

Appendix K

Glossary

Term	Description
Adaptive management	" <i>Modification of activities in light of experience from rigorous monitoring</i> " (CIEEM, 2018 ⁹⁸).
Agri-environment schemes	Voluntary agreements that provide annual payments to farmers and land managers to ensure they manage their land in an environmentally sensitive way that goes beyond the minimum required of them by regulation. Under the Agricultural Bill, ELMS (see below) is proposed to provide a results-based payment scheme, anticipated to be in place in 2024.
ANGSt (Accessible Natural Green Space Standards)	Published by Natural England in 2010, ANGSt recognises the value of greenspaces, principally in relation to the 'cultural' ecosystem services of health, wellbeing, etc. ANGSt recommends that everyone, wherever they live, should have access to natural greenspace as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of at least 2ha in size, no more than 300m (5min walk) from home; • At least one accessible 20ha site within 2km of home; • One accessible 100ha site within 5km of home; • One accessible 500ha site within 10km of home; plus • A minimum of 1ha of statutory Local Nature Reserve (LNR) per 1,000 population.
Biodiversity	The variability among all living organisms - terrestrial and aquatic - and the ecosystems that they are part of. Biodiversity includes the diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.
Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	The UK BAP was drawn up to reflect the UK's commitment to the Rio Convention 1992. Habitat and species to be prioritised for conservation were described, with actions and typically delivery partners identified. Local BAPs reflect local priorities. The UK's commitment is now embedded in legislation through the NERC Act 2006. Section 41 (s42 in Wales) lists the habitats and species of Principal Importance. However, local BAPs remain of value in the identification of actions and delivery partners, and to enable monitoring of progress.
Biodiversity metric	A proxy measure or index of biodiversity to allow comparison over time or space. Metrics are used in recognition that it is not possible to finitely inventory the state of all biodiversity present. In relation to development, the metric is used as a measure of predicted impact(s) on habitats and how much new or restored habitat, and of what type, is required to deliver sufficient net gain. Use of metrics does not replace the need for a detailed biodiversity assessment (as would accompany any individual planning application) or monitoring.
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	Increase in the quality and/or quantity of habitats in comparison to the original condition or baseline i.e. enhancement over and above the level required to mitigate or compensate for detrimental impact, or which is otherwise prescribed or committed to happen (e.g. as part of pre-existing planning consent).
Biodiversity off-set	Compensation for the unavoidable and immitigable loss, fragmentation or other detrimental effect on an ecological receptor. Off-setting seeks to ensure that no net loss in ecological value is achieved.
Biodiversity unit	A unit as measured by the biodiversity metric which represents a combined measure of habitat distinctiveness, area and condition. The production of a biodiversity unit in the habitat market refers to an increase in the biodiversity value of land by one unit.
Blue infrastructure	Green infrastructure relating to aquatic habitats such as rivers and canals.
Compensation	The protection of biodiversity assets should be achieved through avoidance and mitigation wherever possible. Compensation, the next step in the hierarchy, should only be used in exceptional circumstances and as a last resort, after all options for avoidance and mitigation have been fully considered. Compensatory measures should, therefore, only be used to address any residual impact that cannot be avoided or mitigated.
Conservation covenants	Voluntary but legally binding agreements under the Environment Bill between a landowner and a designated "responsible body" such as a conservation charity, public body or for-profit body to conserve the natural or heritage features of the land.

⁹⁸ CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessments in the UK & Northern Ireland, 3rd Ed. CIEEM Winchester, UK

Term	Description
Ecological network	<p><i>"An ecological network can be understood as a number of core, well connected, high quality areas of well-functioning ecosystems, together with those parts of the intervening landscape that are 'wildlife-friendly' and which, collectively, allow wildlife to thrive"</i> (NERR082, 2020⁹⁹).</p> <p>An ecological network typically includes core biodiversity areas, buffer zones, corridors, stepping stones and opportunity areas.</p> <p><i>"Local ecological networks can make a significant contribution to developing the [national] Nature Recovery Network. Local ecological networks can be identified and mapped as a part of the plan-making process, with policies identifying appropriate levels of protection and opportunities to create, restore or enhance habitats or improve connectivity"</i> (MHCLG, 2019¹⁰⁰).</p> <p>NB: Contrast the term 'nature network' which serves both nature and people as interdependent functions.</p>
Ecosystem	A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities, and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (CIEEM, 2018).
Ecosystem services	<p>Benefits provided to people by natural capital (ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain). Services broadly comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisioning services e.g. food, fibre, fuel and clean water; • Regulating services e.g. climate control, flood regulation, carbon storage, pest control and pollination; • Cultural services e.g. recreation, spiritual, educational, intrinsic and aesthetic value. <p>Supporting services (e.g. soil formation, photosynthesis, biodiversity) originally distinguished are now typically seen as functions or processes associated with natural capital 'stocks'.</p> <p>Ecosystem services may be described as 'flow'.</p>
Effect	The effect (e.g. population decline) of a given impact (e.g. habitat loss) on an ecological receptor. Effects may be beneficial or detrimental.
Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS)	<p>Founded on the principle of "public money for public goods", ELMS will be the cornerstone of agricultural policy now the UK has left the EU. The Agriculture Bill will provide the underpinning legislative framework for the ELMS. ELMS will provide farmers, foresters and other land managers with an opportunity to secure financial reward in return for delivering environmental benefits.</p> <p>ELMS is currently undergoing testing but is anticipated to be in place in 2024.</p>
Favourable conservation status (of a species)	When <i>"Population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced in the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its population on a long-term basis"</i> (Habitats Directive, Article 1(i)).
Fragility	<p>One of the Ratcliffe criteria (Ratcliffe, 1977¹⁰¹) used to describe nature conservation value.</p> <p><i>"Some habitats and geological features are more sensitive to change and are at greater risk of being lost or damaged due to the direct or indirect impacts of climate change, human activities or other influences"</i> (MHCLG, 2019¹⁰²).</p>
Geodiversity	The variability of rocks, minerals, fossils, landforms, geomorphological processes and soils which collectively underpin the habitats and species which develop thereon. Protection of geodiversity and biodiversity typically sit together, for example, protection of SSSI under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 or protection of non-designated assets in the NPPF.

