



Cornwall's nationally protected landscape



Cornwall
Area of Outstanding
Natural Beauty

12 *Bodmin
Moor*

Cornwall AONB Local Section



Section 12

Bodmin Moor



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Highland cattle,
Bodmin Moor | Paul Hockaday

Location:

This is the largest section of land in the AONB and includes both open and enclosed moorland, bisected northeast to southwest by the main A30 trunk road. It extends to Davidstow Moor in the north, Upton Cross in the east, St Neot in the south and Tresarrett in the west.

AONB Section	Area (ha)	% of total AONB area
12 Bodmin Moor	20,878	21.7%

- Cornwall Landscape Character Areas:**
- 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

Marine Character Areas covering the coast / adjacent waters • N/A



12

Special Qualities of Bodmin Moor

The Key Landscape Characteristics of this section of the AONB is a distinctive upland landscape which is created from the underlying granite mass, the largest of several granite intrusions that penetrate the slate killas bedrock along the spine of Cornwall. The highest point of the moor is in the northwest at Brown Willy a peak of 420m. Across the valley, the slightly lower Roughtor hosts the remains of a 12th century medieval chapel, and together, they represent the highest points of land in Cornwall.

Statement of Significance | Creating a Sense of Place



Golitha Falls,
Bodmin Moor

Mary Poad

The moor provides expansive and breath-taking views, including towards other sections of the Cornwall AONB on the north coast. The surrounding moorland is gently undulating with frequent, prominent tors (rounded hills capped with a granite outcrop). The naturally formed Cheesewring tor has given its name to

an internationally recognised geological category of tor and is an often-used iconic image of moorland Cornwall. The tors provide a distinctive silhouette against an extensive skyline, further emphasised by the lack of man-made structures and intrusive development.





Land Use

Human settlement across the moor is sparse. A small number of lonely granite farms can be found hunkering down below the brow of the hills on the exposed moor itself. Whereas the valleys on the edge of the moor provide sheltered hollows better suited for farming practice and village settlement such as St Breward, St Neot and St Cleer.



Other significant features of Bodmin Moor include the three reservoirs: Colliford Lake, Crowdy Reservoir and Siblyback Lake. These large expanses of water provide dramatic and very changeable seasonal contrasts from sparkling azure on a bright summer day to drab, grey and eerie in the winter. The smaller Dozmary Pool, close to Colliford Lake, is the largest and most notable of the many pools found across the moor. The overall sense of wilderness on Bodmin Moor still endures, despite thousands of years of human intervention. It remains one of the few places in Cornwall where you can enjoy complete peace, quiet and tranquillity, being particularly important for its dark night skies.

Extensive, unenclosed high moorland is grazed by hardy weather-beaten cattle, sheep and ponies according to historic laws governing common land. This grazing

Significant Landowners

- **The National Trust** own land at Roughtor
- Much of the moorland is **registered common land**, subject to management under the Commons Act 2006.

plays an essential role in controlling scrub thereby maintaining the distinctive openness of this landscape. In parts the moor has never been enclosed. In other areas, past efforts at enclosure are long abandoned leaving enigmatic vestiges of past attempts to tame the land. Edging the open moorland, larger fields show enduring recent enclosure whilst nestling in sheltered folds at lower levels anciently enclosed farmland is recognisable by its smaller fields with irregular boundaries. This long historic process of attempts to tame the open moor has created a fascinating texture of intermingling pockets of commons and enclosures that distinguishes Bodmin Moor from most other upland landscapes.

Biodiversity & Geodiversity

The uplands of Bodmin Moor are extensively covered with open moorland consisting mainly of coarse grassland, wetland and wet heathland, which includes scrub, bracken and gorse.





Much of the northern section of the Moor is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The peaty soil is generally poor with high acid content which in turn has a significant influence on vegetation providing a suitable environment for acid grassland, heather, gorse and bracken, grazed by small flocks of sheep, together with small herds of cattle and moorland ponies. In the valleys at the edge of the moor there are large areas of peat and blanket bog. Due to its exposed nature, Bodmin Moor is frequently subjected to high winds and rain blown in from the Atlantic and this in turn has influenced the type of vegetation. Many streams and small rivers traverse the Moor having penetrated weaknesses in the granite and eventually cascade into shallow falls at the edge of the granite shelf.

