Nature Recovery Herefordshire

Herefordshire Council



Local Nature Recovery Newsletter | October 2026

(Photo: Jane Tavener)

Welcome to the first Local Nature Recovery newsletter for our local delivery partners.

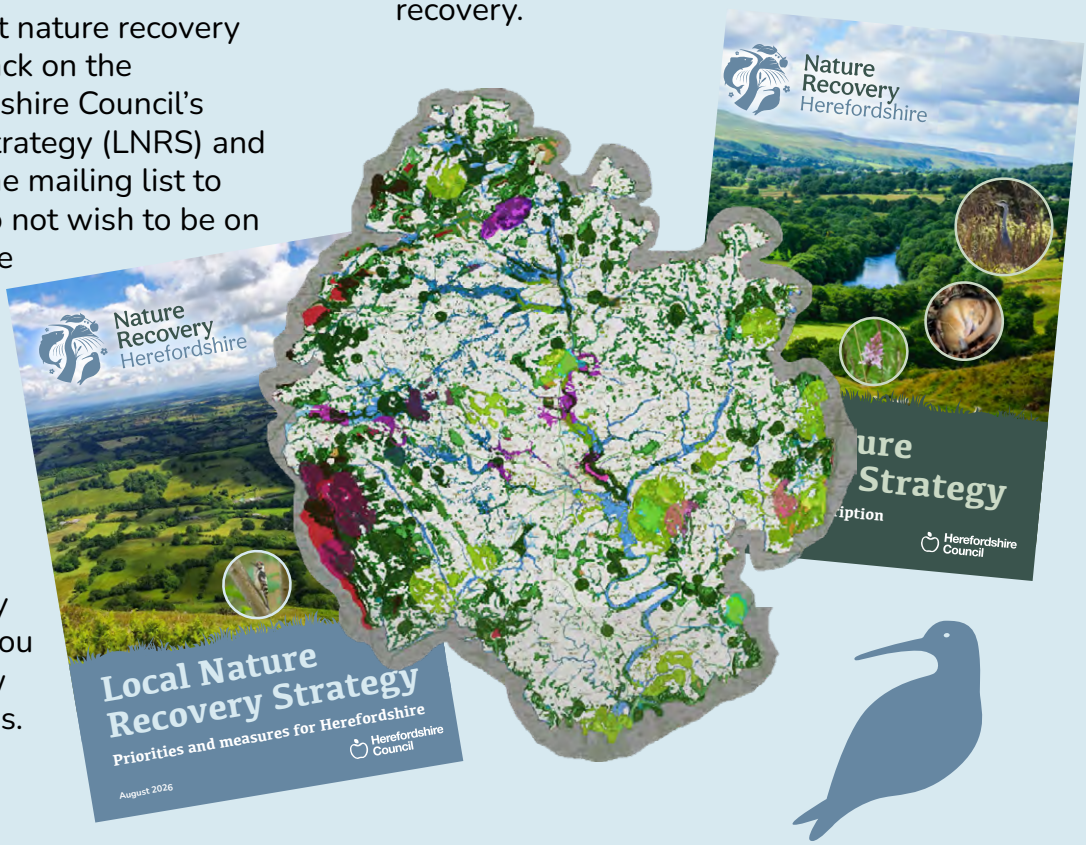
If you are wondering who 'local delivery partners' are, that's you! And any group, organisation, business, landowner or individual who, in any way, large or small, is helping, or interested in helping, to delivery nature recovery in Herefordshire.

You probably heard about nature recovery through providing feedback on the development of Herefordshire Council's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) and requested to be put on the mailing list to receive updates. If you do not wish to be on this mailing list, or believe you have been added in error, please email us and let us know that you wish to be removed.

We'd like to keep you up to date with how the delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy is progressing and how you can get involved and how we can support you in this. So here goes...

LNRS goes live

In August the LNRS for Herefordshire was approved by Natural England and adopted by Herefordshire Council and formally published on the council website herefordshire.gov.uk/LNRS. The strategy is made up of two key documents: the Strategy Area Description and the Priorities and Measures. In addition there is the Local Habitat Map, a key element of this spatial strategy that identifies where the measures will be most effective for nature recovery.



NatureRecovery@herefordshire.gov.uk | www.herefordshire.gov.uk/lnrs

We are grateful to everyone who helped to prepare the LNRS and we are very proud of it. We now have the challenging task of delivering it, and of monitoring and reporting on the delivery. We can't do this alone and we're keen to engage and collaborate with as many partners, organisations and individuals as possible.

