

Local Nature Recovery Toolkit: Priorities and Potential Measures for Nature Recovery

What are Priorities and Potential Measures?

The tables below set out all of the Priorities for Nature Recovery within the Local Nature Recovery Toolkit, and the potential measures that could help deliver each priority. Each priority is an outcome (i.e. what is to be achieved), and the potential measures are *how* the outcome could be achieved. Each priority may have several measures, reflecting the different actions that could be taken to deliver the priority.

The Biodiversity Priorities and the related measures enable users to understand the outcomes and actions that will be most effective for nature in a given area. They are intended to inform rather than dictate actions, as the best and most realistic action will also depend on local factors and preferences.

How to interpret the Priorities and Measures

For some priorities, we have included a more technical version in brackets that may be more informative for some users of the LNRS.

We have also included columns in the table of Priorities and Potential Measures showing:

- An indication of the stakeholders for which each measure is most relevant. In the final version of the toolkit, this will enable users to tailor their view to the type of measures most relevant to them.
- The type of land the measures are most relevant to (e.g. countryside, rivers, woodland). This includes categorising measures aimed at built-up areas according to where they are most relevant (see 'Approach to built-up areas', below).
- An indication of the level of impact that measures related to land use / land management will have for nature. 'Landscape Recovery' measures are those that focus on nature recovery as an outcome; 'Environmental Stewardship' are measures that create or improve habitat alongside farming or other land uses; and 'Sustainable Farming' measures are those that can make farming more nature-friendly. This should enable farmers and landowners, in particular, to filter measures according to the approach they are most interested in.

It is important to note that each priority will only be relevant to certain parts of the area covered by the Toolkit. For example, priorities related to farming are not relevant to built-up areas, and the priority related to calcareous grassland is only relevant in areas with suitable soil.

Using the Interactive Map, you will be able to see which biodiversity priorities and potential measures are relevant to your local area.

In the final version of the Toolkit, each measure will also be linked to any relevant best-practice guidance and funding. This will enable users to obtain more information on how to implement and fund a measure they are interested in.

Categorisation of measures in built-up areas

We have identified the following four categories that are used to categorise the measures for nature recovery in built up areas:

1. Nature in larger spaces (U1)

This covers larger areas of publicly and privately owned land, mostly parks and other green/open space. It includes:

- Large public (and semi-public) green spaces and river corridors.
- Parks, cemeteries and allotments.
- Semi-public green spaces in schools, universities and hospitals.
- Land used primarily for sports and amenity purposes such as golf courses and playing fields (recognising this is likely to remain the primary use).
- Transport corridors for road, rail, cycling and walking, e.g. Bristol-Bath Cycle Path and Network Rail land alongside main rail routes.
- Commercial/business sites with significant green/open space (e.g. Filton aerospace, Aztec West).

2. Nature in development and regeneration (U2)

This category covers new and existing developments, where urban greening and nature-friendly measures can provide space for wildlife. The measures are relevant to new developments, in particular, but also for retrofitting existing developments where possible. It is also relevant to major regeneration frameworks and masterplans such as Temple Quarter in Bristol.

3. Nature in streets (U3)

This category refers to opportunities in streets and roads in built-up areas. Measures include planting and managing street trees, and managing verges for wildlife, though biodiversity can also be incorporated through other planting opportunities. Additionally, there are opportunities for nature-based solutions such as sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) in streets and roads.

4. Nature in gardens (U4)

Gardens and other private outdoor spaces are a large portion of many built-up areas and can be incredibly wildlife-rich when managed with nature in mind. There is a wealth of existing guidance to help people manage gardens for nature, which the Toolkit points to.

