Topic	Any further comments about issues or opportunities affecting the topic?
Rivers and Wetlands	We m Need to put lakes in to encourage wildlife.
Rivers and Wetlands	More developers and highway storage prior to water entering the river network coupled with the pre treatment of all sewage before it enters the river network. untreated sewage and highway run off accounts for 88% of pollution according to the Water Framework directive NW Hampshire River Wey document
Rivers and Wetlands	Protection for roadside waterways is a very important issue to me, In my line of work I see pollution and poor maintenance of roadside ditches and other roadside watercourses on a regular basis, better protection and stringent enforcement on landowners to maintain the ditches they are responsible for is very important.
Rivers and Wetlands	Access and funding is necessary to maintain and connect the disparate network (and owned by whom?) of watercourses and rivers Hampshire.
Rivers and Wetlands	I would think the water companies should be playing a role.
Rivers and Wetlands	Wider beaver reintroduction will do a good amount of the biodiversity improvement and flood management work for us, and should be expanded.
Rivers and Wetlands	As a local I was born in Winchester in [redacted] I have seen a decline in our rivers over the last couple of decades
Rivers and Wetlands	Would be pragmatic over these doing what seems to work in whatever instance rather than blanket policy.
Rivers and Wetlands	There has to be greater monitoring by LAs in order to be able to hold water companies accountable
Rivers and Wetlands	Currently, at least 92% of England's land is not accessible to the general public. I'd like the council to encourage land owners to make more wetland areas that they manage accessible to the general public, a) to increase awareness of the importance of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, b) to increase appreciation, support and protection of nature, and c) perhaps most importantly, to improve public health and well-being.
Rivers and Wetlands	Barriers to fish migration.
Rivers and Wetlands	Water is life, without it, we die.
Rivers and Wetlands	You need to get the water companies to stop polluting
Rivers and Wetlands	STOP THE EXCESSIVE WATER EXTRACTION FROM THE CHALK BED BY SOUTHERN WATER. Damaging the rivers that dry up. Affecting the SSI
Rivers and Wetlands	Ban Southern Water frm discharging any sewage whatsoever into any of Hampshire's rivers. Technology exists today which can dispose of sewage in other ways to turn it into innocuous fertiliser , safe to use on fieleds. Farmers should also be banned from allowing pesticides , herbicides and fertiliser runoff from their fields into the

	rivers. Hampshire was noted for its watercress beds, which need pristine clear chalk streams and these need to be reinstated as watercress is a valuable, nutritious salad crop.
Rivers and Wetlands	Managing the impact of recreation on rivers from boating/yachting and on small streamns from dogs (treatments) and tourism in popular areas eg Lyndhurst, Moyles Court and Ogdens
Rivers and Wetlands	no
Rivers and Wetlands	Priorities that I believe were not captured in the document as pertaining to the improvement of habitat and target species was in regards to the Itchen River, and what I deem to be an excellent opportunity to restore and manage large swathes of riverbank habitat that crosses several historically important sites prior to joining up with the internationally important Southampton waters. The Itchen River comprises 26 miles of land in comparison to the 9 miles of New Forest Streams, with a massive potential to overflow positive surges in biodiversity to surrounding landscapes. The Kingfisher and several species of bats that roost on more senior trees growing on the river are just two of several species that are present and able to flourish with better management of chemistry, and a reduction of pollution to the River Itchen. Additionally, provisions should be made that detail how to eventually gain protected status for the River Itchen beyond SSI protections to those of the River Ouse, recognised as "living entities" granted legal "intrinsic rights to exist".
Rivers and Wetlands	Take back control of water management from privatised water companies
Rivers and Wetlands	Too much development is taking place on flood planes. Rivers, culverts and ditches are not being cleared enough to allow the water to flow.
Rivers and Wetlands	Incredibly grateful, ban pesticides, ma age wild footpaths to keel humans from the fields, i reside in hook, witnessed a man walking the roads spraying chemicals along verges, footpaths to kill weeds and poison young children who play there plus animals, people are never informed there are no signs, very unprofessional
Rivers and Wetlands	Essential to educate dog owners about the dangers to ground nesting birds from dogs off leads, not just when farm animals are about
Rivers and Wetlands	As an SSI in a National Park, this area needs to be addressed on those bases as there does not seem to be much consideration of these points.
Rivers and Wetlands	Please do engage with experts - plenty at University of Southampton who understand about restoration and, importantly, some of the schemes that are ill advised and simply don't work.
Rivers and Wetlands	I think Esso Fawley Refinery should be MORE involved in checking pollution in the area to rivers, air pollution and habitat. They directly impact the environment and I believe should invest in protecting the immediate environment. I know they have been involved in some projects but I believe they could help more.

Rivers and Wetlands	Hamble river water wuality
Rivers and Wetlands	The excessive development in our small towns & villages is not helping the supply and cleanliness of our water and just as important the rivers & wetlands. Too many people moving to Hart puts an enormous strain on our water supples and the extra waste they produce is too much for our sewerage systems. Too many people still don't understand how valuable water is.
Rivers and Wetlands	Many ponds large and small have gone. We need a programme of pond installing in suitable positions to give the relevant creatures a home. Too much has gone under buildings, we need some areas just left to nature.
Rivers and Wetlands	I would like to see water companies made to impose hosepipe bans much earlier, rather than when water levels are already a problem
Rivers and Wetlands	There needs to be a blanket ban on the development of flood plains, even to the point of demolishing properties that have been built on flood plains during the past 20 years. And when planning permission is refused, the developer should have no recourse to an appeal.
Rivers and Wetlands	Could the local authority liaise with water companies to apply some gentle pressure in terms of the water pollution that they create and its effect on nature?
Rivers and Wetlands	Stop Southern Water abstracting anymore water from the chalk bed, destroying the SSI chalk streams of the Itchen. Stop any further housing developments within a radius of the Itchen.
Rivers and Wetlands	Good information about the state of ALL rivers and wetlands should be collated and a time scale issued to those involved to improve conditions with mandatory obligations.
Rivers and Wetlands	The LNRS states that Hampshire has 85% of the UKs chalk streams, which in themselves are a unique international habitat. In that context and in recognition of thier significance it would be better to have a specific section on chalk streams, thier importance and measures to protect them rather than them being included in the wider River and Wetlands section of the document in chapter 2. In terms of the list of priority species on page 49 it would be appropriate to inlcude those species which are indicators of the health of chalk rivers and streams and reflect thier significance eg Atlantic Salmon and sea trout. On pages 52 there is a section of Kay Issues for Nature and on pages 52 and 53 Opportunities for Nature Recovery. This focus is very much on Land management, we think this section should include more on the issues and opportunities relating to hampshyire chalk rivers and Streams. We have seen. for examples with the recent adoption by Bansingstoke and Dene Town Council, that in the UK, the concept of granting rivers legal rights is gaining traction as part of the broader "Rights of Nature" movement. whislt we understand that this is not yet legally binding, this movement seeks to recognize rivers as living entities with inherent rights to exist, flow, be free from pollution, and maintain their ecological functions. We would like to see the Hampshire LNRS adopting the Rights of the River Charter, for all it's rivers. In section 2.2 on the Central Chalk Belt, under the crown jewe

	sites, given thier international importance we feel that Hampshire's main chalk rivers and thier tributaries shold be included as a site
Rivers and Wetlands	There's been reports in the media recently about the presence of flea treatments in rivers etc. I think this is important for pet owners to understand.
Rivers and Wetlands	We welcome a catchment based approach. The South Downs National Park's Landscape Character Assessment 2020 includes recommendations for nature recovery by landscape type which could usefully read alongside the LNRS to ensure that that nature recovery opportunities are landscape appropriate.
Rivers and Wetlands	More realtime information for the public to engage in. More funding for existing groups to do training or employ people. Volunteers are becoming scarc. We need stability now.
Rivers and Wetlands	Riparian buffer strips should be at least 25m from the top edge of the bank, according to a recent River Buffers conference. The research actually shows that they should be between 50 and 100m, which would be preferable. The Parish Council strongly supports the wording of 2.27 and 2.28 which are vitality important, to ensure that Local Plans protect and restore river and wetland ecosystems. River restoration projects should be prioritised and the Parish Council would welcome such opportunities in our area. The Parish Council strongly supports spacial planning at all scales being focussed around green and blue infrastructure.
Rivers and Wetlands	The Parish Council supports the LNRS's recognition of the uniqueness of the County's chalk rivers and streams and their international importance for biodiversity. The River Test flows close to Houghton village and its tributary, the Wallop Brook, forms part of the western boundary of the parish. The identification of the land adjoining the River Test and Wallop Brook as Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity(ACB) is supported. There is a section of the Wallop Brook where it meets the River Test which is not identified as ACB. The Parish Council would be grateful if the County Council could advise why that is the case. The LNRS states that Hampshire has 85% of the UK's chalk streams which in themselves are a unique international habitat. In that context the Parish Council requests the County Council to review the document and have a specific section on chalk streams and rivers rather than to be included in the wider River and Wetlands section of the document in chapter 2 In section 2.2 on the Central Chalk Belt , under crown jewel sites given their international importance the main chalk rivers and their tributaries should be included. In terms of the list of priority species on page 49 the parish Council requests the County Council a to include those species which are indicators of the health of the chalk rivers and streams and reflect their significance eg Atlantic Salmon and Sea Trout The section on Key Issues for Nature page 53 under Opportunities for Nature Recovery the focus appears to be very much on land management. The Parish Council request the County Council to consider the inclusion of more specific issues and opportunities relating to chalk rivers and streams.

Rivers and Wetlands	Funding for collaboration and liason. Consideration of how rivers impact adjacent coastal habitats - incorporating this context when addressing challenges faced by rivers/wetlands
Rivers and Wetlands	“2.28 Local planning authorities could also create river restoration projects that will contribute to developers’ biodiversity net gain (BNG) watercourse units” This requires ownership / control. We will always work constructively with landowners and agents securing BNG offset sites in District e.g. via s106 for monitoring but creation / delivery is not often directly in an LPAs control. “2.27 It was felt that local authorities could be a driver of nature recovery for rivers and wetlands. Actions that could be taken include building river recovery strategies and action plans into local plans, and creating policies that protect river and wetland ecosystems. Consideration should be given to the impacts on the water environment before council decisions are made, as they currently are for climate change impacts. An example of this could be to create no build buffers around all rivers, as there are currently for ancient woodland.” This would typically be dictated by flood risk in most instances, how would infrastructure e.g. road crossings and other infrastructure factor into this? Could be turned around more favourably, rather than being preventative (where building near rivers is low in any case given flooding considerations) and seek to incentivise what would be desirable, for example creation of vegetated buffers – Potential link to Measure R1. A LPA role in this could be as part of a ‘call for sites’ or similar for riparian land to be bought forward for natural capital schemes.
Rivers and Wetlands	We consider all the key issues and opportunities identified for Rivers and Wetlands are important. We note and welcome the role for local authorities in driving nature recovery through the planning process. The borough’s main rivers and their tributaries, in particular the chalk streams, are already identified as very important ecological corridors, and the council already requires impacts on these and the wider water environment to be considered and appropriately addressed through existing local policy and planning guidance. We are currently updating our Local Plan and we will seek to ensure it aligns closely with the LNRS. More widely we will look to support river and wetland projects and promote habitat restoration through biodiversity net gain schemes. We request that the sub-heading for paragraphs 2.27 and 2.28 is changed from ‘Local authorities and planning’ to just ‘Local authorities’, to reflect more broadly the council’s wider remit rather than what it can do strictly under planning. Additionally, we suggest some extra paragraphs are added under the Opportunities section to capture the roles of the relevant statutory authorities and the water companies in promoting and driving the recovery of wet habitats and reflecting their statutory obligations in this area.
Rivers and Wetlands	My concern is Cove Brook, running through Cove, Farnborough. Once a thriving reserve for all kinds of nature, it is now a dank and dismal place and devoid of the birds, plants and even animals (river voles, frogs, possibly fish) that used to thrive here, due to the massive build-up on the banks of bramble and most importantly of

	seedling trees (rapidly growing into mature trees) from the imported sycamore-type trees planted in Blunden Park.
Rivers and Wetlands	encouragement and support of the public and local voluntary groups to monitor water quality, to help improve river and wetland habitats and be involved in plans to drive nature recovery
Rivers and Wetlands	Chalk rivers are unique national and international waterways that need the highest protection. The general river buffer is too small. i suggest 50-100m buffers is needed - see Natural England - Nature Networks Evidence Handbook - NERR081. pg. 28 and pg. 110. While it does not reference chalk streams specifically, it mentions biodiversity sites. The LNRS has scant detail on the importance of natural Ecosystem services. It is not in the glossary. Good natural ecosystem services and habitat and species restoration are mutually reinforcing. Chalk streams are unique in this respect - constant flow, high oxygen levels with sensitive species and global rarity. This uniqueness heightens their conservation importance. Given the Climate Crisis the need for more wetlands for carbon sequestration as well as habitat/species restoration needs stringer emphasis.
Rivers and Wetlands	Water quality is of paramount importance to nature recovery in our rivers, streams, and coastlines. Not enough is talked about in this plan to monitor and prevent the pollution of these watercourses by water companies, agriculture and industry. Also expanding the protection given by SAC/SINC/SANG/SSSI designation to a far greater amount of our water courses should form part of the plan.
Rivers and Wetlands	There have been many different types of stewardship funding for farmers/landowners over many decades, however they are flawed and have all failed to improve the environment. This approach is flawed by enabling the elite 1% of the of the population dictate how 70% of the land is used. It is incorrect that taxes should be sent to private landowners who are evidently not using it for its intended purpose. With a few exceptions, the evidence is clear that most landowners are not stewards of the land. Instead, communities need to be given greater ownership and decision-making with a reorientation of public money towards public benefit, decided by local communities. Whilst I appreciate local government have little control over this, there should be lobbying for a community bottom-up approach and incentives to return the land to the commons.
Rivers and Wetlands	Very concerned about prospect of furthe abstraction from chalk streams (very rare eco-systems) which may result in them drying up completely, as has happened in other counties.
Rivers and Wetlands	The role of the shooting community in wetland creation and management is important. Ponds and wet scrapes can be created and managed to be nature rich in order to provide just a few evenings opportunity to harvest duck and geese in the winter months. Therefore the shooting community is an ally in working with landowners and funding streams to extend and improve the condition of wetlands.

Rivers and Wetlands	Church Commissioners for England own landholdings to the north of Chilbolton, which is located directly adjacent to the River Test. As such, they understand that as their landholdings are located adjacent to the river, they could play a crucial role in mitigating the effects of flooding. Church Commissioners for England are therefore supportive of the opportunities for nature recovery identified on page 25, including tree planting and the provision of riparian buffer strips, provided it aligns with their agricultural objectives. Our client is also supportive of paragraph 2.28, which links development to the BNG credits. As previously mentioned, once published, the Hampshire LNRS will aid in unlocking development sites by strategically locating BNG sites. Our client is of the view that enhancing funding is critical to successful nature recovery. However, due to the changes in the Countryside Stewardship Scheme in 2024 and awaited guidance on Sustainable Farming Incentives (SFIs), it is considered that there may be limited access to funding in the short-term. We are supportive of the identification of 'collaboration and landowner liaison' as an opportunity for the LNRS to harness. Our client considers that a joined-up approach between landowners is critical to ensuring the success of the LNRS. We are therefore supportive of the inclusion of platforms to encourage collaboration, such as the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre.
Rivers and Wetlands	Catchments must be treated as complete ecosystems
Rivers and Wetlands	It is vitally important that local authorities drive nature recovery through the planning process. Basingstoke & Deane passed a Motion on the Rights of Rivers on 15th May 2025 and will now seek to embed further the protection and restoration of rivers where it can legally do so. The borough's main rivers and their tributaries, in particular the chalk streams, are already identified as very important ecological corridors, and the council already requires impacts on these and the wider water environment to be considered and addressed through existing local policy and planning guidance. We are currently updating our Local Plan and we will seek to ensure it aligns closely with the LNRS. More widely we will look to support river and wetland projects and promote habitat restoration through biodiversity net gain schemes. Riparian buffers ideally of 25m will be important in preventing further deterioration of the rivers from various pollutants and must be strongly encouraged - as per the River Buffers Conference evidence of 2024 which found buffers of 50 and 100m would be more appropriate. Additionally, we suggest some extra paragraphs are added under the Opportunities section to capture the roles of the relevant statutory authorities and the water companies in promoting and driving the recovery of wet habitats and reflecting their statutory obligations in this area.
Rivers and Wetlands	There should be a focus on illegal sewage pollution, sewage forced up out of the network by rainfall before it reaches the CSO. These cases are uncontrolled & hidden from view by tankering.

Rivers and Wetlands	1. We need full protections for our precious and unique chalk streams, and our seas and coasts including Seagrass meadows and saltmarshes. 2. We need changes to the ways rivers and land around them are managed to stop the damage being caused to the health of our rivers and the river wildlife. It's estimated that more than half of our freshwater species are now in decline. We need to restore habitats for wildlife along river banks and we need to keep rivers flowing for wildlife including fish and water voles and river birds. 3. We need to have better river management to stop pollution, including sewage entering our rivers. This will involve working more closely with Southern Water, The Rivers Trust and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. We need to have fully funded plans in place to deal with the threats to our rivers seas and coasts, to bring our rivers and seas back to full health. 4. We need new and better measures to keep our rivers clean and free from fertilisers, sediment and other pollutants. We need to put an end to water abstraction harming river health; We need to reduce the impacts of water taken from our rivers for our taps. More needs to be done to retain water in the soil where it lands. Hampshire needs more beaver reintroductions to absorb and filter water and prevent flooding 5.Work with rivers and their floodplains to improve habitat for wildlife and protect lives and property 6. See Video: The Devastation and Restoration of England's Chalk Streams: This online talk explored how England's chalk streams have been altered over time, how this has impacted their health, and how restoration can help to reverse the damage. Our speaker was Mike Blackmore from Wessex Rivers Trust. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSpv6zWLQK4
Rivers and Wetlands	Sewage pollution is mentioned as an important issue, but not addressed in the list of action options.
Rivers and Wetlands	As a volunteer on our rare and precious chalkstreams I am aware there are many monitoring projects in place - ARMI, Smart Rivers, water quality testing. These provide data collected by citizen scientists on a regular basis, feeding into (national) databases with ability to alert if issues seen or to show improvements in nature recovery. The role and importance of volunteering in nature recovery should not be overlooked.
Rivers and Wetlands	What about coastal areas? Hampshire has so much coast - sandy beaches, rocky shores, cliffs, they are all geographically important, plus habitats for plants, algae, and a huge variety of animals. Plus the sea has an amazing capacity, to store carbon, but also release it.
Woodland	Stop letting builders take trees out. Impose a tree tax, every tree they take out they have to plant 100.

Woodland	There is a need to maintain existing public access to woodland and the present restrictions relating to common land are not being adhered to by FE see https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tree-felling-getting-permission/tree-felling-getting-permission 3.2 Protecting landscapes and public access In areas with protected landscape or that have open access land you should make sure you understand the local policies related to woodland cover and woodland access. The views of those who manage those landscapes should be sought and their advice used to influence your tree felling proposals. Open access land Where public access to the wider landscape is guaranteed through open access land, you may need to notify the Local Access Forum of your felling proposals. Restocking required under a felling licence requires consent from the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State, as the resulting woodland would be seen as reducing public access, even where there was already woodland on the common prior to felling.
Woodland	With the raised point - "Woodland management (e.g. improving access to traditional skills such as sensitive felling, coppicing, thinning, increasing awareness of the need for ongoing and appropriate active management of woodlands)" - make people proud to learn these skills and preserve them. Add incentives, highlight the benefits, offer free or cheap classes. Let people love our forests
Woodland	Grey squirrels are already a permanent fixture, and controlling them seems more of a waste of resources compared to letting nature take its course. Predator reintroduction like the Lynx will greatly help deer population control with little to no impact on people as they avoid humans. Ultimately reconnecting habitats is the MOST important thing, as disconnected areas of any habitat are so prone to disease and inbreeding. Land bridges/tunnels, and joined up strategic land purchase is vital for our ecosystem.
Woodland	As a local I have always appreciated the large amount of trees in the city of Winchester
Woodland	I get the feeling the New Forest is overgrazed mostly by ponies. Could some parts temporarily be fenced off?
Woodland	Developers need to be held to account to ensure that trees planted are appropriate to the surroundings and survive for at least 7 years. If not they should replace them. Its sad passing trees and hedges that have been planted with no chance of surviving and the only remnants being plastic protectors and posts.
Woodland	Currently, at least 92% of England's land is not accessible to the general public. I'd like the council and land owners to make more woodland areas that they manage accessible to the general public, a) to increase awareness of the importance of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, b) to increase appreciation, support and protection of nature, and c) perhaps most importantly, to improve public health and well-being.

Woodland	Firstly, Deer & Grey Squirrel control is NOT NECESSARY. I'd object to any lethal measures involved and you need to be more imaginative, for example encouraging predatory species/contraceptive methods/increasing the actual area of the habitat so that deer & squirrels can live in harmony with other species. Let's not forget that Natural England are a QUANGO: They are unqualified on wildlife matters and even issue licences to cull badgers !!! In this consultation, I'm alarmed that you have not involved other expert conservation organisations & charities, such as the RSPCA & Animal Aid.
Woodland	Needs to be stricter, enforceable law around dog walkers not taking responsibility for how their control for their animal(s) can damage habitats and scare wild animals. Education on these matters would also help! We also need law/action to protect ancient woodland in Hampshire - too many trees are cut down without replacing with more trees, or monitoring those we replace with enough to know when they have failed to thrive!
Woodland	We desperately need to protect our older trees and to continue tree planting. Trees are the lungs of our country
Woodland	Stronger legislation that provides automatic generic protection. End the pitiful fines for damaging hedgerows/trees by greedy developers/builders. They weigh up the risk, can pay the nominal fine, do not have to restore the trees/hedges they destroy, walk away smiling. Mockery of inadequate 19th Century laws. Make part of the punishment, compulsory ownership transfer, at no cost to HCC, from these morons.
Woodland	I think that looking at the health of an environment as a whole is better than focussing on individual species.
Woodland	no
Woodland	Improvements to connectivity between habitats is captured in the document, however, in pertaining to the newly created Stoke Park SANG in Stoke Park Wood more detail needs to be included with revisions on how to benchmark the "largest tract of unenclosed pasture land" that is New Forest, for successfully recreating corridors that do not bar wildlife from moving across sites at a smaller scale. Additionally, the adjacent former farmland that is being turned into a species-rich grassland connecting two woodland patches, one managed by Forestry England and the other by The Woodland Trust will require a greater communication between both designations, in regards to how to capture data on which method of utilising the wood, either by a "working wood" or one that is left to nature alone, generates the most biodiversity of woodland species. To date there has been no comparisons between groups managing woodlands to determine which methods are most successful.
Woodland	Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
Woodland	I think there should be specific areas in the forest for off lead dog walking away from forest livestock and horse riders.

Woodland	White waters hook, fields surrounded by rich people, no doubt councillors, fields were surrounded with planting trees, then same areas again wooden fences, then same again wire and posts fencing, then all the fields section with wooden, wire fencing with gates, the foot path floods every year, nothing is done to rectify this problem, jcb trench each side of the path add the debree on to the path to raise it.
Woodland	Essential to educate dog owners about the dangers to ground nesting birds from dogs off leads, not just when farm animals are about Deer need to be culled - otherwise there will be no new trees!
Woodland	The impact of too many ponies on New Forest Woodland is insufficiently addressed in the draft strategy. The "political issue" of commoners rights needs to be gripped robustly and the pony numbers reduced in the interests of the New Forest as a whole. Ponies create at least as much damage as deer (which the strategy addresses). The number of ponies, deer and cattle need to be reduced by at least 50%. In addition there should be more woodland enclosures with double gates to prevent ponies entering. Increase the number of fenced meadows and regenerate native woodland. In particular stop cutting down native trees to provide more grazing for ponies. Regarding dig walkers, this is a real problem contributing to ruin of our native flora and fauna. The pressure put on wildlife by these selfish acts is immense, leading to birds being pushed away from vital feeding sites in winter and nests being destroyed (for example, a dog ate a whole brood of endangered wood warblers and another dog ate a whole clutch of curlew eggs - both events were caught on camera recently). Many dog owners don't realise the impact that they are having, so a programme of education is needed. Then I suggest introducing segregated areas for dogs (this works well in USA and France National Parks). Stop dogs from entering streams and ponds (the flea powders and tick protection on the dogs enters the water, kills the native invertebrates, leading to less food for native fish and birds). Crucially, enforce rules and bylaws that already exist for having dogs on leads etc in the New Forest. If there is no enforcement the laws (existing or future) are useless. I see that the strategy document acknowledges these types of problems in the section titled Priority Species, but no solution is offered. The solution is simple; ban all dogs from important sites for nature and offer a number of large areas nearby where dogs can run around off the lead without causing any damage.
Woodland	Support the apex predators and the rest should follow, like at knebworth rewinding.
Woodland	The biggest issues in North Hampshire is the conflicts between house building, Commercial woodland management and the removal of woodlands, ponds and other means to capture water on the higher ground. The area has been subject to intensive farming that has eroded soil quality and much of the farmland is not so productive anymore. The answer is never building houses with no infrastructure.
Woodland	Control of development to preserve the natural habitats. Stop cutting down ancient trees. e.g. The devastation in Sun Lane Alresford

Woodland	As the climate is changing I think more measures should be in place to protect against forest fires. I think more opportunities for the public to be involved in helping and awareness would be an asset.
Woodland	I think protecting ancient or older trees, as well as shrub level is important. Older trees are essential for not only providing key information and assimilates to surrounding trees, but they also have the longest time to develop microclimates and microhabitats for insects, lichenous fungi (which are important indicators of tree and surrounding area health) and any other similar species. These old trees, especially ancient woodland provide vital control over soil pH and insects below. The lack of these trees also makes these replanting schemes useless (not just because trees are getting planted in important areas of wet grassland and meadow) but the lack of these trees means planted ones are unregulated by older trees. Saplings grown under too little canopy can shoot up, and not enforce enough lignin for support leaving them flimsy. Overall I think protecting older trees is most important as they are key for many habitats.
Woodland	We are constantly building on natural habitats which is having an adverse effect on all wildlife including birds, bees, foxes, rabbits, fish, water fowl etc.,Hampshire CC should implement all the ways to protect woodlands & waterways and stop allowing new developments being built.
Woodland	Plant trees by the thousands especially native species, stop anyone taking trees out without permission. Anyone who is given such permission must pay to plant at least 50 trees in suitable places. Match the trees planted to suit the our native birds.
Woodland	If we continue to build our current rate there will be very little space for wildlife
Woodland	Legislation tends to prevent or hinder rather than enhance oe encourage responsible management of deer, grey squirrel, corvids etc. The LNRS touches on these being a problem but does not appear to propose any changes or opportunities to address these issues
Woodland	I am [redacted] of the Fuzzy Drove Conservation Group which was established in 2012 by local volunteers & worked in partnership with BDBC & HCC Highways until September 2022 when HCC Highways stopped our volunteers as the drove is classed as a highway but no vehicle use it except to access one house which is halfway along the drove. It appears to local people that HCC have no interest in protecting or caring for Fuzzy Drove which is an ancient drove which runs for half a mile & contains twenty six mature Oak trees along with numerous other native flora & fauna.

Woodland	Connectivity between greenspaces including woodland is paramount otherwise habitat becomes fragmented and local extinctions occur and cannot be reversed leading to a negative impact on biodiversity locally. For example although the greenspaces in Betley Abbey are loosely connected and loosely connected to other green spaces north of the village, there is no viable wildlife corridor down to Hamble Common from RCVP or Pylands Wood. The only wider connectivity to Hamble Common is via the marine environment. This is despite a disused railway line running from Netley to BP Hamble (Hamble Rail Trail) which is a ready made corridor to a point immediately adjacent to the Common. Hamble Airfield is not a viable alternative as it is subject to planning applications and appeals for gravel extraction and potential applications for housing and does not connect to the Hamble Common SSSI. The Rail Trail corridor in it's entirety (from Netley Abbey to BP Hamble) should be identified as a key connecting corridor between greenspace in Netley Abbey and Hamble
Woodland	Is there a way we could buy back privately owned woodland when its comes up for sale so it doesn't end up being built on? A small patch of woodland near me was sold and then cleared illegally (presumably with an eye for development) as the landowner presumably felt that if they owned the woodland they could do as they wanted with it
Woodland	There are trees where I live in a nature reserve they don’t get the trimming they need they are just left to rot some trees are leaning very badly someone or something will get hurt by these trees as the houses are all around the nature reserve these woodland areas should be looked after by rangers that you actually see been in my house 11 years never seen a ranger from the dead water valley trust people will have their say when a tree hits their house 🏠.
Woodland	More resources may be needed to provide for all the above care and a commitment for long term planning on all aspects, as we now are stewards of a countryside which has NO genuine wild places that can be left to their on devices.
Woodland	We are pleased to see mention of the CPRE Hampshire initiative of The Hampshire hedge mentioned in this section.
Woodland	Protect existing woodlands that are SINCs and extend where possible to incorporate biodiversity corridors and new adjacent areas which could be of importance for biodiversity (ACBs)
Woodland	The South Downs National Park’s Landscape Character Assessment 2020 includes recommendations for nature recovery by landscape type which could usefully read alongside the LNRS to ensure that that nature recovery opportunities are landscape appropriate.
Woodland	We need funding in place to make sure all these criteria are met. We are in a dangerous place with our nature.

Woodland	We consider all the key issues and opportunities identified for Woodland are important. We would suggest predation of woodland fauna by pets is also identified as a key issue for new development proposed close to woodlands, particularly those supporting protected species such as dormice and nesting birds. Appropriately sized buffers for woodlands and trees should be added into the list of Opportunities to ensure resilient and graded woodland edges and allow enough room for natural processes of tree death and decay to occur without unnecessary risk to people or property. This should apply to all semi natural woodlands, as the non-ancient woodlands are the ancient woodlands of the future. Additionally, can the LNRS reflect individual trees somewhere (all trees, as opposed to just ancient and/or veteran), to reflect the current value they provide and to highlight the risks and opportunities particularly in urban situations? For example, the planting of trees to contribute towards climate adaptation and 'greening' urban areas. It is also imperative that proposed trees in new developments are designed in with enough space to allow growth expansion and avoid conflict with buildings or people over the long term, to avoid or minimise the risk of the need for felling; it would be useful for the LNRS to reflect this. Under Opportunities, with particular regard to addressing urbanisation impacts on ancient woodland (including recreation, pet predation, fly tipping etc), it is felt that the LNRS should also highlight the provision of extra greenspace for people (and dogs) and wide buffers, alongside new planting for habitat connectivity and long-term woodland management plans for existing and proposed new woodland. Such a package of measures can provide multiple benefits to people and wildlife in terms of greenspace provision, access to nature and health and wellbeing, whilst protecting ancient woodland irreplaceable habitat and the fauna and flora it supports.
Woodland	Measures could be taken to reduce potential impact of recreation on accessible woodlands with PROW e.g. designated paths/trails, use of waymarking / signage & education, provision of bins / information boards - Managing visitors with dogs in your woodland - GOV.UK - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-visitors-with-dogs-in-your-woodland Not mapped – applies to all woodland with public access. Whilst impacts of recreation on woodland are acknowledged, in New Forest area these habitats are less sensitive to recreational disturbance than others e.g. heathland. Some woodlands can have an important role to play in providing valuable recreational resources away from areas of heathland, for example conifer plantations but their value for a range of species is also acknowledged.

Woodland	We consider all the key issues and opportunities identified for Woodland are important. We would suggest predation of woodland fauna by pets is also identified as a key issue for new development proposed close to woodlands, particularly those supporting protected species such as dormice and nesting birds. Appropriately sized buffers for woodlands and trees should be added into the list of Opportunities to ensure resilient and graded woodland edges and allow enough room for natural processes of tree death and decay to occur without unnecessary risk to people or property. This should apply to all semi natural woodlands, as the non-ancient semi-natural woodlands are the ancient woodlands of the future. Additionally, can the LNRS reflect individual trees somewhere (all trees, as opposed to just ancient and/or veteran), to reflect the current value they provide and to highlight the risks and opportunities particularly in urban situations? For example, the planting of trees to contribute towards climate adaptation and 'greening' urban areas. It is also imperative that proposed trees in new developments are designed in with enough space to allow growth expansion and avoid conflict with buildings or people over the long term, to avoid or minimise the risk of the need for felling; it would be useful for the LNRS to reflect this. Under Opportunities, with particular regard to addressing urbanisation impacts on ancient woodland (including recreation, pet predation, fly tipping etc), it is felt that the LNRS should also highlight the provision of extra greenspace for people (and dogs) and wide buffers, alongside new planting for habitat connectivity and long-term woodland management plans for existing and proposed new woodland. Such a package of measures can provide multiple benefits to people and wildlife in terms of greenspace provision, access to nature and health and wellbeing, whilst protecting ancient woodland irreplaceable habitat and the fauna and flora it supports.
Woodland	It seems that HCC are more concerned about cutting trees down citing Ash die back and other reasons than planting trees! Being the 2nd worst council in doing so. They will then say oh but we have planted so many thousand trees which from what I have seen are at the end of the the winter period so they do not get chance to bed in before the heat of the summer. Saplings are planted on mass with no thought in the hope that some will survive. In truth probably less than 25% do which is a complete waste of time and money. The trees that are cut down are taking more carbon out the atomsphere than the small saplings that are planted and will take decades to mature. I also can't understand why trees of a certain size suddenly have limbs taken off them for no reason! No they are not dangerous, the ones I know about. It seems the council have to provide the tree arborists work even though it is not needed, again wasting money, and changing the appearance of a magnificent tree.

Woodland	1 Recognise the difficulty of liaising with multiple land-owners as well as cross-border local authorities to ensure continuity of connectivity. Portsdown Hill alone has at least 15 "public" bodies to deal with as well as multiple business and private owners; we need to lobby for national government to put a duty of co-operation for environmental benefit, with enforcement, on all land-owners with property covered by the LNRS. Equally the rights of utility companies to safe passage may well undo the best-laid plans. Connecting pockets of habitat using verges and hedgerow management is to be encouraged. I was looking for the strategy to draw a broad green stripe in Appendix 7 (Opportunity Focus Areas) joining all the dots on the maps in Appendix 6 (Habitat Mapping Layers). 2 The planting of inappropriate species must be resisted even when the occasion is endorsed because it is a memorial. Use local seeds and seedlings so that species are adapted to the habitat. Effort needs to be put into the removal of invasive species eg cotoneaster, sycamore, holm oak, to prevent them taking over chalk grassland. 3 Limit commercial dog-walkers and regulate their activities which can intimidate other users. Educate dog-walkers to pick up after their pets and not hang poop-bags like decorations besides paths. 4 Enable affordable and proper disposal of domestic and business waste to discourage fly-tipping.
Woodland	An improved and clearer emphasis of the importance of woodlands and natural Ecosystem Services in the context of the interlinked climate and biodiversity crises is needed. Right tree/hedges in right places needs to be done for air quality, climate mitigation, nature based services and carbon sequestration reasons as well as habitat and species restoration and protection. It is not either or but all when selecting solutions and choices.
Woodland	More landowner partnerships would be beneficial to allow the landscape to be seen in a wider context
Woodland	The main challenge is that there is not enough woodland, and far too many sheep eating any saplings that might naturally grow. There needs to be support for more community initiatives to support woodland creation, alongside natural regeneration. Organisations such as the wildlife trusts should act as teachers and facilitators to then enable communities to take ownership and long-term care of new woodland. Only then will people start to feel part of their place, feel a sense of ownership and purpose, and therefore look after the land better. The main reason recreational use is a challenge is because there aren't enough woodlands in the first place, compared to the 70% of farmland which is mostly focused on inefficiently growing grass to feed sheep and cows. How much of Hampshire is also dedicated to invasive rhodedendron or golf courses or shooting estates which could all be replaced with woodland?
Woodland	An improved and clearer emphasis of the importance of woodlands and natural Ecosystem Services in the context of the interlinked climate and biodiversity crises is needed. The right trees/hedges in the right places support air quality, climate mitigation, nature based services and carbon sequestration as well as habitat and species restoration and protection.

