

**The Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Local
Nature Recovery Strategy
Priorities and Potential Measures**

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Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
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Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description:	Direct or Supporting Measure?	Main National Environmental Objectives (NEOs) and Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) commitments supported by priorities
<p>In bold you will find the priority. A priority is a key outcome to achieve for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes.</p> <p>Underneath the priority, you will see text which details any wider benefits which could be delivered by achieving each relevant priority.</p>		<p>Please note that measures apply to the entirety of Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes, however, some measures were identified as being of particular importance in certain areas by stakeholders, these areas have been denoted by "Focus areas identified by stakeholders" within the specified measure.</p> <p>Additionally, multiple measures can be applied under multiple priorities, however, measures have not been duplicated under multiple priorities in this document so as not to be repetitious, and each measure was placed under the priority which fit it best.</p> <p>These potential measures give an indication of what action should be taken and where, but specific actions will always need to be sense checked in relation to actual conditions on site i.e. ground, soil and topography, to ensure that the right habitat is being created in the right place.</p>		

THEME 1: CONSERVE, CREATE ENHANCE AND RESTORE LAND-BASED HABITATS

<p>PRIORITY 1: Conserve, create, enhance and restore trees and woodland habitats</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination</p>	<p>M1 (mapped)</p>	<p>Buffer and connect ancient woodlands, while preserving and enhancing other Priority Habitats such as chalk grassland, floodplain meadows.</p> <p>Make connections by creating or restoring other woody habitat, using appropriate native species, such as areas of scrub, clumps of trees, fragmented woodlands or new hedgerows. Maintain sufficient open / unshaded water when planting alongside rivers and streams for aquatic ecosystems to flourish. This will enhance ecological corridors, facilitate wildlife migration and buffer fragmented habitats to support a more resilient and connected ecosystem and sequester carbon.</p> <p><i><u>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</u></i> <i>Aylesbury Vale</i></p>	<p>Direct</p>	<p>Relevant National Environment Objectives:</p> <p>Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050</p> <p>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</p>
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Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place	M2 (mapped)	Ancient woodlands are sensitively managed to enhance biodiversity; Veteran trees and dead wood habitat are retained where possible. Ancient coppice stools and those veteran trees on woodbanks are safeguarded from harm and wherever possible managed for perpetuity; rides and glades are created to support wildlife-rich habitat; woodlands are managed to achieve greater diversity of tree species and varied age structure; increase the broadleaved component in plantations on ancient woodland sites and implement sensitive long-term management. Assess the scale of damage by deer and squirrel and develop co-ordinated landscape scale deer and squirrel control where appropriate to help reduce damage and support natural regeneration.	Direct	Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022 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 Relevant Commitments from the Env Improvement Plan: Manage our woodlands for biodiversity, climate and sustainable forestry Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030 Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes' walk of a green or blue space Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25 YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non-native species by at least 50%, by 2030
	M3 (mapped)	Sensitively convert plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) back to native broad-leaved woodlands where appropriate. This will restore historical woodland habitats, improve biodiversity, and preserve the ecological integrity of ancient woodland sites as well as sequester carbon.	Direct	
	M4 (mapped)	Ensure ancient/veteran trees are shielded from harm (including their root protection area - at least 5m beyond the canopy) and that positive management is carried out where necessary to ensure their long term survival. Identify and manage trees with deadwood habitat to become veterans for the future. Veteranisation can create deadwood features on younger trees and help bridge age gaps in the succession of veteran trees. . Pollarding should be considered to increase the lifespan of open-grown trees. Management of the root zone can include avoiding soil compaction by fencing to exclude livestock or pathway diversion to reduce excessive foot traffic.	Direct	

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		<p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Aylesbury Vale, Burnham Beeches, Langley Park and Stoke Poges, Chilterns</i></p>		
	M5 (mapped)	<p>Create new woodlands/expand existing woodland using appropriate diverse species in areas where it delivers multiple benefits (both environmental and co-benefits).</p> <p>This will provide stepping stones for species across the landscape, create a more diverse mix of habitats to support a greater range of species, support a more resilient and connected ecosystem and sequester carbon. Woodland areas of 5 to 10 ha will support most woodland species.</p> <p>New woodland creation should be targeted at locations which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand existing ancient woodlands - Are on sites where woodland has been lost - Reconnect fragmented woodlands - Provide multiple benefits, such as reducing flood risk, soil erosion or provide public access <p>Where possible, such as adjacent to ancient woodland, allow the new woodland to naturally regenerate from seed from near by native trees. Where planting or direct seeding, use stock from more southerly provenances to improve resilience to future climates. Use species appropriate for site conditions. Maintain sufficient unshaded water when planting alongside rivers and streams for aquatic ecosystems to flourish</p> <p>Do not plant on other Priority Habitats such as chalk grassland, fen or floodplain meadows.</p> <p>Avoid higher quality agricultural land.</p> <p>Assess scale of damage by deer and squirrel; consider management of these species where appropriate to help reduce damage in woodlands and support natural regeneration.</p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: South Buckinghamshire and Aylesbury Vale. Wet woodland in Chilterns</i></p>		
	M6 (not mapped)	<p>Enhance woodland habitats by increasing age range of trees and the amount and diversity of deadwood features.</p> <p>Prioritise the planting of appropriate diverse trees, including outside of woodlands and in the wider landscape. Encourage / enable natural regeneration of the next generation of trees. Strategic management regarding diseased and dying trees, and potential veteranisation (age-ing up) techniques on younger trees, should be prioritised where appropriate to increase deadwood features. These actions will enhance the age diversity of trees and woodlands, structural diversity, biodiversity and habitat complexity of woodlands, contributing to overall woodland health.</p> <p><i>For example, in Aylesbury Vale, the planting of individual Black Poplar trees should be prioritised, to help conserve and restore a nationally-important population of native tree and provide stepping stones across the landscape.</i></p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Aylesbury Vale</i></p>	Direct	
	M7 (mapped)	<p>Bring more woodlands into active management.</p> <p>Apply management practices where appropriate, such as coppicing and selective felling, to increase structural diversity, natural regeneration and maintain historical ecological functions. This includes assessing the scale of damage by deer and squirrel; develop co-ordinated landscape scale deer management where appropriate to help reduce damage in woodlands and support natural regeneration. This approach</p>	Direct	

