



**Surrey
Nature
Recovery**

Surrey Local Nature Recovery Strategy

11th July 2024



Why are we here?

To involve a group of stakeholders in learning about, deliberating and identifying outcomes related to local nature recovery in the county

Working agreements

- No such thing as a silly question
- One person speaking at a time
- Call out jargon
- Disagree respectfully
- Mobiles/ laptops off if possible
- Help us keep to time
- We will produce record of the meeting
- Excuse us for being bossy!

What are we going to be doing?

- Welcome and introductions
- What's special to you about nature Surrey?
- Surrey Nature Recovery – Presentation
- Questions and Answers
- Nature recovery idea generation by habitat – workshop at tables “Carousel”:
 1. Heathland, woodland and forestry
 2. Farmland including hedgerows, field margins and species rich grassland (chalk)
 3. Waterways and wetlands and species rich grassland (water meadows)
 4. Golf courses, parks, school, college and business / industrial estates
- 18.25 (40 mins) DINNER
- Developing nature recovery outcomes and actions (group activity)
- Next steps
- 20.00 FINISH

What's special to you about nature in Surrey?

- What do you really like about living, working and studying in Surrey?
or
- Describe a recent nature sighting of yours in Surrey? or
- What do you like to do most in nature in Surrey?



**Surrey
Nature
Recovery**

Surrey Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Adam Brown



What is a Local Nature Recovery Strategy

- Introduced under the Environment Act 2021
- Surrey is one of 48 LNRS that will be created across England
- Locally led
- To be developed from broad engagement with multiple stakeholders
- Consider the delivery of wider environmental benefits

Core Principles for development

- **Transparency** – be able to show how partner contributions have been considered, how decisions have been made, and what the basis for them is
- **Inclusivity** – enable everyone with an interest to be involved where possible
- **Clear Communication** – avoid using technical terms that may not be understood by partners and end users



What is a Local Nature Recovery Strategy

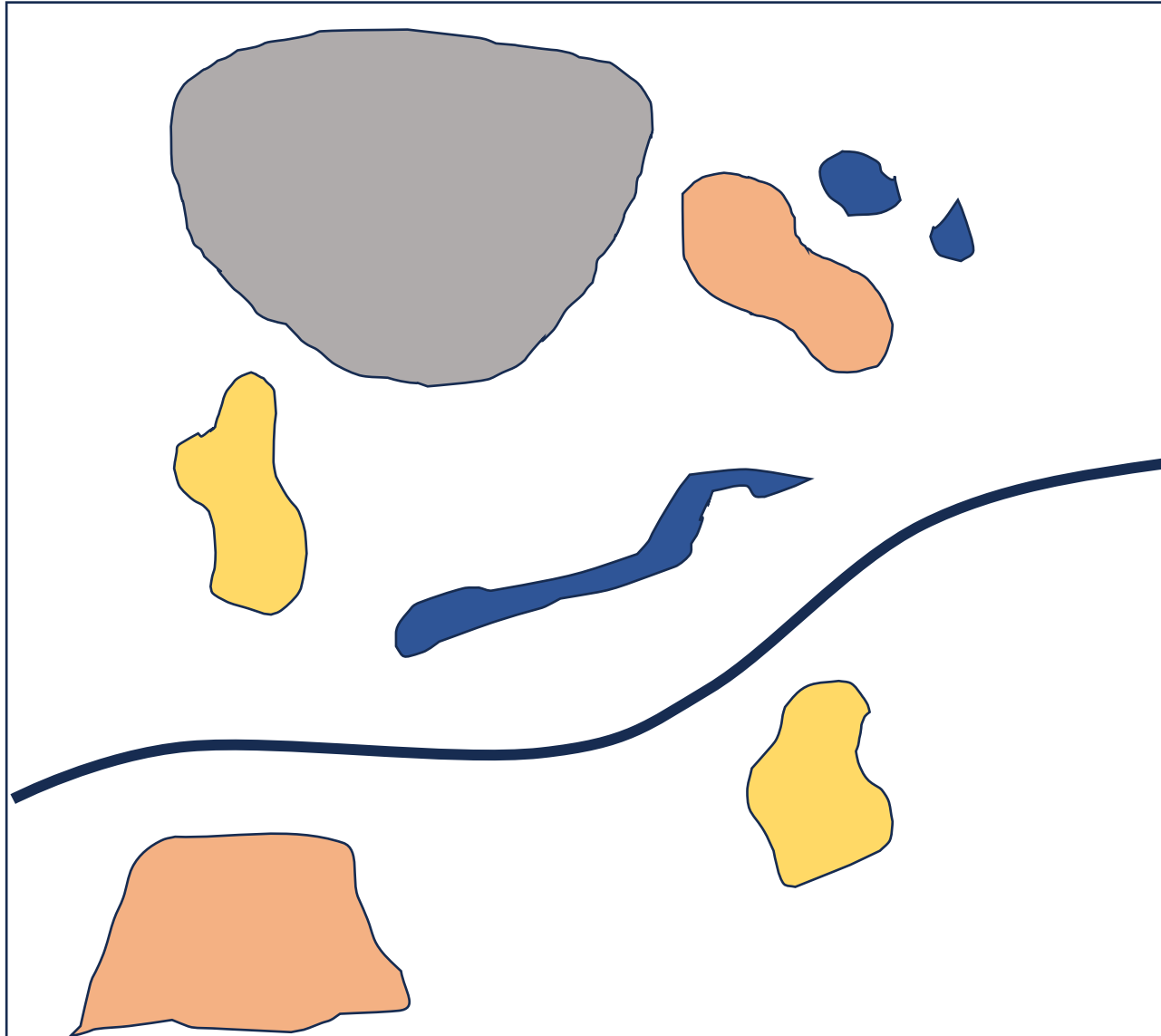
LNRS are a spatial or mapped strategy that will identify locations to create or improve habitat most likely to provide the greatest benefit for nature and the wider environment

Each strategy must:-

- Map the most valuable existing areas for nature
- Agree priorities for nature's recovery
- Map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals

