

# Essex LNRS Scrutiny Meeting May 2024

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**ESSEX  
LNRS**

LOCAL  
NATURE  
RECOVERY  
STRATEGY

# Nature Crisis

- **Decline and loss of species**

- 1 in 6 species at risk of being lost from Great Britain
- Endangered species in Essex: Swift, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Native Oyster
- 55% decline in farm birds
- 32% decline in species' abundance in England

- **Habitat loss**

- UK lowest 12% for biodiversity intactness
- Over last 400 years, Essex has lost 91% of its intertidal saltmarsh

- **Increased fragments habitat**

- Decrease of connectivity for 19% of species



# What is a local nature recovery strategy (LNRS)?

- Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are designed to drive action for nature recovery and further environment benefits across England.
- **LNRSs were made mandatory by the Environment Act 2021**
- Essex County Council is the Responsible Authority appointed to deliver the LNRS on behalf of Greater Essex.
- **Created in partnership with landowners, key environmental stakeholders, Supporting Authorities and members of the public.**
- Once complete, the Essex LNRS will highlight areas where nature is thriving, opportunities for potential habitat creation or enhancement, a strategy for recovery and a visual map to show the state of nature in Essex.





# What can it achieve?

- A strategy and map of vital existing spaces for nature and locations of importance for biodiversity – highlight existing spaces of importance for biodiversity and showcase opportunities for nature recovery, leading to better co-ordination.
- Help contribute towards the national and local target of 25% coverage of green infrastructure by 2030. Essex has approx. 14% coverage of GI currently.
- The completed LNRS will be a consideration in planning matters and influence central funding streams to deliver improvements for our environment.
- Co-ordinated approach enables better results on less land – Bigger, Better, More connected

## Who?

- The County Council Team
- Essex Local Nature Partnership
- Ground Control, Mapping lead
- Engagement Support

## How?

- Collaboration, Partnership Led
- Meaningful and extensive engagement
- Feedback

## Key messages

- Bigger, better, more connected
- Habitat and species recovery
- Practical, on-the-ground delivery tool
- Ambitious, deliverable



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# Engagement Overview

- Recently undertaken review of all engagement (2022 – 2024) against the DEFRA guidelines on engagement
- Engagement Plan Produced 2023-2024
- Engagement Plan for Farmers and Landowners 2023 – 2024
- Public, private and voluntary sectors
- Webinars, workshops, events
- Surveys, newsletters, articles
- Continued programme of engagement all the way through public consultation and beyond
- Local Authority (Supporting Authority) monthly meetings







January 2024 – Priority Species workshop



February 2024 – LNP Board Meeting



March 2024 – Tendring Farm Cluster Meeting



March 2024 – Livestock Market



January 2024 – North Essex Farm Cluster Bird Walk



January 2024 – Farmer/Landowner Mapping Workshop



# Timeline

- **June 2024:** Launch of Supporting Authority Consultation for 28 days
- **July 2024:** Launch of Public Consultation for 8 weeks
- **August 2024:** Public consultation continues throughout this month
- **September – November 2024:**
  - Public Consultation closes
  - Feedback collated and actioned
  - Consultation with Supporting Authorities before final publishing
  - Cabinet for decision
- **End of 2024:** Publication of LNRS







# How to get in touch

**Visit:** [www.essexnaturepartnership.co.uk](http://www.essexnaturepartnership.co.uk)

**Contact us:** [nature.partnership@essex.gov.uk](mailto:nature.partnership@essex.gov.uk)

**Sign up to:** the Essex Nature Partnership newsletter

Thank you

