Liverpool City Region Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Priorities For Nature Recovery





Coastal and Estuarine

Priority	Why
Sensitively managed, interconnected and dynamic coastal habitats: promoting natural processes, varied and biodiverse habitats, and a resilient coastal landscape.	To capture and store carbon, help reduce flood risk and manage coastal change.
Appropriate management of coastal and estuarine recreation.	To relieve pressure on biodiversity, prevent erosion, and connect people with nature, in line with any future local mitigation strategies.
Improved water quality within the marine, estuarine and intertidal areas.	To increase biodiversity and provide more accessible natural spaces.
High quality estuarine and intertidal habitats, with functionally linked land in good condition.	To improve access for migratory species including fish and birds, and to increase recognition and protection of high tide roosting, feeding and breeding locations for estuarine birds.
Clay cliffs in good habitat condition that are allowed to follow their natural processes.	Ensuring compatibility with the shoreline management plan and local coastal protection policies.

Farmland

Priority	Why
Sustainable farming working in partnership with nature to improve biodiversity while maintaining agricultural productivity.	To improve soil quality, increase pollinators and other important farmland species, and to help achieve sustainable water management.
Reduced soil and nutrient run-off from our farmlands.	To improve water quality and habitat condition of our rivers, estuaries and intertidal habitats for the species and people that use them.
More sustainable farming methods and water management on agricultural peat soils.	To restore and improve peatland condition, promote farmland wildlife, climate proof farmland and protect this valuable natural carbon store.
Reconnected and new tree, ditch and hedgerow networks.	To improve habitat connectivity and biodiversity benefits, reduce soil erosion and mitigate run-off.

Urban and Suburban

Priority	Why
More high quality and interconnected green and blue infrastructure in urban areas designed in collaboration with communities.	To improve aesthetic value, reduce the impacts of climate change and maximise residents' access to nature and the wealth of health and wellbeing benefits it provides.
Nature at the heart of urban design and planning, delivering Net Gain for biodiversity on or close to development sites.	To maintain nature recovery locally and maximise the wider benefits that it provides.
A network of well-managed, valued open habitat mosaics on brownfield land.	To increase education of their value for urban biodiversity and provide access to natural green spaces, while taking account of agreed urban regeneration priorities.
A region-wide co-ordinated network of functional nature corridors and greenways for urban wildlife.	Utilising linear infrastructure and encouraging community action in gardens, parks and public spaces to connect people to nature.
Increased use of ex-industrial sites such as collieries, where appropriate, as areas for habitat creation and nature conservation.	To improve public access to nature and support unique biodiversity.

Woodland

Priority	W	Vhy
A network of well-connected and protected ancient, long- established woodlands along with veteran trees under favourable management, buffered through natural regeneration and appropriate planting.		o capture carbon, increase biodiversity, improve air quality nd provide people with access to nature.
Tree and woodland management to promote age, species and structural diversity.	bi	o increase climate, pest and disease resilience, conserve iodiversity, capture and store carbon, provide timber and for ecreational value.
Creation of climate, pest and disease resilient scrub and mixed woodland types following the "right tree, right place approach".		o restore lost woodlands, connect habitats, and provide enefits for people, nature and the climate.

Grasslands

Priority	Why
Existing species rich grasslands enhanced and in good habitat condition.	To benefit biodiversity, especially grassland invertebrates, and to promote pollination and seed dispersal.
Creation of new, well-connected grassland networks.	To support wildlife, especially pollinators and other invertebrates, provide people with access to nature, enhance the beauty of the urban and rural environments, to meet BNG needs and to include appropriate buffers around species-rich sites.
Greater use of native and local wildflowers in habitat restoration and urban regeneration projects, using local provenance seeds and plants.	To benefit biodiversity and enhance aesthetic value.
Restored, buffered, and interconnected heathland sites under good management.	To benefit biodiversity, store carbon and provide access to nature for people.

Wetlands and watercourses

Priority	Why
Improved water quality and water management in our wetlands and water bodies.	To increase biodiversity, resilience to climate change and the natural beauty of our blue spaces.
Well-connected, naturally functioning networks of wetland, pond and river habitats in good ecological condition.	To mitigate climate change and reduce flood risk from all sources for communities.
Where appropriate, barrier-free watercourses for the benefit of riparian mammals, migratory fish and other wildlife.	To improve ecosystem quality and function, benefiting biodiversity.
Restored lowland raised bogs, wet woodlands and fens under good management.	To mitigate climate change, store carbon, reduce flood risk, improve water quality, and support specialist species.

Species

- Invasive Species: Landscape wide strategies combatting current invasive species and responding rapidly to new threats.
- Bats: A network of dark corridors to allow bats to move across the landscape.
- Ground Nesting Birds: Wider availability of nesting opportunities and increases in the population numbers of ground nesting birds.
- Willow tit: Increased populations of Willow Tit.
- Forester Moth Adscita statices: Increase in range of the forester moth Adscita statices population and improved habitat for the species.
- Harbour porpoise: A maintained "hunting highway" for harbour porpoise currently using the deep shipping lanes in the Mersey estuary.
- Grey Seal: Protection of the grey seal population from recreational disturbance.
- Non-protected herptiles: Increased connectivity between well-managed habitats to increase the distribution and population of reptile and amphibian species.
- Black poplar: Increased population of native black poplar trees.
- Red Squirrels: Expand the range and increase the population of red squirrels.
- Natterjack Toad: Increased populations of Natterjack toad.