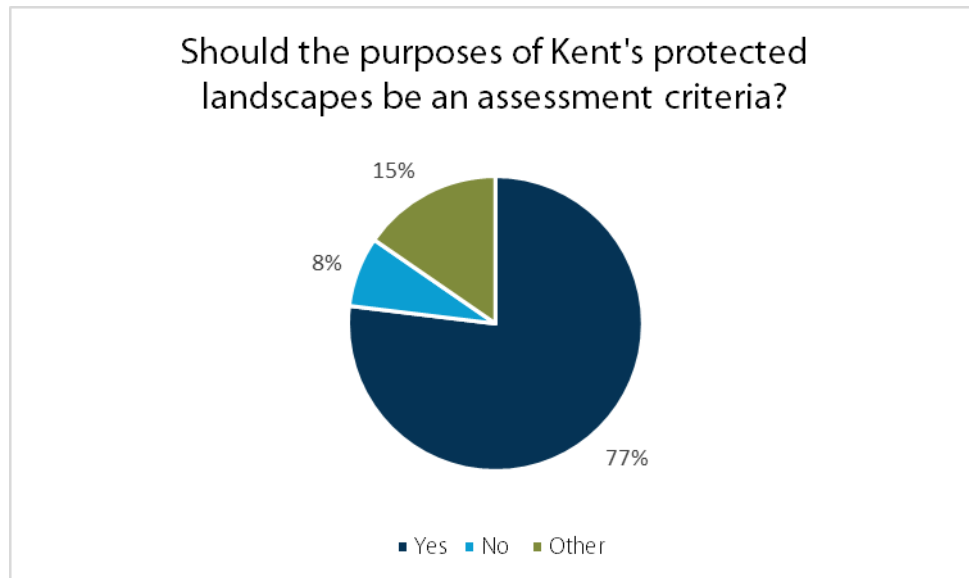


- Short-winged earwig - on the basis of the proportion of their English distribution lying within Kent and Medway.
- Shining ram's-horn - on the basis of the proportion of their English distribution lying within Kent and Medway.
- Dormouse
- Skylark
- Ask every area what their local species are that are being wiped out, displaced, their homes destroyed. In our area that's notably now Skylarks and other ground nesting birds, Badger setts being closed, habitats for our small mammals and reptiles, so I'd include Voles (our birds of prey are fighting over them for survival) and Common Lizards.
- Fiery clearwing.
- Glow worms
- Swallows
- House martins
- Skylarks
- Stag beetles
- Bats
- The Qualifying feature species as identified in the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and Thanet Coast SPA: Golden Plover, Turnstone (most important). In addition little Tern, ringed plover, grey plover, sanderling, Lapland bunting - internationally important for overwintering birds
- Hedgehog.
- Amphibians including newts.
- Kent notable bats / rare bats.
- Hazel Dormouse should be included as such decline.
- The humble dung beetles - need to be protected from pesticides and sheep drenching so they can do their good work turning animal excrement into fertiliser

- Monkey orchid, man orchid, lady orchid, late spider orchid, glow worm, hedgehogs and serotine bats are all covered under qualifying criteria for contribution to the purposes of Kent's protected landscapes.
- A definitive list of qualifying LNRS priority species will be created by the Species Recovery Technical Advisory Group. Rather than pre-empting this work, by the county's species specialists, any proposed priority that relates to a specific species will be reviewed with this group.
- These species suggestions will also be noted to the Species Recovery Technical Advisory Group, for consideration for inclusions in the priority species list.
- By the end of the LNRS development, Kent and Medway will have a detailed list of priority species that can be used for future assessments. Species related priorities excluded in the first assessment can be reviewed again once this list is complete to ensure the exclusion is still appropriate.
- The original qualifying criteria list of species will be used in the first instance (i.e. any priorities relating to these species will not be referred to the Species Recovery Technical Advisory Group. This original priority species list comes from the Kent Biodiversity Strategy, which was developed by an expert working group, peer reviewed and then publicly consulted on. Based on this, and the absence of any objections to these species from the consultation responses, the use of this list considered sound and appropriate.

4. Feedback on assessing contribution to the purposes of Kent's protected landscapes

Question 14 - Do you agree that a contribution to the purposes of Kent's protected landscapes should be an assessment criteria?