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		<p>will improve wildlife value and forest health, reduce pest populations, enhance the economic viability, benefit species adapted to these practices and support sustainable woodland management.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Aylesbury Vale, Bernwood Forest and the Chilterns</i></p>		
	M8 (not mapped)	Connect woodlands that are in active management, including traditional management, to local markets for sustainable use.	Supporting	
	M9 (not mapped)	<p>Encourage production of local produce that supports positive management of woodlands and orchards - such as venison, fruit juice and wood fuel</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Chilterns</i></p>	Supporting	
	M10 (mapped)	<p>Manage, and safeguard urban woodlands to improve air quality and urban cooling, provide recreational areas, sequester carbon and enhance biodiversity. This will contribute to ecological connectivity and overall well-being for people in urban areas.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Where possible focus on areas of low canopy cover and deprivation where opportunities exist</i></p>	Direct	
	M11 (mapped)	<p>Plant new urban woodlands and street trees in urban areas.</p> <p>This will improve air quality and urban cooling, provide recreational areas, sequester carbon and enhance biodiversity. This will contribute to ecological connectivity and overall well-being for people in urban areas.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i></p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<i>Where possible focus on areas of low canopy cover and deprivation where opportunities exist</i>		
	M12 (not mapped)	<p>Manage existing street trees in urban areas to improve air quality and urban cooling, provide recreational areas, sequester carbon and enhance biodiversity. This will contribute to ecological connectivity and overall well-being for people in urban areas.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Where possible focus on areas of low canopy cover and deprivation where opportunities exist</i></p>	Direct	
	M13 (mapped)	<p>Create wet woodlands in areas of high-water table. With appropriate management of water levels, if necessary.</p> <p>This will provide valuable habitat for otter and a range of invertebrates; help sequester carbon and reduce nutrients and sediment entering watercourses. May be best achieved with river restoration.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Chilterns</i></p>	Direct	
	M14 (not mapped)	<p>Maintain existing wet woodland with appropriate management of water levels by implementing minimal or low-level management and ensuring hydrological requirements are met (or 'not compromised).</p> <p>This will provide valuable habitat for otter and a range of invertebrates; help sequester carbon and reduce nutrients and sediment entering watercourses. Management may include coppicing, to prevent transition to dry woodland.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Chilterns</i></p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
	M15 (mapped)	<p>Connect wood pasture by implementing targeted grassland creation and enhancement together with veteran tree management. This will support biodiversity and create larger and more connected sites to enable species to move and be more resilient to climate change.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Burnham Beeches, Littleworth Common</i></p>	Direct	
	M16 (mapped)	<p>Restore wood pasture by protecting and sensitively managing existing trees, retaining deadwood.</p> <p>Plant new native trees in keeping with site and soil conditions and any historic parkland design plans. Manage the grasslands beneath the trees through grazing by cattle or sheep, or where already present, managed herds of deer" (not sure about the deer!).</p>	Direct	
<p>PRIORITY 2: Conserve, create, enhance and restore hedgerows and field margins</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value</p>	M17 (not mapped)	<p>Establish, connect, restore and manage hedgerows to support nature and increase carbon capture.</p> <p>Follow best practice guidelines to create new hedgerows, using a mixture of native species suitable to soil and site conditions, conserve and restore existing ones, and integrate trees into hedgerows where appropriate, such as conserving mature trees or allowing a tree roughly every 30 metres to mature to provide the next generation of trees in the landscape. Retaining standing deadwood, where safe, will further diversify hedgerow habitats and establish wildlife corridors throughout the landscape. Hedgerows act as carbon sinks, capturing carbon in their biomass and roots, while also providing essential habitats for wildlife and improving landscape connectivity.</p>	Direct	<p>Relevant Commitment from the National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>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</p> <p>Relevant Commitments from the Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Support farmers to create or restore 30,000 miles of hedgerows by 2037 and 45,000 miles of hedgerows by 2050</p> <p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Sense of place	M18 (not mapped)	<p>Support, engage and train local groups and volunteers in traditional hedgerow management techniques, such as hedge laying, which creates vital habitat and gives shelter to wildlife.</p> <p>Providing education and resources will build capacity for effective local stewardship, support community involvement, and ensure sustainable management practices to continue these benefits to wildlife into the future.</p>	Supporting	<p>goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p> <p>Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate</p> <p>Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels</p>
<p>PRIORITY 3: Conserve, create, enhance and restore species-rich grasslands</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Erosion protection Flood management Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place</p>	M19 (not mapped)	<p>Implement an appropriate management regime for species-rich grassland areas including an appropriate conservation grazing/mowing regime and low/no nutrient input ; to encourage wildflowers and native grasses to flourish, thereby increasing species diversity, providing better foraging opportunities for wildlife, and enhancing overall biodiversity.</p>	Direct	<p>Relevant Commitments from the National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species’ extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species’ extinction in 2022</p> <p>Relevant Commitments from the Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes’ walk of a green or blue space</p>
	M20 (mapped)	<p>Create new species-rich grasslands (where possible to expand, buffer or connect existing species-rich grassland) and restore historical/remnant grassland areas.</p> <p>This will focus resources to enable the delivery of more areas of biodiverse species-rich grassland and build resilience in their associated species populations.</p> <p><i>For example</i>, where appropriate, use green hay or locally sourced seed to create new and enhance existing species-rich grasslands. Using local seed will ensure the species will be adapted for local conditions and will help to create new populations of local grassland species.</p>	Direct	
	M21 (mapped)	<p>Create lowland meadow adjacent to existing or historical lowland meadow sites.</p> <p>This will help buffer existing grassland sites of interest by creating larger, connected semi-natural habitats that support a wider range of species, shield from external pressures, and</p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		enhance overall ecological resilience. <i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Milton Keynes</i>		Restore approximately 280,000 hectares of peatland in England by 2050 Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030
	M22 (mapped)	Buffer existing grassland sites of interest by creating semi-natural habitat to shield from external pressures.	Direct	Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate
	M22 (not mapped)	Create new grasslands as on-site habitat creation in developments.	Direct	Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non native species by at least 50%, by 2030
Priority 4: Conserve, create, enhance and restore heathlands	M23 (mapped)	Create a mosaic of heathland habitats (dry heath, wet heath, acid grassland, scrub) in areas where it was historically known to exist , and where possible, adjacent to existing heathland to revive these ecosystems and their associated species. <i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: South Buckinghamshire</i>	Direct	Relevant Commitments from the National Environmental Objectives: 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
Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Erosion protection Flood management Pollination Water quality regulation	M24 (mapped)	Restore existing heathland habitats (dry heath, wet heath, acid grassland and scrub)	Direct	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
Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Mental health and wellbeing	M25 (not mapped)	Restore heathland by developing and executing a detailed restoration plan to revive heathland ecosystems and their associated species. <i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: The belt from around Littleworth Common to Iver Heath and South Buckinghamshire</i>	Direct	Relevant Commitments from the Env Improvement Plan:

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Recreation and leisure Sense of place				Restore approximately 280,000 hectares of peatland in England by 2050 Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status
PRIORITY 5: Conserve, create, restore and connect chalk and limestone (lowland calcareous) grasslands. Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Erosion protection Flood regulation Pollination Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place	M26 (mapped)	Create wildlife-rich chalk and limestone grassland in areas with the appropriate soil type (i.e. alkaline, nutrient poor or thin soils). This connectivity and range in habitat structure provide niches for specialist species, enable species movement and build climate and ecosystem resilience. Encourage chalk scrapes for early colonising plant species.	Direct	Relevant Commitments from the National Environmental Objectives: 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 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 Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species’ extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species’ extinction in 2022 Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050
	M27 (mapped)	Restore wildlife-rich chalk and limestone grassland to support insects, including pollinators, for greater species diversity, encouraging use of chalk scrapes for early colonising plant species. At landscape scale, in areas where these habitats overlap, or where they overlap with wood pasture, scrub habitat or semi-natural grassland, connect areas to restore mosaic habitats. This will promote landscape-scale grassland restoration, enable species movement and build climate and ecosystem resilience. <i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Burnham Beeches, Littleworth Common</i>	Direct	
	M28 (not mapped)	Work with landowners, farmers and local community groups to maintain and enhance existing species-rich semi-natural chalk grassland through best management practices including advisory services, technical and delivery support. <i>For example,</i> introduce and support conservation-grazing to manage chalk and limestone grassland, promote plant diversity and soil health. Tailor grazing plans for each site to maintain ecological balance and habitat structure	Supporting	Relevant Commitments from the Env Improvement Plan: Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes’ walk of a green or blue space