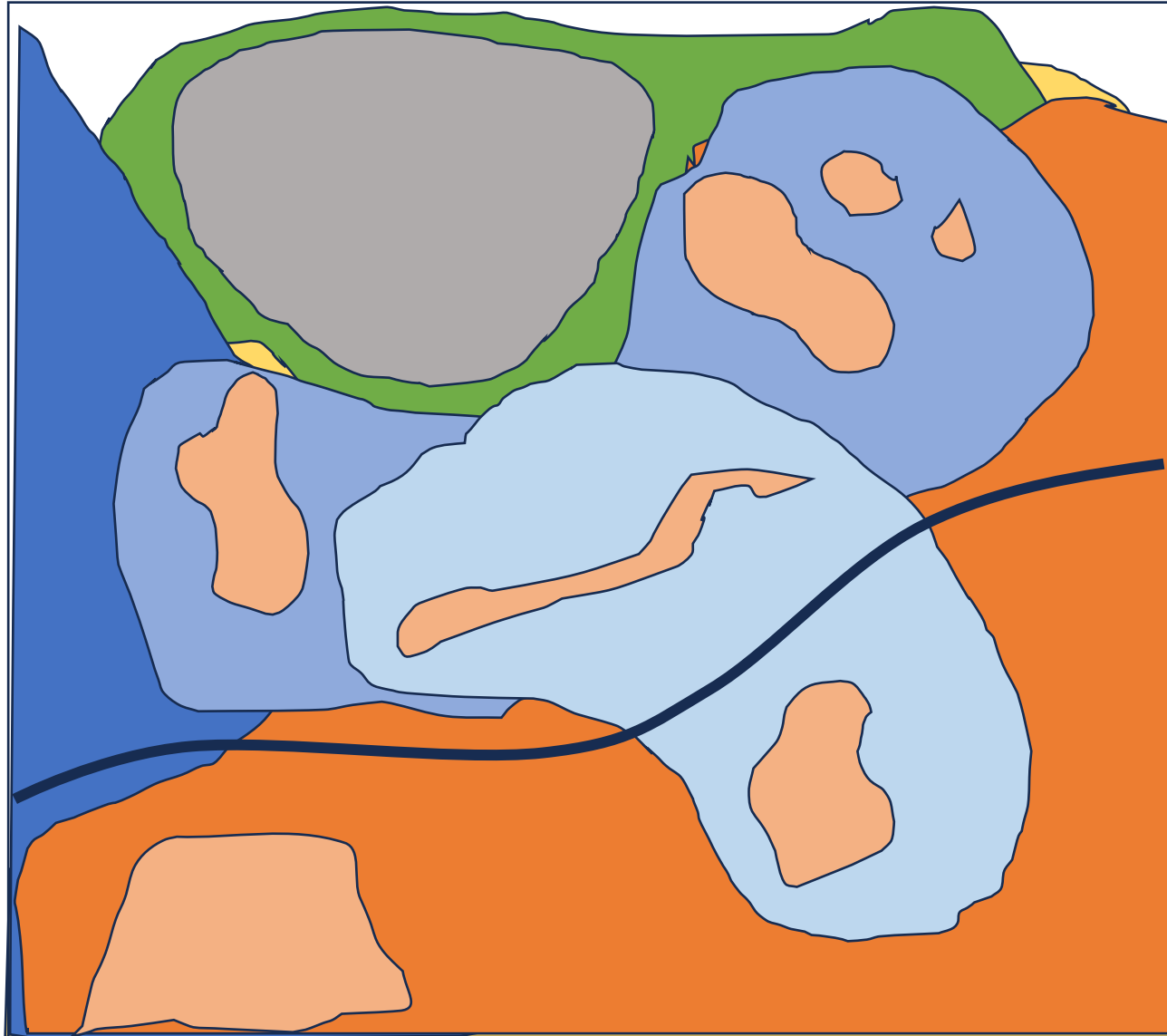


What do we already have? (Step 1)



- Motorway
- Urban
- National Designations (SAC, SPA, SSSI, NNR)
- Local Designations (Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites SNCIs)
- Irreplaceable Habitats (Ancient woodland etc)

What outcomes do we want for nature recovery? (Step 3 and 4)



Existing areas for nature

• Pre-existing strategies and policies

National Landscape Management Plan

Neighbourhood biodiversity plan

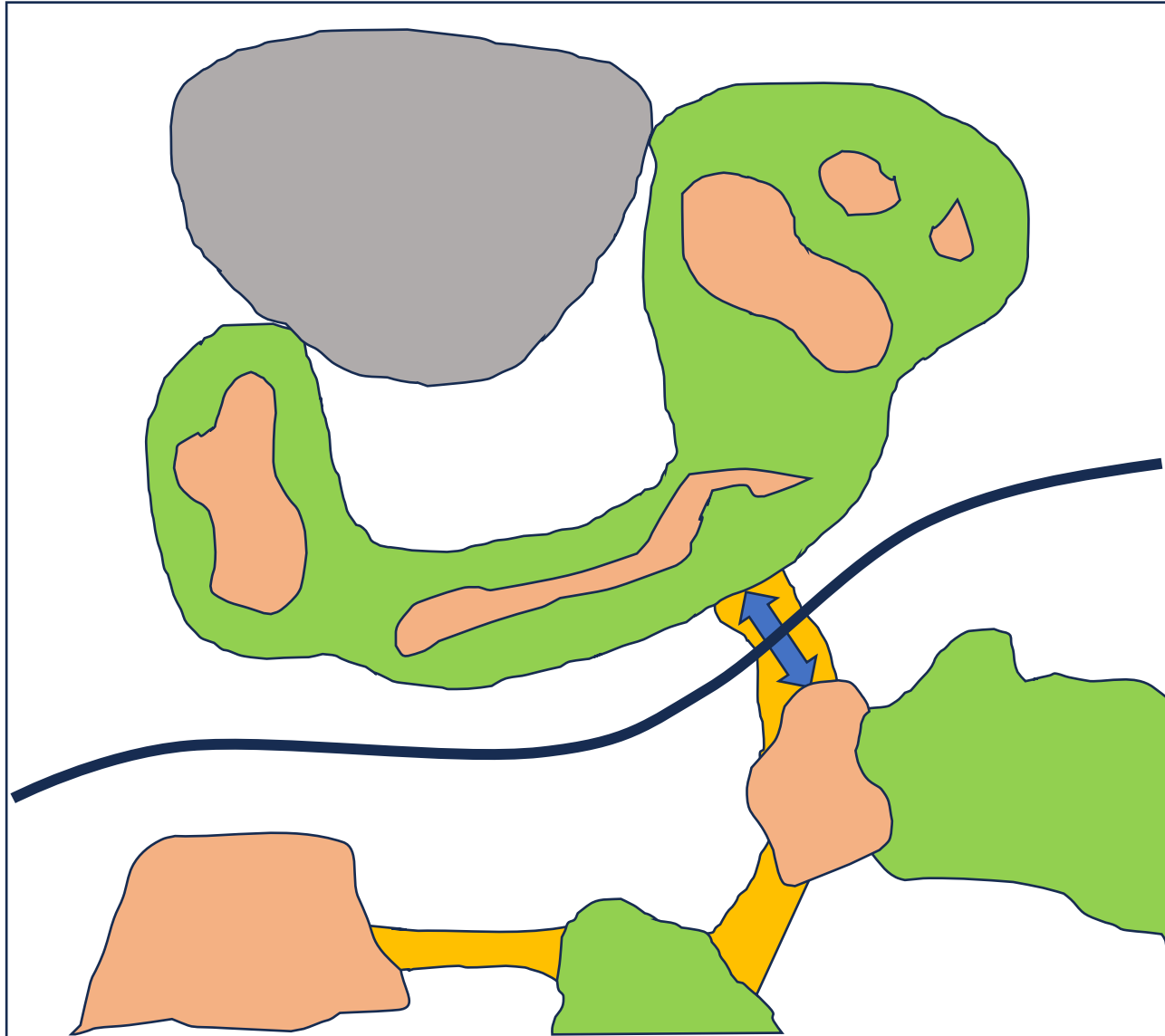
National pollinator corridor

• Stakeholder engagement



**Surrey
Nature
Recovery**

Final map of actions (step 5)



