONB should:

- Consider supporting Natural England to continue to report on factors influencing SSSI condition, potentially through student work placements, to help expand the number of sites subject to detailed condition surveys (using the Common Standards Monitoring approach). This could ensure condition assessments are undertaken more regularly and therefore provide a more accurate picture of habitat condition.

- Work closely with partners such as Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS) to ensure that any locally recorded information on habitat extent/condition is fed 'upwards' to inform the national datasets wherever possible, particularly PHI and SSSI condition.
- Seek to monitor the extent and management of traditional orchards using aerial photographic interpretation and field survey verification work as was the case for the Phase 1 and 2 studies.

## List of data sources used for this theme

**6.26** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Natural England: Monitoring of Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes (2013 and 2019 data)
- RSBP (2020) Internationally Important Bird Areas
- Natural England (2020) Special Areas of Conservation
- Natural England (2020) Marine Conservation Zones
- Natural England (2020) Priority Habitat Inventory
- ERCCIS (2020) County Wildlife Sites
- ERCCIS (2021) County Geological Sites
- Natural England (2021) National Nature Reserves
- Natural England (2021) SSSIs
- Natural England (2021) Local Nature Reserves



## Chapter 7

### Nature Recovery





## Chapter 7

# Nature Recovery

The key findings from this theme are as follows:

- Cornwall's biodiversity is declining at a faster rate than the UK average.
- Almost 13% of Species of Principal Importance are threatened and could become locally extinct in Cornwall.
- The sites most rich for wildlife include West Penwith, the Lizard (South Coast Western) and Bodmin Moor.
- Existing nature networks account for approximately 25% of Cornwall, with a major opportunity to provide key habitats and nature corridors for a further 15%.

## Indicators selected for this theme

**7.1** No specific indicators have been identified for this new theme, but as the topics are of growing importance (both nationally and locally) it was felt critical to provide an overview of emerging policies, strategies and research to then revisit for the next State of the AONB report. There are clear links between this new theme and the previous topics (Biodiversity & Geodiversity and Woodland & Forestry). As nature knows no boundaries, the focus is on the whole of Cornwall and not just the AONB.

## State of Nature Cornwall 2020 Report

**7.2** In 2019 a national State of Nature report was published setting out how nature has changed in the UK, its Crown Dependencies and Overseas

Territories [\[See reference 12\]](#). To understand if trends observed nationally occur at the local level, Cornwall's first State of Nature report (2020) [\[See reference 13\]](#) highlights the impacts of human activity on wildlife, using best available evidence. The report contributes to the 'Local Nature Recovery Strategy' which is described in more detail later in this chapter.

**7.3** The report summarises the state of nature in Cornwall including both positive and negative trends. However, it concludes that there has been an overall decline in the abundance and distribution of many species and their habitats across the county, with biodiversity declining at a faster rate than the UK average. Some of the key findings supporting this conclusion are as follows:

- Over the last 30 years nearly half of terrestrial mammals and three fifths of butterflies are found in fewer places.
- Nearly half of breeding birds have declined over the last 30 years.
- Species of Principal Importance have been lost from almost 40% of their range since 1988, with evidence that the rate of decline has accelerated substantially in the last ten years. 12.6% are threatened with local extinction or complete loss from Cornwall.
- Since the 1970s there is evidence that 21 breeding birds, 4 vascular plants and 8 bumblebees have become extinct from Cornwall.
- Nearly 75% of the land area is used for agriculture (with 2,072 commercial farm holdings) and 8% is urban or used for transport.
- There was a 6.8% average growth of Cornwall's towns between 2001 and 2008.
- The average temperature in the county has increased by nearly 1°C in the last 35 years.
- 80,000kg rubbish was removed from Cornish beaches in 2019 and 104 seals were entangled with marine litter in 2019.
- In 2019 over 27% of reported dolphin and seal strandings showed signs of being caught unintentionally by fishing activity.

- 31% fish landed (by value) to Cornish ports were not recommended as sustainable in 2020.
- Only 7% of Cornwall's seabed is actively protected from damaging practices.
- 24% of rivers and only 15% of lakes had a good status for their wildlife in 2019.
- Salmon and eel are in significant decline.

**7.4** The report states that the 'richest' sites for wildlife are too limited in number, size and quality and disconnected from each other. These are identified as West Penwith, the Lizard, parts of the north and south coasts, the China Clay Area around St Austell, Bodmin Moor, the area around Bude and northern Cornwall and the Rame Peninsula.

**7.5** Although a specific monitoring indicator has not been identified for a specific 'State of Nature' topic, the key recommendations included at the end of the State of Nature Cornwall 2020 report should be reviewed during the next phase of monitoring to understand how the AONB has responded. These are as follows:

1. Encourage everyone in Cornwall to help deliver the Local Nature Recovery Strategy; individuals, landowners and decision makers all have a shared responsibility to act.
2. Agree a plan to address key gaps in evidence and source funding to support it, particularly marine data, landcover change and structured monitoring of species abundance & distribution.
3. Improve understanding of the impacts of current and future pressures on nature (including cumulative and in-combination effects).

4. Encourage landowners, scientists, organisations and citizen scientists to record, monitor and share information. **This recommendation is directly relevant to the AONB's 'State of' reporting.**
5. Increase collaboration between landowners, organisations and individuals to deliver practical nature recovery solutions.
6. Target investment into species and landscape scale nature recovery programmes.
7. Develop nature based Key Performance Indicators to track the changing state of nature and repeat this report every five years. **This final recommendation is directly relevant to the AONB's 'State of' reporting.**

## Species in decline

**7.6** The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red list and UK Red List assessments are some of the best conservation tools for understanding how threatened a given species is. As part of the State of Nature Cornwall 2020 Report, 374 Species of Principal Importance were recorded in Cornwall against the IUCN categories. Whilst local IUCN assessments are subject to some uncertainty, the State of Nature report concludes that almost 13% of Species of Principal Importance are threatened and could become locally extinct in Cornwall. Any Species of Principal Importance assessed as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) or Vulnerable (VU) are included in this percentage.

**7.7** To understand which species are most at threat within the AONB, Natural England have prepared a 'Species Tool' spreadsheet for the entire AONB network in England. This includes information about British species that were Red Listed (Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable) as of June 2020, and which are also listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) **[See reference 11]** as Species of Principal Importance. Those relating to the Cornwall AONB have been extracted and are

set out in **Table 7.1**. It should be acknowledged that information regarding the distribution of species was taken from a Natural England report published in 2010 and therefore is unlikely to be wholly accurate.



**Table 7.1: Section 41 species found within the AONB that are Red Listed (as of June 2020)**

Scientific name	Common name	Major group	Threat Category	Distribution notes
<i>Cladonia mediterranea</i>	Reindeer Lichen	Lichen	CR	Lizard Peninsula - Cornwall
<i>Heterodermia speciosa</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	CR	Lizard Peninsula - Cornwall
<i>Parmotrema robustum</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	CR	Lizard Peninsula - Cornwall
<i>Nothogeophilus turki</i>	Turk's Earth-centipede	Chilopod	EN	2 site cornwall (Isles of Scilly), IOW
<i>Arthonia anglica</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	EN	Devon; Cornwall - 2 sites
<i>Heterodermia leucomela</i>	Ciliate Strap-Lichen	Lichen	EN	Scattered coastal sites in Cornwall
<i>Riccia bifurca</i>	Lizard Crystalwort	Liverwort	EN	Lizard Peninsula - Cornwall
<i>Telaranea europaea</i>	Irish Threadwort	Liverwort	EN	1 site - W Cornwall
<i>Cyclodictyon laetevirens</i>	Bright-green Cave-moss	Moss	EN	1 site - Cornwall
<i>Ditrichum cornubicum</i>	Cornish Path Moss	Moss	EN	W Cornwall
<i>Pyrus cordata</i>	Plymouth Pear	Vascular Plant	EN	Devon and Cornwall only, including 2 SSSIs (Plymouth and Carrine Common)
<i>Fissidens curvatus</i>	Portuguese Pocket-moss	Moss	EN	SW - Cornwall and Devon; c.10 sites
<i>Plebeius argus</i>	Silver-studded Blue	Butterfly	VU	S Devon; Cornwall; Dorset; Hants.; Sussex; Surrey; Suffolk; Norfolk

## Chapter 7 Nature Recovery

Scientific name	Common name	Major group	Threat Category	Distribution notes
<i>Acarospora subrufula</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	VU	Isles of Scilly and Cornwall
<i>Caloplaca aractina</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	VU	Lizard Peninsula - Cornwall
<i>Collema latzelii</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	VU	Lizard Peninsula - Cornwall
<i>Graphina pauciloculata</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	VU	Devon; Cornwall
<i>Porina sudetica</i>	A Lichen	Lichen	VU	1 site in Cornwall not seen since 1983
<i>Solenopsora liparina</i>	Serpentine Solenopsora	Lichen	VU	Lizard Peninsula - Cornwall
<i>Cephaloziella nicholsonii</i> *	Greater Copperwort	Liverwort	VU	Known mainly in Cornwall (ca 30 sites) with recent records also from Shropshire and mid-Wales (Ceredigion, collected 1998) and older records in Devon.
<i>Dumortiera hirsuta</i>	Dumortier's Liverwort	Liverwort	VU	Cornwall & N Devon; 1 site in SE (old)
<i>Marsupella profunda</i>	Western Rustwort	Liverwort	VU	Known in UK only in Cornwall, where restricted to china clay quarries and their spoil.
<i>Ditrichum subulatum</i>	Awl-leaved Ditrichum	Moss	VU	SW Cornwall (Turo to Falmouth, Helston area)
<i>Scopelophila cataractae</i>	Tongue-leaf Copper-moss	Moss	VU	Cornwall - scattered sites

Source: Natural England (2020)

## Invasive species

**7.8** Information and data on invasive species was not identified consistently across the AONB, but this study has been able to use data from South West Water. This concerns the extent of invasive species found at the lakes and reservoirs that they own and manage throughout Cornwall, between 2014 and 2021. From the data received two sites are within the Bodmin Moor AONB section - Siblyback Lake and Colliford Lake. Invasive species recorded in the lakes included Crassula (*Crassula helmsii*), Montbretia (*Crocasmia x crocosmiiflora*), Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) and Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*). Additional species found at Colliford Lake include River Cooter (*Pseudemys concinna*), Map turtle (*Graptemys ssp*) and Ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernuus*). Additional species found at Siblyback Lake included Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*), Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*), Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), Indian Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) and New Zealand Pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*).

**7.9** Many of these species have been found at other lakes and reservoirs throughout Cornwall.

## Species of interest within the AONB

**7.10** The Cornwall Wildlife Trust and ERCCIS have provided a list of species that are known to be found within different sections of the AONB. These are as follows:

- **01 Hartland** - peregrine, Atlantic woodlands, local sites knowns for rare lichens & bryophyte.
- **02 Pentire Point to Widemouth** - puffin, guillemot, razorbill, greater horseshoe bat.
- **03 Camel Estuary** – golden plover, wigeon, lapwing, otter.
- **04 Carnewas to Stepper Point** – corn bunting, skylark, wheatear, kittiwake.

- **05 St Agnes** – solitary (mining) bees, adder, common lizard, peregrine, green hairstreak, grey seal.
- **06 Godrevy to Portreath** - grey seals, dartford warbler, golden ringed dragonfly, adder, kestrel, stonechat, spring squill.
- **07 West Penwith** - basking sharks, nightjar, grasshopper warbler.
- **08 South Coast Western** – chough, grayling butterfly, (along the Lizard coast - cornish heath, dyer's greenweed, chamomile).
- **09 South Coast Central** – great northern, black throated diver, Slavonian grebe, cirl bunting.
- **10 South Coast Eastern** - fulmar, little egret, kittiwake, great black backed gull, small leafed elm.
- **11 Rame Head** – cirl bunting, whitethroat, bee orchid, bloody-nosed beetle. slender bird's-foot-trefoil.
- **12 Bodmin Moor** - Fritillary butterflies (pearl, small pearl and marsh), cuckoo, redstart, nationally rare liverworts - greater copperwort, bog plants e.g. bog bean, round-leaved sundew.

## Natural Capital within the AONB

7.11 A Natural Capital Assessment was undertaken for Cornwall AONB in 2016 [See reference 14]. Its main aim was to create a shared understanding and vision for Natural Capital management in the AONB for the benefit of businesses, people and wildlife alike. For the purposes of the assessment, six different Natural Capital asset categories were defined. **Table 7.2** has been taken directly from the assessment, setting out the asset categories and their coverage across the AONB. This indicates that a significant proportion is Arable Land & Improved Grassland. However, it should be noted that this is based upon landcover data from 2005, which was being updated at the time of the assessment. The AONB may wish to commission an update to this assessment, using the same methodology, once more up-to-date landcover mapping is available from ERCCIS.

**Table 7.2: Coverage of Natural Capital asset categories throughout the AONB (based on 2005 data)**

Natural Capital Assets	Area (ha)
Coast	4,001.3
Heathland, Wetland & Disturbed Ground	12,695.3
Open Water	633.9
Semi-Natural Grassland	5,577.3
Woodland, Scrub & Bracken	11,758.7
Arable Land & Improved Grassland	55,680.9
Built Environment	3,965.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,312.9</b>

Source: Cornwall AONB / ERCCIS (2016 – based on 2005 data)

## Local Nature Recovery Strategy

**7.11** Cornwall was chosen by Defra as one of five nature recovery pilots to test the creation of a draft ‘Local Nature Recovery Strategy’ (LNRS). The draft strategy details nature recovery opportunities across a wide range of habitats and landscapes. It also includes clear priorities for the next five years to develop Cornwall’s Nature Recovery Network – including within the AONB. The LNRS focuses on how to achieve Cornwall’s long-term ambition for 30% of the county’s land and seas to become well managed for nature by 2030.

**7.12** It identifies some of the best places to enhance, protect, create and restore nature; including those that can best provide public goods for communities and businesses like enhanced flood resilience. It will guide local policy for planners and developers such as Biodiversity Net Gain and Future Schemes for funding



environmental land management. Led by Cornwall Council, the draft has been created in partnership with the Cornwall AONB Unit, Local Nature Partnership, and the input of over 700 local stakeholders.

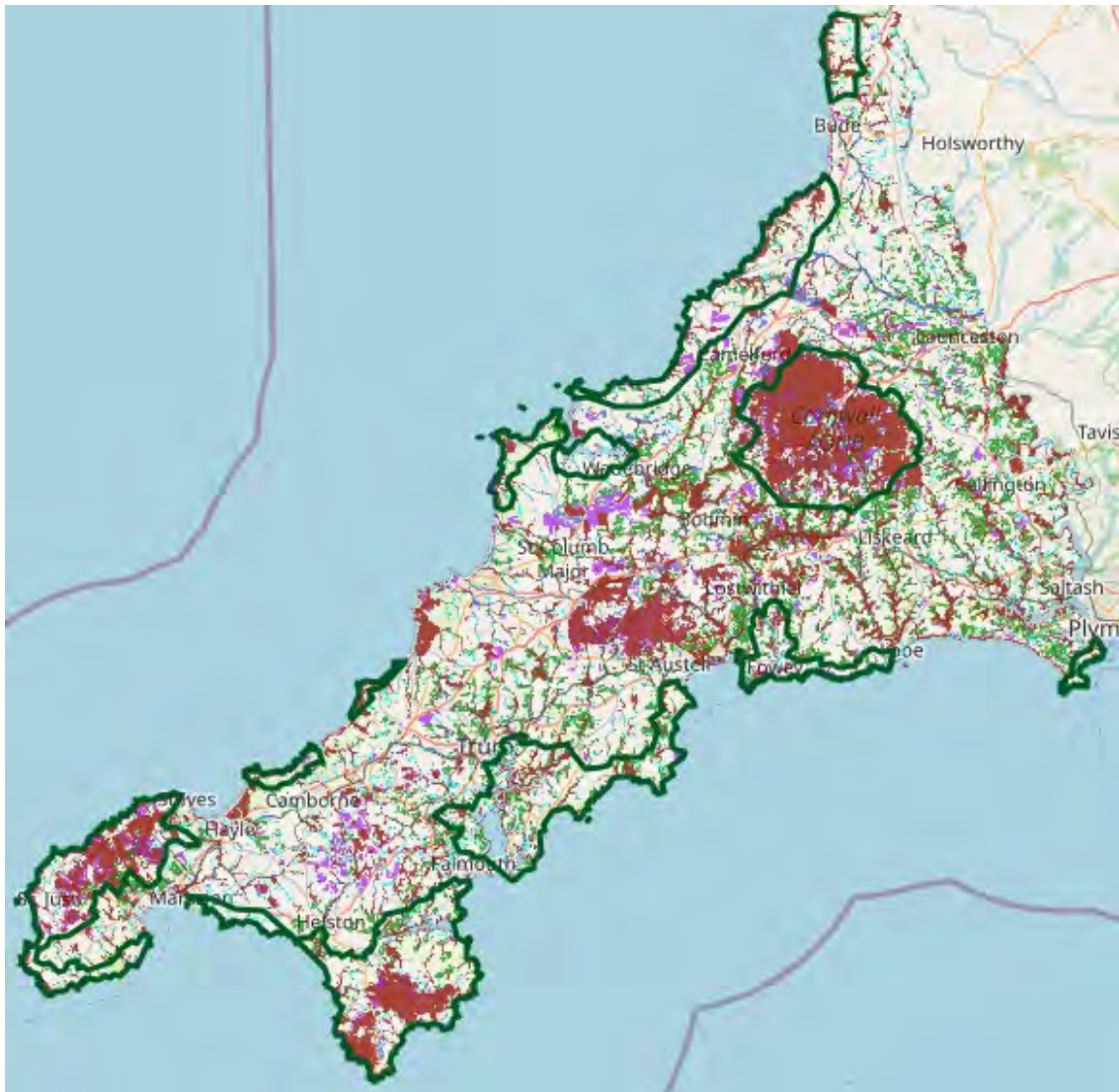
**7.13** The pilot draft will be released for consultation later in 2021 and be adopted once the Environment Bill becomes law. Cornwall's aspirations for nature recovery have recently secured significant government support and funding, as part of the plans announced by Government to create a long-term legacy from the G7 Summit which was hosted by Cornwall in June 2021.

## Lagas

**7.14** The LNRS's Nature Recovery Network Opportunity Mapping tool, [Lagas](#) – developed by a team at the University of Exeter – identifies some key habitat and corridor opportunities across all of Cornwall, including the AONB. Figure 7.1 has been taken from Lagas, showing the relationship with the 12 AONB sections. The dark red areas are the existing nature network (25% of Cornwall) and the green, blue and purple sections highlight potential opportunities for woodland, wetland and heathland expansion. Although this mapping is yet to be ground-truthed and not all habitats are included, it nevertheless highlights the major opportunity areas which account for a further 15% of Cornwall forming part of the nature network.

**7.15** The Lagas mapping shows that a strong existing nature network is found within the AONB, especially in West Penwith, the Lizard and Bodmin Moor. The 12 separate AONB sections, whilst fragmented, provide an opportunity to connect, conserve and enhance the nature network. Cambourne and Redruth are two of the most deprived areas in Cornwall (as described in Chapter 10). Creating nature corridors and engaging local communities will also support aspirations to connect people with nature and contribute to improved health and wellbeing (including through specific AONB projects).

### Figure 7.1: Protoype Nature Recovery Network



Source: University of Exeter (2021)

## B-Lines

**7.16** An example of a specific project addressing nature recovery is Buglife's B-Lines project. A national programme, it is being delivered by Buglife with the support of local organisations across the country. Buglife's aim is to halt the extinction of invertebrate species and to achieve sustainable populations of

invertebrates. B-Lines are a series of ‘insect pathways’ running through the nation’s countryside and towns. The project aims to create and restore at least 150,000 hectares of flower-rich habitat across the UK, which will link existing wildlife areas together. This will provide a network that includes large areas of new habitat benefiting bees and butterflies – but also a host of other wildlife.

