

Cheshire Region

Local Nature Partnership



'A partnership to deliver a natural environment rich in species and widely valued because it provides employment, enjoyment, education, food and healthier lifestyles.'

What is a Local Nature Partnership?

The Natural Environment White Paper in 2012 recognised that partnership working is the best way to achieve effective action for the natural environment and set out a vision for Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs). It stated that the overall purpose for LNPs would be to bring a diverse range of individuals, businesses and organisations together at a local level to create a vision and plan of action of how the natural environment can be taken into account in decision making.

The ambition for LNPs is that they will enable more effective management of the natural environment and secure its value in local decision making for the benefit of nature, people and the economy. To do this effectively LNPs will need to be self-sustaining strategic partnerships of a broad range of local organisations, businesses and people with the credibility to work with, and influence, others.



The overall purpose of the LNP is to:

- Drive positive change in the local natural environment, taking a strategic view of the challenges and opportunities involved and identifying ways to manage it for the benefit of nature, people and the economy.
- Contribute to achieving the Government's national environmental objectives locally, including the identification of local ecological networks, alongside addressing local priorities.
- Become local champions influencing decision making relating to the natural environment and its value to social and economic outcomes, in particular, through working closely with local authorities, Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and Health and Wellbeing Boards.



The Cheshire region Local Nature Partnership

The Cheshire region Local Nature Partnership was established formally in 2012 following a successful application led by the Cheshire region Biodiversity Partnership (CrBP) and the Cheshire Green Infrastructure (GI) Forum.

The overall purpose of the partnership is to bring a diverse range of individuals, businesses and organizations' together at a local level to create a vision and plan of action of how the natural environment can be taken into account in decision making.

The partnership represents real opportunity to change the current ways of working for the natural environment by developing cross sector relationships and providing a single strategic voice that will fulfil our vision for the Cheshire region.



Our Aim

To be a strategic platform to champion the value, and secure the future, of a healthy functioning natural environment through cross sector working to enable outcomes which provide multiple benefits.

Our Vision

“A healthy, connected, productive landscape richer in biodiversity, where the natural environment is embedded in decision making, managed for wildlife, supports healthier lifestyles and farming, creates attractive places and delivers sustainable economic growth.”



Our Principles

The Cheshire region Local Nature Partnership has identified three key principles:

A single strategic voice for the natural environment

The Partnership will work at a strategic level to advocate the natural environment and provide leadership, advice and support.



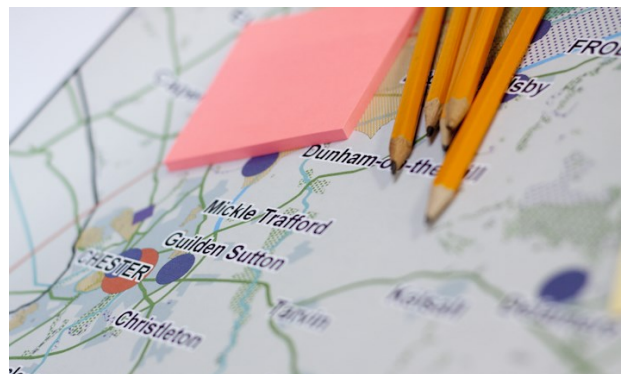
Collaboration at a landscape scale

The Partnership will work at a landscape scale to deliver integrated outcomes with a wide range of benefits and ensure strong cross boundary working.



Facilitate communication and action between sectors

The Cheshire region LNP, representing a wide range of stakeholders, will provide a platform for promoting the natural environment benefits to other sectors and working with them to achieve multiple benefits.



Ways of Working

As well as identifying strategic priorities, the LNP will seek to co-ordinate activity, influence plans, reduce duplication and find ways to bring new investment in order to improve the quality of the natural environment and deliver social and economic benefits.



A photograph of a cow in a field with an industrial facility in the background. The cow is in the foreground, looking towards the right. The background shows a large industrial structure, possibly a refinery or power plant, with tall chimneys and pipes. The sky is clear and blue.