Woodland	Woodland and hedgerows are key habitats managed by the shooting community and provide a great opportunity to realise LNRS priorities. The long-term evidence base is clear that land with pheasant shooting is likely to have a greater extent of better managed woodland and hedgerows than areas without it. In terms of contemporary evidence, BASC commissioned a review in 2024 of over 1,000 shoots where driven shooting takes place and compared them with matched control sites to see if there were differences in woodland and hedgerows. This analysis found that areas with pheasant shooting had woodlands with significantly better vertical structure and that there was over twice the length of hedgerows when compared with control sites. This supports the science that release of game is a driver for higher levels of woodland management, such as rides, glades and coppicing and improvements in hedgerow extent. BASC will assist the LNRS to deliver improvement in woodland management through our education and advice to shoots. This advice is aligned with Forest Research's woodland ecological condition criteria and is available as an advice pack to members on our website. Our regional teams and Game and Wildlife Management team can provide detailed support and advice to members with specific queries. We are particularly pleased with the draft LNRS priority measures for grey squirrel and deer at W6. Shooting is a core control method for these species and our Deer Team at BASC provide advice, training and support to stalkers and to government to enable the humane management of deer and to open the UK venison market to more people. Our regional teams and our national Game and Wildlife Management team provide support and guidance on grey squirrel management to shoots. From a national perspective, BASC are part of the UK Squirrel Accord and have pushed forward the work for both the non-lethal and lethal options for grey squirrel management.
Woodland	We consider that improving the connectivity between habitats is vital for nature recovery. We are therefore supportive of the identification of connectivity as an opportunity for the LNRS to harness. We are supportive of the Responsible Authority's identification of our client's landholdings as an Area That Could Become of Particular Importance for Biodiversity (ACB) near Magdalen Hill Down. We consider that the identification of their landholdings as an ACB would improve connectivity between existing woodland and the Local Wildlife Site. The identification of our client's landholdings as an ACB also assists the Responsible Authority in enhancing the connectivity of urban areas, due to the site's close proximity to Winchester. Part of our client's landholdings near Chilbolton contains Ancient Woodland, however no measures are proposed on the surrounding land to connect this habitat with the surrounding area. As such, our client is open to discussions with the Responsible Authority to identify if there are opportunities to propose measures on their surrounding landholdings to ensure that the connectivity of woodland can be enhanced.

Woodland	Isolated pockets of woodland need wildlife corridors to join them up together with new provision if absent, restoration if existing
Woodland	We are concerned about some of the large-scale woodland creation areas mapped in the triangle between Whitchurch, Wotton St Lawrence and Ibthorpe. These could conflict with landscape character, the purposes of AONB designation and priorities in the NWDNL Nature Recovery Plan. We would welcome a chance to discuss them in more detail.
Woodland	Buffers for veteran trees and for those specimens that will be the future veteran trees are essential if conflict is to be avoided with house owners. We would suggest predation of woodland fauna by pets is also identified as a key issue for new development proposed close to woodlands, particularly those supporting protected species such as dormice and nesting birds. Appropriately sized buffers for woodlands and trees should be added into the list of Opportunities to ensure resilient and graded woodland edges and allow enough room for natural processes of tree death and decay to occur without unnecessary risk to people or property. This should apply to all semi natural woodlands, as the non-ancient semi-natural woodlands are the ancient woodlands of the future. Additionally, can the LNRS reflect individual trees somewhere (all trees, as opposed to just ancient and/or veteran), to reflect the current value they provide and to highlight the risks and opportunities particularly in urban situations? For example, the planting of trees to contribute towards climate adaptation and 'greening' urban areas. It is also imperative that proposed trees in new developments are designed in with enough space to allow growth expansion and avoid conflict with buildings or people over the long term, to avoid or minimise the risk of the need for felling; it would be useful for the LNRS to reflect this. Under Opportunities, with particular regard to addressing urbanisation impacts on ancient woodland (including recreation, pet predation, fly tipping etc), it is felt that the LNRS should also highlight the provision of extra greenspace for people (and dogs) and wide buffers, alongside new planting for habitat connectivity and long-term woodland management plans for existing and proposed new woodland. Such a package of measures can provide multiple benefits to people and wildlife in terms of greenspace provision, access to nature and health and wellbeing, whilst protecting ancient woodland irreplaceable habitat and the fauna and flora it supports.
Woodland	1. Prioritise improvement of existing protected areas that are in poor condition. 2. Better protections for Sites of Special Scientific Importance (SSSIs). Currently only 44% of our SSSIs are in good condition. 3. Need to have a succession plan and to plant more native trees 4. Important to protect and preserve all ancient woodland and to encourage wildlife corridors to link woodlands 5. We need to have better protections for ground nesting birds eg closing areas during the nesting season and Dogs on leads all year round where there is a likelihood of them chasing wildlife.
Woodland	Advice and support in selecting the right species of trees.

Woodland	PAWS restoration is a key opportunity for nature recovery in Hampshire, this is separate to woodland management. Sourcing more tree stock locally will help protect and restore native species and guard against pests & diseases.
Woodland	Having looked at the maps, I feel your definition of 'Ancient Woodland' is too broad. You have included one of my woods as 'Ancient' when it is only semi natural. At neighbouring Shroner Wood, the whole of the arboretum is shown as 'Ancient' , which it clearly is not! If these misnomers are replicated across Hampshire t will be giving a very false picture of what remains. However, I am very clear that any ancient woodlands that have been destroyed and turned over to agriculture are worth prioritising for re-establishment, especially if there are any real ancient woodland remnants bordering the site. My own experience is that the seed bank remains for a very long time and once woodland conditions are re-created the woodland flora miraculously appear. However, replanting these former woodlands is generally unwise as unsuitable species and provenances tend to be used. In my opinion, natural regeneration from neighbouring ancient donor sites is the only way that a good result can be achieved. A case in point is the once sizeable area of woodland now called Burntwood (SU5035, 5036). I watched this being ripped out when I was a child, and would love to see it rejuvenated [redacted] However, there have been various very unsuitable replantings that would need to be removed - a huge task! Hope this is helpful
Woodland	Stop unnecessary imports of vegetal material (e.g. for horticultural retail trade) which risks bringing more pathogens to the UK. More standard trees in hedges would be very beneficial, also for shade for stock. Trees need to be sufficiently close to each other (in parkland settings) for mycological networking. Encourage (small) tree planting in gardens to increase biodiversity, provide shade and store carbon.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	The Countryside Service are currently developing our Countryside Access Plan in which we cover a lot of the same topics all be it from a Rights of Way legislative perspective. The two documents compliment each other well, which is great. We have made reference to the the Local Nature Recovery Strategy within the Countryside Access Plan and when both our adopted we have allowed for a link to the LNRS for readers to be signposted to. It would be nice to see this mirrored in the LNRS as the two documents compliment each other on content and approach with regard to access.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Access to nature needs to be for everyone and that needs to be a key component in engagement strategies
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	personal safety when walking alone (esp for women)

Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Rights of way includes equestrian access on rights of way and on most common land in Hampshire Transport includes equestrian so this needs to be provided as well for cyclists and pedestrians. Height barriers and equestrian parking spaces should be appropriate
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	I live in an urban area which was created with a great deal of green spaces; woodland, parks etc. and it makes a world of difference to the area. There is a far greater number of birds and other wildlife as well as the area generally being a nicer place to live in and walk around. I have seen other adjacent urban areas lacking in green spaces and the difference is very apparent; there is a lack of wildlife and the whole area feels dead and dystopian in comparison.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Re; "Practical access provision (e.g. suggestions to increase access to greenspace such as improved facilities, transport links, parking, etc)" - it is important to increase access but not at the risk of destroying greenspaces. I appreciate the importance of making places more accessible for everyone e.g. via parking and transport links; I think it is important to also keep in mind that not every place should be accessible. Key focus should be improving accessibility and features for public spaces that already exist - such as Queen Elizabeth Country Park.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Not just trees; scrubland is vital, too.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Provision of regular buses from cities to National Parks / green spaces over weekends and weekdays (not everyone has a car and is therefore unable to access these spaces) - this would reduce car usage, need for large car parks, traffic jams, pollution, disruption to nature and would help with mental health.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Shortage of really wild spaces. Too much intensively farmed land that is closed off to the public. Hampshire seems to have very few rewilding experiments. This could be improved upon along worh regenerative farming that would encourage more wildlife.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	I recognise and value the effort behind this initiative. However, there appears to be a lack of strategic alignment. Hampshire County Council (HCC) faces numerous priorities, and under mounting government pressure and financial strain, it is actively pursuing the sale of its own farmland for housing development. This includes ecologically sensitive sites. Such actions risk fundamentally undermining the spirit and objectives of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. While I hope this consultation will lead to genuine protections, the current direction suggests otherwise. Measures like improved signage or increased awareness of rights of way, though positive, may feel superficial—akin to rearranging deckchairs on the Titanic. As one of the region's largest landowners, HCC could demonstrate leadership by refusing to sell valuable natural assets. A pertinent example is its intent to sell arable and publically accessible land within Old Basing (referred to as 'Land East of Basingsoke'), directly adjacent to the River Loddon—an area of high ecological and

	recreational value, bordering a waterway already under ecological stress (from sewage discharge, run-off and water extraction). Though ecological assessments have reportedly been conducted on behalf of HCC, they remain inaccessible to the public—even in redacted form—raising questions about transparency and accountability. Moreover, HCC is partnering with developers on adjacement land to further expand builds. In this context, consultations like the Local Nature Recovery Strategy risk being perceived as symbolic rather than substantive. If HCC is serious about nature recovery, it must align its land management and planning decisions with its environmental commitments. Protecting high-value natural areas must be a priority—not an afterthought.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	This survey was poorly promoted: I only heard about it on Meridian TV News (and if you view it on itv1+1 you don't receive the local news anyway - but that's a separate complaint). Hampshire County Council should have AT LEAST publicised it in their network of public libraries. Green Spaces are important to everyone, it improves mental health to name one benefit. Some Councils, eg. Havant Borough are poor at managing green spaces: They use a contractor (Norse South East) who are incompetent in maintaining land owned by the borough & county councils. Footpaths in residential area suffer from overgrown foliage, and trees are felled & left behind to allegedly encourage wildlife - but instead are an encouragement for fly-tipping. As regards transport to remote green spaces, I'd not levy parking charges, but at the same time encourage cycling, with blue signs that are properly maintained and easy to follow. A budget needs to be allocated to Greenspaces, but where possible liaison with other charities/organisations could also contribute for the common good..
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	In the summary box on the first page of this survey, it mentioned that we rely on nature to provide (or words to that effect). Whilst I understand this and do agree, I think we need to take it one step further - nature is not a resource for us to consume for our own health and economic needs; we are part of nature, not separate from it and therefore we ARE nature itself. Every time our natural world is damaged around us, it damages us directly and that is why this strategy is so important.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Access for disabled. River Itchen, classic example badly managed by HCC/H&IOWT, river banks erodded, unsafe to walk. Environment agency useless as well. Failure under Equality Act.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Availabilty of public transport is very important - especially for old people who no longer have access to a car.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	There are lots of MOD owned Greenspaces near Yateley, Fleet and Aldershot. The MOD (specifically the Defence Infrastructure Organisation) are taking active measures to restrict public access

	(when soldier training is NOT taking place). Need to get this reversed.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	I feel the report needs to be more direct in odentifying the imapvt of people on habitas in terms of volumes, pets and poor behaviours. Proven techniques to improve behaviours and redistribute people away from hotspots is essential. Charging for car parks is unlikley to help!
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	no
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Educate people about littering and fly tipping and not contaminating the rivers. This needs to start at school. When we went to the New Forest or the beach as children we took our litter home.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Issues listed in the document are sufficient, but I would like to add a few more points to specific areas for consideration. To date, the insufficient control of dogs throughout the various landscapes listed comprised of the Itchen Navigation route, and connecting walks to the Stoke Park Wood and beyond to Winchester have copious notices regarding the detrimental effects on local fauna. Particularly through the attacks to goslings, and young deer that become alarmed at loose animals. There has been a local petition for the new Stoke Park SANG to remove the installed fencing which has led to at least two recorded deaths of young deer trying to escape an attacking dog. While development of this area should lead to beneficial gains to wildlife, the increases in visitors, even while the site is still under construction, has proven as a litmus test for future difficulties, with people observed not following rules listed on the signage. There is a need for harsher penalties for not respecting the public etiquette in natural spaces, with a better enforcement for following rules. London's Richmond park, which sees large swathes of visitors every season could be a perfect benchmark for learning how park rangers could be placed in areas of high volume to inform the public and provide assistance, yet also to carry out the important task of limiting antisocial behaviours against the community and wildlife. Additionally, it is well-known that areas of a lower socioeconomic standing have less funding from councils or projects to improve their numbers of green spaces, along with less tree coverage and more heat trapping. The communities suffer from overheating, as well as the wildlife. There is a need to conduct research on what the "loading" capacity is of any adjacent greenspaces for the community around it. This is for taking into account foraging activities, and how the spaces are used throughout the seasons, which may not generally pose a threat to the wildlife and ecology, but when the ratio of robust populations is combined with large numbers of people only able to access the one central greenspace, can create a system of over-harvesting, and saturation. The specific number of land required to remain wild per

	capita of households around it that may forage and use it throughout the year at differing capacities has not been determined, but would be very useful in figuring out how to layout how much woodland, pasture, grassland, or other habitats must be in proximity to the population around it to ensure that both the wildlife and people can use it year round.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Cycle paths and walks need to join up. It's much more interesting to go in a loop than just there and back. You have to drive to these places, it would be good to have walk/bike routes from town to country.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	ba,k again to white waters hook, the public right of way paths are always over grown and never maintained
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Sometimes good RoW routes finish on a main road with no safe route to the next RoW. Network connectivity is very important.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	A lot of green spaces in Hampshire are used by the military for training (Aldershot Military Land) and the MOD seems to be increasingly looking to restrict access.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	I live in New Milton, only 2 miles from the National Park yet there is no practical pedestrian walk to reach it from the town. There is a public right of way which I have walked, but a greater part of it forms a stream so I have walked it only once.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	(Regarding the New Forest) The priority for access should be established. Some areas should be designated easy access with car parking, signage and facilities. Provide quality, well signposted off road access paths between these areas for walkers and mountain bikers. Use these easy access areas to limit damage on other areas designated protected areas.These protected areas are not necessarily "no access". Rights of way should be respected and available but the objective should be to protect designated areas of the Forest from damage by massively increased human access. Regarding planting of trees, it should be law that only native plants and trees should be planted. In particular in the New Forest the depletion of English Oak trees needs to be halted and Oaks should be prioritized in planting efforts.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Way more disabled access and wheelchair accessibility.

Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	The rural way of life is vanishing. Composting of green waste locally keeps the nutrients in the soil and is a major benefit for wildlife. The correct method of hedge maintenance is layering and the removal of hedgerows and trees within hedgerows is a major issue for wildlife corridors.. Rural crafts, horse riding need to be encouraged.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	I also think investing in some sort of security cameras and fines should be mandatory for people found breaking the law and damaging the environment.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	All of the first five options are vitally important but I don't see how they can be achieved if green spaces are being built on with unnecessary new houses.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Stop building houses on green fields. Here in Basingstoke our green spaces are vandalised by house building destroying habitat and the environment.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	STOP BUILDING IN BASINGSTOKE, enough is enough there will be no green space left soon
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	- An access to nature bus (and train) map eg within the city of Portsmouth there are large natural spaces in other parts of the city that residents can access by bus - but do not know about. Ditto, natural spaces outside the city. - Information and awareness raising on gardening for wildlife should be a key strategy. Domestic front gardens make a huge difference to the 'greening' of a street, giving residents access to greenery as they walk down the street. The RHS has identified that between 2005 - 2015 there was an increase of 15 square miles of paving in front gardens in the UK. Front gardens represent a wonderful opportunity for improving access to nature. The issue of soil sealing should be included in the LNRS.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	We need to be creating more and joining them in green wildlife corridors so wildlife can move around rather than be contained in small set areas
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Dogs are a threat to walkers and Sheep. They should be on a leash everywhere in public places and in parks. They attack sheep and can kill. They are a public danger stopping people from walking freely outdoors.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Too many people have no idea how to create a wildlife corridor in their own front, back or communal gardens. Instead they pave over green space. More education is needed at local level to encourage people to create space for nature. Also, restrictive developer land ownership means pieces of land next to homes cannot be greened or enhanced and instead is turfed badly with dying trees that aren't watered properly (because nobody takes responsibility).
Greenspace, Health and	Funding for working with children and schools and other your people's organsiations to enable them to feel better able to engage with nature and its recovery especially in practicle ways

Access to Nature	
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Stop destroying the countryside and building new homes everywhere. You wouldn't have to worry about "incentives" if you didn't destroy it in the first place.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	More restrictions on housing or retail developments on greenspace as these have a huge impact on wildlife
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	I live in Southampton, and we're lucky to have a large amount of greenspace dotted around urban areas. However, a lot of people don't seem to be aware of what's on their doorstep, and as a small unfunded charity we don't have the capacity to do the kind of marketing that would be required to reach these people. We also find a disconnect between what we think the nature reserve is for - nature, primarily, - and what residents think it's for - walking their dogs - which can lead to friction about wild meadows due to ticks etc.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Keep greenspaces of sufficient size in order to promote the survival of species within
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Right tree, right place, right reason.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Providing information to everyone is extremely difficult but should be a priority
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	You have neglected to mention Equestrians they are included in Active Travel.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	The Parish Council strongly supports research that shows how very important access to natural green spaces is to positive mental health and wellbeing outcomes. This should be at the forefront of any planning decisions made within our Parish, Borough and County and local green spaces should be protected as far as possible. We strongly support the natural capital interpretation of environmental health and climate change benefits. The Parish Council would further support investment in practical access provision with regards to improving public transportation links, but would strongly resist any overdevelopment of car parking and other facilities at the expense of keeping green spaces unspoilt. Access to a globally rare natural chalk stream - such as our River Loddon - is vitally important for health and wellbeing, cultural and environmental benefits. We suggest the ‘Opportunities’ section should be expanded to encourage the provision of meaningful, linked Green and Blue Infrastructure

	(GBI) plans for new development as this will form a key mechanism for delivery. GBI plans should also ensure links beyond the development site into the wider environment.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	National Trails UK appreciates the mention of the 4,200 km of public rights of way on page 36, however would ask for the specific mention of the 48 km (30 miles) of the South Downs Way and 208 km (130 miles) of the newly established King Charles III England Coast Path in your LNRS region. As the gold standard for public access in the UK, these National Trails are funded to deliver Natural England Quality Standards that set them apart from other routes, one of which states to “improve the landscape, nature and historic features within the trail corridor”. The National Trails UK Nature Recovery Programme seeks to support our National Trails in delivering on this objective, enabling the National Trails to be corridors for people and nature, as shown by our recently published National Trails Nature Recovery Toolkit. National Trails UK supports the acknowledgement of the opportunity for landscape-scale approach to access on pg 38, 2.105, which the National Trails contribute to.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	BNG - Public access on land used for BNG may serve to limit the potential for habitats to reach the target condition(s). That said, strategic access and connections would be desirable to be incorporated in the right situation. When designing planting and landscaping schemes these can be designed with access in mind to ameliorate potential issues before they arise.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	We consider all the key issues and opportunities identified for Greenspace, health and access to nature are important. We suggest the ‘Opportunities’ section should be expanded to encourage the provision of meaningful, linked Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) plans for new development as this will form a key mechanism for delivery. GBI plans should also ensure links beyond the development site into the wider environment.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Urban greenspace, whether formal or informal (gardens, verges etc.), is important for a variety of wildlife. We consider the LNRS should place greater weight on the opportunities presented by urban areas in general for assisting in nature recovery. This will complement the strong focus on management of formally designated area already in the draft Strategy. That can be delivered through closer working with and support for community groups, which exist across Hampshire. The HIWWT's Team Wilder network offers an excellent vehicle for engaging communities

Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	1 Careful thought is needed for the provision of toilets without attracting vandalism, and convenient parking without losing even more habitat. 2 There is a huge impact from litter, particularly on road verges and from burger vans and fast-food outlets. This litter traps invertebrates. poisons the soil with plastic, and attracts large numbers of certain species, eg sea-gulls and urban foxes, which in turn disperse the remains. 3 Limit commercial dog-walkers and regulate their activities which can intimidate other users. Educate dog-walkers to pick up after their pets and not hang poop-bags like decorations besides paths. 4 Enable affordable and proper disposal of domestic and business waste to discourage fly-tipping. 5 Recognise the difficulty of liaising with multiple land-owners as well as cross-border local authorities to ensure continuity of connectivity. Portsdown Hill alone has at least 15 "public" bodies to deal with as well as multiple business and private owners; we need to lobby for national government to put a duty of co-operation for environmental benefit on all land-owners with property covered by the LNRS. Connecting pockets of habitat using verges and hedgerow management is to be encouraged. I was looking for the strategy to draw a broad green stripe in Appendix 7 (Opportunity Focus Areas) joining all the dots on the maps in Appendix 6 (Habitat Mapping Layers). 6 Irresponsible detectorists think nothing of digging up a SSSI when their device goes ping. This is another education opportunity. It goes along with the damage done by disposable barbeques (which should be banned) and "festival" tents so cheap they are burnt rather than thrown away. 7 The planting of inappropriate species must be resisted even when the occasion is endorsed because it is a memorial. Use local seeds and seedlings so that species are adapted to the habitat. Effort needs to be put into the removal of invasive species eg cotoneaster, sycamore, holm oak, to prevent them taking over chalk grassland. 8 Off-road cyclists and motorbikers can cause considerable damage to chalk grassland slopes, particularly when they effect entry with bolt-cutters through fencing. On the plus side, there is less nuisance nowadays from joy-riders torching abandoned vehicles and hence less expense and effort in clearing up afterwards.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	I think that people should access local green space, and not be encouraged to travel (especially by car) to "special" green spaces a long distance away. Large car parks and toilet facilities could spoil natural green space. Public transport or active travel access should be encouraged of course. In an ideal world everyone should be able to walk to a local green space to relax and appreciate nature, and maybe take an occasional trip to place that is further afield. I support local parks and mini forests, and more tree planting and green verges in urban settings. Also encourage urban gardeners to plant appropriately to prevent flooding risks from paved over garden space, ban plastic grass, plant native shrubs trees and hedges, encourage some re-wilding and nature aware strategies in gardens.

Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Connectivity and access to greenspaces should be more heavily promoted. Not just physical access, but e.g. pollution in the River Hamble prevents access to green space.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	We are very lucky to have an abundance of fantastic green spaces across the region, but many are only easily accessible by car. Increasing access by public transport and cycling would benefit many more people.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	The provision of accessible green space deivers many health benefits: mental health, anxiety obesity, including childhood obesity, increased exercise leading to reduction of work days lost as a result of musculo-skeletal problems.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	It should be recognised that well-designed, residential-led development has the potential to improve health and well-being, through increased public access to nature. For example, Derwent Development's current planning application at Woodcroft Farm (East Hampshire Planning Reference 55625/003) is proposing to retain existing important ecological habitats on-site (for example a badger sett and other ecologically important habitat). It is proposed to provide biodiversity net-gain on site wherever possible through the provision of significant green infrastructure. The scheme also includes an area for a potential orchard and new public rights of way, in addition to substantial landscaped open space. Should the scheme be approved, the proposal will allow public access onto formerly private land, increasing public access to nature with associated wellbeing and health benefits. Derwent Development's consider that Land to the North of Woodcroft Farm would be suitable for providing significant green infrastructure and improved public access through a residential-led development, that would benefit public health and access to nature.
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	No biodiversity offsets for ancient woodland, expand by edge plantings. Use woodland specialists to generate new provision subject to lifetime do not disturb
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	All the key issues and opportunities identified for Greenspace, health and access to nature are important. Suggest the 'Opportunities' section should be expanded to encourage the provision of meaningful, linked Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) plans for new development as this will form a key mechanism for delivery. GBI plans should also ensure links beyond the development site into the wider environment. Blue infrastructure is particularly important for health and well being.

Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	If there is anything you would like to expand on about issues or opportunities affecting greenspace, health and access to nature in Hampshire, please use the box below. 1. We all need access to Green Spaces, but we also need a better connection between People and Nature. People need a greater understanding of Nature, in order to protect it. Nature needs to be protected by people, and people need to learn how they can help and protect nature. To better protect green spaces, communities need to actively engage in conservation efforts, promote responsible usage, and advocate for policy changes that prioritize green space preservation. This includes participating in local initiatives, ensuring proper maintenance, and supporting measures to designate and protect valuable green areas. 2. Nature should be about responsibilities and respect as well as rights when accessing Green Spaces. We need a more caring approach to nature. People need to be able to understand and respect nature and to look after it and wonder. We need people to understand what they can do to help nature survive 3. We need More publicity and awareness raised around how to how to behave responsibly and look after nature. Being responsible around Nature is so important, including Countryside Code; Dogs and Nature: and the threat of wildfires 4. Dogs and Ground Nesting Birds: Many people think of birds' nests as being high up in trees, but a surprising number nest on the ground or just above it, in low bushes. For example: Nightjars lay their eggs directly onto the ground in heathlands; Willow warblers tuck themselves away at the base of trees and bushes in woods and open areas with scattered trees; Meadow pipits hide their eggs in grassy tussocks on commons and meadows; Familiar garden birds like dunnocks and blackbirds can nest close to the ground. Oystercatcher, ringed plover and little tern eggs and chicks are brilliantly camouflaged on beaches among pebbles and sand, making them easy to disturb. So some beaches have cordoned-off areas to protect some of the rarest birds' nests. But it's best to keep dogs on leads on all beaches and the wider countryside until chicks have fledged in September. Keeping dogs on short leads will benefit other wildlife that can be harmed or disturbed by enthusiastic pooches – from snakes to seals and amphibians to mammals. Dogs disturbed seals at Cumbria Wildlife Trust's South Walney nature reserves earlier this year and there are fears that seal numbers are down as a result. Other Wildlife Trusts and farmers have experienced problems with dogs chasing grazing livestock. Recently, several sheep were attacked at a nature reserve looked after by Gwent Wildlife Trust in South Wales. https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/news/ground-nest-alert-dog-walkers The law says that you must keep your dog on a lead no longer than 2 metres between 1March and 31 July, when on any open access land to protect ground-nesting birds. But how many people know this. https://www.gov.uk/right-of-way-open-access-land/use-your-right-to-roam There need to be more education and awareness raised so that Nature can thrive. alongside people and dogs. Other benefits of keeping dogs on leads include: • Lessening the negative impacts of dog poo and urine by reducing it to a smaller

	area. • Preventing dogs jumping in lakes and rivers, this disturbs aquatic wildlife and the insecticides that are found in dog flea treatments can end up polluting water. • Reducing risks to other animals and people Local Wildlife Trusts ask dog walkers to avoid some of their nature reserves because the wildlife there is too rare or fragile and needs special protection. It's always worth a look at individual nature reserve webpages before you leave home to see if dogs are allowed. 5. Forestry England: Ground Nesting Birds: Stay on track to help New Forest wildlife this spring Also https://www.forestryengland.uk/new-forest/ground-nesting-birds We are asking people to help rare ground nesting birds survive in the New Forest again this year by staying on the main tracks and keeping dogs with them here. Special quiet zones will be set up at the most sensitive breeding locations with nearby car parks closed and signs in place to highlight the presence of the birds and help avoid disturbance as they attempt to breed and raise chicks. The New Forest is a Special Protection Area for Birds. Under pressure in many parts of the UK, helping ground nesting birds breed successfully in the New Forest has a key role to play in their overall survival. Whilst the fortunes of some species of these rare birds have improved in recent years thanks to people's support, others still remain under considerable pressure. Unlike most birds, grounds nesting birds build nests and raise their young on the ground around woodland edges and on the open heathland areas of the Forest. This makes it especially important to avoid startling parents causing them to flee their nests and leave eggs and chicks exposed to predators. Car parks closed during the breeding season include: Clayhill, Crockford, Crockford Clump, Hincheslea, Hincheslea Moor, Ocknell Pond, Ogdens, Shatterford, Yew Tree Heath and part of Beaulieu Heath car park. 6. Stopping Forest Fires: There needs to be more publicity and education relating to responsibilities as well as rights regarding Forest Fires caused by carelessness and ignorance. See New Forest National Park Website: No wildfires please See their website: https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/visiting/help-care-for-the-forest/no-wildfires-please/ During periods of hot, dry weather, especially in the open areas of heathland, please be careful not to set fire to the Forest. One carelessly discarded cigarette or glass bottle, could cause a massive and dangerous fire which would destroy a large area of natural habitat, kill countless animals and endanger nearby properties. What is a wildfire? A wildfire is an uncontrolled, unwanted or unplanned fire. It can develop very quickly and rapidly spread across very large areas. Its behaviour is unpredictable and it can change direction very quickly and jump across roads and rivers. Wildfires do not start by themselves; virtually all wildfires are started by people, either accidentally or deliberately.8. Forestry England has repeated warnings to the public about the high risk of wildfires and confirmed that fires of any type, including disposable BBQs are not permitted on the land they manage. They have also closed all of our BBQ facilities at popular visitor spots in the New Forest. Here are simple steps you can take to make sure you never accidentally start

	a fire: • do not discard cigarette ends out of your car window when driving or drop them on the forest floor when walking • never start a campfire in the open forest, it can get out of hand very quickly and spread underground • never leave glass of any kind on road verges or the forest floor; glass bottles and even broken glass can magnify the sun and lead to a dangerous fire • report any fly-tipping or abandoned vehicles; they may be a fire risk • keep matches and lighters away from children and ensure they understand the dangers of fire • report anyone who is responsible for starting a forest fire • look out for signs which indicate high fire risk areas, be especially careful in these areas and do not barbecue • the lighting of sky lanterns is prohibited in the New Forest due to the risk of wild fires and harm to wildlife. What to do if I spot a wildfire? If you spot a wildfire call 999 immediately, try to give your exact location, including any landmarks and if possible meet the fire engine to give directions. For a day-to-day update of the fire risk in the New Forest visit the Forestry England website. Please note that during winter and early spring, Forestry England staff deliberately burn substantial areas of the open forest to stop the heather and gorse getting too tall and old. These fires are well controlled and there are always trained firefighters on hand. Thank you for your help. https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/visiting/help-care-for-the-forest/no-wildfires-please/e
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	Please include comments from Hampshire Swifts Group with regard to swift bricks, and protection of existing nest sites for building-dependent species. Please reference the related update to the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) 2025 Natural Environment paragraph 017, which refers to swift bricks as a universal nest brick: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment "How can developments incorporate features which support priority or threatened species? The National Planning Policy Framework expects development proposals to bolster wildlife by incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs. The use of swift bricks is particularly important in this context because swifts rely on urban cavities for nesting, and the national loss of suitable nesting sites through building renovation has been part of the reason for the species' decline. Developments should include integrated nest boxes (commonly known as swift bricks) where possible, with the general aim across a development of a minimum of one nest box per unit. Nest boxes can provide important habitat for other species as well as swifts, such as starlings and sparrows. Extensive guidance is available on wildlife friendly features, including the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code which illustrate how well-designed places can support rich and varied biodiversity by facilitating habitats and routes for wildlife. More specific support for the selection and installation of swift bricks can be found in the British Industry Standard BS 42021:2022 the Future Homes Hub Homes for Nature Guidance, and the RSPB's Guide to Nestboxes. Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 8-017-20250609" See also the "exemplar"

	published Isle of Wight LNRS (2025) which refers to protection of existing nest sites in UGG1.6: "Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species and should be installed in new developments including extensions, in accordance with best practice guidance such as the Brighton and Hove Guidelines which require at least three swift bricks for all appropriate new builds. Artificial nest cups for House Martins should be similarly considered. Existing nest and roost sites for building-dependent and building- reliant species such as Swifts, House Martins, House Sparrows, Starlings and at least 4 species of bat must be protected and wherever possible augmented and enhanced by designed and built additional provision within ecologically relevant distances."
Greenspace, Health and Access to Nature	The Strategy needs to be supported not only by committed stakeholders but also by the wider public. Critical to the success of this Strategy's objectives is for it to be widely known about and understood by the public - through social media, local newspapers/ websites and council information - much more publicity is needed. People tend not to care about things that are unfamiliar. While protecting threatened species, there should also be a much bigger emphasis on gardening for wildlife and connecting local green corridors and green spaces to improve biodiversity. If people see and value commoner species, they will be more likely to also support more specialist measures. To encourage behavioural change, the Strategy should be explained/discussed in Hampshire schools (primary and secondary) - we shouldn't just wait for a GCSE. (Engaging Forest Schools to help with this would be useful).This should include caring for the countryside and understanding the Countryside Code. This in turn will enhance community stewardship and protection of nearby sites. There should be encouragement (and financial support) for establishing nature reserves (e.g. on low grade agricultural land that would be better managed as chalk grassland). Dog owners also need much more awareness. The Strategy fails to mention the contamination of most rivers by neonics resulting from over-use of chemical flea treatments on pets which are washed and particularly from dogs which enter watercourses (see the work of Prof. Dave Goulson, Surrey University). The Strategy needs to directly influence the Planning system e.g to require swift boxes in new builds and permeable drive surfaces etc. to reduce run-off. The Strategy mentions light pollution at specific sites. In fact, this is a problem everywhere, especially affecting night pollinators (moths etc.) in built-up areas. Non-essential lighting needs to be reduced wherever possible. Stopping the use of pesticides in all public spaces for which HCC is responsible (as other councils have successfully done and saved money!) is an important public health/ biodiversity requirement and long overdue.The Strategy should advocate for this. The Strategy should inform local transport policy - by improving bus and rail links for access, car use and the need for additional parking to access green spaces can be reduced. More trees, including in streets, will not only enhance drainage but have been shown to

	reduce the increased temperatures arising from climate change as well as providing increased habitat. Also likely to improve mental health.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	The lack of addressing issues on common land is woefully lacking in respect to maintaining public by right access. Fencing for conservation grazing only increases displacement and obstructs public access especially equestrian. . Species introduction where it impinges on existing and replacement common land and public open space has not been thought through especially where increase flood retention is sort on common land
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	Again species reintroduction is huge here. You don't have to pay beavers or lynx. Recreational use is I think not appropriate to limit at this stage - ecotourism for green spaces helps fund them and spread awareness, and people will want to visit areas of natural beauty. Also, we are animals (as are our dogs), and neither are going away, so it's pretty much natural for us to be around them anyway. Limiting access during initial rewilding steps is important to let the landscape regrow, however.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	Reptiles seem to be a lower priority than ground nesting birds, even though many reptile populations are shrinking and I think that this should be addressed.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	Each area needs an overall plan, which all parties/landowners/ can join in with. Staff time is needed to engage with all the groups to help them evaluate what they're doing and keep them on track. Some human activities are simply not compatible with conservation and need to be provided for elsewhere near to where people live. More land needs to be bought by conservation bodies so there's more control of habitat management, how the land is used and wardening.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	Our ancient ditches system also need protecting and improving to assist in flood prevention. Wildlife corridors are also very important
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	These are all vital to maintain this unique area.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	The Parish Council strongly supports the enhancement of chalk rivers and the Basingstoke Canal as wildlife corridors, as well as the creation of riparian buffer strips. The reduction in fragmentation of semi-natural habitat and enhanced ecological connectivity with the planting of new woodlands is also a high priority. An extremely important issue in the Thames Basin Heath area is planning and development (e.g. population and urban growth, impact of roads/traffic habitats, requirement of planning permission to improve habitats for wildlife, inappropriate development on greenfields). Why

	was the opportunity to involve local communities and volunteers in large-scale projects (which could enhance knowledge and encourage participation) not offered as an important improvement for the headwaters of the River Loddon? The Parish Council would vehemently encourage such projects!
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	We consider all the key issues and opportunities identified for Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths area are important and covered appropriately. Regarding paragraph 2.146, it is suggested that this paragraph is modified to also reflect non-chalk rivers, as the typical geology in this area is acidic or neutral and not all watercourses are classed as chalk streams. Additionally, rivers are not reflected in the main table on p42 of the document.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	Green fields and land that make up the Buffer Zones to these areas should also be protected from development to enable species to thrive and grow in their habitat without harmful and invasive impacts from light, noise, air, soil and water pollution, also human and vehicular activity.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	We welcome the proposals for heathland restoration, which complement projects we are undertaking or exploring in West Berkshire following the NWDNL Heathland Study by TVERC.
Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	All the key issues and opportunities identified for Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths area are important and covered appropriately. Regarding paragraph 2.146, it is suggested that this paragraph is modified to also reflect non-chalk rivers, as the typical geology in this area is acidic or neutral and not all watercourses are classed as chalk streams. Additionally, rivers are not reflected in the main table on p42 of the document. River catchments and protecting rivers with habitat buffers and reconnecting to the natural and historic floodplain is extremely important.

Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths	Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths Section:2.1: See Page 41 to Page 48 Thames Basin Heaths; Wealden Greensand and Thames Basin Lowlands are situated in the north east Hampshire bordering Berkshire, and Surrey. 2.117 The following sections describe Hampshire's natural environment in more detail based upon the NCA system. Some NCA elements have been combined to represent the objectives and outputs of the series of area-based workshops set out in Appendix 2, as follows: Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths Part of NCA 129: Thames Basin Heaths and NCA 120: Wealden Greensand. Page 45: 2.126 The issues and opportunities listed below were identified by participants at the LNRS for Hampshire - Thames Basin and Wealden Heaths farming and conservation workshop held on 28 February 2024 See link: LNRS workshops. https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/nature-recovery-hampshire/get-involved The tick boxes above seem to cover most of the issues mentioned on pages 41 to 48 Key Issues for nature pages 45 to 48 clearly spell out the challenges for this area: Climate change 2.127; Heathland management 2.128 & 2.129; Farming and conservation context 2.130; Trees and woodland management 2.131; Habitat fragmentation 2.132; Species recovery 2.133; Lack of collaborative working 2.134; Leadership and targets 2.135; Flooding 2.136; Funding 2.137; Dark skies 2.138 & Recreational impacts 2.139: Recreational impacts, both habitat damage and species disturbance, is seen as a significant issue, particularly for areas of heathland and areas of habitat within or close to urban areas. Opportunities for nature recovery: Farmer support 2.140 & 2.141 & 2.140; Woodlands 2.143; Grazing management 2.144; Connectivity and habitat expansion 2.145;; River catchments 2.146; Greenspace and access to nature 2.147 & 2.148 & 2.149 & 2.150; Cross-border approaches 2.151; Private finance 2.152; Community stewardship 2.153; Species reintroductions 2.154 One Issue NOT mentioned above or in the tick boxes is the risk of Wildfires: It would seem that better resilience to wildfires is needed for this area. There may well be a need to retain more water where it lands. Look at their website: Thames Basin Heaths Partnership: https://www.tbhpartnership.org.uk/news/spring-wildfire-update/ See post: Jun17 2025 Spring wildfire update: If you have read the news, local and national, you will be aware of the large number of wildfires in recent weeks. After an extremely dry March (in the South East we had only 13% of our usual rainfall), our most vulnerable countryside habitats like grassland and heathlands have been left tinder dry. Locally we have had fires on Sheets Heath, Lightwater Country Park, Ash Ranges, Turf Hill, Eversley Common, Bramshill Plantation and Yateley Common. This is an appeal to help prevent fires in order to keep people and property safe, and to protect our local heathlands and resident wildlife. Lowland heathland once covered large swathes of southern England, but over the last 200 years we have lost over 75% of it. Not only is it a rare and threatened habitat, it is home to a unique set of wildlife that rely on it to survive. Wildfires can

	completely destroy large areas of heathland, injuring or killing wildlife and ruining the environment for visitors. It is important to recognise that wildfires have always occurred but climate change means that in the UK, and around the world, extreme weather events including longer lasting heatwaves have resulted in an increased intensity, scale and frequency of wildfires. In 2022, the extreme weather conditions resulted in wildfires that damaged large areas of habitat and peoples homes; and stretched fire services to their limit The largest wildfire on the Special Protection Area, the Swinley Forest fire in 2011, cost the fire and rescue service more than £500, 000, with studies putting the overall costs at over £1 million. It took 300 firefighters from services across the country working relentlessly to extinguish the fire in arduous conditions. Residents were evacuated from their homes and local business including pubs and leisure facilities were closed for several days costing them thousands of pounds. We all have a responsibility to protect our countryside for current and future generations and whilst most wildfires (the definition being an unplanned, uncontrolled fire in an area of combustible vegetation) aren't caused intentionally, human carelessness is a major factor. This is where we are asking for your help: Avoid having open fires or using BBQs in the countryside. Even if you take care to put out campfires residual heat and embers can cause hidden smouldering fires underground that will then spread to surface vegetation. Some parks and open spaces provide permanent BBQ sites – look on your local council website to find out if there is somewhere local to you. Or even better pack a picnic! Extinguish cigarettes properly and don't throw cigarette ends onto the ground or out of car windows. A poorly extinguished cigarette can easily cause a grass or heathland fire. Take rubbish home or dispose of it properly in a bin. A glass bottle on a sunny day can cause a fire by magnifying the sun's rays. If you see a fire in the countryside, get to a safe place (in some circumstances wildfire can travel faster than an olympic sprinter) and call the fire service on 999 giving them an accurate location of the fire. Apps like what3words can help firefighters find a fire in the open quickly.
Central Chalk Belt	There are dangers to the public where inappropriate grazing is carried out on public access land and common land. The advice from HSE is don't but in the case of commoning this is not normally a problem due to species chosen. This week it is reported that conservation grazing cow has been slaughtered in a LNR in Guildford showing signs of cultural slaughter
Central Chalk Belt	ancient relic chalk downland around Winchester is threatened with inappropriate development including the Bushfield Site which is a SINC and a much valued green space. Good planning regulations which protect nature are needed alongside adequate funding.
Central Chalk Belt	Restoration and creation of ponds... very little surface water in my area. Poor verge management by Highways or via unhelpful longstanding contracts. Little interest from council in protecting road verges on small country lanes from destruction by traffic overrun - caused by the unsafe speeds drivers use on narrow lanes.

Central Chalk Belt	More public awareness. Greater publicity about issues and management
Central Chalk Belt	Stop building in Hampshire, don't build on problem airfield,
Central Chalk Belt	In general we have concerns that there is very little mention of the importance of Dark Night Skies within the LNRS, we would like to see this given greater emphasis especially in rural areas.
Central Chalk Belt	For many years farming has been driven by one thing and that has been finance, you go down the avenue that looks potentially profitable and drop what doesn't, so the average sized farm from fifty years ago had a dairy herd, a beef herd, pigs, sheep, chickens, arable, grass grazing and grass for silage and all that variety brought with it spilled grain, dirty fields, permanent grassland, dung heaps, ploughing and a whole host of variety. Now that's gone, driven by underfunding, over regulation and the drive to survive by doing the simplest most efficient farming monoculture process possible. And people wonder why the Lapwings, Swallows, Skylarks, Yellow Hammers are in decline.
Central Chalk Belt	We would like the section of the draft that states: " The tranquillity of the river valleys, and their historic environment, is a magnet for informal outdoor recreation. This provides opportunities for contact with nature, as well as increased awareness of the potential threats to the environment and the behavioural changes needed to mitigate them." included in the section relating to the Thames Basin Heaths and Lowlands, and Wealden Heaths please.
Central Chalk Belt	National Trails UK asks that the importance of enabling opportunities for people to connect with nature and the coast be embedded in the document. Especially in sections where recreational disturbance is identified as a ‘Key issue for nature’ but then working with people to build a sense of stewardship is not identified as an ‘Opportunity for nature recovery’ on pages 31, 36 & 65. On Pg. 73, point ‘2.272 Public Engagement’ makes a step towards this approach but we would ask the LNRS to go a step further and provide positive case studies from your area where this has been achieved. In addition, we would ask for images of people to be included in your LNRS to showcase the interconnectedness of people and nature. We encourage you to look at the Hull and East Yorkshire LNRS which in our opinion showcases this well. When mentioning trackways, track and roadside verges and other linear greenspaces e.g. pages 33,35 & 58, NTUK requests the mention of the King Charles III England Coast Path National Trail corridor and the South Downs Way corridor. Their verges can be managed similarly if not more easily than road/rail verges, plus bring additional access to nature/health & wellbeing benefits, especially in areas with limited access to green space. For examples of this, please see our National Trails Nature Recovery Toolkit or case study videos from the Pennine Way and Durham Heritage Coast. https://www.nationaltrails.uk/news/introducing-the-national-trails-nature-recovery-toolkit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGXOEekCNrk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DX7AvWZbWhE

Central Chalk Belt	As a children's charity, we'd love to support the growth of children's connection to nature, engagement in local nature action, and see children considered as a stakeholder in future plans.
Central Chalk Belt	We consider all the key issues and opportunities identified for Central Chalk Belt area are important and covered appropriately. Regarding the ‘‘Crown jewel’ sites’ in the main table on p49, we would recommend the River Test compensatory SAC is listed, as the River Meon compensatory SAC has been. Additionally, on p51 paragraph 2.157, River Test compensatory SAC should be listed. It is recommended the nutrient issues relating to this region from wastewater and farming, impacting the Solent designated sites and the Rivers Test and Itchen (and their tributaries) should be acknowledged. This should be reflected under both Key Issues and Opportunities sections for this area. This would keep consistency with such a mention under other affected areas in the county such as South Hampshire lowlands.
Central Chalk Belt	Much of the urban area of northern Winchester is on chalk grassland, and there is potential in those urban areas for supporting grassland species through appropriate management of verges and other urban green spaces. Such spaces can also provide connectivity between patches of habitat. It would be useful if the Strategy could recognise that potential, and so facilitate support for urban wilding projects. Again, the HIWWT's Team Wilder initiative is important is supporting such locally driven approaches
Central Chalk Belt	Similar to my previous point. Narrative explanation could do well to explain the importnance and uniquness of the Central Chalk Belt in terms of the important specific Ecosystems Services its provides, supports, regulates and cutural. Ecosystem services — like clean air, water filtration, soil fertility, pollination, and climate regulation — rely on functional, diverse ecosystems. If habitats are degraded or species are lost, these services decline or fail. Chalk streams and rivers (e.g. River Meon, River Itchen) deliver clean water and biodiversity when natural hydrology and riparian zones are restored.
Central Chalk Belt	Sheep farming is a significant threat - they will eat everything (wildflowers, saplings etc), compact the soil causing flooding. Pollution to water from farming - fertilizers, excessive waste etc
Central Chalk Belt	We support the LNRS refs to arable wild plants, farmland birds, calcareous grassland restoration/recreation/management, PAWS restoration, wood pasture and parkland, and management of existing woodland. We have concerns about the large-scale proposed woodland creation along the southern edge of the NWDNL.
Central Chalk Belt	Almost all of these issues are also important for the Thames Basin Heaths and for the Rivers & Wetlands section. Regarding the ‘‘Crown jewel’ sites’ in the main table on p49, we would recommend the River Test compensatory SAC is listed, as the River Meon compensatory SAC has been. Additionally, on p51 paragraph 2.157, River Test compensatory SAC should be listed. It is recommended the nutrient issues relating to this region from wastewater and farming, impacting the Solent designated sites and the Rivers Test and Itchen (and their tributaries) should be acknowledged. This should be reflected under

	both Key Issues and Opportunities sections for this area. This would keep consistency with such a mention under other affected areas in the county such as South Hampshire lowlands. We might have a few more 'crown jewels' if the same financial input and energy was put into other chalk streams. Nutrient issues affect ALL water courses - and all should be protected from them and the adverse impact.
Central Chalk Belt	In this area of Hampshire it is possible to re-establish chalk downland in a relatively short period of time. Livestock are needed to achieve this, but need to be at the right stocking rates. These levels of stocking are uneconomic, so support is needed. However, once established, many of the target species in your report would benefit hugely. Herbals leys have been a great success and are a step towards true chalk grassland: it is to be hoped that the Government/Defra do not further undermine the good work done so far! We have established considerable areas of wildflower rich grassland. These now have an amazing density of wildlife. However, the continuous connection to other similar areas in critical to species recovery. So Cluster Groups and other types of co-operation need encouragement. From your list above, it is somewhat disingenuous to include footpaths under Connectivity - they may be useful for public awareness, but not for nature recovery!
Central Chalk Belt	Biodiversity net gain could be helpful but has to be tightly managed or there is a risk it can let developers 'off the hook'. Farming in the central chalk belt is largely arable and intensively managed (over-reliant on chemicals),with very detrimental effects on wildlife and natural organisms, not to mention human health. Active support for a move to nature-friendly and organic farming is essential. The increased use of glyphosate alongside no till methods is definitely not an improvement. Alternatives are available, and should be strongly encouraged, including the use of cover crops which restore nutrients to the soil (see, for example, Soil Association Innovative Farming trials). Restoration of hedges in this area would be very helpful (and could involve more communities and volunteers), as could projects supporting specific species which could engage much community enthusiasm. Habitat restoration should include meadow creation and more rotational agriculture, with pasture-fed animals, so there is less need for artificial inputs. The use of sewage sludge as a fertiliser is very concerning as it contains many chemical residues harmful to natural organisms (and which may enter the food chain), not to mention plastics. This has been identified in recent research. The use of sludge should be halted until there are methods to screen and remove these harmful substances. Wild flower margins are certainly better than nothing but studies have shown that these flowers unfortunately take up some of the chemicals sprayed on the field which are then transmitted to pollinators.
North Hampshire	Beavers are not a panacea for river health. They bring as many disbenefits as they do good. Alternative green spaces should not be restricted to the benefit of dogwalkers alone but for all NMUs

North Hampshire	Again not enough nature allowed to really run wild. Too much intensive non organic farming. Overgrazing possibly.
North Hampshire	There are several heathland Commons in the North Hampshire area with important populations of Nightjars and other 'heathland' associated species such as Adders; yet no mention is made of Heathland as a Key priority habitat on page 55. There is important linkage between Greenham and Crookham Commons (Berkshire) and the Newtown, Burghclere and Earlstone complex - which includes the Herbert Plantation LNR. There is considerable potential for heathland restoration at Penwood and northern sections of the Highclere estate which are currently under plantation woodland.
North Hampshire	Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
North Hampshire	water capture and retention on the higher ground allowing it to soak through the chalk to reach the chalk streams is a major priority and it is essential that this is not mixed with waste at any time in the process. It is also illogical to provide drinking water quality for use in watering gardens and washing cars, particularly when most of the population drink bottled water.
North Hampshire	Climate change is obviously a big issue but it’s a natural phenomenon that has been happening for millennia and we can’t stop it from happening but we can put measures in place to protect our environment including woodlands, greenfields, hedgerows and waterways. Fewer new houses and fewer people moving to the area would be a good start.
North Hampshire	All this can be fixed by stopping building more houses in Basingstoke
North Hampshire	Why not protect our green spaces rather than create more? Surely that would be more cost effective. Find other places to build and leave green spaces for nature. Also please sort out the drainage systems so sewage doesn't get pumped into our rivers and seas. It's not necessary
North Hampshire	Development pressures (e.g. Housing) risk closing existing green gaps and increasing problems for waterways, flooding and sewerage.
North Hampshire	The impact of speculative development (planning applications) on towns & villages in North Hampshire where EHDC is bound by the lack of a 5-year housing land supply (due to its own mismanagaement) and where habitat is being lost as a ridiculous rate.
North Hampshire	Habitat Connectivity - the use of wide river corridors is vitally important for habitat connectivity. The nature of a River, given its flow, connects habitats in a unique way. For this reason, the Parish Council would like to see the River Loddon corridor protected as a critical buffer of such connectivity. It flows through our Parish at its headwaters, where it is most vulnerable and needs to be appropriately preserved and protected.
North Hampshire	We consider all the key issues and opportunities identified for the North Hampshire area are important and generally covered appropriately. We would recommend that the third bullet under paragraph 2.193 on p59, regarding chalk grassland connectivity,

	would be more appropriate put into the Central Chalk Belt area section, considering the dominant geology in the North Hampshire area is predominantly acid/neutral.
North Hampshire	The Key to success in any of these areas is informed management and incentives for land managers.
North Hampshire	See our earlier comments about proposed large-scale woodland creation along the NWDNL southern boundary. We have concerns about the landscape impacts of these. We would like to see more ambitious mapping for grassland restoration opportunities and specific mapping of important arable wild plant areas and farmland birds (see, e.g., the Wiltshire LNRS).
North Hampshire	North Hampshire has been neglected and frequently shows poorer outcomes for biodiversity owing to the historic pressures of development. It's time more effort was made here by all parties.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	There is an over arching statutory public access which must be adhered to in any nature recovery scheme. any scheme must not reduce the food security outcome of the county as a whole
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Cross border approaches (e.g. working with other Local Authorities) - this is vital. Biodiversity should not be a competition between counties of who is doing best. Habitats do not follow county borders and neither should our biodiversity and climate efforts.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Literally all of these would be good ideas.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	I get the feeling the New Forest is overgrazed. The grass is really short and so not much flora due to too many ponies grazing. Maybe small selected areas could be temporarily fenced off to let areas recover. Same in woods where there seems to be no understory in some areas.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Parking at the most popular New Forest car parks is an issue - Bolton's Bench and Blackwater as examples. Partially caused by poor parking practices and the lack of parking bay markers, but also due to car park size and the lack of convenient access. There are lots of opportunities to increase access or improve other locations to spread visitors to a wider area.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Reducing pressure from tourism which tend to concentrate on favourite spots perhaps by reducing campsites within the NF perambulation. Charging for dogs, cycle and leisure horse use of the Forest
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	The issue of "commoning culture" is greatly over-played. It is recognized that this is a hot political potato and the commoners lobby is well organised and strong. However the survival of the New Forest overall requires some issues to be addressed, particularly the number of ponies. The strategy needs to address this properly. Ponies create at least as much damage as deer (which the strategy addresses). The number of ponies, deer and cattle need to be reduced by at least 50%. In addition there should be more woodland enclosures with double gates to prevent ponies entering.

New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Additional designated cycle paths are needed in the east of the forest to connect to the western paths. These will reduce cycling on non designated tracks and thus reduce environmental damage.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Do not be dissuaded by the 'rich' local land owners and individuals with 'apparent' power. The NF is for all, and we must, as a wider community, do our best to protect and enhance it for future generations.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	more awareness to the public and involvement.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	We must not loose sight of the importance of commoning. It has created some of the best ponds in the country, as well as diverse short plateaus. However, due to grazing small mammals have had a hard hit so dense undergrowth in areas could be a good focus for them. Education is also good, however those who are arrogant stay that way.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	The NPA has clearly not enhanced or encouraged communing (given its decline) and seems to be focused on 'control' or planning restrictions.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	There needs to be tighter control on the number of animals that commoners are allowed to graze on the New Forest. There also need to be more monitoring of visitors to the New Forest who do not understand its history or unique environmental significance. Despite signs across the New Forest as strategic locations, visitors are still camping overnight in car parks and lighting portable barbeques. Unfortunately, when I have tried to report this out of hours, no one is available to assist until the following working day.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Public pressure in the NF far too great. Wood larks are no longer to be seen at two sites, which I've visited for decades. Access has been made too easy, remote corners with lapwing are now too disturbed by walkers and dogs. I'm not sure how the NF has benefitted by becoming a National Park. The East Dorset Heaths are in a poor state. Rare reptile species are under pressure. It is especially disappointing to see that habitat restoration after mineral extraction isn't undertaken as the licence requires.
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	The New forest has a coastline, a large part of the Northern Solent coastline - this is home to some of our rarest breeding seabirds which are massively declining, All tern species, ringed plover, oystercatcher . There intertidal habitat is disappearing through coastal squeeze , miles of suitable shingle beach's are now too busy with human footfall.

New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	National Trails UK asks that the importance of enabling opportunities for people to connect with nature and the coast be embedded in the document. Especially in sections where recreational disturbance is identified as a 'Key issue for nature' but then working with people to build a sense of stewardship is not identified as an 'Opportunity for nature recovery' on pages 31, 36 & 65. On Pg. 73, point '2.272 Public Engagement' makes a step towards this approach but we would ask the LNRS to go a step further and provide positive case studies from your area where this has been achieved. In addition, we would ask for images of people to be included in your LNRS to showcase the interconnectedness of people and nature. We encourage you to look at the Hull and East Yorkshire LNRS which in our opinion showcases this well. When mentioning trackways, track and roadside verges and other linear greenspaces e.g. pages 33,35 & 58, NTUK requests the mention of the King Charles III England Coast Path National Trail corridor and the South Downs Way corridor. Their verges can be managed similarly if not more easily than road/rail verges, plus bring additional access to nature/health & wellbeing benefits, especially in areas with limited access to green space. For examples of this, please see our National Trails Nature Recovery Toolkit or case study videos from the Pennine Way and Durham Heritage Coast. https://www.nationaltrails.uk/news/introducing-the-national-trails-nature-recovery-toolkit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGXOEekCNrk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DX7AvWZbWhE
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	The Strategy appears to be lacking in ambition, particularly in view of the increasing pressure from development. It seems to reflect a jumble of individual views without researching and tackling the really fundamental risks to the area. Some specific comments: 2.217 - A strategy to manage recreation to protect the wildlife of the New Forest is required 2.219 - river restoration is critical to improve the resilience of the habitats to support an increasingly rare community of species. Reference to 'inappropriate river restoration' should either be removed or clarified. 2.24 - This poorly reflects the richness of species diversity in this area. 'Coniferous woodland' is in fact non-native plantation on former heathland and peat habitats. Goshawk and hawfinch are broadleaved woodland species. 2..232 - teaching local school children about the landscape, commoning and wildlife of the area would be a good start
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	Page 59 Table – Potential opportunities for nature recoverY Page 60 – New Forest SAC Management Plan has recently been updated to Version II (17/02/2025) (link works but reference still made to 2001) 2.234 – "Better collaboration and join-up of local authorities and key decision makers was considered crucial to the success of the LNRS" Who are the decision makers in this context and related to what? Development? Decision makers or stakeholders? "planting trees in memory of loved ones on local authority owned land" – Already included in NFDC Tree Strategy p43 - https://newforest.gov.uk/media/647/tree-strategy-2020-25/pdf/tree-strategy-2020-25.pdf

New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	1. Too Many Tourists & Too many cars are a danger to the free ranging commoners animals and wildlife 2. Risk of Wildfires: Forest and heath fires need better preventative actions in place to stop wildfires More Awareness of dangers needed 3. Risk of Dogs and people disturbing Ground Nesting Birds
New Forest and Eastern Dorset Heaths	National Park - has no real protection, only the other protections SSSI etc... Need for a little more substance (and funding) for protection from pets (dogs and horses - and the chemicals they bring with them - basically insecticide! on our heathlands and watercourses.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	Restrictions to public access is not a case for exclusion but leads to displacement and over use of other areas especially SSSIs. Easily accessible alternatives are a must if restrictions are needed. It has been proved time and time again that the public will ignore directions or restrictions if it is not made easy for them to change
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	Coastal squeeze is probably the biggest issue facing the coast and I think this needs including. I think under supporting farmers and landowners you should add 'catchment and coastal partnerships'. They will have knowledge of where BNG should be directed.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	Water pollution and sewage dumping is the biggest thing that should be looked at when considering coastal ecosystems at present. Nothing else will matter if this is not brought under control within our region.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	More pressure to keep developers away.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	I'm aware that Waterlooville Town Centre is being re-developed, and I don't know if this falls within the area under consideration, but this provides an ideal opportunity to introduce habitat/green spaces to encourage biodiversity. The Havant Thicket reservoir project will also have an impact, and I'm puzzled why it needs to be a visitor attraction ? This is primarily an infrastructure project, so it needs to be secure and protected from terrorism/crime etc. Surely keeping people AWAY from the reservoir is more beneficial to wildlife, so that they can be left in peace - and not murdered by anglers !! All the organisations, individuals & consumers involved in this consultation need to keep up the pressure on Southern Water and hold them to account on the quality of water in all inland still & running water infrastructure; as well as seawater in our coastal areas.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	Restrictions on public access reduces the public's exposure to the issues facing biodiversity. Better management which enables sensible access would be better. In terms of the wading birds example, viewing platforms and boardwalk trails would be better than full restriction of public access.
South Hampshire	I think schools should be involved. Children are the next generation and can be encouraged to get involved.

Lowlands and South Coast Plain	
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	SHL & SCP both contain large urban areas. On average urban domestic gardens make up 25% of the land in cities. This area equates to over 4 times all the national nature reserves in England combined and therefore offers one of our greatest environmental opportunities. Domestic gardens should be included in the LNRS. The well regarded BUGS research (Biodiversity in Urban Gardens in Sheffield) shows that domestic urban gardens have a huge biodiversity of flora, including far more native plants than had been realised. Although individually small, the mosaic of habitats has a huge impact. Ken Thompson and Steve Head, in an article for the Wildlife Gardening Forum, 'Gardens as a resource for wildlife'. Around 10% have ponds - equating to 2½ million garden ponds in the UK. Many domestic gardens have large trees too. A national conversation is needed with members of the public about the essential role that domestic gardens play for wildlife, and the impact that soil sealing can have. Nature in private gardens needs protecting. The LNRS needs to include this large area of UK urban land.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	The environmental impact of recreational animal is not registered as an issue
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	Disturbance: Highly protected sites (SAC, SPA, Ramsar, SSSI etc) in theory are protected, yet no one individual body, including Natural England, take little interest in how such sites are managed. It appears that a body like Natural England are in demise, when much much more is needed from them. We hear about the losses of staff, yet nobody seems to understand the need increase their staffing levels so that instead of e.g. SSSI's reportedly being in stable or recovering positions, the vast majority of habitats are actually failing. Hurst Spit nature reserve: Ground-nesting birds using Hurst Spit and surrounding saltmarsh islands are being heavily disturbed by visitors getting access to Hurst Castle. Locally we are doing all we can to make visitors aware that they are in a highly protected and sensitive area for nesting birds. All through the New Forest during breeding season, ground-nesting signage is put up to alert visitors to the many birds that nest on the ground. Until my local groups got involved (Wings Wildlife Heritage and Milford Conservation Volunteers - QAVS group) nothing was being done at all to raise awareness of the ground-nesting birds plight. Byelaws: A byelaw (or similar) could be introduced to fine people who abuse Hurst Spit by walking in signed sensitive bird nesting areas. Wintering Birds: 125,000 wintering birds visit the Solent every year. More could be done to stop disturbance by kitesurfers, paddleboarders and small boats from entering sensitive bird areas. It take one kite surfer to go up at Mount Lake and every bird using the saltmarsh is put into the air. The birds then

	use valuable energy in having to relocate where there are no kite surfers. Kite surfing should be restricted to an area where they do not disturb birds.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	The industrial nature of the South Coast naturally conflicts with conservation priorities. I think cruise and port companies should be charged a ring fenced tax to support coastal habitats. It's also difficult for residents to actually access the coast in areas like Woolston, which can lead to disinterest in safeguarding it. Don't get me started on polluting water companies and property developers - fines, fines, and more fines!
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	National Trails UK asks that the importance of enabling opportunities for people to connect with nature and the coast be embedded in the document. Especially in sections where recreational disturbance is identified as a 'Key issue for nature' but then working with people to build a sense of stewardship is not identified as an 'Opportunity for nature recovery' on pages 31, 36 & 65. On Pg. 73, point '2.272 Public Engagement' makes a step towards this approach but we would ask the LNRS to go a step further and provide positive case studies from your area where this has been achieved. In addition, we would ask for images of people to be included in your LNRS to showcase the interconnectedness of people and nature. We encourage you to look at the Hull and East Yorkshire LNRS which in our opinion showcases this well. When mentioning trackways, track and roadside verges and other linear greenspaces e.g. pages 33,35 & 58, NTUK requests the mention of the King Charles III England Coast Path National Trail corridor and the South Downs Way corridor. Their verges can be managed similarly if not more easily than road/rail verges, plus bring additional access to nature/health & wellbeing benefits, especially in areas with limited access to green space. For examples of this, please see our National Trails Nature Recovery Toolkit or case study videos from the Pennine Way and Durham Heritage Coast. https://www.nationaltrails.uk/news/introducing-the-national-trails-nature-recovery-toolkit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGXOEekCNrk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DX7AvWZbWhE
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	Taking a species-focused approach may miss out on the importance of functioning ecosystems, important to think beyond just species level. We also need to see greater recognition and consideration of links between land and the coast/intertidal habitats.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	Coastal habitats that support high-tide roost sites and breeding seabirds/shorebirds should be protected from recreational disturbance and new ones should be designed into new projects to enhance coastal habitats. Where realignments of the sea defences occur, there should be new roosting/nesting sites created. Beneficial Use of Dredged Sediment should be explicitly included as a measure for habitat creation and enhancement. Existing seagrass beds should be protected by extenstion of existing byelaws/measures.

South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	An integrated land management approach is essential, moving beyond single-issue/focus actions toward strategies that deliver multiple benefits for the double crisis of biodiversity loss and climate change. This includes conserving, managing, restoring, and connecting the traditional mosaic of semi-natural grassland habitats, including chalk grasslands, water meadows, and unimproved grasslands, not only to support biodiversity, but also to enhance soil and water regulation, strengthen climate resilience, and provide valuable recreational and cultural benefits. Land-use strategies will benefit from transformative approaches to for coexisting with and sustainably using nature.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	1 Careful thought is needed for the provision of toilets without attracting vandalism, and convenient parking without losing even more habitat. 2 There is a huge impact from litter, particularly on road verges and from burger vans and fast-food outlets. This litter traps invertebrates. poisons the soil with plastic, and attracts large numbers of certain species, eg sea-gulls and urban foxes, which in turn disperse the remains. 3 Limit commercial dog-walkers and regulate their activities which can intimidate other users. Educate dog-walkers to pick up after their pets and not hang poop-bags like decorations besides paths. 4 Enable affordable and proper disposal of domestic and business waste to discourage fly-tipping. 5 Recognise the difficulty of liaising with multiple land-owners as well as cross-border local authorities to ensure continuity of connectivity. Portsdown Hill alone has at least 15 "public" bodies to deal with as well as multiple business and private owners; we need to lobby for national government to put a duty of co-operation for environmental benefit on all land-owners with property covered by the LNRS. Connecting pockets of habitat using verges and hedgerow management is to be encouraged but it only needs one "body" to forget their mowing strategy for a habitat to be quickly lost. I was looking for the strategy to draw a broad green stripe in Appendix 7 (Opportunity Focus Areas) joining all the dots on the maps in Appendix 6 (Habitat Mapping Layers). 6 Irresponsible detectorists think nothing of digging up a SSSI when their device goes ping. This is another education opportunity. It goes along with the damage done by disposable barbeques (which should be banned) and "festival" tents so cheap they are burnt rather than thrown away. 7 The planting of inappropriate species must be resisted even when the occasion is endorsed because it is a memorial. Use local seeds and seedlings so that species are adapted to the habitat. Effort needs to be put into the removal of invasive species eg cotoneaster, sycamore, holm oak, to prevent them taking over chalk grassland. 8 Off-road cyclists and motorbikers can cause considerable damage to chalk grassland slopes, particularly when they effect entry with bolt-cutters through fencing. On the plus side, there is less nuisance nowadays from joy-riders torching abandoned vehicles and hence less expense and effort in clearing up afterwards.

South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	The region of the upper Hamble is conspicuous by its absence in the report's mention of rivers. The Hamble basin covers a significant area and population of Southern Hampshire, and is a fantastic example of public access to green(or blue) spaces and yet its quality, access, monitoring and protection are all ignored. It may not be a chalk stream, but if managed better it could lessen pressure on neighbouring chalk streams by providing exceptional access to green space along its length. Please be more ambitious for the restoration of the Hamble.
South Hampshire Lowlands and South Coast Plain	ABP response to Hampshire LNRS consultation – June 2025 Dear Nature Recovery team, I write on behalf of Associated British Ports (ABP) – the owner and operator of the Port of Southampton. We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation. However, having reviewed the information that has been published we have specific queries and concerns regarding the selection of sites identified, in particular those sites identified as 'Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity' (ACB).. In addition to the operational port estate at Southampton, ABP is the freehold owner of a significant landholding in Hampshire. ABP's estate in the area spans approximately 2,000 acres, including the Eastern and Western Docks, Eling Wharf, Marchwood Industrial Park and the Port's Strategic Land Reserve located between Marchwood and Hythe. ABP also benefits from a long term concession to operate the Solent Gateway facility (formerly known as Marchwood Military Port). ABP notes that certain areas of the land it controls – in particular those areas that are likely to be necessary for the future development of the Solent Gateway facility and the Strategic Land Reserve – are identified as ACB. It is not clear to ABP why it's particular land holdings have been identified as ACB in comparison to other adjacent and nearby areas that appear to be no different in character, which have not been identified. We expand on these matters below. In order for the Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy to be effective, it is essential that it is developed in close collaboration with landowners and land managers. This aligns with DEFRA's statutory guidance on the production of such strategies, which states that responsible authorities should involve those who own and manage the land in shaping and delivering the strategy (Local nature recovery strategy statutory guidance). Early and meaningful engagement with these stakeholders will be key to ensuring long-term success and practical delivery on the ground. One key section under "Working with local partners", within the guidance, states: "Responsible authorities must work together with partners when preparing their strategy... This should involve the people who own and manage the land, and the people who take regulatory decisions, so they can contribute to what action is being proposed, where and why". We have tried to understand the methodology that has been utilised in identifying the draft ACB areas (which we believe is the subject of Appendix 6 of the draft strategy) and have to say we do not know how such areas (particularly as in the case of ABP owned land where the areas identified are not

	publicly accessible) can be identified, even in draft, without meaningful engagement with the relevant landowner. As far as ABP is concerned, there has been no substantive or meaningful engagement with it on this issue. If such meaningful engagement with it had taken place, ABP would have been able to make it clear, for example, that a part of the area now identified as a draft ACB site is operational land at Marchwood Military Port (Solent Gateway) which constitutes strategic infrastructure owned by the Crown in support of UK Armed Forces operations. The area benefits from extensive extant planning permissions for port-related development, as approved by the New Forest District Local Plan (Ref: Policy XXX), and parts of the site are already subject to legal agreements (Section 106) for biodiversity enhancement, and some areas have been developed Given its operational status and existing commitments, its inclusion in the LNRS appears counter-productive and may conflict with its designated strategic use (Planning Application Number: 21/11156). In addition, land owned by Associated British Ports in the area known locally as Dibden Bay should be removed from the LNRS. Much of the land shown in the LRNS is identified as port operational land and forms part of ABP's Strategic Land Reserve for future port development. The Strategic Land Reserve is identified in the New Forest District Council Local Plan as the only area where significant expansion of the port of Southampton can take place. It is noted that there are parcels of land adjacent to the A326 that are identified as areas for potential environmental and biodiversity improvement. We are aware that Hampshire County Council is bringing forward proposals to improve the A326 for all users. For the above reasons, which are of necessity a summary only, we consider that a number of the land parcels identified as having potential for biodiversity improvement do not represent such sites. At the very least, further engagement with the relevant landowner and consideration of all relevant information is necessary before such sites are identified as ACBs, even in draft. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the above issues with the County Council at your convenience.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	We should not be reducing arable land but encouragement of less toxins, poisons and chemicals in the growing of them
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	There is a conflict in providing bankside riparian buffer strips in the there is no management space to guard against self set willow and alder which will lead to river obstructions and erosion

Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Managing sewage pollution is vital!
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Strange omission of the responsibilities of water companies.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	All of these are good options. Again, beaver reintroduction will help massively here in habitat production and river management.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	There is some form of polution whoch is a 'run off' from new build houses which leaks into rivers. This needs to be addressed as ive heard its a serious threat. Also could fields be purchased along chalk streams and let them become water meadows and bogs?
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Educating public around what chalk streams should look like.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Create bio diversity for insects and pollinators. Remove defunct, man made, lock gates which, prevent migration of fish. Create areas to re introduce and protect native crayfish
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	More Beavers and Water voles please
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Where necessaary introduce fords or shallows to allow ildlife to safely cross rivers, if any, using migraory or habitual routes.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Use of citizen science or action to implement some of the initiatives.

Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	no
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Stop the water companies dumping raw sewage into rivers.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Pesticides, irresponsible people who walk ma y dogs off the lead, gypsies,
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	There are huge areas of American Skunk Cabbage near Liss spreading to the river Rother. There is no apparent way of controlling on private land.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Increase woodland cover, bring back ponds and soak-aways, hedges and drainage ditches that feed the ponds and create mini-wetlands.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Learn from how this was managed traditionally
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	The measures are comprehensive. There are about 18 ponds in and around Hartley Wintney and I'd like to see them maintained
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Check how many ponds etc we have lost and replace them with many more added. Ponds attract wildlife, get them back.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Create zones along Itchen where housing developments are prohibited Stop Southern Water abstractig any more water from chalk bed. Stop SW polluting our rivers

Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Put serious pressure on water companies to prevent sewage dumping in watercourses. Set up management systems for highways drainage systems rather than react to issues when flooding events occur.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	See previous comments in the rivers and wetlands seciton
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Again road surface run off is accelerating due to climate change and in villages such as Four Marks where there is high elevation flooding is becoming a problem which housing development is contributing to at an accelerating pace
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Support a catchment-wide approach.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	With regards to land management near watercourses, a preference would be for NO fertiliser or sprays to be used - crop rotation and organic fertilisers should be encouraged.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	A large part of the River Test through Houghton already has Riparian buffer strips
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Potential Measure: Targeting wastewater impacts for ‘offline’ properties in rural context in areas not covered by mains sewerage network. Pose high environmental risk to freshwater habitats if they malfunction and are in close proximity to sensitive waterbodies. Recent report by Footprint Ecology (Think Tank: Septic Tanks in the New Forest) estimated 35% of properties were ‘offline’ (5,850) with crude estimate of 13,100 people living ‘offline’ in the New Forest. Identify individual properties, and communities of concern to prioritise for engagement and help support efficient wastewater systems to reduce pollution, and associated ecological risk to waterbodies. Establish potential funding mechanisms (Potential to be available in timescale between now and final publication).
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this group of habitats and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery. It is noted priority R1 ‘Creation and management of buffer strips on land next to watercourses’ is mapped as 10m for primary (main) rivers and 5m for secondary and tertiary streams. We suggest the LNRS provides more explanation/clarity on what a secondary and

	tertiary stream is. Additionally, the description within the Measures mapping for R1 could be possibly misinterpreted by users. We recommend that the buffer width under this priority is brought in line with Biodiversity Net Gain guidance for the riparian zone, which is set as 10m from the top of each bank for all rivers and streams, and 5m for ditches. Please note, on p78 the heading row 'Priority Outcome – Road surface water…' should have a background colour consistent with other rows for Priority outcomes, for clarity of use.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	The general river buffer is too small. Suggest 50-100m buffers is needed - see Natural England - Nature Networks Evidence Handbook - NERR081. pg. 28 and pg. 110. While it does not reference chalk streams specifically, it mentions biodiversity sites.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	More comprehensive monitoring, publication and enhancement of water quality.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	The Central Chalk Belt provides, supports, regulates eco-systems services eg. clean air, water filtration, soil fertility, pollination, and climate regulation. If habitats are degraded or species are lost, these services decline or fail. Chalk streams and rivers (e.g. River Meon, River Itchen) deliver clean water and biodiversity when natural hydrology and riparian zones are restored.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	I wanted to register BASC's support for this action. We have been active in water vole conservation for over 25 years and have trained thousands of volunteers and nature conservation staff how to humanely monitor, capture and cull mink. What matters is to undertake it strategically so mink eradication is rapidly achieved. Alongside ourselves, GWCT has excellent experience as does the Waterlife Recovery Trust who have been extremely successful in East Anglia.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Our client is supportive of the priority outcome for 'Chalk Streams' to create riparian buffer strips. As previously mentioned in responses to earlier questions, due to our client's landholdings immediately adjacent to the River Test, they are supportive of creating riparian habitats where the land is not in an agricultural tenancy. Church Commissioners for England are broadly supportive of the following measures: - Measure R1 (Creation and management of buffer strips) - Measure R3 (Reversion of arable land to grassland) - Measure R4 (Flood mitigation on permanent grassland) - Measure R7 (Reduce the impact of road and urban runoff) Our client is broadly supportive of most of the proposed measures. Our principal concerns relate to the reference of 'very low nitrogen input'. It is assumed this relates to pesticide use. The Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (COPR) alongside the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 (FEPA) primarily regulate pesticides. As pesticide use is controlled under separate legislation, this measure is not considered appropriate.

Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Eliminate non-native crayfish
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Headwaters (first few km) and their springs must receive the greatest protection as they have a disproportionally large effect on the river downstream. The largest possible buffers must be applied in the first few miles of a water course especially as flow levels are vulnerable and the impact of pollutants is high given the low volumes of water.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	See the Points raised below to see if they can be added to the Hampshire LNRS: Section Four: Chalk streams, other watercourses, headwaters and groundwater protection zones Chalk streams are not only beautiful, they are also exceedingly rare. See HIWWT Website: https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/southern-chalkstreams Chalk streams are not only beautiful, they are also exceedingly rare. England has 85% of the world's 200 chalk streams, many of which are found in Hampshire. This project aims to protect this precious and stunning habitat, and the threatened invertebrates that call them home. A diverse invertebrate community is fundamental to a healthy chalk river or stream, providing food for fish and mammals and acting as freshwater detritivores, herbivores and predators. These species, which are often overlooked in conservation, are threatened by habitat loss, habitat decline, pollution, abstraction and invasive non-native species. In particular, this project, focuses on the nationally and internationally threatened white-clawed crayfish. Project objectives • Raise awareness of the issues threatening chalk river species, with particular reference to white-clawed crayfish; • Improve knowledge of the ecology and distribution of crayfish, providing technical guidance and assistance to boost the development of important habitat features; • Working with land and river owners and managers to encourage habitat enhancement; • Developing novel schemes and new strategies to secure the long terms survival of white-clawed crayfish. THREATS TO OUR RIVERS Drought and over-abstraction: https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction Water companies often abstract water directly from our rivers, often faster than nature can replenish them naturally. While changing rainfall patterns mean that many of our rivers have less water flowing through them for both people and nature. How do droughts and over-abstraction impact wildlife? When drought or over-abstraction takes place, low water levels combined with high temperatures lead to declines in oxygen levels which in extreme cases causes fish distress and then death. Low water levels caused by drought or over-abstraction also prevent certain species of fish, such as Atlantic Salmon or Trout, from migrating, which can completely disrupt important stages of their lifecycle. Other pollutants in the river, such as pesticides, fertilisers and chemicals from sewage, become more concentrated because of the lack of dilution - often to a higher level than wildlife and plants can tolerate. Together, these impacts all cumulatively cause stress to species and reduce food sources for

	fish, insects and invertebrates, with knock-on effects for animals higher up the food chain such as water voles and otters. https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction Salmon in the Itchen In 2022, a severe drought led to a catastrophic year for salmon migrating up the River Itchen. From a recent high of around 800 salmon in 2018, only around 100 salmon managed to migrate last year - way below levels needed to maintain a healthy population. The Meon This rare chalk stream was identified as far back as 1991 as suffering from acute low water levels caused by abstraction. Today, its flows still did not support 'good ecological status' and is continued to be abstracted from, even during times of drought. https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction Southern Water's Drought Permit Despite record breaking droughts in 2022, Southern Water applied for a 'Drought Permit' to allow them to continue abstracting from some of our most precious chalk streams, the Test and Itchen, during the time nature needed water the most. While we were lucky that rainfall meant they did not need the permit, a historic lack of investment in water resources means water companies will increasingly rely on our chalk streams to the detriment of wildlife. See Website: https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction What our Government needs to do • Bespoke legal protections for all our chalk streams that protect them from over-abstraction & pollution & drives investment by water companies into these special ecosystems. • Scale climate change ambitions • More powers and resources for the enforcement of water companies • Bring forward targets to put our rivers in good ecological condition • Mandate water companies to be statutory consultees in strategic planning to ensure that water resource capacity is considered within planning decisions. • Double the nature-friendly farming budget to help support farmers to restore our rivers. See Website: https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction What our Water Companies needs to do: • Rapidly reduce reliance on abstraction from chalk streams, including through drought permits. • Nature should come first – rapidly scale and prioritise nature-based solutions over hard infrastructure where appropriate. • Make it clear where our water is coming from! Increase ambition and transparency in their Water Resource Plans so the public can clearly see and hold water companies responsible on environmental ambitions. • Prioritise leak reduction - Southern has only reduced its leaks by five per cent over the past two years despite a reduction target of 15 per cent by 2025. • Support customers to reduce their water consumption to 100 litres per day (or less) by 2050. • Rapidly reduce reliance on abstraction from chalk streams, including through drought permits. • Nature should come first – rapidly scale and prioritise nature-based solutions over hard infrastructure where appropriate. • Make it clear where our water is coming from! Increase ambition and transparency in their Water Resource Plans so the public can clearly see and hold water companies responsible on environmental ambitions. • Prioritise leak reduction - Southern has only reduced its leaks by five per cent over the past two years despite a reduction target of 15 per cent by

	2025. • Support customers to reduce their water consumption to 100 litres per day (or less) by 2050. See Website: https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction What our Councils need to do https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction • We need to see councils deliver an Action Plan for rivers to drive coordinated efforts across catchments to restore our rivers and drive investment to where it's needed the most. • Councils can support our rivers by putting in place strong policies in the Local Plans to protect our rivers, for example by embedding the recommendations of the Chalk Stream Strategy and ensuring there are adequate buffers between developments and rivers. • Council can also monitor the health of our rivers and use this information to place pressure on water companies to stop damaging practices. • Support communities to take part in river protection and restoration initiatives by organizing citizen science opportunities, workshops, public meetings, and awareness campaigns. See Website: https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/drought-and-over-abstraction What is the Trust doing about drought and abstraction? https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/watercress-and-winterbournes
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Measures to address sewage pollution.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Ensuring the water authorities don't allow waste water/sewage to overflow and enter the river accidentally (as has happened in Freefolk 3 times in the past year alone.)
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	Sewage outflows from septic tanks alongside water courses need to be more safely managed. Planning should require new builds to avoid hard surfaces and provide permeable driveways etc. to reduce run-off.
Chalk Stream, other Watercourses, Headwaters and GPZs	There doesn't seem to be any plans to reduce/stop raw sewage being released into the county's rivers. This is hugely detrimental to both the wildlife and the residents. This must STOP. I live in Medstead and there are hundreds of additional houses being planned. All the sewage goes to the Alton Sewerage works and I know that raw sewage is regularly discharged into the river Wey now. With hundreds more houses this situation is only going to get significantly worse. No more houses until sewage discharges into the River Wey stops.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	It would be helpful to use UK Habitats terminology to further guide and define habitat creation and management objectives. Some of the habitat categories are quite loose which means it is not always certain as to what habitat creation or management accords with the measures and will achieve high strategic significance.

Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Work on sewage pollution levels.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Again, beavers will manage waterways of their own accord, for free. The 'nos' are less for the idea and more for the implementation / priority.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	There are 'ghost ponds'. These are sites where there was a pond once a long time ago and it might be an idea that they are ponds again. Also create dew ponds. Also underground streams and watercourses in towns and cities could in some cases be deculverted and daylighted and even be converted into water meadows.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	My concern is that not all ponds in my area have been identified on the map as areas of importance or that could be important for biodiversity. We are having difgiculty raising the funds for restoring Woodlands pond - all wildlife and aquatic consultants who have visited state it has enormous potential - yet it is overlooked in the ACB map. A look at all the ancient pond sites for consideration as ACBs would perhaps improve the strategy.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Amphibians are suffering. Create more wildlife ponds for them.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Ensure that ponds with wildlife are not deliberately drained in winter.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Remove non-native fish or mammals, l teave native speces - the wildlife with control them, likewise the birds, Nature will find its own balance.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	no
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Measures included in the document are excellent, however, one species that specifically can be aided with the improvement of ponds near grasslands is the House Martin, which benefits from the soft mud of nearby ponds to build sturdy nests. The impacts of ponds vary across different habitats that they belong to and the grassland pond, generally associated with farming establishments and livestock still has an important role in the health of swallows, and martins. In addition to a healthy population of grassland insect species.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Biomanipulation (removal of fish etc) has only a limited impact unless there are other longer-term controls (and costs a lot of money). Controlling invasive spp is almost impossible. Focus on what can be achieved, and restoration of large water bodies will almost exclusively be down to nutrient control, at least initially. I'm leading a large (University of Southampton) project on lake restoration right now...
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Everything seems to be covered, but if the 18 ponds already in existence are restored we might not need any new ponds.

Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Don't remove fish, that is a definite no, leave the birds alone.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Approximately 10% of domestic urban gardens contain ponds. This means that there could be as many as 2.5 million garden ponds. Whilst many may not be wildlife ponds, they still represent a significant opportunity for nature recovery. The LNRS should include domestic gardens in their strategy. Information and networking about designing ponds for wildlife would be helpful.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Maintain the ditch network across the county. Many are being filled in in our area, reported to HCC and nothing is done. A working ditch system reduces flooding incidents
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Reduce introduction of non native species eg goldfish into natural ponds by education
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Encourage farmers and landowners to create news ponds with shallow muddy sides in the lowest areas of their land ownership for birds and wildlife.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Our nature reserve includes a pond where fishing is allowed. The benefit of this is that it does have a purpose to the local community, so they may be more invested in safeguarding the area - but the downside is the effect of that activity on nature. These things need to be weighed up. We do have issues with people putting things in the pond e.g terrapins (though it has recently been emptied and refilled) so it could be helpful to educate the public about why this isn't an appropriate method of dealing with unwanted pets
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	It is also critical to consider coastal wetlands that are above the mean low water line too. Restoration of saltmarshes and large, complex wetland systems is essential to maintaining healthy coastlines
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this group of habitats and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	There is a cross-link here to the measures under Priority species assemblages for birds - breeding waders – wet grassland and heathland. That section states 'consider use of predator fencing to protect nests and chicks'. Predation is one of three common issues for breeding waders alongside the extent of suitable habitat and then how that habitat is managed. All must be addressed together. To effectively reduce predation to the point where breeding success is likely, both non-lethal and lethal control options need to work together. This is because fences to protect nests do not protect chicks as they move around the landscape to forage before they fledge. We recommending adding in a need to consider lethal control as well as predator fencing into the LNRS.
Wetlands, Ponds and Ditches	Reconnect rivers to their floodplains and historic water meadows.

Species Rich Grassland	Specify green hay rather than green haylage. The wrapping and inherent heating of haylage means less viable seeds. Green hay if spread close by and gathered at the right time will contain more seeds. It would be helpful to use UK Habitats terminology to further guide and define habitat creation and management objectives. Some of the habitat categories are quite loose which means it is not always certain as to what habitat creation or management accords with the measures and will achieve high strategic significance.
Species Rich Grassland	Conservation grazing may effectively remove scrub and help maintain a range of plant heights (different animals graze at different heights and different plant species after all). Scrub is not a priority to be removed in my opinion.
Species Rich Grassland	Need to remember that scrub is essential for many birds such as bull finches and nightingales.
Species Rich Grassland	Natural fertilisers are useful, chemical ones are not - to lump them together is a poor choice. Wild large herbivores will do the grazing for you if the area is set up right. Removing scrub is silly; it is a type of habitat of its own and very natural, occupying the spot between grass and small flowers and proper woodland. The fact that it's spoken of so negatively here is a worry.
Species Rich Grassland	Removing scrub may not always be a good ecologically and ive heard ecologists saying that scrub can be thing and to leave it alone.
Species Rich Grassland	No mow May…. Or longer consistently implemented around the county, understand need for selective mowing either side of junctions, however, there are an industrious teams of mowers cutting grass for no reason.
Species Rich Grassland	I'm not familiar with hayledge, so don't know what it involves. If it means transfering locally sourced seedheads to new arreas of grassland - then I'me in favour. I think that scrub should be managed rather than removed.
Species Rich Grassland	Fertiliser should not be used on 'wild' grassland, nature will take care of that, but to encourage growth plant Comfrey near hedges. If the leaves are cut after flower fade they can be left on the ground as they rot down very quickly and add nutrition to the soil. 3/4 cuts an be made in a summe at no cost.
Species Rich Grassland	no
Species Rich Grassland	Regarding the impact of species-rich grassland, consideration needs to be taken in how grassland provide habitats not only for insects and small mammals, but are a crucial cover for soil health. Consideration needs to be taken into setting aside sections of grassland for lying fallow, and allowing the land beneath it to "reset" every couple of years on rotation.
Species Rich Grassland	Without the extensive cutting of hay and grass verges the area would restore its natural wildlife friendly wildlife status. This means stopping doing all bad practices on what is now redundant land.
Species Rich Grassland	Opportunity to convert poor existing grazed grassland to species rich grassland as a buffer between expanding residential areas, e.g. the gap between Yateley & Eversley which is coming under pressure

	from developers and where Hampshire's own planning departmenat have called the grassland "poor quality agricultural land"
Species Rich Grassland	Can’t think of anything
Species Rich Grassland	leave the plants alone, they don't need help.
Species Rich Grassland	Strip top soil from nutrient rich grassland (amenity and agriculturally improved) to create ideal conditions for species rich grassland. Reuse the top soil sustainably.
Species Rich Grassland	Reverting arable land isn't necessarily the answer. We need to increase food production in the UK not reduce it
Species Rich Grassland	Stop developing on green land at such a ridiculous rate. HCC needs to hold EHDC accountable for the current destruction of local habitats
Species Rich Grassland	The South Downs landscape is a mosaic including farmed land. Profitable farm businesses are essential to support appropriate land managment so some arable land is relevant to both conservation management but also essential for certain species (eg farmland bird assemblages and arable margin flora).
Species Rich Grassland	“Use of local provenance seed sources or green haylage from local donor meadows recommended” Potential for creation of register of local donor meadows / seed banks / cooperative approach?
Species Rich Grassland	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this group of habitats and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery.
Species Rich Grassland	There are patches of urban grassland which have potential, either in their own right or as connectors between areas. These should be managed appropriately
Species Rich Grassland	The following measures have been employed with some success on Portsdown Hill with the help of many volunteers. Specifically over 15 years an arable field)known as Top Field) has been returned to species-rich grassland; - Educate residents on what to expect to reduce complaints about untidy areas. Mow the edges of hay so that public access is still clear. Find local users for the hay to reduce transport. - Educate dog-walkers to respect grazing animals. - Remove cow-pats and horse manure to reduce nutrient input. - Avoid or reduce the number of plastic tree guards used. - Do more ground truth surveys of what species we've got, and how they interact, including unloved invertebrates. - Plan hedgerows to protect road crossing species. - Prevent utilities et al from re-seeding disturbed areas with imported, alien species. Cheaper and better to leave the disturbed ground and let wind-blown and ancient seeds germinate.
Species Rich Grassland	Intervention needs a lifecycle cradle to cradle analysis with consideration to the climate and biodiversity crises before I can answer. Little point in approach that has other consequences and cost to these crises.

Species Rich Grassland	Our client is broadly supportive of most of the proposed measures. Our principal concerns are with the measures relating to pesticide use. The Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (COPR) alongside the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 (FEPA) primarily regulate pesticides. As pesticide use is controlled under separate legislation, these measures are not considered appropriate. Our client is supportive of the identification of their land near Magdalen Hill Down for grassland restoration (Measure G2). Restoring grassland on the site will improve the connectivity of existing habitats.
Species Rich Grassland	A focus should be on conservation and restoration of semi-improved grassland (often targeted for tree planting or at risk of conversion to arable leys due to agri-envt incentives).
Species Rich Grassland	OUTCOME: All existing species-rich grassland in positive management 1. Grazing if managed properly will give sufficient nutrients so no additional fertilisers and pesticide should be used 2. Hay cutting needs to be once a year with borders left around the edges preferably using light machinery or scything. 3. You say: "Remove or manage scrub." Scrub has many uses including protecting new trees, so should not be over managed or removed without thought OUTCOME: Degraded species-rich grassland restored back to species-rich grassland 1. You say: "Little or no application of manure, fertiliser, pesticide or supplementary feed". Really this should say NO use of fertiliser or pesticide. Soil needs to regenerate naturally. Pesticide and fertilisers harm the soil and kill the worms that are needed for healthy soils. See Soil Association Article: Worms play a vital role in keeping our soil healthy: see: https://www.soil Association.org/causes-campaigns/save-our-soil/meet-the-unsung-heroes-looking-after-our-soil/why-are-worms-important/ 2. As above: you say: "Remove or manage scrub" Scrub is an undervalued resource. See paragraph: Scrub restoration required: See article by PTES: Hazel dormice in hedges and scrubs: https://ptes.org/hazel-dormice-in-hedges-and-scrubs/ OUTCOME: New areas of species-rich grassland created (including habitat expansion), linking existing areas of grasslands 1." Reduce stocking and fertiliser inputs" should be replaced by: Stop using fertiliser and chemicals See Soil Association Article: Worms play a vital role in keeping our soil healthy See: https://www.soil Association.org/causes-campaigns/save-our-soil/meet-the-unsung-heroes-looking-after-our-soil/why-are-worms-important/
Species Rich Grassland	More grassland should mean greater availability for stock so density can be reduced.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	The use of conservation grazing with fencing on common land where most of the potential for re establishment of heathland is requires the removal of forestry and continuous succession removal not just a few cows. There is a fallacy that low density grazing works in these situations. There is no proof infact on wood pasture low density grazing only acts to create a high level canopy
Heathland and acid	It would be helpful to use UK Habitats terminology to further guide and define habitat creation and management objectives. Some of the habitat categories are quite loose which means it is not always

Grassland Mosaics	certain as to what habitat creation or management accords with the measures and will achieve high strategic significance.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Dog control is a necessity in many fragile, recovering ecosystems.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	chemicals best avoided.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Always to be pragmatic . Different ways forward in different places. Not always the same way. No chemicals.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Returning woodland to heathland should be considered on a case, by case basis. Scrub on existing heathland is a bigger issue
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Need to identify for each area of eg NF what is causing degradation and act to remove or reduce that impact. For example Hyde Common has had work to restore habitat for nightjars (which used to be common here less than 10 yrs ago) yet tourist impacts are increasing. We need to remove the causes of restoration. I would add that I'm not sure that chemical treatments for bracken is the right way to go because of run-off issues).
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	no
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Heathland restoration of mineral workings may be unrealistic. This can be difficult and costly to achieve unless original heathland soils have previously been retained for restoration works.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Again, there is an opportuinity to create heathland from adjacent grassland, e.g. Castle Bottom
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	I don’t understand why some of the options include changing the use of arable land. Surely we need arable land to produce food.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	No chemicals anywhere, they destroy habitats. Use only natural things.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Control bracken and scrub by mechanical means NOT chemicals

Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	The potential to restore heathland at and near Woolmer Forest is high and needs to be taken, but such areas should not then become open access land.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	I'm not sure about controlling bracken chemically. One big problem that we see on Silchester Common is the gorse outperforming the heather. Wildlife also struggles from number of dog walkers (but it is Common land, so that is difficult to change. It was amazing how much more wildlife we got in 2000 when the Common was closed due to foot and mouth, though. I note that you have identified the Silchester school playing field, and the Silchester village playing field as opportunities for improvement for wildlife. I think either measure would be deeply unpopular with residents. These are important local facilities and in use for recreation daily.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	With a 303 page document supporting all this along with all the other manuscripts detailing the rules and regulation about what, when, and by who, I don't have any confidence anything will improve.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	I'm not sure which chemicals are used to control bracken or what damage is done by removing bracken by mechanical means.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	This selection seems very limited.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this group of habitats and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	I would prefer that bracken be controlled mechanically rather than chemically
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Heathland is only semi-natural. It is a man-made environment caused by extensive deforestation and repeated burning. Heathland, especially in areas like the new forest is vulnerable to starting wildfires in our ever warming climate. We should let natural processes take over so if trees do regenerate that's fine in some places. Whilst heathland is enjoyed by species like the sand lizard and nightjar, I see no reason why we should be seeking to expand heathland any further and instead should embrace more areas of it returning to woodland. Bracken is an indicator of woodland having existed there previously so removing this and enabling saplings to grow would be positive
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Control bracken by mechanical and grazing methods Mineral workings subject to offsets

Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	Measures to guide/channel public access so as to avoid disturbance and harm to vulnerable habitat and species.
Heathland and acid Grassland Mosaics	OUTCOME: All existing heathland and acid grassland mosaic in positive management 1 But “Measures to manage lowland heathland including scrub control” is too general. You would need to have measures manage lowland heath, which could include managed grazing. . Scrub is often an undervalued resource which can provide protection for nursery trees, ground nesting birds and small animals like the Hazel Dormouse. Jays often plant acorns in scrub which is then protected the seedlings from being grazed. 2. " Control bracken using chemicals or by mechanical means" Bracken should be controlled, but not using chemicals 3. Bracken can be useful for regenerating species: See PTES: https://ptes.org/dormouse-delight/ For references to controlling Bracken See> a. Nature Scot PDF: Bracken control - a guide to best practice https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2024-01/Publication%202008%20-%20Bracken%20Control%20-%20A%20Guide%20to%20Best%20Practice.pdf b. Gwent Wildlife Trust: Conservation grazing - bracken bashing the “natural method” – cattle and pony grazing. During a six week trial, this natural approach aims to tame bracken's smothering impact, offering a promising alternative to labour-intensive control methods. https://www.gwentwildlife.org/blog/joe-ryder/conservation-grazing-bracken-bashing-natural-method-cattle-and-pony-grazing c. Barn Owl Trust: Bracken management in rough grassland https://www.barnowltrust.org.uk/how-to-manage-land-for-barn-owls/bracken-management-in-rough-grassland/ d. Devon Blacksmith BRACKEN CONTROL non chemical This is how I control the bracken on my land without burning or chemicals, I have used this method of bracken control very effectively for many years https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hj4VED-Hz_E OUTCOME: Restoration of degraded heathland and acid grassland mosaic 1.Measure: Re-establish heathland on forested land or woodland, including scrub Question: If you had forested land or woodland why would you want to change it to heathland rather than upgrade the woodland by planting new native trees, or allowing it to regenerate naturally.
Woodland	Increase perceived safe woodland access for all NMU public access not just pedestrians
Woodland	Incentivise diverse native woodland planting rather than 20% non native.
Woodland	Education is great to raise support. More access is good for education, but needs to be implemented carefully (e.g. no massive car parks and roads cutting down through woodland).
Woodland	Invasive species that have become so entrenched are difficult to get rid of. Probably not worth the cost vs the value, and grey squirrels are pretty much naturalised at this point.

Woodland	If Pine Martins are introduced it may be possible to have red squirrels as well as greys.
Woodland	Create annual cull of invasive grey squirrels.
Woodland	I'm a bit concerned about supporting priority species (other than when they are endangered). I prefer the environment to be considered as a whole, so that a good balance can be established.
Woodland	The smalll river and woodland in Sholing Southampton need urgent attention as the river is heavily polluted with very little flow and wildlife appear to rely on my garden water bowls.
Woodland	Developing a sustainable hunting economy to control deer and squirrel populations but partnering with deer stalking course providers and monetising hunting through access licencing (similar to hunting in Canada).
Woodland	no
Woodland	Look back to the 1950s and 60s. Everybody thought they were so great ripping out the hedge rows!
Woodland	Creation of tree nurseries, where thorny scrub is planted and/or managed adjacent to land is used for grazing could be utilized as a natural way to allow treelines to re-establish without the need to plant to many new trees, using saplings that grew naturally in the environment.
Woodland	Raise awareness of and monitor tree pests and diseases. This is desirable but if no practical steps will halt the spread of a pest then is it worth using resource on that. Resistant species or naturally resistant variants may be a better option.
Woodland	I am a great believer that the priority should be insects and birds and that means the small mammals are also a priority.
Woodland	Also to ensure hedgerows are maintained as hedgerows and not left to grow into linear woods. Many hedgerows in local authority control (e.g. in Hart DC between Yateley & Eversley) have not been managed for 25 years. These should be regularly coppiced but are not
Woodland	More studies on lichen and fungi. Their importance is crucial for monitoring health and conditions. The interfungal web is also a good way of showing how healthy a wood is. Plantations will not have this connection.
Woodland	I don’t know what the plans are to control deer & grey squirrels but it had better be humane.
Woodland	Woodland can manage itself.
Woodland	Rather than blindly going 'native' in planting, more regard should be made of predicted climate change which may make a variety of non native and disease resistant species more sustainable, Without effective deer and grey control on a landscape basis or significant fencing, it becomes largely academic as the end result is not the woodland we want. Much more focus needs to be made on how timber can be marketed and used. The incentive for good forestry practice must include a financial element
Woodland	Eliminate grey squirrels, introducing pine martins

Woodland	Rhododendron are attractive. They should be kept under control in specific areas, but not eliminated.
Woodland	Ensure any & all catfish removed, ensure native species thrive, reintroduce beavers & otters where applicable
Woodland	Better information about ash dieback desease
Woodland	What does 'native species' mean? Need to identify and protect key trees or groves of key trees from which taxa can spread
Woodland	The subject of controlling populations is very emotive, but I've seen positive examples of contraception being used to control squirrels. Rhododendrons are also enjoyed, so again there's comms to be done about why this is important. A dog walker once told off one of our members for removing Virginia Creeper - which we're required to do as part of our reserve management - because it's pretty.
Woodland	Right tree, right place, right reason. SDNP Nature Recovery by Landscape Character Type.
Woodland	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this habitat and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery. It would be beneficial to also insert a measure regarding the specific management of recreational impacts from people and dogs for woodlands near to urbanised areas, e.g. incorporate into measure W1 (direct management), W8 (improving access) or create a new measure.
Woodland	Reduce the wholesale cutting down/pollarding of trees under the guise that they are diseased. Plant saplings etc in the months Oct - Dec to improve survival rate.
Woodland	1 Recognise the difficulty of liaising with multiple land-owners as well as cross-border local authorities to ensure continuity of connectivity. Portsdown Hill alone has at least 15 "public" bodies to deal with as well as multiple business and private owners; we need to lobby for national government to put a duty of co-operation for environmental benefit on all land-owners with property covered by the LNRS. Connecting pockets of habitat using verges and hedgerow management is to be encouraged but it only needs one "body" to forget their mowing strategy for a habitat to be quickly lost. I was looking for the strategy to draw a broad green stripe in Appendix 7 (Opportunity Focus Areas) joining all the dots on the maps in Appendix 6 (Habitat Mapping Layers). 2 The planting of inappropriate species must be resisted even when the occasion is endorsed because it is a memorial. Use local seeds and seedlings so that species are adapted to the habitat. Effort needs to be put into the removal of invasive species eg cotoneaster, sycamore, holm oak, etc to prevent them from becoming dominant.
Woodland	Prevent the felling of mature trees, enforce the value of ancient trees. Stop the invidious concept that mature trees can be simply replaced by whips or saplings. Encourage all development to preserve mature trees as a priority

Woodland	I refer you to my previous comments about natural ecosystem services which should be used as part of the judgement and choice of restoration and protection approaches for woodlands. In particular, best nature based solutions and woodland habitat tree/hedgerow species for climate mitigation and adaptation is essential. High tree/hedgerow carbon sequestration species in many cases may be the most appropriate approach.
Woodland	With uncertainty around any forms of support funding for any Narture Recovery, it is very important to be careful with priorities and make small achievable steps eg control deer and squirrels, thus removing their threat from existing trees, managing existing plantations before planting more.
Woodland	More ambitious targets for creating new woodland. Working with landowners, farmers, parish/town and district councils to collaborate on new woodland.
Woodland	We don't need as much farmland as we currently have. Too much land is dedicated to growing feed directly to cows and sheep which is an inefficient way to feed humans. More woodland can replace land currently dedicated to growing purely grass. Grazing land is 3x more destructive than palm oil.
Woodland	I have provided some detailed text to the earlier question on woodlands. For your convenience it is copied out below. Woodland and hedgerows are key habitats managed by the shooting community and provide a great opportunity to realise LNRS priorities. The long-term evidence base is clear that land with pheasant shooting is likely to have a greater extent of better managed woodland and hedgerows than areas without it. In terms of contemporary evidence, BASC commissioned a review in 2024 of over 1,000 shoots where driven shooting takes place and compared them with matched control sites to see if there were differences in woodland and hedgerows. This analysis found that areas with pheasant shooting had woodlands with significantly better vertical structure and that there was over twice the length of hedgerows when compared with control sites. This supports the science that release of game is a driver for higher levels of woodland management, such as rides, glades and coppicing and improvements in hedgerow extent. BASC will assist the LNRS to deliver improvement in woodland management through our education and advice to shoots. This advice is aligned with Forest Research's woodland ecological condition criteria and is available as an advice pack to members on our website. Our regional teams and Game and Wildlife Management team can provide detailed support and advice to members with specific queries. We are particularly pleased with the draft LNRS priority measures for grey squirrel and deer at W6. Shooting is a core control method for these species and our Deer Team at BASC provide advice, training and support to stalkers and to government to enable the humane management of deer and to open the UK venison market to more people. Our regional teams and national Game and Wildlife Management team provide support and guidance on grey squirrel management to shoots. From a national

	perspective, BASC are part of the UK Squirrel Accord and have pushed forward the work for both the non-lethal and lethal options for grey squirrel management.
Woodland	Our client wishes to provide their general support for woodland enhancement and creation across Hampshire. Encouraging woodland creation and enhancements will deliver many environmental benefits, including carbon sequestration.
Woodland	Introduce Pine Martens to eliminate grey squirrels
Woodland	Increase and improve management of rides, glades, feathered woodland edges etc.
Woodland	Buffers for woodland from overly close development so as to ensure root zone protection and future hazard avoided.
Woodland	Information from the Woodland Trust Website: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/ancient-woodland/ Threats: See Woodland Trust Website: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/ancient-woodland/#ipn-threats Information from the Woodland Trust Website: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/ancient-woodland/ Ancient woodland: Home to myth and legend, where folk tales began. It fuelled our ancestors and still houses thousands of species. Ancient woodland has grown and adapted with native wildlife, yet what remains only covers 2.5% of the UK. Ancient woodland has been around for so long it has developed special communities of plants and animals not found elsewhere. It's an important habitat and in sore need of protection. What is ancient woodland? Ancient woods are areas of woodland that have persisted since 1600 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and 1750 in Scotland. This is when maps started to be reasonably accurate so we can tell that these areas have had tree cover for hundreds of years. They are relatively undisturbed by human development. As a result, they are unique and complex communities of plants, fungi, insects and other microorganisms. Types of ancient woodland Any native habitat could be ancient. Each ancient wood has developed with its local soils and environment and this impacts the wildlife present. Just 2.5% of the UK land is covered in ancient woodland. That's 609,990 hectares. Information from the Woodland Trust Website: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/ancient-woodland/ Ancient woodlands can be classified into different categories. These include: Ancient semi-natural woods which are woods that have developed naturally. Most have been used by humans – often managed for timber and other industries over the centuries – but they have had woodland cover for over 400 years. Plantations on ancient woodland sites which are ancient woods that have been felled and replanted with non-native species. Typically, these are conifers, but it can also include broadleaved planting such as non-native beech, red oak, and sweet chestnut. Although damaged, they all still have the complex soil of ancient woodland, and all are considered to contain remnants of the woodland specialist species which occurred before. We are

	working to restore these sites to their former glory. Why is ancient woodland special? Truly unique Ancient woods are our richest and most complex land habitat in the UK and they are home to more threatened species than any other. Centuries of undisturbed soils and accumulated decaying wood have created the perfect place for communities of fungi and invertebrates. Other specialist species of insects, birds and mammals rely on ancient woodlands. Ancient woods also retain important archaeological features, often from past industry and management. These woodlands can also protect large archaeological features, like earthworks, from damage'. Why are ancient woods irreplaceable? Ancient woods are irreplaceable. We can't replace the complex biodiversity of ancient woods which has accumulated over hundreds of years. Many species that thrive in ancient woodland are slow to colonise new areas. All ancient woodlands are unique, and are distinctive of their locality. Once what little we have left is gone, it's gone for good. How to spot ancient woodland Many, but not all, ancient woodlands have been mapped, and each country in the UK maintains an 'ancient woodland inventory'. These inventories provide details on which woods are considered to be ancient, as well as categorising that include 'Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites', for example. Ancient woods are varied, so different evidence can be required to identify them. We look for key species, known as ancient woodland indicators, which can give us clues to the age of a wood. Documentary evidence, such as map records, are very important, as well as looking out for historical features on the ground. Ancient woodland indicators The presence of various animal and plant species indicates that a site has been largely undisturbed woodland for a considerable length of time. These are known as 'indicator species'. Specific plants are most commonly used as indicators of ancient woodland as these provide the easiest and most accessible way to assess ancient status. Which indicator species are present will depend on geographical location, but it's always true that the more indicator species present, the more likely it is a woodland is ancient. Some other groups of species are also very good ancient woodland indicators – these include lichens, insects (particularly those associated with decaying wood, known as 'saproxylics') and also molluscs (slugs and snails). Information from the Woodland Trust Website: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/ancient-woodland/
Woodland	Advice and support for landowners, such as parish councils, on the creation and connecting of woodlands.
Woodland	All trees become native after a time , when depends historically on the climate and now on man . With diseases and climate change and to remain viable woodlands need to adapt and use new trees . Oaks are in some cases struggling , ash are going and elms have gone, so we must accept new species which are financially viable and diversify woodland risk. Woodland edges can be created in the woods using existing woodland areas without losing productive farmland - our country is in severe financial straits and we need a focus on commercial success too

