# Dorchester Directory of Community Aims & Aspirations 2017-2020



Culture, He	Culture, Heritage, Tourism & Leisure				
Aim	Objective	Target/Action/Outcome	Lead partner	Key partners	
Develop more activities	For older people  Lunch clubs Social spaces Skills such as IT  For younger people Maintain and improve play areas New activities such as bouldering, parkour and gym Continued support for youth club – extend offer i.e. to years 5-6  For wider community More craft sessions Maker spaces/open workshops – could include community repair workshops and volunteer led tool workshop Develop more outdoor spaces for sports/leisure e.g. create a country park More evening events – develop café culture  Inclusive projects E.g. for people with disabilities Create an 'accessible garden' in Borough Gardens  More facilities at Poundbury – e.g. jogging route, tennis courts, climbing boulder, dog play area & more benches.	<ol> <li>Develop food project to link allotments, schools, food banks, cookery classes etc – work with existing projects to extend their work.</li> <li>Find out need for craft group and help to start.</li> <li>Work with DTC to develop outdoor spaces including potential country park &amp; accessible garden of reflection at Borough Gardens.</li> <li>Support projects such as Men's Shed</li> </ol>	Age UK Dorchester  DYCC  DTC	Range of VCS organisations WDDC	
Better information about events	E.g. via an app for Dorchester.	<ol> <li>Implement town centre Wi- Fi and design a 'what's on' app.</li> </ol>	DCC	WDDC	
		6. Promote use of Visit Dorset website and BID website to promote activities.		DTC	

Support music and	Promote Dorchester as a regional arts destination.	7. Develop Maltings as leading arts venue.	Dorchester Arts	Local arts organisations such
the arts	Develop a high-quality arts venue at the Maltings – contemporary and community friendly with decent	8. Work with local arts	Brewery Square	as Dorset Arts Company, Dorset
	rehearsal space.	organisations to link projects together.	DTC	Centre for the Creative Arts &
	Attract more artists & performers to Dorchester e.g. by offering rehearsal space as swops for shows.		Duchy of Cornwall	Activate
	Use new sites for the arts – e.g. Poundbury.			
Develop	Write Heritage/Tourism strategy –	9. Write Heritage-Tourism	DTC	Other local
Heritage Tourism	<ul> <li>Create 'brand Dorchester' &amp; marketing plan</li> <li>Coordinate themed heritage offer for town with partners and run experiential events to reflect</li> </ul>	strategy Include: *Long term vision	DCC	heritage groups such as The New Hardy Players,
	concept.  • Other events – e.g. Multi-era events.	*Combined and coherent interpretation plan	WDDC	Dorchester Community Play
	Consider designating a Heritage Quarter.	*Combined marketing & communication plan.	Heritage Committee	Association, Thomas Hardy Society
	Ensure Heritage improvements are capitalised upon – County Museum and Shire Hall.	10. Coordinate accommodation providers	Heritage & Tourism Forum	Heart of Wessex Partnership
	Link arts offer to heritage offer.	to work together.	Dorset County	·
	Develop Thomas Hardy offer.	11. Initiate project to increase number of B&B's and	Museum Shire Hall	Local rail and bus companies
	Encourage development of more/new high quality accommodation.	other town based accommodation.	The Keep Military	
	Work with accommodation sector to promote existing	12. Trial and evaluate different types of creative	Museum Civic Society	
	work with travel companies to improve footfall.	programming – festivals and events around	National Trust	
	Better use of websites/develop new website to promote.	heritage themes - engaging the local community.		

13. Encourage Heritage organisations to trial passport entry package.	Other local heritage groups	
14. Design marketing leaflet/map promoting existing heritage offer.		
15. Build website/online resource to link and promote Dorchester offer.		