Theme I: Build connected nature networks that are resilient to climate change

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
1	There is more land where nature is allowed to 'take the lead' and create messy, mixed habitats (There is a greater amount of land where extensive grazing creates diverse, dynamic and shifting habitat mosaic, including successional habitats and scrub)	On areas that are currently biodiversity-poor, use a mix of free-roaming herbivores with different grazing habits to create a dynamic and shifting mosaic of habitats. Ideally, this should be done in a large enough area for natural processes to create habitat variety.	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Reduce the intensity of existing cattle grazing to improve biodiversity and create dynamic grassland mosaics; this could include introducing more hardy, native breeds of cattle, and introducing ponies alongside them.	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Manage areas of scrub that are in good condition to avoid them losing their scrub or thicket-like characteristics by, for example, coppicing on a suitable rotation and using appropriate grazing regimes.	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
2	There are more and better-connected flower-rich 'calcareous' grasslands that support lots of insects and pollinators (There are more and better-connected species-rich lowland	Restore species-rich calcareous grassland on infertile soils and/or adjacent to existing species-rich grasslands	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Convert improved grassland or enhance 'semi-improved' grassland to species-rich calcareous grassland with greater species diversity	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
	calcareous grasslands on limestone soils that support specialist pollinator and insect populations, including the small blue, marsh fritillary, chalkhill blue and grayling butterflies)	Arable reversion to species-rich calcareous grassland where land is unproductive or arable farming is financially unviable	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
3	There are more and better-connected flower-rich 'neutral' grasslands, including hay meadows, that support lots of insects and pollinators. (There are more and better-connected species-rich neutral grasslands, including traditional hay meadows, that help support resilient, diverse pollinator and insect populations)	Restore species-rich neutral grassland on infertile soils and/or adjacent to existing species-rich grasslands	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Convert improved grassland or enhance 'semi-improved' grassland to species-rich neutral grassland with greater species diversity	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Arable reversion to species-rich neutral grassland where land is unproductive or arable farming is financially unviable	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Restore species-rich lowland meadows with appropriate ongoing management	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
4	There is more, better and better-connected woodlands, wood pasture and parkland	Create semi-natural broadleaved woodland, following the principles set out in the Forest of Avon Plan and ensure the woodland has a suitable management plan in place. Where possible (i.e. next to or close to existing woodland), allow woodland to naturally generate rather than planting trees.	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Restore plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) to native woodland	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Create or restore wood pasture and parkland, which incorporate extensive grazing alongside trees	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Allow natural regeneration of scrub and woodland close to existing semi-natural woodlands, which provides important 'edge habitat'	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Ensure any landfilling of quarries is linked to a restoration plan suitable for woodland or mosaic habitat creation	Businesses	Countryside	Landscape recovery
5	There are more traditional orchards that are managed with wildlife in mind	Restore and establish traditional orchards, including community orchards, with a focus on maintaining locally distinctive varieties	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Protect existing traditional orchards and continue to manage them well for wildlife	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
6	There is more and better wetland habitat, including wet woodland, reedbeds, wet meadows, rhynes, scrapes and ponds, particularly in low-lying areas near to the coast	Where raising water levels is feasible, create wetland habitat with appropriate management in place to create and maintain a diverse structure	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Create wet areas and wetland scrapes in grazed fields to benefit wading birds such as lapwing	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Create areas of wet grassland / wet meadows for wading birds and wildfowl	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Create and manage species-rich grassland with raised water levels	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Manage existing wetland habitats to maintain/improve their value to wildlife. Management techniques will depend on the type of wetland habitat present	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Ensure the best management of rhynes/ditches for wildlife	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Re-naturalisation of rivers to their original form or reprofiling of the river to create a more 'natural' profile. This could include restoring meanders, removing or setting back flood banks, and/or reconnecting old side channels.	Farmers & Landowners	River	Landscape recovery
	More rivers and streams are 'natural' (for example, with more bends) and are more hospitable for fish and other wildlife	Introduce habitat features such as berms and flow deflectors in rivers to create more habitat diversity. This is particularly useful in river channels that are relatively uniform or highly managed	Farmers & Landowners	River	N/A
7	(More rivers and streams have natural courses and profiles, enable free passage of fish, and have more diverse in-river habitat, including spawning habitat in headwater streams)	Install natural structures such as leaky dams and let fallen trees in rivers remain in-situ (where appropriate and where the flood risk has been properly assessed)	Farmers & Landowners	River	N/A
		Restore headwater streams to enhance spawning habitat such as river gravels for salmonids, and instream water weeds and substrates for coarse fish egg laying	Farmers & Landowners	River	N/A
		Remove barriers to fish passage, including weirs and culverts, where this is possible, and the retrofitting of structures to include fish passes and mammal ledges where removal is not possible	Local government Farmers & Landowners	River	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Modification (or, where feasible, removal) of barriers in rhynes and ditches to allow passage for eels and other fish	Farmers & Landowners	River	N/A
8	There is more and better habitat alongside rivers and streams, maximising their role as corridors for wildlife and also improving the health of rivers (The role of rivers and streams as ecological corridors through the landscape is enhanced, with diverse riparian habitat that benefits a range of species, stabilises banks, captures nutrients, regulates water temperature and provides vital shade during warm weather)	Create and manage riparian buffer strips (of 5-50m, depending on the size of the watercourse, with larger buffers providing greater benefits) of vegetation including trees alongside rivers and streams. This will improve river ecology, create natural corridors, reduce pollution reaching rivers, and provide natural flood management	Farmers & Landowners	River	Landscape recovery
		Manage riparian vegetation to ensure a mosaic of light levels along the river, aiming for a 60/40 ratio of light to shade, and a dense understory to enhance the slow of runoff and increase infiltration rates	Farmers & Landowners	River	Landscape recovery
		Coppice bankside trees to increase their longevity and health	Farmers & Landowners	River	Environmental Stewardship
		Active management of poaching by cattle along rivers, which would also help to reduce nutrient load into rivers. This may be achieved through the installation of fencing where it is appropriate and compatible with flood risk maintenance activities.	Farmers & Landowners	River	Sustainable Farming
		Continue or restore willow pollarding alongside rivers, rhynes and ditches	Farmers & Landowners	River	Environmental Stewardship

