

IRONMAN WEYMOUTH ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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IRONMAN WEYMOUTH ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT: November 2016

This analysis makes use of the AMORE Economic Impact Tool¹. The contents and findings of the report do not necessarily reflect the views of Dorset County Council.

The model is based on a set of economic and social accounts that allows analysis of the structure of and relationships within the economy. Economic impact analysis using this model takes into account not only the direct impact of a change on a particular industry, but also the indirect effects which occur through changes in purchases by that industry from domestic suppliers, and also the induced effects arising from changes in household incomes and consumption expenditures. The sum of these changes results in a net effect across the whole Dorset LEP area economy that can be expressed in terms of change in demand for GVA² and full-time equivalent worker numbers, (including the self-employed). The model also provides a sectoral analysis allowing identification of those sectors that are most affected by a particular change or shock to the economy. The model allows for leakage as firms make purchases of goods and services from outside the Dorset economy.

An Ironman triathlon is a challenging sporting event comprising a swim, a bicycle ride and a run, raced in that order with no break. There are strict time limits for each element of the event. Ironman events come under the umbrella of the World Triathlon Corporation (WTC) and the Dorset events were organized by Just Racing (UK) Ltd.

Two Ironman events took place in Weymouth on Sunday 11th September 2016:

- Ironman Weymouth over 140.6 miles with a 17 hour time limit;
- Ironman 70.3 Weymouth over 70.3 miles with an 8.5 hour time limit;

Both events started and finished in Weymouth with the swim (either 2.4 miles or 1.2 miles) taking place in Weymouth Bay, the cycling course (either 112 miles or 56 miles) held in the Dorset countryside and the multi-lap run (either 26.2 miles or 13.1 miles) taking place around Weymouth town, harbour and seafront.

There were just under 3,000 entrants for the two events.

To model the impact of the Ironman events upon the Dorset economy, a number of assumptions have been made which are outlined in the following section.

¹ Advanced Modelling of Regional Economies 2015, designed for Dorset County Council by Dr Stephen Brand

² GVA for an industry is its gross output at basic prices, less purchases of goods and services, less net spending taxes (ECON|I).

Assumptions

The data used as input to the economic modelling process is taken from a survey of participants sent to Ironman Weymouth entrants by the organisers using a framework of questions recommended by Dorset County Council. In line with the profile of entrants, about 90% of the survey respondents were from outside the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole area (referred to as 'Dorset' in this report), and about 10% were residents. With a high response rate of 25%, it is assumed that the survey findings are representative of entrants as a whole and the results have therefore been weighted accordingly to represent the full economic impact in Dorset.

Entrants were asked about their visits to Dorset in the 12 months before the event and also their visit to Dorset for the event itself. Questions were asked about the size of their party, the number of nights stayed and their spending pattern and this data has been used in the impact assessment. It is assumed that, where respondents resident in Dorset have indicated a visit to Dorset in the previous 12 months, they have made a visit to the locality of the race – this was most usually a day trip but there were some overnight stays. A number of responses from residents were disregarded where it was evident the respondent was referring to home-related expenses.

The pre-event spend data of those who would have made a visit to Dorset anyway in the previous 12 months has been disregarded.

A number of other issues also need to be considered to give a net, rather than a gross, impact.

a) Deadweight: would any of the projected outputs occur without the event being held?
: Whilst some of the competitors may have visited Dorset without the motivation of training for or attending the event, the event is assumed to be the major reason for their visits. Where survey respondents indicated that they would have visited Dorset anyway, ie without being in the event, then their pre-event survey response has not been included in the analysis.

b) Displacement: what proportion of the outputs is accounted for by reduced outputs elsewhere in the area?
: Displacement has been disregarded as no similar event was taking place in Dorset ie entrants have not chosen to take part in Ironman Weymouth in preference to another Dorset event.

c) Leakage: is a proportion of the economic outputs arising from the event likely to leak outside the area?

This may occur, for example,

- when firms outside the area benefit from the impact:
 - an allowance for geographical leakage outside the Dorset LEP area is built into the AMORE Economic Impact Tool;
- or if commuters live outside the area and may therefore spend a proportion of their income outside the area having an impact there instead:
 - This element would be related to employees in those businesses benefiting from visitors and whether or not they commute from outside Dorset. Many of the tourism related and retail jobs are likely to be of a low pay scale and therefore unlikely to encourage commuting from a long distance. There may be a small element of commuting for higher paid jobs, but it is not possible to quantify this.

d) Substitution: has the affected organisation substituted one activity for another and, for example, redeployed staff from one function to another rather than created new posts?

: It is assumed that the substitution effect is not applicable.

Summary of findings

There were nearly 3,000 entrants to the Ironman Weymouth event with about ten per cent of these being Dorset residents.

The aggregated spend of entrants during training visits to Dorset before the event and for the event itself was estimated as about £2.3 million.

This would have added a total of about £1.2 million in gross value added (GVA) to the Dorset economy through the increased demand for goods and services after deductions for taxes and retail margins.

In addition, spend of approximately £92,500 by the Ironman Weymouth organisers with local suppliers will have added a further £71,000 in GVA to the Dorset economy after deductions for taxes and retail margins (still giving a gross total of £1.2 million GVA).

Road closures and traffic build-up affecting some businesses on and around the cycle route may have resulted in lost turnover. Allowing for this, it is estimated that the impact of business losses would reduce the overall economic benefits by about £93,000.

This would suggest a net benefit to the Dorset economy of £1.1 million.

The majority of staying visitors stayed in or around Weymouth so the visitor impact is likely to have been felt in the immediate Weymouth area. In addition, about 45% of spend with local suppliers by the IRONMAN organisation was in Weymouth. The net benefit to Weymouth is estimated as about £953,600 (84% of the total net benefit) with the benefit to other parts of Dorset being £186,200³.

Spend and GVA impact	Total	Weymouth	Outside Weymouth
Pre-event spend (£m)	£0.9	<i>£0.79</i>	<i>£0.14</i>
Event spend (£m)	£1.4	<i>£1.21</i>	<i>£0.17</i>
Organiser spend (£m)	£0.1	<i>£0.04</i>	<i>£0.05</i>
Total spend (£m)	£2.3	£2.01	£0.32
Impact of pre-event spend (£m)	£0.5	<i>£0.39</i>	<i>£0.07</i>
Impact of event spend (£m)	£0.7	<i>£0.61</i>	<i>£0.09</i>
Impact of organiser spend (£m)	£0.1	<i>£0.03</i>	<i>£0.04</i>
Impact of overall spend (£m)	£1.2	£1.03	£0.20
Business loss impact (£m)	£0.1	<i>£0.08</i>	<i>£0.01</i>
Net impact (£m)	£1.1	£0.95	£0.19

³ Note: figures in table may not sum exactly due to rounding

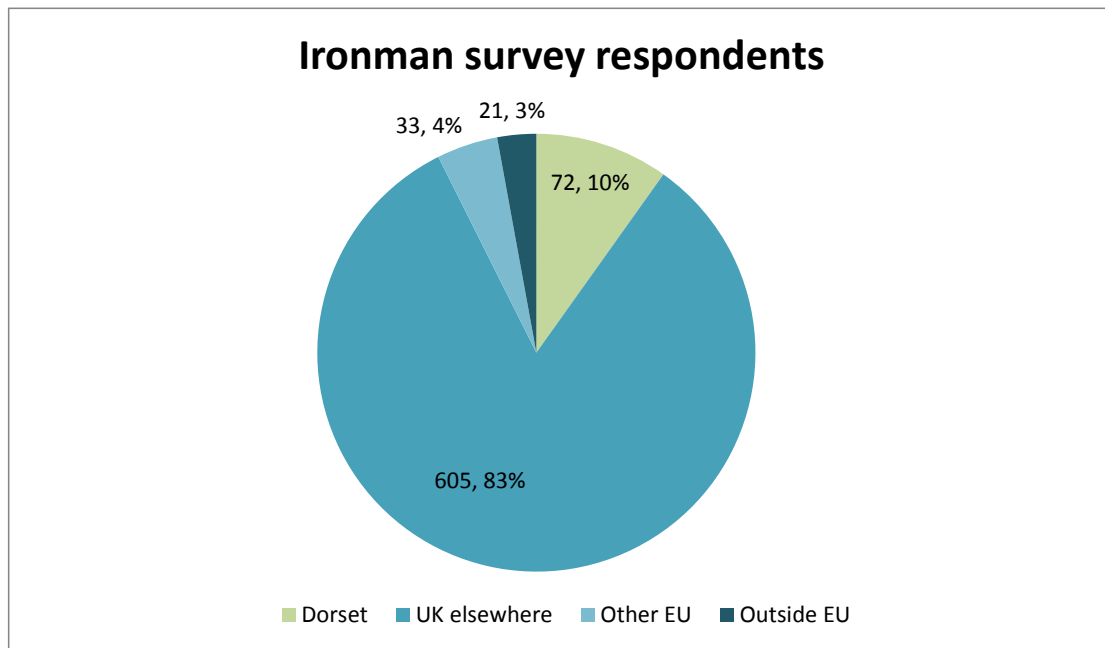
Analysis: respondent characteristics

There were 731 respondents to the survey which was circulated by Just Racing (UK) Ltd to the 2,970 athletes who took part in the event. This is a response rate of 25%⁴.

659 of the survey respondents were from outside the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole area:

- 605 from other parts of the UK;
- 33 from other EU countries (particularly Germany, Ireland, and Belgium);
- 21 from outside the EU

72 of the survey respondents were residents of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole area.



Just over half of 659 respondents who were resident outside the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole area visited Dorset at least once in the 12 months before the event.

Almost two-thirds of the 72 respondents who were resident in the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole area said that they had made one or more visits to Dorset – assuming they mean the locality – in the 12 months leading up to the event. Half of the visits made by residents were day trips.

⁴ Confidence intervals given in Appendix 1

Pre-event visits

A: Respondents from outside Dorset: pre-event visits

There were 659 respondents from outside the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole area giving a response rate of 24% of all non-resident entrants (2,720). The majority of these respondents were residents of other parts of the UK with just eight per cent resident in other countries.

Just over half of the 659 respondents from outside Dorset said that they had made one or more visits to Dorset in the 12 months leading up to the event (52% - 344 respondents).

About a quarter made one visit and more than a quarter (29%) made two or more visits.

Of those respondents who made one or more visits to Dorset before the event, more than half said they would not have visited Dorset as specified if they had not been taking part in the Ironman Weymouth event. This represents 29% of the total 659 respondents from outside Dorset.

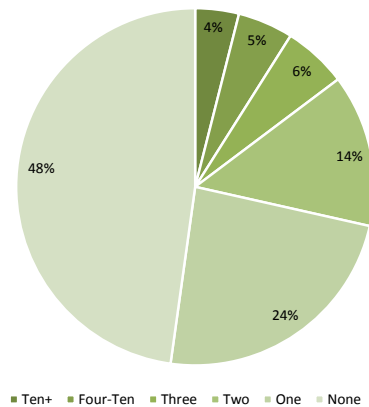
150 respondents said they would have visited Dorset anyway in the 12 months before the event. Whilst there may have been some additional race-related economic contribution from these entrants, their spend data has not been included in this pre-event impact analysis.

Of the 194 respondents who would not otherwise have visited Dorset in the 12 months prior to the event, the majority (175) were accompanied by at least one adult on at least one visit.

These 194 respondents made a total of 476 visits.

On only 60 of the visits were respondents unaccompanied (an eighth of all the 476 individual visits).

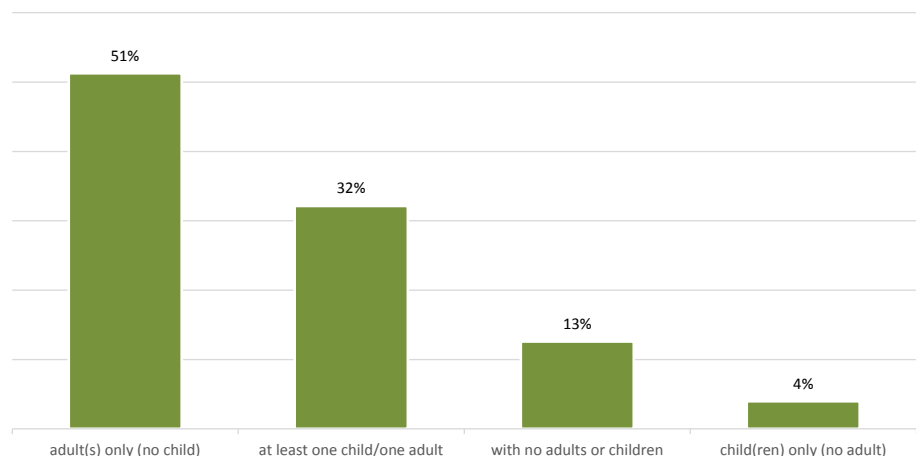
Number of pre-event visits (respondents outside Dorset)



476 individual pre-event visits, accompanied by

More than half of the visits were at least one adult only (no children).

Over the 476 visits, there was an average of 0.72 accompanying children per trip and an average of 1.80 accompanying adults per trip.



Day trips

One quarter of the 476 pre-event visits were day trips (117 trips).

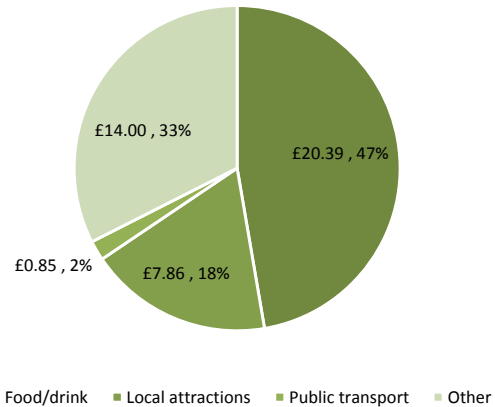
Spending per day trip averaged £43.11 per head, with the largest element of spend being on food and drink.

The second largest element of spend was 'other' which included car parking costs.

This average spend per head is above the Dorset average day trip visitor spend of around £35⁵.

The total pre-event day trip spend estimated from the survey response is weighted up to represent all entrants from outside Dorset giving an overall estimate of £79,261 spend from pre-event day trips.

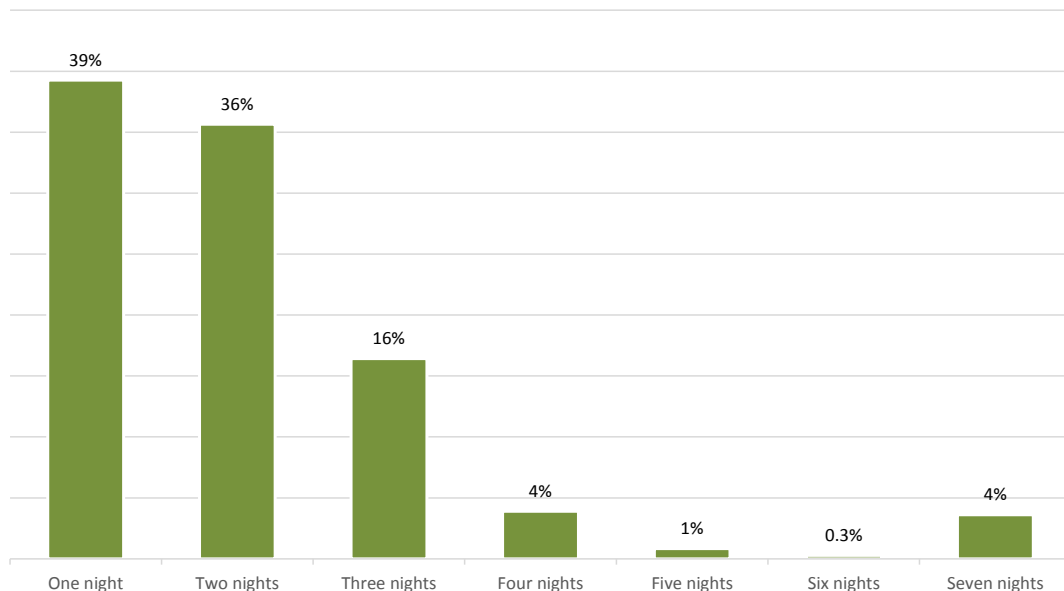
Day trips: average spend per head £43.11



Staying trips

Of all the staying trips made by respondents from outside Dorset (359), three-fifths were of more than one night's duration. Very few of the pre-event visits were made by respondents who were resident overseas (only six out of 359).

Staying trips (359) by duration

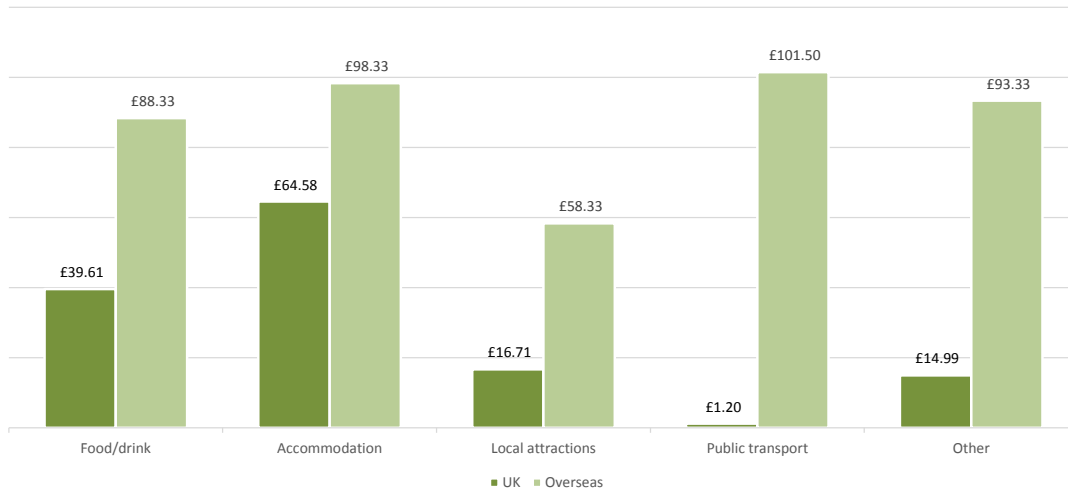


⁵ The South West Research Company Ltd for the Dorset Tourism Partnership, 2015

Spending per trip by UK respondents averaged £137 per head, with the largest element of spend being on accommodation. This is under the average staying visitor spend for Dorset of £210⁶, but this may well reflect the specific purpose of the visits, although some entrants will have combined training with a holiday element, particularly when accompanied by family members.

Spending per trip by overseas respondents averaged £440 per head, with the largest element of spend being on public transport. This is under the average staying spend for Dorset of £619⁷, but again this probably reflects the nature of the visits.

Staying trips: average spend per head of £137 UK and £440 overseas



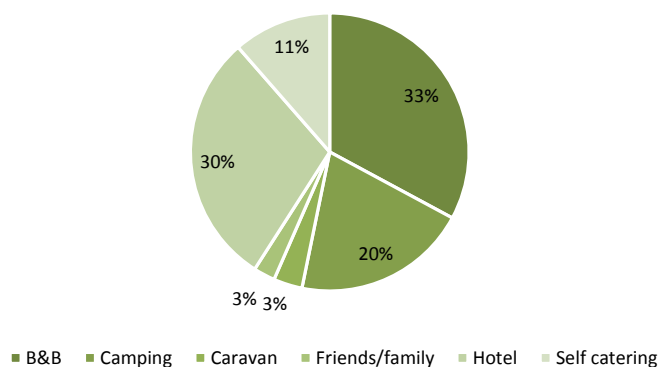
Spend across Dorset – non-residents

The total pre-event day trips spend of £79,261 is assumed to be spent in Weymouth, although it may be that a portion of this was spent in other Dorset locations.

Of the combined staying trips made by UK and international residents, almost three-quarters of the trips were located in Weymouth and just over a quarter outside the town.

Nearly two-thirds of those respondents staying for one night or more stayed in B&B or hotel accommodation. About a fifth camped.

Type of accommodation, pre-event



Of the combined staying/day trip spend of £826,800⁸, about four-fifths was spent by people staying in Weymouth and is therefore assumed to be spent in Weymouth itself. Around £128,400 was estimated as spent by those staying outside Weymouth.

⁶ The South West Research Company Ltd for the Dorset Tourism Partnership, 2015

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Weighted up to represent all entrants

B: Respondents from Dorset: pre-event visits

There were 72 survey respondents who were residents of Dorset giving a response rate of 29% of all Dorset entrants (248). Many of these made day trips or longer staying visits to the locality for pre-event training⁹.

Almost two-thirds of these Dorset respondents said that they had made one or more visits to Dorset – ie the locality – in the 12 months leading up to the event.

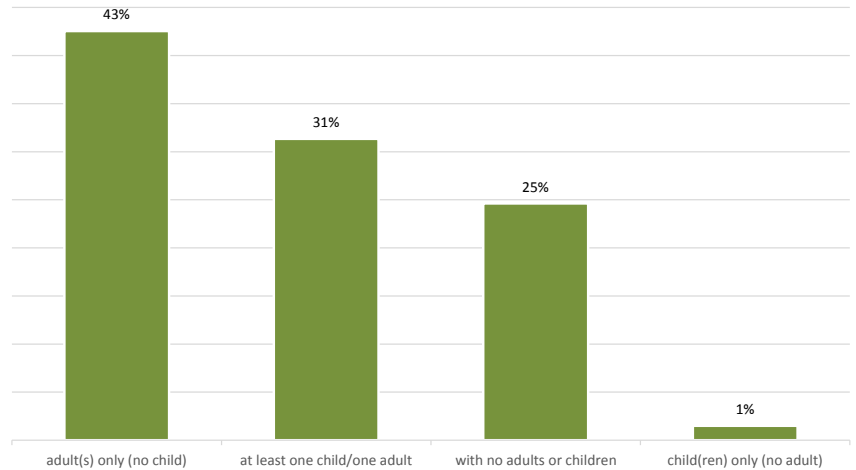
Of the 47 respondents who made one or more visits before the event, most (39) were accompanied by at least one adult on at least one visit.

These 47 respondents made a total of 134 visits.

On only 33 of the visits were respondents unaccompanied (a quarter of all the 134 individual visits).

On two-fifths of the visits, entrants were accompanied by at least one adult only (no children).

134 individual pre-event visits, accompanied by



Over the 134 visits, there was an average of 0.65 accompanying children per trip and an average of 1.93 accompanying adults per trip.

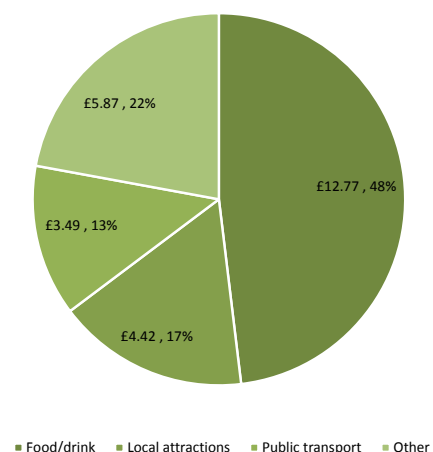
Day trips

One half of the 134 pre-event visits were day trips (69 trips).

Spending per trip averaged £26.55 per head, with the largest element of spend being on food and drink – almost half of all day trip spend. This average spend per head is below the Dorset average for day trip spend of around £35¹⁰.

The total pre-event day trip spend estimated from the survey response is weighted up to represent all Dorset entrants giving an overall estimate of £28,097 spend from pre-event day trips.

Day trips: average spend per head £26.55



⁹ Note: in the analysis for this section if, in response to the question 'How many times did you visit Dorset in the 12 months leading up to the IRONMAN Weymouth event?', the reply was 'I live here' or similar but spend data were provided, this has been included as one day trip unless the response indicates evidence to the contrary. This is likely to result in an under-estimate of day trip spend as it is likely that some residents will have made more trips to the area with an associated daily spend. Two responses were excluded as they appeared unlikely to represent visit spend, ie accommodation costs quoted appear more likely to be for a home rather than a visit.

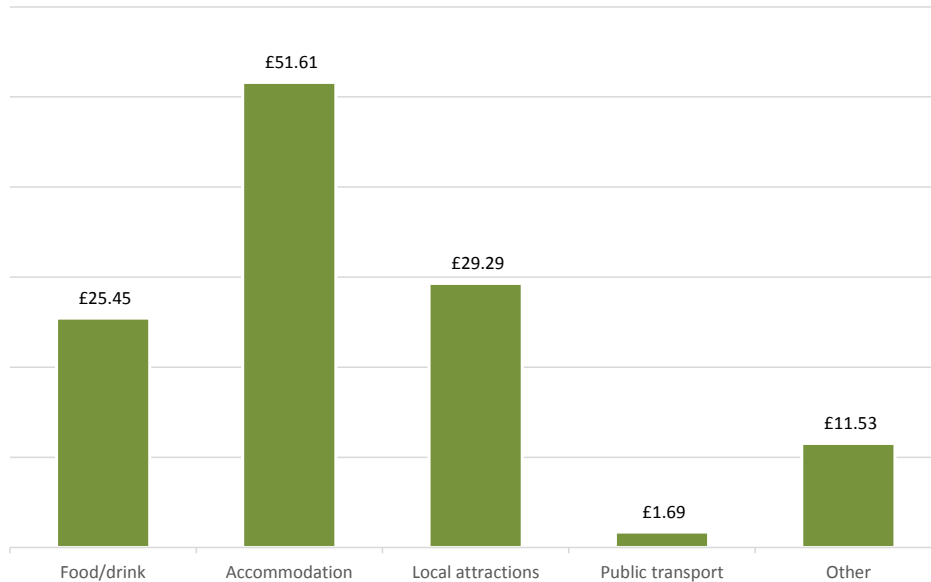
¹⁰ The South West Research Company Ltd for Dorset Tourism Partnership

Staying trips

Of the staying trips made by Dorset residents (62)¹¹, about a third were of one night's duration and the rest of more than one night.