The deep river valleys around the edges of the moor support luxuriant broadleaved woodland adding to the enclosed intimacy of these locations. Stately mature Beech trees are especially characteristic of the Fowey valley (Fowey means 'River of Beech Trees' in Cornish). Isolated modern conifer plantations however add a dark and sombre contrast to the open moorland. Gorse and bracken add to the roughness of the unimproved acid grassland of some commons whilst at the heads of streams on higher ground between hills poor drainage and substantial rainfall create a rich and interesting patchwork of fens, wetlands, quaking bogs and other valuable habitats emphasising the sense of remote exposure.

Golitha Falls is a geological feature, where the river Fowey tumbles down a series of low waterfalls bounded by large mounds of lichen covered granite and runs through an ancient wooded valley of sessile oak and ash - a complete contrast to the barren moor upstream. The area surrounding Golitha

Falls is rich in flora and fauna and is one of the three National Nature Reserves in Cornwall.

Cornish Hedges

Almost all enclosed fields are semi-improved pasture for livestock grazing and there is little arable farmland. Cornish hedges and retaining banks are constructed of the ubiquitous ever-present weathered local granite taken directly from the surface of the moor. High up the hedges are often of bare stone, at most supporting just a sparse turf topping or maybe a few gnarled and wind sculpted hawthorns, whilst at lower sheltered locations they support dense walls of mature Beech and native broadleaved trees such as Sessile Oak and Hazel.

Some old hedges are deteriorating from long term lack of maintenance leading in places to the erecting of barbed wire fencing alongside.

Key species of interest for this section:

- Fritillary butterflies (pearl, small pearl and marsh)
- Cuckoo
- Redstart
- Nationally rare liverworts (Greater Copperwort)
- Bog plants (bog bean, round-leaved sundew)
- Wintering Golden Plover
- Snipe
- Curlew
- Lapwing
- Whinchat



Sharp Tor,
Bodmin Moor
Pete Llewellyn

Culture and Heritage

Bodmin Moor is hugely important historically. The open moorland reveals historic relics such as long cairns and hilltop enclosures from the Neolithic period. In addition, evidence of Bronze Age activity can be found in a ritual and domestic landscape of hut circles, barrows, cairns and stone circles, the most notable being the famous Hurlers Stone Circles near Minions. In some areas, the land has never been enclosed, although around the stony remains of prehistoric roundhouses and medieval long houses, remnants of ancient field boundaries can be clearly seen. Significant numbers of surviving holy wells and stone crosses are poignant reminders of the enduring importance of religion in the history of Bodmin Moor’s communities. Some of the older granite quarries make a positive contribution to the landscape for example at Carbilly Tor and Bearah Tor, and particularly the historic stone finger dumps. Partially flooded China clay workings occur at Lower Hawkstor, Parson’s Pit and Stannon Pit where this product of weathered granite has been found close to the surface. Prominent engine houses and

mining structures, especially in the south-east of the moor near Caradon Hill and at Minions, are a reminder of Cornwall and Bodmin Moor’s once great mining industry. The bleak central hamlet of Bolventor (named after a ‘bold venture’ to recover tin from moorland streams) is home to the Jamaica Inn, made world famous by the writings of Daphne du Maurier.

To celebrate 60 years of the Cornwall AONB designation and 4,000 years of the humble Cornish hedge, a permanent piece of public art has been created at Colliford Lake. Kerdroya is a 56m diameter classical labyrinth built of Cornish stone hedging celebrating the aesthetics of distinct hedging styles from 12 Cornish locations. At the very heart of Kerdroya, a 10m circular space opens out to breathtaking views across the moorland and lake. Here you will find a one-off specially commissioned artwork funded by Arts Council England and created by Thrussells, which augments and deepens the Kerdroya experience.

