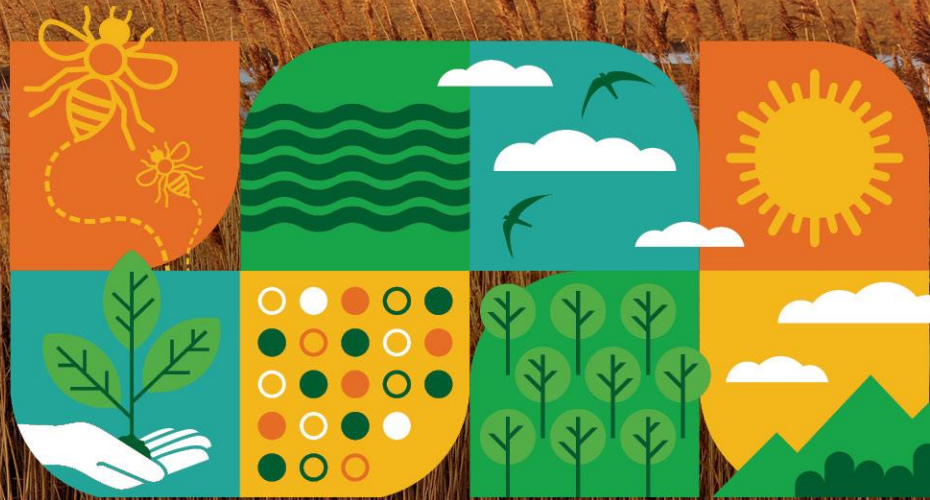




Westmorland  
& Furness  
Council

# Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy

NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2024



## Welcome to the first edition of Cumbria’s Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Newsletter.

*The LNRS will serve as a blueprint for Cumbria aiming to enhance and protect our Natural Environments by mapping out areas of ecological significance and prioritising actions for biodiversity enhancement. The LNRS fosters a collaborative effort between government bodies, conservation organisations, and local stakeholders. Its goal is not only to halt the decline of precious wildlife and habitats but to create a thriving, resilient ecosystem that benefits both nature and communities. Through the LNRS we will equip stakeholders with the tools and knowledge to make informed decisions, ensuring a sustainable future where natural beauty and biodiversity are preserved for generations to come.*

**“The Cumbria LNRS will be a vital tool to prioritise nature recovery and halt the decline of biodiversity in the county; only by working together can we commit to delivering action for nature in the locations where it would be most beneficial.”**

**Claire Gould**  
Assistant Director Climate and Natural Environment, Westmorland and Furness Council



[cumbrialnrs.org.uk](http://cumbrialnrs.org.uk)

## What is the Cumbria LNRS?

LNRSs are required by law under the Environment Act 2021 and will be reviewed every three to ten years.

Through local action, LNRSs will contribute towards the delivery of the government's 25 Year Environment Plan, which aims to create a Nature Recovery Network of existing and new wildlife areas across the whole of England.

Cumbria is one of 48 strategy areas that are required to develop a LNRS for their area by March 2025. Our LNRS will aim to restore Cumbria's wildlife by drawing on existing data, strategies and guidance, alongside local knowledge, to ensure that nature recovery happens in a way that delivers maximum benefit. The Cumbria LNRS will outline our county's priorities for nature recovery and identify key locations that could contribute to achieving these priorities.

Westmorland and Furness Council are the Responsible Authority for the Cumbria LNRS, with Cumberland Council, Lake District National Park Authority, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and Natural England acting as Supporting Authorities. There are also many other organisations involved in the development of the LNRS such as Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre, Cumbria Local Nature Partnership, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency, Cumbria Wildlife Trust and many more NGOs, organisations and individuals.

## What will our LNRS look like?

The LNRS will be formed of two parts:

- A written document.
- An interactive map.

The LNRS document will include a list of priorities for habitat and species recovery, and associated measures or actions which are needed to deliver this change. The map which will identify areas that are currently important for


biodiversity and opportunity areas where efforts to restore and create new habitats would deliver maximum benefit. These two components of the LNRS will work together to support and inform nature recovery efforts in Cumbria.


## Where are we in the process ?

The Cumbria LNRS will be produced collaboratively over an 18-month period, and we are aiming to publish the strategy in early 2025. So far we have:

- Established our governance to ensure we have adopted a robust and inclusive structure to inform the strategy development.
- Identified our key themes that underpin the LNRS and established technical working groups to review existing strategies and policies to identify existing objectives. This information will be used to identify our draft list of priorities for nature recovery in Cumbria and will inform a series of workshops to be held in March.
- Engaged with specialists in our county to identify the key species (or groups of species) which need special consideration within the LNRS and drafted the priorities for each of these.
- Identified and mapped the parts of Cumbria, which are considered to be 'Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity'.

## Your role in nature recovery

 **Get Involved:** Your passion, knowledge, and support are essential in helping produce and shape the successful delivery of the LNRS. Email us at [Cumbria.LNRS@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk](mailto:Cumbria.LNRS@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk) or visit [cumbrialnrs.org.uk](http://cumbrialnrs.org.uk) to see how you can get involved.

 **Have Your Say:** Participate in our ongoing [survey](#) and share your ideas on how we can preserve and protect our local environment.