Our Objectives

Informed by stakeholders and a review of over 70 strategic documents from across the sectors, the Cheshire region LNP objectives are:

- Ensure the natural environment supports and is seen as a driver of sustainable economic growth
- Realise the benefits derived by society from nature
- More, bigger, better, joined up places for the natural environment



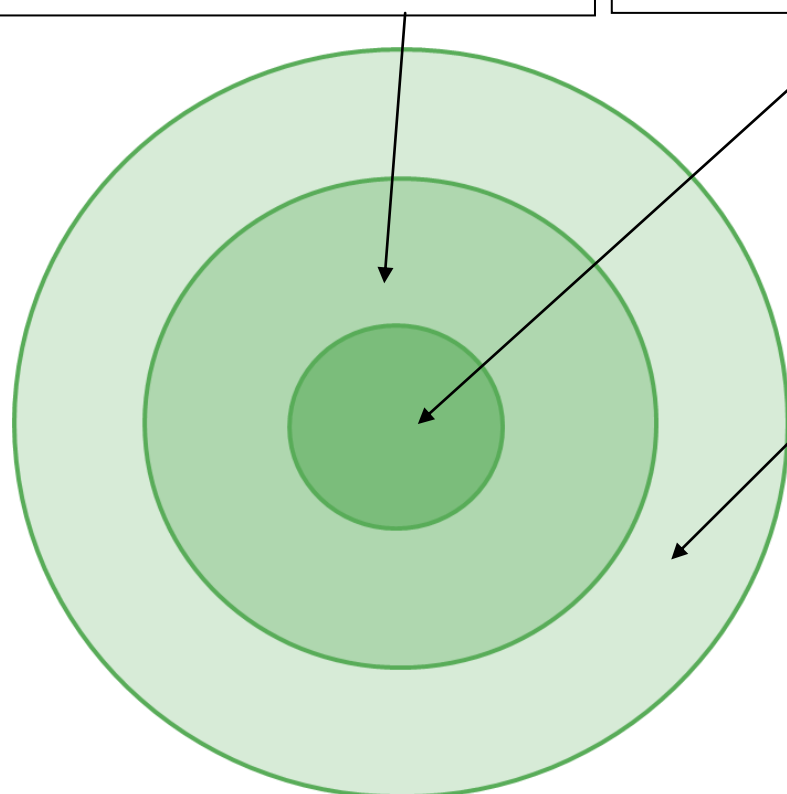
Our Priorities

- Identify strategic places and opportunities
- Develop a strong supporting environmental evidence base
- Integrate the natural environment into all planning and policy decisions including embedding Nature Improvement Areas into local plans and strategies
- Improve health and wellbeing through engaging communities with the natural environment
- Support sustainable growth of a low carbon economy
- Realise the potential of the natural environment to support the rural economy

Partnership Structure

Thematic groups feed into the LNP Board. The thematic groups will also feed into other groups such as the Health and Well-being Board or the LEP ensuring a more joined up approach.

The Board will be at the most strategic level and will consist of influential and active people representing multiple sectors. High level buy-in and commitment will need to be shown by all members on the Board.



The wider partnership comprises of stakeholders and groups involved in delivering key areas of work that fulfil the LNPs vision and priorities. An annual stakeholder event will be held to facilitate communication, aid input from the wider partnership into the LNP and share best practice.

