



## Making Space for Nature in Kent and Medway

Developing the County's Local Nature Recovery Strategy

## Nature Recovery Mapping Workshop Report Feedback from Local Planning Authorities 12th – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024



## **Making Space for Nature in Kent and Medway**

Making Space for Nature (MS4N) is working with partners and stakeholders to collaboratively develop the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Kent & Medway (LNRS). These strategies result from the 2021 Environment Act, with 48 to be created across England with no gaps or overlaps. Developed at a landscape scale by the Responsible Authority (with Kent County Council taking on this role for Kent and Medway), the LNRS will agree and map the local priorities and associated actions for nature recovery and wider environmental benefits, that collectively will deliver a nature recovery network for England, ending the decline of nature and supporting its recovery.

Making Space for Nature will develop:

- Spatially framed strategy for nature – focussing action to where its most needed and/or where it will deliver the greatest benefits.
- Framework for joined-up action, developed with those that will be instrumental in its delivery.
- Set of agreed priorities for nature recovery, with measures to deliver.
- Shared vision for nature recovery and the use of nature-based solutions in Kent and Medway.
- Ambitious but realistic and deliverable plan, linked to supporting mechanisms and finance.

More detail on the project can be found on the [Making Space for Nature website](#).

### **The MS4N Nature Recovery Mapping Workshops**

Between 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024, a series of workshops were held to get stakeholder input into the mapping of potential measures and initial thoughts on how this might shape the “areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity”.

Five full-day workshops were held at five different locations (Folkestone, Birchington, Lenham, Rainham and East Malling).

The purpose of the workshops was to effectively ground truth the desk-based mapping work, with stakeholders having the opportunity to interrogate the mapped potential measures and the layers that would inform and make up the LNRS's Areas that Could become of Importance for Biodiversity (ACIB). The accuracy of the layers would be critical to ensuring the ACIB directed action and investment to where it will deliver the greatest gains for nature, and wider benefits, within the framework of the county's priorities for nature recovery.

In addition to the workshops, discussions were also held individually with the county's planning authorities.


This report is a reflection of stakeholders' views and opinions. Views and opinions do not indicate fact. No inference should be taken from the manner or order in which the priorities are presented.




The MS4N project team would like to thank all those that attended the workshops and so enthusiastically took part in the discussions.


Missing
Conflict or disagreement with mapping
Addition
Query or comment



	Feedback	Action	Who
<b>GRASSLAND</b>			
Tunbridge Wells	Huge amount of grassland missing. There are no grassland priorities for the High Weald - Permanent pasture is an important component of what is an important mosaic habitat for the high weald of hedgerows, woodlands and small irregular fields and whilst many grasslands are currently species poor semi-improved they are capable of restoration to important neutral and acid grassland.	Check on coverage when grassland is remapped.	RA
Tonbridge and Malling	North of Snodland and south west Tonbridge and potentially east Peckham would be potential locations for development coming forward as they are higher tier settlements.	Need to make decision on what we do with development areas conflicting within the mapping. Do we have data layer for their higher tier settlements?	DEMTAG
Gravesham	No grassland opportunities in urban areas.	Check on coverage when grassland is remapped.	RA
Dover	Habitat bank: The three pockets of land in the Worth Marshes are owned by the RSPB and are being brought forward from a baseline of arable land to become neutral grassland and mixed scrub. Again, parts of these areas are omitted from the ACIB and as land owned by RSPB for biodiversity, it is arguable that they would be incorporated.	Where we know there is work underway to convert land to a priority habitat do we map it under the relevant habitat's potential measure as an anecdotal site? (We have site files).	DEMTAG
Dover	Habitat bank: The sites at Wootton and Chalksole are both being brought forward as arable land that will become wildflower grassland, and they have both had input from Dan Tuson at NE as they will contribute to the work that he has achieved with farmers across this area to create a wildflower grassland network as part of the East Kent Downs Landscape Recovery Project. I think this is a strong argument for including their boundaries within the LNRS.	Where we know there is work underway to convert land to a priority habitat do we map it under the relevant habitat's potential measure as an anecdotal site? (We have site files).	DEMTAG
Dover	Connaught Park is excluded from the grassland layer (and some	DDC will check grassland in council ownership - and	DDC



