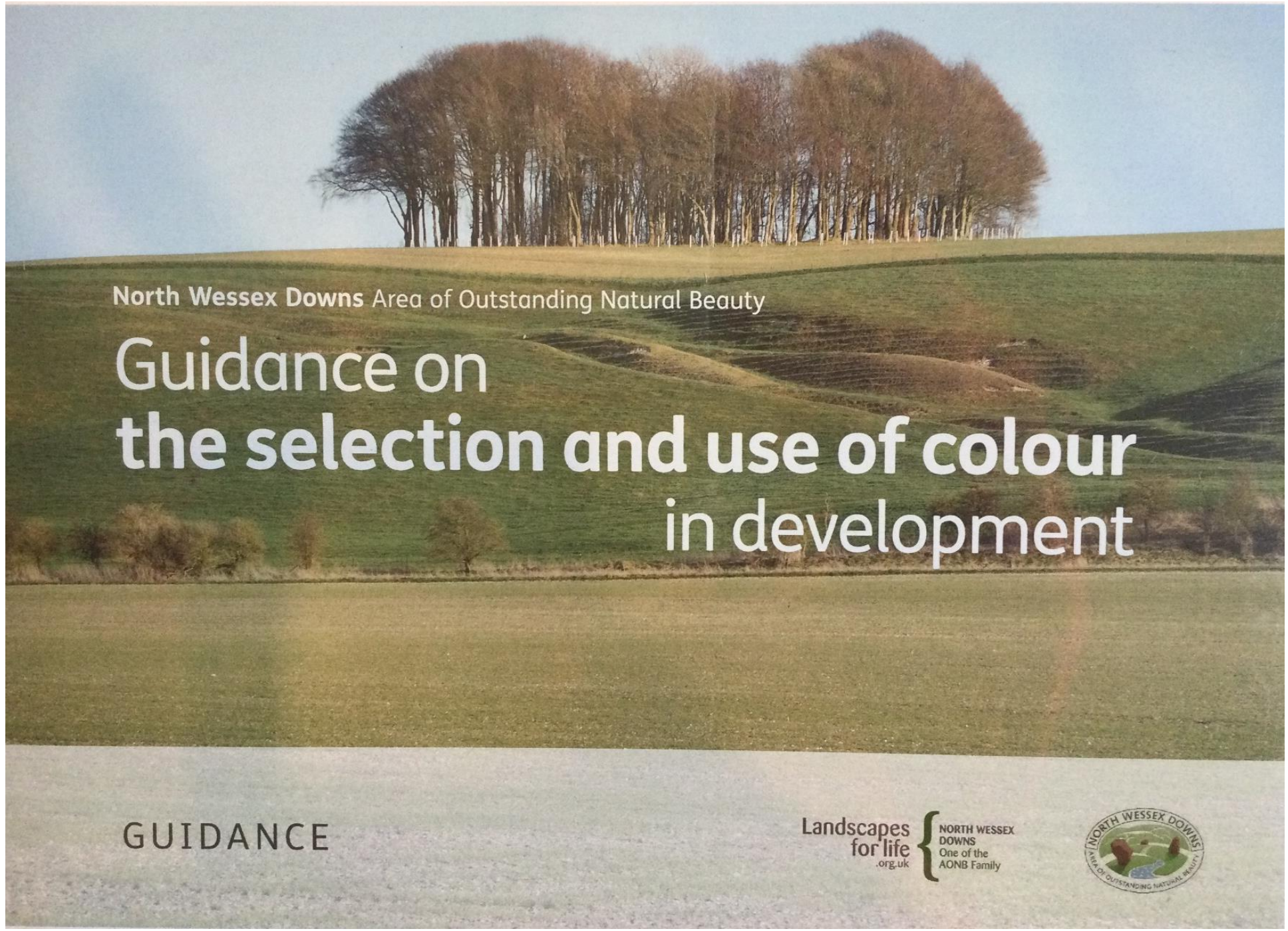

VOLVO

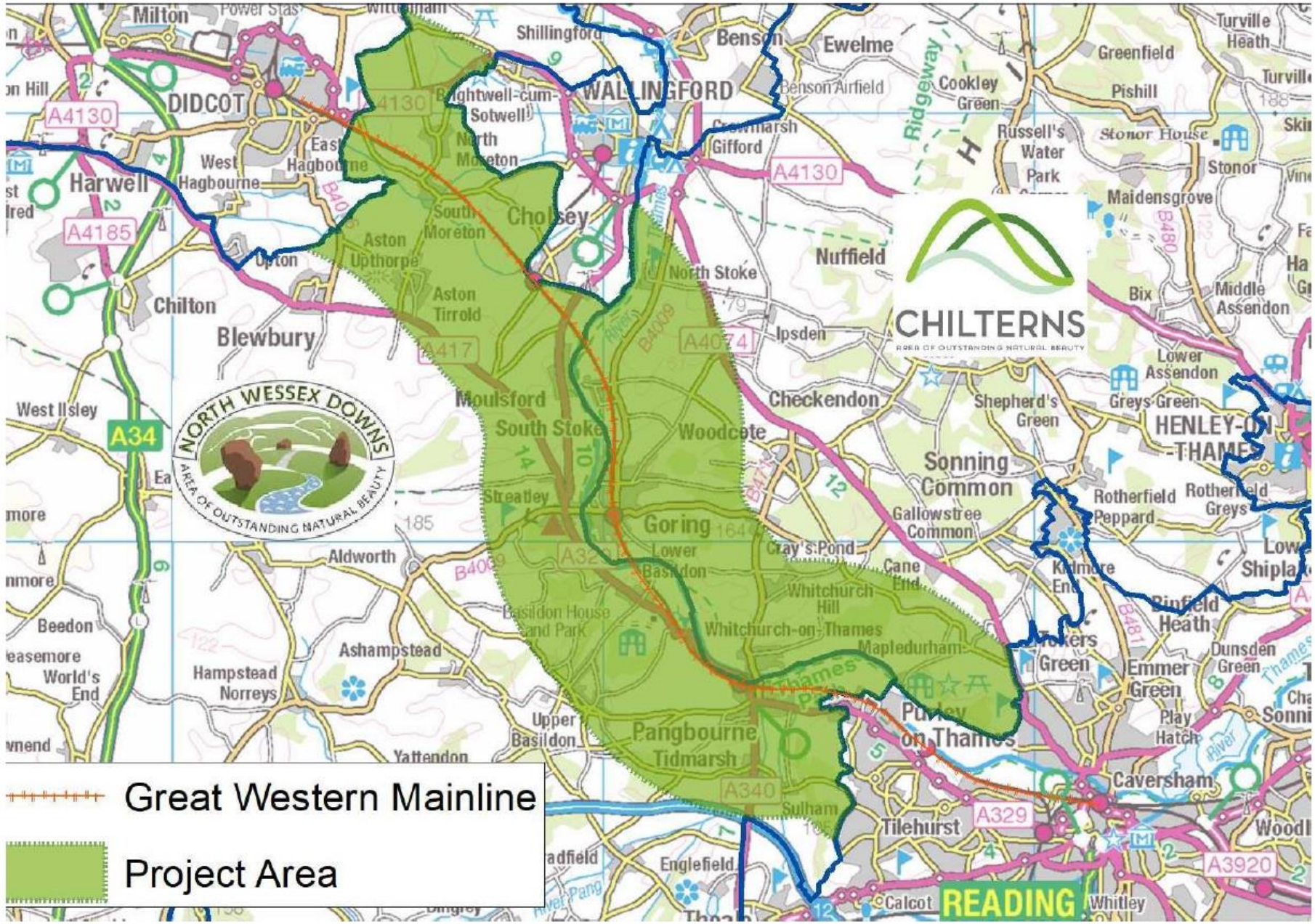
Planning

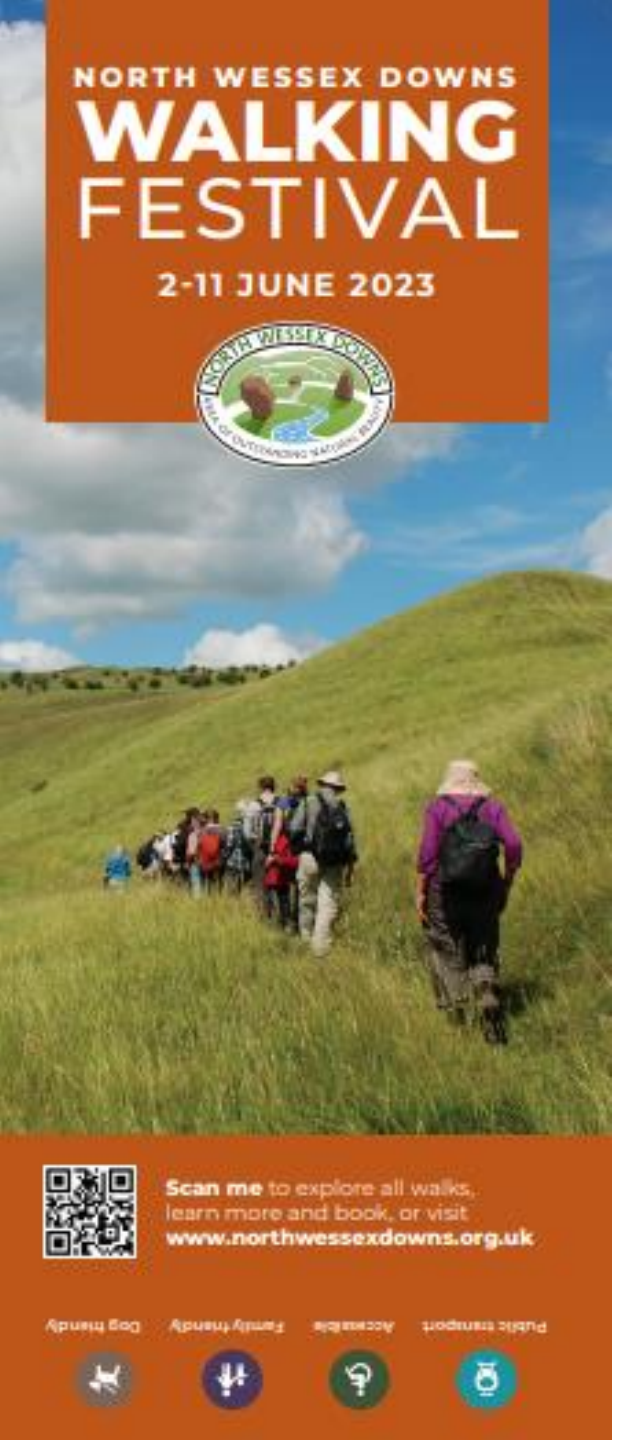
- 902 consultations received
- Responded to just under 400 of these
- Responded to 8 planning policy consultations
- Commented on 6 pre-application consultations
