COTSWOLD
District Council

1 October 2025

DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND PLANNING DECISION MEETING

A Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning Decision Meeting will be held at the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX on **Thursday, 9 October 2025 at 12.30 pm.**

Recording of Proceedings – The law allows the public proceedings of Council, Cabinet, and Committee Meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Committee Administrator know prior to the date of the meeting.

AGENDA

Decision 1: Response to Gloucestershire County Council on the draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation

1. **Cabinet Member Introduction**
   Welcome to the public and introduction of participants.

2. **Declaration of interest**
   To receive any declarations of interest by the Cabinet Member present.

3. **Officer Overview of the Report** (Pages 5 - 132)
   Officer to provide a brief verbal summary of the report with key details relating to the decision, providing any updates that need to be considered by the Cabinet Member when taking the decision.

   Purpose
   To agree a response to Gloucestershire County Council to the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation.
   Appendix A to follow.

4. **Confirmation of Comments**
   Confirmation of comments received by officer or Democratic Services.

5. **Public Questions**
   The Cabinet Member may allow members of the public present at the meeting to speak or make representations. However, all questions must relate directly to the decision being discussed. If a question is deemed irrelevant by the Cabinet Member the member of the public will be advised where to direct their question.

6. **Cabinet Member Questions**
   The Cabinet Member may request clarifications on the report and the proposed decision, including any alternative options for consideration.

7. **Decision**
   The Cabinet Member will verbally confirm the decision stating whether they
   - Accept the recommendations of the officer,
   - Decide to take a different decision contrary to the officer's recommendation, or
   - Decide to refer the decision to a meeting of Cabinet.

   The Cabinet Member must inform the Democratic Services Officer of the reason for the decision, which will be officially recorded on the Decision Notice.

Decision 2: Response to Moreton in Marsh Reg. 14 Neighbourhood Plan consultation

8. **Cabinet Member Introduction**
Welcome to the public and introduction of participants.

9. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest by the Cabinet Member present.

10. **Officer Overview of the Report** (Pages 133 - 348)
Officer to provide a brief verbal summary of the report with key details relating to the decision, providing any updates that need to be considered by the Cabinet Member when taking the decision.

Purpose
To agree a response to Moreton in Marsh Town Council on their Reg. 14 draft Neighbourhood Plan.

11. **Confirmation of Comments**
Confirmation of comments received by officer or Democratic Services.

12. **Public Questions**
The Cabinet Member may allow members of the public present at the meeting to speak or make representations. However, all questions must relate directly to the decision being discussed. If a question is deemed irrelevant by the Cabinet Member the member of the public will be advised where to direct their question.

13. **Cabinet Member Questions**
The Cabinet Member may request clarifications on the report and the proposed decision, including any alternative options for consideration.

14. **Decision**
The Cabinet Member will verbally confirm the decision stating whether they

- Accept the recommendations of the officer,
- Decide to take a different decision contrary to the officer's recommendation, or
- Decide to refer the decision to a meeting of Cabinet.

The Cabinet Member must inform the Democratic Services Officer of the reason for the decision, which will be officially recorded on the Decision Notice.

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COTSWOLD
District Council

Council name	**COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Name and date of Committee	**CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND PLANNING DECISION MEETING, 9 OCTOBER 2025**
Subject	**RESPONSE TO GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE DRAFT LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY CONSULTATION**
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Councillor Juliet Layton, Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning Email: Juliet.Layton@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Geraldine LeCointe, Assistant Director - Planning Services Email: Geraldine.LeCointe@cotswold.gov.uk
Report author	Danielle Berry, Natural Built and Historic Environment Team Manager Email: Danielle.Berry@cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	To agree a response to Gloucestershire County Council to the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation.
Annexes	Annex A – Draft consultation response Annex B – Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy Part 1 – Gloucestershire's Biodiversity and Opportunities for Nature Recovery 2025 Annex C – Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy Part 2 – Gloucestershire's Biodiversity Priorities and Potential Measures 2025 Annex D – A link to the Local Habitat Map
Recommendation(s)	That the Cabinet member for Housing and Planning resolves to: 1. Agree, finalise and submit the suggested draft consultation response attached in Annex A.
Corporate priorities	• Responding to the Climate Emergency
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO

Consultees/ Consultation	The draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy is the subject of public consultation from 8 September 2025 - 19 October 2025. The purpose of this report is to consider the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and to agree the District Council's response to the consultation. The consultation is open to all; Ward Members were informed of the consultation timeline and were advised that they could respond directly to Gloucestershire County Council or share their comments with the District Council to be incorporated into a collective response.

COTSWOLD
District Council

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 On the 8th of September 2025, Gloucestershire County Council contacted Cotswold District Council to advise that it was launching a consultation on the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy. This report provides a summary of the strategy and outlines Cotswold District Council's response to the consultation.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 England is widely recognised as one of the most nature-depleted countries globally, due to both historic and ongoing declines in biodiversity. In response, the Government has made legally binding commitments to halt these declines and support nature's recovery. A key part of this effort is the introduction of Local Nature Recovery Strategies, established through the Environment Act 2021.

2.2 A Local Nature Recovery Strategy is a strategic spatial tool that must include a statement of biodiversity priorities (Annexes B and C) and a local habitat map (Annex D). These components are used to identify where and how nature recovery efforts can be most effectively targeted.

2.3 Gloucestershire County Council has been appointed by Defra as the Responsible Authority for developing Gloucestershire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Cotswold District Council is a Supporting Authority and has actively contributed to the development of the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

2.4 Before it is published, the draft strategy must undergo public consultation. This provides an important opportunity for stakeholders and the wider community to help shape the County's priorities for nature recovery.

3. MAIN POINTS

3.1 Part 1 (Annex B) of the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy clearly sets out its purpose as a spatial tool to guide the most effective opportunities for nature recovery across Gloucestershire. It is structured around six key aims:

- Safeguarding, mapping and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites
- Landscape scale connectivity
- Climate emergency
- Our relationship with water

- The value of mixed and wilder habitats
- Biodiversity in our developments and settlements

3.2 To support these aims, Part 2 (Annex C) of the draft strategy describes a range of Potential Measures, which are recommended actions or management options designed to deliver one or more of the 10 Biodiversity Priorities:

- Grassland, meadows and heathlands (open habitats)
- Woodland habitats
- Mixed and mosaic habitats
- Open water habitats
- Wetland habitats
- Estuarine habitats
- Nature-friendly farming and forestry
- Biodiversity in settlements and developments
- Species priorities

3.3 The draft Local Habitat Map (Annex D) identifies existing areas of high biodiversity value, known as Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity, as well as areas with potential for restoration or habitat creation, referred to as Areas That Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity. The map also spatially visualises the priorities and opportunities set out in Parts 1 and 2 of the draft strategy.

3.4 A draft response from Cotswold District Council to the public consultation is included in Annex A

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 Cotswold District Council could choose not to respond to the consultation but that would represent a missed opportunity to contribute to a strategy that the Council is legally required to "have regard to" under the Environment Act 2021.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 The officer recommendation is to agree that the draft Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy can proceed to the pre-publication approval stage subject to amendments to the text (set out in Annex A), ensuring that the strategy is clear, understandable, and impactful for its intended audience.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The report raises no direct financial implications.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The report raises no direct legal implications.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 Cotswold District Council, as a Supporting Authority, has been actively involved at key stages in the development of the strategy, helping to mitigate any associated risks.

8.2 Additionally, Cotswold District Council will have another opportunity to review the final Local Nature Recovery Strategy at the pre-publication approval stage.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT

9.1 In Gloucestershire, the Local Nature Partnership and Climate Leadership Gloucestershire advocate for all residents to live within 15 minutes of accessible, biodiversity-rich green space. This ambition seeks to reduce inequalities in access to nature, improve public health, boost the local economy, and enhance biodiversity. The draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy outlines opportunities and examples for achieving this goal.

10. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Given the purpose behind the introduction of Local Nature Recovery Strategies, Gloucestershire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy directly addresses both the climate and ecological emergencies, identifying opportunities to tackle them in tandem.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None

(END)

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Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy public consultation survey

Privacy Notice

Any personal details you choose to provide in your response will be subject to the Data Protection Act and handled accordingly.

Comments made may be publicly available after the project has closed and we may also include them in the form of a report on the results of the engagement exercise, but any personal information will be kept confidential.

Your personal information will be properly safeguarded and processed in accordance with the requirements of privacy and data protection legislation. For further information, please visit our privacy policy(External link).

Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Have Your Say Gloucestershire

Section 1

Who are you? (you can select more than one option)

(Choose all that apply)

- [ ] Interested local resident
- [ ] Local Councillor (Parish/Town/District/County)
- [ ] Local environmental/ wildlife group/organisation
- [ ] National environmental/ wildlife group/organisation
- [ ] Landowner/ farmer
- [ ] Land agent or farm advisor
- [ ] Environmental professional
- [ ] Developer or agent acting for a developer
- [ ] A representative of a local community group or residents' association
- [ ] On behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council
- [ ] A business owner or representative
- [ ] Statutory agency or public body
- [ ] School/ college/ university staff or student
- [ ] Other (please specify)

If you are answering on behalf of an organisation, please tell us who you represent.

Cotswold District Council

Where do you live?

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] Cheltenham Borough
- [ ] Cotswold District
- [ ] Forest of Dean
- [ ] Gloucester
- [ ] Stroud District
- [ ] Tewkesbury Borough
- [ ] South Gloucestershire
- [ ] Wiltshire
- [ ] Oxfordshire
- [ ] Warwickshire
- [ ] Worcestershire
- [ ] Herefordshire
- [ ] Wales
- [ ] Other (please specify)

Section 2

Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy Part 1– Gloucestershire's Biodiversity and Opportunities for Nature Recovery here

How much do you agree with the six Key Messages of the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy?

Questions	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Safeguarding, managing and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites	X				
Landscape scale connectivity – Better, bigger, more and more joined	X				
Climate Emergency	X				
Our relationship with water	X				

Have Your Say Gloucestershire

The value of mixed and wilder habitats	x				
Biodiversity in our developments and settlements	x				

Please give further feedback about the six Key Messages in the box below.

Cotswold District Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019, followed by an Ecological Emergency in July 2020. These declarations led to the development of the Council's Climate Emergency Strategy 2020–2030 and the Ecological Emergency Action Plan. The six Key Messages outlined in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy are consistent themes across both documents, reflecting the Council's strong endorsement of these Key Messages.

How much do you agree with the ten Biodiversity Priorities of the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy?

Questions	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Grassland, Meadows and Heathland (open habitats)	x				
Woodland Habitats	x				
Mixed and mosaic Habitats	x				
Open water Habitats	x				
Running water Habitats	x				
Wetland Habitats	x				
Estuarine Habitats	x				
Nature-friendly farming and forestry	x				
Biodiversity in settlements and developments	x				
Species priorities	x				

Please give further feedback about the Biodiversity Priorities in the box below.

The 10 Biodiversity Priorities embody Cotswold District Council's ambitions and are closely aligned with the vision and strategic priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Plan 2025–2028.

Do you have any other comments about Part 1 of the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy? Please tell us in the box below.

While the content in Part 1 is generally satisfactory, we have noted some minor presentation issues, including repetitive sections that do not appear to add value to the report. Additionally, there are a few grammatical and spelling errors that should be corrected prior to final circulation of the LNRS.

Do you agree the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy has resulted in a comprehensive strategy? Please select one option.

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

Please give further detail in the box below, on whether the development process was sufficient or not.

The development process was robust and inclusive. Cotswold District Council, together with other key stakeholders, actively participated in workshops and working groups throughout, resulting in a comprehensive strategy that offers guidance and support for nature recovery across the County.

Section 3

Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy Part 2 – Gloucestershire's Biodiversity Priorities and Potential Measures

For this question we are focusing on the 'Potential Measures' in Part 2 of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, from page 10 to 54. 'Potential Measures' describe the recommended actions and management options to achieve the biodiversity priorities. Here

How much do you agree that this set of 'Potential Measures' will help to support action for nature recovery? Please select one option.

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

Do you have any specific feedback to improve these Potential Measures? Please include the specific number of the Potential Measure in your responses in the box below.

No changes required.

Section 4

Gloucestershire's Priority Species List here

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy identifies a list of Priority rare and threatened species in Gloucestershire, and groups these into the main habitats that support them. Do you agree with the Priority Species and the groups? Please select one option.

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

Would you suggest any changes to the Priority Species list? Please describe in the box below, including scientific names if known?

No changes required.

Do you think there are any changes needed to how the species are grouped? Please describe which group you are referring to in your answer in the box below.

No changes required.

Section 5

Draft Local Habitat Map here

Have Your Say Gloucestershire

To use the map please watch this video tutorial, or read the How to use the Local Habitat Map Guide

Do you agree that the Local Habitat Map helps you to understand what Potential Measures are the best opportunities in a particular place?

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] Strongly agree
- [ ] Agree
- [ ] Disagree
- [ ] Strongly disagree

Please give further details in the box below to explain your response.

The mapping layers are intuitive and easy to navigate. The dropdown boxes that appear when selecting a location on the map are informative and well-designed, offering useful details without overwhelming the user.

Do you have any feedback on the areas mapped for the 'Potential Measures'? Please give place names or map grid references. (You can find Location References at the bottom of the Potential Measures pop-up boxes).

No feedback.

Note: Answer this question if it applies

If you prefer to send feedback on the maps by uploading a pdf document, please upload this here:

How easy did you find it to use the map?

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] Very easy
- [ ] Easy
- [ ] Not easy
- [ ] Not at all easy

Do you have any feedback to help improve the functionality of the Local Habitat Map? Please tell us in the box below.

As with any new mapping tool, there's a learning curve, but its design makes navigation straightforward and easy to pick up. It is expected that overtime, it will become very easy to use the mapping tool.

How do you think you will mainly use the Local Nature Recovery Strategy once it is published?

(Choose all that apply)

- [ ] Land management decision making e.g. for advice on delivering nature recovery alongside farming
- [ ] To support delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain e.g. when seeking to buy/sell Biodiversity Credits, calculate Biodiversity Units or masterplan development site layouts
- [ ] When considering or making comments on planning matters e.g. planning applications or local development documents
- [ ] When planning a nature recovery project in your local community
- [ ] Advice on making your home/garden more nature friendly
- [ ] Teaching purposes e.g. within school curriculum or higher education module
- [ ] As an evidence base e.g. for grant applications or research
- [ ] Don't know yet
- [ ] Don't plan to use it
- [ ] Other (please specify)

How often do you think you will use the Local Nature Recovery Strategy?

(Choose any one option)

Have Your Say Gloucestershire

- [ ] Daily
- [ ] Weekly
- [ ] Monthly
- [ ] A few times a year
- [ ] Very occasionally
- [ ] Not at all

Would like us to be able to contact you about your responses?

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

What is your name? (optional)

Danielle Berry

What is your email address? (optional)

Danielle.Berry@cotswold.gov.uk

Equality questionnaire for use at engagement events

Some information about you

The following questions are to ensure we take the views and needs of differing people into consideration and to understand your responses to the previous questions a little better. It is a legal requirement for us to ask these questions, but you are not obliged to answer any you do not wish to. The data acquired is used for this engagement only and cannot be used to identify you.

How old are you?

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] 16-17
- [ ] 18-24
- [ ] 25-34
- [ ] 35-44
- [ ] 45-54
- [ ] 55-64
- [ ] 65-74
- [ ] 75+
- [ ] Prefer not to say

What is your sex?

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] Male
- [ ] Female

Is your present gender identity the same as when you were born?

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Prefer not to say

If you responded 'no' to the above question, please state which gender you were born with:

(Choose any one option)

- [ ] Male
- [ ] Female

Have Your Say Gloucestershire

What gender do you identify as?

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Another gender - please identify:

Which of the following terms best describes your sexual orientation?

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Asexual
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Gay man
- ☐ Gay woman
- ☐ Lesbian
- ☐ Heterosexual or straight
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other – please identify:

Which race or ethnicity best describes you?

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Arabic
- ☐ Asian/British Asian: Bangladeshi
- ☐ Asian/British Asian: Chinese
- ☐ Asian/British Asian: Indian
- ☐ Asian/British Asian: Pakistani
- ☐ Asian/British Asian: Other
- ☐ Black/British Black: African
- ☐ Black/British Black: Caribbean
- ☐ Mixed Race: Black & White
- ☐ Mixed race: Asian & White
- ☐ Mixed Race: Black & Asian
- ☐ Mixed Race: Other
- ☐ Traveller: Gypsy or Roma
- ☐ Traveller: Irish
- ☐ White: British
- ☐ White: Irish
- ☐ White: European
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Another race or ethnicity – please identify:

What do you consider your religion to be?

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Christian

Have Your Say Gloucestershire

- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Sikh
- ☐ No religion
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other religion – please identify:

Further information can be found in our privacy notice

available here

Have Your Say Gloucestershire

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Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Part 1

Gloucestershire's Biodiversity and Opportunities for Nature Recovery

2025

Executive Summary

Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy is a spatial strategy that establishes biodiversity priorities and maps proposals for actions - Potential Measures - to drive nature's recovery. The main purpose of this strategy is to identify locations where creating or improving habitat will be most likely to provide the greatest benefit for nature and the wider environment. The development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for every county in England was one of the key requirements of the 2021 Environment Act.

The key uses of this Local Nature Recovery Strategy are intended to be:

- A spatial strategy to guide the best opportunities for nature recovery across Gloucestershire.
- A guide for farmers, landowners and land managers – to show the best locations for accessing funding for habitat management, restoration and creation, and species-specific projects. This strategy also shows opportunities which could be funded through Biodiversity Net Gain, agri-environment funding and other sources of funding.
- A statutory document in relation to the Biodiversity Duty for public authorities.
- A guide for developers, planners and others to support designs and master planning for green and blue infrastructure, wildlife corridors and habitat creation.
- Information to help create nature and biodiversity projects and town and parish biodiversity action plans and policies.

An important caveat - Site-specific management advice and monitoring

An important caveat to take into account when using this strategy is that this is a high level strategy developed using the current best existing biodiversity information.

For all detailed decisions about habitat management or creation on any particular site, the general recommendations of this strategy should be supplemented with site-specific advice from ecologists, land agents, land managers and Gloucestershire County Council Historic Environment Record, within settlement areas Local Authorities, and within protected landscapes the National Landscape teams.

Site specific advice including baseline ecological surveys and soil tests should be taken before determining habitat management plans or the best options for land management on that site. The ongoing management costs of habitat creation and enhancement should be planned for. Ongoing survey and monitoring is needed to assess the long term impact of conservation management interventions.

The strategy does not force the owners and managers of the land identified to make any changes. Instead, the strategy shows the priority opportunities and options for maintenance and creation of habitats, wildlife corridors and species-specific actions.

This strategy has been developed through a range of discussions and input of information from nature conservationists, planners, local authority officers and members, farmers, landowners, land managers, and members of the public in Gloucestershire.

From these discussions and information we have drawn out six key messages which describe the main aims for nature recovery in Gloucestershire:

1. **Safeguarding, managing and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites**
2. **Landscape scale connectivity – Better, bigger, more and more joined**
3. **Climate Emergency**
4. **Our relationship with water**
5. **The value of mixed and wilder habitats**
6. **Biodiversity in our developments and settlements**

1. **Safeguarding, managing and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites –** The complex ecological relationships between species in a habitat are difficult to recreate quickly once a habitat is degraded or destroyed. With the pressure on our wildlife, the highest priority is to safeguard and enhance high quality nature sites and species populations. Landowners and land managers who are already doing this should be supported.

2. **Landscape scale connectivity - Better, bigger, more and more joined** – maintaining good wildlife habitat and then increasing the size and connectivity of these habitats. This is the core theme of Nature Recovery as expressed in the Making Space for Nature report, with the aim of creating a resilient and coherent nature recovery network. Recommended areas to focus new habitat creation can contribute to meeting the goal of 30 by 30 - at least 30% of land to be protected for nature recovery by 2030.

3. **Climate Emergency** – Climate change is already affecting our wildlife, with temperature, rainfall and growing season changes affecting the timing of natural events such as emergence, pollination and where species can thrive. Nature based solutions can help mitigate some impacts of climate change. Landscape-scale nature recovery can help some species to move northwards or to new niches in response to climate changes.

4. **Our relationship with water** – The need to re-naturalise our river corridors and their relationship with the floodplain, and where appropriate to remove barriers in rivers which impact on the movement of fish species and on sedimentation. Natural flood management can also help to reduce flood risk and build resilience against drought. We need to tackle water quality issues from both point and diffuse sources, and to protect and improve water quantity, for both surface water and groundwater.

5. **The value of mixed and wilder habitats** – Including valuing scrub as a habitat and prioritising mixed habitats with different types and heights of vegetation – this variety is so important for many of our species.

6. **Biodiversity in our developments and settlements** – The importance of nature in our settlements, urban areas and new developments was emphasised by participants in our public engagement sessions, as well as by other stakeholders. Nature in amongst our urban areas and settlements is important for health and wellbeing, for nature connection, for climate change mitigation and for the connectivity of wildlife habitats.

The needs for nature recovery are due to a large range of factors and pressures on land and water. There are also a number of key issues that are better thought of as opportunities for nature recovery. Some of the key pressures and opportunities discussed in this strategy, beyond the key messages above, include:

- Recreational pressures and disturbance to wildlife
- Diseases and invasive non-native species
- Pressure on woodland regeneration from an increasing deer population
- The opportunity of conservation grazing
- The importance of fungi and soil health
- Working with the archaeological and historic environment
- Minerals extraction and restoration
- The need for ecological recording and monitoring

There are initiatives to create Sustainable Alternative Natural Green Spaces to help relieve recreational pressures on wildlife in some of our most biodiverse sites. Some of these recreational pressures include ground-nesting birds and Severn Estuary and floodplain waterbirds being disturbed by walkers, dogs and mountain bikes. The growth and health of wildlife in ponds and rivers can also be disturbed by dogs, including from pollution from anti-flea and anti-tick treatments on dogs' fur.

This strategy also considers the wider environmental benefits of nature recovery. These wider environmental benefits are also known as ecosystem services, which is a way to demonstrate how biodiversity is essential for resources we need to live. Symbols for some of these key ecosystem services, or wider environmental benefits, are used with permission from the Natural Capital Team at the Environment Agency. The Environment Agency's Natural Capital Team has developed a set of natural capital icons for use in their own tools, guidance, and products, as well as those of their partners, that support a natural capital approach. You can see these symbols next to the Potential Measures in Part 2 and next to the Biodiversity Priorities below.

Key to symbols for key wider environmental benefits / ecosystem services

Carbon storage and sequestration	
Air pollutant removal	
Water quality	
Water flow regulation / flood management	
Local climate regulation/ shading/ urban cooling	
Soil health / Soil erosion prevention	
Cultural / Recreation/ education/ health and wellbeing/ landscape beauty/ sense of place	

This strategy has 10 Biodiversity Priorities:

Biodiversity Priorities	Main wider environmental benefits
1. **Grassland, Meadows and Heathland** (open habitats): Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of open habitats. Improve the abundance and variety of associated species.	
2. **Woodland habitats**: Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of woodland habitats and tree cover. Improve the abundance and variety of associated species.	
3. **Mixed and mosaic habitats**: Create complex and dynamic mosaics of scrub, grassland, trees and wetland.	
4. **Open water habitats**: Improve the ecological condition of ponds and lakes to support species diversity.	
5. **Running water habitats**: Create more natural river courses and river banks, with better water quality, and dynamic mosaics of linked wetlands.	
6. **Wetland habitats**: Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of wetland habitats.	
7. **Estuarine habitats**: Protect and enhance internationally important estuarine habitats.	
8. **Nature-friendly farming and forestry**: Build the health of our soils and provide food sources for wildlife and habitat connectivity through our countryside.	
9. **Biodiversity in settlements and developments**: Increase biodiversity and wildlife corridors in the land around our homes.	
10. **Species priorities**: Strengthen the resilience of rare and threatened species that need specific management measures.	

Part 2 of this strategy describes the range of Potential Measures, which are recommended actions or management options, which help to deliver one or more of these Biodiversity Priorities. The areas where the Potential Measures would be best focused, for biodiversity outcomes, are located on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy map (officially known as the Local Habitat Map).

The main way to use this strategy is to click on your location of interest on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy map. This will show the range of opportunities for nature recovery that are priorities in that particular location, in the form of Potential Measures. The total set of text about the main and related measures gives the full description of what should be included in habitat management plans.

Areas covered by most of the key targeted habitat measures have been combined to define Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity**. If you are within an Area that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity AND you are proposing nature recovery work that achieves the relevant text for the Potential Measure, WHERE that measure is mapped, then you would be able to apply the 15% increase in biodiversity units through the Strategic Significance Multiplier.**

We hope the full description of each measure will help inform successful applications for high quality agri-environment funding and other types of nature recovery project development to benefit habitats and species. We hope that public authorities, including strategic authorities, unitary, county, district, town and parish councils, will be able to use the key messages, priorities, and Potential Measures to inform how they deliver their Biodiversity Duty.

Planners will be able to use the spatial focuses of this strategy to inform Local Plan processes, as information to take into account in Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments and to help seek opportunities for re-naturalisation of river corridors and natural flood management. We hope that housing and infrastructure developers will be able to use this strategy to prioritise biodiversity through biodiversity net gain and through actions such as incorporating wildlife corridors into new developments, including green building measures such as swift bricks and infrastructure improvements such as biodiversity-rich sustainable drainage systems.

Contents

1 What is a Local Nature Recovery Strategy?

The development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for every county in England was one of the key requirements of the 2021 Environment Act. The aim of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy is to establish priorities and map proposals for actions to drive nature's recovery and wider environmental benefits.

The main elements of the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy are:

1. Gloucestershire's Biodiversity and Opportunities for Nature Recovery (Part 1 of the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy)

2. Biodiversity Priorities and Potential Measures (Part 2 of the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy). The **Potential Measures** are the recommended actions or management options that will help deliver the biodiversity priorities.

3. Long-list of rare and threatened priority species in Gloucestershire, arranged in assemblages or groups in relation to their habitat needs.

4. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy map or Local Habitat Map, which maps where the Potential Measures should be focused for the best biodiversity outcomes. This identifies Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance to Biodiversity, or where the recovery or enhancement of biodiversity could make a particular contribution to other environmental benefits. It also shows a baseline map of Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity – sites already designated for wildlife importance, nationally and locally, and irreplaceable habitats.

The main purpose of this strategy is to identify locations where creating or improving habitat will be most likely to provide the greatest benefit for nature and the wider environment. The strategy does not force the owners and managers of the land identified to make any changes. Instead, the strategy shows the priority opportunities and options for maintenance and creation of habitats, wildlife corridors and species-specific actions.

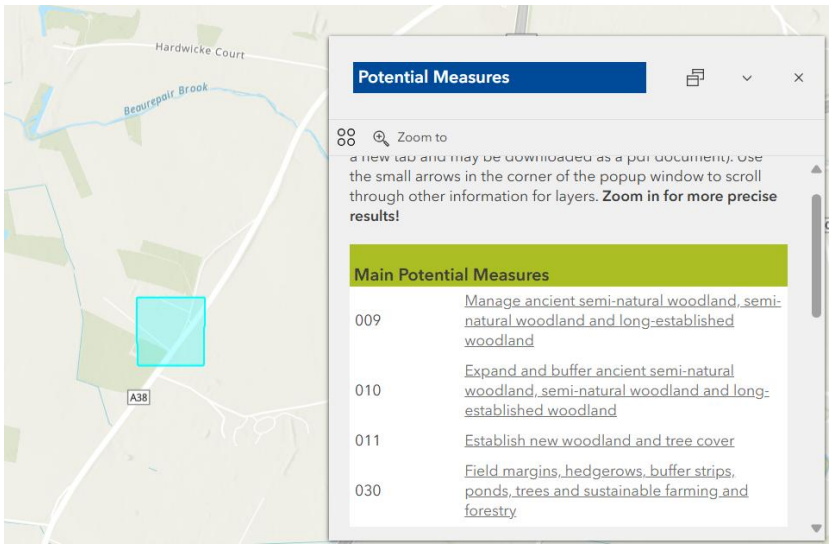
Gloucestershire County Council is the Responsible Authority appointed by Defra for the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Responsible authorities must review and republish this strategy when directed to do so by Defra, which could be between 3 and 10 years.

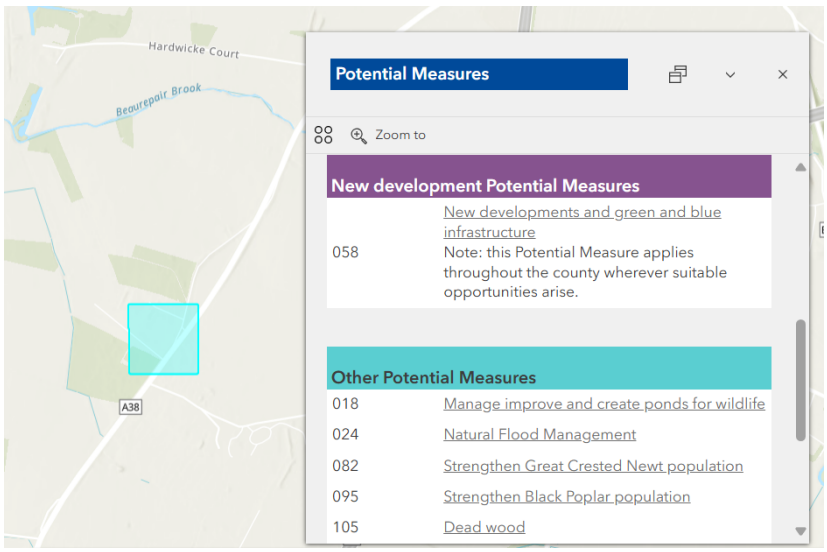
2 Who is this strategy for and how can it be used

How to use this strategy

The main way to use this strategy is to click on your location of interest on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy map (officially known as the Local Habitat Map). This will show a pop-up box with the range of opportunities for nature recovery that are priorities in that particular location, as a 200m^2 square, in the form of Potential Measures, which are management actions.

The main habitat Potential Measures will be listed first. The measure for New developments and Green and Blue Infrastructure is potentially applicable and important everywhere in the county. The lower part of the pop-up box will show other relevant habitat measures as well as species Potential Measures. See examples images below:





Each of the Potential Measures has a short explanatory title. If you click each short title further, you will see a full description of each Potential Measure from Part 2 of the strategy , as well as the unmapped measures that apply alongside and in relation to this Potential Measure. The pdf document will also show which species from the Priority Species List would benefit from these actions. In some cases there will also be guidance links and potential funding sources.

Potential Measure 009: Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland

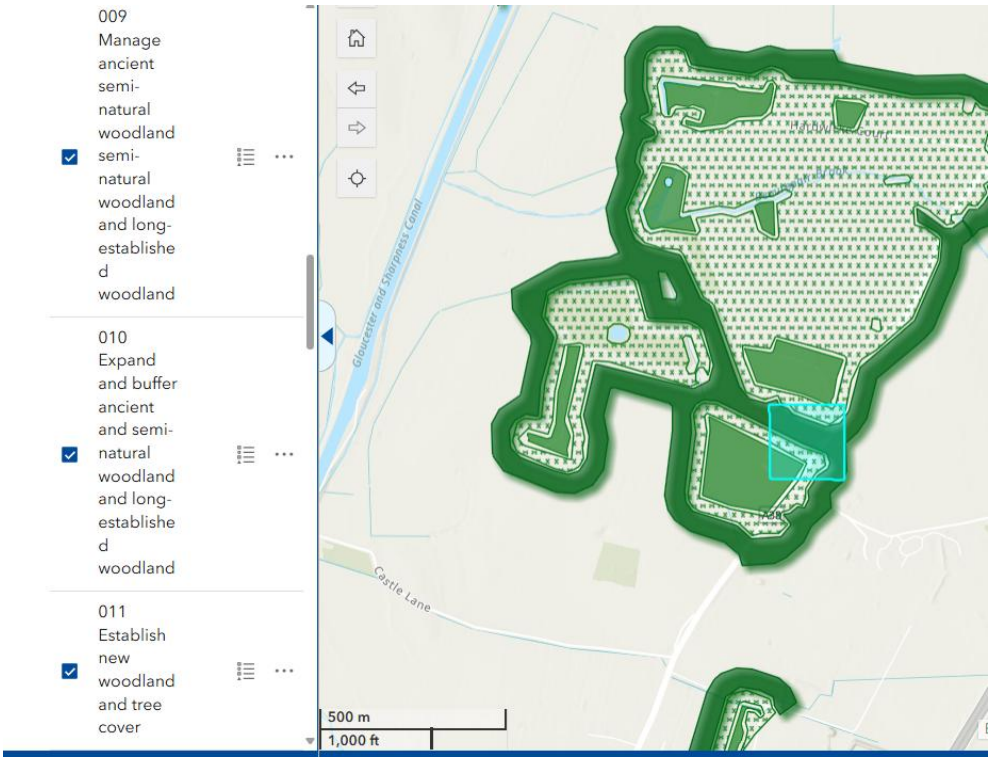
Measure 009: Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland. Manage woodland to improve and maintain ecological condition, including improved structural diversity and availability of dead wood habitat.

Manage woodland to the UK Forestry Standard as a minimum. Create diversity in woodland age, species, provenance and structure through thinning, coppicing, creation of rides and glades, and restocking through a combination of planting, natural regeneration, coppice regrowth and restoration of natural ecological function. Strategically locate rides and glades to encourage greater continuity and connectivity of grassland and grassland edge habitats. Maintain existing coppice rotations and restore or create new coppice woodland in suitable areas.

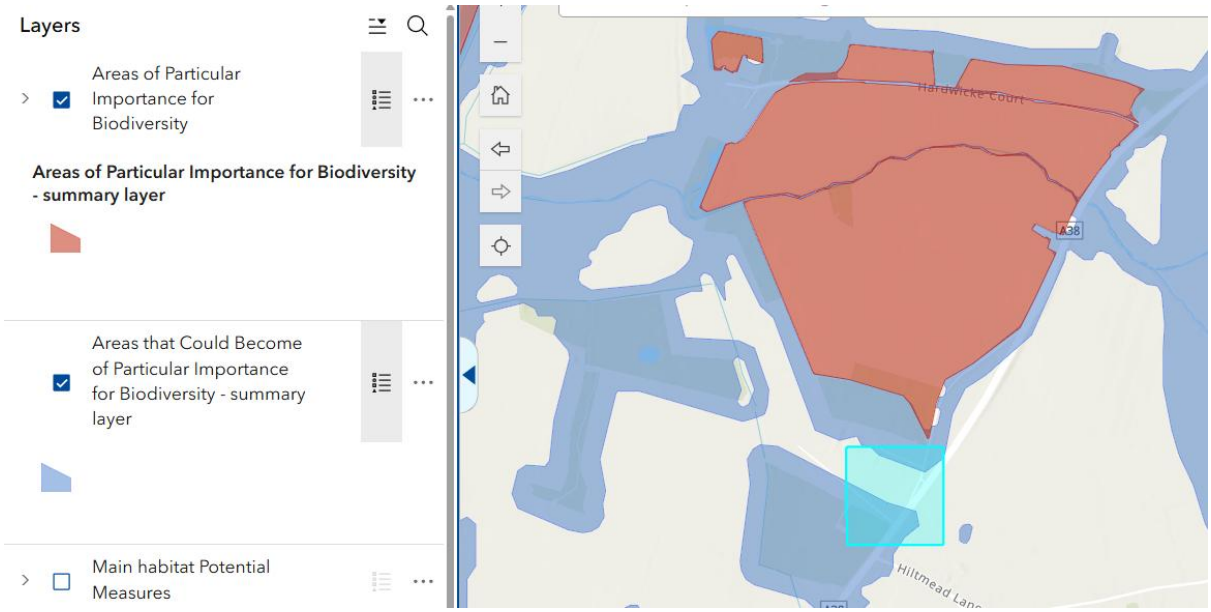
Ensure some areas of minimally managed, undisturbed, moist, low-light semi-natural ancient woodland with mature and veteran trees to offer a good environment for mycorrhizal fungi, heartwood and dead wood species. If needed, consider nest boxes, if they can be maintained, for species including pied flycatcher, marsh tit, redstart and spotted flycatcher. Include standing dead wood for species including lesser spotted woodpecker. Introduce fire breaks where climate change may increase the risk of fire. Eradicate invasive non-native plants such as laurel and rhododendron. Avoid placing game bird pens in woodland areas with a high botanical value or within 500 metres of a SSSI or other site with high biodiversity value.

An important caveat: Site specific management advice and monitoring

The next step is to check the detailed mapping of **individual** measures that you are interested in. The pop-up box picks up relevant measures across a 200m^2 square but in many cases the map zones for different measures will apply in different parts of that square, so it is important to look at the detail of the measures mapping, as demonstrated in the image below.



You can also switch on the Summary map layers to see if this location has been mapped as an **Area that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity,** the blue area shown in the image below.



The Local Nature Recovery Strategy has a strong link to focusing where the delivery of on-site and off-site biodiversity net gain should be focused. Within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric used to calculate the number of biodiversity units achieved in enhanced or new habitat creation, there is a Strategic Significance Multiplier. **If you are within an Area that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity AND you are proposing nature recovery work that achieves the relevant text for the Potential Measure, WHERE that measure is mapped, then you would be able to apply the 15% increase in biodiversity units through the Strategic Significance Multiplier.**

In the example in these illustrations, this would mean, within the mapping for each individual Potential Measure, you could apply the 15% strategic significance multiplier in relation to woodland management, woodland creation, hedgerows, pond management and pond creation, for examples. This would increase the payment to the landowner and manager by 15% and is therefore the incentive or mechanism to focus the delivery of biodiversity net gain where it will have the most impact for nature recovery. The total set of text about the main and related measures gives the full description of what should be included in a habitat management plan for off-site biodiversity net gain at that location, to qualify for the strategic significance multiplier.

The mapping of Potential Measures should also suggest opportunities for nature recovery work that can be funded through agri-environment funding or other sources. This strategy is as a county-level guide, but all detailed decisions about land management should be made in relation to site-specific advice and surveys. Habitat management and creation will also be relevant outside the zones mapped in the strategy; this mapping represents zones of best opportunities.

Who this strategy is for

Our intention is that one of the key uses of this Local Nature Recovery Strategy will be as a guide for farmers, landowners, land managers and their advisors and land agents as to the best options for biodiversity in relation to the land they manage. This can help make decisions around conservation management, land-use changes, changes in farming options and help to provide options and supporting justifications for applications for agri-environment funding, natural capital investment, biodiversity net gain, natural flood management funding and other grant funding.

The Environment Act 2021 established two specific mechanisms to support the delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies – mandatory biodiversity net gain, and a strengthened biodiversity duty for public authorities. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy plays a key role in recommending where, and what, habitat creation and other measures should be the outcomes of Biodiversity Net Gain in the planning system. Under the Biodiversity Duty for public authorities, local authorities must "have regard to" the Local Nature Recovery Strategy in, for example, the local planning process, as information to take into account in Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments, to help seek opportunities for re-naturalisation of river corridors and natural flood management, and in making and monitoring Parish Biodiversity Action Plans.

Housing developers and other businesses who are making decisions that affect land or water management, can use this strategy to help steer their actions to help biodiversity in the most strategic direction, through biodiversity net gain, and through designs and masterplanning for green and blue infrastructure, wildlife corridors and habitat creation, green building measures such as swift bricks and infrastructure improvements such as biodiversity-rich sustainable drainage systems.

This strategy can also help inform anyone planning a nature or biodiversity project in Gloucestershire – nature conservation organisations, local companies, community projects, town and parish councils who are creating neighbourhood development plans or biodiversity action plans, and more, on actions that can make a difference to give nature a chance of recovery.

In settlement areas of Gloucestershire you will find a set of Settlements and Developments Potential Measures for a variety of actions that can help to safeguard and enhance biodiversity in our towns, villages and new developments. In rural areas of Gloucestershire, even outside the areas mapped as "Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity, there are many relevant Potential Measures that can support biodiversity and wider connectivity for nature recovery.

An important caveat to take into account when using this strategy is that this is a high level strategy developed using the current best existing biodiversity information.

For all detailed decisions about habitat management or creation on any particular site, the general recommendations of this strategy should be supplemented with site-specific advice from ecologists, land agents, land managers and Gloucestershire County Council Historic Environment Record, within settlement areas Local Authorities, and within protected landscapes the National Landscape teams.

Site specific advice including baseline ecological surveys and soil tests should be taken before determining habitat management plans or the best options for land management on that site. The ongoing management costs of habitat creation and enhancement should be planned for. Ongoing survey and monitoring is needed to assess the long term impact of conservation management interventions.

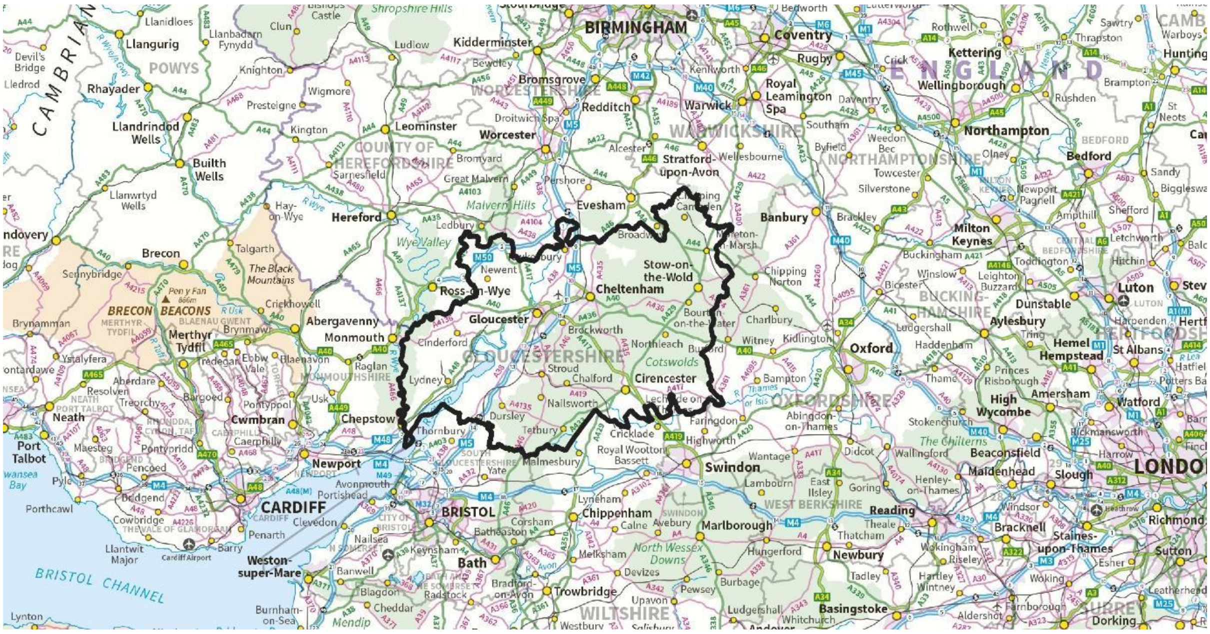
3 Gloucestershire and its biodiversity

3.1 Introduction to Gloucestershire

Gloucestershire is an administrative historic county within the South West region of England, bordering South East Wales, the West Midlands and South East regions (Map 1). At time of publication there are currently six administrative districts within the county: Cotswold, Forest of Dean, Stroud District, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury Borough, and Gloucester City. The county is approximately 270,450ha hectares in extent, at least 5,000ha of this being estuarine habitat. Gloucestershire has a population of over 630,000 residents which is likely to approach 700,000 by mid-century. The main areas of population (over 100,000) are situated in the largest settlements of Gloucester and Cheltenham but also within the wider adjoining Severn Vale.

Gloucestershire is a highly diverse county and is particularly special for its ancient woodland, unimproved limestone (calcareous) grassland, wetlands, old orchards, and species-rich hedgerows. It supports a range of protected and priority species, some of which are becoming increasingly rare such as a range of bat species, amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, and rare plants.

The location of Gloucestershire is shown below:



Three National Landscapes (formerly known as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, still the legal name of the designation): the Cotswolds, Wye Valley, and a small part of the Malvern Hills, overlap with the county. The National Landscapes together cover over 51% of the land area of Gloucestershire and all stretch well beyond the county boundaries into Monmouthshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, South Gloucestershire, and Oxfordshire.

As well as encompassing the lower end of the UK's longest river, the River Severn (220 miles), Gloucestershire also hosts the source and upper parts of the Thames catchment (the UK's second longest river, 215 miles). Smaller river catchments occur throughout Gloucestershire, including the River Wye, River Frome and River Cam, with numerous tributaries.

Agricultural or horticultural practices occur on around 75% of Gloucestershire's total area and significant areas of forestry can be added to this. Gloucestershire's farmland area incorporates many types of habitat or features including disturbed or fallow ground, uncultivated field margins, hedgerows, ponds, grasslands (many flower rich), small woods, and orchards. The total area of woodland in Gloucestershire is 36,028 hectares[1], with an extensive wooded area in the lower Wye Valley and Forest of Dean while the area around the Severn Estuary is the least wooded. In much of Gloucestershire outside of the Forest of Dean, woodland is relatively fragmented and consists of smaller patches of habitat.

69% of woodland in Gloucestershire is under sustainable management[2] and a fair proportion of this is managed commercially for timber, and some areas of privately owned woodland are unmanaged. Many forestry/woodland areas are important for recreation and the enjoyment of the countryside.

The general land cover categories in Gloucestershire are dominated by agricultural, forestry, commercial and domestic uses. Areas of 'natural' vegetation occur within these uses but also outside them, for example on nature reserves. Table 1 reveals woodland and plantation amounting to around a modest 10%, however, this excludes some of the smallest patches of which there are many as well as trees being present within other land cover categories too. The Gloucestershire Tree Strategy in 2020 concluded that total tree cover within woods and beyond them was at least 13.5%[3].

Table: 'Land' Cover 2012 for Gloucestershire (*Derived from Cole et al.*[4])

Grouped 'Land' Cover Categories	*Proportion within Gloucestershire (%)*
Predominantly arable/horticulture (crops, fallow etc.)	49.8
All grassland/ pasture including improved and semi-improved grasslands, plus other land with significant natural vegetation (such as tall herb, bracken, scrub, scattered trees, and smaller woods)	29.7
Larger areas of woodland/plantation	9.6
Urban, settlements, sports/leisure & commercial	7.7
Estuary including intertidal habitats, plus large water bodies and water courses	2.4

[1] NFI 2021
[2] Forestry Commission headline key performance indicator - Percentage of woodland that is sustainably managed. March 2023. Additional information can be found at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1162830/Forestry-Commission-Key-Performance-Indicators-Report-2022-23.pdf (page 17).
[3] Gloucestershire LNP (2020). Gloucestershire Tree Strategy https://www.gloucestershirenature.org.uk/glos-tree-strategy
[4] Cole, B., King, S., Ogutu, B., Palmer, D., Smith, G., Balzter, H. (2015). Corine Land Cover 2012 for the UK, Jersey and Guernsey. NERC Environmental Information Data Centre https://doi.org/10.5285/32533dd6-7c1b-43e1-b892-e80d61a5ea1d

3.2 Gloucestershire's existing biodiversity

In Gloucestershire, there are a significant number of designated sites of international and national importance for nature that are afforded special legal protection[5,6] as well as Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites that are given a level of protection through National Planning Policy and Local Plans. Internationally designated sites include European Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and European Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Nationally designated sites include Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National Nature Reserves (NNRs). There is a need to update this baseline of designated sites, and to update the species and habitat information for which these sites are designated, for example, the important species of the Severn Estuary have been changing over time and with climate change.

Internationally important sites within Gloucestershire

- The Wye Valley Woodlands SAC is designated for its *Asperulo-Fagetum* beech forests, *Tilio-Acerion* (lime) forests of slopes, screes and ravines and *Taxus baccata* (yew) woods of the British Isles. https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0012727

- The Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC, designated for lesser and greater horseshoe bats. https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0014794

- Severn Estuary SAC, SPA and RAMSAR designations. The SAC qualifying features are estuaries, mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide, Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco Puccinellietalia maritimae*), sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time, and reefs. The site also supports sea lamprey, river lamprey, twaite shad, Atlantic salmon, European eel and sea trout. https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0013030. The current SPA[7] designation supports an assemblage of at least 20,000 waterbirds, including overwintering gadwall, greater white-fronted goose, Bewick's swan, dunlin, common redshank and common shelduck. https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SPA-N2K/UK9015022.pdf. Similarly the RAMSAR designation covers the habitats of intertidal mudflats, sand banks, saltmarsh, shingle, and rocky platforms, the invertebrate community, several species of waterbirds and passage and wintering waders, and several species of fish migrating between sea and river via the estuary[8].

- Walmore Common SPA is the only significant area of peat in Gloucestershire and the current SPA designation supports over wintering Bewick's swan. https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SPA-N2K/UK9007051.pdf

- River Wye SAC is designated for water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* (water-crowfoot and water-starwort) vegetation. The following species are also qualifying features: white-clawed crayfish, sea lamprey, brook lamprey, river lamprey, Twaite shad, Allis shad, Atlantic salmon, bullhead, otter and aquatic invertebrates. https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0012642

- Cotswold Beechwoods SAC is designated for being the most westerly extensive blocks of *Asperulo-Fagetum* beech forests in the UK. The woods are floristically richer than the Chilterns, and rare plants include red helleborine, stinking hellebore, narrow-lipped helleborine and wood barley. There is a rich mollusc fauna. The woods are structurally

[5] Ramsar Convention plus Habitats Regulations and Wildlife & Countryside Act (as amended)
[6] See - https://www.gov.uk/check-your-business-protected-area
[7] https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5601088380076032
[8] https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/67

varied, including blocks of high forest and some areas of remnant beech coppice. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) with important orchid rich sites is also a qualifying feature. https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0013658

- Rodborough Common SAC Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) - important orchid sites. Rodborough Common is one of the most extensive area of semi-natural dry grasslands surviving in the Cotswolds, and represents CG5 *Bromus erectus – Brachypodium pinnatum* grassland, which is more or less confined to the Cotswolds. https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0012826

- Dixton Wood SAC is designated for Violet click beetle. It is a small site with a large number of ancient ash pollards, and supports a rich fauna of scarce invertebrate species associated with decaying timber on ancient trees. https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0030135

North Meadow SAC is just outside the Gloucestershire county boundary, in Wiltshire, and is an exceptional example of lowland floodplain meadow.

Sites of national importance in Gloucestershire

National Nature Reserves in Gloucestershire[9] include:

- Cotswold Commons and Beechwoods NNR. At 7.5km^2, it is the largest nature reserve in the Cotswolds. Consisting of limestone grasslands and woodlands, it follows the scarp slopes of the Painswick valley. It includes the internationally important Cotswolds Beechwoods SAC (described above). Among the wider woodlands Buckholt Wood is of note with over 780 species of fungi recorded. The grasslands support a wide range of flora and insects, including the rare Duke of Burgundy butterfly at Rudge Hill Common. The limestone headwaters on the scarp slopes provide some very good habitat for white-clawed crayfish, and high quality assemblages for aquatic invertebrates and bryophytes. .

- Highbury Wood NNR. Situated on the eastern bank of the River Wye, and part of an almost unbroken chain of ancient woods that link Chepstow (Monmouthshire) to Ross-on-Wye (Herefordshire), the 46 hectare wood is rich and diverse, noted for its variety of woodland types. The large-leaved lime, wild service tree, and whitebeam are examples of rare trees here, with the large-leaved lime particularly important as it is restricted to the Wye Valley. Hazel dormice are present at the reserve.

- Lady Park Wood NNR. An unmanaged and near natural woodland which is part of the Wye Valley Woodlands SAC (above), Lady Park Wood is home to both the UK's native species of lime tree as well as whitebeam. Rare bats have been recorded, especially greater and lesser horseshoe bats which are found in significant numbers.

- The Hudnalls NNR. Also within the Wye Valley Woodlands SAC, and managed with minimum intervention, the lime-beech-oak woodland on strongly acid soils is of a type virtually unknown outside of the Lower Wye Valley. Alongside the other woodland NNRS, rare plants are found here supporting rich insect and bird communities, including some rare members of the true fly (*Diptera*) family.

[9] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gloucestershires-national-nature-reserves/gloucestershires-national-nature-reserves

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

There are 123[10] Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) designated in Gloucestershire. Some of the largest are recognised internationally as SACs/SPAs (for example, Severn Estuary, River Wye, Cotswolds Commons and Beechwoods). Other large SSSIs include Minchinhampton Common, nationally important for calcareous grassland plants and fungi[11], and Cleeve Common[12], which at 455 hectares is Gloucestershire's largest common. It is important as an extensive area of limestone grassland, home to rich plant communities of wildflowers, grasses and fungi that support a wide variety of species. Woodchester Park[13] is another large SSSI, with diverse fauna, flora and fungi associated with the mix of grassland, woodland and wetland habitats. Greater horseshoe bats are present here and there is "outstanding invertebrate interest" on the site*. The Cotswold Water Park[14], more recently designated, covers more than 170 lakes that support 35,000 waterbirds in winter and a range of aquatic plants.

Among the many examples of smaller SSSIs, that are still extremely important biologically, is Badgeworth SSSI[15]. This is one of only two sites in the UK where Adder's-tongue Spearwort (*Ranunculus ophioglossifolius*) can be found, with its own name locally, "Badgeworth buttercup". Wotton Hill[16] is another example. The woodland here is one of only two UK sites where the rare limestone woundwort is present.

Irreplaceable Habitats

Irreplaceable habitats were defined in relation to Biodiversity Net Gain guidance in 2024[17]. The irreplaceable habitats, according to this initial definition, present in Gloucestershire are:

- Ancient woodland – this includes
    - Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands
    - Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites
    - Ancient Wood Pasture and Parkland
    - Infilled Ancient Wood Pasture and Parkland
- Ancient trees and veteran Trees
- Lowland fens

17,928 hectares of the woodland in Gloucestershire is ancient (6.8% of Gloucestershire), and Gloucestershire currently has 351 identified Ancient and Veteran Trees (Ancient Tree Inventory, Woodland Trust).

You will only get planning permission for development that results in loss of irreplaceable habitat in exceptional circumstances. The 10% biodiversity net gain requirement does not apply when there is loss of irreplaceable habitat because it would be impossible to achieve. Instead, you need to minimise adverse impacts and agree a compensation strategy with the planning authority.

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[10] https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteList.aspx?siteName=&countyCode=16&responsiblePerson=&DesignationType=SSSI

[11] *Minchinhampton Common* - https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1002432.pdf

[12] *Cleeve Common* - https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1000720.pdf

[13] *Woodchester Park* -https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1003561.pdf

[14] *Cotswold Water Park* - https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cotswold-water-park-confirmed-as-a-site-of-special-scientific-interest

[15] *Badgeworth* - https://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/nature-reserves/badgeworth

[16] *Wotton Hill* - https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1003582.pdf

[17] https://www.gov.uk/guidance/irreplaceable-habitats and https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2024/48/contents/made

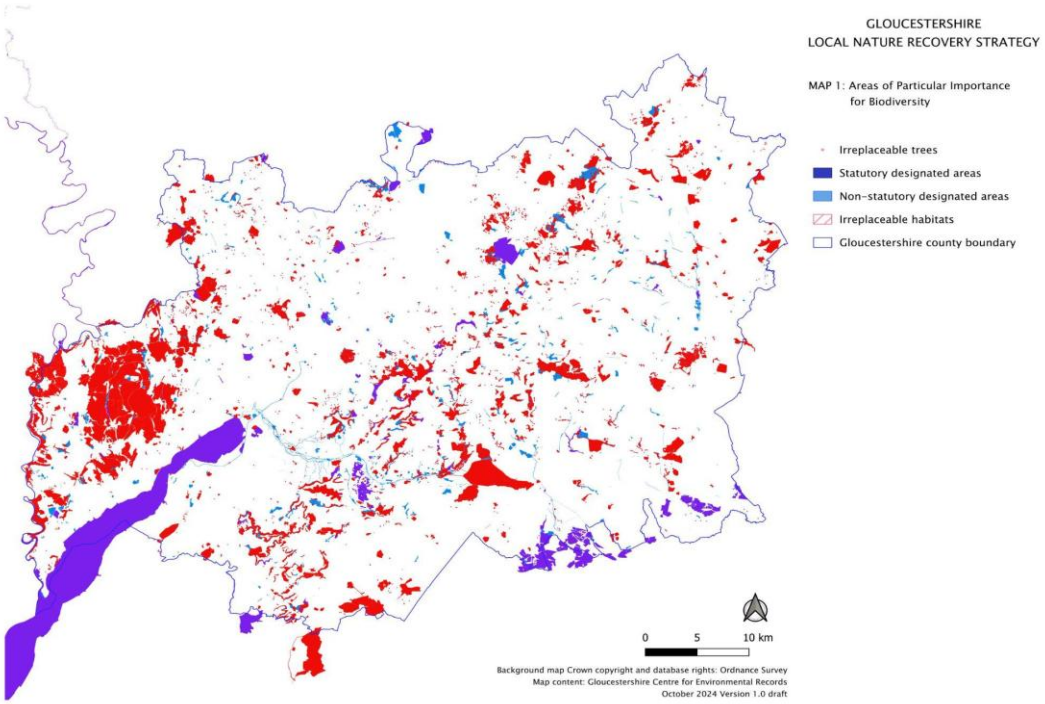
Sites of county importance

Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)[18] are declared by local authorities (councils) on land they control that is of importance for wildlife, geology or environmental education and is accessible to visitors for the enjoyment of nature. These specially selected sites number just over 10 in Gloucestershire include well known sites such as Robinswood Hill and Alney Island.

Local Wildlife Sites are designated at a county level [19], and at date of publication there are 902 Local Wildlife Sites in Gloucestershire. These are part of a nationwide non-statutory site protection system which collectively form the bulk of the county's identified natural heritage. Yet, they cover only about 1% of the county's land area, a clear indication that although we have many biodiversity-rich sites, they are small and fragmented and although they have some policy protection, they have no real legal status. There is an identified need to resource the review and updating of Local Wildlife Site designations and monitoring.

Conservation Road Verges - Road verges can sometimes support remnants of old and species-rich meadows and be bounded by species-rich hedgerows or mature trees. A selection of the most important road verges for biodiversity has been identified by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust working in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council, and these are designated in the county as conservation road verges[20]. At date of publication there are 109 conservation road verges in Gloucestershire. Road verges can be useful refuges for wildlife and can act as corridors connecting species and habitats across the county.

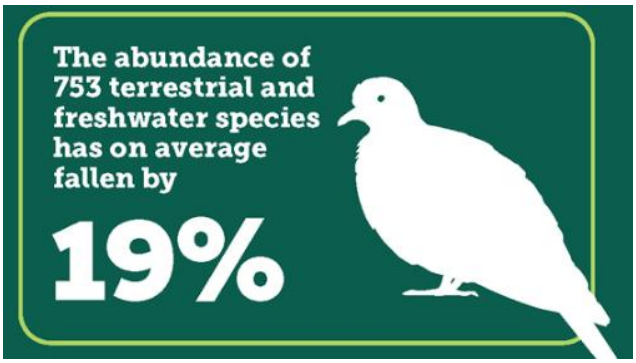
The map below shows Gloucestershire's designated nature sites (SACs, SPAs, NNRs, SSSIs), Local Wildlife Sites and irreplaceable habitats – comprising a map of Gloucestershire's **Areas that are of particular importance for biodiversity**:



[18] See - https://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-and-manage-local-nature-reserves
[19] See - https://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/wildlife/local-wildlife-sites
[20] https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/plans-policies-procedures-and-manuals/biodiversity-and-highways/

4 Opportunities for recovering or enhancing biodiversity in Gloucestershire

4.1 Why is Nature recovery needed?



The UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. The regular UK State of Nature reports show how the abundance and diversity of our wildlife have been declining for decades. The 2023 UK State of Nature report states that the abundance of 753 terrestrial and freshwater species has on average fallen by 19% across the UK since 1970[21].

This average rate of decline is getting worse. Four years earlier the average rate of decline of UK species abundance was reported as 13% since 1970[22].

Although these statistics use a 1970 baseline, our wildlife habitats and species have been reducing since before that. Examples cited in the 2013 UK State of Nature report[23] include:

- The area of coppiced woodland in the UK fell by at least 90% from 1900 to 1970, affecting invertebrates and wildflowers
- The area of lowland meadow in England and Wales declined by 97% between the 1930s and 1984, affecting wildflowers and insects
- Declines in farmland birds, such as corn bunting, were already being recorded during the 19th century. The agricultural intensification changes driven by the 1947 Agriculture Act led to hedgerows being lost as fields became larger, chemical use increased and the quality and quantity of farmland habitats diminished.

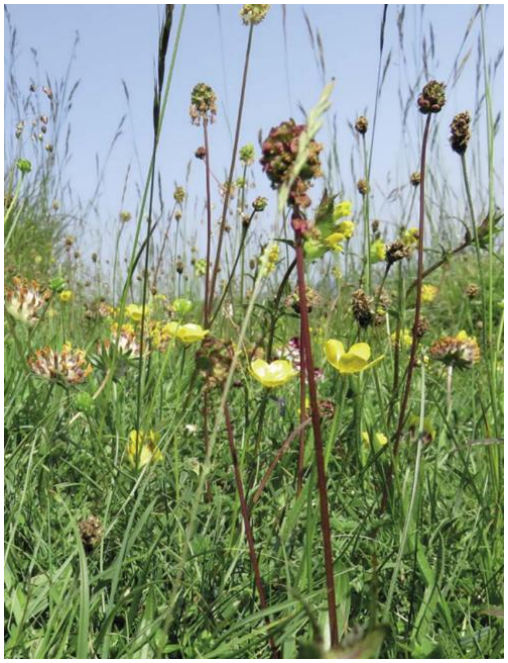
Not only is our wildlife greatly diminished and increasingly isolated, it also now has to deal with the impacts of climate change. Wildlife can try to adapt to climate change by moving across the landscape to a new climate space, in a warming climate in the northern hemisphere this is normally northward. To do this we need ecological networks with habitat corridors, easier “stepping stones” between habitats and features such as field margins, hedgerows and wildflower headlands that make the landscape more permeable. Species will also adapt to climate change through micro-climate opportunities such as slope directions or gradients, height of vegetation and opportunities for shade, and to help this we need larger wildlife sites with a diverse variety of conditions and habitats, sometimes described as mosaic habitats. Gloucestershire is already very important for nature, supported by many land managers, but we need to develop robust nature recovery networks to support adaptation to climate change at the scale required.

Below there are some examples within Gloucestershire that show this need to reverse these declines in nature – and within each of these examples there are also some success stories or examples of actions that are making a difference.

[21] https://stateofnature.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/TP25999-State-of-Nature-main-report_2023_FULL-DOC-v12.pdf
[22] https://stateofnature.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/State-of-Nature-2019-UK-full-report.pdf
[23] https://stateofnature.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/state-of-nature-report-2013-uk.pdf

For example, the Cotswolds National Landscape Board reports that in the 1930s, 40% of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) was covered in wildflower-rich and fungi-rich grassland on calcareous soils, and today that has fallen to less than 1.5%[24]. However, many farmers, landowners and organisations such as Cotswolds National Landscape Board, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and the National Trust are already managing existing good quality meadows, and restoring and creating new meadow habitat, through agri-environment schemes and projects such as Cotswold National Landscape's Glorious Cotswold Grasslands project and the National Trust's Stroud Landscape Project[25]. This strategy has Potential Measures for both managing, and restoring and creating, lowland calcareous grassland and neutral grassland and lowland meadows.

The large blue butterfly was extinct in the UK in 1979, but has been successfully reintroduced to Daneway Banks nature reserve and other sites in Gloucestershire, by a partnership of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and the Royal Entomological Society, thanks to new research and understanding of the grazing and management patterns of this limestone grassland site, to support the food plants of the large blue and the presence of the red ant *Myrmica Sabuleti* on which the large blue's life cycle depends. See **Measure 088: Strengthen Large blue population**.



Calcareous grassland – credit Simon Smith

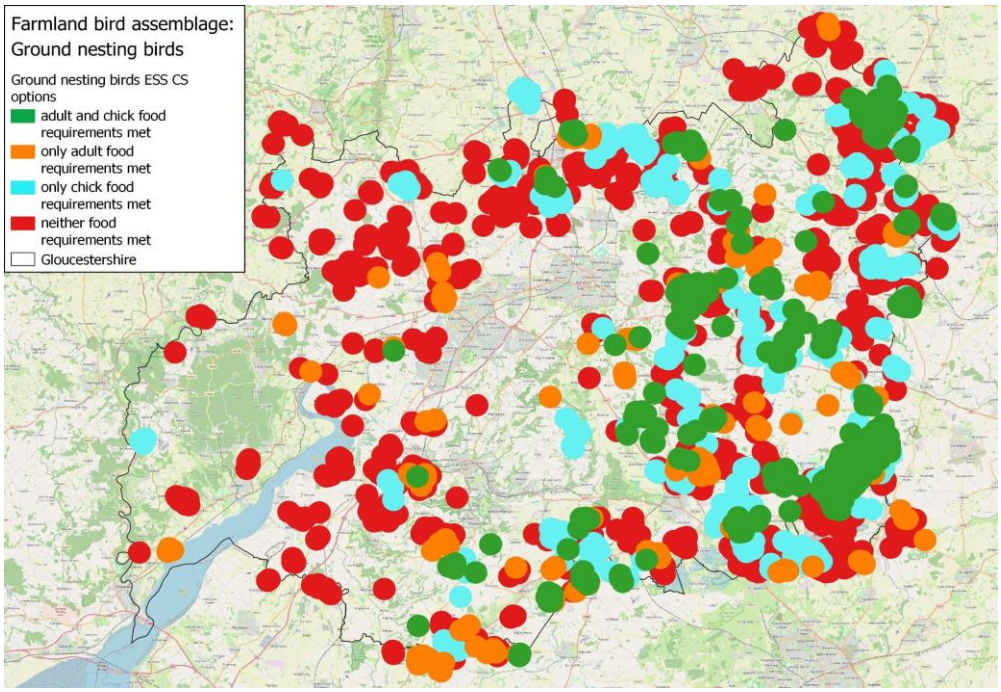
Curlew chick ringed in Gloucestershire in 2023 – credit Mike Smart

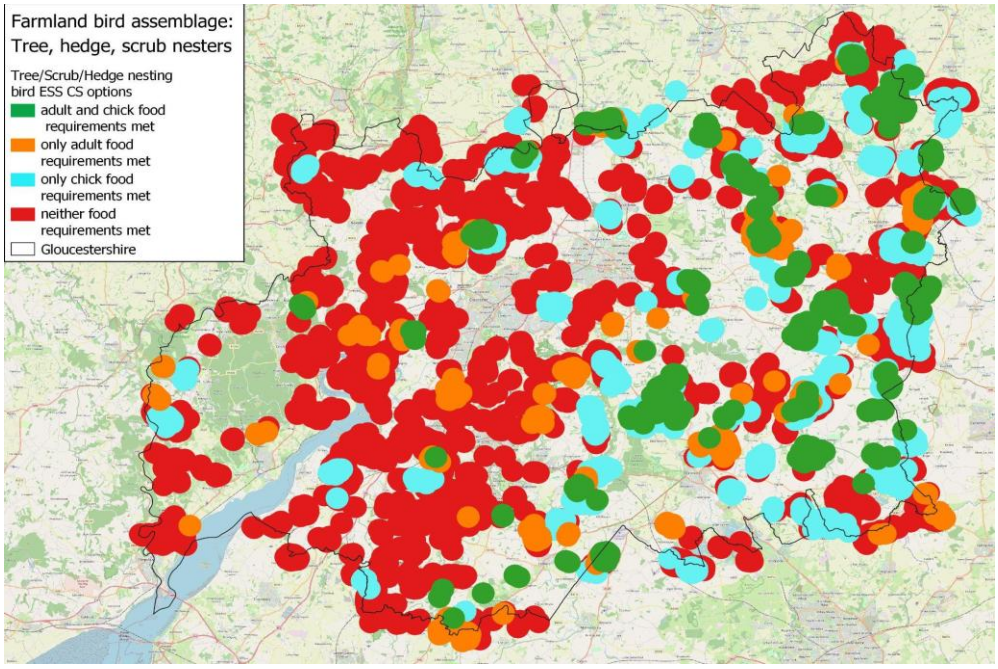
In another example, Gloucestershire Naturalists Society and WWT are working together to monitor and protect curlews in the Severn and Avon Vales. During 2023 they worked with local farmers to protect 27 nests, from which 9 curlew chicks fledged. However, this number of new chicks is not enough to maintain overall curlew population numbers in the long-term. See **Measure 070: Strengthen breeding curlew population**.

[24] https://www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk/our-landscape/wildflower-grassland/
[25] https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/gloucestershire-cotswolds/minchinhampton-and-rodborough-commons/stroud-landscape-project

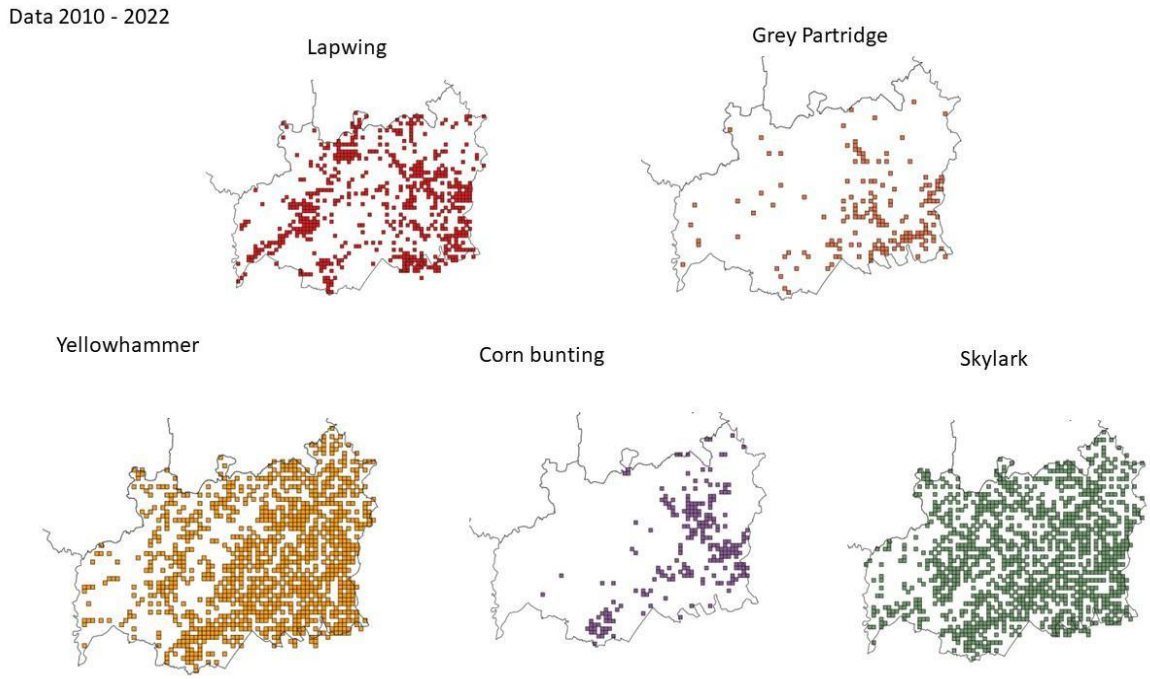
In a third example, the historic decline in farmland birds such as lapwing, grey partridge, yellowhammer, corn bunting and skylark has also been reported in Gloucestershire (statistic or map?). However, Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records analysed records of these birds against details from Environmental stewardship schemes and Countryside stewardship scheme options providing nest sites for ground nesting birds. These agri-environment schemes were analysed for having options for:

- food for the adult birds (tends to be seeds, chickweed, cereals, spring-sown crops);
- food sources for the chicks (tends to be insects, larvae, worms – needs field margins or buffer strips or grassland/pasture);
- nesting sites.





In the case of the corn bunting, grey partridge and to a certain extent lapwing, you can see how meeting the nesting and feeding needs of both adults and chicks – for example in the south-east of Gloucestershire - seems to be making a difference to ensure population recovery.



To help focus actions for different species of farmland birds and to meet the nesting and feeding needs of both adult farmland birds and chicks, this strategy has these measures:

- **Measure 096. Individual species needs of farmland birds**
- **Measure 097. Add food sources for ground-nesting adult farmland birds**
- **Measure 098. Add food sources for ground-nesting farmland bird chicks**
- **Measure 099. Add food sources for hedge-nesting adult farmland birds**
- **Measure 100. Add food sources for hedge-nesting farmland bird chicks**

4.2 The key messages of this strategy

This strategy has been developed through a range of discussions and input of information from nature conservationists, planners, local authority officers and members, farmers, landowners, land managers, and members of the public in Gloucestershire. From these discussions and information we have drawn out some overall key messages for this strategy.

These six key messages describe the main aims for nature recovery in Gloucestershire:

1. **Safeguarding, managing and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites existing biodiversity-rich sites**
2. **Landscape scale connectivity – Better, bigger, more and more joined**
3. **Climate Emergency**
4. **Our relationship with water**
5. **The value of mixed and wilder habitats**
6. **Biodiversity in our developments and settlements**

4.2.1 Safeguarding, managing and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites

In 2010, the Making Space for Nature Report[26] (also known as the Lawton Report after the Chair of the authoring panel) was published, setting out the aims of Nature Recovery. This report eventually led to the Environment Act 2021[27] which legislated for Local Nature Recovery Strategies, Biodiversity Net Gain, and the Biodiversity Duty for public authorities.

The recommendations of the Making Space for Nature report can be summarised with the phrase of "bigger, better, more and more joined, in a more permeable matrix". There is also a hierarchy to the recommendations, with "Better" – the maintenance, protection and improvement of existing good wildlife habitat, being the highest priority. Making Space for Nature says:

> "In general, the first priority is to enhance the quality of remaining wildlife habitat. Increasing connectivity helps, but first there needs to be high quality sites with thriving wildlife populations to connect."

Landowners and land managers who have already improved habitat for wildlife and who are already maintaining wildlife sites well for biodiversity should be supported. The resources that are needed to continue good management for biodiversity are not always fully recognised and rewarded. It is hoped that this strategy can underline the need to fund the maintenance and improvement of existing good quality habitat and support mechanisms to secure ways to resource this.

Many of our existing important wildlife habitats have developed over long periods of time - for example, ancient woodland, traditional meadows, old orchards or heathland - and in relation to ongoing methods of management. The complex ecological relationships between species in a habitat, including the soil ecology, microbes and mycorrhizal fungi, are difficult to recreate quickly once a habitat is degraded or destroyed. Therefore, protecting existing high quality sites of importance to biodiversity from harm is a top priority.

Because of the importance of safeguarding, managing and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites, for most of the key habitats in Gloucestershire there are Potential Measures about how to manage or safeguard that habitat.

