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Introduction

What is a local nature recovery strategy?

Local nature recovery strategies (LNRS) are a new, England-wide approach to supporting nature recovery, as mandated by the Environment Act 2021. There will be 48 LNRS together covering the whole of England, each setting out priorities and actions (referred to in the Environment Act 2021 as 'potential measures') to support nature

recovery and provide wider environmental benefits in their area.

Together they will describe a Nature Recovery Network across England. They will also be crucial to achieving local and national environmental goals, helping us to adapt to climate change and promote healthier, more sustainable living.

The Environment Act state that each LNRS must include:



A statement of biodiversity priorities, including:

- i. a description of the strategy area and its biodiversity.
- ii. opportunities for recovering or enhancing biodiversity in the strategy area.
- iii. priorities for biodiversity recovery or enhancement, considering contributions to other environmental benefits.
- iv. proposals for potential measures related to those priorities.



A local habitat map that identifies:

- i. national conservation sites in the strategy area.
- ii. **local nature reserves** within the strategy area.
- iii. other areas in the strategy area which:
 - a. are, or could become, of particular importance for biodiversity, or
 - b. are areas where the recovery or enhancement of biodiversity could make a particular contribution to other environmental benefits

The LNRS will help inform where public money is spent on nature recovery, inform sustainable land use planning through the planning system and shape how **nature-based solutions** are delivered and inform sustainable land use planning through the planning system for example through BNG. These solutions will achieve outcomes beneficial to society including flood management, improvements to water quality and **carbon sequestration**.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough LNRS has been designed to act as a guide to the

most effective actions and locations for nature recovery. **An online interactive map** will help users to understand the priorities in their locality. It informs the most effective action for nature recovery across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Everyone can take action for nature and play their part in local nature recovery. This strategy is for everyone, whether you are a farmer or landowner, environmental charity, business or developer, public organisation, policy maker, community group or local resident.

Area covered by the local nature recovery strategy

The LNRS covers the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority area as shown opposite

Purpose and structure of this document

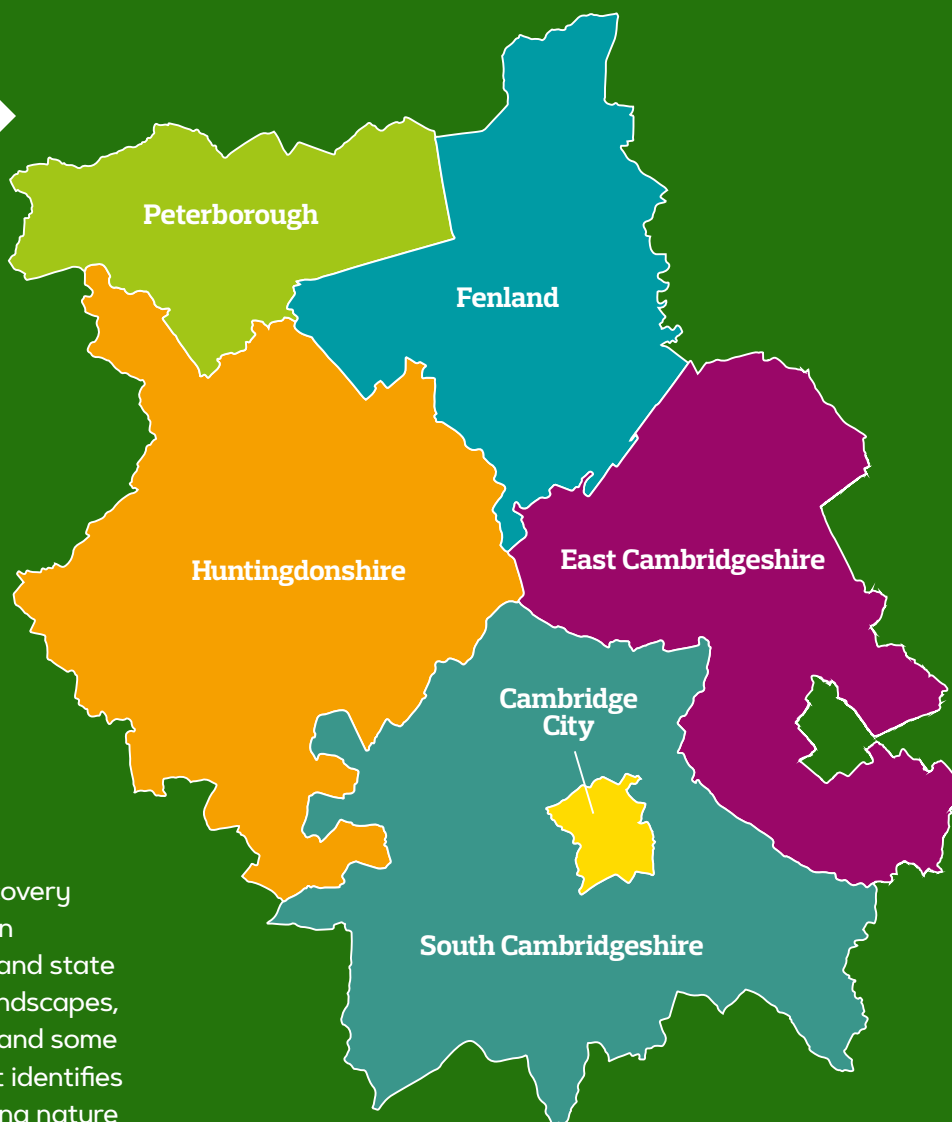
Part 1 of the LNRS provides a description of the area covered by the strategy, its biodiversity, and the opportunities for recovering or enhancing biodiversity in the area.