**7.17** Buglife, University of Exeter and Cornwall Council have worked with partners to map the local network of B-Lines and have engaged with farmers, landowners and the public to get involved in creating new pollinator habitat, and practically restoring wildflower-rich areas. The B-Line network across Cornwall (including the AONB) can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). Special areas for threatened pollinators include Bodmin Moor, the North Cornish coast, and the Lizard Peninsular.

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**7.18** As mentioned at the start of this chapter, no specific indicators have been monitored for this theme. However, the next phase of monitoring should review the progress that has been made against the key recommendations stated in the State of Nature Cornwall 2020 Report (set out earlier in this chapter), the opportunities set out in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy 2021 (and associated opportunity mapping) and any progress from the B-Lines project. In addition, the AONB should:

- Review the list of IUCN Red Listed species during the next phase of monitoring to ascertain if there have been any new Species of Principal Importance added to the list or more positively, if there have been any improvements to the status of the species.
- Seek other data sources to provide a more comprehensive understanding of invasive species throughout Cornwall.

- Seek to re-run the Natural Capital analysis (using the same methodology as the 2016 assessment) when updated landcover data is available from ERCCIS.

## List of data sources used for this theme

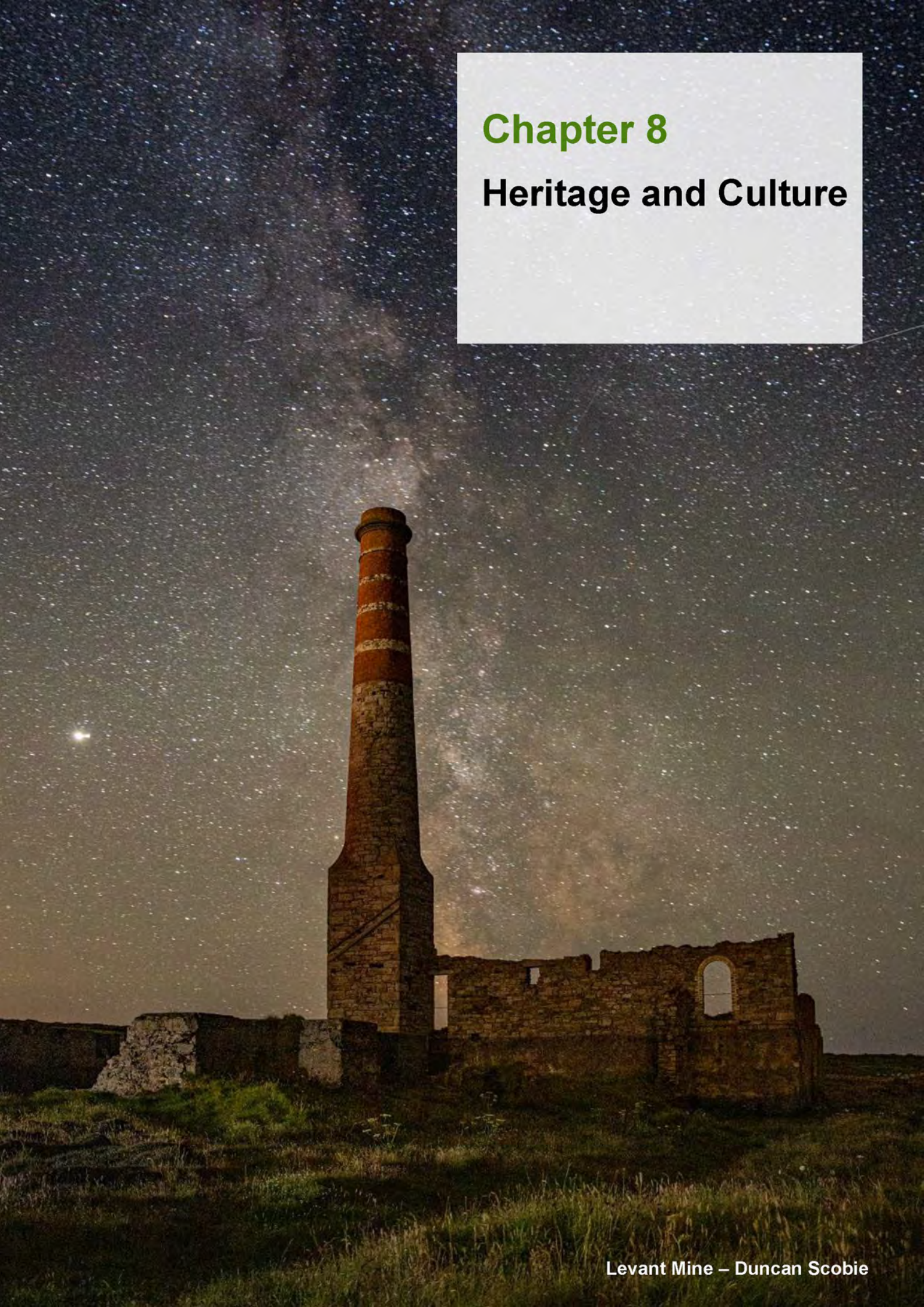
**7.19** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Natural England (2020) Species Tool spreadsheet
- Cornwall Wildlife Trust and Cornwall Council (2021) State of Nature Cornwall 2020
- South West Water (2021) Invasive Species
- Cornwall AONB (2021) Species of interest within the AONB
- Lagas (2021) Nature Recovery Network Opportunity Mapping
- Buglife (2021) B-Lines South of England



## Chapter 8

# Heritage and Culture





## Chapter 8

# Heritage and Culture

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- Three new Scheduled Monuments have been designated in the AONB since Phase 2 (all within the West Penwith section).
- The total area covered by Scheduled Monuments has increased by over 170 hectares.
- A total of 103 Scheduled Monuments (22 fewer than in 2013), ten Listed Buildings (six more than in 2013) and one Registered Park and Garden (no change since 2013) are currently on the national 'Heritage At Risk' register.
- 67% of Scheduled Monuments on the 'At Risk' register are assessed as in declining condition.
- 61 new entries have been included on Cornwall's Historic Environment Record since 2013.

## Indicators selected for this theme

**8.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Heritage and Culture' theme:

- HC1: Number and condition of archaeological sites/features
- HC2: Extent and condition of historic parks and gardens
- HC3: Management of the historic environment

## HC1: Number and condition of archaeological sites/features

**8.2** The current location of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Registered Parks and Gardens can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). The Atlas also contains information on the current condition of nationally designated heritage assets (Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens and Listed Buildings), using information from English Heritage's 'Heritage at Risk' (HAR) Register. Each designation is discussed in turn in this Chapter.

### Extent of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site

**8.3** The Cornish Mining World Heritage Site is found in five of the AONB sections. Information from English Heritage was last updated in 2017 and **Table 8.1** compares this information with the information presented in the Phase 2 study (from 2013). The area of World Heritage Site within the St Agnes section has decreased by 14.01ha and other sections have also shown small changes. However, this is due to updates in digitising of the World Heritage Site dataset (particularly along the coastline) rather than any changes in the extent of the designated area.

**Table 8.1: Distribution of the World Heritage Site by AONB Section (2013 and 2017)**

AONB section	2013 Area (ha)	2017 Area (ha)	Change (ha)
05 St Agnes	598.71	584.70	-14.01
07 West Penwith	2,672.35	2,669.13	-3.22

AONB section	2013 Area (ha)	2017 Area (ha)	Change (ha)
08 South Coast Western	48.61	48.34	Minor change
09 South Coast Central	202.85	202.86	Minor change
12 Bodmin Moor	521.25	521.26	Minor change
<b>Total</b>	<b>4043.77</b>	<b>4026.29</b>	<b>-17.48</b>

Source: English Heritage (2013 and 2017)

## Number and condition of Scheduled Monuments

### Number of Scheduled Monuments

**8.4 Table 8.2** provides a count of Scheduled Monuments (SMs), showing the number found in each of the 12 AONB Sections, comparing figures with data from the AONB Atlas (2009) and the Phase 2 (2013) study. There have been three new sites designated since 2013 within the West Penwith area. These are as follows:

- Enclosed hut circle settlement, 500m north-west of Jericho Farm (1418283)
- Porthgwarra Ullies (1420580)
- Higher Levant Mine (1460143)

**8.5** One of the sites within the Pentire Point to Widemouth section - the Roman Milestone at Trethevey (1018220) - is no longer scheduled. The stone it refers to became Grade II\* listed instead in May 2014 (List Entry Number: 1420046).

**8.6** The total area of the AONB covered by the SM designation has increased by 174.66ha (14.9%) since 2013, covering a total of 1346.28ha today. An explanation is not clear, as the three additional sites designated as SMs since 2013 only cover a combined area of around 0.5ha. Most likely it is due to more accurate digitisation of records.

### Condition of Scheduled Monuments

**8.7** **Table 8.2** also provides a breakdown of how many SMs are classified by English Heritage as being 'At Risk', which can also be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). Please note that Monument ID 1010842 (included in the English Heritage GIS dataset) is not included in the English Heritage SMAR register.

**8.8** In 2020 there were 103 SMs recorded on the 'At Risk' register which is 22 fewer than the 125 recorded in 2013. This is largely due to the 40% decrease of SMs on the 'At Risk' register within Bodmin Moor. Despite this overall decrease, there are still SMs that have been added to the 'At Risk' register since 2013 including:

- The Rumps and Promontory Fort (1004625) within the Pentire Point to Widemouth area due to problems with coastal erosion. However, this monument is one of the 40 under the Monumental Improvement project (further details provided at the end of this section).
- Redcliff Castle, later prehistoric cliff castle 550 metres south west of Bedruthan (1021006) within the Carnewas to Stepper Point area, also due to problems with coastal erosion. This monument is also one of the 40 under the Monumental Improvement project (further details provided at the end of this section).
- Castle Dore (camp) (1006691) within the South Coast Eastern area as a result of extensive stock erosion. This monument is also one of the 40 under the Monumental Improvement project (further details provided at the end of this section).
- Chapel at Hall (1004361) within the South Coast Eastern area which has become unstable due to water damage.

**Table 8.2: Number and condition of Scheduled Monuments in the AONB (2009, 2013 and 2020 / 2021)**

AONB section	Number (2009)	Number (2013)	Number 'At Risk' (2013)	Number (2021)	Number 'At Risk' (2020)
01 Hartland	4	4	0	4	0
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	35	35	3	34	4
03 Camel Estuary	2	2	0	2	0
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	7	7	2	7	3
05 St Agnes	4	4	0	4	0
06 Godreavy to Portreath	7	7	1	7	1
07 West Penwith	161	161	25	164	27
08 South Coast Western	87	87	5	87	7
09 South Coast Central	32	32	3	32	5
10 South Coast Eastern	15	15	0	15	2
11 Rame Head	9	9	5	9	5
12 Bodmin Moor	305	306	81*	306	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>103</b>

Source: English Heritage (2009, 2013 and 2020 / 2021)



**8.9** Within the West Penwith area there has been a significant number of both additions and removals of sites to the 'At Risk' register resulting in a net gain of two. There has also been both additions and removals within the South Coast Western and South Coast Central areas resulting in a net gain of two for both of these sections.

**8.10** The data shows that the AONB section with the greatest proportion of SMs 'At Risk' is Rame Head (5 out of 9), followed by Carnewas to Stepper Point (3 out of 7). Bodmin Moor has the largest number of SMs (306) and the largest number 'At Risk' (49 – 16%). **Figure 8.1** below provides a pie chart breakdown of the condition categories recorded on the 'At Risk' Register. This shows that of the 103 SMs listed as 'At Risk' in the AONB, 67% are declining in condition. Conversely, only 8% have recorded an improvement in condition, whilst 19% are deemed as in stable condition. The condition trend of SMs can be viewed spatially within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**8.11** The AONB was awarded a grant from Historic England in 2018 to review 140 at risk or vulnerable SMs within the designated area to understand which require priority stabilisation work. An application was then made to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to undertake archaeological analysis of 40 of these. The application was successful and the AONB's 'Monumental Improvement' project commenced in January 2020 with additional funding support from Cornwall Council, Historic England, National Trust, Cornwall Heritage Trust, Cornwall Archaeological Society and the European Social Fund.

**8.12** At the time of writing, the AONB is working with Cornwall Archaeological Unit and Woodfield Ecology to undertake both archaeological and ecological assessment of the sites, creating management plans for each. If successful in the next round of funding, the project will be able to undertake the necessary work to stabilise the monuments and train local communities to protect them in the future. The AONB will also be working with landowners, partners and local communities to tackle the current limited understanding of SMs in Cornwall. This will include a varied activities and events programme to engage wider

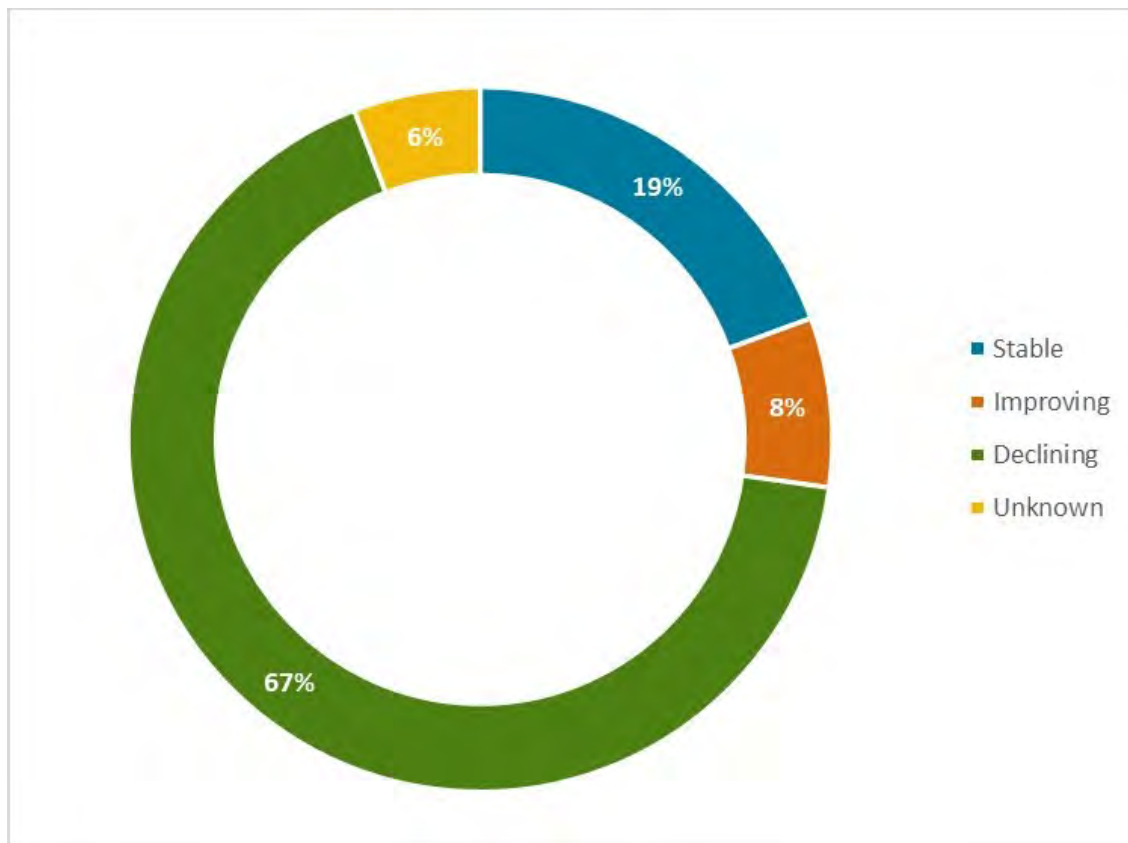
range of people in heritage. Table 8.3 indicates the distribution of SMs under the Monumental Improvement project.

**Table 8.3: Distribution of Scheduled Monuments under the Monumental Improvement project (2020)**

<b>AONB section</b>	<b>Number of scheduled monuments under the Monumental Improvement project</b>
01 Hartland	1
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	4
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	3
05 St Agnes	4
06 Godreavy to Portreath	2
08 South Coast Western	5
09 South Coast Central	5
10 South Coast Eastern	1
11 Rame Head	4
12 Bodmin Moor	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

Source: Cornwall AONB (2020)

**Figure 8.1: Condition classifications for monuments on the 'At Risk' register (2020)**



Source: English Heritage (2020)

## Number, grade and condition of Listed Buildings

### Number and grade of Listed Buildings

**8.13 Table 8.4** provides a comparative breakdown of the number and grade of Listed Buildings within the AONB at present (which can also be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#)), compared with the information presented in the AONB Atlas (2009) and the Phase 2 study (2013). It also includes a

breakdown of Listed Buildings recorded on English Heritage's 'Heritage at Risk' (HAR) register.

**Table 8.4: Number, grade and condition of Listed Buildings in the AONB (2009, 2013 and 2021)**

Grade	Number (2009)	Number (2013)	Number 'At Risk' (2013)	Number (2021)	Number 'At Risk' (2021)
I	56	56	1	56	4
II*	149	151	3	154	6
II	3,112	3,123	--	3,137	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,317</b>	<b>3,329</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,347</b>	<b>10</b>

Source: English Heritage (2009, 2013 and 2021)

**8.14** Since 2013, there has been a net gain of 17 Listed Buildings, shown in Table 8.5 by AONB section.

**Table 8.5: Number and grade of new and removed Listed Buildings in the AONB since 2013**

AONB section	Number of new entries (and Grade)	Number of removed Listed Buildings (and Grade)
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	4 (1 x Grade II* and 3 x Grade II)	1 (Grade II)
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	1 (Grade II)	1 (Grade II)
07 West Penwith	7	1

AONB section	Number of new entries (and Grade)	Number of removed Listed Buildings (and Grade)
	(7 x Grade II)	(Grade II)
08 South Coast Western	3 (3 x Grade II)	1 (Grade II)
09 South Coast Central	3 (1 x Grade II* and 2 x Grade II)	2 (2 x Grade II)
10 South Coast Eastern	4 (4 x Grade II)	3 (3 x Grade II)
11 Rame Head	1 (Grade II)	--
12 Bodmin Moor	5 (5 x Grade II)	1 (Grade II)
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>

Source: English Heritage (2021)

## Condition of Listed Buildings

**8.15** The number of Listed Buildings in the AONB classified as 'At Risk' has increased by six since 2013 to a total of 10, as shown at **Table 8.6**. The table also shows that over half are declining in their condition. The Listed Buildings on the 'At Risk' register can also be viewed within [the Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**8.16** Only one Listed Building has been removed from the HAR register since the Phase 2 study. This is the Codda Farmhouse, and Attached Shippon, Wall and Pigsty which is a Grade II\* listed property on Bodmin Moor.



**Table 8.6: Listed Buildings 'At Risk' in the AONB (2021)**

AONB section	Name	Grade	Condition classification	Added to the HAR register since 2013?
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	Entrance gate and flanking walls forming mock fortifications to east of Prideaux Place	I	Declining	Yes
07 West Penwith	Methodist Church (former Wesleyan Chapel) and attached vestry	II*	Stable	Yes
08 South Coast Western	Church of St Rumon, Ruan Major	I	Stable	No
08 South Coast Western	Church of St Grade	I	Declining	Yes
09 South Coast Central	Tower of former church of St Kea	II*	Declining	Yes
09 South Coast Central	Remains of Carclew House	II*	Declining	Yes
11 Rame Head	Guard House, Boundary Wall & Attached Ancillary Buildings at Maker Heights Barracks	II*	Declining	No
11 Rame Head	Barrack Block at Maker Heights Barracks	II*	Stable	No
11 Rame Head	The English Garden House	II*	Declining	Yes
12 Bodmin Moor	Church of St Protus and St Hyacinth	I	Stable	Yes

Source: Historic England (2021)

## Locally recognised archaeological sites and features (HER)

**8.17** The Cornwall & Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) is a comprehensive and definitive record of the historic environment of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The HER is maintained and updated on an ongoing basis, with a standard recording form used to add new submissions to the record [\[See reference 15\]](#).

