

Supplementary Papers

The Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel

held in the Virtual meeting viewable by weblink
on Tuesday, 23 July 2024 at 6.30 pm

7. **Update on the Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy** (Pages 2 - 11)
Summary presentation given at the meeting.
10. **Oxfordshire Local Area Energy Plan - Outline business case** (Pages 12 - 22)
Summary presentation given at the meeting.

LNRS progress against the five steps

Oxfordshire County Council – June 2024

Chloe Edwards

Agenda Item 7

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Local Nature Recovery Strategy



An Oxfordshire County Council-led partnership

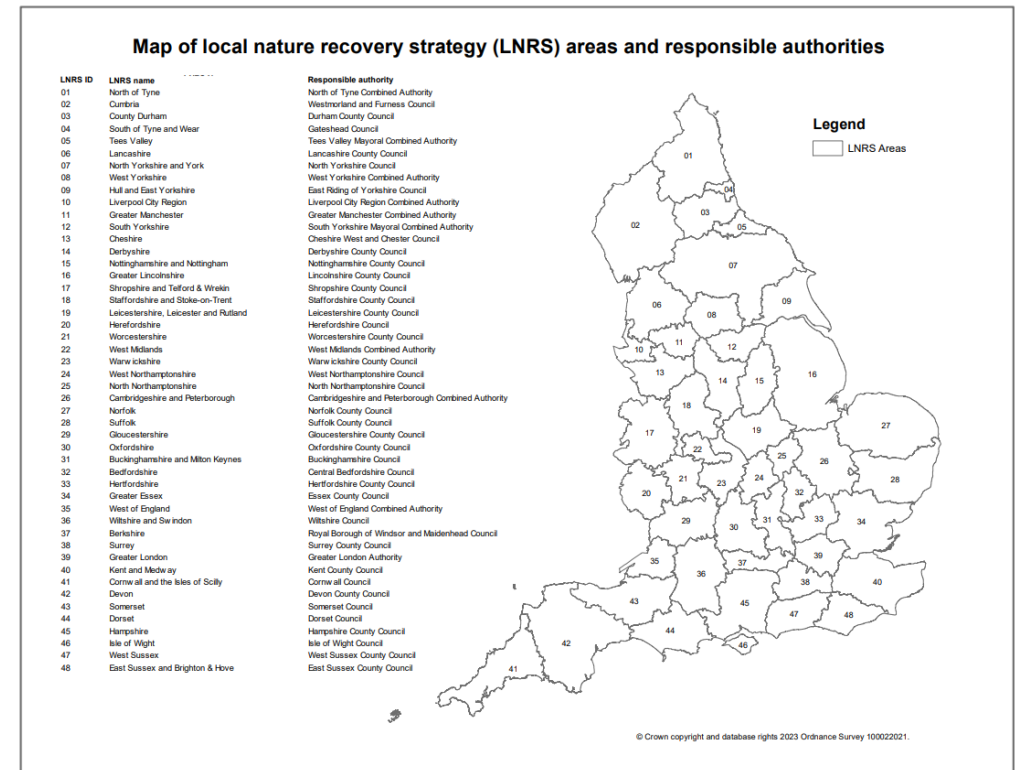
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Plus interest, data, and conversations with many more people and organisations

The LNRS aims to address the severe loss of biodiversity recorded in the UK

- Government asks us to create a spatial strategy (map) and written documents which outline what the top priority outcomes to achieve across in our local area.
- LNRSs should identify the most important biodiversity outcomes and to give suggestions about the most important which (if taken) could improve, create, and restore habitats for species across Oxfordshire.
- Our LNRS is one of 48 strategies which Defra have required authority areas to create (starting in June 2023) and to be published in 2025.
- The priorities are to be created collaboratively with people and organisations across Oxfordshire
- LNRSs are a statutory requirement of the Environment Act 2021.



What are the LNRS consultation draft documents?

