Local Nature Recovery Strategies for Sussex (West Sussex and East Sussex and Brighton & Hove)

Statement of Biodiversity Priorities

Part 4: Technical Methods

How we did it!

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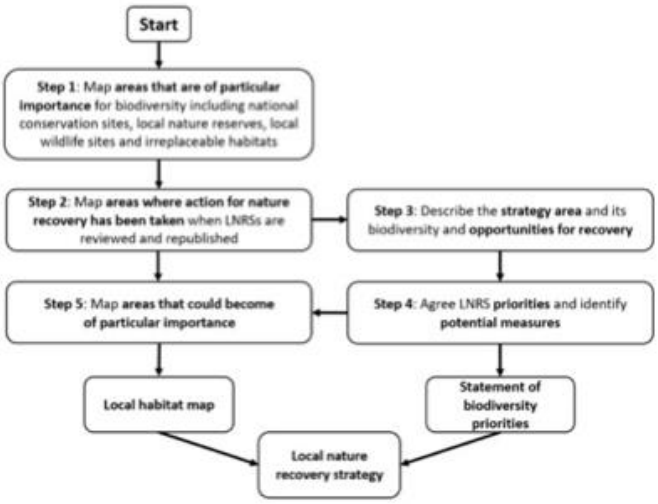
1. Introduction

This document outlines all methods and information sources that were followed and applied throughout the process to prepare the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the West Sussex Local Nature Recovery Strategy, together referred to in this document as the Sussex strategies. This process was carried out between 2023-2025. It covers the preparation of the Statement of Biodiversity Priorities (Parts 1 and 2), and the Local Habitat Map. It does not cover Part 3 of the Statement of Biodiversity Priorities (which relates to species). This methodology is contained within Part 3 itself.

A single Part 4 has been produced for both the Sussex strategies, as a single process was used for both.

1.1 The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) process

The process to prepare the two Sussex strategies followed the steps set out within the Statutory Guidance, summarised in the diagram below.



Note – Step 2 was not included as it relates to a subsequent iteration of the LNRS (likely to take place within the next 5-8 years) which will review how the first strategy was implemented.

Effort was also made throughout, and where possible, to accommodate steps within additional advice notes published by Defra. Of most significance was the preparation of a specific section identifying the priorities and measures for **species** for the two Sussex LNRS areas.

The published guidance and advice notes provided by Defra and used to guide the LNRS process are listed below. This was supplemented by regular national Defra webinars for all Responsible Authorities (RAs) and support from Natural England Senior Advisors, whose time was dedicated to advising the Responsible Authority on the preparation of the strategy.

Statutory Instrument: 2023 No. 341 Environmental Protection, England Nature Conservation, England. The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023. Identifying and agreeing priorities and potential measures within Local Nature Recovery Strategies. Advice for Responsible Authorities. Version 1: November 2023
Local nature recovery strategy - statutory guidance What a local nature recovery strategy should contain. Presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 106(5) of the Environment Act 2021 March 2023.
Local nature recovery strategy – advice for Responsible Authorities Mapping potential measures in Local Nature Recovery Strategies Advice for Responsible Authorities Version 1: 28th March 2024 Species Recovery within Local Nature Recovery Strategies Advice for Responsible Authorities Version 1: August 2023 Local nature recovery strategies: the preparation process and contents Government response and summary of responses Date: 23 March 2023 Policy paper: Local nature recovery strategies Published 30 June 2023 Data standards for Local Nature Recovery Strategies Advice for Responsible Authorities Version 1. February 2024

1.2 Governance

Collaboration and partnership on delivering for nature in Sussex has traditionally taken place across the wider Sussex geography (West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton & Hove). Several key stakeholders work at this scale, such as Sussex Nature Partnership, Sussex Wildlife Trust and Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre. Others work in regional areas that cross this wider Sussex geography, such as National Trust, RSPB, Woodland Trust, CLA, NFU and others. Two large Protected Landscapes (South Downs National Park and High Weald National Landscape) also sit across the boundary between West and East Sussex County Councils.

As a result, when commencing the preparation of the Sussex strategies, it was agreed that the LNRSs for West Sussex and East Sussex and Brighton & Hove would be prepared together, sharing **a single process** and where possible ensuring that key stakeholders only had one process to engage with (rather than risking overloading stakeholders with two processes to engage with at the same time).

LNRS Board
An LNRS Board group was established to oversee the joint process, guide governance and oversee budget management for production of the Sussex strategies. This **LNRS Board** group comprised senior officers from East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council, Brighton & Hove City Council, plus senior local advisors from Natural England.

LNRS Team
It was also agreed to combine resources available within the two RAs to create an **LNRS Team, to drive the single process and share the key skill sets required.** This team comprised LNRS leads from East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council and the Sussex Nature Partnership (SxNP) with support from consultants Wayforward and Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC).

Supporting Authority Group
A requirement of the LNRS process is to engage with all 'supporting authorities' (as defined within the statutory guidance). To facilitate this, a **LNRS Supporting Authority Group** was established for the joint Sussex LNRS process and met monthly throughout their preparation. This Group included representatives from the following organisations:

Organisation	Type
South Downs National Park Authority	Protected landscape/ Local Planning Authority
Adur & Worthing Councils	Local Planning Authority
Arun District Council	Local Planning Authority
Brighton & Hove City Council	Local Planning Authority
Crawley Borough Council	Local Planning Authority
Chichester District Council	Local Planning Authority
Lewes & Eastbourne Councils	Local Planning Authority
Hastings District Council	Local Planning Authority
Horsham District Council	Local Planning Authority
Mid Sussex District Council	Local Planning Authority
Rother District Council	Local Planning Authority
Wealden District Council	Local Planning Authority
Natural England	Arms Length Body
West Sussex County Council	LNRS Responsible Authority
East Sussex County Council	LNRS Responsible Authority

LNRS Working Group
An **LNRS Working Group** was established to facilitate input to the joint Sussex LNRS process from a wide range of stakeholders. This also met monthly and was in place from the start of preparations. It included representatives from the following organisations:

Organisation	Type
South Downs National Park Authority	Protected landscape
High Weald National Landscape	Protected landscape
Chichester Harbour Conservancy	Protected landscape
Sussex Wildlife Trust	Conservation charity
National Farmers Union (NFU)	Agricultural member organisation

Country Land and Business Association (CLA)	Agricultural member organisation
Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group South East	Advisor to the farming community
CLM	Land agency
Knight Frank	Land agency
Weald to Waves	Farmer-led wildlife initiative
Iford Estate	Farmer-led wildlife initiative
Crawley Borough Council	Local Authority
Wealden District Council	Local Authority
Mid Sussex District Council	Local Authority
Brighton & Hove City Council	Local Authority
Rother District Council	Local Authority
Horsham District Council	Local Authority
Sussex IFCA	Local Government Joint Committee
Natural England	Arms Length Body
Forestry Commission	Arms Length Body
Environment Agency	Arms Length Body

Technical Review Panel

A panel of four local nature experts was convened to provide detailed feedback on the technical elements of the draft Sussex strategies as they developed. This was not required within the guidance but was felt to add significant value as a way to sense-check technical information summarising the state of nature in each LNRS area and on the approaches required to underpin its recovery. The members of this panel were: Henri Brocklebank, Phil Belden, Dr Tony Whitbread and Kate Ryland

1.3 'Sussex Nature Recovery' website and branding

The decision was also made at the start of the process to create a unified brand/logo for the two Sussex strategies (called 'Sussex Nature Recovery') and a single website to carry information on the process, outputs, events etc. This was again to support a joint process, avoid unnecessary duplication of information and ensure clear communication with stakeholders.

This website was linked to from each of the Responsible Authority official county council websites to ensure it could be found by those who may look for it via their county-specific government webpages. A dedicated email address for each LNRS was created to also ensure that residents of each LNRS area could make contact with their relevant Responsible Authority officers.

The single branding approach was designed to ensure that the two Sussex strategies will carry the same 'look and feel', enabling common stakeholders to navigate the two separate strategies with the minimum of confusion. A significant advantage of this approach is that the two strategies can be read easily 'side-by-side' when considering delivery approaches for nature that might span the boundary between the two counties. This will be particularly helpful for key delivery organisations that operate across the wider Sussex geography, such as Protected Landscapes, government Arms-Length Bodies, conservation organisations, catchment partnerships, water companies and others.

2. Collation of data and evidence

Unlike other counties in England, Sussex does not have in place a 'State of Nature Report' which pulls together evidence on habitats and species, the pressures affecting them and trends emerging from data over time. Work was therefore done in early stages of the LNRS process to collate the 'best available information' that could be used to inform the LNRS process.

For the description of each LNRS area this included:

- Information used to prepare the evidence base for the Natural Capital Investment Strategy for Sussex prepared by Sussex Nature Partnership in 2019;
- Natural Character Area statements and supporting information (published by Natural England);
- Local Landscape Character Assessment (prepared by the County Councils);
- Reference books/atlases on the habitats and species of Sussex (various authors);
- Descriptive information contained within relevant plans and strategies covering Sussex (see section 4, step 3(a)) below for more information on the review of these documents as part of the LNRS process);
- Other online materials.

Maps and statistics to support the text were collated from national and local datasets and compiled by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (Sussex BRC). A **'data audit'** was carried out by Sussex BRC (commissioned by Sussex Nature Partnership) ahead of the LNRS process to collate all data available and develop an understanding of its source, completeness and reliability. This information was used throughout the LNRS process but was of particular importance in the mapping phase.

A **review of literature on 'pressures and trends'** was commissioned from a consultant to help identify key pressures on nature in Sussex, the sources and implications of these (See section 4, step 3(b) below).

A comprehensive **review of approximately 150 plans and strategies** published in Sussex was undertaken to help inform preparation of the LNRS (128 for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove and 137 for West Sussex although a large proportion overlapped). This was done as an initial preparatory task to gather information to inform several steps of the process:

- Drafting of the description of the LNRS area and the pressures on nature;
- Identification of priorities for nature's recovery;
- Identification of potential measures.

Whilst LNRS guidance requires that a review of other plans and strategies should be carried out at some point in the process and should help to inform the preparation of the LNRS, the Sussex LNRS Team, Supporting Authority Group and Working Group were of the view that a comprehensive review of these documents should take place as a first preparatory step in the LNRS process to help to capture what is **already identified** as ambition, commitment and action for nature in Sussex.

A strong narrative throughout the Sussex strategy process was that we are not starting from a 'blank canvas' but from a place where a significant amount of existing action for nature is happening at different scales, across each LNRS area. The intention was for each LNRS to reflect this accurately and help to create a coherent understanding of existing ambition, commitment and action that is currently embedded in more than a hundred different documents, covering various parts of the LNRS geography and at different scales.

The audit carried out included:

- Protected Landscape Management Plans;
- Local Plans – and supporting documents/evidence base (e.g. Green Infrastructure Studies);
- Catchment Management Plans;
- Neighbourhood Plans;
- Biodiversity Action Plans;
- Shoreline Management Plans;
- Tree and Climate Strategies;
- Business plans and environmental strategies of water companies;
- Published documents by eNGOs/conservation organisations setting out priorities for nature e.g. Our Wild Sussex (Sussex Wildlife Trust).

A full list of all plans/strategies reviewed is shown in Annex A below.

Information was initially organised under the key themes within the government's Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP), i.e.

- Thriving wildlife and plants;
- Clean and Plentiful Water;
- Mitigating and adapting to climate change;
- Enhancing biosecurity;
- Enhanced heritage, beauty and engagement with the natural environment.

This allowed later identification of alignment of the priorities with the EIP and other national environmental objectives later in the process.

A summary document of information contained in the documents under these headings was produced for the **county scale** and at a **district scale** for each of the districts within the LNRS area. These were circulated to the Supporting Authority Group and Working Group for review and accuracy and were welcomed at the time as a useful reference resource for their own internal purposes.

The step-by-step sections explain how the information in these documents was later used to inform LNRS preparation.

3. Engagement

3.1 Stakeholder research and the development of an engagement plan

Our approach to engaging local people and organisations in this LNRS was informed by a comprehensive piece of stakeholder mapping research undertaken in January to April 2023. Read the report here.

This consulted with over 150 people from 80 organisations and groups across Sussex to organise stakeholders, draw out their drivers and barriers to participation in the LNRS, and identify the best channels and mechanism to reach them. For example, insights from landowners and managers that informed the plan included: a) scepticism when hearing about initiatives from those outside of the sector; b) wanting to be given a range of non-prescriptive options for improving nature on their land; c) engaging with webinars as these can be watched when they get in from the fields; d) that they are over-surveyed; and e) that they are far less financially literate than the complexity of agri-schemes would imply.

These research insights were married up to the participatory aims of the strategies (what key stakeholder groups should contribute to their LNRS as stated in the statutory guidelines) to inform an engagement plan. The plan considered what each engagement opportunity should achieve (the 3 bullets below) and identified and scheduled optimal activities for doing so by the main audience types.

- **Create awareness and educate:** these activities brought the strategies to people's attention (e.g. news articles, emails, social media, word of mouth), or educated them about what was required (e.g. presentations, Q&As, longer form website content etc).
- **Drive participation:** these activities enabled stakeholders to interact with their LNRS and provide their contributions to it. Contributions were captured in a survey, via an interactive map to which people added their own pins, and by commenting on ideas at workshops.
- **Playback**: these activities shared what had been heard and invited review and feedback from stakeholders through workshops, public consultations and sharing of documents etc.

The Engagement Plan was stress tested with the Sussex LNRS Working Group and Supporting Authority Group via workshops and presentations to ensure best use of resources and channels. It was reviewed and executed on a frequent and iterative basis to incorporate learnings from events over time, as well as the core team's increasing understanding of the LNRS process and requirements.

3.2 Executing the plan

The below examples are not exclusive and are in addition to near monthly meetings with the LNRS Working Group and Supporting Authority Group, and other frequent meetings with cabinet members, and internal council teams such as Highways, Transport and Planning Managers.

Landowners and managers

Looking after more than two-thirds of land in Sussex, and with the potential to be directly impacted by the LNRS, landowners and managers are one of our most important stakeholder groups. Activities were focused on spreading awareness and understanding about the LNRS via trusted sector representatives and advisors, encouraging open and honest dialogue about risks and benefits, and providing surveys, tools and channels for landowners and managers to voluntarily provide information about their plans and projects.

Key activities included:

- Webinar to brief the sector on the LNRS in November 2023. In addition to Responsible Authorities and Natural England, presenters included local sector representatives from NFU, CLA, FWAG and land agents, CLM. 242 registered, 127 watched on the night, 229 watched the recording.
- Briefings with land advisors in the following organisations to enable them to have LNRS conversations with landowners and managers in their networks: NFU, CLA, Sussex Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust, Catchment Partnerships, Southern Water, South Downs National Trust, River Trusts, CLM, Savills, Knight Frank, Nature Friendly Farming Network, Weald to Waves, Ashdown Forest Landscape Recovery bid, Brighton Downland Estate Scheme.
- Flyers summarising the purpose and scope of LNRS. Later handouts when farmland measures had been developed summarised these and invited landowners undertaking any to get in touch.
- Face to face (unless where specified) presentations and Q&A sessions made to farmer clusters and farmer-led initiatives:

LNRS area	Group	Date	Attendees
East Sussex	1066 Farmers - Pilot activity co-hosted with Kent LNRS Team	Feb 2024	8
West Sussex	Upper Adur Farmer cluster	June 2024	13
West Sussex	Adur River Recovery group	June 2024	12
West Sussex	South Downs Farmer cluster	June 2024	10
West Sussex	Arun to Adur Farmer cluster	July 2024	12
West Sussex	Manhood Farmer Clusters/Three Harbours	July 2024	20
East Sussex	Nature Friendly Farming Network	Sept 2024	30
East Sussex	Upper Ouse cluster	Sept 2024	10
East Sussex	Middle Ouse cluster	Sept 2024	9
East Sussex	Pevensey Levels Farmers	Sept 2024	50
East & West Sussex	Large Estates workshop (2 x from East Sussex and 2 from West) plus Forestry Commission - Online	Oct 2024	9
West Sussex	Rother Valley Farmers Event	Nov 2024	10

- Survey (65 responses) and interactive mapping tool.
- Video case studies shared via social, e-newsletters and the Sussex Nature Recovery website: Iford Estate BNG project (107 views), Arun to Adur Farmers Cluster (191 views), Wilder Ouse (2.5k views)

- LNRS presence at other events: Wealden Farm and Food event, East Grinstead Ploughing Match, Weald to Waves etc.

Community groups, small environmental charities and town and parish councils

Various community groups and organisations including charities and town and parish councils undertake action for nature in their local area. Individuals are often passionate about local conservation issues and may have experience executing smaller-scale nature recovery actions from installing nesting boxes and planting trees, to managing fields for nature and so on. Many groups have an online presence with a public email address or Facebook page, enabling direct contact.

Key activities included:

- Webinar to parish & town councillors in Jan 2024: 60 attended, 110 have watched the recording.
- Webinar to community groups and others in March 2024: 217 registered, 127 attended on the night, 183 have watched the recording.
- Presentations made at the following events: Wilder Horsham Event (50 attendees), Nature & Climate Event at Seven Sisters County Park (30 attendees), Newhaven/Lewes DC Climate Event (25 attendees), Community People Eco Forum (40 attendees), Friends of the South Downs (15 attendees).
- Survey (102 responses) and interactive mapping tool to input their projects, plans and views.
- Updates via email and e-newsletter.

Environmental sector – key delivery and enabling organisations

(also referred to as 'delivery partners' within this document)

More than 30 organisations and partnerships play a leading role in delivering or enabling large-scale nature recovery in Sussex. Representatives from these organisations are experts in conservation and land management and have existing projects or plans related to habitat creation and improvement and the support of species. Many are members of the Sussex Nature Partnership in addition to the LNRS Working Group. They were convened multiple times at key points to enable their input into this LNRS.