	potential woodland) .	make sure they are definitely 'in' i.e. not to simply rely on a generic layer of open space.	
Dartford	Dartford heath missing under grassland - acid grassland and lowland heath	Ensure added in to GL4 mapping.	KWT
Dartford	Not part of Dartford jurisdiction but on Kent border is Joydens which is south west of Dartford Heath. Acid grassland here, they've also done some clearance.	Check whether there is any opportunity for joint up across border.	KWT
Dartford	<p>Business park, western side of Dartford crossing, wiggly line above railway covered by measure. Opposite stone crossing, can't think what would have created that shape. All industrial areas back on to rail way</p> 	<p>GL3.4 (lowland meadow) - Establish neutral grasslands on floodplains, to create resilience to flooding and drought and protect water quality (mapped by free draining soil from Cranfield soils data within flood zone areas).</p> <p>Check back with DBC they're happy with land identified for this.</p>	KATIE
Dartford	Dartford marsh - is this wet meadow? Otherwise wouldn't it be under wetland	<p>Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh are included under GL2 - Increase opportunities to store winter water on land adjacent to grazing marsh to increase opportunities for "wetting" during spring/summer (mapped by parcels adjacent to existing floodplain grazing marsh).</p> <p>And</p> <p>Deliver grazing marsh habitat restoration, extension and creation where it will offer the greatest gains to support the county's important grazing marsh flora and fauna, and is designed to minimise recreational disturbance (mapped by waders zone, habitat survey, clipped to ALC grades 3-5 and flood zone),</p>	KATIE

		Check back with DBC they're happy with land identified for this.	
Dartford	At least 2 development sites covered by measure, hard core industry, hard standing nasty processes north of borough. Suggest unachievable.	Request site location from DBC to exclude from mapping.	KATIE
Dartford	Not sure what the 2 vertical strips either side of river through urban environment relate to 	GL3.4 (lowland meadow) - Establish neutral grasslands on floodplains, to create resilience to flooding and drought and protect water quality (mapped by free draining soil from Cranfield soils data within flood zone areas).  Check back with DBC they're happy with land identified for this.	KATIE
Dartford	Being built on currently 	Request site location from DBC to exclude from mapping.	KATIE
Dartford	Various industrial sites 	Identifies land for measures for coastal and floodplain grazing marsh. GL2.1 Increase opportunities to store winter water on land adjacent to grazing marsh to increase opportunities for "wetting" during spring/summer (mapped by parcels adjacent to existing floodplain grazing marsh). And GL2.2 Deliver grazing marsh habitat restoration, extension and creation where it will offer the greatest gains to support the county's important grazing marsh flora and fauna, and is designed to minimise recreational disturbance	KATIE

		(mapped by waders zone, habitat survey, clipped to ALC grades 3-5 and flood zone),  Check back with DBC if this is in conflict with land use and should be excluded from mapping.	
Dartford	Area to west of pylons below cotton lane with potential 	Check back with DBC – potential for what specifically (please confirm priority habitat and relevant potential measure). Or is there a conflict?	KATIE
Ashford	Grassland below Conningbrook could be included down to road. Where grassland is already marked in Conningbrook covers a lot of housing.	Is this referring to mapping of GL3.4 (lowland meadow) - Establish neutral grasslands on floodplains, to create resilience to flooding and drought and protect water quality.  Check back with ABC what they are suggesting should be done here – is it that is conflicts with housing or that the mapped area should be extended?	KATIE
Thanet	Doesn't make sense having grassland measures all the way around the coast as there is no floodplain. It also covers Ramsgate harbour and Margate urban area.	Relates to mapping of GL3.4 (lowland meadow) - Establish neutral grasslands on floodplains, to create resilience to flooding and drought and protect water quality. Remove any mapping for GL3.4 on coastline. Also check inland mapped areas to ensure they are appropriate.	KWT
High Weald National Landscape	Low input grassland and semi improved grassland should be used in measures. Only way of getting this data is through RPA and stewardship data. England living map used by HW to create a heat map of semi improved grassland in HW, very keen we use this data.	Is this an appropriate layer of data for grassland measures – could it help refine some of the mapping?	KWT
Thanet	Grade 1 agricultural land has been mapped around Faversham. Thought they were excluded.	Need to clarify which measures have excluded grade 1 ag land. Is all grade 1 land excluded regardless or just for measures where the action is not compatible with agriculture and would take that land out of food	KWT