- Responded to 5 Neighbourhood Plan consultations
- Made 13 appeal representations to the Planning Inspectorate, inc. attending one Public Inquiry


North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Guidance on
the selection and use of colour
in development
GUIDANCE
Landscapes for life .org.uk
NORTH WESSEX DOWNS
One of the AONB Family
NORTH WESSEX DOWNS
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

MEND the GAP

MEND the GAP – Core Programme Area

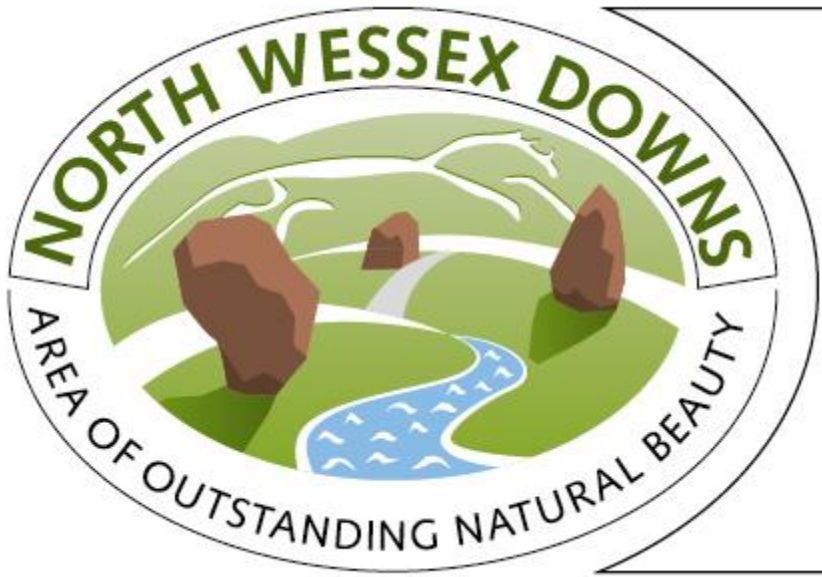




- 27 walks
- 10 days
- Delivered by 23 partner organisations
- 318 participants +21% on 2022