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
9	New and existing development and infrastructure makes a positive contribution to wildlife (New and existing development and infrastructure contributes positively towards wider ecological networks)	Ensure new developments include plenty of (native) street trees, hedges, ponds and other wildlife-rich areas.	Businesses Local Government	U2	N/A
		Construct larger green bridges or underpasses over significant new roads to enable wildlife passage, and explore opportunities for green bridges over motorways or a-roads that sever key ecological networks	Businesses Local Government	Infrastructure	N/A
		Fit wildlife tunnels underneath new and existing roads to enable wildlife to pass safely underneath	Businesses Local Government	Infrastructure	N/A
		Fit mammal ledges into new and existing culverts or concrete pipes to enable wildlife, including otters, to safely pass through culverts or under bridges	Businesses Local Government	Infrastructure	N/A

Theme II: Protect and enhance what we have

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
10	Our designated sites and irreplaceable habitats, including ancient/veteran woodlands and trees, are protected and in good ecological condition.	Manage existing wood pasture and parkland to maximise their value to wildlife and ensure continued survival of mature and veteran trees	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Carry out specialist tree surgery as needed to extend the lives of veteran and ancient trees	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
11	More of our existing woodland is well-managed and is better for wildlife (There is more woodland that is managed and in good ecological condition, including minimising the impact of ash dieback and reducing grazing pressure on sensitive woodlands from deer)	Improve the management of existing areas of woodland for wildlife, following the principles set out in the Forest of Avon Plan	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Landscape Recovery
		Reintroduce coppicing as a form of woodland management that benefits wildlife while potentially providing woodland products such as fuel	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Landscape Recovery
		Open up rides and glades in existing woodland to develop ecotones and scrubby areas that better support a wider range of wildlife. Where appropriate, use new open woodland areas caused by ash dieback to create new wood pastures or glades	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Landscape Recovery
		Consider introducing grazing animals in larger woodlands to create a more dynamic ecology and enable habitat succession.	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Landscape Recovery

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Take measures to reduce deer grazing in woodlands, such as putting up deer fencing, to reduce their negative impact on woodland ecology due to overgrazing.	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Environmental stewardship
		Leave deadwood in situ to provide habitat for a variety of species including fungi, lichens, invertebrates, mosses, bats and birds.	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Environmental stewardship
		Periodically thin 'high forest' type woodlands (tall trees with little shrub layer) to maintain structural diversity and a varied age structure where appropriate	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Environmental stewardship
		Avoid placing game bird pens in woodlands with a high botanical value	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	N/A
		Ensure public access to and recreational activities within woodlands minimises impacts on woodland ecology, including clearly marked paths.	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	N/A
		Only fell trees affected by ash dieback when there is a material safety risk, a clear future safety risk, or as part of normal silvicultural operations, and leave deadwood in place where possible for the benefit of wildlife	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Environmental stewardship