1 Draft Statement of Biodiversity Priorities

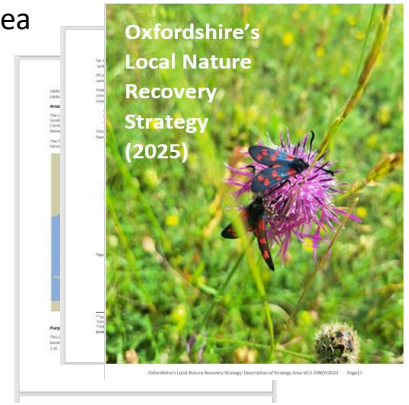
Theme 1: Build connected nature networks that are resilient to climate change

| Biodiversity priority code | Message | Most relevant to: | Local sites | Integrating level of effort and impact for nature |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------|---|
| 1 | There is a major need to improve biodiversity and create nature-rich habitats. This is a major need to improve biodiversity and create nature-rich habitats. This is a major need to improve biodiversity and create nature-rich habitats. | Farmers & Landowners | Countywide | Landscape recovery |
| 2 | There are more and better connected nature-rich habitats. This is a major need to improve biodiversity and create nature-rich habitats. This is a major need to improve biodiversity and create nature-rich habitats. | Farmers & Landowners | Countywide | Landscape recovery |

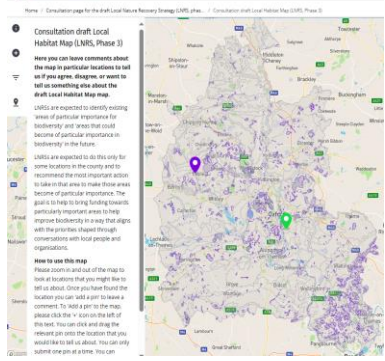
2 Draft Species Priorities List

| Species | Type | Assessment | Most relevant Priorities | Reasons for inclusion |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Great crested newt (<i>Triturus cristatus</i>) | Amphibian | N/A | 6, 22 | Priority species not due to its internationally important population. Flood creation and management needed. |
| House martin (<i>Delichon urbicum</i>) | Bird | N/A | 1, 3, 6, 12, 16, 20, 22, 23 | Species whose 'tag' is declining nationally. Specific action targeted to priority resting sites. |
| House sparrow (<i>Passer domesticus</i>) | Bird | N/A | 25, 26 | Some species. Specific action needed to provide nesting sites. |
| Swift (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>) | Bird | N/A | 25, 26 | Some species that has undergone severe declines. Specific action needed to provide nesting sites. |
| Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>) | Bird | N/A | 1, 3, 6, 12, 16, 20, 22, 23 | Species whose 'tag' is declining nationally. Specific action needed to provide nesting sites. |
| Lavender (<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>) | Bird | N/A | 6, 20, 24, 25 | Some vulnerable, some species locally. |
| Redpoll (<i>Redpoll pomarine</i>) | Bird | Severn Estuary | 14 | Some vulnerable, internationally important numbers in the Severn Estuary. |
| White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons</i>) | Bird | Severn Estuary | 14 | Some vulnerable, internationally important numbers in the Severn Estuary. |
| Swallow's Sparrow (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>) | Bird | Severn Estuary | 14 | Some vulnerable, internationally important numbers in the Severn Estuary. |
| Western wood-pewee (<i>Myiobus tristis</i>) | Invertebrate | N/A | 10, 11 | Only found in a handful of sites across the UK, including on Tolleshurst Ridge. Buglife have mapped an important overwintering area for this species in North Somerset. |
| Longhorned bee (<i>Osmia longicornis</i>) | Invertebrate | N/A | 1, 3, 12, 22 | UK Priority Species and one of Buglife's 'Special' (the most) 'endangered' species across the UK. |
| A leaf beetle (<i>Chalcidius sibiricus</i>) | Invertebrate | N/A | 14 | Found in a handful of sites across the UK. RUK 'Vulnerable'. |
| Slow worm (<i>Lepidochelys</i>) | Invertebrate | Calciferous grassland | 2, 12 | Within South Gloucestershire Biodiversity Action Plan. Thought to be declining nationally. |

3 Draft Description of Strategy Area



4 Draft Local Habitat Map



A consultation page has been drafted to invite people to shape the LNRS

Info about LNRSs



Draft Local Habitat Map



Draft consultation documents



Consultation page for the draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS, phase 3)

Tell us your thoughts on the priorities and actions recommended to improve biodiversity in Oxfordshire by the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Biodiversity is a term that refers to the variety of all life, including plants, animals, fungi, and micro-organisms. A stable and healthy variety of species provides us with everything necessary for survival, from fresh water, clean air, and climate regulation to food and medicines and much more. These benefits do not come from individual species but from a rich variety of species working together.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies are expected to help join up national efforts to reverse the decline of biodiversity. (DfE, 2023)

Actions within LNRS are designed to target what we should do and where to create, restore, or improve habitats that can particularly help biodiversity. The actions and priorities all focus on improving biodiversity but by achieving them, these actions also offer important wider benefits to people and the environment. For example, improving soil health is a priority that can help animals, plants, fungi and microorganisms in the soil. While the priority focuses on improving biodiversity, the results of achieving this could also improve food production in those places, capture more carbon (something that healthy soils can do well), and could help reduce flooding.