[26] Lawton, J.H., Brotherton, P.N.M., Brown, V.K., Elphick, C., Fitter, A.H., Forshaw, J., Haddow, R.W., Hilborne, S., Leafe, R.N., Mace, G.M., Southgate, M.P., Sutherland, W.J., Tew, T.E., Varley, J., & Wynne, G.R. (2010) Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites and ecological network. Report to Defra https://www.gov.uk/government/news/making-space-for-nature-a-review-of-englands-wildlife-sites-published-today

[27] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted

4.2.2 Landscape scale connectivity - Better, bigger, more and more joined

The Making Space for Nature Report 2010 also informed the Government that the existing network of protected sites was not preventing species declines, because sites were too small and too isolated. It advocated the need to create a healthy ecological network operating across the landscape as a whole, to help reverse biodiversity loss and provide resilience to external threats and pressures, including the impact of climate change.

The hierarchy of importance of the five recommendations of "bigger, better, more and more joined, in a more permeable matrix" are shown below:

Making Space for Nature recommendations		
Priority level	**Summary word(s)**	**Recommendation**
1	BETTER	Improve the quality of current sites by better habitat management.
2	BIGGER	Increase the size of current wildlife sites.
3	MORE JOINED	Enhance connections between, or join up, sites, either through physical corridors, or through 'stepping stones'.
4	MORE	Create new sites.
5	A MORE PERMEABLE MATRIX	Reduce the pressures on wildlife by improving the wider environment.

The principle of these recommendations is that in order to prevent further decline and implement Nature's Recovery, existing wildlife habitat needs to be bigger (big enough to maintain the species that depend on it), of better quality (well managed so the habitats are brought up to and remain in good condition), more (there should be more sites) and more joined (that they need to be connected up through additional patches of habitat or corridors), in a more permeable matrix (that the wider landscape needs to allow species to move through it more easily).

Based on those principles, this Local Nature Recovery Strategy sets out how existing biodiversity sites, priority habitats and species can survive better by making small patches bigger and making sure they are well enough connected for species to be able to move between them. Gloucestershire's Nature Recovery Network mapping[28], was a starting point for the strategy to build towards connected habitats. The Nature Recovery Network map shows the current core areas of good quality wildlife habitats – the focus of the "BETTER" element of maintaining and improving the quality of current sites. It also expresses the best opportunity zones for extending and buffering habitat, creating new habitat and starting to connect these up – the "BIGGER, MORE and MORE JOINED" elements. There are more details about the Nature Recovery Network mapping in the Data and Evidence section below.

The Nature Recovery Network mapping forms a foundation of the mapping of the "areas which could become of importance for biodiversity" in this Local Nature Recovery Strategy. These zones are where there are the opportunities for habitat management and creation to be of the most benefit to our wildlife, and therefore where we would propose that nature conservation management and habitat

[28] https://naturalcapital.gcerdata.com/

creation is focused, where feasible, in order to join up the existing wildlife sites (including local wildlife sites). These zones are the main areas where Potential Measures for restoring and creating key habitats are focused.

In 2020 the UK government committed to protect and conserve a minimum of 30% of UK land and sea for biodiversity by 2030, as part of the international UN 30 by 30 commitment. Creation of new habitat within the recommended areas to create and improve wildlife-rich habitat identified by this Local Nature Recovery Strategy can help contribute towards meeting the goal of 30 by 30.

In these priority map zones for "bigger, better, more and more joined" habitat creation, particularly the areas identified in the strategy map as Areas that Could Become of Particularly Importance for Biodiversity, it would be beneficial to reduce habitat loss and pressure from new developments, where this can be achieved in Local Plans.

In relation to the fifth Making Space for Nature recommendation of a more permeable matrix for wildlife across our landscape, by improving the wider environment, actions to increase biodiversity and habitat connectivity in the wider countryside are recommended, such as field margins, river buffer strips, hedgerows and ponds, and strengthening the species populations of farmland birds and rare arable plants. Even in "open" habitats, linear corridors of rough grassland banks, and open wood-meadow provide important stepping stone habitats and corridors through the landscape. Similarly, existing monoculture woodland can be managed with wildlife in mind, with woodland rides and clearings, and diversifying native tree species like birch and lime in beech woodland, managing for deer and creating a biodiverse understory. Relevant potential measures include:

- **Measure 030: Field margins, hedgerows, buffer strips, ponds, trees and sustainable farming and forestry**
- **Measure 042: Riparian buffer strips**
- **Measure 096: Individual species needs of farmland birds**
- **Measure 104: Rare arable plants and soil fauna, flora and fungi**
- **Measure 054: Sustainable forestry and nature recovery**

4.2.3 Climate Emergency

The global climate and nature crises are inter-linked. The Wildlife Trusts' Adaptation Report 2022 expresses this well: "Climate change is driving nature's decline, and the loss of wild spaces is leaving us ill-equipped to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change. Meanwhile, degraded habitats are actively emitting carbon instead of storing it. The risk of species extinction is estimated to increase ten-fold for a warming level of 3°C compared to 1.5°C"[29].

In the Gloucester City Council Climate Change Strategy[30], WSP and Gloucester City Council used the latest UK Climate projections (UKCP18) and related tools to identify projected changes in climate for Gloucester City, that by the 2080s:

- The average summer day could be up to 5°C warmer
- Increased winter rainfall by over 20%
- Reduced summer rainfall by over 35%
- An increase in the number and severity of wildfires
- Three times fewer frost days and a reduction in snowfall
- A shift in the growing season
- An increased likelihood of surface water and river flooding, influenced by tides and extreme rainfall
- Heatwaves occurring six times more often
- An increase in the frequency and intensity of storms

These changes are likely to be applicable to all of Gloucestershire. In addition, there will be hotter average temperatures in our rivers, water bodies and the Severn estuary. The Cotswolds high wold in particular is expected to encounter more dry and drought conditions. Climate change exacerbates the risk that non-native species (including pests and pathogens) may establish and spread.

There are a range of ways in which the theme of climate change is part of this strategy. These include:

1. how climate change affects nature and how we can respond to that:
    - Help species movement through a resilient nature network
    - Control spread of pests, diseases and invasive non-native species
    - Protect the habitats and species most vulnerable to climate change
    - Respond to coast changes from sea level rise

2. how nature can help us adapt to climate change:
    - Help to reduce the effects of drought
    - Help to reduce the risk of flooding
    - Provide shading and micro-climates to reduce the effects of extreme heat and increased fire risk

3. how nature can mitigate the effects of climate change through carbon sequestration.

[29] https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/AdaptationReport.pdf
[30] https://democracy.gloucester.gov.uk/documents/s60448/appendix 1 climate change strategy and action plan.pdf

As average temperatures rise, the geographical range of many species will need to move northwards, or to new niches including higher up slopes. Some species will also need more ability to move in response to extreme weather events and other changes due to climate change. The "Making Space for Nature" vision of larger, less fragmented and better connected wildlife sites will help improve the resilience of wildlife species populations and increase the ability of those species that can move in response to climate change.

Some habitats are particularly vulnerable to climate change. The Natural England and RSPB Climate Change Adaptation Manual 2015[31] assessed the relative sensitivity of habitats to climate change. Of Gloucestershire's key habitats, these are the ones with HIGH sensitivity to climate change:

- Coastal saltmarsh
- Standing water
- Lowland fen
- Rivers and streams, including ephemeral waterbodies

Additional research shows that invertebrate populations in Calcareous grasslands can also be severely impacted by heatwave and drought conditions, as flowering plants respond by reducing or ceasing nectar production and butterflies stop flying over a certain temperature. Of Gloucestershire's key habitats, these are the ones with Medium sensitivity to climate change:

- Floodplain Grazing Marsh
- Lowland Meadows (wet)
- Calcareous grassland
- Reedbeds
- Lowland Heathland
- Intertidal Mudflats
- Lowland beech and yew woodlands
- Wet woodland

Climate change will affect the survival rates of ancient and veteran tree species. Management interventions[32] to retain these trees and promote survival will be important, as well as encouraging identification and development of future veteran and ancient trees within the landscape - see **Measure 036: Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees**.

The potential for different tree species to be more resilient to climate change should be taken into consideration. Current guidance on climate change and future resilience advises growing a mixed and large suite of species (including native and non-native). This goes for new planting of woodlands and individual trees, but also in restocking after felling of commercial woodlands and in restoration of plantations on ancient woodland sites[33].

The Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plans[34] indicate which areas are already intended for Managed Realignment[35], or for Hold The Line, in relation to likely changes to the coastline from sea level rise. There are opportunities for habitat restoration to help better achieve the managed

[31] https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5679197848862720
[32] https://cdn.forestresearch.gov.uk/2022/05/UKFSPG026.pdf
[33] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-englands-woodlands-in-a-climate-emergency
[34] https://severnestuarycoastalgroup.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/07/smp2partamainreportfinal-160323161232.pdf
[35] https://environment.data.gov.uk/shoreline-planning/shoreline-management-plan/SMP19

realignment in the zones where this is recommended - see the Potential Measures in relation to Estuarine habitats.

With sea level rise and increased temperatures, there is a risk that saltwater intrusion may start to impact freshwater habitats on the floodplain, that floodplain land will flood for longer or more frequently, and also that increased water temperatures will reduce the levels of dissolved oxygen and increase algal growth, affecting wildlife.

The Potential Measures recommended in this strategy contain many that will help adapt to, and reduce the effects of, drought, flooding, extreme heat or fire risk. These include measures where trees, scrub or changes in topography can provide more shade to reduce the temperatures of rivers, of urban areas, or of grassland plants, which struggle to maintain sufficient nectar production in higher temperatures. There are other measures that aim to enhance and maintain soil health and resilience to drought, through sustainable and regenerative farming techniques. Natural flood management measures, re-naturalisation of river corridors, and habitat creation measures (such as creating more wet woodland across the county and heath and associated mossy bogs in the Forest of Dean) will help reduce flood risks.

Maintaining and restoring semi-natural habitats, including woodland, wetlands, saltmarsh, heath and unploughed meadow grassland, can actively create carbon sinks that sequester carbon in the long-term, as carbon is captured within biomass and in the soil. WWT's project to recreate saltmarsh habitat within a 148 hectare site on the Awre peninsula, including by engineering a breach in the sea wall, is a great example of such habitat creation that will sequester carbon and help adapt to sea level rise, erosion and flood risk, as well as improving biodiversity

Regenerative farming techniques which promote healthier soils with living roots and minimal soil disturbance, also help to increase carbon sequestration in the soil - see **Measure 052: Soil health and regenerative farming**. The Natural England Carbon Storage and Sequestration by Habitat report 2021[36] is a good source for information on the different carbon sequestration potential from different habitats.

[36] https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5419124441481216

4.2.4 Our relationship with water

A range of aspects of our relationship with water were key themes emerging in many aspects of the discussions held while developing this strategy.

As a result of traditional agricultural and land management Gloucestershire's landscape is a heavily drained landscape. This, in conjunction with modification of rivers for a wide variety of purposes, has left a legacy of drained fields as well as restricted, culverted and canalised rivers. Weirs, gates and locks restrict the movement of species within our rivers, as well as inhibiting natural processes. Barriers also restrict diversity of flow patterns and vegetation structures both within the channel and along the banks. Water pollution is a significant issue, from both point and diffuse sources. In addition, straightened and canalised watercourses exacerbate flood risks, including in downstream areas. These are all pressures and threats for our wild species, resulting in a lack of diverse morphology and vegetation structures both within the channel and along the banks.

We should take the opportunity to re-naturalise our rivers and floodplains. Rivers need to be dynamic and currently do not have the space to do what they need to do – they are too contained in their linear channels. We should see the land next to watercourses as functionally-linked land, where the river can re-establish its course, provide space for flood-plain habitats, and where some habitats can help reduce water pollution. Getting more water back into Gloucestershire's landscape and soils can help with carbon sequestration and with natural flood management, as well as increase opportunities for biodiversity. Key Potential Measures in relation to this are **Measure 020: River re-naturalisation** and **Measure 043: Floodplain reconnection**, with a range of other inter-related measures.

In Gloucestershire's woodlands, and other habitats, we should enhance the connectivity and ecological functionality of the watercourses, through identification and re-establishment of functional riparian zones. A functional riparian zone intercepts surface water flows before they meet a flowing stream or other drainage channel – forcing the surface water to slow down and filter through the ground vegetation before meeting the main channel, which allows carried sediment to drop out. Within the riparian zone, the main channel should be functioning in a naturally diverse and ever-changing way, connected to its flood plain.

Our woodlands can become sponges, holding up sufficient water through natural and human intervention woody debris blockages in the watercourses that flow through them. The wooded flood plains will largely be riparian woodland (wet woodland), with tree species that are appropriate to this wet situation such as willows, aspen and alder.

In addition to increasing and enhancing the diversity of species, restoring and naturalising watercourses can help to re-wet areas, increasing the recharge of groundwater in the right locations and the storage of water within soils. This increases the resilience of watercourses to drought, and by extension the security of our water resources.

In February 2024, Chris Uttley of Stroud District Council opened an event called "Flood Management with a Time Machine"[37], that told stories of the changes we have made to rivers over the last 100 years, and how we can repair them, and celebrated wetland habitats in the Stroud Valleys that slow, store and filter water with these words:

> "We think we know the stories of flooding. We see them in the news every year. They are stories of grannies being rescued from houses by men in inflatable boats. Helicopters flying over floodplains to show us that they are flooded. People driving cars into floods and

[37] https://slowtheflow.net/flood-management-with-a-time-machine/ and https://www.stroud.gov.uk/environment/projects/stroud-valleys-natural-flood-management-project/ and https://nbscomics.com/2023/05/30/2023-sound-of-a-river/

inevitably, farmers pulling cars out of floods with tractors. And of course, lives ruined and sometimes sadly lost.

But there are different stories too. Stories we don't hear much about – about how sometimes the best flood defence is a beach, a saltmarsh, a bog or a forest, or a field of healthy soil. About how the choices we make about managing our landscape, about the food we put on our plates will affect how much flooding we get. Stories about farmers and communities helping each other, working together to make many small changes to reduce flooding."

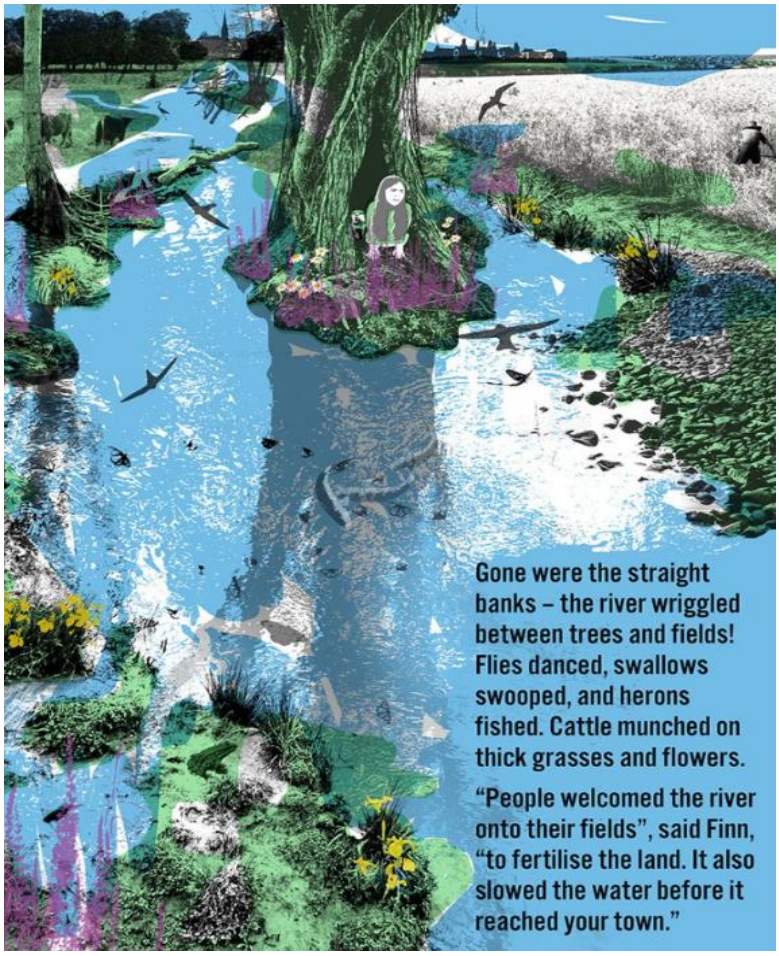


Image from Sound of a River comic by Joe Magee and Chris Uttley

Many factors affect the water quality of our rivers, ponds and lakes. These include uncontrolled and untreated overflows of sewage and waste water, as well as excess nutrients and soil sediments in the run-off from farmland, roads and hard surfaces, or in relation to the disposal of manures, and from excessive uses of pesticides and herbicides. Soil compaction from machinery, or bare earth at times of high rainfall can lead to soil erosion and sediments entering water courses. In relation to run-off of nutrients and soils from farms, regenerative farming principles such as soil cover crops, minimising soil disturbance and retaining living roots can help. There are a range of Potential Measures relating to water quality and soil or nutrient run-off, including:

- **Measure 022: Improve ecological condition of rivers**
- **Measure 044: Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs**
- **Measure 045: Improve Water quality**
- **Measure 046: Sewage and wastewater**
- **Measure 050: Limit groundwater abstraction and surface flow abstraction**
- **Measure 052: Soil health and regenerative farming**

4.2.5 The value of mixed and wilder habitats

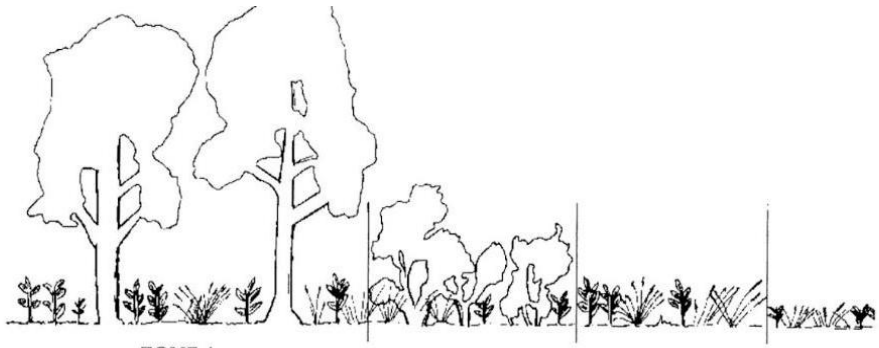
A strong theme that came through in many strategy discussions, including the Nature Recovery working group, the species task and finish group and the public engagement events, was the value of mixed or mosaic habitats of scrub, different heights of grasses, trees and disturbed ground, which can be of great benefit to many wild species. In many places this can be achieved through a mix of allowing more natural processes of succession to happen, and site management to provide varied habitat structure. See **Measure 014: Create mixed mosaic habitats including scrub, including orchard**.

In some places a mixed or mosaic habitat approach will challenge ideas about what "looks nice" and hence it is positive to promote "messy" as a potentially beneficial attribute for wildlife. We need to be prepared to evolve our societal views on how green spaces and landscapes should look, if these views restrict biodiversity, climate resilience or sustainability. As the report summarising the community engagement sessions says:

> "A vibrant, messy, varied abundance of nature was central to the way that many participants described their vision for nature across Gloucestershire. There was wide recognition that for nature to thrive, edges, variety and connection are essential. Participants shared visions of long verges, gardens teaming with wildflowers, woodland gradually merging into scrub, and hedgerows full of variety and life. At the heart of many of the discussions was a feeling that for nature to recover, we need to reclaim and celebrate messiness over straight lines, variety over monoculture and the 'wild' over the manicured. This was seen as a mindset change as much as a practical shift.
>
> … The importance of unmown lawns and grass verges was raised. Participants want to see 'messy' gardens, rich in biodiversity and teeming with life through an 'urban mosaic of habitats'.
>
> ...'They are not weeds but food for bees'"[38]

A key aspect of this mixed habitat theme is the concept of ecotones between different habitats - see **Measure 035: Ecotones and edges**. Ecotones are gradual changes in habitat structure, for example between woodlands and neighbouring field, or between hedgerows, field margins and field, to enable a variety of scrub or shrubs and longer grasses and plants, sometimes known as "saum", rather than sharp boundaries between different habitats. The ecotone concept is illustrated in this diagram from *The nature conservation value of scrub in Britain*, JNCC 2000[39]:

[38] Community input into Gloucestershire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy 2024
[39] The nature conservation value of scrub in Britain, JNCC 2000 https://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/39590874-8927-4c42-b02a-374712caccd6/JNCC-Report-308-SCAN-WEB.pdf



ZONE A
Woodland lacking grassland plant species.

ZONE B
'Mantel' zone of shrubs, many of the Rose (Rosaceae) family. Ground flora consists of woodland and 'Saum' plant species unless grazed where grassland species would predominate.

ZONE C
'Saum' zone dominated by tall herbs and grasses including rare species. Many typical grassland plants occur as unusual large forms.

ZONE D
'True' grassland in which low-growing species are more abundant.

Creating varied ecotones, and creating areas where natural processes are allowed to create a complex and dynamic mosaic of habitats:

- provides a varied habitat structure that benefits many species, including adders and newts who need a variety of different types of habitat within a small area.
- provides wildlife corridors to enable movement of species through the landscape, including small mammals and bats.
- provides shade to maintain nectar production in grassland flora and refuge for invertebrates in higher temperatures.
- provides diverse food sources for a range of species including farmland birds.

In many cases, a mosaic habitat could have the following target features:

- a dynamic mosaic of bare or disturbed ground, species-rich grassland, scrub and trees, and/or wetland and ponds where relevant
- an average tree and scrub canopy cover of between 10% and 30% across the site; the closer to 20% the better
- the height and density of scrub and grassland should vary across the site. Scrub should be managed to have complex variation in height and to have gaps in canopy cover to allow other ground flora to grow. The more structural variety, the better.
- varied ground levels with different aspects and gradients can provide different microclimates and species niches.

Mosaic habitat is great for wildlife at any scale but the bigger the better, ideally this should be created on sites large enough for natural processes to create variety.

4.2.6 Biodiversity in our developments and settlements

Much of the landscape-scale vision of “bigger, better, more and more joined” involves habitat maintenance and creation across our rural and farmed landscape. Urban wildlife, green spaces and blue spaces (water-related) are also part of this potential for habitat connectivity.

Importantly, nature in our settlements and urban areas brings huge benefits for our health and wellbeing, our ability to engage with nature and feel a sense of connectedness with nature, and economic benefits from improving the quality of life experienced in our neighbourhoods.

Trees, green spaces and urban planting can all be green infrastructure that provides ecosystem services benefits, such as shading from street trees, improvements to air quality, flood management and biodiversity-rich sustainable drainage systems.

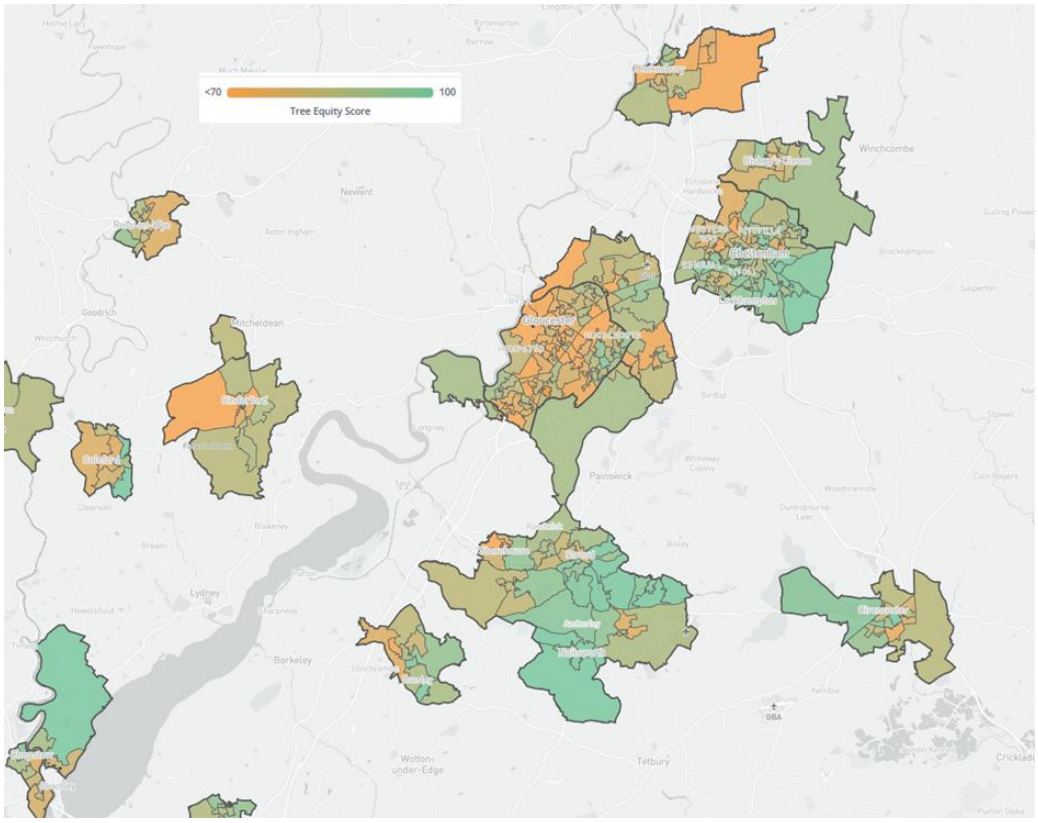
The importance of this theme was insisted on during the public engagement sessions. The report summarising the community engagement sessions says:

> “All the nature recovery workshops were clear that recovering nature can’t just be about our countryside, it also needs to be about our urban spaces. Participants want to see more rewilding of urban space, existing green space protected, and an abundance of biodiversity in urban areas. Whether it’s gardens, road verges, school grounds, disused railway lines, parks, council-owned land, or allotments, the role of urban areas in nature recovery is important both for its own sake as well as to help create wildlife corridors and connect habitats with one another.
>
> Not only are pockets of urban nature important for biodiversity, but they are also important for people and communities in many other ways. The co-benefits of nature recovery were felt to include a whole raft of community, mental, and physical health benefits. Participants felt that enabling people to connect with nature also encourages communities to care about nature and therefore to care for it. They can also be crucial for community cohesion and recruiting nature volunteers, who play a vital part in much of the nature conservation work taking place across Gloucestershire.
>
> The importance of communities being able to access nature was stressed, particularly in the workshops in more urban areas. The phrase ‘we are nature’ was raised many times, with participants rejecting the separation between nature and humans.
>
> There were clear visions about how our built environment can do so much more to support nature’s recovery, with specific suggestions including swift bricks, green roofs, rain gardens, avenues of trees, community composting, and rainwater harvesting. … Participants want local communities to be able to buy locally sourced sustainable food. They want urban spaces with fruit trees by our roads and in our parks, and vegetables and herbs growing on our streets.”

A systematic meta review of the health benefits of green social prescribing in 2024[40] concluded that there is clear evidence of the benefit for improving mental health, from engagement with and access to nature.

[40] [1] https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8498096/ and https://www.england.nhs.uk/personalisedcare/social-prescribing/green-social-prescribing/

In Gloucestershire, there are inequalities of access to nature, with the communities that are in the lowest 20% of the Index of Multiple Deprivation being mainly in the urban areas of Gloucester and Cheltenham, and having a strong correlation with the areas of Gloucestershire highlighted in the Tree Equity Index[41]. that highlights inequitable access to trees in urban and settlement areas:



The communities in Gloucestershire that are within the most deprived 20% in the Index of Multiple Deprivation:

- Gloucester: Barton & Tredworth, Coney Hill, Kingsholm & Wotton, Matson & Robinswood, Moreland, Podsmead, Tuffley (south part of ward), Westgate (east part of ward).
- Cheltenham: Hesters Way, Oakley, Springbank, St Marks (south-west part of ward), St Pauls, Swindon Village (south part of ward).
- Cinderford West
- Tewkesbury South

Forestry Research have published research[42] and maps[43] showing existing provision of public access to woodlands in England, as well as opportunities for increasing access.

In Gloucestershire, the Local Nature Partnership and Climate Leadership Gloucestershire[44] call for an aim for everyone to live within 15 minutes of biodiversity-rich accessible green space, in order to reduce these inequalities of access to nature, improve health and local economy, and benefit biodiversity.

[41] https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/protecting-trees-and-woods/benefits-of-urban-trees/tree-equity/
[42] https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/publications/access-to-woodland-in-england/
[43] https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/5451463d27e44e5ca23a0d2a52be20c6
[44] https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/greener-gloucestershire-climate-dashboard/our-partners/climate-leadership-gloucestershire-clg/greener-gloucestershire-action-plan/biodiversity/

For areas where new developments are proposed, there is the opportunity, and in most cases the requirement, to create new blue and green infrastructure and wildlife corridors within its design. This strategy advocates for new developments to incorporate wild areas and linear wildlife corridors as wide as possible into their design to encourage species movement and habitat connectivity, with a principle of creating connectivity to the nearest core habitat in the Nature Recovery Network map. We endorse the Woodland Trust recommendation for creating 30% tree cover in new developments.

Local Plans should have regard to this Local Nature Recovery Strategy. In doing so, we hope that this contributes to the growing discourse that Local Plans should more and more be based on a shared vision for each town, developed with the community, as recommended by the Urban Design Group's "Achieving good town form" [45] 2024 paper. The restoration of nature and strategies such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy should be part of the shared local vision for the basis of local planning.

Green and Blue Infrastructure standards, such as Building with Nature[46] standards or Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework should be used to design and deliver biodiversity in developments and urban areas. Gloucestershire has a Strategic Framework for Green Infrastructure[47] giving an overview for the county. The legal protections for bats roosting in buildings should continue to be prioritised.

Gardens, allotments, churchyards and urban green spaces and parks can all be managed to be important for wildlife and biodiversity, and to form part of wider habitat connectivity. One of the threats to urban biodiversity and a threat to increasing the likelihood of flooding is the replacing of gardens or green spaces with impermeable surfaces. Planning regulations, development design and choices in the home and garden should aim to avoid replacing gardens and lawns with parking spaces, astroturf or hard landscaping.

Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems are important to hold water in the catchment for longer, reducing flooding and draining overflows, while also creating green space and connectivity in urban areas. Along highways, the use of gully pots should be reduced if feasible, and where they are used they should be sited away from kerb edges, and ladders used in gully pots, to help prevent amphibians and other species from getting stuck. Gully pots can cause mortality for wildlife and should not be used if possible. Good Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) design can remove the need for gully pots and this approach should be promoted. See **Measure 069 Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems.**

There are four over-arching Measures in relation to most settlements and development areas which link to a wider set of Development and Community Measures:

- **Measure 056: Urban green spaces, blue spaces and wildlife corridors**
- **Measure 057: Biodiversity in settlements and gardens**
- **Measure 058: New developments and green and blue infrastructure**
- **Measure 059: Green bridges and wildlife crossings**

[45] Achieving good town form, Urban Design Group 2024
https://www.udg.org.uk/sites/default/files/publications/files/Achieving%20good%20town%20form%20Final.pdf
[46] https://www.buildingwithnature.org.uk/
[47] https://www.gloucestershirenature.org.uk/green-infrastructure-pledge

4.3 Ecosystem services and biodiversity

Although our species and habitats have their own intrinsic value, our natural environment also provides us all the resources we need for survival (ecosystem services), biodiversity (the variety of living things) underpins the delivery of all ecosystem services, that is, without biodiversity we would not have the resources we need to live.

Some examples of these ecosystem services are shown below. For some of these we show a symbol, used with permission from the Natural Capital Team at the Environment Agency. The Environment Agency's Natural Capital Team has developed a set of natural capital icons for use in their own tools, guidance, and products, as well as those of their partners, that support a natural capital approach. These icons are designed to give natural capital a strong, recognisable identity, making it easier for people to identify and engage with it. These symbols will appear next to Potential Measures in Part 2, to show how different measures contribute to these wider environmental benefits:

		Symbol
Provisioning services	Food provision	
	Water supply	
	Raw materials including wood and fibres	
	Energy – hydro or biomass	
Regulating services	Carbon storage and sequestration	
	Air pollutant removal	
	Water quality	
	Water flow regulation / flood management	
	Local climate regulation/ shading/ urban cooling	
	Pollination	
	Soil erosion prevention	
	Soil health	
	Biological pest and disease control	
	Waste decomposition	
Cultural services	Recreation	
	Education	
	Interaction with nature / health and wellbeing	
	Landscape beauty / Sense of place	

Many of these ecosystem services are benefits that a number of Potential Measures of this strategy contribute to, such as new woodland and tree cover increasing carbon sequestration, and shading and local climate regulation. However, some ecosystem services are directly referenced by Potential Measures of this strategy, examples being **Potential Measure 024: Natural Flood Management** and **Potential Measure 065: Access to biodiversity-rich green spaces**.

4.4 Pressures and opportunities

Some of the key pressures on nature, and opportunities in relation to these, are addressed in the Key Messages section above, including:

- Habitat loss and fragmentation
- Climate change
- Water quality and quantity
- Water courses with artificially-restricted banks and barriers inhibiting natural processes and the movement of species
- The need for field margins, hedgerows and wilder areas to help species survive and move across the farmed landscape

Other key pressures, threats, and also issues that are best thought of as opportunities, are discussed below, including:

- Recreational pressures and disturbance to wildlife
- Diseases and invasive non-native species
- The pressure on woodland regeneration from an increasing deer population
- Conservation grazing
- The importance of fungi and soil health in nature recovery
- Working with the archeological and historic environment
- Minerals extraction and restoration
- The need for ecological recording and monitoring

4.4.1 Recreational pressures and disturbance to wildlife

Access to nature is vital for human wellbeing, and we should increase the opportunities for everyone to live within 15 minutes from biodiversity-rich accessible green spaces. However, pressure from outdoor recreational activities and other human activities can create disturbance to wildlife, particularly in more sensitive habitats. Effective nature recovery should address these pressures through informed planning, public engagement, and targeted action. Some examples of these types of pressures include:

- Dogs entering ponds and waterways can disrupt water plants and the breeding and foraging activities of species such as the great crested newt. In addition, commonly used veterinary treatments like imidacloprid and fipronil—found in anti-flea and tick products used on dog's fur—wash off dogs into ponds and streams, where they are toxic to aquatic invertebrates and insects.
- Severn Estuary and floodplain waterbirds can be disturbed by ramblers, dog-walkers, wildfowlers, clay pigeon shooting, sailing boats, jet-skis and low-flying helicopters.
- Ground-nesting birds are vulnerable to off-path walkers, free-roaming dogs, and mountain biking.
- On steep slopes in the Wye Valley there are rare ferns, bryophytes, whitebeams and service trees which should be protected from physical damage from recreational activities such as rock-climbing.
- Artificial lighting at night affects the behaviour and survival of nocturnal species, especially bats and insects.
- Bats rely on undisturbed roosts, particularly in old buildings and caves. Development, renovation, or unregulated access to these roosts could cause Gloucestershire's bat populations to significantly drop.

- Wildlife crime, including hare coursing, can directly reduce species abundance.
- The siting of new energy infrastructure should be carefully managed to avoid adverse impacts on wildlife and habitats.

Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces (SANGS) can be developed in some cases as places which can contribute towards reducing recreational pressures on existing important wildlife sites. The creation of SANGS sites should also be a good opportunity to achieve some new habitat creation. However, it is important to ensure that Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space recreation areas are established away from ecologically sensitive sites.

Relevant Potential Measures include

- **Measure 018. Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife,**
- **Measure 064. Dark Skies,**
- **Measure 065. Access to biodiversity-rich green spaces**
- **Measure 107. Wye Valley bryophytes and distinctive species,**
- **Measure 109. Strengthen Severn Estuary and Floodplain waterbird populations** and
- **Measures 073 – 079** about different Bat species.)

4.4.2 Diseases and invasive non-native species

Climate change exacerbates the risk that new wildlife diseases, pests and invasive species will establish and spread.

An important current issue for woodland habitats is the ash chalara disease causing our ash trees to die or to be pre-emptively removed. As well as changing woodland habitats too rapidly and affecting the retention of dead wood to support a range of species, there are some plant and insect species that rely on ash, and attention should be paid to efforts to mitigate the loss of biodiversity from ash dieback. Relevant Potential Measures include **Measure 040: Ash dieback response** and **Measure 106: Veteran ash pollards**.

The term invasive non-native species refers to plants, animals and microorganisms causing negative impacts (environmental, social or economic) when moved to an area beyond their natural range, intentionally or unintentionally, by humans. Invasive non-native species present in Gloucestershire include Himalayan balsam, giant hogweed, *Crassula helmsii*, American signal crayfish, American mink, *Elodea* species, American skunk cabbage, Muntjac deer and Sika deer.

It is important to note that any list of invasive non-native species affecting Gloucestershire is likely to change over time. Water hyacinth, for example, may become more of an issue as climate change progresses, and new species may also be introduced. A small number of new non native species establish in the UK every year (10-15), with at least one predicted to become invasive[48].

One of the ways invasive non-native species affect local ecology is by outcompeting native species. Himalayan balsam forms dense vegetation across large areas shading out native plants, and by producing high numbers of seeds that disperse up to 7m from each plant, they can spread rapidly[49]. *Crassula helmsii*, a problematic wetland plant, can form a dense matt across water bodies, shading and out-competing native species.

[48] https://post.parliament.uk/research-briefings/post-pn-0673/
[49] https://gloucester.gov.uk/environment-waste-recycling/nature-and-conservation/invasive-non-native-species-inns/

As well as competition, invasive non-native species may also impact native species through predation, introducing disease, and altering habitats, or a combination. The American signal crayfish is larger than our native white clawed crayfish, burrows into river banks causing erosion and collapse, and has brought with it a fungal disease called the “crayfish plague”, fatal to the native species.

Due to their devastating ecological impact on native species and habitats, controlling invasive non-native species in Gloucestershire remains an essential aspect of supporting local nature to flourish. Relevant Potential Measures include **Measure 047: Remove invasive non-native species** and **Measure 083: Strengthen white-clawed crayfish population**.

4.4.3 Pressure on woodland regeneration from an increasing deer population

The deer population in England as a whole is increasing and is becoming a significant issue in relation to the ability to increase woodland cover, and therefore management of deer needs to be prioritised. If we want to regenerate our woodlands, create new ones and orchards and see the next cohort of trees come through in Wood pastures, as well as retain some of our rarer species in more open habitats, we need to think about the number of deer present. To regenerate a woodland, the deer population needs to be approximately 2 to 4 deer per square kilometre[50] for the period of time it takes to establish the woodland. Actions include tree protection, fencing, and using drone surveys to monitor and help manage deer movements effectively. Relevant Potential Measures include **Measure 038: Protecting tree growth**.

Muntjac deer are an invasive non-native species[51] and destroy regenerating plants, feed selectively and choose many flowering plants, and are one of the main causes of nightingale loss in the UK as they eat their habitat. Gloucestershire is still, in places, the frontier of Muntjac deer population expansion and so there is still an opportunity to roll back that expansion. Sika deer are also an invasive non-native species and also have a very destructive effect on regeneration and ground flora. There is still a good opportunity for it to be feasible to remove Sika deer herds from Gloucestershire. At the time of publication, the Central Cotswold Hills Deer Management Group are experiencing an increase in the native Fallow deer population and a steadily increasing population of Muntjac deer. The high level of grazing and browsing by Fallow deer means that where there are very large herds, it can be impossible to bring ground flora regeneration back to manageable levels. Roe deer are also a native species but can also cause a detrimental effect on plant and tree regeneration if herd sizes get to medium or high levels, but are more territorial so can be easier to control.

4.4.4 The opportunity of conservation grazing

Many of the measures proposed in this strategy for the creation and maintenance of “open” priority habitats, of grasslands and meadows, recommend the use of extensive grazing as often the most ideal way to manage these habitats. Extensive grazing is less intensive grazing by a lower stocking density of cattle, sheep or horses. Conservation grazing can involve the use of conservation breeds and the use of GPS collars to be able to control and vary which areas are grazed. Reducing the intensity of grazing can also help to reduce the cost of external feed inputs to a farm, while improving soil health. **Measure 033: Conservation grazing** therefore applies in relation to a range of different Potential Measures in this strategy.

[50] Identifying threshold densities for wild deer in the UK above which negative impacts may occur - PUTMAN - 2011 - Mammal Review - Wiley Online Library
[51] https://basc.org.uk/invasive-non-native-deer-species-in-the-uk/

4.4.5 The importance of fungi and soil health in nature recovery

Fungi are ecosystem engineers that sustain the health and diversity of almost all ecosystems on the planet, including those of Gloucestershire, and influence almost every aspect of human life. Fungi build soils and maintain healthy soils. They sustain almost all plant life by providing plants with crucial nutrients, and defending them from disease and drought. The metabolic activities of fungi regulate the composition of the atmosphere: billions of tonnes of carbon enter soils through fungal activity every year, and of the carbon that is stored in soils – which amounts to twice the amount of carbon found in plants and the atmosphere combined – a substantial proportion is bound up in tough substances produced by fungi. In these ways and more, fungi lie at the base of the food webs that support much of life on Earth, including our own.

Despite the vital roles of fungi in driving vital biogeochemical processes and sustaining global biodiversity, this diverse kingdom of life has not received a kingdom's worth of attention and has been overlooked in climate change strategies, conservation agendas and nature recovery efforts. This is a problem: the destruction of fungal communities accelerates both climate change and biodiversity loss, jeopardising the health and resilience of ecosystems.

The underrepresentation of fungi in our lists of endangered species and nature recovery strategies does not mean that they are immune from human activity. There are many threats to fungi, each with significant knock-on effects. Large swathes of the fungal kingdom are intimately associated with plants and so are killed off by the same activities, such as deforestation. Fungi are subject to additional disruptions, from ploughing to the overuse of fungicides and fertilisers, to habitat fragmentation.

The urgent need for fungal conservation is becoming ever more widely accepted among decision makers. There is no better indicator of this than the historic Fungal Conservation Pledge, launched at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Colombia, October 2024, by Chile and the United Kingdom in collaboration with the Fungi Foundation. The pledge seeks to advance concrete measures to prioritise fungi in national and international legislation, policies, and agreements, and will hopefully be adopted by the UN CBD Secretariat at the next COP of the CBD, paving the way for a new era in fungal conservation.

Fungi have long supported and enriched life in Gloucestershire and have a crucial role to play in nature recovery schemes. Fungi in Gloucestershire are under-recorded relative to animals and plants, and we lack thorough baseline surveys at the time of publication. However, lack of data does not mean that fungi aren't present and playing vital roles. A number of resources containing concrete recommendations for including fungi within nature recovery projects are under development at the time of publication of this report. Habitat management, creation, and restoration projects, together with environmental land management schemes and gardens in Gloucestershire should make an effort to implement the latest guidelines for fungal conservation. Some of the Potential Measures that refer to this include **Measure 052: Soil health and Regenerative Farming; Measure 104: Rare arable plants and soil fauna, flora and fungi; and Measure 105: Dead wood**. The best place to start is to consult a professional mycologist (consultants are listed on the website of the British Mycological Society), or a representative from the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, or Plantlife.

4.4.6 Working with the archaeological and historic environment

Conserving and enhancing the archaeological and historic environment is an integral part of protecting, managing, and planning for nature and landscapes to deliver sustainable nature recovery. Human activity has shaped our nature and landscapes for millennia - from woodlands to water bodies, and calcareous grassland to river valleys, each landscape and habitat has been influenced and shaped by human activity. The natural and historic environment working in synergy can produce multiple environmental outcomes and public benefits, including preserving heritage features, habitats, and landscapes by making them more resilient to change, engaging and enthusing new audiences, boosting value for public money, contributing to a circular low-carbon economy, reinforcing cultural identity, and connecting people with nature.

Heritage assets and historic landscapes are also habitats, and their characteristics will often dictate what species can and cannot thrive, and inform decisions about restoration options and appropriate management. For example, industrial heritage such as the former mines and quarries of the Forest of Dean and Cotswolds, can provide valuable mosaic habitats, as well as open space and fringe habitats in woodland, and thereby be important for protected and priority species such as birds, bats, reptiles and invertebrates, as well as having heritage value. A range of old and historic buildings provide important habitat for bats and for nesting birds. Historic routeways, designed landscapes and other heritage assets are often wildlife rich sites which, if appropriately managed, can help form the essential linkages within biodiversity networks. Heritage can also help us build resilience, understand how people and places have responded to climatic events through history and how earlier solutions may suggest contributions to resolving current problems, for example the management of water meadows of the Cotswold rivers and Severn Vale.

Habitat creation and restoration projects in Gloucestershire should consult the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record[52] to identify any known archaeological sites within proposed areas for tree planting and seek specialist advice on their management, such as avoiding damage from tree planting, tree roots and forestry operation, informing the design of a planting scheme in relation to the historic woodland character of an area, or considering the use of glades or fire breaks to maximise the protection to archaeological features.

Biodiversity projects should also follow the four core principles of Natural England's guidance for nature recovery and the historic environment[53] including considering the historic environment from the outset as part of maximising environmental benefits, ensuring that the legal, policy and guidance requirements for its protection are abided by and damage to it is avoided wherever possible or harm is minimised and mitigated appropriately.

There is potential to maximise benefits through integrating the historic environment into nature recovery by:

- using it to understand whether certain habitats and species will prosper and to inform decisions about restoration options and appropriate management.
- managing historic routes, designed landscapes and other heritage assets where rich in wildlife as important links in a national biodiversity network.
- helping understand how people have responded to climatic events through history and tell the story of climate change as part of the project.

[52] https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/archaeology/request-archaeological-data-from-gloucestershires-historic-environment-record-her/ and countryadvice@gloucestershire.gov.uk

[53] https://worldheritageuk.org/articles/latest-news/nature-recovery-the-historic-environment/

- minimising soil disturbance, reducing erosion and protecting embedded carbon to improve soil health, air and water quality at the same time as protecting and enhancing archaeology.
- putting it at the heart of plan-making for places to reinforce the special character of our landscapes through the recognition of the historic environment's contribution to ecological and cultural diversity.
- using it as an engagement tool and lens through which to experience nature, by providing access through heritage sites to the countryside and bringing about wider benefits such as tourism and volunteering.

4.4.7 Minerals extraction and restoration

The Cotswolds Lakes/ Cotswold Water Park area of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire is a patchwork of lakes, wetland and floodplain habitats along with agricultural, urban and industrial land uses, much of it created or restored after mineral extraction. Future mineral extraction, including at the planned Down Ampney quarry site, has the effect of wholesale landscape change in the short-term.

The minerals restoration planning process represents an opportunity for nature recovery and to create a net gain for biodiversity. Opportunities should be taken for strategic approaches for biodiversity and nature recovery in relation to minerals planning in the Cotswold Lakes/ Water Park area, with input from local communities and nature conservation partners. The restoration of minerals workings should take account of the Cotswold Water Park Nature Recovery Plan[54] and take opportunities for wider connections for wetland habitats.

4.4.8 The need for ecological recording and monitoring

The evidence base for Gloucestershire's first Local Nature Recovery Strategy has benefited from a huge collaborative effort from the combined skills and knowledge of hundreds of expert naturalists, ecology professionals and dedicated volunteers. Both challenges and opportunities for improving the evidence base were identified at an early stage. Challenges mostly concern gaps in skills, recording effort or geographic coverage of information, both for species and habitats. Opportunities relate strongly to human resources, both in terms of experts and new opportunities for volunteer input and Citizen Science projects.

Species recording

As part of the process of developing this Local Nature Recovery Strategy, a Local Nature Recovery Strategy Species Task and Finish Group was convened between October 2023 and March 2024. The group's collaborative effort created a long list of 552 species in Gloucestershire that are rare or threatened, which shows the scale of the challenge of nature recovery.

Verified records from local volunteer naturalists, professional ecologists and national recording schemes have built a historical database within Gloucestershire which was used by the Species Task and Finish Group to create the Prioritiy Species list. This list is therefore indicative of surveyor effort and may not truly reflect the biodiversity within Gloucestershire as many taxa have been under-recorded, such as fungi, soil fauna, fish and mustelids. Furthermore, some areas within Gloucestershire have been identified as being under-surveyed even for the more well-recorded groups.

[54] https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/planning-and-building/landscape/cotswold-water-park/

The gaps in knowledge raised during the work of the Species Task and Finish Group revealed a need for a county-wide monitoring strategy. The process not only identified gaps in recording effort, both geographically and for particular groups, but also gaps in our understanding of species life-cycles and management needs, particularly for fungi and invertebrates. Future iterations of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy should incorporate these species once additional scientific research has been conducted and more informed management requirements have been established.

Habitat recording

New local habitat survey information, including from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust's Habimap[1] project and from Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group South West, has helped to improve the accuracy of the national datasets of information about habitats in Gloucestershire. These habitat records in turn helped to update and improve the basis of the Nature Recovery Network mapping developed by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records, which formed the key start point for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy process in Gloucestershire and is the basis for many of the mapped focus areas for Habitat Potential Measures and for the Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity. However, there is still a long way to go to record comprehensive and fully up-to-date habitat information across Gloucestershire.

Training

Both species and habitat recording are crucial to maintaining a robust and relevant Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Local expertise and an increasing interest in Citizen Science have combined well in Gloucestershire to provide a good baseline for the Strategy. The process has however highlighted a need within the monitoring strategy to develop and train experts in specific taxonomic groups to address recording gaps and ensure that under-represented taxa are effectively surveyed and understood over time. These skills are vital for accurate recording and also for ensuring that data from Citizen Science projects can be verified and kept to the highest standard. The ongoing process of training, supporting and inspiring habitat surveyors for Habimap and other projects mirrors the need for expert species knowledge and identification skills.

Delivery of recording and monitoring

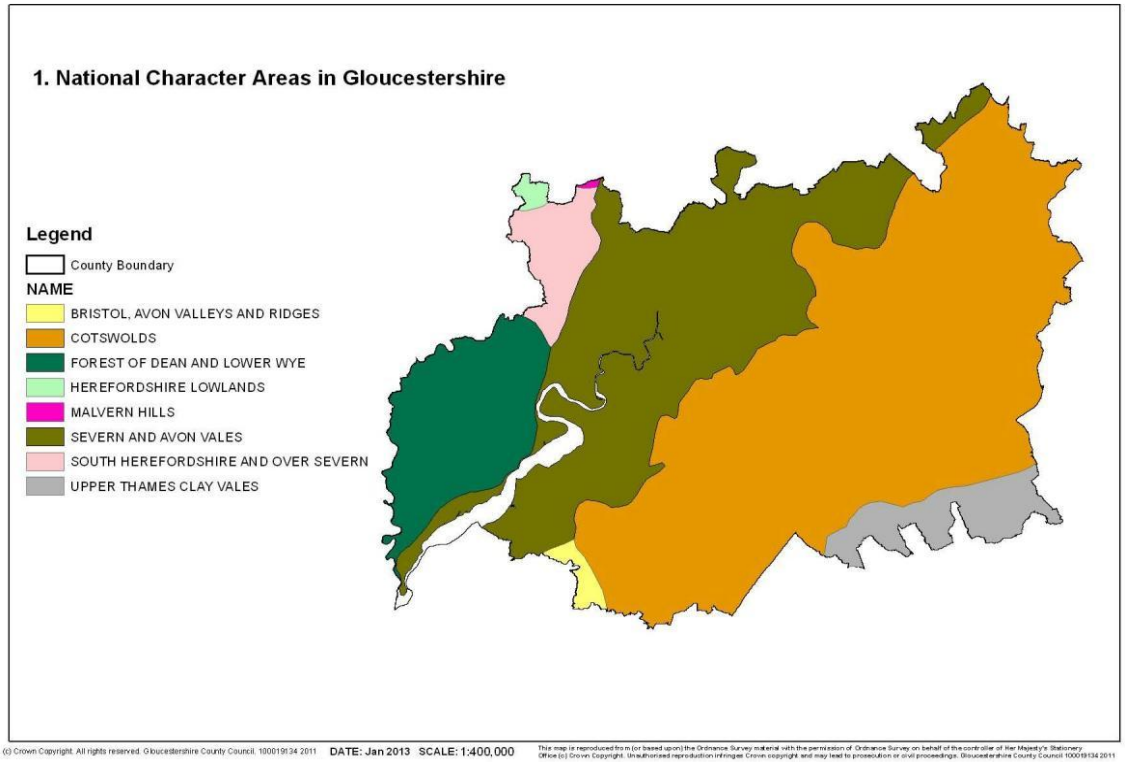
The delivery phase of this Strategy should have a strong focus on prioritising and resourcing high quality ecological recording and monitoring of habitats and species in Gloucestershire and growing the expertise needed to achieve an excellent evidence base for practical nature restoration.

4.5 Opportunities for habitat and species in each National Character Area

Gloucestershire's rich and diverse habitats are a reflection of the underlying geology and historic land use influences. As a result, the county contains five very distinctive landscapes:

Gloucestershire Landscapes	Corresponding National Character Area
The Forest of Dean [comprising the statutory forest but also part of the Lower Wye Valley] (west)	NCA 105: Forest of Dean and Lower Wye
The Cotswolds [with sub-areas of scarp and outliers; high wold and dip slope; and river valleys] (east and south)	NCA 107: Cotswolds
The Severn Vale & Estuary (central)	NCA 106: Severn and Avon Vales
The Cotswold Water Park (south east)	NCA 108: Upper Thames Clay Vales
The Leadon Valley (north west)	NCA 104: South Herefordshire and Over Severn

Natural England National Character Area profiles[55] (NCAs) describe these landscapes in more detail and demonstrate the continuing connectivity of these landscapes beyond the county boundary. A further three National Character Areas overlap the county by a small amount (Bristol Avon Valleys and Ridges; Herefordshire Lowlands; Malvern Hills).



This section describes the context of the main priority habitats and species for each of the main National Character Areas that are in Gloucestershire.

[55] https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-character-area-profiles-information-for-local-decision-making

4.5.1 Forest of Dean and Lower Wye

The Forest of Dean and Lower Wye (NCA 105) forms a large distinctive landscape in the west of the county bordering Wales and Herefordshire. The Forest of Dean consists of mainly higher ground and ridges with extensive woodland and more open ground that merges into the Severn Vale, Leadon Valley and the Lower Wye Valley which is part of the Wye Valley national Landscape[56].

In the Forest of Dean, the geology, topography and past land use dominate with large impacts evident from past mining, industry, and more recently from forestry and agriculture. The landscape is a mosaic of open and wooded ground characteristic of medieval hunting forests. The location has extensive archaeological remains and historic structures. Forestry tends to be more common on the higher ground. The Forest of Dean is a stronghold for nature[57], with large areas of woodland, including ancient semi-natural woodland, plus open space that provide a mosaic of habitats for a great range of species. Of note are the colonies of greater and lesser horseshoe bats, the largest colonies of these species in Europe. The Forest of Dean has the largest population of lesser horseshoe bats in the UK, at 26% of the UK population. The Forest of Dean is also well known for its diversity of plants, birds, and invertebrates and there is the aspiration for the Forest of Dean to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Gloucestershire has a relatively small but important amount of acid grassland and heathland, which is mainly found within the Forest of Dean area, as well as Cleeve Common, and this strategy has a range of Potential Measures relating to these habitats. There is some potential to restore mires and lowland peat in small areas of the Forest of Dean through re-wetting or the actions of beavers – these potential areas are limited in geographical extent but highly important habitats, including for carbon sequestration.

There is a strong water connection between the Forest, the Wye, the Severn and its estuary, so Potential Measures about river re-naturalisation and riparian tree planting, as well as tufa (relatively rare calcium deposits in river headwaters which benefit specialised invertebrate and other species) are important in this area, with the Forest to Sea project by the Severn Vale Catchment Partnership being a key way these are being progressed. There are also isolated populations of white-clawed crayfish in the Forest of Dean, with the potential to create ARK sites to boost and protect populations.

The Lower Wye Valley part of the National Character Area (NCA 105) sits within the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The River Wye and its limestone gorge dominate in Gloucestershire and adjoining Monmouthshire. There are steep wooded slopes and in places open pasture and meadow bounded by old hedgerows or stone walls. There is a tidal influence on the Wye in the county and like the Severn, the Wye is important for migratory fish. The Lower Wye Valley has a wealth of woodland and meadow species including rare mammals, plants[58], and insects.

Traditional orchards, providing an excellent habitat for veteranised wood and a mixed mosaic habitat, and important for species such as the noble chafer beetle, are an important habitat within the Forest of Dean and Lower Wye area, as well as other parts of Gloucestershire, so there is a Potential Measure for traditional orchard management, restoration and creation. Opportunities should be taken to create more landscape scale connectivity of wooded habitats between the Wye and Forest of Dean and Wales, especially to encourage movement of pine marten populations.

The Forest of Dean area owned and managed by Forestry England is a great example of a working forest which is supplying sustainably-sourced timber whilst conserving plant and animal species,

[56] Wye Valley National Landscape
[57] Our Shared Forest – Forest of Dean land Management Plan (2019) https://www.forestryengland.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Our%20Shared%20Forest%20-%20Forest%20of%20Dean%20Land%20Management%20Plan%20published%20June%202019.pdf
[58] Wye Valley is recognised by Plantlife as an Important Plant Area - www.plantlife.org.uk

recovering vital ecosystems and returning missing species to our landscapes[59]. The Forest has seen some great work in terms of species recovery projects including pine marten and beaver.

Under a partnership between Forestry England, Natural England and the Beaver Trust, beavers were reintroduced in 2018 and 2024 into two separate enclosures in the Forest[60] (Greathough Brook and Perry Hay). Beavers are 'ecosystem engineers' and the dams they create can slow the flow of water at times of heavy rainfall, releasing it slowly during dry periods thereby reducing the ecological impacts of drought. They have now settled in and are having multiple positive impacts on biodiversity, habitats, water quality and flow rates. The beavers at Greathough Brook have even managed to reduce flooding in a village downstream.

Also, between 2019 and 2021, a collaboration between Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, Forestry England, Forest Research and Vincent Wildlife Trust saw 35 pine martens being successfully released into the Forest of Dean[61]. Monitoring shows that they have been spreading via connected nature networks and habitat corridors across the region, with some spreading throughout the Forest, and others venturing across the Wye into Wales, others northwards following the Wye, and one marten was even found in the Stroud Valleys. This project will bolster the expanding Welsh population and help establish a resilient pine marten population in the south-west. The ‘Martens on the Move’ team is now leading on monitoring as they continue to spread[62].

[59] https://www.forestryengland.uk/the-forest-dean/our-work
[60] https://www.forestryengland.uk/the-forest-dean/beavers-the-forest-dean and https://beavertrust.org/more-beavers-move-into-the-forest-of-dean/
[61] https://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/project-pine-marten

[62] https://www.vwt.org.uk/projects/martens-on-the-move-a-new-era-of-pine-marten-conservation

4.5.2 Cotswolds

The Cotswolds National Character Area[63] (NCA 107) is extensive and although most of it is located within Gloucestershire it also stretches well beyond the county boundaries to the north, south and east. There are two main areas of semi-natural habitat within the NCA that have been identified previously as local Nature Improvement Areas and form significant parts of the local Nature Recovery Network mapping.

Arable farming is extensive across the high ground and dip slope of the Cotswolds but there is permanent pasture on the steeper slopes. The unimproved calcareous grasslands, lowland meadow in the valley bottoms, ancient woodland, limestone watercourses including tufa formations, and open farmland are of significant biodiversity value[64].

The Cotswolds are nationally important for unimproved calcareous grasslands, which have become increasingly fragmented over the last 70-80 years. Unimproved calcareous grasslands are extraordinarily rich in plant species (with up to 40 species per square metre[65]) and butterflies but smaller fragments support a much reduced range of species than larger ones[66]. Scattered scrub is an important element for many species including butterflies. There are therefore Potential Measures in this strategy for managing, restoring and creating lowland calcareous grassland as well as a range of measures for some of the species found on calcareous grassland, such as juniper, large blue, Duke of Burgundy and more.

Cotswolds National Landscape's Glorious Cotswold Grasslands project has been running since 2019, working with landowners to create and restore species rich lowland calcareous grassland and lowland meadows. The National Trust's Stroud Landscape Project is taking a landscape-scale approach between Crickley Hill and Wotton-under-Edge in working with landowners to restore, create and connect habitats including species-rich lowland meadow and calcareous grassland. Other projects such as the Grasswolds landscape recovery project proposal will add to this work. Opportunities should be identified to further consolidate this work which will increase the connectivity and resilience of the open habitat network in the Cotswolds.

Neutral and floodplain meadows are found in the deeper soils of the valley bottoms (often grading into calcareous grassland further up the slope), these require an appropriate cycle of grazing or hay cutting to maintain their species diversity. There are concentrations of this habitat particularly around the east flowing rivers that form the Cotswold rivers Nature Improvement Area. Where possible opportunities should be taken to reconnect rivers with their floodplain to allow the natural cycle of overtopping. Often the meadows are very small and fragmented. As well as increasing patch size, connectivity could be enhanced through flower rich arable field margins.

The steepness of the scarp, and therefore its lack of suitability for arable farming means that there remains a spine of ancient woodland and unimproved calcareous grassland stretching north to south. This forms the Cotswold scarp local nature improvement area and a key part of the nature recovery network. While there is this spine of core habitat, it is significantly fragmented in places and opportunities should be taken to improve the quality of semi-natural grasslands and woodland through appropriate management, increasing the extent of the habitat areas and creating connectivity between them. Care should be taken not to cut off the open habitat network through establishment of

[63] Largely aligns with the Cotswolds National Landscape Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
[64] Recognised as an Important Plant Area by Plantlife - www.plantlife.org.uk
[65] Ellenberg H, Leuschner C (2010) Vegetation Mitteleuropas mit den Alpen: in ökologischer, dynamischer und historischer Sicht. UTB, Stuttgart
[66] Loos, J., Krauss, J., Lyons, A. *et al.* Local and landscape responses of biodiversity in calcareous grasslands. *Biodivers Conserv* **30**, 2415–2432 (2021).

woodlands. Where these networks intersect, matrix habitats like grassland with scattered scrub, or woodlands with large glades and rides can form appropriate network intersections.

Veteran ash pollards are characteristic of the Cotswolds area, and their importance as a habitat is increased as ash dieback significantly reduces the number of ash trees. There is therefore a species Potential Measure to conserve veteran ash pollards, to help vulnerable species that rely on ash, such as lichens and dead-wood species especially click beetles.

The rivers represent key examples of oolitic limestone rivers, have high wildlife value and are of national importance. The quality of these rivers is threatened where unsympathetic land management causes diffuse water pollution, and from point source pollution from sewage outfalls during release events. There are opportunities to create habitat next to rivers to help improve their ecological condition, including river buffer strips, riparian tree planting or management or creation of floodplain meadows. Adaptation to climate change, including the need to hold back water, would benefit from relinking watercourses with their floodplain and using in-stream natural flood management techniques, potentially including beaver.

The limestone of the Cotswolds results in a good number of tufa formations. Sensitive land management is needed to ensure that they survive.[67] They support plants, mosses, liverworts and algae, and specialist invertebrate communities including a number of species of conservation concern. These tufa springs, slides and steps/cascades are vulnerable to changes in the water table e.g. below water table quarrying and disruption to natural spring lines by drainage works and by overgrowth of vegetation such as invasive non-native species.

By working with landowners, work in recent years has been targeted to create viable habitat for water voles based upon minimum viable area (MVA) methodology. Adjoining flood plain areas, such as at Sherbourne Water Meadows, have also been a focus for activity which has benefitted a wide range of plants and animals. There are opportunities to continue this work and replicate the approach further downstream in Oxfordshire.

Improvement in water quality will need to focus on the management of the adjoining valley sides where there is a great opportunity to create wildlife corridors based on a mosaic of woodland, scrub and limestone grassland running north and west from the rivers Thames and Avon to the Cotswolds scarp. There is a Potential Measure on improving the ecological condition of rivers (**Measure 022**), as well as a number of measures about ways to improve water quality, including **Measures 044, 045 and 046**.

Improving water quality will greatly benefit species including white clawed crayfish, water vole and otter and a wide range of invertebrates. There are some small catchments in the Cotswolds where the native white clawed crayfish is withstanding competition from the American signal crayfish, and a Potential Measure on white clawed crayfish aims to bolster efforts to help this continue.

The open arable areas of the Cotswold dip slope are particularly important for farmland birds and important arable plants. Across the wider farmed landscape, particularly of the dip slope, the opportunity is to integrate wildlife into productive farming through a regenerative or eco-agricultural approach. Management to support good soil structure and the integration of margins, buffer strips, bigger bushier hedgerows, trees, ponds and wild corners, enabling integrated pest management, across the whole farmed landscape would enable many more species to thrive. Extensive conservation grazing will help support the restoration of species-rich grassland. Where land is marginally productive it may be better to revert to grassland.

[67] https://cdn.buglife.org.uk/2019/08/Sheet-2-General-guidance-web.pdf

4.5.3 Severn and Avon Vales

The Gloucestershire part of the Severn and Avon Vales, NCA 106, is the **Severn Vale**, an open low-lying agricultural landscape that dominates the central region of Gloucestershire. It is linked to the Avon Vale in the north and stretches from Tewkesbury to the border with Wales at Chepstow in the south. This is the landscape where the City of Gloucester is situated with the M5 motorway running through it and Cheltenham nestling beneath the Cotswold scarp. At the southern end the meandering central River Severn slowly transforms to become the Severn Estuary where the landscape is even more open. The two main aspects of importance for biodiversity in this area are one, the tidal estuarine ecosystems, and two the grasslands, wetlands, hedgerows and orchards of the vale.

The Severn Estuary in Gloucestershire is dominated by the powerful River Severn with an estuary with the second biggest tidal range in the world. A meandering river channel is flanked with extensive banks of sand and mud that are flooded at high tide. Areas of salt marsh vegetation are currently limited in extent. The ecosystem of this estuary is of international importance for birds and migratory fish and is bordered by floodplain grazing land and eroding cliffs and rocks in places[68]. There are two small harbours (ports) in the central zone at Lydney and Sharpness which are accessible only at certain parts of a very large tidal range. Relative lack of human disturbance across the Severn and shoreline helps maintain important habitats for wildlife.

The value of the estuary and floodplain for birds is widely acknowledged and internationally recognised. Large populations of numerous bird species rely on the Severn for wintering and migration, including birds stopping to feed as part of their migration journeys (stopovers), in addition to species that are present year-round. The estuary is of significance for migratory fish, linking breeding, maturing and spawning grounds in freshwaters for endangered species including European eel, twaite shad, salmon, lamprey and sea trout. It has the most diverse range of fish species in Britain and some of the country's most important nursery sites.[69] Although invertebrate communities are less well studied they are known to play a key role in supporting the biodiversity of the area, for example attracting bird life. Scarce plants can also be found here, connected to the saltmarshes, such as the Slender Hare's-ear. The overall scale of the ecosystem and it's habitats together are a critical part of it's significance for nature.

It is important to protect the Severn Estuary SPA through careful Strategic Local Development Plans, ensuring the approved mitigation strategy is followed, ensuring suitable sustainable accessible natural greenspace (SANGs) recreation areas are established away from ecologically sensitive sites.

There are important opportunities in the Severn Vale for floodplain meadows, fens and wetlands. We should take opportunities to plan for a landscape scale expansion of wetlands, intertidal habitats, rhines and unimproved grasslands along river floodplains through restoration, expansion and re-linkage of existing remnant areas of semi-natural habitat. Opportunities should be taken to create biodiverse floodplain habitats along the Severn Vale to support recovery of species including European eel and true fox-sedge, for example through the Eelscapes project.

The floodplain of the River Severn is highly productive agricultural land. There are a significant number of good sites of species-rich grassland, including floodplain meadows. Much of the area is important for over wintering waterbirds, and a series of core areas which remain wet in summer support breeding waders, as well as acting as drop in locations for migrating waders.

The Severn Vale has limited woodland cover today but has traditional orchards, hedgerows with trees plus important areas of lowland meadow and floodplain grazing marsh. The area is known for its

[68] The shores of the Severn Estuary are recognised as an Important Plant Area by Plantlife - www.plantlife.org.uk
[69] https://severnestuarypartnership.org.uk/the-estuary/physical-natural-environment/fish/

variety of birds, invertebrates, flora and fungi, including the relatively rare native black poplar which is characteristic of the Severn and Avon vales, and globally vulnerable Orchard Toothcrust fungus. It is a significant area not just for biodiversity but also for food production, flood regulation and recreational opportunities.

Regenerative farming principles should be taken up, to incorporate more opportunities for biodiversity into productive farmland and protect ecosystem services, particularly soil and water quality.

Traditional orchards in the Severn Vale should be retained and restored, and links created through habitat creation, hedgerow management and hedgerow and in field tree planting, with woodlands and veteran trees to create a long term sustainable resource for deadwood fungi, invertebrates and cavity nesting species.

There are important horseshoe bat commuting routes through the Severn Vales, between the Forest of Dean and the Cotswolds. Dark hedgerow and woodland corridors should be safeguarded for horseshoe bats and other bat species, as described in **Measure 075: Greater horseshoe bat flightlines**.

The Severn Vale area contains hills which are outliers of the Cotswold oolitic limestone: Bredon, Dumbleton, Churchdown and Robinswood Hills. These hills are the same limestone formation as the Cotswold hills but are separated from them by lower lying land of the Severn and Avon Vales. Robinswood Hill and Churchdown Hill are at particular risk of ecological connectivity being cut off from the main Cotswolds Hills due to urban expansion. Ecological connectivity should be maintained through an undeveloped green corridor to enable genetic exchange to occur between populations on the outliers and the main Cotswolds. Between Gloucestershire and Worcestershire, opportunities should be taken to create greater habitat connectivity between Dixton Wood in Gloucestershire and Bredon Hill in Worcestershire (both sites are designated as SACs for their deadwood invertebrate interest), to expand the size of habitat suitable for the rare violet click beetle and other rare invertebrates – **Measure 085: Strengthen violet click beetle population**.

Other opportunities should also be taken to establish more east-west connectivity of semi natural habitats between the Cotswolds and Leadon Vale, particularly in relation to BugLife's B Lines[70] - **Measure 031: Create wildlife corridor connectivity**.

[70] https://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/

4.5.4 Upper Thames Clay Vales

The Cotswold Water Park is part of the Upper Thames Clay Vales, NCA 108, and covers the south eastern corner of Gloucestershire and extends into Wiltshire and small parts of the administrative areas of Swindon and West Oxfordshire. Amidst this area of open, gently undulating farmland there are around 200 lakes present in this upper part of the River Thames catchment. These lakes have been created since the mid-20th Century primarily for sand and gravel extraction[71] and constitute the most extensive marl lake system (highly calcareous[72]) in Britain.

Alongside the lakes there is other associated wetland habitat and a landscape that supports distinctive aquatic plant communities and significant breeding and wintering water bird populations. The wider mixed farmed landscape has some important species rich lowland meadows and floodplain meadows including North Meadow and Clattinger Farm SAC and NNR but there is little woodland but hedgerows and trees in places. The Cotswold Water Park is well visited with the growing settlements of Swindon and Oxford not far away. This is another important recreational location and a long valued biodiverse part of Gloucestershire.

Species associated with the lakes of the Cotswold Water Park include charophytes, waterbirds, passerines, bats, dragonflies, barberry carpet moth, and black poplar. This area is important for neutral lowland meadows and floodplain meadows, and meadow species such as snakes head fritillary. There are opportunities to create more meadow and grassland connectivity along the Thames and to the Cotswold rivers. There are also opportunities for further creation of wet woodland habitat in the Cotswold Water Park area.

4.5.5 South Herefordshire and Over Severn

The Leadon Vale is part of the South Herefordshire and Over Severn, NCA 104, to the north west of Gloucester, a rural landscape that continues into South Herefordshire. It includes the distinctive high point of May Hill, many woods, neutral and calcareous grassland, traditional orchards, and the River Leadon, and its floodplain, which flows into the Severn. The area is mainly a mix of arable and livestock farming and is well known for its populations of wild daffodils.

It is important for traditional Orchards and their associated species, such as noble chafer, lesser spotted woodpecker and mistletoe marble moth. Opportunities should be taken to create more landscape scale connectivity of wooded habitats through this area, to connect the Wye and Forest of Dean northwards into Herefordshire and Worcestershire towards the Wyre Forest - the Severn Treescapes project.

The River Leadon has extensive poor water quality, with agricultural inputs having a significant impact. Better land and soil management could help to improve this. There are also a number of barriers to fish along the river which could be removed or bypassed to facilitate fish movements. One of the Leadon's key tributaries - the Glynch Brook - also has low flow issues which need to be addressed. Improvements could be made by delivering the proposed Wilder Leadon project, through the Severn Vale Catchment Partnership.

[71] Cotswold Water Park Nature Recovery Plan 2021
[72] Joint Nature Conservation Committee. (2015). Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Freshwater Lakes. Available at: https://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/1b15dd18-48e3-4479-a168-79789216bc3d/CSM-FreshwaterLakes-2015.pdf

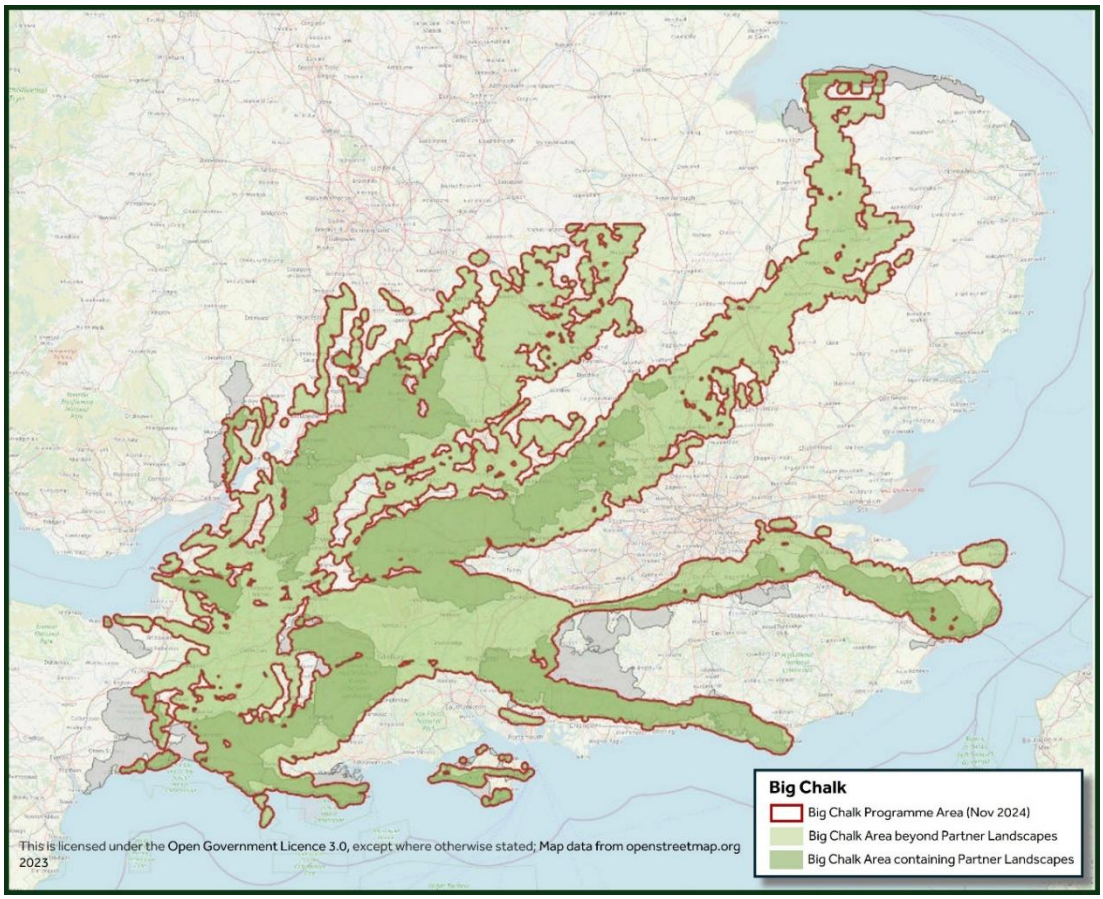
4.6 Wider Ecological Connections beyond Gloucestershire

In order to secure the recovery of nature in the face of climate change we need to plan and act to help nature move through the landscape as it adapts to a warming climate. We need to think about Gloucestershire's future wildlife. What species will need to be living here in 10, 50 and 100 years time and how will they get here? More mobile species are already moving at a scale greater than an individual county and Gloucestershire has a number of features that make it important for supporting movement at this scale.