It sets the scene as to why nature recovery matters and is essential. It provides an overview of the natural environment and state of nature locally including our local landscapes, key protected nature sites, habitats, and some of our most notable species. Finally, it identifies the challenges and opportunities facing nature locally.

Part 2 of the LNRS sets out the 'priorities for biodiversity recovery or enhancement' and 'proposals for potential measures', as well as how the local habitat map (showing the opportunity areas for nature recovery) was created.

It sets out the vision for the LNRS and its strategic priorities. It also identifies the **priority natural landscapes** that are best suited to achieve large-scale nature recovery across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in the years ahead. It also describes the action for nature recovery that can be undertaken across the farmed and urban landscapes, which form the vast majority of the LNRS area.

It identifies the habitats and species that are our local priorities for nature recovery in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, along with the actions required to support their recovery. These form the **local habitat map** and the relationship of the local habitat map to local plans and biodiversity net gain is described.



Further information on the detailed methodology used to select our local habitat and species priorities, and the chosen measures is included in our supporting documents along with a range of background information. The supporting documents are listed below:

- LNRS prioritisation and mapping methodology.
- habitat opportunity modelling methodology.
- stakeholder engagement.
- long list of priority habitats.
- priority species list without actions.
- case studies of nature recovery action.
- national and local context
- list of relevant legislation, policy and strategies.
- LNRS and the planning system



[Click to view the local habitat map](#)



[Click to discover more about this process](#)

The Lawton Principles

A key approach to the development of this LNRS is the Lawton Principles:

These emerged from a review by Sir John Lawton (2010)¹ to assess how England's nature sites and wider ecological networks could be improved to help nature thrive in the face of climate change and other pressures. The review concluded that England's nature sites did not comprise a coherent or resilient ecological network and that a step change was needed in nature conservation action.

The Lawton report described the four components of a healthy ecological network; these are described as:



These are shown diagrammatically below:

Components of an ecological network

Stepping stones:

Small patches of habitat that are not physically linked, but are close enough to provide shelter/ food/ rest to enable passage between core areas



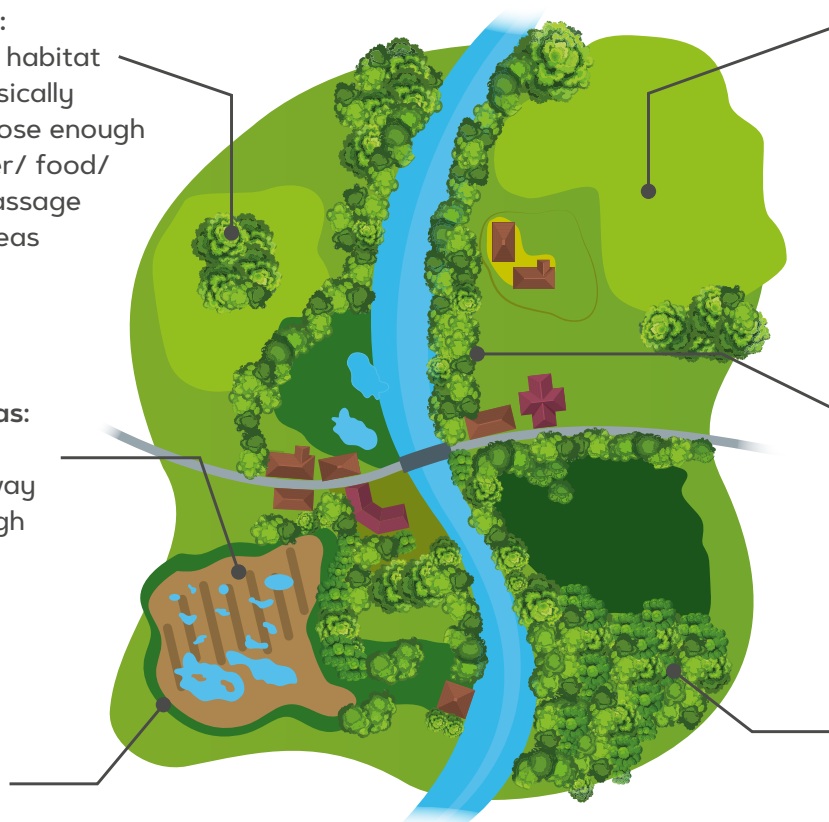
Restoration areas:

Where work is currently underway to create new high valued habitat



Buffer zones:

To protect core areas



Wider landscape:

Area that focus on the sustainable use of nature resources and activities that help make the wider landscape more wildlife-friendly



Corridors:

Strips of habitat that can provide a safe passage between areas



Core areas: Place most important for biodiversity, including protected areas

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1. Lawton, J. et al. (2010) Making Space for Nature: A review of England's wildlife sites and ecological networks