

KENT'S PLAN BEE



What might Nature Recovery deliver for species diversity and abundance?

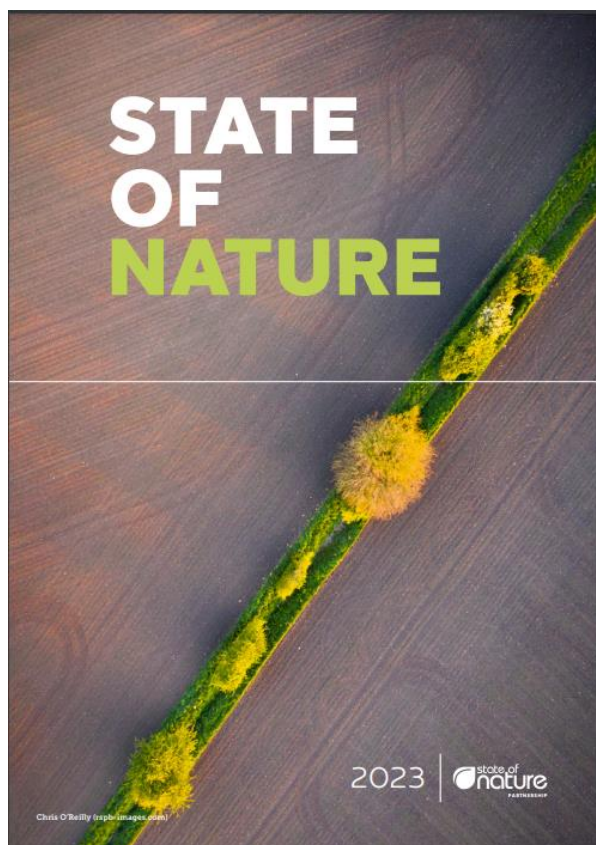
Emma Lansdell Kent's Plan Bee Officer

1. What's happening to species abundance, distribution and diversity nationally?
2. The importance of Kent for species
3. Landscape-scale recovery and its impact on priority species – 2 examples
4. How is LNRS going to make a difference?

KENT'S PLAN BEE



1. What's happening to species abundance, distribution and diversity nationally?



- The distribution of pollinator species, including bees, hoverflies and moths, have decreased by 18% on average
- Invertebrates providing pest control have declined by more than a third (34%)
- **Average 32% decline in all species' abundance**
- **Decreases in the distributions of over half of plant species**
- **13% of UK native species are threatened**