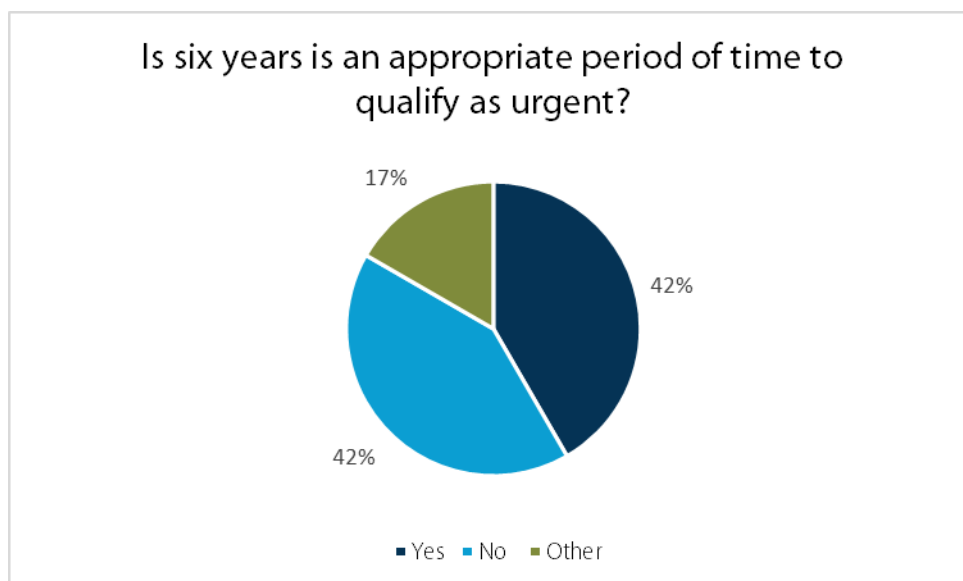
Comments -

- I wish I understood what this question means.
- No – it is not clear why this should be the case. Further justification should be offered.
- Yes, but should also consider the importance of non-protected landscapes that are also important and have been identified through local landscape character areas.
- Other non designated heritage landscape - ask communities are they recorded properly (in case some not known on HER MES records).

- The justification for inclusion of Kent's protected landscapes (formerly AONB) is found in the [Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework](#) 2024, which states the *LNRS should incorporate existing relevant work and align with other environmental spatial strategies. This includes the statutory management plans for National Parks and National Landscapes, which will now include the Protected Landscapes' targets. LNRS in turn will help identify suitable areas for habitat creation or restoration and in setting local priorities, which can help achieve both national and local targets.*
- Based on the feedback, a contribution to the purposes of Kent's protected landscapes will remain as an assessment criteria.

5. Feedback on assessing urgency

Question 15 - Do you agree that an action needing to commence within the next six years is an appropriate period of time to qualify as urgent?



Comments -

- Other - Six years seems an arbitrary period to pick. And, as stated above, it is not clear how such a judgement might be made. With the exception of reintroductions of species currently extinct in the county, it would be hard to think of any action likely to benefit any declining species that should not be started immediately.
- No - Given the increasing rate of devastation, start right now with the most obvious urgent situations and work up from there.
- Other - Yes and no. It takes time to do something well, however, a lot of key landscapes/ habitats could be lost in that time.
- No - 6 years does not qualify as Urgent! =2 years.
- No - Too long. With 2 years and maps in Local Plan making urgent.
- No - The problems are more urgent than that.
- Comment from question 3 - Difficult to define 'urgency' – how is it possible to judge whether action is required in the next 6 years? Will this be based on rate of decline of habitat quality or a species' population, closeness of a species to local extinction, or the need to start immediately in order to achieve measurable change by 2042?

- Qualifying criteria to be reworked to better define urgency on a habitats and species basis and remove the need for a qualifying time period, which will be more difficult to assess.

6. Feedback on assessing climate change

Question 16 - If there are any other habitats in Kent you consider are particularly vulnerable to climate change that aren't included in the assessment criteria, please note them here.

- Subtidal habitats should be included because of vulnerability to sea-temperature rise.
- Chalk grassland in Kent, being mostly on south-facing slopes, may be vulnerable to drought.
- Brooks, ditches and nailbournes.

- Wildflower meadows.
- Chalk cliffs.
- Chestnut coppicing woods - under threat from neglect, and a failure to replant the 250 - 500 year old Oak 'nurse' trees that have been lost in last 30 years e.g. 81 acres 'Pinewood' at Littlebourne

- Seek advice from Natural England on whether chalk grassland and wildflower meadows should be included in qualifying at risk list.
- All other suggested inclusions will be covered by existing qualifying criteria.
- Qualifying criteria has been updated with specific reference list for species at risk from climate change.

Question 17 - Are there any other criteria that should be included when assessing climate change impacts?

- Volatility of the weather.
- Coastal squeeze - forcing over wintering birds further inland onto farmland.
- Impact of all new build housing e.g. pollution, increase water demand etc.
- The extent of the steady loss of native bluebells.
- Habitats/species at risk of invasive non-native species as a result of climate change, so secondary risk as consequence of climate change.

- Non-native species added as a qualifying criteria.
- Other suggestions are considerations but not something that can be included as a qualifying criteria for the shortlisting approach.