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Chilterns</i>		Restore approximately 280,000 hectares of peatland in England by 2050
	M29 (mapped)	<p>Create grassland scrub mosaic habitat by implementing targeted enhancement and connectivity projects to support biodiversity. This will create larger and more connected sites to enable species to move and be more resilient to climate change.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Burnham Beeches, Littleworth Common</i></p>	Direct	<p>Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030</p> <p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p> <p>Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels</p> <p>Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non native species by at least 50%, by 2030</p>
<p>PRIORITY 6: Conserve, create and enhance traditional orchards, open mosaic habitats and other important sites</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p>	M30 (mapped)	<p>Restore and better manage orchards, including traditional orchards, by following best practice guidelines to encourage wildlife-rich habitat.</p> <p>Orchards and their remnants can be a rich source of biodiversity, and traditional orchards are a priority habitat for conservation in the UK. Manage orchards and remnants following appropriate best practice to provide a wildlife-rich mosaic of habitats as well as healthy fruiting trees. This may include (but not be limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting new trees for fruit and/or nut production and wildlife succession Maintaining existing fruit and nut trees for optimum health and productivity Managing the orchard floor vegetation; avoiding the use of chemicals Retaining deadwood and providing log piles for sheltering wildlife 	Direct	<p>Relevant National Environment Objectives:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Food production Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retaining and managing grass and other plants of different heights and managing hedgerows for food and shelter. <p>Consider including areas of controlled scrub, shrubbery, and young trees, for the benefit of small animals, birds and insects.</p>		Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050 Relevant Commitments from the Env Improvement Plan:
	M31 (mapped)	<p>Plant new orchards where appropriate, taking into account the location of former orchard locations, the need for species and structural diversity for climate change resilience, and liaising with neighbouring orchard landowners. Consider planting fruit types that were typical historically for the local area, such as cherries in the Chilterns and plums in Aylesbury Vale. Include local heritage fruit varieties such as the Prestwood Black in cherry orchards and the Aylesbury Prune in plum orchards, as well as other Buckinghamshire varieties of apple, cherry, plum and pear, to retain local stock. Consider a focus on existing and remnant orchards at risk of loss or harm, for example such as where a planning application is proposed. Consider monitoring progress of loss / harm and condition of orchards at risk</p>	Direct	Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes' walk of a green or blue space Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030 Restore 75% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest to favourable condition by 2042. By 31 January 2028 50% of SSSIs will have actions on track to achieve favourable condition.
	M32 (mapped)	<p>Restore and maintain existing open mosaic habitats and encourage new areas to establish; particularly along key routes like the EWR line.</p> <p>This will diversify the structure of habitat assemblages support a wide range of species, and improve ecological connectivity across landscapes.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> <i>Pitstone Quarry and Calvert</i></p>	Direct	Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non native species by at least 50%, by 2030
Priority 7: Strategic enhancement, expansion and	M33 (mapped)	If soil/ground conditions and neighbouring habitats indicate that the higher distinctive habitat in the mapped measures is not ecologically achievable or appropriate, then other priority	Direct	Relevant National Environmental Objectives:

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
linking of our existing high value sites and areas Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place		habitat and mosaics will be considered consistent for that location. For areas within a BOA, other measures consistent with BOA targets will be considered.		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
	M34 (not mapped)	Increase the overall land area dedicated to nature and wildlife Create more areas for nature , with appropriately-managed visitor access and visitor facilities. This will support landscape scale restoration of ecosystems, improve habitat connectivity and support a wide range of species, as well as be of benefit to the public to experience wildlife, and support the rural and tourism economies. Conduct site surveys, including surveys of Biological Notification Sites, for improved site management, data records and environmental education opportunities.	Direct	Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022 Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050 Relevant Commitments from National Env Improvement Plan:
	M35 (not mapped)	Ensure ongoing monitoring, management and enhancement of priority habitats to ensure the most valuable wildlife sites are maintained in good condition as core areas of a nature network.	Direct	Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030
	M36 (not mapped)	Create more and better habitats within and between Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) with a focus on priority habitats in BOAs first; then non-priority habitats in BOAs; then linking between BOAs.	Direct	
	M37 (not mapped)	Restore Biological Notification Sites and Local Wildlife Sites to help support landscape scale restoration of ecosystems, improve habitat connectivity and support a wide range of species, while increasing awareness and knowledge of local wildlife within communities	Supporting	
PRIORITY 8: Reduce recreational pressure on irreplaceable, priority and other important habitats	M38 (not mapped)	Manage visitor pressure in fragile ecosystems. Where there are sensitive wildlife areas, such as irreplaceable or priority habitats, manage visitor activity or provide alternative locations, to avoid damage. Actions could include:	Direct	Relevant National Environment Objectives: Biodiversity on land - Restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
<p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making certain areas wildlife zones where access by people is restricted to minimise wildlife and habitat disturbance • Developing designated recreational routes and engaging with local people to promote their use • Developing new accessible green spaces in less wildlife-sensitive areas to provide other recreational options and distribute visitor pressures <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Areas within Ashridge, Burnham Beeches, Howe Park Wood (MK), Woburn Woods, parts of the Colne Valley Regional Park and Bucks countryside near Slough</i></p>		<p>wildlife-rich habitat outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022 levels</p> <p>Relevant Commitments from Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030</p> <p>Manage our woodlands for biodiversity, climate and sustainable forestry</p> <p>Restore 75% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest to favourable condition by 2042. By 31 January 2028 50% of SSSIs will have actions on track to achieve favourable condition.</p>
	M39 (not mapped)	<p>Implement educational programs to inform the public about the importance of safeguarding priority habitats and to encourage the use of structured recreation routes. This will foster a greater understanding and respect for conservation efforts, further reducing recreational impact.</p>	Supporting	
THEME 2: IMPROVE RIVERS, THEIR FLOODPLAINS AND THE QUALITY OF THEIR WATERS				
<p>PRIORITY 9: Renaturalise river habitats using appropriate habitat restoration techniques and enhance the ecological value of river corridors and their floodplains</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature)</p>	M40 (mapped)	<p>Improve connectivity of rivers with their floodplains, by restoring and re-naturalising historically-altered rivers, restoring floodplain wetlands, enhancing water quality, and providing natural flood risk benefits. Physical river habitat restoration is essential to achieving Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives for waterbodies. A range of appropriate river restoration techniques, guided by specialist advice, will be implemented based on circumstances. These may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bed-raising • Gravel replenishment • Introducing or retaining woody material • Narrowing over-wide river sections 	Direct	<p>Relevant National Environment Objectives:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Pollination Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-meandering straightened channels to create natural habitats and shelter for wildlife Allowing rivers to recreate their own channel form through reconnection with the floodplain <p><i>For example, Mend the Misbourne through targeted restoration activities, including reconnecting the river to its floodplain, in the Lower Misbourne Valley and areas of Wye</i></p>		Relevant Commitments from Env Improvement Plan: Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status
	M41 (not mapped)	<p>Where appropriate, remove barriers and weirs to restore natural river flow, improve fish migration, and enhance habitat connectivity.</p> <p>Identifying and dismantling obstructions and removing barriers supports river channel restoration and helps achieve Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives by enabling fish access to spawning habitats. Where removal is not feasible, promote the creation of natural bypass channels or technical fish passes, drawing on specialist advice to identify the best options for mitigating the impact of impounding structures on in-stream habitats.</p> <p><i>For example, in the River Thames catchment, address fish passage barriers through removal or by providing bypass channels and technical fish passes.</i></p>	Direct	
	M42 (mapped)	<p>Restore and manage floodplain meadows using traditional methods to help maintain diverse plant and animal communities while supporting natural flood management.</p> <p>This is a nature-based solution to managing flood risk, by slowing the flow of water and storing water in the catchment, at the same time providing greater biodiversity value than would using engineered solutions such as building flood retention areas, pipes, dams or channels.</p> <p><i>For example, seasonal grazing and hay cutting.</i></p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
	M43 (mapped)	<p>Restore and maintain a variety of wetland types, such as wet grasslands, ponds, and fens, floodplain grazing marsh, to contribute to the wider mosaic of habitats linking up existing wetland habitats to provide stepping stones for wetland wildlife.</p> <p>This diversity supports a broad range of species and enhances the ecological value of the landscape.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Upper Ray and Thame</i></p>	Direct	
	M44 (mapped)	<p>Create and connect a variety of new wetlands such as wet grasslands, ponds, and fens and floodplain grazing marsh, to contribute to the wider mosaic of habitats.</p> <p>This diversity supports a broad range of species and enhances the ecological value of the landscape.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: Upper Ray and Thame.</i></p>	Direct	
	M45 (not mapped)	<p>Create reedbeds as a mosaic of habitat where hydrology is suitable and appropriate to improve biodiversity and soil health</p> <p>A strategic reedbed planting and management plan will ensure reedbeds are planted appropriately to provide habitat for wildlife, improve water quality through filtration, and stabilize soil to reduce erosion.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders: North Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes</i></p>	Direct	
	M46 (mapped)	<p>Intergrate nature-based solutions to manage surface water and fine sediment run-off, reduce flood risk and enhance groundwater recharge.</p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		These measures (such as Sustainable Drainage Systems and Natural Flood Management techniques) will complement river restoration by improving overall catchment management and water quality.		
PRIORITY 10: Improve river water quality Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place	M47 (mapped)	Increase the area of woodlands where they can intercept the flow of surface run-off of water and capture sediment to improve water quality in rivers. This reduces the impact of pollution on wildlife.	Direct	Relevant National Environment Objectives: 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 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 Relevant Commitments from Env Improvement Plan: Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status Make sure LNRs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate
	M50 (not mapped)	Water companies to consider building artificial wetlands to provide additional treatment for wastewater, remove pollutants and provide habitat for wildlife. This will aid their required rapid progress in the implementation of measures and improvements to meet their Environment Programme requirements as set by the Environment Agency and agreed by Ofwat. The measure could help to address water quality pressures arising from treated sewage effluent and failing/under-capacity sewerage infrastructure.	Supporting	
	M51 (not mapped)	Encourage volunteers to help monitor water quality so that decisions on the targeting of actions are informed by up-to-date local data. Support citizen science initiatives to add to existing baselines and monitor water quality, integrate these data sets with other data collection activities (research and regulatory) and to incorporate this data into decisions to inform water quality improvement measures and to identify diffuse sources or water quality pressures	Supporting	
PRIORITY 11: Conserve, enhance and restore Chalk Streams	M52 (not mapped)	Conduct comprehensive GIS mapping and field surveys to identify all chalk streams and their condition, to aid management and restoration efforts.	Supporting	Relevant National Environment Objectives: Biodiversity on land - Restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place		Collaborate with local environmental groups to create accurate and complete data for identification on the Natural England Chalk Stream map, to aid chalk stream management and restoration efforts.		wildlife-rich habitat outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022 levels
	M53 (not mapped)	Implement educational campaigns, workshops, and social media outreach to inform the public and encourage them to actively care for local chalk streams. Education to inform the public about the importance of chalk stream habitats, aims to foster community support and engagement in conservation efforts by working with stakeholders. <i>For example, work with local river groups, water companies etc.</i> <u>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</u> Chilterns	Supporting	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 Relevant Commitments from Env Improvement Plan: Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate
	M54 (mapped)	Restore and enhance chalk streams for biodiversity, water retention and to reduce pollution This should include restoring winterbourne headwaters as wildlife corridors, and actions to reduce fine sediment input. <u>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</u> Build on existing and emerging catchment partnership plans such as Chess Smarter Water Catchment plans, Colne CAN and South Chilterns catchment partnership plans.	Direct	
	M55 (mapped)	Extend chalk streams riparian (edge of watercourse) habitat, including winterbourne headwaters, as wildlife corridors, building on existing and emerging catchment partnership plans such as Chess Smarter Water Catchment plans, Colne CAN and South Chilterns catchment partnership plans. <u>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</u> Chilterns	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
	M56 (not mapped)	<p>Pursue and implement sustainable solutions to water supply options, by water companies and regulators (EA) to reduce abstraction pressures on impacted chalk streams, and the promotion of water efficient development, grey water re-use and other demand management measures to reduce the pressure on potable water supplies.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Chilterns</p>	Supporting	
	M57 (not mapped)	<p>Manage the land to support recharging the chalk aquifer.</p> <p>Implement land management techniques to enhance infiltration and soil ecosystems such as cover cropping, increased organic matter content and improved soil structure.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Chilterns</p>	Direct	
THEME 3: CONSERVE, CREATE, ENHANCE AND MAINTAIN WETLAND HABITATS				
<p>PRIORITY 12: Conserve, create, enhance, restore and connect existing ponds, rivers, lakes and lagoons to create a diversity of wetlands and pond sizes and depths to maximise and increase biodiversity</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading</p>	M58 (mapped)	<p>Enhance existing areas of floodplain grazing marsh, incorporating a mosaic of wetland features to benefit a wide variety of fauna and flora. Undertake in conjunction with river restoration where needed to improve hydrological connectivity, and floodplain functionality</p>	Direct	<p>Relevant National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species’ extinction by 2042, when</p>
	M59 (mapped)	<p>Create new areas of floodplain grazing marsh, incorporating a mosaic of wetland features to benefit a wide variety of fauna and flora. Undertake in conjunction with river restoration where needed to improve hydrological connectivity, and floodplain functionality</p>	Direct	
	M60 (not mapped)	<p>Enhance and manage lake margins to provide improved edge habitats, stabilise banks from erosion, and improve the diversity of surrounding habitat to provide refugia for wildlife.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Lakes in North Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes</p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Erosion protection Flood management Pollination Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place	M61 (not mapped)	Optimise management of the biodiversity of key freshwater areas and prioritise delivery around protected ponds and related biodiversity. Restoring degraded wetlands and safeguarding existing ones helps to buffer against extreme weather events such as floods and droughts. Wetlands can store carbon, reduce flood risk, and provide critical habitats for a wide range of species, helping ecosystems cope with climate change.	Direct	compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022 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
	M62 (mapped)	Enhance the wildlife value of existing ponds and small lakes. Establish appropriate habitat buffers around existing ponds and other wetland features and waterbodies (50 metres recommended). This will help reduce impacts of agricultural run-off and cattle-poaching, provide habitat for terrestrial phases of pond wildlife and marginal plant communities, and establish and manage a patchwork of light and shade on pond margins	Direct	Relevant Commitments to the Env Improvement Plan: Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes' walk of a green or blue space Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status
	M63 (mapped)	Create new ponds for wildlife. This will provide additional wetland habitat for water dependent species in the landscape, such as great-crested newts.	Direct	Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030
	M64 (not mapped)	Increase the number of priority ponds and small lakes, through pond/lake creation or restoration.	Direct	Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate
	M65 (not mapped)	Small water dependant habitats: increase as far as possible the area of small water-dependent freshwater habitats in good ecological condition (i.e. at 'Good status'). Includes: fens, mires, wet grassland, wet woodland.	Direct	Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate
	M66 (not mapped)	Enhance biodiversity value of canals and associated marginal habitats, working with other partners to employ best practice such as the Canal and River Trust and local conservation groups.	Direct	Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non native species by at least 50%, by 2030