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Where there is a diverse mix of tree species present, allow natural regeneration to replace trees lost through ash dieback. Where natural regeneration is not possible, replace trees lost through ash dieback with a suitable mix of native broadleaved species	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Environmental stewardship
		Adopt ecologically sound forestry practices in woodlands used for timber production. This can include continuous cover management regimes that attempt to mimic natural processes, and integration of areas and corridors of native broadleaved woodland in coniferous forests	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	Environmental stewardship
		Include fire and fuel breaks and/or fire belts in woodland to reduce the risk of wildfires, and ensure woodlands are resilient to climate change in the future	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	N/A
12	Our species-rich grasslands and meadows are protected and well-managed for wildlife (Existing species-rich grasslands and meadows, including lowland calcareous	Keep or put in place the appropriate extensive grazing regime for existing species-rich grasslands and lowland meadows, avoiding overgrazing or undergrazing that can lead to grassland habitat being lost	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery

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	grasslands, are protected and well-managed)	Prevent scrub from encroaching on species-rich wildflower grasslands, while maintaining a minority area of scrub that is managed to create a varied age, composition and physical structure including glades and scalloped edges	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental stewardship
		Where there is an absence of scrub and successional habitat in or adjacent to grasslands, encourage a minority amount to improve structural diversity and benefit wildlife	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental stewardship
13	More of our rivers, streams and other bodies of water are in good condition and support thriving populations of fish and other freshwater wildlife (There are more waterbodies that are in good ecological status and support thriving populations of fish and other freshwater wildlife)	Create a sediment pond or trap to provide an area where muddy run-off from fields or tracks is allowed to pond, so that sediment will settle out before entering watercourses	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable farming
		Reduce run-off of pollutants from farmland through the use of best practice in applying fertiliser, manure and slurry	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable farming
		Establish a buffer strip (which can contain long grasses, trees, and shrubs) of 4-12m on field boundaries or runoff channels. This can reduce nutrient and pollutant runoff into watercourses and provide habitat for wildlife	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable farming

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Improve management of manure and slurry to reduce pollution (e.g. roofing manure storage or manure storage pads)	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable farming
		Buffer rhynes/ditches to reduce run off of pollution into them and to provide additional habitat	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable farming
		Use constructed wetlands to settle out pollution from the M5 and junctions before it enters watercourses	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Reduce the pollution caused by the transport network (particularly by cars through tyre and brake wear) by encouraging reduced use of private cars and more careful driving styles, encouraging manufacturers to produce tyres with less ecologically damaging components, and ensuring regular emptying of gullies.	Local Government Businesses Communities	N/A	N/A
		Reduce the use of artificial sports pitches with 'rubber crumb' infill, which can leach into aquatic environments in significant quantities (and is also thought to be harmful to human health), in favour of more environmentally friendly options.	Local Government Businesses	N/A	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Reduce urban run-off by upgrading existing drainage infrastructure, installing sustainable urban drainage (SuDs) features, and ensuring new developments have suitable water management and drainage infrastructure	Local Government Businesses	U2; U3	N/A
		Reduce other sources of plastic pollution, including single use plastics and other sources of microplastics (such as some cosmetic products)	Businesses Communities	N/A	N/A
		Reduce the frequency of continuous and intermittent point source pollution from sewage discharges	Businesses	N/A	N/A
		Reduce the quantity of pollutants entering the freshwater environment from wastewater treatment works	Businesses	N/A	N/A
		Ensure correct management of private septic tanks to reduce leakage of pollutants into the environment; and investigate and resolve drain misconnections in homes	Communities	N/A	N/A
		Reduce demand on water supply through more efficient use of water in homes, businesses, and in farming	Businesses Communities Farmers & Landowners	N/A	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Include rainwater harvesting systems in new developments	Businesses	U2	N/A
		Use constructed wetlands to address pollution from urban and transport outfalls	Businesses	N/A	N/A
		Use constructed wetlands in wastewater treatment to reduce the amount of pollutants entering the freshwater environment, while providing wetland habitat	Businesses	N/A	N/A
14	There is more and better managed inter-tidal and saltmarsh habitat along the Severn Estuary, supporting populations of wading birds and wildfowl	Ensure good management of existing intertidal saltmarsh habitat through appropriate grazing regimes.	Farmers & Landowners	Saltmarsh	Landscape recovery
		Restoration and creation of intertidal saltmarsh habitat and mudflats, using techniques such as managed realignment or regulated tidal exchange where appropriate	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
		Create additional high-tide roosts close to the coast, to provide places above mean high tide levels where waterbirds can rest and recover	Farmers & Landowners	Saltmarsh	Landscape recovery
		Minimise recreational disturbance to wildlife on the Estuary from people using the coast path	Local Government	N/A	N/A
15	The impacts of damaging invasive species on biodiversity is reduced	Humane management of the non-native grey squirrel, potentially including the use of contraceptives to reduce breeding success	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Stop or reduce the intensity of duck and pheasant releases, particularly close to protected sites	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	N/A
		Remove invasive plant species in woodland, including rhododendron Ponticum, cherry laurel and cotoneaster	Farmers & Landowners	Woodland	N/A
		Remove Himalayan Balsam from riverbanks, starting at the top of rivers and working downstream	Farmers & Landowners Communities	River	N/A
		Remove and control invasive floating pennywort in waterways	Farmers & Landowners Local Government	River	N/A
		Control populations of the non-native muntjac deer, whose grazing can have severe negative impacts on woodland ecology, at the landscape level	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	N/A