		production.	
Thanet	In your table of Potential Measures sometimes lower-grade agricultural land is described as Grades 3, 4 and 5 and sometimes as Grade 4 and 5. The definition in the NPPF is that Best and Most Versatile land is grades 1, 2 and 3a, which might explain why sometimes you include Grade 3 and sometimes you don't. I don't know what the solution is, but maybe to be safe low grade should just be 4 and 5	KWT to clarify and set a consistent approach in mapping.	KWT
High Weald National Landscape	Concerns with conflicting grassland and woodland measures overlapping. Creation measures in particular. (also under woodland)	Need to ensure we apply a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we're prioritising in the LNRS.	KWT
Canterbury	'Old Park' just above 'Y' of canterbury, looking at buying with lottery funding. Turtle doves, nightingales, broom rapes. Dry acid grassland, wet neutral grassland and ancient woodland (chequers wood). (also under woodland)	Where we know there is work underway to convert land to a priority habitat do we map it under the relevant habitat's potential measure as an anecdotal site? (Will need have site files).	DEMTAG
Medway	Development coming forward around Medway bridge 	Need to make decision on what we do with development areas conflicting within the mapping. Check if this is allocated site or work underway/to commence shortly (say in next 12 months).	DEMTAG KATIE
Medway	West Medway City Estates, all development there 	Need to make decision on what we do with development areas conflicting within the mapping. Katie to check if this is allocated site or work underway/to commence shortly (say in next 12 months).	DEMTAG KATIE
GL3	Existing species-rich lowland meadow is safeguarded, restored, and extended through sensitive land management practices. This is not mapped? – understand the rationale for that but could be a strategic priority?	At very least, extent of habitat will now be mapped – just not included in ACIB unless we can prioritise/define areas.	
GL3.4	Concerns over focus on floodplain because of data available. Grassland seems just focused around floodplains which is too	This measure is specifically focussing on the role that neutral grasslands can play in water management as an	KATIE



	nutrient rich for neutral grassland etc. Very weighted towards river valleys.	NBS measure. Devising ways of mapping other lowland meadow measures which are currently unmapped – GL3.1 maintenance, GL3.2 increase extent and GL3.3 increase connectivity.  Ask HWNL if they would like to review mapping method and outputs?	
GL4	Retain, restore and extend the county’s acid grassland and heathland habitat mosaics. Not sure why there is nothing in the mapping for the high weald – is it because the acidity of the soils in the High Weald is not high enough? Also what about unimproved neutral grasslands for which there is mapping data in the High Weald. I do think this is an oversight.	Check mapping and determine why it’s not identified for High Weald – and if this is correct.	KWT
<b>WOODLAND</b>			
		Katie - were all LPAs asked for priority tree planting sites? request mapping as a GIS file.	KATIE
Canterbury	Use woodland strategy mapping and woodland zones. <a href="#">Canterbury District Tree, Woodland and Hedgerow Strategy 2024.pdf</a>		KATIE
Canterbury	Lack of priority to buffer the Blean (but possible small allocation in area)	Need to confirm with other partners that Blean complex is a priority for woodland in the county.	RA
Canterbury	Woodland all across the coast, just hedgerows would make more sense	Need to ensure we apply a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we’re prioritising in the LNRS. Do we put in a coastal margin for woodland creation (suggest not applied to individual tree planting).	KWT
Ashford	Planned woodland around Chilmington (in local plan)	Request mapping as a GIS file.	KATIE
Tunbridge Wells	Can’t see any strategy, covers half the borough	Woodland mapping to be refined – are there any mappable exclusions we could apply for Tunbridge Wells? Speak to TW about possible criteria for exclusions.	KATIE
Tunbridge Wells	For woodland most are just management issues of existing woodland (WTH1, WTH3, WTH4 WTH5, WTH7, WTH10) and so the mapping should just be the existing tree cover and it is difficult to see how others may have been mapped as they are area wide or have no specific area e.g. WTH2, WTH 6 (mostly	Will be prioritising all WTH measures to specific areas where we can.	


