University of Exeter

Tuesday 2 May 2023

Dear Neighbour,

Ref: Invite to public engagement session on the future of Lower Hoopern Valley.

I am writing to invite you to a public engagement session to gain your feedback and views on the future of Lower Hoopern Valley and how we can enhance and improve the area.

Lower Hoopern Valley is a steeply sided, 38-acre plot of land to the south of Streatham Campus. The space is currently maintained by the University of Exeter's grounds team, and has been identified as an area of opportunity for enhanced biodiversity, community use and research activity. The valley currently has one public right of way that cuts across the northern section of the space from the North West to South East with limited access to the wider space comprising areas of woodland (mature and young), pasture, open grassland and Taddiford Brooke.

We are now considering exactly how this space can be used and maintained to deliver on four main objectives:

- Enhance biodiversity and natural capital,
- Community engagement and education,
- Natural sciences research opportunities, and,
- Carbon sequestration and storage.

We are keen to understand what the local community think this land should be used for to inform the detailed design process between now and the end of summer 2023.

We would like to invite you to consider the objectives above, and any other complimentary objectives you feel can be achieved on this land, and comment on the appropriate priority of each.

We are holding an in-person exhibition on Tuesday 16 May 2023 in the Innovation Centre Café, Innovation Centre Phase 2, Streatham Campus, Exeter EX4 4RN, between 15:30 and 19:00.

If you are unable or prefer not to visit campus to provide feedback, then please do visit our website for more information on the proposed objectives for the project where you can submit your feedback via an



online form, <u>www.exeter.ac.uk/sustainability/newsandevents/lowerhoopernvalleyan</u> <u>aturebasedsolution/.</u>

The information relevant to this engagement process will be held until we close the period for feedback on Friday 26 May 2023.

For any additional queries please do not hesitate to contact us at <u>sustainability@exeter.ac.uk</u>.

We hope to meet you at the exhibition and look forward to discussing your ideas for Lower Hoopern Valley.

Yours sincerely,

Fraser Browning, Technical Evaluator, Sustainability, University of Exeter