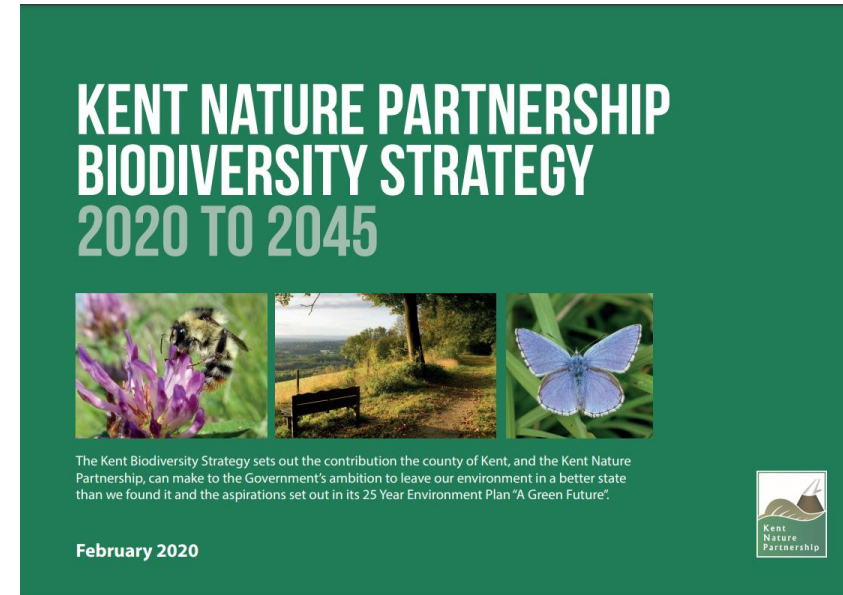
KENT'S PLAN BEE

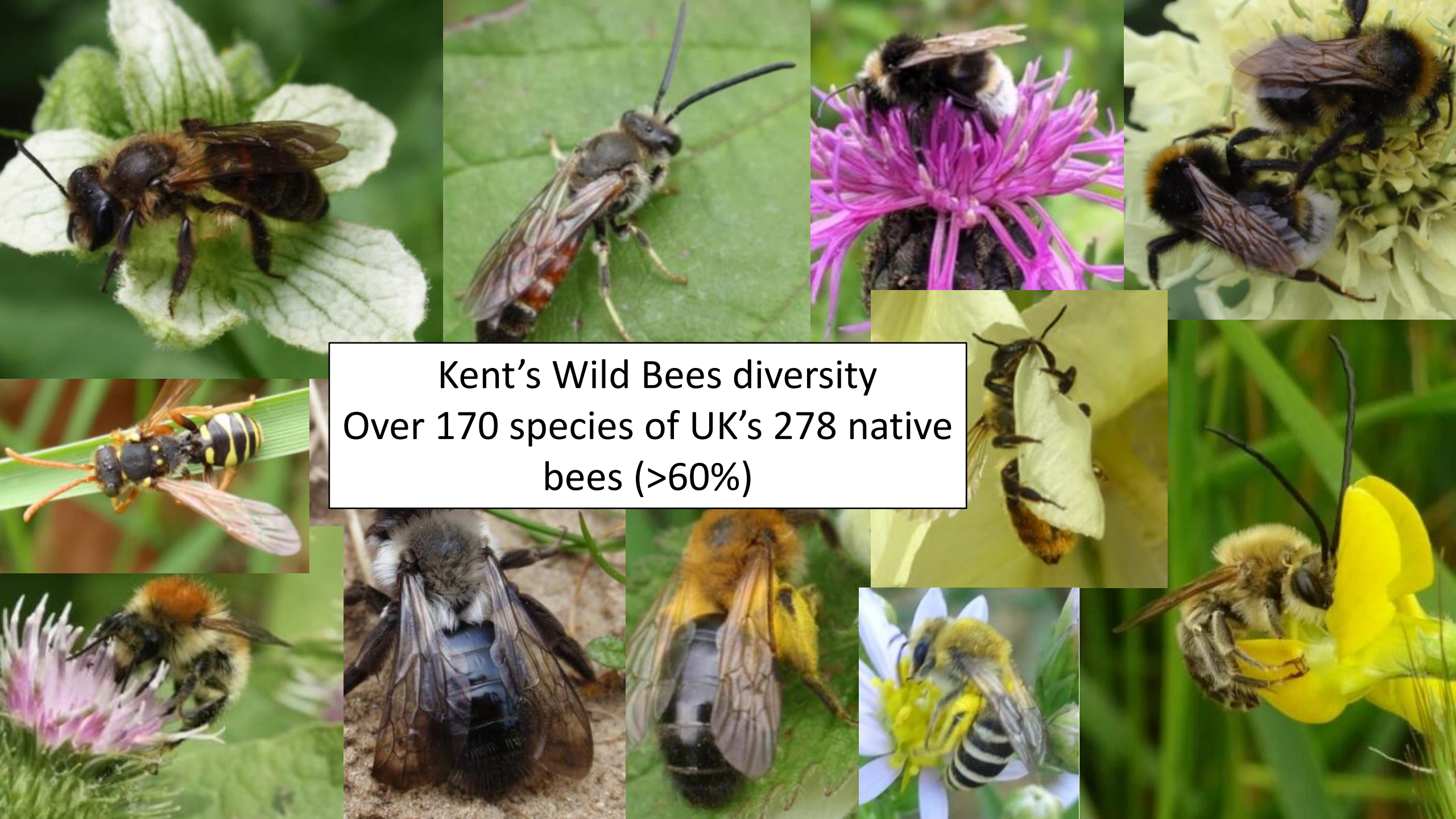


2. The importance of Kent for species

LNRS are required to provide a Statement of Biodiversity Priority including priority species

- Over 20,000 species have been recorded in Kent; nearly 30% of all UK species.
- Over 3,400 rare and threatened species have been recorded in the county.
- 387 priority species recorded in Kent (defined under s41 NERC Act 2006)