# Transport & Accessibility

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Aim	Objective	Target/Action	Lead partner	Key partners
		Outcome		
Better joined	Involve local people in DTEP.	16. Ensure local people are informed about	DCC – Dorset	WDDC
up transport		opportunities to comment on proposed	Highways	
solutions – in	Maintain town bus routes as far as possible.	highway schemes.		DTC
and around			DTEP	
town and	Forward planning for future demand – e.g. to help	17. Write strategic heritage-tourism strategy		
with rest of	potentially increased need for transport to Poole	for Dorchester - & link with existing	Heart of Wessex	
UK	Hospital.	economic/tourism reports and plans.	Partnership	
	Work with regional/national providers to get best	18. Contact local transport providers to:	Local rail and	
	service – and also to develop tourism e.g. promote	<ul> <li>Review timetable issues and discuss ways</li> </ul>	bus companies	
	Dorchester at destinations such as Southampton.	to improve these – e.g. using mobile		
		phone technology		
		<ul> <li>Create plan to improve tourism reach.</li> </ul>		
Improve Dorchester	Make platforms at both stations accessible to all.	19. Complete Access Ramp at Dorchester West Station.	DCC	Network Rail
South and	Link 2 stations – to each other and to town		Brewery Square	DTEP
Dorchester	Improve signage	20. Improve access at Dorchester South		
West	<ul> <li>Create a designated path between the</li> </ul>	Station – to both platforms.	DTC	
Stations	stations	·		
		21. Install new wayfinding signage at both		
		stations.		
Improve road	Introduce 20's plenty scheme.	22. Review road safety levels around town,	DCC	Dorchester
safety	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	identify issues & look at good practice		Access
	Review/implement developments in traffic	from other parts of UK to replicate locally.		Group
	management – e.g. count down timers at traffic			
	lights.			Transition
				Town
	<u>l</u>	<u>l</u>		

Promote cycling	Encourage more children to use bikes e.g. by supporting and promoting existing schemes such as	23. Meet with DCC officers to identify what schemes are currently operating &	DCC	DCN
, 0	Bike It and school cycle safety awareness.	support initiatives to promote more cycle schemes.	Sustrans	CTC Wessex
	Create cycle routes in town & make town centre bike friendly. E.g. Link Poundbury to Dorchester with cycle route. Complete Broadmayne –	24. Help implement more integrated system of cycle paths – including to local parishes.		DTEP Transition
	Dorchester route.	, ,		Town
		25. Promote access to bike maintenance schemes e.g. through Try This Dorchester.		Dorchester
Address parking	Creative solutions to parking issues – e.g. Park on My Drive scheme.	26. Meet with WDDC to discuss issues with parking in town including issues with using	DCC	Dorchester Access
issues in town	Consider introduction of pay on exit parking.	parking machines.	WDDC	Group
	Ensure disabled parking access maintained and	<ol><li>27. Promote shopping/parking scheme so more visitors are aware of it.</li></ol>	BID	DTC
	improved – work with advisory access group.	28. Promote identified schemes to increase		DTEP
		number of parking spaces in Dorchester.		
Support more	Encourage development of car share schemes and other community initiatives – to also include young	29. Maintain links with POPPs Community Worker.	POPPs	
Community	people.	Community Worker.	Dorchester	
Transport	Futured car schome a g to deal with surrent and	30. Meet with local Neighbourhood Car	Neighbourhood Car Scheme	
Schemes	Extend car scheme e.g. to deal with current and future demand for hospital visits to Poole. Also	scheme and review how to grow and promote the service.	Car scheme	
	develop scheme to allow better access to work and social events.			
Promote	Ensure shops and business are physically accessible	31. Do audit of access to shops and business	Dorchester	Access
accessibility to the local	and welcoming of people with a disability.	in town. Identify best practice and share.	Access Group	Dorset
environment	Ensure town is fully accessible e.g. dropped kerbs are sited in correct locations.	32. Continue to review and report on access in town.	DTEP	BID
	Ensure public transport consistently caters for		DCC – Dorset	Chamber of
	cyclists, pushchairs/buggies and wheelchairs.		Highways	Commerce

