

# Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy

NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2024



Welcome to the third edition of Cumbria's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) newsletter.

The last few weeks have been very busy for the LNRS team and anyone involved in helping to develop the strategy. Multiple engagement events have taken place or are scheduled for the coming months, and activities to develop the technical elements of the LNRS are now fully underway.

We hope you enjoy reading about what the LNRS team have been doing; please share these updates to help raise awareness of the LNRS and the opportunities it could bring for nature recovery.

## Land Agent Event

The LNRS team hosted the first Land Agent Event on 4<sup>th</sup> June, along with support from GSC Grays, North Pennines National Landscape, Natural England and the Lake District National Park Authority. 30 land agents or foresters attended the event, representing 15 organisations in Cumbria. After receiving a brief update on what the LNRS is and how it is relevant to farmers and landowners, attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions on the LNRS, and to provide feedback on the draft priorities and map showing areas that are of

particular importance for biodiversity. The event was such a success that attendees asked for more! The LNRS team will therefore return in the autumn with the latest developments to share and discuss with the land agents.



## Measure Workshops

The LNRS team hosted a series of workshops in June to further develop our Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). These workshops helped identify measures or actions for nature recovery across Cumbria, aligned with our previously developed draft priorities.

Hosted by the Westmorland and Furness Council LNRS Team, our technical experts led the workshops, aligning the draft priorities with specific interventions for different geographic areas. These workshop target areas included:

- Solway Basin and Eden Valley.
- Morecambe Bay, South Cumbria Low Fells and West Cumbria Coastal Plain.
- North Pennines, Border Moors and Tyne Gap.
- Yorkshire Dales, Howgill Fells and Orton Fells.
- Cumbria High Fells.

These productive discussions fostered collaboration among stakeholders, resulting in the identification of key, evidence-led specific actions for nature recovery. These valuable insights will further refine the draft priorities and measures, ensuring the LNRS effectively addresses the unique needs of Cumbria's diverse habitats.

*"I liked the collaborative approach and hearing thoughts from other organisations, very good facilitators available on the day"*

**- Feedback from the workshops**

We extend our sincere gratitude to all workshop participants who shared their expertise and to



our volunteer facilitators who ensured a successful and productive dialogue. Following an internal review by our Steering Group, the updated draft priorities and measures are available to view on our [website](#).

- Draft Priorities – available [here](#).
- Draft Measures – available [here](#).

## Survey

We are delighted to report that we received a fantastic response to our Nature in Cumbria Survey, with 786 residents and visitors sharing their views. This strong participation demonstrates our strengthening engagement to help shape and inform our LNRS. Key messages include:

- Cumbria's residents overwhelmingly enjoy spending time in nature, with 84.5% visiting their gardens and 66.4% visiting the countryside at least weekly.
- The top reasons for spending time in nature include enjoying its beauty (81.0%), seeing wildlife (61.2%), and improving health and well-being (over 50%).
- Nearly all respondents (95.9%) believe nature is good for people and society, and 97.2% agree we can take action to help Cumbria's nature.
- There's a strong desire to see a thriving natural Cumbria for future generations, with a focus on habitat restoration, wildlife corridors, and protecting iconic species.
- Many residents highlighted the importance of education, working with farmers, and fostering community involvement in conservation efforts.

## Next steps

We encourage you to keep updated via our website to ensure you don't miss the opportunity to take part in future surveys and events: [cumbrialnrs.org.uk](http://cumbrialnrs.org.uk).