Limestone and Big Chalk

Calcareous (limestone and chalk) landscapes in the south of England contain the most species-rich habitats within the UK. When combined across the whole landscape, these habitats make the calcareous landscapes one of the best places to allow wildlife to recover and adapt to climate change.

With a north south reach of 171 miles, Big Chalk[73] represents one of the best opportunities offered by the English landscape to support the northward movement of species to a new climate space. Gloucestershire plays an important role as both a destination for these species and as part of a route further north.



Big Chalk is a pan-England partnership programme designed to facilitate this recovery and movement across the calcareous (chalk and limestone) landscapes of southern England. It seeks to amplify the efforts of partners to create a robust ecological network on a scale hitherto unimagined.

[73] https://www.big-chalk.org/

The Big Chalk area is huge, covering some 259,317 km^2, or 20% of England and there are many people, organisations and partnerships striving to deliver the Big Chalk vision in a variety of ways. It is important that the Big Chalk partnership champions and supports these efforts rather than competes with them.

Big Chalk seeks to do this in two main ways:

- Championing and connecting the contributions of partners across political and institutional boundaries.

- Defining priorities, influencing funders and policy makers to support and secure resources for new activities.

The partnership is headed by a Board and topic groups and conferences bring partners together across an array of subject areas. A wider membership list keeps people in touch. Individual projects can apply for Big Chalk accreditation through a project registration scheme.

The Big Chalk Partnership is already proving to be influential with funders and policy makers. As nature recovery effort continues to grow Big Chalk can combine our voices and efforts to better create and realise opportunities for the recovery of nature.

Migrating Birds

Gloucestershire already plays an internationally important role in supporting migratory birds. The Cotswolds scarp functions as a north-south route rich in cover and food utilised by many birds. The regular seasonal sightings of the mountain nesting Ring Ouzel at Cleeve Common whilst on migration illustrates this well.

The Severn Estuary is recognised internationally as important for numerous species of migrating and wintering birds, through its RAMSAR site designation. Birds visiting the Severn Estuary seasonally include populations of Bewick's swan, greater white-fronted goose, common shelduck, gadwall, dunlin and common redshank[74] amongst many others. The habitats of the Severn Estuary provide a key refuelling point where birds will stop and rest as they travel the "North Atlantic Flyway", a bird migration route linking Siberia, Europe and Africa[75].

It is likely that the number and type of birds visiting the Severn and the wider county will change over time as the warming climate produces "winners and losers"[76]. Southerly-distributed waterbirds are likely to benefit as the climate warms, meaning their populations may increase and expand their range. Yet migratory bird populations, already declining widely around the world at a rapid pace, are one of the bird groups thought most likely to be affected by climate change in a negative way.[77] This means whilst the species migrating through Gloucestershire are likely to change, perhaps significantly, its natural habitats will continue to play an important role for birds.

In addition to the climate-caused changes in distribution and abundance of species, the Severn Estuary can play an important role in particularly cold years in the UK, where the temperatures negatively affect more northern and easterly bird populations. In these years numbers of migratory birds in Gloucestershire and the Severn are likely to increase.

[74] https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK11081.pdf
[75] https://www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-we-do/influence-government-and-business/casework/the-sev ern-estuary
[76] https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-66858850
[77] https://www.bto.org/our-science/publications/research-reports/climate-change-and-uks-birds

River Catchments

Rivers and tributaries link Gloucestershire to surrounding counties and parts of England and Wales further afield. Rivers act as wildlife corridors, providing paths through the landscape and a flow of resources including food sources. They are one of the richest freshwater habitats, supporting plants and animals that need running water to survive. The longest river in the UK, the Severn, starts in Wales and flows through the English counties of Shropshire and Worcestershire before flowing through Gloucestershire. Near Tewkesbury, the Warwickshire Avon meets the Severn, as its easternmost and largest tributary.

The Severn tributaries are particularly important for connectivity with regard to migratory fish in the River Severn. Whilst barriers to fish passage for the Severn have been addressed in Worcestershire using technical fish passes, Gloucestershire needs to address the barriers posed by Upper Lode weir and Maisemore weir for species needing to complete upstream and downstream migrations, opening up access to and from the Warwickshire Avon as well as the Severn. Other significant barriers need to be addressed in the Frome catchment, the Leadon and across the Forest of Dean. The majority of the tributaries that discharge into the Severn and Severn estuary have flapped outfalls, restricting access to fish, eels and lamprey, denying access to more suitable habitat for their respective life stages. Fish passage needs to be enabled at all confluences to the Estuary.

The River Thames catchment is also a significant feature of the Gloucestershire landscape. The source of the River Thames is near Kemble, and several Cotswolds rivers feed into the Upper Thames: the Churn, Coln, Leach, Windrush, and Evenlode. Cotswold Water Park, a series of 180 lakes formed in sites of gravel extraction, is located in the Thames catchment, with around 23 miles of the Thames River running through the area.

The Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) and local Catchment Partnerships bring together organisations from all sectors to work towards a healthy water environment[78]. Those catchment partnerships that include part of Gloucestershire include the Severn Vale, The Upper Thames, Windrush, Evenlode, Warwickshire Avon, and Bristol Avon Catchment Partnerships.

[78] https://catchmentbasedapproach.org/about/

4.7 National Environmental Objectives

The Environment Act 2021 and the government's 2023 Environmental Improvement Plan[79] created a range of national environmental objectives which each local nature recovery strategy should contribute to. These are summarised below, with indications of the main ways this strategy helps to contribute.

National targets set under the Environment Act (2021)

Objective	Main Relevant Potential Measures
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	All Potential Measures about restoration or creation of habitats.
Biodiversity on land – Halt the decline of species abundance by 2030. Ensure that species abundance in 2042 is greater than in 2022, and at least 10% greater than 2030.	All Potential Measures contribute to this main aim.
Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022	All Potential Measures about habitat quality, resilience, size and connectivity, and priority species measures supporting recovery of additional rare and threatened species.
Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 009: Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland.** **Measure 010: Establish new woodland and tree cover.** **Measure 066: Urban tree planting and management**
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	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 052: Soil health and regenerative farming** **Measure 044: Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs** **Measure 045: Water quality**

[79] Environmental Improvement Plan

Key additional relevant commitment from the Environmental Improvement Plan (2023)

Objective	**Main Relevant Potential Measures**
Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes' walk of a green or blue space	**Measure 065: Access to biodiversity-rich green space**
Restore approximately 280,000 hectares of peatland in England by 2050	**Measure 026: Restore and create wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic**
Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 018: Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife** **Measure 019: Manage lakes for biodiversity** **Measure 022: Improve ecological condition of rivers** **Measure 044: Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs** **Measure 045: Water quality** **Measure 046: Sewage and wastewater**
Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030	All Potential Measures about management of habitats and about restoration or creation of habitats.
Support farmers to create or restore 30,000 miles of hedgerows by 2037 and 45,000 miles of hedgerows by 2050	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 037: Hedgerows** **Measure 030: Field margins, hedgerows, buffer strips, ponds, trees and sustainable farming and forestry**
Manage our woodlands for biodiversity, climate and sustainable forestry	**Measure 054: Sustainable forestry and nature recovery**
Restore 75% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest to favourable condition by 2042.	All Potential Measures about management of habitats and about restoration or creation of habitats.
Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 031: Create wildlife corridor connectivity** **Measure 034: Physical structure** **Measure 039: Woodland climate adaptation** **Measure 043: Floodplain reconnection** **Measure 053: Drought resilient farming techniques**
Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which	**Measure 024: Natural flood management**

improve flood risk management where appropriate	
Achieve Good Environmental Status for our seas	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 028: Protect and manage saltmarsh and mudflats** **Measure 029: Restore and create saltmarsh** **Measure 048: Severn Estuary marine biosecurity**
Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 044: Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs** **Measure 045: Water quality** **Measure 042: Riparian buffer strips**
Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive nonnative species by at least 50%, by 2030	Main relevant Potential Measures: **Measure 047: Remove invasive non-native species** **Measure 039: Protecting tree growth** **Measure 083: Strengthen white clawed crayfish population**

4.8 Biodiversity Priorities in Gloucestershire

The following Biodiversity Priorities for nature recovery in Gloucestershire were identified through the strategy development process:

	PRIORITY TYPE	OUTCOME	WHY
1	Grassland, Meadows and Heathland (open habitats)	Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of open habitats. Improve the abundance and variety of associated species.	Different types of wildflower-rich grasslands are important in Gloucestershire – and are currently often isolated fragments.
2	Woodland Habitats	Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of woodland habitats and tree cover. Improve the abundance and variety of associated species.	Woodlands and trees support a wide range of species, provide shading, improve air quality and store carbon.
3	Mixed and mosaic Habitats	Create complex and dynamic mosaics of scrub, grassland, trees and wetland.	Many species need a variety of habitats rather than just one, so a mixture of trees, scrub and grassland provides a range of food sources and places to nest, and will help species move and adapt to climate change.
4	Open water Habitats	Improve the ecological condition of ponds and lakes to support species diversity.	Ponds are really important for species like newts, frogs and toads.
5	Running water Habitats	Create more natural river courses and river banks, with better water quality, and dynamic mosaics of linked wetlands.	Can we create more natural river banks and river courses, and help our rare fish survive?
6	Wetland Habitats	Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of wetland habitats.	Wetlands support a diverse range of species and can help store carbon.
7	Estuarine Habitats	Protect and enhance internationally important estuarine habitats.	The Severn Estuary is internationally important for nature.
8	Biodiversity in settlements and developments	Increase biodiversity and wildlife corridors in the land around our homes.	The land around our homes can provide wildlife corridors, pollinator plants and more, and bring people into better direct contact with nature.
9	Nature-friendly farming and forestry	Build the health of our soils and provide food sources for wildlife and habitat connectivity through our countryside.	Biodiversity is important and can be supported everywhere, not just in “islands” of nature reserves. Protecting soils also reduces loss of sediment and nutrients to watercourses, reducing pollution
10	Species priorities	Strengthen the resilience of rare and threatened species that need specific management measures.	Some key actions are needed in specific places to help rare and threatened species.

5 Data and Evidence

5.1 Strategy development process

Gloucestershire County Council led on public and community engagement for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and commissioned Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership to coordinate the input of local organisations and experts into the strategy, and to work in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council on community input.

Key elements of the strategy development, engagement, information gathering and analysis process included:

- Local Nature Recovery Strategy technical steering group, with representation from Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, Cotswolds National Landscape Board, WWT, National Trust, Natural England, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Cotswold District Council, Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership and Gloucestershire Nature and Climate Fund. Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and Cotswolds National Landscape Board provided additional detailed expert input and advice. A small governance group for general oversight involved Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, and Stroud District Council representing the supporting authorities of Gloucestershire's district councils.

- The Nature Recovery working group of Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership included many nature conservation organisations and local authority planners and ecologists. The Nature Recovery working group contributed detailed information that combined to develop the key messages, priorities and potential measures of this strategy. These contributions of information aimed to help the Local Nature Recovery Strategy to align with and build on the Nature Recovery Plans of the Cotswolds, Malverns and Wye Valley National Landscapes, the Cotswold Water Park Nature Recovery Plan, and strategies and management plans of many nature-related organisations in Gloucestershire.

  Different meeting sessions involved different partner organisations for different themes, including for example, species, or wetland and water habitats. Many partner organisations also contributed information and improvements through individual emails and meetings. Draft biodiversity priorities and measures were created in an online googledoc visible to working group partners, as a way of iteratively amending, developing and improving the content of the priorities and potential measures.

  Input from the Nature Recovery working group was key in deciding to set separate Biodiversity Priorities for different types of water or wetland habitat, as these all have very different management needs. Many members of this working group or their specialist colleagues helped to write, draft or edit different Potential Measures, according to their specialisms.

  The main partner organisations involved included:

  - Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust
  - WWT
  - National Trust
  - Forestry Commission
  - FWAG south west
  - Cotswolds National Landscape Board
  - Wye Valley National Landscape
  - Stroud Valleys Project
  - Woodland Trust
  - Gloucestershire County Council
  - Forest of Dean District Council
  - Cheltenham Borough Council

- Stroud District Council
- Cotswold District Council
- Tewkesbury Borough Council
- Gloucester City Council
- CPRE Gloucestershire
- Newt Conservation Partnership
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- University of Gloucestershire CCRI
- Gloucestershire Naturalists Society
- Cotswold Lakes Trust
- Butterfly Conservation
- Malvern Hills National Landscape
- Severn Estuary Partnership

- Natural England, Forestry Commission and Environment Agency advisors for Local Nature Recovery Strategy played a key role in expert advice on overall format, woodland habitat priorities and potential measures, and water and wetland priorities and potential measures.

- Farmer, landowner and land manager engagement: Early engagement sessions to understand the needs and ideas of farmers, landowners and land managers were held in autumn 2023, in partnership with National Farmers Union, Country Land and Business Association and Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group. An information stand at the Royal Three Counties Show in Malvern in June 2024 provided another opportunity to discuss potential opportunity areas for habitat management and creation, and priority ideas, with farmers, landowners and land managers. Some of the key input from this engagement with farmers and landowners which has influenced the direction of this strategy includes:

    - aiming to make this strategy as useful as possible in relation to agri-environment funding opportunities.

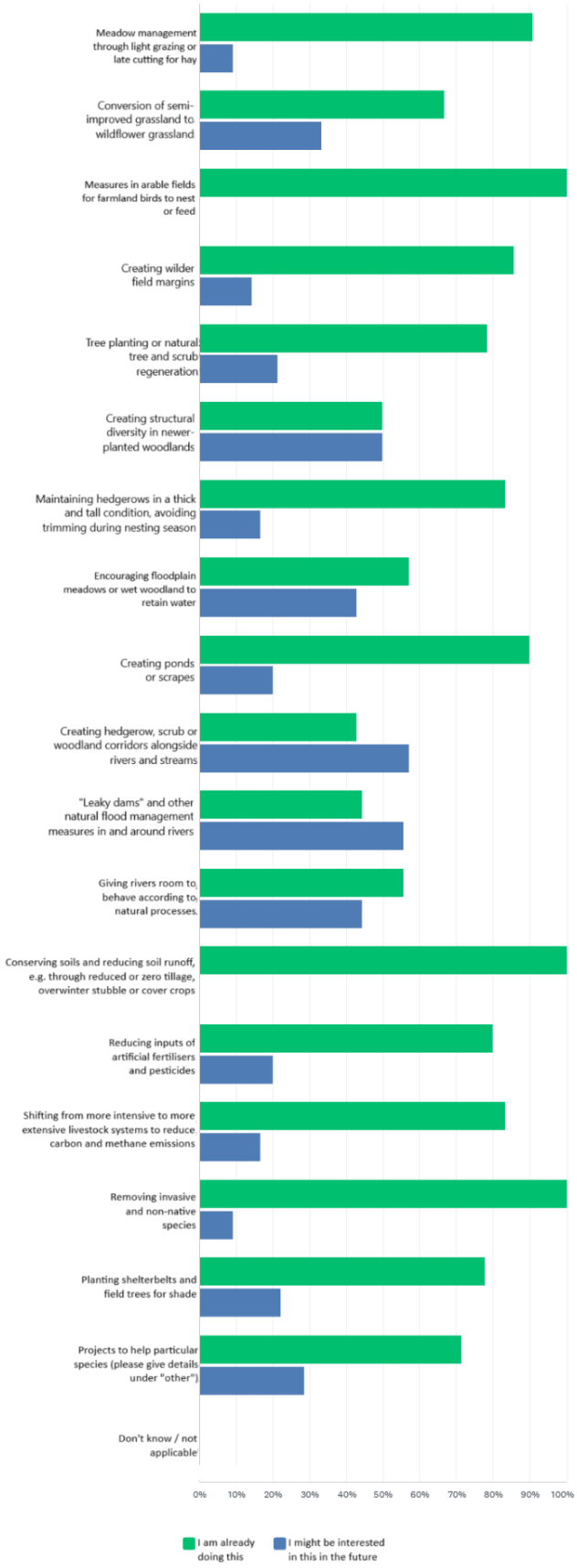
    - the need for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy to support the ongoing management of good quality habitat, where landowners have already invested in habitat creation and maintenance. Biodiversity net gain is not designed to reward the maintenance of this previous work and investment. People want to farm ecologically, but need viable incentives too. In response, we have many Potential Measures in relation to Managing existing good quality habitat well, and this is the first of the key messages of the strategy.

    - emphasising that soil data, as well as ecological surveys and archaeology and landscape advice, is important in determining the best options for land management. This input helped us create the important caveat to say that the general advice of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy should be supplemented by on the ground surveys and soil tests before determining management options.

    - the need to develop partnership projects with multiple landowner consensus and involvement of other agencies such as Environment Agency or Internal Drainage Boards, for landscape scale nature recovery, such as enabling more flood meadows along the Severn Estuary. This was just one of the discussions that highlighted the potential that can come from working as farmer groups or clusters.

  An online survey for farmers, landowners and land managers provided an alternative way to gain input. The survey was completed by 15 farmers, landowners and land managers and helped to show the wide range of actions for nature recovery that farmers are already taking around Gloucestershire, as well as interest in taking new actions. See diagram overleaf:

Q6 What are you already doing on your farm - or what would you potentially like to do in the future - to help nature, improve or create habitats, or for other environmental benefits? The options below are only a short list - there are many other options, so please do describe these under "other". This will help inform the creation of a deliverable Local Nature Recovery Strategy.



- A species task and finish group of Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records and ecology experts in Gloucestershire was convened to develop a long list of rare and threatened species in Gloucestershire, and then to shortlist priority individual species and species groups for specific species priorities and potential measures, and to group the long list of rare and threatened species in relation to the habitat priorities and measures that can contribute to their conservation and recovery.

  The species task and finish group included experts from Cotswolds National Landscape, Butterfly Conservation, Natural England, Gloucestershire County Council, Environment Agency, Gloucestershire Naturalists Society and independent ecologists. A wider set of county recorders and specialists from Gloucestershire Naturalists Society and other members of the Nature Recovery working group helped to refine the long-list and short-list development and information. Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records played a key role in coordinating and managing this information and process.

  The species task and finish group also helped to emphasise the importance of the value of mixed, mosaic and edge habitats including scrub, which is one of the key messages and biodiversity priorities, with a range of relevant Potential Measures including **Measure 035: Ecotones and edges**. Likewise, the importance of retaining dead wood habitat for a range of species was emphasised by this group, leading to Potential Measures such as:

  - **Measure 105: Dead wood**
  - **Measure 036: Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees**
  - **Measure 085: Strengthen violet click beetle population**
  - **Measure 040: Ash dieback response**
  - **Measure 106: Veteran ash pollards**

- Public and community engagement: Gloucestershire County Council worked with independent community facilitators Holding the Space, and Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership, to run four in-person sessions geographically distributed around the county in Gloucester, Northleach, Cinderford and Stroud, and two online sessions, during March and April 2024, to help influence and input into the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Gloucestershire County Council developed a comprehensive stakeholder engagement contact list, including harder to reach audiences, who were invited to these public and community engagement sessions. A range of Local Nature Partnership organisations from around Gloucestershire provided expert support in different workshops, to help give context and inspiration. Gloucestershire County Council then ran a public survey during June and July 2024 to share ideas and gain feedback on priority habitats and species.

  Key themes from public and community engagement that influenced the development of this strategy can be seen in the report about Community Input into Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy[80], and included:

  - Relationship with water - participants expressed the need to improve water quality, restore water courses to health, implement natural flood management measures and reintroduce beavers to help slow the flow of water through the catchment. Potential Measures have been written covering all of these.

[80] Report on LNRS community engagement workshops .docx

- Farming and nature - participants felt that farming is essential to how nature is recovered and protected in Gloucestershire. They expressed the need to financially incentivise nature-friendly farming and expressed concerns about excess pollution from agricultural sources.

- Community, urban and access - participants wanted to see more biodiversity in urban areas, to create wildlife corridors and habitat but also for community benefits, mental and physical health benefits, nature connection and more equitable access to nature. In response, a key message and Biodiversity Priority about **Biodiversity in our developments and settlements** was added, including a range of related Potential Measures.

- Climate - participants wanted the strategy to be developed in the context of future scenarios for floods, drought, changes in season length and extreme weather, as well as looking for opportunities for carbon sequestration.

- Development and planning - Participants were concerned about the impact of new developments on nature, with suggestions including swift bricks in buildings and ensuring sustainable drainage systems are incorporated. There are Potential Measures covering both of these and a range of aspects for incorporating Green Infrastructure standards, wildlife corridors and other nature related aspects into new developments.

- Messiness, connectivity and corridors - There was wide recognition that for nature to thrive, edges, variety and connection are essential. The importance of nature corridors and connecting different habitats was keenly felt. Participants wanted a mindset shift to reclaim and celebrate messiness over straight lines, variety over monoculture and the 'wild' over the manicured. This helped to ensure that the wording of a variety of Potential Measures reflects this.

- Engagement, education and narrative - Participants emphasised the importance of engagement, information-sharing, buy-in, training and community involvement, to help deliver the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

- Process, implementation and national picture - Participants want to continue to see national and local legislation and resources, regulation and enforcement, to support nature recovery. There was a desire for the delivery of this strategy to have adequate funding. There was interest in this strategy feeding into a wider land use framework for Gloucestershire.

- District Councils as supporting authorities for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy: Relevant planning and ecology staff from district councils had separate meetings with the Local Nature Partnership manager in June - August 2024 to focus on the context for their district and alignment and input from district-level plans, priorities and aspirations. A meeting of the Climate officers group from each district council in June 2024 helped to input climate change related aspects of this strategy.

- Neighbouring counties: There were regular meetings to share information with Local Nature Recovery Strategy coordinators in West of England, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire and Herefordshire, along with information sharing sessions for South West and Midlands Local Nature Recovery Strategy responsible authorities.

5.2 Mapping development process

Gloucestershire's Nature Recovery Network map[81] is produced by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records on behalf of Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership. The Nature Recovery Network mapping formed the key start point for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy process in Gloucestershire, and is the basis for many of the Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity where different Potential Measures are focused.

The Nature Recovery Network mapping shows the prioritised distribution of opportunities for creating a more resilient network of habitats. Four categories of core habitat – existing good quality wildlife habitats including those in protected areas - are included:

- Open habitat (core habitats: priority habitats from the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 section 41: lowland meadows, lowland dry acid grassland, lowland calcareous grassland, lowland heathland);
- Woodland (core habitat: broadleaved mixed and yew woodland with the exception of mixed mainly conifer woodland);
- Freshwater wetland (core habitat: all open water and wetland habitats). This layer is treated as an overlay to the other categories;
- Traditional Orchards (due to their importance in Gloucestershire)

Opportunities for the four main habitat categories to be extended into larger and more joined-up networks is calculated using the concept of 'cost distance' - in other words, for a key suite of species typical of the habitat type, how easy is it for those species to spread given that some surrounding areas 'cost' (in ecological terms) more than others to move through? A score for the cost distance is then combined with a number of other opportunity scores and an assessment of constraints to habitat restoration or creation.

The network thus illustrates both the existing hot-spots of habitat, and also the potential benefits of improving the landscape permeability (reducing the 'cost') to create better networks both for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

To define the biodiversity priorities and Potential Measures, a range of other map zones have been identified, with the help of partners, in relation to other specific habitats such as tufa or saltmarsh, ideal wildlife corridors, strategic gaps, projects, settlements and species.

[81] https://naturalcapital.gcerdata.com/

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Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Part 2

Gloucestershire's Biodiversity Priorities and Potential Measures

2025

Version: Consultation 2.0

Contents

Statements of Biodiversity Priorities

1. Biodiversity Priority: **Grassland, Meadows and Heathland** (open habitats). Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of open habitats. Improve the abundance and variety of associated species.

2. Biodiversity Priority: **Woodland Habitats**: Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of woodland habitats and tree cover. Improve the abundance and variety of associated species.

3. Biodiversity Priority: **Mixed and mosaic Habitats**: Create complex and dynamic mosaics of scrub, grassland, trees and wetland.

4. Biodiversity Priority: **Open water Habitats**: Improve the ecological condition of ponds and lakes to support species diversity.

5. Biodiversity Priority: **Running water Habitats**: Create more natural river courses and river banks, with better water quality, and dynamic mosaics of linked wetlands.

6. Biodiversity Priority: **Wetland Habitats**: Improve the condition of and increase the resilience, extent and connectivity of wetland habitats.

7. Biodiversity Priority: **Estuarine Habitats**: Protect and enhance internationally important estuarine habitats.

8. Biodiversity Priority: **Nature-friendly farming and forestry**: Build the health of our soils and provide food sources for wildlife and habitat connectivity through our countryside.

9. Biodiversity Priority: **Biodiversity in settlements and developments**: Increase biodiversity and wildlife corridors in the land around our homes.

10. Biodiversity Priority: **Species priorities**: Strengthen the resilience of rare and threatened species that need specific management measures.

The key messages of this strategy

This strategy has been developed through a range of discussions and input of information from nature conservationists, planners, local authority officers and members, farmers, landowners, land managers, and members of the public in Gloucestershire. From these discussions and information we have drawn out some overall key messages for this strategy:

1. **Safeguarding, managing and enhancing existing biodiversity-rich sites –** The complex ecological relationships between species in a habitat are difficult to recreate quickly once a habitat is degraded or destroyed. With the pressure on our wildlife, the highest priority is to safeguard and enhance high quality nature sites and species populations. Landowners and land managers who are already doing this should be supported.

2. **Landscape scale connectivity - Better, bigger, more and more joined** – maintaining good wildlife habitat and then increasing the size and connectivity of these habitats. This is the core theme of Nature Recovery as expressed in the Making Space for Nature report, with the aim of creating a resilient and coherent nature recovery network. Recommended areas to focus new habitat creation can contribute to meeting the goal of 30 by 30 - at least 30% of land to be protected for nature recovery by 2030.

3. **Climate Emergency** – Climate change is already affecting our wildlife, with temperature, rainfall and growing season changes affecting the timing of natural events such as emergence, pollination and where species can thrive. Nature based solutions can help mitigate some impacts of climate change. Landscape-scale nature recovery can help some species to move northwards or to new niches in response to climate changes.

4. **Our relationship with water** – The need to re-naturalise our river corridors and their relationship with the floodplain, and where appropriate to remove barriers in rivers which impact on the movement of fish species and on sedimentation. Natural flood management can also help to reduce flood risk and build resilience against drought. We need to tackle water quality issues from both point and diffuse sources, and to protect and improve water quantity, for both surface water and groundwater.

5. **The value of mixed and wilder habitats** – Including valuing scrub as a habitat and prioritising mixed habitats with different types and heights of vegetation – this variety is important for many of our species.

6. **Biodiversity in our developments and settlements** – The importance of nature in our settlements, urban areas and new developments was emphasised by participants in our public engagement sessions, as well as by other stakeholders. Nature in amongst our urban areas and settlements is important for health and wellbeing, for nature connection, for climate change mitigation and for the connectivity of wildlife habitats.

Categories of Potential Measures

- Habitat Measures (mapped)
- Habitat Measures (unmapped)
- Biodiversity in settlements and developments Measures (mapped)
- Biodiversity in settlements and developments Measures (unmapped)
- Species Measures

Where potential measures have been mapped, this mapping expresses the most effective places to deliver the measures in order to achieve the biodiversity priorities of this strategy. Habitat management and creation will also be relevant outside the zones mapped in the strategy; this mapping represents zones of best opportunities.

Areas covered by most of the key targeted habitat measures have been combined to define Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity**. If you are within an Area that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity AND you are proposing nature recovery work that achieves the relevant text for the Potential Measure, WHERE that measure is mapped, then you would be able to apply the 15% increase in biodiversity units through the Strategic Significance Multiplier.**

An important caveat - Site specific management advice and monitoring

An important caveat to take into account when using this strategy is that this is a high level strategy developed using the current best existing biodiversity information.

For all detailed decisions about habitat management or creation on any particular site, the general recommendations of this strategy should be supplemented with site-specific advice from ecologists, land agents, land managers and Gloucestershire County Council Historic Environment Record, within settlement areas Local Authorities, and within protected landscapes the National Landscape teams.

Site specific advice including baseline ecological surveys and soil tests should be taken before determining habitat management plans or the best options for land management on that site. The ongoing management costs of habitat creation and enhancement should be planned for. Ongoing survey and monitoring is needed to assess the long term impact of conservation management interventions.

Wider Environmental Benefits or Ecosystem Services

This strategy also considers the wider environmental benefits of nature recovery. These wider environmental benefits are also known as ecosystem services, which is a way to demonstrate how biodiversity is essential for resources we need to live. Symbols for some of these key ecosystem services, or wider environmental benefits, are shown next to the potential measures which make a significant contribution to one or more of these wider environmental benefits.

These symbols are used with permission from the Natural Capital Team at the Environment Agency. The Environment Agency's Natural Capital Team has developed a set of natural capital icons for use in their own tools, guidance, and products, as well as those of their partners, that support a natural capital approach. These icons are designed to give natural capital a strong, recognisable identity, making it easier for people to identify and engage with it.

Key to symbols for key wider environmental benefits / ecosystem services

Carbon storage and sequestration	
Air pollutant removal	
Water quality	
Water flow regulation / flood management	
Local climate regulation/ shading/ urban cooling	
Soil health / Soil erosion prevention	
Cultural / Recreation/ education/ health and wellbeing/ landscape beauty/ sense of place	

Summary List of Potential Measures

Habitat Potential Measures (mapped)

Grassland, meadows and heathland

001. Manage lowland calcareous grassland
002. Restore and create lowland calcareous grassland
003. Manage neutral grassland and lowland meadows
004. Restore and create neutral grassland and lowland meadows
005. Manage floodplain meadows
006. Restore and create floodplain meadows
007. Manage acid grassland and wet and dry heath
008. Restore and create acid grassland and wet and dry heath

Woodland

009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland
010. Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland
011. Establish new woodland and tree cover
012. Restore Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites
013. Manage and expand wet woodland

Mixed and mosaic habitats

014. Create mixed mosaic habitats including scrub, including orchard
015. Manage wood pasture and parkland
016. Restore and create wood pasture and parkland
017. Traditional orchard management, restoration and creation

Open water

018. Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife
019. Manage lakes for biodiversity

Running water

020. River re-naturalisation
021. Remove in-stream barriers
022. Improve ecological condition of rivers
023. Safeguard tufa and headwater springs
024. Natural Flood Management

Wetland

025. Manage wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic
026. Restore and create wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic
027. Manage and restore fens, mires and lowland peatland sites

Estuarine habitats

028. Protect and manage saltmarsh and mudflats
029. Restore and create saltmarsh

Nature-friendly farming and forestry

030. Field margins, hedgerows, buffer strips, ponds, trees and sustainable farming and forestry
031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity

Habitat Potential Measures (unmapped)

032. Road verge biodiversity
033. Conservation Grazing
034. Physical Structure
035. Ecotones and edges
036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees
037. Hedgerows
038. Protecting tree growth
039. Woodland climate adaptation
040. Ash dieback response
041. Riparian tree planting
042. Riparian buffer strips
043. Floodplain reconnection
044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs
045. Water quality
046. Sewage and wastewater
047. Remove invasive non-native species
048. Severn Estuary marine biosecurity
049. Slow the flow
050. Limit groundwater abstraction and surface flow abstraction
051. Field margins
052. Soil health and Regenerative Farming
053. Drought resilient farming techniques
054. Sustainable forestry and nature recovery
055. Agroforestry

Biodiversity in settlements and developments (mapped)

056. Urban green spaces, blue spaces and wildlife corridors
057. Biodiversity in settlements and gardens
058. New developments and green and blue infrastructure
059. Green bridges and wildlife crossings

Biodiversity in settlements and developments (unmapped)

060. Canals, rivers and urban bluespaces
061. Green Infrastructure Standards for Nature
062. Swift, house martin and bat bricks
063. Biodiversity in gardens
064. Dark Skies
065. Access to biodiversity-rich green spaces
066. Urban tree planting and management
067. Wildlife corridors on travel routes
068. Highway amphibian protection
069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems

Species Measures

070. Strengthen breeding curlew population
071. Increase resilience of wood warbler population
072. Strengthen hazel dormouse population
073. Strengthen Bechstein's bat population
074. Strengthen greater horseshoe bat population
075. Greater horseshoe bat flightlines
076. Strengthen lesser horseshoe bat population
077. Strengthen western barbastelle population
078. Strengthen serotine population
079. Strengthen soprano pipistrelle population
080. Beaver reintroduction and habitat creation
081. Strengthen adder population
082. Strengthen great crested newt population
083. Strengthen White clawed crayfish population
084. Strengthen scarce blue-tailed damselfly population
085. Strengthen violet click beetle population
086. Strengthen rugged oil beetle population
087. Strengthen hairy click beetle population
088. Strengthen large blue population
089. Strengthen Duke of Burgundy population
090. Strengthen lead belle population
091. Strengthen Phyllonorycter sagitella population
092. Maintain chalk carpet population
093. Strengthen lauria sempronii snail population
094. Strengthen juniper population
095. Strengthen black poplar population
096. Individual species needs of farmland birds
097. Add food sources for ground-nesting adult farmland birds
098. Add food sources for ground-nesting farmland bird chicks
099. Add food sources for hedge-nesting adult farmland birds
100. Add food sources for hedge-nesting farmland bird chicks
101. Pearl-bordered fritillary and small pearl-bordered fritillary
102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland
103. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants in woodland
104. Rare arable plants and soil fauna, flora and fungi
105. Dead wood
106. Veteran ash pollards
107. Wye Valley bryophytes and distinctive species
108. Moths dependent on small- and large-leaved lime
109. Strengthen Severn Estuary and Floodplain waterbird populations
110. Strengthen River Severn fish populations

Potential Measures

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
	1. Grassland, meadows and heathland			
001	**Measure 001: Manage lowland calcareous grassland.** Manage wildflower grasslands according to the broad requirements of the habitat whilst allowing for the specialist needs of any priority species, through light grazing, cutting and scrub management.	This usually involves light grazing all year round or seasonal grazing. It may involve a mid to late summer hay cut with follow-on grazing until late winter or early spring. Ensure that grazing or cutting with the removal of the cuttings prevents nutrient levels from building up. Ensure that a thick thatch of grassy matter doesn't develop to increase nutrients, suppress wildflowers and create a fire risk. Maintaining a low sward by low level grazing in some areas will encourage mycorrhizal fungi fruiting. Consider a certain level of scrub and scattered trees to provide shade, to reduce flowering plants reacting to drought conditions by reducing or ceasing nectar production, for stock, and for refugia for insects. Prevent scrub from completely overrunning wildflower grasslands. Avoid activities that cause soil compaction.	032. Road verge biodiversity 033. Conservation Grazing 034. Physical Structure 035. Ecotones and edges 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	
002	**Measure 002: Restore and create lowland calcareous grassland.** Restore and create new areas of wildflower grassland, especially by increasing size, variety and connectivity of existing grassland.	Create new areas of wildflower grassland, especially by increasing size, variety and connectivity of existing grassland. Aim for the creation of lowland calcareous grassland, but if this is not achievable then create other calcareous grassland in good condition, as species-rich as possible. Slopes where the soils are thinner are particularly good for grassland restoration. Semi-improved or modified grasslands can be diversified by harrowing and over seeding. Arable can be reverted to wildflower grassland through seeding, following site preparation. Plants grown as plugs can be used for species that do not spread well as seed. Use seed or plug sources of local provenance and similar soil conditions. Green hay from similar wildflower meadows can be spread as an alternative to seed. Consider a certain level of scrub and scattered trees to provide shade, to reduce flowering plants reacting to drought conditions by reducing or ceasing nectar production, for stock, and for refugia for insects. Avoid activities that cause soil compaction. To increase fungi species, use local inoculants, such as molehill soil or turf, to introduce native beneficial fungi.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 032. Road verge biodiversity 034. Physical Structure 035. Ecotones and edges 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
003	**Measure 003: Manage neutral grassland and lowland meadows.** Manage wildflower grasslands according to the broad requirements of the habitat whilst allowing for the specialist needs of any priority species, usually through a mid to late summer hay cut with follow-on grazing until late winter or early spring, or light grazing all year round or seasonal grazing.	Ensure that grazing or cutting with the removal of the cuttings prevents nutrient levels from building up. Ensure that a thick thatch of grassy matter doesn't develop to increase nutrients, suppress wildflowers and create a fire risk. Where appropriate, consider a certain level of scrub and scattered trees to provide shade, to reduce flowering plants reacting to drought conditions by reducing or ceasing nectar production, for stock, and for refugia for insects. Prevent scrub from completely overrunning wildflower grasslands.	032. Road verge biodiversity 033. Conservation Grazing 034. Physical Structure 035. Ecotones and edges 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	
004	**Measure 004: Restore and create neutral grassland and lowland meadows.** Restore and create new areas of wildflower grassland, especially by increasing size, variety and connectivity of existing grassland.	Aim for creation of lowland meadow, but if this is not achievable then create other neutral grassland in good condition in good condition, as species-rich as possible. Slopes where the soils are thinner are particularly good for grassland restoration. Semi-improved or modified grasslands can be diversified by harrowing and over seeding. Arable can be reverted to wildflower grassland through seeding, following site preparation. Plants grown as plugs can be used for species that do not spread well as seed. Use seed or plug sources of local provenance and similar soil conditions. Green hay from similar wildflower meadows can be spread as an alternative to seed. Where appropriate, consider a certain level of scrub and scattered trees to provide shade, to reduce flowering plants reacting to drought conditions by reducing or ceasing nectar production, for stock, and for refugia for insects. To increase fungi species use local inoculants, such as molehill soil or turf, to introduce native beneficial fungi.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 032. Road verge biodiversity 034. Physical Structure 035. Ecotones and edges 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	
005	**Measure 005: Manage floodplain meadows.** Manage and protect existing species-rich floodplain meadow habitat, usually with an annual hay cut between late June and September, with one late cut every 3-5 years, then graze.	Remove livestock before the ground becomes too wet to avoid poaching and soil compaction. Be flexible with the timing and extent of these management options in response to long term changes and seasonal variability in conditions. Wet grasslands need an adequate supply and quality of water to adapt to changes in climate.	044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
006	**Measure 006: Restore and create floodplain meadows.** Create new areas of floodplain meadow grassland, where possible by increasing size, variety and connectivity to existing grassland.	To restore or create floodplain meadow it is important to use seed, plugs or green hay sourced from local floodplain meadows and from similar soil conditions. Semi-improved or modified grasslands can be diversified by harrowing and over seeding with appropriate species mix for the soil and geohydrology. Arable can be reverted to wildflower grassland through seeding, following site preparation. Plants grown as plugs can be used for species that do not spread well as seed. Use brush-harvested seed or plug sources of local provenance and similar soil conditions. Green hay from similar meadows can be spread as an alternative to seed. Consider creation of floodplain scrapes to increase floodplain storage and improve habitat. Incorporate the creation and management of floodplain meadows into river restoration and natural flood management solutions.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 043. Floodplain reconnection 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	
007	**Measure 007: Manage acid grassland and wet and dry heath.** Protect and manage existing heath and acid grassland habitats. Encourage a mosaic of wet and dry heath.	Manage grasslands according to the broad requirements of the habitat whilst allowing for the specialist needs of any priority species. This may involve light grazing all year round or seasonal grazing. Grazing should be reactive and site specific, tailored to climatic and vegetational changes. Cutting and removing arisings can be beneficial in restoration but longer term maintenance must be sustainable to avoid a boom and bust cycle in diversity. Consider a mosaic of scrub and scattered trees to assure reptile refuge, bird nesting, and invertebrate life-cycles. Prevent invasive scrub from dominating or converging - this will depend on nutrient levels. A network of breaks in scrub will ensure good grazing penetration. Water sources such as ponds also facilitate well dispersed grazing especially with cattle who drink most regularly. Principles of structure and age class apply equally to dwarf shrub mosaics such as heather and gorse. Identify at least four age classes of priority vegetation and ensure they are equally represented. This avoids all degenerate heather from expiring due to heather beetle defoliation for example. Pioneer heathers are a good indication of heathland health as is a varied structure of gorse. Degenerate gorse should be less than 10% and gorse connectivity should be assessed in terms of fire risk (fuel load). Fire breaks help ensure better manageability of any wildfires but also ensure a framework	033. Conservation Grazing 049. Slow the flow 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		of structural diversity that can be built on with accessibility for volunteer work parties and grazing livestock.		
008	**Measure 008: Restore and create acid grassland and wet and dry heath.** Restore previous heathland habitats, create new areas of extensively grazed acid grassland and heath, and create habitat to connect heath patches. Encourage a mosaic of wet and dry heath.	Increase size, variety and connectivity of existing grassland and heath. If the creation of lowland dry acid grassland is not achievable then create other lowland acid grassland in good condition. Invest highly in ground preparation that assures longer term maintenance. Scraping top soils into south facing beetle banks works well for basking reptile and butterflies and slows succession of bare mineral soils exposed. Remove brash and store in islands of refugia preferably under adjacent wood edge (shade). Avoid linear bunds favoured by plant machinery as this will hinder grazing access and stimulate dominance by coarser invasive plants such as bracken. Integrate ponds to support any livestock grazing aims for widespread roaming. Identify water flows across the site and delay drainage to encourage percolated flow across wider areas of habitat. This often requires plant machinery to remove drainage ditches and is important to apply at the restoration phase before sensitive species colonise. Focus on hindering dominant vegetation early rather than promoting desirable vegetation as ultimately efforts will be more successful.	049. Slow the flow 102. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland	
	2. Woodland habitats			
009	**Measure 009: Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland.** Manage woodland to improve and maintain ecological condition, including improved structural diversity and availability of dead wood habitat.	Manage woodland to the UK Forestry Standard as a minimum. Create diversity in woodland age, species, provenance and structure through thinning, coppicing, creation of rides and glades, and restocking through a combination of planting, natural regeneration, coppice regrowth and restoration of natural ecological function. Strategically locate rides and glades to encourage greater continuity and connectivity of grassland and grassland edge habitats. Maintain existing coppice rotations and restore or create new coppice woodland in suitable areas.	036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 038. Protecting tree growth 039. Woodland climate adaptation 040. Ash dieback response 103. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants in woodland	

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		Ensure some areas of minimally managed, undisturbed, moist, low-light semi-natural ancient woodland with mature and veteran trees to offer a good environment for mycorrhizal fungi, heartwood and dead wood species. If needed, consider nest boxes, if they can be maintained, for species including pied flycatcher, marsh tit, redstart and spotted flycatcher. Include standing dead wood for species including lesser spotted woodpecker. Introduce fire breaks where climate change may increase the risk of fire. Eradicate invasive non-native plants such as laurel and rhododendron. Avoid placing game bird pens in woodland areas with a high botanical value or within 500 metres of a SSSI or other site with high biodiversity value.	105. Dead wood	
010	**Measure 010: Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland.** Create or establish native woodland, hedgerows, scrub and rough grassland around ancient woodland and other existing woodland.	Establish connective habitat by natural regeneration and colonisation or by planting. Favour natural regeneration over the planting of trees in the creation of new woodlands, especially near existing ancient woodland. Plant a range of fruiting species which fruit through different times of the year including cherry, hornbeam and yew, to support species including hawfinch which has rare important populations in Gloucestershire. Beech should be included in planting and restocking mixes in the Cotswolds.	011. Establish new woodland and tree cover 035. Ecotones and edges 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 038. Protecting tree growth 039. Woodland climate adaptation 103. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants in woodland 105. Dead wood	
011	**Measure 011: Establish new woodland and tree cover.** Design new woodlands and tree cover in the right place appropriate	Ensure that other existing priority and species-rich habitats are not planted up, and avoid blocking opportunities to expand and link other priority habitats. Include a wide variety of tree species, prioritising native species, but including non-native tree species in some cases using evidence-based advice, for	016. Restore and create wood pasture and parkland	

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	to the identified landscape character, with a varied ecological structure.	resilience and adaptation to climate change, and to maximise genetic diversity and resistance to pests and diseases. Diversify the woodland structure, including coppicing, dense shrubby edges, rides and glades. Introduce fire breaks where climate change may increase the risk of fire. Consult the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record to identify any known archaeological sites within the proposed area of planting and seek specialist advice on tree planting and management around archaeological or historic landscape character features.	017. Traditional orchard management, restoration and creation 035. Ecotones and edges 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 038. Protecting tree growth 039. Woodland climate adaptation 041. Riparian tree planting 055. Agroforestry 066. Urban tree planting and management 103. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants in woodland 105. Dead wood	
012	**Measure 012: Restore Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites.** Restore Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) to a more semi-natural composition.	Gradually reduce the proportion of non-native and conifer tree species during thinning and harvesting, to restore semi-natural habitat structure. Encourage Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites survey and assessment to identify ancient remnants and important features are protected during works, and to identify opportunities for management.	009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 035. Ecotones and edges 038. Protecting tree growth 039. Woodland climate adaptation 103. Butterflies and moths with specific food plants in woodland 105. Dead wood	

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013	**Measure 013: Manage and expand wet woodland.** Manage, expand and create wet woodlands in appropriate locations, including by natural regeneration, and manage existing wet woodlands for the benefit of wildlife.	Increase the extent of wet woodland and the wetness of existing woodlands by blocking previous drainage. Ensure there are perches or standing dead wood for willow tit.	020. River re-naturalisation 041. Riparian tree planting 080. Beaver reintroduction and habitat creation	
	3. Mixed and mosaic habitats			
014	**Measure 014: Create and manage mixed mosaic habitats including scrub, including orchard.** Create areas where natural processes are allowed to create a complex and dynamic mosaic of habitats of scrub, grassland, disturbed ground, ecotones and edges, and trees.	Allow natural processes to form a complex and dynamic mosaic of habitats of scrub, grassland, bare and disturbed ground and trees, with an average tree and scrub canopy cover of between 10% and 30%, and complex structural variety. Manage through extensive grazing to retain this structural variety. Apply the appropriate grassland creation measures at an early stage to give the site an initial injection of species richness. Where appropriate, manage scrub to create a varied age and physical structure including glades and scalloped edges. Encourage trees to self-seed where scrub or other protection can protect saplings from grazing. Consider natural regeneration as the	002. Restore and create lowland calcareous grassland 004. Restore and create neutral grassland and lowland meadows 008. Restore and create acid grassland and wet and dry heath 017. Traditional orchard management, restoration and creation 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity	

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		preferred method for the creation of new mosaic habitats that include trees and small woody areas. Value dynamic scrub and complex grassland/woody mosaic habitats and resist the perception of them as being unmanaged, neglected, messy or overgrown. Planting traditional orchards can also help create extensively grazed mosaic habitats.	033. Conservation Grazing 034. Physical Structure 035. Ecotones and edges 105. Dead wood	
015	**Measure 015: Manage wood pasture and parkland.** Manage and improve the ecological condition of ancient wood pasture and parkland, and other similar wood pasture, including improved structural diversity and availability of dead wood habitat, the presence of grazing animals, microhabitats, and nectar sources for invertebrates.	Create a more dynamic mosaic of successional semi-natural habitat and retain dead wood.	033. Conservation Grazing 035. Ecotones and edges 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 040. Ash dieback response 105. Dead wood	
016	**Measure 016: Restore and create wood pasture and parkland.** Establish new wood pasture habitats, and connect and buffer areas of ancient wood pasture and parkland, extensively grazed mosaic habitats which include trees, scrub, and small woody areas rich in edge habitats.	Restore and create new wood pasture using a variety of tree species such as common and sessile oak, lime and beech. This can include woodland with substantial glades and rides. Establish fringe areas around existing ancient wood pasture and parkland habitat for natural colonisation, and for creation of native woodland, hedgerows, scrub and rough grassland, to provide connections to other woodland, open or hedgerow habitats. Consider planting traditional orchard and fruit trees as a faster maturing interim stage towards a veteran tree habitat.	010. Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland. 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 035. Ecotones and edges 037: Hedgerows 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 038. Protecting tree growth 105. Dead wood	

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017	**Measure 017: Traditional orchard management, restoration and creation.** Maintain and improve existing traditional orchard sites and create or restore traditional orchard habitat, deadwood habitat or wood pasture & parkland, especially within 200 metres of existing traditional orchards, to increase the viability of deadwood habitats including for the noble chafer and for fungi.	Expand existing traditional orchard habitats. Plant new orchards, wood pasture or create deadwood habitat in locations that can form habitat stepping stones between known or likely noble chafer and orchard toothcrust orchards, including on historical former orchard sites. Increase the species and structural diversity of orchards at a site and landscape-scale to reduce vulnerability. Continue or reintroduce low input, active orchard management, responding to weather patterns and seasonal variations. Leave standing deadwood for noble chafer habitat. Produce habitat boxes to trial the effectiveness of using artificial deadwood habitat as replacement orchard habitat / stepping-stones between known or likely noble chafer orchards. Reduce or stop the use of pesticides. Retain and manage mistletoe. Prune orchard trees for longevity - traditional orchards provide trees with veteran features on a much shorter timescale. Plant a good genetic variety of orchard trees including heritage varieties which are less likely to depend on pesticides and fungicides, and a range of pollinator groups to increase the length of time a site has trees in bloom, to increase nectar availability. When planting, use home-produced local inoculants, such as molehill soil, instead of commercial mycorrhizal inoculants which can introduce unwanted mycorrhizal species. Encourage the growth of trees on traditional non-dwarfing rootstocks which tend to live longer and give rise to better dead wood opportunities, and consider planting ungrafted trees on their own rootstocks. Manage the grassland understory for species diversity, with seasonal grazing or cutting, retaining some areas of long grass for overwintering animals. Consider wildflower grassland creation and restoration measures when creating new orchards.	036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 038. Protecting tree growth 105. Dead wood	
	4. Open water			
018	**Measure 018: Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife.** Retain existing good quality pond habitats, improve condition of existing ponds and create new ponds for wildlife with a clean water source,	Use Freshwater Habitat Trust pond management guidance, including in particular the risk assessment for identifying valuable ponds. Avoid fencing ponds unless necessary to restrict disturbance, or to manage livestock access at an acceptable level. Limit pond disturbance by people and dogs. Also retain ephemeral or seasonally wet ponds as an important wildlife habitat – these are	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
	without fish, and with varying depth profiles, hydrological regimes, shapes, sizes and shading.	particularly vulnerable. Ensure existing ponds include a buffer of terrestrial habitat to connect to surrounding landscapes and for over-wintering habitat, for example for newts. Manage for a diverse pondscape of different ages, shading, sizes and designs. Create new ponds for wildlife in locations with restricted public access and a clean water source, including on agricultural land, gardens and green spaces. Consider a buffer zone of restricted public access to ensure undisturbed terrestrial habitat for newts. Restore old ponds, or ghost ponds, where they will meet clean water criteria and be of high value to biodiversity. Incorporate the creation and management of ponds into river restoration and natural flood management solutions. Assess the risk of damaging habitat or archaeology before undertaking pond restoration and creation. Use the Freshwater Habitats Trust pond creation toolkit and risk assessment. Ensure shallow banks and a variety of profile gradients and designs including deeper areas to maintain wetness in summer and to create varying levels of succession. Do not add fish to wildlife ponds.	047. Remove invasive non-native species 083. Strengthen white clawed crayfish population	
019	**Measure 019: Manage lakes for biodiversity.** Protect and enhance lakes to provide high quality, undisturbed, semi-natural open water lake and lakeshore habitats for the specialised suite of species that use them.	Maintain or restore lake marginal habitat and particularly communities of emergent plants which protect shores from wave action, reduce disturbance and provide high quality habitat. Survey and monitor lakes for aquatic macrophytes, including charophytes, and protect areas where notable plant assemblages occur. Where appropriate, diversify shoreline and lake bed morphology with the provision of inlets, bays, promontories, berms, islands and areas of shallow water. Manage shoreline tree cover to ensure sufficient open areas and sufficient light penetration for emergent, floating and submerged flora communities. Improve land management practices to reduce eutrophication, creating buffers along waterbodies upstream of lakes. Manage and remove invasive non-native species. Monitor and carefully manage human usage and disturbance of high biodiversity-value lakes including fishing, watersports, sailing, bathing and dog-swimming.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 045. Water quality 047. Remove invasive non-native species	

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	5. Running water			
020	**Measure 020: River re-naturalisation.** Where appropriate, restore and re-naturalise the channels of rivers and streams to give them space to move and meander laterally within and reconnect to their floodplains, restoring the wider footprint of river corridors, creating buffer habitat in riparian corridors and increasing morphological diversity of river in-channel and bankside.	Where appropriate, restore and re-naturalise river and wetland habitats to a structurally diverse condition. Restore natural floodplain connection, securing flood risk and wetland habitat benefits. Restore natural processes to encourage development of meanders, pools, and riffles that can enhance fish spawning opportunities. Raise the channel bed and reconnect the river with the floodplain to form mosaics of wetlands, riparian woodlands and floodplain meadows. Wherever possible and appropriate, remove and realign culverts and artificial bed and bank materials and obstructions. Check for historic riverine features such as culverts, weirs and fish traps before undertaking any restoration works. Consider restoration of paleochannels as part of the re-naturalisation approach, reversing historic straightening and excessive erosion in rivers. Give the river room to change naturally by allowing it to spread out over its floodplain and create multi threaded systems, with full floodplain reconnection - this approach is often termed stage 0 restoration. Avoid dredging where possible. A range of interventions should be considered such as: • Improving lateral connectivity between the river and its floodplain by removing embankments, lowering banks and gradients, raising the riverbed, and introducing woody material to encourage flow diversity and "spillage" into adjacent floodplain areas. Reconnecting the river to its floodplain can support the creation and re-establishment of wetland mosaics, riparian woodlands, and floodplain meadows. • Where appropriate, removing artificial in-channel obstructions and restoring natural bed and bank characteristics to re-establish natural flow regimes and to support hydrological and ecological processes. • Promoting morphological complexity within modified and straightened rivers by restoring natural sinuosity, re-creating in-channel features such as meanders, pools, and riffles, and enhancing habitat diversity	013. Manage and expand wet woodland 026. Restore and create wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic 041. Riparian tree planting 042. Riparian buffer strips 043. Floodplain reconnection 049. Slow the flow 050. Limit groundwater abstraction and surface flow abstraction 080. Beaver reintroduction and habitat creation	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		through the introduction of natural materials such as gravels and woody debris. • Providing room for the river to function dynamically, encouraging natural features like braided channels, active floodplain inundation, making space for beavers, and sediment deposition associated with a "stage 0" state. • Enhancing river resilience by provisioning riparian buffer strips and avoiding damaging activities that compromise natural processes, such as dredging and channel realignment.		
021	**Measure 021: Remove in-stream barriers.** Remove artificial in-stream barriers to fish populations where appropriate, and to increase connectivity for river processes, where appropriate. Solutions for fish passage can include weir removal, bypassing channels or installing fish passes or rock ramps, and creation of wetland habitat around the barrier.	Aim to remove barriers to fish passage and restore geomorphological processes such as gravel movements in priority catchments and main stems of watercourses such as the River Frome and Nailsworth Stream. Increase the chances for fish to migrate in and out of the river systems by modifying weirs such as those on the River Severn to allow upstream and downstream passage. Need to be aware of protecting white-clawed crayfish populations, where in-stream barrier removal may not be the preferred option. Feasibility and design of river restoration should take into account geomorphological processes, and check for historic riverine features such as culverts, weirs and fish traps, before undertaking any removal or restoration works.	080. Beaver reintroduction and habitat creation 110. Strengthen River Severn fish populations	
022	**Measure 022: Improve ecological condition of rivers.** Improve the ecological condition of rivers, including water quality, with low levels of contaminants and suspended sediment, and high quality in-channel and riparian habitat protected from degradation, to support diverse water-related wildlife.	Establish unsprayed buffer strips alongside watercourses in areas with high levels of diffuse pollution and surface water runoff. Narrow channels and add large woody debris and gravel where appropriate. Minimise soil erosion and silt runoff from farmland by creating low bunds to intercept overland flow paths, cover crops, contour ploughing, margins and buffer strips across slopes. Block drainage ditches to allow land to re-wet. Create online ponds to capture and filter runoff prior to discharge into watercourses. Avoid arable cropping on steep slopes and intensive grazing along river banks. Establish 5-50m buffer strips with both open and shaded habitat to provide a mosaic of habitats and resilience to climate change through river cooling.	041. Riparian tree planting 042. Riparian buffer strips 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 045. Water quality 046. Sewage and wastewater 052. Soil health and regenerative farming	

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		Fence livestock from accessing rivers and in vulnerable areas convert arable fields to species-rich grassland. Where appropriate, undertake vegetation management on river banks on rotation to maintain structural diversity and create niches. Promote local litter picks from rivers and install a sea cleaning device such as a Seabin at Lydney Harbour to reduce plastics entering the Severn Estuary. Kingfishers nest in the banks of rivers and streams and so can be particularly susceptible to increasingly frequent spring flood events. Creation of artificial nesting banks above past flood-levels can provide safe nesting sites.		
023	**Measure 023: Safeguard tufa and headwater springs.** Protect tufa depositing springs, streams and watercourses with tufa dam sequences; retain and maintain in good condition.	Ensure forestry activities and vehicles do not damage tufa features. Avoid damage from recreational and livestock access to streams. Avoid direct water abstraction from tufa springs. Drainage into tufa streams should be restricted or reduced to improve water quality and water levels to ensure invertebrates and chemical conditions are protected and kept at correct levels. Maintain or establish native riparian woodland buffers in agricultural areas for channel shading in tufa springs and watercourses, to benefit cold-adapted invertebrate, sometimes glacial relict invertebrate communities.	041: Riparian tree planting 050: Limit groundwater abstraction and surface flow abstraction	
024	**Measure 024: Natural Flood Management.** Manage flood risk using the Working with Natural Processes methodology in High and Medium risk catchments, to protect communities as well as restore nature.	Work in High and Medium priority catchments to slow flows of water by (i) increasing surface roughness (ii) storing water in the landscape and (iii) increasing losses to the soil/ groundwater or through evapotranspiration (increased trees and vegetation on flow pathways). Natural Flood Management is an approach to flood risk reduction rather than a single action. The approach is outlined in the Working with Natural Processes methodology. Projects that can demonstrate they will achieve these aims may be eligible for funding through local and national flood funding streams. Integrate additional and best outcomes and measures for biodiversity while implementing nature based solutions.	005. Manage floodplain meadows 006. Restore and create floodplain meadows 013. Manage and expand wet woodland 020. River re-naturalisation 026. Restore and create wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic 041. Riparian tree planting 042. Riparian buffer strips 043. Floodplain reconnection	

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			049. Slow the flow 052. Soil health and regenerative farming 069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems 080. Beaver reintroduction and habitat creation	
	6. Wetland			
025	**Measure 025: Manage wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic.** Manage wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic habitat for biodiversity to support thriving and diverse species, contribute to natural flood management and sequester carbon.	Maintain and improve the biodiversity of wetlands. Undertake vegetation management (e.g. cutting) on rotation, as appropriate, to maintain structural diversity and create niches. Avoid excess tree growth, such as willows, drying wetlands out. Consider light grazing or browsing by livestock to replicate natural herbivory patterns and create structural diversity and dynamic mosaic habitat. Conserve mature pollarded willows to support birds including redstart. Some very long established heronries need continued protection and quality habitats for their sustenance zones.	020. River re-naturalisation 034. Physical Structure 035. Ecotones and edges 043. Floodplain reconnection 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs	
026	**Measure 026: Restore and create wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic.** Create new functional wetlands appropriate to the site, including fens, reedbeds, marshes, wet woodland, or floodplain wetland mosaic habitat, with a diversity of niches and micro-habitats, in locations where natural processes can optimise habitat quality.	Re-profile drainage ditches and other low lying areas subject to inundation, where desirable, to create new marginal habitat. Undertake vegetation management (e.g. cutting) on rotation, as appropriate, to maintain structural diversity and create niches. Consider whether a new wetland may offer water storage opportunities during high rainfall events. Large-bodied birds, particularly those which form flocks, can be a safety hazard to aircraft, especially close to airfields. Therefore creation of open water or other habitat attractive to these birds is subject to restrictions within 13km or 8 miles of airfields, including MoD sites.	020. River re-naturalisation 034. Physical Structure 035. Ecotones and edges 043. Floodplain reconnection 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
027	**Measure 027: Manage and restore fens, mires and lowland peatland sites.** Retain, maintain and restore existing fen, mire and lowland peatland sites in good ecological condition, and ensure that water quality does not impact the ability of these habitats to survive.	Maintain water levels of fen, mire and lowland peatland sites by manipulation of ditches and streams, and prevent scrub from taking over. Use Working with Natural Processes techniques such as ditch-blocking and allowing areas to re-wet. Where there are peaty soils already, enhance semi-natural habitat to keep wetness. Grazing should be assessed and any over grazing brought under control, including from deer and rabbits. Reduce air pollution which can hinder the growth of sphagnum. Ensure no peat exploitation for horticulture.	044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 045. Water quality	
	7. Estuarine habitats			
028	**Measure 028: Protect and manage saltmarsh and mudflats.** Protect and manage existing areas of intertidal saltmarsh and mudflat.	Minimise physical disturbance to saltmarsh and mudflats from trampling by people and dogs and from coastal development. Maintain the natural functioning and dynamic processes of the estuarine system, to enable mudflats to form and move. Undertake sustainable grazing management of saltmarsh, ensuring that soil health, vegetation diversity and sward condition are protected.	043. Floodplain reconnection	
029	**Measure 029: Restore and create saltmarsh.** Where opportunities arise, create more saltmarsh habitat.	Where opportunities arise, use techniques such as managed realignment or regulated tidal exchange to create new saltmarsh, within areas above an appropriate salinity threshold. Keep Shoreline Management Plans updated.	043. Floodplain reconnection	

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	8. Nature-friendly farming and forestry			
030	**Measure 030: Field margins, hedgerows, buffer strips, ponds, trees and sustainable farming and forestry.** Increase diversity and resilience of species in the wider countryside, including by increasing habitat connectivity through hedgerows, field margins and headlands, riparian buffer strips, biodiversity in road verges, sustainable or regenerative farming, increasing tree cover and sustainable forestry.	Protect and establish veteran trees and hedgerows and create new ponds. Create grass or wildflower field margins, conservation headlands and plant nectar strips. Create 5-50m riparian buffer strips with a mosaic of open and shaded habitat along all watercourses. Dry stone walls can help to create helpful microclimates and habitats.	011. Establish new woodland and tree cover 018. Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 032. Road verge biodiversity 035. Ecotones and edges 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 042. Riparian buffer strips 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 051. Field margins 052. Soil health and regenerative farming 053. Drought resilient farming techniques 054. Sustainable forestry and nature recovery 055. Agroforestry 078. Strengthen serotine population 105. Dead wood	

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031	**Measure 031: Create wildlife corridor connectivity.** Develop wildlife corridor connectivity between habitats and across our landscape, by creating and maintaining structurally diverse habitats including woodland, scrub, tree cover, wetlands, wet woodland, rough grasslands, field margins, riparian buffer strips and hedgerows.	Aim to increase habitat connectivity across farmland. Create linked and transitional habitats to enable movement of species through the landscape and in response to climate change.	011. Establish new woodland and tree cover 013. Manage and expand wet woodland 014. Create mixed mosaic habitats including scrub, including orchard 026. Restore and create wetland and floodplain wetland mosaic 032. Road verge biodiversity 035. Ecotones and edges 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 042. Riparian buffer strips 051. Field margins 055. Agroforestry 105. Dead wood	
	Habitat Measures (unmapped)			
032	**Measure 032: Road verge biodiversity.** Aim for floral biodiversity in road verges, including by avoiding cutting between April and July, and through natural recolonisation or planting of native species.	Exceptions to avoiding cutting between April and July would be for safety cuts, where it is operationally not viable, to control coarse grasses and non-native species, or on edges to show that the verge is well-cared for. Ideally, annually mow road verges in August or September, or autumn or winter if conditions acceptable. Collect cuttings if possible and place in a sacrificial area away from any water course, or take away for green recycling. Vary cutting height and frequency to create different zones or sections to benefit a larger range of species including invertebrates. Allow taller, more infrequently cut vegetation, including scrub and trees, towards the back of the verge, unless alongside a dry stone wall. Establish new biodiversity rich road verges through natural recolonisation, by strewing local green hay in late summer, potentially from	035. Ecotones and edges 069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems	

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		adjacent conservation road verges, or by planting native species. Avoid using topsoil for new verges. Verge restoration can include top soil removal.		
033	**Measure 033: Conservation grazing.** Manage grassland, meadow, mosaic, wood pasture and heath habitats with extensive (light) or seasonal grazing, ideally by native breeds.	Commercial breeds will be vulnerable to poisoning from native plants such as yew, ragwort and bracken. They will also struggle on poor forage - tending to avoid the vegetation that needs grazing most to maintain diversity (grass focused). Cattle and ponies in combination are best as they simulate the grazing pressure that our plant communities and wildlife originally developed in adaptation to. Cattle are excellent non-selective grazers, taking a little from each vegetation type. Horned cattle breeds have the added capacity to pull down small sapling trees to browse, limiting succession rates. Ponies are very hardy and suited to year round applications but have a stronger grass bias resulting in stronger contrast between short pastures and tall scrub. Sheep are beneficial where bramble dominates and for some species measures and grassland restorations. GPS collar virtual fencing can allow for targeted grazing without excess fence infrastructure, helping to allow a varied sward structure to be maintained, areas protected for scrub and trees where appropriate and areas protected for rare plants, ground nesting birds or great crested newts breeding ponds. Manage grazing of sites flexibly in response to seasonal variations in vegetation growth, increased climatic variation and increase in extreme events. Where feasible, use rotational management to leave some areas uncut and ungrazed each year.		
034	**Measure 034: Physical Structure.** Within grassland and mixed mosaic habitat sites, maintain and consider the creation of a more varied physical ground structure of different aspects and gradients.	This variety is similar to the lumps and bumps of small historic shallow quarries, to increase species richness and microclimates. Include rocky bare ground, disturbed ground or thin skeletal soils which are required by some of our most endangered species, including mosses such as Weissia sterilis, Gymnocarpium robertianum and Weissia condensa. Subject to checks for archaeology, consider scrapes and pits.		
035	**Measure 035: Ecotones and edges.** Promote gradual changes in habitat structure, or ecotones, between habitats.	These gradual changes should be developed for example between hedgerow and field, or between woodland and grassland, to encourage scrub, shrubs and longer grasses and plants, rather than sharp boundaries between different habitats.		

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036	**Measure 036: Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees.** Conserve existing ancient and veteran trees and establish and safeguard the next generation of veteran trees outside woodland.	Identify and maintain ancient and veteran trees, as irreplaceable habitat, and trees with future conservation interest. Use halo-thinning or creation of an exclusion zone around the root protection area where it is vulnerable to ground compaction. Connect areas of ancient or veteran trees with more woodland, traditional orchard, wood pasture or parkland, trees, hedgerows, scrub and rough grassland, via planting and regeneration. Identify and retain old trees of value which may develop into future veterans, where it is safe to do so. Establish future veteran trees, plant new generations of appropriate species and genotypes to replace veteran trees before they are lost.	066. Urban tree planting and management 105. Dead wood 106. Veteran ash pollards	
037	**Measure 037: Hedgerows.** Manage and improve the biodiversity of hedgerows, and increase the connectivity of hedgerows across the landscape.	Manage hedgerows to a thick and tall condition. Gap up and thicken weakened hedges. Create new hedges where viable and reinstate ancient hedgerows. Include native fruit species, hawthorn and cherry plum as hedgerow trees for nectar, bird food and for habitat stepping stones between orchards. Include elm, wych elm and hazel to support species including butterflies, moths and dormice. Introduce goat willow as an early source of nectar for bees emerging from hibernation. Tag occasional tree saplings (for example oak, field maple or sycamore) so they are allowed to grow into full size standards. Rotate hedge management years, and lay or coppice hedgerows, with protection from livestock, on a long rotation to improve cover and structural complexity and to regenerate their growth. Hedgerows should ideally be cut in late winter, outside the nesting season and once any berries have been eaten. Avoid trimming hedgerows if possible, if necessary trim to a high A profile or just trim one side per year. Ensure hedgerows are not created or increased in height near to any existing populations of corn bunting, skylark or lapwing.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 035. Ecotones and edges 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 051. Field margins 105. Dead wood	

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038	**Measure 038: Protecting tree growth.** Collaborate across land ownership boundaries to control deer, grey squirrels and wild boar at a scale that will enable natural regrowth, regeneration and woodland management.	Control muntjac and sika deer as invasive species whose browsing is particularly destructive to habitats, and significantly reduce fallow deer populations and carry out ongoing roe deer control. Ensure natural regeneration and planting are protected during establishment. Preferably use thorny vegetation to envelope trees, rather than tree guards. If not possible, use alternatives to plastic tree guards.		
039	**Measure 039: Woodland climate adaptation.** Assist the northward migration of woodland core species through the translocation of deadwood and flora and the inoculation of sites with woodland soil, in line with Forestry Research guidance to avoid the spread of pests and pathogens.			
040	**Measure 040: Ash dieback response.** Retain ash, and leave dead and dying trees standing, where it is possible and safe to do, maintain lichens, and encourage a variety of trees and shrubs to mitigate for the loss of ash.	Retain ash where it is possible and safe to do so since they may have genetic tolerance to dieback, thus enhancing the prospects for future populations of healthy ash in our landscape. Leave dead and dying trees standing where safe to do so, and ensure to retain deadwood stumps. Manage any retained ash trees to create and maintain optimum conditions for their lichens and fungi, especially maintaining and restoring open, well-lit but sheltered conditions around veteran trees within traditionally grazed habitats. Replacement species for ash - plant a variety of trees and shrubs that can together mitigate for the loss of ash and its reliant species. Refer to the AshEcol guidance Natural England research reports for replacement species, especially where there are known rare or semi-obligate ash dependent species. Consider leaving areas previously dominated by ash to develop through natural regeneration. Refer to the most recent research on responding to ash dieback.	106. Veteran ash pollards	
041	**Measure 041: Riparian tree planting.** Plant corridors of wet woodland broadleaved tree species alongside watercourses.	Include alder, willow, aspen, poplar and black poplar, with other native broadleaf species forming a minor component. Within the Forest of Dean, introduce 10 and 20 metre riparian buffer zones to priority watercourses, with their own management coupe and restocking coupe, as guided by the Forestry England Forest Waters Project team. Gradually remove non riparian suitable		 

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		tree species such as non native conifers from riparian areas and replace with riparian trees.		
042	**Measure 042: Riparian buffer strips.** Establish and maintain riparian buffer strips of 5-50 metres plus on each side of rivers and watercourses.	Larger buffers provide greater biodiversity benefits. Buffer strips should comprise a mosaic of vegetation including trees, wildlife-rich grassland and reedbeds, and should be fenced. This will improve river ecology through a mix of open and shady habitats, establish some river cooling, create natural wildlife corridors, reduce pollution from reaching rivers and provide natural flood management benefits. Where appropriate around deeper sections, meander bends and pools below riffles, increase the amount of tree planting and cover to ensure rivers are kept cool for fish species.		
043	**Measure 043: Floodplain reconnection.** Hydrologically reconnect floodplain to river, through the removal or breaching of flood banks and bunds.	Expand areas of floodplain meadow and fen by linking isolated sites where possible. Where agricultural land is on the floodplain, don't defend the land from inundation, but farm it differently at different times of year. Remove or breach flood banks and bunds if appropriate after consultation with flood risk authorities. Subject to checks for archaeology, restore floodplain features such as scrapes, sluices and channels. Check for archaeology before removing any banks or bunds as they may be historically significant.		
044	**Measure 044: Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs.** Minimise the use of fertilisers, pesticides, herbicides and fungicides, especially in the immediate surrounds of water bodies including ponds, and on catchment slopes, and use integrated pest management where appropriate.	Implement sensitive land management practices to reduce diffuse pollution from excess soil nutrients, including timing of field operations to reduce soil compaction during wetter periods, run-off management and soil erosion control. Ensure drainage ditches are not overdug. Revert arable to species-rich grassland in high risk areas to reduce diffuse pollution.		
045	**Measure 045: Water quality.** Ensure high water quality by monitoring and addressing point source and diffuse water quality issues, including both surface water and	In agricultural settings, follow the Farming Rules for Water and Catchment Sensitive Farming guidance as a bare minimum. Consider Natural Flood Management and biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems on a wide scale throughout catchments to intercept and slow flows, reducing poor water quality while creating habitat for increased biodiversity. Biodiversity-rich	024. Natural Flood Management 069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems	

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	groundwater, depending on the specific hydrology of the waterbody or wetland.	Sustainable Drainage Systems should also be included at industrial sites and through water companies.		
046	**Measure 046: Sewage and wastewater.** Ensure that treated effluent from wastewater treatment works is of optimum quality and eliminate untreated overflows of sewage and wastewater.	Beyond infrastructure and effluent quality improvements, consider natural wetland treatment systems using reedbeds, to create more wetland habitat. Increase treatment capacity and reduce overflow into rivers. Invest in separation of clean water from sewerage systems. Invest in biodiversity-rich urban Sustainable Drainage Systems.	069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems	
047	**Measure 047: Remove invasive non-native species.** Control, and where possible or necessary, eradicate invasive non-native species in water bodies, ponds and rivers.	Promote good biosecurity to slow the spread of invasive non-native species and associated diseases.	083. Strengthen white clawed crayfish population	
048	**Measure 048: Severn Estuary marine biosecurity.** Raise awareness of the Severn Estuary cross-border Biosecurity Plan and follow the best practice biosecurity recommendations and actions to mitigate against the spread of invasive non-native species in the Severn Estuary.			
049	**Measure 049: Slow the flow.** Introduce large woody debris, deflectors, dams in streams and roughened ground to slow the flow of water at times of high flow.	Roughen the ground to reduce speed and volumes of overland flows before water gets to drains or streams and to create diversity of habitat. Check for historic water management features before building dams and creating rough ground. Large woody debris should be as natural and leaky as possible, and not create new barriers across watercourses.	024. Natural Flood Management	
050	**Measure 050: Limit groundwater abstraction and surface flow abstraction.** Ensure that groundwater and surface flow abstraction is low enough to	Review and limit groundwater abstraction in aquifer areas which are proven to be hydraulically connected to rivers, wetlands and spring outflows such as tufa springs.		