Organisations and partnerships convened:

Organisation	**Sector/role**
Action in Rural Sussex	NGO
Buglife	NGO
CPRE Sussex	NGO
Knepp Wildland Foundation	NGO
National Trust	NGO
Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust	NGO
South East Rivers Trust	NGO
Sussex Wildlife Trust	NGO
RSPB	NGO
Western Sussex Rivers Trust	NGO
Woodland Trust	NGO

Organisation	Sector/role
Manhood Wildlife & Heritage Group	NGO
Ashdown Forest Conservators	NGO
Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre	NGO
Sussex Ornithological Society	NGO
Sussex Bay	Placed based initiative
Weald to Waves	Placed based initiative
Arun & West Streams Catchment Partnership	Catchment Partnership
Cuckmere & Pevensey Levels Catchment Partnership	Catchment Partnership
Adur & Ouse Catchment Partnership	Catchment Partnership
South East Water	Water company
Southern Water	Water company
Portsmouth Water	Water company
Three Harbours Partnership	Partnership
Wilder Horsham	Partnership
Lost Woods of the Low Wead and Downs	Partnership
South Downs National Park	Protected Landscape
High Weald National Landscape	Protected Landscape
Chichester Harbour Conservancy	Protected Landscape
Coastal Partners	Consultancy
National Farmers Union	Agricultural sector representative
Farming Wildlife and Advisory Group	Agricultural sector representative
University of Sussex	University
NatureSpace Partnership	Consultancy
CLM	Land Agency
Natural England	Arms Length Body
Forestry Commission	Arms Length Body
Environment Agency	Arms Length Body

Key activities with this group included:

- Briefings on the LNRS: via Sussex Nature Partnership quarterly meetings and directly with individual organisations online or in person.
- Providing feedback on draft LNRS documents via email.
- Multi-stakeholder, all day workshops to review and input on key aspects of the LNRS as they developed (see below).

Workshop name	Tasks	Date	Attendees
Workshop 1: Priorities	Review habitat priorities from published plans and strategies, sense check, consolidate, refine. Provide information about their organisation's existing projects and plans.	April 2024	44
Workshop 2: Measures	Sense check refined habitat priorities, review outcome statements (what success looks like), develop measures for each habitat type.	Sept 2024	45
Workshop 3: Mapping methodology	Review draft measures maps and the methodology used to create it/the list of available data to support mapping. Sense	May 2025	58

	check approach where there is one, identify an approach where there is not.		
Teams map review – Protected sites and coastal	Review updated measure map incorporating feedback from the workshop with habitat experts for sense-checking.	June 2025	12
Teams map review – Rivers and wetland	Review updated measure map incorporating feedback from the workshop with habitat experts for sense-checking.	June 2025	13
Teams map review – Woodland	Review updated measure map incorporating feedback from the workshop with habitat experts for sense-checking.	July 2025	11
Teams map review – Urban	Review updated measure map incorporating feedback from the workshop with habitat experts for sense-checking.	July 2025	16

Environmental sector – Technical Review Panel

Four of the county's leading nature experts were convened to undertake detailed scrutiny of the technical aspects of LNRS documents such as its principles, description of habitats and pressures, and its measures.

Key activities included:

- Online briefings;
- Providing feedback on LNRS documents via email;
- In person workshops.

The public/residents

Everyone who lives in West Sussex or in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove is a stakeholder for their LNRS. It is essential that the strategies reflect local circumstances, including the most important issues to local people, hence activities were focused on drawing this information out.

Key activities included:

- Press releases, social media and various other communication channels used by LNRS partners and a wider group of affiliated organisations and groups to spread awareness and drive survey respondents and webinar registrations.
- Public Survey (January to July 2024) to understand the habitats, species and places local people value, what they are concerned about, and what they want to see in the future. 1,834 responses (Sussex wide).
- Webinars for West Sussex and East Sussex and Brighton & Hove LNRS areas in June 2024 to playback interim survey results. In total, 472 registered (237 for West, 235 for East), 228 attended on the night (119 for West, 109 for East), and 515 have viewed the recordings (253 for West, 262 for East).
- Interactive tools such as plotting residents' favourite places to experience nature in Sussex (10k views).
- Updates, news items and survey reports published on the Sussex Nature Recovery website.

- Sussex Nature Recovery e-newsletters sent to subscribers in March, May, June, August, September and October of 2024, and May 2025.

Outputs from the surveys can be viewed here as background information.

Health & Wellbeing Sector

Wider benefits of nature's recovery include improvements to our health and wellbeing. Local Nature Recovery Strategies can therefore have a role to play in identifying where and how action for nature can support this. The Sussex Nature Partnership's Health and Wellbeing Group is an existing partnership of organisations (including the NHS, Public Health, Sussex Community Development Association and other voluntary organisations) and was consulted as part of this LNRS.

Key activities included:

- Health & Wellbeing Survey Jan 2024 (18 responses from key health organisations);
- Workshop in February 2024 with 20 representatives to review a) how we might determine where nature is most needed for health, b) existing guidance and intelligence from Natural England's Accessible Greenspace Standards and South Downs National Park's People and Nature Network strategy.

Organisations present at the workshop:

3VA
Action in Rural Sussex
Adur & Worthing Councils
Brighton & Hove Food Partnership
East Sussex County Council
Human Nature Partnership
Natural England
NHS
Rother District Council
RVA
South Downs National Park Authority
South East Water
Sussex Community Development Association
University of Brighton/Clean Growth UK
University of Sussex
Wealden Borough Council
West Sussex County Council

Outputs from the workshop can be viewed here as background information.

Businesses (Developers, Housing Associations and businesses with land)

While all sizes and types of businesses can consider nature within their organisational strategy, bespoke engagement activity was focused on those for whom the strategy has the greatest relevance and potential impact.

Key activities included:

- Developers: Presentation at the House Builder Forum (Nov 2023), comms and conversations with developers via the Supporting Authority Group's local planners.
- Golf courses: A presentation to 40 representatives of Sussex-based golf courses in May 2025. Email updates.
- Individual meetings with key landowning businesses such as Housing Associations and Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club.

Other groups

The stakeholder mapping exercise identified communities who are seldom heard in statutory processes. They include young people, minority groups, those with disabilities, and people living in areas of deprivation.

Key activities included:

- Young people
  - Youth cabinets of East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove were engaged to review the public survey and advise on how to engage young people. A workshop was held with 9 members of the West Sussex Youth Cabinet to discuss views in more detail. Recommendations were taken on board and informed the creation of the youth prize draw.
  - The youth prize draw, shared via schools and youth clubs/groups encouraged those aged 5-18 to send in their drawings, poems and photos of nature as a fun way to raise awareness of the strategies and nature in Sussex more generally. c.70 submissions were received (view the gallery).

- Minority groups, those with disability and people living in areas of deprivation
  - Discussions with the LNRS Team and Working Group identified that communities would be most effectively reached within the budget via supporting organisations (e.g. charities, voluntary organisations, churches/mosques, Housing Associations etc) who could frame the ask in a way that was sensitive to their members' or service users' needs and preferences. These organisations were approached and briefed to share the survey via their own channels.

3.3 An example of how the engagement plan was adapted based on iterative learnings

A pilot workshop was run with the 1066 farm cluster in February 2024. The event was co-hosted by the Sussex and Kent LNRS teams to maximise efficiencies and collaboration as the cluster crosses two counties. Going into the workshop, the desired outcome was to provide an overview of Local Nature Recovery Strategies and then draw attendees into a conversation about any existing projects and plans for nature on their land, with the possibility that these could, at a later stage and with their permission, be mapped. Instead, attendees focused on the lack of clarity around funding schemes, did not feel the incentive to participate was strong enough, and expressed deep scepticism about being mapped based on the risk that this restricted their future options.

This feedback was discussed with the Sussex LNRS Working Group at the next monthly meeting and a set of new actions agreed. Farmer cluster workshops were postponed for a few months to allow time for further information from government around funding schemes to be released. A one-page flyer was produced to succinctly explain the purpose and potential benefits of Local Nature Recovery Strategies, while also reassuring readers about its scope. The flyer was made available to our agricultural sector representatives to share with farmers and landowners in their networks, to lay the ground before meetings and flush out questions. The desired outcome of LNRS cluster workshops also changed – from seeking to obtain attendees plans for nature to encouraging an open discussion of benefits and potential risks that ensured attendees left with a good understanding of what participating in the LNRS meant. Attendees were invited to reflect on this and then, should they wish to, to add their projects to an interactive map or to share details with the LNRS lead via email.

4. Step-by-step guide to how the LNRS was prepared

Step 1: Mapping areas that are of particular importance for biodiversity (the APIB)

This step was carried out as per the tightly prescribed instructions within the statutory guidance. It maps the following for each LNRS area:

- **National conservation sites** (SSSIs, NNRs, SACs, SPAs, Ramsar Sites);
- **Locally designated sites** (Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites);
- **Areas of irreplaceable habitat** (as per the definition used within planning. For Sussex this includes ancient woodland, ancient & veteran trees, coastal sand dunes, lowland fen, Spartina saltmarsh swards, Mediterranean saltmarsh scrub).

The guidance allows for other areas to be included which may be identified by the Secretary of State as being of particular importance. No such sites were nominated in this case by Defra.

The boundary of the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove LNRS follows the boundary of East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council – down to the mean low water mark. Similarly, the boundary of the West Sussex LNRS follows the boundary of West Sussex County Council down to mean low water. The APIB for each therefore includes any coastal designations where a part of the designation may lie within the relevant LNRS boundary. On the advice of Natural England, the whole extent of all marine designations (Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs)) is included, regardless of whether these contain part of the coastline or not.

Sussex BRC prepared the APIB map using the list of the data sources noted in Annex B.

Limitations of the APIB produced:

- Saltmarsh was not included on the APIB as an irreplaceable habitat due to lack of data available to differentiate *Spartina* saltmarsh swards and Mediterranean saltmarsh scrub (considered irreplaceable[1]) from other types of saltmarsh (considered replaceable). This is therefore an omission of important habitats from the APIB map which is entirely related to data limitations.
- Ancient wood pasture and parkland and infilled ancient wood pasture and parkland, both types of ancient woodland, were not mapped as their extent in Sussex is not known. This is another omission which is entirely related to data limitations.
- The precise boundaries of Local Wildlife Sites in each LNRS area were not included as a separately identifiable layer within the APIB due to data licensing restrictions. Rather all parts of the APIB (national conservation sites, local wildlife sites and irreplaceable habitats) are shown as a composite APIB layer.

[1] As per definitions used for the purposes of Biodiversity Net Gain (The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024).

Step 2: Map areas where nature recovery has taken place.

This step is not relevant for the preparation of a first LNRS and so was not included.

Step 3: Description of the LNRS area, its biodiversity and opportunities for recovery

a. Description of habitats, species and protected sites

Preparation of the description was carried out through collation and review of best available information – as noted in section 2 above. This included descriptive information obtained from the review of plans/strategies where this was relevant.

Sections included:

- A brief overview of underlying geology and soils;
- National Character Areas (as identified and described by Natural England);
- Habitats – focusing on the main habitat groups found in Sussex (coastal habitats; farmed landscape and soils; species-rich grasslands; woodland, hedgerow and scrub; lowland heathland and sandstone outcrops; rivers, streams and aquifers; wetlands and standing water bodies; and urban nature). In each case the emphasis was on identifying (where possible) the area, condition and distribution of each major habitat type found in the LNRS area;
- A summary of species found within the LNRS area (taken from the more detailed Species section of the LNRS);
- A summary of the protected sites found in the LNRS area – and their condition (where known);
- Irreplaceable habitats found in the LNRS area (type and extent where known).

In terms of structure, it was decided to set information out for each LNRS area as a whole rather than by National Character Area (an approach that has been used in other Local Nature Recovery Strategies). This was to reduce repetition and to keep the emphasis on habitats, which are the main focus of the Sussex strategies. A summary of the NCAs did help to introduce the link between habitats and landscape and the fact these areas do reflect specific habitat types and distributions (which is picked up again in the later section on 'opportunities').

During drafting, various expert groups and organisations were consulted to check accuracy of information, notably Sussex BRC and Sussex Wildlife Trust. Early drafts of this section of the LNRS were circulated to the Technical Review Panel, to check for accuracy of the content. All comments were worked back into the subsequent draft. The document was fully referenced. Maps of habitat location and distribution were prepared by Sussex BRC to accompany the text.

This section was also made available to the Supporting Authority Group and Working Group ahead of the pre-consultation period for comment.

It should be noted that the statutory LNRS guidance suggests that the description should be completed as a first step and should then directly inform the identification of

priorities. Draft versions of the descriptions for both Sussex strategies were available to the LNRS Team, but a much greater emphasis was placed on the review of plans and strategies to identify priorities, as these were all evidenced documents which themselves would have drawn on the body of literature and information available on the habitats of Sussex during the course of their preparation. An evidence base had also been created in 2019 for the Natural Capital Investment Strategy for Sussex which described all habitats in Sussex and pressures on these. This was included in the review of plans and strategies.

The final, completed version of the description was used to sense-check the priorities at a later stage. It was not made available to the public via the website but the Technical Review Panel had been tasked to check its accuracy in the early stages of the LNRS process.

The LNRS Team does not consider this to be an issue given that a collation of the description of habitats of the two LNRS areas in a formal document would have added little to the identification of priorities due to the extensive evidence that sat behind the many plans and strategies that were reviewed. However, the description was useful to have in place when checking for any gaps in the priorities at a later stage.

b. Natural capital (what nature does for us)

This short section was based on the 'Natural Capital Investment Strategy for Sussex' prepared in 2019 by Sussex Nature Partnership. It summarised the main ecosystem services provided by the main habitat types found in Sussex and flagged the habitats classified within that document as 'natural capital at risk'. This section was included to emphasise the wider environmental benefits that may be provided if habitats are enhanced/created via a LNRS and to provide additional evidence to support enhancement and creation of those habitats at risk.

c. Pressures on nature

Unlike some other counties, the lack of an existing 'State of Nature' report for Sussex meant that the team had to start from scratch in developing this section.

It was prepared using a commissioned report which provided a review of the literature on the pressures to habitats and species in Sussex. This was commissioned in the early stages of the LNRS process and was published on the website for information. An extensive body of other literature was also accessed via online sources to develop the final text. A reference list of the sources used is included as an end-note in Part 1.

This section in the Sussex strategies uses the framework for describing pressures on nature set out in the national 'State of Nature' report (2019). It uses similar headings and some of the national findings where local data or studies were not available. The benefit of using the national State of Nature report as a framework for describing pressures is its evidenced approach and reflection of consensus of the main pressures on nature nationally. However, effort was made to customise with local evidence and studies where these were available.

The draft section was circulated to the Supporting Authority Group and Working Group for comment before inclusion within each draft LNRS document.

d. Opportunities for nature's recovery

The LNRS guidance requires the inclusion of 'a description of the opportunities for recovering or enhancing biodiversity, in terms of habitats and species, in the strategy area'.

This was not defined further within the guidance and the LNRS Team struggled to understand what was required in this step that would not duplicate information later in the LNRS. As this was intended to be a desk-based element of the process and any specific locations for opportunities were not to be included, it was only drafted later in the process once its relevance and 'value add' to the overall document was understood.

However, it did prompt the development of two specific sections within the Sussex strategies early on in the process that were not prescribed within the guidance:

- A set of **principles** to guide action;
- A set of **outcome statements** for each priority (what do we want to see in the next ten years....).

These are common to both Sussex strategies and together, the intention was to capture some of the 'accepted wisdom' as to what we need to do in Sussex to support nature's recovery and what the 'direction of travel' should be for each habitat so that we understand what we are collectively working towards. These also provided space to articulate some of the ambition being expressed by stakeholders that could not be easily included in the more constrained statements of priorities and measures.

Principles. These were drafted to capture the high-level approaches that will be needed if nature's recovery is to take place. Some of these help to explain how the "Lawton Principles"[2] and the introduction of natural processes form the basis of the approach. Others are designed to highlight the need to work beyond just priority habitats and ensure nature is encouraged on farmed land and in urban areas. The inclusion of a principle on nature-based solutions also ensured that this theme was woven into the overall narrative within the LNRS. The principles were drafted ahead of production of the list of priorities and circulated for comment and discussion with the Technical Review Panel.

Outcomes Statements. These were drafted during the process of shortlisting the priorities; more information on this is provided in Step 4 below.

Schematic 'opportunities' maps. These were prepared towards the end of the LNRS drafting process – slightly out of sync with the prescribed steps. However, this was not considered an issue by the LNRS Team as these maps were essentially a summary of many of the high-level opportunity statements already in the public domain, within National Character Area (NCA) statements and other plans and strategies. The NCA

[2] Lawton, J.H, Brotherton, P., Brown, V.K., Elphic, C. (2010). Making Space for Nature: A Review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network.

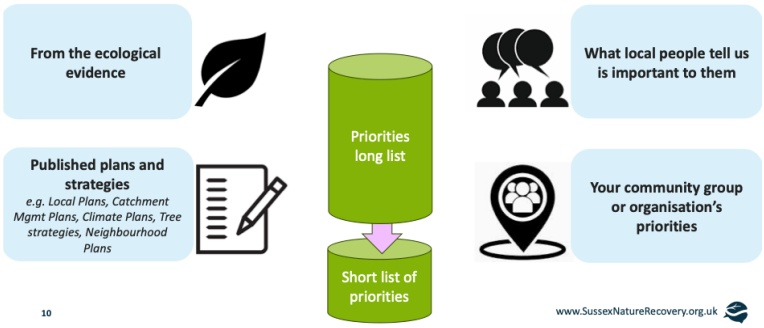
geographies were used to present the information in the form of annotated maps. A specific map was prepared for each LNRS.

Step 4: Agree LNRS priorities and identify potential measures

a. Identification of a longlist of priorities

As shown in the diagram below, this was a desk-based task which involved drawing information from four sources:

- Review of plans and strategies. This was used to develop an **initial list**[3] of priorities to provide a starting point from which other information could then be added. This was a deliberate approach to ensure that the longlist included all those priorities which had been developed through other plan/strategy-making processes. A list of all documents reviewed as part of this process is included in Annex A.
- Ecological evidence (e.g. information emerging from the description and pressures documents on habitats under threat/at risk etc).
- Results of the public survey – which included responses to specific questions about the habitats and pressures local people were most concerned about.
- Expert input from stakeholder organisations (via meetings) and hyper-local knowledge from community groups and local councils (via surveys and webinars).



The first of a series of workshops with **delivery partners** (see section 3.2 above for the list of those involved) was then held to **'sense-check' and refine the longlist of priorities** (April 2024).

Note: This workshop also had other functions and was designed to introduce the key delivery partner organisations to the concept of the LNRS, share updates on existing projects and work currently being led by key organisations (the three protected landscapes, Sussex Wildlife Trust and Weald to Waves) and gather insights on specific places and categories that are important for biodiversity in Sussex beyond the APIB. The feedback from the workshop was excellent and helped to start to build support and engagement with the LNRS process from within this critical stakeholder group.

[3] This list which links each priority to the relevant source (plan/strategy) was shared with NE and the other supporting authorities as part of the audit-trail for this step.

The outputs were collated into a report that was shared with the workshop attendees, Supporting Authorities Group and NE as part of the audit trail for the process.

All comments collated from the workshop were used to re-work the long list of priorities and organise these into broad habitat-groupings. Arms-length bodies (Forestry Commission, Natural England and Environment Agency) provided additional input to the initial list.

