

## **Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership – Spaceport Statement**

The Local Nature Partnership (LNP) Board met on the 17<sup>th</sup> October and, as part of the agenda, discussed the Spaceport. Whilst several members highlighted the apparent conflict between Cornwall Council's support for horizontal space flight and their Climate Change Emergency declaration, as well as noting reservations from individual organisations, the position of the LNP is a collective view that can at times contrast with that of individual members.

One of the key roles of the LNP is to ensure a robust evidence-based challenge to major economic proposals as a way of promoting Environmental Growth and net gain in any development. In the case of the Spaceport the LNP acknowledged the benefits that remote sensing data have in environmental monitoring and that the work performed by the University of Exeter on the potential greenhouse gas impacts has highlighted the requirement for transparent mitigation.

However, the LNP also noted that the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) that will accompany the spaceport licence application have yet to be produced, nor is the methodology framing the EIA set through legislation.

In the meantime, the LNP will be taking steps to understand the detail of the EIA requirements, due to be passed through legislation, and will seek to review the assessment and make recommendations about how or if the direct and indirect impacts of the spaceport can be avoided, mitigated or compensated. Individual LNP members will also have the opportunity to comment on and reflect their own position on the EIA and accompanying planning documents during any future public consultation.