Spending per trip averaged £120 per head, with the largest element of spend being on accommodation. This is under the average staying spend for Dorset of £210.

Staying trips: average spend per head of £120



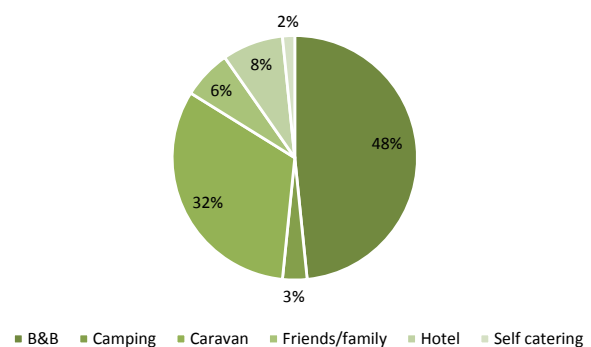
Spend across Dorset – Dorset residents

The total pre-event day trips spend of £28,097 is assumed to be spent in Weymouth, although it may be that a portion of this was spent in other Dorset locations.

Of the staying trips, most were located in Weymouth and fewer than one in ten outside the town.

More than half of those respondents staying for one night or more stayed in B&B or hotel accommodation. About a third stayed on caravan sites.

Type of accommodation, pre-event



Of the combined day/staying trip spend of £109,800¹², more than four-fifths was spent by people staying in Weymouth and is therefore assumed to be spent in Weymouth itself. Around £14,398 was spent by those staying outside Weymouth.

This gives a total pre-event visitor spend of almost a million pounds (£0.94 million) spent in Dorset. Most of this would have been spent in Weymouth (£794,000) but about 15% is estimated as spent outside Weymouth (£143,000) – see later for the economic impact of this spend.

¹¹ Note: three respondents gave no pre-event visit details – these make up the total 134

¹² Weighted up to represent all Dorset entrants

Visits during the Ironman Weymouth event

C: Respondents from outside Dorset: event visits

There were 659 respondents from outside the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole area (referred to as 'Dorset' in this report), the majority of these being UK residents.

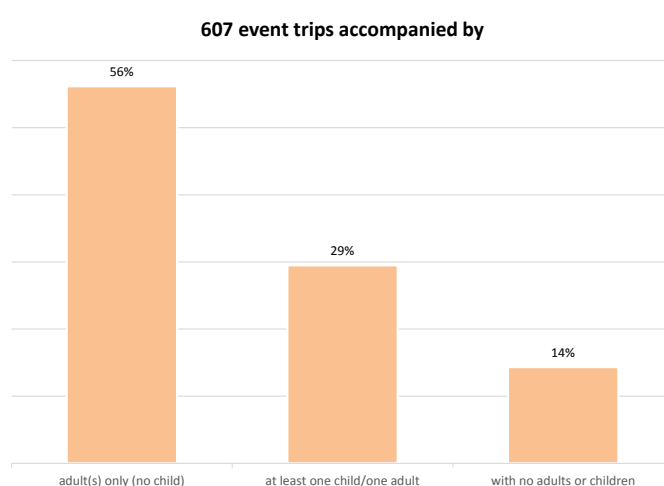
Of these, 52 did not respond to the questions about visits during the actual event.

Of the remaining 607 respondents, the majority stayed for at least one night in the area with just three percent making day trips for the event.

Of the 607 respondents, most (520, 86%) were accompanied by at least one adult on the visit.

Only 87 of the respondents came by themselves (just over an eighth of all responding).

Over the 607 visits, there was an average of 0.62 accompanying children per trip (below the pre-event average) and an average of 2.19 accompanying adults per trip (above the pre-event average).



Day trips

Just three per cent of the 607 respondents indicated that they made day trips (18 trips). However, a further 52 respondents did not respond to this section and are likely to at least have made day trips to the venue.

Spending per trip averaged £34.56 per head, with the largest element of spend being on food and drink.

This average spend per head is in line with the Dorset average for day trip spend of around £35¹³.

This gives a total event day trip spend of £8,222¹⁴ by non-Dorset residents.

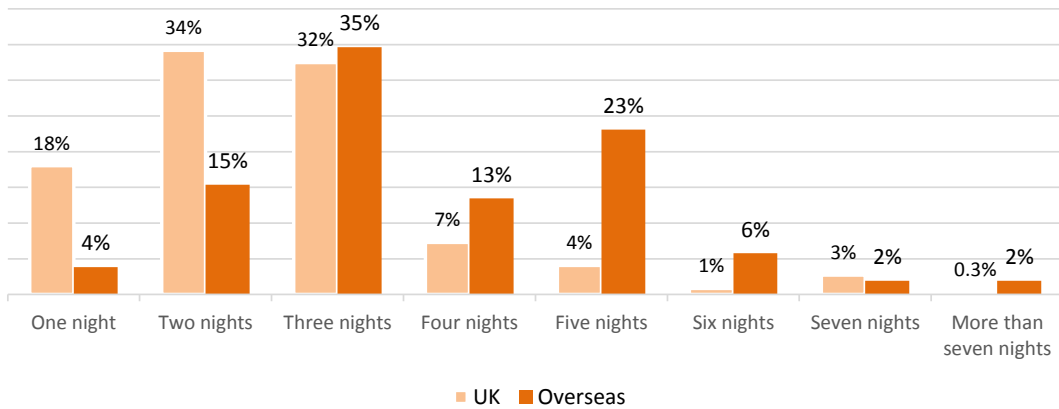
Staying trips

Of the staying trips (588), four-fifths were of more than one night's duration with two nights and three nights being frequent durations. 52 of the event visits were made by those respondents resident overseas and the majority stayed for two or more nights.

¹³ The South West Research Company Ltd for Dorset Tourism Partnership

¹⁴ Weighted up to represent all Dorset entrants

Staying trips by duration



Spending per trip by UK respondents averaged £133 per head, with the largest element of spend being on accommodation. This is under the average staying spend for Dorset of £210.

Spending per trip by overseas respondents averaged £189 per head, with the largest element of spend being on accommodation. This is under the average staying spend for Dorset of £619.

Staying trips: average spend per head of £133 UK and £189 overseas



Spend across Dorset: non-Dorset residents

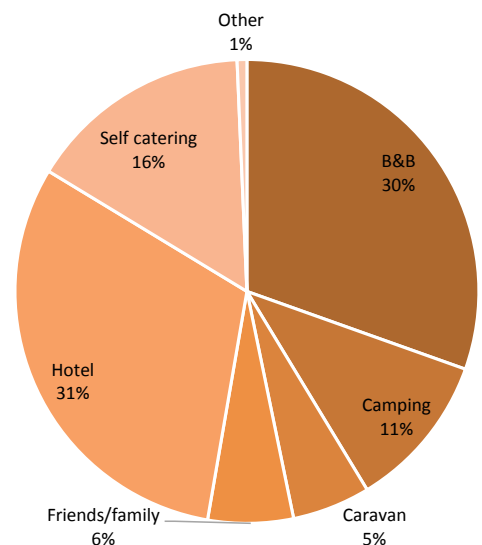
The total event day trip spend of £8,222 is assumed to be spent in Weymouth, although it may be that some of this was spent in other Dorset locations.

Of the combined staying trips, UK and international residents, four-fifths of the trips were located in Weymouth (81%) and just under a fifth outside the town.

Three-fifths of those respondents staying for one night or more stayed in B&B or hotel accommodation. About one in ten camped.

Of the combined staying and day trip spend by non-Dorset residents of £1.3 million, 87% was spent by people staying in Weymouth and is therefore assumed to have been spent in Weymouth itself. Around £168,600 was spent by those staying outside Weymouth.

Type of accommodation, event



D: Respondents from Dorset: event visits

There were 72 respondents who were Dorset residents. 23 of these respondents provided no answers for the remaining questions.

Day trips

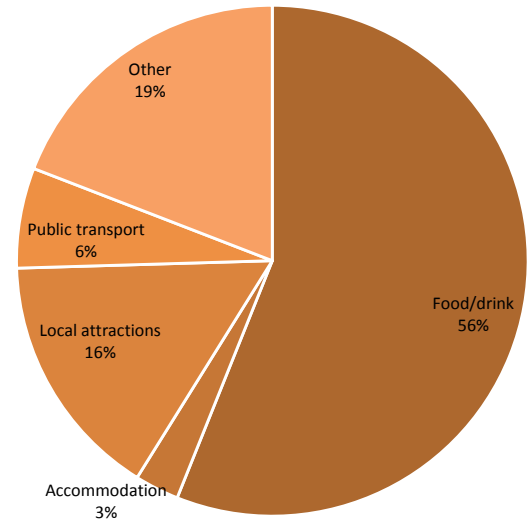
Half of these – probably more, but no data were provided – made day trips to the area for the day of the event.

Spending per trip averaged £31.53 per head, with the largest element of spend being on food and drink.

This average spend per head is below the Dorset average for day trip spend of around £35¹⁵.

This gives a total event day trip spend of £29,452¹⁶ by Dorset residents.

Day trips: average spend per head £31.53



Staying trips

Of the staying trips (16), just under a third were of one night's duration and the rest of more than one night. This is under the average staying spend for Dorset of £210.

Half of those respondents staying for one night or more stayed in B&B or hotel accommodation and others stayed with friends or in self-catering accommodation or camping/caravan

Spend across Dorset: Dorset residents

Of the combined staying/day trip spend by Dorset residents of £63,800¹⁷, 88% was spent by people staying in Weymouth and is therefore assumed to have been spent in Weymouth itself. Around £4,250 was spent by those staying outside Dorset.

Of the staying trips, most were located in Weymouth.

This gives a total event visitor spend of just over a million pounds (£1.4 million) spent in Dorset. Most of this would have been spent in Weymouth (£1.2 million) but about 12% is estimated as spent outside Weymouth (£173,000) – see later for the economic impact of this spend.

COMBINING the event spend PLUS the pre-event visitor spend gives total VISITOR SPEND of over two million pounds (£2.3 million) spent in Dorset. Most of this would have been spent in Weymouth (£2 million) but about 14% is estimated as spent outside Weymouth (£316,000) – see later for the economic impact of this spend.

¹⁵ The South West Research Company for Dorset Tourism Partnership

¹⁶ Weighted up to represent all Dorset entrants

¹⁷ Weighted up

Economic impact: pre-event

This assessment of economic impact is based on estimates of visitor spend during visits to Dorset over the 12 months leading up to the Ironman Weymouth event as outlined previously:

Pre-event visitor spend	Resident outside Dorset	Dorset residents	Total
Pre-event day trip spend	£79,261	£28,097	£107,358
Pre-event UK stay trip spend	£730,785	£81,672	£812,457
Pre-event international stay trip spend	£16,733	na	£16,733
Total pre-event spend	£826,779	£109,769	£936,548

The impact of this additional visitor spend is increased demand for the goods and services of local businesses resulting in greater output. This increases local GVA on a one-off basis, unless the event were to occur annually in which case there would be a permanent addition to Dorset's GVA.

Impact on GVA

GVA measures the contribution of each individual producer, or sector, to the economy by estimating the value of its outputs (goods and services), less purchases and less net spending taxes.

Visits to Dorset in the 12 months leading up to the event are likely to have added about half a million pounds in total to the Dorset economy, mostly through the businesses immediately associated with the visits and their direct suppliers – a direct impact of £0.4 million.

About 85% of this economic impact is attributed to the Weymouth area through visits taking place there.

Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5
				<i>Multiplier: 1.53</i>

Impact on employment

If the event were to continue on an annual basis at this same scale, then in terms of employment the equivalent of about 13 FTE direct jobs would be required to support pre-event visitor spend, perhaps on a seasonal basis or spread across the year: 12 in businesses immediately associated with the visits and another one with their direct suppliers. A further two FTEs would be required elsewhere in the economy through the supply chain impact and household spending giving a total of 15 FTEs.

Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (FTE)
FTEs	FTEs	FTEs	FTEs	FTEs
12	1	0	2	15
				<i>Multiplier: 1.28</i>

Economic impact: the event

This assessment of economic impact is based on estimates of visitor spend during visits to Dorset for the purpose of the Ironman Weymouth event as outlined previously:

Event visitor spend	Resident outside Dorset	Dorset residents	Total
Event day trip spend	£8,222	£29,452	£37,674
Event UK stay trip spend	£1,209,041	£34,355	£1,243,396
Event international stay trip spend	£103,386	£0	£103,386
Total event spend	£1,320,650	£63,807	£1,384,456

The impact of this additional visitor spend is increased demand for the goods and services of local businesses resulting in greater output. This increases local GVA on a one-off basis, unless the event were to occur annually in which case there would be a permanent addition to Dorset's GVA.

Impact on GVA

Visits to Dorset for the Ironman Weymouth event are likely to have added almost three-quarters of a million pounds to the Dorset economy, mostly through the businesses immediately associated with the visits and their direct suppliers – a direct impact of £0.5 million.

About 88% of this economic impact is attributed to the Weymouth area through visits taking place there.

Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.7
				<i>Multiplier: 1.53</i>

Impact on employment

If the event were to continue on an annual basis at this same scale, then in terms of employment about 20 FTE direct jobs would be required to support event-based visitor spend: 18 in businesses immediately associated with the visits and another two with their direct suppliers. A further three FTEs would be required elsewhere in the economy through the supply chain impact and household spending giving a total of 23 FTEs.

Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (FTE)
FTEs	FTEs	FTEs	FTEs	FTEs
18	2	1	2	23
				<i>Multiplier: 1.28</i>

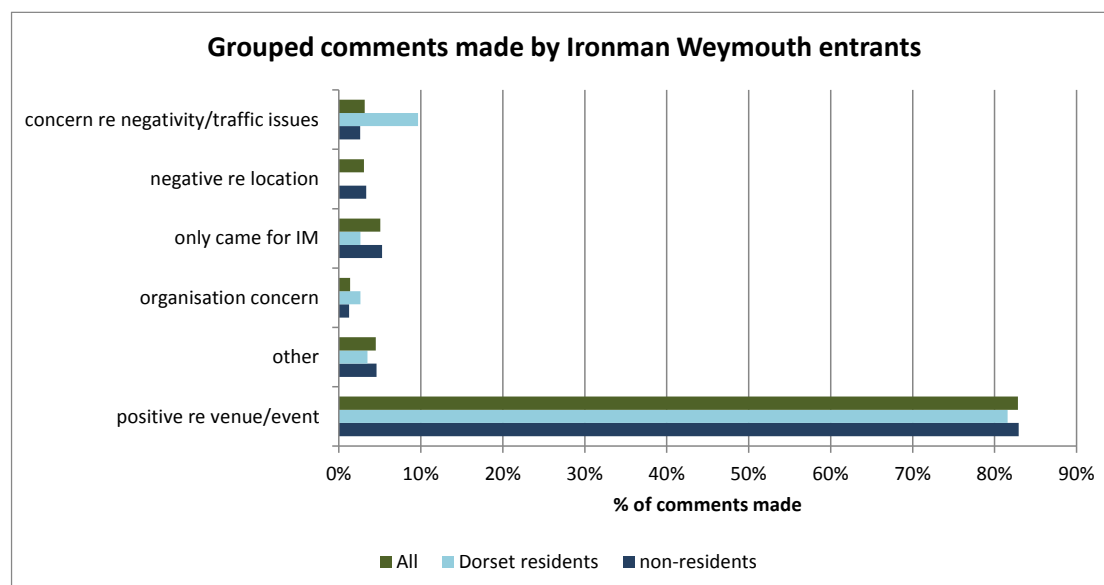
The COMBINED VISITOR ECONOMIC IMPACT of this increase in visitor spending in a year before and during the event would add approximately one million pounds GVA to the Dorset economy (£1.2m) in total, or £0.95m direct impact.

Comments and feedback

Comments made by competitors

As part of the survey, entrants were asked for comments about their experience in Dorset.

The majority of the comments were positive and complimentary about the area and the response of local people to the event with more than four-fifths of comments made by residents and non-residents reflecting this. Only a small proportion of the comments made by entrants were negative, as shown in the chart below. Non-resident entrants tended to be more positive than resident entrants.



Comments made by competitors are shown in Appendix 2 (those resident outside Dorset) and Appendix 3 (entrants resident in Dorset) and a summary is given at the end of this section.

Competitors were also asked **'How likely are you to visit Dorset again?'** 55 of the 659 entrants who lived outside Dorset did not answer. Of those answering the question, 90% said 'Very likely' or 'Likely' and a further nine percent said 'Possibly'.

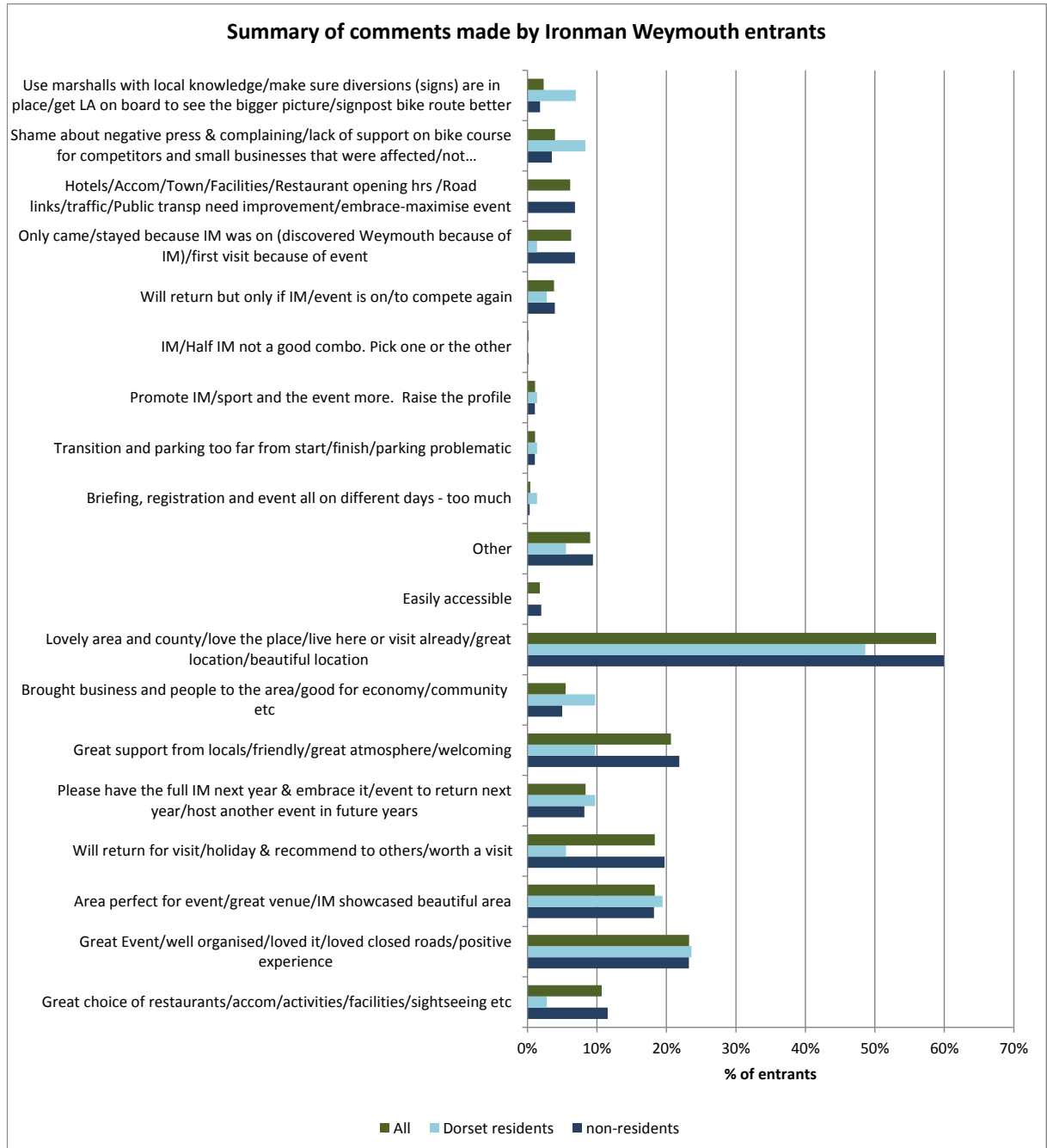
Competitors were also asked **'How likely are you to recommend a visit to Dorset to friends and family?'** Of those entrants resident outside Dorset answering the question, 96% said 'Very likely' or 'Likely' and a further four percent said 'Possibly'.

Complaints and feedback received from members of the public

During and soon after the event, some members of the public emailed or tweeted complaints and comments. The majority of these were about traffic management and road closures but there were also some comments about inconvenience or the distress of either not being able to leave home or being unable to access a location due to road closures. There were also some comments about care issues – particularly care and health workers being able to access clients – and animal care.

There were also comments about loss of business in some settlements, particularly among tourism/leisure related businesses and dairy farmers. Whilst most businesses did not specify a level of loss, where an indication was given, takings seemed broadly to be about half what they would normally have been on a Sunday. To take this negative impact into account, a further assessment has been made of the impact of tourism/leisure related businesses and dairy farmers in the area losing a half a day's turnover, see following.

The comments – with identifying features removed – can be viewed in Appendix 4:
 Appendix 4a – emails received
 Appendix 4b – social media comments



Economic impact of local spend by IRONMAN organisers

In addition to the impact of local spending by competitors and visitors, IRONMAN, the organisers of Ironman Weymouth themselves purchased goods and services from local suppliers and this will have had a further impact on the local economy. Detail of local demand from Dorset suppliers was provided by the IRONMAN organisers:

Local labour	£6,500
Police	£11,500
Water safety	£3,000
Marquees and furniture hire	£31,000
Staff accomm	£12,000
Staff meals/food	£2,500
Athlete food	£8,000
Local media advertising	£5,000
Venue hire	£6,500
Portaloos	£5,000
Production costs	£1,500
Total	£92,500

It has been assumed that 'local labour' refers to temporary staff who are likely to be in short term positions not demanding a high skill level and therefore unlikely to be commuting in from residences outside Dorset – no adjustment for leakage of benefits has therefore been made. The impact has been assessed on household demand (£6,500).

This assessment of economic impact is based on the above labour impact plus organiser spend of £86,000 with local suppliers during the Ironman Weymouth event as outlined above.

The gain to local GVA would be on a one-off basis, unless the event were to occur annually in which case this would be a permanent addition to Dorset's total GVA.

Impact on GVA

Organiser spend (including local labour) during the Ironman Weymouth event is likely to have resulted in a gain of about £71,000 in Dorset's GVA, mostly through those businesses immediately affected and their direct suppliers – a direct impact of £57,000.

Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
0.049	0.008	0.002	0.012	0.071
				<i>Multiplier: 1.45</i>

The COMBINED SPEND ECONOMIC IMPACT of visitor spend PLUS organiser spend would add approximately one million pounds GVA to the Dorset economy (£1.2m) in total, or £0.95m direct impact.

Economic impact of business losses

A number of comments were received about loss of business in some settlements, particularly among tourism/leisure related businesses and dairy farmers. Whilst most businesses did not specify the extent of their loss, where an indication was given, takings seemed broadly to be about half what they would have been on a normal Sunday. To take this negative impact into account, a further assessment has been made of the impact of tourism/leisure related businesses and dairy farmers in the area losing a half a day's turnover.

About 330 businesses in tourism/leisure related businesses and dairy farming were identified along the Ironman Weymouth cycle route¹⁸. An estimate of their turnover for half a day was made: where turnover figures were provided for some businesses but not all, the estimate was made based on data provided and then scaled up to represent the full number of businesses. This suggests a loss of about £550 for each individual business which scales up to a loss of about £181,000 turnover on that day. The economic impact of this is based on lost farming output and lost visitor spend in tourism/leisure activities (including pubs and restaurants).

This assessment of economic impact is based on estimates of lost business turnover during the Ironman Weymouth event as outlined above:

The loss to local GVA would be on a one-off basis, unless the event were to occur annually in which case this would be a permanent loss to Dorset's total GVA, potentially counteracted by gains in other parts of the economy.

Impact on GVA

Business losses during the Ironman Weymouth event are likely to have resulted in a reduction of about £93,000 from Dorset's GVA, mostly through those businesses immediately affected and their direct suppliers – a direct impact of £70,000.

Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
0.057	0.013	0.003	0.020	0.093
				<i>Multiplier: 1.63</i>

The NET ECONOMIC IMPACT of increased visitor spending as a result of the event less business losses would add approximately one million pounds GVA to the Dorset economy (£1.1m) in total, or £0.9m direct impact.

¹⁸ This includes Dorchester where some businesses may have felt an impact from traffic build up around the town. Only tourism/leisure related businesses and dairy farming have been included to reflect both the comments received from businesses and the expectation that these would be the types of business most likely to be operating as usual on a Sunday.