By the end of this stage there were **>150 priorities** on the longlist, grouped into 31 emerging groups/themes.

31 emerging priority groups/themes		
Habitat connectivity and ecological functioning	Coastal	Resilient habitats species (in face of climate change)
Designated sites/ protected areas	Marine	Natural carbon sequestration & storage
Woodland	Routeways & verges	Reducing impact of climate change in urban areas
Trees	Urban nature	Control/management of invasive species
Hedgerows, shaws and field boundaries	Green & Blue Corridors	Landscape character and quality
Rivers, river systems and corridors	Species	Access to nature/ connecting people to nature
Chalk Streams	Sufficient/resilient water supply	Accessible countryside round towns
Wetland	Clean water supply (ground & surface)	Public rights of way
Standing water bodies	Clean water for people & environment	Nature in everyday life for health and wellbeing
Aquifers	Flood risk reduction	
Grassland	Coastal erosion/flooding management	

b. Development of the short-list of priorities

This task required reducing the >150 priority statements on the longlist into a shorter manageable number of agreed, critical priorities that reflected a balance of suggestions from local partners and those which supported national environmental objectives.

According to the statutory guidance, the shortlist should be comprised of:

- *Criteria based priorities i.e. those which adhere to specific criteria agreed for shortlisting;*
- *Preference-based priorities i.e. those stated as a preference by stakeholders.*

The LNRS Team therefore decided to develop a set of criteria against which to assess each of the initial priorities and to then also use the results of the public survey to identify specific priorities that may hold public support or 'preference'.

The criteria developed had two parts:

- Core or primary criteria (to identify those priorities which relate to 'ecological/ wider environmental need'. This included whether the priority related to a national environmental objective as set out by Defra);
- Additional criteria (desirable/nice to have) to be used to help rank priorities that make it through the above, thus giving a more nuanced sense of priorities.

These criteria were drafted (based on the government guidance) and refined with assistance from the Working Group and Supporting Authority Group and published on the Sussex Nature Recovery website (here) for information.

The core/primary criteria were then applied by the LNRS Team to all priorities on the longlist (and recorded on a spreadsheet). At this stage, the additional criteria were not used, as whilst they reflected pertinent questions, not enough detail was available about how each priority might be delivered to enable accurate answers to be provided (almost all were 'possible' depending on circumstances).

Application of the criteria resulted in elimination of some draft priorities from the long list.

Next, the LNRS Team and NE LNRS Senior Advisors for Sussex worked through the remaining measures during an all-day workshop to do the following:

- Review wording with a view to ensuring language was accurate;
- Consolidate/rationalise the list by removing duplications/overlaps and merging into broader statements;
- Remove any statements that were in fact 'measures';
- Remove those that were out of scope of LNRS.

This resulted in a **short list of 24 priorities.**

This list was then compared with the results of the LNRS public and community group surveys and other stakeholder engagement that had been carried out by that stage. A check was made on whether there was support for each of the draft priorities and the level of this support if known. A check for gaps was also made (e.g. whether there were any public preferences not reflected in the shortlist of priorities). Given the very broad nature of each priority statement, it was concluded that the set of priority statements together matched well to the preferences collated through the survey processes.

The example below illustrates how the preference information was matched to relevant priorities. *Note: the LNRS Team was careful to ensure that the preference information taken from the surveys on their own did not drive selection or elimination of a priority from the list given the possible variation in understanding of different habitat types by respondents and their particular interests.*

Priority	Preference (survey)	What this tell us
Enhance and better connect our **woodland** habitats whilst creating new woodland where this supports landscape character, biodiversity and ecosystem services	**High/very high** • **West Sussex**: 1st favourite habitat (24%); Ranked 2nd 'want to see recovered' (17%). • **East Sussex:** 1st Favourite habitat (22%); Ranked 1st in terms of wanting to see it recovered (18%)	This illustrates that woodland is highly valued by people in Sussex which is expected given that Sussex is a very wooded county. But pressures on woodland are also understood, with 18% of respondents concerned and wanting to see it recovered.
Expand, enhance and better connect **heathland** (and its associated habitats	**Low** • **West Sussex:** Heathland and scrub 8th favourite (4%); Ranked 10th 'want to see recovered' (3%) • **East Sussex:** Heathland and scrub 9th favourite (4%); Ranked 9th 'want to see recovered' (4%)	Heathland appears to be less valued than woodland, despite the national importance of Sussex for its lowland heath. Perhaps this is because our heathland is concentrated in smaller areas of Sussex and not as well understood and visited as woodland.

The proposed shortlisted priorities were presented to the Working Group and Supporting Authorities Group for review (August 2024). This led to amendments to the wording and grouping of the draft priority statements.

Finally, the draft priorities were presented to a second workshop with delivery partners in September 2024. This led to further amendments and refinements. The workshop also resulted in a set of proposed **outcome statements** to accompany each priority. These were proposed and refined by workshop participants to capture 'what success will look like in 10 years' time' – to provide context, scale of ambition and helpful detail to support the broad priority statements. A draft set of shortlisted priorities with accompanying outcomes statements was published on the website in October 2024 (here).

A summary document outlining the process used was circulated to the Working Group, Supporting Authorities Group and Natural England at this time (as part of the audit trail for this step).

c. Identification of potential measures

This task involved identifying the sets of measures (actions) for each priority which, if implemented, would result in delivery of the priority.

What does a good measure 'look like'?

A great deal of thought was placed initially on understanding what a 'good' measure looked like.

The statutory guidance places a requirement to ensure that measures provide clear and sufficient information to the reader as to what is required in the way of action. Emerging approaches from other LNRS processes were linking each measure to available good practice and in some cases to information about suitable/available funding sources. However, in writing a measure that is 'useful' – there is the inherent tension that in many cases, the precise habitat management or creation actions are likely to be very site-specific. Generic measures thus risk being meaningless and if too specific, may not be suitable to all sites (and thus risk guiding actions that may in fact be detrimental on some sites).

A structured approach to presenting a measure was therefore developed – so that each was made up of four parts:

- The **measure statement** itself (i.e. broad description of the action).
- **How** it can be implemented (the range of techniques that could be applied, depending on site-specific factors).
- **Where** it should be applied to provide greatest benefit for nature (how to target this action to sites which are preferable/most likely to deliver the greatest impact). *Note: it was a deliberate decision to include these written targeting systems as even at this stage, it was recognised that the mapping approach prescribed in the guidance and data limitations were likely to prevent some measures being mapped and yet land managers and others could benefit from understanding where measures could be best applied in practice)*.

- **Links to guidance and further information.** This provided links to manuals, advice notes and other publications which may be helpful to guide the implementation of measures in practice. Where possible, these were from local sources to ensure relevance to Sussex habitats/species. Links to advice that was provided by government for agri-environment scheme options that overlapped with a measure were also included for information. Given the on-going changes to current agri-environment and other funding schemes, it was decided not to include specific ELMS/SLF options in the document for fear of these becoming out of date and thus confusing for the reader. Finally, links to local case studies were included to provide inspiration, more information and also as a way of showcasing local action already underway for the measures.

Note: this structure evolved over time as the LNRS Team worked to understand how best to present the measures section.

Enabling Measures

The Defra advice on identifying and agreeing measures also emphasises that they should set out actions to create or enhance habitats, rather than other actions which are not directly related to this. However, throughout the LNRS stakeholder engagement process, the message was loud and clear that the Sussex strategies should note the other enabling/supporting actions that are absolutely vital to support delivery of the LNRS. The LNRS Team therefore identified the key '**enabling' measures** related to each priority. These were separated from the 'core' measures related to habitat creation and improvement but retained within the main text of the document.

The LNRS Team also felt strongly that some of the Defra advice on what constituted an enabling/supporting measure was misleading. Examples given for such measures in the advice were 'deer management' and 'reducing recreational disturbance to support recovery of a threatened species'. The Sussex strategies have included both of these as **core** measures (rather than enabling measures) given their fundamental role within any strategic approach to recovery of habitats such as woodland, or key coastal habitats as roosting/feeding areas for bird species. Without these, any LNRS for Sussex (where uncontrolled deer populations and very high recreational pressures on protected sites are a significant part of the reason habitats/species are in decline) would not be credible. The decision to include both was supported by stakeholders, and delivery partners in particular, throughout the LNRS process.

Identifying the measures

The first step involved collating any useful measures statements identified through the review of existing plans and strategies, stakeholder engagement to date and via the initial workshop with delivery partners. As there are often fairly standard ways of creating and enhancing habitats, time was also taken to have a look at measures published within other Local Nature Recovery Strategies developing around the country.

An initial list was therefore started as a desk-based exercise.

A second LNRS workshop was then held in September 2024 with delivery partners. This focused on refining/confirming priorities and developing an initial set of measures for them. The partners worked in broad habitat related 'groups' and used their extensive expert judgement to suggest the types of measures that should be included for each priority. The outputs of this workshop were then used to create a first draft list of measures. This was presented to the Working Group and Supporting Authorities Group for discussion towards the end of 2024 and circulated for more detailed comments.

More than **six** subsequent versions were then produced and circulated to these groups for comments throughout early 2025. Over these iterations, the four-part approach to presentation (above) was refined and information gradually added to each part.

A late version of the measures was also circulated to the Technical Review Panel for comment, with further refinements made as a result.

The third workshop with delivery partners (May 2025), which focused primarily on mapping but also gathered some comments/thoughts on measures which were added later. Further refinements were then made during the mapping process, which itself helped shape how to best word certain measures.

Finally, to assist funders to identify measures which might relate to nature-based solutions or the delivery of wider environmental objectives, icons were added to each measure to indicate which of the broad areas of 'environmental improvement' they help to deliver. To ensure 'join up' with a national framework – the goals and icons from the national 'Environmental Improvement Plan' were used for this. These themes had already been used early in the LNRS process to organise information from plans and strategies and so were familiar to the LNRS team.

Table 1: Icons used to identify measures which deliver wider environmental benefits, based on goals under the Environmental Improvement Plan.

	Thriving plants & wildlife
	Clean Air
	Clean and Plentiful Water
	Managing exposure to chemicals and pesticides
	Using resources from nature sustainably
	Mitigating and adapting to climate change
	Reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards
	Enhancing biosecurity
	Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment

A final set of priorities and measures was produced for each LNRS. These differed only by a matter of 1-2 measures reflecting the presence of certain habitats in one LNRS area but not the other.

	Number of Priorities	Number of Core Measures
East Sussex and Brighton & Hove LNRS	24	106
West Sussex LNRS	24	108

d. Analysis of how the measures support National Environmental Objectives

When developing the measures, part of the LNRS process was to identify how these help to deliver National Environmental Objectives. An analysis was carried out by the LNRS Team, checking measures against these objectives. This was repeated for both Sussex strategies. The results are shown in Appendix 4A.

The broad conclusion reached was that the strategies for both Sussex LNRS areas do make a contribution to every national environmental objective as listed by Natural England.

Step 5: Map areas that could become of particular importance

a. Preliminary work and developing the 'mapping approach'

The mapping element of the LNRS was the most complex and challenging of the five steps involved. This was partly due to ambiguity within the guidance and in particular a lack of clarity around what we were expected to map.

The LNRS Team and Working Group therefore had to deal with several very specific areas of the guidance which needed interpretation.

- The mapping was meant to go beyond 'opportunity mapping' (mapping which would use data/criteria to identify everywhere where a measure could be delivered if resources, landowner willingness, other land use decisions etc were all favourable) – to map more targeted areas where the measure could "deliver the greatest benefit". However, no guidance was provided on how to identify "greatest benefit" and how rigorous that sort of targeting should be or how this decision should be made.
- The guidance contains a deliberate tension – that each LNRS should be "ambitious but deliverable". However, there was no expansion or clarification provided on how the term "deliverable" was to be interpreted. Possible interpretations could range from where there were existing projects in place and landowner engagement secured, right through to anywhere something can be done where funding might be available (regardless of landowner interest). Some government information explained that the task involved mapping "specific proposals" (which implies that some details have been developed behind everything being proposed). On the other hand, the guidance stated that we were not expected to have talked to all landowners

in the LNRS area and so clearly the intention was not for this to be simply specific proposals which would have involved landowners.

- A great emphasis is placed within the guidance on the Local Habitat Map section of the LNRS. This means that, despite the many problems with mapping methodology and data, this section carries a significance above the other sections (e.g. the link to strategic significance uplift for BNG is entirely via the Local Habitat Map). This is unfortunate as it does not take into consideration that lack of reliable data for many habitats effectively eliminates the mapping of very important measures for biodiversity simply because data is insufficient.

All of these difficulties meant that the LNRS Team (like all others across the country) had to develop its own interpretation/approach to mapping, with input and buy-in from the Working Group, Supporting Authority Group and key delivery partners. Much of the time during the preliminary mapping phase was spent developing an approach before any mapping started. How this was done is described in more detail below.

b. Eliminating measures that should not be mapped (as per Defra guidance and advice)

The first step was to eliminate any measures from the mapping exercise that should not be mapped, as per Defra guidance and advice. Three criteria were set out within Defra guidance/advice to help identify these measures:

1	Does the measure relate to or support **habitat creation or improvement**.	If yes – take forward to mapping phase If not, categorise as a **non-mapped** measure
2	Is this measure one which would be beneficial over **wide areas only**?	If yes – categorise as a **non-mapped** measure. If no, which implies the measure will be beneficial in specific areas, include in mapped measures list.
3	Is there/**are there suitable locations** for implementation of this measure in West/East Sussex within the timeframe of this LNRS?	If not, categorise as **non-mapped** measure (with a note that it remains an important ambition with potential application in the future but not at present).

The LNRS Team applied these to all measures initially as a desk-based exercise and developed a set of proposed 'non-mapped' measures. These were later sense-checked by delivery partners during the third workshop (May 2025). This workshop was also used to identify measures that were a 'high priority' for mapping – to help to narrow down that exercise to those that would deliver the most impact (see sections c-e below for more information on the mapping approach).

A list of all measures which were not mapped is included in Annex C below. A reason is provided for each, which will help to identify those that were unmapped due to non-compliance with Defra criteria. Others later joined this list for reasons related to data limitations or problems identifying a satisfactory mapping methodology (see below).

c. Developing an approach to map remaining measures

Key to this part of the process was to interpret key terms within the government guidance, understand its intentions and then translate this into a mapping methodology.

The main steps included:

- Identification of principles to guide the mapping approach.
- Co-creation of a methodology with key delivery partners via a workshop – to ensure that these stakeholders would understand the logic behind the final approach adopted and would recognise this within the mapped outputs. This was also a vital step to ensure that all understood the limitations of the data and could input into decisions as to how this could be accommodated.
- Preparation of draft maps based on workshop suggestions.
- Sharing of early draft maps with workshop attendees (online) for each group of habitat measures to demonstrate the methodology identified in the workshop and discuss refinements required.
- Production of final maps for inclusion in pre-consultation draft for Supporting Authorities.
- Final iterations of the maps following feedback from SAG – ahead of public consultation.

Principles for mapping

These were developed by the LNRS team and presented to the key delivery partners (workshop 3) for comment. Development of these principles was felt to be important to clarify our interpretation of the LNRS guidance and ensure credibility of the output in the eyes of users.

Principles for mapping
The LNRS has to be useful. Therefore, what we map must resonate with those working on the ground – and reflect their priorities for action. We need to be sensitive to our audience, particularly those needed for delivery (farmers/landowners). The mapping must therefore avoid mapping 'big surprises' and be much more reflective of existing understanding of the types of habitat related actions that can and are being delivered on the ground currently. The LNRS covers a relatively short time frame (5-10 years). The map should reflect short-medium term delivery priorities already identified by stakeholders – so that it can help to coordinate effort and funding. But it should also help to identify important areas for possible/desirable action for the medium term, thereby supporting future funding applications. Data can't give us all the answers. Expert input and judgement is just as important in shaping this output. This is particularly the case when trying to target the mapping of measures to specific locations.

We need to be able to understand how it was produced and be able to defend the methodology approach if challenged. We should not include complex maps or use modelled data that we don't understand!

It is better not to map a measure than to map it badly!

The map is important – but the foundation of the LNRS is the measures. They all remain important even if they are not mapped. We need to emphasise this within the LNRS document.

d. Co-creation of the mapping methodology

Preparatory work included creating an online mapping tool, through which stakeholders could plot the location of habitat creation/enhancement projects they were involved in or would like to establish in the future. This was posted on the Sussex Nature Recovery website early in the LNRS process, promoted via newsletters and emails, and during presentations and webinars to encourage stakeholders to access it throughout the preparation of the strategy.

Written '**targeting statements**' for each measure were also prepared as part of the drafting of the measures (see above). These provided useful guidance on the situations/broad types of locations where measures would be beneficial when thinking about how beneficial locations for measures could be illustrated using spatial data, project information etc.

A **data audit** was carried out by Sussex BRC prior to the start of the LNRS process, to provide insights into best available datasets (national and local) that could be used for mapping measures. Sussex BRC used this process to flag levels of confidence in available data, that would prove useful later when determining whether to map a measure or not.

Workshop 3 was held in May 2025. The primary focus of this workshop was to gather input from delivery partners that would help to co-create the mapping methodology for mapped measures.

The LNRS team developed a 'framework' to guide the workshop discussion. This was based on **three key concepts** drawn from the LNRS advice (shown below). The idea was to take participants through the mapping requirements within Defra guidance and advice, to familiarise all with the language being used and to introduce the need for a train of thought that would lead from wide 'opportunity mapping' towards more targeted mapping.