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	protect river and wetland habitats from low flows.			
051	**Measure 051: Field margins.** Create grass or wildflower field margins and conservation headlands in all fields to provide a diversity of wildflowers, wildflower seed and invertebrates for farmland birds. Leave areas and field margins unsprayed.	Plant nectar strips and cultivated headlands for arable plants. Include species and cultivars in planted field margins that can tolerate and flower under hotter and drier summers. Use variable mowing regimes to ensure cover for small mammals and winter refugia for invertebrates. Remove arisings after mowing to avoid the build up of fertility and the loss of wildflowers to vigorous grasses. Consult the Gloucestershire HER to check where archaeological sites/features are present and would also benefit from being protected by conservation headlands in field margins.	037. Hedgerows 096. Individual species needs of farmland birds 097. Add food sources for ground-nesting adult farmland birds 098. Add food sources for ground-nesting farmland bird chicks 099. Add food sources for hedge-nesting adult farmland birds 100. Add food sources for hedge-nesting farmland bird chicks 104. Rare arable plants and soil fauna, flora and fungi 105. Dead wood	
052	**Measure 052: Soil health and Regenerative Farming.** Improve soil health, including increasing the biomass of soil fungi, hyphae and mycorrhizae, to improve carbon sequestration, reduce soil erosion and support greater biodiversity.	Build up organic matter in soils, including by continuing or establishing pasture-based farming and regenerative management practices as the basis for soil health. Use cover crops and herbal leys to improve soil cohesion and water retention. Use the principles of agro-ecological farming, and/or the 5 principles of regenerative farming: 1. livestock at low density; 2. protect and cover the soil surface; 3. minimise soil disturbance; 4. crop diversity; 5. maintain living roots. Minimise soil erosion and silt runoff from farmland by creating low bunds to intercept overland flow paths, cover crops, contour ploughing, margins and buffer strips across slopes. Avoid arable cropping on steep slopes and intensive grazing along river banks. Review growing of high risk crops for soil erosion in high risk areas such as Wye Valley and Leadon Vale (for examples maize and potatoes and late harvesting on sandy soils).	044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 053. Drought resilient farming techniques	

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053	**Measure 053: Drought resilient farming techniques.** In areas of Gloucestershire which are becoming drier due to climate change, such as the Cotswolds, incorporate dry farming practices which reduce the irrigation needs of crops and increase and make use of soil moisture.	Build up organic matter in the soil through regenerative farming, adding organic amendments and rotational grazing on arable land. Study water flow across the land creating opportunities to store water in ponds, wetlands and lakes while ensuring flow is maintained across the waterbody. Repair infrastructure to reduce risk of soil damage through flooding, stagnation and eutrophication. Select crops that are adapted to the predicted climate for the appropriate soil type, climate and rainfall. Plant a diversity of crops to be adaptive to climate change.		
054	**Measure 054: Sustainable forestry and nature recovery.** Introduce and sustain ecological practices in woodlands used for timber production, to increase biodiversity and develop greater resilience to threats including climate change and pests and diseases.	Adopt ecologically sound forestry practices in woodlands used for timber production, to UK Forestry Standard and above, including continuous cover management regimes, which attempt to mimic natural processes and make best use of natural regeneration for restocking, integration of areas and corridors of native broadleaved woodland in coniferous forests, and diversifying woodland structure and range of tree species. Restore Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) to a more semi-natural composition. Create new multifunctional or productive woodlands providing timber within wildlife-rich forest design. Minimise soil erosion from woodland during felling operations.	035. Ecotones and edges 040. Ash dieback response 055. Agroforestry 105. Dead wood	
055	**Measure 055: Agroforestry.** Integrate more agroforestry practices within the farmed landscape to combine food production and farm businesses with tree planting and tree cover.	Agroforestry practices include arable (silvoarable) and grazing (silvopasture) systems.		

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
	9. Biodiversity in settlements and developments Measures (mapped)			
056	**Measure 056: Urban green spaces, blue spaces and wildlife corridors.** Manage, restore, improve and create new wildlife habitats, wildlife corridors and habitat edges in urban green spaces and parks, allotments, churchyards and blue spaces (rivers, canals and water-related).	Ensure existing green spaces and nature reserves have good connections, as wide as possible, to the wider countryside, with a priority of linking to the nearest core habitat in the Nature Recovery Network map. Ensure ecological connectivity through undeveloped green corridors to enable movement and genetic exchange to occur between species populations on the Cotswold outlier hills such as Robinswood Hill and Churchdown Hill, and the main Cotswolds. Use grass cutting regimes to create a diversity of heights of grassland, and where feasible no cutting between April and July except for safety cuts or to control coarse grasses to eventually restore species diversity, or to control non-native invasive species. Plant trees and hedgerows and create wildflower meadows, prioritising native species. Manage and create water features for habitat creation and flood risk benefits. Find areas to where paving and hardstanding can safely be removed and replaced with planting spaces to reduce the amount of impermeable surfaces.	003. Manage neutral grassland and lowland meadows 060. Canals, rivers and urban bluespaces 065. Access to biodiversity-rich green spaces 066. Urban tree planting and management 067. Wildlife corridors on travel routes 105. Dead wood	
057	**Measure 057: Biodiversity in settlements and gardens.** Maintain and improve the biodiversity and habitat connectivity potential of urban areas and settlements, gardens and green and blue spaces.	Create and manage habitats, wildlife corridors and connectivity, increased tree planting, water management schemes and other appropriate measures, to help increase tree equity and mitigate and reverse the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss.	018. Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife 020. River re-naturalisation 032. Road verge biodiversity 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 060. Canals, rivers and urban bluespaces 061. Green Infrastructure Standards for Nature 062. Swift, house martin and bat bricks 063. Biodiversity in gardens 064. Dark Skies	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
			065. Access to biodiversity-rich green spaces 066. Urban tree planting and management 067. Wildlife corridors on travel routes 068. Highway amphibian protection 069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems 105. Dead wood	
058	**Measure 058: New developments and green and blue infrastructure.** Create green and blue infrastructure, wildlife corridors as wide as possible, biodiversity-rich sustainable drainage systems and other wildlife-friendly measures in new developments and infrastructure projects, with a principle of creating connectivity across the landscape, with a priority of linking to the nearest core habitat in the Nature Recovery Network map. An effective habitat management plan for wildlife corridors and areas should be agreed with the local planning authority.	Avoid completely cutting off and fragmenting nature reserves and wildlife sites with development. Include more modest sized wildlife corridors connecting larger areas of trees, woodlands or open space. Carry out soil sampling of proposed development sites to ensure that landscaping and habitat creation proposals are feasible with the existing soil conditions. Design open spaces in relation to the principles in Potential Measures 056 Urban green spaces, blue spaces and wildlife corridors and 063 Biodiversity in Gardens. Consider the ambition for 30% tree cover in new developments, as recommended by the Woodland Trust. Establish 5-50m riparian buffers along waterbodies with a mosaic of open and shaded habitats.	011. Establish new woodland and tree cover 018. Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 032. Road verge biodiversity 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 042. Riparian buffer strips 056. Urban green spaces, blue spaces and wildlife corridors 061. Green Infrastructure Standards for Nature 062. Swift, house martin and bat bricks 063. Biodiversity in gardens 064. Dark Skies 065. Access to biodiversity-rich green spaces 066. Urban tree planting and management 067. Wildlife corridors on travel routes	

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			068. Highway amphibian protection 069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems 105. Dead wood	
059	**Measure 059: Green bridges and wildlife crossings.** Where appropriate, create green bridges, underpasses, overpasses or mammal gantry bridges to connect habitats and facilitate movement of species such pine marten, hazel dormouse, amphibians and reptiles to cross busy roads in core habitat areas.		067. Wildlife corridors on travel routes 069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems	
	Biodiversity in settlements and developments Measures (unmapped)			
060	**Measure 060: Canals, rivers and urban bluespaces.** Protect, manage and create wildlife corridors along urban rivers and disused and active canals and protect and maintain wetland in disused canals.	Provide opportunities for combined blue/ green infrastructure.		

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061	**Measure 061: Green Infrastructure Standards for Nature.** In line with Gloucestershire's Strategic Framework for Green Infrastructure, use Green Infrastructure standards for nature for designing and delivering biodiversity in new developments, for example Building with Nature standards or Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework.	Use of these Green Infrastructure standards includes protecting and enhancing existing good quality wildlife habitat on the site, ensuring that new developments maintain and deliver Green Infrastructure that provides wildlife habitat connectivity to ecological features and networks beyond the development boundary, and incorporating sustainable drainage systems. Include biodiversity in advice given to new residents in welcome packs, emphasising the importance that private gardens can have in providing stepping-stones and corridors for wildlife, and the importance of permeable surfaces in flood alleviation.	063. Biodiversity in gardens 069. Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems	
062	**Measure 062: Swift, house martin and bat bricks.** Provide swift bricks, house martin nesting features or bird boxes in new buildings and retrofit to existing buildings.	Swift bricks should be installed above 5m and away from driveways and windows, ideally on north-facing or east-facing walls, avoiding southern aspects to avoid overheating. Bat bricks and roof access tiles can be included in new or renovated houses by replacing an existing brick or tile, in a warm place facing south, south-east or south-west to expose to sun for part of the day, above 4m or under the eaves, with a good uninterrupted flight path and away from strong artificial light, giving access to the roof void.		
063	**Measure 063: Biodiversity in gardens.** Increase biodiversity, habitats and habitat connectivity potential of gardens.	Plant a range of nectar source plants including fruit trees, create small ponds, leave patches of longer grass and nettles, and plant native wildflowers and trees (as locally native as possible). Provide homes for wildlife such as brash and log piles, bird and bat boxes, and bee and insect hotels. Provide bird feeders and water for birds. Avoid the use of slug pellets, herbicides, fungicides, insecticides and peat-based garden products. Keep a compost heap for grass cuttings, leaves and organic kitchen waste. When planting, use home-produced local inoculants, such as molehill soil, instead of commercial mycorrhizal inoculants which can introduce unwanted mycorrhizal species. Create rain gardens from rainwater harvesting. Ensure gaps in fences between gardens to allow species movement, including hedgehogs. Plant native species in preference to non-native if there is an option. Maximise the habitat connectivity potential of gardens. Avoid replacing natural lawns and gardens with hard landscaping, parking spaces or astroturf.		

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064	**Measure 064: Dark Skies.** Exterior lighting and street lighting, especially LEDs, affecting roosting, foraging and/or commuting habitat for bats should be avoided or minimised.	This should be done by ensuring light distribution is always downward facing (using hoods) and can include using dimmer lights at dusk and dawn, using lights in the red spectrum that bats can better tolerate, and using movement-triggered lights. Protect existing, and create new, dark vegetated corridors to enhance connectivity and dispersal routes between bat roosts. Dark skies policies can reduce pressure on nocturnal species including pollinating insects. Exterior lighting should conform with the latest best practice guidelines outlined by the Bat Conservation Trust and the Institute of Lighting Professionals.		
065	**Measure 065: Access to biodiversity-rich green spaces.** Take actions to increase the potential for everyone to live 15 minutes from biodiversity-rich accessible green spaces.			
066	**Measure 066: Urban tree planting and management.** Maintain urban trees, woodlands and hedgerows, and plant and foster survival or new street trees.	Maintain urban trees through management practices including mulching, appropriate pruning, reducing soil compaction, and creating an exclusion zone around the root protection area. Ensure inspections and bat surveys are done before works on trees where bats could be roosting. Plant new street trees in appropriately designed and maintained tree pits and pre-plan their watering and establishment to foster their survival. Plant a wide variety of street trees suitable for each location including insect and wind pollinators, and species that will be adapted to future climates, prioritising areas that will connect existing green spaces and areas with low Tree Equity scoring.		

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067	**Measure 067: Wildlife corridors on travel routes.** Protect, manage and create wildlife corridors and habitats along cycle paths, disused and active railways, and disused and active canals.	Protect and maintain existing hedgerows, scrub and trees, and protect and maintain wetland in disused canals. Improve the biodiversity of grassland, and plant native species including trees and hedgerows to increase wildlife habitat connectivity. Where new cycle paths and footpaths are created, take opportunities to deliver better wildlife connectivity, to incorporate existing habitats including hedgerows, to incorporate new linear habitats and to maintain these habitats in the long-term.		
068	**Measure 068: Highway amphibian protection.** Along highways, reduce the use of gully pots, and where used, place ladders in gully pots, and site gully pots away from kerb edges to prevent amphibians and other species getting trapped.			
069	**Measure 069: Biodiversity-rich Sustainable Drainage Systems.** Create blue-green infrastructures in the form of Sustainable Drainage Systems along highways and verges, to create connectivity of green spaces in the urban environment while holding water in the catchment for longer.	Above ground drainage pathways, such as vegetated swales, should be prioritised over piped networks, and flood storage at rain gardens and wetlands should be prioritised over below ground attenuation, to ensure that all four pillars of sustainable surface water drainage (water quantity, water quality, amenity, and biodiversity) are achieved. Wetlands or permanent water level should be incorporated into flood attenuation where feasible to increase biodiversity and amenity benefits. Drainage strategies for new development adjacent to watercourses should mimic natural hydrological regimes by avoiding a single point of discharge and spreading attenuated runoff across the watercourse boundary. Highway, cycleway, car park, and public area upgrades should incorporate the retrofit of sustainable drainage systems as these are likely to be the most cost-effective way of retrofitting blue-green infrastructure into the existing urban environment. All future drainage improvements in these spaces should include water quality mitigation to enhance environments further down the catchment.		

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	11. Species Measures - Individual			
070	**Measure 070: Strengthen breeding curlew population.** Within floodplain meadow sites, provide bespoke support for Gloucestershire's threatened curlew population.	Maintain current grassland management practices of late hay cuts. Monitor and protect curlew nests from predators in fields where they are nesting. Increase the area of meadows managed with a late hay cut. See Estuary Bird measure in relation to overwintering curlews.	109. Strengthen Severn Estuary and floodplain waterbird populations	
071	**Measure 071: Increase resilience of wood warbler population.** Maintain minimum viable habitat size of mature closed canopy woodland to support wood warbler population.	Ensure woodlands have large areas of oak dominated, dense and closed canopy woodland with an open structure beneath canopy. Maintain and increase the area of suitable habitat.		
072	**Measure 072: Strengthen hazel dormouse population.** Maintain and enhance the dormouse population in Gloucestershire, which is on the edge of its reducing range in England, by encouraging appropriate woodland, hedgerow and scrub management and maintaining and enhancing habitat connectivity.	Within woodland, maintain, enhance and connect scrub and understory, ideally by appropriate ride management which can then be linked to areas of in rotation hazel coppice. Within the wider countryside maintain and enhance thick hedges that include hazel and a range of fruit and berries, and areas of dense scrub, by appropriate annual management and rejuvenate when necessary. Ensure veteran trees are retained to provide rot-holes for nesting and refuge for hazel dormouse and other species.	014. Create mixed mosaic habitats including scrub, including orchard 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 037. Hedgerows 059. Green bridges and wildlife crossings	
073	**Measure 073: Strengthen Bechstein's bat population.** Protect, maintain and increase the population of Bechstein's bat, as Gloucestershire is near the north west edge of its range in the UK.	Maintain all known Bechstein's bat maternity roosts and hibernation sites in a favourable condition, according to statutory guidance. Safeguard foraging habitat around Bechstein's bat maternity and hibernation sites - within a 7km radius, maintain connectivity of hedgerows, tree lines and vegetated waterways between woodland roosts and foraging grounds of riparian vegetation, unimproved grassland, marsh, wetland habitats or coastal grassland. Maintain and extend ancient woodlands where Bechstein's bats roost in favourable condition including a diverse structure. These bats require a diverse three-tiered woodland structure with numerous mature trees with deep	009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 010. Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		cavities available for roosting. Protect and maintain veteran trees within 1km of known roosts. Prevent the reduction of the understory through deer browsing, heavy thinning, conversion to wood-pasture and intensive coppicing. Protect and maintain ancient and veteran trees within 1km of the roost, connected by hedgerows or tree lines. Outside woodlands these individual trees should be connected by hedgerows or tree lines. This should also include at least 4 standing large girth dead or dying trees per hectare, where it is safe to do so, in order to provide Bechstein bats with splits and cavities within which to roost. Where lacking in large old trees, veteranisation of sites within 7km range of Bechstein bat roosts should be considered. A second option is to install suitable bat boxes or create artificial veteran trees by strapping dead trunks with holes to live trees. Restrict use of pesticides, insecticides and herbicides.	036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 038. Protecting tree growth 064. Dark Skies 105. Dead wood	
074	**Measure 074: Strengthen greater horseshoe bat population.** Protect, maintain and increase the population of greater horseshoe bat, a rare species highly sensitive to disturbance.	Maintain all known greater horseshoe bat maternity roosts and hibernation sites in a favourable condition, according to statutory guidance. Prevent the old buildings which host maternity roosts from deteriorating and avoid physical disturbance and lighting. Avoid disturbance to hibernating bats by preventing access to caves and mines where they are found, including by repairing and replacing damaged fencing or grills. To support foraging habitat, encourage grazing of permanent pasture by livestock, preferably cattle, within a radius of at least 4km of maternity roosts and 2km of hibernation sites. Around maternity roosts, maintain and enhance a mixed landscape of wood pasture and parkland, and pasture, close to ancient woodland and linked with an abundance of tall bushy hedgerows. Maintain linear features of mature and tall, bushy hedgerows and treelines, gap up and create new hedgerows. Do not use avermectin-based veterinary products on livestock, and restrict use of pesticides, insecticides and herbicides, so that livestock dung can provide habitat for beetles and flies upon which the bats feed. Refer to the requirements and Natural England supplementary advice for the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 037. Hedgerows 064. Dark Skies	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
075	**Measure 075: Greater horseshoe bat flightlines.** Improve habitat to encourage bats to move between Forest of Dean and Stroud Valleys, to improve genetic diversity in the greater horseshoe bat population.	Maintain habitats within known greater horseshoe bat flyways for navigation between summer and winter sites or hibernacula. For this purpose, linear features of mature and tall, bushy hedgerows and treelines, and grazed pastures and saltings are important. To ensure continued connectivity, gaps should be closed within existing hedgerows and the creation of new interconnecting hedgerows should be considered. Do not use avermectin-based veterinary products on livestock, and restrict use of pesticides, insecticides and herbicides.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 037. Hedgerows 064. Dark Skies	
076	**Measure 076: Strengthen lesser horseshoe bat population.** Protect, maintain and increase the population of lesser horseshoe bat, to recover from significant declines in abundance.	Maintain all known lesser horseshoe bat maternity roosts and hibernation sites in a favourable condition, according to statutory guidance. Prevent the buildings which host maternity roosts from deteriorating and avoid physical disturbance and lighting. Avoid disturbance to hibernating bats by preventing access to caves and mines where they are found, including by repairing and replacing damaged fencing or grills. These bats forage in woodland, therefore ensure there is tree cover and woodland adjacent to maternity roosts. Within at least a 3km radius of known maternity roosts, create and maintain a foraging landscape of grazed permanent pasture and ancient and semi-natural woodland, linked with an abundance of continuous, tall bushy hedgerows. Refer to the requirements and Natural England supplementary advice for the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC.	009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 010. Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 038. Protecting tree growth 064. Dark Skies 105. Dead wood	
077	**Measure 077: Strengthen Western barbastelle population** Protect, maintain and increase the population of Western barbastelle, a rare bat species found in scattered locations in Gloucestershire.	Maintain all known Western barbastelle bat maternity roosts and hibernation sites in a favourable condition, according to statutory guidance. Safeguard foraging habitat around Western barbastelle bat maternity and hibernation sites - within a 7km radius of known maternity roosts, maintain connectivity of hedgerows, tree lines and vegetated waterways between woodland roosts and foraging grounds of riparian vegetation, unimproved grassland, marsh, wetland habitats or coastal grassland.	009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 010. Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		Within ancient woodland, a broad range of tree age classes, including ancient and veteran trees should be promoted. This should also include at least 4 standing large girth dead or dying trees per hectare, where it is safe to do so, in order to provide Western barbastelles with splits and cavities within which to roost. Where lacking in large old trees, veteranisation of sites within 7km range of Western barbastelle roosts should be considered. Avoid the reduction of the understory through high levels of deer browsing, heavy thinning, or intensive coppicing. Install bat boxes where there is suitable foraging habitat.	031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 037. Hedgerows 038. Protecting tree growth 064. Dark Skies 105. Dead wood	
078	**Measure 078: Strengthen serotine population.** Protect, maintain and increase the population of serotine bats, which are moving north and west into Gloucestershire due to climate change	Maintain all known serotine bat maternity roosts and hibernation sites in a favourable condition, according to statutory guidance. Prevent buildings which host maternity roosts from deteriorating and avoid physical disturbance and lighting. To support foraging, enhance, extend and create a landscape of wood pasture and parkland, with pasture preferably grazed by cattle, and ancient woodland, linked with an abundance of tall bushy hedgerows. Do not use avermectin-based veterinary products on livestock, and restrict use of pesticides, insecticides and herbicides, so that livestock dung can provide habitat for beetles and flies upon which the bats feed.	009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 010. Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 037. Hedgerows 064. Dark Skies	
079	**Measure 079: Strengthen soprano pipistrelle population.** Protect, maintain and increase the population of soprano pipistrelle bats, which need lakes which are relatively few in number in Gloucestershire	Maintain all known soprano pipistrelle bat maternity roosts in buildings and hibernation sites in a favourable condition, according to statutory guidance. Prevent the buildings hosting roosts from deteriorating. Consider installing bat boxes within suitable riparian corridors to provide alternative roosting sites and improve resilience. Avoid physical disturbance and lighting. Maternity roosts of soprano pipistrelle are strongly associated with open waterbodies, often over 0.8 hectares in area. Maintain and enhance emergent vegetation and fringing riparian woodland around open water bodies. Ensure clean water enters lake and millpond catchments. Create shallow berms and banks in restored former gravel pits. Ensure there is undisturbed connectivity between the foraging grounds and potential roost sites, provided by wooded vegetation including hedgerows, linked trees and scrub. Provide opportunities	009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 010. Expand and buffer ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural woodland and long-established woodland 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 037. Hedgerows 064. Dark Skies	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		for roosting Soprano pipistrelle around gravel pit lakes, for example using bat boxes or pole mounted bat boxes where trees and buildings are not available.		
080	**Measure 080: Beaver reintroduction and habitat creation.** Create favourable habitat next to watercourses in anticipation of arrival of beaver populations and in order to facilitate beaver releases.	Encourage and enable beavers to remain, settle and increase in abundance to provide ecological functionality through naturalisation of stream channels, connection to floodplains and creation of diverse wetland habitats. Facilitate colonisation in socially and ecologically appropriate areas by planting favoured broadleaved species, including willow and aspen, in the riparian zone. Allow a wooded buffer of 20m between water's edge and adjacent land use to minimise conflict and improve foraging and burrowing opportunities. Consider installing "beaver dam analogues" to impound water in strategic locations. If necessary, when and where beavers are present, protect individual trees of value using sand paint or mesh guarding. Support the set up and functioning of beaver stakeholder and management groups to help maximise benefits for people and nature and to minimise risks to property and infrastructure, potentially including reintroduction of free-living beaver where ecologically and socially feasible. This could be where it will provide downstream flood risk alleviation, in well-buffered streams or lakes with a riparian mosaic of trees, shrubs and soft vegetation, and where there is low risk of land-use conflict.	020. River re-naturalisation	
081	**Measure 081: Strengthen adder population.** Protect, maintain and increase populations of adder, particularly as Gloucestershire is one of the few remaining areas for adders in the midlands.	Where adders have been identified, limit disturbance, particularly by discouraging disturbance by dogs and machinery. To retain and attract adders, ensure a mix of grassland for basking, and mosaic scrub habitat and hedgerows for shelter and habitat for prey species, especially on south-facing slopes. Maintain or introduce corridors of vegetation cover such as rough grass, hedgerows or scrub, to help adders to move around within their relatively small ranges. Adder hibernacula are usually underground in burrows, or crevices in stone walls or log or brash piles.		

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
082	**Measure 082: Strengthen great crested newt population.** Protect, maintain and increase populations of great crested newt, to recover from significant declines in range and abundance.	Protect ponds with an existing great crested newt population, and manage these ponds sensitively, including reducing disturbance from people and dogs, and preventing eutrophication. Create new fish-free freshwater ponds relatively close to existing ponds with newts. Ensure there is a variety of habitats close to ponds for cover and dry shelter, including hedgerows, rough vegetation, dead wood, dry stone walls, woodland or grassland. Eliminate or minimise fertiliser, herbicide and pesticide use around ponds.	018. Manage, improve and create ponds for wildlife 031. Create wildlife corridor connectivity 044. Reduce pollution from agricultural inputs 045. Water quality 068. Highway amphibian protection	
083	**Measure 083: Strengthen white clawed crayfish population.** Retain and expand existing white clawed crayfish habitats and populations through translocations and establishment of Ark sites as refuges in isolated areas with less connectivity, such as spring-fed ponds higher up the catchment, including creation of new ponds.		047. Remove invasive non-native species	
084	**Measure 084: Strengthen scarce blue-tailed damselfly population.** Support the survival of the scarce blue-tailed damselfly that needs shallow water and bare or disturbed ground.	Retain colonies of scarce blue tailed damselfly, as its small-scale habitat requirements can be difficult to maintain. They need small, shallow and warm pools and puddles with some emergent plants and bare ground. Sites should be maintained at early successional stage. Create new ponds close to existing sites.		
085	**Measure 085: Strengthen violet click beetle population.** Support the survival of the violet click beetle and encourage its spread and that of other click beetles into Gloucestershire from Bredon Hill in Worcestershire, one of only three population sites in the UK.	Increase habitat for violet click beetle through tree veteranisation techniques and beetle boxes, in vicinity of or linking to Bredon Hill. Protect veteran ash and beech trees and leave as much of ash trunks and wood as is safe, when working on infected ash trees. Plant more beech and foster growth of ash. Adding additional organics (bat droppings, prey remains and corpses) at base of newly excavated tree hollows will create the correct conditions for black wood mould to thrive which is beneficial for beetle species such as violet click	036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 040. Ash dieback response 105. Dead wood 106. Veteran ash pollards	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		beetle. Beetle boxes can be installed to mimic cavities where they are naturally sparse.		
086	**Measure 086: Strengthen rugged oil beetle population.** Protect, maintain and increase populations of rugged oil beetle, which is scarce and needs specific grassland management on calcareous grassland sites.	On calcareous grassland sites, maintain a mosaic of shorter turf, bare soil and longer swards and tussocks through conservation grazing in the autumn and winter, ensuring open grass swards by removing or reducing livestock during the spring and summer. Areas of bare earth or scrapes in sheltered, sunny spots will provide nesting opportunities for solitary bees, which are hosts for rugged oil beetles, and for adult rugged oil beetles. Leave some areas uncut or ungrazed each year on rotation.	001. Manage lowland calcareous grassland 033. Conservation grazing	
087	**Measure 087: Strengthen hairy click beetle population.** Hairy click beetles need reed canary-grass and common reed vegetation on river banks with brackish influence.	Ensure the riparian vegetation (herb rank as well as reed) is not cut too early, ideally not before July, to ensure appropriate habitat is present when adult beetles emerge. Depending on the size and height of the bank, an earlier 'safety cut' of the top of bank and around a flail width down the bank can be undertaken to ensure the bank top and sides are visible. Avoid disturbance of the top spoil without appropriate mitigation measures in place. As well as habitat management and creation, consider translocations and reintroductions to new sites, from captive rearing and breeding.		
088	**Measure 088: Strengthen large blue population.** Support the continued reintroduction and re-establishment of large blues in Gloucestershire.	On calcareous grassland sites, maintain a short sward through targeted conservation grazing, to promote a warm microclimate for red ant Myrmica sabuleti to act as host for butterfly larvae. Retain some sheltered scrub areas for roosting adult butterflies. Ensure wild thyme is available as the food plant, including by plug planting of local provenance in the autumn. Continue reintroductions of large blues on suitable sites, working with Large Blue society programme and other stakeholders.	001. Manage lowland calcareous grassland 033. Conservation grazing	
089	**Measure 089: Strengthen Duke of Burgundy population.** Protect, maintain and increase populations of the duke of burgundy butterfly which has declined by over 50% in recent decades.	In calcareous grassland habitats, particularly on north or west-facing slopes for more humid conditions, maintain a mosaic of open, sunny grassland with abundant cowslips, primroses or false oxlips in medium height swards, with scrub edges or patches comprising up to 20% of the grassland area. Maintain taller vegetation for breeding butterflies and shorter vegetation to ensure	001. Manage lowland calcareous grassland 009. Manage ancient semi-natural woodland, semi-natural	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		continuity of cowslip and primrose food plants. Maintain habitat through extensive winter conservation grazing with cattle and regular scrub management to create a mosaic of different aged, but predominantly young scrub, a varied age of cowslips and to prevent the sward becoming closed in. Avoid sheep grazing in the summer on Duke of Burgundy sites. In woodland clearings, and short-rotation coppice, ensure abundant primroses in open, sunny conditions, and control regrowth of scrub, brambles and coarse grasses, removing cut material.	woodland and long-established woodland 033. Conservation grazing	
090	**Measure 090: Strengthen lead belle population.** Support populations of lead belle moth that relies on gorse, with the population at Cleeve Common being one of a small number South East of the Humber-Exe line.	Ensure food plants of gorse, broom, petty whin and dyers greenweed are available to support populations of Lead Belle moth. Manage gorse in a sensitive way, with long-term rotational cutting.		
091	**Measure 091: Strengthen *Phyllonorycter sagitella* population.** Support the survival of the *Phyllonorycter sagitella* moth which is rare in the UK and in Gloucestershire.	Maintain and increase extent of coppiced Aspen in Highnam Woods, ensuring a mix of trees of different ages, as foodplant for *Phyllonorycter sagitella* moth.		
092	**Measure 092: Maintain chalk carpet population.** Support the survival of the chalk carpet moth which is rare in the UK and found at Cleeve Common.	In the area of former quarries in the east part of Cleeve Common, maintain a mosaic of varied vegetation structure, with patches of bare ground and areas of short turf, and controlled scrub, and availability of foodplants of trefoils, clovers and vetches.		
093	**Measure 093: Strengthen *Lauria sempronii* snail population.** Protect the *Lauria sempronii* snail that is found in the UK only within Gloucestershire.	Protect the dry stone walls where *Lauria sempronii* is recorded, by not excessively removing foliage and not removing stones, and by preventing encroachment by a thick cover of ivy. If possible extend known sites with dry stone walls with cracks and fissures or loose rocks.		

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
094	**Measure 094: Strengthen juniper population.** Support the survival of juniper which is rare and characteristic in the Cotswolds and is facing significant decline across lowland Britain.	Protect and encourage Juniper where it is present, including through scrub management to avoid encroachment or shading of juniper bushes, and deer and rabbit control. Introduce juniper to new sites to assist migration of this tree species northwards due to climate change, and to increase its extent. Juniper seeds require bare subsoil to germinate, often with rubble and bedrock exposed and little topsoil present, followed by a long period without disturbance to enable the seedlings to grow. Juniper scrapes are a proven technique and specialist advice should be sought in creating them. Seed shelters can be used to prevent seeds and seedlings from being eaten.·		
095	**Measure 095: Strengthen black poplar population.** Protect, maintain and increase the population of rare and characteristic black poplar trees in Gloucestershire	Ensure existing black poplar trees are protected. Seek opportunities for new planting within the floodplain and near rivers and wetlands, either through propagation from cuttings or by working with black poplar breeding programmes, ensuring that native black poplars are planted, not hybrid cultivars. Plant black poplar in male and female pairs to help improve the genetic stock.		
	12. Species Measures - Groups			
096	**Measure 096: Individual species needs of farmland birds.** Increase or re-establish populations of rare and threatened farmland birds including corn bunting, grey partridge, lapwing, skylark, tree sparrow, turtle dove, woodlark and yellowhammer.	Within fields, field margins and hedges, provide plants and habitats that meet the nesting and feeding needs of both adult farmland birds (predominantly seed) and chicks (predominantly invertebrates), within the same location. Nearly all species will benefit from the creation of invertebrate and seed rich habitat such as tussocky grass field margins and wildflower margins or plots, and winter supplementary feeding to overcome the hungry gap in later winter. In addition to this, different species have specific needs: **Corn Bunting** - Corn bunting require open habitats with scattered bushes or trees for song-posts, so planting trees or tall hedgerows in corn bunting strongholds should be avoided. They benefit from dense patches of double-drilled cereal crop to nest in. These areas should be sited away from field margins and tramlines used by predators and left unharvested, or harvested very late, as corn bunting are late nesters (June onwards). Ideally these	037. Hedgerows 051. Field margins 097. Add food sources for ground-nesting adult farmland birds 098. Add food sources for ground-nesting farmland bird chicks 099. Add food sources for hedge-nesting adult farmland birds 100. Add food sources for hedge-nesting farmland bird chicks	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		measures should be sited within their favoured crop of spring barley. Corn buntings prefer barley seed for winter feeding. **Grey Partridge** - Grey partridge particularly benefit from the creation of tussocky margins alongside dense hedgerows and in-field beetle banks, as well as protection from predation. **Lapwing** - Lapwing nest in both wetland sites and the farmed landscape. On farmland, lapwing tend to nest on open arable adjacent to damp pasture on which they can feed their chicks once they've hatched. Spring-sown crops are suitable but autumn-sown cereal will be too tall by the spring, so lapwing plots (large in-field bare areas) can be created in autumn-sown cereals to create suitable nesting areas. Lapwing plots are ideally situated in fields next to damp pasture or wetland sites. Lapwing are very susceptible to nest destruction and so working with landowners to locate nests within crops in April and protect them from agricultural operations can significantly help survival. Protection from predators through electric fencing or predator control is also beneficial to both farmland and wetland nesting lapwing. They need open habitats, so planting trees or hedgerows in lapwing strongholds should be avoided. **Skylark** - Skylark require open habitats, so planting trees or tall hedgerows in skylark strongholds should be avoided. Skylark have been shown to benefit from the creation of skylark plots (small in-field bare areas) to feed in and access nests. These should be sited away from field margins and tramlines used by predators. Skylark strongly favour over-winter stubble fields outside the breeding season. **Tree Sparrow** - Tree sparrow populations respond well to the provision of nest boxes in colonies, and have been shown to do well if they have access to ponds and wet areas that boost invertebrate numbers. They prefer millet for winter feeding.		

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
		Turtle dove - Turtle dove particularly benefit from bespoke food plant seed mixes, access to ponds and wet areas, creation of dense scrub, thick and tall hedges, and edge scrub habitat with seed-rich herbs. **Woodlark** - Woodlark occasionally nest on farmland in the Cotswolds. They require bare stony areas to nest and forage and can benefit from lapwing-style plots (large bare in-field areas), located close to field or woodland edge in areas where they are known to be present. They are a Schedule 1 protected species and so no field operations should be carried out in fields where they are suspected to be nesting from March to July. **Yellowhammer** – Yellowhammer require dense hedgerows with adjacent tussocky margins to provide safe nesting sites protected from predation and agricultural operations.		
097	**Measure 097: Add food sources for ground-nesting adult farmland birds.** Adult farmland birds (other than lapwing) tend to feed predominantly on seeds throughout the year.	Options for food sources include arable weed seeds, wildflower seeds, split seed from cereal crops and supplementary winter food.	096. Individual species needs of farmland birds	
098	**Measure 098: Add food sources for ground-nesting farmland bird chicks.** Farmland bird chicks feed almost exclusively on invertebrates.	Options for food sources include insects, spiders, larvae and worms – which can be found in field margins, beetle banks or other buffer strips, wildflower margins or plots or other areas of rough grassland.	096. Individual species needs of farmland birds	
099	**Measure 099: Add food sources for hedge-nesting adult farmland birds.** Adult farmland birds tend to feed predominantly on seeds throughout the year. Hedges or scrub, ideally with adjacent field margins, are needed for nesting.	Options for food sources include arable weed seeds, wildflower seeds, split seed from cereal crops and supplementary winter food.	096. Individual species needs of farmland birds	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
100	**Measure 100: Add food sources for hedge-nesting farmland bird chicks.** Farmland bird chicks feed almost exclusively on invertebrates. Hedges or scrub, ideally with adjacent field margins, are needed for nesting.	Options for food sources include insects, spiders, larvae and worms – which can be found in field margins, beetle banks or other buffer strips, wildflower margins or plots or other areas of rough grassland.	096. Individual species needs of farmland birds	
101	**Measure 101: Pearl-bordered fritillary and small pearl-bordered fritillary.** Protect, maintain and increase populations of the pearl-bordered and small pearl-bordered fritillary butterflies.	Pearl-bordered fritillary needs violets amongst dead leaf litter (usually oak, bramble or bracken) minus live green grass for warmth, within coppice, clearfells and young plantations. Small pearl-bordered fritillary needs extensive violet flushes along bracken edges or amongst short grass cover, usually in long-term woodland clearings. Woodland clearings, glades and rides should therefore be maintained within their colonisation range, including through rotational coppicing and felling, to enable a continuity of habitat as clearings become more shaded and less suitable as the coppice regrows.		
102	**Measure 102: Butterflies and moths with specific food plants on grassland.** Protect, maintain and increase populations of butterflies and moths with specific food plants, including Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Small Blue, Dingy Skipper, Marsh Fritillary, Liquorice Piercer, Chalk Hill Blue, Grizzled Skipper, and *Agonopterix atomella*, as many of these species are highly localised and several have declined with a marked contraction of their range.	Maintain and increase extent of specific food plants, by planting plugs and seeds, to help butterflies and moths in open grassland habitats: Pearl-bordered Fritillary - Common Dog Violet and Marsh Violet Small Blue - Kidney Vetch Dingy Skipper - Common Bird's-foot-trefoil and Horseshoe Vetch Marsh Fritillary - Devil's-bit Scabious Liquorice Piercer - Wild Liquorice Chalk Hill Blue - Horseshoe Vetch Grizzled Skipper - A variety of plants from the Rosaceae family Agonopterix atomella - Dyer's Greenweed		

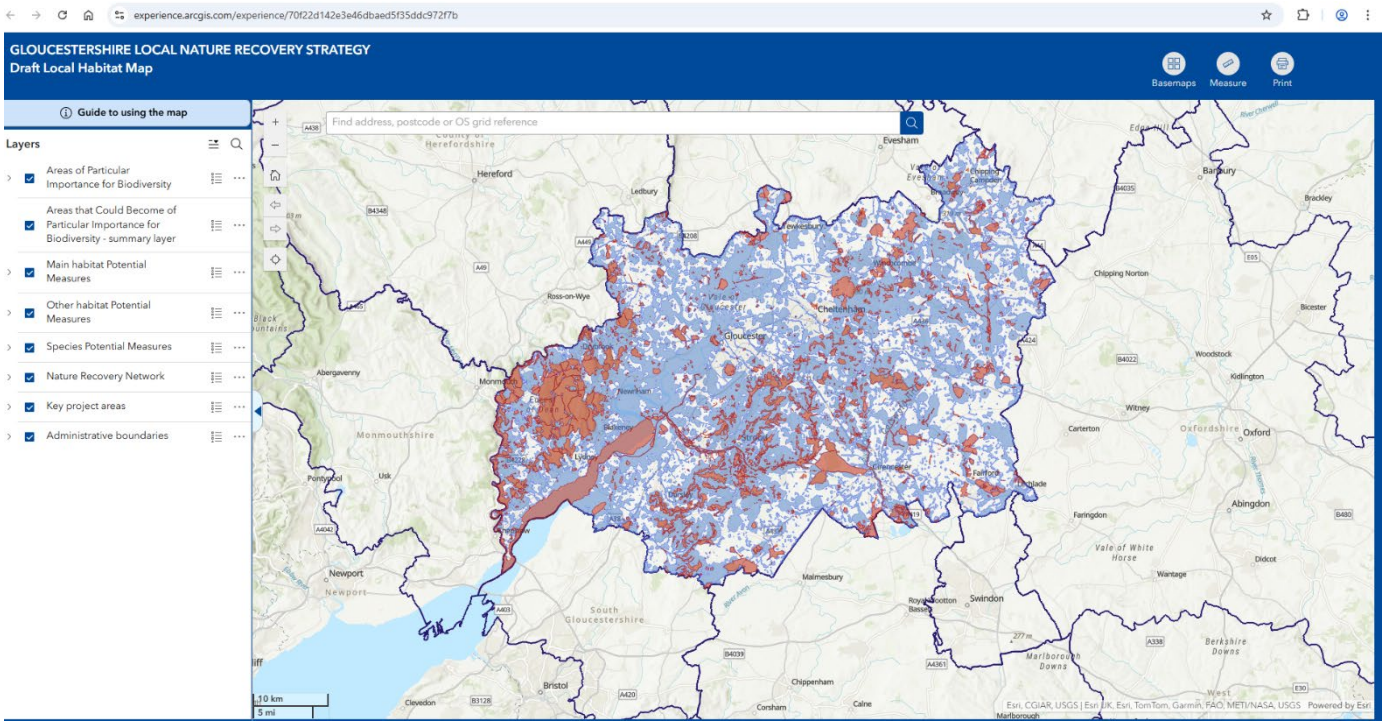
Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
103	**Measure 103: Butterflies and moths with specific food plants in woodland.** Protect, maintain and increase populations of butterflies and moths with specific food plants, including Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Liquorice Piercer, Barberry Carpet, Plumed Prominent, Grizzled Skipper, White-letter Hairstreak, White-barred Clearwing, Barred Tooth-striped, and *Caryocolum kroesmanniella*, as many of these species are highly localised and several have declined with a marked contraction of their range.	Maintain and increase extent of specific food plants, by planting plugs and seeds, to help butterflies and moths in woodland, hedgerow and woodland edge habitats: Pearl-bordered Fritillary - Common Dog Violet and Marsh Violet Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary - Common Dog-violet Liquorice Piercer - Wild Liquorice Barberry Carpet - Barberry Plumed Prominent - Field maple and Sycamore Grizzled Skipper - A variety of plants from the Rosaceae family White-letter Hairstreak - Elm species White-barred Clearwing - Alder Barred Tooth-striped - Wild Privet Caryocolum kroesmanniella - Greater Stitchwort and Bog Stitchwort		
104	**Measure 104: Rare arable plants and soil fauna, flora and fungi.** Leave areas unsprayed to support arable wildflowers and soil fungi, particularly in areas where important species are present.	Manage arable fields and their margins with important populations of arable flowers present for those species. Shallow till margins around fields.	051. Field margins 052: Soil health and Regenerative Farming	
105	**Measure 105: Dead wood.** Ensure conditions that help the invertebrates and fungi that need dead wood for food or shelter, to survive.	Retain standing and fallen deadwood where safe to do so. Create additional dead wood resource through tree veteranisation techniques, aiming for microhabitats including large diameter hollowing trees, decaying wood, rot holes, ageing bark and fallen but regenerating trees. Create brash and log piles, including partially buried log piles to benefit some saprophytic beetles and fungi.	036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 040. Ash dieback response 106. Veteran ash pollards	
106	**Measure 106: Veteran ash pollards.** Take action to mitigate the effect of the loss of ash trees on the most vulnerable species that rely on ash, such as lichens, fungi, and dead-wood species especially click beetles.	Conserve existing ash pollards as long as possible, where safe to do so. To help mitigate the eventual loss of these pollards, with expert advice, consider pollarding nearby younger ash trees. Avoid coppicing, re-pollarding out-of-cycle pollards or tree surgery on veteran ash.	036. Safeguard and establish ancient and veteran trees 040. Ash dieback response 085. Strengthen violet click beetle population 105. Dead wood	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
107	**Measure 107: Wye Valley bryophytes and distinctive species.** Protect rare ferns, bryophytes, hieracium species, whitebeams, service trees and other distinctive Wye Valley species from disturbance including land management operations and recreational pressure including rock-climbing.	Maintain some open disturbed areas on thin soils and screes to benefit rare bryophytes and ferns. Ensure that bryophytes that require very open habitats on thin soils such as quarry areas, have these areas kept open. This may require the maintenance of a short turf assisted by a degree of trampling and grazing, for example by rabbits or sheep. Consider micro-management for individual endangered species where present. Notable whitebeam species in the Wye Valley include English whitebeam, round-leaved whitebeam and grey-leaved whitebeam.		
108	**Measure 108: Moths dependent on Small- and Large-leaved Lime.** Protect and maintain long continuity Large-leaved and Small-leaved Lime woodland characteristic of Wye Valley and the invertebrate species dependent on these.	Maintain and increase extent of Large-leaved Lime and Small-leaved Lime in the Wye Valley, by planting plugs both within the existing woods and adjoining areas.		
109	**Measure 109: Strengthen Severn Estuary and Floodplain waterbird populations.** Maintain and improve the capacity of the Severn estuary and surrounding land to support waterbirds and waders, including Bewick's swan, wigeon, teal, pintail, ringed plover, dunlin, shelduck, lapwing, curlew, redshank, oyster catcher, avocet and little ringed plover.	Maintain and increase floodplain meadow, wetland, pasture and open water habitat in the Severn and Avon Vales, and field margins and stubble in arable fields, for favourable conditions for feeding and roost sites for wintering and migrating birds. Maintain and increase floodplain meadow habitat for nesting sites for waders including lapwing, curlew, redshank, oyster catcher, avocet and little ringed plover. Monitor and protect their nests from predators, including with electric fences, in fields where they are nesting. Protect wintering waterbirds from first arrivals in June to last departures in April by reducing disturbance along the foreshore of the Severn Estuary SPA. The disturbance is caused by a wide range of activities: ramblers, dog-walkers, wildfowlers, clay pigeon shooting, sailing boats, jet-skis, low flying helicopters.	005. Manage floodplain meadows 028. Protect and manage saltmarsh and mudflats 029. Restore and create saltmarsh 043. Floodplain reconnection 070. Strengthen breeding curlew population	

Number	Potential Measure	Potential Measure Additional Detail	Other measures that apply in relation to and alongside this potential measure	Wider Environmental Benefits
110	**Measure 110: Strengthen River Severn fish populations.** Maintain and expand existing Salmonid spawning gravels.	Ensure no significant deterioration in the available spawning substrate for salmon, trout and lamprey on key rivers such as the Frome and Westbury Brook. Ensure no significant deterioration in main river flows on the River Severn around Tewkesbury for shad to spawn in. Ensure no wide scale dredging is undertaken to maintain lamprey and elver habitats, just selective de-silting where required to reduce flood risk. Ensure suitable riparian habitat and in-channel substrate is available for coarse fish populations to spawn on and utilise.	020. River re-naturalisation	

Annex D

Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Draft Local Habitat Map



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COTSWOLD
District Council

Council name	**COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Name and date of Committee	**CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND PLANNING DECISION MEETING, 9th October 2025**
Subject	**RESPONSE TO MORETON IN MARSH REG. 14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION**
Wards affected	Moreton East Ward, Moreton West Ward
Accountable member	Cllr. Juliet Layton, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning Email: juliet.layton@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Mark Harrison, Senior Local and Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer Email: mark.harrison@cotswold.gov.uk
Report author	Mark Harrison, Senior Local and Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer Email: mark.harrison@cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	To agree a response to Moreton in Marsh Town Council on their Reg. 14 draft Neighbourhood Plan.
Annexes	**Annex A** – draft response to Moreton in Marsh Town Council **Annex B** – Moreton in Marsh Neighbourhood Plan 2018-2031 Regulation 14 Draft (July 2025)
Recommendation(s)	That the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning resolves to: 1. Agree (with or without amendments) to send the response (Annex A) to Moreton in Marsh Town Council. 2. Authorise officers to continue their support in aiding Moreton in Marsh Town Council in the preparation of their Neighbourhood Plan outside this formal consultation response.
Corporate priorities	**All of the corporate priorities are captured by the draft Neighbourhood Plan:** • Delivering Good Services

	• Responding to the Climate Emergency • Delivering Housing • Supporting Communities • Supporting the Economy
Key Decision	**NO** **Whilst a Neighbourhood Plan *could* have a significant impact in regards part 2, in its current guise the draft plan is not deemed to have a *significant* impact to the planning framework.**
Exempt	**NO**
Consultees/ Consultation	Moreton in Marsh Town Council are responsible for the consultation at Reg. 14 stage and should have reached out to other relevant stakeholders. The response (Annex A) is specific to Cotswold District Council. We have consulted internally with officers who have specialist expertise in specific planning topics: **Policy 1 - Climate Adaptation and Energy Efficiency in Developments** ***Olivia McGregor – Climate Change and Carbon Reduction Lead*** *was consulted but no response yet received* **Policy 2 - Managing Flood Risk** ***Jo Corbett – Senior Planning Policy Officer*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded into the response.* **Policy 3 – Housing Mix** ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments are embedded into the response.* **Policy 4 - Affordable Housing** ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments are embedded into the response.* **Policy 5 - Well Designed Housing and Places** ***Mike Napper – Principal Planning Officer (DM)*** *was consulted but was*

	unable to provide a response. **Policy 6 - Parking in Residential Developments** ***Sarah Williams – Principal Transport Planner*** *at Gloucestershire County Council has been consulted on this policy and comments are embedded.* **Policy 7 - Brownfield First** ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments are embedded into the response.* **Policy 15 - Local Green Spaces** ***Lesley Davis – Planning Policy officer*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments are embedded into the response.* **Policy 16 – Non-designated Heritage Assets** ***Danielle Berry – Natural, Built and Historic Environment Team Manager*** *was consulted but opted to defer response to NP Officer* **Policy 20 – Transport and Active Travel** ***Sarah Williams – Principal Transport Planner at Gloucestershire County Council*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments are embedded.*

COTSWOLD
District Council

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The Council has been invited to provide a response to the Moreton in Marsh draft Neighbourhood Plan (Reg. 14) (Annex B). A draft response for approval is at Annex A.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Moreton in Marsh Town Council were designated a Neighbourhood Planning Area in September 2018. They have prepared a draft Neighbourhood Plan 2018-2031 (July 2015) and are currently undertaking a public consultation in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, from 1st September until 12th October 2025.

2.2 The Regulation 14 consultation is a formal stage of consultation on a neighbourhood development plan (NDP). It is a six-week period during which the draft plan is made public to allow people who live or work in the area to comment on the proposals. This consultation is essential for ensuring that the plan is well-informed and that the community's needs and concerns are considered. The consultation must be conducted by the qualifying body, which in this case is Moreton in Marsh Town Council, and it involves publicising the draft plan, consulting statutory bodies, and allowing for public comments. The consultation results are then used to amend the draft plan before it is submitted to Cotswold District Council who will then publicise the Plan and supporting documents for a minimum of six weeks for a Regulation 16 consultation; and any comments submitted will be sent directly to the independent examiner for independent examination.

2.3 A Neighbourhood Plan is required to meet the Basic Conditions (set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990):

- National policy compliance
- Contribution to achievement of sustainable development
- General conformity with "strategic policy" of the Local Plan
- Compatible with EU obligations (e.g. SEA)
- Does not breach habitats regulations

2.4 The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) guidance (June 2025) on plan-making also requires:

- Clarity and certainty
- Detailed policies map(s)

- Sufficient evidence and justification

2.5 The draft Neighbourhood Plan can only be considered against the adopted (i.e. current) Local Plan; despite there being an emerging reviewed Local Plan.

2.6 Once a Neighbourhood Plan is adopted, planning applications in the Moreton in Marsh neighbourhood area will be assessed against both that Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan in tandem. An important point is that duplication is not required.

2.7 As a local planning authority, Cotswold District Council has a statutory duty to support groups in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. Our response comments (Annex A) intend to support Moreton in Marsh Town Council in preparing a plan that will meet the basic and legal conditions, and support the objectives of their community.

3. MAIN POINTS

3.1 The draft Neighbourhood Plan (Annex B) proposes 20 policies and these are set out in the table below:

Policy No.	Policy Title	Policy Objective
1	Climate Adaptation and Energy Efficiency in Developments	New developments to be energy efficient and climate adaptive.
2	Managing Flood Risk	New developments to be energy efficient and to climate adaptive.
3	Housing Mix	New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people.
4	Affordable Housing	New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people.
5	Well Designed Housing and Places	New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people To ensure new homes are of high-quality design and built to Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) or equivalent, standards.

6	Parking in Residential Developments	To ensure new homes are of high-quality design and built to Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) or equivalent standards. Create a more connected parish for residents and visitors alike, limiting the need for vehicular travel within the town and offering a genuine choice of transport options to help reduce congestion and emissions, to improve air quality and public health.
7	Brownfield First	New developments on brownfield sites to take priority over greenfield sites.
8	Hard Infrastructure	Ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to support new development prior to completion of the project
9	Soft Infrastructure	Ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to support new development prior to completion of the project.
10	Principal Residence Housing	New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people To support the provision of principal residence housing for those wishing to live in Moreton in Marsh.
11	Employment Land	New developments to facilitate and support the growth of the business base within Moreton in Marsh, creating more jobs across a diverse range of sectors.
12	Small Business Units	Support development of small business units/shared space.
13	Retail Provision	Support development of small business units/shared space
14	Infrastructure Investment Priorities	New developments to support and sustain a vibrant, attractive and successful town centre

		that meets the needs of the local community and visitors. Improve the public realm and traffic management within and through the town to provide easier, safer and more pleasant access for residents and visitors, using developer contributions.
15	Local Green Spaces	Protect and maintain open green spaces.
16	Non-designated Heritage Assets	Protect and maintain archaeological and built heritage assets deemed to be of value to the community.
17	Biodiversity	Preserve and increase opportunities for biodiversity net-gain.
18	Important Views	Preserve important views within the parish.
19	Development Boundary	Protect the sensitive natural environment and exceptional rural assets surrounding Moreton in Marsh.
20	Transport & Active Travel	Create a more connected parish for residents and visitors alike, limiting the need for vehicular travel within the town and offering a genuine choice of transport options to help reduce congestion and emissions, to improve air quality and public health.

3.2 Annex A contains the Council's proposed responses to each of these policies, to help shape the plan into one that will meet the basic and legal conditions and support the objectives of their community.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 The Council can send Annex A with or without amendments as drafted.

4.2 The Council could opt to not respond to this consultation, however:

- we have a statutory duty to support the neighbourhood planning process.

- plan preparation will take place between now (Reg 14 consultation) and Reg. 15 submission based on the comments submitted. This is when Moreton in Marsh Town Council will be required to submit a plan proposal to Cotswold District Council with a statement explaining how the Plan has met the requirements of the 1990 Act. The Council could opt to make new comments at this stage, but an Examiner of the plan could rightly question why any objections have been raised at a later stage when they could have been raised at Reg. 14.
- In addition, providing a timely response would maintain a positive collaborative relationship with Moreton in Marsh Town Council and help to ensure that their plan aligns with the strategic policies of the adopted Local Plan in accordance with the basic conditions.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 The Council's response (Annex A) aims to provide supportive comments or queries to support Moreton in Marsh Town Council in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan that meets the basic and legal requirements, whilst reflecting the objectives of their community.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None direct.

6.2 The Council already have financial obligations towards the procedural elements of Neighbourhood Planning following Reg. 15. Some or all of this can be reclaimed from the Government (MHCLG).

6.3 Officer support towards Neighbourhood Planning is already budgeted for.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None direct.

7.2 Once adopted the Neighbourhood Plan must be considered as part of relevant planning applications, and planning is a statutory function for Cotswold District Council.

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8. RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 As there are no legal nor financial responsibilities in the Council providing this response, the sole risk at this stage would be reputational as the comments can be made public through the Consultation Statement and publication of Neighbourhood Plan documents for examination.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT

9.1 Under equality legislation, the Council has a legal duty to pay 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality in relation to:

- Race
- Disability
- Gender, including gender reassignment
- Age
- Sexual Orientation
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Religion or belief

9.2 The response (Annex A) would indicate where the draft Neighbourhood Plan could discriminate against any of the above; there are none identified at this stage.

10. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Policy 1 is focused on Climate Adaptation and considered in the response (Annex A).

10.2 Throughout preparation of the plan, and in the responses provided, consideration is given to the sustainable balance of development in line with national policy and guidance, including climate change/ adaptation.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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COTSWOLD
District Council

Peter Richardson
Moreton in Marsh Neighbourhood Plan
c/o Moreton in Marsh Town Council
Old Town
Moreton-in-Marsh
Gloucestershire
GL56 0LW

clerk@moretoninmarshtowncouncil.gov.uk
By e-mail only

Enquiries to: Mark Harrison
Senior Planning Policy Officer
mark.harrison@cotswold.gov.uk

9th October 2025

Dear Mr Richardson,

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan
Response to consultation on pre-submission draft plan

Thank you for consulting the District Council on the pre-submission Draft Moreton in Marsh Neighbourhood Plan. Firstly, I would like to congratulate the Town Council and their Steering Group on reaching this stage in plan preparation and for creating a well-considered draft plan for the future of the parish.

I have consulted colleagues throughout the District and County Council on the draft plan and have received a number of comments from various service areas. The District Council's comments are presented in the schedule that follows this letter with internal consultees comments embedded with our own.

Comments have been made about both the supporting text, which sets the context and justification for the policies, and on the policies proposed for inclusion in the Plan.

I hope that you will see these comments as supportive. They are intended to inform modifications to the Plan so that it best meets the expectation of the Town Council in terms of the future determination of development proposals, and, crucially, that the Plan can proceed to independent examination once it has been submitted, with a greater expectation of a positive outcome.

I hope the comments made by the District Council are helpful in reaching a conclusion to plan preparation. We will, of course, continue to support the Town Council and Steering Group with advice as necessary and with practical support on any modifications required to the Plan once you have had a chance to review all of the representations received in response to the current consultation.

Finally, I would advise that the comments made by the District Council in response to this consultation on the pre-submission draft plan do not constitute a *formal* opinion about whether the Plan as currently drafted meets the basic conditions. The District Council is not required to issue a decision statement in respect of that matter until the independent examination has been completed. We would therefore reserve the right to make further representation as necessary following the submission of the plan to the District Council.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Harrison

Mark Harrison BSc(Hons) MA MRTPI
Senior Planning Policy & Neighbourhood Plans Officer
Planning Policy and Infrastructure
Cotswold District Council

P: Cotswold District Council, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX
T: CDC colleagues chat to me on Teams
E: mark.harrison@cotswold.gov.uk
W: Planning Policy webpages

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Regulation 14 Consultation

Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations require the draft plan proposal to be the subject of pre-submission consultation before it is submitted to the local authority for independent examination. The consultation should last at least 6 weeks.

A consultation for the plan is being undertaken from Monday 1st September 2025 to Sunday 12th October 2025. Comments for the District Council are provided as relevant on the day of 9th October 2025.

Pre-submission consultation requirements include publicising the draft plan to people who live, work or run business in the area. The publicity must include details of the proposed neighbourhood plan, where and when it may be viewed, and how to make comments on the plan and by what date.

Certain statutory bodies must be consulted, including the district council (as the local planning authority), the Environment agency, Natural England and Historic England. It is also advisable to consult local business or community organisations, such as chambers of commerce, civic societies and local trusts.

Producing a summary of the plan may be useful to many people who do not want to read the whole document. Drop-in events may also be a useful means of allowing people to ask questions or discuss the plan on a one-to-one basis.

The draft plan and supporting documents should be uploaded to the neighbourhood plan website. Printed copies should be made available at convenient locations, such as libraries, community centres, council offices and other key public buildings. Copied should be available to send to people who can't access a digital or displayed copy.

Representations and Modifications

Any comments received by the end of the consultation period must be considered by the qualifying body, but it is legitimate for the neighbourhood plan body to take a different view. Indeed, different representations may demonstrate opposing views. A planning judgement needs to be taken.

A decision will need to be made over whether or not to amend the Neighbourhood Plan in response to each representation. The decision on whether or not to amend the plan, and the reasoning behind them, should be recorded, as this information will need to incorporated in the Consultation Statement.

Consultation Statement

The Regulations require that a Consultation Statement is prepared and submitted with a Neighbourhood Plan when the plan is sent to the District Council. The Consultation Statement must:

- contain details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
- explain how they were consulted;
- summarise the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
- describe how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.

The qualifying body will need to agree the modifications and approve the resulting draft of the plan for submission to the local planning authority.

Environmental effects

It is a requirement that all neighbourhood plans submitted for examination be accompanied by either a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) report or a screening determination stating that the plan would not have significant environmental effects.

Local Authorities should screen emerging neighbourhood plan proposals at the earliest stage, to ascertain whether they are likely to trigger any European Union (EU) directives.

Strategical Environment Assessment (SEA) Screening

The SEA Screening Opinion was prepared (March 2025) by Land Use Consultants (LUC) on behalf of Cotswold District Council.

It concludes that the draft Neighbourhood Plan does not directly impact on land use through the allocation of sites for housing or other forms of development and is therefore considered unlikely to have significant environment effects and that full SEA is not required.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening

Typically, a plan is screened for HRA first. If screened IN for HRA, then a full SEA would be required. As SEA screening has been undertaken, presumably the plan was screened OUT for HRA. Confirmation is required a to whether a HRA screening document available.

Both the SEA and HRA screening should be consulted on as part of the Reg 14 consultation. The SEA screening was provided upon request but did not seem to be on the consultation website. The following questions are therefore asked:

- Are those documents part of the Reg 14 consultation?
- Have they been made publicly available/ accessible?

- Have they been sent to the relevant statutory consultees e.g. Natural England, Historic England, the Environment Agency etc.?

Considerations

The Basic Conditions an Examiner will consider for a Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:

- National policy compliance
- Contribution to achievement of sustainable development
- General conformity with "strategic policy" of the Local Plan
- Compatible with EU obligations (e.g. SEA)
- Does not breach habitats regulations

Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) guidance (June 2025) on plan-making also requires:

- Clarity and certainty
- Detailed policies map(s)
- Sufficient evidence and justification

Comments provided by Cotswold District Council will be based upon these considerations, although as above a *formal* opinion on the basic conditions cannot be made until after independent examination.

Conformity with Strategic Policy

Please note that an emerging Neighbourhood Plan can only be considered against policies in the adopted (i.e. current) Cotswold District Council Local Plan 2011-2031 (adopted in August 2018). Although a Local Plan review is underway, this currently carries no weight.

However, of note is that as part of the Local Plan review, consultations and a feasibility study have been undertaken regarding housing development in Moreton.

Comment Schedule

Policy No.	**Policy Name**	**Cotswold District Council Comments**
n/a	General comment	For clarity include the Policy number, title and text within a single box, excluding the objective.
	Housing Allocations	To note, the housing allocations in the supporting text are from the Local Plan – no new allocations are made. There is no requirement for Neighbourhood Plans to allocate housing sites.

1	Climate Adaptation and Energy Efficiency in Developments ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	This policy is compatible with Local Plan Policy INF10. It introduces new criteria on topics such as householder/ domestic renewable energy generation, car charging and energy assessments, which makes it a useful addition in tandem with the Local Plan. At criterion (a) it refers to land allocations without making any. *Proposals* would be a more appropriate word, as they would refer to any planning applications/proposals. Criterion (b) is set out in Local Plan Policy INF10 1(b) and duplication is not required. Criteria (c) and (f) could be moved to supporting text. They express encouragement for such development but do not effectively change policy position. Or they could be moved into the requirements of criterion (d); which should also be more specific on which new development this applies to, or state: *where relevant or appropriate*. In criterion (d) the term "c*onditional" should be changed and make it clear that an energy assessment should be submitted as part of a planning application*. Criterion (e) could be worded more simply e.g. *Provision of electric vehicle charging, to account for current and projected future need, should be incorporated in relevant planning applications whether domestic, commercial or industrial uses*. Consider whether there is evidence to make a requirement e.g. 10% or 20% of spaces.
2	Managing Flood Risk ***Jo Corbett – Senior Planning Policy Officer*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	This policy duplicates much of Local Plan Policy EN14 and the NPPF. It is suggested that this policy is deleted unless it can be enhanced by anything specific, particular to Moreton. Criterion (a) should also refer to PPG as well as NPPF.

	Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Criterion (b) should refer to current NPPF or future iterations otherwise this will become outdated.
3	Housing Mix ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.* ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	The specific number of six dwellings in Criterion (a) is queried. Evidence would be required for this number. Suggest this is removed and *all* development delivering net new dwellings should show how they meet local need. Alternatively, Local Plan Policy H2 Affordable Housing applies to 11 or more dwellings, or 6-10 in rural areas. It is queried whether the Housing Needs Analysis was available for this consultation and if so, who it was prepared by? <u>Criterion (b)</u> 25% Lifetime Home Standards – this has been superseded by M4(2) building regulations. Ideally all properties will be built to M4(2) standards to be accessible and adaptable. A criterion could be inserted to exclude developments where the applicant can provide viability evidence. To be more ambitions a certain proportion could be at M4(3) standard to be fully wheelchair accessible. However, 25% would seem high; query over whether the Housing Needs Assessment provides evidence for this? Criterion (c)(3) is this evidenced by the HNA in criterion (a). Could (c)(1) and (3) be merged? Query over whether criterion (c)(5) could provide for *"fully serviced"* land? e.g. power grid, water, sewage connections. However, Local Plan Policy H1 requires 5% of plots are made available for custom build on developments of 20 dwellings or more. We understand the need to be satisfied by permissions district-wide. Is Moreton able to

		evidence a greater or unmet need at a local level to increase the % or lower the threshold? Clarity between (b) and (c)[2] required.
4	Affordable Housing ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.* ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Criterion (a)[2] could add that *an affordable home should not be distinguishable from market homes in the same development i.e. "tenure blind".* Criterion (b)– remove as follows: ~~*in all new housing developments providing affordable housing the first occupancy of all*~~ *affordable homes will be prioritised for households with…* This should refer to the HomeSeeker Plus (or any subsequent) policy. It should be clear that the Local Connection Criteria (white box) is supplementary to the HomeSeeker Plus policy enabled by para 34.1 of their policy document. As such, the white box should also indicate what the 'area' constitutes and the 'surrounding parishes' mentioned in para 34.1. Criterion (c) as written this applies to all proposals, should it be only proposals that include affordable housing? Add: … Strategic Housing Market Assessment *or any local objectively assessed need*. Criterion (d) our understanding is this would contradict national legislation. Could instead propose Discounted Market Sale (DMS) which can tie a perpetual discount to the land.
5	Well Designed Housing and Places ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Criterion (b) seems superfluous to (a). Criterion (c) - Appendix A is not a Design Guide, and is labelled a Community Design Statement. It largely contains information on the national context of design guidance. The rest is information on heritage assets which can be separated if relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan Criterion (g) whilst earthwork barriers can be appropriate alongside busy/ main roads, it can segregate the development from the current

<table>
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<td>built form and lose the opportunity of good streetscape.

Criterion (h) what proposals would be appropriate; examples could be made in the supporting text.

Criterion (j) has an appraisal of allotment supply in Moreton been undertaken? Would extending current sites be better than smaller allotments on each development site? What size of development triggers this requirement?

Criterion (k) best where these can be centralised to the development e.g. village green concept. Perhaps mention proportionate to the development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Parking in Residential Developments

Sarah Williams – Principal Transport Planner at Gloucestershire County Council has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.

Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.</td>
<td>Criterion (a) the current parking provision is set out in the Gloucestershire County Council Manual for Gloucestershire Streets (July 2020) (MFGS), page 48, see excerpt below:

<table>
<tr><td>Urban (Rural)</td><td colspan="5">No. of bedrooms</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr>
<tr><td>Spaces</td><td>1 (1)</td><td>2 (1)</td><td>2 (2)</td><td>3 (2)</td><td>3 (3)</td></tr>
</table>

The policy proposes an additional space for 5+ bed houses. Is there justification or evidence e.g. surveys for this?

The MFGS also has different criteria for rural dwellings. Unsure why less spaces would be needed in more car-dependent rural areas. Nonetheless, should a distinction be made in this policy too e.g. inside or outside the development boundary?

Criterion (b) Query over whether the overall ratio needs to be maintained?

Criterion (d) as garages are often used for storage, our understanding is GCC Highways do not accept garages in the count parking spaces, even if built to appropriate minimum internal standards.</td>
</tr>
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		Criterion (e) MFGS states visitor parking should be at 1 space per 5 residential units. Is there evidence for a significantly more onerous 1:2 ratio.
7	Brownfield First ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	Whilst this is a good objective, the policy criteria would not make any change to the determination of planning applications. Are there any sites that could be identified which could add to this policy? Or could consideration be given to lowering the affordable housing contribution on brownfield sites to increase their viability.
8	Hard Infrastructure	No comment.
9	Soft Infrastructure ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	Criterion (b) Advise adding: '*or where capacity can be increased through the new development'*. May need to consider how developers would contribute; is there a preference hierarchy e.g. on-site, s106 etc.?
10	Principal Residence Housing ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	Reasoned justification needs to be specific to Moreton and evidence should show the % of households as second homes/ holiday lets. Some authorities may have a minimum threshold of second/ holiday homes (e.g. 20%) before they would consider a principal residency policy. Cotswold District Council does not have such a threshold but the % should be evidenced as significant to take this policy forwards. This restriction could also undermine viability and the delivery of affordable housing or local infrastructure.
11	Employment Land	Could the supporting text outline the largest employment locations in the parish please?

12	Small Business Units ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Query over what constitutes "small"? Does this apply up to a certain floorspace or number of employees?
13	Retail Provision ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Moreton is designated as a Key Retail Centre in the retail hierarchy of Local Plan Policy EC7. The policy proposes a Core Retail Area. The Steering Group could propose to alter the Key Retail Centre boundary, which would be clearer, and ensure LP Policy EC7 still applies. However, there needs to be clear evidence for either and there is not enough justification for the location of the boundary. Could also mention retaining a retail/ shopfront appearance even if e.g. converted to holiday let.
14	Infrastructure Investment Priorities ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	There is some overlap with Policy 9. These policies could be merged or at least ensure they are compatible. For example, if viability only allows a certain amount, would the priorities of Policy 9 or 14 come first? How are these to be delivered, s106 or CIL? As currently worded the policy implies that all developments of 10 or more are expected to contribute to this fixed list of infrastructure priorities, regardless of whether the development creates a need or is related to those improvements.
15	Local Green Spaces ***Lesley Davis – Planning Policy officer*** *has been consulted on this*	A separate paper could be provided (to save making the NP too long), as more evidence is required to show how the proposed sites meet the high threshold for designation as Local Green Space ; particularly around the special qualities: beauty, historic significance,

	policy and comments embedded.	recreational value, tranquillity, richness of wildlife. Cotswold District Council can support the production of this with methodologies, templates and advice. Unable to support or resist designation of any of the proposed Local Green Spaces until more understanding of their qualities is brought forward. Cotswold District Council to cooperate on Local Green Space prior to next consultation. Criterion (b) not required as all other relevant policies in the development framework would still apply?
16	Non-designated Heritage Assets ***Danielle Berry – Natural, Built and Historic Environment Team Manager*** *was consulted but opted to defer response to NP Officer* ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	Could remove criteria (b) and (c) as already set out in Local Plan Policy EN12. Neighbourhood Plans generally just identify which Non-designated Heritage Assets apply to the Local Plan policy. Criterion (c) should be more specific on the types of development e.g. changes of use with no physical alterations could apply to this policy as written. A list of Non-designated Heritage Assets is provided in Appendix D but there is no justification/ evidence for each. Cotswold District Council can support the production of this with methodologies, templates and advice. There is also a list of historic assets starting on page 71 of the Neighbourhood Plan document – can these be consolidated to one list? Listed buildings do not need to be included as they have protection at a national level.
17	Biodiversity ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning***	Policy numbering/ lettering needs reordering.

	***Services** was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Generally supportive of this policy, but criteria could be streamlined, duplicate wording in many places. Criterion (f) are any Biodiversity Opportunity Areas proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan or exist in the parish? Parts that are replicating Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) should be removed. Criterion (h) other relevant policies in the development framework will apply regardless. Criterion (g) how would an applicant *"ensure the viability of the surrounding Cotswold National Landscape"? Refers to both SLA and CNL in the same sentence.*
18	Important Views	The policy text refers to Protected Views, whereas the policy title is Important Views. Suggest the use of Important or Key Views, as difficult to "protect" views in the English planning system. Criterion (c) is too strong. See this adopted wording from Hauxley Neighbourhood Plan (Sep 2024): *Development proposals throughout the Neighbourhood Area must be sensitive to the importance of maintaining key views.* Better where possible to consider how design policies on specific streets/ buildings could be used to maintain the built form in a way that protects the key views in regards streetscape. Or in more open settings, could a view form part of a Local Green Space or Protected Open Space designation, which would give stronger protection. For example, in **Appendix D View #8 Western Entrance to Town Centre** … "*demonstrating how important the trees and grass verges are*". Perhaps better to protect those verges and trees as Local Green Space, in turn protecting the view.

19	Development Boundary ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	The policy does not appear to alter the Development Boundary already set out in the Local Plan. Criterion (b) is not positively worded and does not support the principle of sustainable development, suggest removing.
20	Transport & Active Travel ***Sarah Williams – Principal Transport Planner at Gloucestershire County Council*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.* ***Harrison Bowley – Head of Planning Services*** *was consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Criterion (a) is compatible with the additional parking requirements of Policy 6, by taking parked cars off the street and making streets more accessible for non-car users. Criterion (b) clarification on what constitutes a larger residential scheme is required. The numbered list in part (d) are the core design principles from the Cycle Infrastructure Guidance LTN1/20 However, 3 is Coherence and 5 is Comfort. This is also referenced by Active Travel England. 6 is superfluous and protection of trees/hedgerows are elsewhere both in the plan and the Local Plan. Criterion (e) should also refer to the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which has a corridor running north from Stow-on-the-Wold to Moreton train station. Also, replace Ways with Network please.

COTSWOLD
District Council

Peter Richardson
Moreton in Marsh Neighbourhood Plan
c/o Moreton in Marsh Town Council
Old Town
Moreton-in-Marsh
Gloucestershire
GL56 0LW

clerk@moretoninmarshtowncouncil.gov.uk
By e-mail only

Enquiries to: Mark Harrison
Senior Planning Policy Officer
mark.harrison@cotswold.gov.uk

1st October 2025

Dear Mr Richardson,

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan
Response to consultation on pre-submission draft plan

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I have consulted colleagues throughout the District and County Council on the draft plan and have received a number of comments from various service areas. The District Council's comments are presented in the schedule that follows this letter with internal consultees comments embedded with our own.

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Yours sincerely,

Mark Harrison

Mark Harrison BSc(Hons) MA MRTPI
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Planning Policy and Infrastructure
Cotswold District Council

P: Cotswold District Council, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX
T: CDC colleagues chat to me on Teams
E: mark.harrison@cotswold.gov.uk
W: Planning Policy webpages

COTSWOLD
District Council

Regulation 14 Consultation

Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations require the draft plan proposal to be the subject of pre-submission consultation before it is submitted to the local authority for independent examination. The consultation should last at least 6 weeks.

A consultation for the plan is being undertaken from Monday 1st September 2025 to Sunday 12th October 2025. Comments for the District Council are provided as relevant on the day of 9th October 2025.

Pre-submission consultation requirements include publicising the draft plan to people who live, work or run business in the area. The publicity must include details of the proposed neighbourhood plan, where and when it may be viewed, and how to make comments on the plan and by what date.