Prioritise the outcomes and associated actions

- Delivery of key benefits for nature recovery
- Delivery of stakeholder priorities
- Contribution to National Environmental Objectives
- Delivery of wider environmental benefits
- Areas land managers want to deliver nature recovery

Existing areas for nature

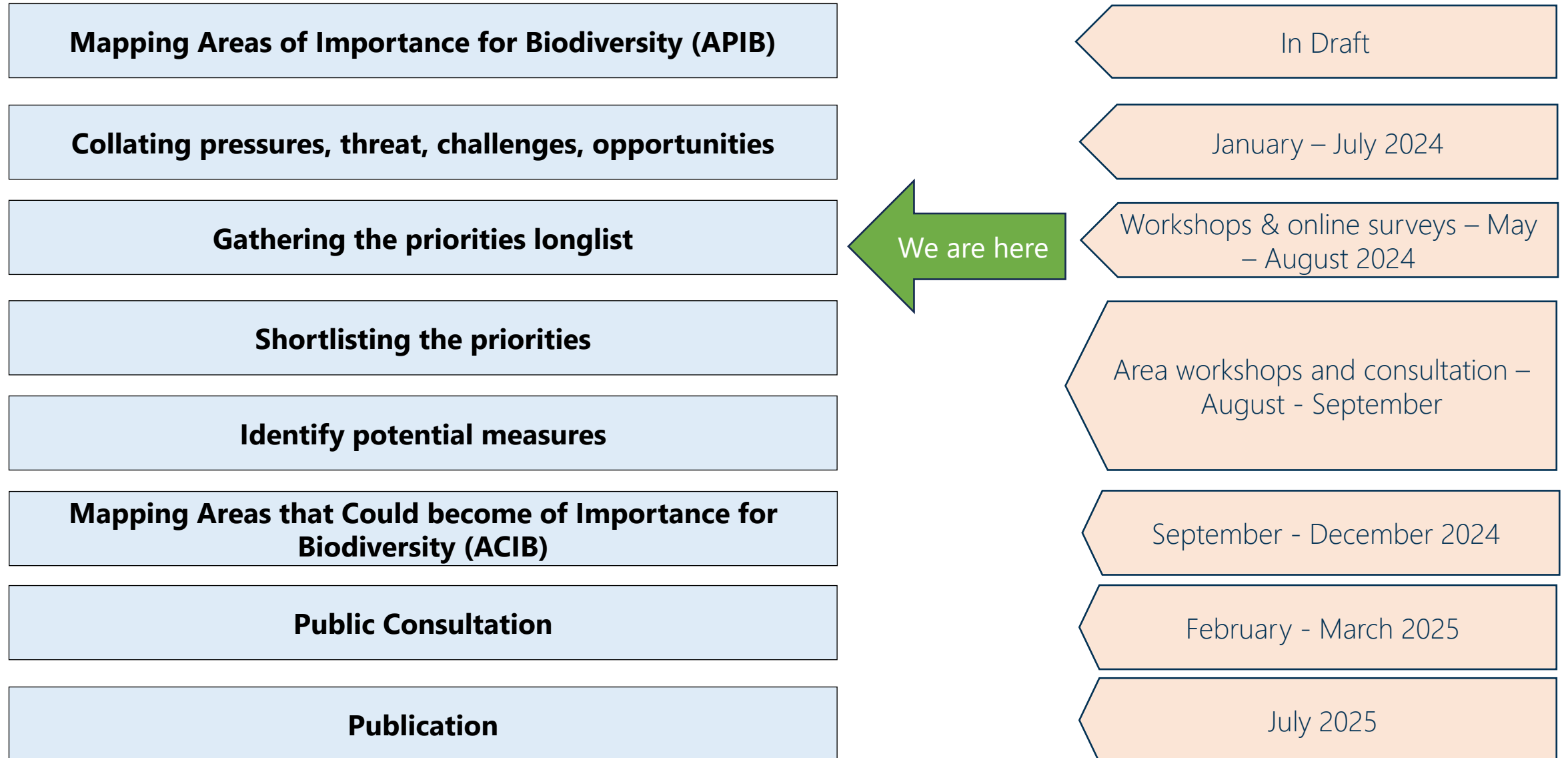
Creation of new habitat

Connecting corridors



**Surrey
Nature
Recovery**

Where are we in the LNRS process?



What is different this time?

- Previous biodiversity plans – such as the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas – had no statutory underpinning
- LNRS are a requirement of the Environment Act, 2021 – They are not just a policy that can easily be dropped or changed
- Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill amendments mean that all strategic development, minerals and waste, neighbourhood and local plans must take account of the LNRS in their creation
- Direct relation to funding mechanisms (e.g. BNG)



Potential Delivery Mechanisms

- Biodiversity Net Gain uplift (15%)
- Potential link to Countryside Stewardship Plus
- DEFRA will likely target nature recovery funding at LNRS highlighted areas
- Aggregated delivery of environmental benefits will mean better access to high integrity nature markets

There are no contractual obligations that come with being identified in the LNRS, but these may come attached with relevant funding sources (BNG – 30 years)

We want deliverable actions for nature recovery – this means working together



Obligations on mapped land

The LNRS will be an expression of what you **could** do not what you **have** to do

“The main purpose of the strategies is to identify locations to create or improve habitat most likely to provide the greatest benefit for nature and the wider environment. **The strategies do not force the owners and managers of the land identified to make any changes.** Instead, the government is encouraging action through, for example, opportunities for funding and investment.”

If you do not want your land included in the LNRS – it can be removed prior to publication



APIB

Potential Measure



- PM_01 Restore or enhance springs and seepages to support specialist invertebrate assemblages
- PM_02 Enhance semi-natural broad-leaved woodland by ensuring diverse structure and promoting natural regeneration
- PM_03 Create open space in semi-natural broadleaved woodland to benefit invertebrate and plant assemblages
- PM_04 Enhance habitat around ponds and lakes to provide habitat for x y z and to reduce disturbance
- PM_05 Create new broadleaved woodland

Things to note:

One measure could occur in more than one location – eg PM_01 is in two specific locations

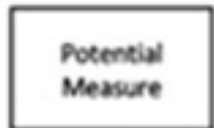
Consequences of multiple measures in same area – eg PM_01 and PM_02. To overlap or cookie cut?

Measures can be mapped in APIBs eg PM_02 overlaps with APIB.

© Crown Copyright and database rights
2024 Ordnance Survey AC00000851168.



APiB



Potential Measure




ACB




Step 5

Locations of the measures (that are not in APiB) are mapped as Areas that could become of importance (ACB)

In this example, the 5 potential measures become 2 ACBs. BNG strategic significance would be for the activity in the potential measure not for any action in the ACB.