Key concept 1

Not widespread or indiscriminate

- Think beyond **'opportunity mapping' –** which tends to be everywhere we could do something.
- We may need to go further and **'target'** this to areas where the measure will **'deliver the greatest benefit'.**
- We will need a **clear/simple way** to target the mapping.
- **Targeting statements** have been included in the measures statements to help understand this and to guide the user…. **but can we map it?**
- We may not be able to map every measure we want to using 'data'
- But that is where expert judgement may come in…specific places added to the map

Key Concept 2

"Greatest benefit"

i. Where it will deliver greatest **'ecological benefit'**
   - **Lawton** (bigger, better, more, joined habitat networks) – habitat enhancement, expansion, connection etc.
   - Vital areas for **specific species**
   - Where restoration of **natural processes** will be most beneficial

ii. Where it will be most effective/important in **reducing a pressure** on nature/wider environment (for nature-based solutions)

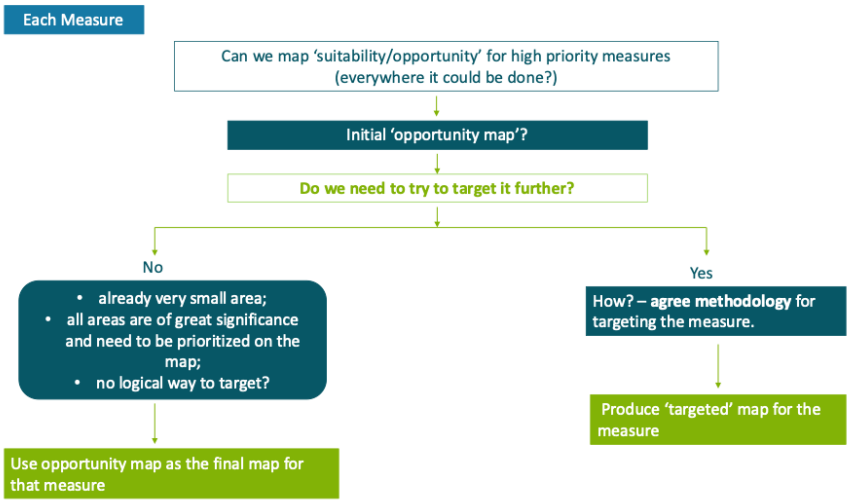
iii. where a measure may deliver **multiple benefits**

Key concept 3

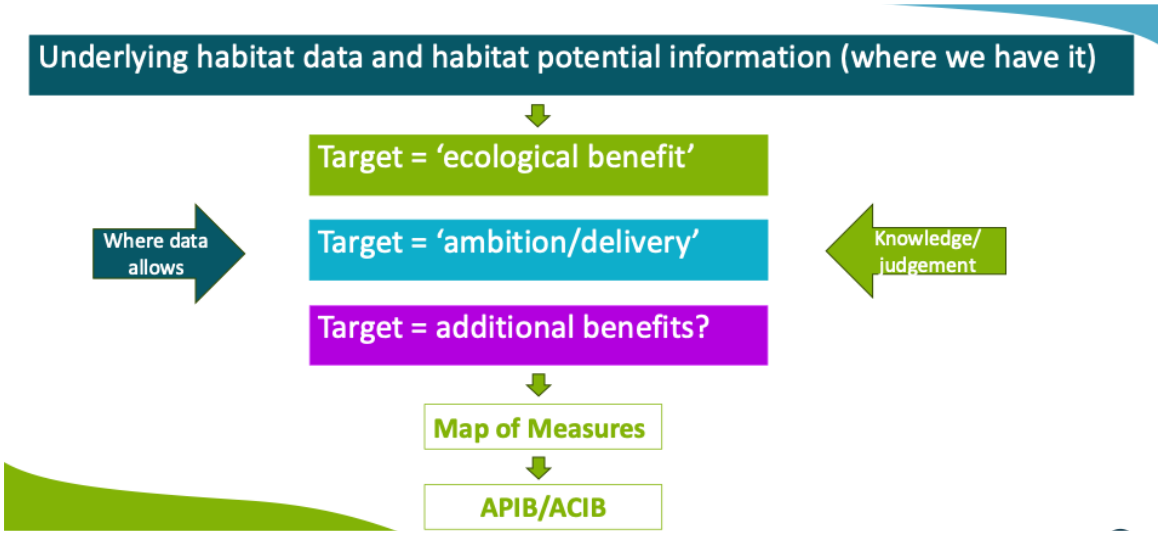
Ambitious but realistic, practical and deliverable.

- The area has been identified as **strategically important already (plans, strategies, other analysis)**
- There are **organisations, partnerships or projects in place** to set ambition and drive action in that location
- There are **farmer clusters in place** with an interest in delivering a measure
- There is **specific funding available in that area** to support delivery (funding with geographical focus)
- **Habitat bank locations** – where these are in place and located in 'beneficial' locations
- **Land where ownership is likely to be favourable** (e.g. publicly owned land, eNGO ownership, specific landowners are known to be interested)

The diagram below was also shared with the workshop participants and starts to suggest how mapping could move from opportunity mapping to a more targeted approach but also identifies that for some habitats, opportunity mapping may be targeted enough (for example, where areas are very small or are of great significance).



Where targeting was needed, an approach was also suggested based on first understanding where the greatest ecological benefit could be delivered, but also considering factors such as ambition, delivery and wider environmental benefits that it may provide. This is captured in the diagram below.



Approaches for targeting 'ecological benefit' were suggested, such as using Biodiversity Opportunity Areas, Local Wildlife Sites, buffers around SSSIs, areas of woodland with no management plan etc. Location of existing projects, priority zones for conservation organisations, and farm clusters were provided as examples of locations for targeting ambition/delivery. Additional benefits for consideration were also flagged, such as water quality, flood risk etc along with possible ways to target these such as waterbodies flagged for Natural Flood Management, target areas for water companies and so on.

The workshop participants took this framework, and for each habitat group worked through the measures which were felt to be a 'high priority for mapping' based on an earlier workshop task, and discussed how each could be mapped. Discussions covered if and how opportunity mapping might be done, and then how measures could be further targeted. Information was provided by the LNRS Team for each measure, suggesting

possible ways to identify opportunities and then target these. These were intended to act as a 'starter for 10' and to guide participants on the type of decisions required. Facilitators kept the discussions to higher-level approaches to mapping to try to prevent time being spent on very detailed reflections on datasets at this stage. However, where participants had thoughts on suitable datasets these were also noted.

e. Preparation of draft maps

Sussex BRC then worked with the LNRS Team to develop draft maps based on the workshop recommendations and suggestions. These maps were then shared – by habitat group – with workshop participants and online workshops were held (by habitat group) to review them and talk through issues, difficulties and suggestions for amendments. Following the online review meetings, the LNRS Team continued to work with Sussex BRC to refine the mapping, taking the decision in some cases to not map measures due to lack of confidence in targeting methodology or data sources.

At this stage, where data limitations became more apparent, some measures that were previously classified as 'mapped' were re-classified as 'unmapped' based on the principle of 'not mapping rather than mapping badly'.

Annex D sets out a summary of the approach used for each measure that was eventually mapped. Those that were not mapped due to concerns about methodology or data sources are listed in Annex C (unmapped measures).

The final draft measures map was produced for the pre-consultation process with the SAG.

All measures which fell outside the APIB were then mapped as 'areas that could become of importance for biodiversity' (**ACIB).**

Separate maps were produced for the two LNRSs at this stage.

f. Additional notes relating to methodology

- **Use of species data to inform mapping** of habitat measures. Species distribution data was not used in the targeting of habitat measures. This type of data is difficult to interpret as it often reflects recorder effort as well as actual presence of species in an area. Within the LNRS process for West Sussex and East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, much more emphasis was placed on developing a comprehensive species section of the LNRS (Part 3) that could guide action where priority species are concerned rather than directly linking species data into the mapping of habitats.
- **Consideration of co-benefits** (in particular, provision of additional access to nature/greenspaces and health and wellbeing benefits). This was also a difficult factor to include within mapping due to the practical need in all cases to be certain that a process has been followed to consult landowners and agree that access can be provided. This would have required a site-by-site consultation with landowners likely to be affected across the LNRS areas, which was not possible during the process. Rather, the written targeting statements provide broad guidance on where

additional access to greenspace could be provided. Links to mapping tools to assist with this (e.g. NE GI Standards Mapping Tool) were also provided.

- **Overlapping measures.** The statutory guidance states more than one measure can be proposed in the same area (e.g. where two or more measures could be carried out together or where they would generate similar levels of benefit). Further advice identifies the risk of not providing clarity as to preferred actions in any one location. Within the measures maps for the Sussex strategies there are 'overlapping actions' in some areas (where more than one measures is mapped to the same place). These were checked to ensure that there was no conflict between them and that where there would be a preference, any competing measures were removed. An example would be where creation of a habitat dependent on local factors (e.g. geology) is preferred to creation of other habitat (such as woodland) which can be located in a range of environments.
- **Mapping measures onto the APIB (LWS and irreplaceable habitats).** The statutory guidance states that measures may be mapped into areas on the APIB to 'maintain or increase their importance' and that this may be helpful for areas such as Local Wildlife Sites which may not have management plans. Within the Sussex strategies, measures have therefore been included where they overlap with Local Wildlife Sites or irreplaceable habitats. However, it was not possible to target measures to specific LWS due to the lack of complete information in Sussex on the condition of LWS.
- **Mapping Measures onto National Conservation Sites (APIB).** Only measures that relate to enhancing existing habitats were mapped into SSSIs that also hold international designations. The rationale for this is as follows:
  - In relation to 'national conservation sites', such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), and National Nature Reserves (NNRs), Defra advice is that any proposed measures should not conflict with or duplicate existing site management plans or legal obligations.
  - Given the scale of designated sites across Sussex, 65 SSSIs in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, and 77 in West Sussex, it was not feasible for the LNRS Team to manually verify compatibility for each site during the final mapping phase. This was due to both time constraints and the magnitude of the task, which would require specialist input from Natural England.
  - However, both LNRS areas contain several large, internationally significant sites. Coastal sites encompass a substantial proportion of Sussex's coastal habitats, while Ashdown Forest in East Sussex represents the largest area of lowland heathland in the South East. In recognition of their importance, the Sussex LNRS Team agreed with Natural England that, as a minimum, measures relating to the enhancement of existing habitats within international sites should be included in the strategy. Measures proposing 'new habitat creation', which may imply changes in land use, were excluded from mapping at this stage, as they require site-specific discussion and assessment.
  - Looking ahead, the intention is to address this issue more comprehensively during the preparation of the next iteration of the LNRS, ensuring that compatible measures for all SSSIs can be appropriately mapped and integrated.

5. Pre-consultation and Public Consultation phases

In accordance with The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023, the draft strategies for West Sussex and East Sussex and Brighton & Hove were provided to all Supporting Authorities on 20/08/25 for a statutory 28 period. The purpose of this pre-consultation phase was to gain approval from the Supporting Authorities to go out to public consultation. Whilst some minor issues, such as typographical errors, were noted, no major issues were raised and all Supporting Authorities gave their approval for the Responsible Authorities to go out to consultation by the deadline. This stage included scrutiny by a Natural England panel which also approved the drafts to go forward to consultation with some minor amendments.

To be completed after the public consultation.

Annexes

Annex A. List of plans and strategies reviewed during preparation of both LNRSs

Note: The following documents are those that had been adopted/published at the time of review (2024). Some plans/strategies adopted since the review are not included.

East Sussex & BHCC. 128 documents initially reviewed.

Source	Type of document	Title
Natural England	National Character Area Statements	High Weald
		Low Weald
		Pevensey Levels
		Romney Marsh
		South Downs
Environment Agency	River Basin Flood Risk Management Plan	South East River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan (2022)
	Coastal Defence Strategy	Ouse to Seaford Head Coastal Defence Strategy
	Shoreline Management Plans	South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan SMP11
		Beachy Head to Selsey Bill SMP 12
Catchment Partnerships and IDBs	Catchment Plans/ Management Plans	Adur & Ouse Catchment Management Plan (2012/ draft)
		Cuckmere & Pevensey (tbc)
		Rother – see under Rother District scale documents (below)
		Cuckmere and Pevensey Water Level Management Board (website)
SxNP	Natural Capital	Natural Capital Investment Strategy (2019)
ESCC	ESCC documents	ESCC Environment Strategy 2020
		ESCC Climate Emergency Plan
		State of the County (2023)
		East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Plan (2013) and Minerals Sites Plan (2017)
		East Sussex Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
		East Sussex Street Tree Programme
		East Sussex Landscape Character Assessment (2016)
BHCC	Strategic Planning/DM	City Plan Part 1
		City Plan Part 2
		SPD 11: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation – and annexes
		SPD 16: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) 2019
		Planning Advice Note (PAN) 06 – Food Growing and Development
		Special Guidance: swift boxes in development (2020)
		BNG Technical Advice Note (TAN)
	Strategic Plan/Policy Evidence	Green Infrastructure Study (2023-24) – due March 2023
		Open Spaces Strategy 2017
		A green network for Brighton & Hove Final Report (2009)
		Public Life Public Space study
		Urban Fringe Assessment (2021)
	Other relevant policy documents	Declared Climate and Biodiversity Emergency 2018
		Brighton & Hove Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2012

Source	Type of document	Title
	Biodiversity/ woodland/ land management related documents	Tree and Woodland Strategy (2002)- draft
		Stanmer Woodland Management Plan 2018
		Ash Dieback Action Plan 2022
		Woodland Management Plans for areas of woodland in the city outside SDNP (not yet completed)
		Treeconomics Tree Inventory and Mapping (to be completed end 2023/24)
		City Downland Estate Plan
		Whole Estate Plan – arc GIS map
		City, Coast and Country Landscape Scale Recovery Bid (BHCC/ Iford Estate 2023)
	Climate change	Carbon Neutral Programme
		Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (Due 2023)
		Decarbonisation Pathways (due end 2023/24)
		Circular Economy Route Map and Action Plan
	Other	Our City, Our World Strategy
		Sustainable Events Charter
		Sustainable Procurement Policy
		Wilder Verges Project Report
		Brighton & Hove Food Strategy Action Plan 2018-2-23
	Shoreline Management Plans	Selsey Bill to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan
	Coastal strategies	Brighton Marina to Saltdean
		Brighton Marina to River Adur
Protected Landscapes	South Downs National Park	Partnership Management Plan (2020-25)
		Corporate Plan
		Wildlife Recovery Plan (2021)
		National Parks England: Delivery Plan for wildlife in national parks Climate Change Action Plan
		Delivery Plan for Wildlife in the South Downs. 'ReNature' the South Downs Park: A delivery plan for wildlife
		Nature Recovery Delivery Prospectus
		Climate Change Action Plan (2023-24)
		People and Nature Network
		Local Plan
	High Weald AONB	Draft Management Plan
Eastbourne BC	EBC documents	Eastbourne Core Strategy (2013)
		Eastbourne Park SPD (2011)
		Biodiversity Strategy (2021-25)
		Joint Pollinator Strategy (2019-2024)
		Biodiversity Net Gain TAN (2021)
		Eastbourne Open Downland Management Plan (2015-2022)
		Eastbourne Downland Estate (2020-2045)
		Eastbourne Spatial Study (2023)
		The Biodiversity of the Eastbourne Grazing Marshes (2023)
Hastings BC	HBC documents	Hastings Local Plan (2011-2028)
Lewes DC	LDC documents	Lewes Core Strategy Parts 1 and 2 (2016)
		Biodiversity Strategy (2021-25)

Source	Type of document	Title
		Pollinator Strategy (2019-24)
		Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy (2021)
		Biodiversity Net Gain TAN
		NFM Nature Management
	Shoreline Management Plans	Newhaven and Peacehaven Potential Coastal Park (2023)
	Neighbourhood Plans	Chailey
		Ditchling, Streat & Westmeston
		Hamsey
		Lewes
		Newhaven
		Newick
		Plumpton
		Ringmer
		Seaford
		Wivelsfield
Rother DC	RDC documents	Core Strategy (2014)
		Development and Site Allocations Local Plan (2019)
		Environment Strategy (2020)
		Climate Strategy (draft 2023)
		Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for RDC
		Sustainability Appraisal and SEA Scoping Report (Rother & Hastings) (2021)
		Green Infrastructure Study 2011 and 2016 addendum
		Sustainable Access and Recreation Strategy (SARMS) for Dungeness complex
		Urban Forest 1066 Treeconomics (2022)
		Bexhill Tree planting Strategy Treeconomics
	Shoreline Management Plans	South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan
	Catchment plans/strategies	River Basin Management Plan South East River Basin District (2009)
		Rother and Romney Catchment Plan (2014-2024): EA, SWT, KWT and HWAONB
		Cuckmere and Pevensey Levels Catchment Management Plan
		Rother Catchment Management Plan
		Catchment Flood Management Plan (Rother and Romney) (2009)
	Other	East Sussex Landscape Character Assessment
		Southern Water Drainage and Wastewater management Plans (e.g. for Cuckmere and Pevensey)
		Rother and Romney Catchment Plan: research synthesis (Mr CWR Winchester) (2015)
	Neighbourhood Plans	Battle
		Burwash
		Crowhurst
		Rye
		Salehurst & Robertsbridge
		Sedlescombe
		Ticehurst
Wealden DC	WDC documents	Wealden District Core Strategy Local Plan (2013)

Source	Type of document	Title
		Wealden GI Study (2017)
		Draft Wealden Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Report (2023)
		Wealden Local Plan - Direction of Travel (2020)
		Wealden District Council Open Space - Assessment Report (2022)
		Background Paper 5: Biodiversity (2011)
		Background Paper 6: Green Infrastructure (2011)
	Neighbourhood Plans	Hailsham
		Hellingly
		Herstmonceux

West Sussex. 138 documents initially reviewed

Source	Type of document	Title
Natural England	National Character Area Statements	High Weald
		Low Weald
		Pevensey Levels
		Romney Marsh
		South Downs
SxNP	Natural Capital	Natural Capital Investment Strategy (2019)
WSCC	WSCC documents	West Sussex Tree Plan
		WSCC Climate Change Strategy
		Pollinator Action Plan
		Breathing Better: a partnership approach to improving air quality in West Sussex
		Ash Dieback Action Plan
		Nature-friendly Road Verges
		WSCC Flood Risk Management Strategy (2021-26 Draft)
		Waste Local Plan
		Joint Minerals Plan
		West Sussex Transport Plan
		A strategy for the West Sussex Landscape (2005)
		Landscape Distinctiveness Study of West Suusex (2013)
		Rights of Way Management Plan (2018-2028)
Protected Landscapes	South Downs National Park	Partnership Management Plan (2020-25)
		Corporate Plan
		Wildlife Recovery Plan (2021)
		National Parks England: Delivery Plan for wildlife in national parks Climate Change Action Plan
		Delivery Plan for Wildlife in the South Downs. 'ReNature' the South Downs Park: A delivery plan for wildlife
		Nature Recovery Delivery Prospectus
		Climate Change Action Plan (2023-24)
		People and Nature Network
		Local Plan
	High Weald AONB	Draft Management Plan
	Chichester Harbour AONB	Chichester Harbour Management Plan (2019-24)