**8.18** In the Phase 1 and 2 studies, sample squares across the AONB were selected for the analysis of this indicator. **Table 8.7** provides a comparison of the number of extant features recorded in Phase 1 (2008) and Phase 2 (2013) at the sample square level, with the current record, bearing in mind the fluid nature of the HER. The data shows that overall, there has been a 12.9% total increase in the number of entries in the HER within the sample squares, with 61 new entries added since 2013.

**Table 8.7: Number of features on the Historic Environment Record (2008, 2013 and 2021)**

AONB section	2008 Number	2013 Number	2021 Number	Change between 2013 and 2021
01 Hartland (Sample square refs:SS2009, SS2115)	14	12	12	0
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth (Sample square refs:SX0080, SX0789, SX0886, SX1492)	24	23	29	6
03 Camel Estuary (Sample square refs:SW9272, SW9673)	2	2	0	-2
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point (Sample square refs: SW8672, SX8774)	3	2	2	0
05 St Agnes (Sample square refs: SW7050, SW7151)	13	17	17	0
06 Godreavy to Portreath (Sample square refs:SW6042, SW6444)	7	8	8	0
07 West Penwith	177	180	194	14

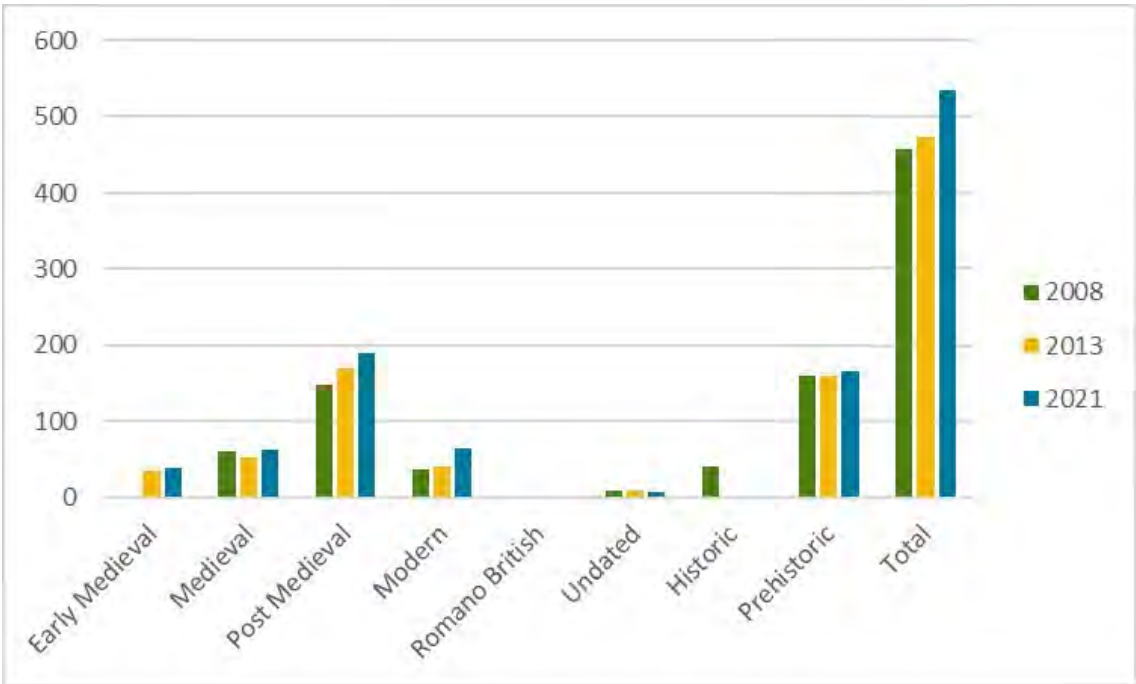
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AONB section	2008 Number	2013 Number	2021 Number	Change between 2013 and 2021
(Sample square refs: SW3734, SW3923, SW4235, SW4436, SW4625, SW4634, SW4837, SW4840)				
08 South Coast Western (Sample square refs: SW5728, SW6522, SW7114, SW7117, SW7526, SW7722)	53	59	64	5
09 South Coast Central (Sample square refs: SW8037, SW814, SW8632, SW8843, SW9340, SX0145)	29	31	36	5
10 South Coast Eastern (Sample square refs: SX0950, SX1152, SX1156, SX1254, SX1350, SX1551, SX2252)	17	18	26	8
11 Rame Head (Sample square ref: SX4351)	25	25	44	19
12 Bodmin Moor (Sample square refs: SX1479, SX1868, SX2369, SX2376)	94	96	98	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>61</b>

Source: Cornwall Council HER (2008, 2013 and 2021)

**8.19** Figure 8.2 provides a comparative breakdown of the age classification of features recorded on the HER (within the sample squares) from 2008, 2013 and 2021. This shows an 11.1% increase in the number of features from the post-medieval period and a 20% decrease in the number of Undated features.

**Figure 8.2: Age classification of features recorded in the HER (2008, 2013 and 2021)**



## HC2: Extent and condition of historic parks and gardens

**8.20** Table 8.8 lists the number of Registered Parks and Gardens in the AONB, which has stayed the same since 2009. Their location can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). Carclew Park (in the South Coast Central section) is included on the HAR Register. It is an 18th Century Grade II Registered Park and Garden, and is noted as having ‘extensive significant problems’, including



infill residential development in the park belts, the clearance of substantial areas of woodland and the loss of many individual parkland trees. Part of the parkland estate is adjacent to and slightly overlapping the Perranarworthal Conservation Area.

**Table 8.8: Number and grade of Registered Parks and Gardens in the AONB (2009, 2013 and 2020/2021)**

Grade	Number (2009, 2013 and 2021)	Number 'At Risk' (2020)
I	1	--
II*	4	--
II	11	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>

Source: English Heritage (2009, 2013 and 2020 / 2021)

## HC3: Management of the historic environment

**8.21 Tables 8.9 and 8.11** set out the uptake of ES options relating to the historic environment and presents a comparison between 2013 and 2019. Table 8.9 shows that in 2019 the vast majority (98%) of uptake continued to be focused on the management of archaeological features on grassland although had decreased by 30.7% since 2013 (most likely due to the phasing out of ES from 2016). 164.7ha of land is under ES options relating to parkland management (**Table 8.11**), resulting in an increase of 37.7% since 2013, and continues to be mostly focused on parkland maintenance, rather than restoration or creation.

**8.22 Table 8.10** presents the uptake levels for equivalent CS options in 2020. There was 66.78ha of uptake relating to archaeological management but no recorded uptake relating to parkland or wood pasture management / restoration. Overall, there has been a small decline of agri-environment scheme coverage relating to the historic environment by 34.42ha (or -5.8%).

**Table 8.9: Archaeological management under Environmental Stewardship options (2013 and 2019)**

Option code	Option name	2013 Area (ha)	2019 Area (ha)
ED4 (Entry Level)	Management of scrub on archaeological features	9.2	2.5
ED5 (Entry Level)	Management of archaeological features on grassland	265.7	225.4
HD4 (Higher Level)	Management of scrub on archaeological features	3.7	4.2
HD5 (Higher Level)	Management of archaeological features on grassland	191.3	91.5
HD8 (Higher Level)	Maintaining high water levels to protect archaeology	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>469.9</b>	<b>323.6</b>

Source: Natural England (2013 and 2019)

**Table 8.10: Archaeological management under Countryside Stewardship options (2020)**

Previous ES Option	Equivalent CS Option	2020 Area (ha)
ED4 and HD4 Management of scrub on archaeological features	HS4 Scrub control on historic and archaeological features	12.04
ED5 and HD5 Management of archaeological features on grassland	HS5 Management of historic and archaeological features on grassland	54.74
HD8 Maintaining high water levels to protect archaeology		0
<b>Total</b>		<b>66.78</b>

Source: Natural England (2020)

**Table 8.11: Parkland management Environment Stewardship options (2013 and 2019)**

Option code	Option name	2013 Area (ha)	2019 Area (ha)
HC12	Maintenance of wood pasture and parkland	114.8	137.8
HC13	Restoration of wood pasture and parkland	3.4	25.5
HC14	Creation of wood pasture	1.4	1.4
<b>Total</b>		<b>119.6</b>	<b>164.7</b>

Source: Natural England (2013 and 2019)

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**8.23** All indicators in the 'Heritage and Culture' theme outlined above should continue to be monitored, using the same methods/scales of analysis, every five years to coincide with future AONB Management Plan reviews. The next report will need to consider how the roll-out of the new environmental land management schemes will be monitored and compared against the previous schemes analysed in the three monitoring phases undertaken to-date.

## List of data sources used for this theme

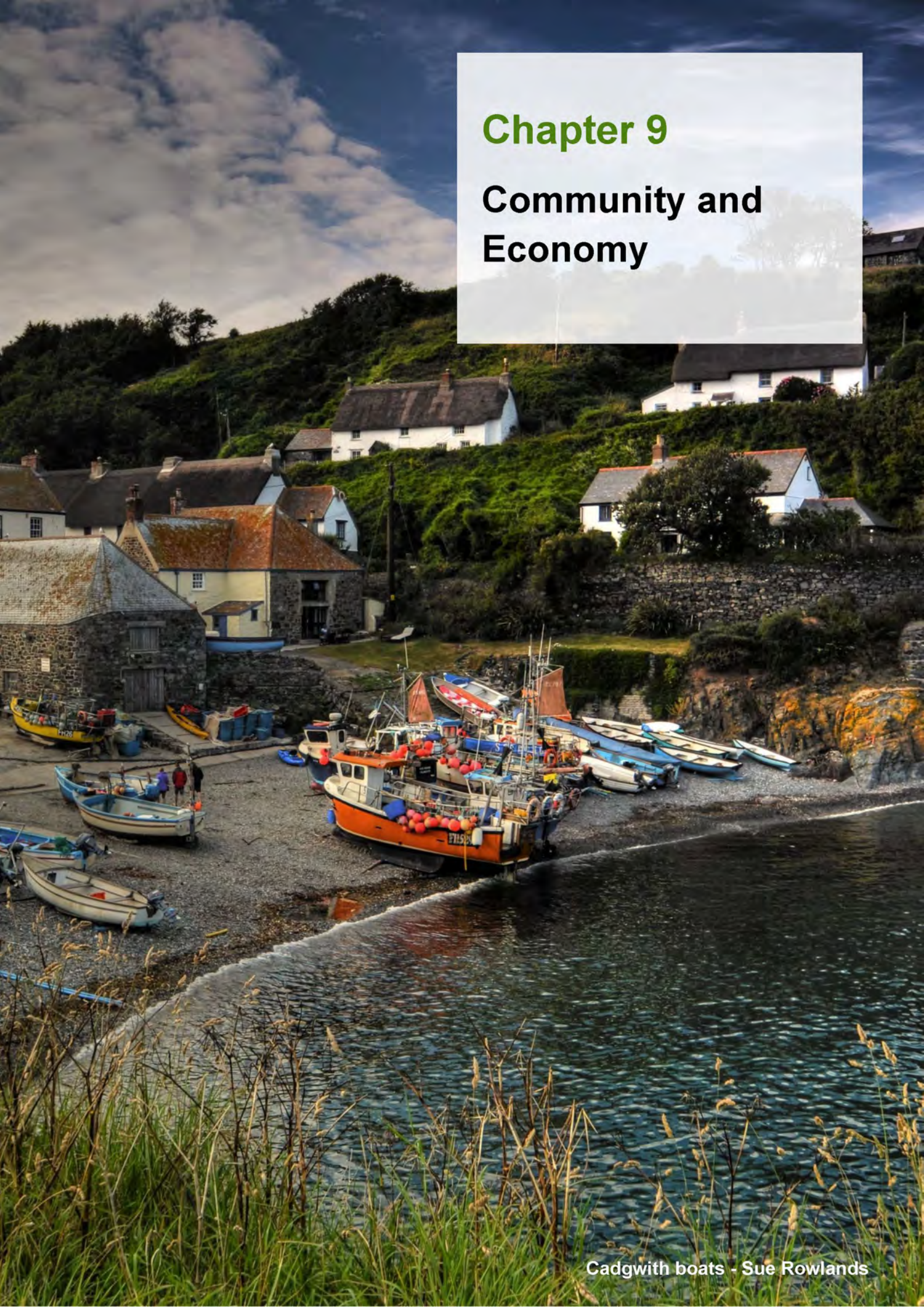
**8.24** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Natural England (2013) Protected Landscapes Monitoring Framework
- English Heritage (2017) World Heritage Sites
- Natural England: Monitoring of Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes (2019 dataset)
- English Heritage (2020) Heritage at Risk
- English Heritage (2021) Scheduled Monuments
- English Heritage (2021) Listed Buildings
- Cornwall Historic Environment Service (2021) Historic Environment Record
- English Heritage (2021) Registered Parks and Gardens
- Natural England (2020) Countryside Stewardship GIS data



## Chapter 9

# Community and Economy





## Chapter 9

# Community and Economy

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- South Coast Central contains the most amount of shellfish farming activity across the AONB.
- The AONB population has increased by 20.6% since the 2011 census, with an increase in residents over 65 and reduction in those within the 30-64 age range.
- The largest business types in the AONB are accommodation (26.8%) and farms (25.6%).
- The average house price in the AONB has increased by 22.6% since 2011 and is 40% higher than the regional average.

## Indicators selected for this theme

**9.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Community and Economy' theme:

- CE1: Levels and types of fishing industry activity
- CE2: Numbers of moorings
- CE3: Population trends
- CE4: Employment and business activity
- CE5: Average property values



## CE1: Levels and types of fishing industry activity

**9.2** No data relating to the number and type of fishing vessels was available to analyse for this Phase 3 study. However, a new baseline has been laid down in relation to shellfish farming. **Table 9.1** sets out the existing mollusc farms, dispatch centres and purification centres within the AONB itself or adjacent waters. Their location can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**9.3** South Coast Central has the most amount of activity relating to shellfish farming with three mollusc farms, two purification centres and a joint dispatch/purification centre. Other AONB sections containing shellfish farming activity include the Camel Estuary, South Coast Western and South Coast Eastern.

**Table 9.1: Shellfish farming within the AONB (2021)**

AONB Section	Name	Type
03 Camel Estuary	Porthilly Shellfish Ltd	Mollusc farm (open)
08 South Coast Western	The Cornish Shellfish Company Limited	Dispatch centre and purification centre
08 South Coast Western	Helford River Oysters Ltd	Mollusc farm (open)
09 South Coast Central	Fal Oysters Ltd T/A Cornish Native Oysters	Dispatch centre and purification centre
09 South Coast Central	Westcountry Mussels of Fowey Ltd	Mollusc farm (open)
09 South Coast Central	Sailors Creek Shellfish	Purification centre
09 South Coast Central	The Wild Oyster Company	Purification centre

AONB Section	Name	Type
09 South Coast Central (offshore)	Fowey Shellfish Company Ltd - St Austell Bay - Hancock"	Mollusc farm (open)
09 South Coast Central (offshore)	Westcountry Mussels of Fowey Ltd - St Austell Bay - Rawle	Mollusc farm (open)
10 South Coast Eastern	Fowey Shellfish Company Ltd	Dispatch centre and purification centre
10 South Coast Eastern	Fowey Shellfish Company	Mollusc farm (open)
10 South Coast Eastern	Westcountry Mussels of Fowey Ltd	Purification centre

Source: Cornwall Council/CEFAS (2021)

## CE2: Numbers of moorings

**9.4** In the Phase 2 study, statistics on numbers of moorings were obtained from the former Maritime Manager for Cornwall Council. This was not possible for the Phase 3 study; however, the AONB Unit contacted most of the harbours individually to obtain the same level of information (and have kept a record of these contacts). Unfortunately, accurate comparisons cannot be made in some cases, such as at Rock and Padstow harbours where the number of moorings included those outside of the AONB boundary in 2013. It is also worth noting that the information provided in Phase 2 was largely anecdotal, therefore providing observations on trends is not possible. However, for completeness, a comparison is provided in **Table 9.2**. Going forwards, the 2021 data should be used as a baseline for monitoring.

**Table 9.2: Number of moorings per AONB section (2013 and 2021)**

AONB section	Harbour/location of moorings	Number of moorings (2013)	Number of moorings (2021)
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Boscastle	17	16
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	Rock	200 moorings, 150 dinghies (includes those outside of the AONB boundary)	59 at Rock and Padstow harbours (only those within the AONB have been included)
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	Padstow	140 (40 are visitor moorings)	see above
07 West Penwith	Mousehole	70	80
08 South Coast Western	Helford	535	669
08 South Coast Western	St Michael's Mount	30	40
08 South Coast Western	Porthleven	90 (approximate figure)	125
09 South Coast Central	Portscatho	45	45
09 South Coast Central	Portloe	20	unknown
09 South Coast Central	Gorran Haven	50 - 60	50 - 60
09 South Coast Central	Mevagissy	180	180
09 South Coast Central	St Mawes & Percuil River	716	676
09 South Coast Central	Mylor	N/A	522 (of which 185 are summer only)

<b>AONB section</b>	<b>Harbour/location of moorings</b>	<b>Number of moorings (2013)</b>	<b>Number of moorings (2021)</b>
09 South Coast Central	Mylor creek	N/A	112
09 South Coast Central	Loe Beach and Feock Shore	N/A	273
09 South Coast Central	Restronguet Creek	N/A	277
09 South Coast Central	Off Pill Creek	N/A	15
09 South Coast Central	Malpas to Turnaware	N/A	130
09 South Coast Central	St Just Creek	N/A	136
09 South Coast Central	Mylor Marina	N/A	180 berths
10 South Coast Eastern	Fowey	2,083 (240 are visitor moorings) and 80 pontoons	1,309 (60 are visitor moorings)
10 South Coast Eastern	Polkerris	12	12
10 South Coast Eastern	Polperro	65	56
11 Rame Head	Kingsand and Cawsand	N/A	30 (not for public use)

Source: Cornwall Council (2013) and Cornwall AONB (2021)

## CE3: Population trends

**9.5** The 2013 report provided an analysis of population trends using the results of the 2011 national census undertaken by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The latest national census was conducted during March 2021. However,

the initial findings will not be published until 2022 with the full results following in 2023. The latest monitoring of this indicator is therefore based on the latest ONS mid-year estimates from 2020.