Theme III: Working with nature to deliver wider benefits to society

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
16	More rivers are allowed to flood onto land next to the river, creating wetland habitat and reducing flooding in populated areas	Reconnection of rivers to their floodplain, allowing floodwater to spill naturally onto adjacent land, and restoration of wetland habitat within the floodplain	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
	(More rivers are reconnected to their floodplains and floodplain wetlands are created to allow natural erosion and silt deposition within the floodplain, especially where this would provide benefits to flood management)	Create or improve management of floodplain grazing marsh or floodplain meadows, including permitting seasonal flooding	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape recovery
17	'Nature-based solutions' are used to store water in the landscape, helping to reduce the risk of flooding and reduce the impacts of drought	Cross-slope planting of trees and hedgerows to intercept flows of water, providing natural flood management and capturing pollutant run-off	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
	(Nature-based solutions are used to slow the flow of water and increase water storage in the landscape, thereby reducing the risk of flooding, and mitigating the impacts of drought and water scarcity)	Create in-field wetland scrapes (shallow ponds that hold rain or flood water seasonally but stay damp for most of the year) and swales (shallow, linear, vegetated drainage features) to store and slow the flow of water, providing natural flood management	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Create offline and/or online ponds in the floodplain. Offline ponds are not connected to the watercourse, and can capture overland runoff. Online ponds are connected to the watercourse through a stream channel, storing floodwater temporarily and releasing it into the watercourse in a controlled manner.	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
18	The areas of lowland peat in North Somerset are well-managed so that it stores carbon and is less vulnerable to climate change (Lowland peat in the Gordano Valley and on Tickenham and Nailsea Moors is appropriately managed to store carbon, improve its resilience to climate change, and benefit wildlife)	Raise water levels to conserve peat and create lowland fen habitat, with appropriate management in place to create and maintain a diverse structure.	Farmers & Landowners	Lowland peat	Landscape recovery
		Manage existing wet (carr) woodlands for the benefit of wildlife, including maintaining water levels, creating/maintaining open areas and edge habitat, and retaining dead wood	Farmers & Landowners	Lowland peat	Landscape recovery
		Raise water levels on grassland or cropland on peaty soils to prevent the further degradation of peat	Farmers & Landowners	Lowland peat	Sustainable Farming
		Explore the potential for paludiculture (farming on rewetted peat) on peaty soils where full peatland restoration is not supported	Farmers & Landowners	Lowland peat	Sustainable Farming

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19	A growing population of beavers are restoring natural processes to rivers and waterways.	Protect beavers from recreational disturbance and persecution, while managing conflict with other land uses where it arises	Farmers & Landowners	N/A	N/A
		Protect crops from beaver activity by using fencing that prevents beavers accessing the land to forage	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Make a natural space of 20 metres or more for beavers alongside the river edge, planting native species such as willow and aspen. This will reduce the likelihood of beavers foraging elsewhere on your land	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Landscape Recovery