Summary tables of economic impacts

PRE EVENT SPEND:		GVA					
	Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)	Direct impact	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
All Dorset	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.4	
Weymouth	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	
				<i>Weymouth impact as % of all</i>	85%	85%	
EVENT SPEND:		GVA					
	Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)	Direct impact	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
All Dorset	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.5	
Weymouth	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.5	
				<i>Weymouth impact as % of all</i>	88%	88%	
ORGANISER SPEND:		GVA					
	Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)	Direct impact	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
All Dorset	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.06	
Weymouth	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.02	
				<i>Weymouth impact as % of all</i>	42%	41%	
COMBINED VISITOR ORGANISER SPEND:		GVA					
	Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)	Direct impact	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
All Dorset	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.2	1.0	
Weymouth	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.0	0.8	
				<i>Weymouth impact as % of all</i>	84%	84%	

NET IMPACT:		GVA – VISITOR/ORGANISER SPEND IMPACT LESS ESTIMATED BUSINESS LOSS IMPACT					
	Initial	Direct suppliers	Indirect suppliers	Income effects	TOTAL (GVA)	Direct impact	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
All Dorset	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.1	0.9	
Weymouth	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.0	0.8	
				<i>Weymouth impact as % of all</i>	91%	90%	

Appendix 1: statistical validity

Entrants		Survey respondents	% of Entrants by residence		95% confidence level
2,720	Outside Dorset	659	24%	CI +/-	3.32
248	Dorset	72	29%	CI +/-	9.75
2,968	Overall	731	25%	CI +/-	3.15

At a 95% confidence level, looking at the response from entrants outside Dorset or the survey overall, we can be 95% certain that the true figure lies within the confidence interval of about plus or minus three percentage points.

For example, if 47% of respondents to the whole survey pick an answer, we can be 95% confident that the true figure is between about 44% and 50% with just a one in twenty chance of it falling outside that range.

Appendix 2: comments from entrants outside Dorset

PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS ON YOUR EXPERIENCE IN DORSET
It is okay, hugely enjoyed my first ironman experience but don't think its a particularly nice town. Think there are plenty of other places more worthy of hosting the event in the U.K./ Ireland The bike course was the only plus point of the area.
Wonderful setting for an epic race
Very present
It's a beautiful part of the country, but needs events and tourism. Hopefully the locals will welcome people back for many years to come.
Weymouth was lovely weather was great and local seemed very polite and was a great atmosphere over the whole weekend definitely somewhere to visit again to explore more off the area
Fantastic location for a race. Poor road links to the rest of England.
Grandparents lived there , beautiful
I felt extremely welcome by the locals and was impressed with not only the Weymouth coastline but the amazing other coastal spots like Durdle Door, Portland Bill and Lulworth Cove
Ironman put on a fabulous event. It show cased the whole area and would be a massive shame if the event was not held again next year
Excellent.
Very good
Great place great beach kids loved it
Beautiful countryside, easy access from london, very friendly locals.
Nil
I would not have come if not for the race but would now recommend to others.
What a lovely place! The atmosphere was fantastic.
I had a perfect stay. I liked the city and people of Dorset.
Very positive experience, really lovely area. Traffic was a bit of a nightmare both times we visited so although the event made it worse on that visit, it still seemed bad the previous time we visited. Other than the traffic all experiences were positive!
Nice area / county which I would visit again if the IM event is held, I tend to organise my holidays around IM events at home and abroad

Nice places, not very friendly people
Loved Dorset. Fantastic venue. Great crowds and restaurants. Amazing bay and beach. Lovely roads. Will be coming back for some weekend breaks with the family.
Lovely place
Absolutely loved it. Never been there before but would certainly go back again!
Brilliant 6 days. Lovely area. Great locals. We will definitely be back.
Really enjoyed Weymouth as a triathlon venue. Friendly local, lots of supporters, brilliant and beautiful course.
Brilliant!
We enjoyed it immensely. It is a great resort town. I think part of the reason we liked it is that it seems to be a locals kind of resort town versus one with lots of outside the UK visitors. Being outside the UK visitors ourselves, seemed to feel more like we were experiencing "real UK" versus tourist UK, albeit, vacation seaside resort town UK. Overall, great town. I'll reiterate my comments about the IM/HIM combo, not good. Pick one or the other. I feel like the IM participants got shorted a bit in a few ways because of the focus on the HIM race. Not ideal.
Fantastic event and atmosphere, beautiful course and the people in and around Weymouth were amazing.
Absolutely loved it! Definitely want to go back at some point to compete and also take my family
Very good!
I was blown away by the friendliness of the local people.
Awesome
Beautiful scenic lovely seaside and rural area
Weymouth is a fantastic venue for open water swimming and triathlon. I am the captain of a small triathlon team based near Yeovil. We had several team days to Weymouth and we all ate in local restaurants after training. I was late booking accommodation for race day and was gutted to not be able to find anything close/suitable. I would happily stay for 4-5 days when training and during race week if the event is on again.
Very good. Beautiful scenery and lots to do.
Very lovely area, welcoming crowds
A beautiful part of the country. Not a million miles from home and always an enjoyable stay.
Loved Weymouth. Great resort and would definitely return again.
My girlfriend and I had a wonderful time in Dorset and spent time in Weymouth and the local area. We would not have come to the area if were not for the Ironman and will be returning for holidays in the future.
A LOVELY SEASIDE TOWN
It was fab
Very nice
Weymouth has certainly come forward since I lived there in the early 90's. Very pleasant stay and would certainly recommend family and friends staying in the area again. More specifically I have already recommend to my trip friends to compete in next years competition.
Very nice, scenic. Lovely town
I have never visited Weymouth before and only been to Dorset once, despite friends and family recommending the town and surrounding areas to me. I am planning to return for a longer visit as it seemed a lovely place for a family holiday in the UK
We found it a pleasant county with lots of tea houses to find and explore. Dorchester was lovely and spent some time also in Swanage.
The area was lovely, hopefully the event will get the go ahead for next year ..
Beautiful region and lovely people!
Lovely town, great location

I had never been to Weymouth before and only signed up 2 weeks before the event. It was such an awesome venue for the race. The swim was perfect, the roads were smooth and the course kept everyone honest, the run was fantastic with crowd support the whole time. I immediately wanted to sign up to race again next year. I hope that it works out and we can have the race again next year. It was a wonderful experience.
Fab!
Dorset is the perfect setting for an ironman event. I was able to get a pb for 70.3 and I'm looking forward to improving on it next year
I loved the event and the supporters. The locals were great and I would love to do then event again! Already booked into ironman exmoor so can't afford weymouth but would love to do it!!!
Nothing great place
Fantastic support in Weymouth and some of the villages
We hope to return as tourists. My parents came to watch the event and although we only stayed for three nights they stayed for a full week in a self catering appt. They used public transport all week and visited lots of tourist attractions as well as used lots of local pubs, restaurants and cafes. More than we did because we were focused on the race. Had we not been racing there then my parents would not have gone. It had introduced a new part of the UK to them. I was really disappointed to see how much the public had complained given how much info they were given beforehand. Unfortunately I think it is symptomatic of the general public thinking that things won't happen to them or affect them and not making alternative arrangements for travel e.g. train to work rather than drive, walk somewhere or cycle. The people of weymouth and dorset who came out to support the event were amazing.
Great place, will be visiting more often!
I loved the whole ironman experience and would love to take part in another event
Beautiful landscapes and very nice place for cycling Very welcoming abd helpful people The bike course should be indicated better all along the course The roads are narrow so it would be nice if there were sings asking the cars to share the route with bikes The beach is just amazing with cleay water and a long shallow section on the shore Restaurants serving pasta i.e. italian were not opened early enough they should open at 5 because we go to sleep early before an event... All the italian restaurants were fully booked... It would be helpful if they could do an early dinner so they can serve more triathletes hungry for pasta
We visited once or twice a week all summer to learn to sea swim with Bustinskin Triathlon Club. Very welcoming, friendly and helpful.
Weymouth is lovely. I didn't realise just how nice until I visited. I definitely intend to come back. I so hope they let you do the Ironman in future.
Fabulous location for the event and a great way to showcase the area. Grateful to all those people who it may have inconvenienced, but hopefully the benefits to the community and wider public are tangible enough to make it worthwhile.
I love Weymouth bay it's a fantastic venue for an Ironman and the local support was amazing on the day so I really hope it's something that can be built on each year to be another tenby in terms of atmosphere.
The ironman event in Dorset was amazing. I had never spent any time in Weymouth before but loved the location and will be heading back at some point next summer.
Lovely place great friendly atmosphere. Hope Weymouth hold an ironman event again
Lovely area. Pretty. Lovely feel around the town. Nice areas to visit, eat and drink.
Nice place, a little tired but great venue.
A great event shame the infrastructure wasn't prepared for it. A pain registration being one end then bike racking the other then back for the race brief. Hopefully local support will be better was not great, though I imagine this will grow as the event grows in popularity
Very enjoyable visit.
Very nice town with good restaurants and amenities for kids
Have been to weymouth since a child. Fantastic memories always feels lile home although very hilly
I enjoyed being there, enjoyed race, could see the town come alive as more and mreo racers arrived
We had a great time. Lots of lovely places to eat in the town. Very friendly locals.
Really enjoyed our time there,

Dorset is a beautiful place and perfect for the swim bike and run events for the ironman. I had absolutely no issues with anybody from the area and everybody was extremely accommodating. I would highly recommend Dorset and the Weymouth ironman.
It was a wonderful location for an Ironman. I really enjoyed the whole experience. Friendly people and a really good atmosphere.
Love Dorset! Beautiful scenery and friendly people
Had a fantastic experience of Weymouth on both my visits. Race day was truly amazing with some great support from the large crowds and thankfully we were blessed with some amazing weather.
Dorset was an excellent venue for ironman, lovely bay, the bike course was testing with some fantastic scenery and the run was enjoyable with great support from the local people.
Loved Dorset. Ironman event did not seem to have been embraced by the locals. Wales had flags in windows and whole town really bought into it.
Great
Loved it. We have already organised a family holiday next year at the start of the summer.
Without entering IM 70.3 Weymouth I wouldn't have visited Weymouth as I tend to holiday elsewhere in Devon, Cornwall and Wales however since my visit I will 100% be returning to holiday in Weymouth with the rest of my family.
Beautiful countryside.
Weymouth is a traditional seaside town and we enjoyed that aspect, especially the beach. The countryside around Dorset is beautiful. As a cyclist I particularly enjoyed the excellent surface on most of the roads around Weymouth!
Lovely country side and scenery
Great place for an ironman
First time to Weymouth. Thought it was a wonderful town and will visit again in future. That is thanks to Ironman.
Fantastic place, plenty to see and do. Will be visiting again to see more.
We only explored Weymouth and the immediate surrounding area. But would like to come back to Dorset to explore more.
Excellent experience
The town was exceptionally welcoming and the atmosphere amazing. I had a view that Weymouth was a bit rundown before visiting, but it actually has a lot of charm. Would definitely consider a holiday in the area now.
Love Weymouth, it's got it all. A lot to offer. Sheltered large bay, sandy beach, harbour, three sides of coast offering differing character. Nothe fort and gardens, rodwell trail are also great.
Guidance on traffic would be extremely useful as the roads are prone to congestion.
Nice part of the country, definitely worth a visit!
I 'm looking forward to Joining iRONMAN Race next year
Very good event, parking a bit tricky and quite spread out you just need to allow time when travelling between lodmoor and pavilion. Food was good in wetherspoons!
It was lovely
My family enjoy travelling to Dorset every year for week long breaks. The difference with having an Ironman event in Weymouth gives me a good reason to visit the town. I've been to the town few times but on Ironman event day there was a real buzz in the town We discovered Littlesea caravan site to be superb, very friendly staff and a great environment. We are likely to go here again outside of Ironman events. https://www.haven.com/parks/dorset/littlesea/ Would not have used this caravan site if it had not been for the event. Would be good to include this on list of spending vouchers in line with meal incentives. We didn't use the food ones because it was away from the caravan site. Would not have realised how good 'pub street' was without Ironman. Likely to visit again. I found the bike route a great experience on the day, with a lot of the smaller villages providing their support to competitors even putting up bunting etc. The traffic in Weymouth looked pretty poor, however, it wasn't too different when the Dorset County show was on. The one way system in Weymouth has always been horrendous. My family used the amusements (Sloties) in Weymouth along with the Jurassic Skyline (this was their first time) I want to go next time.

I would love to come back and take on Weymouth Ironman, the bike route is simply superb with great scenery. We even discovered Cerne Abbas which we will be going to visit when we are there next.
A lovely (but hilly!) county. Sadly Weymouth was fully booked for accommodation, so I had to find alternative lodging elsewhere.
The race was great and a very good venue to host at given accessibility of spectators to swim and run course.
Very picturesque county enjoyed my stay and great place for the Ironman
Beautiful place with lots of great things to do. Fabulous restaurants and hotels. I would love to come back soon
Beautiful scenery!
It was a well organised event and great support
We had a lovely stay at a campsite on the bank holiday weekend. We noticed lots of other people cycling the bike route whilst we were there, as did we! I had never been to Weymouth as an adult and on first impressions I wasn't sure it after being there for 4-5 days in total I can now completely see its charm, I would absolutely recommend the location and the iron man event to others
Even though the event cause disruption and loss of income on the day, I'm sure in the long run it will have generated increased revenue for the area
variety of scenery - seaside, countryside, town.
Seems very nice
We loved our visit. Weymouth is beautiful and the event was great. Friends and family came by car and train and no issues
Great event in a great location, but felt the local businesses could have done more to embrace the event and maximise the opportunity of 1,000's of visitors to the area for the weekend.
A very beautiful town, I had never seen the old harbour until checking out the run route, superb seafood restaurants. Superb scenery around Dorchester. Definitely recommend Smugglers Inn at Osmington Mills for food and beer.
We enjoyed Dorset and Weymouth
Amazing place worth visiting !
Loved Weymouth. Beautiful seafront. Lots for families to do.
Found it very pleasant with good support
Beautiful Scenery, good transport links. Lots to see and do. Family friendly - perfect for a mini break!!
No issues very happy. Love the place
Lovely time - wish I had spent more time there
Great location
Lovely area, friendly locals
Weymouth was great, as was the crowd support. All the local hotels and B&B's were full which has to be good for the local economy. We visit Dorset frequently due to our close proximity, but would not usually stay overnight, but did for Weymouth ironman.
Really enjoyed seeing Dorset and the surrounding areas, spending a week to recover from the event by lying on the beach was ideal! Really enjoyed the event, loved the course!
Weymouth is a lovely town and fab place to take part in an Ironman event
Lovely place full of lovely restaurants and splendid views.
Beautiful coastline and very friendly people!
We had a great time as a family as we stayed at a Holiday Park near the event. This was perfect for my family and the weather on the race day made the weekend for them.
Pleasant
very good
Weymouth was a lovely place too stay, our first time there will defiantly go back
A beautiful town with plenty of attractions for adults and children I would definitely consider taking my own three children there as when I was competing I was there with friends also taking part in the races. I hope to race at Weymouth again next year.

Great weekend, very nice place to stay and visit
Great! I didn't realise how nice weymouth was. Will definitely go back for weekend breaks.
Great area, Ironman racing deserves to be in Weymouth for the future, great town, great event.
Lovely coastline and countryside
I'm originally from Weymouth, but being in forces and being posted long way away I rarely come back (2 times a year). Coming back with a service friend also doing the event, training and being the tour guide renewed my love of the countryside and surrounding Dorset towns (Dorchester, West Bay, Abbotsbury, Swanage). My Girlfriend also loved the places and we are looking at doing a cheap holiday over Christmas. The beach is amazing! And well worth the visit.
I absolutely loved my visit to Weymouth. The scenery was beautiful and the locals were great!
It was a lovely well supported event in a beautiful place in the uk
Loved it.
I loved my whole experience of Weymouth. I was made to feel very welcome everywhere I visited. The people were very friendly. And what a day the event was! My first Ironman and definitely not my last. Thank you Ironman and thank you Weymouth!
i really enjoyed it
I was not sure, how the stay would be. This was the reason, why I left the Family behind. Next time I would take my family with me, for sure.
3 weeks in Cornwall and Dorset. Amazing. Think I'd like to move there. Great job on the Ironman. I am from Weymouth, Nova Scotia Canada. I ji I just had to see my hometown's namesake.
Great event, having grown up in Weymouth it is yet again disappointing to see the negative comments about the event. It needs to embrace the race as Tenby does.
Loved the area but due to work commitments could not stay longer so plan to visit again to explore the area more
Lovely place, would highly recommend it. Loved the race, the place, and the surrounding areas.
Beautiful region, friendly people. Lots of local support. Fantastic!
Loved Weymouth, would likely visit again for a holiday.
Great place to visit. Wanted to stay longer and explore the coast
We had an amazing time and it has prompted us to visit Weymouth again next summer, bringing another 6 adults with us for the bustin skins triathlon event in July. and hopefully next September to do the ironman event again. Due to recommending weymouth to my friend he then took his girlfriend there last weekend and proposed! staying all weekend and spending money in the local area!! we will be back several weekends next year to practice the bike course for the events were planning to do there. we have recommended the event to everyone in our trip club!!
Beautiful county, swim was amazing as is the bike course. Lots of local attractions. We went to the tank meseum, fort northe, monkey world, as well as tolpuddle. Ate out most days. Spent a pleasant afternoon on the quay drinking with friends at the rendezvous. All of which without IM Weymouth we wouldn't have done.
Beautiful place. Would definitely take my children there.
Great. Lovely place, and people.
Excellent stay for a great event, please do it next year!
Although we live in the opposite end of the UK (North West Scotland) my wife's brother has a house in Poole which we visit several times a year. Consequently we know Dorset quite well and have been visiting for many years - we love the county and regularly return. That's part of the reason I chose IM Weymouth.
Loved it. Closed roads were awesome.
Please have Ironman Weymouth full distance again. I'd definitely enter again. Please,please,please
Great local environment and coastline

<p>My wife, found the course amazing to watch seeing me on the first lap of the bike then walking back for transition and watching me on the run while having a coffee and shopping! She really enjoyed watching swimming I guess It helped with the beautiful weather.</p> <p>We stayed in the premier inn, the staff phoned before are arrival giving us details about acses on the day of Ironman. The staff offered help about parking if my wife needed the car, a first class service.</p> <p>All the local pubs and restaurants, where still nice and friendly and we did not hear a bad word about the roads being closed, just an amazing buzz.</p> <p>Looking forward to 2017</p>
<p>On both visits I thought it was a very friendly, clean and picturesque place.</p>
<p>It was lovely seeing different parts of the UK I had previously never visited before</p>
<p>Lovely place, great atmosphere and extremely welcoming.</p>
<p>The ironman event was fantastic! I felt it didn't have the same presence as Ironman France earlier in the year...it was a bit more tucked out the way and not so 'in your face'!</p> <p>Our b&w only notified us the week of the event to say we couldnt park outside and had to use alternative parking, could have been better communicated!</p> <p>The race day it self was perfect! The organsiatio and volunteers were faultless and the fact the roads were closed meant the bike route was safe and quiet!</p> <p>I can appreciate the trouble it caused but it would have been a whole lot worse if you had Sunday motorists trying to bully their way past 3000 cyclists....tempers would have freyed and it would be utter carnage!!</p>
<p>Never visited before. Had 3 training weekends in weymouth. Thoroughly enjoyed and aiming to compete there again along with a few additional mates</p>
<p>Loved it:)</p>
<p>It reminded us of a traditional seaside as yet unspoilt by too many arcades, we loved the town and surrounding area and are now planning to holiday in the area</p>
<p>Great time and made super welcome</p>
<p>Beautiful areas surrounding Weymouth especially Pulpit Rock. Be excellent if the bike part of the Ironman event incorporated the Isle of Portland.</p>
<p>We had a wonderful time in Weymouth itself and a great follow up family holiday on the Jurassic Coast afterwards - a nice change from our usual week in Padstow in Sept.</p> <p>Most of our time was spent on the beach and we ate out most days for either Lunch or Dinner.</p>
<p>Regularly visit Dorset, I thought the council could have offered free parking for the event as it didn't seem right that we had to pay for two lots once for registration and once for bike racking</p>
<p>The owner of the property was extremely pleased to accommodate our party of 4 adults (2 competing) and 2 children which was essentially post peak holiday season, we spent money in local restaurants, shops, amenities (local swimming pool) and everyone we met were fantastic and welcoming of the event and the additional trade. I appreciate the road closures may have disgruntled a few but surely IM brought fantastic economic benefits post peak holiday season, I sincerely hope the views of a minority do not jeopardise the event and benefits to the local community in the future.</p>
<p>Excellent event, well run & an amazing atmosphere</p>
<p>Lovely place very clean and tidy, we used the event as a family holiday also and enjoyed it very much. Lots to do and the event itself was super organised and a great day had by athletes and spectators.</p>
<p>Beautiful well kept part of the country</p>
<p>I had never been before and surprised how lovely it was</p>
<p>I was saddened by the negative comments regarding traffic directed at the event organisers. I feel the event was sabotaged very much like the challenge event the year before was sabotaged.</p>
<p>Weymouth is an excellent place in itself and as a location for triathlons. Also great place to bring the family and make a weekend of it. Keen to return again!!</p>
<p>I loved my experience in Dorset, very welcoming atmosphere and great locations for the events</p>
<p>Love Dorset. Thoroughly enjoy visiting Weymouth and Portland</p>
<p>Very nice location for an ironman event.</p>
<p>The locals and particularly the businesses were very welcoming.</p>
<p>very enjoyable - late summer weather was excellent</p>

Very beautiful coastline and very green area.
Great friendly place. People were welcoming and accommodation was wonderful. Would definitely recommend and stay again.
Lovely countryside + Weymouth great UK summer location along the sea
Generally very welcoming & great to have the support of those in the local community
beautiful countryside it made my first full ironman a memeory for life also the best experience of my life
Very enjoyable. Lucked in with the weather but would highly recommend the area to anyone.
We had a great experience and as we had never been to Weymouth we would consider visiting again. Being able to run along by the sea and the village tour on the bike was a great experience
Thoroughly enjoyed my race day, family enjoyed the day watching and playing on the beach, and the fish and chips !!
Very nice place
Brilliant - 9/10, lost marks for poor public transport services (cancelled services with no prior information).
Excellent. Great Crowds, great place. Want to Ironman Weymouth 70.3 again next year
Fabulous location. Never visited there before, nor thought about doing so, but would definitely return!
Loved it
The event was fantastic in many ways because of the location and the people. It was a perfect place to hold the event - access was easy, the town easily navigates le, the beach utterly gorgeous, and the bike a really fantastic ride, while the local volunteers were just fantastic. While I don't often go on breaks within England, I would certainly consider heading back down for cycling given how wonderful the roads and countryside were
Fantastic couple of days. Very well organised event
I loved the experience of racing in the jurassic coast, the environment and support from the local people was awesome
Very positive
Like Dorset generally which is why I chose Ironman Weymouth. Unlikely to visit again unless it's for another ironman
Really enjoyed doing the Weymouth Half Ironman, excellent location and organisation. Really enjoyed the local support as well it was great.
Love it
Nice town, nice location
We enjoyed and would not have travelled there were it not for the Ironman event. In so doing we were happy to boost the local economy
Very friendly place. I got lost a few times even though I had a hire car. Very vibrant, beautiful, friendly place.. Restaurants food was fantastic but mostly ate in the Premier inn pub.
Very much enjoyed the stay. Getting out took ages, but that was to be expected.
A beautiful setting - can't wait to visit again (either sporting or as a family road trip).
Weymouth and surrounding countryside provided a very enjoyable experience. Only negative was the over inflated accommodation prices over the Ironman weekend. Standard of accommodation was very poor for the price.
Had a brilliant time, been coming to Weymouth on holiday for years, would recommend experience to anyone
The sea was beautiful to swim in and the seafront was lovely.
Thanks for your assistance and cheering, was awesome!!
Loved it and wouldn't have visited the area if it wasn't for the event. I look forward to going back next year.
Looking forward to taking my family camping in Weymouth and taking them to the sandy beach
I absolutely loved it. The infrastructure and IRONMAN race organisation allowed for a VERY smooth participant experience. So thank you. I have recommend to the athlete's I coach and friends. I'll be back, hopefully :)
Amazing place. We discovered many Jems during our stays including great villages, castles, water parks and amazing beaches. Also great roads for cycling holidays in the future.
Great beach, nice restaurants

Loved Weymouth Beach is stunning and the Dorset views are amazing Nightclub in town needs more policing on the weekend however as I walked past drunk kids fighting at 4am in the morning on the way to the ironman start
Very welcoming, great support from locals and families. Police assistance was great.
Very pleasant stay and we've booked our summer holiday there next year!!!
It was an excellent venue. Plenty to do for spectators and everything was in close proximity making the accommodation, swim start, transition area and finish line all within easy walking distance of each other.
I visited weymouth as a child and have fond memories , i live in somerset now and visit weymouth quite regularly So when event was advertised in jumped at chance
Never been to Weymouth before, came down Once to bike the course before and obviously came for IM and absolutely loved it, will definitely be coming again summer.x
lovely place. will definitely visit again
I had never been to Weymouth previously and liked it so much I am taking the family there for a weeks holiday next summer
Very enjoyable event. Beautiful countryside
mega
Very nice place to visit , friendly people
Weymouth was a great setting for the ironman event.
Please don't let a few NIMBY complaints about traffic stop you from putting on another great event!
Some of the best weekends in Weymouth and Poole
Grew up in Weymouth, beautiful town and bay. Knowing the area well... The economy and mindset of people in the town, its no surprise that they are moaning about it. The town should be buying Ironmans have off to have it again. It needs all three investment it can get. I would definitely come back if it harkened again next year.
8 Friends and family were staying in Dorchester and Portland. Average spend Â£50pppn on accommodation for 3 nights.
Good exeperience, great place, however not an easy drive from london for a lack of motorways. Hotels were very expensive for what we were getting in terms or service, cleanliness. Not a large choice of restaurants and we would always prefer to compete in a race in Spain or in the med as probably overall works pretty much the same amount of money
Great location
Ironman event was great. Wouldn't have visited without it. Please run it again.
Beautiful. Only issue getting out after the event!
We are familiar with Dorset and frequently go to the Jurassic coast with the kids and dog. Always a good day and good transport links. The roads are generally better than Somerset (where we live) and that makes cycling a lot nicer!
Really friendly and warm atmosphere.
Was a brilliant location for a brilliant event
Great ironman event Weymouth was just a seaside resort that would normally be very quiet that weekend
Generaly a very positive experience. A little trouble with the roads but that was probably due to the volume of ironman traffic inbound for the weekend. Struggled to find places in local restaurants as very busy.
Beautiful countryside, lovely locals, pretty villages, good facilities and a warm welcome.
It's was a great event even better than previous years. Will do again.
It was very nice but I was pushed for time so didn't have time to explore.
Love Weymouth and its surroundings. I am a Triathlete and Weymouth is my favourite place to compete
Opened my eyes to the Jurassic coast and very pleasant countryside.
Dorset is a beautiful county and has so many beautiful places to visit and see, local people are friendly, and lots of places to stay, we were however disappointed with the number of supporters compared to Ironman UK Bolton and Ironman Wales, the supporters make the event! It may be that as this is the first time Ironman has been in Weymouth that the support was low in numbers and will grow in time to match or even rival Bolton and Tenby.

