

Local Nature Recovery Strategy Steering Group

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting on 18th June 2024

Present:

Fran Lancaster	FL	Principal Natural Environment Officer HC
Amelia Airey	AA	Nature Recovery Officer HC
Rhiannon Pierce	RP	Senior Advisor Natural England
Emma Whitehouse	EW	Environment Agency
Emma Gardner	EG	Ecologist HBRC
Liz Duberley	LD	Service Manager Built and Natural Environment HC

1. Welcome and Apologies:

Andrew Blake	AB	Wye Valley AONB and representing Malvern Hills AONB
Alan Reid	AR	Forestry Commission
Helen Dale	HD	Regional Advisor Countryside Management (CLA)
Claire Spicer	CS	Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

2. Staff Changes

FL reported that AA is to leave the Council in July 2024. The Council will seek to re-recruit to the LNRS Officer post and will keep the SG informed.

LD is also moving posts within the Council to become Phosphate Mitigation Lead. LD will continue to be involved in the LNRS work going forward.

3. Gantt Chart Progress

AA gave a brief update on progress made regarding project planning with good progress made on design work, species longlisting and strategy tender.

Some areas where the colour coding has not been corrected were identified.

Action: AA to correct and recirculate prior to next SG meeting

4. Species Workshop – shortlisting event

EG confirmed that the first species workshop with county recorders will occur on Monday 8th July.

A further workshop is planned for Monday 5th August.

The work will identify any species which may have been missed from the longlist, will begin the process of allocating species to the categories set out in the guidance.

The longlist currently stands around 1000 species

**Action: EG to copy EW into the invite to ensure EA species experts can be present
EW to co-ordinate various EA species experts to return one version of the spreadsheet**

5. Mapping update

HC are still waiting for delivery of the mapping by Gloucestershire WT. HC are pressing for a delivery date.

6. Engagement update

Pre-Election Period protocols have delayed some awareness raising.

Market town events are scheduled for 10th July onwards as drop in events at local markets.

The engagement survey is in draft form to be agreed by engagement group next week.

Action: HC to provide updated program to SG

7. Strategy Tender

Tender pack ready. SG suggested a number of potential consultants/individuals

8. Confirm next meeting date

Tuesday 16th July at 1pm