

Meeting notes

Meeting Title:	Local Nature Partnership Board Meeting
Date:	1 July 2021
Time:	10:00 – 12:30
Location:	via Microsoft Teams
Present:	Robin Teverson (RT) Chair, Carolyn Cadman (CC) Deputy Chair, Wesley Smyth (WS), Karen Burrows (KB), Oliver Baines (OB), Nick Bruce-White (NB-W), Martin Howlett (MH), Peter Marsh (PMar), Steve Ford (SF), Sophie Hosking (SH), Sarah Mason (SM), Cllr Steve Watt (SW), Cllr Martyn Alvey (MA), Clarissa Newell for Helen Dobby (CN), Tanya Saker for Paul Masters (TS)
In attendance:	Lorna Gaunt (Minutes), Philippa Hoskin (PH), Carl Warom (CW)
Guests:	Bryan Skinner, Safeguarding Advocate, Environment Service, Cornwall Council

Item	
1	<p>1.1. Apologies, items for AOB, Declarations of Interest <i>Apologies:</i> Ilya Maclean (IM), Tom Hooper (TH) <i>AOB:</i> none</p> <p>1.2. Minutes of previous Board Meeting Under Matters Arising suggested amendment to 1.3 to read: “KB wondered whether deprivation (as shown by lack of access to IT and broadband during the pandemic) could be a similar challenge to diversity in engaging all sectors of the population locally.” Amendment approved. Minutes approved.</p> <p>1.3. Matters Arising and Actions <i>Matters Arising:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RT welcomed board members, Cllr Steve Watt and Cllr Martyn Alvey who gave brief introductions. • The LNP has reached out to Black Voices Cornwall but hasn’t had a response yet. PM recommends the Council’s stakeholders consultation forum would be a good place to introduce the topic of Black Lives Matter and any consultation would go through this forum. Ongoing – PM to pick up • RT thanked board members for returning their completed Declaration of Interest forms. There were just two left to be received. • LNRS Pilot - DEFRA will be compiling a Lessons Learned as well as PH’s team. These can be shared when available.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamara Landscape – LG to get hold of the Project Farmers Natural Capital toolkit and Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme promotional video to share with board members. <p>1.4. Chair’s report</p> <p>RT introduced the Chair’s report and the main points were: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RT took the Environmental Growth Strategy to the Leadership Board where it was endorsed. • There has been some correspondence between the board regarding the Scillonian Vessel. A letter of support was sent to Robert Francis (copy of letter included in board papers) and PMas will give an update at September’s board. • Environment Bill – there is support within the House to strengthen amendments about LNR Strategies. RT is asking for clarity around funding. • The LNP’s new website naturecios.org.uk is up and running. Thanks was given to PMar and his team. • The LNP video is live LNP Video Thanks was given to CC and WS. <p>RECOMMENDATION: to note the report – NOTED</p>
2	<p>Executive report</p> <p>PM highlighted some points from his full executive report which was circulated ahead of the meeting: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Environmental Growth Strategy will be going to the Isles of Scilly Full Council in the coming months. • There will be an LNP summer event at Newquay Community Orchard on 20 July 2021 which will see the launch of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy with a panel to answer questions relating to this. • Thanks was given to RT for his work on the Environment Bill. <p>OB raised a question about the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) developmental process to which PH outlined: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the LNRS pilot was a draft product that could be fully reviewed. • Currently PH and team are awaiting Statutory Guidance from Defra. • The Environment Bill will include a statutory duty to adopt the LNRS. • There would be a formal public consultation and assessment process to make the strategy fit for purpose and it would also be put through the Decision Wheel. • The Nature Recovery Steering Group provides the steer for the process. • RT would be asking for clarity from Parliament around pilots. <p>RECOMMENDATION: to note the report - NOTED</p>
3	<p>Sub Committee Update</p>

