

Meeting notes

Meeting Title:	Local Nature Partnership Board Meeting
Date:	6 May 2022
Time:	09:30 – 12:00
Location:	via Microsoft Teams
Present:	Robin Teverson (RT) Chair, Carolyn Cadman (CC) Deputy Chair, Cherilyn Mackrory MP (CM), Wesley Smyth (WS), Cllr John Bastin (Cllr JB) for Cllr Martyn Alvey (Cllr MA), Helen Dobby (HD), Tanya Saker (TS) for Paul Masters (PMas), Julian Branscombe (JB), Vicky Fraser (VF), Cllr Steve Watt (Cllr SW), Sian Rees (SR)
In attendance:	Philippa Hoskin (PH), Carl Warom (CW)
Guests:	none

1	Apologies, items of AOB, Minutes, Matters Arising & Actions and Chair's report
1.1	<p>Welcome, thank you, apologies & items for AOB <i>Apologies:</i> Ilya Maclean (IM), Nick Bruce White (NB-W), Karen Burrows (KB) <i>AOB: None</i> <i>Welcome and thank you:</i></p> <p>The Chair welcomed back Helen Dobby, who had been on secondment. RT also welcomed Vicky Fraser, Service Director for Environment & Connectivity who takes the place of Peter Marsh, as the new CEO of the LNP. It was also noted that Phil Mason, Strategic Director for Sustainable Growth & Development will join the board in the place of Sophie Hosking.</p> <p>The Chair asked that his and the board's thanks be noted, as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Marsh for his role as the first ever CEO of the LNP. • Sophie Hosking for her role as board member of the LNP. • Carolyn Cadman for her role as Deputy Chair, who was attending her last LNP board meeting before leaving for a new role as Director of Natural Resources at South West Water. Callum Deveney will be acting CEO of the Cornwall Wildlife Trust. <p>CC relayed the very sad news that Martin Goodall, former ERCCIS Manager at the CWT, passed away recently. The LNP gave their condolences to both colleagues at CWT and to his family and would like to formally acknowledge Martin's contributions as lead author on the State of Nature Report and for his work on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.</p> <p>Frank Howie, who chaired the Cornwall Geo-conservation Group, also passed away recently and the LNP passed on their condolences.</p>