Source	Type of document	Title
		Chichester Harbour Management Plan Annual Review (2022-23)
		Chichester Harbour AONB Landscape Character Assessment (2019)
		State of the AONB (2018)
		CHaPRON partnership - website
Other landscape scale plans or strategies		The Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere (Strategy 2020-25)
		Big Chalk Partnership: guidance note on LNRS
Catchment Plans and Internal Drainage Board Plans		Adur and Ouse Catchment Management Plan (2012)
		Arun and Western Streams Catchment Plan (2020)
Water Company Documents	SE Water	25 Year Environment Strategy (draft)
	Southern Water	Business Plan
		Water Resources Management Plan
	Portsmouth Water	Business Plan 2020-25
		Water Resources Management Plan 2019
		Climate Change Adaptation Report
Marine Plans		Marine Management Organisation: Marine Plan South
		Regional Habitat Compensation and Restoration Programme
Adur & Worthing C	A&WC documents	Adur Local Plan 2017
		Worthing Local Plan 2020-2034
		Our Plan
		Shoreham Harbour Joint Area Action Plan
Arun DC	ADC documents	Adopted Local Plan 2011-2031
		Bognor Regis Green Infrastructure Framework
		Biodiversity net gain (BNG) evidence study 2022
		Arun Strategic Surface Water Management Study 2016
		Rivers Arun to Adur flood and erosion management strategy 2010-2020
		Carbon neutral strategy
		Tree planting strategy 2021-2031
	Neighbourhood Plans	Barnham and Eastergate
		Bersted
		Bognor Regis
		Climping
		East Preston
		Felpham
		Ferring
		Ford
		Kingston
		Littlehampton
		Rustington
		Yapton
Chichester DC	CDC documents	Draft Local Plan 2024-2040

Source	Type of document	Title
		Guidance on Ecological Surveys and Planning Applications
		The Local List
		Chichester District Council's Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2020-2024
		Green infrastructure strategy
		Strategic Wildlife Corridors technical consultation document 2021
		Climate emergency detailed action plan 2020
	Neighbourhood Plans	Birdham
		Bosham
		Boxgrove
		Chidham and Hambrook
		Fishbourne
		Hunston
		Kirdford
		Loxwood
		Plaistow and Ifold
		Southbourne
		Tangmere
		West Wittering
		Westbourne
		Wisborough Green
Crawley BC	CBC documents	Draft Local Plan 2024-2040
		Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document 2015-2030
		EcoServ-GIS Report; 2020
		EcoServ-GIS Report; Joint – Horsham District and Crawley Borough; 2019
		Climate and ecological emergency action plan; 2021
		Habitats regulations assessment of the Crawley Borough Council Local Plan 2023
		Sustainability appraisal/strategic environmental assessment; 2023
Horsham DC	HDC documents	Draft Local Plan 2024-2040
		Horsham district nature recovery network report
		Green infrastructure strategy 2014
		Green infrastructure strategy and guide 2024
		Horsham District landscape character assessment 2003
		Horsham local plan: habitats regulations assessment: executive summary 2021
	Neighbourhood Plans	Ashington
		Billingshurst
		Bramber
		Cowfold
		Henfield
		Horsham Town
		Itchingfield
		Lower Beeding
		Nuthurst

Source	Type of document	Title
		Budgwick
		Rusper
		Shipley
		Slinfold
		Southwater
		Steyning
		Thakeham
		Upper Beeding
		Warnham
		West Chiltington
		West Grinstead
		Wineham and Shemanbury
		Woodmancote
Mid Sussex DC	MSDC documents	Sustainable Economy Strategy (2022-2025)
		Mid Sussex Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (final report) 2023
		Capacity of Mid Sussex District to accommodate development (June 2014)
		Site Allocations DPD Sustainability Appraisal (Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) Adopted 2022
		Mid Sussex District Plan 2021-2039 (Submission Draft, Regulation 19)
	Neighbourhood Plans	Albourne
		Ansty, Stapleford and Brook Street
		Ardingly
		Ashurst Wood
		Balcombe
		Bolney
		Burgess Hill
		Copthorne
		Crawley Down
		Cuckfield
		East Grinstead
		Hassocks
		Haywards Heath
		Horsted Keynes
		Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common
		Lindfield and Lindfield Rural
		Slaugham
		Turners Hill
		Turners Hill
		Twineham
		West Hoathly
	Other plans	Landscape Character Assessment of Mid Sussex
		Revision of the ancient woodland inventory for Mid Sussex (2006)
		Coast 2 Capital LEP Build Back smarter and greener strategy (2020)

Source	Type of document	Title
		Greater Brighton 10 pledges to the environment

Annex B. Datasets used in mapping of APIB

- Ancient and Veteran Tree Inventory – Woodland Trust
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) – Natural England
- National Nature Reserves (NNR) – Natural England
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) – Natural England
- Special Protection Areas (SPA) – Natural England
- Ramsar sites – Natural England
- Local Nature Reserves (LNR) – Natural England
- Ancient Woodland Inventory – Natural England
- Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) – Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre
- Sussex fens – Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre
- Sand dunes – Priority Habitat Inventory, Natural England + South East Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme, Channel Coastal Observatory.

Annex C. List of unmapped measures used in Sussex LNRSs– with rationale.

Note: Some measures were excluded from mapping using Defra criteria only. Others were excluded due to data limitations only. For many, any uncertainties in relation to the Defra criteria were reinforced due to data constraints, confirming their exclusion from the mapping phase.

	Proposed Measure	**Not mapped– based on Defra criteria**			**Excluded for mapping/data reasons**
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
C1.5	Enhance existing areas of intertidal seagrass and create new areas primarily through expansion of existing sites*. *(*note – seagrass and other habitats within the marine zone are not covered by the LNRS).*				The 'best available' data source not available. Decided not to map rather than use less accurate data. Could be mapped in the future.
C1.7	Create new coastal lagoons*, to connect wetland habitats and compensate for those lost due to pressures such as climate change. (*these can be saline, brackish or freshwater depending on level of salinity)				Not possible to map due to lack of data. Work done elsewhere (e.g. Solent) to look for suitable sites, but does not extend to Sussex.
C1.9 (West Sussex)	Restore native oyster habitat.				Workshop advised to only map if specific dataset was available. It was not possible to source this for use in this version of the LNRS.
C1.10	Reduce impacts on coastal wildlife caused by coastal leisure and recreational activities on land and water as a key component of species recovery efforts.	**X**			No dataset for this. Could have included individual sites where information was available. Could be mapped in the future.
FL1.1	Create permanent, species-rich and/or structurally diverse grass blocks, strips, margins or headlands to support pollinators and other wildlife.		**X** Can be implemented on any farmland		
FL1.2	Create new areas of cultivated fallow ground for arable plants and farmland birds and ensure that the overall area is maintained, even if individual plots are rotated through the landscape.		**X** Can be implemented on any arable area		It was possible to use species data for farmland birds to create 'heatmaps' of where the species within the farmland bird assemblage have been. Alongside data on land use type (to locate arable land) this could provide a broad map of where this measure could be targeted. However, it was felt to be too broad and cover too much land. The heatmaps have been included in Part 1 as they will still be of interest to farmers and advisors.
FL1.3	Create new areas of agro-forestry where this will support and enhance landscape character, support biodiversity and deliver other benefits such as shelter and shade for livestock.		**X**		

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
			Can be implemented on any farmland		
FL1.4	Provide nesting and roosting boxes or other features to support bats, birds, insects and reptiles in the farmed environment.		**X** An action that will be of benefit across all farmed land		
FL1.5	Create and manage graded margins up to hedgerow and woodland edges on farmland, to support birds and other woodland and farmland species.		**X** An action that will be of benefit on all farmed land with hedgerow/ woodland		A trial map was created for this measure but it covered a significant area and no method was obvious for targeting it further.
FL1.6	Plant new field trees to ensure continued presence of in-field trees within the farmed landscape.		**X** An action that will be of benefit in all fields where there is a presence of in-field trees		
FL1.7	Implement sensitive land management practices on farmed land adjacent to rivers, streams, ditches and ponds to prevent run off and enhance the quality of the freshwater environment.	**X**	**X** An action that will be of benefit along all water bodies found within farmed land		
SL1.1	Implement farming techniques that improve soil health and biodiversity.		**X**		

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
			An action that will be of benefit on all farmed land		
SL1.2	Implement sensitive forestry practices to reduce impacts and compaction to forest floor and protect mycorrhizal systems.		**X** An action that will be of benefit to all woodland		
SL1.3	Reduce pesticide and fertiliser inputs, particularly within Nitrate Vulnerable Zones Source Protection Zones.	**X**	**X** An action that could be applied across all NVS and SPZs (large areas)		
G1.6	Enhance existing areas of species-rich neutral grassland and lowland meadow (outside the High Weald National Landscape), maintaining and improving their quality, diversity of species, suitable sward height and structure.				This was not mapped due to the poor accuracy, coverage and reliability of datasets for lowland meadow and neutral grassland outside the High Weald. It was decided to not map this – rather than to map it badly. This action is mapped as part of G1.4 within the HWNL as there is much better data available for this area. The need for better data for this measure should be flagged for action ahead of the next LNRS.
G1.7	Create new areas of species-rich neutral grassland and lowland meadow (outside the High Weald National Landscape), particularly where this will improve connectivity with existing neutral grassland and lowland meadow sites.				As above. Mapping this measure would require identifying target sites for creation of new neutral grassland /lowland meadow where this would support existing sites. But given the lack of data for existing sites, this was not possible to do. Again, the need for better data for this measure should be flagged for action ahead of the next LNRS.
G1.8	Manage existing areas of high quality semi-improved/low-input grassland to retain and enhance biodiversity and support species-rich grassland habitats.		**X**		There is a large area of this habitat across the LNRS area. No effective way of targeting this measure to a smaller area given the data limitations across other grassland datasets.

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
W1.1	Deer Management (landscape scale). Undertake landscape scale deer management with targeted humane culling to reduce the impact of deer on woodland regeneration, recolonisation and quality of woodland habitats.		**X**		It would be possible to target this measure to areas of highest deer density and/or impact on habitats. Many of these areas are known for Sussex but still cover a large area. As such it was decided not to map this measure. Also, as per the Defra criteria it does have a benefit over a wide area even though in practice its implementation will have to be geographically targeted due to resource constraints and the need to act to reduce pressure on the most impacted and vulnerable habitats.
W1.9	Control invasive non-native species (INNS) having a significant impact on woodland habitat and/or regeneration.		**X**		
W1.10	Replace lost elm with disease resistant varieties that support the same woodland species and assemblages and improve resilience to pests/disease and likely future climate change.		**X** Applies to all areas of woodland where elm has been lost		This could be targeted to areas of woodland where the greatest amount of elm has been lost or where it has been an important part of the local 'treescape'. No such dataset is yet available.
W1.11	Replace lost ash within woodland to support woodland biodiversity and future resilience to pests/disease and likely future climate change.		**X** Applies to all areas of woodland where ash has been lost		As above.
W1.12	Manage existing and 'future' veteran and ancient trees to maintain good ecological condition and ensure continued habitat for the species they support.		**X** Applies to all existing and future A&V trees		There are also difficulties with the A&V tree dataset which only contains about ¼ of existing trees – and hence there are concerns over its accuracy. The need for better data for this measure should be flagged for action ahead of the next LNRS.
W1.13 (West Sussex)	Enhance existing areas of coastal woodland in Chichester Harbour.				No dataset available.
W2.2	Establish new orchards, including community orchards, with a focus on maintaining locally distinctive varieties.		**X** New orchards can be created in		No means to target this beyond usual constraints to woodland creation.

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
			any location suitable.		
W2.3	Create new wood pasture and parkland habitat where this will enhance landscape character and increase habitat connectivity; seek opportunities to restore wood pasture and parkland on historic sites.				This measure could be mapped in future with more specific information. Currently, there are some large areas which were previously medieval deer forest/ historic parkland that could be restored but these are very large and currently under other land uses. It was decided therefore not to try to map this at this stage but to focus on improvement of existing wood pasture/parkland.
W2.4	Create new areas of floodplain and wet woodland, particularly where this will expand existing sites and contribute to habitat connectivity and the management of water flow in the landscape.				Not mapped due to insufficient data to help distinguish opportunities for wet woodland from the broad woodland creation mapping (W2.1). In the future, this can be improved using modelled data to help target wet woodland creation as a nature-based solution. This dataset is being created for Sussex but was not available for use in time for LNRS preparation). It can be used to guide delivery and for inclusion in subsequent LNRS.
W2.5	Plant new parkland trees, tree groups and individual hedgerow trees to support succession and continued presence of these features in the landscape.		**X** Relevant to all places with existing parkland tree, tree groups and hedgerow trees		
W2.6 (West Sussex)	Increase the extent of coastal woodland in Chichester Harbour National Landscape through expansion of existing areas of woodland.				No data available yet. Chichester Harbour Conservancy to work locally to identify suitable future areas of woodland within the context of their wider plans for nature's recovery. This could be mapped at a later stage once information is available.
W3.1	Plant new street trees to deliver multiple benefits.		**X**		Street trees can be planted in any suitable urban area. There is insufficient data across the LNRS area on historic losses of street trees to use to target replacement. Woodland Trust has created a very useful 'Tree Equity' mapping tool which brings together various criteria to help target new street tree planting in areas disproportionately

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
					affected by low income, extreme heat, air pollution and so on. However, even its highest scoring areas were large in extent and this mapping did not take into account constraints from other priority habitats present onsite. It was therefore agreed by delivery partners to not map this within the LNRS but to allow local authorities and others to drive selection of suitable locations locally.
W3.2	Restore the treescape of cities and towns, particularly those that have declined through time and/or suffered loss of species (e.g. elm, ash, London plane), ensuring replacement with resilient species.		**X** Applicable to treescapes of all towns affected by loss of elm, ash etc		If data was available it may have been possible to specifically target areas of elm/ash loss where this has been particularly impactful to certain urban areas (e.g. elm collection in Brighton & Hove). No such dataset is available. It may be possible to map this in the future.
W3.3	Establish new areas of urban and peri-urban woodland which offer multiple benefits to residents, wildlife and landscape.				Not possible to map this meaningfully for urban and peri-urban areas given the lack of information of other potential uses of any land available. Opportunities to establish new urban/peri-urban woodland will need to be taken on a case-by-case basis where this is felt to be a suitable action.
W3.4	Bring existing urban woodlands into active management to enhance nature conservation, historic environment and access.		**X** Applicable to all areas of woodland within urban boundaries		
Hdg1.1	Manage existing hedgerows to improve their structure, longevity and value for biodiversity.		**X** Applicable to all hedgerows		There is an existing dataset for all hedgerows in Sussex but this covers an extensive area and there was no way to target this further.
Hdg1.2	Restore degraded hedgerows and replace 'lost' and historic hedgerows.				No dataset available for the whole LNRS area to identify lost/historic hedges. This type of data may be available in the future. Datasets being developed for 'lost features' for Wadhurst/High Weald. This could be mapped at a later stage once information is available.

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
Hdg1.3	Create new hedgerows, including hedge trees where appropriate, to support habitat connectivity, enhance landscape character and deliver multiple benefits.		**X** Hedgerows can be located in many locations.		There is a dataset for existing hedgerows in Sussex but no analysis/modelling has yet been done at LNRS area scale to look at gaps or new areas suitable for hedgerows that could help to support connectivity or deliver other benefits.
Hdg1.4	Create new hedgerows and enhance existing hedgerows within new development, creating important corridors for wildlife and wildlife permeable boundaries.		**X** Intended to be a general measure for all new development		
Scr1.1	Create and enhance successional and scrub habitats to create a dynamic mosaic with diverse age and structure.		**X** Applicable to wide area where scrub may be beneficial on its own or as a mosaic with other habitats		There is no existing dataset for scrub in Sussex. Hence it is not possible to map existing scrub for enhancement. Also worth noting that as a 'transitional habitat' scrub may progress to form woodland. So any dataset may not be accurate over time unless regularly up-dated.
Scr1.2	Control scrub where necessary along watercourses, to prevent overgrowth of habitat of importance for specific species e.g. water vole.				This could be targeted where scrub is present in areas of importance for species such as water vole. However, it cannot be mapped due to the absence of a dataset for existing scrub habitat (see above).
R1.4	Enhance aquatic and riparian habitat within ditches connected to the river network.		**X** Applicable to all ditches		
R1.5	Deliver Natural Flood Management (NFM) interventions across catchments, targeting areas where this will deliver multiple benefits and provide greatest benefit to communities at risk of flooding.				Environment Agency and Catchment Partnerships do have maps of the suitable 'waterbodies' (sub-areas of catchments) where NFM actions would provide the greatest benefits to property at flood risk. However, these remain large areas and it is not possible to meaningfully target these down to smaller/more focused areas. Those interested in implementing NFM activities should therefore liaise with EA and relevant catchment partnerships to identify suitable locations at the local level.

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
R1.7	Create nature-based interception features (e.g. ponds, swales, wetlands) as part of a package of actions to prevent run-off from roads and highways entering water courses.				There is no meaningful way to map this. It would be possible to identify all possible locations where roads and road junctions intersect with water courses. There may be opportunities in these locations but this would be an overly simplistic way to represent this measure. Rather, activity should be targeted locally by Highways Authorities and wastewater authorities where conditions are suitable.
R1.8	Reduce the impact and spread of invasive non-native species (INNS) on freshwater habitats (rivers, streams, wetland sites, standing water bodies).		**X** Applicable to all freshwater habitats and inter-tidal reaches of rivers where INNS are present and creating impacts.		For the Ouse catchment, a spatial strategy for targeting INNS control has been prepared. This is mapped to 'water body' level and so is still mapping large areas for action. It was decided not to map this measure for the wider LNRS area due to the inability to target specific areas. Rather this should be decided by catchment partnerships, EA and other stakeholders working at the local level.
A1.1	Create high quality Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to reduce storm overflows, support ground water quality and encourage groundwater recharge/infiltration where required.		**X** Applicable to many locations.		Mapping is being developed for suitable locations for SuDS in Brighton & Hove but similar data is not available for other areas at this stage.
A1.2	Implement land management practices, habitat creation and management to support ground water recharge and reduce levels of nutrients (nitrates/phosphates) and other pollutants reaching groundwater. This includes buffering karst features.		**X** Applicable to all Source Protection Zones (SPZs) for ground water		SPZs are large areas and considered to be too large to map within the LNRS for this measure. Rather local action can be identified and supported by water companies working with landowners and other partners.
Wt1.3	Create new areas of reedbed, particularly where this will expand and connect existing sites and/or deliver wider environmental benefits (such as improvement of water quality).		**X**		Reedbeds are a relatively versatile habitat and can be created in many places. A buffer around existing reedbeds could have been included here as suitable location for new habitat but there was no consensus as to what size of buffer would be most meaningful given the variable size of many patches of reedbed in Sussex.
Wt1.5	Enhance existing areas of lowland wet grassland habitats to improve ecological condition and delivery of wider environmental benefits.				As for other forms of grassland, there is insufficient data on the location of wet grassland habitats to map this.