Community	Community				
Aim	Objective	Target/Action/Outcome	Lead partner	Key partners	
Councils co-produce work and services with	Include community in decision making e.g. in Local Plan decisions, potential	33. Establish regular communication/links between communities and local government	DTC	WDDC	
local organisations.	move to become a unitary authority	E.g. Investing in Dorchester event to find out more about significant projects planned for the		DCC	
	Create innovative ways of delivering projects.	town.		DCA	
	Joined up, evidence based commissioning of services with transparent tender process.	34. Develop and disseminate information about new social enterprise models including Consortia, Community Interest Companies, Limited Liability Partnerships and Single Points of Contact.			
Councils should be more open and better	Encourage more (diverse) people to stand as councillors.	35. Run regular Democracy Day.	DTC	WDDC	
reflect local community	Encourage stronger community voice – e.g. improve consultation to make it more interactive/imaginative to	36. Provide work placements & councilor shadowing to encourage young people to get involved in their council.		DCC	
	engage wider community and ensure community know how to contact & work with councillors.	37. Actively engage & involve 'hard to reach' groups.			
	Work With Codificinors.	38. Create a suggestions box for the council.			
Start more community activities	E.g. Food based projects.	39. Back community allotment projects.	DTC	Range of VCS organisations	
		40. Encourage allotment holders to donate excess produce – e.g. to foodbanks.	Range of VCS organisations		
		41. Set up tailored cookery courses for vulnerable people.			
		42. Events and activities to enhance local food economy.			

Better coordination of existing projects and initiatives – including improved communication between groups/services	Help groups to better promote and share what they do.  Prevent replication & develop new projects to fill gaps.  Support growth of Ridgeway Plus radio and encourage community groups to get involved (see aim 41).	<ul> <li>43. Write a directory of local community organisations to include aims and activities of groups.</li> <li>Establish central point to pull information from</li> <li>Include list of venues available to rent in town</li> <li>Develop a new website for Dorchester</li> <li>Extend local advice networks.</li> <li>44. Audit existing projects in operating in Dorchester and identify gaps in provision.</li> </ul>	DTC	Range of VCS organisations
Plan ahead to address threats to councils and community organisations — including funding	Collate and use data sources as evidence for strategic planning and fundraising – e.g. from Citizens Advice.  Improve/extend funding advice for local organisations.	<ul> <li>45. Continue to advise individual organisations about fundraising and sustainability</li> <li>Hold group training &amp; skills sharing sessions re fundraising</li> <li>Design tool to allow people to collaborate rather than compete for funding pots.</li> </ul>	DTC DCC WDDC	Range of VCS organisations
Promote community cohesiveness	Celebrate and promote a community that is diverse and inclusive.  Encourage community understanding of equal opportunities.	<ul> <li>46. Support local diversity projects and events such as Space Youth project for young people who are LGBT, the South West Dorset Multicultural Network &amp; the One World Festival.</li> <li>47. Encourage residents to speak up about and report hate crime to create culture where all feel safe and respected.</li> </ul>	DCC WDDC	South West Dorset Multicultural Network  Space  Additional VCS groups.

Health, Wellbeing & Safety				
Aim	Objective	Action/Target/Outcome	Lead partner	Key partners
Improve link between health and social care – promote better	Better sign posting to existing community support and activities.  Link community support projects together.	<ul><li>48. Develop a community directory (see acn 41).</li><li>49. Hold regular community lunches.</li></ul>	Dorset Healthcare, Public Health Dorset, Mid-	Ridgeway Radio & Ridgeway Plus
coordination of community services	Better use of 'My Life, My Care'.  Help to develop Community Radio in partnership	50. Circulate relevant information to contacts.	Dorset CCG DTC	Range of VCS organisations
	with Ridgeway Plus.	51. Support Ridgeway Plus Radio to apply for an Ofcom licence to deliver an FM service.		
Involve community in	Share opportunities to feedback to consultations.	52. Ensure consultations are circulated.	Dorset Healthcare,	Range of VCS organisations
changes to NHS & Health Services	Consider full impact of changes – e.g. on demand for transport and after hospital care needed.	53. Encourage coordinated response to proposals – e.g. by holding focus groups.	Public Health Dorset, Mid- Dorset CCG	DTC
More help for most vulnerable	Campaign for more mental health support.	54. Work with VCS & statutory partners to coordinate services and ensure	Citizens Advice	DCC
people	<ul> <li>Access to advice and information (A&amp;I)</li> <li>Particularly to help people navigate benefit claims such as Personal Independent</li> </ul>	access to A&I.	Dorset Advocacy	Range of VCS organisations
	<ul><li>Payments</li><li>Also for issues such as drug and alcohol abuse.</li></ul>		Age UK Dorchester	CMHT's
Support for older people	Build more projects to reduce isolation and loneliness (especially but not exclusively amongst older people)	55. Increase coordination & help recruit volunteers to befriending schemes.	POPPs Age UK	Range of VCS organisations
	<ul> <li>More eating projects – including lunch clubs and cookery classes</li> <li>Support for befriending schemes</li> </ul>	56. Work with current food projects/food banks to develop them.	Dorchester Red Cross	
	<ul> <li>Support for isolated people after hospital discharge.</li> </ul>		RVS	