More information

[More information about the Local Nature Recovery Strategy](#)

Documents that explain frequently asked questions (FAQs) and that define some of the words that we use (terminology) can be found under the 'Documents' section on this page. Further information can also be seen on our webpage [INSERT LINK]

Have your say

Within this survey (ADD LINK) you can tell us whether you think that we have got the following documents right or whether you would recommend changes before we create our final versions to publish in 2025.

The consultation documents are:

1. the draft Statement of Biodiversity Priorities (SBP)
2. the draft Description of the Strategy Map (DOSM)
3. the draft Species Priorities List (SPL)
4. the draft Local Habitat Map (LHM)

Paper copies

Where possible, please submit your response online. If you would like to view the full set of questions before you answer the survey, you can download the [INSERT SURVEY NAME AND COPY OF FULL QUESTIONS] from the **Full Questionnaire** section on this page. Please note that we can provide this for the documents but that we are unable to provide this for the map tool. You can comment on the map tool using the 'Full questions' though.

This survey is within Phase 1 of the LNRS. See further phases in **Lifecycle** section on this page. In Phase 1, we are asking a wide range of people about their priorities for nature, our wildlife and habitats, and any actions that you would want to see people and organisations deliver across Oxfordshire. You can also tell us about actions that you are taking.

Contact us:
localnature.recoverystrategy@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Draft consultation Local Habitat Map **Survey**

All unpublished Map items are shown as 'Draft'. Only actions will be able to see it in the preview mode.

Consultation draft Local Habitat Map (LNRS, Phase 3) - Draft

about 2 months

Here you can leave comments about the map in particular locations to tell us if you agree, disagree, or want to tell us something else about the draft Local Habitat Map map.

LNRSs are expected to identify ecodiversity areas of particular importance for biodiversity and areas that could become of particular importance in biodiversity in the future.

LNRSs are expected to do this only for some locations in the county and to recommend the most important action to take in that area to make those areas become of particular importance. The goal is to help to bring funding towards particularly important areas to help improve biodiversity in a way that aligns with the priorities shaped through conversations with local people and organisations.

How to use this map

Please zoom in and out of the map to look at locations that you might like to tell us about. Once you have found the location you can add a pin to leave a comment. To add a pin to the map, please click the '+' icon on the left of this text. You can click and drag the relevant pin onto the location that you would like to tell us about. You can only submit one pin at a time. You can submit as many pins as you'd like.

GO TO MAP

Quick Polls

No Quick Polls for this project

Key Dates

Phase 3 survey opens
13 September 2024

Phase 1 survey closes (at 11:59 pm)
25 October 2024

Documents

- More information about the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.docx (2.1 MB) (docx)
- Draft LNRS Description of Strategy Area.docx (19.6 KB) (docx)
- Draft LNRS Species Priorities List.docx (9.3 KB) (docx)
- draft LNRS terminology document.docx (29.4 KB) (docx)

Data protection and privacy

Under the [Data Protection Act 2018](#), we (Oxfordshire County Council) have a legal duty to protect any personal information we collect from you. View Oxfordshire County Council's privacy notice online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/oxfordshire-council-privacy-notice or call the council's customer services team on 01865 816000 and we will work with you to meet your needs.

Alternative formats

If you or anyone you know needs this consultation in an alternative format in order to have your say, we (Easy Read, large text, audio, Braille or a community language), please email consultation@oxfordshire.gov.uk or call the council's customer services team on 01865 816000 and we will work with you to meet your needs.

Printed copies

You can request a paper copy of the consultation documents by emailing consultation@oxfordshire.gov.uk or call the county council's Customer Services Team on 01865 816000 or download it from this page. We have provided a Freepost address on the paper survey form for you to return your completed survey.