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
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THEME 4: MORE FARMERS AND RURAL LAND MANAGERS TO ADOPT WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND TAKE ACTION TO IMPROVE SOIL HEALTH				
<p>PRIORITY 13: Farm businesses and rural landholdings enhance and create connected and diverse wildlife-rich habitats across the landscape as an integral part of their businesses, recognising the importance of wildlife for pollination, crop and soil and water health.</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Food production Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place</p>	<p>M67 (not mapped)</p>	<p>Provide effective advice and signposting to funding for land managers to enable them to adopt wildlife-friendly land management practices.</p> <p>Incentivising conservation practices to be adopted alongside land management would increase the quantity and quality, of wildlife across Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> conservation grazing, conservation practices, agri-environment schemes, maintaining habitats for biodiversity species-rich grasslands.</p>	<p>Supporting</p>	<p>Relevant National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>Halt the decline of species abundance by 2030.</p> <p>Reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042.</p> <p>Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Relevant Commitments from Env Improvement Plan</p> <p>Support farmers to create or restore 30,000 miles of hedgerows by 2037 and 45,000 miles of hedgerows by 2050</p> <p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p>
	<p>M68 (not mapped)</p>	<p>Engage the community in wildlife monitoring efforts to increase awareness and support for wildlife-friendly farming practices.</p> <p>Implement citizen science programs to monitor wildlife populations on farms and provide feedback to landowners. Engaging the community in wildlife monitoring efforts can increase awareness and support for wildlife-friendly farming practices.</p>	<p>Supporting</p>	
	<p>M69 (not mapped)</p>	<p>Link planners with landowners to ensure biodiversity needs and planning goals are aligned and support each other.</p> <p>Create links between planners and landowners to integrate conservation goals into broader land use planning efforts. This can ensure that wildlife-friendly practices are considered in the context of regional development and landscape-scale conservation strategies.</p>	<p>Supporting</p>	
	<p>M70 (not mapped)</p>	<p>Manage habitat restoration, creation and connection in collaboration across landownership borders - to connect habitats and mosaics of habitat at scale.</p> <p>This collective approach can amplify the impact of</p>	<p>Direct</p>	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<p>conservation efforts, improve habitat connectivity and help plants and animals to be more resilient to the impact of climate change.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Actively participate in existing farmer clusters or form new farmer clusters where none exist.</p>		<p>Make sure LNRs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate</p> <p>Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels</p>
	M71 (not mapped)	<p>Manage landholdings in ways that also provide more and better connected habitats for wildlife and that boost biodiversity</p> <p>Develop and manage an interconnected network of habitats across the farm or landholding to diversify landscapes, improve habitat connectivity and provide food sources and shelter for wildlife throughout the year.</p> <p><i>Examples identified by stakeholders:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow trees alongside farming: Planting trees and shrubs within agricultural systems ("agroforestry") can provide shelter and food for wildlife, enhance soil health, and sequester carbon. • Graze grasslands: Implement conservation grazing to manage grasslands. Grazing can help maintain plant diversity, create varied habitat structures, and support species that thrive in open, grazed landscapes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller scale practices to provide interconnected habitats, food and shelter for wildlife throughout the year, to support farmland birds, small mammals such as bats and voles and invertebrates such as butterflies and bees. e.g. allow hedgerows to grow larger and cut them less frequently, with flower-rich and tussocky margins to connect habitats; provide pollen and nectar 	Direct	

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		<p>plots or wild bird seed plots; or install barn own boxes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve or create low- or no-management field corners, areas of scrub and rank grassland, to act as refuges for wildlife which prefer low levels of disturbance 		
	M72 (not mapped)	<p>Reduce pesticide use by alternative methods of removal or management in areas where there are no legitimate safety or damage to infrastructure concerns.</p> <p>Adopt integrated pest management steps on farmland.</p>	Direct	
	M73 (mapped)	<p>Manage farmed floodplains less intensively to improve their value for biodiversity.</p> <p>Wetlands, floodplains and woodlands can act to slow the flow of water and store water, and reduce flood risk. Manage farmed floodplains less intensively to become semi-natural habitat (that is, altered habitats that still have high biodiversity value) or low intensity farming with habitat mosaics (a mix of different habitats). If the creation of a priority habitat is possible at the site location, that should be prioritised.</p> <p>A more natural floodplain provides multiple benefits - such as retaining water in times of drought, retaining nutrients and improving flood control. These functions will become increasingly in demand as the climate changes and flood and drought conditions become more frequent.</p>	Direct	
PRIORITY 14: Improve soil health by increasing micro-organisms, animals and plants living within the soil, improve soil structure and increase	M74 (not mapped)	<p>Manage land to improve soil health, conserve water, boost nature's resilience to climate change and boost agricultural productivity.</p> <p>Enhance soil health by increasing organic matter through regenerative agricultural practices and nature-sensitive land management.</p>	Direct	<p>National Environmental Objective: 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</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
<p>organic matter. This will increase soil fertility, water retention, lock up carbon, and reduce the need for chemical fertilisers and pesticides.</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Food production Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place</p>		<p><i>Examples identified by stakeholders:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> direct drilling and minimum tillage reduce soil disturbance and erosion, improves soil structure, enhances water retention and has a greater soil biodiversity than ploughed soils. cover cropping improves organic matter, prevents erosion, boosts carbon sequestration, and increases soil biodiversity, which in turn support long-term agricultural productivity and ecosystem health. 		<p>Relevant Commitments to Environmental Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels</p>
	M75 (mapped)	<p>Employ land management practices to slow surface runoff, capture sediment, reduce soil erosion and chemical runoff.</p> <p><i>Examples identified by stakeholders:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultivating across the slope and incorporating features like wide buffers along watercourses, field margins and beetle banks can shield riverbanks, reduce flood and pollution risk and aid aquifer recharge in chalk streams benefiting agriculture, local ecosystems and help reduce the impact of climate change. Encouraging a woodland mosaic along waterways can also keep water cool. 	Direct	
THEME 5: IMPROVE BIODIVERSITY IN BUILT-UP AREAS				
<p>Priority 15: Manage existing green and blue spaces in built-up areas better for wildlife</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature)</p>	M76 (not mapped)	<p>Encourage gardening for wildlife. This will support a diversity of species and create refuges within built environments.</p>	Supporting	<p>Relevant National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>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</p>
	M77 (mapped)	<p>Manage and maintain existing areas of green space and blue space (e.g. rivers, canals, waterside areas) better for wildlife</p> <p>Managing specific areas within public open spaces for nature provides habitats across the urban landscape to support more</p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place		<p>species and create refuges in built-up areas. Better-managed greenspace and areas surrounding blue space such as along canals, rivers and other waterbodies, provides habitats for pollinators, improves air quality, mitigates the urban heat island effect, creates refuges within built environments and contributes to a more resilient ecosystem. All tree planting should follow the ethos of "right tree, right place", with appropriate tree pit design and maintenance.</p> <p><i>For example, parks and sports fields could be managed to support species-rich grasslands by using native wildflower mixes and reducing intensive mowing practices. Swift bricks or hedgehog passes could be installed to increase habitat connectivity and shelter.</i></p>		<p>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</p> <p>Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022</p> <p>Relevant Commitments to Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes' walk of a green or blue space</p> <p>Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status</p> <p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p> <p>Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels</p>
	M78 (not mapped)	<p>Enhance green infrastructure by identifying and prioritising local delivery of national and local Green Infrastructure and Local Plan policies around green and blue infrastructure provision.</p> <p><i>For example, follow local Green Infrastructure Strategy objectives to create a cohesive network of wildlife-rich green spaces for wildlife.</i></p> <p>All Local Plans should adopt Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework and standards</p>	Supporting	
	M79 (not mapped)	<p>Support conservation-based volunteer programmes that bring people into contact with nature, for benefits to nature and people including health and wellbeing benefits</p>	Supporting	
	M80 (not mapped)	<p>Improve and enhance existing nature spaces close to where people live.</p> <p>Look for opportunities across urban areas to enhance. Improve green and blue spaces for nature across urban areas - parks and gardens and river or canal habitats. This could help ensure appropriate green-blue infrastructure for ecological connectivity, create habitat for pollinators and improve species diversity.</p>	Direct	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<p><i>For example, make access routes wildlife-friendly such as walking routes to school, riparian habitats in urban areas and new developments, wildflower areas, pocket parks</i></p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Aylesbury Vale, Chilterns and Milton Keynes</p>		
<p>PRIORITY 16: Create more space for nature when designing new development</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place</p>	<p>M81 (not mapped)</p>	<p>Create more spaces for nature in urban design, including at the large-scale to support landscape scale-restoration of ecosystems, creating a high-quality urban green infrastructure network.</p> <p>Connect existing greenspaces, such as parkland or country parks and design-in biodiversity in new development to improve habitat connectivity enhance wildlife corridors, support sustainable urban environments and to support a wide range of species.</p> <p>New spaces for nature could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creating pocket parks or urban woodlands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wildlife road verges • hedgerows • community growing spaces such as orchards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creating new ponds • putting in swift bricks and bat boxes into new buildings • Integrating street trees, green roofs and walls into urban design to enhance shade, cooling, and carbon absorption and improve air quality. • Providing natural greenspace in riparian corridors to maintain wildlife connectivity along river systems, and reduce or prevent urban pressures on the water environment <p>All tree planting should follow the ethos of "right tree, right place" , with appropriate tree pit design and</p>	<p>Direct</p>	<p>Relevant National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species’ extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species’ extinction in 2022</p> <p>Relevant Commitments to Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes’ walk of a green or blue space</p> <p>Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<p style="text-align: center;">maintenance included.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> South Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes</p>		<p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">M82 (not mapped)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Establish financially sound models for long-term site management of green and blue spaces for the benefit of wildlife and people.</p> <p>Establishing such a scheme or model would ensure that all new green spaces in developments are managed in perpetuity by organisations with a public service motive alone for the benefit of both wildlife and people, that will operate across land-ownerships.</p> <p><i>For example, a model similar to the Parks Trust model in Milton Keynes where new developments pay for the in-perpetuity management of these green spaces and this is invested in an endowment fund with a not-for-profit or charitable Trust then managing these in perpetuity.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Supporting</p>	<p>Support farmers to create or restore 30,000 miles of hedgerows by 2037 and 45,000 miles of hedgerows by 2050</p> <p>Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">M83 (mapped)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Create new ponds and restore existing wetland areas on public open space with ongoing management plans.</p> <p>This will increase biodiversity, support species reliant on wetland ecosystems, and improve water quality.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-Direct</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">M84 (mapped)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Manage high quality wildlife sites at risk of development and create and manage reasonable buffer areas to separate high quality wildlife sites from development - including extending wildlife corridors into new developments and around urban areas.</p> <p>Create and manage buffers around priority habitats, river corridors and other high quality biodiversity sites. Create and connect wildlife corridors, and shield them from development and recreational pressure. These include rivers and streams as well as areas of green space. Extensions should be planned and designed to integrate into the broader existing network and</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Direct</p>	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<p>improving habitat connectivity across both urban and rural landscapes. Riparian habitats should be created and restored into new expansion areas around urban environments.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Milton Keynes, around likely East-West Rail line, expansion areas</p>		
	M85 (not mapped)	<p>Provide information about areas being managed for wildlife to encourage people to care for wilder places. Where managing areas for wildlife, provide public information to promote responsible use and work with local groups to undertake creation and management activities. This will help to safeguard enhanced areas and improve local stewardship.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> North Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes</p>	Supporting	
	M86 (not mapped)	<p>Manage land for wildlife and to facilitate community action in local spaces.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Aylesbury Vale, Chilterns, North Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes</p>	Supporting	
	M87 (not mapped)	<p>Incorporate permeable surfaces to filter pollutants before they enter river systems, and other Sustainable Drainage Systems techniques within urban areas.</p> <p>This will help reduce the impact of flooding and pollution on wildlife, as well as improve water quality, and support groundwater recharge.</p> <p><i>For example, rain gardens and rainwater harvesting</i></p>	Direct	
	M88 (not mapped)	<p>Provide information about nature friendly features, such as swift bricks, bat boxes or hedgehog passes, to new residents and businesses, where these features have been installed.</p>	Supporting	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		This will increase awareness about local wildlife and encourage positive environmental action.		
<p>Priority 17: Provide habitats for nature along and around transport infrastructure</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Mental health and wellbeing Recreation and leisure Sense of place</p>	M89 (not mapped)	<p>Expand infrastructure routes for wildlife, by planting trees and encouraging other vegetation where possible and appropriate alongside road verges and railways.</p> <p>More nature, such as creating, restoring and managing trees and hedgerows, or encouraging wildflowers along infrastructure routes such as roads and railways, can provide shelter, food and migration routes for wildlife. At the same time, vegetation can help to improve air quality, boost soil health and reduce noise levels that can otherwise disrupt wildlife feeding and breeding, as well as improve habitat connectivity and biodiversity.</p> <p>Alongside direct biodiversity benefits, greening the infrastructure routes provides wider environmental benefits including carbon sequestration, reduced air pollution and in places will slow field runoff and filter chemical pollutants from entering roadside drainage systems.</p> <p>Coordinated management across local areas will deliver a consistent network of ecologically diverse verges, and improve connectivity and biodiversity.</p> <p><i>For example,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage road verges for wildflowers through partnerships between local groups, councils and highway authorities. • Identify and designate areas suitable for Roadside Nature Reserves and develop appropriate management plans for them. This will conserve and enhance specific sections of road verges, providing dedicated spaces for native flora and fauna to thrive and contribute to regional biodiversity. 	Direct	<p>Relevant National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species’ extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species’ extinction in 2022</p> <p>Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050</p> <p>Relevant Commitments to Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes’ walk of a green or blue space</p> <p>Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce through design and seek mitigation for any break in connectivity of chalk streams caused by Heathrow proposals <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Between the Thames and the Chilterns Chalk Streams</p>		<p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p> <p>Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels</p>
	M90 (not mapped)	<p>Identify and follow best practices for road verge management for wildlife.</p> <p>This will reduce habitat destruction and promote the preservation of these areas for wildlife.</p>	Supporting	
	M91 (not mapped)	<p>Dispose of cuttings from road verge management for wildlife in an environmentally-friendly way.</p>	Supporting	
	M92 (not mapped)	<p>Provide information to the public to help with road verge maintenance.</p> <p>Provide public information to promote responsible use on road verges managed for wildlife, such as avoiding parking on verges and not introducing ornamental plants. This will help to safeguard enhanced areas and improve local stewardship.</p>	Supporting	
	M93 (not mapped)	<p>Seek confirmation of and commitment to detailed ecological mitigation proposals (including timings) from HS2 and their contractors necessary to fulfil their biodiversity 'no-net loss' requirements.</p> <p>Collaborate with all stakeholders, including local communities, environmental organisations and government agencies to ensure they meet the specific requirements of the local landscape and connecting habitats. Where proposals are inadequate and/or improvements can be made, seek to achieve these improvements through constructive discussion with HS2 and their contractors.</p>	Supporting	
	M94 (not mapped)	<p>Agree a monitoring and reporting system to track both environmental impacts and assess the success of mitigation measures by HS2.</p>	Supporting	

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
		HS2 to deliver the monitoring, reporting in a transparent and timely manner to all stakeholders so that agreement can be reached on any adjustments required to ensure goals are met.		
	M95 (not mapped)	Identify sources of potential funding (including the route-wide HS2 CEF and Woodland funds, together with area specific funds such as the Chilterns -and Colne Valley* Additional Project Funds) and collaborate with all stakeholders to identify projects that will deliver wider ecologically based projects that ameliorate the long term impacts of HS2 construction and operation. *check on name of Colne Valley fund.	Supporting	
	M96 (not mapped)	Reduce through design and seek mitigation for any break in connectivity of chalk streams caused by Heathrow proposals. <i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Between the Thames and the Chilterns Chalk Streams	Supporting	
	M97 (not mapped)	Reduce through design of transport infrastructure the impact on other habitats and ensure mitigation/ resulting Biodiversity Net Gain is delivered locally. <i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> South Buckinghamshire	Supporting	
	M98 (not mapped)	Develop and deliver a detailed Green Infrastructure (GI) plan by conducting thorough planning and mitigation analysis to create ecological connectivity through development. <i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Iver area and surrounds, and South Buckinghamshire	Supporting	
THEME 6: CREATE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN HIGH QUALITY AREAS FOR WILDLIFE AND HABITATS TO FLOURISH				
PRIORITY 18: Connect habitats to make wildlife corridors and	M99 (not mapped)	Create dark sky areas and reduce light pollution for wildlife so that animals and plants perceive day and night correctly.	Direct	Relevant National Environmental Objectives

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
<p>stepping stones at landscape scale</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Noise regulation Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Sense of place</p>		<p>Light pollution has an overall negative impact on wildlife because it disturbs the way animals and plants perceive daytime and night-time which upsets their natural systems and behaviour including navigation and feeding habits. All light should have a clear purpose, be directed to only where it is needed, be no brighter than necessary and be turned off when not needed. Use warmer colour lights where possible.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Chilterns</p>		<p>Halt the decline of species abundance by 2030.</p> <p>Reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042.</p> <p>Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050</p>
	M100 (not mapped)	<p>Connect habitats together into networks, and enhance/extend existing networks to improve connectivity for wildlife, by supporting species movement and resilience</p> <p>Optimise opportunities to link land-based habitats using scrub mosaics and hedgerows, and edge habitats including wilder road verges, beetle banks and flower rich field margins and plots, ensuring continuous ecological networks and improving connectivity between and within rural areas as well as helping to sequester carbon. By bridging fragmented areas, wildlife can move more freely, to migrate or disperse, improving their chances of survival and adaptation to risks including climate change.</p> <p><i>For example</i>, link priority habitats between designated sites through co-ordinated habitat creation across a landscape by neighbouring landowners or across a farmer cluster to maintain ecological networks and promote wildlife movement.</p> <p><i>Focus areas identified by stakeholders:</i> Link woodland habitats, particularly by enhancing hedgerows in ancient woodland and between clusters of ancient woodland. e.g. Bernwood; South Bucks improved connectivity for wildlife in urban fringe of London and Slough in South Bucks countryside and parts of the Colne Valley Regional Park near Slough</p>	Direct	<p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Relevant Commitments to Env Improvement Plan</p> <p>Support farmers to create or restore 30,000 miles of hedgerows by 2037 and 45,000 miles of hedgerows by 2050</p> <p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p> <p>Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
	M101 (not mapped)	Connect, expand and buffer high-quality habitats within and between Biodiversity Opportunity Areas, where ecologically appropriate. Expanding and connecting these sites provides an opportunity to co-ordinate delivery of nature recovery at a more local scale, helping to provide opportunities for more wildlife movement and habitat niches to be established for species' benefit locally.	Direct	
	M102 (not mapped)	Target river corridors to establish wildlife corridors to link up habitats.	Direct	
	M103 (not mapped)	Link floodplain habitats to create continuous wetland corridors. This integration supports aquatic and terrestrial species, facilitates water management, and enhances biodiversity across the landscape.	Direct	
	M104 (not mapped)	Promote and support the adoption of green finance streams to manage and maintain species-rich grasslands. Encourage the participation in nature finance schemes, such as agri-environment, that incentivise or fund conservation practices, such as conservation grazing, to manage and maintain species-rich grasslands. Providing advice and support to farmers and landowners will help integrate these practices into agricultural management and enhance grassland habitats by creating structural diversity and increasing biodiversity.	Supporting	
THEME 7: MANAGE THE EFFECTS OF A CHANGING CLIMATE AND IMPROVE AIR QUALITY				
*There are only a few priorities and measures in this section that relate specifically to managing the effects of climate change, however, there are multiple priorities and measures in other themes which also address this issue, <i>for example</i> M5, M61,M74, m89 and M100.				
PRIORITY19: Use nature to capture carbon and weaken climate change	M105 (not mapped)	When creating new habitat, select the right species in the right place	Direct	Relevant National Environmental Objectives: Biodiversity on land

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
<p>Wider environmental impacts: (alongside nature recovery)</p> <p>Air purification (Cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Pollination Water quality regulation</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Sense of place</p>		<p>Aim for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A diverse mix of native plants that that are resilient to changing climate conditions to maintain functioning ecosystems. e.g. species that can tolerate extremes of temperature, moisture, and other climate-related stresses, thereby maintaining healthy and functioning ecosystems. • Native plant or seed species (and appropriate non-native species). Planting or seeding native species of local provenance will reflect local character, consideration of appropriate non-native species should be given as shifting sourcing to more southerly provenance origin will support habitats in adapting to future climates. • A diverse mix of native plants (flower-rich grassland, green roofs and walls, shrubs, hedges, trees) as well as structurally diverse vegetation including standing dead wood -to provide many habitats for wildlife. 		<p>Restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitat outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022</p> <p>Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050</p> <p>Relevant commitments to Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Manage our woodlands for biodiversity, climate and sustainable forestry</p> <p>Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate</p> <p>Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate</p> <p>Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non-native species by at least 50%, by 2030</p>
<p>PRIORITY 20: Adopt nature-based solutions to address climate change impacts, water management and improve air quality</p>	<p>M106 (not mapped)</p>	<p>Use Natural Flood Management (NFM) techniques in priority areas reduce flood risk.</p> <p>Use NFM measures in priority areas to slow the flow and reduce flood risk. NFM techniques could include adding woody debris barriers in water channels or restoring the natural form of rivers and floodplains; or tree planting on valley sides to</p>	<p>Direct</p>	<p>Relevant National Environmental Objectives:</p> <p>Biodiversity on land Restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitat</p>

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
Wider environmental benefits: (alongside nature recovery) Air purification (Cleaner air for nature) Carbon storage and sequestration Cooling and shading Erosion protection Flood management Pollination Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Sense of place		hold back run-off, and adopting sustainable drainage (SuDS) techniques; tree pits.		outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022
	M107 (mapped)	Employ nature-based solutions such as tree-planting where appropriate to alleviate the impacts of air pollution on nature. Make sure site management plans consider alleviating air pollution impacts on nature. Vegetation including trees are overall beneficial to air quality and should be considered particularly along and near transport routes. But they are not a solution to air quality at a city scale.	Direct	Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050 Relevant commitments to Env Improvement Plan: Manage our woodlands for biodiversity, climate and sustainable forestry
	M108 (not mapped)	Track climate impacts on nature to inform how to manage the area in response. Establish monitoring programs to track the impacts of climate change on local biodiversity and ecosystems. Use this data to inform adaptive nature management strategies and ensure timely and effective responses to emerging climate-related threats.	Supporting	Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate
	M109 (not mapped)	Engage local communities in conservation efforts to support long-term climate resilience. Engage local communities in conservation efforts and improve their awareness of the impacts of climate change on nature. Empowering communities with knowledge and involving them in adaptation projects can foster stewardship and support for long-term climate resilience initiatives.	Supporting	Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non-native species by at least 50%, by 2030
THEME 8: TACKLE NON-NATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES, PESTS AND DISEASES				
Priority 21: Reduce and prevent the spread of non-native invasive species, pests	M110 (not mapped)	Implement stringent biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of diseases. These include monitoring and controlling the movement of	Direct	Relevant National Environmental Objectives:

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
<p>and diseases which can occur in high densities to the detriment of a broader range of wildlife.</p> <p>Wider environmental benefits: (alongside nature recovery)</p> <p>Carbon storage and sequestration Pollination</p> <p>Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Education and training Sense of place</p>		potentially infected plants and animals, and promoting best practices among landowners and the public.		<p>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</p> <p>Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022</p> <p>Relevant commitments to Env Improvement Plan:</p> <p>Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non-native species by at least 50%, by 2030</p>
	M111 (not mapped)	<p>Implement landscape-scale management plans for controlling invasive non-native animals such as grey squirrel and edible dormouse, and damaging population levels of deer.</p> <p>Control should include coordinated culling and use of protection measures such as exclusionary fencing around sensitive features.</p>	Direct	
	M112 (not mapped)	<p>Implement landscape-scale management plans for controlling invasive non-native plants such as rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>).</p> <p>Control should involve coordinated removal, following biosecurity guidance to avoid reintroductions, and follow-up management to ensure removal success.</p>	Direct	
	M113 (not mapped)	<p>Establish baseline condition of habitats and identify areas affected by INNS, pests and diseases as part of a robust monitoring system implemented by key responsible bodies and land managers.</p> <p>Encourage measures to prevent spread, implement coordinated management plans to control where feasible, involve local groups to help survey and manage, which will build skills for identification and resources for local stewardship and citizen science.</p>	Supporting	
	M114 (not mapped)	<p>Where feasible, and appropriate, manage invasive non-native species, pests and diseases with relevant local groups, volunteers and education programmes.</p> <p>This will build skills for identification and resources for local stewardship and citizen science.</p>	Supporting	

THEME 9: IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT FOR IMPORTANT SPECIES

*Note: This section and its associated measures is currently being reviewed, and the Species Shortlist table and associated measures are being integrated into this wider Priorities and Measures shortlist. M117-9 are drafts of how certain important species measures may appear in this document and in the mapping.

Priority	Measure #	Potential Measure Description	Direct or Supporting Measure	Main NEO and EIP commitments
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For further information, refer to the Interactive LNRS Summary: Important Species tab or Section 5 in the LNRS document.				
Priority 22: Conserve, create, enhance, restore and connect specific areas that are important for the area's important species Wider environmental benefits: Air purification (cleaner air for nature) Carbon sequestration and storage Pollination Water quality regulation Non-env co-benefits: Aesthetic value Sense of place	M115 (mapped)	Take action to restore nature in target areas for important species (See Target Areas of Important Species layer in the Appendix for further information)	Direct	Relevant National Environmental Objectives: 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 Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022
	M116 (not mapped)	Take action for individual important species (See M117-9 and Species Shortlist Table and their niches table for further information)	Direct	
	M117 (mapped)	Take action to restore populations of Juniper (See Species Shortlist Table and the Species Niches Table for further information)	Direct	
	M118 (mapped)	Take action to restore populations of Noble Chafer (See Species Shortlist Table and the Species Niches Table for further information)	Direct	
	M119 (mapped)	Take action to restore populations of Arable and Disturbed Ground Plants (See Species Shortlist Table and the Species Niches Table for further information)	Direct	

Glossary of terms:

Aesthetic value

The biophysical characteristics or qualities of species or ecosystems (settings/cultural spaces) that are viewed / observed by people or enjoyed in other passive ways by virtue of sounds and smells etc.(Source: [CICES V5.2](#))

Air purification

The fixing and storage of an organic or inorganic substance by a species of plant, animal, bacteria, fungi or algae that mitigates its harmful effects and reduces the costs of disposal or treatment by other means (e.g. dust filtration by urban trees). (Source: [CICES V5.2](#))

Ancient trees

A tree that has passed the peak of maturity and is old in comparison with other trees of the same species (Woodland Trust). For further information see: [What are ancient trees](#)

Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs)

The area's Biodiversity Opportunity Areas were identified in the local Biodiversity Action Plan. BOAs are regionally-important area of opportunity for the creation and restoration of priority species – and are the most important areas for biodiversity. They represent the key locations across Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes where the greatest opportunities for habitat creation and restoration lie, and act as the basis for an ecological network. [ref Appendix E, F and J] Further information about BOAs is available on the NEP's website here: [Biodiversity Opportunity Areas – Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Natural Environment Partnership](#)

Carbon storage and sequestration

Regulation of the concentrations of gases in the atmosphere that impact on global climate or oceans [through both abiotic and biotic means] (e.g. carbon stored in peatlands). (Source: [CICES V5.2](#))

Co-benefits

The positive effects that a measure may have on other objectives, such as health, or public access

Cooling and shading (local climate regulation)

Mediation of ambient atmospheric conditions by virtue of presence of plants that improves living conditions for people. This includes regulation of microclimate, transpiration from leaves, shade, shelter from wind, and moderation of local heat island effects. (Adapted from [CICES V5.2](#)) For further information see: [CICES V5.2](#)

Designated sites

Certain areas receive a level of protection, including in the planning system, due to their importance for biodiversity. The types of sites with these protections relevant to the LNRS area are:

- **Special Areas of Conservation**

SACs are protected sites designated under the EU 'Habitats Directive' (habitats and species) to conserve habitats and species other than birds that are important in their own right.

- **Special Protection Area (SPA)** SPAs are special sites designated under the EU 'Birds Directive' to protect rare, vulnerable and migratory wild birds and their habitats
- **Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)** The statutory nature conservation agencies have a duty under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended, to notify any area of land which in their opinion is 'of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features'. Such areas are known as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
- **National Nature Reserves (NNRs)** – are designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 and were established to protect important habitats, species and geology, and to provide 'outdoor laboratories' for research.

Direct Measure (in the LNRS)

Direct measures relate to on-the-ground actions for a habitat, species, or wider environmental benefits

Erosion protection

The reduction in the loss of material (e.g. soil) by virtue of the stabilising effects of the presence of plants and animals that mitigates or prevents potential damage by [flooding] to human use of the environment or human health and safety. (Source: [CICES V5.2](#))

Flood management

Ecosystems controlling river and lake levels during normal conditions. (Source: [CICES V5.2](#))

Green Infrastructure

A network of multi-functional green space and other green features, urban and rural, which can deliver quality of life and environmental benefits for communities (Town and Country Planning Association definition. Available at: [What is Green Infrastructure?- Town and Country Planning Association](#))

Local Nature Reserves

A statutory designation made by principal local authorities to places with wildlife or geological features of special interest locally.

Local Wildlife Sites

Are areas selected locally for their nature conservation value based on important, distinctive and threatened habitats and species within a national, regional and local context. It is a non-statutory designation that recognises high quality wildlife habitats.

Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

Lowland mixed deciduous woodland includes woodland growing on the full range of soil conditions, from very acidic to base-rich, and takes in most semi-natural woodland in southern and eastern England. It includes stands of both native and non-native broadleaved tree species, as well as yew.

Measure (in the LNRS)

Measures are the actions that are recommended to achieve the priorities. They may or may not be geographically specific. Potential measures are “specific practical actions to achieve” priorities (LNRS statutory guidance, paragraph 51). These are the suggested activities that, if done properly, would help to deliver the agreed priorities. They can benefit a particular species or habitat or provide wider environmental benefits (nature-based solutions).

Mapped measure

These are the measures that directly relate to habitats and species and wider environmental benefits, and for which a defined, or targeted, area can be identified, where significant uplift in biodiversity is possible.

Non-mapped measures

Measures that directly relate to habitats and species and wider environmental benefits within the LNRS for which are not targeted at a specific geography

Native species

A species that is within its known natural range, and occurs naturally in a given area or habitat, as opposed to an introduced species or invasive species.

Non-native species

Species that do not occur naturally in an area, but are introduced as the result of deliberate or accidental human activities.

Parkland

Designed landscapes from large estates, traditionally managed through grazing.

Pollination

By bees and other insects; seed dispersal by insects, birds, and other animals regulates lifecycle maintenance, habitat and gene pool protection. For further information, see: [Common International Classification of Ecosystem Services \(CICES\) \(europa.eu\)](http://europa.eu)

Priority Habitat

(For priority habitat descriptions, see UK Biodiversity Action Plan: Priority Habitat Descriptions (Updated December 2011))

Priority (in the LNRS)

Priorities are shortlisted opportunities based on stakeholder feedback. Priorities are “the end results that the strategy is seeking to achieve” ([LNRS statutory guidance, paragraph 5 1](#)).

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

The statutory nature conservation agencies have a duty under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended, to notify any area of land which in their opinion is 'of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features'. Such areas are known as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

Special Areas of Conservation

SACs are protected sites designated under the EU 'Habitats Directive' (habitats and species) to conserve habitats and species other than birds that are important in their own right.

Special Protection Area (SPA)

SPAs are special sites designated under the EU 'Birds Directive' to protect rare, vulnerable and migratory wild birds and their habitats

Supporting measure (in the LNRS)

Supporting measures are indirect actions deemed necessary presented for context— e.g. raising awareness

Veteran trees

A tree with habitat features such as wounds or decay. Often used interchangeably with ancient tree, but does not always develop ancient tree features as a result of age, but as a consequence of its life or environment. Ancient veterans are ancient trees; but not all veterans are old enough to be ancient. (Woodland Trust) For further information, see: [What are ancient, veteran and other trees of special interest?](#)

Water quality regulation

Maintenance of the chemical condition of fresh [or salt] waters by plant or animal species that enable human use or health. (Source: CICES V5.2)

Wood pasture

Wood pasture is land that has been managed through grazing. They can be ancient, or of more recent origin. Some started as medieval hunting forests or wooded commons, and others are the designed landscapes from large estates

Wider Environmental Benefits

Benefits to address wider environmental issues affecting the strategy area which changes in land use or management could help to address – for example improvements to the water environment, flood risk management, or climate mitigation and adaptation