



Making Space for Nature in Kent and Medway

Developing the County's Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Kent and Medway LNRS mapping workshops September 2024

Workshop purpose and introduction

The purpose of the workshops is to effectively ground truth the desk-based mapping work, with stakeholders having the opportunity to interrogate the layers that inform and make up the LNRS's Areas that Could become of Importance for Biodiversity (ACIB).

The ACIB has been created by:

Mapping each potential measure to the areas where it will deliver the greatest benefits for nature and wider environmental goals.



Combining these potential measures to create a mapped layer of "Areas that could become of importance for *dedicated* habitat" – based on each of the habitat sub-priorities.



Combining these areas to create a mapped layer of "Areas that could become of importance for *specific* habitat grouping" – based on grassland; successional habitats; woodland, trees & hedgerows; . freshwater; urban; and coastal.



Combining these areas to create the county-wide "Areas that could become of importance for biodiversity".

The following mapping will be available for stakeholders to review and scrutinise during the workshop:

- The draft LNRS "Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity".
- The emerging draft LNRS "Areas that Could become of Importance for Biodiversity" map for Kent and Medway; i.e. the final output of all the potential measures mapping.
- The various level of mapping that have informed the "Areas that Could become of Importance for Biodiversity", including potential measures mapping and priority mapping.

Programme

9.30am Registration and refreshments.

Large maps will be available around the room for people to look at during this period.

10.00am Introductions

- Chair's welcome.
- Overview of how maps have been produced (if available in time, copies of the maps and an overview of the process will be circulated to stakeholders ahead of the workshops).
- Stakeholder questions.
- Instructions for workshop.

10.30am Session 1 – reviewing the priority areas for the habitat-based potential measures.

Tables will be based on the six habitat-based groupings:

- Grassland habitats
- Successional habitats
- Woodland, trees and hedgerows
- Freshwater
- Urban
- Coast

Stakeholders will be asked to move around the room and attend any tables which feature the mapping of the habitat-based potential measures they are interested in reviewing and commenting on. Stakeholders are welcome to attend just one table, all six or anywhere in between – there is no restriction on the time spent at the table. Stakeholders will be reminded of the time throughout the 90 minute session to enable them to manage their time and input to all they wish to.

Each table will have a facilitator, to direct stakeholders, offer assistance and answer questions, and ensure that all comments and suggested amendments are properly captured and understood.

Tea and coffee will be made available during this morning session.

12.00pm Lunch.

12.30pm **Session 2 – reviewing the priority areas for the LNRS overarching priorities.**

Tables will be based on the three overarching priorities of:

- Connectivity
- Nature based solutions
- Land management and land use

Stakeholders will be asked to move around the room and attend any tables which feature the mapping of the three broad-approach priorities' potential measures they are interested in reviewing and commenting on. As before, stakeholders are welcome to attend as many tables as they wish during the session and stakeholders will be reminded of the time throughout.

1.30pm **Session 3 – reviewing the "Areas that could become of importance for biodiversity"**

Tables will be based on regions of Kent, designed around the following district boundaries with stakeholders asked to attend one table for the session:

- North Kent - Dartford, Gravesham, Medway and Swale.
- East Kent - Canterbury, Ashford, Thanet, Dover and Folkestone & Hythe.
- Mid Kent - Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge & Malling and Tunbridge Wells.
- Kent-wide

The purpose of this session will be to review whether the ACIB directs action to where its most needed and will deliver the greatest benefits - and note any gaps of concern or inclusions of concern.

2.20pm **Plenary session**

Each table from session three to note any challenges of, extensions to, or proposals for new Areas that Could become of Importance for Biodiversity. Comments and thoughts to be invited from workshop delegates.

2.55pm **Next steps and thanks from Chairman.**

3.00pm **Close.**