7. Feedback on assessing maximising benefits

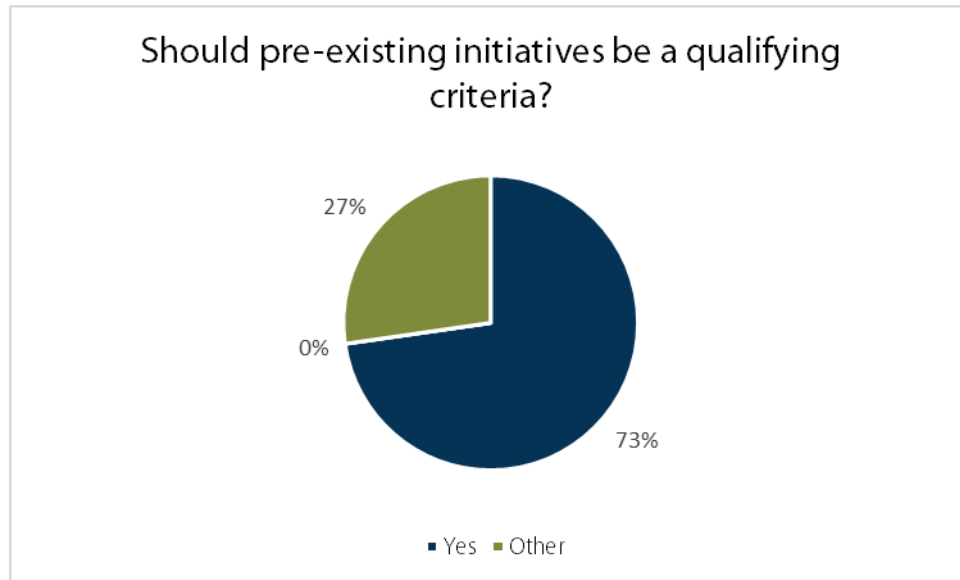
Question 18 - If there are any other environmental benefits you think should be included in the qualifying criteria for maximising benefits, please note them here.

- Local Authorities right down to Town/Parish councils to promote public awareness and participation.
- Yes. Call for Kent Wildlife Sites. Magic maps. Use All habitats combined and add Ancient Woodland and Long Established Woodland and National Forest Inventory, link priority habitats.

- No changes to be made.

8. Feedback on assessing pre-existing initiatives

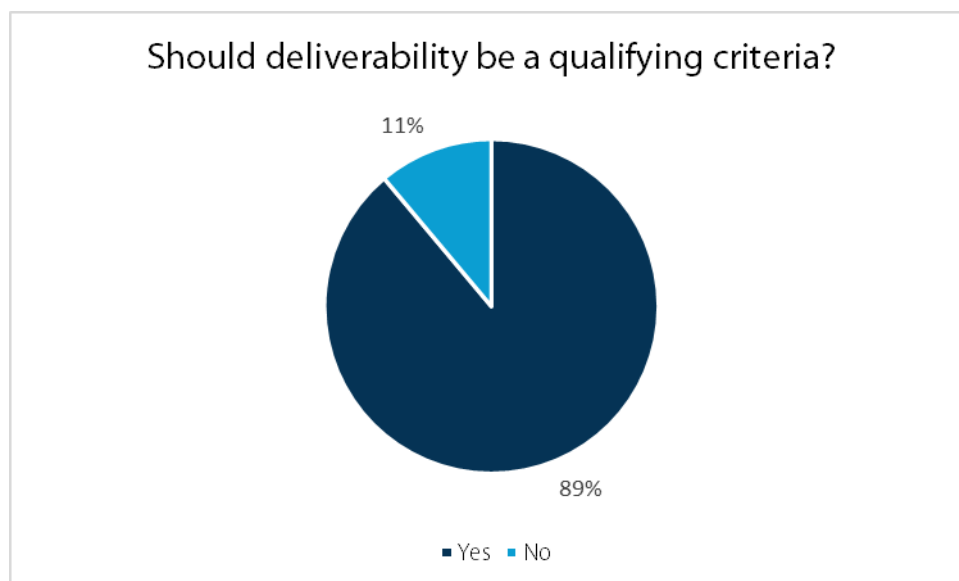
Question 19 - Do you agree that pre-existing initiatives should be a qualifying criteria for the shortlist?



- They may need extra help.
 - Does this mean that future initiatives wouldn't be included ? If so, this seems unacceptably restrictive.
 - Restorable habitats may take longer e.g. lowland heath.
- Using pre-existing initiatives as a low weighting qualifying criteria simply provides a further angle to select priorities on – recognising the value that building on previous gains may have. No future initiatives will be excluded as a result.
 - No changes to be made.

