
Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough



Longlist of Priority Habitats

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This supporting document presents the longlist of priority habitats identified during the LNRS prioritisation process. It complements Part 2 of the LNRS documents, which outlines the final shortlist of selected habitats. The longlist includes a broader range of habitat types that were considered appropriate by stakeholders and partners through various engagement activities. However, these habitats were not ultimately included in the final selection for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).

Woodlands

| Ref | Habitat | Biodiversity Priority Longlist | Potential Actions |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Tree canopy cover | Work towards UK government targets to increase tree canopy cover in England to 16.5% by 2050 by the expansion and creation of trees and woodland across the strategy area. | <p>Landowners, farmers, and local authorities work collaboratively on landscape scale tree planting or woodland recovery projects. Locally sourced native trees should be favoured but regard should be given to climate and disease resilience and productivity. Increase awareness of funding incentives and schemes which are available. Creation of new woodlands should be to UKFS standards and may require an EIA. Increase tree canopy in the area to 6% by 2050.</p> <p>Increase wild service tree distribution - ancient woodland indicator / Create 500,000 more hectares of wildlife-rich habitat</p> <p>Undertake a complete tree canopy survey to map our existing trees/woodlands/hedgerows that will provide a baseline for developing a planting target that can be measured and inform where the most appropriate places are for future planting schemes.</p> <p>Plan for a landscape depleted of ash by planting replacement hedgerow tree species such as oak, which is also characteristic of the area.</p> |
| 2 | Woodland, parkland & wood pasture | Bring all woodland, parkland and wood pasture into management (to UKFS as a minimum) to improve resilience and structural diversity and biodiversity. | Structural diversity can be increased by various management techniques including thinning/coppicing, inclusion of glades and rides, small areas of bare or disturbed ground, ditches, streams, ponds and wet woodland. An increase in light will encourage regeneration of tree and woodland flora and be beneficial to soil health, and woodland fauna. Together with the careful management of pests and diseases, a broad range of micro habitats and assemblages should be present. Where traditional forms of management have shaped development, the resumption of those systems should be considered. Ancient semi- |

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| | | | <p>natural woodlands and long-established woodlands should be brought into management to diversify structure, increase resilience, and improve biodiversity and carbon storage. Deadwood should be retained throughout woodlands.</p> <p>Manage and enhance the deciduous ancient woodlands and wood pasture, including designed parkland landscapes, for their contribution to the sense of place, sense of history, biodiversity value and recreational value, as well as their retention of greenhouse gases. This is particularly important in view of the threat from ash die-back, as ash is a common hedgerow and woodland species across the Natural Character Areas.</p> |
| 3 | Wet Woodland | Existing wet woodland should be retained and suitable areas for new wet woodland should be identified. Opportunities may exist for wet woodland creation where this might enhance or protect fen habitats. | Riparian and wet woodlands should not be removed as a matter of course when they are in proximity to open wetland habitats. The Forestry Commission forest-to-bog tools give guidance on where woodland/trees should or should not be retained. Identify areas where riparian planting will provide benefits for water quality, temperature and flood control. Deforestation will require an Environmental Impact Assessment. Increase tree canopy cover in the area to 6% by 2050 including wet woodland. |
| 4 | Ancient woodland | Support the restoration of priority open habitats and planted ancient woodlands (PAWS). | Create more open habitat such as peatland, on the National Forest and beyond in prioritised locations, with compensatory planting where possible. Restore planted ancient woodland sites. Promote ELMs. (Forestry England already undertake PAWS restoration on the public forest estate). Restore all planted open habitats and ancient woodlands by 2050. |

