

Connectivity priorities and potential measures

A potential measure is the proposed action to deliver the priority. They must be practical and achievable. Potential measures mapping identifies where the action determined as necessary for our nature recovery priorities should be strategically targeted to achieve the greatest gains for biodiversity and deliver the widest environmental benefits. It is only potential measures that are eligible for the biodiversity net gain strategic significance uplift – and only when those potential measures are delivered in the areas they have been mapped to.

Priority	Potential measure reference number	Potential measure	Principle delivering against	Delivery preference
CON2 – Fragmentation caused by arterial roads, railway and other major infrastructure retrospectively addressed, reconnecting habitats and wildlife pathways.	CON2.1	Installation of green bridges, wildlife crossings, tunnels and other appropriate structures, alongside retrofitting existing structures, to address historic fragmentation caused by major infrastructure.	Connected	4

Connectivity priorities and wider measures

Wider measures are proposed actions which would be similarly beneficial over wide areas or those where it was not possible to determine specific locations to carry out the proposed action. Collectively, these wider measures identify areas of additional opportunities for nature recovery but do not form a part of the formal Strategy's local habitat map. Wider measures are NOT eligible for the biodiversity net gain strategic significance uplift – this only applies to potential measures.

Priority	Wider measure reference number	Wider measure	Principle delivering against	Delivery preference
CON1 – County's key wildlife sites better connected by addressing the fragmentation and barriers preventing movement of species	CON1.1	Improve functional connectivity corridors between the designated and protected sites of the Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity and safeguard these areas.	Connected	4
CON3 – Habitat management and wilding approaches delivering a mosaic of habitats at a large scale, that are functionally connected and nature can flourish, with no important habitats or species populations left completely isolated.	CON3.1	Set aside and/or put in place active management to prevent loss of, or damage to, areas of importance for functional connectivity.	Better	1
	CON3.2	Enhance habitats alongside the county's highway, railway, cycleway, pathway and PROW networks and National Trails to become functional networks for wildlife movements and provide opportunities for people to connect with nature.	Connected	4
	CON3.3	Maximise opportunities to restore wildflower habitat on road verges to contribute to a county network of wildlife-friendly habitat corridors.	Connected	4

Priority	Wider measure reference number	Wider measure	Principle delivering against	Delivery preference
	CON3.4	Implement broad buffer zones and connecting strips between habitat areas designated or managed for their biodiversity value.	Better	