9. Feedback on assessing deliverability

Question 20 - Do you agree that deliverability should be a qualifying criteria for the shortlist?



- No, not given the definition of deliverability provided. Clearly, a project should be practically deliverable (e.g. the geology, hydrology etc. should be appropriate). However, funders should be encouraged to support the actions deemed important, as should delivery partners. Otherwise, it undermines the validity of the whole process.
- Comment from Q3 - Looking at deliverability at this stage could potentially exclude important, but hard to deliver outcomes. We don't want to only focus on quick wins.

Proposed response:

- The [LNRS regulations and guidance](#) state that *local nature recovery strategies should be practical, realistic and deliverable documents. So, responsible authorities should avoid including any potential measures that are not likely to be implemented in the foreseeable future.* Therefore, we need to include a selection criteria that relates to deliverability.
- As priorities will not be site based, consideration of the practicality of delivery based on geology, hydrology etc cannot be applied at this stage.
- It is noted that deliverability carries the lowest weighting and categories under lowest weighting will largely be used to distinguish between priorities when all other considerations are equal.
- Criteria regarding funding has been amended to “potential opportunities can be identified” and opportunities are further defined.

Question 21 - If there are any other criteria that should be considered when assessing deliverability, please note them here.

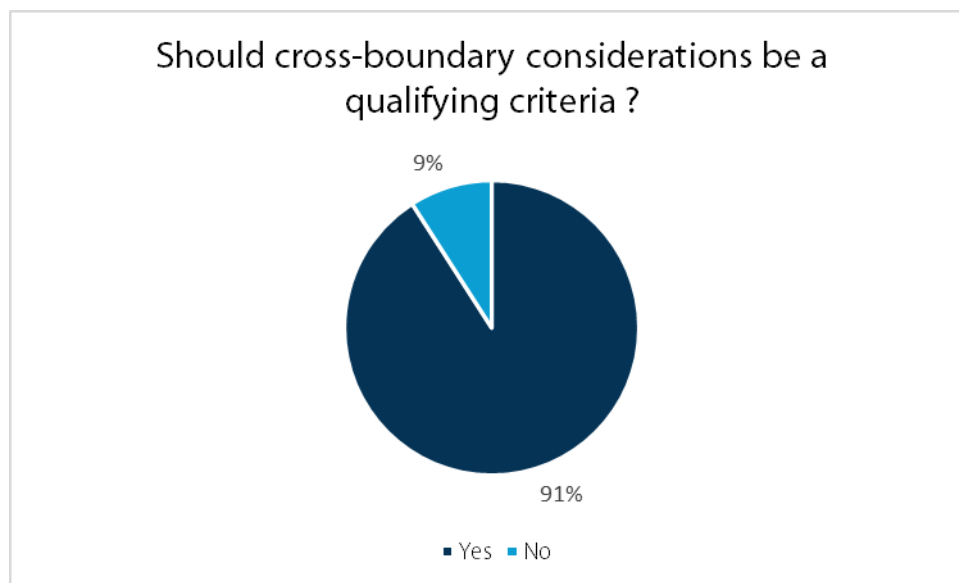
- Likelihood of success and ethical considerations eg. species translocations should follow IUCN best practice.
- Not just deliverability but also longevity.
- Will LNRS identify possible funding streams for deliverability?
- Financial investment if available e.g. grants.

Proposed response:

- No additions to be made.

10. Assessing cross-boundary considerations

Question 22 - Do you agree that cross-boundary considerations should be a qualifying criteria for the shortlist?



- No - within Kent no, as if looking at a landscape scale it is automatically included by default.
- Yes - What boundaries, should be common interest between counties.
- Yes - linking habitats and wildlife corridors between District.

Proposed response:

- No changes to be made.

11. Summary of changes made to shortlisting approach as a result of the consultation

1. Neighbourhood plans to be included in the list of plans and strategies to be reviewed.
2. Weighting of climate change impacts to be changes from medium to high.
3. If second round of assessment is required, the weighting of deliverability will be increased from low to medium to assist in shortlisting.
4. Irreplaceable habitats added to the qualifying criteria for habitats of local and national significance.
5. Any proposed priorities relating to a species not included in the qualifying criteria list, priority will be referred to the MS4N Species Recovery Technical Advisory Group as to whether it qualifies as a species of local or national significance.
6. Government's biodiversity environmental targets of 2023 regulations included in qualifying criteria for contribution to national targets.

7. Qualifying criteria for urgency changed from a time period to more defined criteria relating to threat to or importance of the habitat and/or species in Kent.
8. Climate change impacts qualifying criteria amended to also include species vulnerable to climate change and non-native species.
9. Criteria for deliverability relating to funding amended to "potential opportunities can be identified" and opportunities are further defined.