Certain statutory bodies must be consulted, including the district council (as the local planning authority), the Environment agency, Natural England and Historic England. It is also advisable to consult local business or community organisations, such as chambers of commerce, civic societies and local trusts.

Producing a summary of the plan may be useful to many people who do not want to read the whole document. Drop-in events may also be a useful means of allowing people to ask questions or discuss the plan on a one-to-one basis.

The draft plan and supporting documents should be uploaded to the neighbourhood plan website. Printed copies should be made available at convenient locations, such as libraries, community centres, council offices and other key public buildings. Copied should be available to send to people who can't access a digital or displayed copy.

Representations and Modifications

Any comments received by the end of the consultation period must be considered by the qualifying body, but it is legitimate for the neighbourhood plan body to take a different view. Indeed, different representations may demonstrate opposing views. A planning judgement needs to be taken.

A decision will need to be made over whether or not to amend the Neighbourhood Plan in response to each representation. The decision on whether or not to amend the plan, and the reasoning behind them, should be recorded, as this information will need to incorporated in the Consultation Statement.

Consultation Statement

The Regulations require that a Consultation Statement is prepared and submitted with a Neighbourhood Plan when the plan is sent to the District Council. The Consultation Statement must:

- contain details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
- explain how they were consulted;
- summarise the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
- describe how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.

The qualifying body will need to agree the modifications and approve the resulting draft of the plan for submission to the local planning authority.

Environmental effects

It is a requirement that all neighbourhood plans submitted for examination be accompanied by either a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) report or a screening determination stating that the plan would not have significant environmental effects.

Local Authorities should screen emerging neighbourhood plan proposals at the earliest stage, to ascertain whether they are likely to trigger any European Union (EU) directives.

Strategical Environment Assessment (SEA) Screening

The SEA Screening Opinion was prepared (March 2025) by Land Use Consultants (LUC) on behalf of Cotswold District Council.

It concludes that the draft Neighbourhood Plan does not directly impact on land use through the allocation of sites for housing or other forms of development and is therefore considered unlikely to have significant environment effects and that full SEA is not required.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening

Typically, a plan is screened for HRA first. If screened IN for HRA, then a full SEA would be required. As SEA screening has been undertaken, presumably the plan was screened OUT for HRA. Confirmation is required a to whether a HRA screening document available.

Both the SEA and HRA screening should be consulted on as part of the Reg 14 consultation. The SEA screening was provided upon request but did not seem to be on the consultation website. The following questions are therefore asked:

- Are those documents part of the Reg 14 consultation?
- Have they been made publicly available/ accessible?

- Have they been sent to the relevant statutory consultees e.g. Natural England, Historic England, the Environment Agency etc.?

Considerations

The Basic Conditions an Examiner will consider for a Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:

- National policy compliance
- Contribution to achievement of sustainable development
- General conformity with "strategic policy" of the Local Plan
- Compatible with EU obligations (e.g. SEA)
- Does not breach habitats regulations

Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) guidance (June 2025) on plan-making also requires:

- Clarity and certainty
- Detailed policies map(s)
- Sufficient evidence and justification

Comments provided by Cotswold District Council will be based upon these considerations, although as above a *formal* opinion on the basic conditions cannot be made until after independent examination.

Conformity with Strategic Policy

Please note that an emerging Neighbourhood Plan can only be considered against policies in the adopted (i.e. current) Cotswold District Council Local Plan 2011-2031 (adopted in August 2018). Although a Local Plan review is underway, this currently carries no weight.

However, of note is that as part of the Local Plan review, consultations and a feasibility study have been undertaken regarding housing development in Moreton.

Comment Schedule

Policy No.	**Policy Name**	**Cotswold District Council Comments**
n/a	General comment	For clarity include the Policy number, title and text within a single box, excluding the objective.
	Housing Allocations	To note, the housing allocations in the supporting text are from the Local Plan – no new allocations are made. There is no requirement for Neighbourhood Plans to allocate housing sites.

1	Climate Adaptation and Energy Efficiency in Developments ***Olivia McGregor – Climate Change and Carbon Reduction Lead*** *was consulted but no response yet received*	At criterion (a) it refers to land allocations without making any. *Proposals* would be a more appropriate word, as they would refer to any planning applications/proposals. Criterion (b) is set out in Local Plan Policy INF10 1(b) and duplication is not required. Criteria (c) and (f) could be moved to supporting text. They express encouragement for such development but do not effectively change policy position. Or they could be moved into the requirements of criterion (d); which should also be more specific on which new development this applies to, or state: *where relevant or appropriate*. Criterion (e) could be worded more simply e.g. *Provision of electric vehicle charging should be incorporated in relevant planning applications whether domestic, commercial or industrial uses*. Consider whether there is evidence to make a requirement e.g. 10% or 20% of spaces.
2	Managing Flood Risk ***Jo Corbett – Senior Planning Policy Officer*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	This policy duplicates much of Local Plan Policy EN14 and the NPPF. It is suggested that this policy is deleted unless it can be enhanced by anything specific, particular to Moreton.
3	Housing Mix ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded*.	The specific number of six dwellings in Criterion (a) is queried. Evidence would be required for this number. Suggest this is removed and *all* development delivering net new dwellings should show how they meet local need. Alternatively, Local Plan Policy H2 Affordable Housing applies to 11 or more dwellings, or 6-10 in rural areas.

		It is queried whether the Housing Needs Analysis was available for this consultation and if so, who it was prepared by? <u>Criterion (b)</u> 25% Lifetime Home Standards – this has been superseded by M4(2) building regulations. Ideally all properties will be built to M4(2) standards to be accessible and adaptable. A criterion could be inserted to exclude developments where the applicant can provide viability evidence. To be more ambitions a certain proportion could be at M4(3) standard to be fully wheelchair accessible. However, 25% would seem high; query over whether the Housing Needs Assessment provides evidence for this? Query over whether point C 5 could provide for "*fully serviced"* land? e.g. power grid, water, sewage connections. However, Local Plan Policy H1 requires 5% of plots are made available for custom build on developments of 20 dwellings or more. We understand the need to be satisfied by permissions district-wide. Is Moreton able to evidence a greater or unmet need at a local level to increase the % or lower the threshold? Clarity between (b) and (c)[2] required.
4	Affordable Housing ***Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist*** *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	Criterion (a)[2] could add that *an affordable home should not be distinguishable from market homes in the same development i.e. "tenure blind".* Criterion (b)– remove as follows: ~~*in all new housing developments providing affordable housing the first occupancy of all*~~ *affordable homes will be prioritised for households with…* This should refer to the HomeSeeker Plus (or any subsequent) policy. It should be clear that the Local Connection Criteria (white box) is supplementary to the HomeSeeker Plus policy enabled by para 34.1 of their policy document.

		As such, the white box should also indicate the 'surrounding parishes' mentioned in para 34.1. Criterion (c) as written this applies to all proposals, should it be only proposals that include affordable housing? Add: … Strategic Housing Market Assessment *or any local objectively assessed need*. Criterion (d) our understanding is this would contradict national legislation. Could instead propose Discounted Market Sale (DMS) which can tie a perpetual discount to the land.
5	Well Designed Housing and Places ***Mike Napper – Principal Planning Officer (DM)*** *was consulted but was unable to provide a response*	Criterion (b) seems superfluous to (a). Criterion (c) - Appendix A is not a Design Guide, and is labelled a Community Design Statement. It largely contains information on the national context of design guidance. The rest is information on heritage assets which can be separated if relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan Criterion (g) whilst earthwork barriers are appropriate alongside busy/ main roads, it can segregate the development from the current built form and lose the opportunity of good streetscape. Criterion (h) what proposals would be appropriate; examples could be made in the supporting text. Criterion (j) has an appraisal of allotment supply in Moreton been undertaken? Would extending current sites be better than smaller allotments on each development site? Criterion (k) best where these can be centralised to the development e.g. village green concept.
6	Parking in Residential Developments ***Sarah Williams – Principal Transport***	Criterion (a) the current parking provision is set out in the Gloucestershire County Council Manual for Gloucestershire Streets (July 2020) (MFGS), page 48, see excerpt below:

<table>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Planner at Gloucestershire County Council has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.</td>
<td>
<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Urban (Rural)</td><td colspan="5">No. of bedrooms</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr>
<tr><td>Spaces</td><td>1 (1)</td><td>2 (1)</td><td>2 (2)</td><td>3 (2)</td><td>3 (3)</td></tr>
</table>

The policy proposes an additional space for 5+ bed houses. Is there justification or evidence e.g. surveys for this?

The MFGS also has different criteria for rural dwellings. Unsure why less spaces would be needed in more car-dependent rural areas. Nonetheless, should a distinction be made in this policy too e.g. inside or outside the development boundary?

Criterion (b) Query over whether the overall ratio needs to be maintained?

Criterion (d) as garages are often used for storage, if they are counted on paper as a parking space this could lead to street parking issues? Could, for example, garages be excluded from the count of the first parking space? i.e. where 2 spaces must be provided, only 1 can be a garage space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Brownfield First

Fin McEwan – Strategic Housing Specialist has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.</td>
<td>Whilst this is a good objective, the policy criteria would not make any change to the determination of planning applications.

Are there any sites that could be identified which could add to this policy?

Or could consideration be given to lowering the affordable housing contribution on brownfield sites to increase their viability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Hard Infrastructure</td>
<td>No comment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Soft Infrastructure</td>
<td>Criterion (b) Advise adding: ‘or where capacity can be increased through the new development’.

May need to consider how developers would contribute; is there a preference hierarchy e.g. on-site, s106 etc.?</td>
</tr>
</table>

10	Principal Residence Housing	Reasoned justification needs to be specific to Moreton and evidence should show the % of households as second homes/ holiday lets. Some authorities may have a minimum threshold of second/ holiday homes (e.g. 20%) before they would consider a principal residency policy. Cotswold District Council does not have such a threshold but the % should be evidenced as significant to take this policy forwards.
11	Employment Land	Could the supporting text outline the largest employment locations in the parish please?
12	Small Business Units	Query over what constitutes "small"? Does this apply up to a certain floorspace or number of employees?
13	Retail Provision	Moreton is designated as a Key Retail Centre in the retail hierarchy of Local Plan Policy EC7. The policy proposes a Core Retail Area. The Steering Group could propose to alter the Key Retail Centre boundary, which would be clearer, and ensure LP Policy EC7 still applies. However, there needs to be clear evidence for either and there is not enough justification for the location of the boundary. Could also mention retaining a retail/ shopfront appearance even if e.g. converted to holiday let.
14	Infrastructure Investment Priorities	There is some overlap with Policy 9. These policies could be merged or at least ensure they are compatible. For example, if viability only allows a certain amount, would the priorities of Policy 9 or 14 come first? How are these to be delivered, s106 or CIL?
15	Local Green Spaces ***Lesley Davis – Planning Policy officer*** *has been*	A separate paper could be provided (to save making the NP too long), as more evidence is required to show how the proposed sites meet the high threshold for designation as Local Green Space ; particularly around the special

	consulted on this policy and comments embedded.	qualities: beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, richness of wildlife. Cotswold District Council can support the production of this with methodologies, templates and advice. Unable to support or resist designation of any of the proposed Local Green Spaces until more understanding of their qualities is brought forward. Cotswold District Council to cooperate on Local Green Space prior to next consultation. Criterion (b) not required as all other relevant policies in the development framework would still apply?
16	Non-designated Heritage Assets ***Danielle Berry – Natural, Built and Historic Environment Team Manager*** *was consulted but opted to defer response to NP Officer*	Could remove criteria (b) and (c) as already set out in Local Plan Policy EN12. Neighbourhood Plans generally just identify which Non-designated Heritage Assets apply to the Local Plan policy. A list of Non-designated Heritage Assets is provided in Appendix D but there is no justification/ evidence for each. Cotswold District Council can support the production of this with methodologies, templates and advice. There is also a list of historic assets starting on page 71 of the Neighbourhood Plan document – can these be consolidated to one list? Listed buildings do not need to be included as they have protection at a national level.
17	Biodiversity	Policy numbering/ lettering needs reordering. Generally supportive of this policy, but criteria could be streamlined, duplicate wording in many places. Criterion (f) are any Biodiversity Opportunity Areas proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan or exist in the parish?

		Criterion (h) other relevant policies in the development framework will apply regardless. Criterion (g) how would an applicant *"ensure the viability of the surrounding Cotswold National Landscape"?*
18	Important Views	The policy text refers to Protected Views, whereas the policy title is Important Views. Suggest the use of Important or Key Views, as difficult to "protect" views in the English planning system. Criterion (c) is too strong. See this adopted wording from Hauxley Neighbourhood Plan (Sep 2024): *Development proposals throughout the Neighbourhood Area must be sensitive to the importance of maintaining key views.* Better where possible to consider how design policies on specific streets/ buildings could be used to maintain the built form in a way that protects the key views in regards streetscape. Or in more open settings, could a view form part of a Local Green Space or Protected Open Space designation, which would give stronger protection. For example, in **Appendix D View #8 Western Entrance to Town Centre** … "*demonstrating how important the trees and grass verges are*". Perhaps better to protect those verges and trees as Local Green Space, in turn protecting the view.
19	Development Boundary	The policy does not appear to alter the Development Boundary already set out in the Local Plan. Criterion (b) is not positively worded and does not support the principle of sustainable development, suggest removing.
20	Transport & Active Travel ***Sarah Williams – Principal Transport***	Criterion (a) is compatible with the additional parking requirements of Policy 6, by taking parked cars off the street and making streets more accessible for non-car users.

	Planner at Gloucestershire County Council *has been consulted on this policy and comments embedded.*	The numbered list in part d are the core design principles from the Cycle Infrastructure Guidance LTN1/20 However, 3 is Coherence and 5 is Comfort. This is also referenced by Active Travel England. 6 is superfluous and protection of trees/hedgerows are elsewhere both in the plan and the Local Plan. Criterion (e) should also refer to the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which has a corridor running north from Stow-on-the-Wold to Moreton train station. Also, replace Ways with Network please.

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Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

2018 - 2031

Regulation 14 Draft July 2025

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List of Appendices

Foreword

Welcome to the Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Development Plan.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community led initiative under the aegis of the Town Council which enables a community to play a much stronger role in shaping the area in which we live and work. While it must align with the District Local Plan, it can add detail important to the community. For example, it can put into policy:

- where we might choose to have new homes, shops and offices to be built
- the type, design and sustainability standards for any new buildings
- the infrastructure that needs to be provided
- the protection of important local green spaces, important views and other community assets

In addition, it enables a local community to benefit from 25% of the revenues from the Community Infrastructure Levy arising from any development that takes place in the area.

The plan can also identify projects that the community perceives would benefit the town. Unfortunately, no funds are attached to this, but they do provide a very strong indication of what the community would like to see happen.

The Moreton-in-Marsh NDP covers the parish of Moreton-in-Marsh and will run up to 2031 (in line with local plan). It has been driven by a working group made up of volunteers, a mix of local residents and local councillors. The working group began in 2018 and since then has held a number of events, surveys, workshops and exhibitions to understand the community needs and wishes.

Residents like the fact that Moreton is a small, friendly historic market town which provides a focus for shopping, hospitality, social activities and services such as healthcare for residents of the town and the surrounding villages. The town sits in a bucolic setting, surrounded by agriculture and countryside. The high street is the second broadest in the country and is lined with historic buildings of architectural value. The town is well connected as it is located at the crossroads of two main 'A' roads and has a railway station providing direct services to London and Hereford. All these factors make it very popular with locals and with tourists.

The High Street, the two business areas and people working from home are at the heart of the economy of the town, but agriculture and tourism are also extremely important, so it is key to the community that the character of the town is maintained or enhanced.

Generally, people like living in Moreton but there are a number of issues which the plan aims to address:

- Quality of Life
  There has been a very large and very rapid increase in housing in the town recently. Between the 2011 and 2021 censuses, the number of households and the population both grew by just under 50%. This is a massive increase in a short time and has put many aspects of life in the town under pressure.
- Infrastructure – is struggling and bringing increased health and safety risks.
  It is noted that the land allocated for housing in the Local Plan to 2031 has all been developed – and more.
- Water management – the local water treatment plant (owned by Thames Water) is already at capacity and is unable to cope even with current demand. It is noted that the CDC Local Plan referred to a 2015 water cycle study indicating that some upgrading was required – but none has been carried out.
    - While there are plans to upgrade the plant there are concerns when this might

happen (as it keeps being delayed and acknowledging Thames Water's current financial difficulties). The immediate impact has been excessive foul water discharges into the River Evenlode and an increased risk of flooding.

- Traffic – the two sides of the beautiful High Street are split by the A429, Fosse Way. This has now become so busy with the general increase in traffic, as well as the increase in local traffic, that it suffers from significant air and noise pollution and is often difficult to cross increasing the health and safety risks.
- Services – local health services (GP surgeries, dental services, etc.) have not grown at the same rate as the population and so have become difficult to access.
- Climate change and sustainability
    - Residents want a more sustainable town that is able to manage successfully the issues that are predicted from climate change – particularly extreme weather events
    - People value the town's close links with agriculture and the countryside and are keen to see this maintained and enhanced, not degraded, and support efforts to increase biodiversity.

The plan seeks to address these issues as far as it is able, and deliver the vision that the residents have for the town

"An attractive, vibrant and prosperous market town with a wide range of housing options
It benefits from excellent transport links, a network of safe walking and cycling routes
It successfully blends its role as a key retail and service centre for businesses, residents and visitors in a green, bio-diverse, low carbon environment."

We would like to acknowledge everyone that has helped to create this plan, not least the residents themselves for their participation in the various surveys, events, exhibitions and workshops. We would also like to thank everyone who has volunteered their time on the working group since its inception in 2018, the consultants who have helped us enormously and also the CDC officers who have helped us along the way.

Peter Richardson
Chair of the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Eileen Viviani
Vice-Chair of the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Introduction

This document represents the Neighbourhood Plan for Moreton-in-Marsh neighbourhood area for the period 2018 to 2031. The plan contains a vision for the future of Moreton-in-Marsh and sets out clear planning policies to realise this vision.

Purpose of the Plan

The principal purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to guide development within the neighbourhood area. It also provides guidance to anyone wishing to submit a planning application for development within the neighbourhood area. The process of producing a plan has sought to involve the community as widely as possible. The different topic areas are reflective of matters that are of considerable importance to Moreton-in-Marsh, its residents, businesses, and community groups.

Some of the Neighbourhood Plan policies are general and apply throughout the plan area, whilst others are site or area-specific and apply only to the appropriate areas illustrated on the relevant map. Once made, the policies of the plan form part of the development plan. Development should be carried out in accordance with the development plan, the policies of which should be taken as a whole.

The process of producing the Neighbourhood Plan has identified a number of actions which have not been included in the policies' sections. This is because these are not specifically related to land use matters and therefore sit outside the jurisdiction of a neighbourhood plan. These actions will be addressed by the Town Council outside of the neighbourhood plan process.

Policy Context

This document represents the Neighbourhood Plan for Moreton-in-Marsh neighbourhood area, being one part of the development plan over the period 2018 to 2031, the other part being the Local Plan for Cotswold District Council 2011 - 2031[1].

Cotswold District Council (CDC), as the local Planning Authority, designated the Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Area in September 2018 to enable Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan has been prepared by the community through the Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) on behalf of Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council.

The Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Town & Country Planning Act 1990[2], the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004[3], the Localism Act 2011[4] and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2016[5]. The NPSG has prepared the plan to establish a vision for the future of the neighbourhood area and to set out how that vision will be realised through planning and controlling land use and development change over the plan period 2018 to 2031.

The map in *Figure 1* below shows the boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

[1] *Cotswold District Council Local Plan 2011-2013*
[2] *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*
[3] *Planning and compulsory Purchases Act 2004*
[4] *Localism Act 2011*
[5] *Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2016*

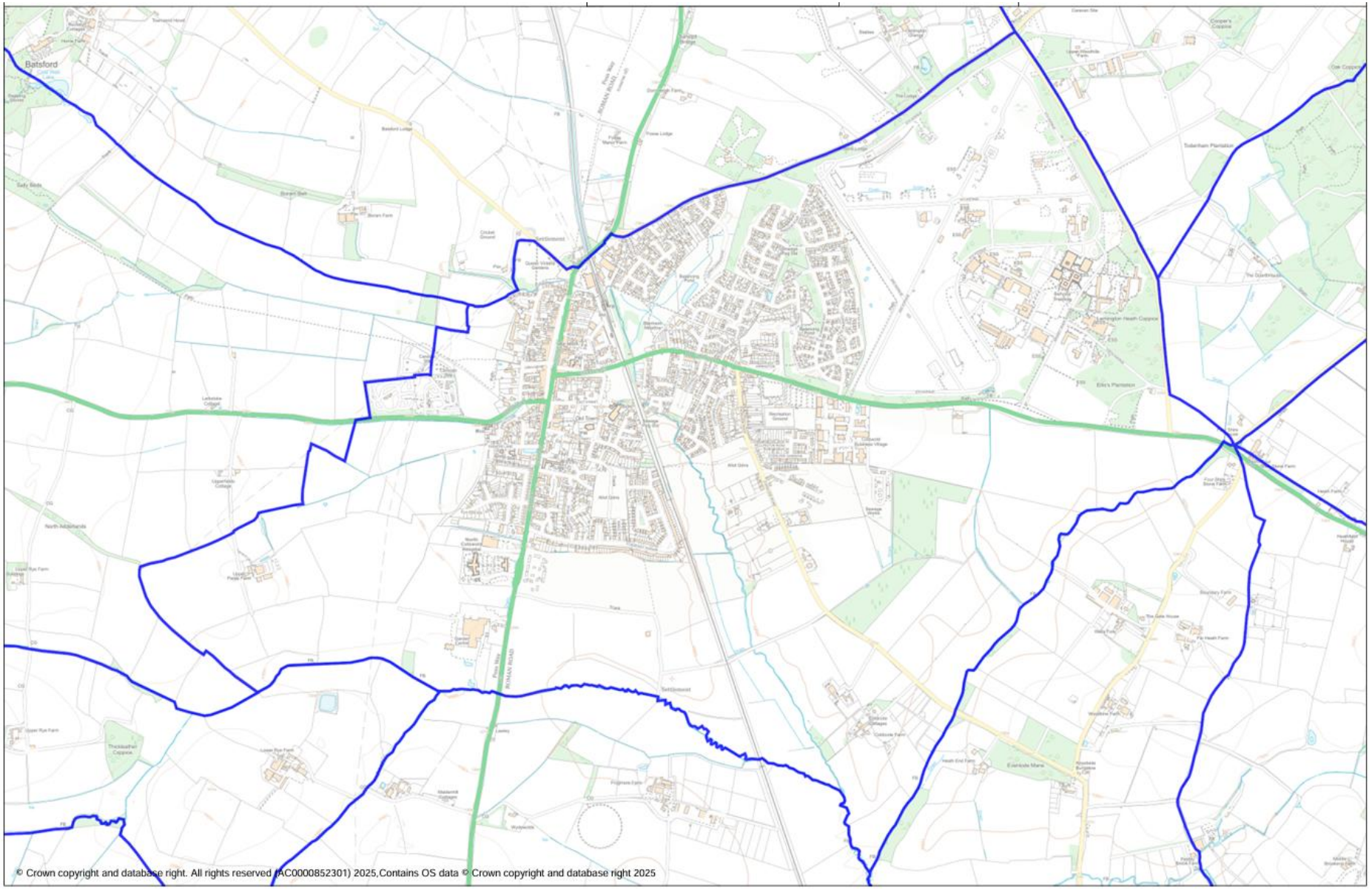


Figure 1 Neighbourhood Plan Boundary Map

About Moreton-in-Marsh

Moreton-in-Marsh was first settled during the Iron Age which began around 750BC and lasted until the coming of the Romans in AD43. Roman pottery and coins have been found at the site which is not surprising since the settlement borders the Fosse Way, built by the Romans to link Lincoln and Exeter. Moreton is first mentioned as a Saxon settlement around 577 AD and just before the Norman Conquest of 1066 it was transferred to the ownership of Westminster Abbey. It was granted its market charter in 1226, and this encouraged the growth of the market town with its wide main street, narrow burgage plots and back lanes. There still is a busy market today attracting many visitors every Tuesday throughout the year.

When Moreton-in-Marsh became the property of Westminster Abbey it was still a small village, but Abbot Richard of Barking saw the possibility of exploiting its position next to the Fosse Way and began developing Moreton as a medieval market town between 1222 and 1246. The new town was built on common land bordering the Fosse Way close to the original Saxon settlement. St David's Church is in the centre of the original settlement, which is still called Old Town. The distinctive long, wide High Street was part of this development and was created to accommodate the medieval markets.

The development helped the town's wool and cloth-making economy to thrive during this period, enabling the building of the elegant 18th century inns and houses which line the High Street. After a thousand years of church ownership the estate was sold in 1856.

As the name implies, Moreton-in-Marsh lies mainly on open moorland and parts of the parish, especially near the church where the earliest settlement lay, are marshy and used to be subject to flooding. The south and east boundaries of the parish are formed by two branches of the River Evenlode.

Open fields lay on the east and west sides of the Fosse Way until the enclosures in the 17th century and after the 1821 Inclosure Act. The parish has always had a considerable area of meadow, the demesne meadow lying on the west side and the common meadow, usually called Moreton Heath, lying in the north-east. During the Second World War the northeast part was used as an airfield which was closed in 1959. It was then repurposed and in 1962 became a Fire Service training centre which is still active today.

The placing of a main railway station in Moreton encouraged further growth such that by the end of the 19th century the number of houses had increased by 50%.

Moreton-in-Marsh Today

Today, Moreton-in-Marsh is a thriving market town of 1.5 km² with just over 5,000 residents. It is a principal settlement in the North Cotswolds, being located in the northeast of Gloucestershire and bordering three other counties, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire.

The town centre is characterised by a particularly wide high street lined with many elegant 17th and 18th century buildings built in the honey-coloured Cotswold stone and separated by green areas of grass and trees. The buildings now have a mix of uses including retail, hospitality, services and residential. Some examples include the White Hart Royal Hotel, a former manor house in which King Charles I sheltered during the Civil War and the rare Curfew Tower with its original clock and bell. In the centre is the Redesdale Hall, the town's main public hall, which regularly holds community events as well as antiques and craft fairs. This attractive centre is a vital asset when attracting tourists to the town. The community takes pride in the High Street as evidenced by the local High Street Gardeners who maintain the flower beds there.

The town sits in a very rural setting, with attractive scenery made up of woods and agricultural fields which are threaded with many public footpaths.

Employment is provided by the High Street businesses as well as two business parks, the Fire Service College and the medical facilities at the North Cotswold Hospital and Four Shires Medical Centre GP surgeries.
Education facilities are provided St David's C of E Primary School for children up to the age of 11, but senior school children must travel outside the town to places such as Chipping Campden and Bourton-on-the-Water.

Within the town there are facilities for a range of well-supported sports clubs including football, bowls and croquet and just outside the parish boundary (and therefore the plan area) adjacent to the Queen Victoria Gardens park and children's play area, there is a large sports field which has excellent facilities for the cricket and tennis clubs. In addition, there are a number of social clubs and societies within the town and children are catered for with several children's play parks around the town. The Fire Service College also provides residents with access to a variety of leisure facilities. There are a number of locations in the town where social activities are held including the iconic Redesdale Hall in the centre of the town.
Moreton-in-Marsh is generally considered to be well served by transport, but it can be difficult or impossible to travel to local villages and even some of the nearby towns using public transport.
It has a mainline railway station with direct links to London, Oxford and Reading one way and Malvern, Hereford and Worcester the other.
Moreton-in-Marsh is at the crossroads of the A429 (Fosse Way) running north/south and the A44 running east/west.
There are bus services to a number of local towns and villages including Cheltenham, Stratford-upon-Avon, Shipston-on-Stour, Bourton-on-the-Water and Stow on the Wold.

There is an extensive footpath network into and around the local countryside as well as a number of cycle paths. A recent example of the community commitment to local footpaths has been the planned establishment of the East Moreton Greenway.
While Moreton-in-Marsh is a working market town, tourism is also an important part of the economy. Nearby attractions include Batsford Arboretum, the Cotswold Falconry, Bourton House Garden and Sezincote Gardens, which for those visitors that enjoy walking, can be easily reached from Moreton by local footpaths including the Moreton Eight trail.

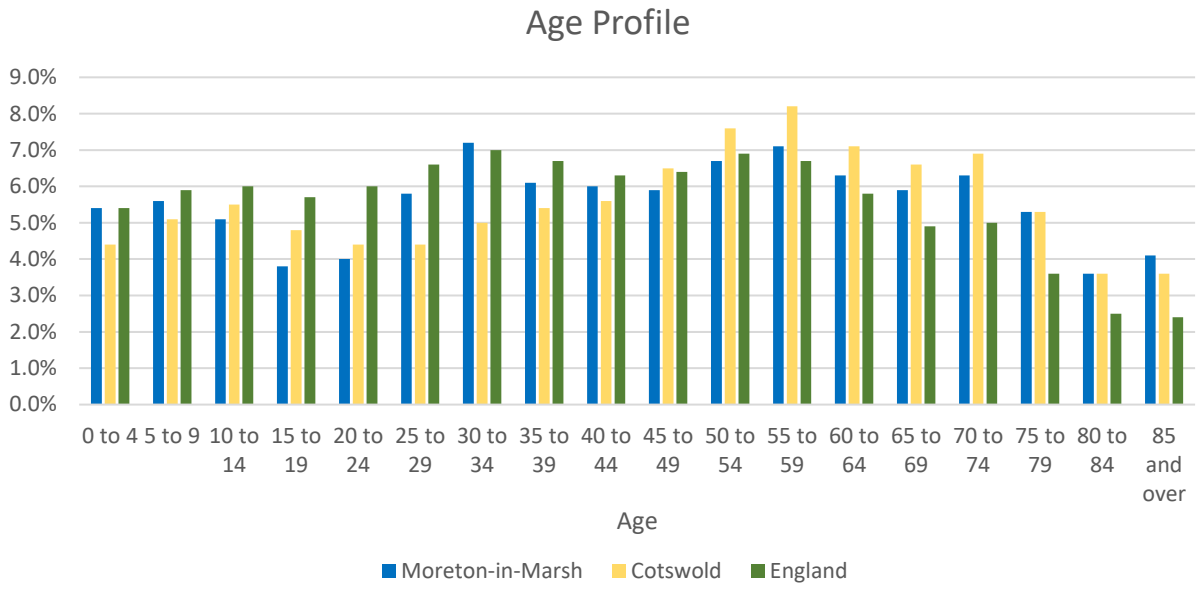
The town has a variety of accommodation, ranging from small self-catering cottages to luxury hotels, as well as a popular large caravan and campervan site only a short walk from the town centre.

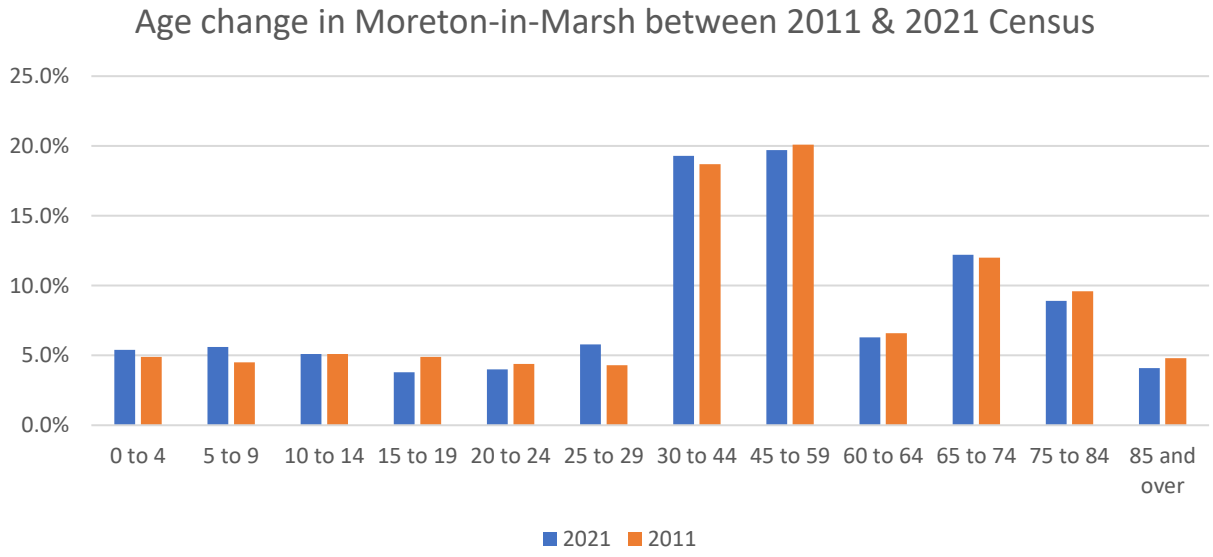
Every Tuesday throughout the year the High Street in Moreton-in-Marsh hosts the largest street market in the Cotswolds with many stalls selling a wide variety of goods including food (fresh and cooked), hardware, clothing, haberdashery, pet products, cookware, etc.

Each year, on the first Saturday in September, the Moreton Show, a major one-day agricultural show celebrating past and present farming life is held close to the town centre.
The neighbouring Batsford estate was originally owned by Lord Redesdale, father of the Mitford sisters. He erected the Redesdale Hall in the centre of the town and created the nearby Batsford Arboretum. Some of the estate is used by the Moreton tennis and cricket clubs and also for the annual Moreton Show. The estate is now owned by Lord Dulverton.

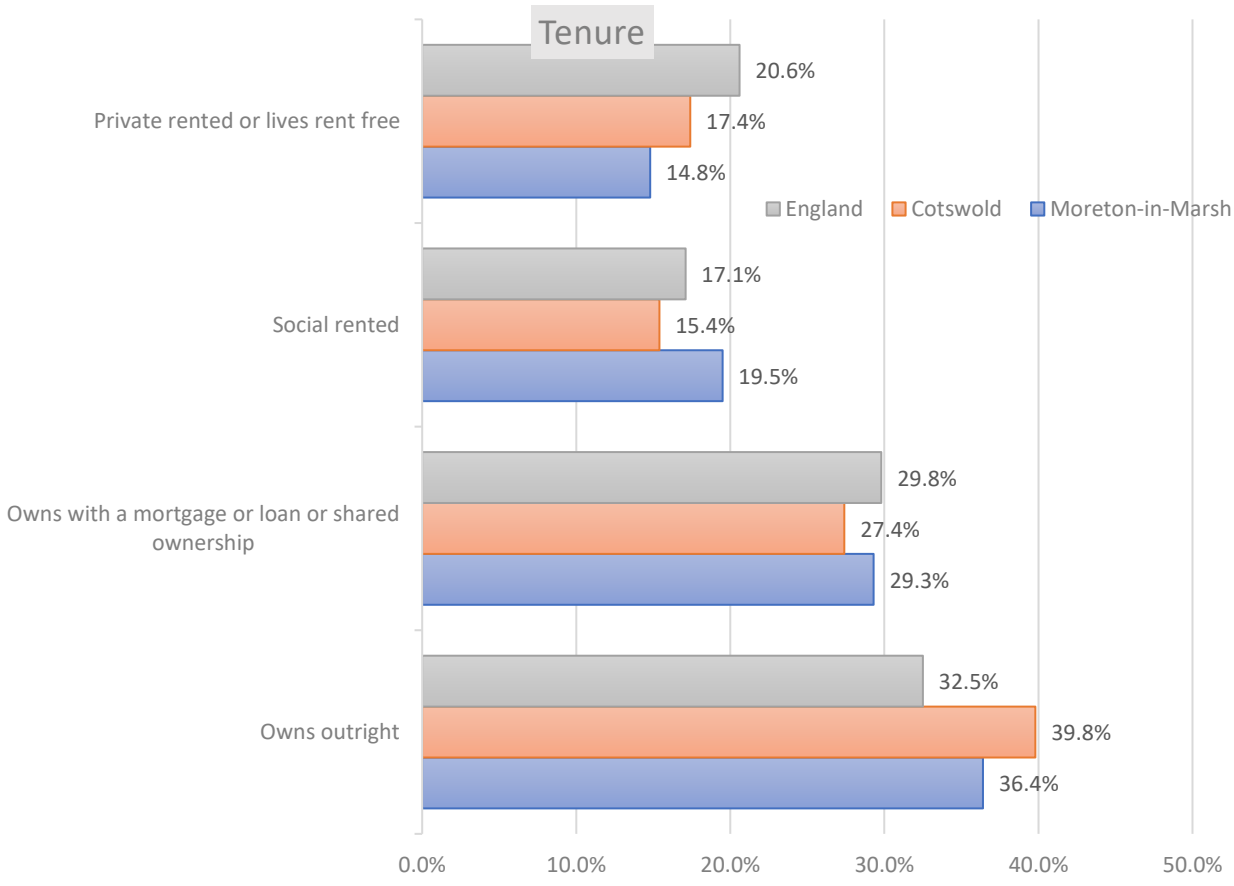
Profile of the Community Today

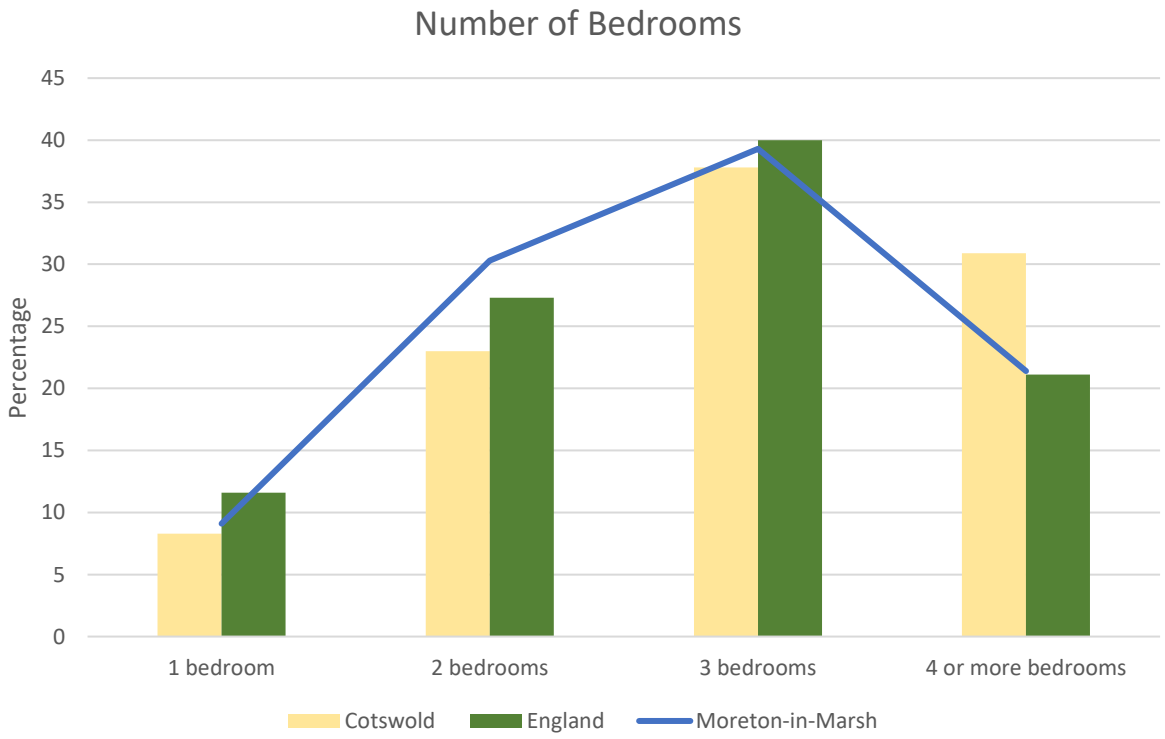
Key facts	Moreton-in-Marsh Parish	
	2011 ONS Census[6]	2021 ONS Census[7]
Area	609 hectares	609 hectares
Total population	3,493	5,015
Population density (no. of persons per hectare)	7.38	8.23
Households	1,799	2,400





[6] ONS 2011 Census
[7] ONS 2021 Census


Tenure
Private rented or lives rent free
20.6%
17.4%
14.8%
England
Cotswold
Moreton-in-Marsh
Social rented
17.1%
15.4%
19.5%
Owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership
29.8%
27.4%
29.3%
Owns outright
32.5%
39.8%
36.4%
0.0%
10.0%
20.0%
30.0%
40.0%
50.0%


Number of Bedrooms
Percentage
45
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
1 bedroom
2 bedrooms
3 bedrooms
4 or more bedrooms
Cotswold
England
Moreton-in-Marsh

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) datasets are small area measures of relative deprivation across each of the constituent nations of the United Kingdom. Areas are ranked from the most deprived area (rank 1) to the least deprived area. Each nation measures deprivation in a slightly different way but the broad themes include income, employment, education, health, crime, barriers to housing and services, and the living environment. The most recent IMD calculations were taken in 2019.

The seven levels measured are:

Income: Measures the proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income

Employment: Measures the proportion of the working age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market

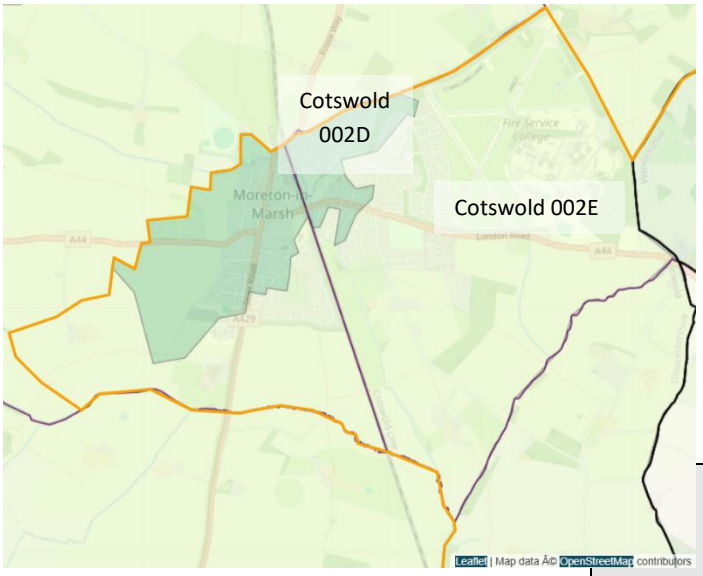
Education, Skills and Training: Measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population

Health and Disability: Measures the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health

Crime: Measures the risk of personal and material victimisation at local level

Barriers to Housing and Services: Measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services

Living Environment: Measures the quality of both the 'indoor' and 'outdoor' local environment, e.g. indoor: proportion of houses with central heating; outdoor: air quality, road traffic accidents



For the purpose of IMD's Moreton-in-Marsh is split into two wards: Cotswold 002D and 002E. These 2 wards were ranked overall as 17,850 and 25,479 out of 32,844 areas in England, where 1 is the most deprived area. This is amongst the 60% and 80% least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.

When split out by level, the results are quite diverse:

Indices	Cotswold 002D Overall rank	Cotswold 002D Decile	Cotswold 002E Overall rank	Cotswold 002E Decile
Overall Rank	**17,850**	**6**	**25,479**	**8**
Income	15,464	5	23,922	8
Employment	12,147	4	22,263	7
Education	9,325	3	14,773	5
Health	19,115	6	26,926	9
Crime	27,059	9	28,758	9
Barrier to housing	24,420	8	11,805	4
Living Environment	23,070	8	30,103	10
Decile=1 most deprived, 10 least deprived				

Section Two
Policy Context

National And Regional Policy

- This section of the plan explores the topic areas to be covered in the Neighbourhood Plan in more detail. Each section identifies relevant policies and evidence at the national, regional, and local level, as well as a summary of Moreton-in-Marsh resident's views collated to date.
- Evidence is drawn from a series of sources including:
    - The National Planning Policy Framework[8] (NPPF) first published in March 2012 and revised in July 2018, updated February 2019, July 2021, December 2023 and December 2024.
    - The NPPF sets out the planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied in order to achieve sustainable development.
    - The Local Plan for Cotswold District Council[9] formally adopted by the Council on 3rd August 2018. It sets out the current situation for the district, as well as some overarching strategic objectives for the future.
    - The Local Plan now forms part of the Development Plan for the District and will be used in the determination of all planning applications submitted to the Council alongside policies in the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (2007)[10]
    - Cotswold District Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal 2017[11]
- The purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal is to assess the environmental, social, and economic effects of approaches in order to help decide what the most appropriate policies will be.
- The Local Plan proposes 203 new homes over the period of the Local Plan (2011-2031) for Moreton-in-Marsh.
- In terms of employment land, MOR_E6 (Fire Services College B (7ha) has been allocated for B1 uses.
- Discussions with infrastructure providers have confirmed that the level of growth and development proposals are acceptable in principle. There are a number of infrastructure issues to be addressed. These include provision of a new primary school and investment in sewage treatment and sustainable urban drainage for surface water. An early review of primary health provision by the NHS may also be needed.
- Moreton has a good employment base (about 2,000 jobs), with a higher-than-average proportion of those jobs in growth employment sectors and a good balance of jobs to workers. The town's high sustainability ranking is despite the lack of both a secondary school and publicly available leisure facilities.

[8] National Planning Policy Framework December 2024

[9] *Cotswold District Local Plan (2011 – 2031)*

[10] *LDF Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning document (Adopted version 2007)*

[11] *Cotswold District Local Plan SA Report 12th January 2017*

Section Three
Vision and Objectives

Challenges for Moreton-in-Marsh:

The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to address, as far as possible the challenges that face the community of Moreton-in-Marsh. In summary these challenges are:

1. Heavy Good Traffic and Congestion:
    - Address the traffic, parking and movement situation in the centre of the town to ensure it remains a thriving key service centre for the north Cotswold.
    - Recognising alternatives to the private car as a means of travel need to be provided for and their use encouraged, particularly in relation to cycling and walking.

2. Excessive Population Growth:
    - Ensuring strategic developments identified in the Cotswold Local Plan are integrated into the existing community of Moreton-in-Marsh so that they do not function as separate from the existing communities.

3. Loss of Green Space to Development:
    - Protecting the significant green spaces, views and biodiversity assets in the parish, increase habitat for wildlife and biodiversity and provide new accessible green space for the growing population.
    - Some of the walking / cycling routes in and around the town are in need of major improvements.

4. Flooding and Water Management:
    - Ensuring the growth in population arising from new development does not put an unacceptable strain on existing infrastructure, including (but not limited to) sewage and water infrastructure overload.

5. Economic Challenges:
    - Ensuring additional footfall generated from new economic activity uses Moreton-in-Marsh town centre.
    - Currently, residents “commute out” of Moreton-in-Marsh for employment meaning opportunities need to be sought to create more local employment in light of the new development which will take place.

Other challenges identified through community engagement:

- Anti-social behaviour and crime.

Vision for Moreton-in-Marsh

In 2031 Moreton-in-Marsh is an attractive, vibrant and prosperous market town with a wide range of housing options. Moreton benefits from excellent transport links, a network of safe walking and cycling routes. The town successfully blends its role as a key retail and service centre for businesses, residents and visitors in a green, bio-diverse, low carbon environment.

Objectives for Moreton-in-Marsh

Housing Objectives

a. New developments to be energy efficient and climate adaptive.
b. New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people.
c. New developments on brownfield sites to take priority over greenfield sites.
d. To ensure new homes are of high-quality design and built to Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) standards.
e. Ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to support new development prior to the completion of the project.
f. To support the provision of principal residence housing for those wishing to live in Moreton-in-Marsh.

Economy & Business

g. New developments to facilitate and support the growth of the business base within Moreton-in-Marsh, creating more jobs across a diverse range of sectors.
h. Support development of small business units/shared space.

Town Centre

i. New developments to support and sustain a vibrant attractive and successful town centre that meets the needs of the local community and visitors.
j. Improve the public realm and traffic management within and through the town to provide easier, safer and more pleasant access for residents and visitors, using developer contributions.

Environment

k. Protect and maintain open green spaces.
l. Protect and maintain archaeological and built heritage assets deemed to be of value to the community.
m. Preserve and increase opportunities for biodiversity net gain.
n. Preserve important views within the parish.
o. Protect the sensitive natural environment and exceptional rural assets surrounding Moreton-in-Marsh.

Transport & Active Travel

p. Create a more connected parish for residents and visitors alike, limiting the need for vehicular travel within the town and offering a genuine choice of transport options to help reduce congestion and emissions, to improve air quality and public health.

Community Aspirations

- As part of the consultation process for this plan, a number of issues were highlighted by the community as being necessary to maintain the competitiveness and governance of Moreton-in-Marsh in the future.

- It is recognised these are outside the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan; however, they have been mentioned many times by the community and inform some of the key objectives.
- Given that they clearly have such an importance, it is felt they should be documented for the community to see as well as to ensure these issues are highlighted to the relevant bodies. Therefore, as well as being mentioned in the relevant policies section, these actions are identified as Community Aspirations.
- Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council does not have the resource to follow through on all the community aspirations identified during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Council has therefore agreed to create and support a Community Plan Steering Group, which would be a delegated Committee of the Town Council. The Group:
    - Should be largely composed of non-councillor residents.
    - Would develop a Community Plan, with professional support if required and within the budgetary constraints of Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council.
    - Would determine the priority of the aspiration, a reasonable timeframe for completion and the body responsible for taking any required action.
    - Would report regularly to Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council, which would be the responsible body for agreeing any public actions.

Section Four
Policies

Approach to Sustainable Development

Moreton-in-Marsh is designated in the Cotswold District Local Plan as the main service centre (Principal Settlement) for the North Cotswolds making it one of the area's most accessible settlements. The town's retail centre is also ranked fourth in the District, making it a key service centre in Cotswolds' retail hierarchy. As such, staged development within Moreton-in-Marsh will be supported, not least as this will help the settlement to continue to provide for the services and facilities required by a growing community.

Moreton-in-Marsh is considered to have one of the District's most accessible settlements with high employment and higher than average growth. However, there is no secondary school nor are there leisure facilities available to the public.

However, Moreton-in-Marsh benefits from the Cotswold Business Village and the Fire Services College and a railway station on the Oxford-Worcester line. Whilst this transport link is an advantage locally for commuting residents, it also leads to parking issues which are addressed through the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Local Plan cites these factors as contributing to the allocation of 203 houses over three sites in Moreton-in-Marsh.

It is also worth noting that Moreton-in-Marsh has been identified as at risk from flooding, a factor being addressed through the Neighbourhood Plan.

With the allocation of housing, it is crucial the infrastructure is in place to support this development in Moreton-in-Marsh, and this is identified in the Cotswold Local Plan. However, the Neighbourhood Plan addresses this issue to ensure locally identified issues are considered and needs met, especially in relation to the traffic and transport infrastructure.

In addition to the objectives set out above, the plan and its policies have also been developed with the following principles in mind. It is recommended that developers and applicants consider, where relevant, the following overarching principles of development when preparing and submitting planning applications within the neighbourhood area.

Early consultation with the Town Council and other community organisations is highly recommended, especially where the scheme is for more than a single dwelling or involves the use of a previously developed site. The town council wish to be informed about development in neighbouring areas outside the plan area, which may have an impact on residents in the neighbourhood area.

Where possible, applications which support the ongoing activities of social housing providers will be supported and encouraged, and applications should consider these opportunities at an early stage of preparing their planning application.

In considering the development or redevelopment of sites, applicants should be mindful to not overdevelop a site, in terms of delivering a scale or density of development which would be incongruous with its immediate neighbours and preserving local amenity.

Wherever possible, contributions for open space, highways and transportation and social housing should be spent locally, unless there are no viable options to do so locally.

Planning applications which accord with the policies in the plan will be approved unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Planning permission will also be granted where relevant policies in the neighbourhood development plan are out of date or silent unless:
Other relevant policies in the development plans for Cotswold indicate otherwise
Any adverse impacts of the proposal would significantly and demonstrably outweigh its benefits when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole.
Or specific policies in the framework or other material considerations indicate that development should be restricted.
Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council will take a positive approach to its consideration of development. The council and the local planning authorities will seek to work with applicants and other stakeholders to encourage the formulation of development proposals that can be approved.
This policy incorporates the key principles from the NPPF into the Plan. Where planning applications are to be considered against the policies of this plan then this policy will underpin the approach the council and local planning authorities will adopt in delivering sustainable development in the neighbourhood area.

Monitoring and Review

The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to guide development up to 2031. It is unlikely that the Neighbourhood Plan will remain current and completely relevant for the entire plan period and may, in whole or in part, require amendment before 2031.
This is particularly relevant as Cotswold District Council is in the process of updating its Local Plan.
The main question to be asked through the monitoring process is “Are planning applications being determined in accordance with Neighbourhood Plan policies?”
In all cases, the Town Council and its partners will undertake a partial review of the Neighbourhood Plan within five years of it being made.

Overview of Policies

- This section provides the planning policies which have been written, to explain how development in Moreton-in-Marsh should be approached, designed, and built, in order to support the objectives identified by the community set out in section Three.
- There are a total of twenty policies addressing five topic areas. These are:
    - housing
    - economy and business
    - town centre
    - the environment
    - transport and active travel
- Each of the five policy sections are introduced by an explanation to the background to that particular issue as it relates to Moreton-in-Marsh and by setting out the local context and circumstances in which the policy area has been approached. This includes the problems, issues, concerns, objectives, and aspirations of the local community.
- Each of the twenty individual policies then form two parts:
    - the policy itself, which provides the wording which should be understood and followed by developers when proposing new development, and by the local planning authority when considering proposals.
    - a reasoned justification to provide an understanding of the reasons behind the policy, the background of the particular issue that the policy seeks to address, more detail on the outcome(s) that the policy is intended to achieve, and how the policy is expected to be implemented.
- Not all of the policies will be relevant to every type of development, but anyone proposing development in Moreton-in-Marsh will be expected to ensure that they consider and address the policies that are relevant to their proposals, so that the plan is implemented successfully to achieve the local community's objectives.

Policies and Objectives Matrix

Objective ref	Objective	Policy Ref
1	New developments to be energy efficient and climate adaptive.	1,2,4
2	New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people.	2,3,4
3	New developments on brownfield sites to take priority over greenfield sites.	6
4	To ensure new homes are of high-quality design and built to Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) standards.	4,5
5	Ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to support new development prior to completion of the project.	2,8,9
6	To support the provision of principal residence housing for those wishing to live in Moreton-in-Marsh.	10
7	New developments to facilitate and support the growth of the business base within Moreton-in-Marsh, creating more jobs across a diverse range of sectors.	11
8	Support development of small business units/shared space.	12,13
9	New developments to support and sustain a vibrant attractive and successful town centre that meets the needs of the local community and visitors.	13,14
10	Improve the public realm and traffic management within and through the town to provide easier, safer and more pleasant access for residents and visitors, using developer contributions.	14
11	Protect and maintain existing public open green spaces.	15,16, 17
12	Protect and maintain archaeological and built heritage assets deemed to be of value to the community.	16
13	Preserve and increase opportunities for biodiversity net-gain.	17
14	Preserve important views within the parish.	18
15	Protect the sensitive natural environment and exceptional rural assets surrounding Moreton-in-Marsh.	19
16	Create a more connected parish for residents and visitors alike, limiting the need for vehicular travel within the town and offering a genuine choice of transport options to help reduce congestion and emissions, to improve air quality and public health.	20

Housing Policies

Housing Allocations in Cotswolds Local Plan

The current Cotswold District Plan 2011-2031 Policy S18 states that the following are allocated housing sites for this period:

Site	Dwellings Allocated	Dwellings Delivered (June 25)
• Land at Evenlode Road	63	67
• Land southeast of Fosseway Avenue	91 and 28	250 Under Construction
• Former hospital site	21	20

Policy One

Climate Adaption and Energy Efficiency in Developments

Objective One

New developments to be energy efficient and climate adaptive.

a) Land allocations and management which enhance carbon capture and ecological biodiversity whilst reducing flood risk are welcomed.

b) The fitting of renewable energy systems to domestic property is supported where appropriate in terms of architecture and location.

c) Proposals for the development of new housing, extensions to dwellings or business premises, will be particularly supported where they are designed to generate as much of their energy as reasonably feasible from renewable sources.

d) New development should be conditional on an energy assessment which minimises carbon footprint and energy requirements.

e) The impact of the growth of electric vehicle use e.g. the need for charging points, should be fully taken into account in assessing domestic, commercial or industrial planning applications.

f) Developments which show innovation and imagination to achieve zero carbon will be welcomed.

The objective of Policy 1 is to ensure that any new development in the town helps to reduce the climate change causes and impacts. It does this by supporting new developments which are energy efficient, use renewable energy and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Reasoned justification for Policy One

1 Whilst the volume and location of new development is important, so also is the quality of new housing in terms of energy efficiency, building design, safety and local environment.

2 The NPPF stresses the importance of well-designed places, and we endorse its recommendations.

3 Cotswold District Council Core Strategy also emphasises both that quality design must be accorded priority if places are to be shaped as sustainable, and socially, economically and environmentally responsive.

4 New development both residential (including conversions) and non-residential should demonstrate a commitment to sustainable design and construction. In relation to climate change, increasing energy efficiency through design, and prioritising the use of sustainable low or zero-carbon forms of renewable energy generation are all important objectives.

5 On 10th September 2019 CDC declared a climate emergency, focussing on net-zero carbon and achieving 100% clean energy use as soon as possible. This policy aims to build on this basis.

6 When asked 'What size/type of new housing would you support?', respondents to community engagement showed the strongest support (60%) for 'homes built to higher environmental standards'.

7 62% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement 'The town should aim to be self-sufficient in locally generated renewable energy, as far as possible.'.

8 Paragraph 161 of the NPPF says 'The planning system should support the transition to net zero by 2050 and take full account of all climate impacts including overheating, water scarcity, storm and flood risks and coastal change..'. This policy aims to build on this.

Policy Two

Managing Flood Risk

Objective One

New developments to be energy efficient and to climate adaptive.

a) When proposals for development are being considered, all sources of flood risks must be considered at the appropriate stages and the sequential and exception tests used to divert development to areas with lower probability of flooding, in accordance with NPPF guidance.

b) Proposals for development on land identified by the Environment Agency as lying within either Flood Zone 2 or 3, or in Flood Zone 1 in the circumstances outlined in footnote 63 of paragraph 181 of the December 2024 NPPF, will require a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), using appropriate calculations based on the highest expected groundwater levels for the area (200 year maximum). Proposals will only be supported where it can be demonstrated in the FRA that:

1) they include appropriate site-specific measures to address effectively all the identified surface and ground water issues; and

2) any residual flood risk can be safely managed.

c) Where it is appropriate to do so new developments should incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).

The objective of Policy 2 is to minimise both of these events by ensuring that the capacity and capability of the local water management infrastructure is able to support any new development. This includes reducing flood risk in the town and the discharge of sewage into the local water courses.

Reasoned justification for Policy Two

9 Moreton-in-Marsh is subject to flooding and in addition to river flooding, has experienced groundwater, surface water and sewage flooding. In the summer of 2007, the High Street was under water for days following heavy rain and flash flooding.

10 Due to the topography of the parish, flooding arising from surface water run-off is a major issue for parts of the parish.

11 The CDC flood defence update map[12] identifies 5 different locations within Moreton-in-Marsh as parish flood locations.

12 The decision notice[13] for the development of 250 homes at Dunstall Farm laid out 5 conditions relating to water and flooding issues, including limiting occupancy to just 50 dwellings until actions have been completed to reduce risk of foul water and sewage.

13 The world's climate is changing and will continue to change as a result of greenhouse gas emissions, even if global warming is limited to 1.5ºC above pre-industrial level. In England, hotter drier summers, milder wetter winters, rising sea levels and more extreme weather events are expected in future. Projected changes in climate are expected to have a large impact on the water environment as a result of changes in sea level, river flow, groundwater recharge and water temperatures. Flooding, caused by intense or prolonged rainfall, as well as by sea level

[12] Moreton-in-Marsh flood update location map

[13] CDC Planning Permission application ref 19/02245/FUL para's 25/26/27/28/35

rise and coastal storm surges, has become more likely in recent years and this trend is expected to continue. Many people will experience climate change through its effects on water, and especially through floods and droughts.

14 The draft CDC strategic flood risk assessment[14] para 5.4 identifies the area surrounding Moreton-in-Marsh as being in groundwater hazard classification levels 3 or 4 meaning there is a risk of groundwater flooding to surface and subsurface assets. There is the possibility of groundwater emerging at the surface locally or within this zone there is a risk of groundwater flooding to both surface and subsurface assets. Groundwater may emerge at significant rates and has the capacity to flow overland and/or pond within any topographic low spots (level 4). It also highlights that groundwater flood risk should be afforded equal standing in importance and consideration as fluvial and surface water flood risk.

15 A briefing by the European Environment Agency in 2024 identified levels of Perfluorooctane Sulonfate (PFOS) at 2,000 times higher[15] than environmental standards in water samples taken from a stream in Moreton-in-Marsh.

16 Thames Water do not expect to meet the government's targets for storm overflows in Moreton-in-Marsh until 2040-2050[16]

Policy Three

Housing Mix

Objective Two

New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people.

a) Proposals for more than six dwellings should demonstrate how the applicant has sought to meet local needs in line with the Moreton-in-Marsh Housing Needs Analysis.

b) Proposals should provide for a mix of housing sizes and the delivery of smaller dwellings. At least 25% of dwellings should meet Lifetime Home Standards or its equivalent.

c) All proposals for new housing development must demonstrate how the types of dwellings provided will help ensure a balanced mix of housing for Moreton-in-Marsh, particularly through the provision of:

1) dwellings for smaller households.
2) purpose-designed, accessible accommodation for older persons or those with mobility needs.
3) one or two-bedroom accommodation for those wishing to downsize whilst retaining reception space.
4) starter homes for those wishing to enter the housing market.
5) Land for self-build opportunities.

d) The precise housing mix of new development will be determined on a site-by-site basis, having regard to viability and other relevant factors.

The objective of Policy 3 is to ensure that Moreton-in-Marsh remains a sustainable settlement with a balanced provision of housing. It seeks to ensure that any new housing development in Moreton-in Marsh includes the kinds of homes and tenures which meet the expressed needs of the local community, including smaller homes suitable for older people wishing to downsize and young people seeking an affordable first home for themselves or their families.

[14] CDC Strategic flood risk assessment
[15] ENDS Report 14/11/2024
[16] Investment plans for storm discharge sites

Reasoned justification for Policy Three

17 The purposes of Policy 3 are to ensure that new housing development in Moreton-in-Marsh includes the kind of homes which meet the expressed needs of the local community, including smaller homes suitable for older people wishing to downsize and young people seeking an affordable first home for themselves or their families.

18 The NPPF[17] says that the planning system should deliver a wide choice of high-quality homes and that it should provide for a mix of housing types based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community.

19 Policy 3 seeks to ensure that Moreton-in-Marsh remains a sustainable settlement with a balanced provision of housing for people who may experience difficulties in accessing suitable housing in the parish and older persons wishing to move to more suitable accommodation.

20 The demographic groups to which policy 3 applies include younger persons seeking their first home, young person's seeking a smaller family home and older persons seeking smaller more manageable accommodation.

21 When asked in the community engagement what size/type of housing would be supported, 58% of respondents recorded 'support' or 'strongly support' for small 2 bed houses.

22 60% of respondents also recorded 'support' or 'strongly support' for bungalows.

23 55% of respondents supported or strongly supported Government Starter Homes (20% discount on market value for under 40's).

24 Smaller homes need to provide large reception space to suit downsizers.

Policy Four

Affordable Housing

Objective Two

New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local

a) Development proposals which make provision for affordable homes should reflect local need and contribute to the objective of creating a mixed and balanced community. All affordable homes should be:

1. provided within the development, distributed throughout the development and fully integrated within the market housing,
2. built using the same materials and in the same style as any market housing on the site,
3. such that residents of affordable homes have the same access to all communal facilities as the residents of market housing
4. of a type, size and tenure that meets local needs including provision of homes for rent,

b) In all new housing developments providing affordable housing the first occupancy of all affordable homes will be prioritised for households with a strong local connection with the parish of Moreton-in-Marsh, as defined in figure P4(a) below and any relevant planning policy guidance.

c) Proposals should be accompanied by a statement demonstrating how the development addresses local affordable housing needs as set out in the Cotswold Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2015 (or subsequent updates).

d) Development proposals which safeguard a proportion of the affordable homes from future sale and maintain affordability of the homes in perpetuity will be supported.

[17] *National Planning Policy Framework Para 61-77*

Local Connection Criteria:

Current residency: Normal residence in the 'area' for at least one year immediately prior to exchange of contracts for the relevant dwelling.

Employment: in permanent employment in the 'area', consisting of 16 hours a week or more, for at least six months immediately prior to exchange of contracts for the relevant dwelling. Home workers must show that their main workplace is in the 'area' (in an actual place of work, not where the head/regional office is located).

Family connection: an immediate family member (parents, children, siblings) over the age of 18 has continuously lived in the 'area' for at least the last three years.

Special circumstances such as caring responsibilities: a requirement to move to the 'area' to give care or support to a family member (or receive care or support from a family member). If you do not meet the above criteria but have exceptional circumstances which you are able to evidence this will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Figure P4(a) Local Connection Criteria

The objective of Policy Four is to ensure that people with strong local attachments either through family or work, are able to find suitable local accommodation so that they can live in the town.

Reasoned justification for Policy Four

25 Local Affordable Housing needs as defined in the Cotswold District Council SHMA[18], Further Update, Affordable Housing, identifies affordable housing needs for the District.

26 When applied to general affordable housing the following requirements should be used to assess local need:

- An individual/at least one adult member of a couple or family unit seeking an affordable dwelling who has either lived or worked (at least 16 hours per week, paid or unpaid) continuously in the Neighbourhood Plan Area for at least the last 12 months.
- An individual/at least one adult member of a couple or family unit seeking an affordable dwelling who has a family member (defined as grandparents, parents, siblings or children of the applicant) that currently lives in the Neighbourhood Plan Area and has done so continuously for the last five years or more.
- An individual/at least one adult member of a couple or family unit seeking an affordable dwelling who was demonstrably forced to move away from the Neighbourhood Plan Area due to a previous lack of affordable housing.

27 In addition, when applied to exception sites:

- An individual/at least one adult member of a couple or family unit seeking an affordable dwelling who has lived in the Parish continuously for at least the last six months.

28 42% of respondents supported or strongly supported new affordable shared ownership housing.

29 92% of respondents to the Vision & Objective survey agreed or strongly agreed with the objective 'New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people'.

[18] *Cotswold District Council SHMA 2016*

Policy Five

Well Designed Housing and Places

Objective Two

New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people

Objective Four

To ensure new homes are of high-quality design and built to Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) or equivalent, standards.

a) Proposals for new development should demonstrate high quality design, reflect local distinctiveness, and seek to incorporate local design features evident in buildings in the surrounding area.
b) For residential development, local architectural features will be encouraged where appropriate to a development.
c) New development proposals should demonstrate how they are consistent with the requirements of the Moreton-in-Marsh Design Guide (Appendix A) unless protections for the historic environment, set out in other policies of the Local Plan, would be compromised.
d) Development, whether residential or commercial, that seeks to meet the highest possible standards of construction Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) standards or equivalent will be strongly supported.
e) Layouts must retain important trees and hedgerows. The planting of new trees and shrubs of similar species to those already evident in the immediate surroundings is required.
f) New developments are required to provide adequate on-site refuse and recycling storage while minimising its visual impact.
g) Wherever possible, developments should be screened from the road using earthworks, native species green hedging and/or trees for highway boundaries wherever possible and where these are in keeping with the existing streetscape.
h) Where appropriate, developments should demonstrate how they are designed to ANGSt (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards).
i) Proposals which provide for adaptable spaces suitable for home working will be strongly supported.
j) Sufficient space should be identified to provide allotments for a minimum of 10% of the new dwellings unless credible evidence shows this not possible.
k) The provision of high-quality open space with the opportunity for recreation and physical activity is expected to be included in any Design and Access statement related to new development.

Reasoned justification for Policy Five

30 The design of new residential properties and the space in which they sit is important. Developers will be expected to demonstrate in their applications that the design and layout of the proposed development is sympathetic to the character of its immediate surroundings. This is not only because such an approach should be expected of all residential developments in the twenty-first century but because Moreton-in-Marsh is a parish that has a rich heritage of quality residential development and wishes this tradition to be maintained. For this reason, the Moreton-in-Marsh Design Guide has been produced to guide development.

31 There is already a rich variety of architectural styles in the Plan area and any new development should contribute to this variety while being sympathetic to the existing character of this part

of the Cotswolds. The Cotswold Design Code[19] forms part of the Cotswold Local Plan and is a material consideration in planning decisions. It includes Design and Architectural Design Guidelines, Local Vernacular Design Guidelines and Design Guidelines.

32 In addition to these locally developed guidelines, we wish to ensure that developers pay due regard to current relevant national design guidance, codes, standards, toolkits, award schemes etc., meeting standards and wherever viable, exceeding them. These standards include Housing Design Awards[20], Homes and Communities Agency Affordable Houses Survey[21], Building in Context,[22] Building for a Healthy Life (previously Building for Life 12)[23] Manual for Streets[24], BRE Home Quality Mark and other relevant BREEAM schemes (ref Evidence list and Glossary)[25].

33 The three underlying principles of ANGSt are:

a. Improving access to green spaces.
b. Improving naturalness of green spaces.
c. Improving connectivity with green spaces. .... at the same time as delivering a wide range of environmental, social and economic benefits.[26]

[19] Cotswold District Local Plan Appendix D
[20] *Housing Design Awards*
[21] *Homes and Communities Agency Affordable Homes Survey*
[22] *Building in Context*
[23] *Building for a Healthy Life*
[24] *Manual for Streets*
[25] *BREEAM*
[26] *Natural England Green Infrastructure Standards for England Jan 2023* *Appendix 2*

Policy Six

Parking in Residential Developments

Objective Four

To ensure new homes are of high-quality design and built to Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) or equivalent standards.

Objective Sixteen

Create a more connected parish for residents and visitors alike, limiting the need for vehicular travel within the town and offering a genuine choice of transport options to help reduce congestion and emissions, to improve air quality and public health.

a) New residential development within the Plan area will provide an adequate level of off-street parking for residents. The following minimum standards will apply:

- 1-bed dwelling: 1 off-road car parking space
- 2-bed dwelling: 2 off-road car parking spaces
- 3-bed dwelling: 2 off-road car parking spaces
- 4-bed dwelling: 3 off-road car parking spaces
- 5+ bed dwelling: 4 off-road car parking spaces.

b) Where communal, unallocated off-street parking is provided for eight or more dwellings, the minimum standard for 2-bedroom dwellings and above may be reduced by one space per four dwellings.

Garages as off-street parking

c) Where garages are to be counted as an off-street parking space the following minimum internal dimensions should apply:

- Single garage: 3.0 metres wide x 6.0 metres deep
- Double garage: 5.7 metres wide x 6.0 metres deep

d) Accessible roof storage space should be provided where feasibly possible, to encourage use of garage space for vehicle parking.

Visitor parking

e) New residential development within Moreton-in-Marsh will provide adequate designated additional parking for visitors, at a minimum of one space per two dwellings. This can either be off-street or on-street, subject to the wider guidance set out within this policy. Visitor parking should be marked as such.

f) Parking spaces will be required to be constructed of permeable surfaces to minimise surface water run-off.

g) During the planning process for developments in reasonable proximity to the town centre (easy walking distance of approximately fifteen minutes), the provision of public car parking must be explored as well as opportunities for “active travel”.

The objective of policy six is to reduce on-street parking in residential areas to improve the visual appearance of the development, give more pleasure to people walking through the space and address safety issues due to restricted space on the carriageway or pavement.

Reasoned justification for Policy Six

34. CDC Local plan: "Tourism and local tourist accommodation has a positive impact on the vibrancy of the Centre. However, parking issues and congestion hinder the retail and tourism function of the town; adversely affects local residents; and hampers the town's ability to strengthen / maintain its position as the main service centre for the north Cotswolds. Proposals for new development will take account of the provision of parking facilities and congestion issues in the centre of the town". It also goes on to say in section 9.8.4 "The importance of parking as a key issue in town centres is recognised in Policy INF5: Parking Provision. Furthermore, the Local

Planning Authority will, as part of the approach to retail and town centre development, put measures in place to:

Review town centre parking; Continue to improve and enhance public realm and streetscape; Deliver traffic management improvements; and Support and promote markets.

35. A recent planning application[27] for 67 homes compelled over 50 residents to object, many on the basis of issues this would cause with parking on the already-busy Evenload Road.

Policy Seven

Brownfield First

Objective three

New developments on brownfield sites to take priority over greenfield sites.

a) The reuse of formerly developed land (brownfield land) will be strongly supported.

b) Development on these sites and any other brownfield sites will be supported.

The objective of policy seven is to minimise the loss of green spaces, agricultural land and countryside by ensuring that previously developed sites are considered for new development first.

Reasoned justification for Policy Seven

36. Paragraph 125 (c) of the NPPF (2024) states that planning polices, and decisions should, "give substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other identified needs, proposals for which should be approved unless substantial harm would be caused, and support appropriate opportunities to remediate despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated or unstable land;"

37. The sight of derelict sites is a disincentive to investors in a town and greenfield development draws life out of the towns. Moreton-in-Marsh residents are keen to maintain and increase the vibrancy of the town centre and so are keen to explore all opportunities to rejuvenate any derelict areas.

38. Brownfield sites tend to be much better located than greenfield sites, closer to shops, education, healthcare and public transport.

39. Building on brownfield land presents opportunity to simultaneously remove local eyesores and breathe new life into urban areas in need of regeneration. It can bring homes, jobs and services closer together, reduce car dependence and enhance communities.

[27] 19/00086/OUT Land to East of Evenload Road

Policy Eight

Hard Infrastructure

Objective 5

Ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to support new development prior to completion of the project.

a) New development should not compromise the ability of the local infrastructure to support the existing settlement, and the proposed development concerned.

b) Proposals for new development will be required to demonstrate how the infrastructure plans are adequate for the number of proposed dwellings. This is required in instances where new dwellings or new non-residential buildings are proposed for major development (i.e., 10 or more dwellings / at least 1,000m2 of floorspace):

1. the relevant water supply, wastewater treatment to be considered in line with policy 2 of this plan and
2. electricity distribution and transmission network providers to be consulted.
3. traffic and transport assessments, identifying and quantifying the effects of the traffic generated by the scheme on its own, and in combination with other consented and allocated schemes, on the Moreton-in-Marsh Conservation Area and on other heritage assets in the Town Centre.

c) Where the potential for adverse effects has been identified, then the proposals must make provision for the necessary mitigation measures to avoid contributing to the adverse effects caused to those assets.

d) It is expected that this infrastructure will be in place no later than the completion of development.

e) Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and Utility plans that impact on the Parish and its surrounding area that are approved or updated are to be disclosed as soon as possible to ensure that plans within the Parish boundary are suitably adapted.

The Hard Infrastructure is the physical systems that enable the town to operate successfully. It includes buildings, roads, paths, utilities and technical systems (networks and cabling) as well as the assets required to make them operational.

Reasoned justification for Policy Eight

40 New development will inevitably put a strain on existing infrastructure, and new proposals for development will need to demonstrate how this has been considered and how appropriate new infrastructure is included as part of the masterplan.