Access for All

- National DEFRA programme
- £189,391 in capital grants
- Delivering 10 projects
- Across all four counties of the AONB



FARMING IN PROTECTED LANDSCAPES

Climate-Nature-People-Place

Since July 2021:

- 217 expressions of interest
- 101 full applications received
- 91 awards approved
- £1,763,213.94 to projects across the AONB that support the aims of the Management Plan

2023/24 remaining budget:	£153,183
2024/25 budget:	£1,114,306

Table 6. Priorities for Wooded Plateau
Conserve and enhance the intricate mosaic of woodland, farmland and hedges that surrounds Savernake Forest and West Woods.
Manage existing ancient woodland sympathetically to increase structural diversity e.g. by restoring coppice, controlling deer numbers and promoting natural regeneration.
Restore Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) to conserve and enhance local landscape character and biodiversity.
Conserve existing veteran and ancient trees with careful management, and support the succession of veteran trees as habitat for lichens and invertebrates in particular (e.g. by pollarding, including creation of maiden pollards, and identification and management of future veterans).
Restore, conserve and enhance designed landscapes, other historic parkland and wood pasture.
Restore, extend/link and sympathetically manage relict areas of heathland.

Table 7. Priorities for High Chalk Plain
Maintain existing chalk grassland habitats.
Restore unmanaged relict grassland and encourage greater diversity though sympathetic management.
Increase the diversity of semi-improved permanent grassland, especially where adjacent or close to unimproved grassland.
Extend, link and buffer chalk grassland habitats (e.g. through targeted arable reversion, scrub management and removal of inappropriate woodland planting).
Maintain and enhance the value of the mosaic of arable land and chalk grassland for priority farmland bird and arable plant species (e.g. through spring sowing and winter stubbles, nesting plots, uncropped headlands, unsprayed field margins, and pollen, nectar and seed mixes). Create and maintain wildlife corridors (e.g. buffer strips, beetle banks, track and byway verges), wherever possible linking a range of different habitats.


RYETEC
RYETEC
PERUZZO


Five Sisters
Zoo
BEAVER
TRUST
CHANEAU


MANISCOPIC


RIDGEWAY
PATH


50

Goal 1. Support the rural economy

Partnership strategic objective 1.1
Develop our position as a trusted convenor supporting decision-making and collaboration among farmers and land managers

Partnership strategic objective 1.2
Support projects that underpin the viability of agricultural/forestry businesses and themselves further the purpose of AONB designation

Goal 2. Deliver for nature & climate

Partnership strategic objective 2.1
Identify priorities and opportunities for nature recovery and climate change mitigation/adaptation across the AONB, and support their delivery

Goal 3. Improve communications and advocacy

Partnership strategic objective 3.1
Increase the level of understanding of the AONB designation, and the value of the Council of Partners and AONB team, amongst Local Authority councillors and other key stakeholders.

Goal 4. Provide opportunities to improve health & wellbeing

Partnership strategic objective 4.1
Improve access to the AONB, optimising its impact on health and wellbeing and the local economy