 **Map: Norney Farm**
Saved less than 1 minute ago


Search the map



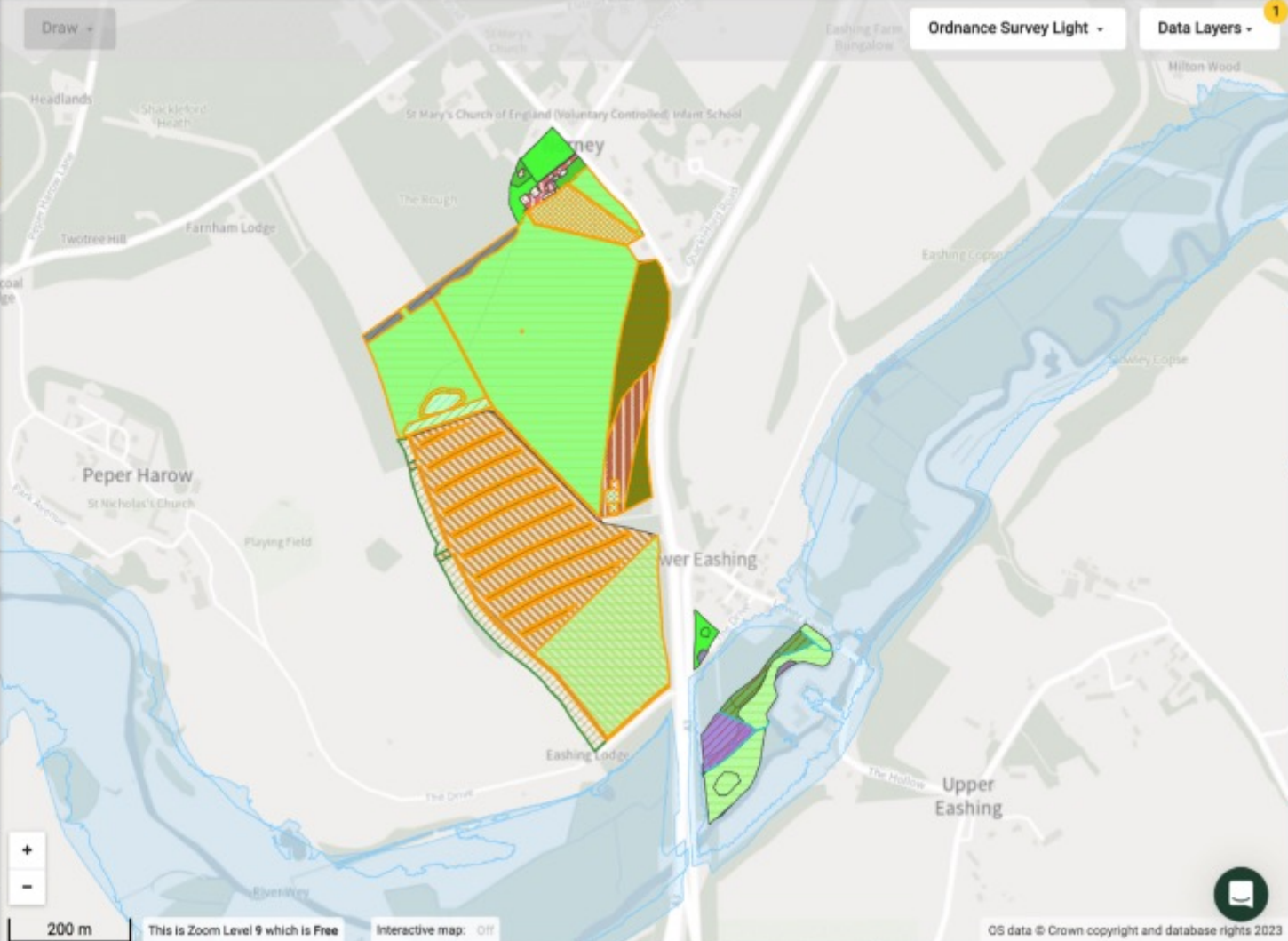
Plans New ▾ Draw ▾

- Source data
- Agroforestry design
- Auto-suggestions
- BL and LMP**
- Solar
- EWCO