Lifecycle

- Open**
This consultation is open for contributions.
- Phase 1 (February - March 2024)**
We are asking a wide range of people about their priorities for nature (our wildlife and habitats) and any actions that you want to see people and organisations deliver across Oxfordshire. You can also tell us about actions that you are taking. As well as this survey, we are holding 14 workshops to create people to engage in these conversations.
- Phase 2 (May 2024)**
We held a webinar to present a first look at the responses to our survey and workshops. We showed you the progress that we are using to turn priorities into a map of Oxfordshire. We heard your thoughts and invited you to tell us about locations where you were taking actions to improve, create, or restore habitats for biodiversity.
- Phase 3 (September - October 2024)**
A formal public consultation will be held online for you to see the draft version of the map and the documents that make up the LNRS, including a list of priorities created for the county. During this phase, you can tell us what you think before we finalise the strategy.
- Finalisation of strategy (Spring 2025)**
Online publication of the finalised version of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy documents and map for Oxfordshire.
- Delivery (2025 onwards)**
People and organisations across Oxfordshire can start using the Local Nature Recovery Strategy map and documents as a collaborative tool. You can start working for funding using the LNRS to support you, and you can use the LNRS to help develop an action plan you could take to improve biodiversity in Oxfordshire.

Accessibility Statement







[Accessibility Statement - Let's Talk Oxfordshire](#)

Home and Conditions Privacy Policy Accessibility Policy Technical Support Cookie Policy Site Map

After LNRS publication in 2025, the final version of the map will be held on OCCs website using a webmap viewer and will have more functionality than this consultation draft version

Timeline overview

Lifecycle

-  **Open**
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-  **Phase 1 (February - March 2024)**
We are asking a wide range of people about their priorities for nature (our wildlife and habitats) and any actions that you want to see people and organisations deliver across Oxfordshire. You can also tell us about actions that you are taking. As well as this survey, we are holding 14 workshops to invite people to engage in these conversations.
-  **Phase 2 (May 2024)**
We held a webinar to present a first look at the responses to our survey and workshops. We showed you the process that we are using to turn priorities into a map of Oxfordshire. We heard your thoughts and invited you to tell us about locations where you were taking actions to improve, create, or restore habitats for biodiversity.
-  **Phase 3 (October- November 2024)**
A formal public consultation will be held online for you to see the draft version of the map and documents that make up the LNRS, including a list of priorities created for the county. During this phase, you can tell us what you think to help the LNRS to finalise the strategy.
-  **Finalisation of strategy (Spring 2025)**
Online publication of the finished version of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy documents and map for Oxfordshire.
-  **Delivery! (2025 onwards)**
People and organisations across Oxfordshire can start using the Local Nature Recovery Strategy map and documents as a collaborative vision. You can start applying for funding using the LNRS to support you, and you can use the LNRS to help decide on which actions you could take to improve biodiversity in Oxfordshire!

Press release and comms. Oct 15th.

Press release and comms

What will the LNRS be asking of Supporting Authorities (SA) and the Responsible Authority (RA)?

- Soon, the LNRS will be asking the city, district, and county councils to confirm whether they approve/object that the draft version of this LNRS goes online for public consultation.
- In 2025, after amending our LNRS in response to public consultation, the LNRS will then seek that each authority adopt and approve the strategy.

What other things are commonly mentioned which are outside the scope of the LNRS?

- Stopping/reducing/improving sewage releases
- Stopping/reducing/improving house building, developments, and infrastructure
- Increasing or creating regulations, fines, or legal protections
- Create plans for more and better cycling and walking routes
- Increase the presence of nature within education/curriculum
- Reducing cars, litter, or the creation or pollutants
- Create new funding. Instead the LNRS can identify locations and actions which could attract existing and future funding.

LNRS partners do agree that everything above is also crucial to the success of nature recovery. However, these must be addressed through their relevant strategies and organisations.





Thank you for listening

If you'd like to ensure that you hear about Oxfordshire's LNRS consultation



You can sign up to our email list at the bottom of this [webpage](#) and share this with others who you know.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/local-nature-recovery-strategy>

Sign up

To receive updates from the Local Nature Recovery Strategy [subscribe to our newsletter](#).



