

Kent and Medway LNRS launch

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (and more...)

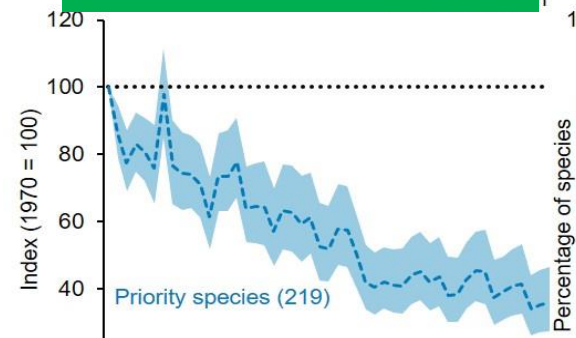
Edel McGurk, Regional Director, Southeast, Natural England



Context – What we are trying to fix

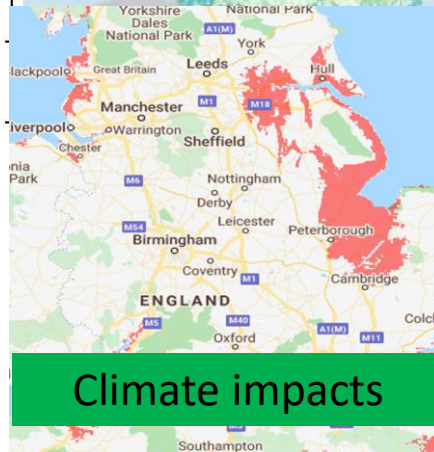
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Species/nature decline