41 Moreton-in-Marsh already has infrastructure and services that are under strain, including education, transport and utilities provision. As a result of further housing development delivered as part of the Cotswold District Local Plan, additional healthcare facilities, community and sports facilities and infrastructure are likely to have to be provided to meet the resulting increase in population.

42 As a rule of thumb, approximately 5 (five) primary school pupils and 2.5 secondary school pupils are created on any 20-dwelling residential scheme which has a mix of dwelling sizes[28]. Equally, any 20-dwelling scheme will create a lot more new residents who will require access to the network of local footpaths and cycle routes.

43 Therefore, in respect of residential development, the construction of new dwellings on larger schemes of 30 or more dwellings must be phased to ensure adequate time is allowed for identified local services and infrastructure to be expanded, in order to limit any sudden adverse impact of an increased population on the community and surrounding parishes.

44 The A429 and A44 both run through the centre of Moreton-in-Marsh.

45 When asked through the community engagement to rank their greatest concerns about living in Moreton-in-Marsh, respondents ranked 'Heavy Goods traffic and congestion' their top concern out of 15 options.

Policy Nine

Soft Infrastructure

Objective 5

Ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to support new development prior to completion of the project.

a) New development should not compromise the ability of the local infrastructure to support the existing settlement and the proposed development concerned.

b) New housing will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that there is the necessary capacity in the community and physical infrastructure and services are available to support the increase in population.

c) Proposals for development of 30 or more dwellings or planned large multi-phased development must ensure infrastructure and services are sufficient to address the impacts arising from the growth in population, and in place prior to completion of the development.

Soft infrastructure includes all the services which are required to maintain the economic, health, cultural and social standards of a population. It is essential in bringing a community together and enables it to enjoy a good quality of life. Examples include employment (work hubs, working from home, tourism, and retail), health (GPs, dentists, security, clean air, quiet places), leisure (green spaces, allotments, sports facilities, community facilities and social clubs), education (primary and secondary school access).

Reasoned justification for Policy Nine

46. Moreton-in-Marsh already has infrastructure and services that are under strain, including education, transport and utilities provision. As a result of further housing development delivered as part of the Cotswold District Local Plan, additional healthcare facilities, community and sports facilities and infrastructure are likely to have to be provided to meet the resulting increase in population.

47. As a rough rule of thumb, approximately 5 (five) primary school pupils are created on any 20-dwelling residential scheme which has a mix of dwelling sizes. Equally, any 20-dwelling scheme will create a lot more new residents who will require access to the network of local footpaths and cycle routes.

[28] Homes England Fact Sheet 5: New homes and school places

48. Therefore, in respect of residential development, the construction of new dwellings on larger schemes of 30 or more dwellings must be phased to ensure adequate time is allowed for identified local services and infrastructure to be expanded, in order to limit any sudden adverse impact of an increased population on the community and surrounding parishes.

Policy Ten

Principal Residence Housing

Objective 2

New developments to provide a range of housing to meet the needs of local people

Objective 6

To support the provision of principal residence housing for those wishing to live in Moreton-in-Marsh

a) Due to the impact on the local housing market due to the growth of dwellings used for holiday accommodation and second homes, new open market housing will only be supported where there is a restriction to ensure its occupancy as a principal residence.

b) This occupancy restriction will be guaranteed through the imposition of a planning condition or legal agreement.

c) A principal residence is defined as one occupied as the resident's sole, or main residence where they spend the majority of their time when not working away from home.

d) This obligation on new market homes will require that they are occupied only as the primary residence of those persons entitled to occupy them. Proof of entitlement will be verifiable via evidence such as inclusion on the electoral register or registration for local services.

The objective of policy 10 is to maintain the vibrancy of the local community and its economy.
Second homes and holiday homes are killing many communities around the country, and it is already an increasing problem in the Cotswolds. The homes remain empty for much of the time, so do not contribute to the local economy or the local community. They reduce the available housing stock for local people and push up prices so that they are unaffordable for many local people.
Whilst Moreton-in-Marsh might suffer this problem less than some of the more popular tourist destinations, it is a problem for the town.

Reasoned justification for Policy Ten

49. An analysis by 'Action on Empty Homes'[29] show that in 2024 3,409 homes in the Cotswolds were not in residential use on a long-term basis or were second homes, up from 2,639 in 2023 and 2,312 in 2022. This equates to one in seventeen homes were out of long-term use. This makes the Cotswolds the 14th highest out of 774 local authorities with second homes.

50. On 7th March 2024, Cotswold District Council agreed[30] to levy the maximum level of premium for Empty Homes as set out in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023. The report to the Council[31] noted: "The intention of the premium is to return second homes to the local housing market thereby increasing the level of available stock for permanent residents.".

[29] Long-term empty homes by local council areas
[30] CDC Decision details
[31] Council Tax Premium-second homes and long-term empty properties

Policy Eleven

Employment land

Objective Seven

New developments to facilitate and support the growth of the business base within Moreton-in-Marsh, creating more jobs across a diverse range of sectors.

a) There will be a general presumption against the loss of locations that provide employment within the Parish, either as a result of proposals for a change of use or for the redevelopment of existing premises or sites of employment for non-employment use.

b) Proposals for change of use or redevelopment, which would result in the loss of employment use, will only be acceptable if they demonstrate the following:

1. The premises or site is no longer required for employment use in terms of need or demand, by the premises or site having been marketed for a period of not less than one year for employment use and no occupier has been found. Full details relating to the marketing must accompany any proposal,
2. That the alternative use proposed will be a positive contribution to the sustainability of Moreton-in-Marsh.

c) Proposals put forward which increase the availability of employment land will be strongly supported.

d) Schemes which include proposals for the inclusion of environmentally friendly measures will be strongly supported. This may include (but not restricted to) the following measures:

1. Solar energy
2. Harvesting rainwater for use
3. Pollution and waste reduction
4. Lower carbon emissions
5. High standards of insulation

e) Where surplus energy is produced through self-generation, a scheme for reuse of this energy locally will be supported.

Prosperity is key to the success of any settlement. So, it is vital that any increase in population in the town should be accompanied by a proportionate increase in employment opportunities. In fact, historically, the population follows the jobs rather than the other way round. It is also important that jobs are provided locally, so that people can work locally and don't have to commute each day. This helps to reduce carbon emissions but also binds the community together socially.

Reasoned justification for Policy Eleven

51. The CDC Local Plan identifies Moreton-in-Marsh towns retail centre as fourth in the district, '..a 'key centre' role in the District's retail hierarchy, functioning as an important service centre and providing for an extensive rural catchment area..'
52. The Fire Service College is identified as an area for increase in employment opportunity and Cotswold Business Village is currently one of the main employment areas in the Cotswold district.

53. Paragraph 7.21.1 of the CDC Local Plan[32] states that Moreton-in-Marsh is '..widely regarded as the main service centre for the north Cotswolds..' and '..one of the District's most accessible settlements..'.
54. Paragraph 7.21.4 goes on to say '..the town is considered to have potential for its employment role to increase.'
55. National Planning Policy (NPPF para 90) states "Planning policies and decisions should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation."
56. The community acknowledges the importance of bringing derelict buildings and commercial brownfield sites back into economic use however, a number of vacant or derelict land and buildings undermine the high quality of some areas of the parish. This is especially true within the historic core, where the quality of the shopping street and the gateway is undermined by closed shops and units. Bringing these back into use is a key aspiration of the plan.
57. Community engagement showed 57% of respondents would support the Neighbourhood Plan identifying further land for employment use. 65% would support the NP identifying buildings for employment use within the town centre.

Policy Twelve

Small Business Units

Objective Eight

Support development of small business units/shared space.

a) Proposals which provide for work hubs to accommodate small business units will be strongly supported.
b) Development proposals will be supported that will enable the expansion and retention of small, local businesses. Support will also be given to development proposals for the establishment of new businesses that diversify and strengthen the local economy without significantly adversely affecting the distinctive character of the community or creating significant additional traffic.
c) Applications will be particularly encouraged if they offer employment opportunities to local people. In particular, strong support will be given to development proposals that provide space for small start-up businesses.

Reasoned justification for Policy Twelve

58. The improvement to local employment opportunities will not only provide employment, in particular the chance for local people to access jobs but will ensure that these are sustainable in terms of the patterns of commuting that they generate.
59. Nationally there has been strong growth in self-employment and it is considered that, to grow medium and larger-sized businesses in and around Moreton-in-Marsh, it is necessary to nurture business start-ups.
60. The Bank of England reported[33] that the number of new business registrations increased from 50,000 a month to 60,000 a month after March 2020 and solo entrepreneurs rose from 60% to 65% of the total (in other words, the uplift is almost entirely down to an increased number of solo entrepreneurs).

[32] Cotswolds District Local Plan 2011-2031
[33] Business creation during Covid-19

61. Not all these businesses will require employment space, as many people will work from home. However, for small start-up businesses, the ability to access workspace on flexible, 'easy-in, easy-out' terms help to provide the foundation to grow a business.
62. It is therefore important to ensure that employment land is used to meet local needs for a provision of a range of types and sizes of businesses to promote the vitality and viability of the town, including start-ups and micro businesses (a business of less than 10 employees).
63. This will also encourage younger people of working age to remain in the area rather than seeking work in the surrounding area or further afield.

Community Aspiration 1
Local Business Hub

Create a local business network whereby local businesses can have a voice which is heard, understood and acted on.

Town Centre Policies

Policy Thirteen

Retail Provision

Objective Eight

Support development of small business units/shared space

a) Within the Core Retail Area (as defined by the NPSG) identified in Fig P13, the loss of Class E uses as a result of proposals for change of use or for redevelopment for non-retail use (C3), where prior approval is not given, will generally not be supported.

b) Proposals for change of use or redevelopment which would result in the loss of Class E retail use will only be acceptable if they demonstrate the following:

1. The premises or site is shown to be no longer required for retail use in terms of need or demand, by the premises or site having been marketed for a period of not less than one year for retail use and no occupier having been found. Full details relating to the marketing must accompany any proposal.
2. That the alternative use proposed will be deliverable and make a positive contribution to the sustainability, vitality and viability of Moreton-in-Marsh.

The objective of policy thirteen is to enable the town centre to continue to be an attractive and prosperous centre that serves not only Moreton residents but also those in surrounding villages as well as tourists.

Moreton-in-Marsh's town centre is vitally important to the feeling of place that it provides and also to the town's prosperity and vitality.

• It is regarded as a service centre to the surrounding area providing a range of shopping, social and leisure activities, hospitality, healthcare and education services.

• The retail centre ranks fourth in the District.

• It is a conservation area which is unique centre due to its broad high street, its greens, its lines of trees and its historic buildings.

• It provides much of the employment within the town and is an attraction for tourists.

However, Moreton is at the crossroads of the A429 (Fosse Way) and the A44 so is plagued at times with HGV's and traffic congestion which generate air and noise pollution which detract from the pleasure of pedestrians. The A429 in particular, also divides the High Street as it can be difficult to cross.

There is potential to manage the traffic better and provide more space on the High Street for pedestrians so that the quality of life can be improved along with the economy generated on the High Street from the local community and visitors alike.

Reasoned justification for Policy Thirteen

64. An article by the Local Government Association[34] highlights the permanent changes on the high street since the pandemic *'Patterns of work and commuting have, and will remain, changed – with implications for the future of high streets. The pandemic will prompt a permanent shift in the home location decisions of many families, and domestic tourism and staycationing will remain above pre-pandemic levels. The pandemic has reinvigorated interest in community and what's local, while technology has proven capable of replacing in person and physical*

[34] Creating resilient and revitalised high streets in the 'new normal'

connections in many aspects of daily life.' Moreton-in-Marsh needs to adapt new experiential offers and new technology to entice visitors and increase footfall. The report continues *'Many residents in villages, green belt and peripheral settlements with office-based jobs are continuing with hybrid working in the near-term, and high streets in these locations will need to meet the demands of former commuters. With fewer commuters leaving home during the day, high streets in feeder towns and suburban centres stand to benefit from increased footfall and a new higher spending weekday demographic.'*

65. Every effort should be made to retain the retail area of Moreton-in-Marsh as a welcoming and enticing destination.
66. The improvement to local employment opportunities will not only provide employment, in particular the chance for local people to access jobs but will ensure that these are sustainable in terms of the patterns of commuting that they generate.
67. All new built development should be of a scale and design which harmonises with the character and role of the centre and with the scale and architectural composition of any adjacent buildings. Details of materials and any landscaping proposals will also be considered when considering applications.
68. The vitality of the retail area within the town centre is largely dependent on primary retail frontages and so it is important that the retail frontages be retained and enhanced, and the majority of the businesses located in the primary area are retail outlets.
69. 32% of respondents to the community engagement said they would support the provision of new shops and retail through the NP. 20% agreed there was a need for more retail jobs.
70. When asked 'Should the use of town centre premises be protected? 38% agreed 'yes, protected' and 49% agreed 'Yes, some protection but recognise things change and we need to let this happen'.

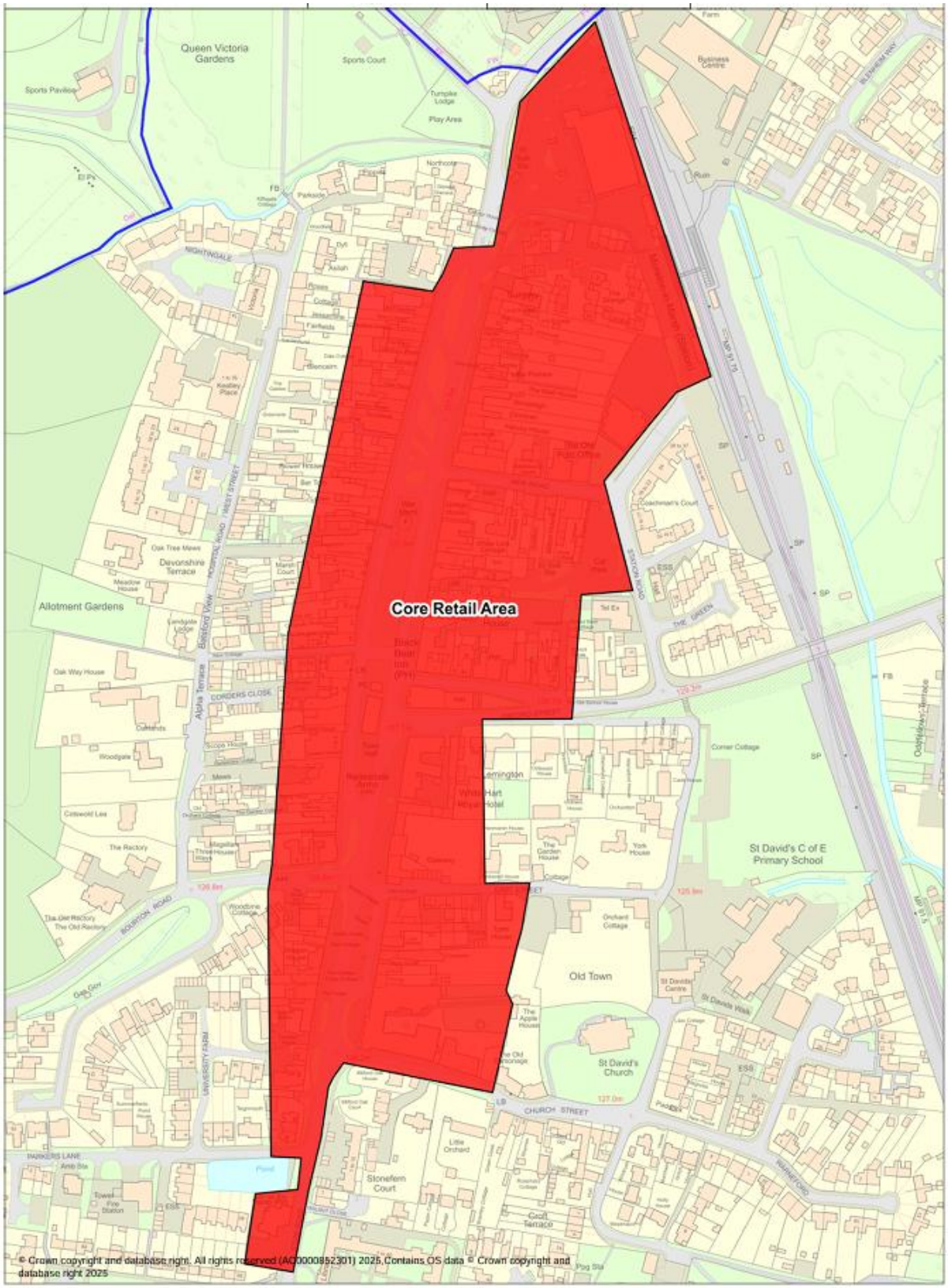


Fig P13 Moreton-in-Marsh Core Retail Area

Policy Fourteen

Infrastructure Investment Priorities

Objective Nine

New developments to support and sustain a vibrant, attractive and successful town centre that meets the needs of the local community and visitors.

Objective Ten

Improve the public realm and traffic management within and through the town to provide easier, safer and more pleasant access for residents and visitors, using developer contributions.

Subject to viability and to compliance with CIL regulations, all housing developments of 10 or more homes will be expected to contribute to the following local priorities:

a. Refurbishment, including Public Realm improvements around the Redesdale Hall

b. Moreton-in-Marsh High Street Refurbishment improvements

c. Remove long-stay parking from the town to a location close to the train and bus stations

d. Improve Accessibility around Moreton-in-Marsh

e. Invest in planting around the town such as a community orchard, additional woodland or a herb garden

f. Additional retail on the East side of Moreton-in-Marsh

More detailed information can be found in Appendix B

Reasoned justification for Policy Fourteen

71. It was agreed that the list of priority projects should be taken directly from the responses we have received from the community.

72. The provision of supporting infrastructure is vital in achieving sustainable growth. Infrastructure covers a very broad range of considerations. At its most basic, it is utilities and communications infrastructure: water, sewerage, drainage, gas, electricity, mobile phone, conventional phones and broadband. However, infrastructure also comprises community infrastructure matters, such as health, education, play areas, green open spaces, leisure facilities and so on. This section addresses these issues as well.

73. As a clear expression of the community's wishes, Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council intends that the CIL agreements and contributions raised within the Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Area and, where relevant, monies from other planning obligations, are used to contribute towards delivering any of the projects listed above, providing they demonstrate compliance with the Community Infrastructure Regulations.

74. Developer contributions from development can be used to contribute towards addressing these issues.

Community Aspiration 2
Overnight parking in town centre

Introduce residential parking permits to prevent overnight parking in the town centre

Policy Fifteen

Local Green Spaces

Objective Eleven

Protect and maintain open green spaces.

The following areas, as shown on the proposal's maps in Appendix C, are designated as Local Green Spaces:

1. Moreton Rangers FC, London Road
2. Outdoor Gym, Skate Park and practice football pitch
3. Cotswold Gate Public Open Space
4. Blenheim Meadow
5. Buffer between The Avenue and Moreton Park and Fire Service College
6. Entrance to Fire Service College, London Road
7. Upper Cemetery, London Road
8. Lower Cemetery, London Road
9. University Allotments, Old Town
10. Hospital Road Allotments
11. Croft Allotments, Evenlode Road
12. St David's Churchyard
13. Tinkers Close Playground, Old Town
14. Redesdale Place MUGA
15. Redesdale Place Croquet Club
16. Redesdale Place Bowls Club
17. Grassed strip for Monarchs Way (Pathway at the back of Redesdale Place)
18. Jubilee Gardens (A44/Swan Close)
19. Greens on west side of north section of High Street
20. Queen Victoria Gardens, High Street
21. Mann Institute Gardens, A44/Oxford Street
22. Glebe Field
23. Green in Nightingale Crescent (Gardens)
24. Special Habitat area behind Stockwells
25. Buffer between Moreton Park & A44
26. Moreton Park - 1
27. Moreton Park - 2
28. Moreton Park/Cotswold Gate

a. Proposals for development on these Local Green Spaces will not be permitted unless it can be clearly demonstrated with compelling evidence that it is required to enhance the role and function of an identified Local Green Space.
b. Where permission for development can be demonstrated to be required with compelling evidence, developers will be expected to demonstrate how the existing flora and fauna will be protected or be subject to mitigation measures.
c. Where loss of Green Space is considered essential, mitigation measures will be required to provide equivalent facilities.

Reasoned justification for Policy Fifteen

75. Under the NPPF, neighbourhood plans have the opportunity to designate Local Green Spaces which are of particular importance to the local community. This will afford protection from development other than in very special circumstances. Paragraph 107 of the NPPF says that Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example, because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

76. Proposals maps in Appendix C show the areas that are considered to meet these criteria and must be protected as Local Green Spaces.

1: Moreton Rangers FC, London Road	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 1 on green spaces map and in a populated south east part of the town close to the business village and housing
"demonstrably special to the local community"	It is a sports field which regularly holds training and matches for various teams of all ages
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Within walking distance of the centre of town The whole area covers approx. 1.09ha

2: Outdoor Gym, Skate Park and practise football pitch	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 2 on green spaces map and in a populated south east part of the town close between the business village and housing
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Public amenity space providing valuable space for leisure and play activities.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Within walking distance of the centre of town The whole area covers approx. 0.70ha

3: Cotswold Gate Public Open Space	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 3 on green spaces map and in a populated north east part of the town flanked by housing
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Open public space, adjoining Blenheim Meadow including an attenuation pond which attracts wildlife and nature, particularly well-used during covid
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Open space with a feel of the local countryside The whole area covers approx. 5ha

4: Blenheim Meadow	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 4 on green spaces map and in a populated north east part of the town bounded by housing, railway and road
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Open public space, adjoining Cotswold Gate including the River Evenlode and mature trees which attract wildlife and nature, providing a safe walking route joining parts of the town.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Open space with a feel of the local countryside The whole area covers approx. 4ha

5: Buffer between Moreton Park and Fire Service College	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 5 on green spaces map and on the north east edge of the housing in Moreton
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Provides a green buffer between local housing and an active fire training facility and provides a safe walking route to the business village. A nature reserve which supports endangered newts.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Grass, ponds and marsh land. The whole area covers approx. 5.4ha

6: Entrance to Fire Service College, London Road	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 6 on green spaces map and situated to the eastern entrance to the town.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	A wide cut-grass verge and tree-lined avenue which provides a gentle, visual transition between the countryside and the town and provides screening at the entrance to the active fire training college.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Site of a war memorial to the Wellington Bomber crews who trained here in WWII The whole area covers approx. 1.1ha

7: Upper Cemetery, London Road	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 7 on green spaces map and situated in the east of the town bordering the business village and the football ground
"demonstrably special to the local community"	A well-maintained community asset with yew tree-lined pathways and Bier House.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Includes Commonwealth War graves and memorial The whole area covers approx. 0.88ha

8: Lower Cemetery, London Road	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 8 on green spaces map and situated in the east of the town surrounded by housing.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	A 19th century community asset with specimen trees, bat house and Bier House and of historical interest
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Traditional Victorian style cemetery The whole area covers approx. 0.58ha

9: University Allotments	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 9 on green spaces map and situated in the centre of Moreton Old Town
"demonstrably special to the local community"	An important community asset, gifted by the Bowes-Lyons family to the University of Oxford supporting the health and well-being of residents
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Easily accessible to local residents. The whole area covers approx. 2.41ha

10: Hospital Allotments	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 10 on green spaces map and close to the countryside, yet very close to the High Street.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	An important community asset, with views of the Cotswold Edge and Cotswold National Landscape and supporting the health and well-being of residents
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Easily accessible to local residents. The whole area covers approx. 0.24ha

11: Croft Allotments	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 11 on green spaces map and close to the countryside and to housing in the Back House, Wellington Gardens and Cornish House developments
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Situated in the Special Landscape Area, it is an important community asset, with view of St David's church and Batsford House and supporting the health and well-being of residents and encouraging biodiversity
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Easily accessible to local residents. The whole area covers approx. 1.58ha

12: St Davids Churchyard	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 12 on green spaces map, In the centre of town between Moreton Old Town and the High Street
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Traditional Cotswold church with bells providing a valuable service to the community, supporting their health and well-being.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Easily accessible to local residents, providing a focal point for the town The whole area covers approx. 0.41ha

13: Tinkers Play Area	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 13 on green spaces map, housing on three sides and University Allotment on the 4th. Cut through to the Primary school.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Popular walk through and recreational space (play area plus football play space) for surrounding housing
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Open green space for wellbeing The whole area covers approx. 0.16ha

14: Redesdale Place MUGA	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 14 on green spaces map and borders on Redesdale Place housing and accommodates Bowls club, Croquet club and Multi Use Games Area.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Provides an area for all age activities facilitating recreation and wellbeing options.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Adjacent to the National Footpath (Monarchs Way and Moreton Eight Walk) The whole area covers approx. 0.89ha

15: Redesdale Place Croquet Club	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 15 on green spaces map and borders on Redesdale Place housing and accommodates Bowls Club, Croquet Club and Multi Use Games Area.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Provides an area for all age activities facilitating recreation and wellbeing options.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Adjacent to the National Footpath (Monarchs Way) and Moreton Eight Walk The whole area covers approx. 0.40ha

16: Redesdale Place Bowls Club	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 16 on green spaces map and borders on Redesdale Place housing and accommodates Bowls Club, Croquet Club and Multi Use Games Area.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Provides an area for all age activities facilitating recreation and wellbeing options.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Adjacent to the National Footpath (Monarchs Way and Moreton Eight Walk) The whole area covers approx. 0.30ha

17: Grassed Strip for Monarchs Way (Pathway at the back of Redesdale Place)	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 17 on green spaces map, open fields and hedgerow on one side and housing to the other.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Limited vehicle access part way leading to grassed walkway. The grassed walkway is much used by pedestrians seeking a tranquil walk around the outskirts of the Town with views to the Cotswold National Landscape.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	A green buffer providing a wildlife habitat on the edge of the Town. The whole area covers approx. 0.23ha

18: Jubilee Gardens (A44/Swan Close)	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 18 on green spaces map, to the West of the Town planted to commemorate the Festival of Britain situated inside the conservation area.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Wildlife habitat shielding residents from the noise of traffic on the A44
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Cotswold Stone Wall surround and carved Festival of Britain Logo on the gate posts. The whole area covers approx. 0.28ha

19: Greens on west side of north section of High Street	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 19 on green spaces map and situated on a Conservation High Street
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Designated Village Greens
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Moreton-in-Marsh is characterised by the open tree lined greens and verges. The whole area covers approx. 0.17ha

20: Queen Victoria Gardens, High Street	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 20 on green spaces map and at the north end of the conservation High Street
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Supports a large, fenced play area plus a recreational space and lime walkway
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	The lime walkway is reminiscent of the tree lined High Street. The whole area covers approx. 2.86ha

21: Mann Institute Gardens, A44/Oxford Street	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 21 on green spaces map and situated in the conservation area
"demonstrably special to the local community"	The gardens provide a peaceful space in the midst of the centre of the Town surrounded by wrought iron railings.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Part of the historic curtilage of the adjacent Mann Institute The whole area covers approx. 0.02ha

22: Glebe Field	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 22 on green spaces map and is within the town
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Historic connection to the Parish. An important separation between the Campsite and Town. With views to the High Wold and Cotswold escarpment.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Typical of parkland where stock can graze under the ancient oaks. The whole area covers approx. 2.13ha

23: Green area in Nightingale Crescent (Gardens)	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 23 on green spaces map, surrounded by housing and adjacent to Queen Victoria Gardens
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Set in the centre of the development providing a green space for reflection and wellbeing.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	The site is within the built-up area of the town, surrounded by native trees The whole area covers approx. 0.68ha

24: Special Habitat area behind Stockwells	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 24 on green spaces map and formally recognised as a special habitat area rich in biodiversity
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Wildlife habitat encouraging numerous species.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	The site is within the built-up area of the town, a remaining undeveloped/undisturbed piece of land The whole area covers approx. 0.25ha

25: Moreton Park buffer with A44	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 25 on green spaces map, close to residential area with footpath and woodland habitat separating residential area from the A44.
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Woodland habitat encouraging walking with nature, promoting wellbeing.
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Large trees predating residential development The whole area covers approx. 1.81ha

26: Moreton Park 1	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 26 on green spaces map and situated within residential area
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Wooded spaces with walkthrough to promote wellbeing
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Large trees predating residential development The whole area covers approx. 1.63ha

27: Moreton Park 2	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 27 on green spaces map and situated within residential area
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Wooded spaces with walkthrough to promote wellbeing
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Large trees predating residential development The whole area covers approx. 1.63ha

28: Moreton Park/Cotswold Gate	
"In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves"	Marked area 28 on green spaces map and situated in a residential area regarded as a nature reserve. Linking footpaths to parts of the Town including the railway station
"demonstrably special to the local community"	Continuance of Blenheim Meadow as an open meadow space promoting wellbeing
"local in character and is not an extensive tract of land"	Remaining meadowland predating residential development. The whole area covers approx. 3.51ha

Policy Sixteen

Conserving non-designated heritage assets

Objective Eleven

Protect and maintain archaeological and built heritage assets deemed to be of value to the community.

a) The Neighbourhood Plan identifies the buildings and structures, as listed in Appendix D: Non-Designated Heritage Assets by way of their local architectural or historic interest.

b) Proposals that will result in harm to, or unnecessary loss of, a Non-Designated Heritage Asset (both above and below ground) will be considered having regard to the balance between the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the asset.

c) Non-householder development on previously undeveloped land must allow for the evaluation of archaeological remains and the protection or investigation of other non-designated heritage assets of archaeological importance that may not be listed in Appendix D (List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets).

The objective of policy sixteen is to protect the buildings of character within the town as they are a vital addition to the town centre offering, providing joy and interest to the eye and a physical link to the past. They are a key part of what attracts visitors to the town and thereby help the local economy.

Reasoned justification for Policy Sixteen

77. Within the Moreton-in-Marsh Parish boundaries are assets of historic interest, and many buildings and structures of Grade II and Grade II* listed status some of which are over 400 years old. See Appendix D – "Non-Designated Heritage Assets". Listed buildings are identified by the Secretary of State as being of "special architectural or historic interest" and as such are worthy of special protection.
78. Throughout the Parish there are also buildings which, while not listed, are of good quality, design and appearance, are important features in their own right and which also contribute to the character and appearance of an area. They illustrate, and are reminders of, the historical development of an area and are worthy of retention wherever possible.
79. Communities cohere and thrive through an awareness of their shared endeavours, past and present and it is important that any new development respects the historical past of the area.
80. Moreton-in-Marsh has a distinctive character, which has been partly shaped by its vivid history.
81. Community consultation showed strong support for the historic environment, with 'historic' and 'picturesque' 2 of the most popular words used to describe the town.

Policy Seventeen

Enhancing Biodiversity

Objective Thirteen

Preserve and increase opportunities for biodiversity net-gain.

a) Moreton-in-Marsh's Ecologica shall be maintained, protected, consolidated, extended and enhanced as appropriate to their existing designations and biodiversity status. Development that negatively affects these sites or fragments the network will not be supported unless appropriate mitigation is incorporated within the proposal.

b) New development proposals should demonstrate how the location and type of green space, landscaping and water features provided within a scheme have been arranged such that they enhance and link into the existing Ecological Network and contribute to its consolidation.

c) Such features should be designed to maximise the opportunities for enhancing the Ecological Network. All new development should maximise opportunities to create new ecological assets and links into areas where opportunities are as yet unidentified on maps within the Neighbourhood Plan.

d) Development proposals should result in a net gain for biodiversity within the parish.

e) Development will also:

1. Protect and enhance features of biodiversity interest of value on and adjacent to the development site, incorporating and integrating them into development proposals, maintaining appropriate buffer zones between new development and the green network,
2. Provide new tree planting, Priority Habitats, wildlife friendly landscaping and ecological enhancements (such as mixed native hedgerows, wildlife ponds, bird nesting and bat roosting features) wherever practicable.

f) In exceptional circumstances where the need for development clearly outweighs the loss of biodiversity units within the development site then off-site biodiversity offsetting to ensure that a net gain for biodiversity is achieved will be supported. Priority will be given to offsetting schemes within Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs).

g) Spatial plans for development within the Special Landscape Area (SLA) will need to demonstrate that mitigation measures in respect of biodiversity and land use ensure the viability of the surrounding Cotswold National Landscape.

h) Any development of agricultural land graded 1, 2 or 3 will need to demonstrate that consideration has been given to food production, climate change, flooding, wildlife and habitat considerations.

i) Where SuDS are being created, these should be multi-functional to maximise opportunities to enhance biodiversity.

Moreton-in-Marsh partially sits in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and a Special Landscape Area and has strong connections with the countryside and agriculture. This not only benefits health and well-being of the local residents and the local flora and fauna but also is important to Moreton's economy through the income generated from agriculture and tourism. It is important to residents that the town maintains its green and leafy environment and connections to the surrounding countryside. In particular, the town is blessed with a broad High Street flanked by historic buildings and an avenue of trees which help to give the town centre its unique appeal. Trees combat climate change in a number of ways including reducing air and noise pollution, providing habitats for urban wildlife, providing green, leafy cooling for pedestrians and absorbing large amounts of water to reduce the risk of flooding. In addition, on Moreton's High Street, they provide a natural barrier between the busy road and the pedestrian areas.

Reasoned justification for Policy Seventeen

82. Wildlife habitats are subject to a range of pressures, including those from development. New development can cause direct loss and degradation of wildlife habitats fragmenting the ecological network and hindering the movement of wildlife through the landscape. Harm can be caused by the degradation, narrowing or severance of corridors (which includes the semi-natural habitats next to them) by the introduction or enlargement of barriers such as buildings, roads, hard landscaping (e.g. tarmac, fencing) or inappropriate landscaping (such as laurel or leylandii hedges) artificial lighting, and by the culverting or re-direction of watercourses. The intent of this policy is to ensure that such harm does not occur.

83. Conversely, development can have a positive impact on biodiversity by creating new and restoring neglected habitats and by providing high quality links between them. For example, new ponds can be created and existing ones restored, as part of well-designed sustainable drainage systems. Also, new semi-natural habitats can be created as part of a landscaping or off-setting scheme and the landscaping within a development (including gardens and parks) can be designed to maximise its value for wildlife such as by using native trees and hedgerows. The intent of this policy is to ensure that these benefits are realised.

84. The NPPF paragraph 187[35] says Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

(d) "*minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs;*"

85. Paragraph 192 further states that plans should:

a) "*Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and*

b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity."

86. In July 2019 CDC declared a climate emergency. One of the main responses to this is to ensure the Local Plan is 'green to the core'.

87. In July 2020, CDC declared an ecological emergency. One of the main responses to this is 'promoting tree and woodland planting and re-wilding in the right places and with the right species to maximise wildlife value, carbon sequestration and other benefits.' And 'taking a leadership role on the ecological emergency and nature recovery in the Cotswolds'.

88. The CDC Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-2030 (para 4.3) states "..Our trees, and all the wildlife they support, are on the frontline of climate change…This is a stark reminder of the need to take immediate action on climate change."

89. In June 2018 an investment of £31,000 was made in a scheme run by the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (GWT) as part of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Wild Towns Project to improve areas of the town.

[35] *National Planning Policy Framework paras 174 a, 179 a & b*

90. CDC Local plan (para 10.4.4) states 'Trees, hedgerows and woodlands play a major part in establishing the character of the Cotswold landscape and make a valuable contribution to the ecological balance of the area, particularly veteran trees, ancient woodland and hedgerows.

91. Policy EN7 goes on to say '1. Where such natural assets are likely to be affected, development will not be permitted that fails to conserve and enhance:
a. trees of high landscape, amenity, ecological or historical value;
b. veteran trees;
c. hedgerows of high landscape, amenity, ecological or historical value; and/or
d. woodland of high landscape, amenity, ecological or historical value.'

92. Approximately a quarter of Moreton-in-Marsh is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In addition, approximately half the parish is as a 'special landscape area' Although not designated, the remaining area of Moreton-in-Marsh is of similar ecological nature and therefore should be treated with the same regard.

Policy Eighteen

Important Views

Objective Fourteen

Preserve important views within the parish.

a) The Plan identifies as Protected Views as shown in Appendix E(i) & E(ii)-Important Views Maps.

b) Development proposals should be located and designed to take account of the identified Protected Views and, where practicable, to enhance or provide greater accessibility to the views concerned.

c) Development proposals which would have an unacceptable impact on a Protected View will not be supported. The objective of this policy is to ensure that the town maintains its links to the surrounding countryside which is important to its residents.

Reasoned justification for Policy Eighteen

93. Moreton-in-Marsh enjoys numerous exceptional views of the surrounding countryside. This is one of the reasons for the thriving tourist industry which has grown up in and around the town.

94. Appendix E (b) gives description of each view and the reasoning behind its designation.

95. Community engagement showed the importance residents attach to living within an attractive rural area. Many of those residents who responded during community engagement commented on how they valued the rural character of the parish and expressed concerns over threats to it.

96. A substantial part of the Parish is within the Cotswold National Landscape.

97. Rural features that are particularly appreciated are natural verges, natural footpaths, bogs and church bells all add to the rural ambience.

98. The random infiltration of "green windows" between buildings in the settlement areas is particularly liked.

99. The town has many footpaths, surrounded by fields and gently undulating countryside. Even in developed areas the rural feel is maintained by high hedgerows, and residents value the quietness of the lanes and the ability to stroll along them and to stop and talk in safety. Cyclists and horse riders also use the lanes.

100. From several places in the village there are views into the wider iconic landscape. Some recent infilling has already eroded the number and extent of such views and as shown from our consultation value the feeling of openness and rurality of the parish.

101. Where appropriate, planning applications should be accompanied by a supporting landscape assessment demonstrating how these views have been taken into account and explaining the steps taken to preserve or minimise the impact on the views.

Policy Nineteen

Development Boundary

Objective Fifteen
Protect the sensitive natural environment and exceptional rural assets surrounding Moreton-in-Marsh.

a) New development in Moreton-in-Marsh shall be focused within the development boundary.
b) Additional development which would result in Moreton-in-Marsh growing by significantly more than the minimum number of dwellings required by the Cotswold District Local Plan over this period, will not be supported.

Area highlighted on map 2 shows development boundary
(taken from CDC plan policies map)

The objective of policy nineteen is to limit the spread of housing within Moreton-in-Marsh to be constrained to within the current settlement boundary to limit any damage to the sensitive nature of much of the land outside the settlement boundaries.

Reasoned justification for Policy Nineteen

102. It is expected that the bulk of development will be focused within the built-up area of Moreton-in-Marsh. The town needs to accommodate a degree of growth in order to prosper. However, this must be balanced against the need to preserve its role as a largely rural market town which does not encroach unduly on the open countryside that surrounds it.
103. Given the unique and sensitive nature of much of the land outside the settlement boundaries (defined in map 2 above) the community supports building housing within the existing settlement as much as is feasible.
104. Development proposals outside the settlement boundary will not be supported unless they are spatially planned and harms to biodiversity, sustainable land use and Special Landscape Area and Cotswold National Landscape are mitigated.

Policy Twenty

Transport & Active Travel

Objective Sixteen

Create a more connected parish for residents and visitors alike, limiting the need for vehicular travel within the town and offering a genuine choice of transport options to help reduce congestion and emissions, to improve air quality and public health.

a) The provision of accessibility through 'active travel' (non-car) should be the primary focus for development through provision of sustainable travel such as new / improved cycleways, new / improved footpaths and interconnecting small transport hubs and bus corridors.
b) Larger residential schemes should promote non-car use and have appropriate internal layouts and connections to footpaths and key services.
c) Support will be given to proposals which increase or improve the network of cycle ways, footways and footpaths. New footpaths, where created and officially designated, will be supported.
d) Proposals which harm the following characteristics of public rights of way will be resisted:
1. Safety.
2. Directness.
3. Access and Connections.
4. Attractiveness.
5. Convenience.
6. Features such as trees and hedgerows.

e) Proposals should seek, where possible, to create cycle paths so as to provide safe and effective routes across the Neighbourhood Area, and where possible join up with National Cycle Ways.
f) Developer or CIL contributions will be sought from all new developments to fund improvements to the existing cycle and footpath networks as well as supporting the provision of new connections, where these have been identified and can be delivered.

The objective of this policy is to reduce traffic within the town by enabling and encouraging other forms of movement through the town such as walking and cycling. This would result in the following benefits: reduced carbon emissions, reduced air and noise pollution, and an increase in health and well-being.

Reasoned justification for Policy Twenty

105. Safe and convenient provision for cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders is an essential part of policies being pursued to reduce the use of the private motor car. New development will, where appropriate, be required to facilitate the opportunity for increased cycle use, walking and horse riding by providing, as an integral part of the development, safe cycle and footpath networks. In assessing the suitability of new routes, proposals should demonstrate that they will not prejudice the effective operation of existing uses, and capacity of existing routes is expanded to support additional residents generated by any new development.

106. This policy is intended to enhance the provision of safe multi-user routes for cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders, as well as providing safe and secure non-vehicular routes to all schools within the parish.

107. Strategic developments in Moreton-in-Marsh, where practical, should be designed to provide dedicated footpaths and cycleways which will provide access for pedestrians and cyclists towards the existing built-up areas of Moreton-in-Marsh and the key focal points within it (e.g. the station, schools, the retail centre), as well as enabling access to the green belt and wider countryside.
108. With the growth in the population that will occur through any development in Moreton-in-Marsh, movement by all modes will continue to become a challenge. The key types of movement can be classed as 'local' and 'strategic':
    - 'Local' movement is principally within Moreton-in-Marsh, to key points in the town such as the school, the railway station, the retail centre. It also includes people accessing community infrastructure and leisure activities – even as simple as dog walking.
    - 'Strategic' movement is mainly to areas outside the parish, principally the larger towns and road network.
109. The NPPF (2024) para 109e states, "*identifying and pursuing opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use' (*at the earliest stages of plan making and development proposals)". For Moreton-in-Marsh, the benefits of investing in walking and cycling include:
    - providing genuine alternatives to the private car as a means of accessing key shops and services, such as the local schools.
    - providing health benefits through increased walking and cycling.
    - facilitating less congestion at busy times by encouraging children walking to and from school and people walking to the station and shops rather than 'jumping in the car' for a short journey.
    - providing a safer environment for the community, including for vulnerable users.
110. Community engagement respondents showed 79% of respondents would support more dedicated walking and cycling routes within the town.
111. 59% believed traffic in the town is a big problem.
112. All walkway routes are expected to consider accessibility requirements for those with mobility difficulties such as the elderly and young children.

Community Aspiration 3
Public transport

Work with providers to improve public transport to and from Moreton-in-Marsh and create a transport hub to deliver these transport objectives

Glossary of terms that appear in the Neighbourhood Plan

Affordable housing – Housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market (including housing that provides a subsidised route to home ownership and/or is for essential local workers). The definition includes the following: Affordable housing for rent, Starter homes, Discounted market sales housing and Other affordable routes to home (for full definition see NPPF).

Amenity – A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character or enjoyment of an area.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) – An area of countryside designated as nationally important for conservation due to its significant landscape value**.**

Biodiversity – A measure of the number and range of species and their relevant abundance in a community.

Biodiversity Action Plan – A strategy prepared for a local area aimed at conserving and enhancing biological diversity.

Brownfield Land – Previously developed land that is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure.

Change of Use – A change in the way that land or buildings are used (see Use Classes Order). Planning permission is usually necessary in order to change from one 'use class' to another.

Cotswold District Council (CDC)– The local authority for the Parish of Moreton-in-Marsh.

Community Facilities – Facilities providing for the health, welfare, social, educational, spiritual, leisure and cultural needs of the community.

Community Infrastructure – The basic facilities, services and installations needed for the functioning of a community or society. It includes community buildings and halls, leisure facilities, cultural facilities, education services, healthcare facilities and renewable energy installations.

Consultation Statement– A statement accompanying the Neighbourhood Plan for Moreton-in-Marsh is required by the Localism Act. The statement must set out what consultation was undertaken and how this provided the basis of the NP.

Countryside – The area outside a settlement boundary.

Development – Defined under the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act as “the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under land, or the making of any material change in the use of any building or other land”. Most forms of development require planning permission.

Development Plan – A plan comprising the Development Plan Documents contained within the Local Development Framework. This includes adopted local plans and neighbourhood plans also it is defined in Section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Developer – A person or a company that buys land and builds houses, offices, shops, or factories on it, or buys existing buildings and makes them more modern.

Dwelling – A self-contained building or part of a building used as a residential accommodation, and usually housing a single household. A dwelling may be a house, bungalow, flat, maisonette or converted farm building.

Environmental Impact Assessment – UK environmental assessment means an assessment carried out in accordance with an obligation under the law of any part of the United Kingdom of the effect of anything on the environment. It is an analytical process that systematically examines the possible environmental consequences of the implementation of plans, projects, programmes and policies.

Evidence Base – A researched, documented, analysed and verified basis for preparing the Moreton-in-Marsh NP.

Examination – An independent review of the NP carried out in public by an Independent Examiner.

Green Corridors – Green spaces that provide avenues for wildlife movement, often along streams, rivers, hedgerows or other natural features, which connect green spaces together.

Greenfield – Land on which no development has previously taken place.

Independent Examiner – Anyone with appropriate qualifications and skills and who meets certain requirements set out in the Localism Act. This could be a planning consultant or other planning professional, an employee of another local authority or a planning inspector.

Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) – A procedure to assess the impact of a plan or policy on an internationally designated site protected for nature conservation, designed to ensure that plans and policies will not cause significant harm to such sites.

Infill Development –The filling of a small gap (up to two dwellings) in an otherwise built-up frontage in a recognised settlement.

Infrastructure – All the ancillary works and services which are necessary to support human activities, including roads, sewers, schools, hospitals, etc.

Local – Within the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

Local Wildlife Sites – Sites with 'substantive nature conservation value', they are defined areas identified and selected locally for their nature conservation value based on important, distinctive and threatened habitats and species with a national, regional and local context.

Localism Act – An Act of Parliament that became law in April 2012. The Act introduces a new right for local people to draw up 'Neighbourhood Development Plans' for their local area.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – Initially published by the Government in 2012, most recently updated in December 2024, it sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – The full title in the Localism Act is 'Neighbourhood Development Plan'. It is a document for a defined area, subject to examination in public and approval by local referendum. It will be used in the determination of planning applications.

Open Space – All spaces of public value, including public landscaped areas, playing fields, parks and play areas, and areas of water such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs, which may offer opportunities for sport and recreation or act as a visual amenity and a haven for wildlife.

Plan Period – The period for which the Moreton-in-Marsh NP will set policy for the NPA. This will be from the adoption of the plan until 2031 by agreement between Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council and CDC.

PROW – Public Right of Way A public right of way is a highway over which the public have a right of access along the route.

Reasoned Justification - The supporting text in a development plan or associate document explaining and justifying the approach set out in the policies contained in the document.

Referendum – A general vote by the electorate on a single policy question that has been referred to them for a direct decision. In the case of the NP, the referendum will decide whether to adopt the plan or not.

Residential Amenity – The quality of the living environment for occupants of a dwelling house including its associated external spaces.

Rural Area - The area outside identified settlements.

Second Homeowner - Someone occupying a property as a second home and occupying principal residence elsewhere.

Sensitive Development – Blends with and compliments existing properties in all aspects of footprint, shape, and height, incorporating some of the local features with regards to brickwork, window design, roof pitch materials of construction etc.

Settlement Boundary - A settlement boundary defines the limits of development and makes clear where development will and will not be allowed, regardless of other constraints.

SSSI – Site of Special Scientific Interest**.**

Sustainability Appraisal – A process of appraising policies for their social, economic, and environmental effects, which must be applied to all Development Plan Documents.

Steering Group – A group of local people representing the Town Council, community groups and businesses that collated and guided the work on the NP.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) – Assessments made compulsory by the European Directive (the SEA Directive). To be implemented in planning through Sustainability Appraisals of Development Plan Documents and NPs where required.

Strategic Housing and Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) – An approach to evaluating land for development based on its suitability, availability and viability. Its aim is to ensure sustainable development.

Transport Assessment – An assessment of the availability of, and levels of access to, all forms of transport. In relation to a proposed development, it identifies what measures will be required to improve accessibility and safety for all modes of travel particularly for alternatives to the car such as walking, cycling and public transport and what measures will need to be taken to deal with the anticipated effects of the development.

Wildlife Corridor – Strips of land, for example along a hedgerow, conserved and managed for wildlife, usually linking more extensive wildlife habitats.

MORETON-IN-MARSH COMMUNITY DESIGN STATEMENT

CONTENTS

“The home healthy, the house beautiful, the town pleasant”. Planning Act 1909

VISION STATEMENT FOR MORETON IN MARSH

1.0 It is our aspiration to establish a default set of design principles, as part of forthcoming planning reforms, that will ensure future developments in Moreton-In-Marsh will be both well designed and beautiful. As an historic market town at the gateway to the Cotswolds National Landscape, protecting the unique and special character of Moreton as it continues to grow is of upmost importance. The Neighbourhood Plan and Community Design Statement therefore seek to support the *management* of change in the Town, not to prevent it.

1.1 The town centre is characterised by a particularly wide high street lined with many elegant 17th and 18th century buildings built in the honey-coloured Cotswold stone and separated by green areas of grass and trees. The buildings now have a mix of uses including retail, hospitality, services and residential. Some examples include the White Hart Royal, a former manor house in which King Charles I sheltered during the Civil War and the rare Curfew Tower with its original clock and bell. In the centre is the Redesdale Hall, the town’s main public hall, which regularly holds community events as well as antiques and craft fairs. The town sits in a very rural setting, with attractive scenery made up of woods and agricultural fields which are threaded with many public footpaths.

1.2 There is a rich variety of architectural styles in Moreton-In-Marsh and any new development should contribute to this variety while being sympathetic to the existing character of this part of the Cotswolds. All new homes should reflect a gathered consensus. Both in the short-term: have greater architect and community involvement in the design, and in the longer-term, where homes built here in the next decade are those most cherished in one hundred years, like Georgian and Victorian architecture are today.

1.3 Building better requires innovation as well as some sensitive imitation – our planning system should support this. The National Planning Policy Framework (DEC 2024) to which we refer, places a solid emphasis on aesthetics. Para 131 “creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve” and features throughout the revised policy document. It was an absence of beauty in new housing that initiated a belief that utility, convenience, and developer profit too often drive development, resulting in mediocre, bland, ubiquitous buildings. Now the revised NPPF (Para 135), states that new developments should be “visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping”.

1.4 Developers in Moreton-In-Marsh will be required to provide people with well-designed, aesthetically pleasing and affordable homes that make them feel better connected to nature and the surrounding countryside and provide a sense of fully belonging to the Cotswold National Landscape.

1.5 We want Moreton to continue to be a unique, pleasant, and characterful settlement, where the principles of the first planning act in 1909 are evident: “The home healthy, the house beautiful, the town pleasant”.

CONTEXT & NATIONAL DESIGN CODES

NB This design statement has been prepared as a result of the revised NPPF (2024) guidance: Paras 133 and 134 state: "All local planning authorities should prepare design guides or codes consistent with the principles set out in the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code, and which reflect local character and design preferences. Design guides and codes provide a local framework for creating beautiful and distinctive places with a consistent and high-quality standard of design" & "Design guides and codes can be prepared at an area-wide, neighbourhood or site-specific scale, and to carry weight in decision-making should be produced either as part of a plan or as supplementary planning documents"

2.0 In addition to Moreton-In-Marsh's locally developed guidelines, we wish to ensure that developers pay due regard to current relevant national design guidance, codes, standards, and toolkits, meeting standards and wherever viable, exceeding them.

The Moreton-In-Marsh Design Statement has therefore been prepared in accordance with the National Model Design Code (2021), for Well Designed Places, and with specific reference to the 'Context', the 'Identity' and the 'Built Form' of housing developments.

Particular attention is paid here to the requirements that homes be attractive and distinctive, as well as part of a coherent pattern of development.

Image from National Model Design Code 2021

2.1 Section 3A of the National Design Guide, provides guidance specifically for ‘Built Form’ and ‘Identity’. (Para 53) ‘The identity of an area comes not just from its built form and public spaces but from the design of its buildings. This is not about architectural style, but about key principles of building design. All new buildings should relate to the architectural character and materials of the surrounding area, but this should not be interpreted to mean that only pastiche reproductions will be required. Moreton seeks to combine the best of the modern with the history of the past.

Section 3B states that ‘An understanding of the context, history and character of an area must influence the siting and design of new development’ as set out in Guidance Notes Code Content: Context. This should be informed by:

A) Character studies: All schemes should consider their context and schemes over a specified size should be accompanied by a context study

B) Historic assets: Schemes should respect the historic assets of the site and its surroundings, making use of existing structures where possible’

Chapter 11 paragraph 129 (sections d and e) of The National Planning Policy Framework (2024) state that developments should take into account “the desirability of maintaining an area’s prevailing character and setting”, and places value on the “importance of securing well-designed, attractive and healthy places”.

2.2. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024, Chapter 12, para 132 states that: ‘Plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable. Design policies should be developed with local communities, so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area’s defining characteristics. Neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and by engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers’.

2.3 To facilitate efficient delivery of high-quality development, Local Planning Authorities should endeavour to engage both architects and developers who’s work has attracted approbation and/or awards to ensure excellence of design. They should draw on relevant guidance and standards and promote the use of appropriate tools and techniques, such as Design Coding alongside urban design guidelines, detailed masterplans, village design statements, site briefs and community participation techniques. Source: Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing (DCLG, 2006).

The design of new residential properties is important. Developers will be expected to demonstrate in their applications that the design and layout of the proposed development is sympathetic to the character of its immediate surroundings while using some modern design techniques and features to future proof it and add variety to the environment in which it is sited. This is not only because such an approach should be expected of all residential developments in the twenty-first century but because Moreton-in-Marsh is a parish that has a rich heritage of quality residential development and wishes this tradition to be maintained.

2.4 Historic England's Planning White Paper (Planning for the Future, August 2020) includes a focus on incentivising design quality, through a greater role for design coding and design standards, encouraging and facilitating new development which is based on an understanding of each site's unique history, character and context, and thus creating distinctive new neighbourhoods. In the Moreton-In-Marsh Residents survey, 428 of the 473 respondents Strongly Agreed or Agreed with the statement that developments in the town should be 'of high quality design'.

2.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024. Chapter 12 (Paras 131 -141) concern 'Well Designed Places'. This emphasises the importance of setting clear expectations regarding design quality and refers to the role of design policies, design guidance, neighbourhood plans and frameworks such as Building for Life. Para 127 (c) states that planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change.

2.6 It has long been accepted that there is a direct link between housing and health, and wellbeing. The Healthy Urban Development Unit identify decent and adequate housing as being critically important to health and wellbeing and the NPPF (para 132 section f), highlights the importance of ensuring safe and healthy living conditions: specifically the recommendation is that developments "create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users".
Having access to good quality, suitable and secure housing has a profound impact on our health and wellbeing and, therefore, our quality of life. As summarised by Public Health England, "*the right home environment is critical to our health and wellbeing; good housing helps people stay healthy and provides a base from which to sustain a job, contribute to the community, and achieve a decent quality of life".*
The Academic Practitioner Partnership, in 'Good Housing, Better Health' (2016), places emphasis on Housing design and health. For example: 'internal layout and windows can provide good access to daylight which improves quality of life and reduces energy needed for lighting, and ventilation'. Good design can mitigate against potentially dangerous design features, such as stairs, uneven levels, or trip hazards.

2.7 'Happy by Design: A Guide to Architecture and Mental Wellbeing' (2019) explores the ways in which buildings, spaces and cities affect our moods. It reveals how architecture and design can make us happy and support mental health and explains how poor design can have the opposite effect. "We now spend more than 80% of our time in buildings, and this can affect our mood both positively and negatively. The quality of the places that we live, work and study therefore impacts (SIC) our happiness significantly".

2.8 The Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission was responsible for developing practical measures to ensure new housing developments meet the needs and expectations of communities, making them more likely to be welcomed, rather than resisted, by existing communities. The government welcomed their report ('Living with Beauty in 2020') and committed to implementing as many of the recommendations as possible.

2.9 Living with Beauty (2020), states that: 'beauty should be an essential condition for the grant of planning permission'. Further that: developments that 'violate the context in which they are placed' should NOT be permitted because: 'they destroy the sense of place and undermine the spirit of the community'.

The report also suggests that ‘Local Plans should give local force to this national requirement, defining it through empirical research, including surveying local views on objective criteria’. It recommends that housing ‘schemes should be turned down for being too ugly and such rejections should be publicised’.

2.10 Homes England is the national housing accelerator. ‘Building for a Healthy Life’ (2020) is Homes England’s key measure of design quality. The document stipulates that developers should aim to ‘create places that are memorable, with a locally inspired or otherwise distinctive character’. Developers should ‘review the wider area for sources of inspiration. If distinctive local characteristics exist, delve deeper than architectural style and details. Where the local context is poor or generic, **do not use** this as a justification for more of the same’.

Poor generic housing examples from Homes England Guidance include:

Images from ‘Homes England’ Guidance document.

2.11 Developers should aim to really understand the place where a new development is proposed and understand how any distinctive characteristics can be incorporated as features. For example, by using existing assets as anchor features, such as mature trees and other existing features. Positive characteristics such as street types, landscape character, urban grain, plot shapes and sizes, building forms and materials being used to reflect local character.

2.12 The Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation states that the design, appearance and functionality of Streets and Roads (that make up three-quarters of all public space), ‘have a huge impact on the quality of people’s lives as well as economic and social vitality’.

The best developments are those created by small builders who are more responsive to local needs and work on a more intimate scale. Exemplars include: ‘Poundbury’ in Dorchester; ‘Borderville Farm’ Stamford, Lincolnshire; ‘Alderley Park’, Nether Alderley, Cheshire; ‘Park View’, Woodstock Oxfordshire; Lovedon Fields, Hampshire and Sealey Wood in Horsley

2.13 Developments that should be refused according to The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024, Para 139, are those that do not meet the desired criteria. Specifically: “Development that is not ***well designed*** should be refused, especially where it fails to reflect local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes”.

Conversely, “significant weight should be given to: a) development which reflects local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes; and/or b) outstanding or innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability, or help raise the standard of design more generally in an area, so long as they fit in with the overall form and layout of their surroundings”

2.14 “Really beautiful villages are all made from the same material—stone in the Cotswolds, red brick in Essex—and there’s a lot of repetition. The trouble with the volume house builders is that they mix red brick, yellow brick, render, slate and weatherboarding in the same development, in an effort to create instant history—but that doesn’t fool anyone.” - architect Francis Terry, from Country Life: “Why most new-build housing in Britain is awful — and why it doesn’t have to be this way” by Clive Aslet August 4, 2021

THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER OF MORETON-IN-MARSH:

“We require from buildings two kinds of goodness: first, the doing their practical duty well: then that they be graceful and pleasing in doing it” John Ruskin

The National Model Design Code (2021), suggests that *local* design codes should exist to provide a set of simple, concise, illustrated design requirements that are visual and numerical wherever possible, to provide specific and detailed parameters for the physical development of a site or area, and that these should then be used as a toolkit to guide local planning authorities on the design parameters and issues that need to be considered and tailored to their **context.**

CONTEXT: EXAMPLES OF HISTORIC ASSETS:

The Redesdale Hall

The Centre of the High Street is dominated by the REDESDALE MARKET HALL, which stands on an island site and adds great distinction to the town. This excellent Victorian Tudor building was designed by Sir Ernest George in 1887, with mullioned and transomed windows with Tudor arched heads. The arcade has now been filled in. The steep-pitched roof is covered in Cotswold stone slates, and there is a nicely proportioned clock-turret and a tall castellated chimney

In 2019 Redesdale Hall was voted to be the best-loved building in Moreton-in-Marsh.

The Redesdale Hall is Grade II Listed , and was designed by notable British architect Sir Ernest George and built in 1887 by Sir Algernon Freeman-Mitford , the first Baron Redesdale and Lord of the Manor of Moreton-in-Marsh.

The original intention was that the hall be used ‘for the betterment of the local people.’

The Curfew Tower

Grade II Scheduled Monument.

The Curfew Tower is one of the oldest structures in the town, and it played an integral part in life here from the 16th century onwards. It fronts directly on to the medieval and post-medieval marketplace and is known to have acted as a lock up for local drunks and minor criminals for much of its history as there was no other provision for their confinement within the town. The monument includes a 16th century bell tower, known as the Curfew Tower, situated on the east side of the High Street on the corner of Oxford Street in the centre of Moreton-in-Marsh. The Curfew Tower comprises a stone structure with a stone slate roof and gabled turret and may be the oldest public building in the town. It has a four-centred arched stone doorway on the west side, above which is a smaller loft doorway, while in the south elevation is a very small round-headed window. The tower contains a bell and clock dated to 1633 and 1648 respectively. Next to the bell is a pulley wheel and there is a weathervane in the form of a cockerel above the bell.

The Mann Institute and Gardens

The Mann Institute was built built in 1891 of rusticated stone with a timber-framed gable-end by Miss Edith Mann, in memory of her father, Dr. John Mann (son of the first Congregational minister), as a working men's club. The institute was endowed by Miss Mann by will proved in 1902, and in 1903 a Scheme was drawn up for its administration by trustees including the rector and the Congregational minister. The site was conveyed to the trustees by Miss Elizabeth Mann in 1904. The Mann Institute included a hall, reading room, and recreation rooms and a flat for the use of women and children from the Canning Town Settlement (London) for holidays. In 1962 the Mann Institute was in use also as a men's club. Today it is Tyack's architectural practice.

The inscription on the plaque from Ruskin: 'Every noble life leaves the fibre of it interwoven for ever in the Work of the World.'

The War Memorial

Designed by Guy Dawber and unveiled in 1921 to commemorate the men of Batsford and Moreton-In-Marsh who died in the First World War. It was built from Hollington Stone from Derbyshire, and measures 24 feet tall on a flight of five steps.

Horse Pool / Duck Pond

Pond House

Built sometime between 1821 and 1885, on land formerly known as 'The Close' owned by Samuel Lardner. Two-storey double-fronted stone-built house with slate roof and four chimneys. Facade is symmetrical apart from the middle first-floor window which is off-centre. Doorway has pediment and three steps flanked by pillars. Five six-over-six sash windows.

WI Hall

Built in 1821 and converted in 1954. Originally a terrace of three or four one- and a-half storey cottages. Set back from the road behind what would have been front gardens. Built of stone with a stone tiled roof and coped gables. The unit with the projecting porch has two casement windows with segmental arches at ground floor level, and two first floor/dormer windows with flat lintels. The unit to its right has its own door and two casement windows with timber lintels, and no windows at first floor level.

St David's Church

Grade II listed (Listing Date: 30 June 1983)
Mostly rebuilt in 1858 by Poulton & Woodman of Reading (usually architects of Nonconformist and cemetery chapels). Nave of five bays, chancel, N and S aisles, S chapel, W tower in three stages with spire, and vestry. In 1790 the nave had been enlarged and the roof raised, but the rebuilding in 1858 was carried out in c13 and c14 styles. In 1860 the small c16 tower was demolished and a tower of golden ashlar built, with battlements, pinnacles, and an octagonal spire with gabled pointed lucarnes on four sides. In 1892 the chancel and S aisle were enlarged by E. H. Lingen Barker; the E end of the S aisle was first used as a chapel in 1927. The interior is limewashed, including the piers of the arcades. The chancel SCREEN is by Bligh Bond, erected in 1910. STAINED GLASS in the E window by Lavers & Westlake, 1858, and one window in the N aisle 1898 by Kempe. – Plate. Chalice and Paten cover, 1576. – In the churchyard iron GATES by John S. Scott, c 1960.

The church at Moreton-in-Marsh was originally a chapel of ease for Bourton-on-the-Hill, and the oldest part of the settlement was around the church. Later the town developed on the Fosse Way.

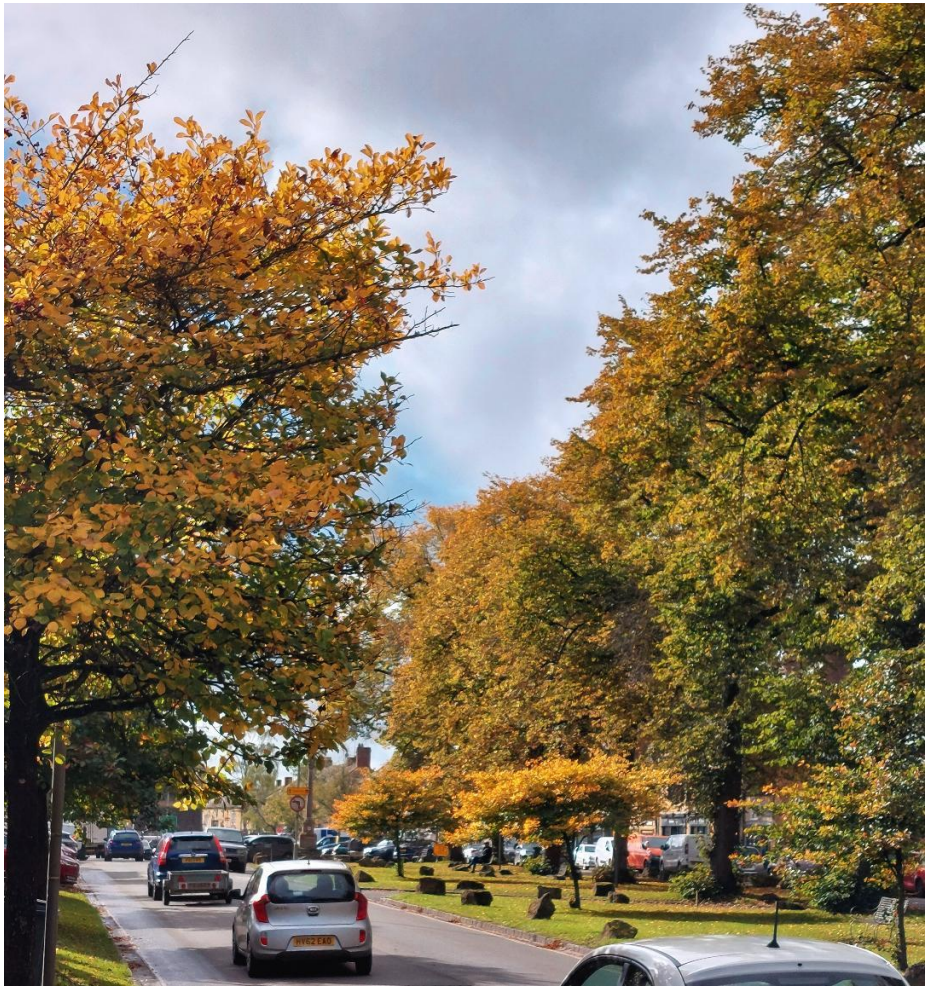
The St David's Centre

St David’s House

St. David's House, an 18th-century house, of two storeys with dormers, three windows with moulded stone architraves and triple keystones, and a door with a fanlight: pilasters to full height, in Church Street, stands in a row which includes a 17th-century house. It has a Cotswold stone roof with moulded stone eaves cornice, and stone pilasters.The house is close to St. David's Well which was considered to be a holy well and was used for curing sore eyes.

The High Street


COTSWOLD
KITCHENS



The Old Police Station

The Old Police Station, High Street West. Built 1897. Two-storey stone-built building with stone tiled roof and two chimneys. Set back from road frontage behind low stone wall surmounted by iron railings. Central doorway and bay window to right at ground floor. Segmental arches above string course over doorway and window to left, and above first floor window to right. Closed 2011 and converted into two dwellings in 2012.

The Steps

The Palladian Town House from the mid-18th Century, is regarded as the most important house in Moreton. It sports some handsome neoclassical features such as semicircular windows, balustraded parapet and double flight of steps. Grade II listed.

Delabere House (formerly The Railway Inn), New Road

Built sometime between 1821 and 1878. Detached building facing New Street. Two storeys, built of stone with brick extension to rear. Facade: central doorway with sash window either side, substantial string course, and three sash windows at first floor level. East facing side elevation: a single sash window to each storey and ghost signs. West-facing side elevation has two windows at ground floor and two windows at first floor. Formerly The Railway Inn. By 1878 it was the meeting place of the Oddfellows Loyal Good Intent Lodge. The ghost signs are visible on historic photographs.

Lyes Cottage

Within Conservation Area. Built sometime between 1821 and 1885. Detached one-and a-half storey stone-built cottage, with later rear extension. Oriel window with decorative stonework at first floor level. Bargeboards of the three gables have modillions and a suspended finial.

Turnpike Lodge

Standing on the junction of the Fosseway and Batsford Road, this Tudor Gothic style lodge was built in the 19th Century.

Wellington Terrace

Built in 1860. Row of seven stone-built terraced houses adjoining Wellington House on its south side. Set back from Evenlode Road by small gardens defined by low stone walls with a wrought iron gate. Two storeys with attics. Slate roof with seven chimneys. Facade – each property has a doorway and a square window at ground, first and second floor level. All fenestration is UPVC and exhibits variation in style.

Devonshire Terrace

Built sometime between 1821 and 1885. Row of five terraced brick-built houses, directly fronting Hospital Road. Two storeys with attics. Slate roof with three brick chimneys. The facade bears traces of a painted sign (DEVONSHIRE TERRACE). Possibly associated with the Loyal Cotswold Lodge of the Oddfellows (two such terraces are recorded on Hospital Road but not named). Facade - doorways have Cotswold stone arch with tripartite fanlight; each property has a single six-over-six sash window with plain Cotswold stone lintel and cill at each floor level. Dormer windows to attics.

Alpha Terrace, Hospital Road

Built sometime between 1821 and 1885. Row of six terraced stone-built houses, directly fronting Hospital Road. Two storeys with attics. Slate roof and brick chimney to each property. The doorways on the facade have simple stone arches. Each property has a single two casement window at each floor level but all are replacements of originals.

Croft Terrace, Old Town

Built in 1908, by the Loyal Cotswold Lodge of the Oddfellows. Row of four terraced brick-built houses, set back from the road behind small front gardens. Two storeys with attics. Slate roof with four brick chimneys. The facade bears a plaque (CROFT TERRACE 1908). Each property has a doorway and a single tripartite window at ground floor level (two casements either side of fixed light), a two casement window at first floor level, and a two-casement dormer window to the attic. All of the windows have stone cills and segmental brick arches.

Croxdale Terrace, Evenlode Road

Built in 1899, by the Loyal Cotswold Lodge of the Oddfellows. Row of four terraced brick-built houses, set back slightly from the Evenlode Road frontage behind railings. Two storeys with attics. Slate roof with two brick chimneys. A central arched passageway between the two pairs provides access to the rear gardens; the arch is painted "CROXDALE TERRACE", with plaque placed above (GOOD INTENT LODGE MUIOOF 5749 1899 AD). The facade of each property has a doorway and single windows at ground and first floor level (three-casement UPVC) and a dormer window (two casement UPVC) to attic. Uniformity of doors and fenestration provides visual coherence, despite their being modern replacements

COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS:

"When we build ... let it not be for present delights nor for present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for..." John Ruskin

The Community of Moreton-In-Marsh, want any new development to take the greatest care to include green spaces, safe footpaths, cycle paths and trees.

The Community feel strongly that the construction of all new developments should be planned to have the least disruptive impact on the neighbours of the development, its traffic, and its business community. There should be adequate consultation and constructive dialogue with all affected residents and businesses at the earliest possible stage, and this should continue until sites are fully developed and occupied.

As a result of the MIM NDP Initial Consultation event we know that Moreton residents have a desire for better walking routes, better connectivity of footpaths and cycleways and better lighting and signage, and more access to the countryside and wildlife areas.

The most popular descriptions of Moreton were "traditional market town" and "historic, busy, picturesque", with the historic buildings being the most popular feature, so these should act as a strong guide for all new developments.

The Redesdale Hall was cited as the most popular landmark feature, and Victoria Park was voted as being the most popular green space in Moreton. Therefore, conserving and enhancing these areas ought to be the starting point for the use of CIL monies as and when appropriate.

MORETON IN MARSH SPECIFIC GUIDANCE:

Moreton expects that all new developments should seek tenders from a variety of developers and should include **at least one** small builder/master planner with a proven track record of successful, innovative and architecturally interesting design.

Moreton would like planning and architectural design to be guided by the principle that ''pastiche is never successful'' (CDC Conservation Officer 2024) The critical line between thin pastiche and genuine invention rooted in past principle is rarely drawn.

All boundaries to new properties should be demarcated with either: native hedgerow plants, Cotswold stone walls, wooden fencing, or metal railings consistent with the historic nature of the town.

All boundaries to properties are to have hedgehog holes (1 ground 13cm hole every 3 metres)

Swift boxes should be installed where possible.

Dwellings should be grouped around garden squares, or courtyards with trees and grass to promote social cohesion and give children a safe place to play near to home.

Residential parking provision should be hidden from view e.g. behind homes in designated spaces ensuring that parking is not on the street obscuring front vistas, entrances and pavements. This is essential for safety of children at play, as well as access for emergency vehicles. This requirement also serves an aesthetic purpose, ensuring that developments and public areas achieve the desired 'beautiful' standard. If garages for parking are to be provided, these should be fully accessible and should be large enough to accommodate the average modern family car with its doors open.

Storage areas away from the front of properties should be included for all waste bins and recycling containers, ideally accessible to waste disposal personnel without the need to have these items placed on pavements or at the front of properties.

Renewable energy fundamentals should be integrated aesthetically into the design of properties, and not added ad hoc in an aesthetically incongruent way.

Planting in shared green spaces should be native British species only, and where possible reflect the indigenous planting of the North Cotswolds. Specifically, developers should avoid Leylandii, Cherry Laurel, and Eucalyptus.

Building materials used should reflect the current distinctive nature of the North Cotswolds and reflect the historic assets of the town to ensure a visual cohesion. Developers should also seek to balance this with the utilisation of modern 'design' and materials that complement our historic assets, not only for visual interest but to manage their obligations for sustainability and environmentally friendly buildings.

All properties should have access to outside space. A house should have a garden at least the size of the footprint of the house, and all flats should have a balcony space.

Where **nearby** allotments are not available, developers should allocate a proportion of the development area to be given over to allotments for residents of that development (allowing 1 allotment space (250m2) for every 10 dwellings),

Where allotments are not required developers should aim to include a community herb garden /orchard for the enjoyment of residents.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

EXAMPLES OF DEVELOPMENTS THAT CONSTITUTE 'HIGH QUALITY DESIGN'

These examples put particular emphasis on the *quality of place*, making the buildings *unique and specific* rather than creating an homogenous 'nowhere' place lacking in soul or real identity. Architects here were committed to finding a good balance between the use of traditional local materials and building forms and embracing innovative and inspiring design choices.