Archived 

Photos 

Ordnance Survey Light - Data Layers - 1



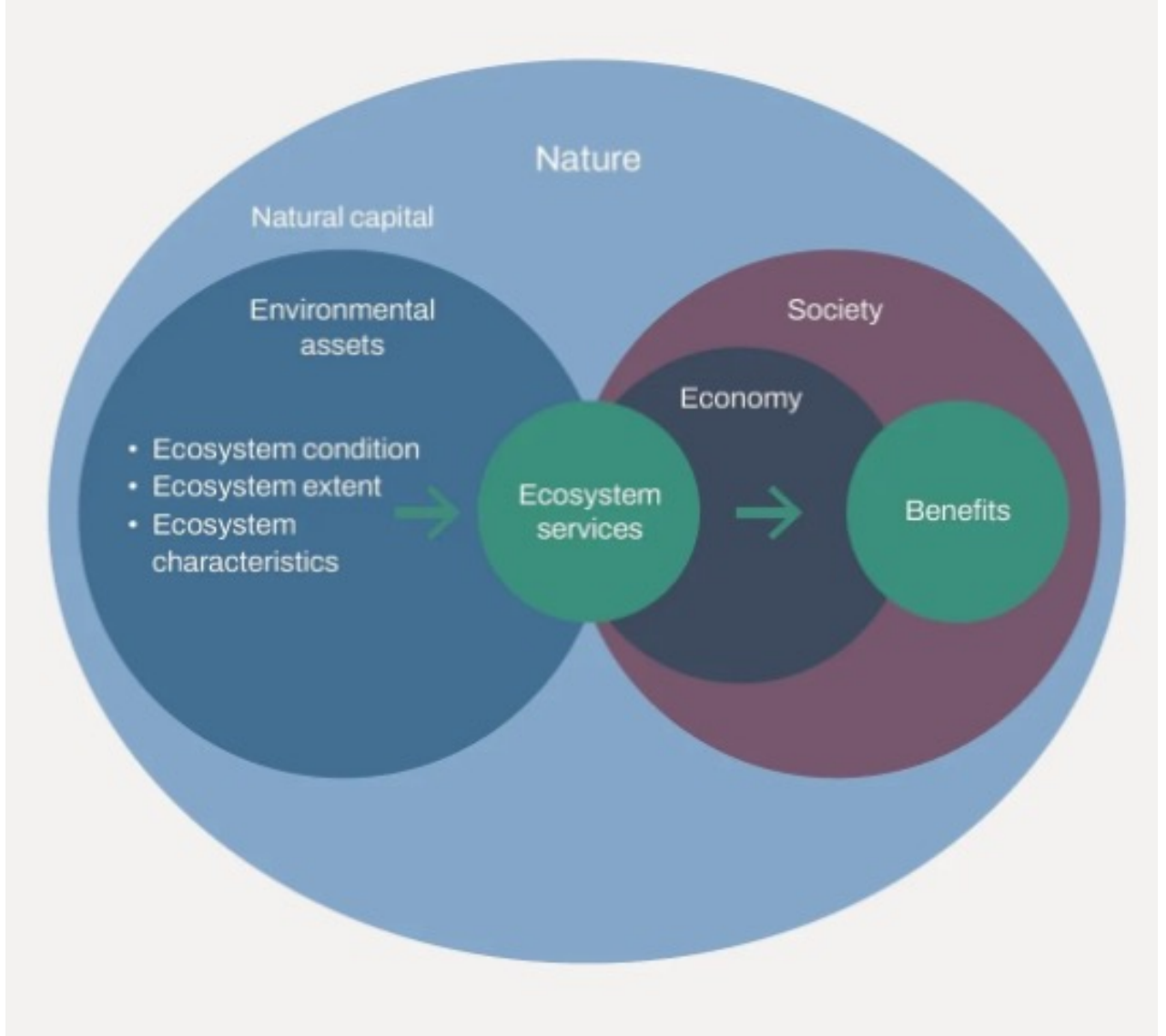
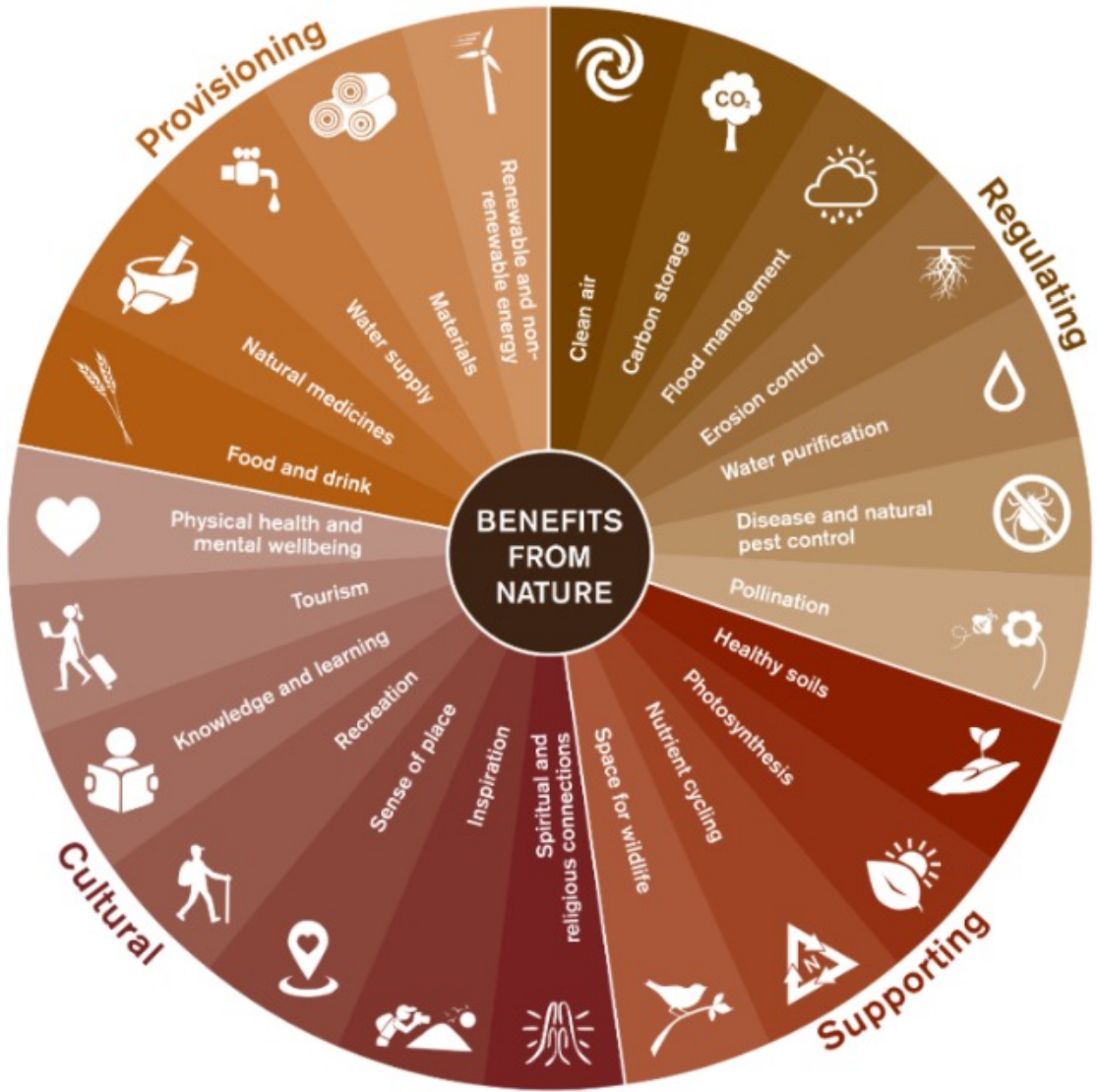
200 m This is Zoom Level 9 which is Free Interactive map: Off

OS data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023

Broader context for today



Wider Environmental Benefits



Improved nature – Improved society

Poor Health at Work is Responsible for £138bn Loss to UK Economy Each Year

23 January 2024

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Spending at least 120 minutes a week in nature is associated with good health and wellbeing

Mathew P. White¹, Ian Alcock¹, James Grellier¹, Benedict W. Wheeler¹, Terry Hartig², Sara L. Warber^{1,3}, Angie Bone¹, Michael H. Depledge¹ & Lora E. Fleming¹

Received: 8 May 2018
Accepted: 8 May 2019
Published online: 13 June 2019

Spending time in natural environments can benefit health and well-being, but exposure-response relationships are under-researched. We examined associations between recreational nature contact in the last seven days and self-reported health and well-being. Participants ($n = 19,806$) were drawn from the Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment Survey (2014/15–2015/16); weighted to be nationally representative. Weekly contact was categorised using 60min blocks. Analyses controlled for residential greenspace and other neighbourhood and individual factors. Compared to no nature contact last week, the likelihood of reporting good health or high well-being became significantly greater with contact ≥ 120 mins (e.g. 120–179 mins: ORs [95% CIs]: Health = 1.59 [1.31–1.92]; Well-being = 1.23 [1.08–1.40]). Positive associations peaked between 200–300 mins per week with no further gain. The pattern was consistent across key groups including older adults and those with long-term health issues. It did not matter how 120 mins of contact a week was achieved (e.g. one long vs. several shorter visits/week). Prospective longitudinal and intervention studies are a critical next step in developing possible weekly nature exposure guidelines comparable to those for physical activity.