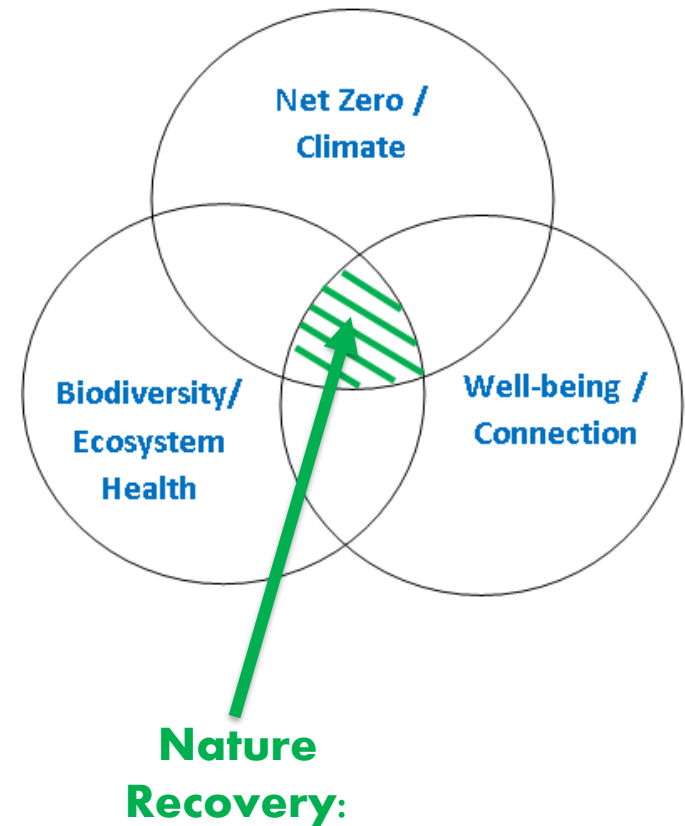


Pollution

Social Inequalities



Climate impacts



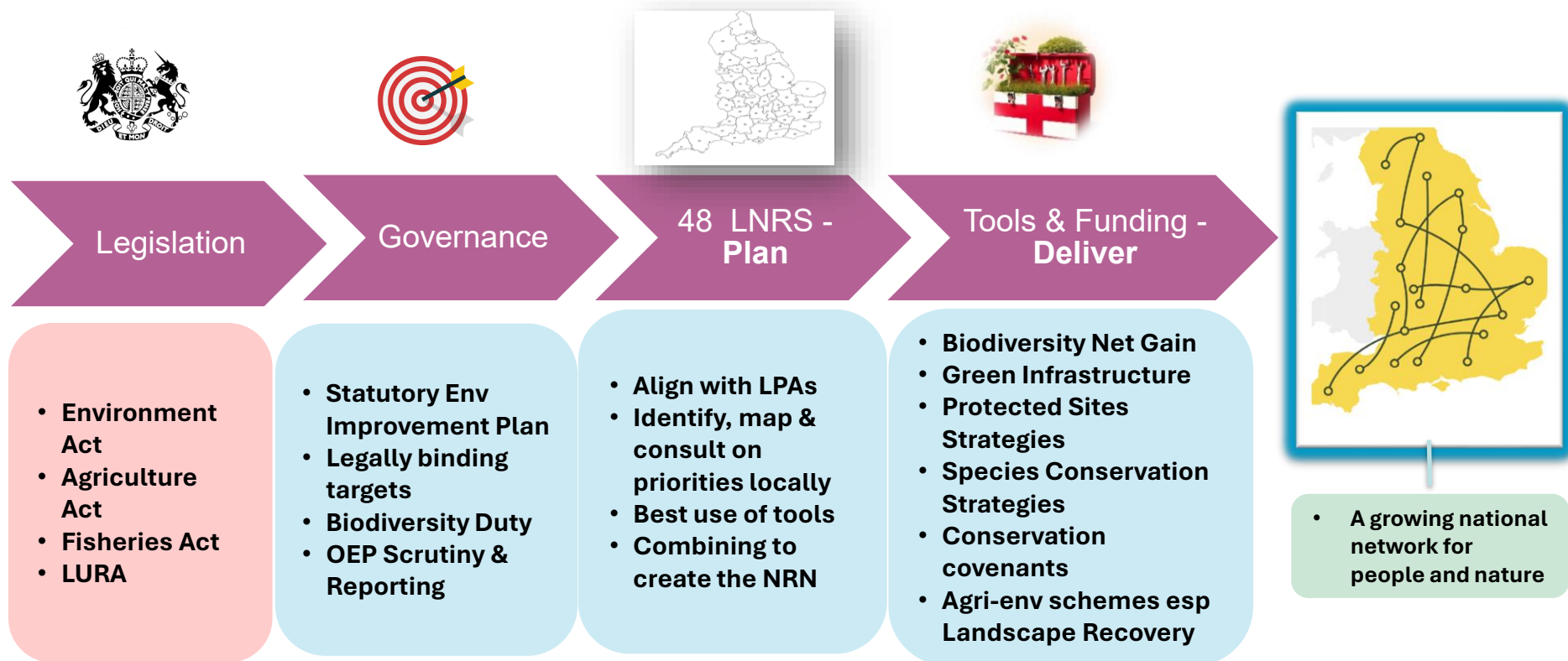
Local Nature Recovery Strategies



- 48 spatial strategies for nature and environmental improvement
- Locally-led and collaboratively produced
- What they do
 - Agree priorities for nature recovery
 - Map the most valuable existing areas for nature; map proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals
- Integration into planning system strengthened through LURA
- Main targeting mechanism, including for funding

How the framework fits together

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How will LNRS be used?



- **BNG Targeting:** Determines 'high strategic significance' areas.
- **Public Authority Responsibility:** Helps meet biodiversity conservation duties.
- **Planning:** requirement for plan-makers to consider LNRS.
- **Agriculture & Land Management:** Guides landowners on sustainable practices and opportunities eg for Landscape Recovery proposals.
- **Funding Criteria:** Supports nature recovery project applications.
- **DEFRA arms-length bodies:** inform existing functions.
- **Protected Landscape management plans:** inform development and implementation.

Future Applications of LNRS

LNRSs might be used:

- as criteria in future government nature recovery **funding**.
- Role in identifying land for Government's **30 by 30** conservation targets.
- Influencing **corporate donations** and green finance investments.