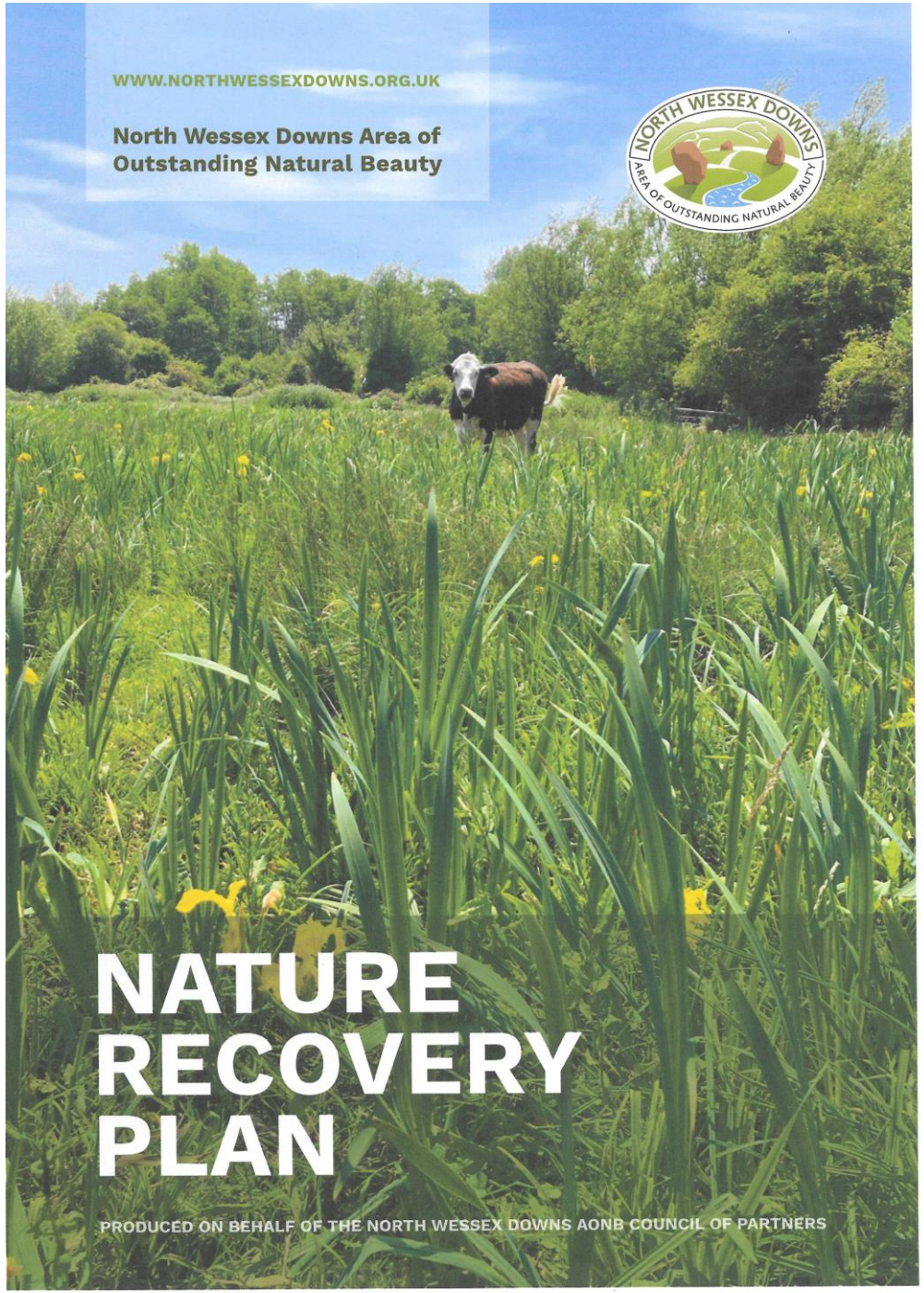
Goal 5. Improve spatial planning

Partnership strategic objective 5.1
Develop a shared understanding of landscape character, condition and opportunities across the AONB and facilitate decision-making.

Goal 6. Align AONB policy across relevant authorities

Partnership strategic objective 6.1
Secure secure strong commitment to, and the consistent application of, policy to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB across all Local Authority partners and other relevant bodies


Robert Albright


WWW.NORTHWESSEXDOWNS.ORG.UK
North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
NORTH WESSEX DOWNS
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY
NATURE RECOVERY PLAN
PRODUCED ON BEHALF OF THE NORTH WESSEX DOWNS AONB COUNCIL OF PARTNERS


Sharyn Ladds


Peter Eeles


Paul Hancock

Peter Eeles


Andy Hay

Priority species - Semi-natural Calcareous Grassland

Duke of Burgundy butterfly; Adonis blue butterfly; wartbiter bush cricket; burnt orchid; early gentian; juniper; pasque flower; basil thyme; striped lychnis moth; marsh fritillary butterfly; licorice piercer moth; chalkhill blue butterfly; skylark; large blue butterfly

Action for Semi-natural Calcareous Grassland	2024	2030	2042
Maintain and restore the existing extent of 3,598 ha of lowland calcareous grassland	⇨	◆	
Ensure appropriate management to achieve favourable or recovering condition to 90% of lowland calcareous grassland	⇨	◆	
Increase the extent of flower rich lowland calcareous grassland, restoring, re-creating or establishing 14,032 ha by 2042	⇨	4000 ha Realistic interim target	◆
Update the NWDAONB Chalk Grassland Strategy, review the target areas	⇨		
Identify the best opportunities to connect and extend existing core areas of chalk grassland working with developing Local Nature Recovery Strategies, West Berkshire Natural Solutions Local Nature Partnerships, landowners and other partnerships	➡		
Work with farmer groups/clusters to extend chalk grassland	➡	➡	
Seek to connect, or help facilitate chalk grassland habitat projects across the AONB and beyond into the Big Chalk 'bridging' areas	⇨		◆