## Demographic characteristics

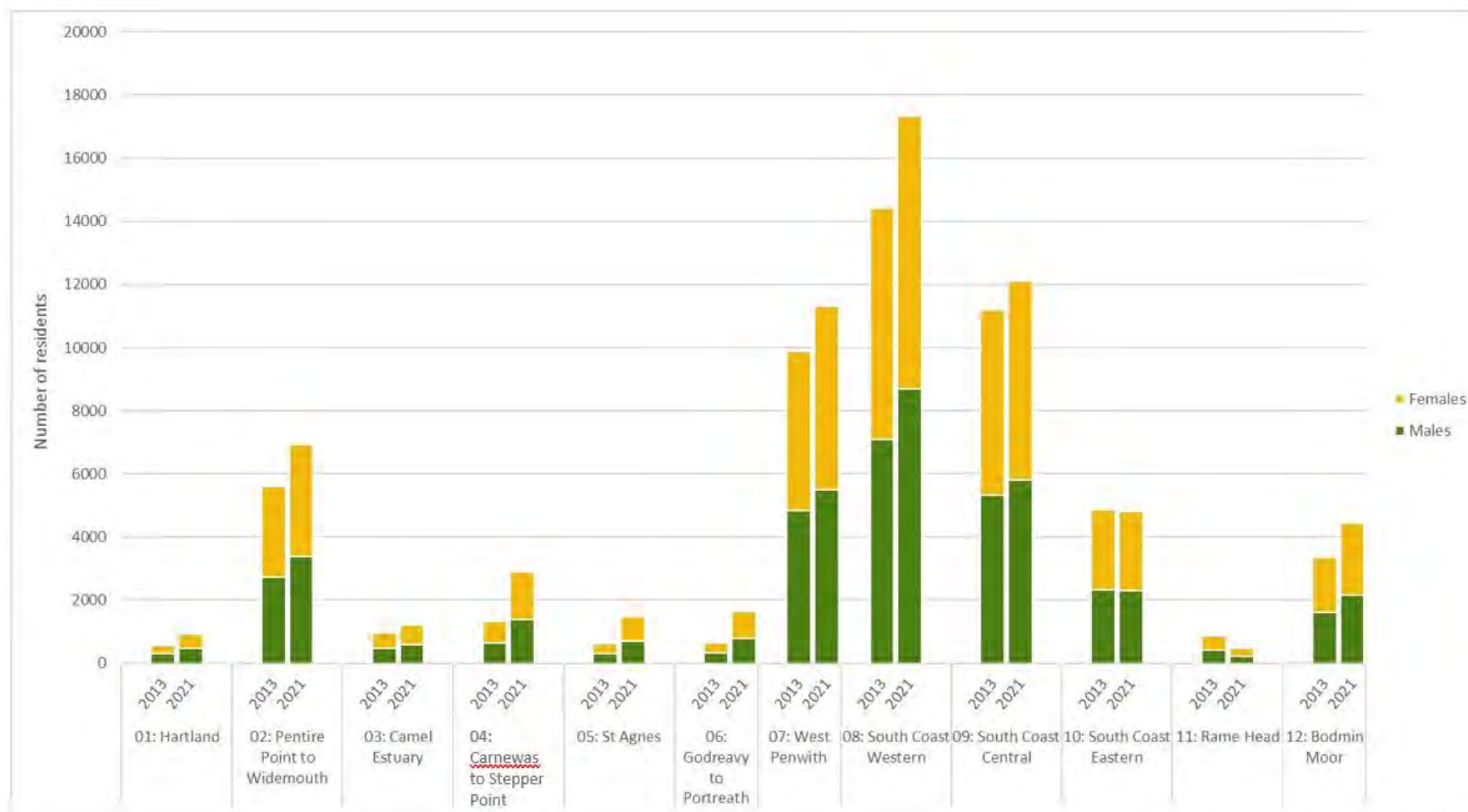
**9.6** Analysis of the ONS mid-year estimates from 2020 shows that there are approximately 65,530\* residents in the AONB. There continues to be slightly more resident females than males (51.2% and 48.8% respectively). This represents a 20.6% increase in the total population recorded in 2011.

*\*Where an Output Area straddles the AONB boundary, a proportion of its total has been included based on the area of the Output Area within the AONB. This figure is therefore an approximation.*

**9.7** **Figure 9.1** illustrates the spread of residents across the different AONB sections and **Figure 9.2** shows their age profile. Both of these charts provide a comparison between 2011 and 2020. 60.7% of the AONB residents are over 45 years of age.

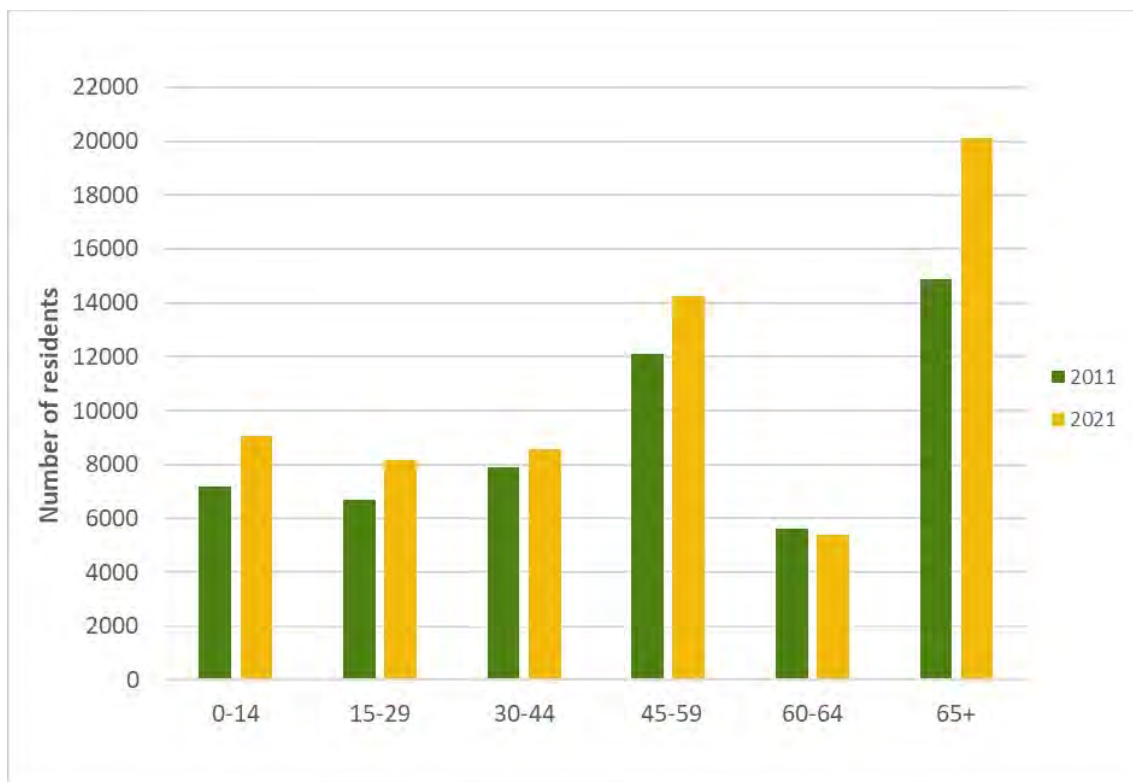


Figure 9.1: Population distribution across the AONB sections (2011 and 2020)



Source: ONS (2011 and 2020)

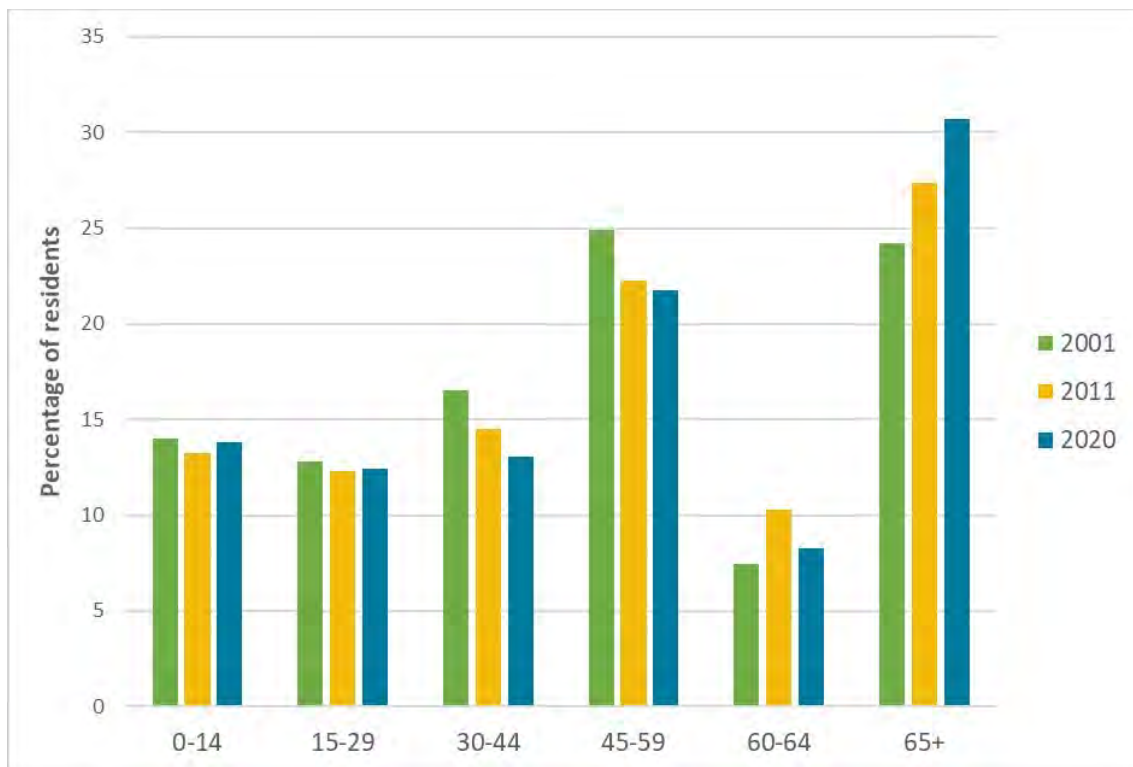
**Figure 9.2: Age of AONB residents (2011 and 2020)**



Source: ONS (2011 and 2020)

**9.8** When compared to the 2011 age breakdown of residents in the AONB, there has been an increase in residents aged 65 and over, whilst a reduction in residents aged 30-64. There has been a marginal increase in residents 0-29 as shown in **Figure 9.3**.

**Figure 9.3: Age profile of the AONB (2001, 2011 and 2020)**



Source: ONS (2001, 2011 and 2020)

**9.9** The ethnic make-up of the AONB remains dominated by White: British, as was the case in 2011.

## CE4: Employment and business activity

### Employment

**9.10** No new data was available for monitoring this indicator in 2021.

## Types of businesses in the AONB

**9.11** In 2021, information was collated by Cornwall AONB about the businesses that are operating within its boundaries. The AONB limited this to certain business types that it would most likely engage with. This has resulted in a total of 812 businesses.

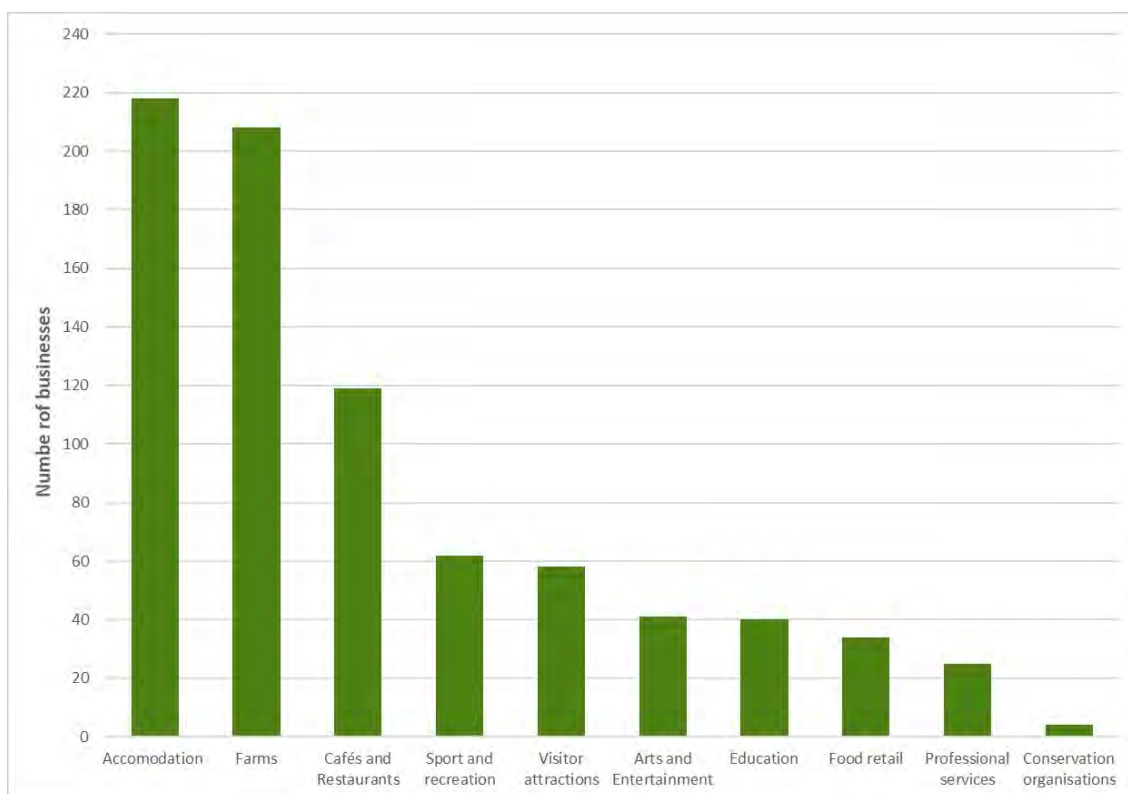
**9.12** In order to make the data more manageable and meaningful to analyse for the purpose of this report, the raw data was amalgamated into 11 overall categories, as follows:

- **Accommodation** – including the business types, 'campsites', 'caravan parks' and 'B&Bs'.
- **Arts and Entertainment** – including the business types, 'art galleries' and 'theatres'.
- **Food retail** – including the business types, 'bakery', 'butchers', 'fishmonger' and 'farm shop'.
- **Cafés and Restaurants** – including the business types, 'cafés', 'restaurants', 'garden with café', 'ice cream shop' and 'fish and chip shop'.
- **Conservation organisations** – including the business types, 'conservation organisations'.
- **Education** – including the business types, 'education (including nurseries)'.
- **Farms** – including the business types, 'farm' and 'farm with B&B'.
- **Professional services** – including the business types, 'architects', 'environmental consultants', 'landscaping services' and 'plant hire'.
- **Sport and recreation** – including the business types, 'sports', 'cycle hire/bike shops', 'watersports', 'riding schools/ stables' and 'outdoor shops'.
- **Transport** – including the business types, 'transport'.

- **Visitor attractions** – including the business types, 'tourism', 'visitor attraction', 'tourist attractions' and 'fisherman artist and traditional willow lobster pot maker'.

**9.13** Out of all those considered, by far the largest business categories are Accommodation (26.8%) and Farms (25.6%). Other common business categories include Cafés and Restaurants (14.7%), Sport and Recreation (7.6%) and Visitor Attractions (7.1%) as shown on the chart at **Figure 9.4**. These results reflect the importance of the AONB landscape for tourism and farming enterprises.

**Figure 9.4: Types of businesses in the AONB (2021)**

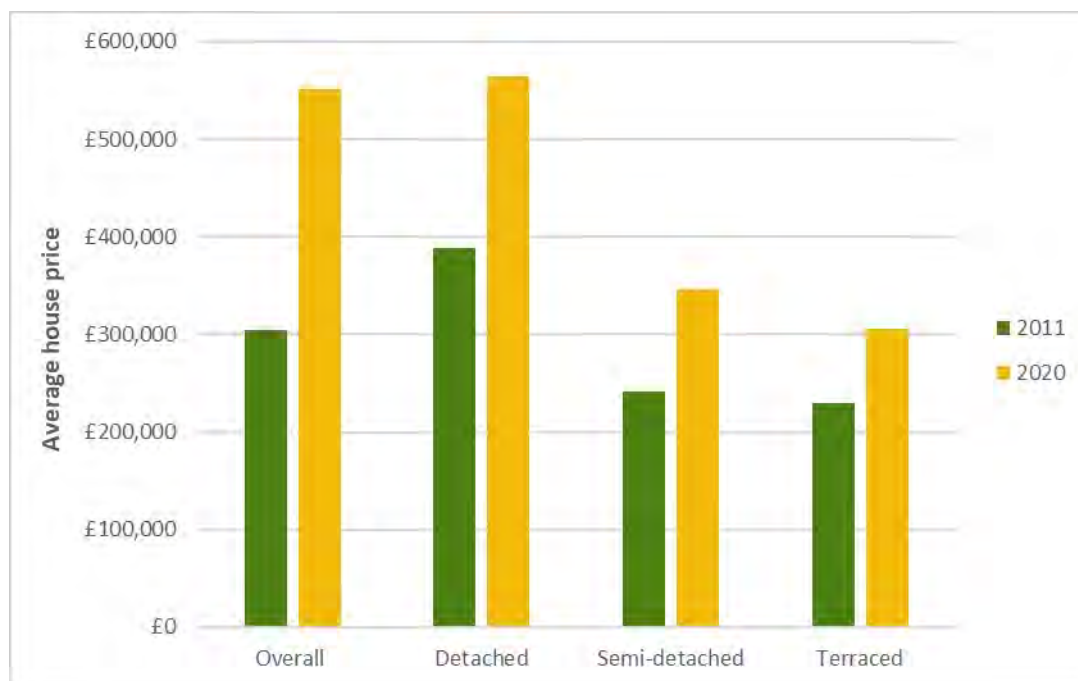


## CE5: Average property values

### Housing affordability and second home ownership

**9.14** According to the UK House Price Index, the average house price in the AONB during 2020 was £373,971; a 22.6% increase from 2011 ( £305,000). This is 40% higher than the average house price in the South-West, whereas back in 2011 it was 36%. House prices vary according to the house type as shown in Figure 9.5, which provides a comparison with the results from 2011.

**Figure 9.5: Average house prices in the AONB (2011 and 2020)**



Source: HM Land Registry (2011 and 2020)

**9.15** No data relating to second home ownership was available to analyse for this Phase 3 study. However, this information should become available once the



ONS Census 2021 results are released in 2022/ 2023. Data was also not available to analyse the average annual gross household income.

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**9.16** It is recommended that the AONB Unit explores maintaining a central database on numbers of moorings to allow for easier monitoring, working with the constituent harbour authorities. This should be populated with the most up-to-date data and reviewed every two years (but with a full analysis required only every five years to coincide with AONB reporting).

**9.17** The latest national census was conducted during March 2021. However, the initial findings will not be published until 2022 with the full results following in 2023. These results will provide the most accurate information relating to the 'Community and Economy' theme and should be considered when monitoring any future trends. The Census will also provide information relating to second home ownership. Although not considered in this study, it will be interesting to understand the trends relating to second home ownership and resident population attributed to changes in lifestyle owing to the Coronavirus pandemic – media reports in 2021 suggest a significant increase in house buying in Cornwall following the various national lockdowns.

## List of data sources used for this theme

**9.18** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Cornwall Council Maritime Manager (2013)
- Office for National Statistics: 2011 Census
- HM Land Registry: Sales data 2011
- Office for National Statistics (2020) Mid-year population estimates

## **Chapter 9**     Community and Economy

- HM Land Registry: UK House Price Index 2020
- Cornwall Council / Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (2021)
- Cornwall AONB (2021) Number of moorings in the AONB
- Cornwall AONB (2021) Businesses in the AONB

## Chapter 10

### Health and Wellbeing





## Chapter 10

# Health and Wellbeing

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- Life expectancy was highest in parts of Pentire Point to Widemouth and Bodmin Moor sections in 2016/2017.
- Parts of the Godrevy to Portreath AONB section experienced the largest number of births and deaths between the end of 2013 and 2016.
- It also had the largest numbers of Disability Living Allowance claimants and children in receipt of free school meals.
- Part of the West Penwith AONB section had the highest level of fuel poor households and the largest number of children from low-income families in 2016/2017.
- The highest number of patients recorded as being obese was in parts of South Coast Eastern and Bodmin Moor).
- Areas of Hartland and Pentire Point to Widemouth had the highest number of patients with diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease.
- Parts of the Bodmin Community Network Area which contains the town of Bodmin (and incorporates a small part of Bodmin Moor) are home to the greatest number of people with English as an additional language.
- Some parts of Cornwall continue to have the highest levels of deprivation in the country under the Index of Multiple Deprivation's 'Barriers to housing and services' indicator.
- The AONB continues to enjoy some of the lowest levels of crime in the country.