	From the next board meeting Cllr Legg will be taking the place of Cllr Watt for the Isles of Scilly.
1.2	Minutes of previous Board Meeting Minutes approved.
1.3	Matters Arising and Actions None and all actions had been completed.
1.4	<p>Chair's report (full report circulated with the board papers)</p> <p>Taken as read. RT highlighted the Environmental Enforcement Item going to the Leadership Board which NB-W is contributing towards.</p> <p>Reporting back from the SPF Steering Group RT said there is a plan for all bids to have a nature recovery and climate change dimension to them. CM pointed out the importance of there being a balance between biodiversity net gain and social and economic issues such as job creation in Cornwall. JB considered it the responsibility of the LEP to champion from a social and economic perspective and that the LNP should not accept any trade-offs. The Chair said that the LNP and the LEP usually had a unified view on such matters. RT would communicate these thoughts back to the Steering Group.</p> <p>Recommendation: to note – NOTED</p>
2	<p>Executive Report (full report circulated with the board papers)</p> <p>Taken as read. VF said the Nature Recovery Team were working with colleagues on the SPF Investment Plan and were aiming for submission and approval by June. VF and the Chair met with local MPs and requested their help in expediting the roll out of guidance and funding for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Additionally they were briefed on nature recovery asks set out in the Cornwall County Deal prospectus. Earlier this month VF was involved in a successful civil servant visit regarding the County Deal which has resulted in them undertaking some deep dives. VF will keep the board updated on this devolution work.</p> <p>Recommendation: to note – NOTED</p>
3	<p>LNP Sub Committee Update (paper circulated ahead of the meeting)</p> <p>As provided in the board report submitted with board papers.</p>
4	<p>Isles of Scilly (verbal updates)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five new members of staff have been taken on at CWT including a Trainee Ranger, a Nextdoor Nature Officer with a community-engagement focus, and 3 roles covering fundraising development, communications and support functions. • Homes for Shearwaters appeal exceeded its target, with 35 shearwater nestboxes in place, 4 with webcams for monitoring purposes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2022/23 programme of work to deliver AONB Management Plan objectives is very diverse and exciting • TS has been working with PH and the team and the LNR survey has now been completed. There are two sets of survey results. A workshop has now been arranged. • LNRS - TS said £20k funding has been acquired to look at Biodiversity Net Gain work; PH will offer advice and guidance with regards to the spend. Awaiting confirmation from the EA with regards to additional funding. WS confirmed that Defra had communicated with all responsible authorities and that Cornwall and IoS were considered to have a combined LNRS.
5	<p>Ecological Emergency Summit COP1 – next steps</p> <p>Further to the Summit which took place in March, we are now considering how to take the passion and dedication we saw to achieve results. One of the key recommendations is that the LNP will encourage more pledges for nature and deliver on those pledges made. They will be followed up/monitored by the LNP and reported on at COP2.</p> <p>A further recommendation is a call for projects so we can create an investment programme and encourage businesses/stakeholders/partners to submit viable projects and support them in articulating some of the outputs (some are already identified as G7 legacy projects). These will be ready for when funding opportunities come around. On completion of the call it is recommended that LNP create a sub-group to oversee the process for project evaluation and feedback.</p> <p>The LNP board are asked to not just support the call for projects but to actively participate. The team will be in touch and the current deadline of end of May can be flexible.</p> <p>Board comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RT said he would be talking about this and linking it to the SPF during the LNPs regular meetings with the LEP. • HD pointed out the connectivity between this work and pipeline work across EA business; she has an opportunity to speak to a Cabinet Officer in May and will think about how we might align opportunities. HD to keep LNP involved and reach out to VF and PH where possible. • PH - momentum needs to be kept up with regards to landowners. PH has a list of partners and major landowners who we can reach out to. This will highlight any gaps and enable follow up work. <p>Other comments/reflections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VF suggested some further work needs to be done with regards to producing tangible and measurable ways of monitoring and reporting. With IMs help PH can add to existing reporting of EG KPI percentages (which are meta targets). WS commented that over the next few years reporting and monitoring will need to be streamlined especially around increased LNR monitoring and KPIs reporting, and HD suggested there could be a central resource for lighter way of reporting back. Some thought can be given to this. • SR – pointed out that there was a gap around IFCAs. SR and RT will aim to see IFCAs new roadmap and assist with any lobbying need in order to be included in the SPF.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CllrJB – raised a concern about the Development Planning Document which doesn't give protection to agricultural land. Additionally there is an increasing problem with wildlife disturbance causing breeding patterns to be upset. The Secretary of State is due to sign off an updated fishing byelaw regarding bottom dredgers. CM would appreciate any LNP help to achieve joined up thinking around issues affecting the fishing industry. Ruth Williams from CWT is a useful bridge to IFCA. CWT have been supporting Mevagissey fishers, advising on reducing bio-catch and being sustainable. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the LNP supports efforts and communications to encourage more Pledges for Nature - supported 2. That the LNP monitors progress in delivering pledges and this is reported on at COP2 or equivalent in 2022/23 – supported (agreed to a soft approach such as sending reminders to those who have pledged and encourage them to carry out pledges on their own) 3. That the LNP encourages strategic partners to participate in the creation of a LNP Investment Programme - supported 4. That the LNP creates an investment sub-group to assess projects and engage in strategic opportunities to increase investment in nature recovery – supported (HD to nominate someone from EA, KB, RT, IM, CWT representative, SR, and JB or TS). <p>ACTION: SR & RT to look at addressing the IFCA gap. ACTION: VF and HD to consider options around monitoring and reporting</p>
6	<p>Nature Recovery Green Paper and Environmental Targets consultations (verbal report & presentation)</p> <p>Carl Warom (CW) gave a presentation on two consultations informing the board of the upcoming deadline to input to them – 11 May 2022. CW gave a summary overview of the Nature Recovery green paper which would focus on biodiversity.</p> <p>The board had the following comments: - <i>protecting species – aims of reform.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS said it aligned to government's ambition for developing a new approach for site's species to be protected. Legislation has been around protection but there is a need to move towards recovery too. The tools that get used for management of sites (habit management) were about protection rather than recovery. • It is important that there should be no loss of protection; what is already in place should not be undermined. • Strong argument for stronger more ecological coherent approach towards sites and development in way people understand; how the designated site system works is not understood. • The new system needs to be dynamic and responsive to respond to external factors such as climate change. • Need to think about buffers around sites; difficultly managing existing sites as they are impacted by adjoining catchments so there is a need for buffers. • To deliver on ambition there needs to be wider portfolio of funding.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine protected areas – there will be a framework of byelaws through IFCA's but targeted at specific features – there needs to be a move to whole site approach. Legislation needs review - it is very difficult to interpret. • HD – the whole place piece is important; site management reform should provide improved tools. <p>CW will draft a letter in response with comments given. RT would like CW to circulate around board on 06.05.2022.</p>
7	<p>Roundtable Board members gave a verbal update.</p>
8	<p>AOB None</p>
	<p>Dates of next meetings – 22 July 2022, 16 September 2022, 10 November 2022</p>