'Sealey Wood', Horsley, Gloucestershire

LINK: https://edenstonehomes.com/past-developments/sealey-wood-horsley/

Tyack Architects, Individual Home, Blockley, Gloucestershire

LINK: https://www.tyackarchitects.com/housing/new-cotswold-stone-house%2C-blockley%2C-gloucestershire

'Park View', Woodstock, Oxfordshire

LINK: https://www.pyehomes.co.uk/developments/park-view/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=22766231758&gbraid=0AAAAA-mn9yMSRwtsZgVJXLrP7jYoKK43n&gclid=CjwKCAjw7fzDBhA7EiwAOqJkh-kR0Ft9vDbp8a_Mpsdjp-giK2c_sIlXwS383Hfu7mZJYcR4c-5GeBoCdY0QAvD_BwE

'Alderley Park', Nether Alderley, Cheshire

LINK: https://www.adamurbanism.com/project/alderley-park-cheshire/

'**Poundbury', Dorset**

LINK: https://poundbury.co.uk/about/history/

'Lovedon Fields', Hampshire

LINK: https://www.johnpardeyarchitects.com/modern-architecture/residential-architecture/lovedon-lane/

APPENDIX 2

EXAMPLES OF HOUSING DESIGN CONSIDERED UNSUITABLE FOR MORETON:

Antler Homes, Ashford Hill, Thatcham, Hampshire

https://www.antlerhomes.co.uk/developments_sites/kingfishers/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=20601068159&gbraid=0AAAAAChgt13IbKyRDYTZE_-m07UhBCYzM&gclid=CjwKCAjw7fzDBhA7EiwAOqJkh-rh2jPG90mAG2pmT8rnpgEfAC68ZY0vglPox-9MPY7cGznB9dFVJhoCLLsQAvD_BwE

Bamford Park, Wellesbourne, Warwickshire.

LINK: https://www.lindenhomes.co.uk/developments/warwickshire/bamford-park-lighthorne?infinity=ict2~net~gaw~cmp~22438733238~ag~184852182664~ar~746435864087~kw~property%20to%20buy%20wellesbourne~mt~p~acr~1826001059&&infinity=ict2~net~gaw~ar~746435864087~kw~property%20to%20buy%20wellesbourne~mt~p~cmp~22438733238~ag~184852182664&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=22438733238&gbraid=0AAAADjcgEER9IgKQQYd8_KBGxX9GqHSj&gclid=CjwKCAjw7fzDBhA7EiwAOqJkh60XxDicLZwNK5l8ljeSUV-Y6qba98TDxSgUycQze6q9ifhzwEWB4RoC5RcQAvD_BwE

The Asps, Warwick, Warwickshire:

LINK: https://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/new-homes/warwick/the-asps

New Lubbesthorpe, Birmingham

LINK: https://www.dwh.co.uk/new-homes/dev000784-new-lubbesthorpe/

Hunts Grove Gloucester

LINK: https://www.crestnicholson.com/developments/gloucestershire/hunts-grove?infinity=ict2~net~gaw~cmp~CN%20%7C%20South%20West%20%7C%20Hunts%20Grove%20%7C%20Search~ag~Gloucester~ar~698203237323~kw~new%20houses%20for%20sale%20gloucester~mt~p&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=21244355928&gbraid=0AAAAACmEl7jEfu-AwZZO3qAFttoJEXP75&gclid=CjwKCAjw7fzDBhA7EiwAOqJkh17pT8x8kzk0_btNiaNvtSpsl9QrsLWRphtQ0NX_wh_q8NgJqkjr4RoCvmwQAvD_BwE

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The Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation website

Healthy Urban Development Unit, Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool, 4th Edition

Happy by Design: A Guide to Architecture and Mental Wellbeing (2019)

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Housing Audit. Assessing the Design Quality of New Homes in the North East, North West and Yorkshire and Humber (CABE, 2005)

Francis Terry, Country Life: Why is most new-build housing in Britain is awful — and why it doesn't have to be this way by Clive Aslet August 4, 2021

"The Buildings of England – Gloucestershire: The Cotswolds" by David Verey Edited by Nikolaus Pevsner. (2002)

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https://hdawards.org/

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Photographs courtesy of The Rev Andrew Dow, Elizabeth Pratt, Emma Carter & Sue Stapley

Some stock photographs from https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk

'Historic Assets' Information courtesy of Elizabeth Pratt

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

2018 - 2031

Appendix B

Policy 14

Infrastructure Investment Priorities

These aspirations are taken from the interactions with the community.

1. A Thriving High Street (including a traffic flow improvement plan)

   To continue having Moreton-in-Marsh as a thriving, beautiful and unique Cotswold market town means making the High Street a safer and more pleasant place for people to spend time and money. High Street Refurbishment improvements include:

   a. Pedestrianisation of parts of the High Street
   b. Improvements to the 'Market Square'
      - planting, removal of some parking, outdoor seating, sculpture garden (local artists)
   c. Planning and better management of tree gardens and greens,
   d. Improved traffic management system
      i. a one way traffic system,
      ii. narrowing of sections of the high street to reduce speeds and sizes of vehicles and allow people to cross the High Street more safely
      iii. speed humps and speed cameras
      iv. CC TV to monitor and enforce correct use of parking bays (particularly the 'coaches only' area)
   e. altered parking provision (to divert vehicles to the new Transport Hub)
   f. More pedestrian crossing points – e.g. by the Co-op and the library
   g. More outdoor seating

2. Transport Hub:
   a. To remove long-stay parking from the town centre (and returning the High Street space back to pedestrians) to a location close to the train and bus stations.

3. Redesdale Hall

   Refurbishment including Public Realm improvements around the Hall.

   The hall is a major building in the centre of the town dating from the late 19th century which is important to residents as it hosts many community and social events. It now requires considerable repairs, refurbishment and enhancements to enable it to continue its role for the community into the 21st century.

4. Make Moreton Accessible:
   a. Wide pedestrian path along the Fosseway connecting the town to the hospital and the garden centre.
   b. Improved public transport provision – direct and regular community bus service connecting small villages (such as Longborough, Batsford, Blockley and Dorn) to the High Street and thereby preventing the use of cars.
   c. Bus Shelters (aesthetically appropriate) on **both** sides of the High Street – rather than by the Redesdale Hall where there are often cars parked making it dangerous for children and elderly people disembarking.
   d. Town wide cycle lanes to allow for a fully connected parish without the need for cars.

5. Enhance Biodiversity
   Invest in planting around the town such as a community orchard, additional woodland or a herb garden

6. Additional Retail
   Although the focus of the main retail provision is on the High Street, there may be opportunities for small, local shops close to the new developments on the east side of the town.

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

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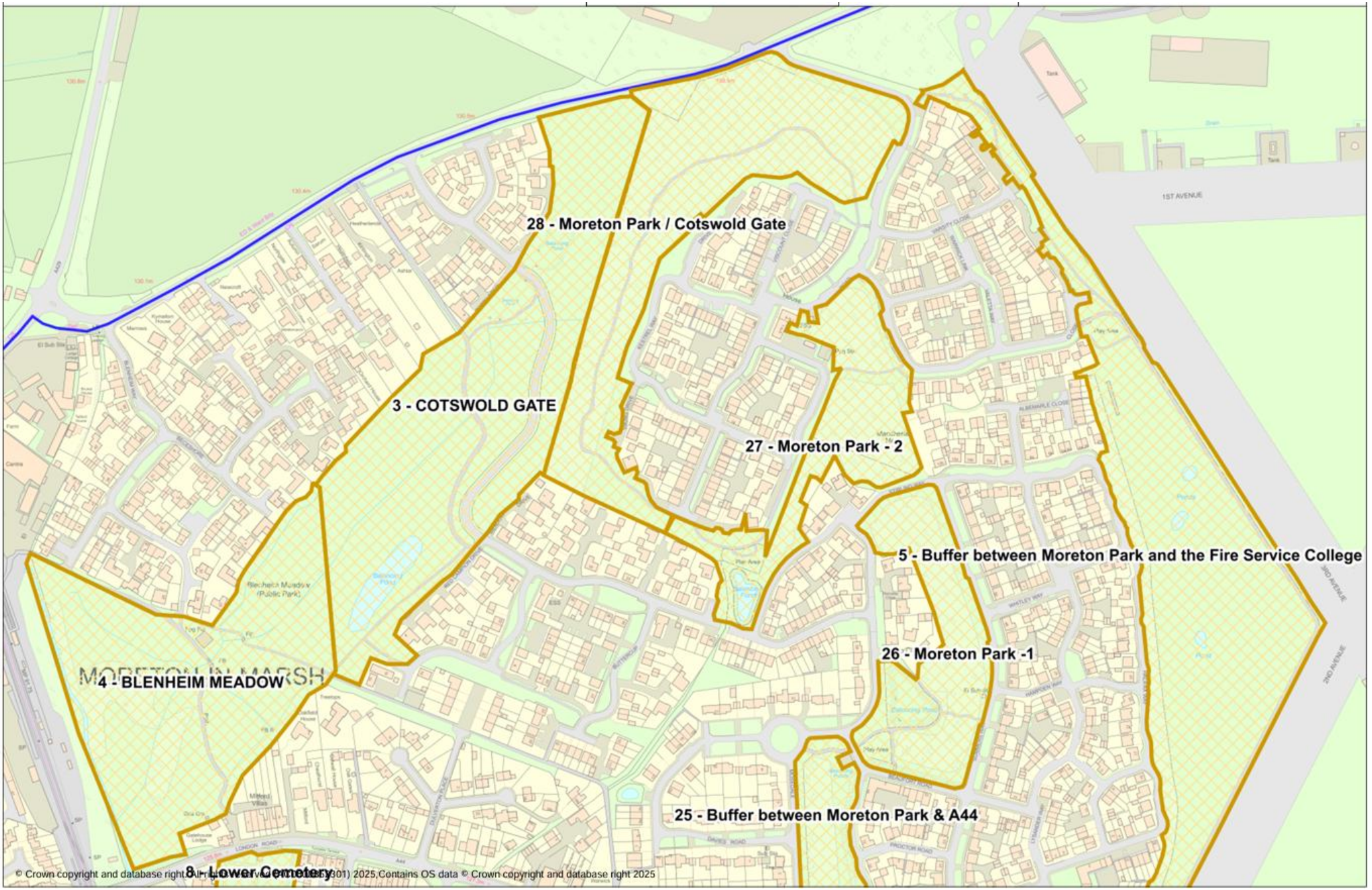
Appendix C

Policy 15

Local Green Space Proposal Maps

LGS Ref	Map	Name and Address
1	South East	Moreton Rangers FC, London Road
2	South East	Outdoor Gym, Skate Park and practice football pitch
3	North East	Cotswold Gate Public Open Space
4	North East	Blenheim Meadow
5	North East	Buffer between The Avenue and Moreton Park and Fire Service College
6	Own Map	Entrance to Fire Service College, London Road
7	South East	Upper Cemetery, London Road
8	South East	Lower Cemetery, London Road
9	South West	University Allotments, Old Town
10	North West	Hospital Road Allotments
11	South East	Croft Allotments, Evenlode Road
12	South West	St David's Churchyard
13	South West	Tinkers Close Playground, Old Town
14	South West	Redesdale Place MUGA
15	South West	Redesdale Place Croquet Club (name under LGS 14)
16	South West	Redesdale Place Bowls Club
17	South West	Grassed strip for Monarchs Way (Pathway at the back of Redesdale Place)
18	South West	Jubilee Gardens (A44/Swan Close)
19	North West	Greens on west side of north section of High Street
20	North West	Queen Victoria Gardens, High Street
21	North West	Mann Institute Gardens, A44/Oxford Street
22	North West	Glebe Field
23	North West	Green in Nightingale Crescent (Gardens)
24	South East	Special Habitat area behind Stockwells
25	South East	Buffer between Moreton Park & A44
26	North East	Moreton Park - 1
27	North East	Moreton Park - 2
28	North East	Moreton Park/Cotswold Gate

North East


28 - Moreton Park / Cotswold Gate
3 - COTSWOLD GATE
27 - Moreton Park - 2
5 - Buffer between Moreton Park and the Fire Service College
26 - Moreton Park -1
4 - BLENHEIM MEADOW
25 - Buffer between Moreton Park & A44
8 - Lower Cemetery
1ST AVENUE
2ND AVENUE
3RD AVENUE
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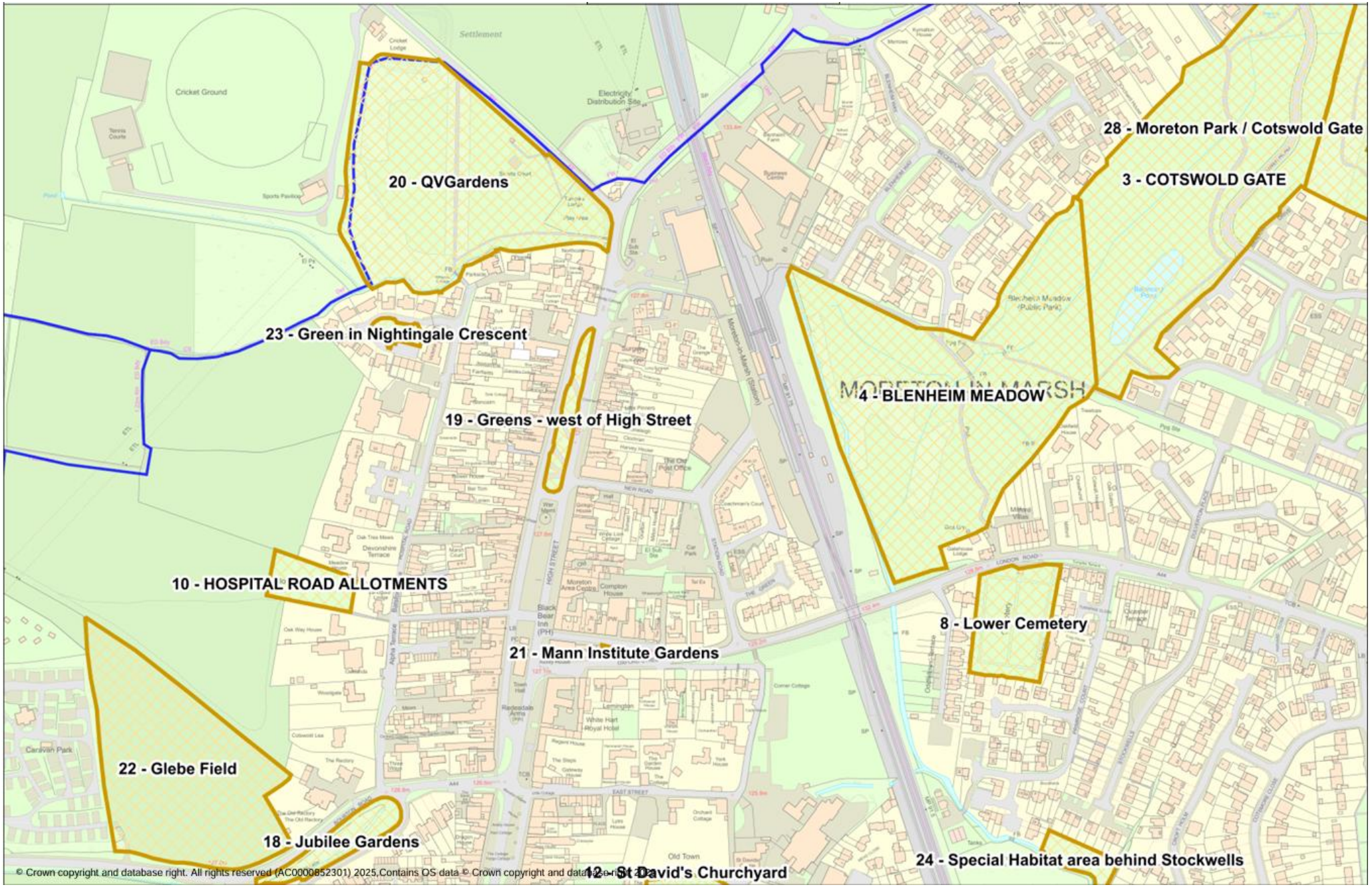
North West


20 - QVGardens
23 - Green in Nightingale Crescent
19 - Greens - west of High Street
10 - HOSPITAL ROAD ALLOTMENTS
22 - Glebe Field
18 - Jubilee Gardens
21 - Mann Institute Gardens
12 - St David's Churchyard
28 - Moreton Park / Cotswold Gate
3 - COTSWOLD GATE
4 - BLENHEIM MEADOW
8 - Lower Cemetery
24 - Special Habitat area behind Stockwells
MORETON-IN-MARSH
Cricket Ground
Settlement
Electricity Distribution Site
Sports Pavilion
Blenheim Meadow (Public Park)
Moreton-in-Marsh (Station)
HIGH STREET
NEW ROAD
EAST STREET
LONDON ROAD
Moreton Area Centre
Compton House
Black Bear Inn (PH)
White Hart Royal Hotel
Caravan Park
Old Town
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South East


27 - Moreton Park - 2
3 - COTSWOLD GATE
4 - BLENHEIM MEADOW
26 - Moreton Park -1
5 - Buffer between Moreton Park and the Fire Service College
8 - Lower Cemetery
25 - Buffer between Moreton Park & A44
2 - London Road MUGA & practice pitches
7 - Upper Cemetery
1 - Moreton Rangers FC
24 - Special Habitat area behind Stockwells
11 - Croft Allotments
9 - University Allotments
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South West


21 - Mann Institute Gardens
8 - Lower Cemetery
22 - Glebe Field
18 - Jubilee Gardens
12 - St David's Churchyard
13 - Tinkers Play area
9 - University Allotments
17 Monarchs Way Grass Strip
14 - REDESDALE PLACE MUGA
16 - BOWLS CLUB
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Fire Service College Entrance

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

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Appendix D

Policy 16

Non-Designated Heritage Assets

COMPLETE LIST OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS, LISTED BUILDINGS AND SIGNIFICANT LANDMARKS

Pillbox, Todenham Road

Blenheim Farm outbuildings,

The Old Curiosity Shop, Corders Lane

New Cottage and attached, Corders Lane

The Jessamine, Hospital Road

Garden Hurst, Hospital Road

Flower House, Hospital Road

Fosse Barn, High Street

Converted farm buildings of Bowling Green Court,

Hospital Road Barn of Meadow House, Hospital Road

Veterinary Surgery, Hospital Road

Three Ways, Bourton Road

The Rectory & Moreton Lodge

The Inn on the Marsh, Stow Road

New Road Cotswold Carpets,

New Road Launderette,

New Road Post Office,

New Road Sunset,

New Road Acacia B&B,

New Road Grafton House,

New Road Milton House,

Oxford Street North The Manse (Organic Hair Company),

Oxford Street North Star Cottage,

Oxford Street South Peony Cottage (North View),

Oxford Street South Corner Cottage,

Oxford Street South Arthur's Cottage,

East Street Little Cottage with Mellow Stone Cottage,

East Street Mitford Villas,

London Road 1–7

London Road Ivy Lodge

Charlton Villa, Evenlode Road

Railway Station Building Built 1872–73.

Signal Box Built by 1885, probably in the 1870s.

Mortuary Chapel, (Bier House) Church of England Cemetery, London Road (West)

Coldicote Farm, Evenlode Road Farmhouse

Cider Press, Fosseway Avenue

Pond House Parkers Lane Built sometime between 1821 and 1885.

The Horsepool – Parkers Lane & Stowe Rd

IMPORTANT VIEWS

19/03/25

View #1 Monarch's Way – Batsford path towards Redesdale Hall

Grid Ref: SP 200 325
Direction: ESE

Reason view is important:

View for walkers of entrance into town from open countryside on a well used public footpath, The Batsford Path (part of the Monarch's Way),looking towards town and the Redesdale Hall clock tower.

View #2 Monarch's Way – Batsford path towards St David's church

Grid Ref: SP 201 324
Direction: E

Reason view is important:

View for walkers of entrance into town from open countryside on a well used public footpath, The Batsford Path (part of the Monarch's Way),looking towards town and St. David's church.

View #3 Monarch's Way – Hospital Road allotments towards Redesdale Hall

Grid Ref: SP 202 324
Direction: E

Reason view is important:

View for walkers in open countryside of allotments linking the open countryside to the town and linking the town to its past and present agricultural setting. The view includes the Redesdale Hall clock tower in the town centre.

View #4 A44 from Evesham opposite the caravan park towards St David's church

Grid Ref: SP 199 322
Direction: 96°

Reason view is important:

Significant view of St David's church for walkers in open countryside approaching from the western entrance into the town.

View #5 A44 from Evesham to town by caravan park towards St David's church

Grid Ref: SP 198 322
Direction: ESE

Reason view is important:

Approaching the town centre on the A44, providing significant view of St David's church at the western entrance into the town.

Grid Ref: SP 202 322
Direction: 81°

View #6 A44 from Evesham entrance to town opposite Wellington Museum

Grid Ref: SP 202 322
Direction: 81°

Reason view is important:

In close proximity to the town centre, the main A road is tree lined with green verges giving is a semi-rural feel. Jubilee Gardens (celebrating Festival of Britain) are on the right.

View #7 A44 from Evesham to town across the original Glebe Field

Grid Ref: SP 201 322
Direction: 81° ENE

Reason view is important:

At the western gateway to the town, this traditional pastoral scene is the only entrance to the town that remains as it was centuries ago

---

View #8 A44 from Evesham – first view of western entrance to town centre

Grid Ref : SP 203 323
Direction : E

Reason view is important:

The main A road entrance into town from the west, demonstrating how important the trees and grass verges are even this close into town.

View #9 Swan Close from A44

Grid Ref: SP 203 323
Direction: 113° (ESE)

Reason view is important:

Arriving close to the town centre on the A44 from Evesham, across the green space on the roadside there is a good view of St. David's church due to the low roof line of the bungalows.

View #10 Monarch's Way – corner of Parkers Lane

Grid Ref : SP 203 321
Direction : 158° (S)

Reason view is important:

The view on the edge of town on a public footpath (the Monarchs Way) to open countryside and fields

View #11 Monarch's Way – corner of Parkers Lane

Grid Ref : SP 201 320
Direction : 48° (NE)

PROBABLY REMOVE

Reason view is important:

? …. Probably remove

View #12 Parkers Lane / Monarch's Way Intersection

Grid Ref : SP 202 321
Direction : 158° (SE)

PROBABLY REMOVE

Reason view is important:

? …. Probably remove

View #13 Diamond Way, edge of Ellenbrook (footpath HMM8) looking towards Evenlode Road

Grid Ref : SP 209 314
Direction : 56° €

PROBABLY REMOVE

Reason view is important:

Approaching Moreton on the well-used Diamond Way the view still provides the tranquility and feel of openness despite being only 250m from the development boundary.

NOTE: Spitfire Homes already has planning permission for this site

---

View #14 Diamond Way (HMM8) towards Moreton from south of Ellenbrook

Grid Ref : SP 208 315
Direction : 357° N

PROBABLY REMOVE

Reason view is important:

This is the type of view we are losing – countryside to the town and the spire of St. David's church.

NOTE: Spitfire Homes already has planning permission for this site

View #15 Southern Entrance to Town (A429)

Grid Ref: SP xxx xxx
Direction: N

Reason view is important:

An example of a new development that removed roadside hedges and trees and loses the rural feel of the town at town's southerly entrance.

View #16 Southern Entrance to Town (A429) – looking across towards the new Spitfire development (Ellenbrook)

Grid Ref : SP 202 312
Direction : 21° (NNE)

REMOVE
REPLACE WITH VIEW #24

Reason view is important:

View #17 Diamond Way footpath junction (Footpaths HMM15/HMM8) towards Moreton

Grid Ref : SP 209 313
Direction : 342° N

Reason view is important:

View from the junction of footpaths HMM8, HMM15 and HLO18. This path is shared by the Diamond Way and the much promoted and popular Moreton 8 walk. The sight of St David's iconic steeple nestling in the farmland which typifies Moreton and refreshes the mind.

View #18 Diamond Way footpath (HMM15) looking along River Evenlode

Grid Ref : SP 212 314
Direction : 357° N

Reason view is important:

Near the source of the River Evenlode as seen from footpath HMM15. A typical marshland before much of the land was drained and acts as a reminder of how things were. A bountiful habitat to observe flora and fauna which can be observed from the footpath.

View #19 Diamond Way footpath junction (HLO18/HMM15/HMM8) looking towards railway line

Grid Ref : SP 209 313
Direction : 72° (ENE)

Reason view is important:

Looking east from the junction of three much loved footpaths. A typical Cotswold naturally generated hedge which includes a Perry Pear trees, of which there were orchards in the early 20th century, leads the eye towards Barton-on-the-Heath in the distance.

View #20 North West of Coldicote Farm along footpath HMM11

Grid Ref : SP 214 311
Direction : 335° (NNW)

Reason view is important:

This is the only time footpath HMM11, which links Moreton to Evenlode, follows the river Evenlode, albeit in its infancy. With water meadows and willows to the west and commercial farmland to the east, it's thought provoking.

View #21 From Evenlode Road (National Cycle Route 48) looking along footpath HMM15

Grid Ref : SP 214 315
Direction : 261° (W)

Reason view is important:

From Cycle Route 48, along footpath HMM15 which forms part of the Moreton 8 walk, the view looks west across the open farm landscape, bordering the southern perimeter of Moreton, to the Cotswold National Landscape in the distance, in which the Batsford and Sezincote houses and estates nestle

---

View #22 From Evenlode Road (National Cycle Route 48) looking West towards the town

Grid Ref : SP 215 316
Direction : 268° (W)

Reason view is important:

Cycle Route 48 and the Moreton 8 share this magnificent Cotswold view, across the Special Landscape Area stretching into the Cotswold National Landscape, with Moreton virtually masked by the naturally reseeded trees and hedge rows, thus providing the tranquility of the country side.

View #23 From Evenlode Road (National Cycle Route 48) North North East

Grid Ref : SP 215 315
Direction : 10° (NNE)

Reason view is important:

As Moreton town's south-eastern settlement boundary is approached along Cycle Route 48, who would know that a large town is less than 500 meters as you look eastwards towards the Fire College.

View #24 Diamond Way footpath looking towards Fosseway (Footpath HLO18)

Grid Ref : SP 209 313
Direction : 337° (NNW)

Reason view is important:

As Moreton is approached from the south, along the route shared by the Diamond Way and Moreton 8, the open arable farmland, bordered by natural hedgerows, and an old corrugated barn in the corner of the field, there is little that indicates it is within 700m of entering Fosseway Avenue.

View #25 Fire Service College Green Entrance Splay

Grid Ref : SP 221 322
Direction : 84° (E)

Reason view is important:

At the eastern entrance to town, on the A44 to Chipping Norton, the large grass entrance splay to the Fire Service college, eases the transition from the open countryside to the urban area of the town.

View #26 Fire Service College – opposite the entrance across fields to town

Grid Ref : SP 221 322
Direction : 210° (SSW)

Reason view is important:

Entering the town on the A44 from Chipping Norton, just yards before the 30mph sign, the view opposite the entrance to the Fire Service College towards the town is across open countryside and part of the Special Landscape Area.

View #27 Fire Service College Entrance towards town and the Business Village

Grid Ref : SP 222 323
Direction : 271° (W)

Reason view is important:

The view from the green entrance splay of the Fire Service College down the tree lined A44 towards the Business Village and town centre, maintaining the rural feel beyond the 30mph road sign.

View #2 Monarch's Way – Batsford path towards St David's church

Grid Ref: SP 201 324
Direction: E

Reason view is important:

View for walkers of entrance into town from open countryside on a well used public footpath, The Batsford Path (part of the Monarch's Way),looking towards town and St. David's church.

View #28 View from London Road bridge across Blenheim Meadows

Grid Ref : SP 207 324
Direction : 35° (NE)

Reason view is important:

This view across open meadow land is taken from just before the railway bridge in the heart of the town on the A44. The view benefits from the trees which are part of the Queen's Canopy and additional planting which is part of the Wild Towns initiative.

View #29 A44 from Chipping Norton on London Rd Bridge towards St David's

Grid Ref : SP 207 324
Direction : SW

Reason view is important:

This view is taken from the other side of the road to view #28 on the approach to the railway bridge in the heart of the town. It shows the playing fields of St. David's school which are an important part of the school facilities.

View #30 View of Queen Victoria Gardens

Grid Ref : SP 203 328
Direction : 98°

Reason view is important:

The park is well used by families and dog walkers, bring very close to the High Street at the north edge of town. The park includes a children's play area.

View #31 View of the Avenue of Trees in Queen Victoria Gardens

Grid Ref : SP 204 329
Direction : 143° SSE

Reason view is important:

Within Queen Victoria Gardens, this classic lime tree walkway provides a stately environment for the footpath which is part of the Diamond Way and passes by the ancient settlement at the edge of the park.

View #32 Croft Allotments towards St David's church

Grid Ref : SP 212 321
Direction : W

Reason view is important:

The view across allotments, which link the countryside to the town, looks across to St. David's church and the Cotswold National Landscape.

View #33 University Allotments towards St David's church

Grid Ref : SP 207 320
Direction : NW

Reason view is important:

The University allotments are set in the heart of Moreton Old Town and are next to the Town Council offices. They provide a link to Moreton's agricultural connections and this particular view shows their proximity to St David's church.

View #34 Monarch's Way and Moreton 8 behind hospital

Grid Ref : SP 198 315
Direction : 83° (E)

Reason view is important:

Moreton 8 is a walk around Moreton which takes in the town centre and its rural setting. This section of the walk in open countryside is very close to town centre and the hospital on the south western border of settlement.

View #35 Monarchs Way and Moreton eight behind Garden Centre to St David's

Grid Ref : SP 199 317
Direction : 40° (NE)

Reason view is important:

Moreton 8 is a walk around Moreton which takes in the town centre and its rural setting. This section of the walk in open countryside is very close to town centre and the garden centre on the south western border of settlement. The spire of St David's church can be seen.

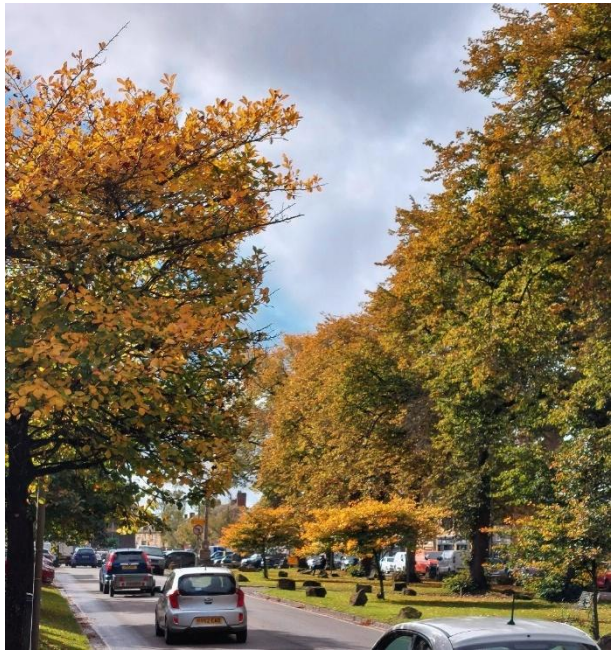
View #36 Croftlands to St David's church

Grid Ref : SP 212 320
Direction : WNW

Reason view is important:

This pastoral scene from near the Croft Allotments, shows St. David's church set against Cotswold National Landscape.

View #37 High Street (SSW)

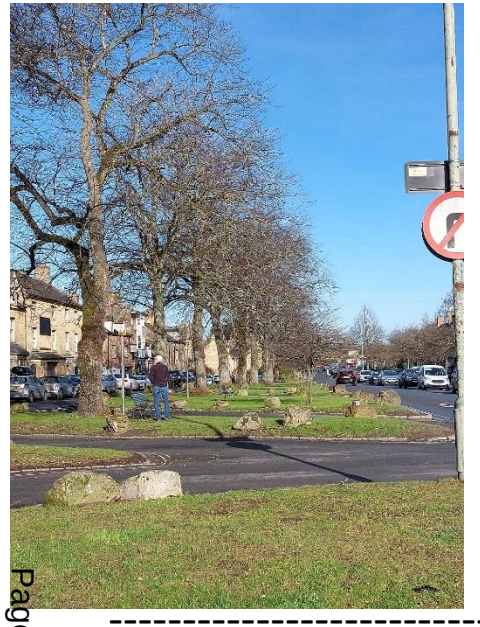


Grid Ref : SP xxx xxx
Direction : xxx^{o} (SSW)

Reason view is important:

Moreton's tree-lined High Street is the second widest in the country and it's trees and greens provide a beautiful introduction to the town when entering from the north. The lime trees are unusual in that they are unpollarded and provide shade for residents and visitors in centre of the town. The origins of the High Street date from the original 1880's master plan (including the Redesdale Hall)

View #38 High Street Greens (N)

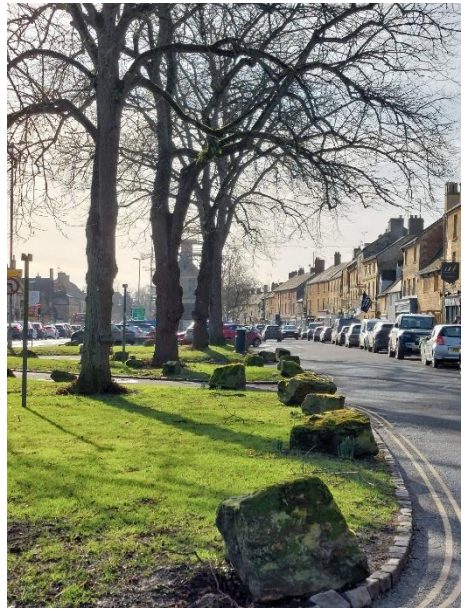


Grid Ref : SP 204 325
Direction : 29° (N)

Reason view is important:

The tree-lined High Street, with its greens separating the historic buildings from the A429 Fosseway is particularly attractive and unusual.
Its origins date from the 1880's master plan which included the central building in the town, the Redesdale Hall.

View #39 High Street Greens (S)



Grid Ref : SP 205 326
Direction : 184° (S)

Reason view is important:

The tree-lined High Street, with its greens separating the historic buildings from the A429 Fosseway is particularly attractive and unusual.
Its origins date from the 1880's master plan which included the central building in the town, the Redesdale Hall.

View #40 High Street Greens (N) from Stow side of Redesdale Hall

Grid Ref : SP 204 322
Direction : 357° (N)

Reason view is important:

The important southern entrance to the town is within the conservation area and is lined with historic buildings including coaching inns and the Redesdale Hall, the main community building in the town.

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

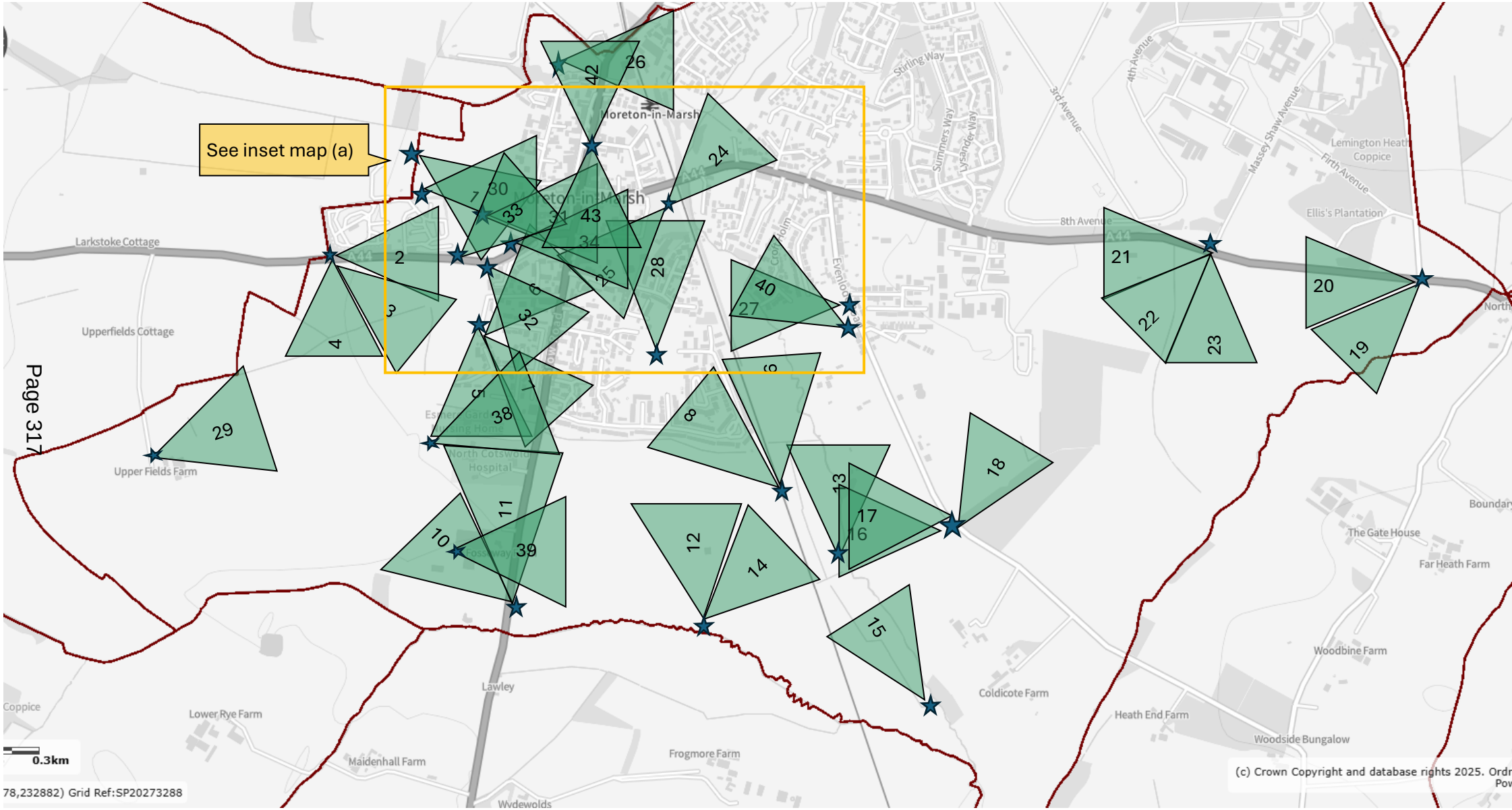
2018 - 2031

Appendix E (i)

Policy 18

Important Views Map

Ref	View Name	Direction	Ref	View Name	Direction
1	Batsford path towards Hospital Road	ESE	**23**	Entrance to Fire College	S
2	A44 entrance to town by caravan park (see the church)	E	**24**	SW edge of Blenheim Meadows - View from London Road bridge across Blenheim Meadows	NE
3	A44 entrance to town by caravan park (towards church)	ESE	**25**	SW edge of Blenheim Meadows - View from London Road bridge across school grounds	SW
4	A44 entrance to town by caravan park	S	**26**	QVG W edge of with view across gardens to play area and A429	E
5	Monarchs Way corner of Parkers Lane	S	**27**	Croft Allotments to ST Davids	W
6	Monarchs Way corner of Parkers Lane	NE	**28**	University Allotments to ST Davids	NW
7	Parkers Lane/ Monarchs Way intersection	SE	**29**	Upper Field Farm track junction	ENE
8	Diamond Way, edge of Ellenbrook (footpath HMM8) looking towards Evenlode Road	NE	**30**	Monarch's Way – Batsford path towards St David's church	E
9	Diamond Way towards Moreton from south of Ellenbrook	SE	**31**	Monarch's Way – Hospital Road allotments towards Redesdale Hall	E
10	Southern entrance to town (A429)	N	**32**	A44 from Evesham entrance to town opposite Wellington Aviation	ESE
11	A429 south entrance across Spitfire Ellenbrook development	NW	**33**	A44 from Evesham entrance to town by caravan park across Glebe field to church	ENE
12	Diamond Way footpath junction (Footpaths HMM15/HMM8) towards Moreton (near south boundary)	N	**34**	A44 from Evesham entrance to town - first view of town	E
13	Diamond Way footpath (HMM15) looking along River Evenlode	NE	**35**	Swan Close from A44	
14	Diamond Way footpath junction (HLO18/HMM15/HMM8) looking towards railway line (near south boundary)	ENE	**36**	Diamond Way footpath looking towards Fosseway (Footpath HLO18)	SW
15	SW edge of Colicote Farm	NNW	**37**	QVG-Avenue of Trees	
16	From Evenlode Road (National Cycle Network Route Number 48) looking West along footpath HMM15	W	**38**	Monarchs Way and Moreton eight behind hospital	NE
17	From Evenlode Road (National Cycle Network Route Number 48)	W	**39**	Monarchs Way and Moreton eight behind garden centre looking to St Davids	E
18	From Evenlode Road (National Cycle Network Route Number 48)	NNE	**40**	Croftlands to St Davids church	WNW
19	London Road junction Wolford Road	SW	**41**	High Street (SSW)	SSW
20	London Road junction Wolford Road	W	**42**	High Street Greens (N)	N
21	Entrance to Fire College	W	**43**	High Street Greens (S)	S
22	Entrance to Fire College	SW			


See inset map (a)
Moreton-in-Marsh
Larkstoke Cottage
Upperfields Cottage
Upper Fields Farm
North Cotswold Hospital
Lawley
Lower Rye Farm
Maidenhall Farm
Frogmore Farm
Wydewolds
Coldicote Farm
Heath End Farm
Woodside Bungalow
Woodbine Farm
The Gate House
Far Heath Farm
Ellis's Plantation
Lemington Heath Coppice
Stirling Way
Summers Way
Lysander Way
3rd Avenue
4th Avenue
Massey Shaw Avenue
Firth Avenue
8th Avenue
0.3km
(c) Crown Copyright and database rights 2025. Ordr
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78,232882) Grid Ref:SP20273288

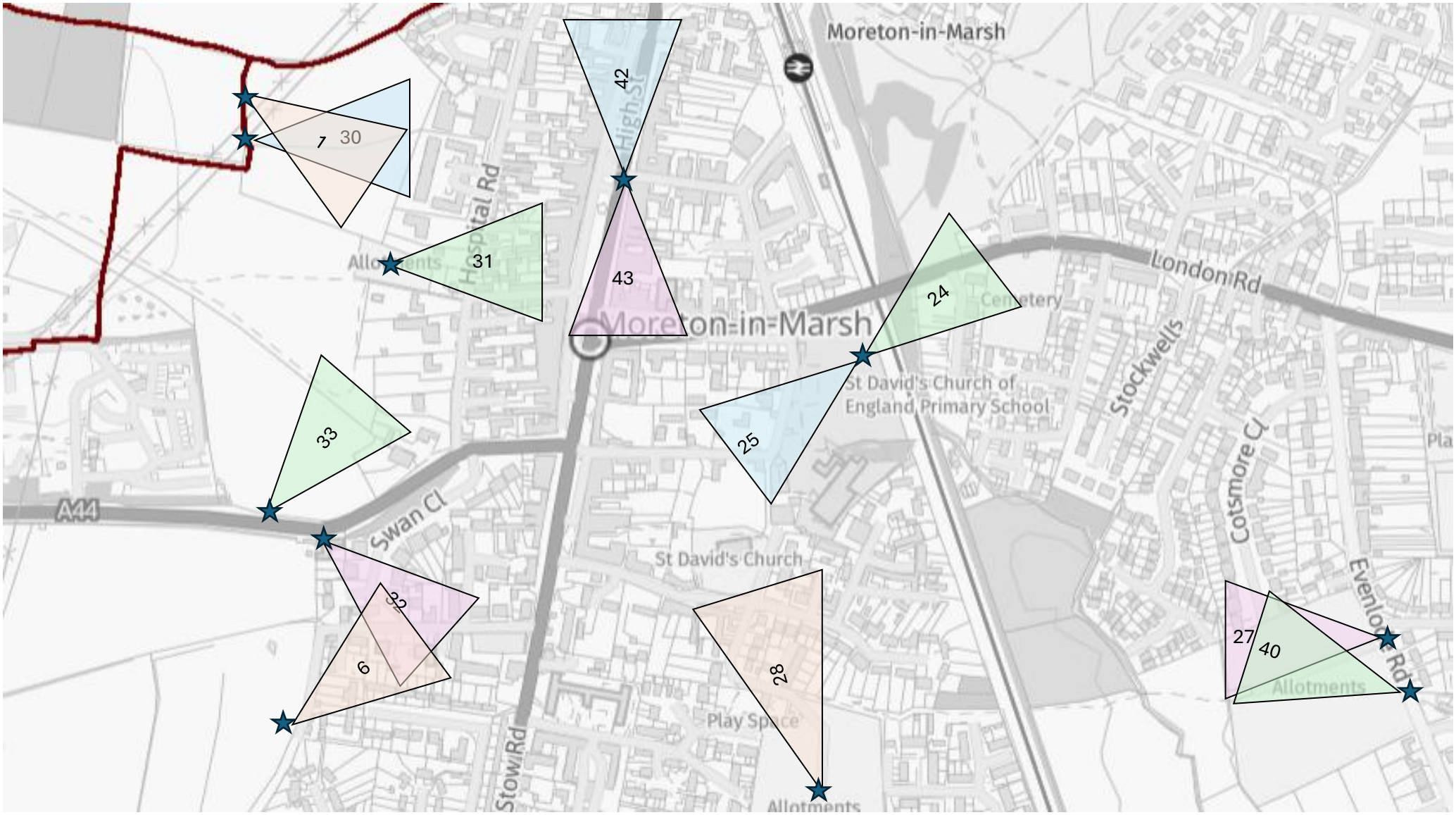
Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

2018 - 2031

Appendix E (ii)

Policy 18

Important Views Inset Map


Moreton-in-Marsh
42
High St
1
30
Hospital Rd
31
43
Moreton-in-Marsh
London Rd
24
Cemetery
St David's Church of England Primary School
Stockwells
25
33
A44
Swan Cl
Cotsmore Cl
St David's Church
32
6
28
27
40
Evenlode Rd
Allotments
Play Space
Stow Rd
Allotments

Appendix E (a) Important Views Inset Map

1	Batsford path towards Hospital Road	28	University Allotments to St Davids	33	A44 from Evesham entrance to town by caravan park across Glebe field to church
6	Monarchs Way corner of Parkers Lane	30	Monarch's Way – Batsford path towards St David's church	40	Croftlands to St Davids church
24	SW edge of Blenheim Meadows - View from London Road bridge across Blenheim Meadows	31	Monarch's Way – Hospital Road allotments towards Redesdale Hall	42	High Street Greens (N)
25	SW edge of Blenheim Meadows - View from London Road bridge across school grounds	32	A44 from Evesham entrance to town opposite Wellington Aviation	43	High Street Greens (S)
27	Croft Allotments to St Davids				

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

2018 - 2031

Appendix F

Biodiversity Data Search

Moreton in Marsh Town Council
GCER Biodiversity Data Search

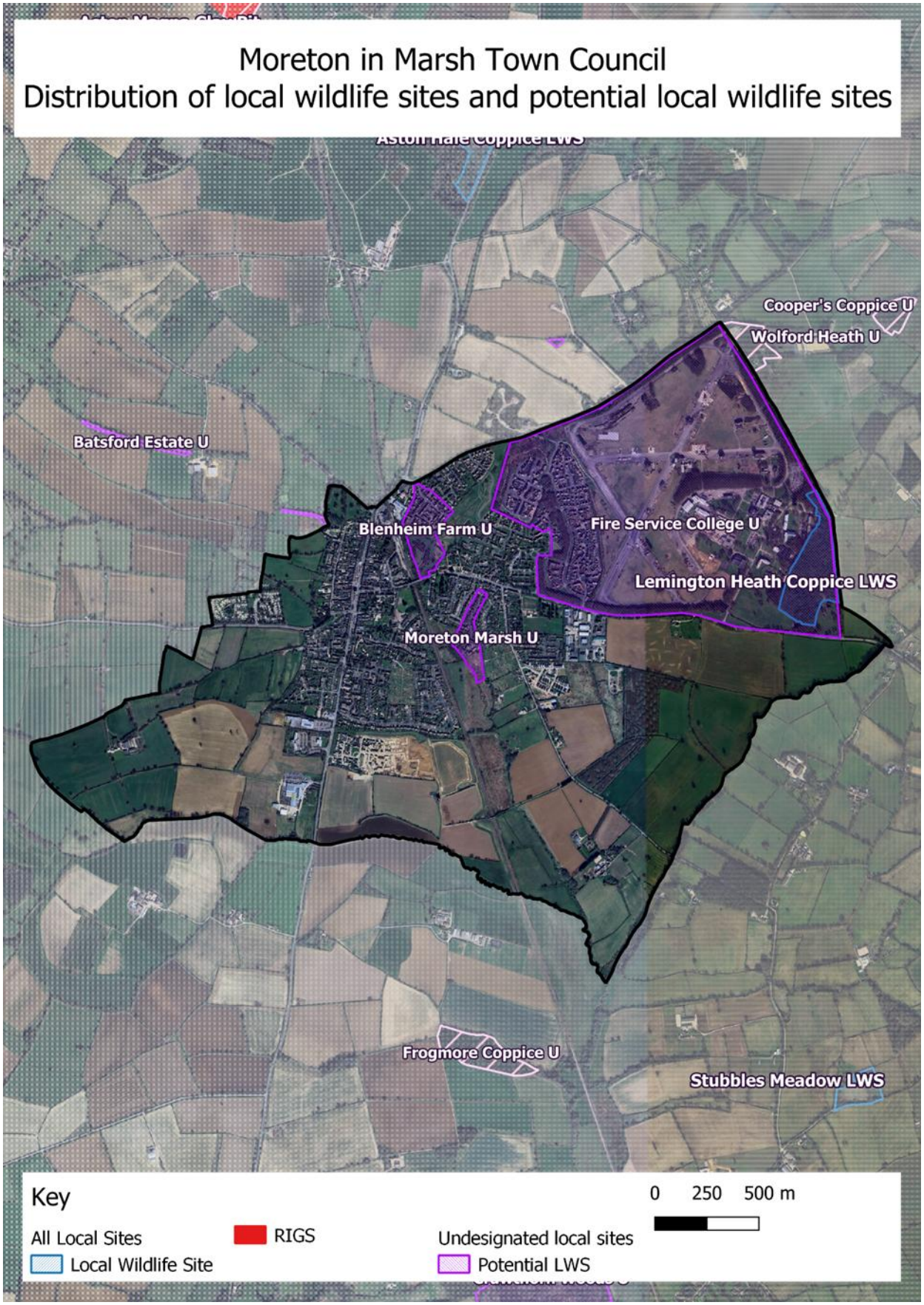
Wildlife sites

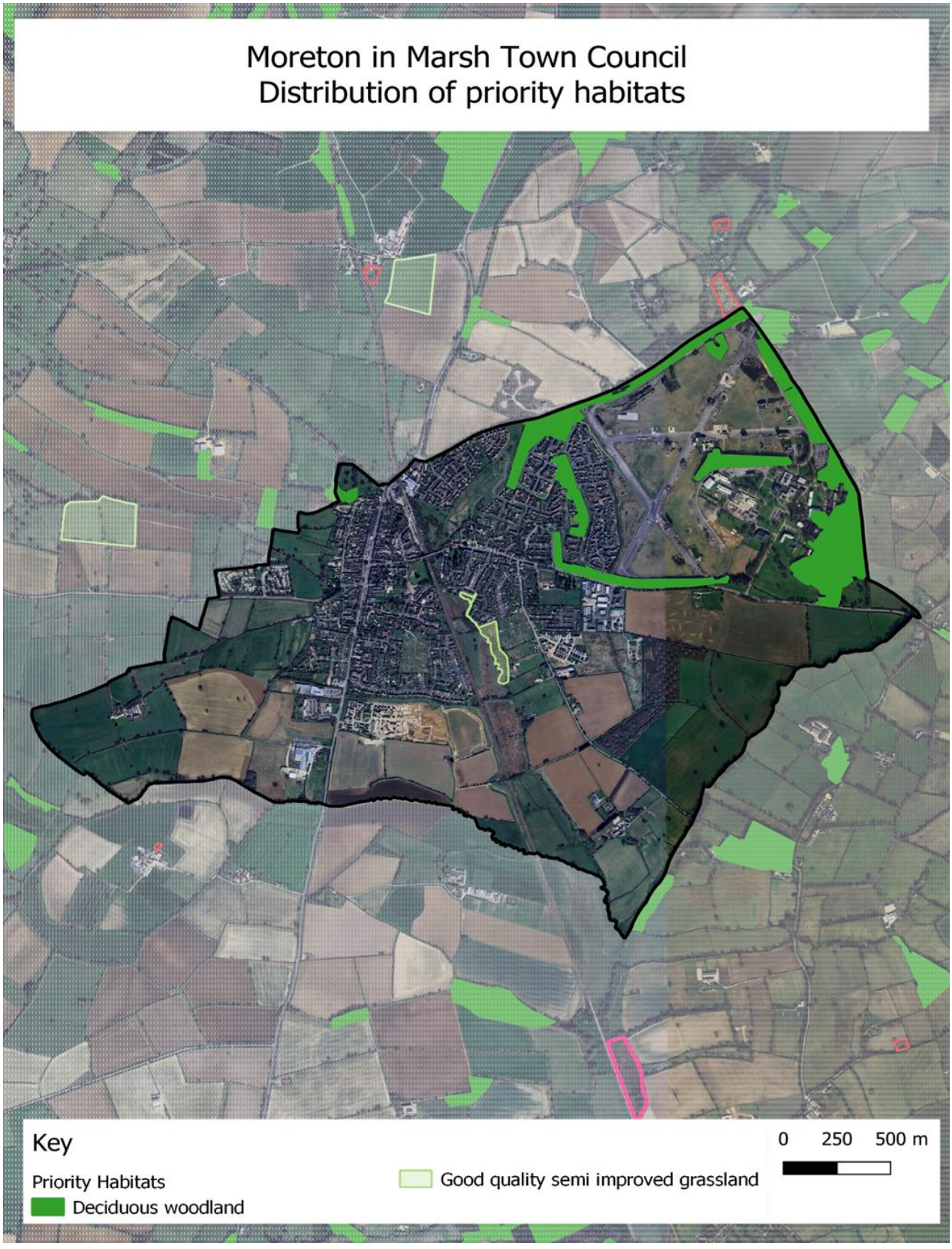
Based on the data held at the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records, the following appear within the Moreton in Marsh Town Council boundary.

Statutory site designation	
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	None
Non-Statutory site designation	
Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	Lemington Heath Coppice LWS
Priority Habitats	
Good quality semi-improved grassland Deciduous woodland Tradition orchard	

Moreton in Marsh is a market town within the Cotswolds district and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Cotswold National Landscape) in Gloucestershire. It is a flat and low-lying town surrounded by the Cotswold Hills on the border of Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. The data contained within this report is generated from information held in the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records, the Local Environmental Record Centre's covering Oxfordshire and Warwickshire may have records that are relevant to Moreton in Marsh but are not included within this report.

Local wildlife sites (LWS) are non-statutory protected areas privately or publicly owned that are recognised locally for their significant wildlife and habitat value. Potential LWS are areas that have either been highlighted but at the time of evaluation did not meet the required standards for LWS or have yet to be evaluated. Lemington Heath Coppice is the only LWS within Moreton in Marsh, however there are 3 potential LWS are also present they are: Blenheim Farm, Fire Service College and Moreton Marsh.


Moreton in Marsh Town Council
Distribution of local wildlife sites and potential local wildlife sites
Cooper's Coppice U
Wolford Heath U
Batsford Estate U
Blenheim Farm U
Fire Service College U
Lemington Heath Coppice LWS
Moreton Marsh U
Frogmore Coppice U
Stubbles Meadow LWS
Key
0 250 500 m
All Local Sites
Local Wildlife Site
RIGS
Undesignated local sites
Potential LWS


Moreton in Marsh Town Council
Distribution of priority habitats
Key
Priority Habitats
Deciduous woodland
Good quality semi improved grassland
0 250 500 m

Notable and Protected Wildlife

Based on the data held at the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records (GCER), the following notable and protected species have been recorded within the Moreton in Marsh Town Council boundary in the last 10 years. Aan overview of all species seen since records began can be viewed in Appendix 1. Please be aware the species list merely reflects the information held on GCER database and the level of recording effort in that part of the county. It does not represent a comprehensive list or distribution of these species within the Coleford Town Council boundary. GCER accepts records from ecological surveys and members of the public via the GCER website and can access them from the iRecord and Living Record websites. These records will contribute to the body of knowledge available for wildlife conservation, research, advising our partners in the public sector as well as ecological consultants working within the town boundary.

Summary

Taxon group	Invertebrate		
Scientific name	**Common Name**	**Status**	**No of records**
Coenonympha pamphilus	Small Heath	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1
Ethmia dodecea	Gromwell Ermine	Notable-B	1
Watsonalla binaria	Oak Hook-tip	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	5
Lycia hirtaria	Brindled Beauty	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	5
Ennomos erosaria	September Thorn	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	2
Ennomos fuscantaria	Dusky Thorn	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1
Ennomos quercinaria	August Thorn	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1
Hemistola chrysoprasaria	Small Emerald	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	2
Pelurga comitata	Dark Spinach	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	2
Arctia caja	Garden Tiger	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	3
Spilosoma lubricipeda	White Ermine	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	13
Spilosoma lutea	Buff Ermine	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	23
Tyria jacobaeae	Cinnabar	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	19
Acronicta rumicis	Knot Grass	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1
Melanchra persicariae	Dot Moth	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	5
Leucania comma	Shoulder-striped Wainscot	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	2
Orthosia gracilis	Powdered Quaker	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	4
Apamea anceps	Large Nutmeg	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	5
Apamea remissa	Dusky Brocade	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1
Hydraecia micacea	Rosy Rustic	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	3
Caradrina morpheus	Mottled Rustic	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	5
Hoplodrina blanda	Rustic	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	6
Agrochola lychnidis	Beaded Chestnut	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	3
Anchoscelis litura	Brown-spot Pinion	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1

Atethmia centrago	Centre-barred Sallow	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1

Taxon group	Amphibian and Reptile		
Scientific name	**Common Name**	**Status**	**No of records**
Bufo bufo	Common Toad	Bern-A3 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a	1
Rana temporaria	Common Frog	Bern-A3 ; HabDir-A5 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a	6
Lissotriton vulgaris	Smooth Newt	Bern-A3 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a	6
Triturus cristatus	Great Crested Newt	Bern-A2 ; HabDir-A2*,HabDir-A4 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	5
Natrix helvetica	Grass Snake	Bern-A3 ; RedList_Global_post94-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.1(kill/injuring),WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a	1
Taxon group	Bird		
Scientific name	**Common Name**	**Status**	**No of records**
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard	BirdsDir-A2.1 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber	1
Accipiter gentilis	Goshawk	CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1	1
Apus apus	Swift	Bird-Red	1
Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	Bern-A2 ; BirdsDir-A1 ; CMS_AEWA-A2 ; ECCITES-A	3
Columba palumbus	Woodpigeon	BirdsDir-A2.1 ; Bird-Amber	5
Milvus milvus	Red Kite	BirdsDir-A1 ; CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1	9
Alcedo atthis	Kingfisher	Bern-A2 ; BirdsDir-A1 ; WACA-Sch1_part1	1
Falco tinnunculus	Kestrel	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; Bird-Amber	5
Alauda arvensis	Skylark	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red ; England_NERC_S.41	2
Corvus frugilegus	Rook	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Amber	2
Emberiza citrinella	Yellowhammer	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	2
Chloris chloris	Greenfinch	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red	2
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	Bird-Amber	1
Delichon urbicum	House Martin	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red	2
Anthus pratensis	Meadow Pipit	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber	5
Motacilla cinerea	Grey Wagtail	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber	2
Oenanthe oenanthe	Wheatear	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber	1

Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	8
Phylloscopus inornatus	Yellow-browed Warbler	Bird-Amber	1
Prunella modularis	Dunnock	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber	6
Sturnus vulgaris	Starling	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red	4
Curruca communis	Whitethroat	Bird-Amber	1
Troglodytes troglodytes	Wren	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber	3
Turdus iliacus	Redwing	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Amber ; WACA-Sch1_part1	2
Turdus philomelos	Song Thrush	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Amber	2
Turdus pilaris	Fieldfare	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red ; WACA-Sch1_part1	3
Turdus viscivorus	Mistle Thrush	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red	1
Tyto alba	Barn Owl	Bern-A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1	1
Taxon group	Mammal		
Scientific name	**Common Name**	**Status**	**No of records**
Lepus europaeus	Brown Hare	RedList_Europe_post2001-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	1
Erinaceus europaeus	Hedgehog	Bern-A3 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41	100
Rhinolophus hipposideros	Lesser Horseshoe Bat	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A2*,HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	2
Eptesicus serotinus	Serotine	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	8
Myotis	Myotis Bat species	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A2*,HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	10
Nyctalus leisleri	Leisler's Bat	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	2
Nyctalus noctula	Noctule	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	2

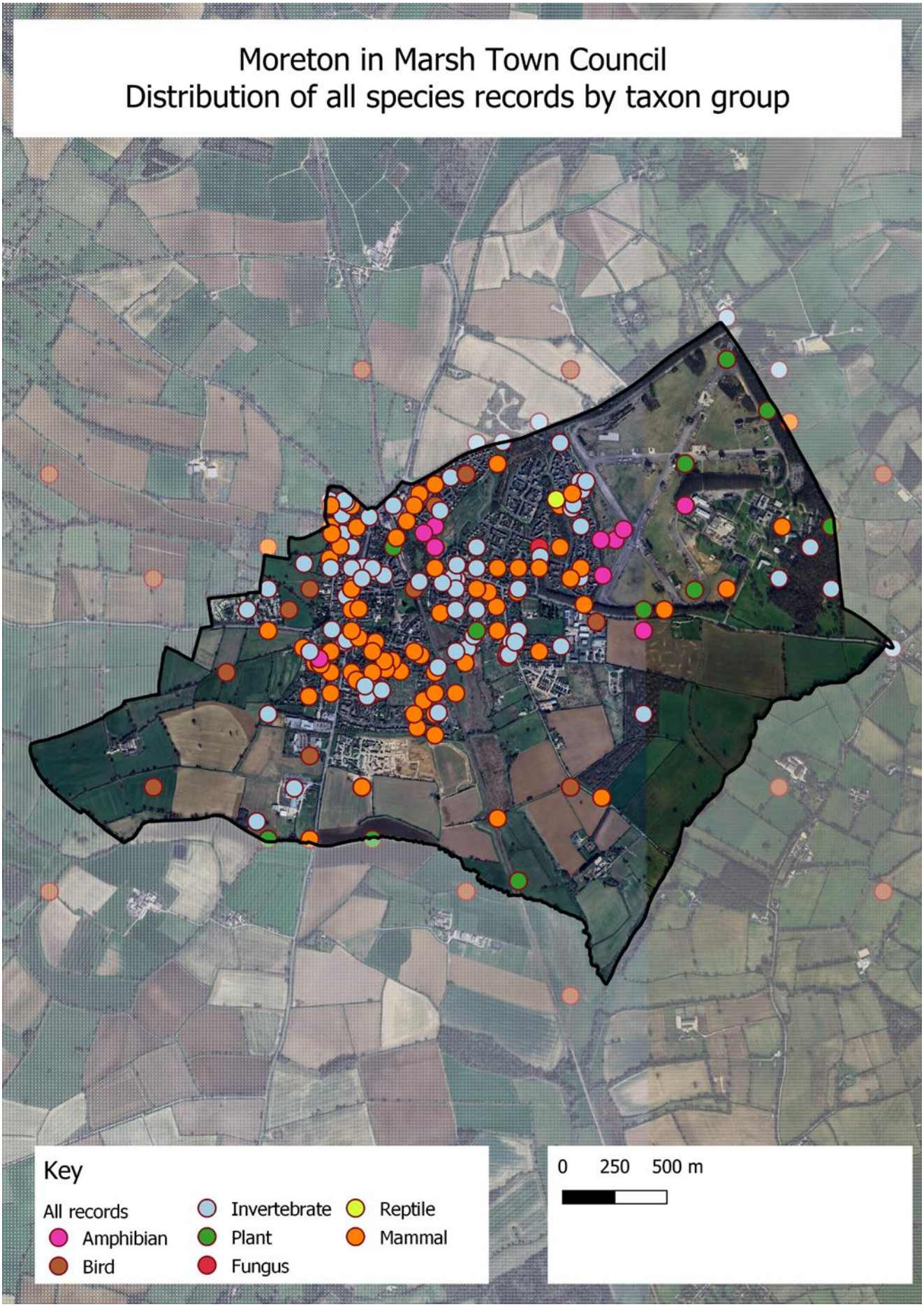
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	Bern-A2,Bern-A3 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	21
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	Soprano Pipistrelle	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	2
Plecotus auritus	Brown Long-eared Bat	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2	26

Biodiversity within Moreton in Marsh

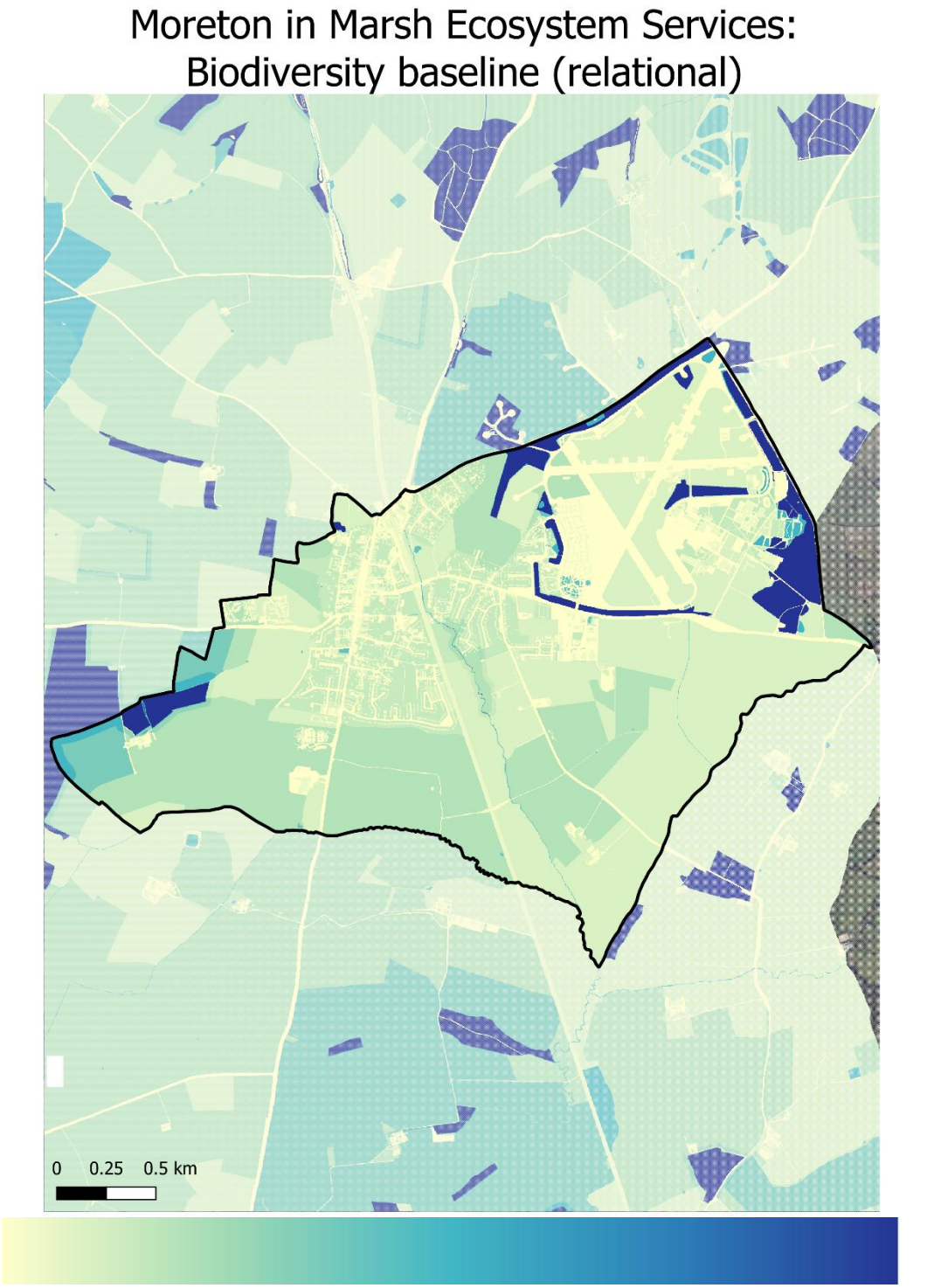
Records for moths and mammals are predominantly concentrated around the urban areas in the northern part of the parish. In contrast, bird records are more evenly distributed across the entire parish. Hedgehog was the most frequently recorded species, closely followed by the various bat species; both of which are common in urban environments due to their visibility and ease of identification. Many of the hedgehog records originate from nationally coordinated surveys, such as the Big Hedgehog Map.

A significant proportion of the moth records were submitted to the county moth recorder, indicating the presence of one or more active moth enthusiast within the parish who regularly conduct trapping, identification, and reporting. In comparison, butterfly records were relatively sparse but displayed good spatial coverage across the area. Amphibians were generally under-recorded; however, there are confirmed records of great crested newts in the Fire Service College area.

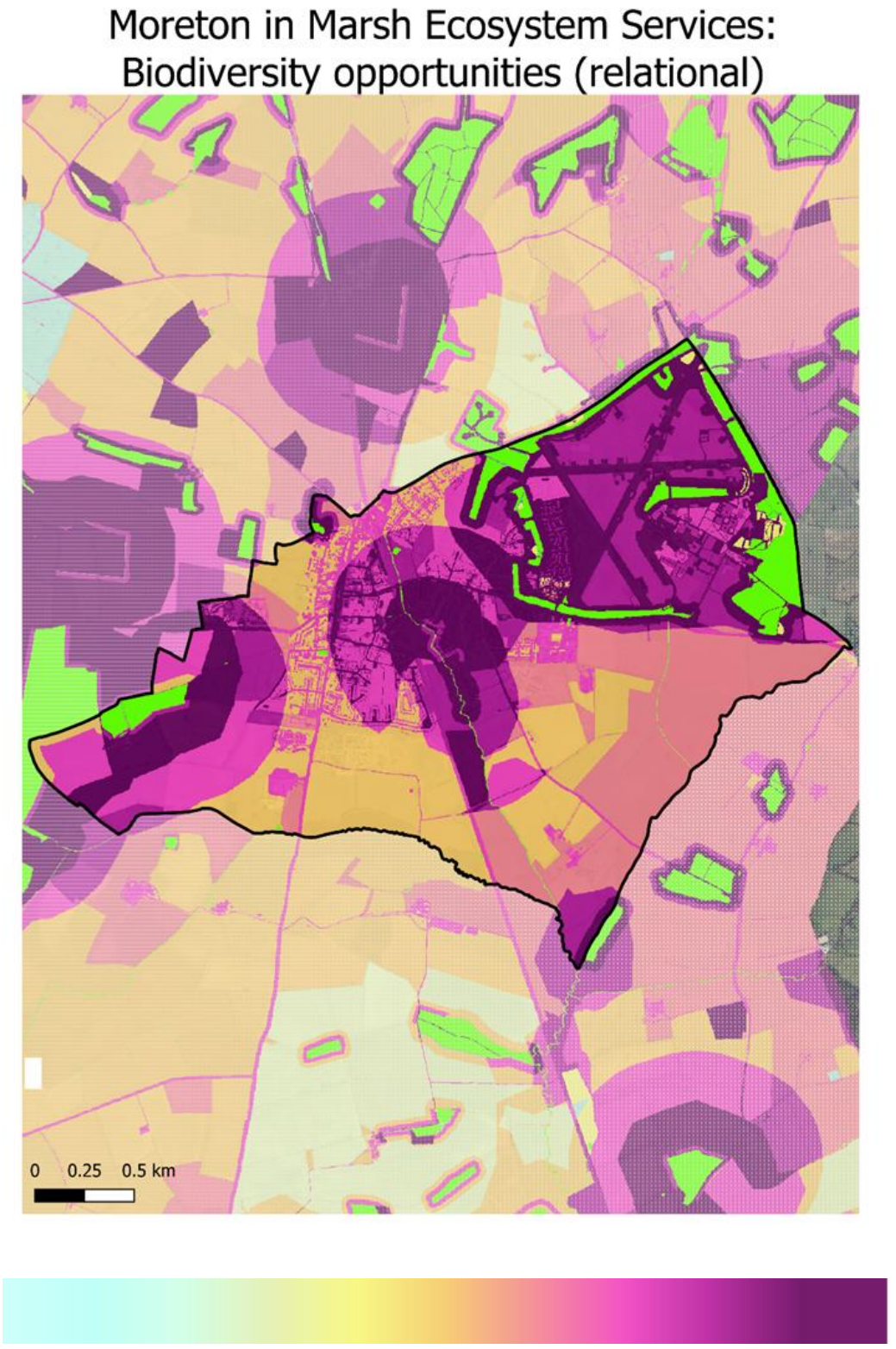
Overall, the data reveals a clear north-south divide, with the majority of records coming from the northern, more urbanised part of the parish. The rural southern area shows a lack of records, which may be attributed to limited access to private land or lower surveyor effort in that region.


Moreton in Marsh Town Council
Distribution of all species records by taxon group
Key
All records
Amphibian
Bird
Invertebrate
Plant
Fungus
Reptile
Mammal
0 250 500 m

Biodiversity baseline



Biodiversity Opportunity



Biodiversity baseline and opportunities map explained

Biodiversity is treated as a natural capital 'bundled benefit', comprising the ability of a habitat to support a diverse range of species, thus providing a variety of environmental, social, and economic benefits. Biodiversity has both a baseline and an opportunity map. The maps are relational, with both the underlying habitat inventory and other factors being considered for scoring. For the baseline biodiversity map, the Nature Recovery Network and associated habitat connectivity were used as modifiers. For the opportunity layer, the Nature Recovery Network was used as a modifier, along with potential connectivity gains and a blanket category of existing Core Habitats. Thus, the areas of highest opportunity are darkest/ warmest on the map, but existing (assumed low opportunity) Priority Habitats are highlighted in green. For more information, please see the Map Metadata section of the Gloucestershire Natural Capital Mapping Project website: https://naturalcapital.gcerdata.com/

Opportunities for Increasing Biodiversity

Biodiversity records in Moreton in Marsh can be significantly improved by encouraging local residents to engage in both local and national recording initiatives. Locally, participation in schemes such as the Garden Bird Survey (run by GCER) or the People's Nature Reserve project (led by GWT) can contribute valuable data. National schemes, including the People's Trust for Endangered Species' Living with Mammals project and the National Earthworm Recording Scheme, also offer accessible opportunities for community involvement. In addition to formal schemes, GCER accepts biodiversity records submitted via email and also has access to verified records submitted through iRecord, iNaturalist, and Living Record.

Moreton in Marsh contains several high-value Biodiversity Opportunity Areas, many of which align with sites identified as potential Local Wildlife Sites (pLWS). Targeted biodiversity improvements in these areas could lead to significant ecological gains within the parish. By adopting the Lawton principles of creating "more, bigger, better and more joined-up" habitats, both the quality and connectivity of local biodiversity can be enhanced.

To begin implementing this approach, the following actions are recommended:

- Increase local biodiversity recording through community engagement and participation in citizen science projects.

- Review and assess potential LWS sites for formal designation by the County's LWS Officer.

- Evaluate town council–owned land to determine whether Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) credits can be retained locally, thereby enhancing existing habitats.

- Promote wildlife-friendly gardening by encouraging residents to leave areas for nature and support pollinators and native species.

- Assess road verges for their biodiversity value and explore the potential to register suitable sites as Protected Road Verges. Where current standards are not met, consider habitat improvements to qualify for future designation.