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
					It was also not possible to use data for any grassland type found in a floodplain as a proxy for this as it would have omitted wet grassland that is found outside these areas. This should be flagged as a measure for which better data/methodology could be developed ahead of the next LNRS.
Wt1.6	Create new areas of lowland wet grassland habitats, particularly where this will expand and connect existing wetland habitats and deliver wider environmental benefits.				Insufficient data available to map this accurately.
SWB1.1	Enhance and restore existing ponds and pond complexes to improve biodiversity and water quality. This includes restoration of degraded and lost (ghost) ponds, pond complexes, farm ponds, hammer ponds, dew ponds and urban ponds.		**X** Applicable to all ponds (>10 000 of them across Sussex)		Datasets may be developed in the future on the location of **lost/historic ponds** which may help to target this. These are not yet available across the whole LNRS area. Some information may be available from High Weald NL Team for this area.
SWB1.2	Create new ponds/pond networks (complexes) to provide freshwater habitat for wildlife and deliver wider environmental benefits.		**X** Applicable across a wide area		
SWB1.3	Create new large standing water bodies (reservoirs/lakes) with beneficial riparian habitat; this may include reservoir creation where identified as required to support water resources management.				This can only be mapped where projects to create new large water bodies are known. In East Sussex, the LNRS Team is aware of the plan to create a new reservoir at Arlington but a boundary for this is not yet available. It can be included at a later date.
SWB1.4	Restore and enhance standing water ditches to improve value for species and restore habitat linkages via ditch-side vegetation.		**X** Applicable across all ditches		
SWB1.5	Create and manage permanent vegetation buffer strips alongside ditches and ponds to support biodiversity and intercept and reduce levels of pollutants (such as nutrients, chemical pollutants, veterinary chemicals, excessive sediment) reaching water courses.		**X** Applicable across all ditches & ponds		

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
U1.2	Retrofit small/micro areas of habitat within the built/public realm of towns and cities, particularly in areas of 'nature deficit' and where it will contribute to climate adaptation and provide enhanced connectivity between existing green spaces.		**X** Applicable across all urban areas where opportunities arise		This could be targeted further by local authorities to help address climate impacts (e.g. flooding, high urban temperatures) but realistic delivery will depend on opportunities for delivery that come through improvements to public realm, housing and so on. This cannot be anticipated from data for the purpose of the LNRS.
U1.3	'Re-naturalise' stretches of urban rivers/streams to support biodiversity and natural processes, where this is feasible and aligns with flood risk approaches. Where appropriate, provide access along these stretches where possible to better connect people to urban rivers/streams.				This is possible to do with sufficient data. A methodology has been developed by catchment partnerships and could be included in subsequent LNRSs.
U2.2	Install features to support species within urban areas (buildings, greenspaces, roads etc). Where possible, create adjacent supporting habitat for the species where this would be helpful (will be species and location specific).				Species distribution data could be used to broadly target this to areas where specific interventions might be helpful. Data is insufficient to do this in a meaningful way however for the purposes of the LNRS.
U2.3	Reduce and where possible eliminate chemical fertilisers and pesticide applications on publicly owned land (e.g. farms, golf courses, highways, verges and central reservations, parks and sports grounds).	**X**			
PS1.1	Implement on-site management required to improve the ecological condition of Local Wildlife Sites particularly where this is known to be poor/failing.		**X** Relevant to all LWSs		There is insufficient data on the condition of our Local Wildlife Sites across Sussex to help target this any further. The Local Wildlife Sites Initiative does carry out surveys of a number each year on a rolling programme but this only has a low percentage of cover of the total number of LWS. A key aspiration from this LNRS would be to see a significantly expanded programme to improve data on the condition of all LWSs ahead of the next LNRS.
PS1.3	Implement sensitive land use in areas adjacent to existing protected sites to reduce pressures on the sites and their habitats/species.	**X**			
PS1.4	Create new 'stepping stones' of habitat in critical areas of fragmentation between existing protected sites.				It was decided not to map this at present due to lack of methodology to map it meaningfully. It may be possible to base this on information such as the NE Habitat Network

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
					Mapping. This could provide a good start but is likely to map too much area without further targeting. For this iteration, it was decided to keep this measure in the LNRS as an important mechanism for supporting protected sites but the ambition should be to progress thinking on how to map it ahead of the next LNRS.
PS1.5	Create upstream habitats to support the water flows and water quality of downstream protected wetland sites, thus strengthening the future resilience of these sites to the impacts of climate change.				As above. This measure is very relevant to many water-dependant protected sites. However, there is insufficient data available at present to map specific locations for its targeting.
PS1.6	Create new 'alternative accessible greenspaces' and/or recreational opportunities outside protected sites to relieve visitor pressure on these sites particularly where this is needed to protect and enhance habitats and/or species populations within these sites.			**X**	Creation of new accessible greenspaces requires consultation with affected landowners, possible purchase of land etc – and as a result it is not practical to identify 'possible' areas on the LNRS map that have not gone through this sort of process. Therefore, this was left unmapped but remains an important mechanism to use to reduce pressures on species/habitats in vulnerable sites.
Cor2.1	Enhance existing essential corridors used by priority species and those species especially vulnerable to climate change, creating and improving habitat within the corridor.				This was not mapped due to data constraints. There are well known and important areas of Sussex that are important as feeding/roosting areas for species such as bats. Flight lines of some bat species have been recorded in some areas and this data is available. However, it does cover very broad areas and there was no meaningful way to target it down further. For West Sussex, this included bat data collated by Chichester DC and a possible bat corridor proposed by Arun DC. Other data that would assist with mapping this measure include 'connectivity mapping' being developed by Weald to Waves for Sussex. This is not yet available in a form that can be fed into the LNRS process. This data should be available in a form to use for mapping purposes withing the next LNRS.
Cor2.3	Create and enhance community-scale green/blue corridors (at neighbourhood/parish or community level) through coordinated activity at a local scale.		**X** Can be done in all communities		

	Proposed Measure	Not mapped– based on Defra criteria			Excluded for mapping/data reasons
		Not about habitat creation/ enhancement	Beneficial over wide area rather than in specific locations.	No suitable locations within the LNRS area	
Cor3.1	Create strategic road/rail crossings for wildlife.			**X**	Several stakeholders had identified possible road crossing points where a green bridge etc would be beneficial for wildlife. These were submitted to the highways authorities but there has been no further feedback or engagement around feasible options that could be taken forward. This is something that could be progressed ahead of the next LNRS.
Cor3.2	Create and enhance habitats along major road corridors (including roundabouts) and the railway network (trackside vegetation and stations) as part of sustainable management of transport corridors.		**X** Applicable along all transport corridors		Ideally, this measure would be mapped using information on specific areas for action by road and rail network operators. However, it was not possible to make contact with the specific representatives of these organisations during this LNRS process. This should be flagged as a measure to be mapped with this input within the next LNRS.
Cor3.4	Enhance habitats along historic routeways within the LNRS area to protect and enhance their value for wildlife, landscape and heritage.				This could not be mapped as it was not possible to collate a dataset of all historic routeways in West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton & Hove to which this could be applied. There is a dataset of Historic Routeways within the High Weald National Landscape but stakeholders felt that a lack of data on the other routeways (within the low weald and South Downs for example) meant that this should rather remain unmapped rather than focusing only on part of this network. This should be flagged as a dataset to collate ahead of review of the LNRS.
Cor3.5	Enhance verges of local community interest for wildlife to improve their value for nature.		**X** Can be done in all communities		
NH1.1	Create new areas of natural greenspace designed specifically to deliver health and wellbeing benefits.				No dataset exists for this measure. A small number of project sites are known (mostly in Brighton & Hove) but these could not be added in time for the public consultation. They will be added following the consultation.

Annex D. Method used to map each of the 'mapped measures'

Note: Only measures to enhance existing habitat were mapped within national conservation sites (SSSIs), and then only in high priority sites, i.e. those with international designations (SACs, SPAs, Ramsar Sites). This was due to limitations set out within Defra advice. All other mapped measures were excluded from national conservation sites.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
C1.1	**Retain existing and re-create additional naturally functioning shorelines where appropriate, supporting the creation and increased connectivity of coastal and intertidal habitat and delivery of additional ecosystem services.** (Abbrev. C1.1 Naturally functioning shorelines)	Areas identified under policies of 'managed realignment' and 'no active intervention' in Shoreline Management Plans; areas identified by Environment Agency and catchment partnerships as suitable for future proposals.	Mapped polygons for all policy units within Shoreline Management Plans identified as 'no active intervention' and 'managed realignment'.	Shoreline Management Plans (Environment Agency). These were obtained from Environment Agency – and confirmed to be the most recent available in mapped form. The polygons extend to mean low water. Note: some of the SMPs are out of date and so the data used was from most recent available.
C1.2	**Restore and enhance existing areas of intertidal saltmarsh and mudflats.** (Abbrev. C1.2 Enhance saltmarsh & mudflat)	Existing areas of intertidal saltmarsh and mudflat	Mapped extent of all existing saltmarsh and mudflat. Mudflat data showed mud/sand flats along the coastline (below beach level). Workshop participants advised that the majority of this should not be mapped – but areas of low energy mudflat (in estuaries, marinas, harbours and tidal reaches of rivers) should be mapped. These are also areas where habitat enhancement activities are likely to be focused. Given the importance of this habitat type and its threat from sea level rise, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	South East Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme Habitat Mapping. Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme habitat data supplied by Channel Coastal Observatory. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.
C1.3	**Create new areas of intertidal saltmarsh and mudflat, in locations where it is likely to be resilient to future climate pressures.**	Areas where conditions are suitable for habitat creation and longevity (i.e. with future impacts of climate change/sea	Mapped all areas on saltmarsh habitat potential dataset.	Solent Dynamic Coast Project; South East Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme Habitat Mapping.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
	(Abbrev. C1.3 Create new saltmarsh & mudflat)	level rise in mind). Suitable locations for saltmarsh creation may include tidal reaches of rivers as these provide space for estuarine habitat types under threat from sea level rise to 'migrate' inland (upstream). Saltmarsh creation is therefore also included as an option under measure R1.1 i.e. within areas of the floodplain where conditions may be suitable due to tidal inundation	This includes areas within tidal reaches of rivers, some of which extend quite far upstream where feasibility of it would depend on decisions made around removal of flood barriers etc. These decisions are complex and cannot be made within the LNRS mapping. However, this area of potential was mapped in its entirety to indicate saltmarsh creation as an option, should other factors act in its favour. Note – this measure overlaps with R1.1 (restoration of river floodplains) where saltmarsh creation may be an option as part of such initiatives.	Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme habitat data supplied by Channel Coastal Observatory. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.
C1.4	**Enhance existing coastal vegetated shingle habitats and create new areas, primarily through expansion of existing sites.** (Abbrev. C1.4 Enhance shingle habitats)	Existing sites for enhancement and expansion where conditions will support this. e.g. where new vegetation is likely to survive pressures from recreation, coastal processes etc; seek opportunities within coastal defence projects.	Mapped all existing sites. Given the importance of this habitat type and its threat from sea level rise, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	South East Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme Habitat Mapping. Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme habitat data supplied by Channel Coastal Observatory. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.
C1.5	**Enhance existing areas of intertidal seagrass and create new areas primarily through expansion of existing sites*.** (Abbrev. C1.5 Enhance existing seagrass)	Existing areas of inter tidal seagrass; areas identified in MMO 1135 Potential seagrass restoration *Environment Agency – seagrass potential*	Mapped all existing sites. Given the small areas and importance of this habitat type and its threat from sea level rise, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	Chichester Harbour Conservancy Seagrass (data supplied by Chichester Harbour Conservancy).
C1.6	**Enhance existing coastal lagoons*, providing optimal environmental conditions for aquatic life.** (Abbrev. C1.6 Enhance coastal lagoons)	All coastal lagoons	Mapped all existing sites. Given the small areas and importance of this habitat type and its threat from sea level rise, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Saline Lagoons (data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre).
C1.8	**Enhance the condition of existing sand dune habitats.** (Abbrev. C1.8 Enhance sand dunes)	All sand dunes sites	Mapped all existing sites. Given the small areas and importance of this habitat type and pressures on it, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	South East Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme Habitat Mapping. Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme habitat data supplied by