FOP

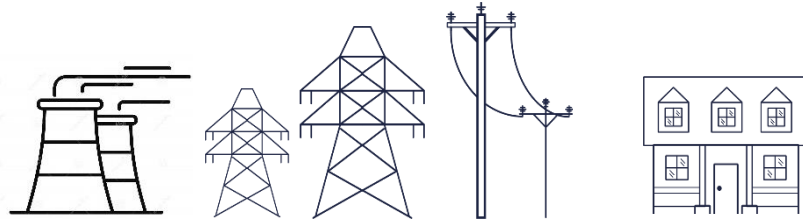
Local Area Energy Planning

Mark Saunders
Energy Systems and Investment Manager



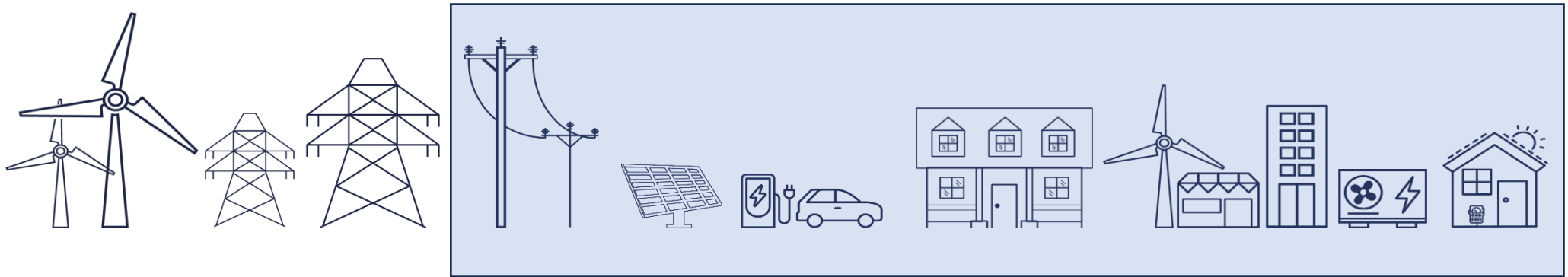
Our Energy System

The past



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The future



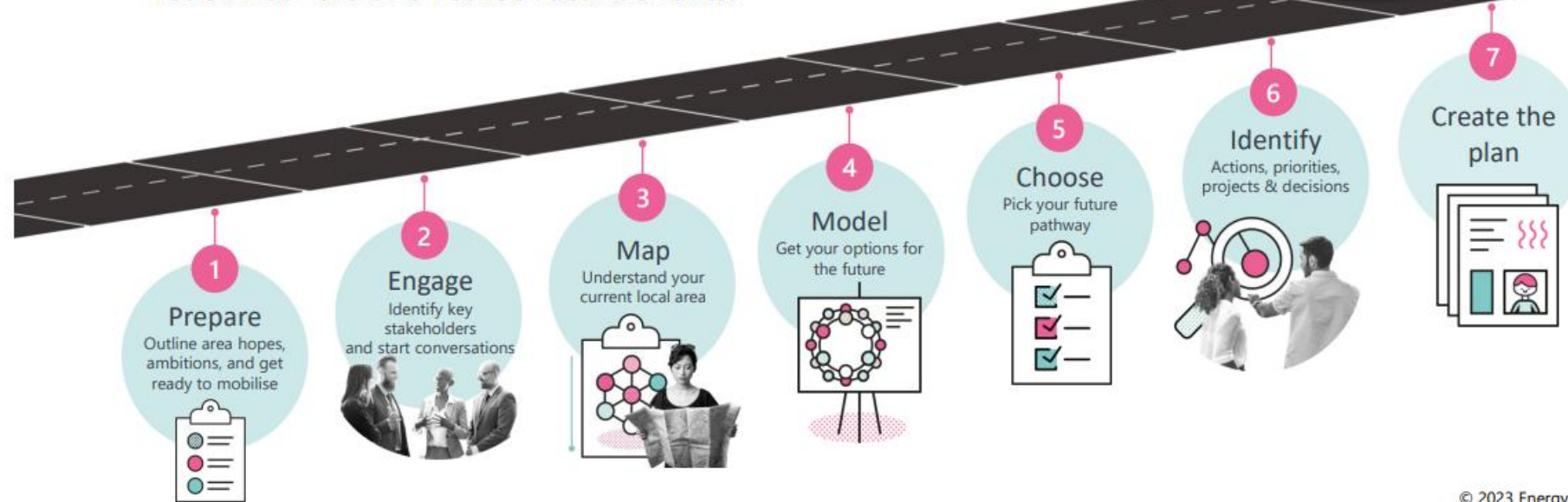
What is a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP)?