I enjoyed the experience and got to see an area of the country I would have been unlikely to visit were it not for Ironman. We will most likely return!
I thought Dorset a very beautiful county - wonderful countryside. Loved the beach at Weymouth.
Great experience, B&B owner wonderful and cheered us on, we are going back for a weekend stay as it was so lovely. We bought a local tri group from yeovil twice a week for five months where we all park at Lodmoor and eat out locally twice a week. I personally camped most weekends in Sumner and used parking at Lodmoor, local cafe, harvester etc, beach and did the park run and bicycle route whilst training for ironman. Family and friends all stayed for event weekend and also for a week in the summer and will be returning. Locals at Greenhill very friendly. Thoroughly enjoyed and pretty much spent our whole summer here. If ironman doesn't go ahead we probably would go elsewhere next summer and for the six months training season.
Surprised at how nice it was.
I and we as a family had a great time, the hotel and staff were very welcoming and looking forward to the event. The restaurants we visited again were very welcoming of us as athletes and we're looking forward to the buzz the event was creating. I have done lots of events both ironman and other companies around Europe and would love to do Weymouth again. Thanks Andy'
It was my first time in Dorset and I would love to return for a family holiday now that I know what attractions there are.
Nice seaside town with great atmosphere from Ironman event.
Great country side and sea front
Good location for an ironman. Great swim & bike courses. Run congested in parts due to volume of athletes. Overall good.
I loved the whole experience. Picturesque and beautiful. A super location for Ironman with the amazing cycle route, super sea swim and run with amazing support.
I really enjoyed the locations and think it was perfect for an iron man event.
Hadn't visited before but will definitely be back, and not just for the ironman!
Simple beautiful
Weymouth is such a great town with easy access by either train, bike or car. So pleased it was held there this year and hope it stays for many years
Really enjoyed Weymouth and surrounding areas. Perfect venue for Ironman event, perfect transition area close to swim, and finish line.
Great experience, fantastic venue would love to see the event continue in such a beautiful setting
Great location which we'll be sure to return to
Event was quality had a great weekend and would definitely recommend Dorset after my visit.
Only wish it was closer to Essex
Beautiful area, perfect location for an IM event.
I have always like Dorset, but hadn't been to Weymouth before, I really liked it and will tell people it looked like a great sea side town
What a fantastic reception and level of support from the local community. Having raced everywhere from Australia's Gold Coast to Kona, racing in our own country with the level of encouragement and support from a town like Weymouth makes one ask why we bother going any further away!
Thank you Weymouth for a very special event. Please have us back to your special English seaside town to race again.
Ironman Weymouth was a brilliant event. Such a great vibe and hopefully a positive inspiration to locals and the many people who came to watch. Cafe we visited on Saturday said it was the busiest they had ever been. If not competing I'd return to watch the Ironman in 2017
Really really nice
Needed more time to enjoy it all so will need to go back
Love Dorset!! Visited for Bournemouth Marathon in 2015 and returned for Weymouth 70.3 in 2016. Moving there in 2017!
Great experience
Very much enjoyed.
Brilliant!
Very nice

Enjoyed
It was our first time to Weymouth and my girlfriend and I thought it was stunning. Really charming seaside town with a beautiful beach and surroundings we're and already planning to go back with the family and explore the surrounding areas and coastline out of Weymouth. It is an incredible setting for an event like this and being on the bike as we came over the hill back into the valley and seeing Weymouth down below was a real pinch me moment. I hope the event didn't cause too many problems for the local residents and the overall feeling from the town towards Ironman was a positive one. I would definitely come back to compete again for sure!
Very enjoyable race although I noticed a lack of support from locals
Very nice
The ironman Weymouth event was my first and I enjoyed the support and local hospitality very much and couldn't have wished for a better venue and event for my first ironman
we have been to weymouth in the past and loved it and i'm desperatly hoping ironman takes place in 2017 as it would be a great race and feed back through triathlon forums and facebook groups has been amazing, bolton and tenby both want to keep ironman in their towns due to the income that it recieves from participants and spectators what is happening at weymouth is triathlon not good enough for them. to be honest the fact they are not snapping ironman's hand off to put the event on next year is rather worrying! Maybe try another venue if you have to jump through hoops maybe brighton or even an ironman scotland!
Great place great event more again next year please.
Great family location, and excellent venue for people wishing to do a 70.3 or full Ironman.
Thoroughly enjoyed the event - great location
Go to Weymouth every year on holiday so that's what attracted me to the ironman event when I heard its was coming to Weymouth. The town has lots of good hotels and nice restaurants to eat in and a really good beach for the kids to play on.
Welcoming people, although many locals had no idea that the event was on.
A wonderful weekend, such beautiful countryside and such a warm welcome from so many people... It was a privilege to be able to participate in such an event.
We came down to Dorset to support my nephew in the Ironman event. I would very much like to return in 2017 to enter the Ironman if the authorities allow the event to go ahead.
Dorset is beautiful and the locals are very welcoming, the area is clean and inviting, every body was sad to leave!
Unfortunately we were sick. But we did love our time there. The race was awesome and the scenery was great. I would certainly come back and would recommend the area to friends in Canada to come and visit as well.
Excellent
I've raced Bolton and been a supporter in Tenby. Weymouth was a great event but the locals would benefit more from the event if they came out and supported us more. In Bolton they ran ironkids, this was mainly for the local children. Arrange some street parties on the closed roads, make it about the locals and not tourism, get the local children involved. The thing that makes ironman so good is the support. Grumpy locals could cost Weymouth a ton of revenue, people who do ironman are not poor, we don't collect Sun tokens to get a free holiday.
excellent place for an IM
Great place and very clean, great support
Great place to visit, great event & will definitely return for the event in the future
Dorset is a lovely friendly place with lots to see, especially the beaches and Monkey World! We will be coming back after a positive experience visiting in preparation for the IRONMAN event. But now we are planning to holiday there next year we liked it so much! The people were very friendly in Weymouth for the event itself and the residents considerate and supportive of the event.
I have been before, on my first ever romantic weekend away with my now wife, and with my father, who is a geologist, to visit the Jurassic Coast. And now my first ever Iron Man event too. So, it is a county close to my heart.
Fantastic time had by all
Totally satisfied with the whole experience of the ironman and of the area chosen . Weymouth is an excellent choice and have already booked a weekend break in April next year

Great event, loved Weymouth. Really positive experience
We found Dorset a lovely place to visit and thoroughly enjoyed the site seeing without having to spend too much to enjoy ourselves
Event was good. However staying in central Weymouth was quite noisy with party goers staying out to the early hours making a great deal of enthusiastic noise...
Awesome event
Thoroughly enjoyed the stay and being by the sea. Lovely place! Would certainly consider visiting again. Many thanks.
Beautiful. We're regulars as we live c40 minutes away.
Loved Weymouth, never been before but will definitely come back for long weekend style holiday
Surprised how much there was to do in the area
I thought Weymouth was lovely, the sea was extremely clean and the cycling route was also fabulous. I'm highly likely to travel with the entire family.
Great experience. Really showcased Weymouth. Will return. The locals on the route did Dorset proud. Big thanks hope we can come back.
Beautiful part of the world I wouldn't have seen if not for the races held in Weymouth
Great stay in wonderful b&b 2 mins from transition. Good selection of cafes and restaurants and ideal venue for Ironman.
Great event, great location
Beautiful area - showcased even more by the stunning bike route. Will hopefully be back in a few years time to give it another go!
Love Dorset
Love Dorset - been on holiday to Weymouth and surrounding area numerous times. Our knowledge and enjoyment of the area played a big part in choosing IM 70.3 Weymouth as our first IM branded event.
The race course was excellent and the location was superb for an Ironman event. The closed roads around a beautiful cycle course made the race for me. I'm looking forward to next year and hope the locals embrace this wonderful event.
Well run event, - appreciate the road closures and impact but this has on patient locals but it allows for a great event and I will do it again- full or half. Ironman brand offer comes with closed roads and conditions/safety, I get what I pay for.
It is a beautiful part of the British Isles at all times of the year. Weymouth is so characterful during the summer when full of people and lovely to walk around at all times of year with a wonderful safe beach for children.
Beautiful countryside, perfect setting
Great event in fantastic surrounding, good for local economy and tourism
We had a great time exploring lots of local beaches and villages. Would have loved it if more people came down to the run course to support the race. Having raced in Tenby the locals have really taken the race to the heart.
Lovely place!
It was good.
Friendly and personal
I'd never heard of it nor would i ever considered visiting prior to the event. See you all next year!
excellnt area to visit, lots to see and do. Next time I wont have to do an Ironman so I'll enjoy the local attractions more :)
Enjoyed it
We all loved the area, if not for the Ironman event, we would never have visited probably. The event puts Weymouth on the map to thousands of people, who would not otherwise visit.
Was a lovely place came this year with my family to support friends & am looking to take part in 2017 My son loved it and in 2017 may stay for longer to enjoy the area
This was mine and my family's first visit to Weymouth or Dorset and we thoroughly enjoyed it. It's not a place I'd have thought to visit previously. The event was world class in itself but showcased the area for its beautiful bay, harbour, beaches and breathtaking coastline and countryside! Our rented accommodation on the local Haven site was superb and we're highly likely to return to explore more of the area.
we visited weymouth several years ago for a coastal trail series run but had forgotten how lovely this place it and its beautiful location!

Lovely place and have been since
A lovely scenic place,with loads to do,will be back to windsurf in the near future
Race was great, fantastic atmosphere in the town on the run. Great location for the event! Will be even better if it can be grown and the ironman field swelled.
We have been to Weymouth before and would never have been a location we would have chosen to go for a small holiday too if it wasn't for the ironman. We did find that it generally seemed unfriendly and that ironman was not welcomed. Public toilets in Weymouth are near unaccessible with a pushchair which made it very difficult for my partner with two young children.
Always had a good time in Weymouth and Portland.
Great location!
My family and I had an amazing time in Weymouth for the Ironman triathlon this September. It was the first time I'd ever visited Weymouth and i will certainly be back. Stunning scenery, friendly and accommodating people and a very well organised event. Thank you. John Cooke, Chester.
On the whole everyone I came across were fantastic. They clapped and cheered the 3,000 athletes along the way to a brilliant day out racing...
Fabulous place to be, very supportive crowds and lovely atmosphere! I want to do the full distance next year, for sure.
Parts of Weymouth town centre are a bit run down, which is a shame. The countryside around Weymouth is beautiful.
I had an amazing weekend meeting a good friend who stays in Weymouth spending time with them, whilst also being able to compete at the ironman event
We thought Weymouth and Swanage were very nice..neat and tidy. Bournemouth was a mess outside the towncentre and the public toilets were just awful. Lots of shops shut and charity shops everywhere...very sad.
Lovely location - sea and beach were beautiful
Love Dorset. Have visited Weymouth a bit to train for this ironman and other Ines and it's a nice local beach
Charming. Beautiful. Hilly. Cute.
Enjoyed it!
We frequently visit Dorset for weekends and this is mainly why I chose to do my first Ironman here
Beautiful sea and countryside and smooth roads
We had a fabulous few days, in particular on the day of the event in Weymouth when the weather was very fine and made the whole environment around the promenade particularly enjoyable. The level of support shown by the spectators was incredible and really added to the entire experience. Given the experience, if I compete at IM Weymouth again I would certainly encourage even more friends and family to come along next time
Enjoyed my visit. Weymouth is a stunning place. Hoping to go back next year to do the "full" ironman.
Fantastic Place, Nice Town and friendly people
Very clean
The beach and beachwalk in Weymouth were very nice. The roads are vertu rough and some of the closed roads were nog respected by locals which caused some probs during the bike.
Weymouth itself lacks a certain sophistication but has a beautiful beach and the people are chariming
we prefer other parts of the world.
A great family destination
Brilliant! Extremely friendly hosts, wonderful scenery, delightful cuisine. And, of course a great IM event!
A great beach for families to enjoy Plenty of accommodation to choose from, suiting all needs and budgets.
Love Dorset!! Great Ironman event too!! Well done!!!

I wasn't there for IM Weymouth. But I did take part both years when the event was run by Challenge. We stayed at the same B&B each time who love the event as their B&B was full all weekend when they would normally have been empty or nearly. The couple who run the B&B were also out supporting their guests taking part. We ate out at Mallams Restaurant, Prezzo which were both busy those nights and a local Chinese restaurant after the race. That wasn't full but the few customers in there on a miserable stormy Sunday night were race competitors.
Can't wait to come again, lovely place and lovely people
Beautiful time of year and gorgeous weather. I loved the race and my husband hired a motorbike from Bournemouth and loved riding around the countryside. Weymouth offers a great variety of eating places and next time I would like to stay longer to check out the old harbour and shops
Great event, beautiful scenery
Beautiful
a nice small town
The race was the first time I have been to Weymouth. The last time I was at a seaside town like this was as a child. It reintroduced me to the pleasures of visiting such a place. I am so grateful for you allowing IM to use to the location.
In general all the local residents I & my party of supporters met were very supportive of the event.
Very nice , clean place. Lots to do with kids etc. Not sure about town safety at night but that is a matter for council and police. My family and I enjoyed the experience.
Nice place 4 an event
I have family in Weymouth so it is always great to visit. This time I visited Portland and Lulworth Cove (parking very expensive for a short stay!). The countryside is lovely.
Beautiful area. Have booked the autumn school holidays in Dorset
lovely place just hope they reconsider doing the events here again
Good location for IM
nice
It was a fantastic event that showcased Dorset at its best.
Had a wonderful time in Weymouth and would highly recommend it to friends and family :-)
Some parts of the cycle had traffic on the roads which directly interfered with my race.
Lovely place with great support for the race.
Very good
Very nice town.
Very surprised, it was a lovely town and I would like to return with my family.
a great experience all round, lovely coast and town and very friendly people, loved the event, will be back for camping in the summer and perhaps for the full distance event next year
We love Weymouth and very excited to have an Ironman event in a place we regularly visit. I did the half and my husband did the full we brought our children, friends and family to support and looking forward to 2017 as more of our team Passionfit wish to complete this one!
Never been to Weymouth or surroundings before planning and completing IM Weymouth. Spent a fortune but loved it and will be going back throughout the Year.
Never been to Weymouth before but will certainly return - its a hidden gem (hidden gem for Irish people anyway!)
We loved our first trip there and plan to come back both for holiday and Weymouth 2017.
It was a great race course. The support on race day was was great from the locals although it was noticeable that support was lacking in the days before and after the event. I hope to race the course again
Beautiful part of the country.
Beautiful county, very clean and tidy.

<p>It was my first time to visit Weymouth; I found it very smart and clean and despite the long drive well worth a second visit. The bike ride gave a good introduction to the villages and countryside inland and I wish I had been able to spend time visiting them properly. Finally, I was so impressed with the reception from the people of Weymouth in particular - so encouraging and embracing of the event. I realise that events such as these do cause a lot of disruption so always try to show my appreciation.</p>
<p>Weymouth was very nice and child friendly</p>
<p>I enjoyed my stay very much indeed. Will attend Ironman event there in the future and will take kids as well.</p>
<p>Weymouth is now probably my favourite place in the UK. As a result of the Ironman I will be taking part in a number of other events in Weymouth purely due to the location. There is always enough accommodation so that the price is competitive and the town is family friendly, which is important to me.</p>
<p>i'm relatively local ,so weymouyth is a place that i have visted for hoildays in the past...Ironman gave me a reason to revisit and discovered that it is very much worth the drive from my home - for cycling or beach time.</p>
<p>Only come for Triathlon, but enjoy it a lot and Weymouth puts on a great show</p>
<p>I took part in the Ironman event and loved every minute. Well organised, great sea side venue to have the Event. You will always get people complaining but it is one day out of so many and I am sure they were all informed anyway so not sure what the fuss is all about. I would definitely recommend Dorset/ Weymouth to friends and family, the Ironman brand hands down made Weymouth that weekend- I'm sure the local businesses were thriving.</p>
<p>very pleasant place to visit</p>
<p>Well organized event great venue for an ironman !</p>
<p>The hotels and B&Bs on the waterfront are pretty tired and need modernisation, and generally the main Weymouth areas have a 25 years ago feel to them. The waterfront shops are also narrow in their appeal. I could live with a few arcades and gift shops but there needs to be a wider range of quality outlets.</p>
<p>Lovely</p>
<p>Weymouth was perfect for spectators (three adults and one baby in my case). The esplanade makes a great run course. Would happily return and stay 2/3 nights for the event in future.</p>
<p>like Dorset some challenges with the transport situation with driving but overall good.</p>
<p>Never been before and was surprised how nice the beach was :-)</p>
<p>IM Weymouth was amazing. Weymouth and surrounding areas we passed through on the bike course stunning. Organisation faultless, well done !! Full distance in 2017</p>
<p>Wonderful town, would definitely revisit.</p>
<p>A lovely area, and a pleasure to participate in an Ironman in a great location.</p>
<p>Lovely place</p>
<p>Dorset is a wonderful county with so many attractions that most people and especially families can be satisfied. Good restaurants, great pubs, lovely beach and shore walks, plenty to do outdoors, the one area that could be improved are the museums and other park attractions. I find them to be relatively poor in standard and not great value. Accommodation is generally very good too, with plenty of options whether hotels, B&B, camping or caravan parks. As I live in West London, it is also accessible as a weekend getaway (traffic is usually OK) and I may consider buying a caravan on one of the parks near Weymouth.</p>
<p>great place. only real issue i saw was traffic congestion leaving the town on race day. I guess thats to be expected</p>
<p>Really enjoyed it and would like to visit again.</p>
<p>Roads a little busy getting to Weymouth, but in general it was a very nice place to hold the event.</p>
<p>Transport links from Cambridge are poor due to traffic at all times on the M3. Weymouth itself was nice but feels a little bit dated and in need of some modernization.</p>

<p>Weymouth was lovely, and very tourist friendly. However it was a poor venue for such a big event, especially with transition being so far from the finish line.</p> <p>Additionally parking was an issue - there was little on offer if at all the day before the race for the brief and registration and limited options on race day, especially having done the 70.3 and having an earlier finish. With the road closures it made getting out incredibly difficult.</p> <p>There was also limited option along the run route for my spectators to get a take away coffee or sandwich etc. There were few marshalls monitoring the prom, which meant that the tourists were walking across the course and getting in the way of us athletes. It needs some ironing out before next year.</p> <p>The major bonus of this venue was Weymouth Bay - the water temperature was perfect, it was incredibly calm, clear, and quite shallow which was a welcomed treat for those of us who aren't very keen on open water.</p>
<p>Weymouth is a fantastic place and have been here many times before which is why I chose it as one of the ironman events I was doing. I've not only visited for small weekend getaways but have played against other Weymouth sports teams and been involved in their festivals over the years.</p> <p>My entire party had an absolutely fabulous time, the sun was shining, the scenery was beautiful.. the people were fantastic!!</p> <p>It is well known amongst locals that the roads heading south block up every weekend especially when the sun comes out so getting down early is the key. This event would have brought a lot of value to the local economy and I for one would like to continue to see it run for many years to come.</p> <p>Ironman runs in larger places than this so as long as there is notice of the event, proper "local" marshals and signage then I don't see there being any issue for an event of this magnitude to run.</p>
<p>Weymouth-lovely town with good amenities and road links. Difficult to judge town for itself as have only ever visited during triathlon events. Usually travel through Dorset to get from Cornwall to other destinations further east.</p>
<p>Excellent event helped by perfect weather on the day, lead up was not so nice but the area is beautiful and good food is widely available. Had a great time.</p>
<p>Loved it</p>
<p>great venue great area difficult to get too from the midlands</p>
<p>Great location, fantastic rolling hills and the coast line is stunning. Not sure if someone can look into the weather though? Perhaps a bit more sunshine :)</p>
<p>Weymouth is a lovely place to visit with a great beach.</p>
<p>It was a place I loved my wife and me to spend a few days relaxing, besides being an ideal place to race.</p>
<p>Having gone to Bournemouth Uni back in the 80's I've always had an affinity with Dorset - lovely county - lovely weather and friendly people.</p> <p>Being able to do an Ironman in such a lovely place was a bonus.</p> <p>Thanks!</p>
<p>Friendly people. Lots of supporters for the event, which made it fun. The cycle route was one of the best. The problem with Weymouth is it stinks of frying fish and chips. Can't the British be persuaded to eat something else?</p>
<p>Really nice city, but lots of indifferent people. I wasn't safe there, or feel safe there.</p>
<p>Weymouth was a fantastic place for this event, great seafront, roads and the locals seemed to get right behind the event - our B&B owner said they thought it was great!</p> <p>We all thoroughly enjoyed our visit and the event.</p>
<p>Very scenic and quiet. Lovely people.</p>
<p>It was a great seaside town that I would like to visit again</p>
<p>Very friendly and picturesque.</p>
<p>I am a Portlander born and bred and left to join the RN in 1988. When I heard that Ironman would be taking part in Weymouth I had to be involved. It was my first event. I found the whole day to be incredibly well planned and a great day out for my family. As a local who now lives in Glasgow, I am proud that Weymouth continues to host major sporting events.</p>
<p>It was great to have a race that was in the middle of the town. Sea was beautiful, bike course was very attractive and it was a bonus to run through Weymouth. Weather was ideal</p>

nice time and great race, but traffic getting to dorset is often horrendous and much of the accommodation in weymouth is sub-standard.
Lovely location, will visit again with the family now that I have discovered the area.
generally good experience
Beautiful scenery, welcoming locals and friendly atmosphere in Local Pubs and establishments. Our B&B has been welcoming the Triathlon scene for last 3 years and was very accommodating to us. Have highly recommended this event to lots of people & given it great reviews.
Really enjoyed the weekend and the town had some great areas and bars, cafes, and restaurants. The countryside was beautiful and we took it as an opportunity to learn about the local area (tolpuddle martyrs etc). I think the town missed some money making opportunities - not many coffee shops open on the saturday late afternoon (when hundreds of athletes had just been let out of the athlete briefing) and many restaurants weren't serving food till 7pm on the Sunday - they missed a lot of trade from athletes desperate for food when they finished their races earlier. Send one of the Weymouth council members responsible for IM Weymouth to Taupo in New Zealand for IMNZ to see how to really create a buzz & engage a town.
Beautiful area and countryside, excellent beach etc for family holiday, and surprisingly pleasant drive through new forest from London. Biggest negative is the TERRIBLE parking arrangements. Takes ages to try to pay by phone, and I received a ticket on race day, despite having tried to pay by phone in the morning. Appears to be a "rip-off-tourists" arrangement (or deliberately making it inconvenient) which leaves a really bad taste from my visit, and is an embarrassment for someone from the UK. Should organise a "all weekend" parking pass for triathletes?... i would happily pay Â£25+ for this to save the annoyance and penalty
Wonderful surroundings, great service from the b&b I was in. Really enjoyed it.
Loved it, great local people, great event. Would be a huge shame to cancel the full.
The whole experience was very good - it was well organised and we enjoyed ourselves.
Enjoyed it. I would imagine Ironman benefits Weymouth and dorset however if traffic was the only issue this just needs to be addressed earlier. Always teething problems and no reason weymouth should be any different to the other cities. Fantastic venue to go to for an Ironman plus the cycle highlighted many other areas of Dorset i had previously not seen.
Outstanding beauty
Very well run event, Weymouth ad Dorset area were perfect venues for the race
we didn't explore the county, we drove in to Weymouth on the Saturday, and out again on the sunday
I had the time of my life in Dorset! Great country, friendly people!
A very friendly place with amazing views, clean, and a great place to be
I really impressed with the things to do and places to visit in and around Weymouth, we will return
Good accommodation, town centre has good facilities and there is some nice surrounding countryside. The beach and water were both clean.
I would bring the family next time
Very friendly town - really embraced the event.
Great place, warm and welcoming. Would travel back for an IM race
Really nice place to visit
all very welcoming
We really enjoyed both visits to Weymouth, we would have been unlikely to have discovered this beautiful part of the country if it was not for the ironman event. It was the perfect venue for competing and relaxing afterwards.
Went to various attractions in the area, including these Sealife Centre, Tower, Dorchester, Tank museum, Monkey World.
Too brief a visit but will be back & for longer
Beautiful place. Loved it.
Loved the area
Weymouth was very nice. Worth another visit!
Ironman Weymouth was a brilliant day for all the family. Can't wait to go back and try the full distance in 2017!
Such a beautiful place to hold an Ironman event. Local support was fantastic.