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
				Channel Coastal Observatory. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.
C1.9 (East Sussex only)	**Enhance areas of existing maritime cliff and slope (hard and soft cliff) habitats, supporting key species associated with the habitat type.** (Abbrev. C1.9 Enhance maritime cliffs)	Areas of existing soft-cliff (where natural coastal erosion processes continue) and related cliff top areas.	Mapped all existing areas of 'maritime cliff and slope'. Given the small areas and importance of this habitat type and its threat from sea level rise, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	South East Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme Habitat Mapping. Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme habitat data supplied by Channel Coastal Observatory. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.
G1.1	**Enhance existing areas of species-rich lowland calcareous (chalk) grassland, maintaining and improving its quality, diversity of species, suitable sward height and structure.** (Abbrev. G1.1 Enhance chalk grassland)	All areas of existing lowland calcareous (chalk) grassland; particularly those areas within and adjacent to Local Wildlife Sites and SSSIs/NNRs.	Mapped all existing sites. Given the importance of this habitat type within the LNRS area (and its significance nationally) no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS. This decision was supported by the presence of initiatives to support enhancement of chalk grassland (e.g. Changing Chalk, Big Chalk) and priority given to this habitat within the South Downs National Park.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Calcareous Grassland (Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre).
G1.2	**Create new areas of calcareous (chalk) grassland, particularly where this will expand existing sites and improve connectivity with existing areas of chalk grassland and related chalk habitats (such as chalk heath).** (Abbrev. G1.2 Create new chalk grassland)	Locations where this will help to expand or better connect existing areas of high-quality chalk grassland and other chalk habitats; In terms of target sites, a good starting point will be suitable areas of semi-improved grassland on chalk soils, particularly those adjacent to existing chalk grassland. Reversion of improved grassland and arable on chalk soils is also possible but may be harder to achieve.	Mapped areas of potential for creation of this habitat type – based on a locally developed habitat potential model (which has strong credibility with delivery partners). This was initially targeted to areas of 'high' and 'very high' potential categories identified by the potential model. But after review by workshop participants, all categories of potential were included given the relatively small areas involved and the importance of this habitat in the LNRS area and within the South Downs National Park.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Chalk Grassland Habitat Potential Model. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
G1.3	**Within the High Weald National Landscape, enhance the existing species-rich grasslands and lowland meadows found within the protected landscape,**	All areas of species-rich grassland within the HWNL not already in positive conservation management; particularly those in and around protected sites (i.e.	Mapped all existing sites of known value, as contained in High Weald National Landscape datasets and as per their advice.	High Weald National Landscape Wildflower Meadows. Data supplied by High Weald National Landscape.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
	maintaining and improving ecological condition, diversity of species, suitable sward height and structure. (Abbrev. G1.3 Enhance SR grassland in HWNL)	those within LWS and LNRs or adjacent to/between SSSIs)	Did not target further given the primary importance of this habitat type within the HWNL and the emphasis given to it within the HWNL Management Plan.	
G1.4	**Within the High Weald National Landscape, create new species-rich grassland, particularly where this will expand and better connect the species-rich grasslands and lowland meadows of the protected landscape.** (Abbrev. Create new SR grassland in HWNL)	Areas of high quality semi-improved grassland or low-input grassland (within the HWNL) adjacent to (or in close proximity to) existing species-rich grassland sites or existing priority habitats;	Mapped opportunity areas as guided by HWNL analysis and datasets. This involved mapping fields (as noted on historic field boundary datasets) where 50% or more of the field contained good quality semi-improved grassland and/or unimproved grassland data. This was targeted further by including only those fields that sat within the NE Habitat Network Mapping zones for lowland meadows (all zones: i.e. restorable habitat; fragmentation action zone; network enhancement zone 1& 2; and network expansion zones). This ensured the core areas for importance for this habitat in HWNL were included – where other more peripheral/less connected areas were excluded.	High Weald National Landscape Historic Fields. Derived from data supplied by High Weald National Landscape.
G1.5	**Manage existing waxcap grasslands to retain and enhance their value for grassland fungi.** (Abbrev. G1.5 Enhance waxcap grassland)	All existing areas of waxcap grasslands. These may be located in agricultural grasslands or lawns, cemeteries and amenity grasslands.	Mapped all existing areas of waxcap grassland based on local survey information. Given the relatively small areas and importance of this habitat type within the LNRS area, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS. *Note: Some of the areas surveyed covered grassland, wood pasture, woodland mosaics and so there will be some obvious overlap of other relevant measures into these areas. It was not possible or sensible to try to identify sub-areas of the surveyed information to reflect just the presence of waxcaps but rather the measure should be considered across the whole areas mapped and used to guide site-based activity as appropriate.*	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Waxcap Grassland. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
W1.2	**Bring ancient woodland into positive conservation management to support woodland species and enhance its ecological condition and resilience.** (Abbrev. W1.2 Enhance ancient woodland)	All ancient woodland sites; particularly beneficial where the ecological condition of the woodland is known to be particularly threatened and where woodland habitats are particularly concentrated and of ecological importance (as this will expand the overall area in better condition).	All existing ancient woodland sites – but further targeted to exclude those already in positive management (based on a basic proxy for this for which there is data): • areas covered by Woodland Grant Scheme management plans; • and areas which fall within the ownership of Forestry Commission and conservation organisations (National Trust, Sussex WT, Woodland Trust, RSPB) - where it is assumed a management plan is in place to guide action. This could be improved by also excluding those covered by a Whole Estate Plan but a dataset for these boundaries was not available.	Natural England Ancient Woodland Inventory. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
W1.3	**Enhance the condition of gill woodland through sensitive management and minimal intervention; create buffer habitat around these areas of woodland where appropriate* to protect the core habitat and increase connectivity for species.** (Abbrev. W1.3 Enhance gill woodland)	All areas of gill woodland (enhancement); creation of buffer of semi-natural habitat for those where this is a useful and appropriate action.	Mapped to all areas of gill woodland. Did not target further given the primary importance of this habitat type within the LNRS strategy area and HWNL and the emphasis given to it within the HWNL Management Plan.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Gill Woodland. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
W1.4	**Enhance and restore existing traditional orchards.** (Abbrev. W1.4 Enhance traditional orchards)	Existing traditional orchards not already under management.	Mapped to all existing traditional orchards. Given the small areas of this habitat and its importance within the LNRS area, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	Natural England Traditional Orchards. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
W1.5	**Enhance existing wood pasture and parkland to ensure healthy veteran trees, a succession of age classes and a functioning habitat with naturally regenerating trees, shrubs and ground flora.** (Abbrev. W1.5 Enhance wood pasture & parkland)	Existing areas of wood pasture not currently under woodland management plan.	Mapped to all existing areas of wood pasture and parkland. Given the relatively small areas and importance of this habitat type across the LNRS area, no further targeting was carried out.	Natural England Wood Pasture and Parkland. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
W1.6	**Manage existing floodplain and wet woodland to support biodiversity including bryophyte and fern populations.** (Abbrev. W1.6 Enhance wet woodland)	Areas of wet woodland not already under management for improved habitat condition.	Mapped all deciduous woodland habitat found within floodplain (to try to capture 'floodplain woodland'). Then added deciduous woodland found within areas identified as at risk of flooding from surface water (1 in 30 event) – to try to capture woodland found in wet areas outside floodplains.	Natural England Priority Habitat Inventory. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
W1.7	**Restore PAWS (Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites), replanting with a more species rich tree mix.** (Abbrev. W1.7 Restore plantations on AW sites)	All PAWS not already restored or under this type of management.	Mapped all existing PAWS sites within the LNRS area – but further targeted to exclude those already in positive management (based on a basic proxy for this for which there is data): • areas covered by Woodland Grant Scheme management plans; • and areas which fall within the ownership of Forestry Commission and conservation organisations (National Trust, Sussex WT, Woodland Trust, RSPB) - where it is assumed a management plan is in place to guide action. This could be improved by also excluding those covered by a Whole Estate Plan but a dataset for these boundaries was not available.	Natural England Ancient Woodland Inventory. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
W1.8	**Bring other priority woodland (i.e. priority woodland types not covered by measures W1.2 - W 1.7) into positive conservation management to support woodland species and enhance its ecological condition and resilience.** (Abbrev. W1.8 Enhance other priority woodland)	All priority woodland not covered by measures (W1.2 - W1.7) particularly where there is no management plan currently in place. This will include the large category of 'lowland mixed deciduous woodland'.	Mapped all woodland of this type within the LNRS area – but further targeted to exclude those already in positive management (based on a basic proxy for this for which there is data): • areas covered by Woodland Grant Scheme management plans; • and areas which fall within the ownership of Forestry Commission and conservation organisations (National Trust, Sussex WT, Woodland Trust, RSPB) - where it is assumed a management plan is in place to guide action. This could be improved by also excluding those covered by a Whole Estate Plan but a dataset for these boundaries was not available.	Natural England Priority Habitat Inventory. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
W2.1	**Create new areas of species-rich woodland and 'trees outside woodland' to expand and better connect existing woodland and deliver multiple benefits (such as habitat, flood risk reduction, water quality, shelter, access and recreation, landscape enhancement and carbon sequestration).** (Abbrev. W2.1 Create new woodland)	Given the extent of existing woodland in West Sussex, new woodland creation will be most beneficial in locations where it will expand existing woodland sites or increase connectivity between sites. It will be particularly beneficial where: • It can be located on previously wooded sites (Epoch 1 OS maps where available) • It will help to better connect areas of ancient woodland • It will expand the area of smaller woodland sites • It will improve connectivity between particularly 'isolated' woodland areas In all cases, the principle of the 'right tree in the right place for the right reason' must be applied. As such, all woodland creation in West Sussex must be guided by landscape character and constraints on the site including presence of other habitats, archaeology etc. Preferably, it will also be located where it will deliver other benefits such as flood risk reduction, carbon sequestration, air quality improvement and landscape character. Woodland Opportunity Mapping for Sussex provides a general guide to areas of sensitivity for woodland creation in West Sussex based on a number of key benefits and constraints (but excluding landscape character). New woodland creation is noted as a particular opportunity within the **Low Weald** National Character Area as a means to enhance and better connect	Mapped all areas of 'least sensitivity for woodland creation' using the Woodland Opportunity Map for Sussex/South Downs National Park. This ensures any conflict with other priority habitats is removed and that additional factors for/against woodland creation have been taken into consideration (as per that methodology). This was further targeted by removing any areas that fell within the High Weald National Landscape (the sensitivity of the landscape and habitats in this area mean that all woodland creation ideas should seek initial engagement with the HWNL Team). Outside the HWNL, the mapping was further targeted to only include woodland opportunity in priority areas for the England Woodland Creation Offer (as mapped for the following): • Water quality • Flood risk management • NfC social (close to settlements)	Woodland Opportunity Mapping. Data supplied by Sussex Nature Partnership.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
		existing woodland and hedgerow networks in this area. In the High Weald National Landscape area, due to limited areas of opportunity and fragility of grassland sites which may be affected, it is important to seek initial advice on site suitability from High Weald National Landscape Team		
H1.1	**Enhance existing areas of lowland heathland through the improvement of ecological condition and structural diversity of the heathland and associated habitats (including acid grassland).** (Abbrev. H1.1 Enhance existing heathland)	Existing heathland sites, particularly those not in conservation management. All heathland types, including chalk heath. In West Sussex, a small area of the new Heathland Connections Nature Recovery Project sits within West Sussex and provides opportunities to work collectively on management challenges.	All existing areas of lowland heathland. Given the importance of this habitat type within the LNRS area, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Heath and Acid Grassland. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
H1.2	**Create new areas of lowland heathland and acid grassland mosaic on suitable soil, particularly where this will expand existing sites and improve connectivity between them (e.g. by creation of 'stepping stones' of new habitat).** (Abbrev. H1.2 Create new heathland)	Areas on suitable geology where this can help to expand or connect core sites; former areas of heathland; historic medieval forest and deer park areas (as mosaic with woodland); areas of woodland plantation on lowland heath; sites with low soil nutrient levels; opportunity areas identified by Heathland Connections Nature Recovery Project (see above).	This involved using habitat potential information from two sources due to incomplete coverage of the LNRS areas by a local habitat potential model. Mapped all areas identified for heathland habitat potential from the available local heathland habitat potential – for the areas this covered (mostly in West Sussex). We used all habitat potential categories shown on this map (high to low). For the remainder of the LNRS areas, the NE habitat network mapping (lowland heathland layer) was used to identify potential areas for habitat creation (targeted to specific zones: habitat restoration/creation, fragmentation action zone, restorable habitat). We did not include the network enhancement or expansion zones as these were felt to cover too large an area.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Heath Habitat Potential Model. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
SO1.1	**Enhance and maintain the condition of important plant communities within sandstone outcrop sites in the High Weald.**	Sandstone outcrop sites, particularly those supporting important plant communities. Most of these are within the High Weald.	Mapped to all sandstone outcrops. It was not possible to target further (insufficient data).	High Weald National Landscape Sandstone Outcrops.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
	(Abbrev. SO1.2 Enhance sandstone outcrop habitats)	Creation of habitat buffers around sites within farmed landscape.	Given the importance of this habitat type within the LNRS area, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
R1.1	**'Renaturalise' and reconnect rivers to their floodplains, allowing water to spill naturally onto adjacent land and restoring, expanding and better connecting floodplain habitats (such as wet grassland, fen, marsh and wet woodland). This will support biodiversity, increase ground water recharge and provide flood attenuation.** (Abbrev. R1.1 Renaturalise rivers and floodplains)	Areas of river/floodplain where this is both feasible and desirable e.g. where it doesn't conflict with land protection or flood mitigation requirements. This measure will result in a change of land use/habitat in affected areas (e.g. where drained farmland reverts to floodplain) and therefore these changes must be factored into any projects. Target this activity using information from Environment Agency and Catchment Partnerships and via engagement with landowners. *Note: In tidal reaches of rivers, this may include creation of saltmarsh where conditions are suitable (see also coastal measure C1.3 above).*	Various mapping approaches were considered but most were rejected as being either too complex, or too limited by lack of accurate/adequate data to be meaningful. Spatial datasets do exist for some catchments to guide river restoration actions but not for others and so it was decided to find a simpler (but yet useful) approach to mapping this measure at the LNRS scale. It was therefore decided to broadly map this to a wider opportunity area (floodzone 3). This would allow users to identify possibilities in this area without overly prescribing sites in a way that could not be meaningful.	Environment Agency Risk of Flooding from Rivers and Sea. Some features of this information are based on digital spatial data licensed from the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology © NERC (CEH). Defra, Met Office and DARD Rivers Agency © Crown copyright. © Cranfield University. © James Hutton Institute. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2015. Land & Property Services © Crown copyright and database right.
R1.2	**Improve 'in-river' connectivity for species through removal of barriers to fish passage and natural flows of water and sediment.** (Abbrev. R1.2 Improve in-river connectivity)	Areas of river/floodplain where this is feasible. Removal of those barriers which block greatest amount of river and priorities identified by Environment Agency and Catchment Partnerships. As part of a package with re-naturalisation and restoration of 'in-river' habitat (R1.1 and R1.3)	As above, various mapping approaches were considered but rejected. The location of all barriers to fish passage and natural flows are known, but it was not possible to target action in a way that was meaningful or realistic. Rather, it was considered that this measure would be most effectively carried out as a package of measures within floodzone 3 (full flood extent 1/100 yr). Hence it was mapped alongside R1.1 and R1.3 in this area.	Environment Agency Risk of Flooding from Rivers and Sea. Some features of this information are based on digital spatial data licensed from the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology © NERC (CEH). Defra, Met Office and DARD Rivers Agency © Crown copyright. © Cranfield University. © James Hutton Institute. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2015. Land & Property Services © Crown copyright and database right.
R1.3	**Manage, restore and enhance 'in river' and riparian habitat to support biodiversity, the natural function of the river/stream and**	Suitable for widespread implementation but effective as part of package with	As above, various mapping approaches were considered but rejected for similar reasons to R1.1 and R1.2. Datasets do exist to help highlight	Environment Agency Risk of Flooding from Rivers and Sea.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
	temperature regulation in the face of climate change. (Abbrev. R1.3 Enhance in-river/riparian habitats)	removal of fish barriers and re-naturalisation (R1.1 and R1.2);	where water bodies are failing due to lack of macrophytes and/or levels of riparian shading. But rather than develop a complex approach to the use of these datasets that may be inaccurate in practice, it was agreed to map this measure to floodzone 3 alongside R1.1 and R1.2.	Some features of this information are based on digital spatial data licensed from the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology © NERC (CEH). Defra, Met Office and DARD Rivers Agency © Crown copyright. © Cranfield University. © James Hutton Institute. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2015. Land & Property Services © Crown copyright and database right.
R1.6	**Create and manage permanent vegetation buffer strips alongside rivers and streams to support biodiversity and intercept and reduce levels of pollutants (such as nutrients, chemical pollutants, veterinary chemicals, excessive sediment) reaching water courses.** (Abbrev. R1.6 Buffer strips along rivers and streams)	This is good practice along all water courses but is particularly important in the following cases: • water courses in an agricultural setting (arable and pasture) • priority water courses e.g. chalk streams, wood gills. • those located in source protection zones and nitrate vulnerable zones • those in upper catchments	Mapped a buffer each side of all water courses (no open data was available to separate rivers and streams from all other water courses). This was felt to be one of the most important measures for supporting water quality – and so was decided to map along all watercourses rather than to target it geographically. In practice, buffers should be of a size that is appropriate to the site. For the purposes of mapping on the LNRS a cartographical representation of a **15m buffer** was used (this width was identified after much discussion as optimal size, supported by approaches used by Rivers Trusts, ELMS options). For much of the river network, this buffer was applied either side of the centre line of the water course. In the tidal reaches (where rivers tend to be much wider), the 15m buffer was added from the edge of the river bank.	Ordnance Survey Open Rivers; Ordnance Survey Open Map Local. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
R2.1	**Restore chalk streams and winterbournes to support base flows, water quality, natural functions, aquatic habitats and biodiversity.** **(**Abbrev. R2.1 Restore chalk streams)	Target all chalk streams and winterbournes particularly those streams at greatest risk of low base flows in summer/drought periods, those experiencing low ecological condition or under pressure from high nutrient/pollution levels and those where channels have been modified and where there is potential to 'renaturalise' them.	Mapped a buffer each side of all chalk streams where these fall outside urban areas (where habitat creation options are assumed to be limited). Buffer width of 50m was agreed – given the fragility of chalk stream environments but noting that this was not intended to be a buffer necessarily made up of habitat creation, but a	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Chalk Streams, The Rivers Trust. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre, with contributions from The Rivers Trust.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
		In West Sussex: focus specific efforts on the more pressurised chalk streams emerging from the dip slope into the coastal plain (including River Ems, Lavant and Bosham streams).	mixture of habitat management/enhancement, suitable land management practices and so on. This was mapped 50m both sides of the centre line of each chalk stream.	
Wt1.1	**Enhance remaining areas of peatland habitats by improving their hydrological function and ecological condition. Encourage expansion of existing areas where possible.** (Abbrev. Wt1.1 Enhance peatland)	All existing peatland habitats in Sussex (lowland fen, lowland bog, mire). Note that many are found within heathland habitat mosaics (see Priority H1).	Mapped all existing areas of these habitats. Given the small area and importance of this habitat type within the LNRS area, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Sussex Fen; Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Purle Moor Grass and Rush Pastures; Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Wet Heathland. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
Wt1.2	**Enhance existing areas of reedbed to improve ecological condition and function and delivery of wider environmental benefits.** (Abbrev. Wt1.2. Enhance reedbeds)	Enhance all existing areas.	Mapped all existing areas of these habitats. Given the importance of this habitat type within the LNRS area, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Reedbeds. Data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
Wt1.4	**Manage existing areas of floodplain grazing marsh (including coastal floodplain grazing marsh) to enhance the ecological condition of its mosaic of habitats and ditches.** (Abbrev. Wt1.4 Enhance floodplain grazing marsh)	All existing Coastal Floodplain Grazing Marsh; other Floodplain grazing marsh along rivers.	Mapped all existing areas of floodplain grazing marsh (coastal and other areas). Given the importance of this habitat type within the LNRS area, no further targeting was applied as it was felt important to include it all within the LNRS. It was noted that there may be overlap with the measures related to the creation of saltmarsh. Which measure prevails in practice will relate to local decisions made as to whether to actively transform areas of floodplain grazing marsh into saltmarsh. This site-based decision could not be resolved through data/mapping alone and so would be locally determined in practice.	Natural England Priority Habitat Inventory. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
U1.1	**Create new accessible natural greenspaces in urban areas, designed and located to**	Opportunities to include new greenspaces in all new larger housing developments; within existing urban areas opportunity will	It was only possible to map this measure to sites already agreed by local authorities for creation of new parks/greenspaces. This was based on the	Chichester District Council. Data compiled from supporting authority contributions by Sussex

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
	deliver multiple benefits for people and nature. (Abbrev. U1.1Create new accessible greenspaces)	be more limited by space/funds but should be targeted in areas of 'nature deficit', highest health inequalities, air pollution and vulnerability to the impacts of climate change (e.g. flooding and urban heat island effects) – and where possible to enhance connectivity between existing green spaces; locate within proposed urban 'ecological networks' if mapped by local authorities. NE Green Infrastructure Standards mapping tool can be used to identify areas in need of greater provision of accessible natural greenspace.	need to ensure that there had been sufficient public consultation and agreement with landowner for change of land use to a public park/greenspace. Only 1 site was identified in West Sussex. No spaces were identified in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. This does mean that this measure cannot be implemented elsewhere. These were the only options at time of preparation of the LNRS.	Biodiversity Record Centre. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.
U2.1	**Increase the area of habitat created and managed for nature within existing green spaces, such as parks, recreation grounds, allotments, golf courses, foreshore, public gardens, shared spaces (flats/housing association land), hospitals, prisons etc.** (Abbrev. U2.1 Increase habitat in existing greenspaces)	Many types of urban greenspace have the potential to support more nature through additional habitat creation, whether in specific corners or areas which can be dedicated to new habitat, or through additional hedging, grass strips of other habitats that can be created along edges and boundaries. The potential in obviously greatest in larger greenspaces, but opportunities should be sought at all scales. Some amenity spaces and open spaces are surfaced with artificial/hard surfaces (e.g. small play areas, artificial pitches) and may not offer any obvious opportunities.	Work was done to agree a 'best available' map of existing greenspaces (across a range of typologies) for the LNRS area, based on data held by districts/borough councils. It was not possible to go further and include parish/town data at this stage. A review of this dataset was held with local authorities to understand the data and agree which typologies of greenspace provided the most realistic opportunities for habitat enhancement/creation. These were then retained. Others were excluded (e.g. hard surface areas, very small amenity grassland areas, small play spaces etc). This measure was assumed to be an option for all areas of greenspace remaining on the map. Local delivery would depend on funding, community engagement etc.	Ordnance Survey Open Greenspace; Adur & Worthing Councils; Arun District Council; Brighton & Hove City Council; Crawley Borough Council; Hastings Borough Council; Horsham District Council; Lewes & Eastbourne Councils; Mid Sussex District Council; Rother District Council; Wealden District Council. Data compiled from supporting authority contributions by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.
U2.4	**Create and enhance habitats within golf courses and implement nature-friendly management practices, supporting biodiversity on-site and increasing connectivity with habitats beyond their boundaries.**	All golf courses noting that these may be in urban, peri-urban or rural settings; create habitat on site which can increase connectivity to habitats beyond the boundaries of the course.	This was mapped to all golf courses – but removed Waterhall (Brighton & Hove) (which is no longer a golf course but was still included on the dataset used).	Ordnance Survey Open Greenspace. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
	(Abbrev. 2.4 Create and enhance habitat on golf courses)		The decision was made to include all golf courses and to not target this further due to the work going on across Sussex by SDNPA, Southwood Foundation and RSPB to encourage more habitat creation on golf courses in Sussex. A significant number of golf courses are already engaged in this initiative.	
PS1.2	**Create new areas of habitat on land adjacent to protected sites, thus expanding the total area of connected wildlife habitat in and around protected sites.** (Abbrev PS1.2 Create new habitat adjacent to protected sites)	Particularly important for protected sites which are of small size, in poor condition and/or are isolated from a network of adjacent habitats; specific adjacent habitat requirements for SSSIs/NNRs can be agreed through discussion with Natural England, landowners and nature delivery organisations; a minimum buffer of 50-100m of habitat around sites should be sought, with up to 500m where possible[4].	100m buffer added around each protected site (focusing on national conservation sites, LWS). LNRs were not included (workshop decision) Targeted to only those within Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) to reflect the greater opportunities in these areas to connect to existing priority habitats. Urban areas within buffer areas were removed as these would not have provided meaningful opportunities for habitat creation. This width of buffer was based on guidance within NE document on how best to support existing sites. See reference in measures section. This measure will overlap with habitat enhancement/creation measures. This is acceptable as this is not a measure that is habitat specific but is in place to emphasise the need to support the ecological function of protected sites. the suitable habitat created/enhanced will be determined by other measures. Where there is no underlying habitat measure, the best course of action can be determined through engagement with protected site managers.	Natural England Sites of Special Scientific Interest (Natural England; Local Wildlife Sites (data supplied and maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre).
Cor2.2	**Create new wildlife corridors to reduce habitat fragmentation, support specific species and (where possible) deliver wider environmental benefits and public access.**	Locate where these would deliver greater connectivity linkages between habitats and protected sites.	Only corridors identified within local plans or those other status within local authority documents/ initiatives were included - to ensure there was some weight and existing commitment to their creation. Some of the corridors were	Weald To Waves Corridor; Wilder Horsham District Nature Recovery Network; Arun Potential Wildlife Corridor; Brighton Areas for Biodiversity Enhancement; Brighton