Other Designations

- SSSI & National Nature Reserve (NNR), International Dark Sky Park (IDSP).
- Parts of the south-eastern part of the Moor around Minions and Caradon Hill are designated as part of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining World Heritage Site.



From Rough Tor to Garrow Tor | Matt Menhenett

Partnerships and Neighbourhood Plans

- Blisland Neighbourhood Development Plan is designated
- St Cleer Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Parish Plans exist for St Neot, St Breward, Blisland, St Cleer and Linkinhorne.

- The Bodmin Moor Development and Communication plan was created in Partnership with the AONB and representatives of the Bodmin Moor Working Group.
- The Bodmin Moor Parishes Network seek to pursue the following objectives; to foster and promote vitality and viability of the area; to regenerate the local economy; generate support for sustainable social, recreational and environmental initiatives; consolidate all relevant organisations and individuals to work in partnership and act as the consultative body for economic, social and environmental regeneration of the area.
- The ‘Vision for Bodmin Moor’ seeks to establish a plan for shared agreement between agencies, landowners and commoners for the management of habitats and historic landscapes of unenclosed land within the moorland line only.
- Much of the moorland is registered open access land governed by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) 2000.
- The Bodmin Moor Commons Council was legally established under the Commons Act 2006 in 2015 and aims to better manage animal welfare and combat anti-social behaviour on the moor as well as wider land management issues.
- Active quarrying operations are controlled under the Review of Mineral Planning Permissions – quarrying under existing planning permissions at Parsons Park Pit, Stannon Pit (china clay) and Tor Down Quarry (granite) will not be resumed following the making of Prohibition Orders.





Landscape Condition

- Large scale china clay extraction at Parson's Pit and adjacent to the AONB at Stannon Pit has ceased and parts of both sites have been restored.
- Increased visitor numbers at popular locations such as Golitha Falls, and Minions have led to footpath and ground erosion.
- Some historic mining structures remain un-stabilised including the two engine houses at Sharptor and other structures at Wheal Bray and Phoenix.
- Some aspects of the A30 are visually intrusive intrude on the moorland setting such as the use of coloured tarmac, signage, advertising hoardings and detailing. Traffic noise locally erodes tranquillity.
- Broadleaved woodland in stream valleys is largely unmanaged.
- A number of old hedges have deteriorated from lack of maintenance and barbed wire stock fencing has been erected alongside.
- Some existing conifer plantations are visually intrusive due to their design and location.
- The moor remains relatively free of tall structures. However, wind turbines towards the north coast outside of the AONB are a detractor.



The Cornwall State of the AONB Report and Cornwall AONB Atlas interactive map provide more detail and insight





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Community Network Area (CNA) : **AONB section within CNA**
Bodmin : **Bodmin Moor**

Index of Multiple Deprivation Percentile by CNA : **2015 | 35.8%** : **2019 | 36.7%**

Health and Wellbeing in Bodmin (2016/2017)

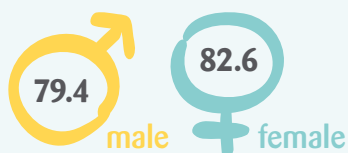


Population

20,351
people

4%
of
Cornwall's
total population

Life expectancy (years)



Births (2015)



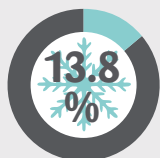
Deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)



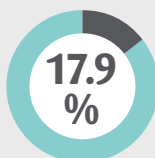
98.2%
white



Inequalities



local households are fuel poor



local children live in low-income families



934
local children in receipt of free school meals

6%
of

1010

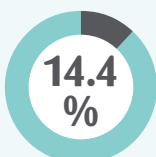
residents claim Disability Living Allowance

4%
of

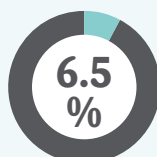
{ all claimants in Cornwall }



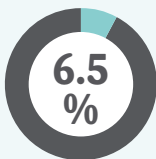
Risk Groups



Obesity (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Diabetes (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Chronic Kidney Disease (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



residents who speak English as an additional language



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Community Network Area (CNA)
Camelford