## Indicators selected for this theme

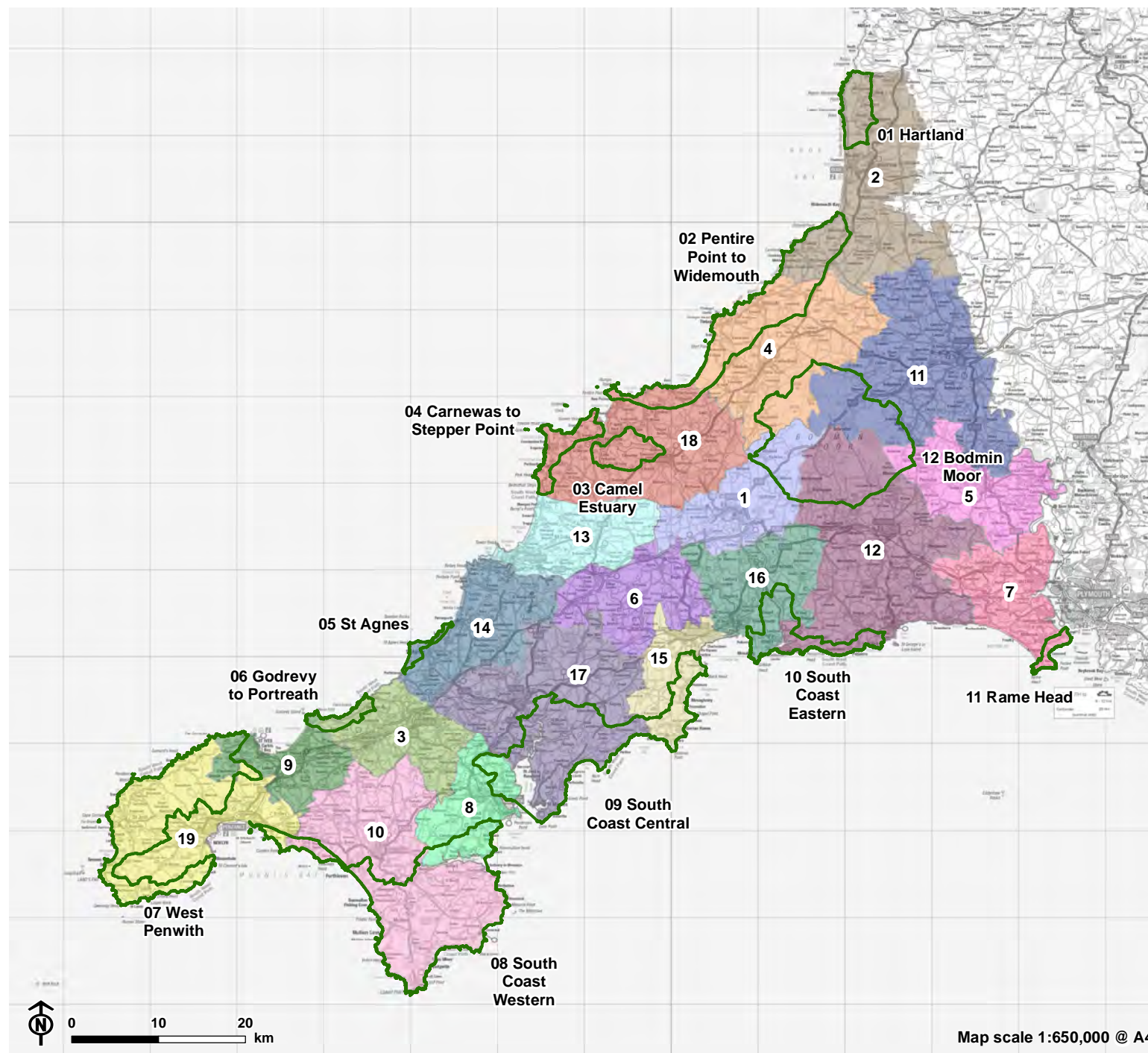
**10.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Health and Wellbeing' theme:

- HW1: Health statistics
- HW2: Levels of deprivation

### HW1: Health statistics

**10.2 Tables 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3** set out statistics relating to different aspects of Health and Wellbeing, using the latest available data from 2016/2017. These have been presented by Community Network Area (CNA) and therefore have not been cut to the AONB boundary. The CNAs considered as part of this indicator fall fully or partly within the AONB as illustrated on **Figure 10.1**. The CNAs can also be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). It is important to understand the health and wellbeing situation of areas surrounding the AONB (as well as those within it). This serves to highlight the areas that may benefit most from having good access and links to AONB landscapes (e.g. access to nature is known to have positive impacts upon health and wellbeing).

Figure 10.1: Community Network Areas





**Table 10.1: Health and Wellbeing (Population) by Community Network Area (2016 / 2017)**

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Population (% of Cornwall)	Ethnicity	Life expectancy (years)	Number of births (2015)	Number of deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)
Bodmin	Bodmin Moor	20,351 (4%)	98.2% White	Male: 79.4 Female: 82.6	391	1311
Bude	Hartland and Pentire Point to Widemouth	17,486 (3%)	98.6% White	Male: 80.8 Female: 83.7	219	980
Camborne, Pool and Redruth	Godrevy to Portreath	60,986 (11%)	98.4% White	Male: 78.9 Female: 83	310	1047
Camelford	Bodmin Moor and Pentire Point to Widemouth	12,837 (2%)	98.9% White	Male: 81.2 Female: 86.3	222	636
Caradon	Bodmin Moor	17,962 (3%)	98.6% White	Male: 80.4 Female: 84.5	307	1234
Cornwall Gateway	Rame Head	33,040 (6%)	98.6% White	Male: 79.9 Female: 82	177	685
Falmouth & Penryn	South Coast Central and South Coast Western	45,270 (8%)	97.5% White	Male: 79.3 Female: 83.4	328	1224

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Population (% of Cornwall)	Ethnicity	Life expectancy (years)	Number of births (2015)	Number of deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)
Hayle & St Ives	Godrevy to Portreath and West Penwith	26,200 (5%)	98.2% White	Male: 79.8 Female: 84.7	193	710
Helston & The Lizard	South Coast Western	34,035 (6%)	98.6% White	Male: 80.9 Female: 84.2	439	1518
Launceston	Bodmin Moor	19,660 (4%)	98.1% White	Male: 78.8 Female: 82.4	193	728
Liskeard & Looe	South Coast Eastern and Bodmin Moor	31,456 (6%)	98.5% White	Male: 79.3 Female: 82	320	1543
St Agnes & Perranporth	St Agnes	17,693 (3%)	98.4% White	Male: 78.9 Female: 83.7	391	1311
St Austell & Mevagissey	South Coast Central	32,608 (6%)	98.4% White	Male: 79.1 Female: 86.1	219	980
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	South Coast Eastern	19,620 (6%)	98.8% White	Male: 78.9 Female: 83.3	310	1047
Truro & Roseland	South Coast Central	45,797 (8%)	97.3% White	Male: 80 Female: 83.9	222	636

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Population (% of Cornwall)	Ethnicity	Life expectancy (years)	Number of births (2015)	Number of deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)
Wadebridge & Padstow	Pentire Point to Widemouth, Camel Estuary, and Carnewas to Stepper Point	20,614 (4%)	98.6% White	Male: 80.2 Female: 85.9	307	1234
West Penwith	West Penwith and South Coast Western	39,983 (7%)	98% White	Male: 78 Female: 83	177	685

Source: Cornwall Council (2016 / 2017)

**10.3** In 2016 / 2017 life expectancy for men was highest in the Camelford CNA (81.2 years) and lowest in the Launceston and West Penwith CNAs (78.8 years), as indicated in **Table 10.1**. For females the highest life expectancy was also in the Camelford CNA (86.3 years) with the lowest being within the Cornwall Gateway and Liskeard and Looe CNAs (82 years).

**10.4** In 2015 the Camborne, Pool and Redruth CNA experienced the largest number of births (716) as well as the greatest number of deaths (1,988) between the end of 2013 and 2016. The least number of births was 131 in the Caradon CAN, and the least number of deaths was 419 in the Camelford CNA.

**Table 10.2: Health and Wellbeing (Inequalities) by Community Network Area (2016 / 2017)**

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Fuel poverty (% of fuel poor households in Cornwall)	Children from low-income families (%)	Number of Disability Living Allowance claimants (% of Cornwall)	Number of children in receipt of free school meals (% of Cornwall)
Bodmin	Bodmin Moor	13.8%	17.9%	1,010 (4%)	934 (6%)
Bude	Hartland and Pentire Point to Widemouth	14.1%	14.6%	715 (3%)	489 (3%)
Camborne, Pool and Redruth	Godrevy to Portreath	14.6%	17.9%	3,900 (15%)	2371 (15%)
Camelford	Bodmin Moor and Pentire Point to Widemouth	17.9%	14.1%	575 (2%)	349 (2%)
Caradon	Bodmin Moor	14%	14%	825 (3%)	426 (3%)
Cornwall Gateway	Rame Head	12.2%	12.8%	1455 (6%)	844 (5%)
Falmouth & Penryn	South Coast Central and South Coast Western	14.8%	13.5%	1705 (7%)	1031 (6%)

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Fuel poverty (% of fuel poor households in Cornwall)	Children from low-income families (%)	Number of Disability Living Allowance claimants (% of Cornwall)	Number of children in receipt of free school meals (% of Cornwall)
Hayle & St Ives	Godrevy to Portreath and West Penwith	13%	14.3%	1270 (5%)	820 (5%)
Helston & The Lizard	South Coast Western	16.3%	11.6%	1380 (5%)	837 (5%)
Launceston	Bodmin Moor	15.2%	14.8%	845 (3%)	511 (3%)
Liskeard & Looe	South Coast Eastern and Bodmin Moor	16.3%	11.6%	1515 (6%)	935 (6%)
St Agnes & Perranporth	St Agnes	18.9%	8.6%	690 (3%)	337 (2%)
St Austell & Mevagissey	South Coast Central	13.7%	15.5%	1495 (6%)	884 (5%)
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	South Coast Eastern	14.9%	15.5%	850 (3%)	884 (5%)
Truro & Roseland	South Coast Central	14.5%	11.4%	1795 (7%)	516 (3%)

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Fuel poverty (% of fuel poor households in Cornwall)	Children from low-income families (%)	Number of Disability Living Allowance claimants (% of Cornwall)	Number of children in receipt of free school meals (% of Cornwall)
Wadebridge & Padstow	Pentire Point to Widemouth, Camel Estuary, and Carnewas to Stepper Point	14.1%	11.2%	725 (3%)	401 (2%)
West Penwith	West Penwith and South Coast Western	19.2%	19%	2340 (9%)	1269 (8%)

Source: Cornwall Council (2016 / 2017)

**10.5** Fuel poverty is defined by a combination of three factors: household income; fuel prices; and household energy requirements. **Table 10.2** indicates that in 2016 / 2017 this was experienced mostly in the West Penwith CNA, accounting for 19.2% of fuel poor households in Cornwall. The Cornwall Gateway CNA experienced this the least with 12.2% of fuel poor households in Cornwall. West Penwith CNA also had the largest percentage of children from low-income families (19%), with the least number being from within the St Agnes & Perranporth CNA (8.6%).

**10.6** There were 3,900 Disability Living Allowance claimants in the Camborne, Pool and Redruth CNA accounting for 15% of Cornwall. The lowest number was in the Camelford CNA with 575 (2% of Cornwall). The Camborne, Pool and Redruth CNA also had the greatest number of children in receipt of free school meals (2371 – or 15% of Cornwall). St Agnes & Perranporth had the least number with 337 (accounting for 2% of Cornwall).



**Table 10.3: Health and Wellbeing (Risk Groups) by Community Network Area (2016 / 2017)**

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Obesity (% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register)	Diabetes (% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register)	Chronic Kidney Disease (% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register)	English as an additional language
Bodmin	Bodmin Moor	14.4%	6.5%	6.5%	342
Bude	Hartland and Pentire Point to Widemouth	11.9%	7.8%	7.9%	14
Camborne, Pool and Redruth	Godrevy to Portreath	12.1%	7.2%	5.7%	337
Camelford	Bodmin Moor and Pentire Point to Widemouth	9.1%	7.2%	7.4%	12
Caradon	Bodmin Moor	12.7%	6.6%	4.9%	38
Cornwall Gateway	Rame Head	12.1%	5.7%	3.6%	50
Falmouth & Penryn	South Coast Central and South Coast Western	9.9%	4.8%	5.1%	110
Hayle & St Ives	Godrevy to Portreath and West Penwith	12.4%	6.2%	6%	75
Helston & The Lizard	South Coast Western	13.7%	6.6%	5.7%	72
Launceston	Bodmin Moor	12.2%	6.6%	3.9%	155

## Chapter 10 Health and Wellbeing

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	Obesity (% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register)	Diabetes (% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register)	Chronic Kidney Disease (% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register)	English as an additional language
Liskeard & Looe	South Coast Eastern and Bodmin Moor	14.5%	7.2%	3.9%	57
St Agnes & Perranporth	St Agnes	9.5%	6.1%	2.9%	14
St Austell & Mevagissey	South Coast Central	10.4%	6.7%	5.9%	105
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	South Coast Eastern	12.7%	6.7%	5.8%	27
Truro & Roseland	South Coast Central	11%	5.7%	6.3%	120
Wadebridge & Padstow	Pentire Point to Widemouth, Camel Estuary, and Carnewas to Stepper Point	12%	6.2%	5.8%	33
West Penwith	West Penwith and South Coast Western	13%	6.4%	5.1%	110

Source: Cornwall Council (2016 / 2017)

**10.7** GP practices record details of particular long-term conditions on the Chronic Disease Register. **Table 10.3** indicates that in 2016 the highest number of patients recorded as being obese was in the Liskeard & Looe CNA (14.5% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register) and the fewest number was in the Camelford CNA (9.1%). In the Bude CNA, 7.8% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register were recorded as having diabetes, with the fewest number being within the Falmouth & Penryn CNA (4.8%). The highest number of patients recorded as having Chronic Kidney Disease was in the Bude CNA (7.9% of patients on the Chronic Disease Register) and the fewest number was in the St Agnes & Perranporth CNA (2.9%).

**10.8** Bodmin CNA experienced the greatest number of people where English was not their first language (342), compared with only 12 people in the Camelford CNA.

## HW2: Levels of deprivation

**10.9** The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) covers seven aspects of deprivation: income; employment; health deprivation and disability; education, skills and training; barriers to housing and services; crime and the living environment. This useful index provides an insight into the quality of life experienced by residents of the AONB (and Cornwall) compared to the rest of the country.

**10.10** The IMD for the AONB in 2019 can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). A comparison with the results from 2013 is illustrated on the map at **Figure 10.2**. Most of the AONB shows moderate to high levels of deprivation (although no areas are within the highest deprivation category). Some parts of the south-coast have lower levels of deprivation including Mawnan Smith (South Coast Western), Carclew (South Coast Central), Feock (South Coast Central) and Penpol (South Coast Central).

**10.11** The 'Barriers to housing and services' indicator (**Figure 10.3**) shows that some areas of Cornwall, including parts of the AONB, continue to have some of the highest levels of deprivation in the country. This relates to issues such as access to affordable housing. However, the majority of the AONB sections have seen improvements since 2013, apart from Bodmin Moor which remains at the highest percentile. High levels of deprivation continue to be seen in the 'Living environment' indicator (**Figure 10.4**), which relates to the quality and condition of housing, air quality and road traffic accidents. In contrast, the AONB continues to enjoy some of the lowest levels of crime in the country, as depicted in Figure 10.5. The results for these IMD indicators from 2019 can also be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**10.12** To understand the trends relating to deprivation, a comparison is provided in **Table 10.4** between 2015 and 2019. This shows the overall IMD percentile (where the most deprivation equates to the lowest percentile). This analysis has been undertaken for the CNAs (shown on **Figure 10.1**). It shows that overall, there has been a slight improvement in levels of deprivation across the CNAs that cover the AONB between 2015 and 2019 (from 44.3% to 45.7%).