The recommendations provided in this report are based solely on a desk-based assessment of existing biodiversity data held by the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records (GCER). While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the data may not reflect the full ecological value of the area due to limitations in recording coverage or access.

GCER strongly advises that any planning, land management, or conservation decisions be supported by a formal site survey conducted by a qualified ecologist to obtain up-to-date and site-specific information.

Appendix 1 – Overview of all species recorded with Moreton in Marsh Town boundary since records began (full list accompanies this report).

Total number of records	4791
Total number of species	803
Taxon group	Fungi

Taxon Name	Common Name	No. of records	First date recorded	Last date recorded	Status
Phallus impudicus var. togatus	Phallus impudicus var. togatus	1	21/07/1988	21/07/1988	
Auricularia auricula-judae	Jelly Ear	2	19/05/2006	24/11/2006	
Fomitopsis betulina	Razor Strop Fungus	2	19/05/2006	24/11/2006	
Phallus impudicus	Phallus impudicus	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Clavulinopsis fusiformis	Golden Spindles	1	25/10/2015	25/10/2015	
Gliophorus psittacinus	Parrot Waxcap	1	01/11/2015	01/11/2015	
Lepista nuda	Wood Blewit	1	24/11/2006	24/11/2006	
Calvatia gigantea	Giant Puffball	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Calocybe gambosa	St. George's Mushroom	1	06/04/2011	06/04/2011	
Puccinia sessilis	Arum Rust	1	06/04/2011	06/04/2011	
Taxon group	Vascular plants				
Taxon Name	**Common Name**	**No. of records**	**First date recorded**	**Last date recorded**	**Status**
Equisetum fluviatile	Water Horsetail	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Athyrium filix-femina	Lady-fern	2	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	8	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adder's-tongue	4	19/05/2006	09/06/2006	
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	1	1976	1976	
Dryopteris filix-mas agg.	Dryopteris filix-mas agg.	6	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	

Dryopteris dilatata	Broad Buckler-fern	3	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	
Dryopteris carthusiana	Narrow Buckler-fern	2	19/05/2006	21/07/2006	
Taxus baccata	Yew	4	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Larix decidua	European Larch	6	09/06/2006	24/11/2006	
Pinus sylvestris	Scots Pine	2	01/09/2005	19/05/2006	RedList_Global_post94-LC ; NS-excludes
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass	5	1976	09/06/2006	
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	15	1976	23/06/2006	
Potentilla sterilis	Barren Strawberry	2	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet	4	1976	23/06/2006	
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	17	1976	27/02/2017	
Corylus avellana	Hazel	10	1976	23/06/2006	
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	10	1976	23/06/2006	
Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert	12	1976	24/11/2006	
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	12	1976	23/06/2006	
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	8	21/07/1988	24/11/2006	
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	6	1976	23/06/2006	
Hedera helix	Ivy	9	1976	23/06/2006	
Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	7	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass	18	1976	23/06/2006	
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies	8	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Bellis perennis	Daisy	11	23/06/1987	03/04/2017	
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	11	21/07/1988	24/11/2006	
Carex flacca	Glaucous Sedge	6	23/06/1987	21/07/2006	
Carex hirta	Hairy Sedge	5	1976	21/07/2006	
Centaurea nigra sens. lat. (=nigra/debeauxii)	Common Knapweed	13	1976	23/06/2006	
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	11	1976	23/06/2006	
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	19	1976	23/06/2006	
Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted Hair-grass	10	1976	23/06/2006	
Festuca rubra agg.	Festuca rubra agg.	18	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	

Galium aparine	Cleavers	16	1976	24/11/2006	
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	14	1976	24/11/2006	
Ulmus procera	English Elm	8	1976	24/11/2006	
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	16	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Vicia sativa	Common Vetch	7	19/05/2006	23/06/2006	
Vicia sepium	Bush Vetch	9	1976	23/06/2006	
Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum	Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	Invasive non native species
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	11	21/07/1988	24/11/2006	
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground-elder	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Agrostis capillaris	Common Bent	8	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	5	21/07/1988	21/07/2006	
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	6	19/05/2006	23/06/2006	
Anemone nemorosa	Wood Anemone	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Brachypodium sylvaticum	False-brome	5	1976	09/06/2006	
Rumex conglomeratus	Clustered Dock	9	1976	09/06/2006	
Rumex	Dock	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	11	1976	09/06/2006	
Sambucus nigra	Elder	8	1976	24/11/2006	
Scrophularia nodosa	Common Figwort	4	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	
Silene dioica	Red Campion	5	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	3	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	
Stellaria media agg.	Stellaria media agg.	3	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Dioscorea communis	Black Bryony	5	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	
Taraxacum	Dandelion	12	1976	23/06/2006	
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm	3	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	

Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	18	1976	24/11/2006	
Veronica hederifolia	Ivy-leaved Speedwell	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring-tree	2	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	
Rosa canina agg.	Rosa canina agg.	9	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Poa trivialis	Rough Meadow-grass	20	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Lotus corniculatus	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	9	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Stellaria graminea	Lesser Stitchwort	11	1976	23/06/2006	
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	4	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	6	1976	23/06/2006	
Chamerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willowherb	7	1976	23/06/2006	
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	11	1976	23/06/2006	
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft-brome	4	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Cerastium glomeratum	Sticky Mouse-ear	2	1976	09/06/2006	
Juncus conglomeratus	Compact Rush	8	01/09/2005	21/07/2006	
Juncus effusus	Soft-rush	7	23/06/1987	09/06/2006	
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	5	1976	09/06/2006	
Myosotis arvensis	Field Forget-me-not	13	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	16	1976	23/06/2006	
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	13	1976	23/06/2006	
Ficaria verna	Lesser Celandine	6	19/05/2006	03/04/2017	
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	14	1976	23/06/2006	
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	11	1976	24/11/2006	
Rumex sanguineus	Wood Dock	3	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Centaurium erythraea	Common Centaury	4	01/09/2005	09/06/2006	
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	5	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear	8	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	13	1976	23/06/2006	
Holcus mollis	Creeping Soft-grass	8	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Acer campestre	Field Maple	10	1976	23/06/2006	

Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	13	1976	23/06/2006	
Bromus sterilis	Barren Brome	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Ribes rubrum	Red Currant	2	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	
Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	10	1976	23/06/2006	
Jacobaea vulgaris	Common Ragwort	7	1976	23/06/2006	
Sorbus aria agg.	Common Whitebeam	7	01/09/2005	24/11/2006	
Tragopogon pratensis	Goat's-beard	6	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Trifolium dubium	Lesser Trefoil	6	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Trisetum flavescens	Yellow Oat-grass	4	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly-bush	1	27/02/2017	27/02/2017	Invasive non native species
Cochlearia danica	Danish Scurvygrass	1	19/04/2021	19/04/2021	
Glyceria fluitans	Floating Sweet-grass	2	10/07/1978	23/06/1987	
Glyceria maxima	Reed Sweet-grass	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	19	1976	23/06/2006	
Hordeum secalinum	Meadow Barley	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Juncus inflexus	Hard Rush	8	1976	09/06/2006	
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling	8	1976	09/06/2006	
Scorzoneroides autumnalis	Autumn Hawkbit	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass	7	1976	23/06/2006	
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil	5	23/06/1987	19/05/2006	
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged-Robin	4	01/08/1986	25/11/1999	
Myosotis scorpioides	Water Forget-me-not	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum agg.	Watercress	2	10/07/1978	23/06/1987	
Dactylorhiza praetermissa	Southern Marsh-orchid	3	23/06/1987	25/11/1999	
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony	4	1976	09/06/2006	
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow Foxtail	7	23/06/1987	09/06/2006	
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	

Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	7	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell	8	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	WACA-Sch8
Hypericum maculatum	Imperforate St John's-wort	2	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Iris foetidissima	Stinking Iris	2	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Knautia arvensis	Field Scabious	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Leontodon saxatilis	Lesser Hawkbit	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild Privet	2	1976	01/09/2005	
Torilis japonica	Upright Hedge-parsley	4	1976	21/07/2006	
Trifolium campestre	Hop Trefoil	2	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	8	1976	23/06/2006	
Ulex gallii	Western Gorse	2	21/07/1988	01/09/2005	
Verbascum nigrum	Dark Mullein	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Veronica officinalis	Heath Speedwell	2	01/09/2005	21/07/2006	
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose	4	1976	09/06/2006	
Saponaria officinalis	Soapwort	2	01/09/2005	09/06/2006	
Veronica polita	Grey Field-speedwell	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Sedum acre	Biting Stonecrop	5	1976	23/06/2006	
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	3	1976	09/06/2006	
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	6	1976	23/06/2006	
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	13	1976	23/06/2006	
Potentilla reptans	Creeping Cinquefoil	11	1976	23/06/2006	
Primula veris	Cowslip	3	19/05/2006	21/07/2006	
Ranunculus bulbosus	Bulbous Buttercup	5	19/05/2006	09/06/2006	
Trifolium repens	White Clover	6	1976	23/06/2006	
Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	2	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	13	1976	24/11/2006	
Prunus avium	Wild Cherry	11	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Leontodon hispidus	Rough Hawkbit	1	1976	1976	

Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple	5	1976	23/06/2006	
Taraxacum officinale agg.	Dandelion	2	21/07/1988	11/03/2017	
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed Canary-grass	3	10/07/1978	23/06/1987	
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	3	1976	01/09/2005	
Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	2	1976	23/06/1987	
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	8	1976	09/06/2006	
Ranunculus flammula	Lesser Spearwort	3	01/08/1986	23/06/1987	
Jacobaea aquatica	Marsh Ragwort	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Stellaria alsine	Bog Stitchwort	2	01/08/1986	23/06/1987	
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	6	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Epipactis helleborine	Broad-leaved Helleborine	6	21/07/1988	21/07/2006	
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	5	1976	23/06/2006	
Fumaria officinalis	Common Fumitory	2	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Galium mollugo	Hedge Bedstraw	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Galium palustre	Marsh-bedstraw	6	23/06/1987	21/07/2006	
Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw	6	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	5	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	5	1976	23/06/2006	
Salix cinerea	Common Sallow	3	1976	01/09/2005	
Jacobaea erucifolia	Hoary Ragwort	5	1976	09/06/2006	
Sherardia arvensis	Field Madder	2	01/09/2005	19/05/2006	
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial Sow-thistle	2	01/09/2005	21/07/2006	
Sedum album	White Stonecrop	5	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Mentha spicata	Spear Mint	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Mentha x villosa var. villosa	Mentha x villosa var. villosa	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	5	1976	24/11/2006	
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	8	1976	23/06/2006	
Quercus cerris	Turkey Oak	5	01/09/2005	21/07/2006	

Rosa arvensis	Field-rose	4	1976	23/06/2006	
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	14	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	8	1976	23/06/2006	
Luzula campestris	Field Wood-rush	3	19/05/2006	23/06/2006	
Cirsium palustre	Marsh Thistle	8	10/08/1978	21/07/2006	
Poa pratensis	Poa pratensis	4	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Crataegus laevigata	Midland Hawthorn	1	1976	1976	
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawk's-beard	7	1976	23/06/2006	
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	9	1976	21/07/2006	
Festuca	Fescue	1	1976	1976	
Fragaria vesca	Wild Strawberry	2	1976	21/07/1988	
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	1	1976	1976	
Vicia hirsuta	Hairy Tare	4	1976	09/06/2006	
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	5	23/06/1987	23/06/2006	
Festuca gigantea	Giant Fescue	3	21/07/1988	21/07/2006	
Helleborus foetidus	Stinking Hellebore	2	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	NS-excludes
Erophila verna	Erophila verna	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Hypericum calycinum	Rose-of-Sharon	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Vicia tetrasperma	Smooth Tare	2	23/06/2006	21/07/2006	
Senecio viscosus	Sticky Groundsel	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Melissa officinalis	Balm	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Cardamine pratensis	Cuckooflower	3	23/06/1987	19/05/2006	
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	5	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch	3	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade	5	1976	09/06/2006	
Bromopsis ramosa	Hairy-brome	3	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	
Conopodium majus	Pignut	1	21/07/1988	21/07/1988	
Moehringia trinervia	Three-nerved Sandwort	3	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Caltha palustris	Marsh-marigold	3	01/08/1986	25/11/1999	
Agrostis tenerrima	Agrostis tenerrima	1	1976	1976	

Eleocharis palustris	Common Spike-rush	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary Willowherb	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Festuca pratensis	Meadow Fescue	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	4	10/07/1978	23/06/1987	
Populus tremula	Aspen	1	01/08/1986	01/08/1986	
Phragmites australis	Common Reed	1	01/08/1986	01/08/1986	
Geranium lucidum	Shining Crane's-bill	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Pastinaca sativa	Wild Parsnip	3	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Ophrys apifera	Bee Orchid	2	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Silene latifolia	White Campion	5	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Silene latifolia x dioica = S. x hampeana	Hybrid Campion	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Alchemilla vulgaris agg.	Lady's-mantle	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Tilia platyphyllos x cordata = T. x europaea	Lime	3	09/06/2006	21/07/2006	
Phleum bertolonii	Smaller Cat's-tail	3	23/06/2006	21/07/2006	
Papaver rhoeas	Common Poppy	2	01/09/2005	21/07/2006	
Reseda lutea	Wild Mignonette	2	23/06/2006	21/07/2006	
Rosa	Rose	2	01/09/2005	21/07/2006	
Sison amomum	Stone Parsley	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Verbascum thapsus	Great Mullein	2	09/06/2006	21/07/2006	
Viola	Violet	3	19/05/2006	21/07/2006	
Salix euxina x alba = S. x fragilis	Hybrid Crack-willow	3	10/07/1978	10/08/1978	
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent	3	10/07/1978	10/08/1978	
Carex riparia	Greater Pond-sedge	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	
Conium maculatum	Hemlock	4	10/07/1978	23/06/2006	
Philadelphus	Mock-Orange	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Syringa vulgaris	Lilac	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Fallopia baldschuanica	Russian-vine	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	Invasive non native species

Carex spicata	Spiked Sedge	4	23/06/1987	21/07/2006	
Carex viridula subsp. oedocarpa	Common Yellow-sedge	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	1	1976	1976	
Arctium	Burdock	1	1976	1976	
Castanea sativa	Sweet Chestnut	3	1976	21/07/2006	
Cerastium fontanum subsp. vulgare	Cerastium fontanum subsp. vulgare	1	1976	1976	
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	3	1976	23/06/2006	
Sonchus asper	Prickly Sow-thistle	2	1976	23/06/2006	
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sow-thistle	2	1976	23/06/2006	
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved Willowherb	3	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	
Viola riviniana	Common Dog-violet	3	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	
Poa nemoralis	Wood Meadow-grass	3	21/07/1988	23/06/2006	
Carex sylvatica	Wood-sedge	3	21/07/1988	19/05/2006	
Oxalis acetosella	Wood-sorrel	1	21/07/1988	21/07/1988	
Atriplex patula	Common Orache	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge	3	10/08/1978	21/07/2006	
Centaurea scabiosa	Greater Knapweed	3	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Cirsium acaule	Dwarf Thistle	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Linum catharticum	Fairy Flax	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Picris echioides	Bristly Oxtongue	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Polygonum aviculare agg.	Polygonum aviculare agg.	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil	2	1976	01/09/2005	
Polygonum aviculare	Knotgrass	1	1976	1976	
Rosa canina	Dog-rose	1	1976	1976	
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	2	1976	01/09/2005	
Narcissus	Daffodil	2	19/05/2006	09/06/2006	

Polygonatum multiflorum x odoratum = P. x hybridum	Garden Solomon's-seal	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Crepis vesicaria	Beaked Hawk's-beard	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Veronica montana	Wood Speedwell	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Primula veris x vulgaris = P. x polyantha	False Oxlip	2	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow-rattle	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Prunus	Cherry	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Viola odorata	Sweet Violet	2	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Myosotis sylvatica	Wood Forget-me-not	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Juncus bulbosus	Bulbous Rush	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Carex binervis	Green-ribbed Sedge	3	19/05/2006	21/07/2006	
Galeopsis tetrahit agg.	Common Hemp-Nettle agg.	4	09/06/2006	21/07/2006	
Galium saxatile	Heath Bedstraw	1	24/11/2006	24/11/2006	
Malus	Apple	2	19/05/2006	24/11/2006	
Salix alba	White Willow	2	10/08/1978	10/08/1978	
Scrophularia auriculata	Water Figwort	3	10/07/1978	10/08/1978	
Sparganium erectum	Branched Bur-reed	3	10/07/1978	10/08/1978	
Mentha spicata x suaveolens = M. x villosa	Apple-mint	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Barbarea vulgaris	Winter-cress	3	10/07/1978	21/07/2006	
Carduus crispus	Welted Thistle	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Chaerophyllum temulum	Rough Chervil	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Catapodium rigidum	Fern-grass	1	29/01/2008	29/01/2008	
Apium nodiflorum	Fool's-water-cress	2	06/09/2002	06/09/2002	
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Iris	1	06/09/2002	06/09/2002	
Dipsacus fullonum	Dipsacus fullonum	2	10/07/1978	01/09/2005	
Berula erecta	Lesser Water-parsnip	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	

Sparganium emersum	Unbranched Bur-reed	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	
Veronica anagallis-aquatica	Blue Water-speedwell	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	
Veronica beccabunga	Brooklime	3	10/07/1978	23/06/1987	
Elodea canadensis	Canadian Waterweed	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	Invasive non native species
Potamogeton crispus	Curled Pondweed	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	
Zannichellia palustris	Horned Pondweed	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	
Luzula multiflora	Heath Wood-rush	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Veronica arvensis	Wall Speedwell	3	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Orobanche minor	Common Broomrape	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Alopecurus geniculatus	Marsh Foxtail	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Carex disticha	Brown Sedge	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Carex nigra	Common Sedge	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Carex panicea	Carnation Sedge	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Sanguisorba officinalis	Great Burnet	1	23/06/1987	23/06/1987	
Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	3	01/09/2005	23/06/2006	
Cotoneaster	Cotoneaster	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Daucus carota	Wild Carrot	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common Fleabane	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Reseda luteola	Weld	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Alisma plantago-aquatica	Water-plantain	1	10/08/1978	10/08/1978	
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted-orchid	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Elymus caninus	Bearded Couch	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Arenaria serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Vulpia bromoides	Squirreltail Fescue	1	23/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Taxon group	Invertebrates				
Taxon Name	**Common Name**	**No. of records**	**First date recorded**	**Last date recorded**	**Status**

Monacha (Monacha) cantiana	Kentish Snail	2	01/09/2005	09/06/2006	
Cepaea (Cepaea) nemoralis	Brown-lipped Snail	3	19/05/2006	23/06/2006	
Arianta arbustorum	Copse Snail	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Cornu aspersum	Common Garden Snail	2	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Xeroplexa intersecta	Wrinkled Snail	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Limax maximus	Leopard Slug	1	03/04/2017	03/04/2017	
Oxychilus (Oxychilus) alliarius	Garlic Snail	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Cepaea (Cepaea) hortensis	White-lipped Snail	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Clausilia (Clausilia) bidentata	Two-toothed Door Snail	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Trochulus (Trochulus) striolatus	Strawberry Snail	2	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Lumbricus terrestris	Common Earthworm	2	08/03/2017	08/03/2017	
Dendrobaena veneta	Dendrobaena veneta	1	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Allolobophora chlorotica	Green Worm	3	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Bimastos eiseni	Bimastos eiseni	1	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Lumbricus castaneus	Chestnut Worm	1	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Satchellius mammalis	Little Tree Worm	1	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Aporrectodea longa	Blackhead	1	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Aporrectodea rosea	Mucous Worm	1	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Eisenia fetida	Manure Worm	1	10/06/2017	10/06/2017	
Philoscia muscorum	Common Striped Woodlouse	2	09/06/2006	08/03/2017	
Oniscus asellus	Common Shiny Woodlouse	1	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	
Pyrrhosoma nymphula	Large Red Damselfly	2	09/06/2006	29/05/2020	
Anax imperator	Emperor Dragonfly	1	03/08/2021	03/08/2021	
Aeshna cyanea	Southern Hawker	2	01/09/2005	08/09/2020	

Sympetrum striolatum	Common Darter	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Limnephilus marmoratus	Limnephilus marmoratus	1	21/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Limnephilus lunatus	Limnephilus lunatus	3	12/07/2020	15/09/2020	
Phryganea grandis	Phryganea grandis	1	12/07/2020	12/07/2020	
Limnephilidae	Limnephilidae	1	21/03/2021	21/03/2021	
Goera pilosa	Goera pilosa	1	21/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Hydropsyche	Hydropsyche	1	06/08/2020	06/08/2020	
Mystacides longicornis	Mystacides longicornis	3	21/05/2020	12/07/2020	
Mystacides azurea	Mystacides azurea	1	19/05/2020	19/05/2020	
Oecetis ochracea	Oecetis ochracea	1	21/05/2020	21/05/2020	
Meconema thalassinum	Oak Bush-cricket	2	20/05/1995	09/09/2021	
Chorthippus brunneus	Field Grasshopper	1	01/09/2005	01/09/2005	
Pseudochorthippus parallelus	Meadow Grasshopper	2	01/09/2005	08/07/2017	
Tettigonia viridissima	Great Green Bush-cricket	1	16/10/2010	16/10/2010	
Leptophyes punctatissima	Speckled Bush-cricket	2	09/08/2019	09/07/2022	
Harmonia axyridis	Harlequin Ladybird	8	04/05/2014	13/07/2014	
Melolontha melolontha	Common Cockchafer	1	19/05/2020	19/05/2020	
Nicrophorus vespillo	Common Burying Beetle	1	05/07/2018	05/07/2018	
Coccinella septempunctata	7-spot Ladybird	5	19/05/2006	24/02/2019	
Adalia bipunctata	2-spot Ladybird	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Lampyris noctiluca	Glow-worm	1	28/06/2019	28/06/2019	
Hydriomena furcata	July Highflyer	4	07/07/2018	21/07/2020	
Hylaea fasciaria	Barred Red	1	25/06/2020	25/06/2020	
Hypena proboscidalis	Snout	6	07/06/2018	15/09/2020	
Idaea aversata	Riband Wave	16	07/07/2017	06/09/2020	
Idaea dimidiata	Single-dotted Wave	6	07/07/2018	25/07/2020	

Idaea trigeminata	Treble Brown Spot	2	30/05/2020	25/06/2020	
Lacanobia oleracea	Bright-line Brown-eye	11	07/06/2018	21/07/2020	
Orthosia gothica	Hebrew Character	19	08/04/2018	16/05/2020	
Orthosia gracilis	Powdered Quaker	4	11/04/2020	07/05/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Orthosia incerta	Clouded Drab	5	08/04/2018	09/04/2020	
Ochropleura plecta	Flame Shoulder	23	18/05/2018	24/08/2022	
Subacronicta megacephala	Poplar Grey	4	14/07/2018	28/07/2020	
Crocallis elinguaria	Scalloped Oak	9	19/07/2017	21/07/2020	
Eilema complana	Scarce Footman	11	07/07/2018	28/07/2020	
Eilema sororcula	Orange Footman	2	09/05/2020	21/07/2020	
Ennomos erosaria	September Thorn	2	21/07/2020	15/09/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Eremobia ochroleuca	Dusky Sallow	8	19/07/2017	06/08/2020	
Laspeyria flexula	Beautiful Hook-tip	6	07/07/2017	25/07/2020	
Luperina testacea	Flounced Rustic	1	06/09/2020	06/09/2020	
Mamestra brassicae	Cabbage Moth	3	21/05/2020	28/07/2020	
Mesapamea secalis	Common Rustic	12	04/08/2019	01/08/2020	
Mesoleuca albicillata	Beautiful Carpet	1	31/07/2020	31/07/2020	
Emmelina monodactyla	Common Plume	11	10/06/2018	08/04/2023	
Ethmia dodecea	Gromwell Ermine	1	25/06/2020	25/06/2020	Notable-B
Patania ruralis	Mother of Pearl	11	30/06/2018	25/07/2020	
Acleris variegana	Garden Rose Tortrix	2	31/07/2020	01/08/2020	
Pyrausta aurata	Mint Moth	5	26/05/2020	06/08/2020	
Orthosia cerasi	Common Quaker	8	08/04/2018	11/04/2020	
Oligia fasciuncula	Middle-barred Minor	1	28/06/2019	28/06/2019	
Mythimna pallens	Common Wainscot	15	07/07/2017	15/09/2020	
Phragmatobia fuliginosa	Ruby Tiger	10	19/07/2017	15/09/2020	
Eilema lurideola	Common Footman	20	01/07/2017	06/08/2020	
Colostygia pectinataria	Green Carpet	10	28/05/2018	15/09/2020	
Spilosoma lutea	Buff Ermine	23	14/05/2018	27/05/2022	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41

Agrotis exclamationis	Heart & Dart	37	28/05/2018	14/06/2022	
Apamea sordens	Rustic Shoulder-knot	6	02/05/2020	27/05/2022	
Epirrhoe alternata alternata	Common Carpet	5	04/08/2019	27/05/2022	
Spilosoma lubricipeda	White Ermine	13	20/05/2018	27/05/2022	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Charanyca trigrammica	Treble Lines	17	28/05/2018	27/05/2022	
Anania hortulata	Small Magpie	17	28/05/2018	27/05/2022	
Deilephila porcellus	Small Elephant Hawk-moth	7	29/06/2019	27/05/2022	
Calliteara pudibunda	Pale Tussock	10	07/06/2018	29/05/2022	
Phyllonorycter leucographella	Firethorn Leaf Miner	1	08/04/2023	08/04/2023	
Xylocampa areola	Early Grey	5	08/04/2018	11/04/2020	
Bryopsis muralis	Marbled Green	7	07/07/2018	06/08/2020	
Celypha lacunana	Common Marble	4	28/05/2018	14/07/2020	
Alucita hexadactyla	Twenty-plume Moth	1	08/04/2018	08/04/2018	
Yponomeuta padella	Orchard Ermine	3	07/07/2018	14/07/2018	
Elophila nymphaeata	Brown China-mark	1	30/06/2018	30/06/2018	
Agrotis clavis	Heart & Club	9	27/06/2019	01/07/2020	
Pheosia tremula	Swallow Prominent	6	04/08/2019	26/05/2020	
Plusia festucae	Gold Spot	3	05/08/2019	15/09/2020	
Tyria jacobaeae	Cinnabar	22	01/09/2005	16/08/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Xanthorhoe fluctuata fluctuata	Garden Carpet	9	09/04/2020	31/07/2020	
Xestia triangulum	Double-square Spot	5	14/07/2019	21/07/2020	
Hoplodrina octogenaria	Uncertain	19	23/06/2018	06/08/2020	
Peribatodes rhomboidaria	Willow Beauty	35	07/07/2017	29/05/2022	
Xestia c-nigrum	Setaceous Hebrew Character	11	16/09/2017	15/09/2020	
Zeuzera pyrina	Leopard Moth	1	25/06/2020	25/06/2020	
Acronicta rumicis	Knot Grass	2	07/05/2020	05/10/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41

Agrotis puta	Shuttle-shaped Dart	20	21/04/2019	15/09/2020	
Alsophila aescularia	March Moth	3	08/04/2018	01/04/2020	
Anorthoa munda	Twin-spotted Quaker	2	14/04/2018	01/04/2020	
Lycia hirtaria	Brindled Beauty	5	20/04/2018	02/05/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Mimas tiliae	Lime Hawk-moth	2	24/04/2020	06/09/2021	
Notodonta ziczac	Pebble Prominent	2	01/08/2018	07/05/2020	
Eupithecia vulgata	Common Pug	7	24/05/2020	21/07/2020	
Euproctis similis	Yellow-tail	4	30/06/2018	25/07/2020	
Opisthograptis luteolata	Brimstone Moth	23	01/07/2017	15/09/2020	
Orthosia cruda	Small Quaker	3	14/03/2020	11/04/2020	
Phalera bucephala	Buff-tip	20	30/06/2018	21/07/2020	
Eupithecia exiguata	Mottled Pug	3	07/05/2020	30/05/2020	
Anarta trifolii	Nutmeg	1	21/05/2020	21/05/2020	
Apamea anceps	Large Nutmeg	5	16/06/2018	30/05/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Apamea lithoxylaea	Light Arches	7	19/07/2017	17/07/2020	
Apamea monoglypha	Dark Arches	19	19/07/2017	31/07/2020	
Eupithecia intricata	Eupithecia intricata	1	28/05/2020	28/05/2020	
Eupithecia pulchellata	Foxglove Pug	1	29/05/2020	29/05/2020	
Anticlea derivata	Streamer	2	20/04/2018	26/04/2020	
Chloroclysta siterata	Red-green Carpet	1	09/05/2020	09/05/2020	
Ourapteryx sambucaria	Swallow-tailed Moth	5	30/06/2016	25/06/2020	
Pasiphila rectangulata	Green Pug	2	07/07/2017	12/07/2020	
Pelurga comitata	Dark Spinach	2	17/07/2020	31/07/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Lomaspilis marginata	Clouded Border	6	23/06/2018	12/07/2020	
Lomographa temerata	Clouded Silver	1	25/06/2020	25/06/2020	
Meganola albula	Kent Black Arches	1	12/07/2020	12/07/2020	
Miltochrista miniata	Rosy Footman	5	30/06/2018	21/07/2020	
Mythimna conigera	Brown-line Bright-eye	7	16/06/2018	25/07/2020	
Mythimna ferrago	Clay	1	12/07/2020	12/07/2020	
Mythimna impura	Smoky Wainscot	6	02/07/2017	15/09/2020	

Watsonalla binaria	Oak Hook-tip	5	12/07/2020	15/09/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Perizoma alchemillata	Small Rivulet	3	01/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Cilix glaucata	Chinese Character	4	07/07/2017	17/07/2020	
Colocasia coryli	Nut-tree Tussock	10	29/07/2017	19/05/2020	
Diaphora mendica	Muslin Moth	10	14/05/2018	31/05/2020	
Abrostola tripartita	Spectacle	10	07/07/2017	07/06/2020	
Odontopera bidentata	Scalloped Hazel	1	26/05/2020	26/05/2020	
Oligia strigilis	Marbled Minor	6	30/06/2018	01/07/2020	
Orgyia antiqua	Vapourer	2	30/05/2022	30/05/2022	
Macroglossum stellatarum	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	3	11/08/2016	27/08/2022	
Pterophorus pentadactyla	White Plume Moth	1	06/08/2019	06/08/2019	
Yponomeuta evonymella	Bird-cherry Ermine	1	04/08/2019	04/08/2019	
Evergestis forficalis	Garden Pebble	3	06/08/2019	31/07/2020	
Pyrausta purpuralis	Common Purple & Gold	1	06/08/2019	06/08/2019	
Xestia xanthographa	Square-spot Rustic	3	14/07/2018	15/09/2020	
Eupithecia tripunctaria	White-spotted Pug	1	10/07/2020	10/07/2020	
Autographa gamma	Silver Y	10	01/09/2005	15/09/2020	
Biston betularia	Peppered Moth	7	07/07/2018	21/07/2020	
Hemistola chrysoprasaria	Small Emerald	2	12/07/2020	21/07/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Cosmia trapezina	Dun-bar	3	12/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Herminia tarsipennalis	Fan-foot	3	12/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Idaea biselata	Small Fan-footed Wave	2	17/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Stauropus fagi	Lobster Moth	1	25/06/2020	25/06/2020	
Tethea ocularis	Figure of Eighty	1	19/05/2020	19/05/2020	
Thera britannica	Spruce Carpet	1	25/06/2020	25/06/2020	
Dysstroma truncata	Common Marbled Carpet	8	28/05/2018	15/09/2020	
Eilema griseola	Dingy Footman	3	29/07/2017	06/08/2020	

Ennomos fuscantaria	Dusky Thorn	1	15/09/2020	15/09/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Ennomos quercaria	Clouded August Thorn	2	12/07/2020	31/07/2020	
Noctua fimbriata	Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	5	19/07/2017	17/07/2020	
Noctua pronuba	Large Yellow Underwing	20	01/07/2017	15/09/2020	
Nola cucullatella	Short-cloaked Moth	1	01/07/2020	01/07/2020	
Notodonta dromedarius	Iron Prominent	2	28/05/2020	25/07/2020	
Eupithecia centaureata	Lime-speck Pug	11	29/07/2017	25/07/2020	
Furcula furcula	Sallow Kitten	3	03/08/2019	31/07/2020	
Hada plebeja	Shears	3	19/05/2020	15/09/2020	
Hydraecia micacea	Rosy Rustic	3	31/07/2020	15/09/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Gandaritis pyraliata	Barred Straw	5	16/06/2018	25/06/2020	
Gymnoscelis rufifasciata	Double-striped Pug	2	11/04/2020	12/07/2020	
Hadena bicruris	Lychnis	1	21/06/2020	21/06/2020	
Hecatera bicolorata	Broad-barred White	3	14/07/2018	12/06/2020	
Rusina ferruginea	Brown Rustic	2	28/06/2019	25/06/2020	
Scopula imitaria	Small Blood-vein	2	25/06/2020	01/07/2020	
Selenia dentaria	Early Thorn	8	16/03/2017	21/07/2020	
Smerinthus ocellata	Eyed Hawk-moth	4	10/06/2018	16/06/2020	
Sphinx ligustri	Privet Hawk-moth	8	10/06/2018	17/07/2020	
Xanthorhoe spadicearia	Red Twin-spot Carpet	1	21/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Noctua comes	Lesser Yellow Underwing	4	14/07/2020	15/09/2020	
Electrophaes corylata	Broken-barred Carpet	1	29/05/2020	29/05/2020	
Callimorpha dominula	Scarlet Tiger	10	27/06/2017	06/07/2022	
Rivula sericealis	Straw Dot	5	16/06/2018	06/08/2019	
Cabera exanthemata	Common Wave	9	16/06/2018	17/07/2020	
Lymantria monacha	Black Arches	5	19/07/2017	08/08/2020	
Clostera curtula	Chocolate-tip	1	07/06/2018	07/06/2018	
Korscheltellus lupulina	Common Swift	1	07/06/2018	07/06/2018	

Arctia caja	Garden Tiger	3	07/07/2018	25/06/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Axylia putris	Flame	5	07/06/2018	30/05/2020	
Diachrysia chrysitis	Burnished Brass	7	07/06/2018	15/09/2020	
Zygaena filipendulae	Six-spot Burnet	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Bryophila domestica	Marbled Beauty	4	19/07/2017	25/06/2020	
Acronicta tridens	Dark Dagger	2	07/07/2017	19/07/2017	
Hoplodrina blanda	Rustic	6	07/07/2017	25/06/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Deilephila elpenor	Elephant Hawk-moth	27	19/07/2017	21/07/2020	
Hyles gallii	Bedstraw Hawk-moth	1	07/07/2017	07/07/2017	
Laothoe populi	Poplar Hawk-moth	7	02/08/2017	25/07/2020	
Camptogramma bilineata	Yellow Shell	5	18/06/2017	15/09/2020	
Cyclophora linearia	Clay Triple-lines	1	01/08/2018	01/08/2018	
Leucoma salicis	White Satin Moth	3	30/06/2018	25/06/2020	
Euthrix potatoria	Drinker	1	30/06/2018	30/06/2018	
Ennomos quercinaria	August Thorn	1	14/07/2018	14/07/2018	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Xanthorhoe montanata	Silver-ground Carpet	1	07/06/2018	07/06/2018	
Ennomos alniaria	Canary-shouldered Thorn	2	01/08/2018	01/08/2018	
Acasis viretata	Yellow-barred Brindle	1	07/05/2018	07/05/2018	
Hemithea aestivaria	Common Emerald	1	30/06/2018	30/06/2018	
Mesapamea secalis agg.	Common Rustic agg.	3	02/07/2017	01/08/2018	
Polia nebulosa	Grey Arches	3	07/06/2018	04/08/2019	
Melanchra persicariae	Dot Moth	5	30/06/2018	06/08/2019	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Cerastis rubricosa	Red Chestnut	1	14/04/2018	14/04/2018	
Plagodis dolabraria	Scorched Wing	2	28/05/2018	07/06/2018	
Cabera pusaria	Common White Wave	1	28/05/2018	28/05/2018	
Habrosyne pyritoides	Buff Arches	1	14/07/2018	14/07/2018	
Phlogophora meticulosa	Angle Shades	3	10/06/2018	23/06/2018	
Eupsilia transversa	Satellite	2	08/04/2018	14/04/2018	
Lacanobia thalassina	Pale-shouldered Brocade	1	28/05/2018	28/05/2018	

Autographa jota	Plain Golden Y	2	23/06/2018	25/06/2020	
Cucullia umbratica	Shark	1	07/06/2018	07/06/2018	
Amblyptilia acanthadactyla	Beautiful Plume	1	16/06/2018	16/06/2018	
Diurnea fagella	Early Reveller	1	08/04/2018	08/04/2018	
Stigmella malella	Apple Pygmy	1	23/09/2016	23/09/2016	
Stigmella hybnerella	Shining Hawthorn Dot	2	20/09/2016	23/09/2016	
Stigmella lemniscella	Beautiful Elm Dot	2	27/10/2012	20/09/2016	
Anthophila fabriciana	Common Nettle-tap	2	23/09/2016	23/09/2016	
Noctua janthe	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	5	04/08/2019	06/08/2020	
Apamea crenata	Clouded-bordered Brindle	2	28/06/2019	14/07/2020	
Phyllonorycter harrisella	White Oak Leaf-miner	1	20/09/2016	20/09/2016	
Bucculatrix albedinella	Elm Tuft	1	20/09/2016	20/09/2016	
Phyllonorycter geniculella	Sycamore Leaf-miner	1	23/09/2016	23/09/2016	
Stigmella viscerella	Plain Elm Dot	1	20/09/2016	20/09/2016	
Caloptilia stigmatella	Willow Stilt	1	23/09/2016	23/09/2016	
Caloptilia rufipennella	Rufous Stilt	1	27/10/2012	27/10/2012	
Chloroclystis v-ata	V-pug	2	07/07/2017	01/07/2020	
Xanthorhoe fluctuata	Garden Carpet	6	07/07/2017	14/07/2018	
Triodia sylvina	Orange Swift	1	29/07/2017	29/07/2017	
Agrochola lychnidis	Beaded Chestnut	3	01/09/2017	23/09/2017	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Geometra papilionaria	Large Emerald	2	23/06/2018	30/06/2018	
Cerura vinula	Puss Moth	1	07/07/2018	07/07/2018	
Pterostoma palpina	Pale Prominent	1	01/08/2018	01/08/2018	
Abraxas grossulariata	Magpie Moth	2	07/07/2018	31/07/2020	
Epirrhoe alternata	Common Carpet	4	28/05/2018	01/08/2018	
Amphipyra pyramidea agg.	Copper Underwing agg.	2	23/09/2017	01/08/2018	

Apamea remissa	Dusky Brocade	1	14/07/2018	14/07/2018	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Craniophora ligustri	Coronet	4	30/06/2018	12/07/2020	
Hecatera dysodea	Small Ranunculus	1	03/07/2019	03/07/2019	
Hepialus humuli	Ghost Moth	1	09/06/2015	09/06/2015	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Mesoligia furuncula	Cloaked Minor	1	31/07/2020	31/07/2020	
Anchoscelis lunosa	Lunar Underwing	1	15/09/2020	15/09/2020	
Operophtera brumata	Winter Moth	1	15/12/2020	15/12/2020	
Celypha striana	Barred Marble	1	14/07/2020	14/07/2020	
Hypsopygia costalis	Gold Triangle	4	01/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Hypsopygia glaucinalis	Double-striped Tabby	1	17/07/2020	17/07/2020	
Blastobasis adustella	Furness Dowd	1	31/07/2020	31/07/2020	
Carcina quercana	Long-horned Flat-body	1	31/07/2020	31/07/2020	
Yponomeuta rorrella	Willow Ermine	2	12/07/2020	14/07/2020	
Ypsolopha scabrella	Tufted Scallop	1	25/07/2020	25/07/2020	
Eudonia mercurella	Garden Grey	3	14/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Cochylichroa atricapitana	Black-fronted Straw	2	02/05/2020	31/07/2020	
Udea olivalis	Garden Pearl	1	25/06/2020	25/06/2020	
Aphomia sociella	Bee Moth	6	21/05/2020	12/07/2020	
Drymonia ruficornis	Lunar Marbled Brown	1	26/04/2020	26/04/2020	
Egira conspicillaris	Silver Cloud	1	16/05/2020	16/05/2020	
Eupithecia abbreviata	Brindled Pug	2	11/04/2020	24/04/2020	
Eupithecia dodoneata	Oak-tree Pug	1	26/04/2020	26/04/2020	
Agrotis segetum	Turnip Moth	2	28/05/2020	31/05/2020	
Alcis repandata	Mottled Beauty	2	19/06/2020	25/06/2020	
Anchoscelis litura	Brown-spot Pinion	1	15/09/2020	15/09/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Amphipyra pyramidea	Copper Underwing	1	06/08/2020	06/08/2020	
Aporophyla nigra	Black Rustic	2	10/11/2017	15/09/2020	
Atethmia centrago	Centre-barred Sallow	1	15/09/2020	15/09/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Caradrina clavipalpis	Pale Mottled Willow	1	15/09/2020	15/09/2020	

Xestia ditrapezium	Triple-spotted Clay	1	17/07/2020	17/07/2020	
Caradrina morpheus	Mottled Rustic	5	16/06/2020	31/07/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Myelois circumvoluta	Thistle Ermine	2	12/06/2020	21/07/2020	
Epiphyas postvittana	Light Brown Apple Moth	2	06/08/2020	15/09/2020	
Anania coronata	Spotted Magpie	1	21/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Eudonia lacustrata	Little Grey	2	14/07/2020	31/07/2020	
Metalampra italica	Italian Bark Moth	1	31/07/2020	31/07/2020	
Adscita geryon	Cistus Forester	1	1973	1973	
Pabulatrix pabulatricula	Union Rustic	1	1890	1890	
Rheumaptera hastata	Argent & Sable	1	1900	1900	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Hoplodrina ambigua	Vine's Rustic	2	24/05/2020	31/05/2020	
Leucania comma	Shoulder-striped Wainscot	2	16/06/2020	21/06/2020	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Rheumaptera undulata	Scallop Shell	1	17/07/2020	17/07/2020	
Zygaena filipendulae filipendulae	Zygaena filipendulae filipendulae	1	19/07/2020	19/07/2020	
Campaea margaritaria	Light Emerald	1	21/07/2020	21/07/2020	
Conistra vaccinii	Chestnut	1	15/12/2020	15/12/2020	
Cosmia pyralina	Lunar-spotted Pinion	1	25/07/2020	25/07/2020	
Drepana falcataria	Pebble Hook-tip	1	28/07/2020	28/07/2020	
Dryobotodes eremita	Brindled Green	1	15/09/2020	15/09/2020	
Mormo maura	Old Lady	2	01/07/2017	02/07/2017	
Melanargia galathea	Marbled White	5	17/07/2019	04/08/2021	
Pieris rapae	Small White	29	23/07/2011	18/08/2021	
Pieris brassicae	Large White	27	09/06/2006	18/08/2021	
Maniola jurtina	Meadow Brown	8	23/06/2006	23/07/2020	
Pyronia tithonus	Gatekeeper	6	19/07/2020	04/08/2021	
Vanessa atalanta	Red Admiral	15	21/07/2006	18/08/2021	
Vanessa cardui	Painted Lady	8	21/07/2006	04/08/2021	
Aglais io	Peacock	12	21/07/2006	18/08/2021	
Lycaena phlaeas	Small Copper	2	09/06/2006	04/08/2021	

Erynnis tages	Dingy Skipper	3	09/06/2006	09/06/2006	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Gonepteryx rhamni	Brimstone	3	15/05/2005	31/07/2020	
Aglais urticae	Small Tortoiseshell	20	01/09/2005	18/08/2021	
Pararge aegeria	Speckled Wood	8	01/09/2005	29/04/2023	
Celastrina argiolus britanna	Holly Blue	2	15/05/2005	09/04/2017	
Polyommatus icarus	Common Blue	6	01/09/2005	08/08/2020	
Pieris napi	Green-veined White	2	21/07/2020	23/07/2021	
Thymelicus sylvestris	Small Skipper	3	23/06/2006	05/07/2020	
Pyronia tithonus tithonus	Gatekeeper or Hedge Brown	4	23/07/2011	18/07/2016	
Maniola jurtina jurtina	Meadow Brown	12	23/07/2011	26/07/2021	
Aphantopus hyperantus	Ringlet	11	23/06/2006	16/07/2021	
Pieris napi sabellicae	Green-veined White	2	15/05/2010	24/07/2012	
Gonepteryx rhamni rhamni	Brimstone	6	28/07/2011	24/03/2021	
Polygonia c-album	Comma	6	24/07/2012	26/08/2019	
Pararge aegeria tircis	Speckled Wood	1	18/07/2013	18/07/2013	
Thymelicus lineola	Essex Skipper	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Pyronia tithonus britanniae	Hedge Brown	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Melanargia galathea serena	Marbled White	1	21/07/2006	21/07/2006	
Satyrium w-album	White-letter Hairstreak	1	04/08/1996	04/08/1996	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a
Lycaena phlaeas phlaeas	Small Copper	1	18/07/2016	18/07/2016	
Anthocharis cardamines britannica	Orange-tip	2	15/05/2010	12/05/2023	

Coenonympha pamphilus pamphilus	Small Heath	1	17/07/2019	17/07/2019	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Ochlodes sylvanus	Large Skipper	2	09/06/2006	23/06/2006	
Anthocharis cardamines	Orange-tip	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Limoniidae	Limoniidae	1	06/08/2020	06/08/2020	
Aulagromyza heringii	Aulagromyza heringii	1	27/10/2021	27/10/2021	
Cerodontha iridis	Cerodontha iridis	1	27/10/2021	27/10/2021	
Eupeodes corollae	Eupeodes corollae	1	21/05/2009	21/05/2009	
Episyrphus balteatus	Marmalade Hoverfly	1	21/05/2009	21/05/2009	
Chromatomyia ramosa	Chromatomyia ramosa	1	14/07/2018	14/07/2018	
Bombylius major	Dark-edged Bee-fly	4	20/03/2017	19/05/2018	
Epistrophe eligans	Epistrophe eligans	1	03/04/2017	03/04/2017	
Phytomyza agromyzina	Phytomyza agromyzina	3	20/09/2016	23/09/2016	
Phytoliriomyza hilarella	Phytoliriomyza hilarella	1	23/09/2016	23/09/2016	
Physocephala rufipes	Physocephala rufipes	1	15/07/1970	15/07/1970	
Phytomyza ilicis	Holly Leaf Gall Fly	1	28/01/2019	28/01/2019	
Phytomyza flavicornis	Phytomyza flavicornis	1	28/01/2019	28/01/2019	
Melanagromyza lappae	Melanagromyza lappae	1	28/01/2019	28/01/2019	
Philaenus spumarius	Cuckoo-Spit Insect	3	10/06/2019	19/06/2019	
Pentatoma rufipes	Red-legged Shieldbug	2	23/06/2006	22/09/2020	
Cyphostethus tristriatus	Juniper Shieldbug	2	23/04/1998	24/06/2000	
Tritomegas bicolor	Pied Shieldbug	2	23/04/1998	02/05/2000	
Sehirus luctuosus	Forget-me-not Shieldbug	1	29/06/2004	29/06/2004	
Eysarcoris venustissimus	Woundwort Shieldbug	2	30/05/1992	23/04/1998	
Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale	Hawthorn Shieldbug	1	06/07/2017	06/07/2017	
Bombus hypnorum	Tree Bumblebee	5	16/06/2013	19/05/2017	
Bombus	Bumblebee	1	15/05/2005	15/05/2005	
Lasius niger	Small Black Ant	1	12/07/2020	12/07/2020	

Colletes hederae	Ivy Bee	1	02/10/2018	02/10/2018	
Bombus lapidarius	Red-tailed Bumblebee	3	09/06/2006	03/04/2017	
Bombus terrestris	Buff-tailed Bumblebee	2	02/03/2017	15/03/2017	
Vespa crabro	Hornet	1	30/10/2001	30/10/2001	
Bombus hortorum	Small Garden Bumble Bee	1	06/04/2017	06/04/2017	
Biorhiza pallida	Oak Apple	1	19/05/2006	19/05/2006	
Bombus pascuorum	Common Carder Bee	2	23/06/2006	21/07/2006	
Taxon group	Amphibian and reptile				
Taxon Name	**Common Name**	**No. of records**	**First date recorded**	**Last date recorded**	**Status**
Lissotriton vulgaris	Smooth Newt	6	04/02/2021	23/02/2022	Bern-A3 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a
Triturus cristatus	Great Crested Newt	6	24/11/2006	08/04/2019	Bern-A2 ; HabDir-A2*,HabDir-A4 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Rana temporaria	Common Frog	9	06/09/2002	22/02/2019	Bern-A3 ; HabDir-A5 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a
Bufo bufo	Common Toad	1	10/03/2025	10/03/2025	Bern-A3 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a
Natrix helvetica	Grass Snake	1	28/04/2014	28/04/2014	Bern-A3 ; RedList_Global_post94-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.1(kill/injuring),WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a
Taxon group	Bird				
Taxon Name	**Common Name**	**No. of records**	**First date recorded**	**Last date recorded**	**Status**
Turdus philomelos	Song Thrush	33	13/10/2003	09/02/2022	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Amber
Poecile palustris	Marsh Tit	15	08/11/2003	29/07/2011	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red

Phasianus colchicus	Pheasant	37	01/03/2003	12/11/2022	
Sturnus vulgaris	Starling	38	13/10/2003	29/06/2020	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red
Turdus pilaris	Fieldfare	47	19/02/1993	12/11/2022	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	26	08/11/2003	26/04/2023	Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Strix aluco	Tawny Owl	6	15/05/2005	05/03/2014	Bern-A2 ; ECCITES-A ; Bird-Amber
Periparus ater	Coal Tit	25	01/03/2003	12/11/2022	
Pica pica	Magpie	34	08/11/2003	12/11/2019	
Prunella modularis	Dunnock	39	01/03/2003	26/04/2023	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Turdus iliacus	Redwing	25	13/10/2003	09/02/2022	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Amber ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Carduelis carduelis	Goldfinch	40	10/10/2003	26/04/2023	
Sitta europaea	Nuthatch	26	21/07/1988	09/02/2022	
Picus viridis	Green Woodpecker	24	15/05/2005	12/11/2019	
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard	15	10/07/1978	15/02/2015	BirdsDir-A2.1 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Turdus merula	Blackbird	58	01/03/2003	26/04/2023	
Corvus corone	Carrion Crow	43	01/03/2003	26/04/2023	
Aix galericulata	Mandarin Duck	3	28/04/2008	01/05/2010	
Columba palumbus	Woodpigeon	54	21/07/1988	12/11/2022	BirdsDir-A2.1 ; Bird-Amber
Cyanistes caeruleus	Blue Tit	55	01/03/2003	26/04/2023	
Coloeus monedula	Jackdaw	40	01/03/2003	26/04/2023	
Garrulus glandarius	Jay	21	12/12/2007	12/11/2022	
Branta canadensis	Canada Goose	2	28/04/2008	15/05/2010	Invasive non native species
Cygnus atratus	Black Swan	2	03/02/2008	28/04/2008	
Motacilla alba yarrellii	Pied Wagtail	31	01/03/2003	12/11/2019	
Fringilla coelebs	Chaffinch	56	01/03/2003	26/04/2023	
Parus major	Great Tit	51	01/03/2003	26/04/2023	
Erithacus rubecula	Robin	57	01/03/2003	12/11/2022	
Alauda arvensis	Skylark	26	10/10/2003	09/02/2022	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red ; England_NERC_S.41
Falco tinnunculus	Kestrel	29	13/10/2003	09/01/2023	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; Bird-Amber

Emberiza citrinella	Yellowhammer	30	01/03/2003	16/11/2017	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Streptopelia decaocto	Collared Dove	26	08/11/2003	16/11/2017	
Troglodytes troglodytes	Wren	38	01/03/2003	12/11/2022	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Sylvia atricapilla	Blackcap	21	15/05/2005	26/04/2023	
Turdus viscivorus	Mistle Thrush	23	15/05/2005	12/11/2019	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Red
Motacilla cinerea	Grey Wagtail	8	27/11/2003	12/11/2019	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Phylloscopus collybita	Chiffchaff	27	01/04/2003	26/04/2023	
Chloris chloris	Greenfinch	28	15/05/2005	01/06/2016	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red
Spinus spinus	Siskin	4	28/12/2005	05/03/2014	
Regulus regulus	Goldcrest	27	01/03/2003	11/02/2022	
Aegithalos caudatus	Long-tailed Tit	28	15/05/2005	12/11/2022	
Corvus frugilegus	Rook	28	01/03/2003	12/11/2022	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Amber
Accipiter nisus	Sparrowhawk	7	15/05/2005	15/05/2011	CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; Bird-Amber
Passer montanus	Tree Sparrow	60	07/01/1993	25/02/2000	Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Perdix perdix	Grey Partridge	15	16/03/1994	11/11/2017	BirdsDir-A2.1 ; Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Phylloscopus inornatus	Yellow-browed Warbler	1	29/01/2021	29/01/2021	Bird-Amber
Columba livia	Rock Dove	10	08/11/2003	16/11/2017	
Anthus pratensis	Meadow Pipit	16	10/10/2003	17/10/2022	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Milvus milvus	Red Kite	14	26/03/2011	12/11/2022	BirdsDir-A1 ; CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	5	10/02/2013	01/03/2022	Bern-A2 ; BirdsDir-A1 ; CMS_AEWA-A2 ; ECCITES-A
Gallinula chloropus	Moorhen	12	10/08/1978	09/02/2022	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Hirundo rustica	Swallow	15	01/05/2003	01/06/2016	
Dendrocopos major	Great Spotted Woodpecker	42	01/06/2003	09/02/2022	
Tyto alba	Barn Owl	3	29/07/2011	09/02/2022	Bern-A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Saxicola rubicola	Stonechat	9	16/01/2008	17/10/2022	

Buteo buteo	Buzzard	40	01/06/2003	26/09/2023	
Cuculus canorus	Cuckoo	9	20/05/1988	06/05/2012	Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Certhia familiaris	Treecreeper	19	15/05/2005	13/07/2017	
Corvus corax	Raven	10	04/12/2001	16/11/2017	
Larus fuscus	Lesser Black-backed Gull	2	08/11/2003	02/02/2016	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Apus apus	Swift	9	01/05/2003	05/05/2016	Bird-Red
Delichon urbicum	House Martin	8	15/05/2005	05/05/2016	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	25	15/05/2005	16/11/2017	Bird-Amber
Columba oenas	Stock Dove	27	21/07/1988	09/02/2022	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; Bird-Amber
Alectoris rufa	Red-legged Partridge	7	15/05/2005	09/02/2022	
Curruca communis	Whitethroat	14	15/05/2005	17/05/2022	Bird-Amber
Alcedo atthis	Kingfisher	2	01/04/2007	18/11/2024	Bern-A2 ; BirdsDir-A1 ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Ardea cinerea	Grey Heron	14	07/04/2003	09/02/2022	
Fringilla montifringilla	Brambling	2	04/01/2008	28/11/2013	WACA-Sch1_part1
Linaria cannabina	Linnet	16	01/03/2003	29/07/2011	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red
Curruca curruca	Lesser Whitethroat	3	15/05/2010	15/05/2011	
Athene noctua	Little Owl	6	20/01/1987	29/07/2011	
Gallinago gallinago	Snipe	7	27/11/2003	05/12/2013	BirdsDir-A2.1 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Dryobates minor	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	7	24/09/1993	09/05/2001	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red
Vanellus vanellus	Lapwing	1	20/10/2003	20/10/2003	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Locustella naevia	Grasshopper Warbler	4	01/07/1988	02/07/1994	Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Turdus torquatus	Ring Ouzel	1	15/05/1995	15/05/1995	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Circus pygargus	Montagu's Harrier	1	06/06/1958	06/06/1958	BirdsDir-A1 ; CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; Bird-Red ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Poecile montanus	Willow Tit	1	12/12/2007	12/12/2007	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Red
Phoenicurus phoenicurus	Redstart	1	16/06/2011	16/06/2011	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber

Emberiza calandra	Corn Bunting	4	01/05/1993	06/03/1994	Bird-Red
Tringa ochropus	Green Sandpiper	3	08/01/2000	12/10/2000	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Muscicapa striata	Spotted Flycatcher	5	23/05/1988	02/07/2021	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2 ; Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Motacilla flava flavissima	Yellow Wagtail	2	15/05/2005	01/05/2010	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Oenanthe oenanthe	Wheatear	2	01/05/2010	05/09/2019	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Sylvia borin	Garden Warbler	2	15/05/2005	16/06/2008	
Chroicocephalus ridibundus	Black-headed Gull	2	20/10/2003	17/11/2009	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine	2	23/04/2003	07/04/2013	Bern-A2 ; BirdsDir-A1 ; CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Phylloscopus trochilus	Willow Warbler	4	15/05/2005	15/05/2011	Bird-Amber
Larus canus	Common Gull	2	08/11/2003	26/02/2006	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Tadorna tadorna	Shelduck	1	20/02/2013	20/02/2013	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Amber
Falco subbuteo	Hobby	1	30/08/2003	30/08/2003	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Pluvialis apricaria	Golden Plover	1	13/11/2002	13/11/2002	
Streptopelia turtur	Turtle Dove	1	25/05/1993	25/05/1993	BirdsDir-A2.2 ; ECCITES-A ; Bird-Red ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Accipiter gentilis	Goshawk	1	21/10/2023	21/10/2023	CMS_A2 ; ECCITES-A ; WACA-Sch1_part1
Scolopax rusticola	Woodcock	1	09/02/2022	09/02/2022	BirdsDir-A2.1 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2 ; Bird-Red
Emberiza schoeniclus	Reed Bunting	1	00/01/1900	00/01/1900	Bern-A2 ; Bird-Amber ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Acanthis cabaret	Lesser Redpoll	1	21/02/2013	21/02/2013	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Ciconia ciconia	White Stork	1	01/07/2012	01/07/2012	Bern-A2 ; BirdsDir-A1 ; CMS_A2,CMS_AEWA-A2
Taxon group	Mammal				
Taxon Name	**Common Name**	**No. of records**	**First date recorded**	**Last date recorded**	**Status**

Erinaceus europaeus	Hedgehog	105	2006	17/09/2023	Bern-A3 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Plecotus auritus	Brown Long-eared Bat	27	11/08/2013	23/09/2015	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Myotis	Myotis Bat species	10	09/09/2015	23/09/2015	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A2*,HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Pipistrelle	22	14/08/2006	11/04/2022	Bern-A2,Bern-A3 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Talpa europaea	Mole	2	01/04/1968	03/02/2014	
Eptesicus serotinus	Serotine	8	09/09/2015	23/09/2015	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	Soprano Pipistrelle	3	14/08/2006	23/09/2015	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Chiroptera	Bat	1	20/06/2001	20/06/2001	Bern-A2,Bern-A3 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; RedList_Global_post2001-LC ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Oryctolagus cuniculus	Rabbit	4	21/07/1988	22/05/2018	

Lepus europaeus	Brown Hare	2	22/05/2018	01/06/2022	RedList_Europe_post2001-LC ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41
Meles meles	Badger	6	28/03/1997	01/05/2013	Bern-A3 ; Protection_of_Badgers_Act_1992
Vulpes vulpes	Red Fox	2	24/02/2019	29/03/2019	
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey Squirrel	2	21/07/1988	09/06/2006	Invasive non native species
Lutra lutra	Otter	2	16/05/2010	12/05/2012	Bern-A2 ; HabDir-A2*,HabDir-A4 ; ECCITES-A ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Arvicola amphibius	Water Vole	1	10/07/1978	10/07/1978	BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4.a,WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c
Apodemus sylvaticus	Wood Mouse	2	19/05/2006	09/06/2006	
Capreolus capreolus	Roe Deer	2	19/05/2006	09/06/2006	
Rattus norvegicus	Brown Rat	1	06/09/2002	06/09/2002	
Nyctalus noctula	Noctule	2	23/09/2015	23/09/2015	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Nyctalus leisleri	Leisler's Bat	2	09/09/2015	09/09/2015	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A4 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2
Rhinolophus hipposideros	Lesser Horseshoe Bat	2	09/09/2015	09/09/2015	Bern-A2 ; CMS_A2,CMS_EUROBATS-A1 ; HabDir-A2*,HabDir-A4 ; BAP-2007 ; England_NERC_S.41 ; WACA-Sch5_sect9.4b,WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,WACA-Sch5Sect9.4c ; HabReg-Sch2

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan

2018 - 2031

Appendix G

Greenway Documents

EAST MORETON GREENWAY, SUMMARY TO DATE (February 2025)

BACKGROUND

Moreton-in-Marsh is a rapidly expanding town. In recent years, several new housing estates have been built in East Moreton, and there are proposals for many more houses.

The obvious route from East Moreton to the town centre is the Todenham Road, but the road is unsafe, due to traffic and a lack of pedestrian facilities. There is no footway for 420 yards from Windsor Road, so many residents drive into town.

East Moreton has a complex network of well surfaced paths, with street-lighting. However this alternative route to the town centre is very confusing, especially for newcomers.

PROPOSAL

The proposed East Moreton Greenway is a 3 km loop from the railway station, suitable for pedestrians and wheelchairs. As well as linking several large housing developments to buses and trains in the town centre, the route passes a scenic meadow, Moreton Rangers Football Club with skate park, running track and outdoor gym, employment opportunities at Cotswold Business Park, a cemetery, three playgrounds and a nature reserve. It would also help with pedestrian access to the Fire Service College.

Moreton-in-Marsh is an ideal town for this initiative. It is relatively flat for a Cotswold town and is bisected by two A roads, A44 and A429, used by hundreds of lorries every day. A good walking and wheeling route would encourage people to leave their cars at home, reducing traffic congestion and pollution, also easing the severe parking problems in Moreton.

Continued on next page

PROGRESS SO FAR

2019 Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council declared a Climate Emergency. After a public consultation at Redesdale Hall, the route was included in the town's Neighbourhood Development Plan. Town Councillors walked the entire 3km route.

2020 Delays due to Covid. Plan endorsed by County Cllr Nigel Moor, before he retired.

2021 East Moreton Greenway championed by District Councillor Rachel Coxcoon and by Hannah Fountain, Sustainable Transport Lead for Cotswold District Council. Hannah submitted the plan to Great Western Railway Community Investments and won an award for the proposal, the path linking to the new Integrated Transport Hub and the Train Station. Unfortunately, Hannah left her post soon afterwards and progress stalled.

2022 Nicola Chidley, Public Rights of Way Officer, Gloucestershire County Council. She inspected the route and then for signage she recommended Nibra Signs or Brissco.

2022 Quotes for signage were obtained from these companies, each quote being less than £100.

2023 Guided tour for current Moreton-in-Marsh Town Councillors. A few minor amendments suggested to make the route more suitable for wheelchairs, e.g. a small diversion to a dropped kerb.

2023 Support from County Councillor Mark MacKenzie-Charrington. He walked the route and sent this message 17/10/23 I'm very supportive of the proposal. It's such a pity that it's not already up and running. Subject to funding from others, I can probably commit a contribution from my Highways Fund.

2024 Nigel Moor enquired about progress. He suggested contacting Jo Atkins, ThinkTravel Coordinator for Gloucestershire County Council. According to their website, ThinkTravel "is dedicated to promoting active and sustainable travel within the community of Gloucestershire".

Jo has agreed to investigate S106 monies. East Moreton Greenway is a simple, low cost venture and hopefully ThinkTravel can now bring the scheme to fruition.

Mapping has been devised for another route, West Moreton Greenway, but that requires users to cross the A44 and would also require some surfacing work. West Moreton Greenway is much more "aspirational" and not practical at this time.

All the infrastructure is in place for East Moreton Greenway, except for signage. Unfortunately, progress has stalled, at the time of writing (February 2025).

MAP, PROPOSED QUIET LOOPS EAST MORETON AND WEST MORETON, 2022

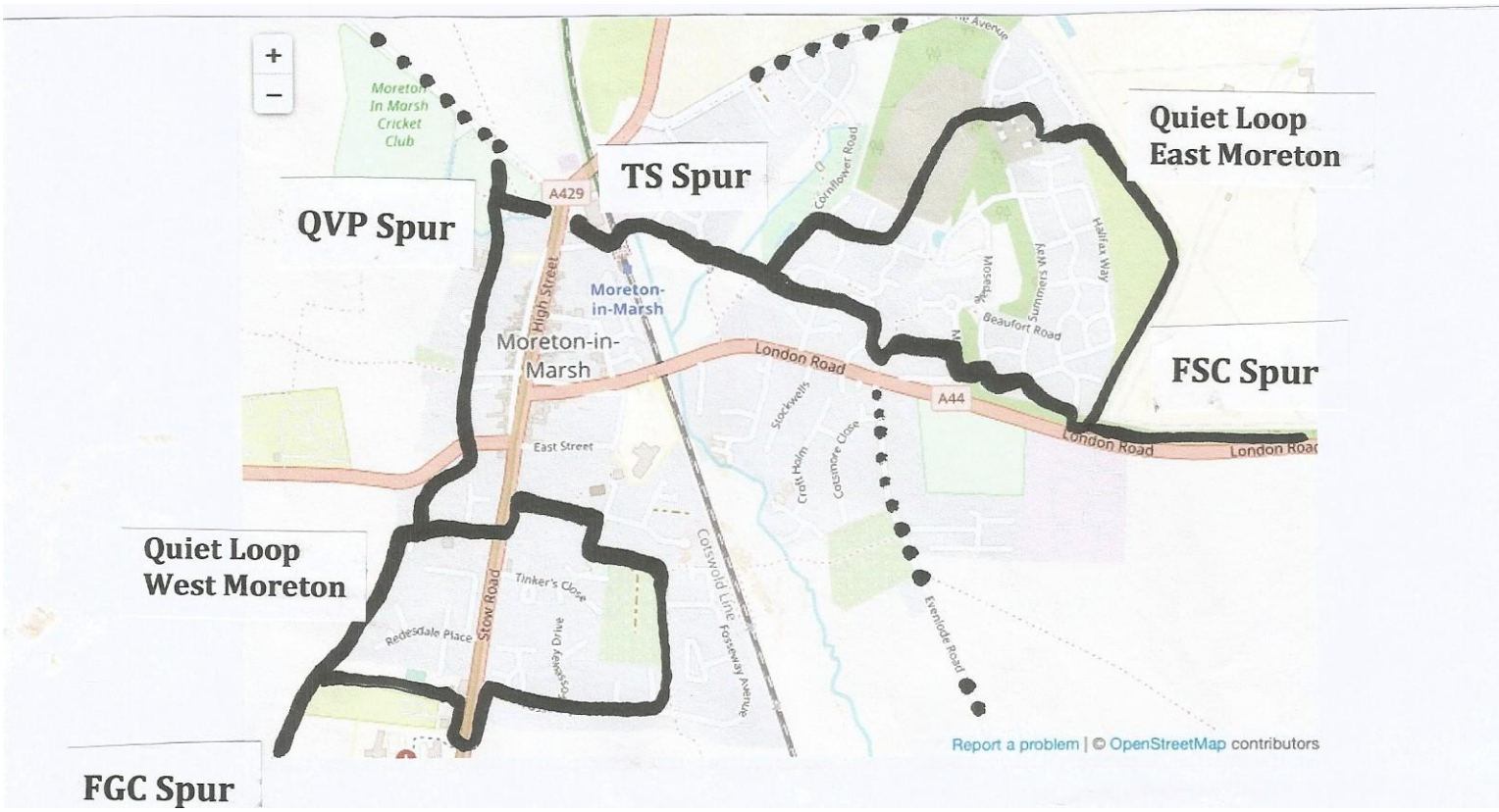
Abbreviations for spurs: Queen Victoria Park (QVP), Fosseway Garden Centre (FGC), Train Station (TS), Fire Service College (FSC)

This map shows the proposed loops for East Moreton and West Moreton, situated on either side of the railway line. These loops would be shared-use paths, avoiding cars and lorries.

The TS Spur and the FSC Spur avoid heavy traffic on the A44.

Likewise, the QVP Spur and the FGC Spur bypass the busy A429.

The existing National Cycle Network Routes (NCN5, NCN48 and NCN442) are shown by dotted lines.



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Abbr	Location	what3words location	Lat/Long. Degrees and decimal minutes.	Support for sign Type of sign		Photo?	Comments, for route travelling ANTI-CLOCKWISE
S1	Platform 2 lamppost	unheated.pickup.olive	N51°59.523' W001°42.045'	Lamppost	Vinyl or publicity		A publicity sign visible to rail users. Integrated Transport Hub planned for station.
S2	Station path lamppost	lump.discouraged.squaring	N51°59.589' W001°42.095'	Lamppost	Vinyl	Yes	www.what3words.com/how-to-use-the-what3words-app
S3	Entrance to Blenheim Meadow	obligated.score.barman	N51°59.577' W001°42.045'	Existing wooden post	Round signs	Yes	Wooden post here already has a sign for Moreton Eight Walk, add our signs
S4	Path next to 12 Roundhouse Mews	contoured.strong.clan	N51°59.579' W001°42.001'	Lamppost	Vinyl		
S5	Lamppost on tarmac path	mentioned.scooped.arrived	N51°59.596' W001°42.264'	Lamppost	Vinyl		
S6	Next to 24 Blenheim Way	unsecured.dunk.uproot	N51°59.553' W001°41.872'	Lamppost	Vinyl and ?publicity	Yes	Crucial landmark. From train station, users must keep LEFT of pumping station
S7	Lamppost on tarmac path	sweetener.zeal.static	N51°59.535' W001°41.807'	Lamppost	Vinyl		Keeps users on track if uncertain about fork in paths at pumping station
	Bridge	cashier.sleeping.workflow	N51°59.518' W001°41.775'	Existing wooden post	Round signs	Yes	Bridge has vertical wooden posts suitable for round signs. Near 15 Foxglove Close.
	Path next to bungalows	whisker.witty.dressing	N51°59.497' W001°41.664'	Lamppost	Vinyl		The route is next to No.1 The Bungalows, off Dulverton Place.
	Lamppost, see map	volunteered.salary.amends	N51°59.447' W001°41.576'	Lamppost	Vinyl		Route continues parallel to A44 (a quiet alternative to main road)
	Lamppost	push.intervene.gala		Lamppost	Vinyl		Bear right passing lamppost no. 28 to A44
	Pass Laurel House on A44	bench.shackles.subject					Ideally sign here to National Cycle Route NCN48 to Evenlode and Oxford
	Errington	shipwreck.adhesive.rent		Lamppost	Vinyl		Left at 7 Errington Road to 1 Errington, then cross Mosedale at dropped kerbs. Moreton Rangers FC is opposite.
	Bus stop, Mosedale	agents.wages.rationing	N52°59.448' W001°41.444'	Bus Stop	Vinyl	Yes	Convenient for Beaufort Road playground. Buses to schools and Cheltenham. Bike parking?
	Playground Beaufort Rd	lightly.glimmers.bakes			Vinyl		At Mosedale roundabout,turn right to playground on Beaufort Road, lamppost no.25
	10 Beaufort Road	flies.marathon.sandbags			Vinyl		Pass 10 Beaufort Road, at lamppost no.29
	20 Summers Way	waffle.pirate.gloom			Vinyl		Dropped kerb to 26 Summers Way, lamppost at 20 Summers Way
L10	Lamppost at 14 Summers Way	podcast.vitamins.rebel	N51°59.411' W001°41.315'	Lamppost	Vinyl		Continue along Summers Way to 30mph sign at A44
L11	Lysander Way near A44	pixel.reconnect.plug	N51°59.359' W001°41.240'	Lamppost	Vinyl	Yes	Go left for 20 metres, then left onto major, unsigned path. Opposite Cotswold Business Village (employment, bike shop, café)
L12	A44 junction with path	arts.figure.branched	N51°59.353' W001°41.210'	NEW SIGN POST	Publicity	Yes	A publicity sign visible to motorists. A44 track to Fire Service College with Sports Centre. Track needs eventual upgrade.

L13	Path next to pseudo-motorway	teardrop.playfully.highlighted	N51°59.374' W001°41.203'	Lamppost	Vinyl		Protected area for greater crested newts. Rich habitat for goldfinch, skylarks and raptors. Sponsored picnic tables by bin??
L14	Near 8 Wellesley Close	flaunting.airlineRs.garages	N51°59.67252'W1°41.2224'	Lamppost	Vinyl		Lamppost in playground. Could also have a sign "Learning to cycle? Remove pedals, fully lower saddle and scoot"
L15	2 Wellesley Close	reactions.eyeful.noble	N51°59.669' W001°41.286'	NEW WOODEN POST	Vinyl		No lampposts on left, so erect a new wooden post or stick a vinyl sign on the back of the Wellesley Close street sign (8.5cm high)
L16	Path next to 51 Valetta Way	natural.episodes.uppermost	N51°59.671' W001°41.361'	Lamppost	Vinyl		
L17	Grass near substation	fitter.strut.defectors	N51°59.659' W001°41.411'	NEW SIGN POST	Vinyl or publicity		A publicity sign? Users to pass 6 Vanguard Way, heading to playground at Jupiter Close and train station.
L18	Near 66 Windsor Road	crowns.pheasants.challenge	N51°59.592' W001°41.523'	Lamppost	Vinyl		Place vinyl sign as high as possible, to aid visibility from Cornflower Road
L19	Black fence near 27 Cornflower Rd	beefed.yachting.following	N51°59.593' W001°41.533'	NEW WOODEN POST	Round signs x2		May need signs both sides of post. New housing Windsor Road not on older maps
L20	Near 46 Cornflower Rd	dweller.hatter.spruced	N51°59.553' W001°41.570'	Lamppost	Vinyl		Could indicate National Cycle Network NCN5 to Banbury, accessible from 2 Cornflower Road
L21	Gate into parkland	famous.redeemed.trousers	N51°59.582' W001°41.680'	Affix to gate	Vinyl		At Red Campion Way, avoiding private road
L22	Near lakeside bench	estimates.reprints.player	N51°59.562' W001°41.726'	Lamppost	Vinyl	Yes	Scenic spot for photos, little egret often seen here

TOTAL SIGNS INCLUDING SPARES Forty 70mm vinyl signs, sixteen 75mm x 3mm aluminium printed discs each with 4 drilled holes for screws, at least 3 publicity signs

Two new wooden posts and two new metal signposts. Erect all vinyl signs so visible from both directions.

The East Moreton Greenway was originally championed by Hannah Fountain, Sustainable Transport Lead at Cotswold District Council. She won an award from GWR trains for this integrated transport project, but unfortunately Hannah left her post before completion

Nicola Chidley, Rights of Way Officer at Glos. County Council, has walked the Greenway. For signage, she recommends Nibra Signs or Brissco Signs. Quotes for signage in 2022 were about £70 total.

County Councillor Mark MacKenzie-Charrington has inspected the route and advised money might be available from the Highways Fund.

This is version 2 of the spreadsheet, revised after walking the route with Moreton Town Councillors in 2023. Suitable for walkers and wheelchairs. For a guided tour, please email dihutch34@hotmail.com

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