Key: To be started ⇨ **Underway** ➡ **Completed** ◆

SENSITIVITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE ✓ **LOW** ○ **MEDIUM** ○ **HIGH**

Climate Change Adaptation : Calcareous grassland : Low sensitivity

- Relatively robust to climate change threats, other issues pose greater threats, thus main action should focus on ensuring other sources of harm reduced to increase resilience
- Increase size, heterogeneity and connectivity of existing patches and factor this into long term site management objectives
- Manage grazing of sites flexibly in response to seasonal variations in vegetation growth
- Accept changes to community composition when driven by climate change. Consider a certain level of scrub to provide shade for stock and refugia for invertebrates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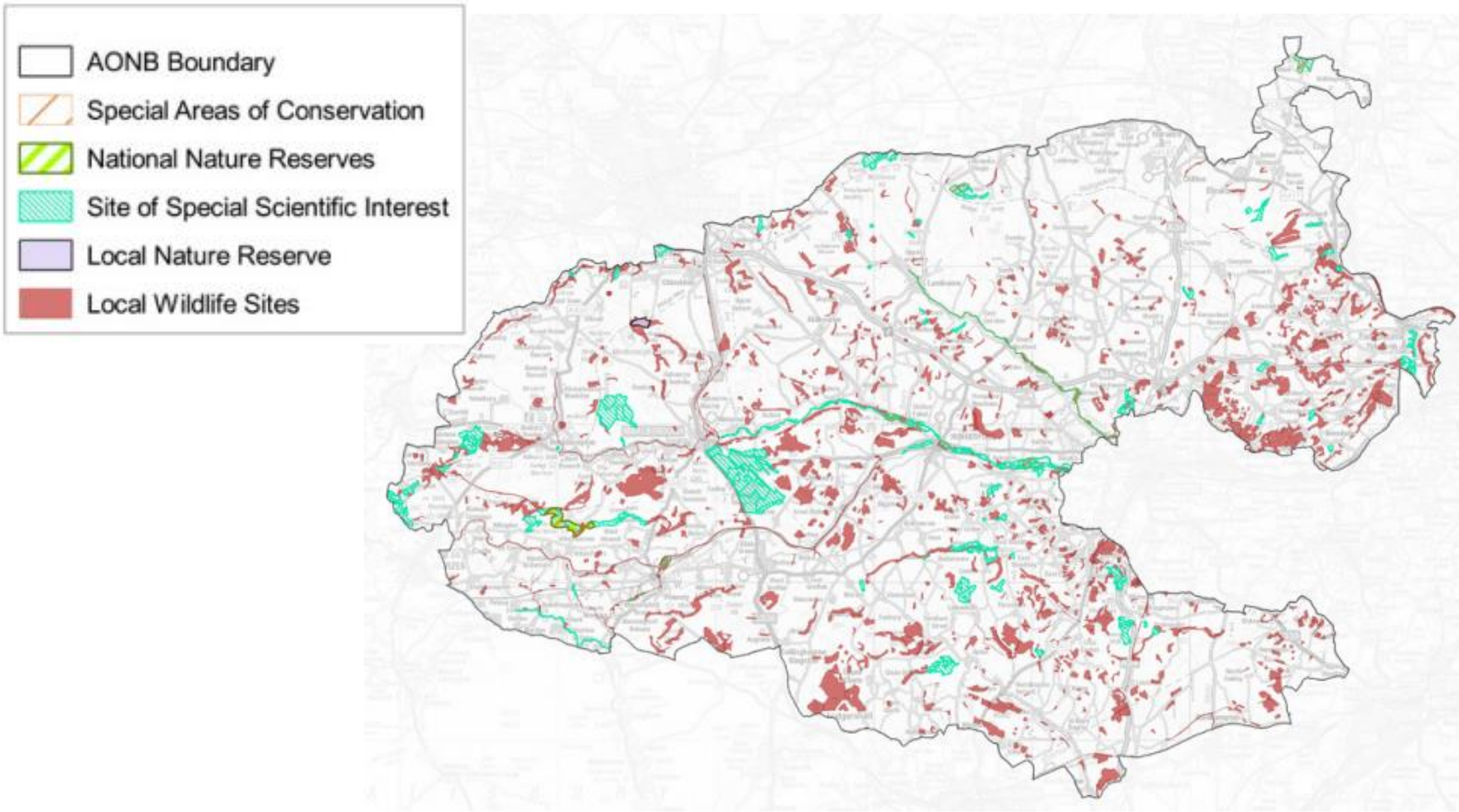