Beautiful part of the world, accommodating guest house, friendly people. Glad we booked a restaurant in advance as everywhere seemed packed!
I discover a region that I did not know.... Already planning to go back for a week dn with my family from France
If we did it again we would stay overnight before the event - day tripping was too much!
Good
It was lovely, not just on race day which was brilliantly supported, but all week I had a great time. Felt like i was on holiday so much, I'd forgotten I had the race to do on the Sunday
Lovely seaside town, never been before, but the beach and surrounding area was lovely, event was great, and support was fab.
Great Place and surroundings of Weymouth
The town was a great Venue for both athletes and spectators. It was easy to get around and had loads of accommodation, restaurants and cafes. The locals were very friendly and welcoming.
Very enjoyable. Very clean and lots to see.
Thank you to Weymouth and Dorset for having us for the weekend. It was such a lovely weekend and the atmosphere was fantastic.
I love the jurassic coast
Good
beautiful part of the country, locals we met were all very welcoming and keen to know what ironman was all about. Weymouth was very clean and tidy with a great choice of restuarants
I come from Weymouth. I grew up there and went to school and college there and still have my mum and dad there. I was so very proud of Weymouth and how the town engaged with the ironman event, and not just Weymouth but all the beautiful villages of Dorset that hosted part of the bike route. It was an amazing exeorience for me to take part in such a prestigious event in my hometown. I can only imagine that the tourism industry had a boom that week the town was packed and it was fantastic to see. I e not seen crowds like that since the Olympics. I understand the road closures will have caused a bit of upset, but I'd encourage the residents of affected parts of Dorset to understand what an incredible event they helped to host and the interest that must have been generated by having so many people visit. In my opinion, Weymouth has provided (hands down) the best triathlon experience in the UK. I already know of many triathletes who are planning on coming to Weymouth next year.
Having never been to Dorset before, I was pleasantly surprised. The local area was beautiful
I was a spectator watching the wife do the IRONMAN 70.3, whilst staying in the area I found the locals very welcoming, over the 2 days I really enjoyed Weymouth, and utilising the local amenities ie the pubs and the restaurants The event itself was very well organised and will seriously look at entering myself next year
Lovely County
I found the local residents to be very encouraging to the athletes during the event. I have always thought of Weymouth as an old fashioned beach town but Ironman changed its image into a healthy and positive place to be.
Great location. Friendly people. Easy access from London.
I love Dorset. A very beautiful county with lots to do and friendly people
Great area, especially in the lead up and post the event
A Beautiful area the Weymouth bay was stunning and the town friendly and active, I thought the port area most attractive
We loved Dorset and the coast, the traffic near Lyme Regis was full of slow moving traffic so we will probably stay somewhere else on our next visit.
Lovely friendly people, amazing scenery. Will be back for more soon!
I love weymouth and brought back childhood memories
Really enjoyed the weekend away and the event was absolutely fantastic
Pleasant, great crowd
very nice place to visit, nice people, great atmosphere, lovely seaside

<p>This was a glorious location for a fantastic event. The town would gain more benefit from the event if the waterfront bars and food outlets bought into supporting the event. Chorley New Rd (Bolton IM) is an absolute mass of supporters, all spending money in the crowded bars and food outlets. I will be back, as long as there is another IM Weymouth.</p>
<p>Beautiful countryside, lovely town on the Jurassic coast. Local B & B was perfectly suited and very pleasant</p>
<p>My partner & I had a wonderful time and enjoyed the warm atmosphere and the welcoming residents. We will be back next year for IM with more friends & family!!</p>
<p>Weymouth pubs & restaurants need to wise up to Ironman weekend. Cafes closing early on Saturday afternoon, like 4pm??? Pubs on Sunday not serving food until 7:30 in the evening.</p>
<p>Very welcoming people. Very pretty attractions.</p>
<p>Weymouth is just fab!!! The local people I spoke to about the event were not in the least bit worried that there were road closures. Weymouth benefitted from the injection of money to host the Olympics and should continue to host many great sporting events because it is set up for that purpose</p>
<p>Beautiful part of the world!</p>
<p>Lovely coastline and a great venue for the race weekend.</p>
<p>Beautiful place. Enjoyed the visit</p>
<p>Wonderful experience - and it is clear to me that the event brings much economically to the local area.</p>
<p>It's beautifully and people are really friendly</p>
<p>Had a great time in Weymouth at the Ironman event. We spent a weekend down in Weymouth to check out the course in the spring. The whole family came down for the ironman event and stayed for a week. The town was great so much so that we are planning our trip back next year. Would not have discovered Weymouth had it not been for Weymouth. As for the event I thought that the course was amazing. Beautiful beach, great scenery and fantastic support on the run. Coming from London it was perfect location as Wales and Bolton were a bit further afield. Incredibly grateful to ironman and the people of Weymouth for a truly life changing experience!</p>
<p>Because of the Ironman cycle I got to see parts of Dorset that I wouldn't have otherwise. Dorset was very picturesque, and due to the Ironman atmosphere my family and friends were able to see Weymouth in full bloom. The town centre does look tired but the sea/beach appeared very clean.</p>
<p>Only went due to ironman. Loved Weymouth so will return for the next one if it runs</p>
<p>Wonderful, friendly, perfect racing conditions. I did feel for the people affected by the problems with road closures, but am confident this can be resolved for the future, as I believe the Town in general has embraced the event.</p>
<p>Very enjoyable. Very friendly had a brilliant time. Can not wait till next year's event</p>
<p>Enjoyable and friendly</p>
<p>It was good.</p>
<p>Really glad I went to Weymouth in the May before the event and again in the August. Really love the beaches and attractions for the kids and will definitely be back for 2017</p>
<p>Surprised at how nice it was. I didn't remember it like that.</p>
<p>The IM definitely have a reason to visit and the coast is lovely I will come back</p>
<p>All the spectators on the course were very enthusiastic.</p>
<p>Never thought of visiting the place before but it was great to see and do after the ironman was over. Fantastic venue for the event and it was great to see the place with such a buzz. It seemed like so much business came to the town. I certainly would not have visited without the ironman event happening and neither would my cheer squad.</p>
<p>We stay in Portland during our stay which was pleasant, as far as my weekend experience during the race overall it was good and I couldn't really complain. It was obvious that a fair amount of the local population weren't happy with the race and the disruption it caused on the roads. During one point of the race there was a section where both cars and cyclists were together on the road and considering the motorists were already frustrated it was a potentially volatile situation that could have resulted in an incident. This was about 40-45 miles in the cycle course on the 70.3.</p>

<p>We always visit family in Dorset once a year and turn this into one of our annual holidays. We wouldn't go anywhere else in the uk. We find the beaches, attractions and relaxed way of life very enjoyable and very welcoming. Now that Ironman are in town then it will be another reason to pop down and enjoy the surroundings. Hopefully next year the Full Ironman distance will be come back as I have a PB to beat. If not then I will settle for the 70.3. Beautiful country side, adorable villages, and a seaside atmosphere of which I have never experienced before. See you next year Weymouth</p>
Beautiful venue and perfect course
Ironman weekend was smazi g ang could get better
Nice and easy to get around. Easy to park. Good choice of places to eat and drink. Beach lovely.
Great place to visit
A really lovely place that I look forward to visiting again
<p>The ironman event in Weymouth was spectacular. It was very well organised and run. I appreciate there were some difficulties with road closures but this should not be an Insurmountable issue. The event brought thousands of athletes and spectators to the area and with wonderful support from local hoteliers and restaurants accommodating everyone and their needs, everyone came away with a glowing review of the event. I was part of a group of 15 athletes racing and we had a support crew of 40 or more all of whom came and shared in the experience. Collectively we spend thousands of pounds in hotels and food and loved every minute. Those who didn't come were envious of all of our photos and were inspired to race in Weymouth in the future. This event show cases Weymouth and Dorset and it would be a shame if it didn't continue. If anything is possible Ironman, then surely resolving the road closures and other teething problems are all part of the challenge.</p>
Loved Weymouth, beautiful place and perfect for an ironman event.
Very good location, easy access due to good road links
Great county! Awesome event! Fantastic local support
Excellent facilities
Really enjoyed the area and the welcome from people in general
Fantastic venue for triathlon, lovely seaside town lovely coast great cycle route lovely Dorset villages. Would definitely come back for another triathlon and would visit Dorset again anyway.
Beautiful Town that I would like to visit again.
Nice place to make Ironman nd then relax :)
<p>Very pleased by environment, city of Dorchester. Problem: congested roads! enad rain :)</p>
The Jurassic coast is a marvel of this world! Weymouth itself is absolutely gorgeous and its people very welcoming!
It was a nice place and the surrounding area looks like a place I might visit in the future
<p>We love the event in Weymouth - have competed in the Iron Man and previously Challenge for the past 3 years and would hope to continue. It is not only a great course well organised but brilliant for the family with lots of activities to do while I compete but also having the ability to support me on the swim and run. Thank you Weymouth!</p>
<p>I had visited Dorset before (Jurassic Coast, cycling events) but had never stayed in Weymouth. I really loved it and really hope both Ironman events (70.3 and full distance) will become a permanent fixture as I found them to be fantastic events, on par with the best IM events in the UK (I've raced at Ironman UK and/or Ironman Wales every year since 2012).</p>
Lovely location
Loved the area and thanks to the IM Event we will definitely return.
Lovely place
very nice part of the world very clean seaside resort ,great support
Great race, well supported, local support was good, routes excellent, really appreciate the race being held and the patience of the community whilst we were allowed to race. People seemed genuinely pleased we were there, especially business owners

Lovely area with some nice shops and amazing local scenery
A wonderful place, will definitely come back for a holiday. Also, definitely coming back for Ironman Weymouth next year as a SPECTATOR to cheer on the runners and to enjoy A WEEK's holiday.
Lovely scenery and home to the most momentous day of my life so far. I would definitely go back again to Weymouth for either another Ironman event or just to visit
Excellent, Weymouth is the perfect place to host such an event.
Brilliant event, lovely people, lovely place and great support - def booking the event in 2017.
Great experience!
lovely venue, roads and great support from the public
Great race weekend. Fantastic atmosphere and organisation. Great closed road cycle race, with huge support throughout all the villages. Weymouth itself was a lot smarter and nicer than I remember!
First time in Weymouth. Would definitely visit again if on holiday in this area.
Weymouth was excellent and the Sea front was a great place to hang out the days leading up to the event and even the day after! We will definitely be going back for a visit in the future.
Great place, loved it. Will definitely be back.
Leading up to race day I would recommend the local area. It's beautiful. Th negative impact on race day left me a bit jaded.
great venue for the event.
Beautiful coast line and impressed with beach. Good choice of accommodation and people really friendly
Dorset was lovely, great venue, facilities and weather
Weymouth was an excellent venue to host an Ironman event, road closures played a big part in the overall enjoyment of race day. Felt welcomed by all the local people we came into contact with.
too much traffic due to too many competitors. the split transition with NO parking at either venue was very problematic and resulted in many people missing the race briefing. there was plenty of public parking in the large carpark in between both venues which isn't much use when you have a bike and kit bag to lug to registration, then transition, then find your way back to registration for the race briefing. it wasn't particularly well thought on in that respect.
I visited Weymouth multiple times to sea swim and cycle the bike route of the ironman course. I live about an hour and a half away do day trips and a few stop overs. My daughter had a good time as there's lots to do. It would be a real shame if the full distance did not happen again!
Enjoyed the weekend, town and beach lovely
I have family in Dorset so I know it very well and was one of the reasons I chose to participate in this race.
Weymouth was a lovely place for the Ironman race. My family came to watch and stayed in there motor homes just outside Weymouth.
Nice place to visit,
Loved the event. We chose this event because my Mum lives in Weymouth. The support and entire experience was wonderful.
Love the place.
The adults who came to support me all said they'll be coming back to Weymouth to visit with 2 of them saying they'd be signing up for the IM event as well. The area is stunning and the ride route meant I've discovered other places to visit that I wasn't aware of previously.
Great
Excellent location
A very nice visit and a great race. Disappointing reaction from the locals in regards to the travel situation. From what I saw the Ironman volunteers were fantastic and the supporters came out to enjoy the race and day. In my view it was only a few that spoilt the event. A great shame it looks as though the full ironman wont take place in 2017 as I thoroughly enjoyed the race!

Great event in a great location and town.
Great place to visit, fantastic scenery and beaches.
We love Dorset will always keep it in mind for hols/short breaks we are visiting as a family group on October lovely area beaches very clean good attractions lots to do not spoilt by tourism. Ironman Weymouth was a fantastic event keep it up !
Beautiful Town, Beautiful sea front, and the locals, especially the B&B staff were just brilliant!
We had an amazing visit. The countryside was beautiful we would definitely like to go back for a proper holiday. The ironman was also an amazing event.
my husband and i started together at ironman weymouth and came alone to weymouth. thats the reason why we cant spend money at the events around the ironman. :)
Atmosphere in Weymouth when ironman event on was brilliant especially round the harbour! Pubs and restaurants was full! Great event done it past 3 years!
I had a very good time in Weymouth and would even consider coming back for a holiday, proper British Sea side town. I would definitely recommend it to others
Dorset is a great place
All round great experience
We had a Nice weekend.
Lovely whether, very nice town
We parked in Dorchester and did a route recce from there beforehand. Free car parking and plenty of places to eat.
None
well worth it great event definitely boosted my opinion of dorset and weymouth which without the iron man event probably never would have happened
Stayed in *** B & B, very welcome, really impressed with local people supporting this event.
A truly magical town with lovely views and places
First time in Dorset for many years. Reminded me how much it has to offer.
Very well run event in a great location
Great are to visit, almost forgot how nice the beach was.
Enjoyable and friendly, good facilities
Beautiful area
Wonderful setting for a race. Beautiful course route. Shame there was not more accomodation in Weymouth! Parking closer to the race start would have also been helpful.
Weymouth was a lovely area. I have family in Bournemouth / Poole, and friends in Verwood, so visit Dorset fairly regularly, but had not been to Weymouth before. Visiting as part of Ironman 70.3 has made me realise it is somewhere I should visit separately, outside of any future visits for racing.

Appendix 3: comments from entrants resident in Dorset

PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS ON YOUR EXPERIENCE IN DORSET
As a Dorset resident [Corfe Castle] and Ironman 70.3 event participant, I was very impressed with the event organisation which showcased the beautiful Dorset countryside at its best. We invited friends from London who stayed with us in our house and appreciated the attractions and activities in Weymouth during the event, especially for kids. We look forward to coming back again next year!
So good I live here
I love Dorset. Weymouth will always be home. I think it is a fantastic venue for the ironman and 70.3
It's a beautiful place to visit
I love Dorset. Got the train into Weymouth which was extremely handy as it took us straight onto the sea front and all the action on race day.
Loved it.
Rearly enjoyed weymouth
The seaside got lovely place for race so brilliant last September
Loved it - please bring Ironman full distance back - the local area is perfect for it and if the town can get behind it even more it will be incredible - I loved the local support on the bike and run course. I also really enjoyed the food voucher for the pasta party as it was a great way to go out with friends, get a good meal and support local businesses.
Amazing weekend Can't wait for next year
I live in Dorset so i love the place. This event was excellent and a really good attraction to bring to Weymouth which is itself a very sporty town well supported by local triathlons and a large community of athletes always seen running,cycling and swimming. I do hope it returns again in future years. I will certainly attend as will my family and i will drag out of town friends to Weymouth for the experience also. I know that some people whinged about traffic problems this year, and perhaps these could have been avoided slightly but Weymouth's heyday in the 19th Century is long gone; Something like the Ironman is an excellent, modern event and a huge draw for healthy athletes and supporters alike and I am sure that it was a huge benefit to the economy.
Beautiful place, everyone was so friendly creating a fantastic atmosphere
Great! That's why I live here.
Amazing place
Loved the event and despite living in Bournemouth for 7 years it was the first time my family had visited Weymouth and they loved it
Weymouth was buzzing with excitement over ironman it brought thousands to the town for such a high profile event. Great place to host the event and good for local economy.such a shame over negative press about the roads after all signage and postal leaflet that most had and saw.
I live here
Awesome. We visit Weymouth & Portland regularly it is so fantastic.
I live and work in Dorset and would not move away.
We loved Dorset, easy to get to from London and lots of accommodation close to the event, the locals where fraindly and helpful and plenty of places for food and drink and also sports massage as well. We will definitely be down again to train and compete!
Very well organised event
Iron man weymouth brought huge numbers of people to the area - all the runners i spoke to felt the area great and the experience first class
Please bring the IM back to Wmth. Sept is a great time to do it out of season and the town was heaving. Ok so we aren't Tenby or Bolton but please give us a chance. The locals (I'm one) had plenty of time to get their act together 're closed roads. Ok yes employing the road closure marshals from the local community might have been better instead of coaching them in.

the event was fantastic and the location was truly amazing.
Wouldnt live anywhere else
Briefing registration and the race were on different days this meant I had to travel to Weymouth three separate times- other iron mans require a max of two trips.
I am probably not the most useful person for your survey as I live in Weymouth however I greatly enjoyed participating in Ironman 70.3, it was well organised & the atmosphere was fantastic. Many of my friends and family came to Weymouth to cheer me on & they too greatly enjoyed the day. Those that don't live in Weymouth came by train thereby avoiding any traffic problems. I have other friends who did not attend the event who had some major problems with traffic but say if an obvious alternative route had been available there would not have been any issues, it was the fact that roads were closed & no diversions were in place. There are a lot of small minded, anal people living in Weymouth who will complain about anything good or bad!! I for one hope to see you back next year!!
Please bring the event back!! Loved it xxx
This survey is flawed as I live in Weymouth! I love Dorset that's why I live here
Love it! Fresh air atmosphere and the choice of things to do
I live in Dorset, but Dorset businesses benefit due to me being in the race. Including £250 at bike shop, £120.00 on running shoes at local store, £250 at swimming pool, £200 with local sports masseur. Total of £820.00 additional direct spend. Plus I was eating a lot more for the year!! In addition I have personally motivated 3 adults and 2 children in Dorset to start triathlon when they hadn't been active previously.
Loved it talking to athletes from around the world they said how wonderful the area was
As a resident of Poole in Dorset, my experience of Dorset is very positive. It is pleasing to see that major events sporting events, which are open to the public, are catered for in this area. I regularly run in the Bournemouth marathon which attracts a large number of participants spectators, and I hope to see the Weymouth Ironman become a regular fixture in my calendar.
This survey is not really applicable for the local resident, but I have completed it the best I can. My wife came to support on the day, and we had dinner the night before. 2 friends travelled down to Dorset from Hertfordshire to support on the day.
My race experience was very positive and I think Dorset has the potential to be a world-class activity events location. The swim and run were well supported but the bike was quite isolated and we heard more people shouting at us than supporting. My elation at taking part in the event was short lived as the local rag was stirring up the moaners and racists (see references to marshalls on their comments pages) before the event had even finished. Having competed in the first Ironman Wales, the experience was very different to the support at Narberth and Saundersfoot was uplifting and I can still vividly remember. I really hope the local authorities see the bigger picture and appropriately support the event next year to improve traffic management and work with their communities and utilise the IronKids experience. Good luck!
Brilliant place - the seafront is fantastic and was bustling with activity on race day, and the Jurassic Coast is superb.
Super experience would have been nice to have dogs on the beach though
Good Event but Weymouth could only just cope - parking too far away from event start/finish
Really nice event, great location I often come to Weymouth to ride.
Great day, great experience. Small business owners around the bike course (The Cafe at Moreton) that were affected by the road closures have commented that they lost out on trade and didn't benefit from the increased numbers of visitors. The London Marathon produce a map of the route with places to eat and drink around the route, could something similar be produced for next year to try and placate such comments?
I live in Dorset so the event is local to me. I have cycled the route many times and on each occasion have brought secondary spend in as I usually have food and drink. I have cycled the route alone and with members of my tri club. On the race day my club and my family were part of a feedstation. They brought themselves food and drink and spent on average Â£10 each.

Excellent time in Weymouth (myself as a competitor) and my wife spectating. The local community seemed to really embrace the event, lets have more!

I also live in Dorset, 28 miles from Weymouth. On the subject of road closures, I recieved a leaflet through my door notifying me well in advance of the event. Also, road signage and radio clearly promoted the event. I am disappointed that some people complained about being held up in traffic jams, lets not forget that Weymouth IS a TOURIST attraction and suffers from congestion through out the year. Possibly more could be done to promote our sport in the area and for the general public to realise the effort required by athletes to just get to the start line, let alone the planning required by Ironman, Local Authorities and shop keepers etc. But hey, who am I have an opinion. Oh yes, I AM AN IRONMAN!
In summary, great event, see you next year.

Fantastic location, although the cycle route was a bit too hill climb intense, could have done with some longer spells of flat riding.

I thought the Ironman event showcased Dorset brilliantly it was a great advert for the County

i live in Weymouth and i am absolute advocate of the IRONMAN events return here next year

As a local I welcomed the event whole heartedly. Whilst all triathletes think this is a brilliant event, outside of the sport, Ironman is little known about locally.

General feedback was that a lot of people were unaware the event was happening and therefore unprepared for road closures in this busy tourist location.

I would love locals to embrace both 70.3 and full and to achieve this I feel a lot more work needs to be put into working with the locals and general population of Dorset.

I am a teacher, have you thought about getting into schools and raising the profile? IronKids would be a great way to do this? Local press and radio stations can be very supportive - could the event be promoted in the media, to encourage support and raise awareness of road closures etc? Recruit LOCAL volunteers that know the roads - the route of the bike course is key. We are the only county without a motorway, our roads get busy very quickly. Perhaps review the Dorchester section? So much east to west traffic HAS to travel around that major town. Could you consider rerouting the bike course and keep it south of Dorchester, spreading it wider, e.g. to the East, and through quieter roads instead? There are so many cyclists and triathletes that are local that would love to help with this. I'm new to the sport and Weymouth was my first event and I loved it. I really hope to see this grow into something that is well supported, like Tenby, but I think somehow the you need to work with locals to raise the profile. I would be happy to assist with this. Kind regards, Terri.

I am a resident. The event was well received by many despite the criticisms about traffic management. The marshals needed local knowledge. Better signage was needed for motorists. As a competitor, I found it very well managed .

