

Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy

November 2025

Appendix 2.2 – How Kent and Medway’s strategies and plans have informed the LNRS



Kent and Medway
Local Nature
Recovery strategy

Making space for the county's nature



Strategy / Plan	Description	How this informed the Local Nature Recovery Strategy
Catchment Flood Management Plans for: North Kent River Stour River Medway River Darent & Cray River Rother	Flood risk management policies for all types of inland flooding, from rivers, groundwater, surface water and tidal flooding.	Understanding flood risk and identifying opportunities to align nature recovery with natural flood management measures. Provided spatial evidence for freshwater and nature-based solutions potential measures mapping.
National Landscape Management Plans for: High Weald Kent Downs	Identifies the key issues, opportunities and threats facing the landscape and sets out aims and principles for the positive conservation and enhancement of the national landscape.	Used to define the priority selection criteria in terms whether the priority contributed to the purposes of Kent's protected landscape. Identifying opportunities for the LNRS to support and contribute to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the purposes of Kent's protected landscapes. - the delivery of the Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework, with reference to targets relating to thriving plants and wildlife and mitigating and adapting to climate change. - the restoration, enhancement and extension of the natural features the national landscape is designated for. Informing the list of habitat-based possible actions, used as the basis for the LNRS potential measures. Provided spatial evidence for potential measures mapping.
Kent Biodiversity Strategy	Joint strategy for the county's biodiversity, that outlines aims and objectives for the maintenance, restoration and creation of habitats and protection and recovery of species. Sets targets for habitats and species of importance and significance.	With the Biodiversity Strategy still current and adopted/endorsed by many authorities and bodies within the county, this provided a baseline to the minimum aspirations the LNRS needed to work to. Kent Biodiversity Strategy will be superseded by the LNRS.
Kent Climate Change Adaption Plan	Setting out how Kent County Council will ensure the authority's assets it manages, services it delivers and areas it influences are resilient to the negative impacts and well-positioned to benefit from any opportunities that arise from Kent's changing climate	Identifies the climate change impact priorities for nature-based solutions to potentially assist in addressing. Informed methodology for mapping of nature-based solutions potential measures.
Kent County Parks	Aspirations for the country parks service over the next five	As a potential delivery partner, with large land assets, this

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Strategy	years.	informed the deliverability of the priorities and measures. Country Parks also provides a chance for the public to connect with high quality habitats and understand the purposes and outcomes of the LNRS. Provided spatial evidence for mapping of potential measures relating to greenspace and access.
Kent District Level Licensing Scheme for Great Crested Newts Strategy	Setting out target areas for new or restored ponds to compensate for loss of habitat for great crested newts.	Providing spatial evidence for mapping of potential measures relating to ponds and priority species.
Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy	Sets out how Kent will respond to the UK climate emergency, eliminate poor air quality, reduce fuel poverty and promote the development of an affordable, clean and secure energy supply across Kent and Medway.	Identifies the climate change impact priorities for nature-based solutions to potentially assist in addressing. Informed methodology for mapping of nature-based solutions potential measures.
Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Identifies objectives to manage local flood risk to local communities from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.	Understanding flood risk and identifying opportunities to align nature recovery with natural flood management measures. Provided spatial evidence for freshwater and nature-based solutions potential measures mapping.
Kent Local Transport Plan	Sets out proposals for improving roads and public transport in Kent, striking a balance between the investment needed to improve the county's economy, to make living and working better, whilst also preparing transport networks to meet the environmental challenges facing the county.	Identify net zero priorities for nature-based solutions to potentially assist in addressing. Spatial information about future infrastructure developments.
Kent Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy	Outlines the priority areas and collaborative action to improve people's health and reduce health inequalities that exist in the county.	Identifying the opportunities where wider environmental benefits may support health and wellbeing requirements within the county. Provided spatial evidence for mapping of potential measures that had additional benefits to health and wellbeing.
Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan	Sets out the vision and strategy for waste management and mineral provision. It also contains a number of development management policies for evaluating minerals and waste planning applications.	Align and enhance policies relating to biodiversity and identify opportunities for nature recovery.

