

# Oxon LNP Board Paper for Approval

<b>Title:</b>	LNP Manager Update
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## Summary:

This paper provides an overview of the work of the LNP Manager. The aim is to ensure Board members are kept informed of the variety of different engagement points

## The Board is asked to:

- acknowledge the various engagement points of the LNP Manager
- highlight any dependencies or support that might benefit progress.

## Important conversations

- Attended **University of Oxford Nature Recovery seminar**, exploring how the University can best support nature recovery efforts in Oxfordshire and beyond.
- Presented at **Floodplain Meadows Partnership** conference at Oxford Natural History Museum, examining whether we can realise the promise of Biodiversity Net Gain, and how floodplain meadows might benefit from the new policy.
- Met Oxford University's new operational nature-focussed team, who sit alongside the University's net zero team and are exploring the best ways for **Oxford University's operations to become nature positive**.

## Council/strategic crossover

- Leading on one of the five priority areas of **Pathways to Zero Carbon Oxfordshire** route map. Fortnightly update calls with OCC lead.
- Advocating for a stronger nature presence in the next iteration of **Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy**, via a focus on Green Infrastructure
- Convened partners to support **Cherwell District Council** officers in exploring potential nature-related uses of some of their newly acquired sites.
- Supported Oxfordshire County Council in **recruitment of the new LNRS project manager**
- Led conversations with **Councillors at South Oxfordshire DC** to explore potential of creation of new large accessible natural greenspace in the district.
- Engaged with Environment Agency leads on the **Oxfordshire Flood Alleviation Scheme**, which has large impacts on the natural environment.
- Participated in workshop for **OxLEP's Strategic Economic Plan**.

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## Organisational support

- Convening and facilitating multi-partner conversations to explore continuation of **Oxfordshire Treescapes Project**, important as a method of engaging communities and landowners with data.
- Supporting **Windrush Catchment Partnership** to become more robust, engaging, positive and financially stable.

## Cross-border working

- Leading discussions with **neighbouring authorities on LNRS**, including via existing networks and newly established groupings
- Working with **South East Nature Partnership** on strategic approach, including LNRS and nature finance
- Involvement in the **Pan Regional Partnership** (formerly Ox-Cam Arc), including supporting an approach for funding for a landscape-scale project.
- Led **submission of a letter to Michael Gove**, with signatures from 25 LNP Chairs from across England, calling for LNRS to have real weight within the planning system
- Met with **Rachel Maclean MP** to discuss the above.
- Convened and **chaired the national community of practice on natural capital investment**, including nearly 40 organisations from across England, exploring the barriers to developing a robust pipeline of investment-ready projects.

## Project development

- Working with BBOWT and Bucks & MK Natural Environment Partnership to explore **business demand for nature-based solutions** in the Bernwood Otmore Ray region and beyond, possibly via a **Landscape Enterprise Network** approach
- Membership of **Bernwood Otmore Ray project steering group** to explore potential of submitting a Landscape Recovery bid
- Convened conversation with **Triodos Bank** to explore an innovative financing of natural capital enhancement, aligned with our Nature Finance Strategy
- Exploration of cooperation with **Oxford City Council's Area Based Insetting** approach, which has confirmed demand for carbon offsets from large businesses and is seeking a blend of projects, including nature projects.
- **Co-authored a report** with researchers from Oxford University on the cost of nature recovery in Oxfordshire, and the contribution to this that may be provided by biodiversity net gain.