Lovely landscape and clean water. Fabulous countryside and relaxed pace of life

Appendix 4a: feedback and complaints - emails

1	<p>Your *** is reported as saying Weymouth Ironman is a 'prestigious sporting event' and was a 'great boost' for Dorset. It might have been, if Dorset had been considered. Why were no signs put in place well in advance of the event, no press announcements, outside possibly Weymouth. I live in Winterborne Kingston travelling to Exmoor, BBC travel and satnav say congestion on Puddletown bypass, so you wish to leave A35 at Puddletown and use the minor road just to the north of A35. With no warning 'road closed'. No information given and in Tolpuddle you turn right, no signs to say road is closed in Affpuddle and so it goes on. I met a car trying to get home to Moreton and no knowledge of road closures. People living on the edge of Dorchester, just in from the Stinsford roundabout could not get to the tip, again no knowledge of road closures. BBC Travel and Satnav had no knowledge of road closures, WHY? There has been a MASSIVE ERROR.</p> <p>The A35 from Puddletown to south of Dorchester jammed and in the reverse direction long queues with people trying to use the Wareham turning to find it closed.</p> <p>The Dorset Echo had that carers could not get to those they cared for, businesses complaining of loss of trade. It is not just me who did not know, it seems as if everybody did not know. WHY?</p> <p>Your *** needs to go, it has been a total disaster for Dorset and its economy. On summer Sundays people are enjoy Dorset and road closures should not take place, let alone cut Dorset in two, with no entry to Dorchester from the east. Iron man Exmoor is signed a good month in advance, so why did Dorset do nothing? My 2 hr journey took 3 hrs and a lot of wasted fuel! This must be the first and last Ironman Weymouth. Dorset Ironman has been a disaster for Dorset as no advance road signs or press announcements seem to have made. Why did nobody seem to know what was going on. The race seems to have cut Dorset in two. Dorset Highways, somebody needs to be held responsible.</p>
2	<p>No notification of event.. ***.. No advance warning signs warning of event.</p> <p>Roads around Dorchester very busy.</p> <p>Marshals not consistent in their directions, some waved you through to be greeted by the next marshall who advised that you couldn't pass (Dorchester town centre)</p> <p>Bypass from Monkeys Jump busy right through to A352 junction which was busy and vehicles turning in the road which was dangerous.</p> <p>Knew of the event as friend taking part, but didn't know how big event was and the effect it would have on the town. Doesn't follow media coverage.</p> <p>Marshals in local area [Dorchester] knew suitable route to get home.. otherwise, marshals further away from town centre did not know local area well enough to give directions.</p>

3	<p>Advance-warning sign for recent Ironman Event road closures not evident on the day from the A37 route (and roundabout) into Dorchester. No diversion route(s) signs at closed roads for local and particularly through-traffic. Lack of knowledge by marshalls about roads available to exit town; in our case to access the A35 to Bournemouth/Poole. Our journey to frail mother-in-law delayed over one hour thereby. Queue chaos converging at light-controlled pedestrian crossings and three-way traffic lights when trying to exit the town as a result. Very 'disappointed' at best at the lack of Best Practice and, at worst, possible failure to implement legal process and to have due regard for alternative routes. Needless to say, we were not the only travellers having a problem that day with this. This is said in case others have not contacted you, perhaps for lack of confidence in this not occurring again. We have encountered similar events in recent years and the information on the ground and on the day has been very good, as it should be, even down to approx. times of day!</p>
4	<p>Who agreed to and signed off on the Ironman route that split the county in half for 20 miles North to South from Weymouth with no adequate provision for people travelling East/West? Even the inadequate implementation of a traffic plan could not counter the closure of every route North South with only the gridlocked A35 being open but with no indication of how to access the A35, especially if travelling East out of Dorchester.</p> <p>Why was there no signage on any of the many approaches to closed roads that I encountered on Sunday? There were no signs waiting to be "stood up" on any of the many closed roads that I was directed to.</p> <p>Why staff with no accreditation were directing traffic and what sanction the organiser will face for doing this? This is surely a matter for DCC and Dorset Police?</p> <p>Dorset Highways should be more than experienced at major events in Dorset with Camp Bestival and the Bournemouth Airshow to name just two that are held successfully every year. There is simply no excuse for such a poor plan that has cost every town and village in a 20 mile radius of Weymouth lost trade and huge inconvenience. A wash up meeting that while I'm sure will take Ironman Weymouth to task for their poor traffic management needs to impose some form of penalty on a money making event run by a Chinese conglomerate who value their Ironman event company at \$900m.</p>

5	<p>I wish to complain in the strongest possible manner about the road closures north of Dorchester on Sunday last. Along with a very high number of others, I was astonished to find that I couldn't get to Dorchester at around mid-day. At the time, I had no idea as to why as there was absolutely no information given. I tried via the A352, then through the Puddle Valley, was stopped again by a person who couldn't tell me why, was sent onto another minor road, as directed, only to be stopped once again by others.</p> <p>There was by now, a very large group of motorists, none of which had any idea as to what was going on. Road works are necessary, advance notice is always given and given well although there is always the unexpected emergency work. All is forgiven. Weather - no one can help that, accidents, can always happen.</p> <p>But this was very different. I read the local press, listen to local news on both radio and tv, I am informed of live traffic problems via BBC radio whilst on the move, I take notice of road signs. But this time there was absolutely nothing.</p> <p>After travelling for over 1 1/2 hours for what is a 25 minute journey, I abandoned any idea of reaching my destination.</p> <p>A bad day.</p> <p>At 13.58, BBC Radio Solent announced that there were a number of road closures north of Weymouth due to an Iron Man race. That was the first I had heard. The planning of an event of this kind takes some considerable effort and has to be planned many months in advance. This I know, I am very experienced of such things. The county must have been aware of this event for probably a year, if not more.</p> <p>This was an unforgivable farce. It ruined my day, left me very distressed, wasted a considerable amount of fuel, caused a lot of unnecessary wear and tare, clogged up the narrow roads of this beautiful county and wasted a phenomenal amount of my time. I was not, by far, the only one. I saw one woman in tears as she apparently needed to visit the county hospital.</p> <p>I demand no less than the immediate resignation of the person(s) responsible and I also demand a payment of £50 to cover my distress, time and fuel.</p>
6	<p>We travelled up from South Wales on Sunday 11th September 2016 in order to spend the day at Monkey World. We did not know this coincided with an Ironman event being staged. In short, it took us over 3 hours to find a route to Monkey World due to massive road closures. There were no signs on the approach to Dorchester that this event has happening, nor where there any warning signs of delays or road closures. There was no diversion set up or diversion route for people not familiar with the area. The marshals were unhelpful, rude, appeared stressed out and did not know the local area. One marshal in Dorchester suggested to us we park the car and walk (the remaining 10 miles) to Monkey World. Not one of them could help us out with an alternative route. There was no guidance on how to bypass the road closures, no help and no one even seemed to care. It added 3 hours to our day and limited the time we could spend in Monkey World. We had hired a car for the day and left our house at 7am in order to be at the park when it opened at 10am to enjoy a full day. We did not get to the park until 1pm due to the poor organisation of the Ironman event. Make better provisions for this kind of event. Notify drivers with signs on the roads leading in to the event that roads are closed. Give drivers plenty of warnings with these signs. Leave at least one road, however minor open so people can circumnavigate around the road closures. Provide diversion routes. Employ helpful marshals with local knowledge. We will not be back to Dorset in any great hurry.</p>

7	<p>I tried to drive to Dorchester on the day of the Ironman from Kings Stag. There were no diversion signs or notices concerning the road closures until the closure points were reached. The Marshalls had no information about alternative routes. We tried the A352 and then went back and tried the B31343 and up to the closure point and then the road from Cheselborne to Puddletown and this was closed. Having now missed my appointment I went home. WHERE WERE THE DIVERSION/INFORMATION SIGNS! We were not the only cars driving around without information</p>
8	<p>lack of notice and information signs about the road closures whilst the Ironman event was on caused extensive traffic build up outside my business. Road closures while the Weymouth Ironman event was taking place, left my us disadvantaged and caused a loss of business as my customers where unable to visit my premises. I incurred a loss of business and subsequently a loss of profit. Make sure that, if this event is to take place next year, an alternative route is found.</p>
9	<p>The ironman competition was yesterday - Sunday 11th September. As the owner of a business in Cerne Abbas (***) and also as a resident of ***, I received no notification of the competition. I was advised by some local residents that had received a leaflet drop with a map - which basically showed all routes surrounding Cerne Abbas as being 'restricted from 08.30 until 17.30. I telephoned the Ironman helpline on Monday of last week (5th September) to be advised that there was no one available to talk me through the restrictions, but that I would receive a call back. I didn't receive a call back so I telephoned again on Wednesday and spoke to ***. ** advised me that everyone in Cerne Abbas should have received a leaflet - I did not. Neither did *** opposite my business and neither did ***. In fact, it appears that the businesses in Cerne Abbas did not receive any notification of the restrictions to visiting our village. In any event, I do strongly feel that it is not appropriate to communicate such a restriction to our village via leaflet! I tried to explain to *** that by restricting both the top and bottom roads into Cerne (A352 and B3147) was seriously hindering our opportunity to trade. Whilst sympathetic, *** basically told me that *** didn't know where the businesses were and that it was the Highways Agency that had agreed the route. *** also advised me that the bottom road would be open (A352) north bound, limited to a speed restriction of 30mph but that the top road (B3147) would be closed in both directions. This means that anyone coming from Buckland Newton, Plush, Piddletrentide, Tolpuddle and the surrounding areas wouldn't be able to get into Cerne Abbas - unless they went significantly out of their way - which of course they didn't! In addition, *** told me that the reason they had put 'restricted access' on every road around Cerne was to discourage anyone using the roads - this gives little thought or consideration to people like me - independent sole traders who are trying to trade on a busy day in September. The market is still very buoyant with visitors - the weather being favourable at the moment and the kids having gone back to school. My custom on Sunday was down at least 40%. I am not in the slightest bit surprised that my custom was down as when my husband took my son to a football match in *** (a journey normally taking 25 mins but took him over an hour and 15 minutes) on his return he was travelling down the A352 towards Cerne Abbas. This is the only road that was supposed to be OPEN, but limited to 30 mph. He was met with a sign just before Charlton Down which said 'ACCESS TO CHARLTON DOWN ONLY'. He was stopped by the marshall and told him that we had been advised that we could access Cerne Abbas this way. The marshall agreed that he could, and then moved the sign and allowed him to come through. I am aware of two of my Customers that were not able to come through and some residents of Cerne that thought it meant they could not come through and subsequently turned back. The road sign being incorrect basically meant that both roads were CLOSED and there was no access to Cerne Abbas at all.</p>

	<p>There is so much I am not happy about. I am not happy about the organisation of the race. How can anyone think it is appropriate or correct to completely sever all access points to a busy village? How can anyone think that it is acceptable to communicate to businesses about the implications of the road closures via a leaflet drop?- albeit an inconsistent one that none of us businesses received. I am not happy that I had to reduce the *** cost and 'compensate' my *** guests £50.00 as they were significantly inconvenienced by the road closures. I am not happy that on a beautiful sunny day my *** sales were down by at least £300.00 and it could have been significantly more. It is becoming increasingly difficult to trade as a small independent business - small business relief rate tax being axed, business rates now payable, pension contributions now mandatory - I rely on making money during the good weather period, when we have visitors and tourists in the village. We don't have many weekends left of this season before the nights draw in, the walkers are few and far between and the visitors stop. Yesterday should have been a bumper day - the weather was warm and sunny. We should have had around 150 covers through the ***. We didn't. It was dismal. I had my usual *** staff working - sitting twiddling their thumbs. I have been affected on two counts - (1) the absolute lack of custom on what should have been a very busy day given the weather. (2) 3 separate complaints from my *** Customers - 2 of whom could not get to where they needed to get to on Sunday and the third guests who arrived to check in on Sunday and had been sent round in circles from the marshalls. I would like you to compensate me for my loss of takings which as a minimum were £300.00 plus an additional £50.00 which was reduced from the *** cost as a pacifier.</p>
10	<p>I would like to complain about the total chaos I experienced at Dorchester yesterday, Sep 11th 2016. I was driving from north Cornwall where I live, to Swanage in Dorset where as a professional musician I was booked to perform in a Concert at the ***. I left home at 10.45am in order to arrive in time for a rehearsal in Swanage at 1pm which should have been plenty of time. Approaching Dorchester bypass I could see there was very heavy traffic although there were NO SIGNS explaining what the problem was or how to avoid it.</p> <p>Since I didn't know which roads were closed or what was going on, I attempted to leave the bypass at the Max Gate roundabout and make my way to Swanage via Broadmayne, only to find that this road was closed at the first roundabout (WHY WAS THIS NOT MADE CLEAR AT THE JUNCTION WITH THE BYPASS?? – because this traffic was then channelled back INTO Dorchester town centre – the traffic here was stationary and I was stuck in this queue for about 30 mins, a totally unnecessary delay if the road had been properly signed with proper diversion signs to 'Poole' etc.)</p> <p>Again with no satisfactory diversion signs in place, and with absolutely no knowledge of which roads had been closed, I then attempted to drive north of Dorchester and get round towards Puddletown via Charminster. Going along these back roads I made four attempts to navigate my way towards Puddletown, each of which were blocked at the last possible stage – and with NO ADVANCED WARNING. I was also shocked to see how the many highly decorated stewards that had been supplied for the race, were apparently bussed in from outside of Dorset and were totally useless and unable to advise on alternative routes, just shaking their heads, with absolutely no advice or maps of their own race.</p> <p>Since I was due to play in a unique one-off concert in which other people were involved and for which tickets had been sold, I cannot describe the stress this created as I tried to battle my way on through the back lanes. I can quite understand how events like this need to close roads and have a right to put on their events, but the apparent attitude that no-one else on the roads that day mattered, or had anywhere important to go, or needed or deserved adequate information WELL IN ADVANCE so that they could plan their journeys properly, is a total disgrace.</p> <p>I cannot understand how this event was allowed to take place with such totally inadequate provision being made for traffic management?</p>

	<p>Could you please pass my comments on to whoever may be responsible so I may have an answer to this question?</p> <p>Every-time I was turned back during my failed attempts to get through, there were several other drivers in the same predicament and equally enraged as I was, so I think we ALL deserve an explanation.</p>
11	<p>Sorry to escalate the problems due to Ironman to Chief Exec level, but as I am sure you will be aware there is a great deal of reputational damage to “The Council” when things go wrong.</p> <p>My understanding is the Officers and County Councillors who signed off the traffic management plan did so in good faith however the organisers introduced further restrictions which may well have been unlawful. The marshals then did not even stick to those restrictions.</p> <p>Could you decide how we should proceed. I am very keen that a sporting event that ticks all the boxes for Dorset can be run in future years and that plans made should be strictly adhered to. I believe in many ways the assumption that cars and a road race don’t mix is a false one after all if the organisers insist on a “road” rather than a race track the assumption must be that shared use with priority for the Cycles (particularly at junctions) should be a workable solution particularly on roads that do not afford a by-pass for cars.</p> <p>I am about to go on holiday until the *** and while I do not need to be involved in finding a solution to this I am willing to volunteer to take part in this if the leaders wish it.</p> <p>I am copying in the complaint from *** as an extreme example of a business who did everything right in terms of their interaction with Ironman only to be VERY let down. I understand *** has now been in touch with *** and has not offered a reply acceptable to either *** nor I.</p>

12	<p>In response to your article about the chaos surrounding Ironman I run ***, near Dorchester. This is the second year we have been badly affected by this event and below are the main points I would raise:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visitors were down over 80% on what we would expect on a sunny Sunday in September. This is the second year we have suffered financially from this event 2. Lots of phone calls from people asking how to get to us, virtually all gave up as traffic was so bad 3. The event causes widespread traffic disruption with parts of the county virtually inaccessible. 4. Many Dorset businesses suffer financially because of the road closures. In our area Athelhampton House, The Tank Museum and Monkey World to name a few. 5. Thousands of visitors to Dorset are inconvenienced by traffic delays - this is not the experience of Dorset we should be inflicting on visitors to our county. 6. The only beneficiaries of the event outside Weymouth are the participants who cycle along the closed roads. The marshals along the route outnumber the spectators by some margin so it's not as though it is a spectator sport. 7. If Weymouth wants to hold such an event then make the cycle route circuit the town and do not damage Dorset businesses. 8. Looking at the photograph on social media the number of spectators in Weymouth was not very high - probably mainly friends and family of the participants. For the level of damage this does to other Dorset businesses is this justified? 9. Why can a private company come to Dorset and hold an event that causes financial loss to so many local businesses whilst making a profit for themselves? Surely they should be made to compensate those businesses adversely affected? 10. How much does this event cost Dorset County Council in terms of administration and organising road closures? Is this paid for by the event organisers or funded by the council through council tax? If the latter should locals be paying for this? <p>Our visitor numbers due to Ironman were severely down, as I am sure yours were. I have written to *** and to Dorset Echo and was thinking that Dorset businesses affected by this should get together to make sure it doesn't happen again. Below is the letter I sent to the Echo, let me know what you think.</p>
13	<p>I should say that the "lecture" *** PC were given by Ironman was nothing short of an imposition. Initially the roads were all to be closed for an excessive period [7am to 3 pm - way over what the TUC do for Tolpuddle].</p> <p>I did manage to persuade DCC that a oneway system on the old main road from Tolpuddle to Puddletown could operate. On a personal business level we did manage to open on Architectural Heritage Weekend all be it on reduced numbers.</p> <p>However the lockdown for residents inside the Tincton area and the Piddle Valley is in my mind unjustifiable. I have received a number of emails which I can forward on to anyone at DCC who is collating complaints.</p> <p>The traffic issues created on the roads which were open around Dorchester and across to Bere Regis are a result of an excessive amount of closures for too long a period.</p>

	<p>Puddletown and Piddle Valley are expected to go through all this again for the Dorchester Marathon next May.</p> <p>As regards your comment about “what went wrong”. I would suggest if the Ironman run the event again the outcome will be the same. Even with stewards who have local knowledge if a road is shut for 7 hours on any day gridlock and lack of access will result.</p> <p>The question is whether this is a price worth paying for an event based in Weymouth and how many times a year we should allow closures to the rural area.</p>
14	<p>I don't know who is responsible for allowing this event to take place in Weymouth so I am asking that you put forward a complaint on my behalf.</p> <p>It is bad enough that as residents we have to put up with having our roads closed for such an event but to be woken up at around 6.30 am on a Sunday morning by some idiot who likes the sound of his own voice, pumping out extremely loud music across Preston is disgraceful and totally unacceptable. I imagine mine won't be the only complaint being made about this .</p> <p>I thank you in advance for your help in dealing with this.</p>
15	<p>I was stuck in Dorchester on Sunday as a result of road closures for the Ironman event. There were no directions about what roads were not closed and people manning the closures did not know Dorchester and its traffic routes. People were getting very cross and I witnessed the worst road rage I have ever seen resulting from 2 vehicles colliding and I have been told of other similar experiences elsewhere in Dorchester. I don't think Dorchester is at all suitable for such an event where some people can have fun at many others expense. What is the legitimacy of closing roads for a fun event? The gridlock created made me wonder how the emergency serviced might cope I think they would have been locked in just the same as everyone else.</p> <p>I hope Dorchester will not be involved in such an event again.</p>
16	<p>What a shambles. On vacation in this area, our whole day yesterday was ruined by the closure of roads .I understand that this is more to do with Weymouth, so why hold it around Dorchester?</p> <p>We live in Surrey, and also have many events, mainly for charity, and have never experienced such chaos. Why were the diversion and road closed signs left in situ long after the race was over?</p> <p>I feel for the many small shops, and actually for the bigger ones in Dorchester itself who must have suffered a big loss of business.</p> <p>Think very carefully about how this should be dealt with next time, as no event, least if all when not for charity, should disrupt the lives of locals or visitors in the area.</p>

17	I had heard good things about Dorset so I brought my 3 year old down to enjoy the jurrasice coast. On our last day in Dorset we tried to get from Warmwell to Weymouth so that we could visit the coast and the sealife centre. It too us 3 hours to reach Weymouth a 10 mile trip. Each time we reached road blocks the staff were unhelpful and being from theach area we did not understand the directions. We then found out that we could not reach the sealife centre and had to return to warmwell which took another hour due to road closures. All this time I had a wet and hungry 3 year old in the car. I understand that events must happen but the organisation of this one should be an embarrassment to anyone involved and ruined the last day of what should have been a good holiday. Ruined a 3 year olds last day in Dorset he just wanted to see some fish. Find a way to apologise to my child.
18	Dorchester was completely gridlock yesterday due to the iron man event. I had to abandon a trip to Wareham and cancel a lunch booking. I spent an hour trying to get out of Dorchester. There was nothing on the A35 to say that the Wareham road was closed. This must not happen again. It ruined my, and many other people's day.
19	On what legal basis do you think you have the right to confine me to my home on the 11 September 2016 in order that a profit making organisation can run an event to make money in my domicile area. I pay for the maintenance of the roads in Dorset through my Council Tax, I pay for the Police Forces who are earning overtime to enforce the road closures preventing me and my family from going about our lawful business and I pay for you to look after my interests. What benefit am I and my family gaining from being corralled in my house, which I pay you handsomely for the privilege of occupying? My daughter is staying with friends tonight because she cannot get out of Prison Camp Preston to go to work tomorrow at 0800. Where was the communication from my local Councillor advising me that my personal freedoms were being traduced? Where was the communication or consultation from the "Council" advising me that I am under house arrest? I would have better citizen's rights in the Ukraine. Yours in Disgust,
20	I would like to complain about the dreadful traffic situation created by the iron man event around Dorchester yesterday. Was this event subject of Safety Advisory Group meetings beforehand and if so was a traffic management plan submitted and approved by you beforehand please? If so was it a question of the organisers not providing the information and /or resources required or not just planning properly beforehand? I will refrain from listing of all of the shortcomings evident on the day save to inform you that my family journey took 11/2 hours from Dorchester to the Cheese Fair at Sturminster Newton eventually via Yeovil and the A37. An awful lot of time and fuel was wasted. I am sure that you are well aware of the difficulties to many road users the evnt caused.

21	<p>Dear Sir , I wish to register a formal complaint concerning the disruption caused by the Iron Man event held on 11th September . I have attempted to raise this by phone with somebody called ***. He refused point blank to give me his surname .</p> <p>Prior to the event a pamphlet was delivered to my house which stated that Littlemoor Road would only be closed at the Coombe Valley end . I the event the road was also closed at the relief road , isolating the businesses and severely reducing trade .</p> <p>*** would not discuss my complaint and told me that all authority for the closures was delegated to the Iron Man organisation and I should complain to them . I do not believe that DCC have followed correct procedures in delegating the authority to close roads as they see fit , and I am appalled that nobody will discuss the issue with me .There was no consultation prior to the event taking place and the effect on local businesses was totaly ignored . After which DCC refuse to accept any responsibility . My staff had difficulty gaining access to my premises , *** on Littlemoor Road . The number of customers and sales were reduced by about two thirds. I want a full investigation as to who was responsible for the disruption within the council , an appology and full compensation for the loss of trade . I have already raised this with the local authority ombudsman , case reference number *** .</p>
22	<p>Please can you tell me how this event was able to stop people from leaving Dorchester, when we were able to get out we were told to drive on the wrong side of the road along with several other cars from the crossroads at waddock road B3390 TO Clouds Hill, where we met traffic coming the other way HEAD ON !!!!!!!!!!!!!!! this was the most badly organised event and I get 1800 people pay to take part but on a population of over 28k this is not an advantage to the area but a hindrance, when we stopped to talk to the steward he said I am not local I have had this all day we don't even get a radio provided, who has done the health and safety sign off on this, I would like to be provided with a copy of this as I feel they have breached every thing on it and the person who signed off on it has not checked anything</p>
23	<p>I am writing to voice my total annoyance with the traffic miss-management of the Iron Man event held on Dorset's roads today. Travelling from Stalbridge to Dorchester became a farcical at best and a very stressful and taxing one for all normal road user's I met on route who were only trying to go about their normal business. Whomever was responsible for placing marshal's around the counties roads with no local knowledge, no radio's and only mobile phone's using Google maps need to be retrained in event and traffic management. Marshal's bused in from Aldershot, Exeter and other areas outside the county was not a sound move when asking them to direct traffic on minor roads that are not used to the volume of traffic experienced today where there were no diversion signs (least not on the 40 mile detour we had to make). You will undoubtedly have a de-brief and I hope you come to the conclusion that this area is not equipped to host such an event in the future. I look forward to your comment and response.</p>
24	<p>I wish to inform you of my inconvenience caused by today's Iron Man event. The closure of roads and ensuing chaos was intolerable.</p> <p>I'd been away for the weekend and was returning to my home in Winterbourne Abbas on Sunday morning. I was aware that the Iron Man event was taking place but had checked in advance that trunk road routes around Dorchester would be free for traffic. However, travelling from Blandford, when I reached the junction of the A354 and A35, wishing to then travel west on the A35 towards Dorchester, I was instructed by a marshall to go east on the A35 and "find the first opportunity to turn round and come back west-bound". This is despite the fact that access to the A35 west-bound, as I'm sure you know, is only a matter of 50 yds, just over the bridge crossing the A35.</p>

	<p>I attempted to come off the A35 at the first available junction, Tolpuddle Ball, just to the east of Tolpuddle but was blocked again - and I was not alone, there were many very angry motorists by this time.</p> <p>In the end I was forced to drive all the way to Bere Regis before I could turn round and then head west-bound back to Dorchester.</p> <p>In my view the route of the cycle race and programme of road closures was very poorly thought out. Added to which the marshalling was appalling. Certainly two of the marshalls I had need to speak to were not local - one, for instance, had no idea where Bere Regis was when I asked him if I had to drive all the way there before turning back on myself Could you please convey my displeasure to the organisers of the Iron Man event and to any discussion within the Council about how the event had been organised.</p> <p>My final comment would be "let them go elsewhere in future". I appreciate that events like this bring financial benefits to an area but this must be balanced against the appalling disruption to local residents.</p>
25	<p>Me and my family wanted a nice day out at Iulworth cove, we were angered at how badly the iron man event was managed/organised, there were no diversion signs, no prior warnings coming into Dorchester and the marshalls were plain rude, traffic management was diabolical. The only hint of the event was when we were stuck at a road closed sign, this must have happened a dozen times. At one point I even had to get out of my car and remind the marshalls to let cars cross a crossroads as the traffic had got so bad, they were more worried that it was a 'timed event' than actually helping traffic. Disgusting management by the organisers and council alike. Traffic management/marshall attitude. 2 children spent hours in a hot car on what is usually less than an hour journey. Used at least £10 more worth of petrol, which is disgusting. Future organisation to be better planned, and not just the immediate location. A refund of petrol money. I'd like to add that the marshalls were seriously lacking in not only local knowledge but in common sense, at one point, I was on the course itself facing oncoming bicycles in Puddletown, wanting to turn right to join the dual carriageway, I was told I could not go that way but had to take a 10 mile detour still driving toward oncoming bicycles, instead of a 400 metre drive that would have got me off the course straight away.</p>
26	<p>ROAD SIGNS NOT RIGHT, VILLAGE CUT OFF, BOOKINGS CANCELLED BECAUSE OF BEING DIVERTED AT CHARLTON DOWN BACK INTO DORCHESTER BECAUSE THEY WERE TOLD NO ACCESS BEYOND THIS POINT. YET THE INFORMATION SENT THROUGH TO RESIDENTS SAID THERE WOULD BE ACCESS TO CERNE ABBAS. ALSO NO INFORMATION WAS SENT TO THE LOCAL BUSINESSES WE HAD TO RELY ON RESIDENTS TO KEEP US INFORMED PEOPLE CANCELLED BOOKINGS, LOSS OF BUSINESS ON A SUNNY DAY. SIGNS SAYING NO ACCESS WHEN THE PAPERWORK SAID THERE WAS ACCESS</p> <p>LOSS OF INCOME THIS SUNDAY £352 PREVIOUS SUNDAYS £755 / £720 COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF INCOME. STAFF STILL NEED TO BE PAID AS THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN A BUSY DAY</p>
27	<p>The Weymouth Ironman event caused havoc on Dorset roads coming from Sherborne towards Dorchester through absolutely NO signage whatsoever. The first we were aware of this was to hit a roadblock in Middlemarsh. We were directed to turn round and head through Buckland Newton. We then hit another roadclosure in Piddlehinton and had to turn round again. Again NO signage at all. It eventually took us 2 hours from Sherborne to Bere Regis. Whoever organises this event clearly has no idea of the impact they are causing by not doing their job correctly. There should have been far more signage starting in</p>