	<p>CC presented the Sub Committee Update paper which was circulated with papers ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: to note the report – NOTED</p> <p>ACTION: RT to be invited to the next Farming Sub Group meeting which will be set up by LG</p>
4	<p>G7 Nature Recovery Legacy Project</p> <p>WS and CC presented this item. WS explained that Natural England and the Cornwall Wildlife Trust were asked to put together a joint proposal for a nature recovery legacy in preparation for G7. It is a 5 year project. £705,000 funding has been secured for developing a business case for testing what can be delivered in year 1. Funding for years 2-5 is yet to be secured and will need to come from the next spending review period.</p> <p>Board Members discussed the project: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns were raised that the project might not progress past year 1 due to unsecured funding for the remainder of the project. The LNP would remind the SoS of the government’s recent carbon announcement. • what type of land made up the majority of the project areas? There are 850 farm holdings (privately owned farm land) which would help with transition to ELMs. Working with farmers and landowners will be a key strand of the project and the project team will include dedicated farm advisers. • WS would welcome thoughts on how they can build on their engagement with the farming sector particularly around supporting farm clusters to take best advantages of Tiers 2&3 of ELM. Duchy and Tregothnan estate have already expressed interested and we will want to reach out to others. • Fal and St Blazey catchment – a strong network of community engagement already exists and work will be carried out with these groups to set up apprenticeships. <p>ACTION: Details of year 1 proposals to be shared at the next board meeting in September – CC & WS.</p>
5	<p>Enquiry into the enforcement of environmental regulations</p> <p>RT presented the paper and explained the purpose of the enquiry would be to find out if the LNP could help find ways to improve enforcement of environmental regulations.</p> <p>The Board debated the subject and had the following comments: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out who has what enforcement responsibility? Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Council’s and stakeholders. Information does exist – RSPB, magazine article on environment crime, etc and the Office of Environmental Protection would be operational from July and be a useful contact for an early conversation. • NE and EA have had more duties placed on them but without an increase in resources. • It’s important to understand the difference between a crime and a compliance issue.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It might be good to look at where we are being proactive and where we are being reactive, ie planning conditions. • It would be good to have an understanding of what is stopping the system working at the moment. • There is lots of cynicism amongst farmers who have experience of being inspected for compliance. • There was a suggestion to look at where the biggest impact can be made. • It's important to be clear about what we want to achieve, is it to raise awareness or improved enforcement in certain areas? • It is worth noting that with regards to successful prosecution the court fees to bring about a prosecution often outweigh the penalties given. <p>RECOMMENDATION: To be debated and to decide how to move forward</p> <p>ACTION: A sub group would be set up and a terms of reference written. NB-W and CC would set out who is going to do what and what the aim is. A baseline study would be undertaken. All the aforementioned will need to be brought back to the board for endorsement.</p> <p>ACTION: Board Members should contact either RT or LG if they wish to be on the sub group.</p>
6	<p>Safeguarding Assurance</p> <p>Guest Bryan Skinner introduced the item and gave a short presentation to board members.</p> <p>Sophie Hosking is the Corporate Safeguarding Lead for Cornwall Council. Some thoughts for board member's consideration:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you and your organisation understand their safeguarding role • Do you have policies and training in place to support within your organisation and those working for you • Include Safeguarding in your recruitment with DBS • Be aware of how to manage engagement with children and adults • Be aware of the safeguarding signs • Know how to escalate concerns <p>ACTION: Safeguarding presentation which includes a clip to a safeguarding film to be circulated by LG</p> <p>ACTION: In addition to the above safeguarding briefing a safeguarding clause is being included in the LNP's Terms of Reference which will be circulated electronically for approval by the board.</p>
7	<p>Roundtable/Board Member Updates</p> <p>Board Members gave individual updates</p>
8	<p>AOB</p>

	It was Sarah Mason's last board meeting. RT thanked her personally and on behalf of the board for all her work with the LNP and on the board.
	Dates of Next Meetings – 9 th September 2021 7 th October 2021 18 th November 2021

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