AONB section within CNA
Bodmin Moor and Pentire Point to Widemouth

Index of Multiple Deprivation Percentile by CNA : 2015 | 38.6% : 2019 | 38.6%

Health and Wellbeing in Camelford (2016/2017)

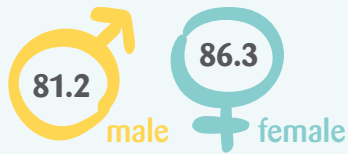


Population

12,837
people

2%
of
Cornwall's
total population

Life expectancy (years)



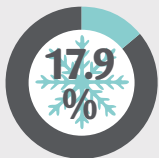
Births (2015)



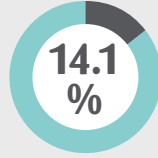
Deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)



Inequalities



local households are fuel poor



local children live in low-income families



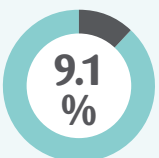
349
local children in receipt of free school meals

575 residents claim Disability Living Allowance

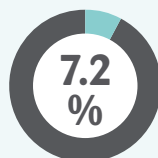
2% of all claimants in Cornwall



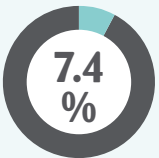
Risk Groups



Obesity (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Diabetes (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Chronic Kidney Disease (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



residents who speak English as an additional language



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Community Network Area (CNA)
Caradon

AONB section within CNA
Bodmin Moor

Index of Multiple Deprivation Percentile by CNA : 2015 | 49.0% : 2019 | 48.0%

Health and Wellbeing in Caradon (2016/2017)

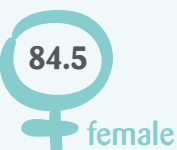
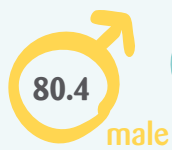


Population

17,962
people

3%
of
Cornwall's
total population

Life expectancy (years)



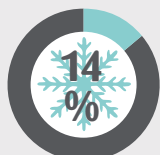
Births (2015)



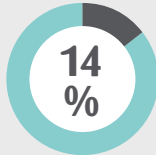
Deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)



Inequalities



14%
local
households
are fuel poor



14%
local
children live in
low-income families



426
local
children in
receipt of
free school meals

825

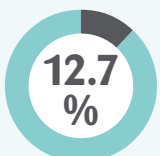
825
residents claim
Disability Living Allowance



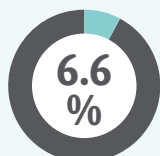
3%
of all
claimants in Cornwall



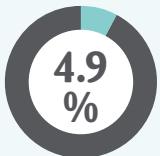
Risk Groups



12.7%
Obesity
(% of residents
on the Chronic
Disease Register)



6.6%
Diabetes
(% of residents
on the Chronic
Disease Register)



4.9%
Chronic Kidney Disease
(% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)

38
(1.9%)

38
(1.9%)
residents who
speak English
as an additional
language



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Community Network Area (CNA) : **AONB section within CNA**
Launceston : **Bodmin Moor**

Index of Multiple Deprivation Percentile by CNA : 2015 | 40.9% : 2019 | 40.9%

Health and Wellbeing in Launceston (2016/2017)

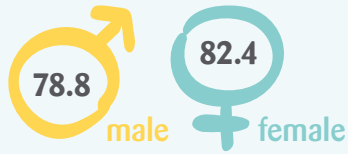


Population

19,660 people

4% of Cornwall's total population

Life expectancy (years)



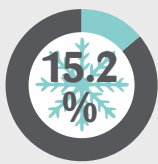
Births (2015)



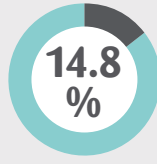
Deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)



Inequalities



local households are fuel poor



local children live in low-income families



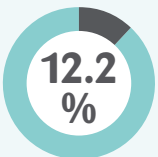
local children in receipt of free school meals

