



Dorset Council

Date: Thursday, 22 October 2026
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

All members of Dorset Council are requested to attend this meeting of the Full Council.

Chief Executive: Catherine Howe, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic & Governance Services
Meeting Contact susan.dallison@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda. If you would like to attend this meeting and have any specific requirements please contact the Democratic Services Officer named above.

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Agenda

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11.	THE DORSET COUNCIL (PURBECK) MOTORISED WATERCRAFT BYELAWS 2027	3 - 10
To consider a report by the Environment, Policy and Partnership Team Manager.		

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Dorset Council

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1961

The Dorset Council (Purbeck) Motorised Watercraft Byelaws 2027

Dorset Council in exercise of powers conferred by section 76 of the Public Health Act 1961 makes the following byelaws for the prevention of danger, obstruction or annoyance to persons in the area or using the seashore.

Citation

These byelaws may be cited as the Dorset Council (Purbeck) Motorised Watercraft Byelaws 2027

Commencement

These byelaws come into force on the date on which they are confirmed by the Secretary of State for Transport.

Interpretation

1. In these byelaws

- a) 'the council' means Dorset Council;
- b) 'navigator' means a person who has charge or control of a motorised watercraft or, being present, is entitled to give orders to the person having charge or control of it;
- c) 'buoys' mean floating devices anchored in water, used to mark locations, guide navigation, or act as speed markers;
- d) 'moorings' mean fixed structures or anchors used to secure a vessel in place, preventing it from drifting due to wind, currents, or tides;
- e) 'specified area' means the areas detailed in the Schedule
- f) 'voluntary No Anchor Zone' means the area set out in Part 1 (d) Map 4
- g) 'motorised watercraft' means any craft that can move by its own power on water (including petrol, diesel or electric engines) and is capable of carrying one or more people, including but not limited to personal watercraft (e.g. Jet skis), speedboats, e-foils and rigid inflatable boats.

Extent

- 2. These byelaws apply in the areas described in Part 1 of the Schedule and shown as the areas on the landward side of the broken lines on the maps in Part 2 of the Schedule.

Operation of Motorised Watercraft

3. (1) The navigator of a motorised watercraft must not cause or permit it to exceed a speed of 5 knots through the water during the period from 15 March to 30 October inclusive.

4. Paragraph (1) does not apply to a navigator who is:

(a) taking part in an event organised by the Council or by any person with consent from the Council in writing

(b) providing safety facilities at such an event and using a vessel designated for that purpose by the person organising the event

(c) vessels used by search and rescue organisations when in the exercise of their core functions;

(d) vessels used by the Police and Border Force when in the exercise of their core functions; and

(e) vessels used as safety boats by Yacht and Sailing Clubs and other such organisations when engaged in providing safety facilities.

Avoidance of danger

5. The navigator of a motorised watercraft must not cause or permit it to be used:

(a) In a dangerous manner

(b) without due care and attention

(c) without reasonable consideration for other persons.

Use of internal combustion engines

6. The navigator of a motorised watercraft propelled by an internal combustion engine must not cause or permit it to be used unless the engine is fitted with a silencer suitable and sufficient for reducing as far as may be reasonable the noise caused by the escaping of the exhaust gasses from the engine.

Offences

7. Anyone who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision contained within these byelaws shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

Saving of Crown and other rights

8. None of the byelaws grant or affect the Crown's rights or interests in the foreshore and seabed below high watermark, nor do they impact public rights or legal privileges over these areas.

Revocation

9. "The Seaside Pleasure Boats Byelaws 2013" made by Purbeck District Council on 11th day of October 2013 are revoked.