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| 5 | Benefits of trees | Promote the multiple nature-based solution benefits of trees and woodlands. | Prioritise tree planting in locations where nature-based solutions (flood risk management, carbon sequestration) and green infrastructure will be improved as well as diversity. Promote England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) |
| 6 | Sustainable management | Promote the benefits of sustainable, well managed woodland and trees to the rural economy. | Encourage land managers to seek income from woodland and tree products such as timber, grazing of wood pasture, education and leisure, agroforestry and orchards. Promote ELMs and England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) incentives. |
| 7 | Woodland | Expand, protect and connect existing woodland and trees by the creation of wildlife corridors, buffer areas and landscape connections of woodlands, hedges or other suitable habitats and help address recreational pressure. | Identify areas where creation of new woodland hedges and other habitats, such as scrub mosaic or wood pasture/parkland and grassland, as well as improvement to those already in existence, will create ecological links or buffers between and around priority woodlands. Connect all Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland by 2050. Plan for the regeneration and replanting of existing, predominantly small, hill-top beech plantations. Make sure that the resilience of woodland to climate change impact is understood and acted upon; particularly the valued beech woodland which is vulnerable. Consider new species compositions and secure woodland across a variety of aspects |
| 8 | Woodland | Plan for the regeneration and replanting of existing, predominantly small, hill-top beech plantations. Make sure that the resilience of woodland to climate change impact is understood and acted upon; particularly the valued beech woodland which is vulnerable. Consider new species compositions | |

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| | | and secure woodland across a variety of aspects | |
| 9 | Ancient / veteran, heritage trees and orchards | Identify, protect and manage ancient / veteran and heritage trees and expand traditional orchards. | <p>Identify veteran and heritage trees and old orchards and put measures in place to protect them and ensure succession.</p> <p>Improve management.</p> <p>Preserve and manage the historic orchards which characterise the area around Wisbech both for their landscape value and their genetic diversity.</p> <p>Creation of orchards and the rewilding of small areas of parkland under parish control.</p> <p>Conserve ancient and veteran trees in river valleys, hedgerows, historic parklands and traditional orchards for their biodiversity and heritage value, planning for the provision of replacement stock and veteran trees in the future.</p> |
| 10 | Species control | Manage the impacts of deer and grey squirrel to allow natural regeneration and structural diversity and reduce their economic impact. | <p>Monitor the impact of deer on landscape objectives.</p> <p>Monitor the range of existing deer populations.</p> <p>Undertake culling to achieve and maintain acceptable levels of impact to landscape management objectives.</p> <p>Raise awareness amongst stakeholders of the impact that deer have in the county.</p> |
| 11 | Woodland species | Support the reintroduction of important woodland species. | Depends on species priorities. |

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| 12 | Trees outside woodland | Increase the overall amount of canopy cover of trees outside woodland, including urban and street trees, in-field and hedge trees and creation of new orchards and agroforestry systems. Ensure LNRS priorities align with Local Authority Tree and Woodland Strategies (TAWS), Urban Tree Challenge Funds (UTCF) and biodiversity strategies. | Consult with Local Authorities and planners. Encourage uptake of incentives such as UTCF, ELMs/SFI/CS/LR. Draw on funding for natural capital and green infrastructure. Identify public and private land where tree establishment would be beneficial. (Local authorities, corporates, colleges, NHS land etc). |
| 13 | Greenspaces / community orchards | Greenspaces and community orchards - create and enhance woodland, community orchards and grassland habitats that can be enhanced for the benefit of nature and people. | <p>Greater Cambridge Local Plan BG/GI: Green infrastructure policy. Woodland expansion and resilience.</p> <p>Expand woodland areas (and hedgerows) through planting and natural regeneration and improve their management outside urban areas to deliver benefits for carbon sequestration, create wildlife corridors, contribute to flood resilience and enhance the wider landscape.</p> <p>Mitigate pressures on woodlands, including recreational pressure, fragmentation and the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Orchards - identify locations and provide support (e.g. providing equipment, expertise, labour)</p> <p>Preserve and manage the historic orchards which characterise the area around Wisbech both for their landscape value and their genetic diversity.</p> |

Grasslands

| Ref | Habitat | Biodiversity Priority Longlist | Potential Actions |
|-----|---------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Calcareous Grassland | Address recreational pressure and balance with enhancing recreation and access opportunities | |
| 2 | Calcareous Grassland | <p>Maintain, restore and enhance high-quality limestone / chalk grassland. Extend and buffer core ecological sites.</p> <p>East Anglian Chalk - Maintain sustainable but productive agricultural land use, while expanding and connecting the chalkland / limestone assemblage of semi-natural grasslands, for example by sensitive management of road verges and extending buffer strips along field margins, to benefit soil and water quality, reduce soil erosion, strengthen landscape character and enhance biodiversity and pollinator networks.</p> | <p>Scrub management. Provide a high quality, connected GI network to accommodate growing recreational needs and enable residents to access, enjoy and learn about this part of Greater Cambridge's countryside.</p> <p>Ensure access to the countryside is managed in a way which avoids increasing recreational pressures on existing conservation sites at risk (e.g. SSSIs).</p> <p>Using local seedbanks / seed collection from historic and well-established sites to reseed.</p> <p>Seek to reduce threats to natural and historic features by conserving or restoring their setting, addressing the problem of fragmentation particularly associated with chalk grassland. Work at a landscape scale which reflects the ecosystem approach, ecological network approach and historic character.</p> |
| 3 | Acid Grassland, Breckland | Conserve, restore and expand acid grassland, heathland, chalk heath | |