845 residents claim Disability Living Allowance

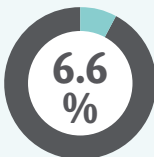
3% of all claimants in Cornwall



Risk Groups



Obesity (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Diabetes (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Chronic Kidney Disease (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



residents who speak English as an additional language



Community Network Area (CNA) : **AONB section within CNA**
Liskeard & Looe : **South Coast Eastern and Bodmin Moor**

Index of Multiple Deprivation Percentile by CNA : 2015 | 38.0% : 2019 | 39.0%

Health and Wellbeing in Liskeard & Looe (2016/2017)



Population

31,456
people

6%
of Cornwall's total population

Life expectancy (years)

79.3
male

82
female

Births (2015)

307

Deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)

+1234

98.5%
white



Inequalities

13.8%
local households are fuel poor

local households are fuel poor

16.8%
local children live in low-income families

local children live in low-income families

935
local children in receipt of free school meals

local children in receipt of free school meals

1515 residents claim Disability Living Allowance

6% of all claimants in Cornwall



Risk Groups

14.5%
Obesity (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)

Obesity (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)

7.2%
Diabetes (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)

Diabetes (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)

3.9%
Chronic Kidney Disease (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)

Chronic Kidney Disease (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)

57 (2.86%)
residents who speak English as an additional language

residents who speak English as an additional language



12 Bodmin Moor: Policies & Objectives

The policies and objectives below are applicable to this Local Section – they should, however, be read in conjunction with the Cornwall AONB Strategy Aims, Policies and Objectives which are applicable to the whole designation.

Policy	Detail	References to the main aims, policies & objectives
BM-P1	Support improved restoration of china clay workings at Lower Hawkstor, Parson’s Pit, and Stannon Pit in keeping with the local landform, soils and vegetation communities of their moorland setting whilst respecting local history and heritage. Support further measures to protect and enhance environmental quality, and increase biodiversity, when existing quarrying permissions are reviewed.	LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P4, LS-P6 LS-Ob4 NRLM-Ob1, NRLM-Ob2, NRLM-Ob5 CCBR-P1, CCBR-Ob3 HC-Ob1, HC-Ob4, HC-Ob12 SCE-P4, SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob2, SCE-Ob3 PD-P13
BM-P2	Require improved integration into the landscape of existing visitor facilities and car parks such as at Golitha Falls, Minions and Roughtor Road in order to reduce their existing landscape and visual impacts.	LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P3, LS-P4, LS-P6, LS-Ob4, LS-Ob6 (HC-Ob2), HC-Ob4, (HC-Ob15) RSA-P1, RSA-O4 HWB-Ob5 SCE-P3, SCE-P6, SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob5 PD-P9
BM-P3	Seek a reduction in the visual impact of existing conifer plantations for example at Priddacombe, Hawkstor, Bolventor, Halvana, Smallacombe and Roughtor consistent with established best practice. Seek opportunities for this to be achieved by productive felling with restoration to open habitats balanced with greater productive woodland creation at appropriate local sites in the vicinity order in order to conserve and enhance the open moorland landscape and also protect the economic resource.	LS-P1, LS-Ob1, LS-Ob2, LS-Ob3, LS-Ob5 NRLM-Ob1, NRLM-Ob3, NRLM-Ob5, NRLM-Ob6, NRLM-Ob12, NRLM-Ob13 CCBR-Ob1, CCBR-Ob2, CCBR- Ob3 SCE-P4, SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob2, SCE-Ob3, SCE-Ob4



Policy	Detail	References to the main aims, policies & objectives
BM-P4	Seek to maintain current low levels of light pollution on Bodmin Moor in reflection of an International Dark Sky Reserve.	LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P3 NRLM-Ob11 (HC-Ob2), HC-Ob4, (HC-Ob15) RSA-P1 HWB-Ob5 SCE-P3, SCE-P6, SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob5 PD-P2, PD-12
BM-P5	Support sustainable transport initiatives where these realise a reduction in motorised vehicle access giving rise to parking and other concerns. Support initiatives to discourage unsanctioned use of motor vehicles and motorcycles other than where expressly permitted.	LS-P1, LS-P3, LS-Ob6 RSA-P1, RSA-P2, RSA-P4 SCE-P3, SCE-Ob5