	management), WTH7, WTH9 and WTH10.		
High Weald National landscape	Concerns with conflicting grassland and woodland measures overlapping. Creation measures in particular. (also under grassland)	Need to ensure we apply a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we're prioritising in the LNRS.	KWT
Canterbury	'old Park' just above 'Y' of canterbury, looking at buying with lottery funding. Turtle doves, nightingales, broom rapes. Dry acid grassland, wet neutral grassland and ancient woodland (chequers Wood). (also under grassland)	Where we know there is work underway to convert land to a priority habitat do we map it under the relevant habitat's potential measure as an anecdotal site? (Will need site files).	DEMTAG
Gravesham	Lots of conflict with emerging plans. We've got that Green Blobbing Rd show next to Blue Lake that effectively covers absolute central and Northfleet harbourside and Northfleet and Batman West. So that was part of the Ebbsfleet Garden City where there's already previous permissions and new permissions for development. It covers Northfleet Harbourside where we're actively progressing development.	Mapped woodland measures for GBC – check specific maps to see if it does conflict with emerging plans: WTH2.1 Extension of existing woodland through natural colonisation and planting. WTH2.2 Retain, replace and plant more highway trees. WTH2.4 Plant more trees in hedgerows. WTH2.6 Plant more urban trees and create urban forests and orchards, ideally siting tree planting to where they will provide flood management, air quality and temperature regulation benefits. WTH5.1 Appropriate and targeted management of ancient woodland, in order to retain and enhance specific features of ancient woodland and enhance biodiversity WTH5.2 Establishment of wide buffer zones around ancient woodland that are linked to hedgerows, to extend habitat connectivity. WTH5.3 Solitary ancient and veteran trees buffered with open space, with further protections offered with establishment of neighbouring wood pasture and agroforestry of mixed habitats. WTH5.4 Connectivity of ancient woodland improved by links to hedgerows, establishment of standard trees and increased standing deadwood. WTH5.5 Use of ancient woodland inventory to identify isolated blocks of ancient woodland. WTH6.1 Establish and implement long-term management plans for wet woodland and surrounding land, which ensures connectivity between waterways and woodland	KATIE



		<p>and incorporates nature-based water management solutions, such as leaky dams, felling, blocking drainage channels. Where appropriate, use ecosystem engineers to maintain and enhance wet woodlands, ensuring these are combined with a clear communication, landowner engagement and management strategy before any action commences.</p> <p>WTH6.2 Creation of ponds within woodlands, and naturally regenerated riparian zone.</p> <p>WTH9.1 restore and bring established traditional orchards back into positive management, including long sward length, wildflower meadow strips between trees, limited or no spraying, sensitive pruning and dead wood/ dying trees retained.</p> <p>WTH9.2 Establish new community orchards, in appropriate areas and with a focus on urban locations</p> <p>Where there is a conflict, request site location from GBC to exclude from mapping.</p>	
Gravesham	Woodland measures covering over leisure centre, brownfield site, plenty of existing development, allocated sites as well as potential allocations in East of borough.	<p>Mapped woodland measures for GBC (above) – check specific maps to see if it does conflict with these areas of Gravesham.</p> <p>Where there is a conflict, request site location from GBC to exclude from mapping.</p>	KATIE
Dartford	Woodland priorities covering Dartford Heath – it is acid grassland and lowland heathland. There is a wood pasture habitat that we are trying to restore, so that section could be under woodland creation. But don't want to lose 2 priority habitats for the sake of tree planting	Need to ensure we apply a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we're prioritising in the LNRS.	KWT
Dartford	Northern extend of woodland measures cover a large urban area. It is established suburbs.	<p>Mapped woodland measures for DBC – check specific maps to see if it does conflict with established suburbs:</p> <p>WTH2.1 Extension of existing woodland through natural colonisation and planting.</p> <p>WTH2.2 Retain, replace and plant more highway trees.</p> <p>WTH2.4 Plant more trees in hedgerows.</p> <p>WTH2.6 Plant more urban trees and create urban forests</p>	KATIE