Figure 10.2: Index of Multiple Deprivation

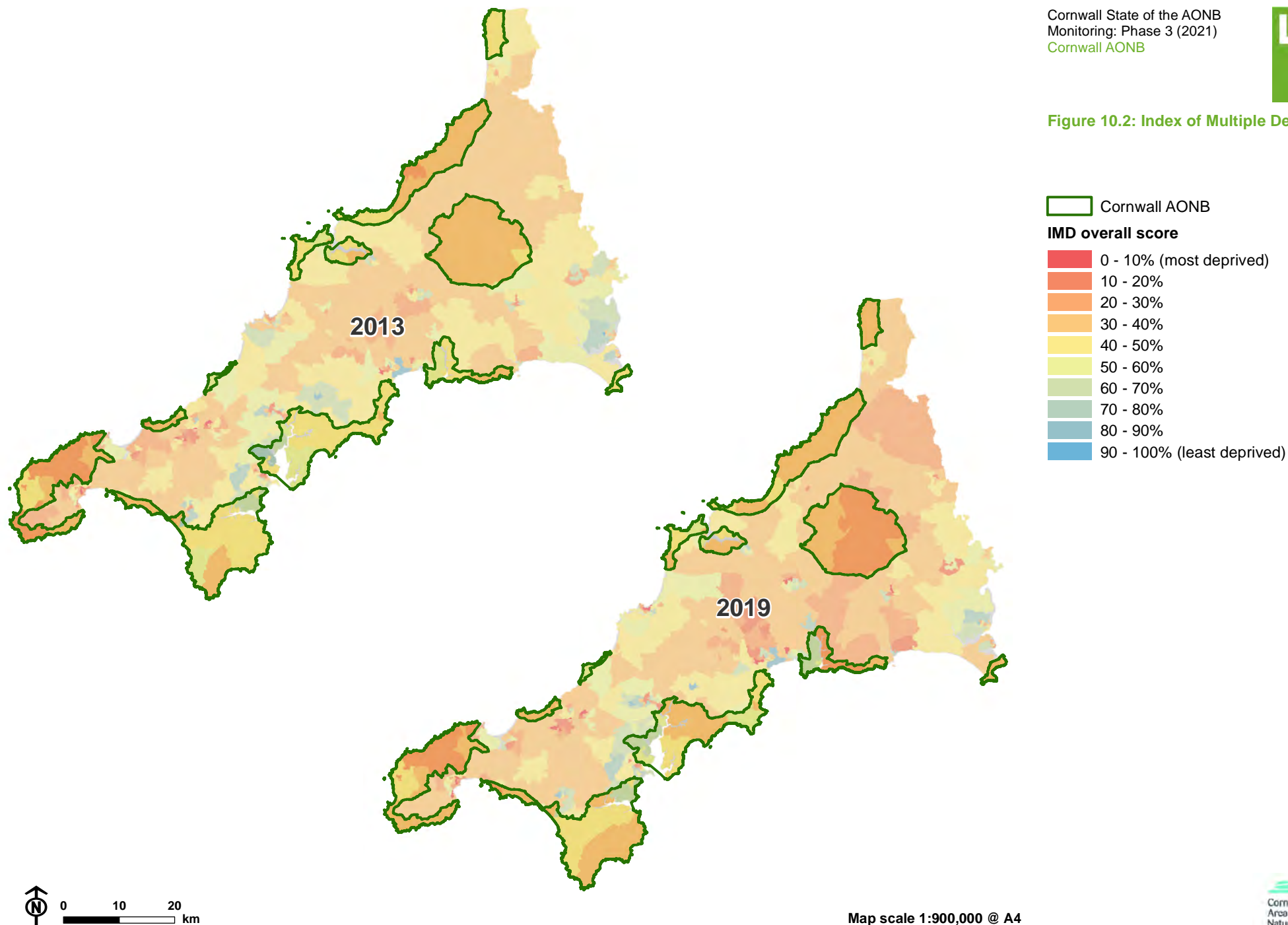


Figure 10.3: Barriers to Housing and Services

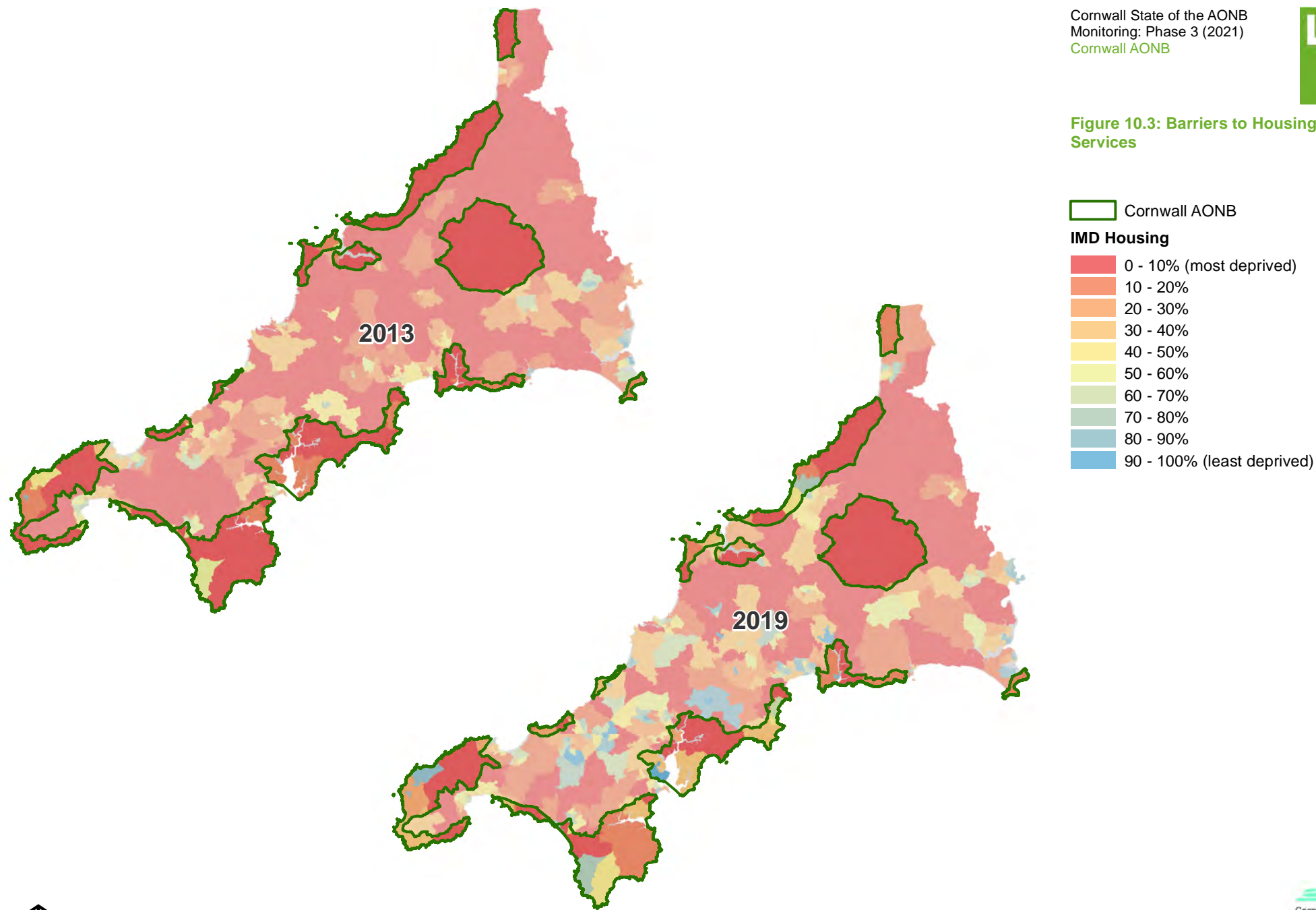




Figure 10.4: Living Environments

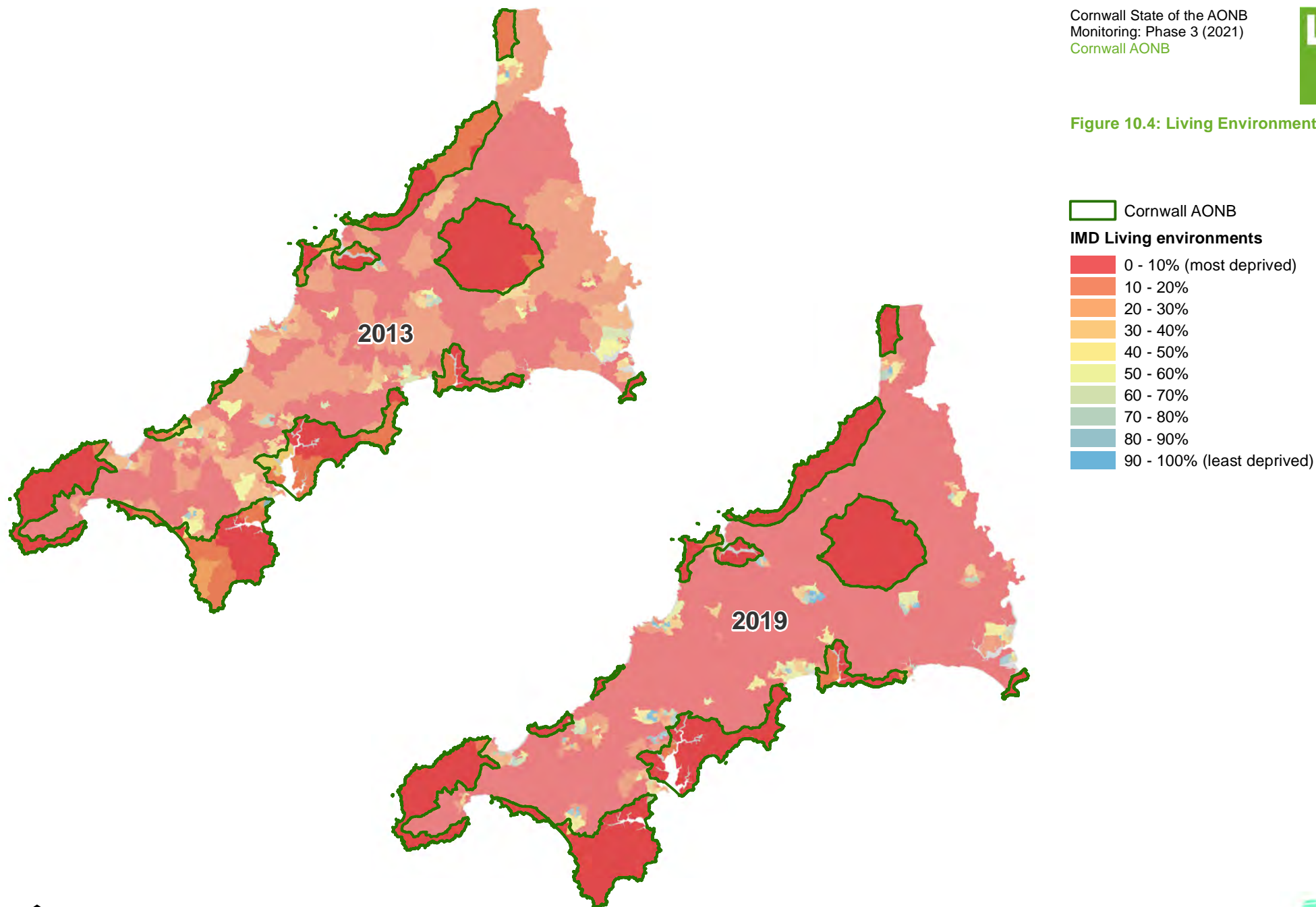
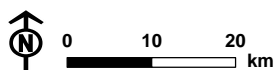
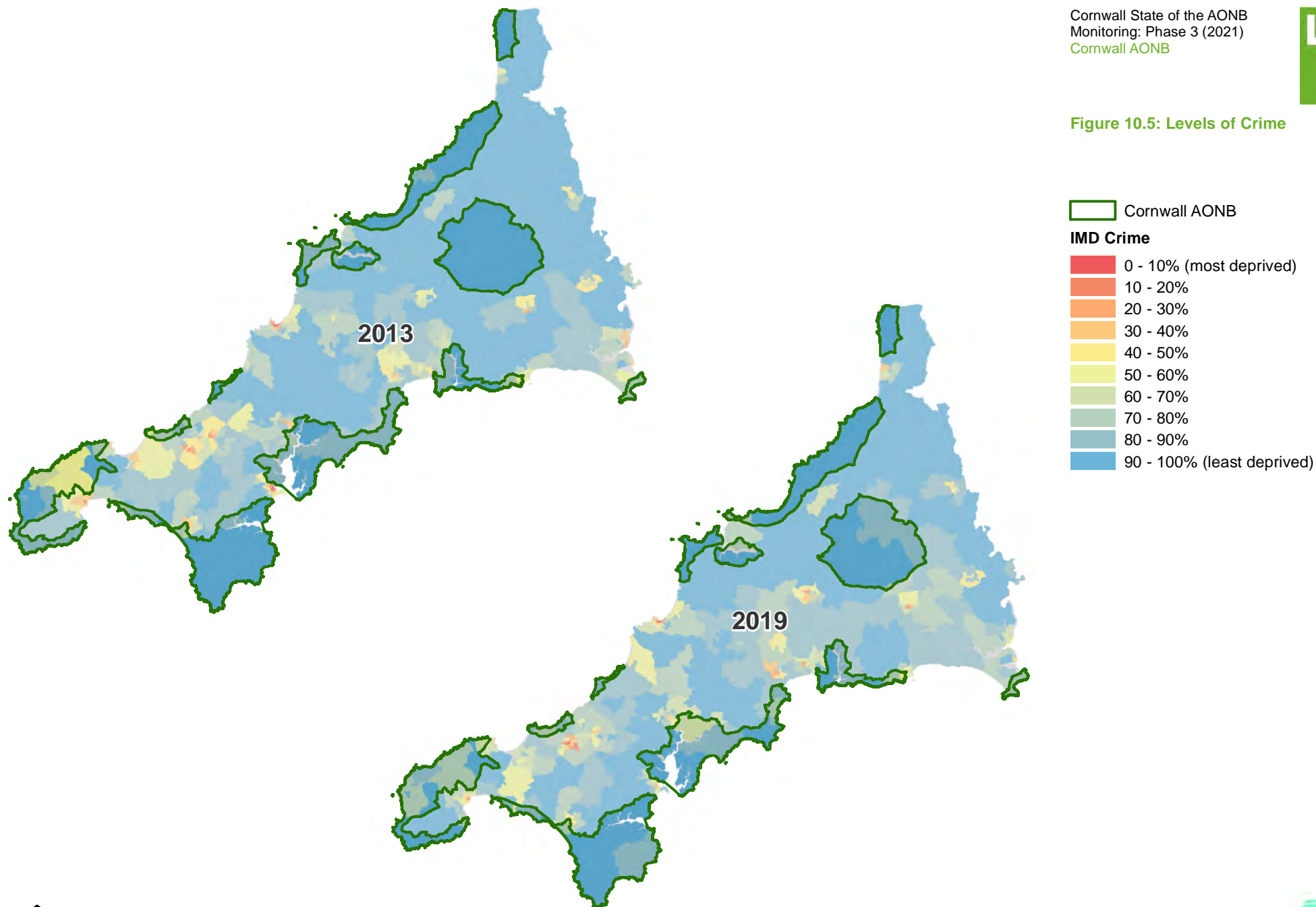


Figure 10.5: Levels of Crime



Map scale 1:900,000 @ A4

**Table 10.4: Index of Multiple Deprivation Percentile by Community Network Area**

Community Network Area (CNA)	AONB section within CNA	2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation percentile	2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation percentile
Bodmin	Bodmin Moor	35.8%	36.7%
Bude	Hartland and Pentire Point to Widemouth	43.3%	42.2%
Camborne, Pool and Redruth	Godrevy to Portreath	34.7%	35.6%
Camelford	Bodmin Moor and Pentire Point to Widemouth	38.6%	38.6%
Caradon	Bodmin Moor	49.0%	48.0%
Cornwall Gateway	Rame Head	55.2%	55.2%
Falmouth & Penryn	South Coast Central and South Coast Western	54.2%	58.1%
Hayle & St Ives	Godrevy to Portreath and West Penwith	44.0%	46.0%
Helston & The Lizard	South Coast Western	49.5%	50.5%
Launceston	Bodmin Moor	40.9%	40.9%
Liskeard & Looe	South Coast Eastern and Bodmin Moor	38.0%	39.0%
St Agnes & Perranporth	St Agnes	49.1%	50.0%

<b>Community Network Area (CNA)</b>	<b>AONB section within CNA</b>	<b>2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation percentile</b>	<b>2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation percentile</b>
St Austell & Mevagissey	South Coast Central	44.0%	47.5%
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	South Coast Eastern	44.2%	48.3%
Truro & Roseland	South Coast Central	54.1%	56.3%
Wadebridge & Padstow	Pentire Point to Widemouth, Camel Estuary, and Carnewas to Stepper Point	46.9%	51.5%
West Penwith	West Penwith and South Coast Western	32.2%	32.6%
<b>Total</b>		<b>44.3%</b>	<b>45.7%</b>

Source: Communities and Local Government (2015 and 2019)

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**10.13** All indicators in the 'Health and Wellbeing' theme outlined above should continue to be monitored, using the same methods/scales of analysis, every five years to coincide with future AONB Management Plan reviews.

**10.14** In addition, the AONB should:

- Consider analysing data relating to Mental Health and laying this down as a new baseline indicator for the next State of the AONB report.

## List of data sources used for this theme

**10.15** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Cornwall Council (2016 / 2017) Community Network Area profiles
- Communities and Local Government (2015 and 2019) Index of Multiple Deprivation



## Chapter 11

# Transport and Access





# Chapter 11

## Transport and Access

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- Over 21 kilometres of bridleways have been created in the AONB since 2013.
- Five ferry services have stopped running since Phase 2 – three in South Coast Central and two in South Coast Western.

### Indicators selected for this theme

**11.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Transport and Access' theme:

- TA1: Length and condition of rights of way
- TA2: Length and flows of cycle ways
- TA3: Area of open access and common land
- TA4: Presence of local car/ passenger ferries
- TA5: Total length of sustainable transport routes

### TA1: Length and condition of rights of way

**11.2** Table 11.1 below sets out the lengths of public rights of way in the AONB, comparing information from the AONB Atlas (2009) and the Phase 2 study (2013) with current data. This shows that overall, there has been a 29.47km

increase to the total right of way network since 2013. The greatest increase to the network relates to bridleways, with new routes within the West Penwith and South Coast Western sections. Public rights of way can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**11.3** Funding through agri-environment schemes (including Environmental Stewardship) has helped support some linear access opportunities, with just under 5km of routes in the AONB funded through ES. It is expected that the new environmental management schemes will provide financial support for access improvements – with access and engagement being one of the key themes of emerging scheme design.

**11.4** No data was available to analyse the condition of rights of way for this Phase 3 study (previously supplied through Cornwall Council).

**Table 11.1: Categories of rights of way in the AONB (2009, 2013 and 2021)**

Type of Public Right of Way	2009 Total length (km)	2013 Total length (km)	2021 Total length (km)	Change (km) between 2013 and 2021
Footpath	1,322.33	1,330.95	1,335.32	+4.37
Bridleway	161.13	163.40	185.09	+21.69
Multi-Use Trail	--	95.91	100.21	+4.3
Byway (BOAT)	46.07	46.48	45.59	-0.89
Total	1,529.53	1,636.74	1,666.21	+29.47

Source: Cornwall Council (2009, 2013 and 2021)

## TA2: Length of cycle ways

**11.5 Table 11.2** provides a breakdown of the cycle routes forming part of the National Cycle Network (NCN) in the AONB, comparing data from the AONB Atlas (2009) and the Phase 2 study (2013) with the latest information. A small section of route within the Camel Estuary has been added to the NCN since 2013. The NCN can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

**Table 11.2: Lengths of cycle routes in the APONB (2009, 2013 and 2020)**

Type of cycleway	Total length in km (2009)	Total length in km (2013)	Total length in km (2020)	Change (km) between 2013 and 2020
National Cycle Network (including NCN Link Routes)	78.26	78.4	81.38	+2.98

Source: Sustrans (2009, 2013 and 2020)

## TA3: Area of open access and common land

**11.6** The coverage of Open Access and Common Land in the AONB can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). This shows that there are particular concentrations in the Bodmin Moor, West Penwith and South Coast Western sections. Total area (ha) of the two different categories is shown in **Table 11.3**, indicating a 0.1% decrease and a 0.2% decrease in the total area of

Open Access Land and Common Land respectively. However, these changes are likely to be down to minor digitising inconsistencies (particularly along the coastline).

**Table 11.3: Area of access land in the AONB (2009, 2013 and 2020)**

Access land category	2009 Area (ha)	2013 Area (ha)	2020 Area (ha)	Change (ha) between 2013 and 2020
Open Access Land	16,282.71	16,607.52 (2011 data)	16,590.73	-16.79
Common Land	6,829.80	6,827.05 (2010 data)	6,813.90	-13.15

Source: Natural England (2009, 2010, 2011 and 2020)

**11.7 Table 11.4** provides a more detailed breakdown of the area covered by Open Access Land, showing the change between 2009, 2013 and 2020. This shows that Godrevy to Portreath has experienced the greatest percentage decrease (since 2013) in the total area of Open Access Land, although is relatively marginal at -12.21ha (or -6.68%). Other sections have experienced minor changes although these are likely to be down to minor digitising inconsistencies.

**Table 11.4: Change in areas of Open Access Land by AONB Section (2009, 2013 and 2020)**

AONB Section	2009 Area (ha)	2013 Area (ha)	2020 Area (ha)	Change (%) between 2013 and 2020
Bodmin Moor	8,567.53	8,781.00	8,781.74	Minor
Godrevy to Portreath	185.79	182.92	170.71	-6.68%
Hartland	197.65	262.52	262.44	Minor
Pentire Point to Widemouth	794.43	793.69	794.02	Minor
South Coast Central	38.40	38.52	38.36	Minor
South Coast Eastern	46.17	97.48	97.47	Minor
South Coast Western	2,545.89	2,545.88	2,541.14	Minor
Carnewas to Stepper Point	94.33	94.33	94.07	Minor
West Penwith	3,464.06	3,464.06	3,463.16	Minor
St Agnes	348.47	347.14	347.62	Minor
Total	16,283	16,607.52	16,590.73	-0.1%

Source: Natural England (2009, 2011 and 2020)

## TA4: Presence of local car/ passenger ferries

**11.8 Table 11.5** lists the main car and passenger ferry routes within the AONB and their frequency. The South Coast Central AONB section has the most ferry traffic, with three ferries operating throughout the year and four running on a

seasonal basis. There are also three ferries that run from Fowey in the South Coast Eastern section (two of these run throughout the year). A seasonal ferry runs on the River Helford in the South Coast Western section and another runs from Cawsand Beach (in the Rame Head section) to Plymouth.