⁹⁹ NE (2020) Natural England Research Report NERR082: Nature Networks: A Summary for Practitioners <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5144804831002624>

¹⁰⁰ MHCLG (2019) Planning Practice Guidance: Natural Environment – How do local ecological networks relate to the Nature Recovery Network? www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance

¹⁰¹ Ratcliffe, D.A. (1977) A Nature Conservation Review. Cambridge University Press

¹⁰² MHCLG (2019) Planning Practice Guidance: Natural Environment – Standard Criteria for LWS <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment>

Term	Description
Green infrastructure	<p><i>"A network of multifunctional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities"</i> (NPPF, 2019¹⁰³).</p> <p><i>"Green infrastructure is the ecological framework for environmental, social, and economic health – in short, our natural life support system"</i> (Benedict & McMahon, 2006¹⁰⁴).</p> <p>Different types of GI will contrast in the functions they serve, such as the distinction between urban green space and wider GI. Some types will score very poorly or not at all, for select functions and this can be entirely acceptable. It is the range of functions that is important to capture in any analysis.</p> <p>Note that green infrastructure may include artificial features such as green roofs, green bridges, wildlife under/overpasses or fish ladders.</p> <p>Green infrastructure is the tool by which ecosystem services can be planned and delivered through policy.</p>
Habitat potential map	Identifies <i>"the potential for an area to support specific habitat creation. Shows areas of lost habitat that need to be restored"</i> (NERR082, 2020).
Impact	The impact (e.g. habitat loss) which causes an effect (e.g. population decline) on an ecological receptor. Impacts may be beneficial or detrimental.
Integrity	In relation to a designated site, 'integrity' refers to the <i>"...coherence of ecological structure and function...that enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or levels of populations of species for which it was classified"</i> (ODPM Circular 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation ¹⁰⁵). In relation to species or habitats, 'integrity' refers to the maintenance of the conservation status of a habitat or species population at a specific location or geographical scale.
Landscape character area	<p>A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse¹⁰⁶.</p> <p>Identified through a Landscape Character Assessment - the process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features (characteristics) that make landscapes distinctive.</p>
Local Nature Partnerships (LNP)	<p>LNP bring together local organisations, businesses and people who want to improve their local natural environment. Established in the vision of the Government's 2011 'Natural Environment White Paper'.</p> <p>The Lancashire LNP recently relaunched in November 2020.</p>
Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)	LNRS are a new system of spatial strategies for nature under the Environment Bill, covering the whole of England. Locally led by an appropriate "responsible authority", these will identify the opportunities and priorities for enhancing biodiversity and supporting wider objectives such as mitigating or adapting to climate change in an area.
Mitigation	Adverse effects that cannot be avoided should be adequately mitigated. Mitigation measures negate the adverse impact of a plan or project, during or after its completion. In respect to development, mitigation should form part of the development proposal, but additional measures can be imposed by the decision-maker. All mitigation measures should be secured through the use of planning conditions or planning obligations ¹⁰⁷ .
Mitigation hierarchy	The mitigation hierarchy underpins planning policy and decision making. It requires that potential adverse impacts be avoided or, where this is not possible, mitigated and, as a final resort, compensated (off-set).
Natural capital	<i>"The elements [assets or 'stocks'] of nature that directly and indirectly produce value or benefit to people [i.e. ecosystem services. Natural capital may include] ...ecosystems, species, freshwater, land, minerals, the air and oceans, as well as natural processes and fluctuations"</i> (NCC, 2016 ¹⁰⁸).
Naturalness	One of the Ratcliffe criteria (Ratcliffe, 1977) used to describe nature conservation value.

¹⁰³ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework. Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, London, UK <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

¹⁰⁴ Benedict, M.A. & McMahon, E. (2006) Green Infrastructure: Linking landscapes & communities. Island Press, Washington DC.