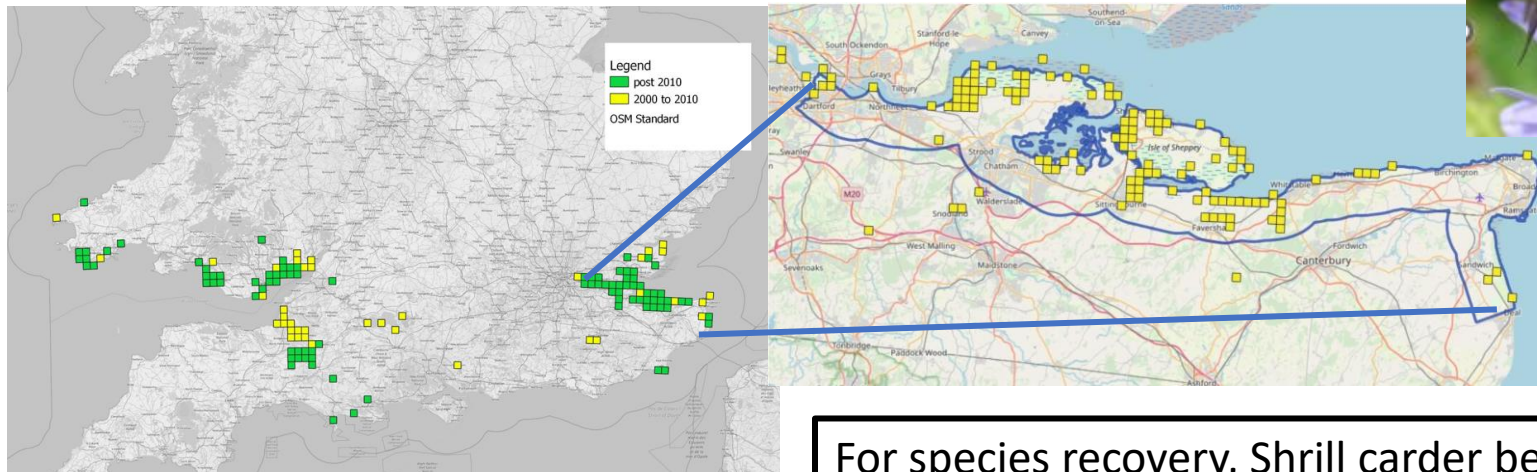
Kent's Wild Bees diversity
Over 170 species of UK's 278 native
bees (>60%)

KENT'S PLAN BEE



Nature Recovery - Species abundance and distribution – one example:

Shrill Carder bee *England's rarest bumble* – why has it declined nationally and what does it require for recovery?



Until 1980s, Shrill carder was recorded across southern England and Wales. National declines caused primarily by habitat loss, intensification of grassland management and development

For species recovery, Shrill carder bee needs close connectivity (<0.5km proximity) of:

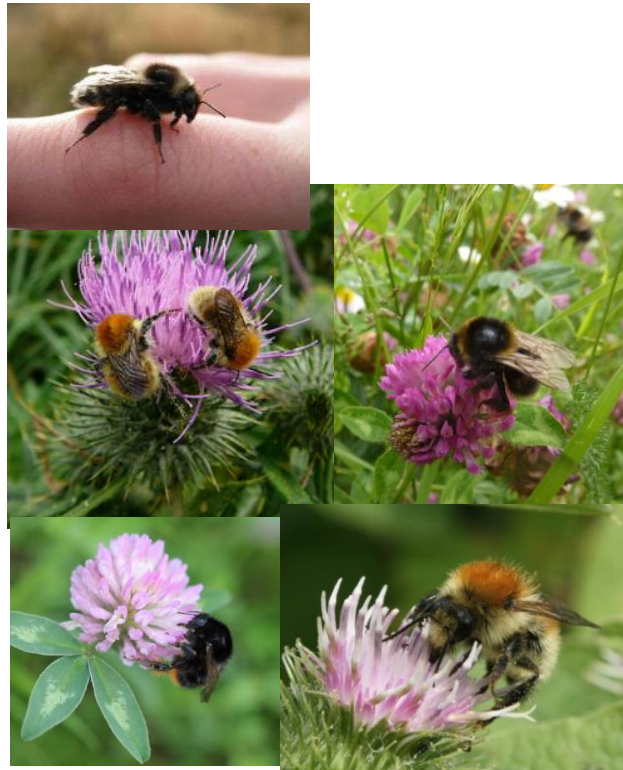
- Suitable flower-rich grasslands from late April to October with deep-structured flowers for forage,
- Tussocky low-management grassland for nesting