**11.9** Ferry services that have stopped running since 2013 are:

- St Mawes to Mylor (South Coast Central);
- Restronguet to Feock (South Coast Central);
- Tolverne to Falmouth (South Coast Central);
- Helford Passage to Falmouth (South Coast Western); and
- Helford to Trebah to Glendurgan (South Coast Western).

**Table 11.5: Ferry services within the AONB (2021)**

AONB section	Ferry Route	Frequency	Operator
08 South Coast Western	Helford to Helford Passage (Foot Passenger)	Seasonal (April-October)	Helford River Boats
09 South Coast Central	Falmouth to Flushing (Foot Passenger)	All year	Flushing Ferry
09 South Coast Central	Feock to Philleigh (Vehicle and Foot Passenger)	All year	King Harry Ferry Ltd.
09 South Coast Central	Falmouth to Truro (via St Mawes and Trelissick) (Foot Passenger)	Seasonal (April – September)	Enterprise Boats
09 South Coast Central	Falmouth to Mylor (and various) (Foot Passenger)	Seasonal (March – October)	Falmouth Water Taxi



## Chapter 11 Transport and Access

AONB section	Ferry Route	Frequency	Operator
09 South Coast Central	Falmouth to St Mawes (Foot Passenger)	All year	St Mawes Ferry Company
09 South Coast Central	St Mawes to Place Creek (Foot Passenger)	Seasonal (Easter – October)	Place Ferry
09 South Coast Central to 10 South Coast Eastern	Mevagissey to Fowey (Foot Passenger)	Seasonal (April – October)	Mevagissey Ferries
10 South Coast Eastern	Fowey to Polruan (Foot Passenger)	All year (reduced in winter)	Polruan Ferry co Ltd. (run by C Toms & Son Ltd)
10 South Coast Eastern	Fowey to Bodinnick (Vehicle and Foot Passenger)	All year (reduced in winter)	C Toms & Son Ltd
11 Rame Head	Plymouth Barbican to Cawsand Beach (Foot Passenger)	Seasonal (Easter – October)	The Cawsand Ferry Co.

Source: Visit Cornwall (2021), C. Toms & Son (2021), Mevagissey Ferries (2021), Fal River (2021) and The Cawsand Ferry Co. (2021)

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**11.10** All indicators in the 'Transport and Access' theme outlined above should continue to be monitored, using the same methods/scales of analysis, every five years to coincide with future AONB Management Plan reviews.

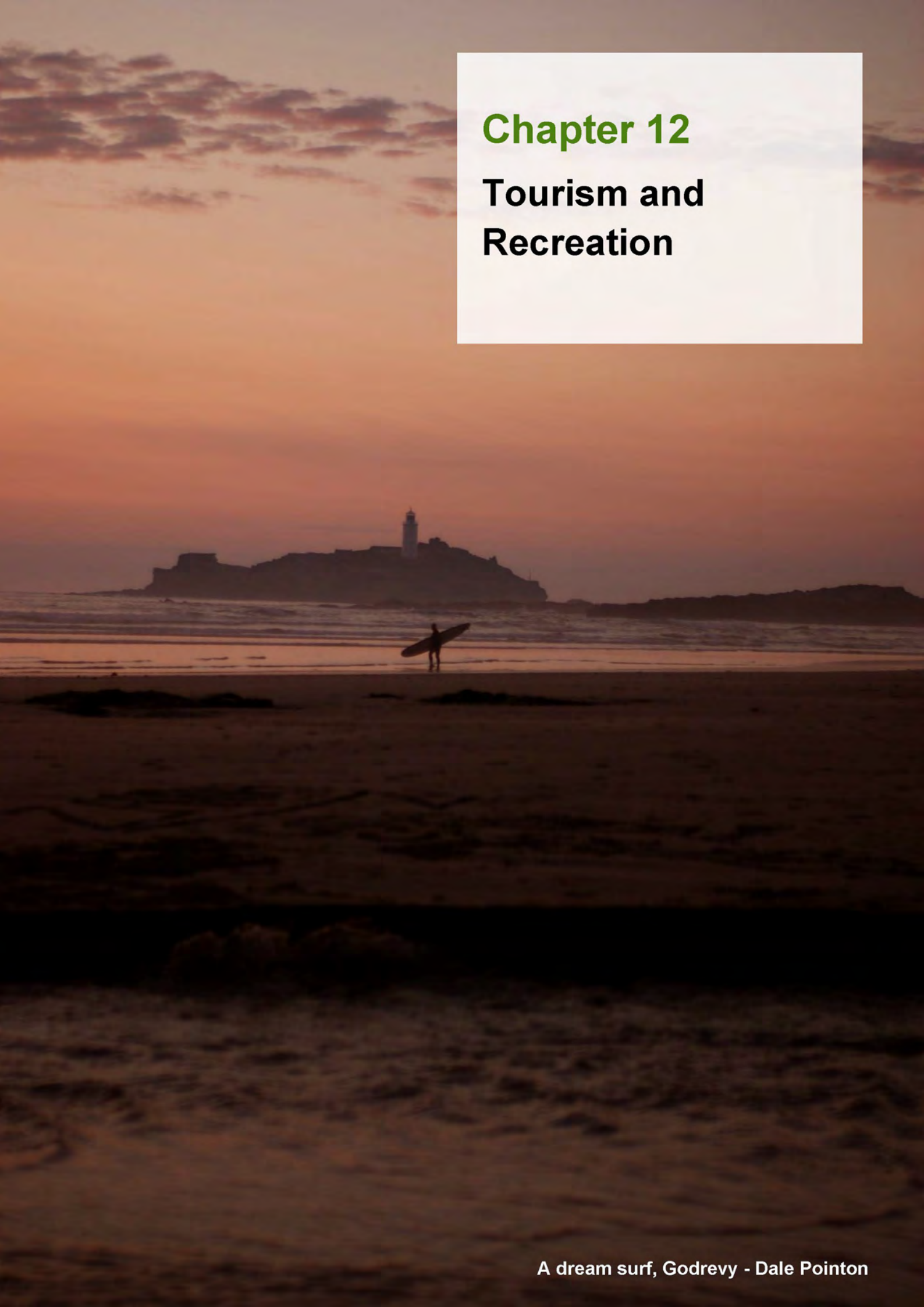
## List of data sources used for this theme

**11.11** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Natural England (2009, 2010 and 2020) Registered Common Land
- Natural England (2009, 2011 and 2020) Access Layer
- Sustrans (2009, 2012 and 2020) National Cycle Network
- Cornwall Council (2009, 2013 and 2021) Rights of Way
- Visit Cornwall (2021)
- C. Toms & Son (2021)
- Mevagissey Ferries (2021)
- Fal River (2021)
- The Cawsand Ferry Co. (2021)

## Chapter 12

# Tourism and Recreation



## Chapter 12

# Tourism and Recreation

The key findings from indicators monitored under this theme are as follows:

- Looe (adjacent to the South Coast Eastern section) experienced a 31.6% increase in the number of staying trips but a 3.75% decrease in the number of day trips between 2013 and 2018.
- Falmouth (adjacent to South Coast Central and South Coast Western) saw a decrease by 1.14% in the number of staying trips, but a 15.5% increase in day trips between 2013 and 2018.
- Padstow (adjacent to Carnewas to Stepper Point) experienced large increases in total direct spend (21.2%), total business turnover (21.2%) and all supported employment (17.9%) between 2013 and 2018.
- The Lizard experienced large decreases in the number of day trips (-15.5%), total direct spend (-11.1%), total business turnover (-11.8%) and all supported employment (-23.8%).

## Indicators selected for this theme

**12.1** The following monitoring indicators have been selected for the 'Tourism & Recreation' theme:

- TR1: Levels of Tourism

## TR1: Levels of Tourism

**12.2** The Cornwall Visitor Survey provides key information to help understand Cornwall's the county's visitor economy. Data is collected through face-to-face

interviews, conducted over a full year at a number of key sample points across Cornwall. The latest available data from the 2018/19 survey has been laid down as a baseline indicator for this Phase 3 study. Only two of the sample points used in the survey are located within the AONB, as follows:

- The Lizard (within the South Coast Western section)
- Fowey (within the South Coast Eastern section).

**12.3** For the purpose of this study, the findings from a selection of other sample points located outside but adjacent to the AONB boundary have also been considered to provide a representative spread of results. These are:

- Looe (adjacent to the south-eastern edge of South Coast Eastern)
- Padstow (adjacent to the north-eastern edge of Carnewas to Stepper Point)
- St Ives (adjacent to the north-eastern edge of West Penwith)
- Bude (adjacent to the southern edge of Hartland)
- Falmouth (adjacent to south-western edge of South Coast Central and north-eastern edge of South Coast Western).

**12.4** The sample points can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#).

## Number of visitors

**12.5 Table 12.1** shows the number of visitors across the selected sample points and provides a comparison between 2013 and 2018. 'All staying trips' relates to visitors staying away from home for at least one night. This category is measured in trips to overcome the issue of one visitor making two or more trips to an area in a given period. 'Day visits' is defined as someone making a day trip to and from home for leisure purposes, and excludes trips undertaken for business or study purposes.

**12.6 Table 12.1** indicates that in 2018, St Ives had the greatest number of staying trips (239,100) and Fowey had the fewest (35,300) out of the sample points considered for AONB reporting. The largest number of day visits was to Falmouth (1,133,900) and the fewest was to Fowey (146,300).

**Table 12.1: Number of visitors (2013 and 2018)**

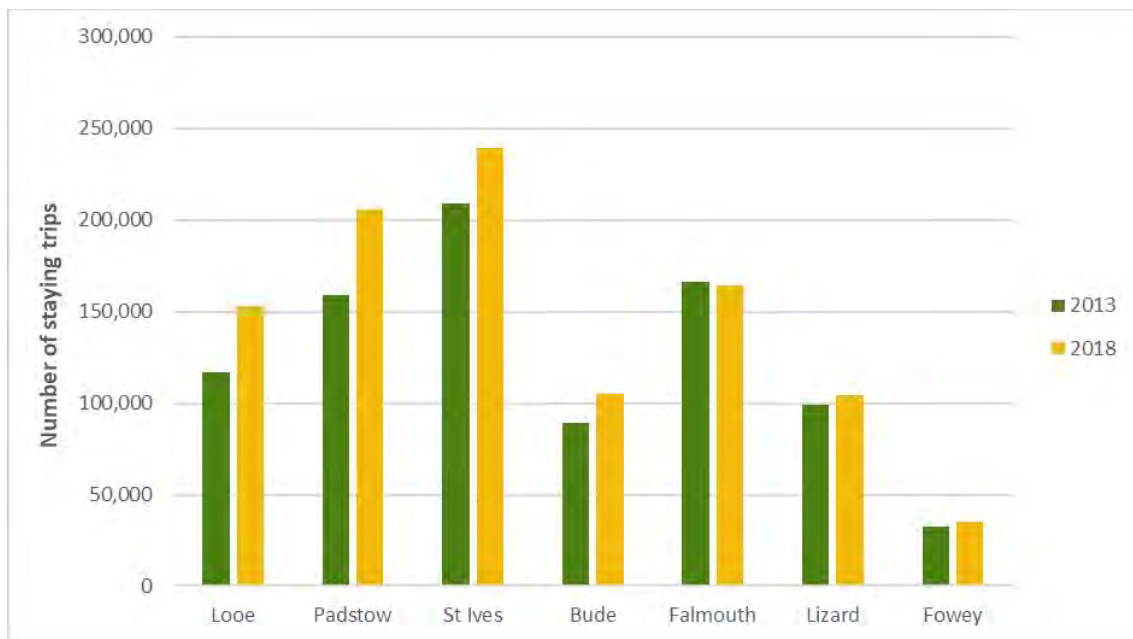
Sample Point	2013 All staying trips	2018 All staying trips	2013 Day visits	2018 Day visits
Looe	116,600	153,400	676,600	651,200
Padstow	159,100	206,000	280,600	269,200
St Ives	208,900	239,100	508,700	523,400
Bude	89,000	105,300	515,300	471,200
Falmouth	166,500	164,600	981,600	1,133,900
Lizard	99,300	104,600	536,000	452,900
Fowey	32,600	35,300	160,900	146,300

Source: Visit Cornwall (2013 and 2018)

**12.7** As shown on **Figures 12.1** and **12.2**, Looe experienced the largest change in the number of staying trips between 2013 and 2018, with a 31.6% increase. However, the number of day trips to this location decreased by 3.75%. Falmouth saw a decrease in the number of staying trips by 1.14%, but interestingly recorded the highest number of day visits in 2018 (1,133,900) – a 15.5% increase from 2013. The Lizard experienced the biggest decrease in the number of day visits by 15.5%.

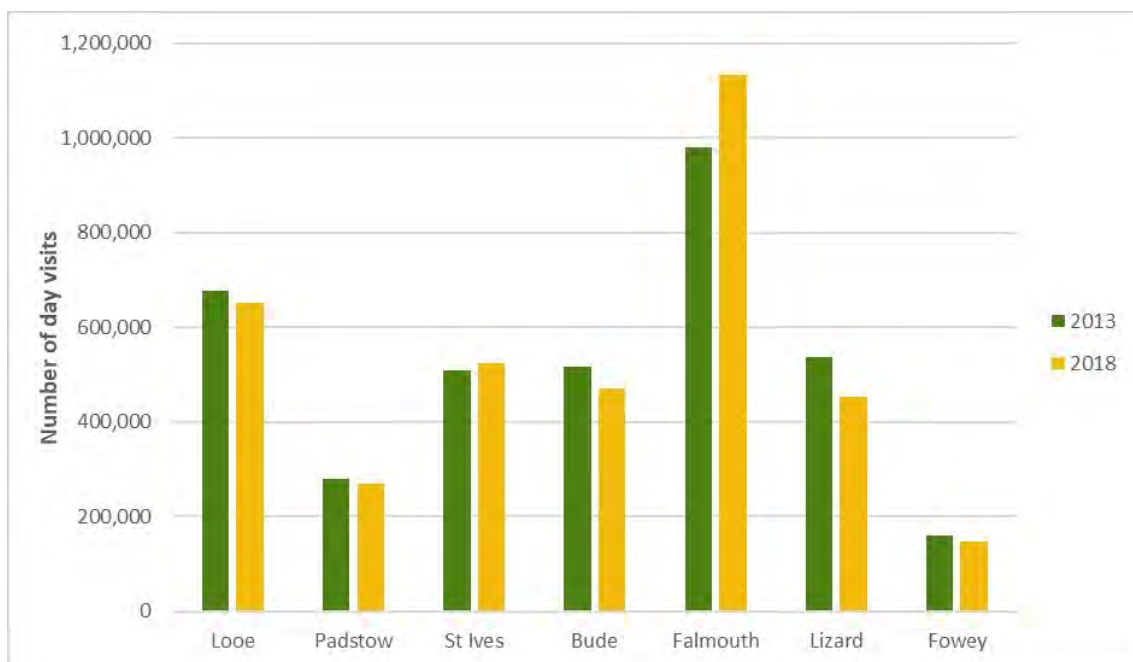


**Figure 12.1: Number of All Staying Trips (2013 and 2018)**



Source: Visit Cornwall (2013 and 2018)

**Figure 12.2: Number of Day Trips (2013 and 2018)**



Source: Visit Cornwall (2013 and 2018)

## Visitor economy

**12.8 Table 12.2** shows the economic impact of tourism across the selected sample points and provides a comparison between 2013 and 2018. 'Total direct spend' relates to expenditure on accommodation, shopping, food & drink, attractions/ entertainment and travel. In 2018, St Ives experienced the largest total direct spend (£96,081,600), the largest total business turnover (£128,668,700) and the highest level of all supported employment (2,677). By contrast, Fowey experienced the lowest total direct spend (£15,247,300), the lowest total business turnover (£17,760,300) and the lowest level of all supported employment (910).

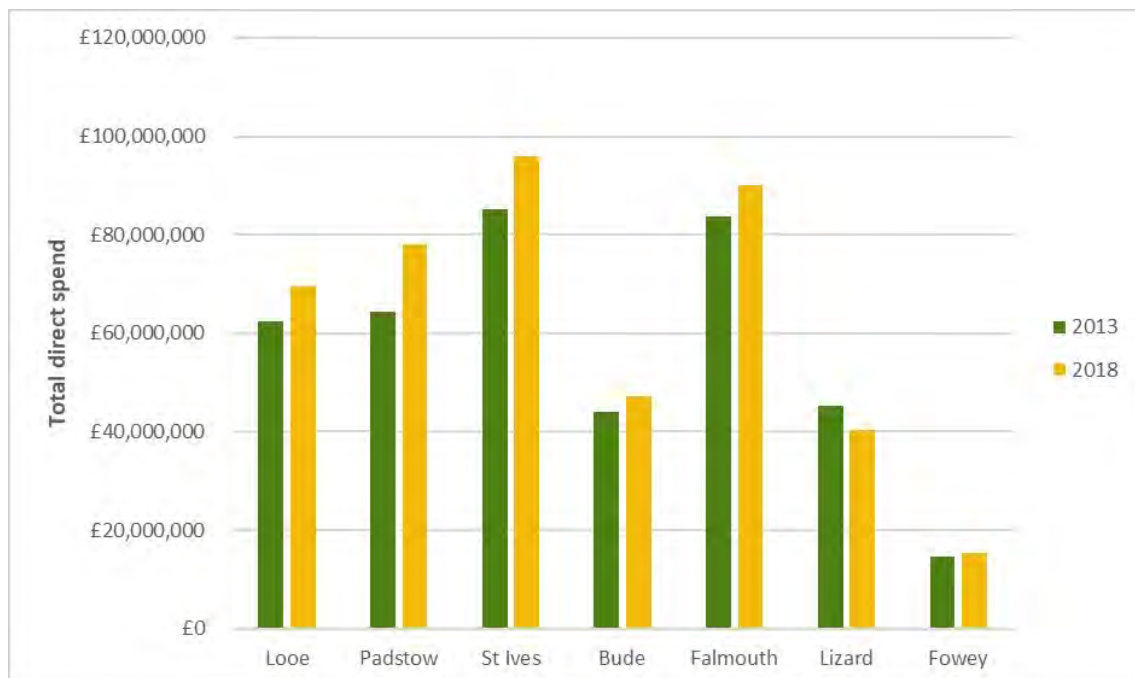
**Table 12.2: Visitor Economy (2013 and 2018)**

Area	2013 Total direct spend	2018 Total direct spend	2013 Total business turnover	2018 Total business turnover	2013 All supported employment (Actual)	2018 All supported employment (Actual)
Looe	£62,503,800	£69,470,500	£82,968,500	£91,093,500	2,083	2,003
Padstow	£64,350,100	£77,997,100	£75,782,600	£91,838,400	1,666	1,965
St Ives	£85,103,200	£96,081,600	£115,606,000	£128,668,700	2,764	2,677
Bude	£43,910,400	£47,096,500	£57,939,300	£61,658,200	1,216	1,140
Falmouth	£83,805,600	£90,070,700	£112,253,400	£117,936,300	2,290	2,112
Lizard	£45,358,200	£40,328,400	£53,336,900	£47,054,800	1,195	910
Fowey	£14,690,300	£15,247,300	£17,231,600	£17,760,300	391	347

Source: Visit Cornwall (2013 and 2018)

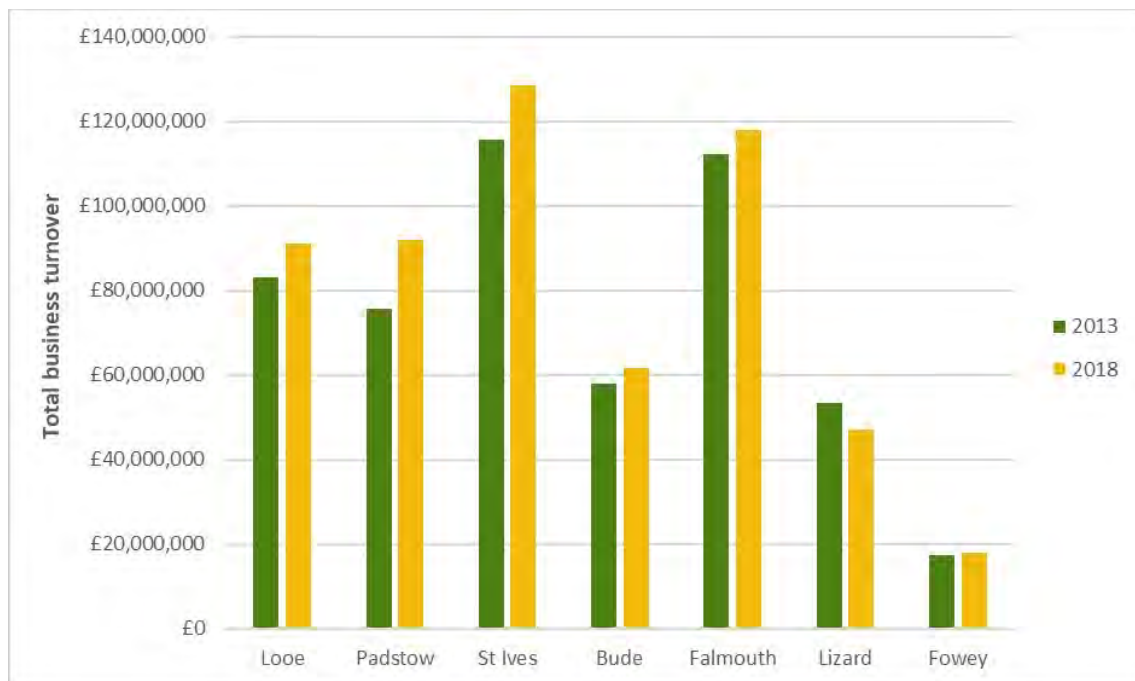
**12.9** As shown at **Figures 12.3** and **12.4** below, Padstow experienced the largest change in total direct spend and total business turnover between 2013 and 2018, with 21.2% increases for both. It also had the largest percentage increase for all supported employment (17.9%). The Lizard experienced a decrease in both total direct spend and total business turnover by 11.1% and 11.8% respectively.