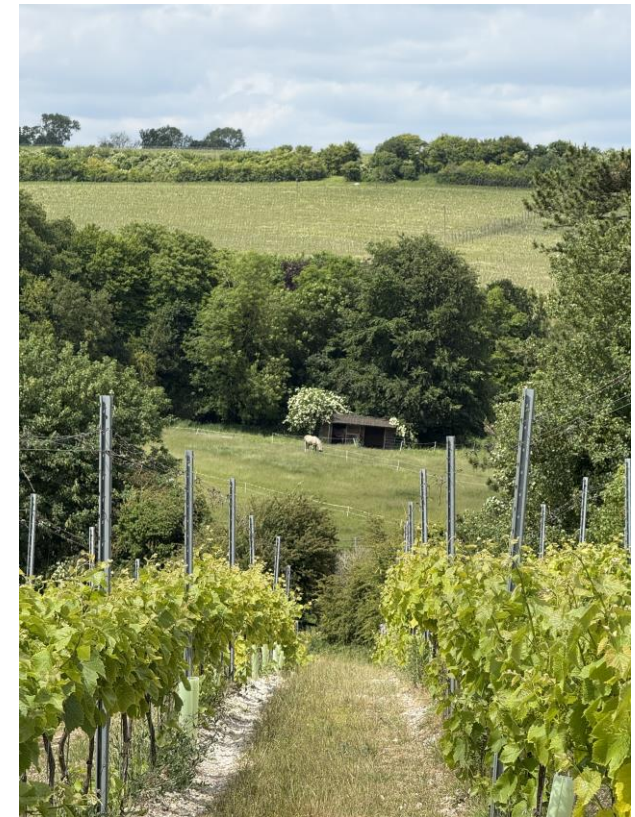
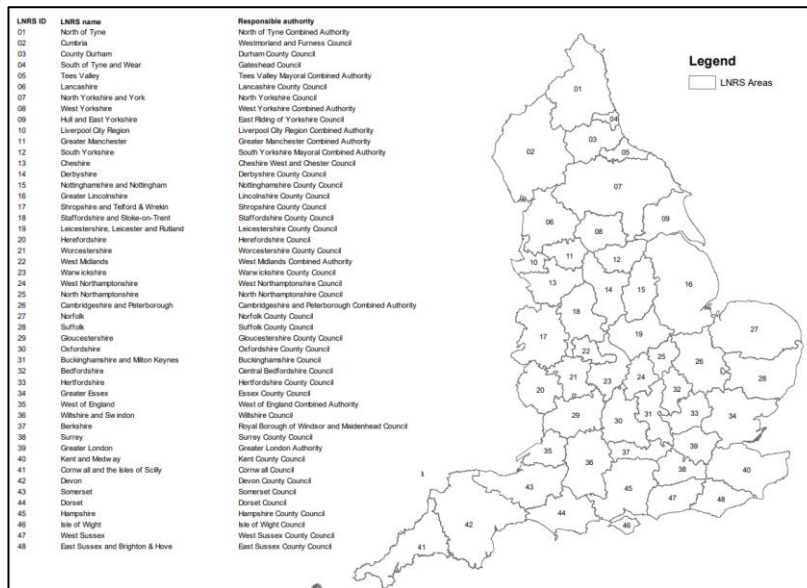


Waxcaps, Frittenden church yard.
Credit: Ben Thompson

Where have we got to: current state of play

Currently ...

- There are 18 LNRS published.
- Kent is number 19.



Silverhand Vineyard, Credit Karen Faux:

Why the Kent and Medway LNRS stands out



- Engagement
- Visual tools
- Consultation
- Analysis of feedback



European green crab. Credit: Rachael Avery

- Critical now to move LNRS into delivery phase, building momentum
- Kent and Medway LNRS built on excellent engagement, need to sustain this.

4 Areas of Focus:

- Partnership
- Embedding
- Projects
- Monitoring



Funding EIP Commitments



- Significant **public funding commitments** for nature restoration
- **BUT Mind the Gap!** Est. £21-53bn for England over next 10 years
- **Private finance is critical, blended with public and third sector funding.**
- HMG private finance target - £500m/year by 2027 and over £1bn/year by 2030.
- Strong private sector drivers for investment in nature.
- BUT needs confidence, coordination and scale; linking local LNRS to national ambitions is key.



<https://www.greenfinanceinstitute.co.uk/news-and-insights/finance-gap-for-uk-nature-report/>

Emerging regional nature partnerships

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Regional Nature Partnerships:
Nature SE, Nature SW, Nature North, Midlands Nature, Natural Capital East

Investable Propositions will:

- Provide an attractive offer to funders, buyers and investors
- Bring together landowners, project developers and deliverers behind ambitious vision



Recovering Nature for Growth, Health and Security

Natural England's Strategy





1

Recovering Nature

Increased scale and quality of places where nature thrives

Natural systems such as rivers, forests and seas are restored

Wildlife is thriving in protected areas, which are better connected

Ecosystems are stronger and healthier



Integrating nature to sustain growth and support society into a more secure and equitable future



2

Building Better Places

Greener homes and infrastructure create healthier and more investible places

Nature is integrated into development and investment plans

Nature is recognised as an investment that provides returns

Strategic solutions unlock low carbon and high nature development



3

Improving Health and Wellbeing

Build nature into everyday life so people can support, access and benefit from it wherever they live