	Yeovil from this area. We and hundreds of other road users suffered exactly the same difficulties needlessly. It made our journey 2 hours longer. Put someone in charge of organisation or better still do not stage the event at all.
28	<p>Iron Man Weymouth 11th Sept. Information given out inaccurate. No diversions in place. Safety issue on slip road to A35 and on A35. The information given out was inaccurate in that the A352 was in fact closed in both directions not just southbound. In fact the information for Broadmayne residents was zero as it did not feature on the sheet. There were simply 'road closed' signs placed with no diversions to guide drivers as to the correct way. Road closed signs not placed in Broadmayne to show Northbound A352 was shut. Marshals were clearly untrained and not equipped with skills to keep traffic flowing. I cannot see why the A352 needed to be closed in both directions. If the cyclists had used the wrong side of the road then the road could have remained open to southbound traffic (perhaps with speed restriction) and this would significantly eased congestion.</p> <p>I left my house at 9.45am to do some unplanned food/essentials shopping. I went via A352 expecting northbound to be open. On the hill just before Whitcombe turning I was stopped by a Marshall and advised I must turn back via West Knighton (almost back to my house). (I thought this a very dangerous position to place a Marshall with no warning sign). Additionally due to the queuing traffic coming off the A35 to the A352 people were making dangerous U turns on the slip road and so I nearly hit one of them coming round the bend on the slip road as I went to join the A35. I cannot imagine it would be long before traffic was queuing on the 'free access' A35. In fact when I came back from Tesco at 10.45am the traffic was queuing from the stadium roundabout so I decided to go via Winterborne Herriston- which was an advertised route. Here I found a massive queue of cars trying to get across the crossroads to Coombe Valley. Whereas normally it would take 10 mins it took over 1/2 hour in each direction and extra miles as the instructions were incorrect. I am 38 weeks pregnant and have a small toddler who screamed most of the way home. This was a stress I did not need. Ensure full diversion signs are in place. More thought into route and how it will affect residents. Ensure organisers provide full and correct information to residents.</p>
29	<p>Yesterday morning (Sunday 11th September) we set out on a planned trip to Tyneham Village. We turned off the A35 towards Wareham, only to be sent on a complete goose-chase around Dorchester for 1 hour, with no proper signage or information. It was mayhem, (apparently due to a cycle event) There had been no forethought and consequently the poor unsuspecting public were held ransom to this one event.</p> <p>We abandoned our trip. *All it required was advanced warning on the A35. closure of the turning to Wareham, and proper re-routing. Trip aborted</p>
30	<p>With the Ironman contest on 11th Sept 2016 the roads and access to and from Crossways was completely compromised and unacceptable. The event caused major delays on the ring road around Dorchester and access to and from Crossways was nearly completely impossible. The traffic was held up for long periods on all access and exit points, only to be turned around in every direction I went, giving me no options for exiting or entry to the village.</p> <p>My journey of 6 miles to and from Dorchester (usual time <10 mins) took 50 minutes. This was 50 minutes of complete chaos. No one knew what roads were open. Several of my friends from Crossways experienced far longer delays than myself, reaching over 2 hours to complete a ten minute journey. The stewards were completely oblivious to the road closures and were from Plymouth etc, so could not advise of any local area diversions. Although to be fair, I don't think there were any diversions in place.</p> <p>The general attitude was of no care or compassion for the inhabitants.</p> <p>I am more than happy for sporting events to occur, but perhaps with better planning, alternative route diversions sign posted and advertised and a road</p>

	<p>closure structure that allows people to still move freely around the area. People have work to get to, social events and personal errands to run. It is simply not fair to compromise the travelling ability of several thousand inhabitants.</p> <p>2015 did not have such issues. Please can you work harder to make this better next year!</p>
31	<p>We were due to meet friends for lunch at a pub in Winfrith but came up against the road closures for the cycle race in and around Dorchester. We turned into the A352 from the A35 to head south and there were no signs to say that the road was going to be closed. When we reached the first roundabout the A352 was closed and we were turned back in towards Dorchester. We should have been able to turn round at that point and head back to the A35 .</p> <p>As we had no choice we turned back towards Dorchester with the idea that we could cut across towards the A35 at a later point. However we joined a long queue of traffic and every time we tried to take a right hand turn further roads were closed. There were people at the road closed signs but they were unable to give useful directions how to proceed. We were stuck in Dorchester gridlock for about an hour and eventually had to abandon our planned lunch as when we eventually were able to rejoin the A35 at the Monkey Jump roundabout the A35 road heading East was again solid. The complete lack of direction around Dorchester when so many roads were closed. Also at times it appeared that one half of the road could have been operating when there were only cyclists along one side of the road.</p> <p>There should have been clear signage on the A35 of the road closures and in particular the closures on the A352. Had this been shown clearly , we would have proceeded along the A35 and taken an alternative route to our destination via the B3390.</p> <p>Having phoned the pub twice to apologise for our delay we eventually had to cancel the reservation and the meeting with our friends. the pub landlord advised that their trade had been very badly affected by these road closures as well. We wasted an hours worth of fuel in gridlocked traffic around Dorchester and were unable to meet our friends for lunch. If an event like this is to held again in the future - you need much better signage from the A35 and also proper diversion signs and routings so that people are not just left in "limbo" with no idea which direction that are supposed to be headed.</p> <p>This was a disgraceful situation.</p>
32	<p>My staff have asked that I contact you, as they were refused access to *** yesterday, 11th September. The staff work 6 hour shifts and a number of them could not enter or exit from the road. As they are responsible for looking after and feeding up to 10 elderly residents this was unacceptable. Discretion for workers to access their place of work should have been in place and considering the fact that several of our residents are in their 90's. Their care should have come before a road closures that effectively held people who worked and live in Preston prisoners. An event of this nature should not shut down a town.</p> <p>Access for businesses should have been in place. Just because it was a Sunday, did not mean that nobody was working that day. Care of the elderly should have been thought about, whether at Home like ours, Care Homes and Care in the Community.</p>
33	<p>What an absolute shambles the road closures have been for the Ironman competition today. Road closures badly marked, without giving alternative routes. I knew the road to Affpuddle was closed today, because I had seen the signs during the week, so I avoided that route out of Crossways and instead went to go to Tescos in Dorchester for my petrol and shopping. A journey that should have taken me 45 minutes max (including shopping time) ended up taking me 2 hours 15 minutes. Every way I tried to get home after my shop ended up at a road closure (previously un sign posted at the start of the road, only to be closed after</p>

	<p>having wasted 20 minutes or so trying to get there).. I am so angry, why "attempt" to arrange an event if you are not capable of setting up suitable diversions or staffing the road closures, so at the very least people can be given advice on which way they should be going? I saw people reversing over single carriageway bridges through tiny villages, straight into oncoming traffic - so dangerous! Appalling planning, lack of diversions. Lack of staffing at road closures. Wasted and additional 1.5 hours in the car. Very stressed and worried about my dogs being left for so long. Plan things better if you are going to attempt to put on any kind of event like this in the future. Better signing for diversions. Put some staff at the road closures who can advise people what way they should be going to get to where they need to go... Basic stuff really!!</p>
34	<p>I hope things are starting to calm down after the weekend for you.</p> <p>There were obviously some problems with the traffic planning around the Iron Man event on Sunday, I spoke to one of your colleagues yesterday who suggested we emailed you with the problems we had to help the organizers plan next year's event.</p> <p>The letter sent out and the website map/list of road closures did not list the road closures in the town centre. Only Preston beach Rd out.</p> <p>So we could inform the Lifeboat crew the best route to the station we needed this information. We contacted the advertised helpline and was informed the seafront, Custom House Quay and round into St Mary's street would be closed.</p> <p>I asked if Weymouth town bridge would be closed and was told No there would be no need to close the bridge.</p> <p>On the morning of the race two of our crew were stopped on North Quay approaching the town bridge on their way to the Lifeboat Station for a planned exercise and were stopped and told they could not carry on along Trinity Rd as the Town bridge was closed. They were eventually allowed to proceed as they did not need to cross the bridge anyway.</p> <p>Lots of cars were driving down North Quay road and being turned back when they reached the bridge. This was causing tailbacks along this road. Had signs been placed on the approach roads to Asda junction saying Town bridge closed this could have been avoided. I approached the marshal there and explained the problem, he did manage to get a sign placed on Boot Hill.</p> <p>Lower Saint Edmond street was also closed for some reason.</p> <p>I did witness one couple trying to get to the Crown hotel and they were turned back at the bridge but not told how they could get there.</p> <p>Sunday early evening we towed a vessel back into Weymouth Harbour and requested assistance from the HM Coastguard Mobile team on are arrival in Weymouth harbour. The Harbour wanted the vessel on a pontoon by the Pavilion car park. The Coastguard team were held back by the marshals until we got the harbour authority to intervene. Luckily it was not a life or death situation but it does show a need to plan for access if needed.</p> <p>I hope this is of some help to you and the organizers in planning next year's event. The problems we occurred look to be quite easy to fix.</p> <p>There looked to be a great turnout for the event so let's hope we can keep it going.</p>
35	<p>I set off for Dorchester on Sunday 11th Sept for an appointment and found entry to the top road from Buckland Newton was blocked but no prior signs to save drivers from going fruitless miles so had to turn back....access at Piddletrenthide also blocked, also no prior warning.. deviations via Cerne and Sydling made a very circuitous journey and appointment missed.....</p> <p>By all means have an event but the lack of signage and on road information was infuriating and seemed incompetent, very poorly planned and uselessly (un)signed.</p>

	<p>I have found info on-line after the event, I had no reason to check before hand, but why no signs on roads warning of closed access and advising diversions? Was anyone responsible for providing warning signs and diversions, it seemed not.</p> <p>Extremely unfortunate that the signage was not showing, it would have avoided all the upset for what seems now to be quite a large number of rather angry drivers left roaming Dorset looking for ways around the route.</p> <p>I felt sorry for the stewards, they seemed a bit shocked and unprepared that they were having to guide drivers rather than just the cyclists and they were probably getting a fair bit of anger directed at them.</p> <p>I am in north Dorset so was not in receipt of the letters that I now understand from news sources were sent out to locals and had not picked up on other news sources, information about the event, so with no road signs detailing what was happening, there was no chance of being aware of what to avoid/ where to avoid it.</p>
36	<p>I wish to register a formal complaint concerning the disruption caused by the Iron Man event held on 11th September . I have attempted to raise this by phone with somebody called *** . He refused point blank to give me his surname .</p> <p>Prior to the event a pamphlet was delivered to my house which stated that Littlemoor Road would only be closed at the Coombe Valley end . I the event the road was also closed at the relief road , isolating the businesses and severely reducing trade .</p> <p>*** would not discuss my complaint and told me that all authority for the closures was delegated to the Iron Man organisation and I should complain to them . I do not believe that DCC have followed correct procedures in delegating the authority to close roads as they see fit , and I am appalled that nobody will discuss the issue with me .There was no consultation prior to the event taking place and the effect on local businesses was totally ignored . After which DCC refuse to accept any responsibility .</p> <p>My staff had difficulty gaining access to my premises , ***. The number of customers and sales were reduced by about two thirds</p> <p>I want a full investigation as to who was responsible for the disruption within the council , an appology and full compensation for the loss of trade .</p> <p>I have already raised this with the local authority ombudsman , case reference number ***.</p>
37	<p>lack of notice and information signs about the road closures whilst the Ironman event was on caused extensive traffic build up outside my business.</p> <p>Road closures while the Weymouth Ironman event was taking place, left my us disadvantaged and caused a loss of business as my customers where unable to visit my premises.</p> <p>I incurred a loss of business and subsequently a loss of profit.</p> <p>Make sure that, if this event is to take place next year, an alternative route is found.</p> <p>I would also like it to be noted that the residents and business had no advance notice of the road closures. Surely this is something that should have happened.</p> <p>Also that I have an email response from Ironman saying that it was Dorset Councils issue. As you have stated in your email below they employed an traffic management company. With this type of response it clearly shows that they care only about their event and not those living and working in the area's effected.</p>

38	<p>The information given out was inaccurate in that the A352 was in fact closed in both directions not just southbound. In fact the information for Broadmayne residents was zero as it did not feature on the sheet. There were simply 'road closed' signs placed with no diversions to guide drivers as to the correct way. Road closed signs not placed in Broadmayne to show Northbound A352 was shut. Marshals were clearly untrained and not equipped with skills to keep traffic flowing.</p> <p>I cannot see why the A352 needed to be closed in both directions. If the cyclists had used the wrong side of the road then the road could have remained open to southbound traffic (perhaps with speed restriction) and this would significantly eased congestion. I left my house at 9.45am to do some unplanned food/essentials shopping. I went via A352 expecting northbound to be open. On the hill just before Whitcombe turning I was stopped by a Marshall and advised I must turn back via West Knighton (almost back to my house). (I thought this a very dangerous position to place a Marshall with no warning sign). Additionally due to the queuing traffic coming off the A35 to the A352 people were making dangerous U turns on the slip road and so I nearly hit one of them coming round the bend on the slip road as I went to join the A35. I cannot imagine it would be long before traffic was queuing on the 'free access' A35. In fact when I came back from Tesco at 10.45am the traffic was queuing from the stadium roundabout so I decided to go via Winterborne Herriston- which was an advertised route. Here I found a massive queue of cars trying to get across the crossroads to Coombe Valley. Whereas normally it would take 10 mins it took over 1/2 hour in each direction and extra miles as the instructions were incorrect. I am 38 weeks pregnant and have a small toddler who screamed most of the way home. This was a stress I did not need. Ensure full diversion signs are in place. More thought into route and how it will affect residents. Ensure organisers provide full and correct information to residents. I would like to add further information about our day. After my form was filled in it took my husband 2 hours to get home to Broadmayne from Budmouth college. This was because there was no warning that there would be no access to West Stafford bypass from the A35. On leaving the A35 he was directed into Dorchester, which was gridlocked. After speaking to me on the phone he very slowly made his way out via Herriston Rd. It took him over an hour to get through Dorchester town centre.</p> <p>We needed to go out to a family gathering in the afternoon. We delayed our departure until 3.30pm, after the peak time and took the route I had used in the morning (West Knighton, West Stafford bypass). However this time we found a 'Road Closed' sign and had to turn into West Stafford and out via Higher Bockhampton to the A35 before heading towards Bridport. Yet another large detour determined by ourselves, no diversion signs in place, no warning on entering West Stafford bypass it was shut at far end! And furthermore why was the road open in the morning but shut in the afternoon when most of the competitors had finished the course????</p> <p>This level of disruption to residents lives who live in the rural areas around the course is unacceptable. It's all very well for residents of Weymouth to say just walk or take a bus. That is not an option for us. There are stories all over social media about essential nurses and carers not getting through. I dread to think what would have happened if I had gone into labour as the midwives would not have been able to reach me.</p>
39	<p>Journey started at Bridport. Travelling to Bournemouth for the day.. Got to Dorchester no signs anywhere about anything to do with the event as close as Monkeys Jump.. Through Dorchester town centre towards the shell garage at London Road - "Road closed."</p> <p>Garage said the road at the bridge was closed and that other side roads were very busy...</p> <p>Roads closed towards the bypass.. spent 40 minutes travelling around Dorchester back to Monkey's Jump...</p> <p>Decided to go via Charlton Down - half way along the road.. Policeman on bike said road closed and half the villages closed - don't use bypass - gridlocked.</p> <p>Went through Charminster - road closed directed back on to A37. Eventually went via Sherborne - Stur Newton, Blandford to bypass.</p> <p>Marshals at signs had no information and no idea about directions.. No advance warning signs.</p>

	<p>3.5hrs journey time. No clear alternative routes or diversion. Saw no media coverage prior to the event, was not informed.</p>
40	<p>As a resident of Milborne St Andrew I was trying to get to Dorchester but on arriving at the Puddletown roundabout on the A354 I encountered a queue of traffic and a road closure sign on the roundabout itself. A large number of people were stopping to speak to the marshalls as there was no signage on the approach to the roundabout and no indication of a diversion. The marshalls clearly did not know the area and could only direct people on to the A35 heading East. However, while this took you away from Dorchester there were diverted traffic signs at the Tolpuddle exit so a large volume of traffic followed these, expecting to be able to rejoin the A35 heading West. When reaching the bottom of the slip road there was another road closed sign and the diversion signs merely sent you back up to Milborne St Andrew. This resulted in a large number of people performing dangerous u-turns on a slip road from a 70mph dual carriageway. The only option was to then proceed to Bere Regis on the A35, turn around and head back towards Dorchester, a considerable diversion.</p> <p>Eventually reaching Dorchester following a considerable delay I found it to be empty and every trader complaining that they had severely reduced trade due to the Ironman event as well as residents who had been told they could not drive out of their own homes. I then tried to exit Dorchester by driving down the B3150 but found there was another road closed sign, again with no prior signage, and traffic having to turn into High Street Fordington. This traffic was then sent back on to the B3150 heading in the very direction it had just come from. When I questioned a marshall on this I was told that they weren't from Dorset and were just told to direct people. When I then questioned them on where their accreditation was to direct traffic they told me that they were "just a steward" and had no qualification but if I didn't like it I should talk to the nearby policeman, which I then did. He informed me that the police had been asked to oversee the activity and that it was a private event they had no control over and that I should complain to the highways department and the event organiser. He was very apologetic and was clearly unhappy with the situation.</p> <p>To get back to Milborne St Andrew I had to drive North as far as Cerne Abbas, encountering numerous closed road and unqualified marshalls directing traffic and handing out incorrect advice on road closures. Not one single road closure had signage on the approach and and journey that should have taken twenty minutes took two hours.</p> <p>I would like to know who at the council agreed and signed off on the route for the Ironman and the traffic management plan? Whether the organisers kept to this plan? Why there were no signs on the approaches to any of the closed roads? Why staff with no accreditation or training were directing traffic in clear breach of the rules set down by Dorset Police and DCC for events traffic management and finally why anyone ever thought it acceptable to to close every major route from Weymouth North to Middlemarsh (a distance of 20 miles) for an entire day?</p> <p>Even with a traffic management plan this was clearly going to be a disaster and should never have been allowed to take place in its current form. The recent Olympic triathlon course in Rio managed to get by with a series of laps so I cannot understand why a shorter route with more laps and less disruption was not chosen.</p> <p>I have seen the statement from *** describing this as a great boost for Dorset. This may have been a boost for a small number of traders in Weymouth but the impact on every facet of business outside of Weymouth clearly outweighs any boost Weymouth might have received, and disproportionately affects the rest of the county negatively. The statement from Dorset Police regarding some sign tampering in no way goes towards explaining the chaos I saw today from an ill prepared organiser with inadequate staffing or oversight. The statement released to the Echo by the event organisers appears to be be completely unrepentant and accept little to no responsibility.</p>

	<p>I have referred to your published document on events traffic management plan guidance and cannot see how this event has met any of its basic criteria on impact on local residents and traffic control and signing. There must have been a safety advisory group organised prior to this event with representation from the Police, highways and any other relevant bodies? Did this take place and if so why was this event agreed in the way it was?</p> <p>This event cannot run again in this format and needs to be seriously reconsidered in its size and scope. It is a private money making event that has shown no consideration for the residents and if found to be in breach of any agreed regulations should face a financial penalty, if not investigation by the police for its use of un-accredited traffic marshalls.</p>
41	<p>I set off for Dorchester on Sunday 11th Sept for an appointment and found entry to the top road from Buckland Newton was blocked but no prior signs to save drivers from going fruitless miles so had to turn back....access at Piddletrentide also blocked, also no prior warning.. deviations via Cerne and Sydling made a very circuitous journey and appointment missed.....</p> <p>By all means have an event but the lack of signage and on road information was infuriating and seemed incompetent, very poorly planned and uselessly (un)signed.</p> <p>I have found info on-line after the event, I had no reason to check before hand, but why no signs on roads warning of closed access and advising diversions? Was anyone responsible for providing warning signs and diversions, it seemed not.</p>
42	<p>I would also like it noted that if the event is going to happen again then the highways team need to do a lot more work.</p> <p>There is hardly no advance warning signs out, untrained marshals directing traffic and again I have had several complaints about this.</p> <p>I understand and see what a fantastic opportunity this event is for Weymouth & Portland (and Dorset) but more is needed to be done to ensure event runs more smoothly with even less disruption to local residents</p>
43	<p>I wish to complain most bitterly of the road closures and lack of signs relating to them yesterday, due to this race</p> <p>I had hoped to go to a dressage competition at Kingston Maurward but could not gain access after Middlemarsh. I then cut across and came down to Piddletrentide only to be refused access again.From joining the 3030 to Middlemarsh and Piddletrentide I did not see a single sign. I had to give up and go home as I was too late for my competition.</p> <p>Had anyone at either of these junctions had the slightest concern for road users things need not have been so bad, but not a single person including a policemen cared a jot. Knowledge by the stewards of the area and the alternative routes could have helped in view of the lack of signs but they were all foreigners and I doubt they had a clue as to where they were themselves.</p> <p>All this was extremely stressful, disappointing and expensive.The entries of £40.00 and extra fuel travelling around the countryside to no avail.just adds to annoyance.</p>
44	<p>Phone Call received 15:10 on the 12.09.16 - *** ** - Spoke to 2 girls two week prior to the event telling them that he needed to exit his home and how he could. He did not receive a call back and mad further calls to no avail. He spoke to *** today, and reported that *** was abusive and calling him 'stupid'. Would like more notice in future - between now & 3 months. Marshall were abusive to his wife in 2015</p>

45	Runs a farm and one of the marshals for the ironman refused to let animal welfare in to his address. He has contacted trading standards regarding this and has also been trying to speak with the people from Ironman as he does not think it is right to put some people cycling above the needs of the animals here as not only lost money on this but the animals suffered. ***
46	This morning my daughter was taken ill, and we needed to get her to Dorchester Hospital. We had no information about the end of the village being closed. We were also not told when the event was happening. We were told at the end of the village by a marshal with no radio, that we were not allowed through even tho it was an emergency, and even though my daughters eyes had swollen up. The marshal had no clue where else we could get to Dorchester Hospital. We drove another 5 miles, and again met the road blocked , thus not allowing us on to the A35. We had to get a police officer to get us on to the A35 to allow us to get her to hospital. When we arrived at the hospital an hour later, which should have taken 15 mins, we met a consultant there reporting to a police officer, how he was on an emergency call, and was sent on a 20 mile extra journey to get to the hospital?... When we left the hospital to come back, we tried going towards Charminster to get back towards Dewlish. No signs until we got there after a long traffic queue it was shut, with angry locals. We then all headed towards Piddlehinton... again no signs and shut. The police had to come as people were getting out and shouting at the council worker as he had no clue which road was not shut. We were then told to head onto the A35 by the police, which had a 7 mile traffic queue. Then the turn off for Dewlish was closed.... We then tried Bere Regis, and found a way to Milborne St Andrew to get home that way... Took over an hour and half.... Please tell me why this went so wrong, and caused people in emergency situation being block to get to Dorchester Hospital
47	I just want to say this event caused total traffic chaos for so many people today. I hope someone enjoyed it while we were driving around all dorset trying to get around it get home
48	I am priest at ***. Sunday is, of course, the day when committed Christians attend church, but when I received details of the Ironman event, and after studying the very poorly produced map on the leaflet. I decided that it would be best to cancel our Sunday service for that day. Apart from my my wife and I, all of our congregation travel some distance, most from the Sherborne or Bridport direction and I could imagine them having to be diverted to unfamiliar roads with possible hold-ups. I have been criticised for taking this course, but subsequent reports suggest that it was the right decision, and I trust that there will be no repetition of this event. The area is just not suitable.
49	I feel the need to write to inform you of serious disruption to our business caused by yesterday's Ironman event. Despite not even being on the route this year, the roads all around us were closed without any prior notice. Neither did we receive prior notification of the event itself. Our staff were unable to get to work on time to feed and attend livestock. One member of staff took 105 minutes to travel from Puddletown to Dewlish. Another individual travelled 62 miles for a 4 mile journey between Affpuddle and Puddletown. The marshalling staff were incompetent with no local knowledge. Milk tanker collections, which run 24 hours per day anyway, were also disrupted causing further delays through to this morning. This poorly organised event will have cost us at least £1000 in reduced milk production, staff costs and compromised animal welfare. I am not prepared to carry these losses in future.