**Figure 12.3: Total direct spend (2013 and 2018)**



Source: Visit Cornwall (2013 and 2018)

**Figure 12.4: Total business turnover (2013 and 2018)**

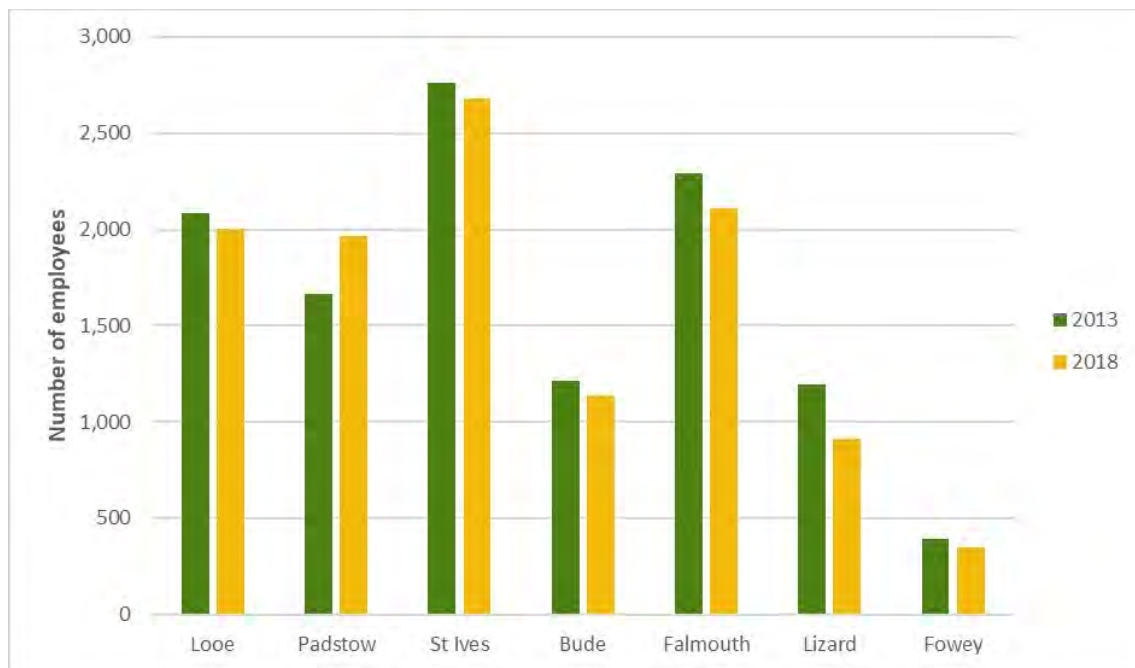


Source: Visit Cornwall (2013 and 2018)

## Tourism-related employment

**12.10** Figure 12.5 below indicates that Padstow had the largest percentage increase for all supported employment (17.9%) between 2013 and 2018. The Lizard had the largest percentage decrease for all supported employment (-23.8%), reflecting the downward trends in other aspects of the visitor economy experienced in this part of the AONB, as reported above.

**Figure 12.5: All supported employment (Actual) (2013 and 2018)**



Source: Visit Cornwall (2013 and 2018)

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**12.11** The indicator in the 'Tourism & Recreation' theme outlined above should continue to be monitored, using the same methods/scales of analysis, every five years to coincide with future AONB Management Plan reviews.

**12.12** It will be interesting to understand how the Coronavirus pandemic has affected visitor numbers and the visitor economy in 2020-2021, once this data is available.

## List of data sources used for this theme

**12.13** The data sources used for this theme are:

- Visit Cornwall (2015 and 2018).



## Chapter 13

# Climate Change



# Chapter 13

## Climate Change

The key findings from this theme are as follows:

- Cornwall Council have developed a Carbon Neutral Action Plan, setting out their vision to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
- Stretches of coast within the South Coast Central and South Coast Western sections were considered as priority areas for management within Cornwall's Shoreline Management Plan (2011).
- South Coast Central has the most electric vehicle charging points within the AONB.

## Indicators selected for this theme

**13.1** Only one specific indicator has been identified for this new theme:

- CC1: Electric Vehicle Charging points

**13.2** As the other topics within this chapter are of growing importance (both nationally and locally), it was felt critical to provide an overview of emerging policies, strategies and research to then re-visit for the next State of the AONB report.

## Cornwall's Carbon Neutral Action Plan

**13.3** As explained in Chapter 3, Cornwall Council declared a 'climate emergency' in January 2019, in recognition of the need to take urgent action to address the climate crisis. The Carbon Neutral Action Plan [\[See reference 16\]](#)

explains the vision for how Cornwall can become carbon neutral by 2030 ahead of the Government's target of 2050. The emphasis is for people to think and act differently in order to reduce gas emissions and to capture the carbon dioxide we produce before it enters the atmosphere. The action plan sets out a number of areas for attention, as follows:

- **How can we create and use energy**
- **How we travel**
- **How we consume**
- **How we live**
- **How we enhance our environment**
- **How we work**
- **How we reduce waste**

**13.4** The action plan encourages people to input ideas relating to these areas, which will help to shape and implement the Council's Carbon Neutral 'greenprint' Plan.

**13.5** Cornwall Council have spoken to over 3,000 residents on the first projects they would like the council to focus on. They have responded to the priorities identified during their early engagement, and the following projects are underway:

- **Planting new woodland across Cornwall** as part of the **Forest for Cornwall** programme [See reference 9]. This will cover about 8,000 hectares in different parts of Cornwall and will also increase public access to around 32 square miles of new open space. See Chapter 5 for details of existing woodland (including tree canopy cover) within the AONB.
- **Increasing the amount of renewable energy generated in Cornwall.** Since 2009, Cornwall has increased the amount of electricity it generates from 90 to over 800 megawatts. That means around 40% of Cornwall's electricity now comes from renewable sources. Cornwall's new smart-grid wind turbine [See reference 17] is generating enough energy to power

over 1,400 Cornish homes. See Chapter 3 for details of renewable energy developments within and in close proximity to the AONB.

- **Improving the energy efficiency of homes across Cornwall.** Initially, Cornwall Council are focusing on their existing Council owned homes and are reducing the cost of those homes' energy bills, making them easier to keep warm. They are doing this through their Whole-house Retrofit Project [\[See reference 18\]](#).
- **Responding to the Climate Emergency through planning.** Cornwall Council are introducing new planning policies through the Climate Emergency Development Plan Document [\[See reference 4\]](#).

# Shoreline Management Plan

**13.6** The Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) was adopted by Cornwall Council in 2011 and is the current Shoreline Management Plan for the area. It provides a broad scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal change and sets out a long-term policy framework to manage these risks. The key SMP2 objectives for Cornwall are:

- Manage the risks to communities from flooding and erosion and support their adaptation.
- Establish a long-term action plan which helps to minimise and reduce the reliance on defences in the future.
- Support the diverse character of the landscape & seascape.
- Allow natural evolution of the shoreline wherever possible.
- Minimise impacts upon the historic environment.
- Support nature conservation and minimise habitat impacts.
- Support the viability and core values of coastal settlements.
- Support tourism and recreational opportunities.
- Support the adaptation and resilience of transport links.



**13.7** SMP2 provides a long-term policy framework over a 20, 50 and 100 year timeframe to guide the management of the coast. It is divided into over 190 individual policy units, each with a preferred policy option for each of the three time periods up to the year 2105. There are four management policies that can be considered by SMP2 as follows:

- **No active intervention (NAI):** A decision not to invest in providing or maintaining built defences or the natural coastline.
- **Hold the line (HTL):** Actively maintain or upgrade the level of protection provided by built defences or the natural coastline.
- **Managed realignment (MR):** Manage the coastal processes to realign the 'natural' coastline configuration, either seaward or landward.
- **Advance the line (ATL):** Build new defences seaward of the existing defence line where significant land reclamation is considered.

**13.8** There are a number of key locations which SMP2 regarded as priority areas in 2011. Those within the AONB include:

- **Coverack (South Coast Western):** preferred plan at the time was to continue with a HTL policy.
- **Loe Bar (South Coast Western):** an ongoing policy of MR was recommended at the time.
- **Praa Sands (South Coast Western):** a policy of MR was generally preferred at the time.
- **Fal Estuary (South Coast Central):** at the time MR was considered a crucial management tool in the coming years.
- **Mevagissey (South Coast Central):** preferred policy at the time was a joint HTL / MR approach in the short and medium term.
- **Pentewan (South Coast Central):** at the time a MR approach leading to a longer term HTL was preferred for the village. Along the beach frontage, NAI followed by a MR approach in the medium term.

**13.9** The policy units covered by SMP2 can be viewed within the [Cornwall AONB Atlas 2021](#). Within the attributes of each policy unit, a link is provided to the relevant Policy Development Zone (PDZ) profile. PDZs are larger segments of the coast which policy units fall within. The profile describes the PDZ in detail and sets out its proposed management plan.

## CC1: Electric Vehicle Charging points

**13.10** In May 2021, a count was undertaken for the number of electric vehicle (EV) charging points within the AONB using the online [Zap-Map](#). A total of 33 electric vehicle charging points were recorded within the AONB, most within the South Coast Central section. Hartland, St Agnes, Godrevy to Portreath and Rame Head all had no charging points at the time. It will be very interesting to monitor this indicator over the next decade, given the Government's aim to ban all new petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030. At the same time as confirming the timing of the ban, the Government pledged £1.3bn towards more EV charging points to support the roll-out of electrical vehicles (Gov.UK news article, 18 November 2020).

**Table 13.1: Number of Electric Vehicle Charging Points within the AONB (2021)**

AONB section	Number of electric vehicle charging points*
01 Hartland	0
02 Pentire Point to Widemouth	4
03 Camel Estuary	1
04 Carnewas to Stepper Point	3
05 St Agnes	0
06 Godrevy to Portreath	0



AONB section	Number of electric vehicle charging points*
07 West Penwith	4
08 South Coast Western	6
09 South Coast Central	10
10 South Coast Eastern	4
11 Rame Head	0
12 Bodmin Moor	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

\* As of May 2021

Source: Zap-Map (2021)

## Recommendations for ongoing monitoring

**13.11** It is anticipated that data and information relating to climate change will be more readily available for the next phase of monitoring. Natural England are in the process of exploring new climate change indicators (as set out in the 'Review of the Framework for Monitoring Environmental Outcomes in Protected Landscapes (MEOPL)' that is being prepared by LUC at the time of writing). This will include data / information relating to Greenhouse Gas emissions and carbon sequestration. These should be considered as new baseline monitoring indicators in the next State of the AONB report.

**13.12** The indicator relating to electric vehicle charging points (using Zap Map) should be monitored every five years to coincide with future AONB Management Plan reviews. There may be an opportunity to also consider information relating to E-bikes within future State of the AONB monitoring. Part

of the G7 legacy plans is to establish Cornwall as a pilot area for a new e-bike support scheme – e-bikes are the only electric vehicles not to receive grants at present.

**13.13** In addition, the AONB should review the progress of Cornwall Council's 'Whole-house Retrofit' project, particularly for homes within the AONB that have been retrofitted to reduce emissions.

## List of data sources used for this theme

**13.14** The data sources used for this theme are as follows:

- Cornwall Council (2011) Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2)
- Cornwall Council (2020) Carbon Neutral Cornwall Call to Action
- Zap-Map (2021)



## Chapter 14

### Next Steps



Girls head to Porthcurnick Beach, Portscatho - Rebecca Walker



## Chapter 14

### Next Steps

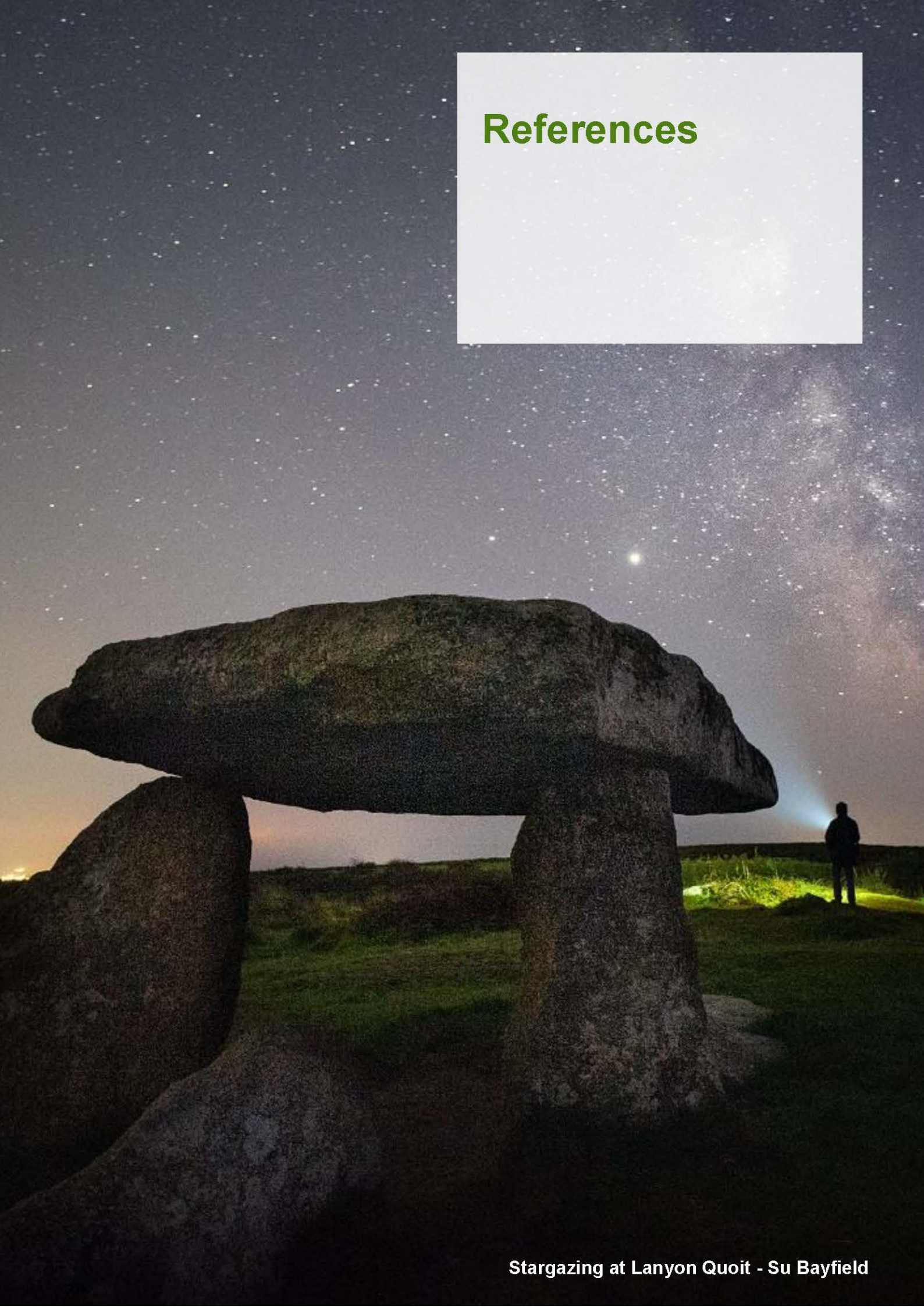
**14.1** The changes reported in this Phase 3 report demonstrate the varying range of factors that combine to influence the evolution of landscape character over time. However, it is important to note that five years is a relatively short timeframe in terms of tangible effects to be seen in the landscape, particularly when considering major long-term forces for change (such as climate change) which are becoming increasingly prevalent (but where their full landscape effects are not yet certain).

**14.2** This report helps to highlight the ongoing trends and sources of often small but incremental change that are impacting on different parts of the AONB landscape, allowing the AONB Unit and its partners to shape their responses through new policies and actions. It is important to emphasise that landscapes are continually evolving, as are the nature and strengths of the various factors influencing this change – both positive and negative. Recognising and responding to new forces for change as a result of social, economic or natural factors is a key challenge for all as we progress further into the 21st century. Building resilience to future change, whilst strengthening and respecting landscape character, is the overarching aim of AONB monitoring.

**14.3** The information set out in this report is presented in a clear and repeatable format to allow the AONB to undertake further monitoring at five-yearly cycles, in line with Management Plan reviews. As was the case after both Phases 1 and 2, sometimes data collected by organisations changes in format or frequency, or ceases all together, meaning that direct comparisons are not always possible. Recommendations set out at the end of each themed chapter provide some pointers for the AONB to strengthen its resource of landscape monitoring information.

**14.4** The key findings from Phase 3 will be used by the AONB in their forthcoming Management Plan review as a primary evidence base for shaping new policies and actions both at a strategic and AONB-section level.

# References



# References

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- 2 <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/cornwalls-landscape/landscape-character-study-2005-2007/>
- 3 [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/750228/South\\_West -  
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- 16 <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/2lzbti0k/cnc-call-to-action.pdf>
- 17 <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/xavjwbug/cornwalls-first-smart-grid-connected-wind-turbine-flier.pdf>
- 18 <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/psdojyjj/whole-house-retrofit-project-flier.pdf>

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