		<p>and orchards, ideally siting tree planting to where they will provide flood management, air quality and temperature regulation benefits.</p> <p>WTH5.1 Appropriate and targeted management of ancient woodland, in order to retain and enhance specific features of ancient woodland and enhance biodiversity</p> <p>WTH5.2 Establishment of wide buffer zones around ancient woodland that are linked to hedgerows, to extend habitat connectivity.</p> <p>WTH5.3 Solitary ancient and veteran trees buffered with open space, with further protections offered with establishment of neighbouring wood pasture and agroforestry of mixed habitats. WTH5.4 Connectivity of ancient woodland improved by links to hedgerows, establishment of standard trees and increased standing deadwood.</p> <p>WTH5.5 Use of ancient woodland inventory to identify isolated blocks of ancient woodland.</p> <p>WTH6.1 Establish and implement long-term management plans for wet woodland and surrounding land, which ensures connectivity between waterways and woodland and incorporates nature-based water management solutions, such as leaky dams, felling, blocking drainage channels. Where appropriate, use ecosystem engineers to maintain and enhance wet woodlands, ensuring these are combined with a clear communication, landowner engagement and management strategy before any action commences.</p> <p>WTH6.2 Creation of ponds within woodlands, and naturally regenerated riparian zone.</p> <p>WTH9.1 restore and bring established traditional orchards back into positive management, including long sward length, wildflower meadow strips between trees, limited or no spraying, sensitive pruning and dead wood/ dying trees retained.</p> <p>WTH9.2 Establish new community orchards, in appropriate areas and with a focus on urban locations</p>	
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		Where there is a conflict, request site location from DBC to exclude from mapping.	
Dartford	Woodland measures covering swanscombe town, very odd shape, very dense urban area	<p>This mapped areas relates to WTH2.6 Plant more urban trees and create urban forests and orchards, ideally siting tree planting to where they will provide flood management, air quality and temperature regulation benefits.</p> <p>Mapped with: Potential woodland delivering air quality benefits (EWCO - NfC Ammonia Emissions Capture for SSSI Protection), potential riparian woodland (WWNP Riparian Woodland Potential), Keeping Rivers Cool Riparian Buffers (EWCO ) within major urban areas.</p> <p>Check with DBC if happy to retain mapped measure in this area.</p> <p>Where there is a conflict, request site location from DBC to exclude from mapping.</p>	KATIE
Dartford	Darent Country Park woodland area not included in woodland mapping	Ensure it is picked up by baseline mapping of woodland habitat extent.	KWT
Dartford	Large triangle area to the right of cross-road under Dartford wording doesn't look right and already includes hedgerows running all the way around	<p>This mapped areas relates to WTH2.6 Plant more urban trees and create urban forests and orchards, ideally siting tree planting to where they will provide flood management, air quality and temperature regulation benefits.</p> <p>Mapped with: Potential woodland delivering air quality benefits (EWCO - NfC Ammonia Emissions Capture for SSSI Protection), potential riparian woodland (WWNP Riparian Woodland Potential), Keeping Rivers Cool Riparian Buffers (EWCO ) within major urban areas.</p> <p>Check with DBC if happy to retain mapped measure in this area.</p> <p>Where there is a conflict, request site location from DBC to exclude from mapping.</p>	KATIE
Dartford	Dartford marshes adjacent to Crayford marshes- lower river	Mapped measures for woodland in this area:	KATIE