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| | and Heathland | and mosaic habitats and important species they support. | |
| 4 | Lowland Meadow | Restore, enhance and better manage lowland meadow. | |
| 5 | Other grassland | Restore / create species- rich grassland, creating wildlife corridors and mosaic habitat | <p>Change vegetation management / management strategy of grassland to be more sympathetic to surrounding environment. Removal of invasive non-native species. Opportunities for BNG unit creation.</p> <p>Cambridge City - Develop a grazing strategy that meets these requirements through review of grazing management plans and liaison with graziers. The aspiration would be to achieve sustainable grazing for graziers and floristic diversity.</p> <p>Implement new grass cutting and wildflower management arrangements</p> <p>Mineral & waste sites - restoration to grassland.</p> <p>Management of Public Rights of Way (wildlife corridors), especially byways.</p> <p>Grassland management for flood & drought, resilience and water quality.</p> <p>Create Wildlife corridors.</p> |
| 6 | Floodplain Grazing Marsh | Restore, enhance and expand wet meadows and wet pasture. | <p>Delivery of “urban study” projects such as coir roll installation, fish refuges and backwater restoration.</p> <p>Enhancing recreation & access opportunities such as the Thorpe Meadows and Boardwalks nature reserve area.</p> |

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| 7 | Floodplain Grazing Marsh | Grassland management for flood & drought, resilience and water quality. | Natural flood management through floodplain meadows restoration / Improve water quality and slow the flow entering the Ouse Washes (renaturalise river meanders). |
| 8 | Scrubland | Maintain & enhance scrub habitat, connecting to other habitats / wildlife site and manage for target species (for turtledoves / nightingales). | Management and education about the value of scrub, advocate for Agri-environment schemes (AES) to assist farmers and landowners to support biodiversity. |