Theme IV: Nature-friendly, sustainable farming and living

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
20	There are more thick and tall hedgerows that allow wildlife to travel through the landscape	Manage hedgerows in a thick and tall condition for wildlife, following best practice set out by Hedgelink and only cutting every three years on rotation	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
	(The extent and quality of our hedgerow network for wildlife is improved, helping to connect wildlife-rich sites.)	Create/restore hedgerows where they have previously existed, or where they would fit in with the existing field system	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
21	There are more trees throughout the countryside, including field trees, hedgerow trees and fruit trees	Plant field trees within hedgerows where they are not already present	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Protect existing trees within the farmed landscape, particularly veteran and ancient trees, and consider fencing off ancient and veteran trees to enable new trees to grow	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Create shelterbelts (windbreaks) made up of trees to protect livestock and crops from inclement weather	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Incorporate trees in grazing systems (silvopasture). This could include trees that can produce a fruit or nut crop alongside continued livestock grazing	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Establish agroforestry systems alongside crop production (silvoarable systems)	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
22	The farmed countryside is more wildlife-friendly, especially for pollinators and farmland birds (The farmed landscape is more hospitable and permeable to wildlife, especially to pollinators)	Provide graded margins up to a thick hedgerow to create nesting sites for farmland birds such as linnets and yellowhammers	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Establish beetle banks and other areas for natural predators within arable farming	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming

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	and to farmland birds that have suffered historic declines)	Establish flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Incorporate nectar strips and/or herb-rich arable leys into arable rotations	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Sow a wild bird seed mixture to provide a seed-rich winter cover crop, and/or leave unsprayed and unharvested arable headlands to provide food for farmland birds	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Leave overwinter stubble on cropped fields, and sow spring-sown crops to provide food for farmland birds	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Leave areas unsprayed in arable fields to support arable wildflowers, particularly in areas where important species are present	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Create skylark plots (unsown squares) in arable fields	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Create/restore and properly manage farmland ponds for wildlife, including great-crested newt	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Environmental Stewardship
		Protect existing swallow and house martin nesting sites, and provide artificial nesting sites where there is a lack of potential nesting sites	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside; U1; U2; U4	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
23	There is a greater amount of regenerative farming that uses less pesticides and improves the health of soils (There is more sustainable and regenerative agriculture that minimises the use of potentially harmful inputs including pesticides and artificial fertilisers, and regenerates the health and carbon stock of soils)	Use sustainable soil management techniques, including undersowing of crops, reduced or no tillage, reducing compaction etc.	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Establish a multi-species winter cover crop to protect soil from erosion and compaction, and improve soil biology	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Reduce the use of pesticides through integrated pest management, including use of companion crops; and leave areas unsprayed to support arable wildflowers	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Use precision farming techniques to reduce the use of pesticides	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Reduce or eliminate the application of fertiliser or manure on grassland, including through the use of precision farming techniques	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Provide a more species-rich herbal ley for grazing livestock in place of an intensive perennial rye grass sward	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming
		Reduce the use of antibiotics and worming products in livestock, to improve the value of their dung to wildlife	Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	Sustainable Farming

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
24	There is less light and air pollution, especially close to sensitive habitats and wildlife	Add colour filters to LED streetlights to reduce their impact on insects, birds and bats.	Local Government	U1; U2; U3; U4	N/A
		Minimise the use of lighting where safe to do so, including on the road network, and turning off public lighting for a time overnight.	Local Government Businesses Communities	U1; U2; U3; U4	N/A
		Use motion-sensitive lights to reduce the extent of light pollution	Local Government Businesses	U3	N/A

