

## Local Nature Recovery Strategy Steering Group

### Minutes of Steering Group Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023

#### Present:

Fran Lancaster	FM	Principal Natural Environment Officer HC
Andrew Blake	AB	Wye Valley AONB and representing Malvern Hills AONB
Rhiannon Pierce	RP	Senior Advisor Natural England
Emma Whitehouse	EW	Environment Agency
Helen Dale	HD	Regional Advisor Countryside Management (CLA)
Liz Duberley	LD	Service Manager Built and Natural Environment HC
Claire Spicer	CS	Herefordshire Wildlife Trust
Emma Gardner	EG	Ecologist (HBRC)
Adam?		

#### Apologies:

No apologies were received.

#### 1. Welcome and minutes

FL welcomed members and the group ran through the minutes of the last meeting. Minutes were agreed – **ACTION: FL to add these to the website and update the actions log.**

#### 2. Further comments on the amended organisational structure

**ACTION: FL to circulate.**

#### 3. General updates

FL advised that the LNRS officer post has been advertised with a deadline of the 15<sup>th</sup> December with a hope to interview in the week of the 18<sup>th</sup> December (subject to candidate availability).

RP asked if we could share a list of datasets that Gloucestershire will be using for the modelling.

**ACTION: EG to source and share with the data working group for info.**

#### 4. How do we want our LNRS to look and visioning

Extensive discussions around the structure and appearance of the strategy document. Generally felt there should be an outward facing document which is more visual with detailed supporting information available. ED keen to recruit /commission someone to write the strategy asap to avoid delays, RP confirmed that there is a mixed approach nationally as to whether this is being done in house or by an external consultant.

Species Task and Finish Group – comprised of EG, RP, EA (as aquatic rep). NE species representative will support and feed in. Agreed that EG would carry out initial searches based on the NE lists and reduce to what is relevant to Herefordshire before engaging with stakeholders.

**ACTION: EG to carry out initial work on species list prior to engaging with stakeholders.**

**ACTION: RP to share info on Worcestershire's use of 'Survey 123' within the next month or so.**

Agreed that there needs to be a stakeholder engagement plan (with RP being involved) set up ready for the new LNRS officer.

**ACTION: FL to draft rough engagement plan for strategy for early January meetings.**

**ACTION: FL to circulate a spreadsheet with a full list of task and finish groups to steering group.**

**ACTION: All to fill in spreadsheet with where they see themselves fitting in and to nominate other relevant organisations/individuals to particular groups.**

**ACTION: Engagement task and finish group (FL, RP, EW, HD plus comms reps from HC, AONB and HWT) to meet and draft a set of actions at January meeting.**

**ACTION: FL/EG/LD to pull together an outline tender document for procuring the Strategy element of the work based on the feedback from this SG meeting.**

## **6. Next meeting**

The next Steering Group meeting was arranged for 8<sup>th</sup> January at 13.30pm at the Shell Store, Rotherwas, Hereford.

The Engagement Task and Finish Group will meet prior to this at 10:30am at the same venue.