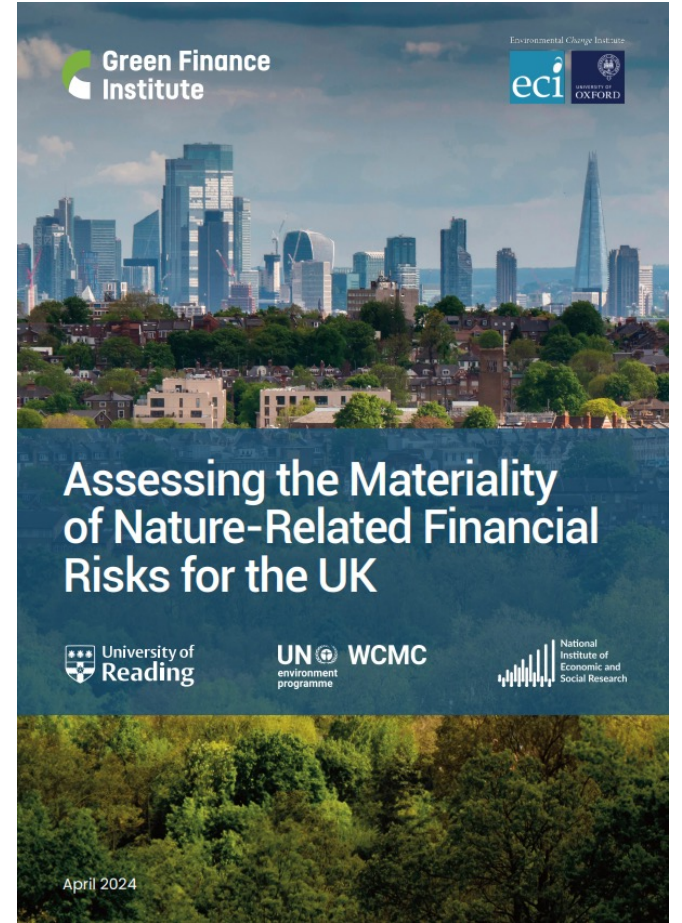


Surrey
Nature
Recovery

Nature Means Business



Nature degradation could cause a 12% loss to UK GDP



National Context

The government has set a number of legally binding targets:

30X30- To protect and conserve a minimum of 30% of land and sea for biodiversity by 2030

Biodiversity on land - Restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitat **outside protected sites** by 2042, compared to 2022 levels

Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050

Hedgerows - Support farmers to create or restore 30,000 miles of hedgerows by 2037 and 45,000 miles of hedgerows by 2050

SSSI - Restore 75% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest to favourable condition by 2042. By 31 January 2028 50% of SSSIs will have actions on track to achieve favourable condition.

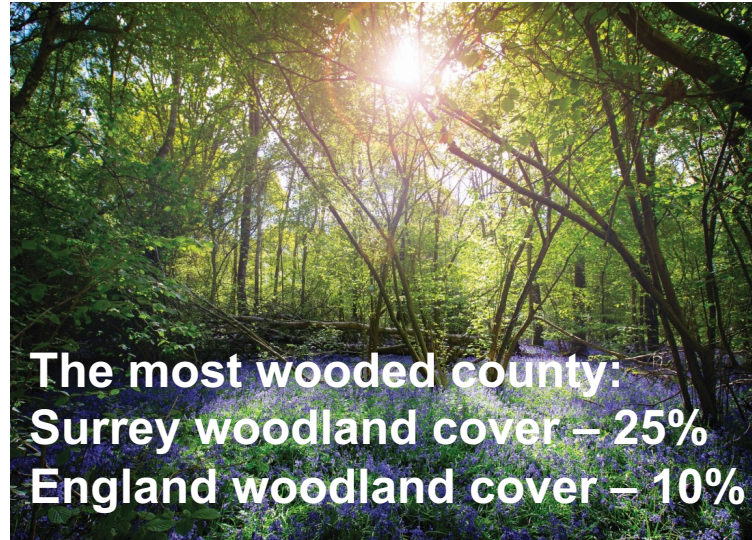
Access - Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes' walk of a green or blue space

Improve water quality and availability - Reduce nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and sediment pollution from agriculture into the water environment by at least 40% by 2038, compared to a 2018 baseline



**Surrey
Nature
Recovery**

A county rich in biodiversity?