Objective	Detail	References to the main aims, policies & objectives
BM-Ob1	Support the Bodmin Moor Commons Council in the coordinated management of the commons and resolution of commons issues. Support stakeholders in the proactive management of access on open access land.	LS-P1, LS-P4, LS-Ob1, LS-Ob3 NRLM-Ob1, NRLM-Ob3, NRLM-Ob5, NRLM-Ob12, NRLM-Ob13 CCBR-P1, CCBR-Ob1, CCBR-Ob2, CCBR-Ob3, CCBR-Ob5 HC-Ob1, (HC-Ob2), HC-Ob4, HC-Ob9, HC-Ob12, (HC-Ob15) RSA-P1, RSA-O1, RSA-O2 HWB-Ob2, HWB-Ob5 SCE-P3, SCE-P6 SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob2, SCE-Ob4, SCE-Ob6



Objective	Detail	References to the main aims, policies & objectives
BM-Ob2	Support landowners and managers in achieving a landscape scale approach the integrated management of natural, historic and geologically significant landscapes. Any restoration of moorland habitats should seek to improve ecosystem services and benefit species diversity across the moor and seek to achieve consensus on long-term management objectives.	<p>LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P3, LS-P4, LS-P6, LS-Ob1, LS-Ob2, LS-Ob3, LS-Ob4, LS-Ob5, LS-Ob6</p> <p>NRLM-Ob1, NRLM-Ob2, NRLM-Ob3, NRLM-Ob5, NRLM-Ob6, NRLM-Ob11, NRLM-Ob12, NRLM-Ob13</p> <p>CCBR-P1, CCBR-Ob1, CCBR-Ob2, CCBR-Ob3, CCBR-Ob5</p> <p>HC-Ob1, HC-Ob2, HC-Ob4, HC-Ob6, HC-Ob7, HC-Ob8, HC-Ob9, HC-Ob10, HC-Ob12, HC-Ob14, HC-Ob15</p> <p>RSA-P1, RSA-Ob1, RSA-Ob2, RSA-Ob3, RSA-Ob4, RSA-Ob5</p> <p>HWB-Ob2, HWB-Ob5</p> <p>SCE-P3, SCE-P6</p> <p>SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob2, SCE-Ob4, SCE-Ob5</p>
BM-Ob3	Support projects that enable the community, schools, landowners, commoners and farmers to conserve the natural and historic landscape, provide education and training, and seek conservation of significant historic features such as, mining structures at Sharptor, Wheal Bray, Phoenix and others.	<p>LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P3, LS-P4, LS-P6, LS-Ob1, LS-Ob2, LS-Ob3, LS-Ob4, LS-Ob5, LS-Ob6</p> <p>NRLM-Ob1, NRLM-Ob2, NRLM-Ob3, NRLM-Ob5, NRLM-Ob6, NRLM-Ob11, NRLM-Ob12, NRLM-Ob13</p> <p>CCBR-P1, CCBR-Ob1, CCBR-Ob2, CCBR-Ob3, CCBR-Ob5</p> <p>HC-Ob1, HC-Ob2, HC-Ob4, HC-Ob6, HC-Ob7, HC-Ob8, HC-Ob9, HC-Ob10, HC-Ob12, HC-Ob14, HC-Ob15</p> <p>RSA-P1, RSA-Ob1, RSA-Ob2, RSA-Ob3, RSA-Ob4, RSA-Ob5</p> <p>HWB-Ob2, HWB-Ob3, HWB-Ob5</p> <p>SCE-P3, SCE-P6</p> <p>SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob2, SCE-Ob4, SCE-Ob5, SCE-Ob6?</p>



Thank you for supporting and advocating for Cornwall AONB



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