Wetlands

| Ref | Habitat | Biodiversity Longlist | Priority | Potential Actions |
|-----|-----------|---|----------|--|
| 1 | Reservoir | Increase water storage through management of abstraction, better ground-water recharge of chalk aquifers and creation of function farm reservoirs designed for the benefit of wildlife. | | <p>Incentives for farm reservoirs in future - working with farmers to build reservoirs on their land.</p> <p>Create more water being held on land.</p> <p>Management of aquifer abstraction.</p> <p>Integrated water management - working with agencies / IDBs toward balanced approach, consider downstream impact.</p> |
| 2 | Peatland | Protect and restore peatland & associated habitats. | | <p>Support the creation of land and habitats that play a role as carbon sinks and protect existing carbon sinks from development, in particular undisturbed or undrained peat.</p> <p>Wetland peat opportunities on deep peat.</p> <p>Promote approaches that minimise soil disturbance, compaction and disposal during construction projects.</p> <p>Boundaries and infield; soil and peat management for carbon capture.</p> <p>Committed to ensure that peat is not used within projects and maintenance activities.</p> <p>Identify peatland soils where peatland habitat lost due to drainage and agricultural conversion. Prioritise habitat restoration in these areas to expand and connect with the Nature Recovery Network. Consider including a timescale in this action, aligning with the 25 Year Environment Plan target for all soils to be restored sustainably by 2030.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Restore former peat extraction sites.</p> <p>Conserve, manage and enhance the Fens landscape and increase educational opportunities to access its geodiversity, archaeology and cultural heritage to enhance enjoyment and understanding for those who live and work in and visit the Fens.</p> |
| 3 | Peatland | Peatlands are in a healthy and functioning state, actively forming peat. | | <p>End all peat extraction.</p> <p>Restore hydrological function on peatlands to cover all relevant actions (e.g. infill of ditches / irrigation).</p> <p>Manage adjacent habitats to protect the hydrological and nutrient status of peatland e.g. managing nutrient run-off into valley mires, reducing or removing drainage adjacent to lowland raised bogs, allowing/encouraging scrub development below active blanket bog.</p> <p>Remove inappropriate planting which is negatively affecting the hydrology of peatland.</p> <p>Consider removal of self-sown trees and scrub as part of hydrological restoration (taking into account needs of other rare and threatened species).</p> <p>Restore bare peat using established techniques e.g. the siting of coir to retain water or slow its flow, sphagnum inoculation, and the reprofiling of peat hags.</p> <p>Avoid creation of infrastructure such as paths and tracks which will damage peatland habitats or affect hydrology.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Provide incentives for peatland restoration measures which can be applied to lowland raised mires in multiple ownership.</p> <p>Support measures to reduce airborne nutrients from farming and industry which lead to vegetation changes on peatland habitats e.g. ammonia regs. voluntary codes, education campaigns, enforcement, planning policy and guidance.</p> |
| 4 | Green Infrastructure / Urban | Create more ponds, SuDS and wetlands within villages, greenspaces, new developments, wastewater treatment plants to provide ecosystem services (flood management, improve water quality and recreational benefits). | | <p>Urban wellbeing wetland opportunities.</p> <p>Village scale (e.g. Coton) wetlands to deal with flood water but provide recreation &/or waste treatment Nature Based Solutions.</p> <p>Create a wastewater treatment plant wetland, investigate locations of ghost ponds and restore.</p> |
| 5 | Ponds | Create areas of fresh and standing water and restore ponds across the county within both farmed and urban environments for the benefit of a variety of species and help with water management. | | <p>Flood Risk Scheme</p> <p>Farmland- ponds for breeding birds.</p> <p>Villages / local communities - legacy ponds for future generations / restore historic ponds.</p> <p>Identify, survey and restore dormant historic village ponds.</p> |

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| 6 | Lakes | Maintain and enhance large waterbodies - lakes, reservoirs and gravel pits and investigate sites for potential large-scale wetland creation. | | |
| 7 | Salt Marsh | Restore and enhance salt marsh potential. | | |
| 8 | Reedbed | Restore and expand reedbeds. | | Restore overmature reedbeds that are succeeding into woodland. |
| 9 | Fen | Create a resilient network of fen (e.g. lowland fen / marsh / swamp / raised bog) and fen-edge habitat across the Fens and wider Cambridgeshire & Peterborough through habitat restoration, protection of peatland, sustainable soil, water and habitat management, and natural flood management. Encouraging the establishment of multifunctional wetlands that support biodiversity, natural | | <p>Protect Fens deep peat - Farming charges, Incorporate wetlands, Carbon, Fens Reservoir for water supply</p> <p>Fen drainage system fragmented requirement to set up independent water management units to facilitate habitat creation.</p> <p>Conserve, manage and enhance the Fens landscape and increase educational opportunities to access its geodiversity, archaeology and cultural heritage to enhance enjoyment and understanding for those who live and work in and visit the Fens.</p> <p>Supporting the development of practical approaches and techniques for establishing corridors, buffer zones and sustainable use areas. Maintaining up to date information on the Fens to inform future priorities.</p> <p>Raising awareness of the Fens to support development of tourism opportunities to benefit the area's economy and communities.</p> |

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| | | heritage and management of water resources. | | |
| 10 | Wetlands | <p>Create, enhance, extend and buffer wetland habitats to create wetland corridors and landscape-scale wetland habitat, for the benefit of a variety of species.</p> <p>Encourage the establishment of multifunctional wetlands that support biodiversity, natural heritage and management of water resources.</p> | | <p>Wetland enhancement & flood management.</p> <p>Re-planting on wetlands.</p> <p>Supporting the development of practical approaches and techniques for establishing corridors, buffer zones and sustainable use areas Maintaining up to date information on the Fens to inform future priorities. Raising awareness of the Fens to support development of tourism opportunities to benefit the area's economy and communities.</p> <p>Manage the core wetland complexes and increase their connectivity by enhancing the main rivers, waterways and their associated riparian habitats and improve recreational access opportunities to the Fens.</p> |