Theme V: Connecting people to nature

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
25	Our towns and cities are more nature-rich and host more wildlife	Integrate wildlife-friendly measures into homes and other developments, such as nest-hole bricks, and bird and bat boxes	Businesses Communities	U1; U2; U3; U4	N/A
		Install swift boxes on buildings and homes to provide nesting sites	Businesses Communities	U1; U2; U4	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
		Improve roadside verge management for nature, using an appropriate cutting regime to encourage floral diversity	Local Government	U3	N/A
		Create more nature-rich space in gardens and other private spaces, such as native shrubs and flowers	Businesses Communities	U4	N/A
		Avoid using pesticides or compost with peat in it	Businesses Communities	U4	N/A
		Include ponds and other safe water features for wildlife in gardens	Businesses Communities	U4	N/A
		Retrofit wildlife kerbs to existing gullies, particularly near existing nature sites, and install wildlife kerbs on new gullies as standard. This will provide safe passage for amphibians and small mammals around road gullies and drainage openings	Local Government	U3	N/A
		Reduce recreational pressure on woodlands and other habitat in urban areas through maintaining clear paths, keeping dogs on leads, and setting aside non-accessible areas for wildlife where practical	Local Government	U1	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
26	There is more nature-rich space in towns and cities, especially in areas that do not have good access to nature-rich spaces and/or that are more deprived	Increase the area of parks and public spaces managed for nature, including establishing more wildflower meadows or areas of unmown grass	Local Government	U1; U2; U3	N/A
		Create pocket parks in unused spaces, prioritising areas with least access to local green space and the highest vulnerability to the urban heat island effect and air pollution	Local Government	U1; U3	N/A
		Design and deliver new housing developments with sufficient accessible, nature-rich spaces for residents (meeting Building with Nature Standards)	Businesses Local Government	U2	N/A
27	There are more trees in towns and cities, helping wildlife, benefitting residents' wellbeing, and helping us adapt to climate change (There is greater tree canopy cover in towns and cities, benefitting urban wildlife, helping adapt to climate change, and improving people's wellbeing)	Plant new street trees, ideally native species that will most benefit wildlife, prioritising areas with low tree cover and sites that will most benefit from shade for urban cooling	Local Government	U3	N/A
		Plant trees, ideally native species that will most benefit wildlife, in gardens and other private spaces	Businesses Communities	U1; U2; U4	N/A
28		Create new allotment sites to provide residents with local, sustainable food growing opportunities	Local Government	U1; U2	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
	There are more opportunities for local food-growing, including allotments, community orchards, and local farms	Establish other local community food-growing enterprises, such as community farms	Local Government Communities	U1; U2	N/A
	(There is more community food growing close to where people live, including local agroecological/regenerative agriculture, allotments and community orchards)	Create community orchards, ideally with local varieties of fruits, to provide local food and benefit wildlife	Local Government Communities	U1; U2	N/A
29	Nature is commonly used to help towns and cities adapt to climate change, including heat and flooding (Nature-based solutions are widely used to increase the resilience of our population centres to climate change, including to heat stress and flooding)	Install green walls and green roofs on new and existing buildings, helping to cool urban areas and provide more space for nature	Businesses	U1; U2; U4	N/A
		Remove hard-standing surfaces in favour of permeable surfaces (ideally natural, green ones that also benefit wildlife) to reduce surface water flooding	Businesses Communities	U1; U2; U3; U4	N/A
		Integrate natural features such as swales, wetlands and raingardens to attenuate water within developments and provide additional habitat for wildlife	Businesses	U1; U2	N/A

Theme VI: Species

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
30	Greater and Lesser Horseshoe bats, and other rare bat species, in the region are protected and have enough feeding habitat to maintain their populations (The region's populations of Greater and Lesser Horseshoe bats, and other rare bat species are protected, and they have sufficient foraging habitat and landscape-scale connectivity to diversify the gene pool)	Protect greater horseshoe and lesser horseshoe bat roosts and maternity sites	Local Government Farmers & Landowners	N/A	N/A
		Sensitive cave use to protect roosting bats	Communities Businesses	N/A	N/A
		Install bat boxes and bat night roosts where this is suitable foraging habitat to extend bats' foraging ranges and increase the resilience of bat populations	Communities Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	N/A
		Protect existing and create new dark, vegetated corridors to enhance connectivity and dispersal routes between key roosts	Local Government Farmers & Landowners	Countryside	N/A
31	Unique and rare species in the Avon Gorge, including species of whitebeam that can only be found in the Gorge, rare plants, and the silky wave moth are protected (Endemic and rare species in the Avon Gorge, including endemic species of whitebeam, Bristol Onion, Bristol rock cress, Honewort, and the silky wave moth are protected)	Continue to protect endemic and rare species in the Avon Gorge, including managing and removing invasive species in the Gorge, such as Cotoneaster, and preventing encroachment of scrub	Local Government	N/A	N/A
		Manage recreational pressure on the Avon Gorge where it may threaten the Gorge's unique ecology	Local Government Businesses	N/A	N/A

Code	Biodiversity priority (Technical Version)	Measures	Most relevant to	Land type	Indicative level of land-use impact for nature
32	There are more water voles, particularly in low-lying area close to the coast, and they are protected from the predatory American mink	Control populations of American mink to protect native species, including water vole	Farmers & Landowners	N/A	N/A
		Carefully planned reintroductions of water vole	Local Government	N/A	N/A
33	Remaining populations of white-clawed crayfish are protected from the invasive signal crayfish, and new populations are established where the signal crayfish is not present	Ensure protection of existing areas where white-clawed crayfish are present, with a particular focus on not allowing signal crayfish to establish there	Farmers & Landowners Local Government	River	N/A
		Establish additional 'ark sites' of white-clawed crayfish where signal crayfish is not present and suitable habitat exists	Local Government	River	N/A