Support for	Provide support for families (however they define	57. Improve wellbeing of children by		
Families	themselves) who are facing relationship difficulties.	supporting couples going through		
		break ups. Help to offset associated		
		issues e.g. financial costs of break		
		up, wider family disputes etc.		
Support for	More physical sports and activities.	58. Set up more sports opportunities	DFPZ	Range of VCS
young people		aimed at young people e.g. parkour,		organisations
	Early intervention with mental health support.	climbing.	CAMHs	
				DYA
	Better protection from inappropriate internet sites.	59. Run mental health awareness	Local Schools	
		project.		DYCC
	Better drugs and alcohol information/awareness.		WDDC	
		60. Work with partners delivering		
	More help to deal with bullying.	services to coordinate.	DYE	
Strengthen good	Maintain support for under 5 provisions including	61. Look to secure long	HSWD	Local under
quality Early	Dorchester Opportunity Group.	term/sustainable future for		5's groups
Years provision		vulnerable organisations.	DOpp	
	Encourage pre-schools and primary schools to work			Local primary
	more closely together.	<ol><li>62. Adopt more joined up working practices.</li></ol>	DCC	schools

- 1. Support older people to address fuel poverty and so reduce risk of winter deaths.
- 2. Support older/vulnerable people to reduce risk of accidents and falls.
- 3. Support for all residents to improve health and well-being.
  - Identify and address health inequalities
  - Hold more open events to inform people about different health conditions and how to get help with them
  - Promote a healthy life style and support a more active population e.g.
    - Continue to improve outdoor recreation and play areas
    - Support walking groups in town such as the Strollers who promote walking for health.
- 4. Maintain low levels of crime and, where crimes occur work with the police to resolve
  - Ensure people experiencing hate crime receive support and information
  - Reduce fear of crime i.e. via initiatives such as intergenerational projects and highlighting positive contribution of younger people.
- 5. Support schemes to improve road safety for all residents e.g. traffic calming initiatives.
- 6. Ensure buildings are regulated and have smoke alarms plus offer safe means of escape in case of fire and so reduce risk of accidental fires/injury by fire.

Housing	ousing				
Aim	Objective	Target/Action/ Outcome	Lead partner	Key partners	
Support tenants in rented accommodation	Improve access to advice and information e.g. from Youfirst, Dorset Councils Partnership, Magna Housing and Citizens Advice.  Target resources at renters with greatest support needs e.g young people leaving care or with mental health problems, to help them to maintain their tenancies.  Help people who are in housing difficulty:  Promote early intervention/help  Lobby for more tenancy security  Campaign for creation of a local social lettings agency.	<ul> <li>63. Work with A&amp;I organisations to ensure continuation of services.</li> <li>64. Work with Advice Dorset     Network to promote services of     A&amp;I organisations.</li> </ul>	WDDC  Magna, Hastoe, Mill Street & other Housing Associations  A&I organisations	DTC	
Develop a supply of affordable housing for Dorchester – particularly for students & younger people under the age of 35	<ul> <li>Improve demographic mix of Dorchester by considering housing alongside employment for younger people.</li> <li>Encourage more affordable rented accommodation         <ul> <li>Prompt home owners with space to consider renting rooms.</li> <li>Continue to bring empty/underused properties back into use.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Set up a Community Land Trust to deliver affordable housing aimed at under 35's         <ul> <li>Work with partners such as Dorset County Council to identify and release additional sites for development.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>65. Develop West Walks tennis courts as affordable housing.</li> <li>66. Meet with DCC (Dorset Property) &amp; other partners to identify available land. </li> <li>67. Facilitate a housing forum meeting to include local MP.</li> </ul>	Dorchester CLT  DTC  WDDC	Magna, Hastoe, Mill Street & other Housing Associations Wessex Community Land Trust	
Promote sustainable building schemes	E.g. Using thermal/solar heating, high quality insulation, and grey water systems.	68. Promote awareness of schemes to improve sustainability.	WDDC  Transition Town Dorchester	DTC	