Rivers, Streams and Drains

| Ref | Habitat | Biodiversity Longlist | Priority | Potential Actions |
|-----|--------------|--|----------|---|
| 1 | Chalk Stream | Conserve and restore chalk streams to increase their ecological value, by addressing the 3 primary issues affecting the chalk stream network - flow pressures, channel modifications and poor water quality. | | <p>Develop and implement chalk stream catchment plans to maintain and restore chalk streams.</p> <p>Definitive mapping to track chalk streams.</p> <p>Restoration of the brook and surrounding habitat, including creation of berms.</p> <p>Work with catchment partners (e.g. farm cluster groups) to explore Nature Based Solutions across catchment including highlighted opportunity areas and to apply learning across the county.</p> <p>Rainwater harvesting.</p> <p>Cambridge Water using action reduction credits to save one river at a time (River Granta first).</p> <p>Protect and enhance chalk streams and wetlands in both their rural and urban settings. Manage the flood plain of chalk streams, including historic features such as watercress beds and channels, to conserve and create wetland habitat. In the urban environment, seek to restore degraded channels and extend the areas of greenspace surrounding rivers for biodiversity and public access benefits.</p> <p>Greater monitoring of waterbodies for pollution / water quality indicators, dealing with INNS, water catchment sensitive farming.</p> <p>The protection and enhancement of the chalk streams – for the benefit of people as well as wildlife that rely on the quality of the water within the important chalk stream network.</p> |

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| 2 | Chalk Stream | <p>Protect the East Anglian chalk groundwater resources by improving aquifer recharge and enhancing GI Features through landscape-scale management.</p> <p>East Anglian Chalk - Conserve the regionally important East Anglian chalk groundwater resource, by working in partnership to ensure that an integrated catchment scale approach is secured for its enhanced long-term management, including the chalk streams, for the benefit of biodiversity, landscape character and recreational experience.</p> | | <p>Improve water flow by so that Chalk springs and headwaters run freely, as they would under natural conditions, every year, whatever the weather.</p> <p>Aquifer recharge project - Undertake modelling to understand capture of water/ re-charge.</p> <p>Reduce abstraction from the Chalk aquifer at source.</p> <p>27 areas in the River Granta corridor with a high-level understanding of the infiltration potential for each of these areas using flood risk and groundwater models, combined with an assessment of ground conditions and environmental considerations.</p> |
| 3 | Springheads | Maintain springheads to restore flows. | | Restore flow by Natural Flood Risk Management. |

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| 4 | Drains | Restore and enhance biodiversity in ditch network and their water quality. | | <p>Work in partnership with IDBs / CEH to manage water for nature recovery. Record, restore and enhance biodiversity in ditch network to increase fenland nature recovery opportunities and optimising connections through linking linear structures (drains and ditches) with ponds/ wetlands/ important habitats.</p> <p>Widening drains and ditches as where possible, including creation of berms. Create steep ditches, dykes with margin/side strip.</p> <p>Create wetland habitat in IDB areas.</p> <p>Monitor water quality to provide clear water for aquatic flora, invertebrates and water vole populations.</p> <p>Promote as a corridor for biodiversity and landscape enhancement & creation including promoting wet woodland habitat creation where appropriate</p> <p>Enhancing habitat connectivity including habitat protection and enhancement along Maxey.</p> <p>Ditches and watercourses are seen as features in the landscape and need to be better managed. Management of the field boundary ditch system will reinforce the wetland character of the area.</p> |
| 5 | Rivers and streams | Restoring the health and natural functioning of rivers and their associated floodplain wetland habitats. | | <p>Restoring and recreating wetland habitats along river corridors and in the fenland basin, buffering impacts from agricultural runoff, creating flood water storage and providing important habitat for a range of species.</p> <p>Connecting existing and new areas of importance for biodiversity.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Appropriate funding and support for major projects working at sufficient scale will have the most impact on nature recovery.</p> <p>Coordination of planning decisions and BNG and LNRS will make a big difference. To ensure the conservation and enhancement of the ecological assets of the rivers in Cambridgeshire, as well as the provision of the area as a place for people's wellbeing, the area is seeking overall recognition and management. Attention must also be given to regional factors which have a negative impact on nature, such as water abstraction, pollution, development and climate change.</p> <p>Addressing new threats from escalating development, climate change, and pollution (including nutrient run-off from agriculture, effluent from water treatment works and plastic waste).</p> <p>Re-naturalising watercourse to address water scarcity and low flows caused by the water-demand pressures of development and agriculture. Loss of wildlife habitats through the modification of rivers and their floodplains for drainage, development and flood defences.</p> |
| 6 | Rivers and streams | Improve water quality by creating and restoring riparian buffers to reduce nutrient pollution from phosphates/nitrates by managing agricultural run-off, (including flood water and pollutants) enhance and restore aquatic habitats to increase in-river watercourse | | <p>Headland buffer alongside the ditch network.</p> <p>Maximising buffering in river valleys, especially braided rivers, to maximise opportunities for nature recovery.</p> <p>Increase abundance of trees and riparian habitat alongside riversides to provide flood risk benefits and to shade the river to help fish and other species.</p> <p>Buffer and enhance brooks. Management of invasive species.</p> |