More nature close to people's homes

Engagement with nature is improving health, wellbeing and prosperity

More opportunities for people to shape and look after nature



4

Delivering Security through Nature

Nature strengthens national security and helps us adapt to climate change

Nature-based solutions deliver clean and plentiful water, and clean air

Nature-friendly farming and fisheries increase food security

Nature improves our resilience to climate change



- Our People and Organisation
- Partnerships and Collaboration
- Science, Data and Technology



drive systemic recovery

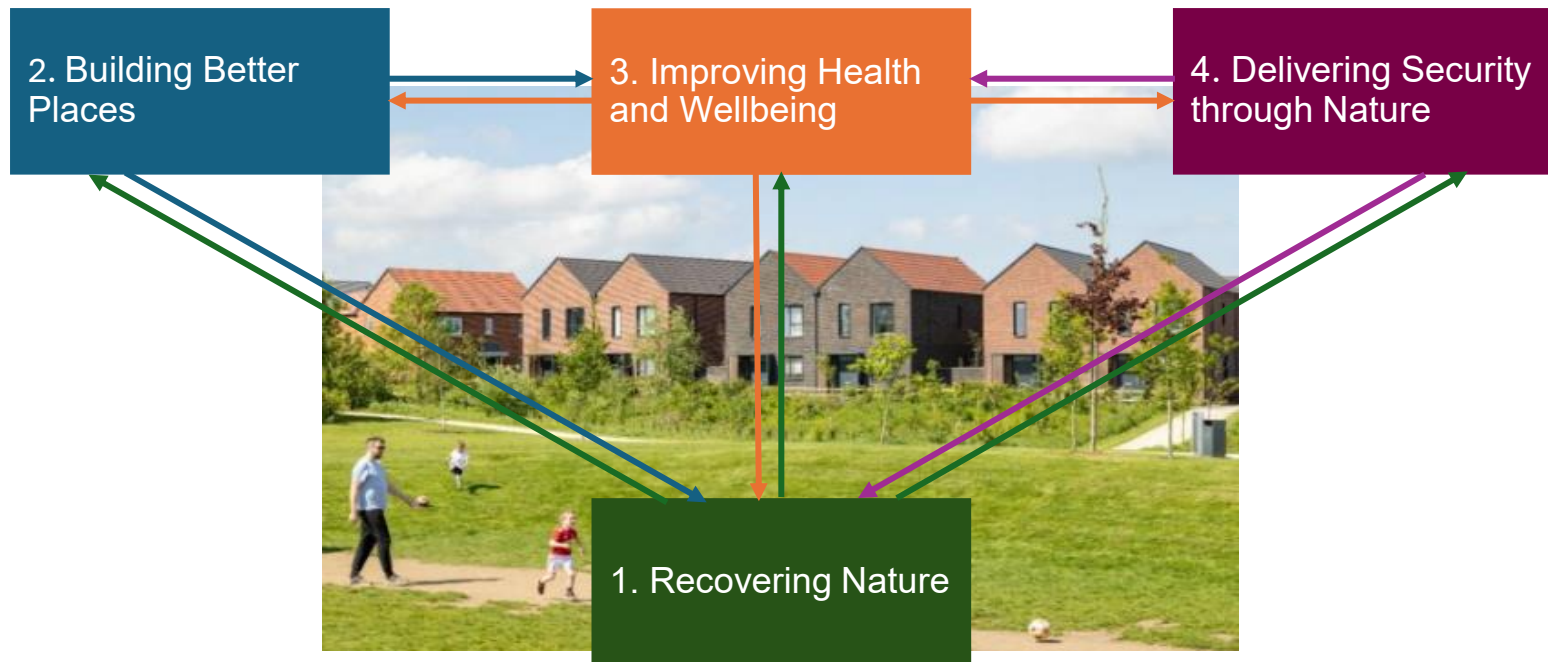
enable local decision-making

implement better regulation

expand investment in nature projects



Strategic Outcomes and Foundations of Success



Foundations of Success

Our People and Organisation - Partnerships & Collaboration - Science, Data and Technology

Outcome 1: Recovering Nature

Increased scale and quality of places where nature thrives.



Outcome 2: Building Better Places

Greener homes and infrastructure to create healthier and more investable places.



Outcome 3: Improving Health and Wellbeing

Build nature into everyday life so people can support, access and benefit from nature wherever they live.



Outcome 4: Delivering Security through Nature

Nature strengthens national security and helps us adapt to climate change.



....supported by Foundations of Success



Our People and Organisation – help our people to be bold, innovative and flexible, improve our services and systems, through digital transformation and shift to a service-based approach to provide clarity and impact



Partnerships and Collaboration – use our convening powers to drive integrated action, build partnerships and programmes which enable nature's benefits to be realised at scale



Science, Data and Technology – how we monitor and evaluate to track progress and inform smart decisions and new ideas, champion innovation and experimentation and use evidence to take risk-based outcomes focused decisions

The approach it points to

Systemic change in approach

- National policies that prioritise ecosystem health and drive recovery

Empowered local decision-makers

- Shifting power to local levels to deliver tailored, place-based solutions

Better regulation

- Easier processes, less red tape, reward not restrict nature-positive efforts

Investment in nature projects

- Unlocking more investment for nature recovery
- Championing bold nature-based solutions that deliver environmental and economic benefits

