

# Local Nature Recovery Strategy: Liverpool City Region

## FAQs for Land Managers

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority is leading the preparation of a new Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for the Liverpool City Region. The following document gives an overview of key questions related to the LNRS for land managers.

Note: the information in this document is correct as of **January 2024** and may be subject to change as further guidance is released.

### Why are we developing an LNRS?

England is widely considered to be one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world following historic and ongoing declines. New challenges, like climate change, are making it essential that public authorities and public funding work more closely with expert land managers to support biodiversity.

In this context, DEFRA has asked each area to develop its own unique plan for protecting nature and enhancing biodiversity.

### What will an LNRS do?

These Local Nature Recovery Strategies will set out the key steps to protect nature in their regions. They will:

- Map our most important areas for nature
- Map opportunities for nature recovery
- List the priorities for reversing the decline in plant and animal species

Taking into account key local evidence on valued habitats, the needs of local land managers, and the views of local people, the **LNRS opportunities map** will identify the areas with the best opportunities for restoring and joining up nature.

When complete, the LNRS will act as a blueprint for nature recovery, allowing us to guide nature funding and align it with key species and habitat priorities in each area.

### What does this mean for my land?

The LNRS is a **non-binding** plan that will act as a guide for land managers who are interested in protecting nature. It will highlight the areas with the best opportunities to expand, recover or join up nature. It will not mandate actions on land, and farmers and land managers have total freedom regarding how they use the plan.

However, the plan will shape the funding available for supporting nature in the coming years. It will be an essential tool and a new opportunity for land managers who are interested in getting paid to protect their natural environments.

## Why is the LNRS relevant to me?

The LNRS will shape the future direction of funding for nature recovery initiatives. In particular, to meet **Biodiversity Net Gain** regulations, land managers will be able to sell additional Biodiversity credits to protect land identified in the LNRS.

The LNRS will also align with other forms of funding, including:

- **Environmental Land Management Schemes:** a new collection of schemes which provide new ways to get paid to conserve nature.
- **Countryside Stewardship Capital Grants:** 3-year agreements to support activities like hedge planting and wall restoration.
- **Carbon and Nutrient markets:** accessing the carbon and biodiversity market e.g. selling carbon credits

## How will an LNRS be developed?

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority has been appointed as the Responsible Authority (RA) for the Liverpool City Region's LNRS. We will be developing our plan over 18 months. The LNRS will be developed with the input of local nature experts, communities, and especially land managers, who will shape the priorities behind the plan and have the opportunity to comment on the final version.

## Why do we want to hear from land managers?

Land managers are the stewards of the Liverpool City Region's land, managing at least 25% of our land area. Your knowledge and experience is needed to make sure that our plan to protect nature succeeds. We need your input to make sure that our LNRS is:

- **Complementary:** we want to make sure that the LNRS is aligned to the aims of your business, identifying overlapping benefits for nature and farmland.
- **Realistic:** we need your experience to make sure that any proposed interventions will work practically on land that you manage.
- **Community-led:** we want our plan to reflect the practical knowledge that has been shared in communities for generations.

## How can I help?

- **Participate in one of our workshops:** we'll be having workshops and providing other opportunities to get involved throughout the year.
- **Respond to our consultation:** we'll be providing another widespread opportunity to comment on the final strategy in Autumn 2024.
- **Promote the LNRS and other schemes in your community:** we need land managers to act as advocates of the LNRS, in order to promote nature recovery more widely and get the input of key stakeholders in their area.

- **Participate in our advisory boards:** we need land management input on the detailed aspects of our LNRS, so we need as much input as possible.

### Where can I learn more?

Contact us at [lnrs@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk](mailto:lnrs@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk) to learn more about the LNRS.