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| | | habitat diversity (Reduce or eradicate sources of pollution). | | <p>Strengthen the historic character of the river valley landscape, encouraging traditional management methods, including willow pollarding along riverbanks, and the planting of native rare black poplar.</p> <p>Reconnect rivers with their flood plains as part of integrated flood management and wildlife enhancement schemes by supporting the operation of natural processes.</p> <p>Link and extend existing habitats and restore or create new river valley grasslands, fens, reedbeds and wet woodland where possible, for their contribution to the historic record of traditional landscapes, their biodiversity value and contribution to the sense of place.</p> <p>Enhance natural buffers along waterways to filter pollutants.</p> <p>Create wildlife river buffers by establishing vegetated zones along the banks of rivers and streams to provide habitat for wildlife, improve water quality and protect the integrity of the waterway.</p> |
| 7 | Rivers and streams | Restoring rivers & streams to their original course (where possible), link with other watercourses and reconnecting rivers to floodplain to create an enhanced riparian nature network. Support naturally functioning rivers free from physical modifications and barriers to fish passage using catchment-based approach | | <p>Fill in existing watercourses and allow more natural dispersion.</p> <p>Reinstating former ditches and channels across targeted areas which have been lost in the past.</p> <p>Formation of other wetland features to help increase biodiversity hotspot in the heart of Cambridge.</p> <p>Enhance the riverside commons by exploring opportunities to enhance existing watercourses and to reinstate ditches which have been lost or infilled over time.</p> |

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| | | <p>to managing rivers and estuaries.</p> <p>Protect aquifers and enhance the quality, state and structure of rivers, its valley and tributaries, habitats, waterbodies and flood plain by seeking to enhance their ecological, historical and recreational importance while taking into account their contribution to sense of place and regulating water flow, quality and availability.</p> | | <p>Explore cross boundary opportunities with neighbouring counties.</p> <p>Buffer Ouse Washes with wetland habitat.</p> <p>Open up culverted / piped sections, remove unnecessary weirs etc. and adopt NBS to manage flood risks not engineered / chemical solutions and remove physical barriers e.g. weirs.</p> <p>Improving the Water Framework Directive status of rivers, brooks / streams.</p> <p>SEO 2: Manage the core wetland complexes and increase their connectivity by enhancing the main rivers, waterways and their associated riparian habitats and improve recreational access opportunities to the Fens.</p> <p>Encourage the reconnection of the rivers with their flood plains, seeking to link and extend existing habitats and restore or create new grasslands, fens, reedbeds and wet woodland for their contribution to riverine character, biodiversity and sense of place.</p> <p>Reinstate traditional management practices such as willow pollarding.</p> |
| 8 | Rivers and streams | Enhance river corridors within urban context to provide key asset for public | | <p>Link together existing active travel routes, connecting existing and proposed neighbourhoods to the Cam Corridor, improving wayfinding and interpretation, balancing accessibility improvements with nature conservation, restoring floodplains, implementing natural flood management, and increasing riparian planting.</p> <p>Increase awareness about local water quality issues.</p> |

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| 9 | Rivers and streams | Improve the management of water flow by holding back flood water in river catchments to reduce wide scale prolonged flooding using nature-based solution. | | Confluence of rivers, farm drains and streams to slow the flow and reduce diffuse pollution e.g. to GCN ponds. Natural Flood Management Schemes. |

