**Sussex LNRS Supporting Authorities Group**

**Update**

**Monday 02April 2025, 14:00 to 15:30**

**Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

**Apologies received from**

BHCC, LEC, Wayforward, WDC

**Attendees**

ESCC, WSCC, LEC, SDNPA, CBC, MDC, ArDC, SxLNP, HDC, NE, CDC, HBC, RDC

**Minutes and matters arising**

All actions are complete.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: Update on timings – risk of delay**

1. **Mar-Apr:** Species work will be picked up by Kate in a moment
2. **Mar-Apr:** Description is work in progress
3. **Mar-Apr:** Measures picked up by Julie
4. **Apr-May:** Informal outputs?
   1. Habitat and species Measures are easy but
   2. Mapping outputs - likely post 2nd May workshop (Mid / Late May)
5. **May:** Workshop: work post workshop required.
   1. With Proportionate internal RA governance before going out to SA
   2. Makes originally proposed 19/05/2025 for SA pre-Consult impossible
6. **June:** Current view is a June start date for SA pre-consult date: TBD
   1. OK so far so good - your first formal sight is likely to be June but then things get tight again
7. **Jul-Aug:** Post SA Pre-cons
   1. We have to assume amends and further graphic design work, governance and some publicity required prior to public consultation
   2. In two weeks??
8. **Aug-Oct:** Public consultation
   1. Assume 8 weeks with mid-Aug start
   2. We have to assume amends and further graphic design work, prior to RA formal sign off before pre-publication consultation with SA
9. **Nov-Dec:** If we miss the RA governance dates then subsequent action is pushed back into the new year such that:
10. **Feb 2026:** Consequent impact on SA pre-publication consultation is a mid Feb start to pre-publication consultation
11. **Mar-Apr 2026:** publication

QUESTIONS/COMMENT

* NE panel date not set in stone. Agreed to keep as target.
* any further members' briefings? Next proposed publicity will be around public consultation. Yet to be determined what that will entail. ACTION: to confirm.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: MEASURES**

**Measures update and data request**

* Thanks to all for comments provided. Received from c. 25 organisations and individuals including in depth conversations with some, e.g. HWNL.
* Draft should be complete this week, early next week. Then to be taken forward for mapping.
* Measures to be mapped will not be opportunity mapping for every measure, but will focus in on those that will have the biggest impact for nature. Aiming for a hit list of about a third of the measures.
* Follow on request for any further views on prioritisation of measures, rather than content of measures themselves.
* SxBRC have audit of which measures 'could' be mapped and whether that would be meaningful.
* Will develop brief methodology for how measures will be mapped - will share when available.
* ACTION: Further request for any additional datasets which may assist with targeting, e.g. analysis or spatial mapping around GI, NbS etc.
* ACTION: reminder to add to mapping tool: [New tool launched to help you map your actions for nature | Sussex Nature Recovery](https://www.sussexnaturerecovery.org.uk/news/new-tool-launched-to-help-you-map-your-actions-for-nature).
* RF: Might be worth contacting parishes re mapping projects etc. JM: we have tried to do that. ACTION: to consider whether worth another push of tool to parishes, local groups etc.

Q&A

* What is the key impact?
  + Should not be too much for SAs. SAG will have seen the main outputs and will have access to mapping outputs for plan making process. Main impact is on RAs and on implementation. Potential overlap with any new burdens funding coming in and beginning implementation.
* is the assessment on implications correct and is NE comfortable with the potential risk area?
  + Want LNRS to be ready ASAP but can see the timings. Mapping takes longer than everyone expects, so good to keep people aware of that. Is it possible to rejig the RA governance and the SA consultation?
  + Potentially. Comes down to RA's own internal governance = constraint. Difficult to get a handle on how much work the public consultation will generate. Would be interesting to know how other RAs have approached this. There are a few other RAs who are also looking at 2026.
* SE: IoW update. Different as unitary and don't have so many SAs. Have managed to find a more coordinated approach.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: species progress.**

Refer to slides

**AGENDA ITEM 5 Measures and Mapping**

* Thanks for comments received to date.
* Not anticipating many more changes to measures.
* Making good progress on the mapping.
* Concentrating on the measures that will deliver the greatest benefits.
* "Low-hanging fruit" - enhancement of existing habitats.
* Then using modelling where we have it.
* UoS creating a mapping tool - looking at that for woodland connectivity.
* Looking at how we can use BOAs to help targeting as they are embedded in local plans etc. Also show where habitats are clustered and where there is the greatest potential for connectivity.
* Urban measures - request to SAs.
  + e.g. BHCC GI study and ecosystems network map - hoping to use to target urban measures. Tree equity mapping from WT to help target urban tree planting.
  + Would like to replicate for other urban areas, but would need similar maps by LPAs.
* RF: Wilder Horsham NRN. Doesn't nec cover urban areas, but could be helpful. SWT should have the GIS layer.

**AOB**

None.