



Responses to Questions

Q: Are there any Picnic in the Park events this year?

A: At this current time, we have no immediate plans to run any live Picnic in the Parks events, due to uncertainty of possible changes to restrictions and current capacity to organise. We are hoping to look at how we can continue to delivery live events in 2022 but in the meantime, we have developed an online platform that can be shared. We will continue to add resources to the Picnic in the Parks website – if you would like to suggest content to be featured, please get in touch.

www.picnicintheparks.org

Q: Are Bournemouth University involved with HAND?

A: We have links with the [Nature Health Network](#) lead by Bournemouth University and will continue to grow this relationship as we move forward with Health and Nature Dorset.

Q: Where do young people figure in your current plans and vision?

A: Children and young people is an area of focus for many of the organisations already involved with HAND. We are aware of a number of different projects happening in Dorset already and we will be keen to support opportunities for engaging in nature-based activities for physical health and mental wellbeing using the strength of the collaborative network. If this is an area of interest for you or your organisation please let us know by completing the [interest form](#).

Q: What aspects of overcoming barriers for individuals with learning disabilities have been considered?

A: As we are very much in the developing stage of the collaboration, we are keen to hear from organisations and individuals that can help shape and advise on solutions to addressing barriers to engagement for people with learning difficulties. The work of HAND will be shaped by the organisations and individuals involved in the collaboration working together to support each other – this could be by sharing learning and examples of best practice with the group, co-designing and delivering projects, supporting health pathways, influencing strategic policy or other mechanisms identified by the collaboration.

Q: What level of physical abilities will people need to participate? Is wheelchair accessibility an option for outdoor areas?

A: Addressing inequalities and improving access to greenspace will be at the very heart of HAND's aims and objectives. Again, we would be keen to hear from organisations and individuals that can help shape and advise on solutions to addressing barriers to engagement for people with specific access needs. If this is an area of interest for you or your organisation please let us know by completing the [interest form](#).

Q: Will HAND be involved with targeted nature-based interventions?

A: Yes. It may be that much of our work is about being a collective voice to champion the benefit of being in nature for health and wellbeing, identifying opportunities to improve our county-wide offering and developing systems and pathways that support access to nature-based activities. However, we are keen to support more targeted interventions where there are organisations who are interested in working together on this. If this is an area of interest for you or your organisation please let us know by completing the [interest form](#).

Q: How would the nature inspired taster sessions work?

A: Taster sessions are designed to open up possible new activities for people, community groups and organisations to experience how something is delivered. These could work as drop in sessions open to anyone or targeted to a specific group. The Thriving Communities project will be offering taster sessions for community groups and link workers and more information will be sent out through the newsletter.

Q: Our main problem is access to funding and signposting in order to get both individuals and groups within the community, would you be providing support to organisations with this?

A: We do hope to be able to offer funding support, by sharing available opportunities and by working together in small groups on joint funding bids for specific pilot projects.