Woodland	I am not sure what you mean by 'Plantations on Ancient Woodlands Restored'. As I said in an earlier section, any 'planting' in ancient woodland sites, whether existing or degraded, needs to be very carefully considered and controlled. Natural woodland regeneration can only be successfully achieved if there are suitable donor trees nearby. But it is worth waiting: the chance seed will always overtake the introduced plant.
Woodland	Wherever possible, remove invasive species by mechanical rather than chemical means.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	It is a proven result that low density grazing is not a valid tool for the restoration of wood pasture and that it is a common misconception that the commons were designed for wood pasture. See inspectors second report Odiham common
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Set some parameters for what qualifies as parkland habitat, including what grassland habitat is acceptable beneath it.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	"Avoid use of fertilisers and pesticides to protect rare lichens and fungi and encourage floristic diversity" very important. Many invasive species can be directly targeted mechanically or simply by encouraging natural fauna to return to the area and manage it.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	All good ideas, all necessary in varying degrees depending on the area! Love it.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Parklands could be rewilded . Fruit trees could also be planted here.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	I'm not suggesting using good farmland for extending wildlife areas.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	no
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Priorities for Hampshire across all woodlands should be the preservation of ancient woodland and particularly old veteran trees. Granting certain "mother trees" protected status from future felling would ensure that there are remnants, and a continuation of ancient woodland maintained throughout all woodland sites. To date there are no legal protections for old trees, and often they are subjects of vandalism or a target for commercial interests. Sustainable harvest should only be meted out to trees below a certain age range, and intended for those purposes, however, there should always be a calculated remnant that is to remain attached to the "mother-tree" to ensure that there is a collective history from these organisms that gets transferred across the woodland, and through the age.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Again, I’m not sure about the change of use for arable land
Wood Pasture and Parklands	need to allow educate land managers on the importance of maintaining veteran trees and no just felling them on H&S
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Its alright having pasture land but what's going to graze it, beef herds perhaps but the slaughter house has closed and milking herds are closing daily. .,
Wood Pasture and Parklands	In view of climate change, natural succession of native trees is the best way to ensure reslilience, planting should preferably be with trees grown from locally collected seed. There is no mention of deer

	management, increasing deer numbers in the area is one of the biggest threats to local woodlands.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this habitat and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Ensure new trees are planted in the Autumn months to increase survival rates. Use cardboard style tree guards not the plastic type ones that only degrade if covered over by soil.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Wood pasture and parklands are not natural environments. They are designed to be aesthetic and for the landed aristocracy - it is simply outdated and should be by-passed for woodlands. Whilst it may be ever so slightly better than fields with no trees, most parklands I'm aware of are extremely large in size and lack hedgerows and have minimal wildlife. There will be 0 wildlfowers and 0 young trees as the sheep will eat everything in sight. They also tend to be unpleasent places to have recreation due to the large volumes of sheep and dung.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Innoculate soils to build up fungal network
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Wood pasture is a hugely valuable habitat for biodiversity, carbon sequestration and storage, public amenity and natural beauty.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	UK Wood Pasture & Parkland Network Wood Pasture and Parkland is home to some of the oldest living trees in the UK, whose value to wildlife is astounding. Their myriad of micro-habitats support some of our most endangered species. If you can’t picture what this habitat looks like, you’re not alone. At their core, both wood pasture and parkland consist of big old trees with full crowns growing in grazed pasture, with abundant wood decay. They are what ecologists like to call a ‘mosaic habitat’ which means an area with a mixture of other habitats; the value of the mosaic is greater than the sum of its parts. For too long this habitat has been overlooked, understudied and undervalued; we are only just starting to fully appreciate its real value. See People’s Trust for Endangered Species: PTES Website: https://ptes.org/wppn/
Wood Pasture and Parklands	On the habitat maps it appears that the south western part of the Laverstoke Park (Grade ii listed) parkland in Laverstoke, south of the B3400 (i.e. Batts Meadow and the land on western edge of Laverstoke Lane) are not showing as parkland on your map. Please can they be included.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Mapping and recording ancient & veteran trees, in order to protect and maintain them appropriately. Link to agro-forestry goals, creating new, and reconnecting existing, wood pasture by planting more trees on working farms.
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Woodland pasture is only for a few people : hobby farms, enthusiasts and some premium specialist . Parkland is very hard to manage to break even on, let alone make a profit , so all further restrictions should be avoided or you just encourage intensification. We have

	plenty of parkland which is in any event a man made manged environment which should be allowed to evolve as owners wiosh .
Wood Pasture and Parklands	Parkland trees are often in groups (roundels). Collectively they develop open crowns, but do not necessarily need to be thinned to individual specimens. Not sure how you provide replacement veteran trees - push in a seed, hope for the best and go away for a thousand years?!
Coastal	But no on the back of reduced public access
Coastal	Mudflats are also a very important habitat that is often overlooked so I would specify that in the options too. If there is no mudflat there are no coastal birds.
Coastal	Restoring seagrass - please consider looking at works of international NGOs such as "Reef Doctor" who were previously based in Madagascar and their work on restoring coral and seagrass beds. Disturbance from dogs needs to be controlled as well, causing stress to ecosystems. And I will say it each time water sources are involved - it is all meaningless if we do not sort out our sewage pollution!
Coastal	Only see destruction of them never see anyone improving or fixing them
Coastal	Southampton has been completely missed out. Once it had oysterbeds, saltmarsh but it is hardly mentioned in ecology plans today and not mentioned at all in the report where it comes down to solent marine ecological work. Would like more for Southampton. Perhaps seagrass planting and oysterbeds as are proposed nearby elsewhere. It is possible to do this I feel even though Southampton is a port city and very industrial. The city of Vigo in Spain have become a 'living port' city with docks incorporated with 'ecoconcrete ' to create artificial habitats for marine wildlife. We could look into having it too. Possibly a 'living pier' where the old pier is?
Coastal	Dog control measures could be prioritised by publicising dog friendly / off lead walks. By-law fines for dogs off leads could be implemented and enforced with prosecutions publicised.
Coastal	I think that one of the major issues emerging from this review is the management of dogs: perhaps better put the management of dog owners. I would insist, on pain of the dog being impounded, and £500 charged for release, on all dogs being leashed and muzzled whilst in any nature area. But then I don't like dogs!!!
Coastal	Disturbance and invasive species are impacting coastal habitats such a shingle. Holm oak colonisation of shingle on the Solent requires urgent attention.
Coastal	Dogs always on lead in all nature reserve areas. The RSPB do not allow dogs in 95% of their nature reserves, nor should we at places like Hurst Spit, and Sturt Pond where on an almost daily basis, dogs are off-lead and often encouraged into the water disturbing summer and wintering birds. Many of our winter geese (Brent Geese) arrive from Siberia after a journey of around 2,600 miles. Each bird loses about 25% of its body weight during their migration here, therefore in the first 3-4 weeks of arriving, they need to be undisturbed to allow

	them to regain weight. Make sure that Core and secondary feeding areas in the Solent Waders & Brent Geese Strategy are better policed and managed.
Coastal	This section is missing detail on coastal lagoons and the need to create and restore them, and features like shingle islands, for seabird populations. limiting dog pressure is just one way to reduce impact on beach nesting birds, this should include more actions to support them. Additionally, Beneficial Use of Dredged Sediment should be an action for saltmarsh recovery.
Coastal	Protecting existing seagrass beds should be a priority, using existing byelaws to protect from fishing/boating. Creation of new complexes intertidal habitat should include lagoons and islands that provide secure roosting and nesting sites for seabirds and shorebirds - these should be protected from land-based and water-based recreation. Beneficial Use of Dredged Sediment should be used as measure to support saltmarsh/intertidal habitat restoration.
Coastal	Mudflat is a very important intertidal habitat which you have not mentioned specifically. This is also being lost to coastal squeeze and erosion. Also, a lot of the sea and shorebird breeding occurs on shingle. Seabird breeding shingle should be treated as a separate habitat which needs to be managed and restored (disturbance and to ensure it's at the right height)
Coastal	BASC has a network of affiliated wildfowling clubs across the UK, including Hampshire. Clubs manage intertidal habitats to ensure they are in good condition for domestic waterfowl and the large influx of migratory waterfowl we get in winter. This network collaborate with statutory agencies on habitat creation projects, such as seagrass and saltmarsh, and those that own land use the agri-environment schemes to improve extent and condition of coastal habitats. This work underpins sustainable harvest of ducks and geese in the winter months and the clubs regulate their level of activity closely, often under a consent with Natural England. Wildfowling clubs are an excellent ally for delivery of this element of LNRS and our national Wildfowl and Wetland Team would be happy to have a discussion with the LNRS about this.
Coastal	Need a solution to the Hurst Spit issue - is it going to be left to erode? and leave Lymington, saltmarsh, a burried tip to be flooded, disturbed or worse?
Farming and Nature	Improving sources of winter food for wildlife, birds in particular, would be great. Encourages species that would usually winter in the region to stay within the region and not drive them out in the search for food.
Farming and Nature	Introduction of more water features within farmland to increase diversity of insects. I think the increase of pollinator strips is essential to improve the numbers and range of insects that we have lost in recent years. Farmland has, in my view, reverted to ploughing up to field edges in many instances resulting in a loss of habitat and interconnecting routes across farmland for birds and insects. An effort to repair existing hedges on farm boundaries and between fields would also help improve cover and nesting sites for species suffering number losses.

Farming and Nature	There needs to be a balance between protecting nature and support for farming. The plans sound good but it must be done without detriment to farmers livelihood and need to supply the nations food.
Farming and Nature	All these ideas are good but need to be pragmatic and look at each site individually.
Farming and Nature	It's important that those farmers who embrace nature friendly practices are compensated
Farming and Nature	Greater emphasis on means of enabling community volunteers to help farmers to undertake biodiversity enhancement measures on unfarmed areas. We offered manpower and free native hedging and trees for gapping up and trees in hedgerows last two autumns + winters... and none of them were interested. We had a great response from the community, so those with large enough garden and a few acres joined in the project, but no larger landowners. Also, better protection of verges beyond fields which were once species rich meadows... our verges are being destroyed by traffic overrun, as they mount the verges to pass each other on single track lanes... these verges hold a wonderful abundance of bative dpecies from the ancient pastures... we have been surveying in Woodlands for RVEI status, but that is a lengthy process due to HBIC staffing, and we haven't achieved rvei yet. We would like the plant species rich verges in Woodlands (and other local rural lanes) to be listed as areas of potential for biodiversity and appear on the ACB map. We have recorded 126 species in our verges including 13 notable species.
Farming and Nature	no
Farming and Nature	Creation of pollinator strips throughout farming land is an easy measure that can be coupled in increasing the "floristic diversity" of hedgerows. Neighbouring locales outside of Hampshire can be benchmarked for management of a species rich hedgerow that is buffered by a thick and varied diversity of flowers. Particularly looking into Cornwall's management of hedgerows and those from the time of the Saxons can provide insight into how to avoid hedgerows becoming impacted by only nettle and brambles. Instead coupling hedgerows with pollinator strips could provide corridors for not only birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, but also increase the yield of nearby crops through the attraction of a robust pollinator community.
Farming and Nature	Ensure all these measures are taken account of when developers attempt to build on farmland which could be used for local nature recovery instead
Farming and Nature	Where sensible, create additional wetland areas on poor quality farmland and ensure high-tide grassland feeding sites are managed appropriately for safe haven feeding areas for geese and waders.
Farming and Nature	Measures should include targets to reduce bare ground in the winter to reduce soil erosion and run-off.
Farming and Nature	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this habitat and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery

Farming and Nature	Education of farmers and workers where required. Not surveying for species when they are not there. For example farm land that is being turned over to housing not surveyed in winter when skylarks are not around. Come back in March/April and you would find them in situ establishing their breeding territories.
Farming and Nature	Most measures above are appropriately designed to track outcomes, but many remain narrowly focused on individual or single-target species, limiting their broader ecological impact. Integrated strategies, such as agroforestry systems, offer more holistic approaches by combining agricultural production with biodiversity conservation, supporting ecosystem services like soil health, water retention, and carbon storage. The "targeting specific threatened species for reintroduction, re-colonisation or range extension" might not be the right measure as this alone may be insufficient without broader shifts in land use priorities. Arable land is often subject to intensive agricultural practices that limit habitat quality and connectivity, making it difficult for reintroduced species to thrive. More integrated management approaches are needed, that combine habitat restoration, reduced input farming, and landscape-scale planning, to ensure long-term viability of species and ecosystem functions.
Farming and Nature	Educate the public about the measures put in place by farm managers on arable land. Improve the public's understanding and respect for nature friendly farming and protection of nature.
Farming and Nature	There is much science form extensive work over many years by GWCT at the Allerton Reseach Project their managemnt guidlelines cove most if not all arable and habitat forms [see Agrocolgy] Many of these practices are simple and require little change to today's cultivaiton practice. Much time, money and discussion can be better used by use of such practices. In additon, the nature restoration success will be significant. Re-introductions should be avoided until the habtat and management are suitable for a successful project.
Farming and Nature	A narrow focus on individual species limits broader ecological impact. Integrated strategies, such as agroforestry systems, offer more holistic approaches by combining agricultural production with biodiversity conservation, supporting ecosystem services essential to humanity as well as nature, especially n relation to climate change, such as soil health, water retention, and carbon storage.
Farming and Nature	The coastal section highlights dog walking providing a risk of disturbance and the action above on providing disturbance free feeding areas, leads me to make the point about understanding the difference between any disturbance and the level of disturbance that is significant. In short, significant disturbance differs from disturbance in general terms because it needs to result in material impacts on a population. BASC has worked with Natural England, research institutions and with international partners on management of disturbance for decades. One of the best definitions for significant disturbance is from the African and Eurasian Waterbird Agreement. It considers this to be, changed location distribution on a continuing basis, changed local abundance on a sustained basis or reduction in

	the ability of any significant group of birds to survive, breed, or rear their young. It is important to have this concept because it is virtually impossible to have disturbance-free areas. Farm vehicles, birds of prey, nearby roads and paths and land and species management activities to mention a few things could and do cause short-term disturbance events. However, they may not lead to significant disturbance. Therefore, what is important is to note in the document, and most certainly in delivery, is that the objective is to avoid significant disturbance.
Farming and Nature	Our client is broadly supportive of the above measures, however we request that the wording be amended. The measure relating to agroforestry includes an element of flexibility through the inclusion of 'where possible'. As such, we politely request that the same level of flexibility be applied to the remaining farmland measures.
Farming and Nature	Establish "bee lines" throughout
Farming and Nature	Systematic predator control, esp. to enable survival and recovery of ground-nesting farmland bird populations.
Farming and Nature	The main big Issue around Farming for Nature is that the Government Must Continues to support Farmers with the funding they need to support Nature and Survive See RSPB Blog: Relief for England's wildlife as nature-friendly farming funding announced See RSPB Website: https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/news/nature-friendly-farming-funding-announced-a-relief-for-englands-wildlife Thank you for standing shoulder to shoulder with farmers ahead of the Government Spending Review. Posted Fri 13th Jun 20255 min read Spending secured for nature-friendly farming On Wednesday 11 June, Chancellor Rachel Reeves delivered the Comprehensive Spending Review, sharing how much funding would be allocated to each of the UK Government's departments for the next three years. In recent months, we've asked you to call on the Chancellor to protect and grow England's nature-friendly farming budget ahead of this critical moment for nature. Over 100,000 of you signed our petition and together we stood shoulder to shoulder with farmers to make the case for the nature-friendly farming budget. Thanks to you, our pleas to safeguard spending were impossible to ignore. The Chancellor has committed to spending £2 billion a year on nature-friendly farming, and £400 million to plant trees and restore peatlands over the next three years. This is the biggest ever annual nature-friendly farming budget. It's a win for nature, for farmers, and for all of us. Fixing the foundations Rachel Reeves called this Comprehensive Spending Review an opportunity to 'fix the foundations' of the UK economy. No foundation is more vital – or more at risk – than nature. It underpins our health, our economy, and our food security. Good news for the nature-friendly farming budget comes alongside a significant budget cut for the Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra) – one of the largest across all government departments. At a time when nature needs the Government to act fast to tackle the joint nature and climate emergency, increased investment is essential. Beccy Speight, Chief

	Executive of the RSPB said: There is still a need to continue to invest in nature, the wildlife people love is being pushed to the brink, the wild spaces we all care about are under threat, and climate change is changing our seasons with hotter summers and wetter winters bringing implications for us all. These are areas Defra must tackle, and the Treasury must recognise the need for investment in our natural infrastructure as part of our wider economic growth and improving the life of everyone in the UK." Grow our future: Nature is the air we breathe, the fresh food we grow. It's the healthy soils, the clean rivers and streams. With 70% of the UK farmed, working with farmers is the best chance we have of seeing our wildlife numbers recover. Many incredible farmers are already sowing the seeds for a future that will leave our farmland, our wildlife and our food system in a better state than they found it. They're proving you can have productive, successful farms alive with the sounds of Curlews, Skylarks and Yellowhammers. This week's announcement is a relief, but now we need nature-friendly farming to happen at scale, creating vital pockets of habitat for our wildlife across much more of our farmland. The only way to do this is if governments support our farmers every step of the way, and that needs to happen across the UK, too. The Scale of Need report, research commissioned by the RSPB, National Trust and The Wildlife Trust, estimates that £3.1 billion per year needs to be invested in nature-friendly farming alone in England to meet these goals. Over 100,000 of you signed our petition calling on Rachel Reeves to protect the nature-friendly farming budget. Together, we've shown the UK Government that there is a huge groundswell of support for a food and farming system that works for wildlife, farmers and all of us. Farmers, conservationists, landowners, RSPB members, supporters, campaigners and many more from all walks of life have come together to back nature-friendly farming. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy needs to ensure that this funding continues to support farmers for at least the next ten years.
Farming and Nature	Encouraging reconnection of historic hedgerows and tree lines in the farmed landscape, bringing the benefits of shelter and shade to livestock and farm workers.
Farming and Nature	Farming is world wide competitive industry. Regulation in the UK is already far more than most people appreciate. Fine for Government to pay for targeted improvements in some areas to preserve some aspects as examples . But this is far too wide and is likely to make yet more farms uneconomic as this LNRS process evolves into planning & ecology regulations as these things inevitably do .
Farming and Nature	See also above comments. Wherever possible, need to move to nature-friendly whole field management, not just margins and strips. In-field trees must not be too isolated from each other- connections via the soil need to be maintained.
Hedgerows	Include wildlife hedge laying as a category. This technique is better for wildlife in the short and long term than conventional hedge laying or coppicing. Its benefits are designed (hedges post management are denser, broader, taller, more flowers and fruit, more vigorous

	regrowth with more deadwood and less waste), rather than incidental. Specify a minimum of 8+ species when creating hedges to maximise biodiversity benefits. Co-ordinate the habitats wanted with UK Habitats descriptions.
Hedgerows	Giving hedgerows a range of plant heights and species is great for attracting a whole host of species and maximising ways that different species can travel via hedgerows/exist within the hedgerows.
Hedgerows	More supportive planning committees and follow up when stipulations for hedging. Advice on how to plant and successfully grow, followed by checks to ensure that new hedges are allowed to establish.
Hedgerows	Reinstatement of good hedgerows and improvement of existing sites will benefit what is a drastically declining variety of a large number of species in our countryside. Our hedgerows offer protection, shelter and food for our wildlife.
Hedgerows	It would be a good idea to train people to lay hedges in the traditional way, so that large-scale cutting can be avoided.
Hedgerows	Not only do hedgerows form a vital part of nature for wildlife, they also help to manage heavy rainfall or flooding, shelter for livestock and help to stabilise ditch edges.
Hedgerows	Stop removel of hedgerows through planning process eg all hedgrow work to require approval similar to trees in NF
Hedgerows	no
Hedgerows	Existing measures listed in the document are excellent, however, there should be a distinction between the sorts of trimming and gapping that are detrimental to hedgerows and the ecology of the species it supports. There is evidence that the current methods of use that are rapid and inexpensive, requiring no specialized training besides the use of machinery, lends to the decline in the health of hedgerows and in the decline in the abundance of the species that rely on hedgerows. The documents lists these methods, but it does not denote the hierarchies in outcome for each method. There should be a greater emphasis on laying hedgerows as the most ecologically sound option for retaining living historical walls that can go on for thousands of years if well managed. Funding for long-term upkeep and opportunities for training and maintaining an information bank on these important historical practices should be set up alongside the rolling out of restoring the hedgerows or creating new ones throughout Hampshire locales.
Hedgerows	It should require planning permission to remove hedgerows. They should be kept trimmed and not allowed to turn into trees which along the roads and rails end up being cut down for safety.
Hedgerows	We should also have licences for so called "tree surgeons " and "gardeners" to ensure that only correct practices are performed. Cutting down of mature trees and hedgerows should never be done for profit. Perhaps if the resident who wants a tree cut down should also pay to plant two or three new trees that the the tree surgeon will plant.
Hedgerows	Remove the tractors that aggressively cut the trees and hedgerows from the road side.

Hedgerows	Ensure hedgerows in the control of local authorities, e.g. between settlements and farms are maintained as hedgerows and not left to become linear woods. If necessary employ adjacent farmers to manage the hedgerows on the local authorities' behalf.
Hedgerows	Avoid plastic tree tubes and other planting litter. Establish hedges from locally gathered seed. The process should be sustainable.
Hedgerows	Trimming or flailing of hedgerows should be stopped, it doesn't help the hedges or biodiversity at all
Hedgerows	Welbourne Place "new village" took out meters and meters of hedge rows, work around this and trees instead of cutting it all down - then you don't have to put in anymore.
Hedgerows	SDNPA is developing a hedgerow initiative building upon the good work of the CPRE Hampshire Hedgerow Project.
Hedgerows	I'm aware of the CPRE hedgerow project.
Hedgerows	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this habitat and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery.
Hedgerows	Consider the health and impact of urban hedges
Hedgerows	Existing hedges are top priority and easy, but the existing hedge is only part value - with properly managed hedge bottom it will achieve full value. It must be noted that hedgerow trees attract avian predators to build nests and should be avoided at the outset.
Hedgerows	I have put 'don't know' for the planting of standard trees because the concept of right tree in the right place needs to apply to hedgerows. The LNRS has an assemblage for breeding waders identified. These species require open landscapes for breeding sites, especially the management scheme for curlew, lapwing etc is to keep hedgerows wide but short and to remove standard trees, as these can act as predator perches. Therefore, it needs a caveat to exclude it as an action where the area is important or could be important for ground nesting birds, especially wading birds. Outside of this, hedgerows are another habitat where shooting, especially game shooting, is an ally in delivery. As mentioned in the woodland section, an analysis of 1,000 pheasant shoots compared with 1,000 matched sites without pheasant shoots revealed that those with pheasant shoots had over twice the hedgerow length. This supports the existing scientific evidence base that shooting is a reason for hedgerow planting and management.
Hedgerows	re-introduce native creatures
Hedgerows	Hedgerows form vital connectivity and should be encouraged as the preferred boundary treatment in housing/commercial development. Ideally mixed native/native but any hedge better than none.

Hedgerows	One Issue I would like to have added: is that we need to follow the rules about when to cut Hedges. Our Council was out cutting last week so about 20 June, this is quite unacceptable and I will be getting in touch with them. However it made me think that this was worth mentioning to a wider audience who want to protect nature. The PTES Website says: Trim at the best time for nature: Leave trimming until late winter wherever possible, ideally January or February. This allows birds and small mammals to feed on wild berries and fruit, keeping them sustained through the winter. Cutting earlier removes the majority of this food source, making the winter months harder for wildlife. Hedges should never be cut in the bird breeding season which extends from 1st March to 31st August (unless safety reasons necessitate it). This is because cutting can disturb or destroy nests, egg clutches or chicks, all of which are protected by law. See: PTES Website: https://ptes.org/hedgerow/managing-hedgerows-top-tips/ See: PTES Website for other useful information about Hedgerows: https://ptes.org/hedgerow/ Hedgerows criss-cross over our countryside providing vital habitat for our wildlife as well as acting as corridors for species dispersal. Hedgerows are teeming with life. One study counted 2070 species in one 85 metre stretch. Even this was thought to be an underestimate. We appear to be winning the battle against the outright loss of hedgerows, but evidence points to a worrying decline in hedgerow condition through poor management. If this persists, these hedges too will perish, dealing another blow to the chances of survival for all those that currently call them home. See: PTES Website: For More Information about Hedgerows: https://ptes.org/hedgerow/ Top tips for managing hedgerows : Hedgerows are a dynamic habitat that require management. Managing hedgerows on a cycle ensures their health and long term survival. Here are some top tips for managing hedgerows. See: https://ptes.org/hedgerow/managing-hedgerows-top-tips/ Cut hedges gradually higher and wider When hedges are cut to the same width and height year after year, fewer flowers and fruit are produced and the food available to wildlife is reduced. Cutting to the same trim line each year also causes stem health to deteriorate. At first, a hedge managed in this way will lose its lower branches over time and become ‘leggy’ and at risk of invasion. Eventually, the hedge will lose some of the main woody stems along its length, meaning that it will become ‘gappy’ over time. If stem loss continues through over management, in some instances a hedge can be lost altogether. Trimming slightly higher and wider each year by following a system of incremental cutting (cutting about 10cm higher and wider than the previous trim line), will help to prevent this outcome. The hedge can then be re-shaped when needed. Care for hedgerow trees Hedgerow trees, especially native ones, are fantastic for wildlife and will increase both the abundance and diversity of species inhabiting a hedge. Old trees are especially valuable as their rot holes and dead wood are amazing roost sites for birds and bats. They can also provide the increasingly rare habitat needed for an incredible array of

	rare invertebrates. Aim for a balance of both old, mature hedgerow trees that provide valuable deadwood habitat, and young trees that will become the mature hedgerow trees of the future. New young trees can be established by selecting suitable straight-growing stems already present in the shrub layer of a hedge and not cutting or rejuvenating these when the shrub layer is next cut or rejuvenated. Trim at the best time for nature Leave trimming until late winter wherever possible, ideally January or February. This allows birds and small mammals to feed on wild berries and fruit, keeping them sustained through the winter. Cutting earlier removes the majority of this food source, making the winter months harder for wildlife. Hedges should never be cut in the bird breeding season which extends from 1st March to 31st August (unless safety reasons necessitate it). This is because cutting can disturb or destroy nests, egg clutches or chicks, all of which are protected by law. Avoid trimming every year The good news is that, it's best not to cut every year! Cutting once every two or preferably three years increases flower and berry abundance, as these are often only produced on two year and older stems. The benefit of this is that hedges can be cut on rotation, so that only half or a third of hedges are cut in any one year. Rather than cutting all of these hedges in one block, aim to distribute rotational cutting across a site so that the resources in an area aren't all removed in one go. An alternative is cutting just one side of each hedge every year. This will reduce the cutting time and leave flowers and berries on each hedge. Avoid cutting all hedge sides of a particular compass orientation in one year, e.g. all south-facing sunny hedge sides. If space allows, a hedge can also be entered into a period of non-intervention where it's not cut for a number of years. This allows it to grow out into a big, beautiful hedge that provides lots of resources for wildlife. However, as soon as the density of vegetation at the base starts to thin, the hedge will need rejuvenation through laying or coppicing. Plant up gaps Gaps in hedges reduce the total area of the hedge habitat, as well as their value as a wildlife corridor. Even small gaps in a hedgerow can be an obstacle to dormouse dispersal which can lead to isolated populations more at risk of local extinction. Any gaps can be planted up with a range of native shrub or tree species. The best time to plant up gaps is when rejuvenating the hedge. Young whips can be protected when doing this, in areas where they are at a high risk of being foraged. Increasing the number of plant species in a hedge will help to provide food in the form of flowers or fruit throughout the year. Native shrubs and woody species provide habitat for more insect and animal species than those that are introduced from abroad, as more of our native wildlife have adapted to eat them. Manage newly planted / rejuvenated hedges Newly planted or recently rejuvenated (coppiced/layed) hedges require a slightly different management approach to already established hedges. Yearly trimming encourages the young stems to put more effort into the branching growth. Each year, the hedge can be trimmed slightly higher and wider than the previous trim line. This will lead to the growth of dense vegetation

	along the hedge and down to the ground, which is great for wildlife. This yearly cutting can be carried out for the first 5 years after planting or rejuvenating a hedge, or until a dense hedge structure has been achieved. PTES Website: https://ptes.org/hedgerow/managing-hedgerows-top-tips/ Hedges and the law: The Tree Council https://treecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Hedgerow-Learning-Guide-2-Hedges-and-the-law.pdf
Hedgerows	Prioritising hedgerow creation to connect areas of woodland where new woodland is not feasible. Encouraging use of wider hedgerows - shelterbelts - where appropriate. Introducing new hedging to screen and address habitat fragmentation from security fencing eg around solar energy installations.
Hedgerows	I would not bother to plant a tree in a hedgerow. Once a new hedge is established, trees will find their way in - they just need to be identified, marked and protected from the flail! Old hedges are already full of tree species - they just need identifying.
Hedgerows	Skills - training for hedge layers - going to need a lot more skilled people to do this in the next ten year, as hedges are planted and grown
Hedgerows	How are these good measures to be implemented?
Hedgerows	A recent housing application in Medstead indicated that it would plant some new hedging to replace some that was to be lost. It did not stipulate that NATIVE species should be used. Who knows what we'll get!
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	By foot paths you should mean all non motorised users of the rights of way network and existing by right public open space
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Increased urban tree cover will help lower temperatures during summer, keep native species in the area, and will also have a good impact for citizens of the area. No mowing is a good idea - some councils already implemented a "no mow" for summer (or even longer) with lovely outcomes. Improved and maintaining existing footpaths and signage reduces the need for people to cut across fields and verges, which minimises complaints that the grass is not trimmed.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Again some parts seem less feasible / not worth the effort and money.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	More wildflowers and less mowing. More areas of grass left unmown and research sites to see whats growing there already and soil type and then sow with wildflowers.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	During World War II, as part of the "Dig for Victory" campaign to maximize food production, many ditches were removed. With rainfall and flooding increasing as a result of climate change, I believe this action needs to be reversed, and ditches at the side of public rights of

	way - especially rural roads, bridleways and footpaths - need to be restored to help manage run-off, reduce flooding of those rights of way, and also reduce pollution of local streams, rivers, etc.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	More RVEIs and protection for species rich road verges in our rural lanes please... despite the 126 species in our verges including 13 notable species (via SINC criteria) we haven't been able to acheive rvei status or any help from Highways to protect our verges from speeding vehicle overrun (rather than backing up to passing places) or a revised cutting regime. It would help if HBIC had more resources to survey and agree rvei status, and also if Highways offered more input to protect rural lanes re speeding and consequent destruction of road verges. Please can woodlands verges be added to the ACB map... this too would help gain recognition that it is an important area ecologically speaking, worthy of greater support and protection.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Scrub management needs to be done with a light touch, so that habitats are varied.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Reduced mowing of roadside verges should have a methodology that maintains mowed areas in front of low level signage, and at junctions for line of sight.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Verges only need to be regularly trimmed back for visibility at junctions. Wherever possible, mowing could be kept to a minimum elsewhere.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Educate the public on how to improve their gardens for wildlife and between boundarie.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Prevent ALL development on greenfield sites and on the majority of brownfield sites (ie. former farms) with immediate effect. Prevent local authorities from approving any plans that include the removal of trees and hedgerows, followed by close monitoring to ensure that developers do not "accidentally" remove trees and hedgerows. When a developer or landowner is known to have done this, significant fines should be issued even tot he point of prison sentences for the worst offenders.

Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Domestic gardens should be included in the LNRS. They account for 25% of urban land in England, equivalent to 4 x the areas of all the national natures reservces combined. Their rich mozaic of ecosystems contain large numbers of ponds (2.5 million), mature trees over 3 m (28 million), compost heaps and native plants, representing a huge environmental opportunity, but they are also under threat. A study of London gardens found that there had been a 12% drop in the vegetated area of London gardens in the years between 1998-9 and 2006-818. This equates to the loss of 2.5 Hyde Parks per year. Street tree planting has many benefits for older areas of cities with victorian and edwardian housing. Creating "brown corridors" of soil between street trees helps their health. Healthy trees provide more ecosystem benefits (flood prevention, cleaning water and air, cooling temperature).
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Protect green field sites ans save farms for farmers. Prevent them being bought by developers and sat on. Nature moves in and then that biodiversity is lost when fields are developed. How does that help nature?
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	There's some great charity led activity taking place at train stations and in highstreets which could be highlighted to the public. This is sometimes more ornamental then wild, but I'd argue it all contributes to supporting insect populations AND is a soft way of highlighting to the public how even small green spots can enrich an area.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	National Trails UK supports the recognition of enhancing biodiversity along rights of way/footpaths in U5 but would ask for the specific mention of the National Trails i.e. the 48 km (30 miles) of the South Downs Way and 208 km (130 miles) of the newly established King Charles III England Coast Path and its coastal margin. As the gold standard for public access in the UK, these National Trails are funded to deliver Natural England Quality Standards that set them apart from other routes, one of which states to “improve the landscape, nature and historic features within the trail corridor”. The National Trails UK Nature Recovery Programme seeks to support our National Trails in delivering on this objective, enabling the National Trails to be corridors for people and nature, as shown by our recently published National Trails Nature Recovery Toolkit. https://www.nationaltrails.uk/news/introducing-the-national-trails-nature-recovery-toolkit
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this habitat and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	There should be a stronger focus on the importance of all urban verges in providing habitat when properly managed. There needs to be a better balance between managing for wildlife and safety or 'neatness' worries: at present the former is inadequately acknowledged
Greenspace, Access and	Reducing vehicle speeds will lead to less wildlife being killed by vehicles. It would be good to test the idea that bicycles are more of a distrurbance to wildlife than people on foot.