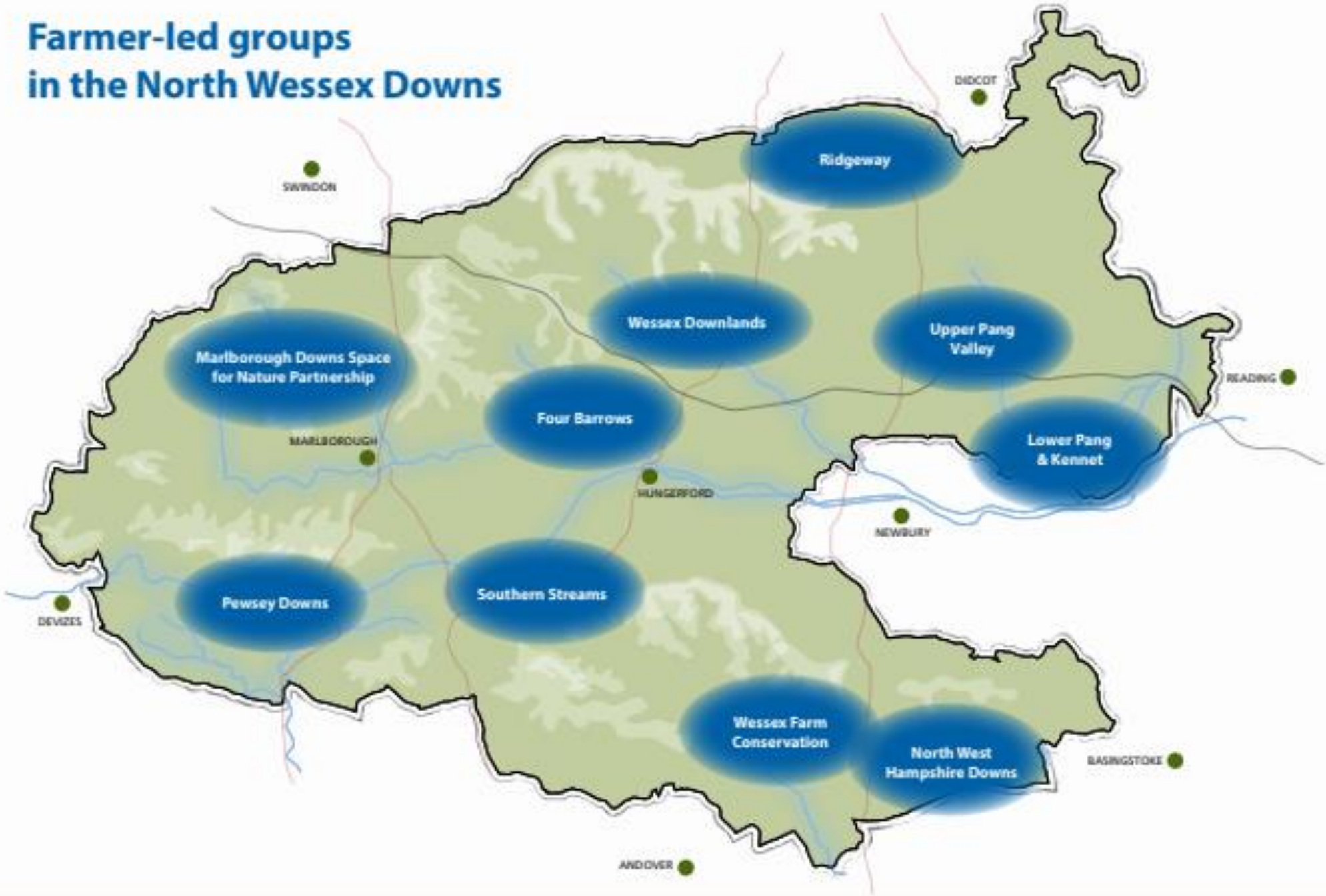
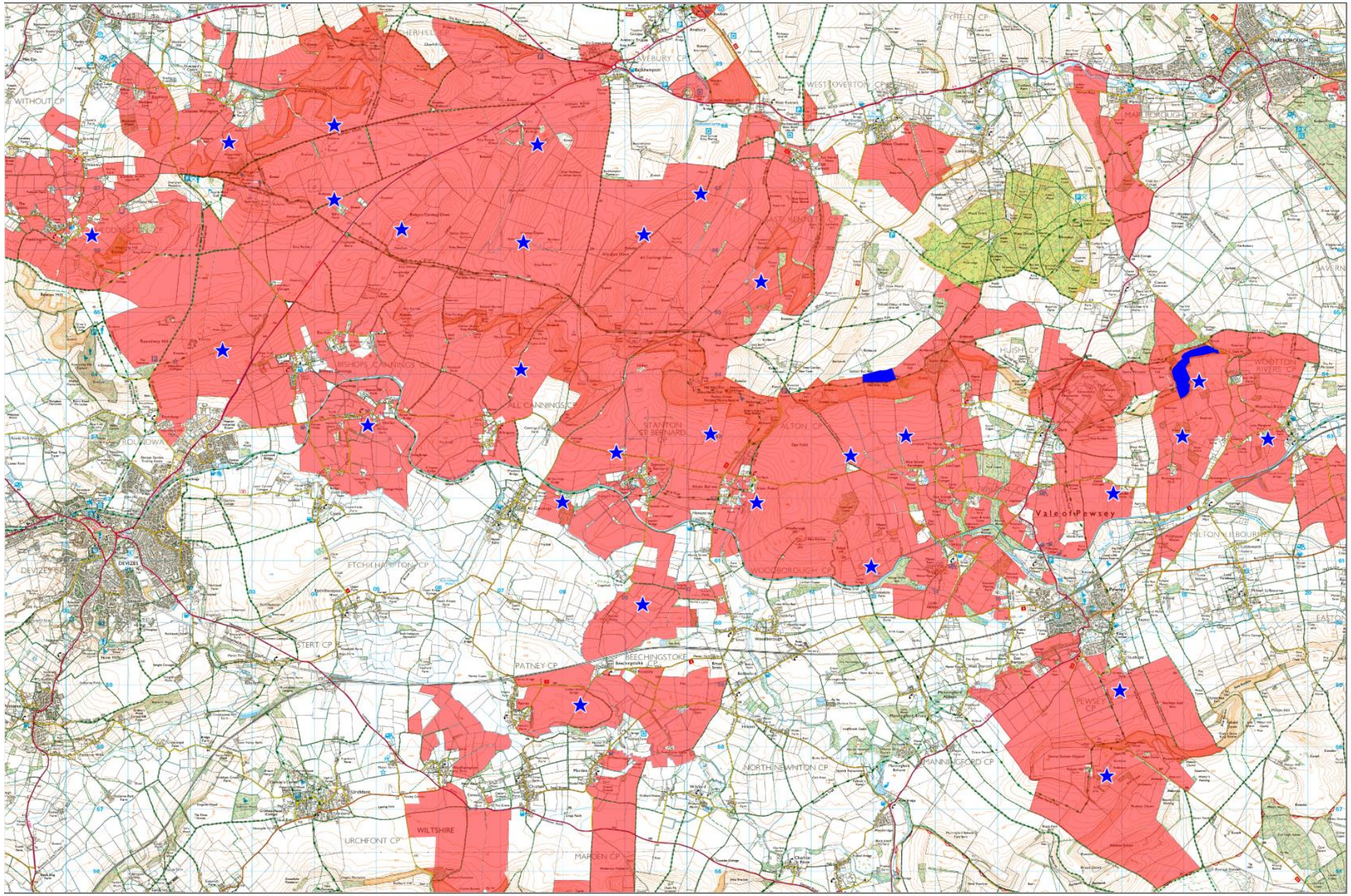

AONB Boundary
Special Areas of Conservation
National Nature Reserves
Site of Special Scientific Interest
Local Nature Reserve
Local Wildlife Sites

Farmer-led groups in the North Wessex Downs




Current PDFG membership
Draft solitary bee home locations
Plug planting locations


Barry Stalker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