Task and Finish Groups Update

- Waste Strategy Task and Finish Group held on 28 November
- Climate and Nature Recovery Action Plan Joint T&F group on 15 January 24

For Future:

- Waste potential follow up session.
- Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- Climate Adaptation and Resilience
- Other topics as necessary





Environment Act Update

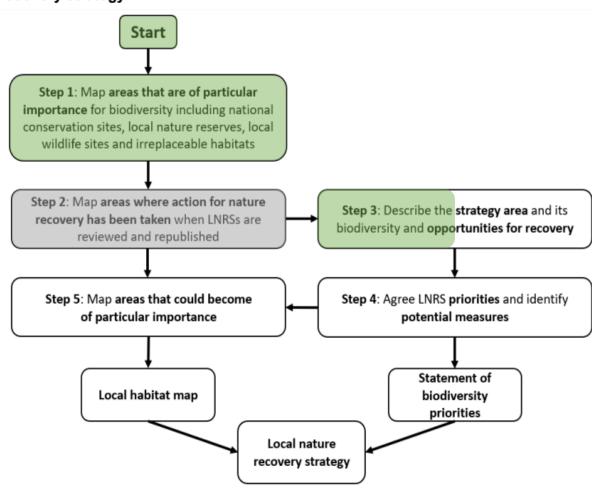
- Biodiversity Net Gain will now become mandatory from January 2024 for major applications and April for the rest.
- The draft Regulations and guidance documents were published last week
- Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy now well underway publication early 2025





LNRS timeline against Natural England performance indicators

Figure 2: Order of steps to be followed in preparing contents of a local nature recovery strategy



Source: Local nature recovery strategy statutory guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)

| Date | Key milestones | Current Status (comments: On track, delays etc) | Complete ? |
|----------------------------|--|---|---------------|
| 31 Jan 2024 | Create an initial Local Habitat Map (LHM) of areas of particular importance for biodiversity | Completed | Ø |
| 01 Feb 2024 | Before February 2024 an engagement plan will have been written, regularly reviewed, and implemented to engage with a wide range of people who own, manage, use and regulate land across Oxfordshire. | On track | |
| 01 May 2024 | A Statement of Biodiversity priorities and a first iteration of a Local Habitat Map have been created through engagement methods to reflect the priorities of stakeholders | On track | |
| 01 July 2024 | The Draft LNRS has been approved to go out for public consultation by SAs and RA | On track | |
| 01 Decem ber 2024 | The pre-publication final draft of the LNRS has received confirmation from all SAs that it can be published | On track | |







Climate Action Scorecards

- Climate Emergency UK are a pressure group formed to hold UK local Authorities to account on Climate Action.
- Climate Action Scorecards are a tool used by CE UK to assess performance, Local Authorities do not get a choice as to whether they participate.
- In January 2022 CE UK launched their first Scorecards and the Vale failed to register a score.
- In 2023 CE UK ran the Scorecards exercise again and the Vale scored 42% compared to a national average for District Councils of 29%.
- This puts the Vale joint 10th out of 153 Districts in England.