Transport Related	
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	- "Targeted improvement" needs to be done in an ecologically literate manner. Often the cheapest and most effective method is to do nothing, suitable species will come! - Again, recognise the difficulty of liaising with multiple land-owners as well as cross-border local authorities to ensure continuity of connectivity. Portsdown Hill alone has at least 15 "public" bodies to deal with as well as multiple business and private owners; we need to lobby for national government to put a duty of co-operation for environmental benefit on all land-owners with property covered by the LNRS. Connecting pockets of habitat using verges and hedgerow management is to be encouraged but it only needs one "body" to forget their mowing strategy for a habitat to be quickly lost. I was looking for the strategy to draw a broad green stripe in Appendix 7 (Opportunity Focus Areas) joining all the dots on the maps in Appendix 6 (Habitat Mapping Layers).
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	More education to the public that tidy neat grass and green areas are not ideal, nature and biodiversity is important.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	PLEASE NOTE THAT THE IN THE PREVIOUS SET OF QUESTIONS 'NONE OF THESE' WAS ONLY CLICKED IN ORDER TO GET TO THIS BOX, SO A RESPONSE CAN BE ADDED. SMV Response: SMV would welcome the opportunity for proper liaison with the Responsible Authority to contribute as meaningfully as possible as the proposals progress. SMV broadly supports the progress made by HCC in preparing the LNRS and notes that various stakeholders have been involved in the production of the draft LNRS. SMV also appreciates that in producing a document with the geographical scope that it has, it is not necessarily possible to engage individually with all of the landowners that the LNRS concerns. However, given the extent of the SMV land ownership as part of Basingstoke and Deane's largest strategic emerging allocation, engaging regularly over many years with the LPA and LHA, we are surprised not to have had any direct communication or engagement up to this point to input to the LNRS. Indeed, the 'Local nature recovery strategy statutory guidance, What a local nature recovery strategy should contain, March 2023', sets out the importance of engagement, stating at paragraph 88 that: "Responsible authorities should listen to landowners and managers' views for land they are considering mapping as areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity. All draft strategies must go through public consultation. Responsible authorities do not need to engage with all relevant landowners and managers before public consultation but they should invite them to participate". [Our emphasis]. Further paragraph 89 goes onto state that: "If the responsible authority knows that a landowner opposes a potential measure on their land and is very unlikely to choose to carry it out, it

	would be better to explore alternatives or include other more suitable measures before public consultation. This is particularly important if they propose a location due to its potential to join up areas of habitat to create a wider network. If objections from landowners only become clear at public consultation, the responsible authority should try to accommodate their views where this does not undermine the coherence and ambition of the strategy as a whole". [Our emphasis]. It is therefore clear that due process must be followed, with consultation being a key part of that. SMV is now making their views known and would welcome full and proper engagement in the process, along with full exploration of alternatives in accordance with the guidance, ahead of the final draft being taken to Cabinet, currently targeted for November 2025. To this end, SMV note the following: Para 77 of the, 'Local nature recovery strategy statutory guidance, What a local nature recovery strategy should contain, March 2023', sets out that: "Responsible authorities should be ambitious in proposing change but also realistic in the need to concentrate effort where it will have most benefit. Indiscriminate or widespread mapping of areas that could become of particular importance would not aid targeting of available resources. The proportion of each strategy area mapped for its potential importance will likely vary considerably depending on factors like the extent of existing designations and other constraints on land use". [Our emphasis]. Regardless of this paragraph in the guidance, it appears that the extent of the areas proposed for change has however been indiscriminately blanketed with "W1: Create and manage new native woodland" without sound reasoning. Whilst SMV supports the broad principles of the objectives of linking woodlands together, it believes they can be connected with genuine benefits delivered without compromising development. Refining the areas shown to maximise enhancements would provide an opportunity to showcase how positive collaboration can be had between nature and development, and highlights again the importance of landowner involvement and engagement in the process.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Aim for 1960s levels of habitat, biodiversity and creatures
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	1. Countryside code: sharing the knowledge about everyone needing to take care of our green spaces, taking litter home etc 2. Keeping your dog under control: Dogs on Leads and picking up after your dog & making sure nature is safe 3. People taking care too so that the shared space is enjoyable for all

Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	Please include comments from Hampshire Swifts Group with regard to swift bricks, and protection of existing nest sites for building-dependent species. Please reference the related update to the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) 2025 Natural Environment paragraph 017, which refers to swift bricks as a universal nest brick: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment "How can developments incorporate features which support priority or threatened species? The National Planning Policy Framework expects development proposals to bolster wildlife by incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs. The use of swift bricks is particularly important in this context because swifts rely on urban cavities for nesting, and the national loss of suitable nesting sites through building renovation has been part of the reason for the species' decline. Developments should include integrated nest boxes (commonly known as swift bricks) where possible, with the general aim across a development of a minimum of one nest box per unit. Nest boxes can provide important habitat for other species as well as swifts, such as starlings and sparrows. Extensive guidance is available on wildlife friendly features, including the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code which illustrate how well-designed places can support rich and varied biodiversity by facilitating habitats and routes for wildlife. More specific support for the selection and installation of swift bricks can be found in the British Industry Standard BS 42021:2022 the Future Homes Hub Homes for Nature Guidance, and the RSPB's Guide to Nestboxes. Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 8-017-20250609" See also the "exemplar" published Isle of Wight LNRS (2025) which refers to protection of existing nest sites in UGG1.6: "Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species and should be installed in new developments including extensions, in accordance with best practice guidance such as the Brighton and Hove Guidelines which require at least three swift bricks for all appropriate new builds. Artificial nest cups for House Martins should be similarly considered. Existing nest and roost sites for building-dependent and building- reliant species such as Swifts, House Martins, House Sparrows, Starlings and at least 4 species of bat must be protected and wherever possible augmented and enhanced by designed and built additional provision within ecologically relevant distances."
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	We welcome reference to the Woodland Trust's Tree Equity mapping as a tool for targeting urban tree planting. We recommend setting a tree canopy target within the LNRS. Hampshire Forest Partnership's 'Shoots along the Routes' project is a best practice example of greening transit corridors.
Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	You need to target specific areas not have these kind of blanket suggestions which will become requirements

Greenspace, Access and Transport Related	All public green spaces should be managed pesticide/ herbicide free, NOT just subject to 'herbicide reduction'. This is very important for biodiversity and for public health.
SINCs	But not at the cost of existing public by right open space causing displacement and intensity of use of other SSSIs
SINCs	sIncs must be protected from development.
SINCs	Not enough focus on protection of species eg red/amber list of protected birds arent always identified within the startegy document. Id also suggest that the boundaries/edges between eg SSSIs and private dwellings is a key area for some at risk species and needs to be addressed eg hedge and house sparrows, house martins, swifts etc. So what can be done to encourage householders to improve habitats under their control?
SINCs	Greater legal protections and penalties should be enacted and supported to ensure that goalposts are met, and that adherence to guidelines is not at minimum but at maximum. Governing bodies and all associated parties should be subject to public review on whether agreed measures were successfully employed or not.
SINCs	Being an aonb does not appear to hold much water when it comes to planning, I would hope that SINCs might carry more weight.
SINCs	I don’t think you’ve missed anything out but some outcomes conflict with what is actually happening in Hart. I love all the plans to protect natural habitats, waterways, wildlife & pollinators but still we get unnecessary homes built on our beautiful countryside.
SINCs	More EBC (Section 106) money needs to be expended at Peewit Hill to recover heathland from rhododendron. Also the corner of land where Peewit Hill meets the West End Road should be identified as an area of ACB.
SINCs	Increase the number of protected habitats
SINCs	Rats since when have rats been important to conservation we have lots of rats in our nature reserve it’s not right they deverstate other species trying to thrive in this area.
SINCs	Just make sure all SINCs are managed appropriately, by supporting funding opportunities for farmers, landowners and local groups who can help manage them.
SINCs	An ecobuffer (of a minimum of 30 metres should be maintained around SINCs to transition from the natural environment to the more urban and to provide for rich foraging and grazing areas for example for woodland animals and to provide wildflower meadow areas for pollinators
SINCs	Make sure the funding is available for the existing sites before contemplating more. We might be loosing species if there are any cut backs.
SINCs	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery. It is noted this is not

	a specific mapped measure, as measures for the relevant habitat(s) will be mapped.
SINCs	- Do more ground truth surveys of what species we've got, and how they interact, including unloved invertebrates and the microbiome. - Recognise the difficulty of liaising with multiple land-owners as well as cross-border local authorities to ensure continuity of connectivity. Portsdown Hill alone has at least 15 "public" bodies to deal with as well as multiple business and private owners; we need to lobby for national government to put a duty of co-operation for environmental benefit on all land-owners with property covered by the LNRS. Connecting pockets of habitat using verges and hedgerow management is to be encouraged but it only needs one "body" to forget their mowing strategy for a habitat to be quickly lost.
SINCs	It would be great to focus on how we can create the right environment to encourage the return of hedgehogs and other endangered species .
SINCs	Also SANGs
SINCs	As a Parish Council we manage SINC habitats, this measure doesn't feel like a particularly fleshed-out part of the strategy. We would appreciate advice and support on how best to manage a SINC.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	The nightingale in Hampshire requires scrub. Would like special attention for this bird habitats.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	I don't like the fact that Hampshire County Council are using wildlife as a "scapegoat" for budget cuts. For example, the switching off of streetlights - which is as a direct result of budget cuts - will NOT automatically encourage an increase in nocturnal species. Streetlights have been left on all night for decades [to maintain public safety], yet species have only declined in recent years, so the argument for switching lights off doesn't hold up.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Continue to support community conservation groups with training and advice for underyaking survey work. The parish Pollinator Pledge is doing brilliant work on survey training... we hope to have them do some more lical training in the parish, once we have published the parish biodiversity strategy. Help from HCC in publucising the Nature Recovery strategy and more specifically for the issues and measures in our parish would help us recruit more community members to do survey and other work... it doesn't sound sexy the way currently published!
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	I prefer habitats to be looked at as a whole, rather than particular species being given priority. When a species that belongs to the area in endagered, then priority treatment will be needed.

Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Making decisions without current and past data is just guesswork!
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Greater emphasis should be placed on determining the various ways that a single species interacts with and affects other species around it, rather than in isolation. In this way the outcome of the surveys will be an ecological snapshot of a habitat and the various levers that affect it and its species. Companion plants, and animals should also be included in studies, to determine how species are adapting to shifting landscapes or if they are unable to. One example of this is Knepp Wilding, and some of their literature that showed that what we may observe a species doing now, may be what it has adjusted to recently but not necessarily its historical presentation as records from the past are scant in some regards. Additionally, there should be a move to collectively store and share local ecological information and history with public libraries to maintain records of changes or improvements that may accessible by the residents of that area, without having to go through the various associations or organizations separately to discover additions. There is a need to catalogue the natural history of towns and cities within their repositories of information that is restricted now to trains, and other development, but which is lacking in engaging the public to changes in the environment over time.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Don’t know where else to write this. Hedgehog population needs major encouragement and badgers need culling as they eat hedgehogs. Hedgehog population is in danger.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	You seem to have included everything I just hope that you’ll implement all the measures
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Be informed by historic distribution of species
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Survey at the most appropriate times of year, and in appropriate fashions. Many near us are being done in ways that aren't sympathetic to the target species.

Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	I have issues with the BNG 30 year monitoring process as it needs a thorough baseline assessment done which takes all seasons into account, particularly for hibernating or migratory species. It will need community level ownership to sustain a robust application over the 30 year time period. I'm afraid I don't agree with the BNG credits idea. It's as bad as carbon credits and overrides responsibility for habitat management at local level.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Education especially of responsible bodies, eg parish councils
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Habitat and wildlife surveys are often carried out by experienced volunteers, but Natural England should take a much more pro-active role in these surveys.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Sharing monitoring data and land management advice for areas would allow land owners to work together for increase biodiversity.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	It is important to consider the wider ecosystem, not just species presence. Species are one part of this system, land should be managed considering the wider contexts of habitats and other functionally important species, or we risk losing the benefits of healthy, diverse habitats
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Potential funding streams also from developers / development?
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	The council considers the range of priority outcomes and associated measures identified within the LNRS are appropriate for this habitat and would welcome their achievement for nature recovery.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Managing land solely for priority species may not always best serve biodiversity and climate goals. In some cases, species with greater value for carbon sequestration, ecosystem services, or nature-based solutions—though not classified as priority—may offer more effective outcomes for restoration and resilience.

Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	The Management is the absolute key. In addition, the best managemnt advice takes a holistic approach to enable best outcomes. [Allerton Project GWCT]
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Just the hedgehog point again.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	As a dog owner I was not aware until recently the negative impact allowing my dog to swim in rivers and ponds would have on wildlife due to the treatment of fleas and ticks, I feel the public should be made aware of this and some ponds/rivers/streams dog swimming would not be allowed.
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Please include comments from Hampshire Swifts Group with regard to swift bricks, and protection of existing nest sites for building-dependent species. Please reference the related update to the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) 2025 Natural Environment paragraph 017, which refers to swift bricks as a universal nest brick: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment "How can developments incorporate features which support priority or threatened species? The National Planning Policy Framework expects development proposals to bolster wildlife by incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs. The use of swift bricks is particularly important in this context because swifts rely on urban cavities for nesting, and the national loss of suitable nesting sites through building renovation has been part of the reason for the species' decline. Developments should include integrated nest boxes (commonly known as swift bricks) where possible, with the general aim across a development of a minimum of one nest box per unit. Nest boxes can provide important habitat for other species as well as swifts, such as starlings and sparrows. Extensive guidance is available on wildlife friendly features, including the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code which illustrate how well-designed places can support rich and varied biodiversity by facilitating habitats and routes for wildlife. More specific support for the selection and installation of swift bricks can be found in the British Industry Standard BS 42021:2022 the Future Homes Hub Homes for Nature Guidance, and the RSPB's Guide to Nestboxes. Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 8-017-20250609" See also the "exemplar" published Isle of Wight LNRS (2025) which refers to protection of existing nest sites in UGG1.6: "Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species and should be installed in new developments including extensions, in accordance with best practice guidance such as the Brighton and Hove Guidelines which require at least three

	swift bricks for all appropriate new builds. Artificial nest cups for House Martins should be similarly considered. Existing nest and roost sites for building-dependent and building- reliant species such as Swifts, House Martins, House Sparrows, Starlings and at least 4 species of bat must be protected and wherever possible augmented and enhanced by designed and built additional provision within ecologically relevant distances."
Improving Knowledge of Priority Species and Priority Habitats	Many SSSIs are in poor condition. Fresh targets are need to be set, with rigorous monitoring of outcomes.

Comments regarding prioritising species
You constantly mention climate change but that gas happened for 4 billion years and is the reason we exist. Modern climate change is falsely based on CO2 levels caused by humans & has been deemed as the end of the planet is nigh by NGOs who are taking in billions in subsidies from tax payers to push the narrative that life giving plant food (CO2) is dangerous. CO2 levels at the moment are around 400ppm. The CO2 levels were almost 3 times higher back in the days when gigantic dinosaurs existed because there was an abundance of food due to CO2 levels. Dinosaurs didn't die out because CO2 levels were too high. They did die out because of climate change, though, because a gigantic asteroid hit the earth causing the blacking out of the slies with poisonous gases etc. We have proof that CO2 does NOT destroy the planet yet we are being pushed a lie that it does. You talk about population increases however, the indigenous population of this country has a rapidly falling birth rate so that destroys that myth. The only reason the population is I creasing is due to open borders and u checked migration which is causing huge damage to the country and something which Hampshire council is part responsible for causing. Tax paying citizens are being denied access to social housing due to the council prioritising union young men illegally entering the country by dinghy and taking up hotel rooms and homes that are meant to be the right of the locals. Green belt land will have to be destroyed if this rush to cram millions of young men into new build homes, at our expense, which will not only decimate the social fabric that holds us together but will also destroy the countryside. The most visible destruction of our wonderful countryside is the installation of Chinese made wind & solar farms which are killing wildlife at an alarming rate all in the name of the made up by billionaires net zero scam. How can destroying the countryside and ancient sea beds be saving the planet? How can importing non-recyclables from the other side of the planet be saving this countryside? The countryside is a larder and is being deliberately destroyed by the green blob who live in cities and are only interested in making money and not the habitat of rare raptors slaughtered by giant wind turbines. Prime arable land is being stolen to install poisonous solar panels that have to be buried after their short lifespan which will release dangerous tacos into the earth. If you drive down any motorway on the country, you will see nothing but trees and plant life so the argument that the combustion engine is killing the countryside is another lie that is leading to attacks on drivers who are an integral part of any successful country. Trying to force people off the roads with lies about saving the planet will be another angle to collapse society and destroy businesses. There are council leaders in Southampton and Portsmouth who seem to think we live in the southern Mediterranean where the sun shines and it's never cold so they want to ban vehicles so the now poor people can all still around in pedestrian only streets, drinking coffee and having a grand old time. Ludicrous and dangerous. I am very angry indeed with how our countryside is being destroyed and it's not by climate change but by globalist elites trying to steal as much money off tax payers as they can behind the whole net zero von collapses. I support the ending of wind turbines and solar farms and leaving the countryside as it is where nature sorts itself out as it always has done pretty well and stop ignoring basic biological facts gained over billions of years which are now somehow forgotten just do a faceless NGO can rake in a good profit.

I disagree with removing species that were considered extinct in Hampshire with no chance of returning.
I'm concerned that advisors to the government are myopic about this and do not see the big picture in particular how other supposed priorities are going to reduce nature.
The prioritising of reintroduction of extinct species is and will be at the expense of food security ie beavers. This also cannot be considered eg water voles if invasive species are not dealt with completely first eg mink. This applies also to flora as in the case of Himalayan balsam and Rhododendron ponticum
Focus on water and wood. Nature can help with the rest.
I think the process seems like a fair way to consider a number of factors on which species to include. The only part I slightly disagree with is species considered extinct in Hampshire or have not been seen here for a long time being removed, as I think in this country we have achieved a lot of positive benefits from reintroducing species. I think there are species not present in Hampshire currently which could help to restore biodiversity and have benefits for other species.
I'm not totally in favour of making existing species suffer a decline in favour of other species who are absent or suffering a decline in numbers so in short it is a very fine balance requiring nuanced responses which in my opinion are more complex than stated here
Create more wild flower meadows.
Don't rule out species where more evidence is needed
destroyed for profit by developers no interest in the land
The removal of species not seen for at least two decades might be too sweeping. I understand that some species can 'reappear' on occasion.
In order to know which species are endangered, such lists are needed. They should not take priority over good management of the whole environment.
processes develop
Lack of input from local naturalists on species presence. Limited effort to identify why species have declined in each area and identifying actions to remove the (manageable) threats
Some species come back after many years, maintain the areas as in the past. Sometimes you need to leave well alone.
One more category can be included: "would require two or more species of X and Y". This is so that the ecological web that the target species belongs to could be considered not in isolation of that individual species, but with the map of habitat and other species that it relies on for survival. This would help to ensure that funding is not only considered for the presence of the target species in isolation, but with consideration given to the organisms in other classes that it is reliant upon for its survival. It shifts the view from one category to include several adjacent categories.
Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
Everything should be reviewed annual.
Depends on local issues.
Birds seem to be given a priority

I am not in favour of the dubious introduction of Sea Eagles on the Isle of Wight which has apparently been carried out in line with the process outlined above, but for which there does not seem to be scientific evidence that the species ever previously existed in the area. These birds are now having a severely negative impact on a number of rare native species of waders and other birds living on the Beaulieu River, Needs Ore and other reserves along the south coast. These kind of projects need to be carried out with greater care and this is an example of how the stated policy and process for species recovery is not working. Hence I answered "I partly agree with the process".
The description given did not give an indication of how the interests of the public, i.e. those living in these areas under consideration, and those working in the same areas e.g. farmers, would be protected from any proposed initiatives as outlined above that may cause them financial distress.
Nature is natural and the focus on a specific endangered species is in effect creating zoos for wildlife. If a species is creating damage to the environment and is a threat to other species then I agree that professionals can be brought in to manage that problem. The responsibility of the Council is to create an environment that lest nature decide what species will prosper in that environment. I have created wildlife meadows by stopping the Council grass cutters using mechanical equipment that removes everything. That is not environmental management.
Does this address leisure use of fields where large areas of grasses have been dissipated by repeat cutting. Hampshire mist grass has disappeared from a field used for grazing a single horse.
Targeting individual spp within a broad range of measures is difficult. why those spp? Get the environment right, with longer term controls, and the biodiversity will take care of itself (sometimes needs a little help). Re-introductions (deliberate) are difficult, but can be successful where they are ecosystem engineers, e.g. beaver - on carefully selected areas. Winning or losing - or worse measuring - against individual spp is not a long-term strategy.
I actually think it’s a great process but I have a mortal fear of snakes so I wouldn’t be sorry if there were none in Hart!
I would get the evidence Why not rewild?
It did not appear to consider the species that need to be reduced -in order to facilitate the objectives.
I don't have enough knowledge, but it sounds reasonable.
Care must be given to reintroducing species that were considered extinct in Hampshire. Some species would find it very difficult to adapt to the unnecessary urbanisation of Hampshire in recent years.
Some species believed to be extinct in various areas have been successfully reintroduced or have returned of their own accord
As Common Toads were missing from the previous HCC Biodiversity Action Plan and are designated a Species of 'Principle Importance' in the 2006 NERC Act, it would be appropriate to prioritize areas and actions to protect and enhance the Common Toad population, which is in serious decline.
I'm not sure that a stable or increasing population necessarily stops a species being a target. I think the absolute number, compared to historical records is also important.
From what I've seen, the priority species list is inadequate and reflects more iconic species that people would like to see rather than species which are fundamentally important to the area

Functionality and connectivity of the species should also be taken into account, and whether restoring them will support better functioning ecosystems and habitat health overall. The species selection approach described here is not helpful for the wider nature recovery that is needed
To say/think a species is extinct and had not been seen for a couple of decades does not mean it is not out there. When checks are made that is just a snap shot in that period of time and wildlife species move about and do not stay still waiting to be recorded. They should not be neglected and forgotten and assigned to the history books!
We are in a position of ignorance as to the full extent of interactions between species but we have to start now to undo some of the damage inflicted by intensive farming, urban sprawl and climate change. Observations and records may be biased towards species that are noticeable or attractive but consultation with relevant specialists is a start.
I'm concerned this approach may be too rigid and overlook broader ecosystem services and climate mitigation solutions that support biodiversity restoration/protection in specific locations without hindering ecological networks.
Some rare species might need some help, but I'm more in favour of the most work being carried out on helping to create a diverse mosaic of habitats for all.
water voles may not have been seen for a couple of decades but should be 9and from what I've read are) a priority
Please see covering letter to follow
By concentrating on specific species, and in particular those ot most risk, there is a risk that the overall picture may be lost. We need actions that support eco-systems as well as biodiversity, nature recovery and climate mitigation. Also, it is important to consuider which species will cope with changing habitat and climatic conditions in 10 to 100 years' time.
I think HCC should not dismiss species that have not been observed in the area for the past 10 or more years as not being a priority as evidence suggests with the right support these species can return to the area.
We simply don't understand the ecological processes enough yet to make these value judgments . In the 1960's which were taken as the base line by some people there was a significant focus in the countryside on removing / killing all predators - foxes, badgers, weasels , rats, corvids and raptors. Machinery use was less effective - much weaker and smaller tractors - and very limited sprays and artificial fertilisers. Deer, pigeon and squirrel numbers were all effectively controlled Since then all predators raptors and corvids have hugely increased and there are thousands more deer pigeon and squirrels, plus the increase in cat and dog populations on the urban fringe . UK crop yields have doubled in many cases to help feed the increasing population. To have wildlife reserves and some places like Knepp is brilliant to preserve the variety of wildlife. But to try and extend it as widely as is proposed without some focussed testing and killing of predators is a waste of public resources and money which will severely restrict the ability of the countryside to adapt and be economic. Most countryside management is and will always be carried out voluntarily by those working there so to restrict their ability to evolve and change on such a widespread basis as this sets out is very negative. Add to all this climate change and its subtle effects on plant fauna / organisms / animals, plus mapping errors, see later, mean this is a vey misplaced and wasteful exercise.

I believe that our knowledge of what species are in existence in Hampshire, and their populations, is sketchy. I appreciate that many people have worked away at this for long periods of time, but I am constantly surprised by what has re-appeared following quite minor habitat improvements. We have hosted the BTO surveys for a great many years: they provide controlled comparison from year to year, but give a completely false impression of what is actually present on the land. So while I largely agree with your process, I think a great deal more needs to be done to establish the baseline.
Ideal situation would be to focus on all species if their conservation status was a concern. Something is better than nothing. But don't just pick the easy fruit - there may be other species there that need a bit of work and effort - but are essential....
I agree that it is right to focus on the species that are declining but with appropriate intervention can be supported in their recovery in Hampshire. However, I live in Medstead a village which has had an inordinate amount of new housing built here over the last few years, which has not only changed the character of the village, but 'pushed' much of the local wildlife out as hunting/foraging/nest building etc. areas have all been reduced and the village roads have become much busier making the area much more hazardous for the wildlife. The wildlife may not all be on the identified list of vulnerable species but does include badgers, bats, hazel dormice. In many instances the BNG 'promised' by developers doesn't ever happen or doesn't work. e.g. a recent 50+ housing estate in Medstead, located a badger sett on the site. The developers tried to relocate the badgers into a second sett off the site, but guess what, the badgers returned to the original location. Additionally have you seen the report by Wild Justice entitled 'Lost Nature - housing developers fail to deliver their ecological commitments' written by researchers at Sheffield University. A survey of nearly 6,000 houses across 42 developments found that only about HALF of the promises to mitigate harm to nature had been kept. Many ecological enhancements had simply not materialised. Also 39% of the trees detailed on planting plans were missing or dead and nearly half of the native hedges that were supposed to be laid did not exist. However as no-one seems to monitor this then developers just get away with it. Strict enforcement rules are required as it appears much of this BNG exists on the developers spreadsheets only. Go to the website wildjustice.org.uk and search under the Blog tab (this paper was published on the site on 12th December 2024).

Any species on the species priority lists that you think should not be included and why
See previous
European beaver. More disadvantages than advantages. Many of the habitats needed for one species is in conflict with another as well as food security and farm profitability and existing public access.
don't know
Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
I am not qualified to answer this
Badgers. They eat hedgehogs which are endangered.
The priorities should start with insects and then include small mammals and small birds. The larger predator mammals and birds are not a priority in what used to be primarily woodland areas. Badgers and deers need to be supplemented by rabbits and fixes that have persecuted by shooting and hunting.
see previous answer! Biodiversity is not about individual spp - it's about communities, and helping develop these.
Beavers, I am against their reintroduction in any form. Funds would be better spent on other species. I believe the potential negative impacts of beaver reintroduction outweigh the positive.
SNAKES I'm terrified of them, I don't like them and I don't know what good they do.
Barn Owls Barn Owls are ok, other owls (long-eared) maybe less so
N/A
Human beings destroying the planet Look at the state of the planet. Destruction, pollution, demise of natural habitat, wild areas and the oceans
RATS
No
Protect Iley Point's coastal Nightjar and Dartford Warbler population. The New Forest has many Nightjar, but coastal areas are few and far between. We need to make sure that the relevant newish population of Nightjar thrive by protecting this important site (owned in part by HCC). Protect it please, especially when a decision is made about 'managed realignment' in the Environment Agency - Hurst Spit to Lymington Strategy.
Sorry I gave up when I read about the bird species, it is all a waste of time without a fundamental change to how farming is funded, run, controlled and viewed by people who are not farmers.
A full response has been made by our alliance group Eastleigh Borough Conservation Alliance and so, I will not duplicate inputs here
Houghton PC would support the species which would enable the return of the level of biodiversity previously seen on the Test
Focus on so many individual species is likely to result in little progress. The best way to support species recovery is to improve and expand natural habitats so that they are able to support self-sustaining populations
No

No specific species. But simply to seek reasssurance broader ecosystem services and climate mitigation solutions that support biodiversity restoration/protection in specific locations without hindering ecological networks have been considered? I'm concerned this approach may be too rigid - as per comments above. No point in pushing for restoration and protection of specific species which won't cope with changing habitat and climatic conditions in 10 years time. Is this approach adequately future proofed?
The second group were nearly all found in Conservation Headlands work by Wilson P in late 80's and 90's refers - a very quick win but needs informed management. The whole needs a nformed scrtiny by specailists so that time and money is not wasted, With possibly limited money and thus incentive low it is vital that efforts are not wasted.
see prior comment - it would be good to experiment and investigate in a few areas with some species but this widespread application with limited science based on hope value is misplaced and highly wasteful.

Any species not on the species priority lists that you think should be included and why
See previous, as above
Beavers
What about invasive non natives, does the Strategy need to address those, hence they need identifying - https://www.solentforum.org/publications/solent_biosecurity_plans/INNS_information/
Hen Harrier. This is a species that winters in Hampshire especially around the New Forest which is in a dire situation nationally particularly due to the pressures from illegal persecution. Therefore I think it is important they are protected as much as they can be when with us and that it is ensured they are not disturbed and that we use the opportunities of having them here to learn as much about them as we can.
Is the Nightingale included? The Nightingale is endangered. It has a song like no other. It is very much connected with this part of the country.
As well as the rarer Butterfly species, even the common species such as Small Tortoiseshell & Painted Lady are in decline. Also, moths like the Cinnabar moth should be considered. Insects (including butterflies & moths) should be prioritised because : (1) They pollinate plants - including food plants (2) They're situated at the bottom of the food chain, so are predated on by higher order species. I'm surprised you didn't involve the organisation "Butterfly Conservation" in this consultation, who are experts in this field (sorry about the pun !)
Water rail
don't know
Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
Beetle - Lampyris noctiluca - Glow worm. Iconic species, roadside habitat often managed inappropriately.
I have found Swan Mussel shells near Selborne. Are these likely to be naturally occurring, but now local extinct? If naturally occurring are they are they scarce and need recovery?
Hedgehogs are endangered. They are at risk of going extinct.
The whole insect population.
Hampshire Mist grass possibly Miscanthus It is local to the area I live but has gradually disappeared with constant cutting.
Birds of prey Important to eco system
I think you've included all the species

Apparently we had skylarks in Kempshott, we need skylarks prioritised. Thrushes used to be common, it's a priority to get them back. Red squirrels need areas where they can live. Red kites have done really well and are most welcome. We need to restore habitats for bats and bees need a pesticide free environment, we need to encourage beekeeping. We should carefully examine why once abundant species are declining and do our utmost to get them back to former numbers.
There are many species of trees on which the listed species depend. These do not seem to have been included Many species require specific living and dead trees in order to survive or thrive. Some target species are less fussy, but many are not.
N/A
Hedgehog, I know that you have listed them but I feel there should be more done to protect this endangered species as we have a thriving population in & around Fuzzy Drove but due to its closeness to urban roads dead & injured Hedgehogs are often found, our group was informed previously that HCC would not allow any Hedgehog warning signs for road users to be erected. Hedgehogs are on the Red List of endangered species.
Green Hounds Tongue - growing abundantly in Blandford Woods, Aldershot and working with the Species Recovery Trust to encourage a wider spread. This is a significant site across the UK for this plant. We are funding the Species Recovery Trust to monitor and encourage its expansion.
Have I missed the adder, which may be on a list? It's a declining species that's badly affected by human pressure. Key areas of habitat, esp. hibernacula, need special consideration and +ve action
Flowering plant Thesium humifusum Bastard Toadflax Indicator of old chalk grassland, easily lost, regained with difficulty. It depends on environmental conditions and other species consistent with species rich grassland. It supports notable species, e.g Canthophorus impresses Down Shield bug
Nightjar, bats They are on endangered lists and live in specific habitat areas. These need protecting before we lose them
Beetle Lampyris noctiluca glow worm Declining rapidly - our survey on Silchester Common finds fewer every year.
Beavers They have been shown to provide excellent management of waterways and flood prevention.
Amphibians buffo buffo common toad Dramatic decline in numbers over past decades, loss of habitat and masses lost to roadkill. In our village mortality rates have dropped since we introduced road closures

during the annual migration, but access to our pond for toads is often along single track sunken lanes with no refuge from traffic.
Please see response above
Desmoulin’s whorl snail - records exist for this species existing in Basing Fen SINC and no reference of this has been made in your document.
Native oyster (Ostrea edulis) Sandwich tern (Thalasseus sandvicensis) Little tern (Sternula albifrons) Roseate tern (Sterna dougallii) Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) Native oysters are a critical species for nature recovery in the Solent, they provide many benefits to other species through water quality, food provision, sediment stabilisation etc. Native oyster reefs have been entirely lost in the Solent and are being actively restored now. The bird species are all endangered/vulnerable species that are globally important and rely on shingle and coastal lagoon habitat in the Solent, which is degrading and in urgent need of recovery. Seabirds are important species that connect land and seascapes, support healthy transfers of nutrients and improving wider ecosystem health.
No
I have only considered "Priority species assemblage - grazed chalk grassland with structural diversity including managed scrub and bare ground", p197-201, and made a comparison with recent insect and vegetation suveys of Portsdown Hill, available at https://www.portsdown.org.uk/wildlife.htm. Characteristic plants from local seed sources; Knautia arvensis (Field Scabious) Centaurea scabiosa (Greater Knapweed) Thesium humifusum (Bastard-toadflax) Hippocrepis comosa (Horseshoe Vetch. Pollinators and larval food plants that invertebrates expect to find.
Grey Partdidge [Perdix Perdix] This bird [Oerdix Perdix] is a barometer of famland wildlife and managment for these birds guarantees success in other directions. The key is the Wildlife Wardens vital for success.
Any pre 1960s species. Developed naturally over time to the maximum "web of life" we were part of
Reptiles - Common lizard, Grass Snake, Slow Worm Amphibians - Common Frog, Palmate Newt, Smooth Newt. Whilst we understand there will be many taxa groups wrangling for further representation, we would like to draw attention to the plight of all the majority of reptile and amphibian species in Hampshire – particularly as it is only one of a few counties in the country with populations of all of our native species. Common lizards have been in decline across sites that we monitor, and any further recognition of the need for action for reptiles and amphibians would be much appreciated. Climate change, habitat loss and fragmentation, and disease are also having impacts especially on amphibians populations.
Just a general comment here, I'm an advocate for all native wildlife. If we don't look after the flora and fauna that we currently have in Hampshire but which are not on the priority list now, then many of them will also decline and in a few years time they will also become priority!

Anything else you would like to tell us about the draft LNRS
As above
5.2 - seagrass missing from habitat list 5.2 Notable species - there are seals in the Solent that use intertidal haul outs 5.2 Potential opportunities - blue and green infrastructure. Passive restoration to mange disturbance is also very important at the coast and needs supporting - https://solentems.org.uk/sems/ 2.268 - need to take a seascape approach to nature recovery for coast 2.272 - the Wildlife Trust has coastal ambassadors Where is litter and microplastics addressed? These are having a huge impact on our water environment. Typo in Restoring Meadow, March and Reef (ReMeMaRe) funding, its 'Marsh' not 'March'. Coastal Partners 'Regional Habitat Compensation Programme' doesn't seem to be referenced as a measure to mitigate coastal squeeze from FCERM P101 - Bird Aware Solent (BAS) only mitigates new housing development since it was formed, there is lots of pre BAS 'baseline' disturbance that is not being addressed, accessing BNG to address this would be very helpful
Stop the proposal to put a quarry on Hamble lane which will destroy the natural habitats of the Hamble Airfield.
The overarching comment is that the multiple overlapping measures are good and enable land managers to make appropriate habitat creation decisions that reflect local conditions and constraints, e.g. soils, hydrology, landform. It would be better for habitat providers to have greater certainty as to which UK Habitats qualify as habitats favoured by the LNRS. Sometimes these measures can be quite broad and open to interpretation. The more that habitats can be linked to the definitions in the metric, the more help it will be when designing habitat creation schemes. There are some habitats such as ponds, hedges, that could be more widely applied as measures across more areas. Ponds add biodiversity value to most situations for example and could be more ubiquitously applied.
As before - water and sewage pollution. Water affects practically every single ecosystem and, where we sit on the coast, this is even more vital to reduce pollution and sewage. I would also ask you consider extending the "No mow" policy beyond 3 months if this goes well. Public access areas can remain maintained for public safety, and green spaces such as public parks can be kept mowed, but curbs and verges should be allowed to grow and flower to a suitable height year-round as well as the use of local wildflowers to increase pollinators and biodiversity. Finally, I suggest reaching out to Sparsholt College with this survey as you will find many interested participants there.
It's great to see all this work being considered / planned. However the timescales seem far too long and I wonder if this level of consultation is really necessary, as it is surely just delaying the start of the actions you now know are needed.
I fully support increasing biodiversity and nature recovery. However, please also consider the negative health impacts on humans of large increases in pollen and how this could be mitigated (such as through using different varieties of plants and trees). Allergic rhinitis (hay fever) may not seem important but people who suffer from it are more likely to develop more serious respiratory illnesses. People who already have respiratory illnesses can be severely affected by high pollen counts.
I am rather concerned that Hampshire's Local Habitat Map includes so FEW areas that are or could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB). Hampshire has potential to benefit nature that is currently being ignored or overlooked - especially around rural towns and villages - and according to polls the

majority of people want to see more urgent and widespread action to restore nature.
I think it is so important to create as many green corridors as possible to join up as many sites as possible. Sadly a huge factor in the decline or our natural environment and animals are our roads, infrastructure and over development. I am hopeful this Strategy will go some way to improving the declining species numbers and help to create a great starting point for nature recovery in Hampshire and beyond.
There appear to be no fish barriers highlighted on the river Avon, however there are many on other rivers. Natural England have carried out a study and prioritisation of barriers to fish migration (principally Salmon) in the lower Avon, this data should be available. There are several priority structures within the Hants LNRS area that should be included.
I recognise and value the effort behind this initiative. However, there appears to be a lack of strategic alignment. Hampshire County Council (HCC) faces numerous priorities, and under mounting government pressure and financial strain, it is actively pursuing the sale of its own farmland for housing development. This includes ecologically sensitive sites. Such actions risk fundamentally undermining the spirit and objectives of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. While I hope this consultation will lead to genuine protections, the current direction suggests otherwise. Measures like improved signage or increased awareness of rights of way, though positive, may feel superficial—akin to rearranging deckchairs on the Titanic. As one of the region's largest landowners, HCC could demonstrate leadership by refusing to sell valuable natural assets. A pertinent example is its intent to sell arable and publically accessible land within Old Basing (referred to as 'Land East of Basingsoke'), directly adjacent to the River Loddon—an area of high ecological and recreational value, bordering a waterway already under ecological stress. Though ecological assessments have reportedly been conducted on behalf of HCC, they remain inaccessible to the public—even in redacted form—raising questions about transparency and accountability. Moreover, HCC is partnering with developers on adjacement land to further expand builds. In this context, consultations like the Local Nature Recovery Strategy risk being perceived as symbolic rather than substantive. If HCC is serious about nature recovery, it must align its land management and planning decisions with its environmental commitments. Protecting high-value natural areas must be a priority—not an afterthought.
In the introduction/credits, you did not thank organisations like the BTO (British Trust for Ornithology) who provided expert knowledge.
it is a bit long and there was no simpler option
It is a wonderful document. We are using it in developing our parish biodiversity strategy. We would welcome help in choosing which priority species to focus on in our parish as a collective effort. We'll be choosing the familiar ones - hedgehogs, bats and hirundines, since easy to get sign up for those, but which of the lesser known species might we focus on will be a challenge. Lastly, please put Woodlands pond, other ancient ponds and Woodlands verges on the ACB map.