The Schedule

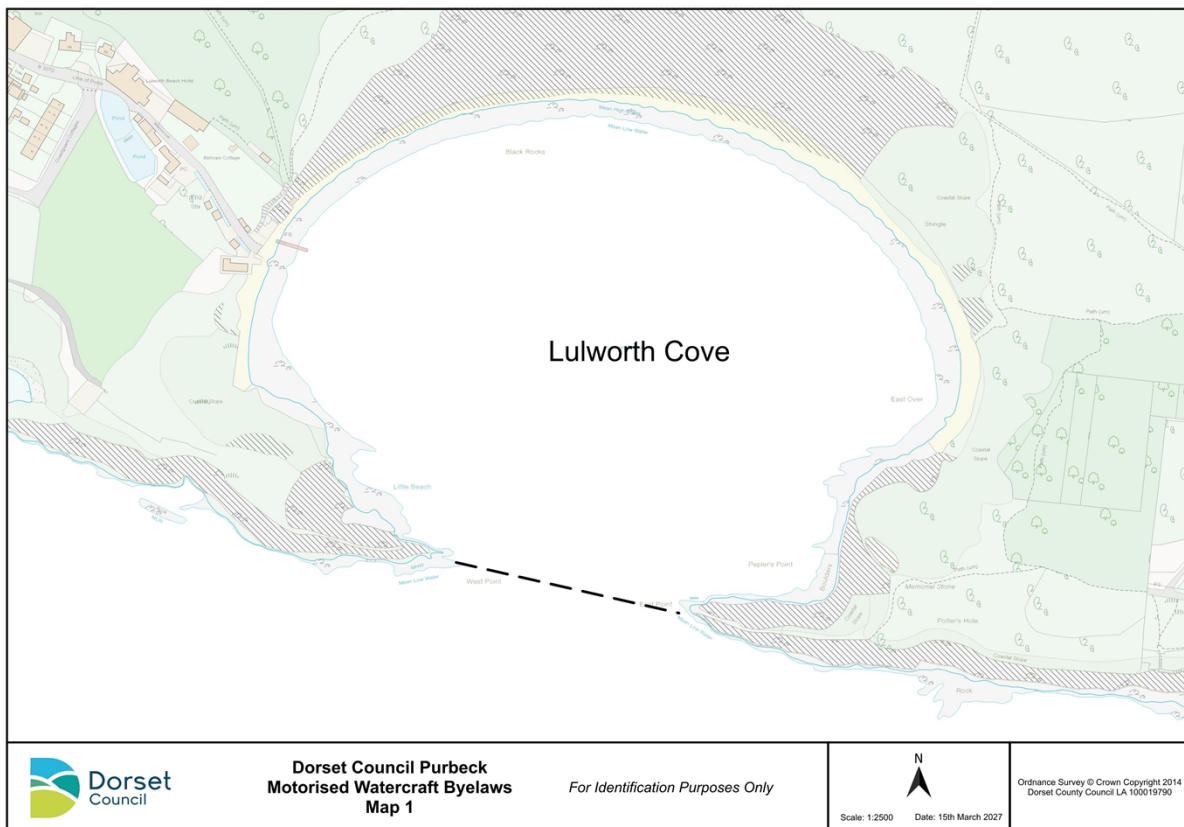
Part 1

These byelaws apply to the following specified areas:

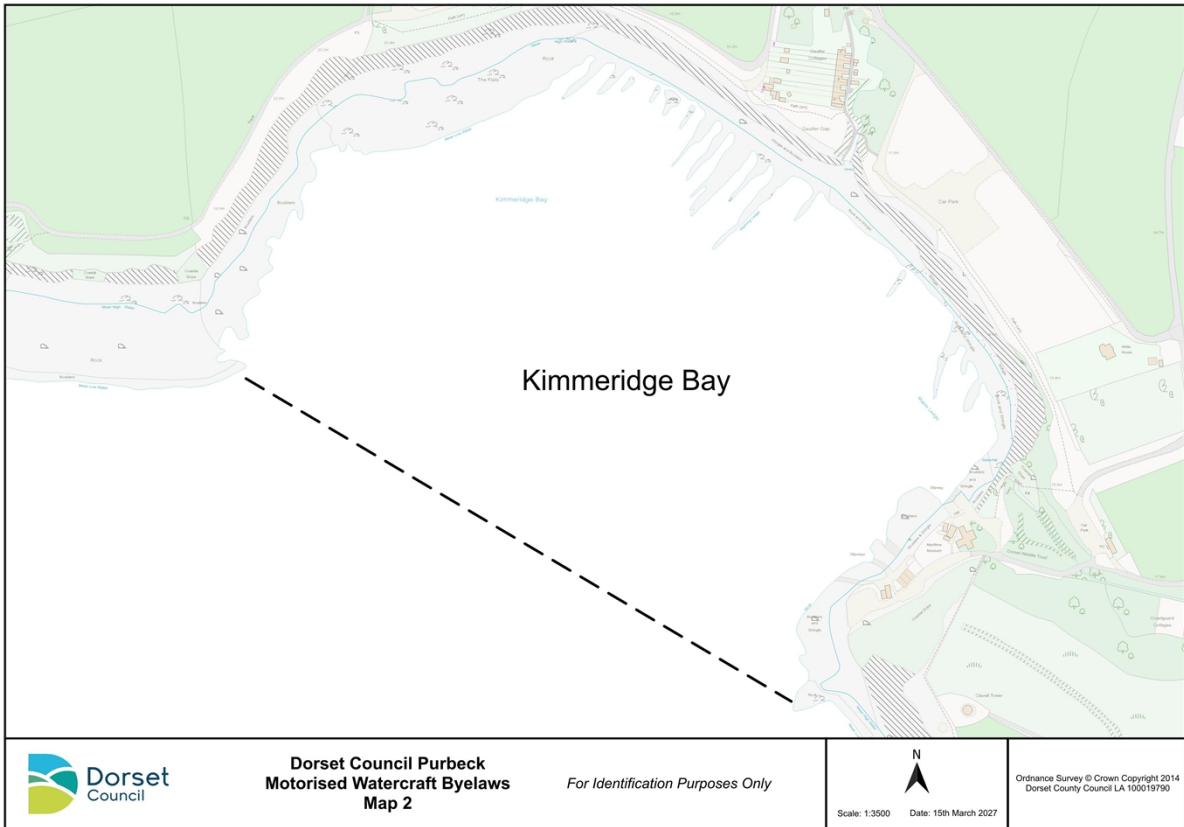
- a) Lulworth Cove – landward of a straight line drawn between West point (50°37'1"N, 2°14'53"W) and East Point (50°37'0"N, 2°14'46"W), as shown by the broken line on map 1 in Part 2 of the Schedule ;
- b) Kimmeridge bay – landward of a straight line extending from a point on Kimmeridge Ledges 150 metres west of Clavel Tower (50°36'36"N, 2°8'19"W) to the most eastern end of the Channel Flats (50°36'27"N, 2°7'55"W) shown by the broken line on map 2 in Part 2 of the Schedule ;
- c) Swanage bay enclosed within and on the landward side of the defined speed marker buoys line with key points A to H (C to F are placed at 300m from mean low water mark) on map 3 in Part 2 of the Schedule ;
- d) Studland Bay – enclosed within the landward side of the defined speed marker buoy line, that are placed 300 meters out from low mean water mark and running between the training bank to where the voluntary no anchor zone starts and then the speed marker buoys follow the voluntary no anchor zone boundary to Handfast point* as seen on map 4 in Part 2 of the Schedule .