74% of our key designated sites (SSSI) are in favourable condition

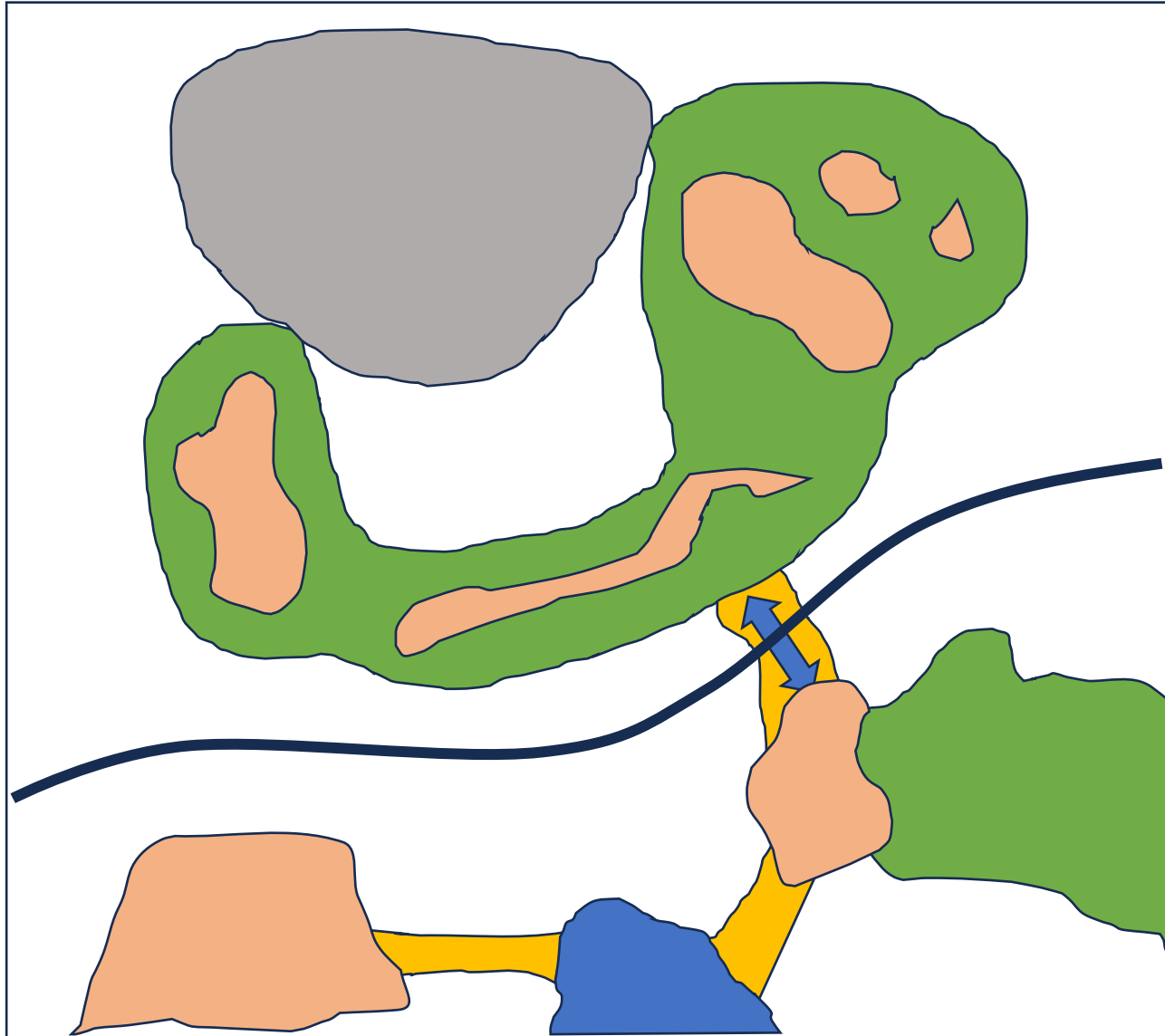
Against a national average of 37%





Huge disparity across the county

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Waverley | 35% |
| Mole valley | 31% |
| Guildford | 30% |
| Surrey Heath | 30% |
| Runnymede | 23% |
| Woking | 23% |
| Tandridge | 19% |
| Elmbridge | 18% |
| Reigate and Banstead | 17% |
| Epsom and Ewell | 11% |
| Spelthorne | 3% |



Lawton principles for making space for nature

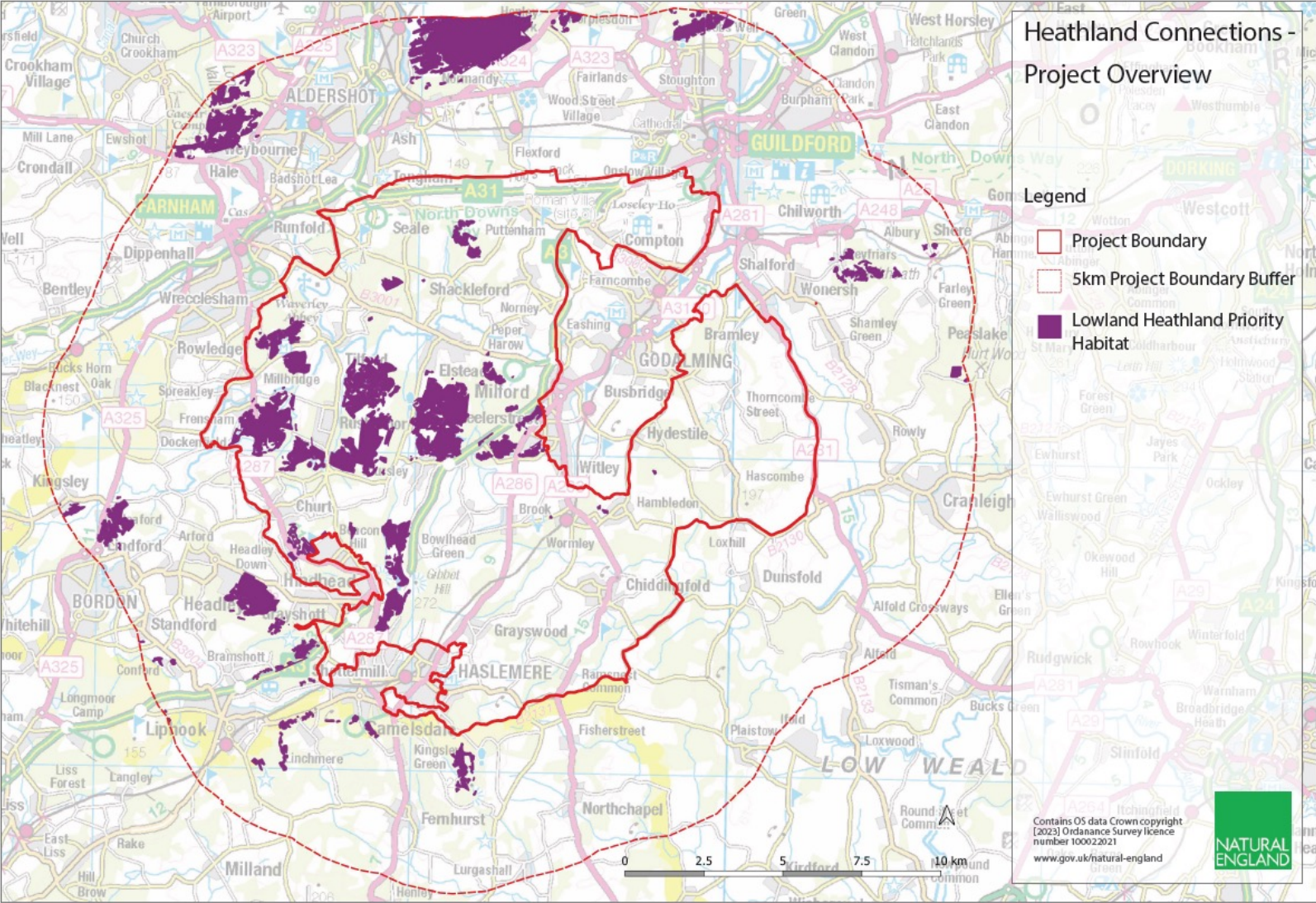


-  More (new stepping stones created)
-  Bigger (Buffering existing habitat)
-  Better (improved quality of existing habitat)
-  Joined (connecting corridors)