Farmed and Urban Landscapes

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|-----|---------------------------------|--|----------|---|
| 1 | Hedgerows | Improve and enhance hedgerow connectivity across landscape, including connecting woodlands, establishing green-lanes and providing buffer habitat. | | <p>Plant and manage our trees and hedgerows to maximise their wide range of benefits, tailored to their location, whilst also recognising the need to ensure trees are of an appropriate species mix for Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>Favour planting native species mixes, procured from bio-secure sources that can, where possible, also provide trees with greater genetic diversity protecting against disease and increasing resilience to the drier environmental conditions anticipated for Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>Work with local partners (e.g. parish councils, schools etc.).</p> <p>Cambridge City Biodiversity Strategy 2022 - 2030. Hedges for King's Hedges. We will implement a project to recreate the historical network of hedgerows throughout King's Hedges.</p> <p>Better timed maintenance and cutting of hedgerows and verges.</p> |
| 2 | Grassland and Heathland Mosaics | Improve and enhance acid grassland and heath, arable margins and other disturbed ground, woodland and scrub. | | <p>Increasing low intensity grazing and mowing practices.</p> <p>Manage removal of scrub and secondary woodland.</p> |
| 3 | Calcareous Grassland | Restore and create the mosaic of limestone grassland meadows, hedgerows and woodlands. | | <p>SEO 1: Maintain sustainable but productive agricultural land use, while expanding and connecting the chalkland assemblage of semi-natural grasslands, for example by sensitive management of road verges and extending buffer strips along field margins, to benefit soil and water</p> |

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| | | | | quality, reduce soil erosion, strengthen landscape character and enhance biodiversity and pollinator networks. |
| 4 | Farmland Mosaic | <p>Strengthen the mosaic of semi-natural habitats within the farmed landscape to benefit landscape character and improve connectivity through arable farmland via hedgerows, sensitive margins, verges, ponds, agroforestry, grassland and support farmland biodiversity.</p> <p>Enhance the character and the mosaic of habitat networks within the farmed landscape by maximising agricultural diversity where appropriate.</p> | | <p>Working with farmers. Create incentives to do more Environmental Friendly farming practices e.g. establish regenerative farming framework principles and promote Sustainable farming incentive.</p> <p>SEO 1: Maintain sustainable but productive agricultural land use, while expanding and connecting the chalkland assemblage of semi-natural grasslands, for example by sensitive management of road verges and extending buffer strips along field margins, to benefit soil and water quality, reduce soil erosion, strengthen landscape character and enhance biodiversity and pollinator networks.</p> <p>Encouraging farmers to liaise with local communities and actively participate in and contribute to nature recovery planning.</p> <p>Maintain and manage a sustainable and productive claylands arable landscape, while managing, expanding and linking woodlands, hedgerows and other semi-natural habitats to benefit biodiversity, improve soil and water quality, and ameliorate climate change by promoting good agricultural practice.</p> |
| 5 | Fenland / Wetland Mosaic | <p>Improve and enhance wetland mosaics of floodplain meadows, wet grassland, open water, reedbeds, wet woodland, peatland, ponds and ditches</p> | | <p>Appropriate funding and support for major projects working at sufficient scale to have a significant impact on nature, support for major new initiatives, protection of key areas & sites as the area is developed. Co-ordination of planning decisions and BNG with the LNRS.</p> <p>Species protection focusing on rare and declining species which require specific actions, habitats or microhabitats for recovery.</p> |

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| | | to deliver substantial wetland mosaic enhancement scheme and increase in abundance and diversity of species associated with these habitats. | | <p>Increase connectivity between new and existing wetlands by the creation of linear habitats and river enhancement.</p> <p>Manage the core wetland complexes and increase their connectivity by enhancing the main rivers, waterways and their associated riparian habitats and improve recreational access opportunities to the Fens.</p> |
| 6 | Corridors | Create a network of linear 'wildlife and pollinator corridors'. | | <p>Identify and manage key wildlife corridors (e.g. road, rail, rights of way) linking to adjacent land, that can be more effectively managed; and creating safe crossing points for wildlife.</p> <p>Developing projects that focus on urban areas of the city including targeted tree planting and enhancements to open mosaic habitats.</p> <p>Promoting locally appropriate wildflower diversity and abundance in line with the National Pollinator Strategy.</p> <p>Secure funding for functioning green bridges / underpasses to cross infrastructure that currently causes severance in infrastructure schemes.</p> <p>Create a network for pollinator corridors (e.g. B- lines).</p> <p>Develop county standard for wildflower mixes, shrub and trees to be utilised (climate resilient) in sensitive locations to promote connectivity.</p> <p>Better access to grants and expertise for developing and maintaining 'green' projects. For example grants to maintain newly planted hedgerows.</p> |