A **whole energy system** approach led by a Local Government Organisation (LGO), with key stakeholders.

It is a 'where and when' masterplan **identifying the most cost-effective pathway** for the local area to reach net zero and realise local benefits.

CATAPULT
Energy Systems



Recap



OxLAEP Governance operational since Sept 2023
Following NZRMAP



Key aspects = LAEPs and LAEP function



Early market engagement
Jan/Feb 2024



Engagement with District Councils on OxLAEP
Delivery Model – resourcing and financing impacts



Additional FOP funds sought on top of initial £150k



OxLAEP Programme scope and OBC agreed by ESB, EOG and IAG. Now going to FOP on 30 July



OxLAEP Programme

● WS1 - LAEPs

- Production of 5 LAEPs
- 1 per District
- County level strategic overview
- LAEPs will include project pipelines
- Digital format
- Implementation planning

● WS2 - Function

- Develop new LAEP capabilities able to navigate the impacts of grid constraints, coordinate the Net Zero project delivery pipeline
- Integration of community energy projects into wider energy planning
- Embedding LAE Planning into Oxfordshire authorities
- Investment programme

OXLAEP Procurement Process

• September 2024

• April 2025

Budget
Decision &
Open Days

Invitations to
tender

Contract
Award

Modelling
Complete

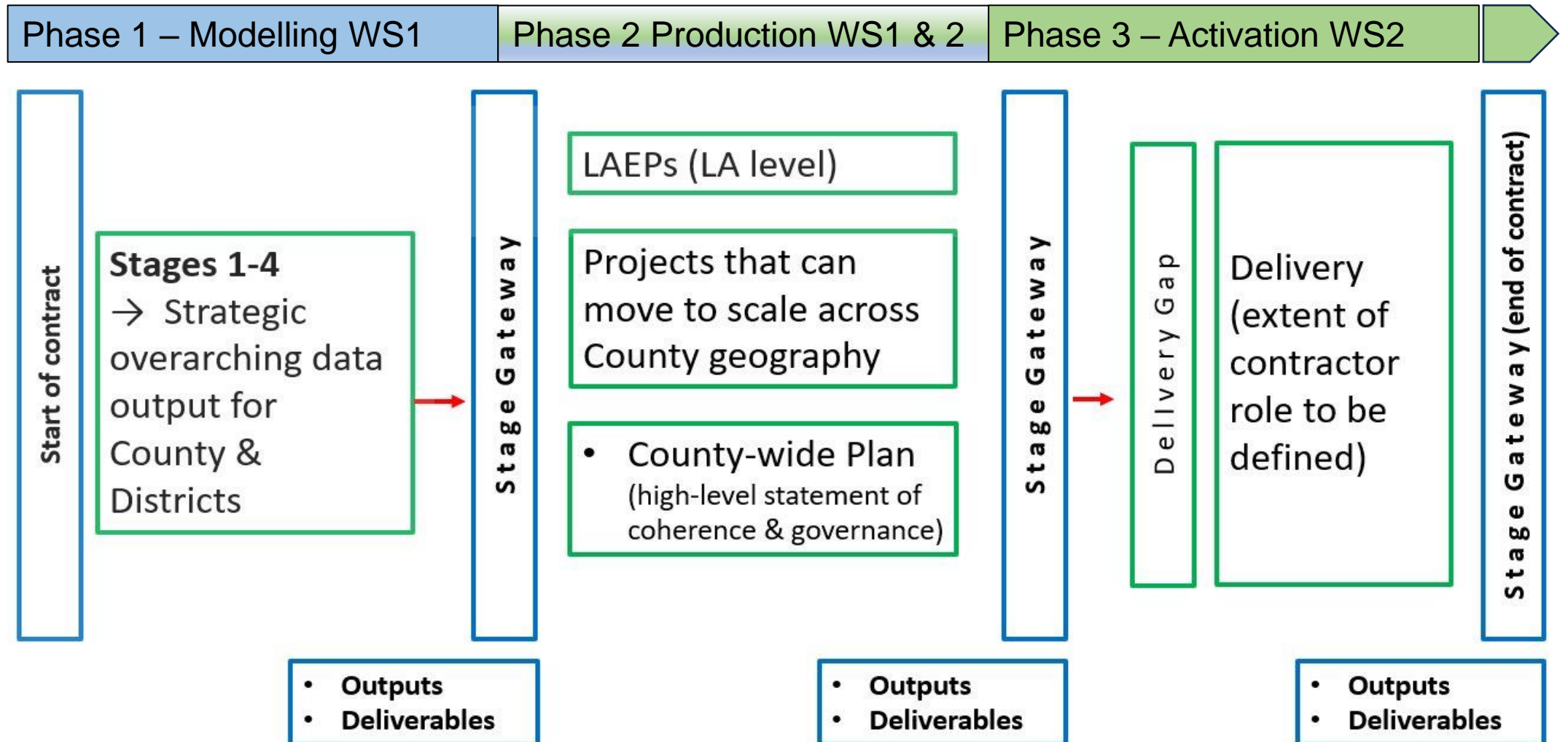
District LAEPS
Complete

• Now – July/August 2024

• November 2024

• November 2025

Proposed OxLAEP Delivery Model