Part 2

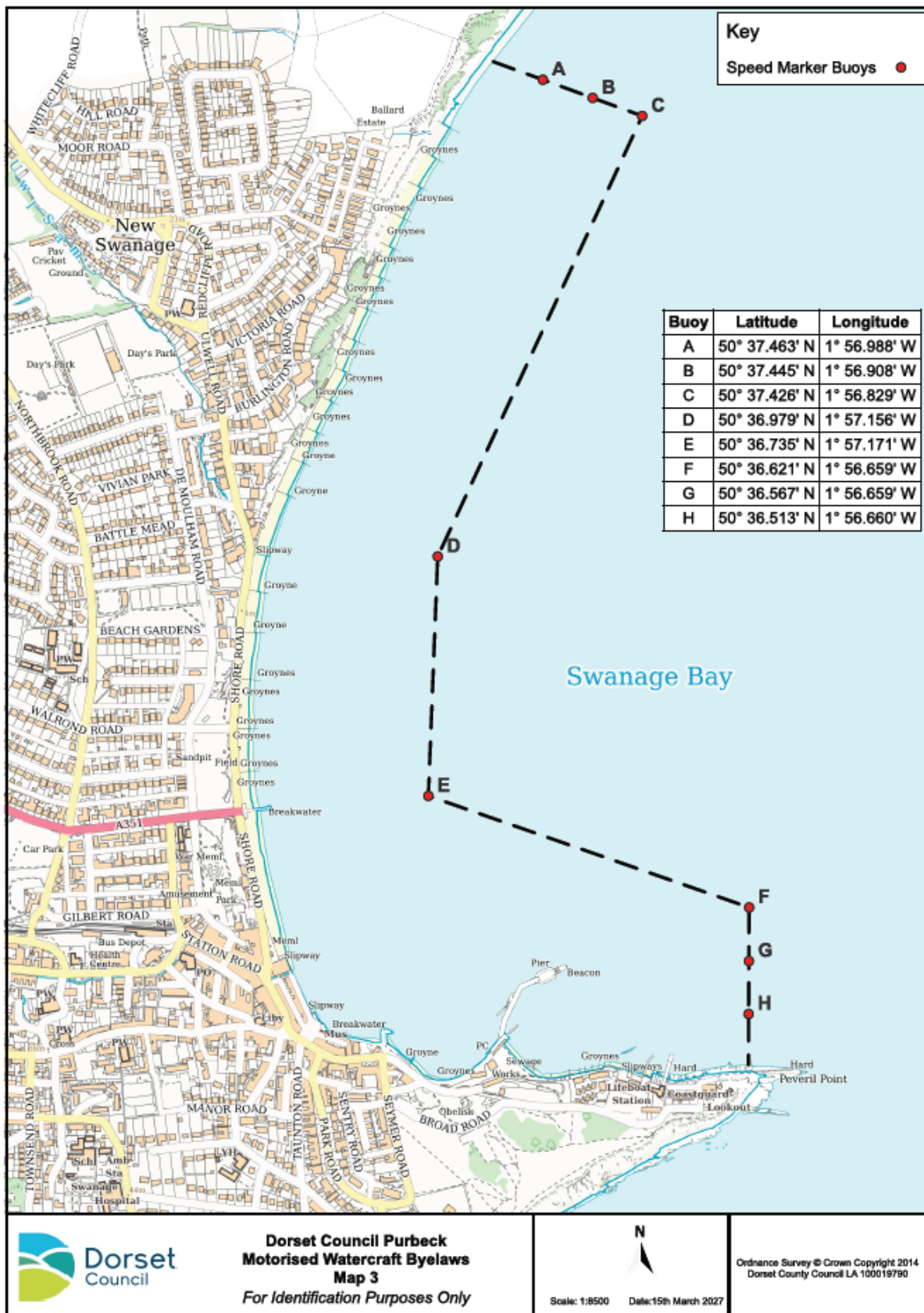
Map 1 - Lulworth Cove



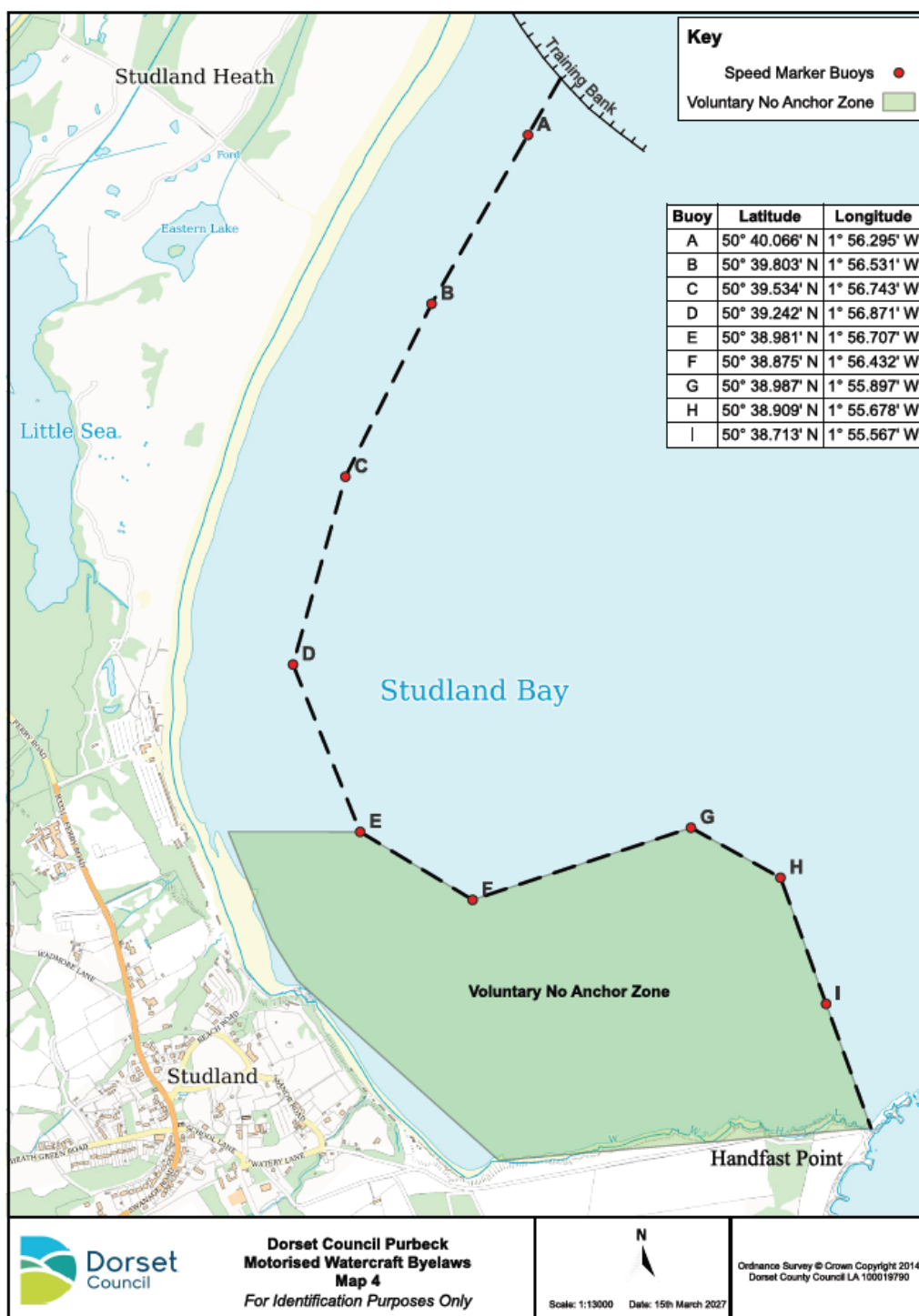
Map 2 - Kimmeridge bay



Map 3 – Swanage



Map 4 – Studland



Coordinates for boundary area of the voluntary no anchor zone at Studland: Point 1 - 50°38.9814'N 01°57.0306'W; to Point 2 - 50°38.9814'N 01°56.7072'W; to Point 3 - 50°38.8752'N 01°56.4324'W; to Point 4 - 50°38.9868'N 01°55.8966'W; to Point 5 - 50°38.9094'N 01°55.6782'W; to the boundary of the MCZ at Point 6 - 50°38.5188'N 01°55.4568'W; following the boundary of the MCZ to Point 7 - 50°38.4690'N 01°56.3676'W; to Point 8 - 50°38.7504'N 01°56.8620'W; to Point 9 - 50°38.8146'N 01°56.9256'W; and returning to point 1

On the _____ day of _____ 2026

THE COMMON SEAL of DORSET COUNCIL was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

Authorised Signatory

The Dorset Council (Purbeck) Motorised Watercraft Byelaws 2027 are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State for Transport and shall come into operation on _____



Signed by the authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

Authorised Signatory