In general it gives me hope, as I remember the rich countryside of 75 years ago and would wish others to enjoy a similar diversity. The strict regulation of planning and development, and subsequent maintenance, and the balance between food production and nature conservation/improvemnt are massively important. It is hoped that recent reports about the high productivity of sensitively managed farmland is pushed into the agendas of agricompanies. Buyers being given an indication of responsibly-produced crops etc should be pushed.
I am thinking specifically about Southampton Common and the Old Cemetery. There use to be a mowing plan for the cemetery, which maintained floral populations. Please could this be re-instated. There are foreign plants (eg Spanish bluebells - which are a real threat to the English bluebell population) and cultivated plants (eg Narcissus 'Tete-a-tete) on the Common, they should be removed. There are very few insects on the Common, they need more flowers (ie rare use of herbicides and planting of native species).
The government is hell bent on buidling 1,500,000 this parliament. This goal will greatly harm nature in every way possible. Nature in all it's forms should be prioritised over housing and other delopments. Once these precious environments are gone they are gone forever. We should be the custodians of this planet and treat is with love and respect, rather than seeing it as an object to exploit.
Page 65 2.224 / Page 73 2.269 : is there no scope to make it a requirement that new developments include (say) 10% of properties with swift bricks? Surely this is a quick and relatively cost-efficient option
All this is highly desirable: but I wonder where the money to do it all is to come from
no
The plan is very detailed and well thought out and clearly a lot of people have worked very hard to get to this point. Certain subject experts will want to comment and that is rightly so. Where I lack faith is in the implementation stage. Will people and financial resources be made available in the long term, will it all get bogged down in bureaucracy, will enforcement of good practice happen and will anyone monitor outcomes and keep it all fresh and alive. Experience says this will fade away over time as people and priorities change, I hope I am wrong.
Cut back vegetation and trees, it's getting overgrown everywhere to the point it has and will disrupt transport and way of living.
Climate change is always portrayed as negative, however I have found the garden and wildlife have improved quite a lot in the last couple of years. So although the work you plan is fantastic and not before time, maybe some consideration might be made towards the future in that we may lose some historic flora and fauna but potentially gain new or evolved versions. Farmers also get a bad name, but actually they are major contributors to looking after the countryside. They should be financially rewarded for what they do and publicly recognised. Agricultural land should not be used for housing or solar panels either.
No you have covered it
I think that this document is excellent. There is a risk that of limited success in achieving its aims because of the shortage of resources in those bodies which would implement it, and the Government emphasis of development over environmental factors.

MAKE NATIVE PLANTS EVERYONE'S FIRST CHOICE FOR PLANTING IN THEIR GARDENS - if everyone planted native plants in their gardens, the numbers of insects and birds would rise and the world would be a better place. With the government saying that there is going to be a huge increase in house building, especially here in Hampshire, why not give these project some real Green credentials by making it law that only native plants be planted in and around the new developments? It would also help the process of education of the population about playing their part which is a recurring theme in the sections of this consultation document.
Didn’t read it, too,long but just gave answers from questions presented.
How did local knowledge get included in the listing? Asking local people gives at least as much information as statistical survey and may flag species not surveyed, but on the decline.
Congratulations on putting together a comprehensive and well considered strategy. I would like to think that sufficient funds will be made available to enable its implementation.
It would be much easier to comment if the plan included specific work to be undertaken in each location referenced to a map of Hampshire.
Great to see this work developing - please do consult widely, and especially with the experts.
Thank you for this work. It is very important. Every good wish for implementation.
Something not mentioned butt which has an impact is the maintenance of ditches and ponds. Many of these are not being maintained properly leading to local flooding, silting up and turning land which could be used for local nature recovery into very poor quality land. This is being encouraged by developers who once they acquire land have a vested interest in ensuring it is not good for anything else.
Listen to the experts...
I think that all the prospective plans in the draft LNRS are excellent but I worry that they won’t be implemented either due to financial constraints or lack of manpower
Your funding suggestions rely hugely on Countryside Stewardship and BNG. With Government u turns on eg SFI, greater emphasis on private /corporate funding would seem sensible too.
Stop building in Basingstoke, greenspace is a premium where the grassland or woodland we need to protect the open areas we have now by stop building new developments
Not sure if this falls within the remit of the LNRS, but the loss of habitat through the astroturfing and decking over of residential gardens is something that might be addressed through community education initiatives (I'd love to see artificial grass banned altogether but that's not likely to happen!). Gardeners who are actively trying to garden for wildlife by developing or restoring habitat would perhaps feel less embattled and more encouraged were they to feel part of a local or national network or movement, and others who previously hadn't given it much thought might gain a deeper understanding of the issues.
To this landowner, it has the appearance of being created by a myriad of councils and quangos to serve a largely bureaucratic purpose. Not sure how it influences or informs me -or will achieve nature recovery on a more landscape scale.
N/A
Please educate HCC Highways to the benefits of working in partnership with volunteer conservation groups so that everyone can benefit from such partnership

working such as that being carried out by Dorset Highways Department & volunteer conservation groups in Dorset.
We support the current references to swift bricks. Hampshire Swifts and the BTO Swift website are sensible sources of further information. However, at the moment the wording of the draft LNRS is inconsistent between the "mandatory inclusion" of swift bricks on page 65, and the much weaker "encourage developers to add swift bricks" on page 176. We request that page 176 is amended to state: "Developers to add swift bricks to new developments including extensions in line with best-practice guidance such as BS42021, or preferably use the wording below (see Part 2 UGG1.6) from the Isle of Wight's LNRS (In April 2025, Defra and Natural England approved the LNRS for the Isle of Wight and thought it was an 'exemplar strategy') With the added information: "Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species, including house sparrow, starling, and house martin, in addition to swifts." Also please include the importance of protecting existing nest sites: "Existing nest sites for building-dependent species such as swifts and house martins should be protected, as these are endangered, red-listed species which are present but declining." Reasons for the amendments/additions: - Swifts are specifically referenced in the NPPF December 2024 Paragraph 187 (d) (page 54) which states "planning policies should... incorporate features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts". - Swift bricks are excluded from the DEFRA Biodiversity Net Gain metric so need a separate clear policy. Therefore, we believe it would be best practice to follow other local authorities such as Brighton & Hove and make swift bricks mandatory in line with best-practice guidance. The Isle of Wight draft LNRS is one of the clearest strategies so far on this subject and would also make a perfect template for the Hampshire strategy: Part 2 Priorities and Measures UGG1.6 Ecological enhancement in all development projects – “Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species and should be installed in new developments including extensions, in accordance with best practice guidance such as the Brighton and Hove Guidelines which require at least three swift bricks for all appropriate new builds. Artificial nest cups for House Martins should be similarly considered. Existing nest and roost sites for building-dependent and building- reliant species such as Swifts, House Martins, House Sparrows, Starlings and at least 4 species of bat must be protected and wherever possible augmented and enhanced by designed and built additional provision within ecologically relevant distances.”
We welcome the references to swift bricks, and the link to the Hampshire Swifts website as a source of information. There is currently an inconsistency between the "mandatory inclusion" of swift bricks on page 65, and "encourage developers to add swift bricks" on page 176. Please clarify by amending page 176 to state: "Developers to add swift bricks to new developments including extensions in line with best-practice guidance such as BS 42021". Also add for information: "Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species, including house sparrow, starling, and house martin, in addition to swifts." Please also refer to the importance of protecting existing nest sites: " Existing nest sites for building-dependent species such as swifts and house martins should be protected, as these are endangered, red-listed species which are present but declining". To provide you with more detail, swifts are a key species in Hampshire, with many older buildings for nest sites and many important areas such as the New Forest, coastal marshes and the Hampshire Downs for foraging. Nest sites are found

throughout the county but there are especially important populations in Winchester, Portsmouth and Southampton. Swifts are specifically referenced in the NPPF December 2024 Paragraph 187 (d) (page 54) which states "planning policies should... incorporate features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts". Swift bricks are excluded from the DEFRA Biodiversity Net Gain metric so need a separate clear policy. We therefore believe it would be best practice to follow local authorities such as Brighton & Hove and make swift bricks mandatory for new developments in line with best-practice guidance. The Isle of Wight LNRS makes a well-worded reference to swift bricks (see https://www.iow.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/ecology/local-nature-recovery-strategy/): "Part 2: UGG1.6 = "Add ecological value to all new development, in the design of buildings, infrastructures and landscapes; retrofit constructed habitat improvements within the existing built environment whenever the opportunity arises....Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species and should be installed in new developments including extensions, in accordance with best practice guidance such as the Brighton and Hove Guidelines which require at least three swift bricks for all appropriate new builds. Artificial nest cups for House Martins should be similarly considered. Existing nest and roost sites for building-dependent and building-reliant species such as Swifts, House Martins, House Sparrows, Starlings and at least 4 species of bat must be protected and wherever possible augmented and enhanced by designed and built additional provision within ecologically relevant distances"
1. We agree with the statement from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) included in the Foreword section of the Strategy document namely that ‘to succeed, the LNRS must be supported by robust delivery mechanisms, ambitious targets, and strong monitoring to track progress, along with clear accountability and good governance’ but we believe the current draft fails to provide this drive and direction in the following areas. 2. Nature Recovery cannot be demonstrated unless the full process as defined in the LNRS guidance notes including the review and update procedures and associated responsibilities are detailed in the Strategy. The current draft states the strategy will be reviewed and updated in 3 to 10 years’ time but provides no details on how the monitoring and progress reporting details required for such a review will be produced. 3. Habitat creation and enhancement is a key factor in this process, but the LNRS does not explain how this will be monitored. For example, let’s assume a local volunteering group has enhanced a pond from an overgrown state to a haven for dragonflies, or a group has cleared woodland encroachment from heathland, how is this work recognised in the LNRS review process.Including a clear method for iterative improvement through action and monitoring cycles 4. The recovery of species abundance is a legally binding target for nature recovery, but the ongoing monitoring of species abundance is not addressed in this LNRS. The measurement of abundance requires an assessment of the number of particular species present within a given area or community. While we recognise some of this data may be presently collated for some bird species, we doubt other species are being monitored in sufficient detail to provide a measure of abundance. These issues are not addressed in the draft LNRS. There is also a major concern as to the validity of the core data which will be relied upon. It is understood that records are in many cases years out of date and a suggestion is to improve the increasing backlog through the use of modern technology (which can alleviate much of the mundane effort and allow experts to focus on the key issues). 5. The current draft

provides extensive detail of steps 1,2 and 3, namely habitat description and potential actions but fails to address the full LNRS process, particularly the Local Council responsibilities as detailed in the Duty to Conserve and Enhance Biodiversity and the Biodiversity Action Report as set out in the Environment Act 2021.
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There are areas not mapped that could be included e.g. Hogmoor Inclosure, Blandford Woods in Aldershot (has a very rare plant - Green Hounds Tongue, areas of Wellesley Woodlands are missing e.g. Heather Hill, Chalk Farm lake
I think it's a tremendously good piece of work. I especially like the LNRS map with all its layers providing sound information.

EBCA response to Hampshire LNRS - June 2025. The Eastleigh Borough Conservation Alliance (EBCA) agree with the statement from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) included in the Foreword section of the Strategy document namely that 'to succeed, the LNRS must be supported by robust delivery mechanisms, ambitious targets, and strong monitoring to track progress, along with clear accountability and good governance' but we believe the current draft fails to provide this drive and direction in the following areas: 1. Nature Recovery cannot be demonstrated unless the full process as defined in the LNRS guidance notes including the review and update procedures and associated responsibilities are detailed in the Strategy. The current draft states the strategy will be reviewed and updated in 3 to 10 years' time but provides no details on how the monitoring and progress reporting details required for such a review will be produced. 2. Habitat creation and enhancement is a key factor in this process, but the LNRS does not explain how this will be monitored. For example, let's assume a local volunteering group has enhanced a pond from an overgrown state to a haven for dragonflies, or a group has cleared woodland encroachment from heathland, how is this work recognised in the LNRS review process. Including a clear method for iterative improvement through action and monitoring cycles. 3. The recovery of species abundance is a legally binding target for nature recovery, but the ongoing monitoring of species abundance is not addressed in this LNRS. The measurement of abundance requires an assessment of the number of particular species present within a given area or community. While we recognise some of this data may be presently collated for some bird species, we doubt other species are being monitored in sufficient detail to provide a measure of abundance. These issues are not addressed in the draft LNRS. There is also a major concern regarding the validity of core data that will be relied upon. It is understood that records are in many cases years out of date and a suggestion is to reduce the increasing backlog through the use of modern technology (which can alleviate much of the mundane effort, allowing experts to focus on the key issues), this should result in data being more up to date and relevant. 4. The current draft provides extensive detail of steps 1, 2 and 3, namely habitat description and potential actions but fails to address the full LNRS process, particularly the Local Council responsibilities as detailed in the Duty to Conserve and Enhance Biodiversity and the Biodiversity Action Report as set out in the Environment Act 2021. George Baker. 12 June 2025.
2.66 Grasslands Within a locality on a specific landform, such as chalk escarpment, it is common to have intact, declining and destroyed grassland habitats managed by a variety of agencies managing their parts of the landscape without reference to each other or any overarching habitat restoration plan. It would be good outcome if the LNRS could provide ecologically sound, practical advice to all land owners. Conservation agencies working on the ground would be a good source of insight and might even already have land management change aspirations in management plans. Opportunities to restore valuable habitats are missed when horticultural mindsets (bought in seeds, fertiliser, herbicides, tree planting) are applied to what should be a restoration using local regeneration. e.g. landscaping after Civil engineering projects Litter damage (trapping) to populations of inverts, mammals, reptiles, especially from road sides. Adjacent sites containing strongholds of invasive plants, e.g. cotoneaster, manna ash, holm oak are serious problem on species rich grassland Very encouraging progress identifying the

problem of biodiversity. Will be interesting to to see who does what where and when.
The Landscape around Selborne in East Hampshire is significant for Nature Recovery and deserves to be in the LNRS. It is the birthplace and area of study of the first ecologist, Gilbert White. Selborne was once earmnarked as a World Heritage Site, but has become a rat run for traffic. The landscape behind Selborne should be a designated area for the protection and enhancement of priority species. Common Toads are mentioned by Gilbert White's Natural History of Selborne. There are two registered toad crossings on Gracious Street, next to the primary school and in Newton Valence at the top of Hullam Lane, a sunken lane with unique ecology that is the toad's migration route. It is being eroded by speeding traffic and toads, an indicator species are under increasing threats. These public highways are habitat and urgently need protection For the sake of history and heritage, natural history education and eco tourism, this part of East Hampshire should be a priority focus for LNRS..
Only to say I agree strongly with the goals set out in the draft local nature recovery strategy and I would like to see implementation of the strategy prioritised for funding and taken on by all unitary authorities when Hampshire is reorganised.
It is vital that this is done at grassroots level with a sustained community engagement programme, to get local people really interested in owning this. There is a huge awareness gap of how serious these issues are. Knowing we have some fantastic ecologists, farmers, environmentalists and horticulturalists in Hampshire, we need to think about how we share these skill sets and divest knowledge and confidence, even basics such as using a quadrat to identify forbes etc.
A well intentioned future countryside proposal..but would definitely need a joined up approach and hopefully, enough funding to go ahead !
Over all CPRE Hampshire supports the creation of a Hampshire LNRS as it puts in one place key environmental information together with the scope for improvements, provides a good reference document for local plans and neighbourhood plans, provides a focus for joint working/approaches by the various organisations involved in protecting and enhancing the environment. However at this stage we have some concerns over the lack of any detail in how the implementaiton of the various actions will be managed. The sucess of Hampshire LNRS will depend upon how effective the implementation of the actions is. Quite how the LNRS and its content will be applied in a planning context remains to be seen. It should be relatively easy, and will be necessary for Local Planning Authorities to craft a local plan policy which recognises the LNRS as a land-use consideration as it draws together the various current ecological designations. In terms of allocating land for development it will be helpful in steering it away from sensitive locations. Currently the various local plans covering Hampshire do not have a consistent approach in terms of polices relating to the natural environment. The LNRS needs to provide an opportunity to develop a suite of policies for inclusion in all local plans, notwithstanding the proposal for national development management policies. Turning to planning applications we can expect a debate on the status of land identified as having potential to improve the natural environment. The temptation by planners, ecologists and public will be to see such areas as being a constraint and a reason to refuse applications. Promoters of development will no doubt want to play down the weight to be given to such. Within the general Land Use Framework put in place for Hampshrie the LNRS will need to be a material consideration. Both arms of planning, plan making and decision making

will have a key role in delivering the LNRS. What steps are / will HCC and the local planning authorities be taking to ensure that the LNRS becomes embedded in day to day practice in a consistent and effective manner? There is a lot of good work being done in terms of improvements to the natural environment, eg the CPRE Hedge Project, be helpful if a compendium of good practice could be developed to show case them and encourage more projects
Page 20 Item 2.7 - Local Nature Reserve - Sturt Pond was being managed reasonably well by [redacted] and the HCC Countryside Service team until about 8 years ago. NFDC now manage the site, but are not doing so in any way shape of form. It is important that management is undertaken on rotational reed-cutting, the encroachment of reeds moving at an alarming rate towards the 'scrape' area, that Dexter cattle once more play a part in managing the reedbed and saltmarsh areas as well as the meadow they already graze. More liaising with local conservationists who know what should be done, but despite various meetings, management by NFDC has not been forthcoming. Page 26 Items 2.29, 2.30 and 2.31: Management Advice: The National Park has considerably reduced its Land Advice Service staff. I think now just one manager. They had several officers at one stage, but now seem to be down to just one. This department needs to be considerably expanded to provide the advice to farmers, landowners (including landowning town & parish councils) that I believe is desperately needed to help towards the LNRS. Too much emphasis has for too long been placed on voluntary groups picking up the slack on management advice and probably not always appropriately! Training of facilitators: Should be an absolute priority to get more experienced land managers into suitable roles to help the LAS, NFNPA, HCC and NFDC whilst they still own small to medium parcels of land. Page 29 Item 2.49 Lack of appropriate active woodland management: The Pleasure Grounds (Milford-on-Sea Parish Council) would benefit from additional expert advice. The Clerk does really well, but needs help and management expertise to advise on the woodland management future. Page 32 Item Grassland general: Studland Common and Meadow needs to be managed with additional number of Dexter cattle for it to really benefit. Page 35 Item 2.88 - Protection of Core and Secondary Feeding areas to help for the Solent Wader and Brent Goose Strategy sites. Pages 72 & 73 - Farmer led nature recovery: Pleased to see the defined areas known as The Pans and Avon Water mentioned here as a 'key opportunity' to enhance in the LNRS. Local conservation groups (Wings and MCV) have been asking for this for many years. Wings and MCV would be happy to be contacted about the potential to create a protected 'Avocet Island' and 'Sand Martin Nesting Bank' in these areas to benefit the birds but to also provide an opportunity for visitors to be encouraged to see successful nature schemes that they can also use. Page 73 Item Public Engagement: As per the above comment for amenity value but also for educational purposes. Wings and MCV already support Milford Primary School for bird watching and landscape painting sessions, as they also do at Sturt Pond nature reserve. Page 101 - Potential Funding Streams and Page 271: I draw to your attention, that I am aware of two funding streams that were due to come from Bird Aware Solent, neither of the fund payments have been paid. They seem to have a poor track record. Having said that about their funding operation, I have nothing but respect for the wonderful work BAS do raising awareness at Hurst Spit, Mount Lake, Cut Bridge and elsewhere. Richie Ainger and his team do a fantastic job alongside our own volunteer groups. Their finance side, desperately needs sorting

out. Page 104 - Priority Species etc....: The text states that 'farmland birds can be found at page 145. This is incorrect as 145 covers butterflies, not birds. Same on Page 106. The page is incorrectly labelled. Page 192 under butterflies: Refers to 'Regularly recorded at Hurst Spit and Hordle Cliff: To my knowledge, there has been no recording of the Glanville fritillary at these two sites for several years. Pages 266-268: The Pie Charts and text is far too small to read!!!
Our group monitors the natural environment in and around Romsey. We liaise with our local authority Test Valley District Council and carry out surveys at their nature reserves to inform management strategies and identify trends in species populations. We also comment on threats/opportunities to nature arising from planning applications. We note that although the report notes the importance of connectivity and green corridors, the proposals for nature recovery are limited to individual species and habitat types. In our area there is huge pressure for development and much of the countryside including SINCs is being held as land banks waiting for opportunities to gain planning permission for mainly high-density residential developments. Many of them are therefore in poor condition as it is not in the interest of the owners to improve nature diversity. Over the last few years, the urban area of Romsey has expanded greatly and large areas of the surrounding countryside have been built on. We have seen a worrying loss and/or depletion of species such as Nightingale, water vole etc as a result. Until the government suddenly increased our housing targets TVBC had a local plan which ensured the targets for land supply and completed units were met so that development in the countryside could be in the least damaging places. Unfortunately, that is not currently the case so developments are being voted through because the need to meet the targets overrides all other considerations and the council will no longer risk the costs of appeals. For several years our group has been creating our own digital maps to identify where we need to prioritise our efforts in defending green corridors but TVBC has told us they do not have the resources to update their strategic policies relating to the natural environment. TVBC Green Infrastructure Strategy 2014-19 in particular contained virtually nothing about green corridors other than acknowledging their importance, and was to our knowledge never reviewed or updated, the same comments relate to the LBAP, yet these are the strategies that the local authority will be relying on as far as the Local Plan is concerned. We do however appreciate the work they have been doing regarding sites under their own control. We therefore believe the strategy in its present form will be ineffective as it does not address the threat from developments which are forcing nature to retreat further and further into fragmented areas and cutting people off from green space near their homes. We consider that local authorities should be in a position to purchase land classed as areas of importance for biodiversity and Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB), and to increase habitat connectivity. We would be happy to share the mapping we have done for the areas around Romsey.
It is frankly ridiculous to suggest that Hampshire is going to achieve these things against the background of ridiculous levels of speculative housing development occurring in some areas of North Hampshire. I don't believe you can credibly claim to be focusing on these goals whilst such large swathes of North Hampshire are being lost and built out in development. The South Downs National Park is protected from development meaning that the remaining land in North Hampshire is being disproportionally developed , a fact that has been made public by local MP

[redacted] recently. This initiative is simply undermined by the actions of so many groups like Hampshire Highways, EHDC Planners etc. We need real change across the governance of Hampshire to make these initiatives realistic and until then this is just not credible. One step forwards and three steps back !
This is just a cover up and making the public think HCC is doing great work for the countryside - you allowed the destruction of it in the first place, you're just trying to tidy up your mess!
With small amounts of funding - or even just access to expert advice - local conservations groups like ours would better be able to contribute to nature recovery activity and understand of what species can be found on the reserve.
I am very encouraged by Hampshire having created such a wide-reaching paper that is aimed at protecting biodiversity and habitats. I hope thatyou will in addition to comments herein, also take into account the suggested changes I have submitted to the ACB, via EMAIL - outlined in the Local Habitats map adjacent to Telegraph Woods.
SDNPA welcomes the Hampshire LNRS and has been party to its development through the Steering Group and Local Authority Group. The Partnership Management Plan (PMP) sets out the overarching five-year strategy for the management of the South Downs National Park and, like the LNRS is developed with a range of partners. South Downs National Park is currently consulting on a draft plan (2026-31) which links to and builds on this strategy. The South Downs National Park's Landscape Character Assessment 2020 includes recommendations for nature recovery by landscape type which could usefully read alongside the LNRS to ensure that that nature recovery opportunities are landscape appropriate. The Government has developed the Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework - GOV.UK (PLTOF) , which establishes ambitious targets for National Parks and National Landscapes. It recognizes the crucial role protected landscapes play in achieving positive changes for nature, climate, people and place. The PLTOF is made up of ten targets for protected landscapes and partners to priortise and focus on delivery. Target 1: Restore or create more than 250,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitats within Protected Landscapes, outside protected sites by 2042 (from a 2022 baseline). Target 2: Bring 80% of SSSIs within Protected Landscapes into favourable condition by 2042. Target 3: For 60% of SSSIs within Protected Landscapes assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition by 31 January 2028. Target 4: Continuing favourable management of all existing priority habitat already in favourable condition outside of SSSIs (from a 2022 baseline) and increasing to include all newly restored or created habitat through agri-environment schemes by 2042. Target 5: Ensuring at least 65% to 80% of land managers adopt nature friendly farming on at least 10% to 15% of their land by 2030. Target 7: Restore approximately 130,000 hectares of peat in Protected Landscapes by 2050. Target 8: Increase tree canopy and woodland cover (combined) by 3% of total land area in Protected Landscapes by 2050 (from 2022 baseline). The National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949, as amended by Section 245 of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023, requires all relevant bodies – including Hampshire County Council – to seek to further the purposes of the South Downs National Park (SDNP). The National Park purposes are: 1) To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife, and cultural heritage of the area; and 2) To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment

of the special qualities of the National Park by the public. Prior to this change the wording required all relevant bodies to ‘have regard’ to the purposes. This enhanced requirement is a change in national legislation that Hampshire County Council will need to appropriately address. The Government have published guidance on the section 245 duty for relevant authorities: Guidance for relevant authorities on seeking to further the purposes of Protected Landscapes - GOV.UK. As stated clearly in the guidance, the duty is an active duty, not passive. We welcome the collaboration and partnership working in the development of the Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy. We note the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) requirement that minerals and waste plans, local plans and neighbourhood development plans, “must take account of LNRS that relates to all or part of the local planning authority’s area”. The SDNPA is currently reviewing its Local Plan. A draft Local Plan Review was published earlier this year for consultation (Regulation 18), this includes proposed policy criteria to address/take into account LNRS. We will continue to take into account of Hants (and Sussex) emerging LNRS as we progress through plan preparation for the Local Plan Review.
Communicate with the community more, use the libraries of community centres. People are interested in their local area. But get lost navigating the groups and organisations. Make it easy.
Better linkages could be made between the mapping and the priority species to inform users where these species are and what action they can take in a spatial context. Also hard to determine what measures are needed for some ACBs on the map where they don't overlap with another layer - beneficial to add a habitat layer and the corresponding measures to easily identify action required. Priority species (either individual, flagship or assemblages) could be added on top to provide a more complete picture on the map.
The River Loddon chalk stream is a priority habitat of vital importance, both locally and internationally. Its headwaters are extremely vulnerable and need careful management and restoration for future. The Parish Council is disappointed to find that suitable protection and restoration of the River Loddon is not sufficiently prioritised in this draft and feels that other areas appear to have proposed interventions which would be of equally significant value to the River Loddon area.
The Parish Council welcomes the publication of the draft Strategy and for the opportunity to comment on it. The LNRS provides a comprehensive picture of the County's natural environment and will be extremely helpful to the Parish Council providing a good reference document when responding to planning applications and informing the preparation of local plans and neighbourhood plans. The Parish Council welcomes and supports the identified priorities and proposed actions to address the decline in the quality of the natural environment.
The role of Southern IFCA is primarily defined in the Marine and Coastal Act, 2009. The Southern IFCA District includes the inshore regions of Dorset, Hampshire, and the Isle of Wight from the coastal baselines out to 6 nautical miles. The collective vision of the ten IFCAs around England is to lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries, by successfully securing the right balance between social, environmental, and economic benefits to ensure healthy seas, sustainable fisheries, and a viable industry. Having reviewed the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire Southern IFCA would like to provide some information on relevant activities that we perform and their potential

interaction with Priority Outcomes of the Strategy. Southern IFCA has identified Coastal Priority Outcomes 'Restore Seagrass Beds' and 'Establish Native Oyster Reefs' as relevant to our remit in managing inshore fisheries, as they are likely to occur within the area of overlap between Southern IFCA's jurisdiction and the LNRS's extent. As such, Southern IFCA wished to highlight work that we undertake that may contribute to the achievement of these Outcomes. The restoration of these features within the Solent is likely to be supported by Southern IFCA's Shore Gathering management and the Bottom Towed Fishing Gear (BTFG) management, both of which provide protections for sensitive designated features of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) under the National Site Network, namely within Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) and within or adjacent to Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). In 2024, Southern IFCA completed a review of shore gathering activities in the Southern IFC District, resulting in the submission of the Shore Gathering Byelaw to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) for consideration by the Secretary of State, which establishes a number of year-round and seasonal spatial closed areas to shore gathering activity (including gathering by hand or by any hand-operated equipment). Of particular relevance to the Coastal Priority Outcomes, the year-round prohibition areas overlap with areas of seagrass in the Western Solent, Southampton Water, and the three Harbours, with feature location and extent informed by best available evidence provided by Natural England. Further information about this draft byelaw can be found on the Southern IFCA website here: Ongoing Reviews : Southern IFCA. Southern IFCA's current BTFG Byelaw 2016 implements year-round closures in several areas in the Western Solent, Southampton Water, and the three Harbours to all types of BTFG. A number of the areas listed within the 2016 Byelaw are designated seagrass and mudflat habitats, that latter of which may support native oyster communities. A review of BTFG management in the District to ensure up-to-date protection of features on the basis of the addition of Tranche 3 MCZs and updated feature location/extent data has been undertaken, resulting in the submission of the BTFG Byelaw 2023 to the MMO for consideration by the Secretary of State. Following this, Southern IFCA will be progressing BTFG: Phase 2. The aim of Phase 2 is to consider District wide management interventions for sensitive habitats located outside MPAs, aiming to contribute to the delivery of the Government's vision under the Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 and the statutory targets under the Environment Act 2021. Further information about Southern IFCA's BTFG management can be found on the Southern IFCA website here: Bottom Towed Gears : Southern IFCA (2016 Byelaw), Ongoing Reviews : Southern IFCA (2023 Byelaw), including a Management Intentions Document to accompany the BTFG Byelaw 2023 outlining how Southern IFCA manage BTFG within the District. Southern IFCA also already have in place management related to the native oyster. The wild dredge fishery for native oysters is closed and has been so for over 5 years in order to protect low stock levels. Southern IFCA undertake a survey of the Solent native oyster populations in defined areas on a two-yearly basis, the most recent survey having been undertaken in 2024. The outcomes of the survey link to monitoring thresholds which inform the management of the fishery, the most recent survey report (and historic survey reports) can be found on the Southern IFCA website here: Solent Dredge Permit : Southern IFCA. Southern IFCA are aware that much of the work we undertake would be covered in a potential MMO led LNRS for the Solent specifically, but wished to provide the Hampshire LNRS with guidance on

where our activities may contribute to the achievement of relevant Priority Outcomes. Southern IFCA are keen to remain informed of the developments of the Hampshire LNRS and any action plans developed for the achievement of the Coastal Priority Outcomes, and encourage the Hampshire LNRS to engage directly with the fishing industry in coastal areas where actions to achieve identified Outcomes may overlap with commercial and/or recreational activities.
General: The Hampshire LNRS region is home to 48 km (30 miles) of the South Downs Way and will soon host 208 km (130 miles) of the newly established King Charles III England Coast Path, soon to be the longest managed coast path in the world at 2,700 miles. These are two of the thirteen National Trails in England, designated from the same 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act as the National Parks and National Landscapes. As the gold standard for public access in the UK, these National Trails adhere to Natural England Quality Standards that set them apart from other routes, one of which states to “improve the landscape, nature and historic features within the trail corridor”. The National Trails UK Nature Recovery Programme seeks to support our National Trails in delivering on this objective, enabling the National Trails to be corridors for people and nature, as shown by our recently published National Trails Nature Recovery Toolkit. At National Trails UK, we are also developing a new national initiative called ‘Coastal Wildbelt’. This aims to unlock the potential of the land that stretches around our coastline – amplifying its importance and influence. This area is a living landscape—rich in wildlife, heritage, and opportunity—where people can connect with the coast, and where vital habitats, natural landscapes, and communities can thrive together. The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 designated the area which primarily falls between the coastal path and the seaward foreshore - ‘coastal margin’. The coastal margin is designated open access land, accessible to the public for the purpose of enjoyment. To find out where your local coastal margin is located, for stretches of open King Charles III England Coast Path, turn on the ‘King Charles III England Coast Path Coastal Margin’ layer, under ‘access’ here: https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.html Therefore, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity unlock the potential of our National Trail and coastal margin to ensure our coastal environments are cherished, restored, and open for all to enjoy—as a place where people, nature, culture, and community are celebrated and supported. Not only key areas to support access to nature, the verges of these National Trails and coastal margin can deliver outcomes for nature, particularly as the golden thread that connects protected sites. National Trails UK asks for the South Downs Way and King Charles III England Coast Path National Trail and associated coastal margin to be recognised in your LNRS in their capacity to connect people with nature and their potential as green corridors. If you are interested in finding out more about our National Trails, coastal margin, Nature Recovery Programme or Coastal Wildbelt Programme and how it links to your LNRS please check out our latest guidance notes on the NTUK website here: https://www.nationaltrails.uk/news/coastal-margin-national-trails-in-local-nature-recovery-strategies-england or contact Hannah our Nature Recovery Programme Manager on hannah@nationaltrails.uk. 2. Description of strategy area and its biodiversity: National Trails UK asks for the South Downs Way and King Charles III England Coast Path National Trails be mentioned on pg 21. ‘Protected Landscapes’. Designated from the same 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act as the National Parks and National Landscapes and part of the Protected Landscapes Partnership, these are vital national public assets that

support access, nature and heritage. In the ‘coastal and marine’ description on page 27, National Trails UK asks for the mention of the soon to be 208 km of King Charles III England Coast Path and its associated coastal margin. The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 designated the area which primarily falls between the coastal path and the seaward foreshore - ‘coastal margin’. The coastal margin is designated open access land, accessible to the public for the purpose of enjoyment. To find out where your local coastal margin is located, for stretches of open King Charles III England Coast Path, turn on the ‘King Charles III England Coast Path Coastal Margin’ layer, under ‘access’ here: https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.html. This nationally designated and publicly funded access route should be recognised for its role in connecting people to nature and for its potential as a green corridor. If you would like more support on exploring how the coastal national trail and coastal margin’s potential can be unlocked – please contact our Coastal Wildbelt Programme Manager – Kate Jury on kate@nationaltrails.uk who will be happy to support discussions and future action plans. Appendices: National Trails UK would ask that the establishment works of the King Charles III England Coast Path & continued management of the opened sections and South Downs Way be included in the Appendices on pg. 278 under ‘Improving access to nature and health and wellbeing’.
Lacks ambition and is too reliant on personal views without researching the true issues and seeking to address them. The knowledge and support of local people is an important factor but is too subjective to be relied on so heavily in the strategy
p27 - native oysters - they can filter 'up to' 200 l a day, and carbon storage / sequestration benefits are not clear. they are important nursery habitat for fish species and many other marine life. The section on page 275 about the Solent Seascape Project needs updating - this text does not include the seabird restoration or accurate summaries of saltmarsh restoration. For example, the Beneficial Use of Dredged sediment trial led by CHaPRoN in Chichester is missing. Please see the map on this page (and the pop up text boxes) for detail on what restoration activities are taking place as part of the project, in Hampshire: https://solentseascape.com/habitats/ The project is also a collaborative effort of 10 partners, led by Blue Marine Foundation. These partners include: Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB), Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT), University of Portsmouth, Isle of Wight Estuaries Project, Coastal Partners, Chichester Harbour Protection and Recovery of Nature (CHaPRoN), Natural England, Environment Agency and Project Seagrass.
Would like to see opportunity mapping to include saltmarsh and other supporting intertidal habitats. The most recent up to date (2024 survey) seagrass data will be available from EA and we would like to see the LNRS include those areas as priority habitats. p.275 - clarification. CHaPRoN partnership seeks to restore Chichester Harbour SSSI to favourable conditon, resotore saltmarsh, seagrass and coastal bird habitat, and water quality (this includes the coastal resilience and saltmarsh restoration proect.)