OxLAEP Business Case - Options

- Option 1 – No established OxLAEP process, No FOP budget ask
- Option 2 – Convene LAEP Function only, FOP budget ask: £150k (this has already been secured)
- Option 3 – Deliver strategic level plan only: FOP budget ask: £400k (a further £250k in addition to the £150k secured)
- **Option 4 – Full OxLAEP Programme. 5 District Level LAEPs, County overview and LAEP Function. FOP budget ask: £600k. (a further £450k in addition to the £150k secured)**

Benefits of LAEPs



Planned decarbonisation to meet net zero targets.



Responsive / proactive grid management. Reducing overdependence on increasing grid capacity.



Increased / planned investment and economic activity



Effective Planning System integration



Governance, local mandate and social value



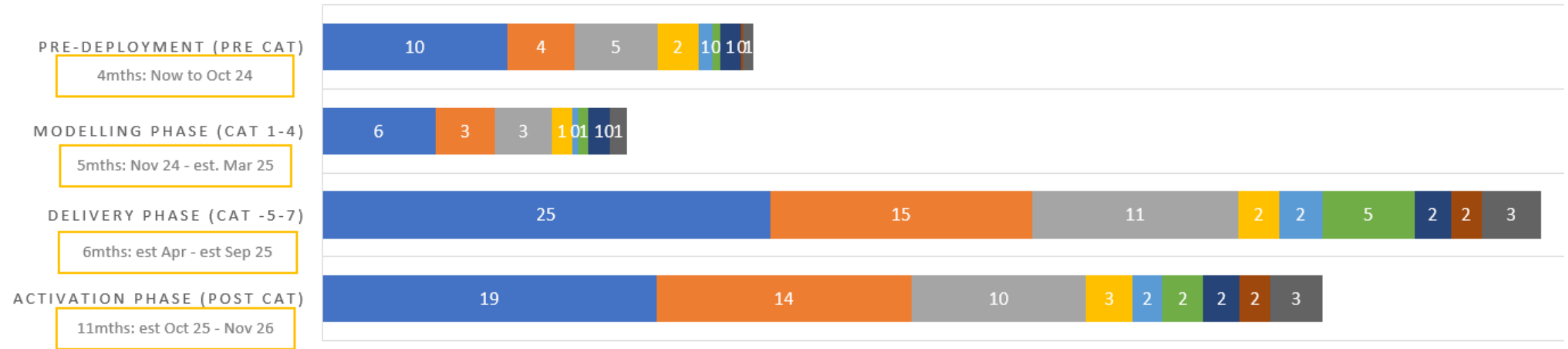
Community / stakeholder engagement



Management Case - District Resourcing

■ Sum of NZ officers
 ■ Sum of Managers
 ■ Sum of Planners (policy)
 ■ Sum of Planners DB
 ■ Sum of Legal
■ Sum of Regen
 ■ Sum of Data
■ Sum of Finance
■ Sum of Other

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Reducing the District resourcing risk

Introducing stage gates to enable Districts to move at different paces and potentially opt out.

OCC could support District clienting activity at phase 2

Additional funds to support District resourcing (LEO-N)

Delegation of some aspects to third parties

Reduced involvement in co-creation of LAEP Function