

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Group Leader – Plans Policies and Place Making

Officer Making the Decision

Head of Planning and Growth

Recommendation

That the draft Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) be approved by the Borough Council as a 'supporting authority' to proceed to public consultation in January 2025.

Reason

To enable the public consultation on the LNRS to go ahead in accordance with the timescales for drafting the document set out by Leicestershire County Council as the 'responsible authority'.

Background

A draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) has been prepared by Leicestershire County Council as the 'responsible authority' in consultation with Leicester City Council, Rutland County Council, the seven district councils and Natural England, and the Defra bodies of the Environment Agency, Forestry Commission and the National Forest Company as the 'supporting authorities'. The LNRS covers Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland and:

- sets out priorities for nature's recovery
- maps the most valuable existing areas for nature; and
- maps specific proposals for creating and improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals

The next step in the preparation of the LNRS is for the supporting authorities to agree for it to proceed to public consultation in January 2025. Officers have briefed the Council's Biodiversity Working Group (22nd October 2024) and provided reports to LDF Project Board (29th October 2024) and Cabinet Member Briefing (31st October 2024).

A draft letter of support is attached as Appendix A and has been agreed in consultation with Cllr Hamilton, the Lead Member for Planning.

Authority for Decision

Under 8.2 of the Delegation of Council Functions, there is a delegation to Heads of Service under item 4 “To respond to consultation documents in relation to those council functions for which he or she has responsibility, in consultation with the Lead Member”.

Decision and Date



22 November 2024

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this decision.

Risk Management

No specific risks have been identified with this report.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers:

Appendix A: Charnwood Borough Council letter of support

Mr Paul Killip
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Leicester
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22nd November 2024

Dear Mr Killip,

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland's Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Thank you for providing the Borough Council with a draft of the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Local Nature Recovery Strategy under regulation 7 of the Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023.

I am pleased to advise you that the Borough Council confirms its support for the LNRS to proceed to public consultation in January 2025.

Yours sincerely

Richard Bennett
Head of Planning and Growth

Telephone: 01509 263151

Contact us: www.charnwood.gov.uk/contact

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