Cheshire region Local Nature Partnership currently consists of the following partners:

Environment Agency

Halton Council

Reaseheath College

Warrington Council

Mersey Forest Trust

NFU

Groundwork Cheshire

DEFRA

Cheshire West and Chester Council

Natural England

Cheshire East Council

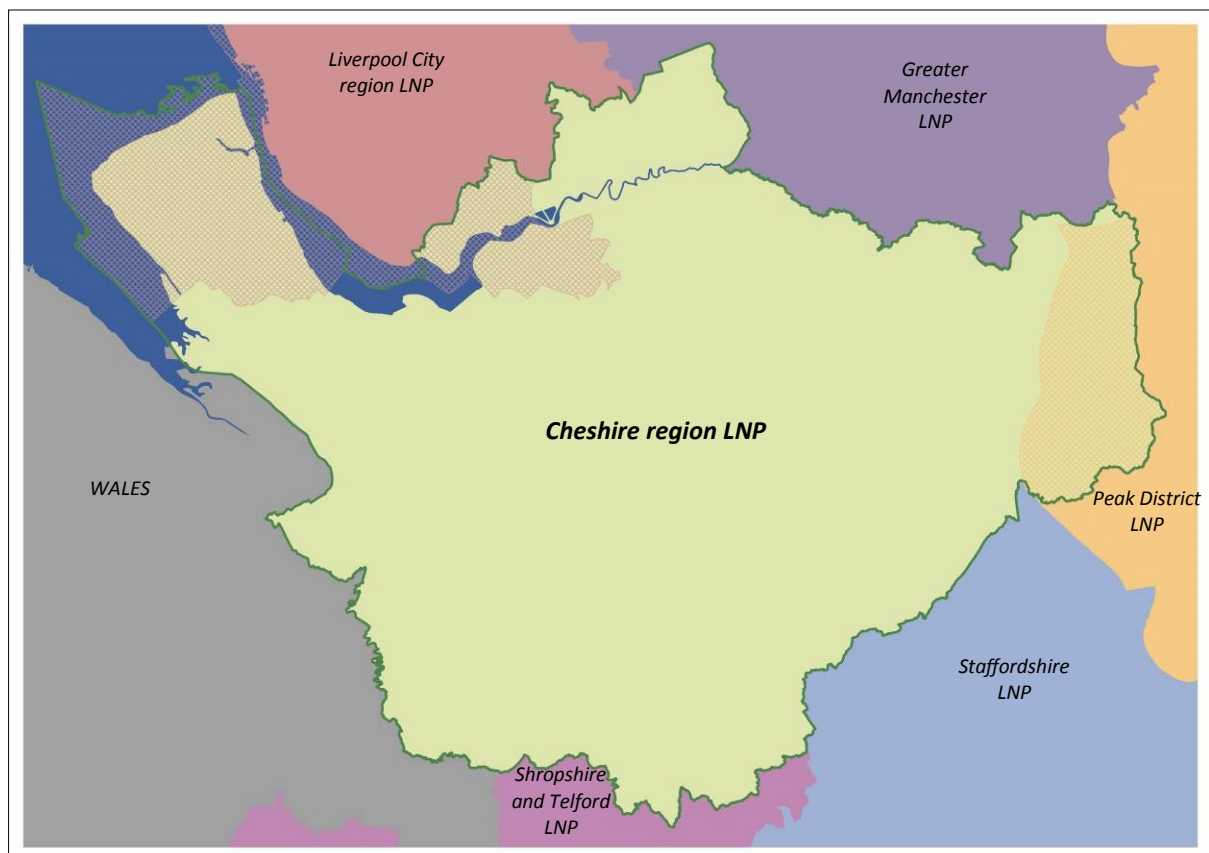
Cheshire Wildlife Trust

Wirral Council

Cheshire and Warrington LEP

The Cheshire region LNP covers 5 local authority areas:

- Cheshire East
- Cheshire West and Chester
- Halton
- Warrington
- Wirral



Ecosystem services and positive environmental outcomes cross boundaries and therefore the LNP and partners will work with neighbouring LNPs to secure common objectives and facilitate strong communications and effective cross boundary working.

Joint working is a strength as it:

- Widens the pool of potential resources, knowledge, expertise, and involvement, and;
- Significantly offers the opportunity to deliver larger landscape scale benefits and integrate and embed the benefits more widely.



Contact us:

For more information about the LNP, visit:

Cheshire Local Nature Partnership

If you have any questions or comments,
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