KENT'S PLAN BEE



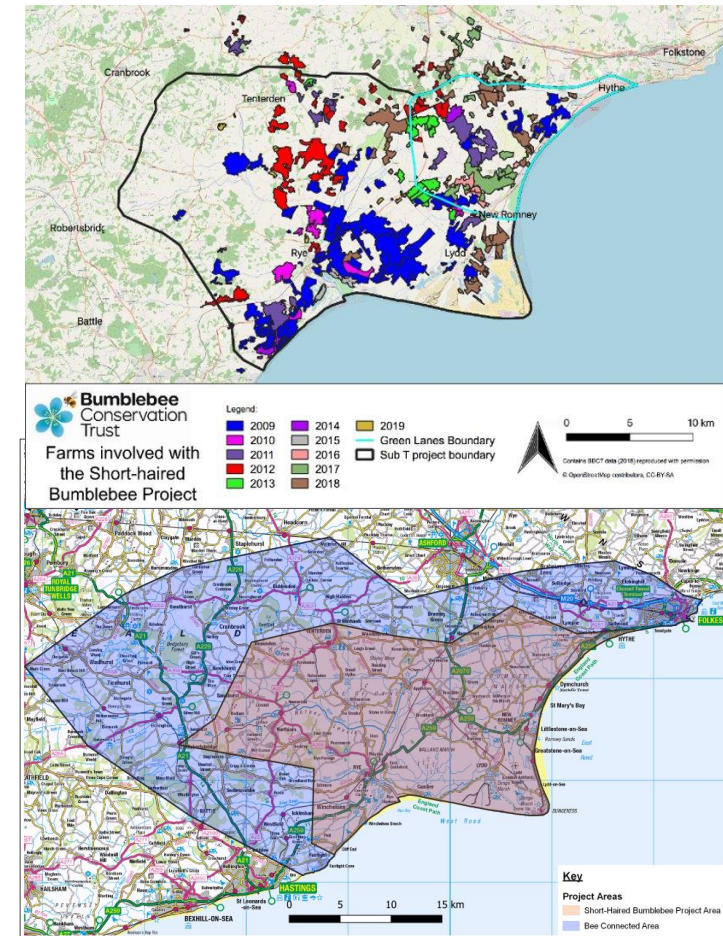
3. Landscape-scale recovery and its impact on priority species

From Short-haired bumblebee reintroduction to Bee Connected project

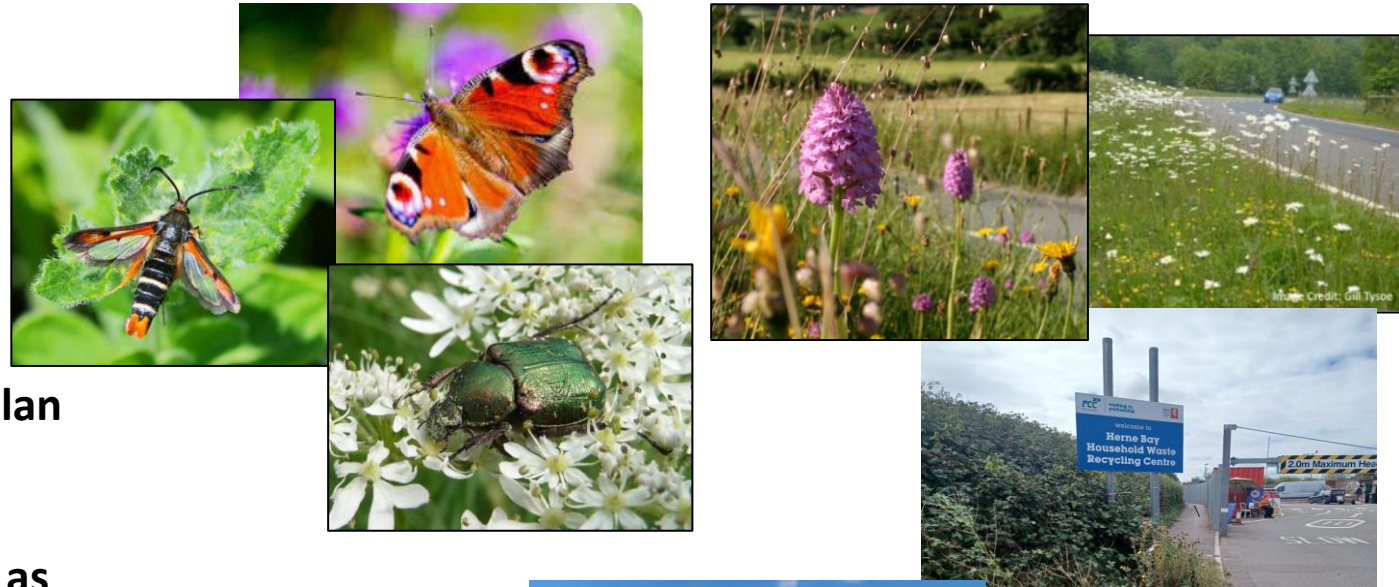


Over 15 years continuity of effort, working with over 70 farmers, 100 other landowners, 3,400ha advised on & managed with over 90 volunteers involved.

5 priority bumblebee species now recovering locally & recorded across project area



KENT'S PLAN BEE



How can initiatives like Plan Bee assist with Nature Recovery?

- 1. Focus on widespread as well as priority species**
- 2. Link up all types of priority sites in rural and urban areas**
- 3. Engage people & encourage citizen science and data evidence**



KENT'S PLAN BEE



Thank you for listening

Emma.Lansdell@bumblebeeconservation.org
[@kentsplanbee](https://www.instagram.com/kentsplanbee)

Photo credits for all the slides: Bex Cartwright, Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Emma Lansdell, Hannah Simmons, Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership, Kent Wildlife Trust, Nikki Gammans, Rosie Bleet