	Explore other housing options such as co-housing and self-build.		
	Introduce ban on building second homes – like St Ives.		
Consider wider impact of future town expansion	Identify and strengthen the ways in which Dorchester & neighbouring communities are economically, socially and culturally interdependent	69. Ensure community and local organisations are involved at earliest possible stages of planning.	
	Ensure development creates not just expansion but also an improved community.		

- 1. Promote development of housing relevant to range of people's needs including older people, households with special needs, smaller households. Consider for instance housing option such as Extra Care Schemes.
- 2. Maintain character/quality of built environment in Dorchester.

Economy, Training/Education & Volunteering				
Aim	Objective	Target/Action/Outcome	Lead partner	Key partners
More support, guidance and opportunities for young people - especially in school	Encourage employer encounters and careers activity (inc careers colleges, careers fairs and careers advice).  Work with schools, training providers and employers to address skills gaps.  Grow menu of opportunities for young people post education.  Develop apprenticeship scheme including higher apprenticeships (open to all ages but with a focus on younger people).  Additional resources for NEET young people, care leavers and others 'at risk' of being left behind.	<ul> <li>70. Work with partners to increase number of apprenticeships available in town &amp; develop a delivery plan for specific requirements</li> <li>71. Maintain close contact with local authorities and their work with Careers and Enterprise Company</li> <li>72. Initiate more projects working with vulnerable young people.</li> </ul>	Careers and Enterprise Company (supported by DLEP, DCC and WDDC)  DTC  Chamber of Commerce  BID	Local employers  Thomas Hardye School  Training providers such as Kingston Maurward College & Skills and Learning  Range of VCS organisations
Support economic diversification away from public sector	<ul> <li>Identify growth potential such as:</li> <li>Heritage-Tourism</li> <li>Local Food Economy – shop local &amp; eat local.</li> </ul>	73. Back projects with clear economic benefits.		
Support local business	Create a community business hub with shared office function.  Develop more employment sites.  Keep business informed and provide high quality training and advice.  Boost local/independent business	<ul> <li>74. Work with WDDC to initiate a scheme.</li> <li>75. Identify land for employment development.</li> <li>76. Support Chamber of Commerce and BID to work effectively.</li> </ul>	WDDC  DTC  Local businesses Chamber of Commerce	Dormen scheme

	Help to negotiate rents and rates.		BID	
	Help increase company's productivity and output.		LEP	
	Roll-out Superfast Broadband & provide town centre Wi-Fi.			
Extend other learning opportunities in town	Working for instance with local heritage- culture providers.	77. Create 'directory' of opportunities for people to get	DTC	
		involved.	Range of VCS organisations -	
		78. Hold community days.	especially main heritage providers	
Continue to integrate	Link initiatives to priorities identified with	79. Work with Poundbury	DTC	DTEP
and link Poundbury	local residents.	Residents Association on joint		
with town centre		projects – e.g. holiday hangouts for children.	Poundbury Residents	
		ior dimarem	Association	
			Duchy of Cornwall	
Maintain (& extend) advice, information	Support people in financial difficulty.	80. Maintain links with Advice and Information services and co-	Citizens Advice	
and advocacy services	Early help for people in housing difficulties.	operate with them.	Dorset	
	Help for people experiencing issues with		Advocacy	
	benefit claims and Personal Independent	81. Support local food banks and	Dorchester	
	Payments including campaigning for better	develop	Poverty Action	
	services.	Budgeting classes     Alletment charges	Group	
		<ul><li>Allotment shares</li><li>Cookery courses.</li></ul>	Dorchester	
			Food Bank	

Increase volunteering	Modernise volunteer offer e.g. opportunity to develop skills and follow passions.	82. Project to highlight benefits of volunteering – particularly for	DTC	Range of VCS organisations
	Review and develop accreditation e.g. to include employability skills.	younger people & those looking for change in life circumstances.	Volunteer Centre Dorset	
	Increase level of good practice with volunteers. Look at establishing pool of cultural-heritage volunteers.	83. Support organisations providing high number of volunteering opportunities to implement best practice.		
	More support for people with disabilities.			