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Kent Plan Bee	Pollinator action plan for Kent County Council, relating to how pollinators are considered and provided for throughout the delivery of the council's work and services.	Opportunity to embed pollinator conservation at a strategic level, beyond just an individual authority.
Kent Plan Tree	Kent County Council tree establishment strategy, outlining how the authority will work with partners to improve woodland management and extend tree cover across the county.	Opportunity for the LNRS to support and contribute to aims of the strategy and provide the spatial framework needed for improved management and the targeting of tree establishment.
Kent Rights of Way Improvement Plan	Objectives for Kent's Public Rights of Way network and wider public access.	Potential delivery partner (alongside National Trails UK), identifying opportunities and potential measures for network to support nature recovery through its management and maintenance. PROW network and National Trails also provide an opportunity for public to connect with nature and understand the purposes and outcomes of the LNRS. Provided spatial evidence for mapping of potential measures relating to greenspace and access and those associated with the additional benefits of health and wellbeing.
Local green infrastructure strategies	Identifies opportunities to protect and enhance green infrastructure.	Align policies relating to green infrastructure, in particular that in urban areas, identify local priorities the LNRS can support and identify opportunities where nature-based solutions and green infrastructure can be delivered together for multiple benefits. Provided spatial evidence for mapping of potential measures relating to greenspace and access and those associated with the additional benefits of health and wellbeing.
Local Plans	Guides how an area will develop in the future – is the main consideration when deciding planning applications. Usually covers housing, employment, shops, areas where development should take place/ should be restricted and areas to be protected.	Align and enhance policies relating to biodiversity and identify opportunities for nature recovery. Provided spatial evidence for potential measures mapping. Spatial information for future land use.
Medway Rights of Way Improvement Plan	Medway's priorities and actions to improve Medway's public rights of way over the next 10 years.	Potential delivery partner (alongside National Trails UK), identifying opportunities and potential measures for network to support nature recovery through its management and

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		<p>maintenance.</p> <p>PROW network and National Trails also provide an opportunity for public to connect with nature and understand the purposes and outcomes of the LNRS.</p> <p>Provided spatial evidence for mapping of potential measures relating to greenspace and access and those associated with the additional benefits of health and wellbeing.</p>
Medway Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy	High-level framework for improving health and wellbeing in Medway.	<p>Identifying the opportunities where wider environmental benefits may support health and wellbeing requirements within the county.</p> <p>Provided spatial evidence for mapping of potential measures that had additional benefits to health and wellbeing.</p>
NHS Kent and Medway Green Plan	Plan to reduce environmental impact.	Identifies the climate change impact priorities for nature-based solutions to potentially assist in addressing.
Preliminary flood risk assessment	Gives an overview of flood risk in Kent, identifying areas of significant flood risk, past flood events and future flood risks.	<p>Understanding flood risk and identifying opportunities to align nature recovery with natural flood management measures.</p> <p>Provided spatial evidence for freshwater and nature-based solutions potential measures mapping.</p>
River Basin Management Plans	Set the legally binding locally specific environmental objectives that underpin water regulation and planning activities.	<p>Objectives and possible actions for freshwater habitats to inform those of LNRS.</p> <p>Provided spatial evidence for freshwater and nature-based solutions potential measures mapping.</p>
Shoreline Management Plans	Identify the most sustainable approach for managing coastal flooding and erosion.	<p>Aligning ambitions for the Kent coast's management, ensuring that future scenarios for coastal change are embedded into LNRS ambitions and potential measures.</p> <p>Provided spatial evidence for coastal and nature-based solutions potential measures mapping.</p>
Surface water management plans	Projects to investigate local flooding issues and identify options to reduce local flooding.	<p>Understanding flood risk and identifying opportunities to align nature recovery with natural flood management measures.</p> <p>Provided spatial evidence for freshwater and nature-based solutions potential measures mapping.</p>