[4] Natural England (2022). Sites of Special Scientific Interest in England: their historic development and prospects in a changing climate.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
	(Abbrev. Cor 2.2 Create new wildlife corridors)	Opportunities should be taken to create these corridors in urban/peri-urban areas as a way of better connecting urban and rural areas; opportunities should also be taken within the planning and delivery of new urban extensions to ensure the creation of linked networks of green/open spaces and corridors which provide benefits for nature and people. These may be identified in local plans and Green Infrastructure strategies by district/unitary councils or through initiatives designed at district scale to support nature's recovery.	formal parts of ecological networks identified by local authorities. Others were identified within Green Infrastructure strategies or evidence documents. The decision on which to include was based on review of options with all local authorities. Several options were rejected based on the proposed corridor being simply an idea within a study, rather than a proposal with more consultation and backing. Also included was the boundary of the specific wildlife corridor initiative of Weald to Waves (in this case, this was targeted by using the original inner boundary of the corridor rather than the much larger outer boundary). This corridor was included given its ability to drive significant habitat creation and enhancements across its reach.	Potential Core Areas; Mid Sussec Corridors; Chichester Strategic Wildlife Corridors; Hastings GBI Network; Manhood Peninsular Corridor. Data compiled from delivery partners and supporting authorities by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
Cor 3.3	**Protect from damage/loss and enhance habitats along designated verges and other recognised verges of high value for wildlife.** (Abbrev. Cor 3.3 Protect & enhance designated verges)	All designated verges and identified verges of high wildlife quality.	The boundaries of designated verges mapped by East Sussex CC and West Sussex CC were included in the relevant LNRS maps. B&HCC have identified 'wilder verges' and committed funding to their enhancement. It was not possible to include these in initial draft mapping due to lack of GIS datasets. It is hoped this can be rectified ahead of the public consultation.	West Sussex Notable Verges; East Sussex Notable (Wildlife) Verges. Data supplied and maintained by WSCC and ESCC.
Cor 3.6	**Create and enhance habitats along 'active travel' corridors e.g. footpaths, cycle paths, bridleways and national trail networks.** (Abbrev. Cor 3.6 Create and enhance habitats on active travel corridors)	Can be applied along most active travel corridors, particularly off-road sections which may hold more opportunity for habitat creation/enhancement alongside the route; may include specific targeted work where this will link to adjacent habitat of value or support specific species. If targeted to lengths of these corridors where there is little existing habitat, these works could help support habitat	Mapping was restricted to those corridors for which there was committed funding/planning for habitat creation and enhancement that the LNRS team were aware of. This was limited to: • the two national trails that run through the LNRS areas (these come with dedicated resource) • Sections of other active travel corridors that fall within other greenspaces where there are existing opportunities	Natural England National Trails; Sustrans National Cycle Network. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
		connectivity and creation of a more complete 'green corridor' for users. Specific opportunities include National trails (which have resources to support habitat creation along their routes), long distance cycle routes (such as Avenue Verte where there is ambition to enhance the route and create more offroad sections) and routes flagged for enhancement within local authority Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs), where habitat creation could form part of the approach.	and plans for habitat creation and improvement. This could be enhanced in future LNRSs through further engagement with local authorities and highways authorities around investment plans for cycling and walking infrastructure and development of a spatial dataset to reflect priority areas. A buffer of 10m either side of these corridors was mapped. This could be improved in the future if specific mapped action plans are developed for these trails.	
WRH1.1	**Restore existing ex-mineral sites to create new areas of high- quality habitats suitable for the site.** (Abbrev. WRH1.1 Restore ex-mineral sites)	Sites identified by minerals authority as suitable for restoration to habitat with particular focus on those identified for restoration projects and funding.	Mapped only the existing proposals from each minerals/waste authority for restoration of minerals sites.	West Sussex County Council/East Sussex County Council Mineral Sites. Data supplied and maintained by WSCC and ESCC.
WRH 1.2	**Establish habitat banks in strategically beneficial locations ensuring long-term commitment to the creation of high-quality habitats.** (Abbrev. WRH1.2 Establish habitat banks in strategic locations)	Strategically beneficial locations include sites within proposed habitat corridors, buffers to protected sites and BOAs and/or in areas where they will deliver wider environmental benefits and/or access to nature.	Mapped habitat bank proposals which were at a detailed stage of implementation and/or already registered on the BNG register. Only included those that proposed creation/enhancement of priority habitat and whose location was deemed by the LNRS team to be 'strategically beneficial' based on accompanying information provided by the landowner.	
WRH1.3	**Deliver habitat creation and enhancement projects involving multiple habitats/habitat mosaics.** **(**Abbrev. WRH 1.3 Habitat enhancement	Areas brought forward for projects. Preferably in locations of strategic benefit for nature's recovery (e.g. within proposed habitat corridors, buffers to protected sites, BOAs) and/or in areas where they will deliver wider environmental benefits and/or access to nature.	Project boundary data was provided by stakeholders via an online mapping tool. Accompanying information was used to filter the projects as follows: • Excluded 'broad' initiatives/projects (these covered a wide area rather than specific land parcels) and retained 'specific' projects. • Excluded projects that were labelled as 'ideas' – retaining those that were planned or underway	Data compiled from public contributions by WSCC.

Code	Measure	Accompanying targeting statement (where)	Method used	Datasets used
			• Excluded projects that were 'completed' • Excluded any projects that had been added as data points rather than proper site boundaries • Excluded projects that were not related to habitat enhancement or creation • Removed projects that were labelled as 'habitat banks' – and transferred these into WRH 1.2 above This left a number of projects which related to habitat enhancement/creation which were happening/likely to happen and were related to location boundaries as provided by stakeholders. Important to note that the entire area mapped for each may not all be used for habitat creation/enhancement. Rather these sites hold active proposals for habitat work that will make a contribution to the overall priorities within the LNRS. A list of the projects included and excluded from the mapping is provided in Annex E below.	

Annex E. Habitat enhancement and creation projects listed by stakeholders

i) Projects included within the Sussex strategies

Project Name	Organisations involved	Project information provided
Beacon Field grassland restoration and coppice management	Northiam naturally; Northiam Parish Council; Rother District Council	Coppicing to create dead hedge habitat; encourage more wildflowers and recolonisation of long-horned bee. Managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring of recreating existing habitat; species control; species recovery. BL mixed woodland, hedgerows and neutral grassland.
Breathing Farm Flowers	Maybridge Keystone Club, Breathing Spaces (Transition Twon Worthing project)	Sustainable small-scale flower farming, health and wellbeing. Managing habitat for biodiversity.
Broomfield	Eco-logical landscapes (Sussex) Ltd	Managing a habitat for biodiversity and supporting species recovery.
Buchan Country Park Golf Course Meadow Restoration	WSCC	Reintroducing a species; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery.
Burton Mill Pond - Fenland Management	WSCC	Reintroducing a species; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery Fen, marsh and swamp habitats.
Burton Mill Pond - Fenland Restoration	WSCC	Reintroducing a species; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery Fen, marsh and swamp habitats.
Cissbury Fields - Chalk Grassland Restoration	Findon Valley Residents Association, Soth Downs National Park Authority, Friends of Findon Valley	Balancing nature restoration and leisure use at Cissbury Fields; creation of community orchard; part of the Adur River Recovery Project.
Conservation meadow management		Increased biodiversity, increased bio-abundance of insects and insect predators
Coombers Barn Farm		BNG
East Dean Greensward	Residents Association and Parish Council	Managing a habitat for biodiversity; chalk grassland; wildflower plot creation
Eastbourne Downland	Eastbourne Borough Council	Management and restoration of downland habitats. Managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery.
Enhancing biodiversity at the Horder Centre, Crowborough	Crowborough Wildlife Group, Green Transition Crowborough and Horder Healthcare	Enhance biodiversity across the site; extending an existing area of habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat. Dwarf shrub heath and neutral grassland.
Field 14, St Francis Fields wildlife recovery Nature Reserve	St Francis Fields CIC, Newt Partnership (District Licensing), Northiam Naturally and Northiam Parish Council	Creation of two new ponds; removal of laurel; restoration of wildflower grassland; creation of 140m of new hedge. Habitat creation, management of habitat for biodiversity; restoring or creating existing habitat; species control; supporting species recovery. Acid grassland; BL mixed woodland; fen, marsh and swamp; hedgerows; neutral grassland

Project Name	Organisations involved	Project information provided
Friends of Heene Cemetery	Worthing Borough Council; Diocese of Chichester; Friends of Herne Cemetery	Managing the one-acre sites as a Local Wildlife Site. Increasing species diversity as demonstrated by ongoing species surveying. Managing habitat for biodiversity; species control; species control; supporting species recovery
Friends of Ore Station Community Garden	Friends of Ore Station	Creation of a community garden. Creation of new habitat.
Gardening Our Streets	Hastings Commons	Planters installed in an urban setting. Habitat creation.
Harlots Wood Nature Reserve	St Francis Fields CIC, Northiam Parish Council, Northiam Naturally.	Creating new habitat; managing habitat for biodiversity; restoring or creating an existing habitat; species control; supporting species recovery. BL and mixed woodland; rivers and streams
Hedgerow Gapping-up	Tenant farmers	Filling 6m to 45m gaps in hedgerow; replanting native hedgerow trees, no gaps in hedgerow; creating more food and shelter for wildlife.
Homelands Wetlands	Environment Agency, Wilder Horsham District, Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust	4ha of wetland restoration; restoring or creating existing habitat. Fen, marsh and swamp, flood management.
Kent & East Sussex Railway	Adonis Blue and Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Kent & East Sussex Railway.	Protect and enhance the green corridor between the Rother and Bodiam.
Malling Budletts Common Tormentil and Mining Bee Project		Habitat management; support for species; Acid grassland, tormentil and indicators present. Geodiversity includes sandy areas. Mowing bracken to keep PROW open in summer; supporting suitable habitats for Tormentil Mining Bee
Marsham Valley Natural Flood Management project - Fairlight	RSPCA, Local Landowners. Future Landscapes Trust	Creating new habitat; extending existing area of habitat; managing habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; species. Natural Flood Management, carbon sequestration, biodiversity and nature-based solutions.
Maxfield Nature Conservation Trust	Wetland Trust	Managing a habitat for biodiversity; reintroducing a species; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; species control. Flood management.
Old common Malling Budletts		Creation of new pond. Creating new habitat; extending existing area of habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery. Acid grassland; BL and mixed woodland; coniferous woodland; hedgerows; inland rock; neutral grassland; rivers and streams.
Ore Community Garden	Ore Community Land Trust	Managing habitat for biodiversity
Pad Farm - Saltmarsh Creation	Adur & Worthing Councils	Creating new habitat; Littoral sediment; rivers and streams

Project Name	Organisations involved	Project information provided
Pasture and Woodland Stewardship	Worth Abbey Farm and Woodland	Managing habitats for biodiversity; species control; supporting species recovery
Peacehaven Community Orchard	Brighton Permaculture Trust; South Downs National Park; Peacehaven Town Council	Creating a new habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; supporting species recovery
Pink Cactus Veg		Managing habitats for biodiversity
Pond Power	Portsmouth Water; Sidlesham Parish Council; Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group	Pond restoration; management to support water vole populations; managing habitat for biodiversity.
Powdermill Trust - Rotherfield Reserve	Powdermill Trust; Crowborough Wildlife Group	Managing habitats for biodiversity
Rewilding project	St Edward's CofE Church	Rewilding key areas of the churchyard for the benefit of wildlife; Managing habitats for biodiversity; restoring or recreating existing habitats
Rogate Roadside Verge	WSCC; Rogate Parish Council;	Enhancement of species rich acid grassland; creation of acid grassland;
Rye Community Food and Wildlife Garden	Rye Town Council	Creating new habitat; extending an area of existing habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or creating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery
Scrub creation		Fencing out deer to encourage scrub succession; creating new habitat; managing habitat for biodiversity
Selsey Pollinator Highway	WSCC; Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group	Rewilding of street verges to encourage pollinators; managing habitats for biodiversity;
Seven Sisters Country Park	SDNPA	Improving quality of existing habitats; increasing extent of habitats (creating new); Calcareous grassland, hedgerows, standing open water.
Sidlesham Pollinator Highway	WSCC; Sidlesham Parish Council; Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group	Rewilding of street verges to encourage pollinators; managing habitats for biodiversity
South End Farm - Habitat Bank	South End Farms Ltd; Chichester District Council	*To be shown on habitat bank layer in next version*. Creating new habitats; restoring or creating existing habitat; supporting species recovery. BL Woodland and mixed woodland; dense scrub; hedgerows; neutral grassland.
Sovereign Park LWS	Eastbourne Borough Council and local volunteer group	Management plan for the LWS, vegetated shingle enhancement, community engagement. Managing habitats for biodiversity and supporting species recovery.
Springham Farm		Creating new habitat; extending existing area of habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity. Arable and horticulture; BL and mixed woodland; dense scrub; hedgerows; neutral grassland; rivers and streams
Steyning Downland Scheme	Wiston Estate, South Downs National Park Authority, Local Community Groups and schools	Creating new habitat; extending an existing area of habitat; managing habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; species control; supporting species recovery.
The Last Wood and Meadow	Lewes District Council; Seaford Action for Nature	Enhancing habitats on the site for local people to study and enjoy
The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group Albourne Millennium Garden Project	The Woodland Flora and Fauna Group; Albourne Millennium Garden Project.	Providing nesting and roosting boxes for local bird populations

Project Name	Organisations involved	Project information provided
The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group Berrylands Farm Pond Project	The Woodland Flora and Fauna Group; Mid Sussex District Council	Restoration of pond and surrounding habitats; managing habitats for biodiversity; restoring or recreating existing habitat
The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group Pond Lye SNC1 Meadow Recovery Project	The Woodland Flora and Fauna Group; Sussex Piscatorial Society	Recovery, restoration and management of meadow (Local Wildlife Site); seeking recovery of distinctive flora for which the site was designated. Managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat
The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group Talbot Field Nature Area Project	The Woodland Flora and Fauna Group; Hassocks Parish Council	Restoring habitats for the maximum benefit for nature; nesting boxes installed; Managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery
The Woodland, Flora & Fauna Group Woodland Pond Restoration Project	The Woodland Flora and Fauna Group	Recovery, restoration and management of woodland and pond area; Managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat.
Warrior Square Station Community Garden	Network Rail; Transition Town Hastings	Creating new habitat; extending an existing area of habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; supporting species recovery
Wetland Trust	Wetland Trust	Extending an existing area of habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; species control; supporting species recovery. BL and mixed woodland; fen, marsh and swamp; neutral grassland; rivers and streams; standing open water
Wild Heart Hill	SDNPA	Extending and existing area of habitat; restoring or recreating an existing habitat. Broadleaved and mixed woodland
Wildflower Conservation Society	Changing Chalk; National Trust; BHCC	Creating new habitat; extending an existing area of habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; Supporting species recovery. Calcareous grassland; modified grassland; neutral grassland
Wildflower Meadow Restoration	Brighton & Hove Golf Club	Extending an existing area of habitat; managing a habitat for biodiversity; restoring or recreating an existing habitat; Supporting species recovery.

ii) Projects not included within the LNRS

These were excluded as follows:

- broad initiatives/projects (these covered a wide area rather than specific land parcels) and retained 'specific' projects;
- projects that were labelled as 'ideas' – retaining those that were planned or underway;
- projects that were 'completed';
- Any projects that had been added as data points rather than proper site boundaries;

- Projects that were not related to habitat enhancement or creation;
- Projects that were labelled as 'habitat banks' – and transferred these into WRH 1.2 above.

The projects that were added to the map by stakeholders but not included for the reasons above were as follows:

<u>Broad initiatives – considered too large scale to be mapped (but useful mechanisms for supporting delivery)</u>
Brighton & Hove Swift Group (survey, monitoring and engaging)
Brightling Hedge Recovery Network
City Downland Estate Plan (BHCC)
Community River Watch, Rother
Community River Watch, Eastbourne & Pevensey Levels
Dark Skies Community Bid (Brightling Environment Group)
Downs to the Sea
Eastern South Downs Farmer Cluster
Froglife Discovering Dewponds – Neighbourhood Wildlife Corridors
Greening Arundel
Greening Chiddingly Nature Restoration
Green Infrastructure Strategy, Horsham District
Hedgehogs4hailsham
Lewes District Council, Parks and Gardens Biodiversity Enhancement
Lewes Winterbourne project (Environment Agency)
Lost Woods Project
Lower Ouse NFM Project
Manhood Peninsula Hedging our Future
Middle Ouse Farmer Cluster
Natural England – bat project
ReNaturing parks and greenspaces
Save the River Ems
Solent to Seascape Project
Species recovery – Sussex Wildlife Trust
Sussex Bay
Sussex Woods
Trees Outside Woodlands Project, Chichester District
Upper Ouse Farmer Cluster
Wilder Ouse
Woodland, Flora and Fauna Group – Barn owl project
Woodland, Flora and Fauna Group – Bat conservation project

Woodland, Flora and Fauna Group – Dormouse conservation project

Projects excluded as currently ideas – rather than committed projects
Hambrook Catchment Recovery
Harris scrapyard, chalk stream restoration
Improvement of Summerfields Woods LNR for biodiversity
Manhood Landscape Recovery
Pagham seagrass

Completed projects
Buxted Park project
Cockshut Wetlands project, Lewes
EPIC project, Sompting Estate Trust
Froglife Discovering Dewponds Dewpond Restoration
Hedging our Future 1
Hedging our Future 2
Native mixed hedge creation, pond creation and creation of mixed woodland
Ringmer Wetlands
Shelter belt at Saxon Meadow, Tangmere
Spring Meadow, Environment Agency
Twineham River Restoration
Uckfield Millenium Green – new ponds

Moved to 'habitat bank' measure
Ardingly Habitat Bank
Conversion of pasture land to biodiverse habitats
Culver, Cowlease, Bridge and Mill Farms BNG habitat bank
Land at Bolebroke Farm BNG Habitat Bank
Oakwood West Estate BNG
Warren Farm BNG site