Page 216 – Nathusius pipistrelle link does not work For consideration and inclusion in Table on P217 or the hyperlinked word document: Page 217 – Additional text suggested / for consideration following undertaking GHS radiotracking in April 2025 – Results and analysis still on-going. “Scattered records across Hampshire. Recent radio-tracking work from one of the two previously known key roost sites just north of Ringwood in the Avon Valley, has identified numerous new day and night roosts. These are predominantly in the Avon Valley north of Ringwood which appears to be an important area for this species (Peak count in known roost in April 2025 was 38). A key finding of the study was the linking of the population using the Avon Valley hibernation roosts to maternity/hibernation roost sites in Dorset, notably Bryanston Grange, a SSSI designated for its greater horseshoe maternity roost (~30km west). Measures should include robust survey effort (including April surveys for transitional roosts in Avon Valley) seeking to safeguard known roost sites, including minor roosts, and ensuring robust and comprehensive mitigation and monitoring where development impacts are unavoidable. Further measures include the proactive provision of suitable roosting structures where this is permissible, and further targeted survey work building upon the work undertaken to date, identifying key routes through the landscape, better defining the core sustenance zone and maintaining and creating ecologically functioning dark corridors. Working with landowners in core sustenance zone (3km and beyond where evidence supports this) to reduce the use of parasitic wormers in livestock and restoration and replanting of hedgerows, particularly those lining blocks of broadleaved woodland should be prioritised. Additionally, riparian management should aim to maintain or reinstate riparian vegetation, including trees and shrubs, which will provide connectivity and foraging resources.”
Regarding C2 - Management and restoration of coastal saltmarsh. This should not just focus on coastal saltmarsh, our mudflats are also being lost due to coastal squeeze and erosion. With managed realignment potential areas, it is important to carefully consider terrestrial restoration in potential areas against the flood risk and also the need for creating new intertidal to make up for coastal squeeze and saltmarsh losses (there is not that much tidal floodplain with true managed realignment potential in Hampshire, so what there is should ideally be safeguarded for intertidal habitat restoration - this is also the most sustainable option in the face of sea level rise). Also consider future losses of coastal grazing marsh. Beneficial use should be added as a measure for intertidal restoration. it is the only other possible measure for enhancing intertidal habitats, i.e. keeping existing habitats rather than creating new via realignment (which should absolutely be included). A lot of sediment is dredged along the Hampshire coast every year, and only a very small fraction is beneficially reused within the intertidal. There is scope for much more, and this could particularly be targeted to keeping the important saltmarsh breeding islands at a sufficient height for breeding sea and shorebirds (a lot of our saltmarshes are too low lying, and many more are getting too low for birds, with many previously important areas already no longer being used by birds because they are too low now). Also, there is a lot of scope for bottom placement to maintain mudflats, this is arguably easier than beneficial use for saltmarsh restoration, as mudflat is lower in the tidal frame and there is thus scope for directly placing materials onto the muds from vessels (with saltmarshes, materials pretty much always need to be double or triple handled). re ‘ecology – opportunities’ table on p.290 - there are further maps you have not mentioned: –

beneficial use – whilst there is no direct opportunity map per se, essentially anywhere on the intertidal with viable vessel access and a nearby source of sediment is suitable – this data explorer, amongst others, maps vessel access potential and marinas and ports which are dredged - https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/dd2c3b9285144e1f943f5aa28a794021 - Oysters – there is an existing EA map - https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/31530300-0f98-42ac-9b68-b6c980f5383c/native-oyster-bed-potential - Seagrass – ditto, there is an EA map, which maps subtidal but also intertidal Zostera noltii - https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/5b943c08-288f-4d47-a924-a51adda6d288/seagrass-potential
We recommend the delivery of the strategy and status of habitats and species within the county is monitored closely and regularly reported, to ensure the Strategy remains relevant.
We support the thrust of the draft Strategy but would like to see a greater recognition of the potential urban areas offer for enhancing habitats to help wildlife recover. We suggest this can be achieved at least in part by recognising the value of local groups and acknowledging the value and potential contribution of HIWWT's Team Wilder initiative
One of the main reasons for the reduction of wildlife overall is cats and magpies! Where I live cats are catching and killing lizards, slow worms which are a protected species as well as the bird life! We probably can't do much about cats unfortunately but maybe able to relocate the populations of the endangered species to a more secure area to enable them to thrive. Magpies however are another problem and should have the numbers controlled and greatly reduced. They are continually every year hunting up and down the hedgerows destroying nests and taking eggs and young. They are pulling baby starlings out of there nests under the eaves of houses and also ambushing young song thrush and starling fledglings gatting them onto their back and trying to peck there way into the birds crop/chest. None survive. Last year I saw one fledged blackbird from a pair that tried to raise a family from seven nests they tried to build. This year they have tried 4/5 times each one has failed as the magpies have come in and destroyed it. In the 60s/70s magpies were fairly rare and you were lucky if you saw one, now they are everywhere and reducing our bird population. Cull the magpies and you will get bird numbers coming back up and we will all be able to enjoy the song of the Song Thrush and Blackbird again.
It's great to identify what needs to be done - but unless the Mayor and the Combined Authorities allocate a budget to implement, this excellent startegy will have been a waste of time.
Continue to take the views of local conservation workers in an area. They will have local insights regarding species presence and historical considerations.
Unfortunately I was not aware of the process until near the closing date so have not had time to fully study the plan. However, the general principle seems a good one and I respect the organisations involved and their knowledge of their subjects. Living in Bordon I have first hand experience of major local changes and while there have been positive aspects to the developments here I still have concerns regarding developers buy in to sustainability in general. I did wish to show my support to the principle of the LNRS by completing the consultation survey as I believe it has the potential to improve nature conservation and improve cooperation between the different stake holders. The loss of nature during my

lifetime is deeply saddening and my hope is that the LNRS can assist reverse this trend.
The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Hampshire presents a substantial and thoughtful response to biodiversity loss, but it lacks a strong, integrated emphasis on natural ecosystem services — and this omission limits its potential to be fully future-proofed in addressing the twin climate and nature crises. 1. Insufficient Ecosystem Services Integration While the LNRS refers to wider environmental benefits such as flood protection, carbon capture, and water quality, these services are treated as by-products of habitat action rather than as helpful organising principles for the biodiversity and climate crises. This reflects a missed opportunity to frame nature recovery as essential natural infrastructure for human, ecological and climate resilience. The strategy does not systematically: • Quantify or map ecosystem services across Hampshire. • Apply ecosystem service valuation to prioritise or justify habitat choices. • Embed natural capital accounting into its delivery framework. Without this, the full societal value of nature — from clean water to pollination and mental health — is under-leveraged in both planning and investment contexts. 2. Weak Linkage to Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Although climate change is mentioned (e.g., in relation to woodland threats and wetland loss), the LNRS does not yet act as a climate adaptation strategy – surely it should be that as well as a nature protector/restorer . Key gaps include: • No spatial prioritisation of nature-based solutions like floodplain reconnection or urban cooling corridors. • Limited detail on carbon sequestration metrics per habitat type. • No integration with Local Climate Adaptation Plans or Carbon Reduction Plans. Future-proofing nature recovery requires these risks and synergies to be made. 3. Biodiversity and Climate: Siloed The LNRS recognises the biodiversity crisis as its central focus but stops short of bridging policy silos. To be future-proof, the strategy must: • Treat climate resilience, food security (farming consideration does not go far enough), and health equity as co-benefits of biodiversity. • Integrate targets and actions from local climate emergency declarations and water company drought resilience plans. • Adopt an ecosystem services and natural capital framework aligned with DEFRA's 25 Year Environment Plan. Conclusion: Valuable Start, But Not Yet Future-Proof The Hampshire LNRS provides an important baseline and tool for biodiversity recovery. However, to be resilient and relevant to future challenges, it must go further to: • Embed ecosystem services assessment and valuation. • Explicitly align with climate mitigation and adaptation policies. • Develop a natural capital investment and accountability framework to attract public-private financing and ensure long-term impact. Biodiversity net Gain and the forthcoming Nature Restoration Fund and environment Delivery Plans (EDPs) in the Planning Infrastructure Bill are likely to be counterproductive to LNRSs by diverting funds and efforts away from optimal ecological networks. Definitions are needed in the glossary for: • Ecosystem Services • Nature based Solutions.
It would seem that the initiative is funding dependent, but with relatively small agricultural changes, success can be achieved. It is crucial that HCC should draw on significant practitioner expertise in hte County to achieve the desired results.
Representing [redacted], I would have liked to see more ambition in our particular area, especially around restoring the headwaters of the River Hamble, and expanding and connecting Woodland Habitat. We have district and parish councils, residents and local volunteer groups who are committed to nature recovery and would be willing to do their part to push this plan further.

Overall, Bramley Parish Council supports the LNRS proposal. It provides a good balance between the urgent need to restore our depleted nature and the needs of various local communities and interests. Specifically for Bramley, the access to green space and protecting our wild areas is particularly welcome. The fact that this is only a recommendation and gives no powers to make things happen is of concern however. In Bramley we are heavily impacted by a few very large land owners, intensive agriculture and the continuous pressure to build more housing as part of Basingstoke and Dean BC. The fact that the LNRS is only advisory means our natural areas will still be at risk from further depletion and over development. Overall, this is a well thought through and researched document. Making it happen fast enough may be a bit harder…
Actaully as your site was not behaving, there have been some parts i have not been able to respons to with full knowledge
This is an excellent plan, incredibly detailed and ambitious. The key of course is making it happen. So as an individual I would be very keen to know how I could help turn the plan into reality.
Please see our covering letter to follow. The representations have been submitted by Gillings Planning on behalf of The Trustees of the Barker Mill Estates
• There are additional LNRs designated within Test Valley than currently shown on the local habitat map. This includes sites that have been recently designated in 2024 at Ladies Walk in Andover and Abbotswood in Romsey, as well as correcting omissions in the national mapping at Rooksbury Mill in Andover and Valley Park Woodlands near Chandlers Ford. The latest information has been shared with Natural England, with some of the updates now available via Magic Map. However, if you would like the latest boundaries then we can provide them. • As you may be aware, the Council has been working on our next Local Plan. This takes account of the latest housing requirement using the methodology introduced by the government in December 2024, which saw a 78% increase in the housing requirement for the borough. The Council has been working to identify sites to meet this need and is shortly to commence consultation on a Revised Regulation 18 stage draft Local Plan consultation, focusing on how we propose to allocate housing sites to meet this need. The work leading to the identification of such sites was undertaken prior to information being available on what was likely to be included within the emerging LNRS as areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (ACB) and locations of potential measures. The implication is that there are some sites that are proposed for residential development that are also identified in the draft LNRS as ACBs and within the measures. The Council would welcome further discussion with Hampshire County Council on this prior to the LNRS being finalised. • Paragraph 2.11 notes that the River Test is providing compensatory habitat for the River Itchen SAC. It would be helpful to recognise that some of the River Test's tributaries are also providing compensatory habitat for the avoidance of doubt – this includes watercourses that are otherwise undesignated. • Paragraph 2.254 notes that in the context of development pressures, participants mentioned the need for a south Hampshire green belt to help mitigate some of the development pressure. It is acknowledged that there may be a view that such comments should be retained for completeness, green belts are not proposed as a mechanism to support nature recovery (based on the purposes set out in the National Planning Policy Framework), and any wording should reflect the latest Partnership for South Hampshire position statement that covers this matter. • In relation to Appendix 5

and the mapping and data used to inform the LNRS, it is noted that the Environment Agency published updates to flood risk mapping for rivers, sea and surface water in March 2025 which have resulted in some significant changes to areas identified to be at risk locally. • Size of the riparian buffers measures and improving water quality measures 78 R1. Could, this be split out between buffers offering opportunities for habitat enhancement and river corridor connectivity and buffers to create a clear separation where new development is proposed. 10 metres (primary river) and 5 meters (secondary/tertiary) may not be enough where development is proposed close to a watercourse. • Priorities and funding for rivers on page 78, chalk partnership funding is included but could the Ecological Resilience Fund be added • Page 49, section 2.2 River Meon Compensatory SAC is mentioned when the River Itchen SAC (or River Test compensatory habitat) is not?
This document will only make a difference if it leads to change. The LNRS must be a living strategy, with utility and teeth. At present, the LNRS fails to set out specific, measurable targets or mechanisms for monitoring progress. While the strategy mentions a review every 3-10 years, there is no further detail on monitoring or accountability frameworks to ensure the LNRS is effective in delivering for nature. Proper governance and leadership are needed, with opportunities for the new Mayoral Authority to play a strategic role in implementation across the county. We ask that the Mayor and Combined Strategic Authority allocate staff time, and a budget, to supporting and monitoring implementation. The Mayoral Combined Authority needs to embed LNRS in policy, with mechanisms to ensure flow of funds. The LNRS must be embedded into decision-making and policy, including those relating to land use, planning and development and economic strategies. Implementation plans must set out the mechanisms to drive investment into nature restoration. We ask the Mayor to have a "nature in all policies" approach, so that when decisions are made about other Mayoral responsibilities. for example strategic transport or spatial planning. these reflect the aims of the LNRS. As a small example, the managers responsible for operational decisions about highways must be actively instructed only to cut verges when essential for safety, and never because they look untidy or because it's less trouble. Nature recovery is essential natural infrastructure for human, ecological and climate resilience. While the LNRS refers to wider environmental benefits such as flood protection, carbon capture, and water quality, these services are treated as by-products of habitat action rather than as helpful organising principles. Future-proofing nature recovery requires these risks and synergies to be made. The LNRS must include climate change uncertainties and adaptation, taking into account projected changes in habitats and distributions of species. The strategy currently lacks robust measures to combat climate impacts. This impact includes the need to reduce the pressures of sea level rise on the protection and restoration of coastal wetlands. Despite having a high percentage of land and coast designated for its importance for wildlife, only 44% of our Sites of Special Scientific Importance (SSSIs) are in good condition. These are the critical nodes in our Nature Recovery Network.

Derwent Developments Limited are promoting land known as Land at Woodcroft Farm and Land to the North of Woodcroft Farm for residential-led development via the East Hampshire Local Plan. Land at Woodcroft Farm has received a draft allocation for residential development multiple times in the emerging East Hampshire Local Plan. Additionally, Land at Woodcroft Farm is subject to a current residential-led planning application which has no objection from East Hampshire's Ecology Officer or Natural England. Both sites are identified as "areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity" within the draft LNRS. Derwent Developments Limited are concerned that this designation may restrict the future development potential of the sites. Clarification is required that this designation would not end up working against the delivery of housing on this site in the future. If there is a risk that it could then the area proposed for residential development should be excluded from the designation. Derwent Developments Limited have concerns about "blanket" nature of the proposed designation as the "areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity" appears to cover a whole range of habitat types, in addition to the largely completed and occupied Catherington Park Development to the south. Both sites scored highly in the East Hampshire Integrated Impact Assessment supporting the most recent Regulation 18 Consultation (March 2024) and both sites have significant potential to contribute to meeting East Hampshire's new (December 2024) and increased housing targets. Derwent Developments consider that both sites can be developed in a sensitive manner that, where possible, seeks to retain and important ecological features, in addition to providing enhanced public access to nature to improve wellbeing and health. Derwent Developments Limited therefore do not consider that the objectives of meeting local housing need and ensuring biodiversity value is preserved and enhanced are mutually exclusive. Derwent Development would expect a response to the concerns raised in this representation and further consultation in advance of any Council decision to include their land within any designation that may impact on the ability of this land to make a meaningful contribution towards meeting the District's housing needs on sites considered by the LPA as sustainable for this purpose. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require clarification in relation to these consultation responses or wish to discuss the land within our ownership further.
AGS Airports Limited own and operate Southampton International Airport (SIAL). SIAL is a commercial aerodrome which provides the central south region with opportunities for both business and leisure travel within the UK and beyond. SIAL provides substantial social and economic benefits to the city of Southampton and the wider central south region, both through providing direct and indirect employment, but also through facilitating national and international mobility which is key for achieving economic growth. In total, Southampton Airport contributed around £96 million in GVA and supported a total of 1,390 jobs in the former Solent LEP area in 2023. Within the UK, the airport contributed a total of around £125 million in GVA and supported around 1,740 jobs. Areas of land located to the east and north-east of the aerodromes' runway are identified as "areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity" within the draft LNRS. SIAL are concerned that this designation may restrict the future development potential of the site. These very same areas that are identified as "areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity" are the very same areas that are part of the Navigator Quarter Tax Site. The site is also identified as an employment allocation within the adopted Eastleigh Local Plan. This forms a key element of the Solent

Freeport which is recognised in law as a geographical area where businesses can benefit from tax relief to bring investment, trade and jobs to regenerate regions from across the country that need it most. The business case for Navigator Quarter is identified as having the potential to support 2,795 operational jobs and to provide £191 million in additional annual GVA. A planning application seeking to secure planning permission for employment uses to maximise the economic benefits associated with Navigator Quarter has recently been submitted to Eastleigh Borough Council by SIAL. Given the economic importance of Navigator Quarter, SIAL would therefore request that the draft designation is therefore removed from this land in order to ensure that the important economic benefits of Navigator Quarter. It should be noted that the “areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity” identified immediately north of Navigator Quarter and the railway line (Chickenhall Lane) has recently (28 April 2025) had funding of £50.5 million allocated by Hampshire County Council’s Executive Lead Member for Universal Services for the creation of a Minerals Recovery Facility. SIAL fully support the underlying purpose of the LNRS which is to help end the decline in nature and to help it recover. Nature recovery does however need to be focused in suitable locations that do not pose a conflict to other legislative and regulatory regimes . SIAL have significant concerns regarding aspirations for woodland creation and restoration and other ecological enhancements either within, or within close proximity to, Southampton Airport. SIAL is subject to various items of international and UK aviation legislation and guidance. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) is nominated as the competent authority responsible for oversight of the airport’s legal compliance. In line with the requirements of the CAA, and specifically the requirements of the Consolidated Regulation, Acceptable Means of Compliance, Guidance Material and Certification Specifications to UK Regulation (EU) No. 139/2014, SIAL, like all other licensed aerodromes in the UK, is required to manage its local airspace through a process called aerodrome safeguarding to ensure safe aircraft operations. The primary element of aerodrome safeguarding relates to the management of obstacles around an aerodrome, which is carried out through the establishment of Obstacle Limitation Surfaces (OLS). Within these protected areas the aerodrome is legally required to control the presence of obstacles so that there is no impact on the continued safe operations at the airport. SIAL have fundamental concerns that tree planting within proximity to the Southampton Airport may result in the creation of new obstacles and therefore would directly conflict with aviation legislation and CAA requirements. Furthermore, any biodiversity enhancements need to be carefully considered in order to prevent an increase in bird activity within proximity of the aerodrome for clear and obvious safety reasons. For the reasons given above (both in relation to Navigator Quarter and Aerodrome Safeguarding), SIAL would request an urgent meeting with Hampshire County Council to discuss the LNRS and the clear potential conflict with other legislative requirements. SIAL would expect a response to the concerns raised in this representation and further consultation in advance of any Council decision to progress the LNRS. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require clarification in relation to these consultation responses.

As stated in relation to other questions, SMV is promoting a 'larger' strategic site to the south of Basingstoke. This development proposal has been identified in the emerging draft Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan and its delivery can be a catalyst to deliver the objectives of the LNRS and contribute to achieving nature recovery at Southern Manydown. To see how the proposals identified in the LNRS relate to what has already been masterplanned for land at Southern Manydown, SMV has included in Appendix 1 (see letter which has been emailed to HCC) a high level Masterplan of the proposals with an overlay of the LNRS proposals. When the LNRS mapping is overlain onto the Masterplan it is clear that areas proposed for development and other uses, such as sport provision by SMV fall within areas shown in the consultation document for nature recovery. The locations of these particular development parcels (predominantly housing) have been chosen following the consideration of their relationship with existing ecological and landscape features on site, and the effect that development as a whole at Southern Manydown will have on ecology. The wider masterplan has and continues to consider, nature recovery as part of the solution for green infrastructure and ecology as the proposals evolve. As above, we believe that the delivery of development can be a catalyst to positively contribute towards Nature Recovery. We are also conscious that guidance around LNRS's explains that they should not be used as a tool in the planning balance to adversely tilt decision makers away from development. Whilst it is welcomed that the LNRS proposals reflect much of SMV's evolving masterplan for the southern half of the emerging allocation at Southern Manydown (within SMV control), concerns remain over the compatibility of the LNRS proposals with parts of the masterplan as identified above. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with the team developing the LNRS to discuss how the polygons can be amended . The purpose of such a review would be to ensure overlap of the existing polygons with development parcels and proposed other uses can be avoided to ensure a robust approach towards all parts of the scheme, including nature recovery, can be developed collaboratively. To this end, SMV note that there are significant opportunities for local nature recovery across the emerging allocations without conflicting with development plots and ultimately contributing towards the delivery of the LNRS.
Whilst the map is easy to use, we consider it would be beneficial if additional features were added. For instance, the Wiltshire draft LNRS Map includes a link to the specific measures identified in their draft LNRS. We would therefore welcome the inclusion of a similar feature in the Hampshire LNRS.
One this consultation is complete, please describe how it all can be funded!

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian and Reptile Group (HIWARG) are pleased to be able to comment on the draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire and welcome any actions for joined-up habitats for nature and people. In general the goals and objectives for the LNRS are positive and support the aims of HIWARG in regard to reptile and amphibian conservation, and we widely support the strategy. It is great to see reptiles and amphibians (particularly our rarest species, the sand lizard and smooth snake) incorporated in the LNRS, and understand that the strategy needs to capture a wide range of species and habitats, and can not provide granular detail for individual species or taxa groups. The response relates to most sections of the LNRS draft - we appreciate that we have not filled in the online portal form correctly so have split this response into two sections. Firstly, general comments and where we welcome the LNRS messaging, and secondly some suggestions (with the section signposted to each one). Apologies some relate to more than one area so we haven't done them step by step on the portal. Section 1 - General Comments Mapping of potential measures includes heathland creation and restoration around known heathland sites – this is very welcome. Section 2 - Suggestions for LNRS additions Heathland and acid grassland mosaics: The acknowledgement of the risks to heathland sites outside of SSSI/SPA designations due to less eligibility for funding is welcomed, however even with ELM funding, site management particularly capital works are expensive and often impact land owners abilities to carry out management. Greenspace, assess and transport related: The brownfield site summary (and further detailed information) could mention reptiles and amphibians as a key taxa group that can be found on these sites (slow worms in particular). Greenspace, assess and transport related: Railway lines are included, with recommendations as linking features. These can be vital corridors for reptiles in particular. Any chance of adding to the measures and/or mapped? Greenspace, assess and transport related: Churchyards are mentioned in the Greenspace, health and access to nature section but possibly could be mentioned in opportunities for nature recovery (from page 58) (or similar). These can be particular hotspots for species including slow worms if managed sympathetically. Heathland and acid grassland mosaics: The inclusion of H5 dog control measures is welcomed. This mainly refers to ground nesting birds, but could mention reptile populations – for example adders when adders are most at risk basking in early spring. Improving knowledge of priority species and priority habitats: Individual priority species include natterjack toad and adder, with priority species assemblages also covering the below. Whilst we understand there will be many taxa groups wrangling for further representation, we would like to draw attention to the plight of all the majority of reptile and amphibian species in Hampshire – particularly as it is only one of a few counties in the country with populations of all of our native species. Common lizards have been in decline across sites that we monitor, and any further recognition of the need for action for reptiles and amphibians would be much appreciated. Ponds for amphibians: common toad & great crested newt Dry heaths with sand and gravel exposures: sand lizard New forest dry and wet heath: smooth snake Improving knowledge of priority species and priority habitats: Non-native invasive species and the increased risk of diseases spreading is mentioned within potential measures. Monitoring of the spread could also be mentioned as a priority (e.g. the green frog complex within Hampshire, that is currently expanding through waterways). Heathland and other sections: As far as we can see, wildfire is only mentioned once in the strategy. This

is a huge issue for not only reptiles but the majority of heathland assemblages. We would recommend further mention of this risk, and measures to reduce the risks (wildfire plans for heathland sites, sensitively created fire breaks, exploration of deciduous woodland lines/blocks as firebreaks, etc). There have been several large fires on sites across Hampshire in the last decade, and with climate change and persistent periods of drought, the risks are likely increasing. Heathland and acid grassland mosaics: In addition to other threats, UK reptiles especially adders and common lizards are particularly vulnerable to mechanised or poorly timed/planned habitat management. These species rely heavily on a patchwork of linked habitats which provide areas for hibernacula, breeding and hunting, all within close range, to meet their seasonal and daily needs. When habitat corridors are fragmented or destroyed, it isolates populations and severely hampers their ability to forage, disperse, and breed. Mechanised clearance of vegetation, especially during active seasons, can directly kill individuals that are cryptic and slow-moving, and wipe out essential microhabitats. Hibernacula are particularly vulnerable to vehicle movements, where a sites adder population can easily be wiped out by being crushed in their hibernacula by mechanised management. Once a local population is affected, recovery is a slow process, as many reptiles have low mobility and limited reproductive rates, so recolonisation, if it happens at all, can take many years or depend on costly reintroduction efforts. Careful, context-sensitive management is key to their survival. If a mention of use of sensitive management on heathlands at known reptile sites could be included that would be much appreciated. HIWARG monitor over 200 sites in Hampshire, including those within the mapped opportunities for the LNRS. We engage with landowners and frequently advise them on potential management for the conservation of reptiles and amphibians. These include several county and local council sites. If there are any opportunities to provide any further information or engagement with the council on reptile and amphibian conservation, we would be more than happy to assist (within our boundaries as a volunteer run group). Whilst we are already in touch with members of the land management team, please do feel free to get in touch with us [redacted]
ABP response to Hampshire LNRS consultation – June 2025 Dear Nature Recovery team, I write on behalf of Associated British Ports (ABP) – the owner and operator of the Port of Southampton. We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation. However, having reviewed the information that has been published we have specific queries and concerns regarding the selection of sites identified, in particular those sites identified as ‘Areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity’ (ACB).. In addition to the operational port estate at Southampton, ABP is the freehold owner of a significant landholding in Hampshire. ABP’s estate in the area spans approximately 2,000 acres, including the Eastern and Western Docks, Eling Wharf, Marchwood Industrial Park and the Port’s Strategic Land Reserve located between Marchwood and Hythe. ABP also benefits from a long term concession to operate the Solent Gateway facility (formerly known as Marchwood Military Port). ABP notes that certain areas of the land it controls – in particular those areas that are likely to be necessary for the future development of the Solent Gateway facility and the Strategic Land Reserve – are identified as ACB. It is not clear to ABP why it’s particular land holdings have been identified as ACB in comparison to other adjacent and nearby areas that appear to be no different in character, which have not been identified. We expand on these matters below. In order for the Hampshire

Local Nature Recovery Strategy to be effective, it is essential that it is developed in close collaboration with landowners and land managers. This aligns with DEFRA's statutory guidance on the production of such strategies, which states that responsible authorities should involve those who own and manage the land in shaping and delivering the strategy (Local nature recovery strategy statutory guidance). Early and meaningful engagement with these stakeholders will be key to ensuring long-term success and practical delivery on the ground. One key section under "Working with local partners", within the guidance, states: "Responsible authorities must work together with partners when preparing their strategy... This should involve the people who own and manage the land, and the people who take regulatory decisions, so they can contribute to what action is being proposed, where and why". We have tried to understand the methodology that has been utilised in identifying the draft ACB areas (which we believe is the subject of Appendix 6 of the draft strategy) and have to say we do not know how such areas (particularly as in the case of ABP owned land where the areas identified are not publicly accessible) can be identified, even in draft, without meaningful engagement with the relevant landowner. As far as ABP is concerned, there has been no substantive or meaningful engagement with it on this issue. If such meaningful engagement with it had taken place, ABP would have been able to make it clear, for example, that a part of the area now identified as a draft ACB site is operational land at Marchwood Military Port (Solent Gateway) which constitutes strategic infrastructure owned by the Crown in support of UK Armed Forces operations. The area benefits from extensive extant planning permissions for port-related development, as approved by the New Forest District Local Plan (Ref: Policy XXX), and parts of the site are already subject to legal agreements (Section 106) for biodiversity enhancement, and some areas have been developed Given its operational status and existing commitments, its inclusion in the LNRS appears counter-productive and may conflict with its designated strategic use (Planning Application Number: 21/11156). In addition, land owned by Associated British Ports in the area known locally as Dibden Bay should be removed from the LNRS. Much of the land shown in the LRNS is identified as port operational land and forms part of ABP's Strategic Land Reserve for future port development. The Strategic Land Reserve is identified in the New Forest District Council Local Plan as the only area where significant expansion of the port of Southampton can take place. It is noted that there are parcels of land adjacent to the A326 that are identified as areas for potential environmental and biodiversity improvement. We are aware that Hampshire County Council is bringing forward proposals to improve the A326 for all users. For the above reasons, which are of necessity a summary only, we consider that a number of the land parcels identified as having potential for biodiversity improvement do not represent such sites. At the very least, further engagement with the relevant landowner and consideration of all relevant information is necessary before such sites are identified as ACBs, even in draft. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the above issues with the County Council at your convenience.
Crabtree Plantation adjacent to the M3 jcn 6 and the spur road to Black Dam Roundabout has the historic fishponds and source springs to the river Loddon chalk stream. They are covered by the LNR but I'd like to make sure they are listed for careful conservation and restoration (not sure I have all the layers correct). Also between the M3 and Oaken Plantation as you head south are the historic springs of the river (see old maps) which are now subterranean owing to over abstraction.

This area should be a source protection zone and very carefully managed for impact on aquifer for water quality and hydrogeology and also for the river water quality.
Hampshire County Council (HCC) and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) in their landowning capacity acquired the 800-hectare Manydown site in 1996 with the primary purpose of delivering a comprehensively planned expansion to Basingstoke. Manydown was designated a Garden Community in 2017, highlighting its national significance for growth. Since then, Phase 1 (Manydown North) has obtained planning permission and is underway, delivering up to 3,520 homes and a 250-acre country park. Phase 2 (Southern Manydown) which includes adjacent land owned by the Society of Merchant Venturers is included in the emerging BDBC Local Plan and is identified for strategic scale housing delivery which will help meet the nationally recognised housing crisis along with a significant employment offer including a new hospital. The consultation LNRS identifies significant parts of the Southern Manydown draft allocation as “an area that could become of particular importance for biodiversity”. Whilst some of the designated area lies within the existing and emerging strategic gap, specific areas fall within development parcels identified by our masterplan and the LNRS designation may compromise the delivery of this strategic allocation as it creates the potential for development fragmentation. The proposed LNRS plan in effect bisects the Southern Manydown site into two parts which would compromise the opportunity to deliver a comprehensive scheme. It is understood that whilst an LNRS designation would not necessarily preclude development inclusion in the LNRS of land is likely to be a material planning consideration when such sites are brought forward for planning . As a proposed strategic allocation, Southern Manydown will play a significant role in the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan up to 2042 and beyond. The emerging masterplan, which is based on a sound evidence base, provides a comprehensive green infrastructure strategy that seeks to create large areas of BNG with green linkages between existing SINC and SSSI designated areas, areas of existing woodland through to the strategic gap itself. A significant proportion of the Southern Manydown site will remain undeveloped and will continue to provide biodiverse rich areas. In its not therefore considered necessary to designate further parts of the site a “particular importance for biodiversity” As a strategic site within the current draft local plan the current LNRS designation would compromise a comprehensive delivery of the site. It is requested therefore that the proposed LNRS designated areas relating to this site are either a) reduced to reflect the emerging masterplan; or b) that the LNRS designated areas are identified either on the plan and/or supporting text as being subject of a draft allocation. This would afford greater flexibility at a future planning application stage.
From the perspective of landowners and developers, opportunity areas identified in the LNRS cover significant areas of land that are allocated for development in draft and adopted local plans. Whilst recognising Biodiversity Net Gain requirements and other green infrastructure will form part of the strategy for development land, the opportunity area boundaries cover, in some cases, a high proportion of the total site area. The LNRS should make clear that the strategy is not intended to prevent development, nor restrict development to land outside of the opportunity areas. Helpful clarity could be added by stating that, whilst development plans should take account of the LNRS, areas shown on the Measures Map may still be

considered suitable for development. Similarly, there could be greater clarity that the LNRS does not commit landowners to implement nature recovery measures, nor preclude nature recovery measures on land outside of the opportunity areas.
The document as a whole is quite inaccessible to a non-expert. The structure of the document could be clearer with objectives numbered and prioritised to enable easier cross-referencing. We were pleased and surprised to find that Bishop's Waltham is one of only two homes in Hampshire for a particular type of beetle. But we feel that if this information was more readily shared with the likes of parish councils, then they would be better able to raise awareness and protect these species and their habitats. Overall, we welcome the strategy but would like to see more engagement and advice to the likes of parish councils and other landowners as to how we can understand the issues and help to implement the measures.
I wanted to thank you for including the River Restoration Strategy. This is critical to improving the biodiversity on our rare (especially internationally) chalk streams habitats.
Strongly support the priority given to woodland in the LNRS. Trees and woods are at the heart of nature recovery. Restoring, reconnecting and creating new woodland habitat, and protecting ancient & veteran trees outside woods, are key to an effective LNRS.
The mapping is far too widespread for reasons mentioned earlier. It is going to severely restrict farmers and landowners ability to change uses as this is referred to by council planning officers going forward which will inevitably happen. The mapping is also without any consultation with owners and in our case includes several hundred acres of blanket conifers and open arable land which we wish to keep as economically active - we do not want them forced back to some arbitrary and possibly meaningless historic age - they were economic then and have had to change. SINCS were originally partly a desk based exercise and this mapping copies errors there - so areas at Herriard that have been planted or allowed to revert to scrub in the last 100 years are included as SINCS. Finally to be imposing another layer of bureaucracy on a land sector that has very low current profitability is highly negative and inevitable will have unforeseen consequences as people seek to work around the regulations.
I would just point out that your gender question is now contrary to Government guidance! You questions about health, origin, and children are also wholly inappropriate. Why are they included??
Many thanks for all the detailed and positive work that has taken place so far. The objectives are laudable but there is scant detail on target-setting and how progress will be monitored. Dealing with imminent climate change seems also little mentioned. My particular plea is that steps are taken to involve as many 'ordinary' people as possible (not just the committed stakeholders) in knowing about and hopefully owning the Strategy and doing as much as they can to support wildlife on any outdoor space for which they are responsible. This could help provide the green corridors so urgently needed. Not only can this be virtually cost-free for HCC and others but could build a ground swell of support and a robust foundation for the urgent action needed to support rarer species across the County. We have a massive biodiversity crisis and can't afford to wait - the Strategy contains many good aspirations but implementation (and monitoring) must get going NOW !!

It appears that he government's new Planning and Infrastructure Bill will essentially erase the level of environmental protection provided by existing laws. The Office of Environmental Protection (which is a public body that holds government and other public bodies to account) has stated that the bill in its current form would be a 'regression' of environmental protections. It is essentially introducing 'cash to trash' nature. How will the LNRS be affected if this terrible piece of legislation goes through?
Please note that this is not an official NFDC view or response. I'm replying in my capacity as NFDC's representative on the Hurst to Lymington Strategy (H2L) project team. From this position, I'd like to highlight that habitat creation as a priority outcome aligns strongly with the draft preferred pathways identified in the H2L Strategy. It's also worth noting that the Strategy may present potential funding opportunities to support some of these outcomes. Although the Hurst Spit to Lymington Strategy is referenced in the report as a 'Coastal Flood Defence Strategy', it may be helpful to acknowledge its broader scope. In addition to addressing flood risk, the Strategy proposes several managed realignment options, including the potential for habitat creation. Referencing it in these wider terms could provide a more complete and accurate picture. Separately, I'd also like to note that one of the priority outcomes refers to the restoration and management of coastal saltmarsh. This aligns with part of the justification for maintaining Hurst Spit, which is welcomed from a maintenance perspective (independent of H2L). NFDC currently acts as the maintainer under permissive powers as the Coast Protection Authority - without obligation and subject to the necessary permissions and funding.