- 1. Develop an enterprise economy and encourage business start-ups
  - Provide mentoring and advice for new initiatives
  - Support business forums to share good practice.
- 2. Attract knowledge based companies to set up in Dorchester.

Environment				
Aim	Objective	Target/Action/Outcome	Lead partner	Key partners
Improve current Town Centre offer	Improve first impressions of town at all gateways to Dorchester – especially improve appearance/welcome to	84. Replace signage at town entrances and	DCC	Civic Society
	town from Kingston Maurward roundabout to Grays Bridge.	install features such as public art.	WDDC	Brewery Square
	Smarten up building frontages.	85. Develop	DTC	Dorchester Chamber of Commerce
	Improve car parks appearance and develop parking capacity.	development of wayfinding signage in town.		BID
	Link town together better – including to Brewery Square.	86. Work with local landlords to improve building frontages.		
Develop Town Centre masterplan	Improve/modernise Townscape – shared/mixed use.	87. Ensure local community widely	DCC	Local heritage organisations
·	Support local, independent shops and businesses – design to attract.	involved in decisions about	WDDC	Civic Society
	Link design plans to heritage offer and ensure they	town centre development.	DTC	
	reflect historic nature of town.	88. Work with	DTEP	
	Address issues of development and sustainability – e.g. Charles Street proposals.	statutory, community and business partners to design Dorchester for the future.	LEP	
Encourage civic pride in open spaces – open garden schemes, town	Support nature conservation schemes such as tree planting.	89. Work with town council and VCS groups to develop	DTC	Friends of Borough Gardens
décor, parks award etc.	Set up more nature walks.	more		Transition Town Dorchester

	Champion allotments.  Encourage 'Friends of' groups to help look after public areas such as bus stops, hedgerows, etc.  Encourage community gardening in public spaces. Increase number of natural verges/natural planting.  Keep town tidy  • Set up community litter picking scheme	environmental projects.  90. Look at establishing open gardens scheme.		Friends of Riverside Nature Reserve
	<ul> <li>Introduce more recycling points and bins.</li> </ul>			
Improve town orientation	Improve and replace town signage including brown signs, town wayfinding signs and car park signage.	91. Install wayfinding signage in town.	DTC BID	
	Widen BID Ambassador Scheme.			
Support climate change mitigation	Promote use of green energy sources.  Encourage environmentally friendly shops – e.g. campaign to reduce rates.  Encourage innovative recycling/waste reduction schemes.  Promote domestic and business eco schemes e.g. Close the Door initiatives in shops (to reduce heating).  Increase dependence on renewables.	92. Work with local community groups and business to set up environmental initiatives such as a wood recycling scheme.	Transition Town Dorchester	
	Support flood mitigation measures including issues of surface water run off.			

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Ensure protection of local wildlife and environment.	Work with Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) to improve rivers & wetlands through Dorset Wild Rivers project to enhance habitat for wildlife and enable people to enjoy the River Frome as it flows through Dorchester.  Work with DWT to manage Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) near and around town & provide site owners and managers with botanical survey information, management advice and management statements.	93. Maintain close links to DWT and promote services they can offer.	Dorset Wildlife Trust
Support activities to encourage increased use of open spaces and the countryside	Develop and promote nature-based health activities e.g. Natural Choices and Stepping into Nature.  Promote health promotion activities in the natural	94. Promote Natural Choices and Stepping into Nature	Dorset Wildlife Trust NHS
and the countryside	environment such as health/nature walks, improved access to the countryside (gates to stiles projects),	opportunities.	Dorchester Strollers
	promotion of the benefits of being in nature (good for physical and mental wellbeing).	95. Explore with health partners development of	Future Roots
	Support innovative projects such as Future Roots that use community farm approach to help vulnerable people including young people and older people who are isolated/suffering from dementia.	more nature based health projects.	
	Encourage people to join local walking groups.		

- 1. Improve air quality in town by reducing traffic promoting alternative routes.
- 2. Promote sustainable living in town e.g. supporting Transition Town project and development of transition streets & community growing spaces.