¹⁰⁵ ODPM (2005) Government Circular: Biodiversity & Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations & Their Impact within the Planning System. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, London, UK www.gov.uk/government/publications/biodiversity-and-geological-conservation-circular-06-2005

¹⁰⁶ Natural England (2014) An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment. Defra

¹⁰⁷ BS 42020:2013: Biodiversity. Code of practice for planning and development

¹⁰⁸ NCC (2016) Natural Capital Protocol. Natural Capital Coalition, London, UK www.naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol

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	<i>"The degree to which a site supports natural features, including rock exposures revealing underlying geology, or demonstrates active or past natural processes"</i> (MHCLG, 2019 ¹⁰⁹).
Nature network	A nature network may be distinguished from an 'ecological network' as, in addition to the primary role to support thriving wildlife, <i>"a nature network should also enhance natural beauty and conserve geodiversity and opportunities should be taken to deliver benefits for people, such as flood alleviation, recreational opportunities and climate change adaptation and mitigation. These joint aims... are at the heart of nature networks and they are inter-dependent: networks for wildlife that also deliver benefits to people also tend to be more valued by people"</i> (NERR082, 2020).
Nature Recovery Network (NRN)	The NRN, as identified in the 25 Year Plan (2018), is an expanded, enhanced and increasingly connected network of places that are richer in wildlife and more resilient to climate change, that is key to delivering the Government's Nature Strategy outside of designated sites. <i>"It comprises a core network of designated sites of importance for biodiversity and adjoining areas that function as stepping stones or wildlife corridors, areas identified for new habitat creation and up to 25 nature recovery areas [at landscape or catchment scale] for targeted action"</i> (MHCLG, 2019 ¹¹⁰). Benefitting wildlife and people, the NRN will provide an integrated approach to nature recovery. The NRN national delivery partnership will be led by NE (launch late 2020), supported by local partnerships. Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) will be piloted in 2020/21.
Nature Strategy	Introduced under the 25 Year Plan (2018), the Nature Strategy sets out the Government's approach to deliver our commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity. The strategy will set the overall ambition and specific goals for habitat and species recovery over ten years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restoration of 75% protected sites to favourable condition by 2042, • create or restore 500,000ha of wildlife-rich habitat outside of protected sites as part of a Nature Recovery Network, • take action to recover threatened, iconic or ecologically important species, • increase woodland cover, • improve soil health and restore peatlands.
Offsetting	Biodiversity offsets are distinguished from other forms of ecological compensation by the formal requirements for measurable outcomes: the losses due to impact, and gains achievable through the offset, are measured in the same way, even if the habitats concerned are different ¹¹¹ .
Planning conditions	The Town and Country Planning Act enables the local planning authority to grant planning permission to impose <i>"such conditions as they think fit"</i> to ensure delivery as agreed. This power should be interpreted in light of material considerations such as the National Planning Policy Framework.
Planning obligations	Planning obligations are legal obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act entered into to mitigate the impacts of a development proposal by a person with an interest in the land and the local planning authority.
Position in the ecological mosaic	One of the Ratcliffe criteria (Ratcliffe, 1977) used to describe nature conservation value. The relationship or connectivity of a site or habitat parcel to adjacent areas of nature conservation value. This reflects not only contribution to a functional ecological resource but recognises the ecological character of the locality, county or region.
Potential value	Sites or habitat parcels which could, through appropriate management or natural progression, develop greater nature conservation value.
Priority habitats &/or species	These are of Principal Importance in England and are listed in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 Section 41 (s42 in Wales). The list includes UK BAP habitats and species (identified in response to the 1992 Rio Convention during the interim period until legislation came into place).

¹⁰⁹ MHCLG (2019) Planning Practice Guidance: Natural Environment – Standard Criteria for LWS <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment>

¹¹⁰ MHCLG (2019) Planning Practice Guidance: Natural Environment – How do local ecological networks relate to the Nature Recovery Network? www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance

¹¹¹ DEFRA (2012) Biodiversity Offsetting Pilots. Technical Paper: the metric for the biodiversity offsetting pilot in England

Term	Description
	Of the s41/42 species, many are also protected under UK legislation.
Rarity	One of the Ratcliffe criteria (Ratcliffe, 1977) used to describe nature conservation value. Rarity relates to the frequency of occurrence, or abundance, of a habitat, species or community. Rarity may be considered at a range of scales – local, county or national, for example.
Recombinant ecology	Flora and fauna not directly representative of an 'original' assemblage at a given locale but are nevertheless locally-appropriate in the current context, or indeed as future target for management objectives.
Replacement	Creation of an acceptable substitute habitat for that which has or would be lost, fragmented or otherwise detrimentally affected.
Restoration	The process of assisting the recovery of an area or ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed. The aim of ecological restoration is to re-establish the composition, structure and function to a close approximation of its pre-degraded state.
Typicalness	One of the Ratcliffe criteria (Ratcliffe, 1977) used to describe nature conservation value. <i>"Areas that exemplify a type of habitat, geological feature, or a population of a species, that is characteristic of the natural components of the landscape in which they are found"</i> (MHCLG, 2019 ¹¹²).
Zone of influence	Area over which ecological features may be impacted by a given project or project activity.

¹¹² MHCLG (2019) Planning Practice Guidance: Natural Environment – Standard Criteria for LWS <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment>