



# Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Lynn Parker, LNRS Co-Ordinator, Shropshire Council  
[L.Parker@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:L.Parker@shropshire.gov.uk)

Apr 2025



## Nature Recovery Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin

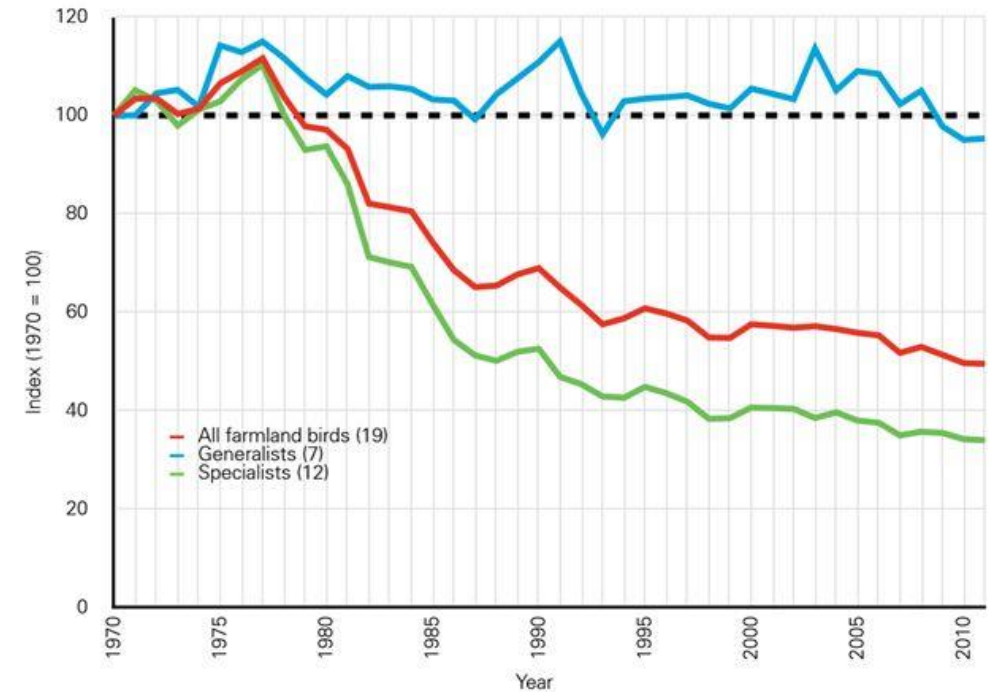


Steering Group Members



# Why the need for LNRS?

- It's a legal statutory requirement of the Environment Act 2021
- Public bodies, inc. T&PCs, now have an enhanced duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity
- Reverse current trends
- Fragmented habitats and faltering ecosystem functions; flooding, drought, soil health, carbon capture etc
- Additional benefits such as health and wellbeing, tourism
- Align action to county priorities and bring stakeholders together
- Potential to target funds (Biodiversity Net Gain, Nature Restoration Fund, funding bids)
- Provide guidance for landowners and others interested in nature recovery



Source: UK State of Nature Report 2023



# What is the LNRS?

- LNRS are produced by a Responsible Authority in partnership with a large range of stakeholders.
- Shropshire Council is the Responsible Authority for the LNRS for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin.
- Telford & Wrekin Council and Natural England are Supporting Authorities within the process.
- Purpose is to focus funds and resources for action for nature

## 1. Statement of Biodiversity Priorities

## 2. Local Habitat Map

# Preliminary LNRS Map



Nature Recovery  
Shropshire and  
Telford & Wrekin

Designated Sites = brown

The pale green areas show;

- priority places where nature recovery actions would be most effective
- places with potentially higher habitat value

Map based on the preliminary mapping

Refinement needed

Feedback will amend the maps







# Mapping process

- Mapped vs unmapped measures – requirement of the strategy
- Aim of the mapping is to identify priority areas for nature recovery
- Expand and link up the existing ‘good bits’ (AOPIBs)
- Provide an information resource and wider strategic context
- Oxford University computer program combines multiple data sets – land type and land use – to find areas with the best potential for habitat creation actions
- Potential actions will be mapped in the consultation version of the map
- Likely to be numerous options for actions in each parcel
- Feedback will be sought to refine the map



# Draft Priorities

Grouped by habitat:

- Wetlands
- Woodlands
- Trees, hedgerows and connecting features
- Heathlands
- Grasslands
- Open habitats and habitat mosaics
- Farmed land
- Built environment
- Also developing cross cutting priorities such as access to nature and education



# Draft Priorities examples

- Restore and create new ponds with good water quality
- Restoration of natural ecosystem function in the headwaters
- Address the flood and low flow issues seen in Perry catchment
- Creating new hedgerows and restoring ones in poor condition
- Restoration of roadside verges to diverse wildflower corridors
- Incorporate wildlife corridors in new developments
- Promotion of wildlife friendly gardening practices
- Planting and better management of urban trees
- Restore & expand ancient & long-established woodland
- Enhance buffers and quality of riparian zones



# Built Environment priorities (1)

- B1 Implement water management features to slow the flow of water and to deliver a range of benefits to wildlife and people.
- B2 Provide opportunities for wildlife to live, nest, roost and rest in urban areas.
- B3 Provide excellent quality, multifunctional green space in urban environments.
- B4 Enhance, create, appropriately manage and reconnect corridors of wildlife habitat within urban areas.
- B5 Reduce light pollution.



## Built Environment priorities (2)

- B6      There are more trees and hedgerows in urban environments, and they are well planted, supported during establishment and well managed.
- B7      Implement the planting of hedgerows and creation of other linear connecting features around development sites.
- B8      Urban greening opportunities provide habitats including bare ground, heathland, grassland, scrubland and open mosaics support a range of species.
- B9      Urban planting provides sources of nectar, food and shelter for a range of species throughout the year.

# Timescales

- Input was sought on draft map and priorities via events in Jan
- Draft strategy by May
- NE, TW and SC approvals
- Public consultation in Summer
- Incorporation of feedback
- Adopted strategy before the end of the year
- Delivery, monitoring and review