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| | | | | Appropriately manage semi-natural habitats including woodland, grassland, hedgerows, field margins, road verges and green lanes to provide structural diversity and a variety of flowering plants, and improve habitat extent, quality and connectivity in the landscape. |
| 7 | Corridors | Create Green corridors. | multifunctional Infrastructure | <p>Provide opportunities to improve biodiversity by expanding and joining up the existing woodland, hedgerow and grassland habitat network.</p> <p>Ensure negative impacts from access and recreational pressure on sensitive ecological sites are minimised.</p> <p>Improve access throughout the area for people (where it will not cause detrimental impact on ecological sites - as above).</p> <p>Ensuring that habitat connectivity, enhancement and creation is carefully integrated into planned development.</p> <p>Providing plentiful opportunities for people to appreciate, be involved with and enjoy nature close to where they live and work with large areas of well-designed open spaces and promoting natural play.</p> <p>This will be delivered through new woodland planting, natural regeneration, hedgerow extension and management, and habitat restoration.</p> <p>By providing additional GI sites for recreation, promoting alternative or new access routes, and educating visitors on the value of conserving habitats.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Litter picking, planting of verges with wildflowers and giving away free seeds, Dawn chorus walks in wetland area, eco market to promote local produce and business. Reduce mowing.</p> <p>Finding ways to improve knowledge of the benefits of nature to residents and encourage them to consider how they can improve the management of their gardens, driveways, hedgerows for the benefit of wildlife and nature.</p> <p>Identifying the main green spaces which are valued by residents in the village and develop specific Environmental Management plans – which also include reference to when and how the community might be engaged in related activities.</p> |
| 8 | Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land | Protection and management of Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land | | Promoting opportunities for residents to help wildlife, such as through caring for gardens and allotments. |
| 9 | Urban Mosaic | Provide new strategic and enhance existing green and recreational space(s) to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, to the wider GI network by green corridors, to address the deficit in accessible GI in this area, reduce recreational | | <p>This includes improving accessibility to and between GI assets and surrounding settlements, providing more opportunities for recreation and nature (making sites 'work harder'), expanding GI where possible, and enhancing habitats.</p> <p>Have a county-wide approach to managing existing green spaces to improve biodiversity.</p> <p>Undertake appropriate visitor management to ensure sustainable visitor pressure at all sites but particularly focus upon 'honey pot' sites and those</p> |

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| | | pressure on existing sites and provide an important asset to meet growing demand from proposed development. | | <p>sites near new development. Identify and promote alternative greenspaces and entry points to reduce visitor pressure.</p> <p>Identifying and delivering projects that improve people's connectivity to quality natural green spaces.</p> <p>Develop a pollinator action plan for Peterborough.</p> <p>Identify suitable additional greenspace to reduce frequency of grass cutting.</p> <p>Modify management of green spaces to encourage wildflowers.</p> <p>Promoting opportunities for residents to help wildlife such as through caring for gardens and allotments, by working with partners to secure green space for biodiversity.</p> <p>Create a patchwork of allotments and community growing sites across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.</p> <p>PCC owned and manage wildlife corridors to facilitate its role as part of ecological network.</p> <p>Continue to review the use of pesticides.</p> <p>It may be necessary to introduce zoning, or regulations on control of dogs at certain times of year. Combined with this we will take measures to engage dog walkers with what is appropriate, and where, through signage and information campaigns.</p> <p>Maintenance of hedges and scrubs.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Plan and manage private and public spaces for recreation such as golf courses and restored chalk pits, so that their design and their features contribute positively to landscape character. Seek the conservation, restoration and creation of natural and cultural features in these landscapes.</p> <p>Build upon previous greenspace programmes, such as the Future Parks Accelerator Programme.</p> |