



**Cumbria  
Local Nature  
Recovery  
Strategy Pilot  
Scheme**

**Update  
Bulletin**  
July  
2021

## Draft LNRS documents submitted to Defra

We submitted our initial draft LNRS to Defra on 31st March. The Pilot scheme was extended until 31 May which gave us the opportunity to do further work on a final draft version.

We held a stakeholder event in April which was our first opportunity to share a full version of the Draft LNRS documents including the more detailed measures, or actions on the ground, that will deliver the nature recovery outcomes developed so far in the LNRS.

We were then able to take into account this further feedback from stakeholders and the initial comments from Defra to work on a revised draft that was submitted to Defra by the 31 May deadline.

This version of the LNRS will shortly be made available on the county council website so that everyone has chance to see the work that has been done so far during this Pilot.

One of the key pieces of work we were able to do in the additional time was to start testing the Local Habitat Network maps with different user groups to establish how they need to be created to be effective. This work will continue over the coming months.

## Feedback so far

Defra are reviewing all 5 of the Pilot LNRS products (Buckinghamshire, Cornwall, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, and Northumberland) and Natural England are producing an evaluation report on the whole process to help inform the final legislation and guidance to support the national roll-out of LNRSs when the Environment Bill gets Royal Assent. This 'lessons learned' report is now available to view on gov.uk - [www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-nature-recovery-strategy-pilots-lessons-learned/local-nature-recovery-strategy-pilots-lessons-learned](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-nature-recovery-strategy-pilots-lessons-learned/local-nature-recovery-strategy-pilots-lessons-learned)

In the meantime, we have received a letter from Rebecca Pow MP (Defra Parliamentary Under Secretary of State) congratulating the Cumbria LNRS Pilot team on the work to date, commenting that, *"I have been particularly impressed by the level of technical detail on the outcomes and measures which illustrates the extent of work undertaken. The Local Habitat Map is visually excellent and demonstrates to me the potential strength Local Nature Recovery Strategies have to identify positive changes for nature. The work that you have done on the Pilot has shown real leadership and excellent collaboration with stakeholders. This work will be essential in helping us to inform how we deliver on our commitments to nature recovery across England through the strategies."*

On behalf of the whole Cumbria LNRS Pilot team we would like to say a **GREAT BIG THANKYOU** to everyone who has contributed to the Pilot over the past few months – attending the on-line events, contributing with comments and suggestions, and showing interest and enthusiasm for how we might make the LNRS work across Cumbria.

## So what happens now....

It is anticipated that national roll-out of the LNRSs will be from April 2022 and there will be statutory requirements and guidance to follow as we work through the official process. In the meantime we do want to keep working on the draft LNRS products and to keep in touch with everyone who has contributed so far and those who would like to become involved in developing the LNRS for Cumbria.

We will keep you updated whenever there are opportunities for further involvement with work on the LNRS for Cumbria, including when the draft Cumbria LNRS products are available to view on our website.

## Keep in touch

Further information on the LNRS Pilot – including copies of previous Update Bulletins- can be found on the county council website here – [www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/lhrs/default.asp](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/lhrs/default.asp)

To receive regular Update Bulletins and for any enquiries regarding the LNRS Pilot please contact:

**Rachel Whaley** – Planning Officer, Cumbria LNRS Project Manager

T: 07917 076 815

E: [rachel.whaley@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.whaley@cumbria.gov.uk)