	<p>I need you to be able to assure me that this event will not occur again. It is disruptive, expensive and unwelcome. I hope that Dorset County Council realise the damage this event has brought to the local economy and goodwill of the local electorate. I also expect the Police to be able to respond better than to simplistically blame some of the public for removing road signs.</p>
50	<p>I am writing to you to inform you and express my sheer frustration of the chaos that occurred yesterday in Dorchester due to the Iron man Triathlon. My family and I live in Blandford Forum and therefore we were completely unaware of the event taken place. There was no pre warning of any of the road closers until you reached the road that was closed. Where were the diversion signs? The marshals that were attending the road closer signs were rude and unhelpful even one marshal not even knowing what part of Dorset he was in.</p> <p>It took 1 hour longer to get into Dorchester and it took 2 1/2 hours getting out. We tried several different ways getting out of Dorchester and actually saw an articulated milk tanker having to turn round in Charminster. Lots of people were unable to get to and do there jobs properly. 2,700 competitors and in my guessing 20,000 cars blocking up many major roads in Dorset.</p> <p>I quote you from the BBC red button service as saying the Iron man Triathlon as a "Prestigious sporting event" and was a "great boost for Dorset". I would like you to inform me as to how this was a great boost for Dorset? we were unable to carry out half of what we wanted to do in Dorchester due to the gridlocked traffic, Many people complaining business was poor.</p> <p>Dorset doe not need a boost it has it's Heritage, charm and beautiful scenery renowned world wide. one day of utter chaos and head ache surely wasn't necessary.</p> <p>Our day was completely ruined and I say again the sheer frustration of the event and the county council's lack of thought and preparation was an absolute disgrace.</p>
51	<p>How lovely to have such a high profile event as yesterday's in the County</p> <p>Can I ask that, if anything similar is ever contemplated, that the event is publicised widely within the County, so that residents are aware that they should check the website for potential impact, and that both coordination with the Highway Authority and advance signage are greatly improved?</p> <p>One could do worse than look at the example of The Great Dorset Steam Fair</p>
52	<p>I was camping with my partner at Cerne Abbas yesterday (11th September) and had seen a few signs warning of the Ironman the day before.</p> <p>While I am fully supportive of these events (we should have more!) I felt I should write to you to tell you the traffic management we terrible. Virtually all the roads around that area were closed and none of your stewards knew what was going on and none of them had radio contact with event organisers. Lots of cars (including ours) were just sent from one road block to the next much to the irritation of the local residents.</p> <p>We were trying to get from Cerne Abbas to Athelhampton which should take about 20 mins I guess. The journey took three hours! And we didn't even get there – we gave up in the end when we got to the final road closure on the A35.</p> <p>We were on a weekend away so it wasn't too important that we lost our morning. The nurse in the car behind who could get to work was much less sanguine.</p>

53	<p>*** is quoted as saying that yesterday's Iron Man was "a great boost for Dorset"; I cannot agree and would ask for some early explanation of yesterday's road debacle.</p> <p>Yesterday I came down the A352 from Sherborne to visit Dorchester. Just south of Longburton there was the one single sign of what lay ahead, saying access to Weymouth via A37. The A37 is a long way from where I was, and in any case I was going to Dorchester. At Middlemarsh with no warning the road was closed: that was all, with no indication of why, for how long, and suggested alternative route. The lonely contractor in the road could only say it was closed till 6 o'clock, and that he had no authority or further knowledge. We turned round and went down the Piddle Valley – same thing, no warning, no explanation, and now a narrow road to turn round in and fight back against mounting congestion. So off to Puddletown – with the same result. This is not a "great boost" for Dorset but a great "disaster".</p> <p>Returning home I visited DCC Highways website and found nothing to announce this activity: in any case coming from outside Dorset that is not something I would expect to have to do. You also have a duty to give some sort of warning on the day and ahead of the actual closure: you did not (and the A352 is not a minor road). Sensibly you should advise alternative route(s); you did not – and I assure you that chaos resulted for many motorists.</p> <p>Please can I have some explanation of this total dereliction of duty by your authority, and your understanding that yesterday was not exactly an outstanding success.</p>
54	<p>I wish to strongly endorse the comments from *** in his message below, having had a very similar experience driving from Sherborne towards Dorchester on Sunday afternoon. The lack of signage was a disgrace and I hope that there were no emergency runs to Dorchester hospital that afternoon as they would have been very distressing. As it was, it took us around an extra hour to find a way to the coast which would have been much simpler and quicker if sufficient warning had been given of the road closures.</p>
55	<p>re Iron man you still put people life at risk and made a profit not to tell us in this area your closing the road on Thursday before using total mindless people on check points .my mums ill in *** and I had to go .if it was so good for Weymouth KEEP it in Weymouth .you said " delivered road closure leaflets to 70,000 residents " that's a lie 400 people here did not get the notice do a risk assessment on how long any services would take to here ,or the care home on here .. KEEP it in Weymouth NOT HERE Charlton Downs Regards</p>
56	<p>I organise a major fundraising event for *** (we oversee the 14 national collections of plants in Dorset, including those at Kingston Maurward, Abbotsbury Gardens & Knoll Gardens). Each year we have specialist plant fairs at Athelhampton House in May and Sept. The dates are usually fixed up to 12-18 months in advance and we advertise them widely amongst the horticultural community in Dorset and the neighbouring counties. Most of our specialist nurseries, exhibiting at these events come from Dorset or Somerset but some travel from West Sussex, mid-Devon and Wilts. As far as possible we try to deconflict with other events in the area (eg Dorset County Show, Mapperton Plant Fair, Forde Abbey Plant Fair etc) but May and Sept are very busy months for events and sometimes this is not always possible. Once we heard that the Iron Man event was going to be on on 11th Sept, we considered back in May moving the event to another date but the diary was already busy every weekend and we were re-assured that all would be well when Iron Man confirmed that traffic would be</p>

allowed to flow one way from Puddletown to Athelhampton. We notified all of our members, stall-holders and exhibitors that they would be able to get to the event by this route, which was shown in yellow on the Iron Man website and maps delivered to residents. We told them that when they left Athelhampton after the fair they would have to turn left (west) towards Bere Regis.

I arrived at Athelhampton at 6.30am on Sun 11th after putting up road signs for the Plant Fair and obviously had no difficulties getting in. Unfortunately, some exhibitors were denied access to the Fair and by 8am (the time for exhibitors to arrive and set up only 6 out of 25 had got through). Some (including an Athelhampton House member of staff) were held up on the High Street opposite the shop in Puddletown, others (a convoy of 7 vehicles, some with trailers) were stuck down a single lane road near Bryantspuddle (having been directed there by marshals) unable to move because diverted traffic was being sent by marshals in the opposite direction. One exhibitor, completely exasperated, had travelled from Southampton and got within 1 mile of Athelhampton but couldn't get any further - after 4 hours on the road, eventually he made it at 10am, absolutely seething, having been passed from pillar to post by successive marshals with no overall picture of the problem. I could go on - but essentially our event was a flop, most of our customers were deterred from arriving so went home. Ordinarily we would expect 500-600 - I suspect that we had less than 60 paying guests. 4 Exhibitors didn't arrive at all and have asked for refunds of their pitch fees.

I had spoken to some marshals by phone (Exhibitors had phoned me and I had asked to speak to the Marshal) and it was obvious they had no local knowledge (2 were from Bristol, one was from London) and had never been to Dorset before. They had no knowledge of local place names or roads and had not been given maps by the Iron Man organisers. Consequently they were sending vehicles away and people were just driving to the next road block, just adding to the frustration. After then event, I spoke to some marshals who were exhausted, frustrated by the abuse they had received from motorists. Some of them were not British and English was not their first language, which added to the communication problems. I understand that some of them had denied access to vehicles but had been over-ruled by Police Officers, who had some scope for common sense and trying to prevent a tense situation becoming worse. These Police Officers then moved on and the grid-lock resumed. I understand that the marshals did not have walkie-talkies to communicate with other marshals.

I have the following observations - the Iron Man Cycle route was too ambitious. Dorset has a relatively poor road infrastructure system compared with most counties. To have the route crossing the A35 (a major arterial route) might have seemed straight forward but there were problems on the slip roads near Puddletown and at the Bere Regis end. The route should have been considerably shorter, concentrating the disruption on a smaller part of the county. They would have needed fewer signs, fewer marshals and fewer road closures. The overall distance cycled could have been achieved by having more laps of the same route. Perhaps more marshals with local knowledge could have been used with out shipping in others from different parts of the country or overseas?. Iron Man should not be allowed to disrupt the lives and businesses of people in Dorset and the many visitors who were here but not for the Iron Man event. Sunday might seem like a quiet day but many people still have to get to work, lots of people work shifts and many businesses rely on tourism (Sept is still quite a busy holiday month). **I am aware of carers being denied access to homes of aged and disabled; worse still I am aware of nurses being denied access or delayed access to give palliative care to terminally ill patients at home.**

Looking at people living in Preston - the Littlemoor Road was closed, the Preston Beach Road was closed, the Coombe Valley Road was closed - the only way out was East towards Osmington. Road users then met road restrictions at Broadmayne and Moreton. If a road is going to be closed then an adjacent road must remain open as a logical alternative route for other traffic. Whoever sanctioned these closures at CC level, should have been able to see the problem. You cannot reasonably expect residents and holidaymakers to be confined to their accommodation/homes or leave their homes before 7am and not try and get

	<p>back until 4pm, if they didn't want to be involved in Iron Man or had other important events to attend. Members of my group living in the Cerne area also had similar problems - why did we allow the closure of both the A352 and the Old Sherborne road (parallel)?</p> <p>I don't think that I am being a Nimby; I genuinely recognise the benefit of attracting major events like Iron Man to Dorset. My father was a racing cyclist in the 50s & 60s and my wife and I regularly watch the Olympic cycling and Tour de France/Britain on TV. I just think that the planning for this event ignored some of the practical problems on the ground.</p> <p>Our Plant Heritage events at Athelhampton next year are fixed for Sun 7 May and Sun 10th Sept 2017 , information has already been published and 2000 leaflets printed. I sincerely hope that Iron Man or anything similar doesn't impact on those dates.</p>
57	<p>In short</p> <p>The stewards were ill briefed and less than useless</p> <p>Far too many strategic routes were compromised if not actually closed.....A35 should be accessible at all times at all junctions</p> <p>Leaflets not distributed in time</p> <p>The route affected everyone wanting to access Dorchester from anywhere !</p>
58	<p>Hi thought you might be interested. Every house at bottom of Coombe Valley Road had this notice on a bollard blocking each driveway. Prisoners in their house! Even unable to go to iron-man! Surely some reasonable criteria should be in place to protect residents rights to access and free movement. At very least a maximum number of hours eg two or three not eight and half. ***</p>
59	<p>I am writing to you to inform you and express my sheer frustration of the chaos that occurred yesterday in Dorchester due to the Iron man Triathlon.</p> <p>My family and I live in Blandford Forum and therefore we were completely unaware of the event taken place. There was no pre warning of any of the road closers until you reached the road that was closed. Where were the diversion signs? The marshals that were attending the road closer signs were rude and unhelpful even one marshal not even knowing what part of Dorset he was in.</p> <p>It took 1 hour longer to get into Dorchester and it took 2 1/2 hours getting out. We tried several different ways getting out of Dorchester and actually saw an articulated milk tanker having to turn round in Charminster. Lots of people were unable to get to and do there jobs properly.</p> <p>2,700 competitors and in my guessing 20,000 cars blocking up many major roads in Dorset.</p> <p>I quote you from the BBC red button service as saying the Iron man Triathlon as a "Prestigious sporting event" and was a "great boost for Dorset". I would like you to inform me as to how this was a great boost for Dorset? we were unable to carry out half of what we wanted to do in Dorchester due to the gridlocked traffic, Many people complaining business was poor.</p> <p>Dorset doe not need a boost it has it's Heritage, charm and beautiful scenery renowned world wide. one day of utter chaos and head ache surely wasn't necessary.</p>

	<p>Our day was completely ruined and I say again the sheer frustration of the event and the county council's lack of thought and preparation was an absolute disgrace.</p>
60	<p>The issues caused by the Ironman event this year affecting the rural community differ little from the previous year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The road closures effectively lock down the area. • There are no diversions and it would require a computer programme to take into account every possible journey and destination. • Residents within and near the cycling route are effectively “locked in” and primarily take the decision to stay at home if they have the option. This has a secondary impact that they are economically inactive during the event hence businesses dependant on local trade miss out. • It is pointless planning any other event in Purbeck or South Dorset on this day. Community, charity and private events, possibly arranged a year in advance, will be poorly attended and likely to lose money (eg. Athelhampton House plant sale). Potential attendees either remain at home (as above) or are faced with colossal delays and are prevented from using roads, some of which were not even part of the course. • Businesses that depend on an increase in trade over a weekend will lose out, anything from a small village shop to garden centres. • The pre event notification cannot take into account the potential impact on visitors from outside the area. Effectively they will meet road closure after road closure with no diversion options and marshals who do not know the area and able to give them effective advice. This is counter productive to the area as people may not return and spreads further with negative talk. • The event prevents, or significantly intrudes on, residents and visitors going about their lawful business.
61	<p>With reference to the Ironman event I would like to make the following observations.</p> <p>I am resident in Briantspuddle and many of our connecting roads were closed for the event making travel very difficult.</p> <p>Visiting my brother in a nursing home in Blandford proved a challenging journey and on my return via Milborne St Andrew was met by a stream of motorists advising me that the roads were closed and they had no idea how to complete their journeys.</p> <p>The signage merely stated road closed and offered no diversion routes, the marshals were in the main not local and did not have the knowledge to direct traffic on alternative routes. The marshal at the cross roads in Briantspuddle directing me to go south to get to Blandford (incidentally the road to the south was also closed).</p> <p>There was general chaos on the roads and many people trapped in their homes. It is not acceptable to close off an entire area for nearly twelve hours. As was widely reported carers were unable to get to their patients, other sporting and local events suffered due to the road closures and businesses were affected. Whilst pre warnings were given with regard to the road closures no contingency plans were made to enable the general public to move freely and in many cases go about their business within the area.</p>

	<p>If this event is to be run again there needs to be a complete rethink on the routes and road closures, there are an ever increasing number of these events being run in our area and residents cannot be expected to be 'trapped' in their homes for the enjoyment of others.</p>
62	<p>My comments on Ironman - we had several riders coming off their bikes and into our hedge on the corner because of excessive speed down the hill and round the bends. The Marshall who was stationed at the closed end of *** Lane to redirect traffic, ended up shouting at the cyclists to slow down! There needed to be warning signs at the very least.</p> <p>There was obviously no signage in Tolpuddle to warn drivers that there was no exit at Affpuddle, or if there was it was not conspicuous enough. This resulted in a number of aggrieved drivers having to turn round and travel back. And how DID anyone get to Moreton Station that day?!</p> <p>The thought of a worse repeat of this when the Dorchester Marathon takes place next year is pretty awful. It is my birthday weekend and I always have a big family party on that Bank Holiday Sunday, but I wonder how people are going to get to me if *** Lane is closed as well as the B3390? Perhaps *** can comment on this too!</p>
63	<p>I would like to add my comments to those already submitted regarding the "Ironman" fiasco. On that Sunday we had just returned from holiday and were met in Southampton by a taxi who had already had problems getting out of Weymouth. Our return to Crossways took 40mins longer and cost us £40 extra as it involved a complicated detour around Dorchester and several arguments with "marshalls". The driver and I had each consulted the website in advance but found it totally unhelpful. I understand that this event may run again next year so I would like to make some suggestions. Surely it would be possible to produce some positive information i.e.a map on your website showing the roads which are OPEN instead of just a list of the ones which are closed. Anyone planning in advance could print off the relevant area for their own use, and all the marshalls should be given copies for their areas so that they can help anyone who finds themselves caught up in it unexpectedly. Whilst I can see that a few businesses may have benefited from the event it seems that a much larger number have suffered losses. All information in the future should be aimed at helping the MAJORITY who are just trying to carry on as normal instead of the MINORITY who are taking part.</p>

Appendix 4b: feedback and complaints – social media

Comments directly to DCC and chatter searched out on Social Media
*** Cannot believe all these road closures in Dorset have been allowed. Some people have to work on a Sunday.
*** really very poor information on road closures for the ironman - just got abused by an official on a road that's open per your map
*** *** just improve your maps and signs! Piddlehinton is jammed full of traffic because no warning until people reach it
Dear *** *** please ask for some more "Diversion" this Xmas as your road management is shocking!***
*** You have gridlocked Dorchester. ***
I hope Dorset gets a lot of money for hosting this event. Can we please have some better signs and more information about the road closures
*** Feels like I've had to swim a mile, cycle 112m and run 26m just to get back from work. *** road chaos!
Absolute chaos getting back from work in Dorch today thanks to the ironman - very poor diversions and signage ***
*** absolute traffic mayhem around dorchester for the ironman is it worth all the aggro ? Why are roads closed both ways ?
*** triathlon going one way yet roads shut both ways , ridiculous !
*** ***complete shambles. Seeing as it's 'Weymouth ironman' why not keep it around there (laps) instead of causing
*** *** chaos around a good chunk of west Dorset the majority of whom do not benefit from the event
***yes a fool proof plan I'm sure. Like being trapped in a maze all day.
*** Signs/road closures today very poor. Sent round in circles for 2 hours in Dorchester. 2 crying kids & ruined last day of hols.
*** As a supporter of the event really disappointing that traffic management was an absolute shambles.***
*** *** I'll be sending my fuel bill to the for-profit ***organisers.
*** *** that's a real shame. Hopefully they can learn the lessons
*** ***Hope so, although I suspect organisers will meet substantial objections in future.
*** *** always a challenge with such a big event, communication is key. Let's hope they sort it, looks like great event
Agree *** disruption to football matches due to ironman weymouth. Players arriving late delays. Why close so many roads nr Dorchester?
*** Got stuck for ages today, no warning, lack of information. Not good.

*** As a supporter of the event really disappointing that traffic management was an absolute shambles.***
*** thanks for completely ****ing up our Sunday. How dare you close an entire village [tolpuddle] and prevent ANY access. Disgusting.
Well done to everyone involved in ironman weymouth for a well designed system of road closures.*** **
There are some angry people in Dorchester as ironman weymouth road closures have caused chaos so park up car as we did and cheer them on!
Traffic hell in Dorchester. Some sort of triathlon event. With nobody marshalling the roads and no road sides from the bypass.
Traffic gridlock as result of weymouth ironman ...2 hours to complete 7 miles too and from Dorchester trying to use A354 and A35.
Traffic at a standstill from Sherborne to Dorchester on A352 fork up to revels hill and Lyons Gate junction. Road is shut all directions.
Weymouth Ironman = Omnishambles. Who organised the traffic situation? 8 hours of my life wasted. *** ** *
The ironman weymouth has ****ed up the traffic in Dorch. Do it in the early hours of you have to. Been stuck with kids in the car for hours!
*** it was bedlam, it added 2hrs on to our journey (good to know you are listening - good work)
Don't be pleased if you won the ironman, you only won at pissing all of Dorset off
Fantastic atmosphere in Weymouth for the Ironman triathlon today (unless you speak to the moaning drivers who can't plan ahead)
*** ** Just one sign saying A352 & A353 closed would've saved us hours of misery today, pathetic lack of organization
*** Pitiful signing for those of us trying to pass through Dorchester today. Nothing on A35 to say A352 & A353 closed, grrr
*** total shambles ref organisation... stewards who didn't speak English or give a dam.. shocking
Dorchester roads closed for cycle race. Not a diversion in sight! People driving round in circles. Pathetically ***
From Sherborne on A352, never any signs until Middlemarsh, about 6 miles too late. Ironman traffic: bbc.co.uk/news/uk-englan... ***
*** great to have these Dorset events, don't mind the road closures if notified in advance, particularly 'A' roads around Dorchester!
2 n a half hours we spent trying to get through Dorchester cos they decided to close EVERY road they have
The IRONMANtri event in Dorchester's organisation is a joke. Effectively shut down an entire town and all its roads.
Today, one of the worst day's I've seen for traffic, thank you to my customers for being so understanding ***
*** It's been awful. Took my family over 3 hours to get from Yeovil to Poole, most of it stuck in and around Dorchester!
*** awful wasn't it, my district nursing colleagues have had a difficult time today.
*** Ironman routes are making Dorchester impossible today.The stewards are clueless & are sending people in circles.Please step in Dorset Police
A35 From Football grd roundabout Dorchester to A352 Wareham turnoff to Broadmayne in gridlock. ***

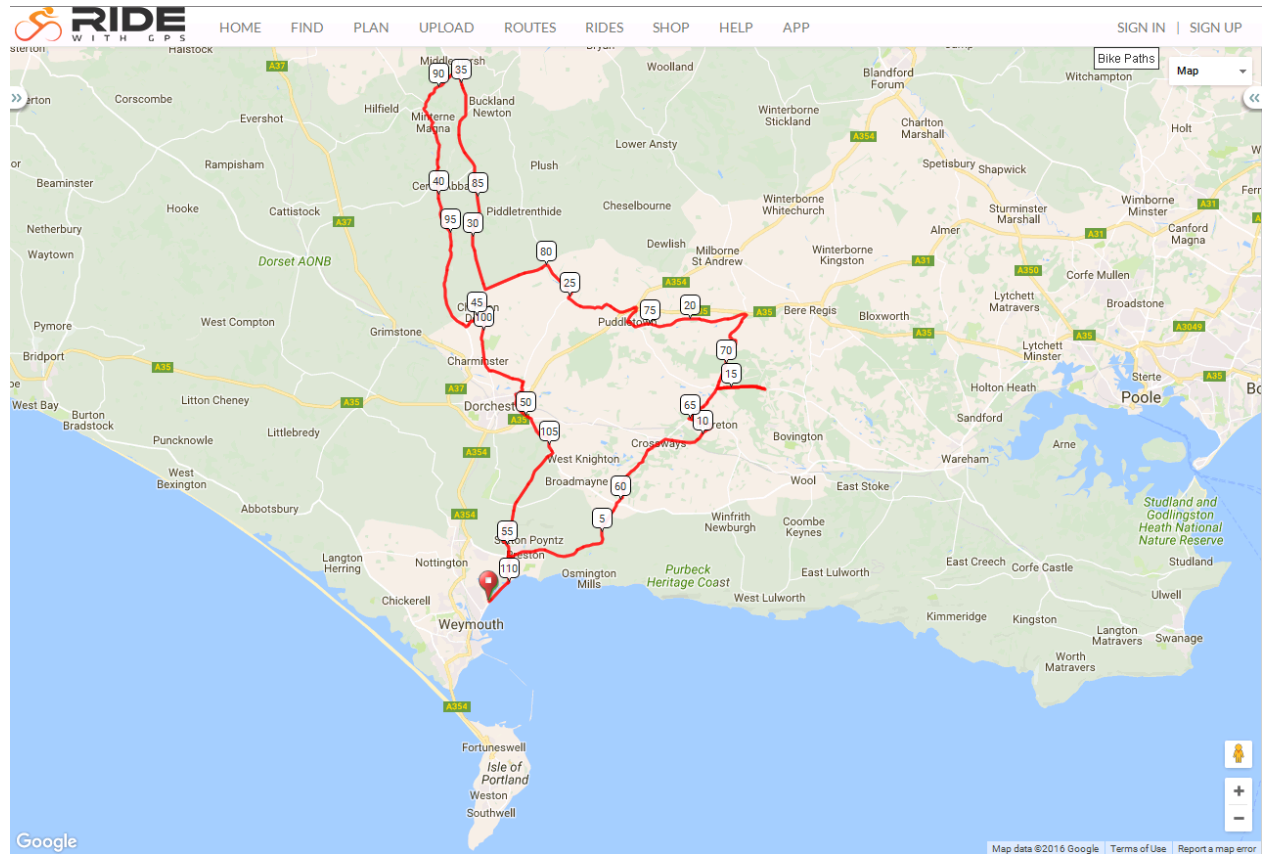
*** Jesus...45 mins and counting to try drive out of Dorchester ...pissed off doesn't even cover it [?][?][?]
*** focus your efforts on the selfish prats who moved the signs. Same last year, and tipped diesel over part of the course.
*** *** Ironman race road closures are a shambles. They have closed all access to my pub, The Thimble Inn DT2 7TD
*** no diverstion signs just road closed signs and reopen times that was not stuck to .. traffic managment need sacking
*** thankyou. Maybe also raise that no access signs would be useful at the beginning of a route not 6 miles later at a dead end!
*** Someone may have moved a few signs, but most of the Dorset road network was gridlocked - wasn't just Weymouth that had issues
*** I told Ironman a week before the race they were cutting me off and they couldn't care less. No communication & pure arrogance
*** hopefully my comments too. Police the signs, prosecute the vandals, minimise disruption. Do not give in to negative lowlifes.
*** they had a plan, and someone moved the traffic signs. Maybe that's why the traffic was so bad!!!
*** Furious at appalling traffic chaos at Dorchester Sep 11th - nearly missed performing in concert - some people have to WORK!

Appendix 5: survey questions

	Questions		Further question/text box for:
	Please give the first part of your postcode eg BH15	postcode	
		or	Country if outside UK
	Before the Ironman Weymouth event		
1	How many times did you visit Dorset in the 12 months leading up to the event?	one visit	
		two visits	
		three visits	
		more than three	please state how many
2	Would you have visited Dorset as above if you had not been taking part in the Ironman Weymouth event?	yes	
		no	
3	Were you accompanied by anyone on your visits?	number of adults	on how many visits
		number of children	on how many visits
4	On average, for how long did you stay?	day visit	
		1 night	
		2 nights	
		3 nights	
		4 nights	
		5 nights	
		6 nights	
		a week	
		more than a week	please state
5	On average, how much did you spend per day per person on the following?		
	Food and drink	£	
	Accommodation	£	
	Local attractions	£	
	Public transport	£	
	Other	£	
6	Where did you stay on your visit(s)?	Weymouth	
		Elsewhere in Dorset	please state where
		Outside Dorset	please state where
7	What type of accommodation did you stay in?	Hotel	
		B&B	
		Self-catering	
		Camping	
		Other	please state

The Ironman Weymouth event			
8	On average, for how long did you stay?	day visit	
		1 night	
		2 nights	
		3 nights	
		4 nights	
		5 nights	
		6 nights	
		a week	
		more than a week	please state
9	Were you accompanied by anyone on your visit?	number of adults	on how many visits
		number of children	on how many visits
10	On average, how much did you spend per day per person on the following?		
	Food and drink	£	
	Accommodation	£	
	Local attractions	£	
	Public transport	£	
	Other	£	
11	Where did you stay on your visit(s)?	Weymouth	
		Elsewhere in Dorset	please state where
		Outside Dorset	please state where
12	What type of accommodation did you stay in?	Hotel	
		B&B	
		Self-catering	
		Camping	
13	How likely are you to visit Dorset again in the future?	Very likely	Any comments on your visit(s) to Dorset
		Likely	“ ”
		Possibly	“ ”
		Not likely	“ ”
14	How likely are you to recommend a visit to Dorset to friends and family?	Very likely	
		Likely	
		Possibly	
		Not likely	Why not?
15	Comments on your Ironman Weymouth experience		

Appendix 6: Map of the cycling route



Anne Gray, 21st November 2016
Policy and Research team
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