Here's how the delivery groups and partners will work together:



Nature Recovery Team

- Co-ordinate delivery
- Provide advice on LNRS-related projects
- Collate information to show how delivery is helping nature recovery and report regularly to Defra on this
- Identify gaps in delivery and work with partners to fill them

Strategic Delivery Group

- Larger nature conservation and rural land management organisations
- A sub-committee of the Herefordshire Environment Board
- Our steering group advising us what our priorities should be and supporting us through collaboration

Local Delivery Partners

- Smaller organisations
- Community Groups
- Landowners and businesses
- Local residents...

... anyone adding to the big picture of nature recovery



The Strategic Delivery Group had its first meeting on 22 September where we discussed the terms of reference for the group and started to think about where and how delivery should be focused in the first couple of years. Ponds, traditional orchards and restoring small woodlands were highlighted as well as working with farmers and enabling other organisations to deliver projects through advice on funding and creating networking opportunities.

If you have an idea for a project or have any questions about how the LNRS fits in with what you're doing just get in touch with us via the contact details below.

What we're working on

Support for parish councils

We are liaising with parish and town councils so we can create a support package to help them to fulfil their biodiversity duty and produce action plans and policies around habitats and species on land they own or manage and more widely in their patch.

Working with Tree Wardens

We will be meeting local Tree Wardens in October to explore what their role could be in helping us deliver LNRS measures related to trees, hedges. orchards and woodlands.

Embedding LNRS into local decision making

This involves us working with other council teams to ensure that areas such as planning, highways and flood management understand their roles in delivering nature recovery.

Providing information to ecological consultants and developers

We are responding to queries and information requests from ecological consultants and developers. This will ensure that nature can be integrated into the specific site / landscape designs to deliver gains for habitats and species and other environmental benefits, helping to shape positive outcomes for biodiversity and ensure alignment with the LNRS.

Raising awareness and engaging people

We had a stand at the Malvern Autumn Show, alongside LNRS colleagues from Worcestershire, speaking to landowners and members of the public about nature recovery. We will be attending the Rural Hub's Rural Business Advice Day in November to talk to farmers and rural businesses.

Current funding pots for nature recovery

If you need support with funding applications for LNRS related projects please get in touch via the contact details below.

- National Highways Community Trees Programme **(The Tree Council)** -between 500 and 50,000 trees (whips) available to charities, community groups, schools, landowners/ farmers
- Green Community Grants Programme **(The Wildlife Trusts and Postcode Lottery)** - grants of up to £25,000 for one year for not-for-profit nature or climate-related groups with annual income between £10,000 and £1M.
- Herefordshire and Worcestershire Microgrants Scheme - grants of up to £250 for community groups, charities and residents to support projects that bring people together and promote positive mental health and wellbeing.



Scarlet Waxcap *(Jane Tavener)*

Information and training

- Plantlife free online nature courses - learn about plants and fungi, online, for free, at your own pace.
- Herefordshire Biological Records Centre - a hub for Herefordshire wildlife information and recording wildlife sightings with lots of resources to help you identify wildlife.

LNRS Measure Spotlight

The main part of the LNRS is the list of priorities and measures. The priorities are what we want to achieve and the measures are what needs to be done to achieve the priorities. Alongside the measures are supporting actions that in themselves will not improve habitats or recover species but will support or enable this work in some way. In each of our forthcoming updates we will shine the spotlight on one measure or supporting action; to look at it in more detail, or to showcase examples of how it is being delivered, or to encourage you to act on it.

This time the spotlight is on measure:

PM29: Plant native hedgerows and hedgerow trees to improve connectivity.

Hedgerows provide vital habitat links as well as long-term carbon sequestration, reduced flood risk and soil erosion and shelter for livestock. Delivery partners Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) Herefordshire are recruiting volunteers to help with their Hedgerow Heroes project to help restore the hedgerow network in Herefordshire. Since 2024 they have planted and restored over 13km of hedgerow.

To find out more and to sign up go to their website
www.cpreherefordshire.org.uk/hedgerow-heroes



Who we are

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Herefordshire Council

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The legal basis for processing this data is your consent to do so. You can withdraw your consent at any time by notifying us. Our contact details to do so, or for any other queries, are naturerecovery@herefordshire.gov.uk or phone 01432 260708.

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