**Surrey
Nature
Recovery**

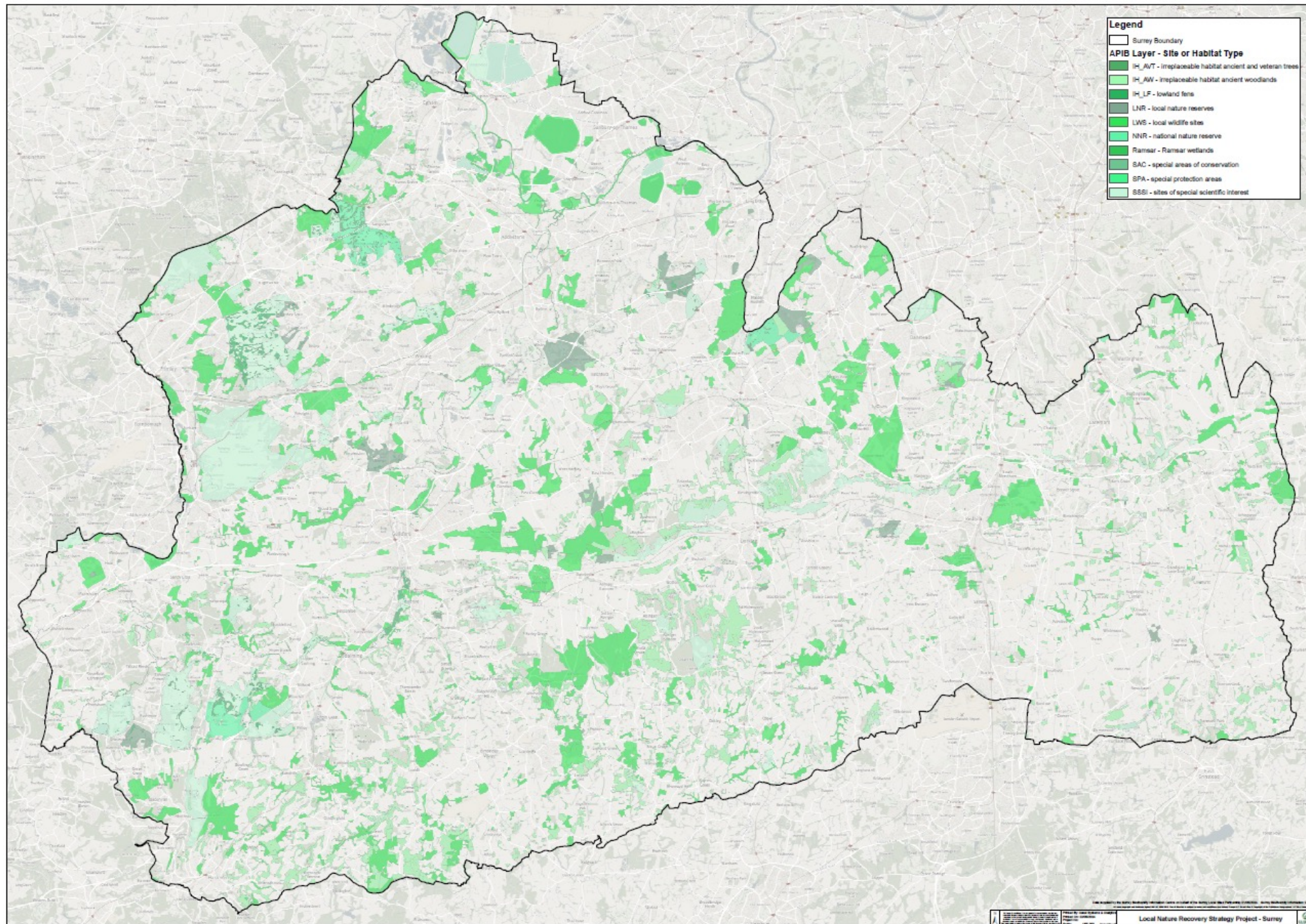
Links to other work – Heathlands Connections



Risks and competing pressures

- Climate Change
 - Flood risk
 - Wild fire
 - Drought
 - Adjusted habitat ranges
- Future Food Security
- Development
- Invasive non-native species
- Pests and diseases





Legend

- Surrey Boundary
- APiB Layer - Site or Habitat Type**
- IH_AVT - irreplaceable habitat ancient and veteran trees
- IH_AW - irreplaceable habitat ancient woodlands
- IH_LF - lowland fens
- LNR - local nature reserves
- LWS - local wildlife sites
- NNR - national nature reserve
- Ramsar - Ramsar wetlands
- SAC - special areas of conservation
- SPA - special protection areas
- SSSI - sites of special scientific interest

Thank you



Surrey Nature Recovery – Presentation

- Insert Adam's slides here

Nature recovery idea generation by habitat

SWOT analysis by habitat


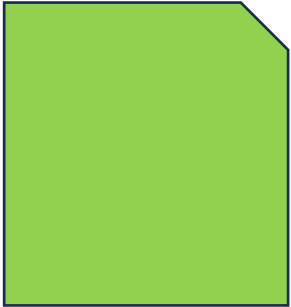
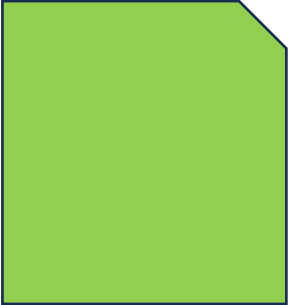
1. Heathland, woodland and forestry
2. Farmland including hedgerows, field margins and species rich grassland (chalk)
3. Waterways and wetlands and species rich grassland (water meadows)
4. Golf courses, parks, school / college / university and business and industrial estates

Description of activity

1. Each table will take one topic and spend 20 minutes completing a SWOT/B analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats / barriers). After 15 minutes underline 1-2 most important opportunities (mainly but can be from another quadrant).
2. Move to next table (clockwise)
3. Facilitator remains at table, explains previous discussion. Spend 8 minutes adding to SWOB. Last 2 minutes, underline another important opportunity or SWOB.
4. Move to next table (clockwise)
5. Repeat

Developing Outcomes

An “Open Space” Workshop approach

| Topic / Table A | | Topic / Table B | | Topic / Table C | |
|---|--------------|--|------|---|------|
|  | Name |  | Name |  | Name |
| | Sign up here | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

- Facilitators will populate based on the “important factors” from the SWOB.
- If you don’t see a topic you want to address, add it over / after dinner.
- If you want to tackle another topic and there is time, please go ahead, gathering anyone else who wants to join in.

Open Space Workshops - explainer

The law of two feet



If at any time you are neither learning nor contributing, move elsewhere (to another workshop space or have a coffee).

The four principles

1. Whoever comes are the right people.
2. Whenever it starts is the right time.
3. When it's over, it's over.
4. Whatever happens is the only thing that could have happened.

Or: Participation is voluntary, be relaxed about timetabling (although we do have a finish time), move on when you've no more to say.

The purpose of participation in LNRS (including this exercise) is to:

- Outcomes: benefits for nature and the community, including benefits to public health and wellbeing
- Generate and develop ideas for how to create or improve habitat and species (actions / measures)
- Prioritise outcomes and actions, including opportunities to increase access to nature whilst supporting its recovery
- Raise awareness and build local support for action for nature recovery

What does the Countryside Code in England say about dogs? (FAQ)

Always keep dogs under control and in sight

- The countryside, parks and the coast are great places to exercise your dog but you need to consider other users and wildlife.
- Keep your dog under effective control to make sure it stays away from wildlife, livestock, horses and other people unless invited. You should:
 - always keep your dog on a lead or in sight
 - be confident your dog will return on command
 - make sure your dog does not stray from the path or area where you have right of access
- Always check local signs as there are situations when you must keep your dog on a lead for all or part of the year. Local areas may also ban dogs completely, except for assistance dogs. Signs will tell you about these local restrictions.
- It is good practice wherever you are to keep your dog on a lead around livestock.
- On Open Access land and at the coast, you must put your dog on a lead around livestock. Between 1 March and 31 July, you must have your dog on a lead on Open Access land, even if there is no livestock on the land. These are legal requirements.
- A farmer can shoot a dog that is attacking or chasing livestock. They may not be liable to compensate the dog's owner.
- Let your dog off the lead if you feel threatened by livestock or horses. Do not risk getting hurt protecting your dog. Releasing your dog will make it easier for you both to reach safety.

Dog poo - bag it and bin it in any public waste bin or take it home

- Always clean up your dog's poo because it can cause illness in people, livestock and wildlife.
- Never leave bags of dog poo around, even if you intend to pick them up later. Deodorised bags and containers can make bags of dog poo easier to carry. If you cannot find a public waste bin, you should take it home and use your own bin.