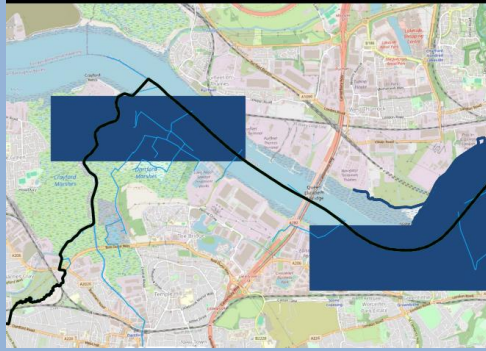


	<p>parent strategy document talks about restoration in the area as the area has not been touched since 2015. Where its over grown we would be reversed back to encompass salt water and freshwater marshland. Its successional woodland that needs to be removed for us to get it back to that functioning habitat type. Currently covered with some woodland measure top woodland oblong with cursor on in particular is involved in big restoration project</p>  <p>Needs funding from this strategy why is it an APIB</p>	<p>WTH2.2 Retain, replace and plant more highway trees.  WTH6.2 Creation of ponds within woodlands, and naturally regenerated riparian zones – mapped with permanent wet areas (from Watersystems map data, PROWATER project) and GCN data within woodland (CEH habitat data) and riparian woodland potential areas (WWNP Riparian Woodland Potential), not within ancient woodland areas.  WTH9.2 Establish new community orchards, in appropriate areas and with a focus on urban locations – mapped with Historic traditional orchard layer (provided by Orchard networks) within urban or suburban areas, buffered by 1km.</p> <p>Area is mapped in APIB as it is a LWS – LWS can be mapped for potential measure but will be shown in local habitat map as “area of particular importance for biodiversity” (APIB).</p> <p>Check with DBC if happy to retain mapped measure in this area.  Where there is a conflict, request site location from DBC to exclude from mapping.</p>	
Dartford	<p>Would have thought woodland connectivity bottleneck would also be east. of the borough too. They cover big urban areas. Covers ebbsfleet garden city so need to be careful what you are saying</p>	<p>Connectivity mapping to be revised.</p>	KWT
Dartford	<p>All shapes look particularly strange around Dartford, not fitting with what’s underneath</p>	<p>May be beneficial to understand the specific measures that make up the habitat mapping.</p>	
Medway	<p>Concern over the over lapping of measures e.g tree cover and grassland creation.</p>	<p>Need to ensure we apply a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we’re prioritising in the LNRS.</p>	KWT
Medway	<p>Medway will be using the tree equity score in their tree strategy, would be useful for us too</p>	<p>Tree equity mapping to be looked at.</p>	KWT

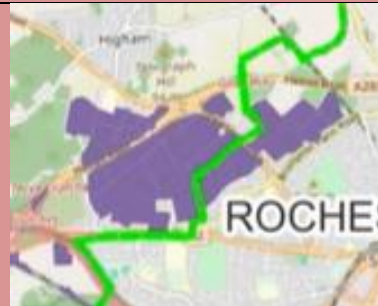
Medway	Hog marsh- upnor area and probably should be connectivity between woodland blocks here 	Ask Medway for specific location details.	KATIE
Medway	This area would be better suited to tree planting than that on the left of it. There have been discussions around habitat enhancement of woodland here before 	Ask Medway for specific location details.	KATIE
Medway	Hoo peninsula – All Hallows Marsh. Woodland wouldn't necessarily fit into landscape character.	Need to ensure we apply a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we're prioritising in the LNRS. Also need to consider landscape character as well as current habitat.	KWT
Medway	St Mary -Hoo, pretty fragmented but an area where you could pretty much improve woodland and tree canopy cover , implement new hedgerows etc because field parcels are all of a large scale and be beneficial.	Add	KWT
Medway	Buffer ancient woodland not triple but more than 15m, so that it would actually fit with local plan, limited space and a lot of development to come.	How do we address this – is it an issue as mapping is informative not enforcing? Need to provide explanation in method why 75m is used.	KWT
Medway	There are limits to the amount that can be done in the areas covered in measures. E.g. The marsh habitat of riverside country park – there's a limit to what a country park can probably do, e.g. can hold some tree planting. Also will be balancing new developments in the area coming forward.	Noted.	
Thanet	Use tree planting layers to refine (layers received)	Apply layers to refine tree planting in Thanet.	KWT
WTH 1.4	Restoration and extension of lowland and upland wood pasture and parkland. WTh1.4 - 75m may be too large a buffer – we have de facto 25m buffer in our plan. Not sure about wood pasture and parkland – would like to see this a separate layer as issues are different to	How do we address this – is it an issue as mapping is informative not enforcing? Need to provide explanation in method why 75m is used.  Check with NE whether wood pasture parkland is AW and	KWT  RA

	<p>woodland and ancient woodland. Natural England are updating the wood pasture and parkland data set and we are planning on undertaking our own surveys as the criteria for this habitat are more subjective than most.</p> <p>Slight concern with WTH1.4 as Natural England consider Wood Pasture Parkland to be a part of ancient woodland and as such is irreplaceable habitat hence 'extension' may not be the correct term.</p>	<p>is irreplaceable.</p> <p>Not clear what is meant by separate out – this was extent of actions identified for wood pasture and parkland and WTH4 is mapped separately. Check back with TWBC.</p>	KATIE
WTH2	<p>Increase the average canopy cover in Kent causes for concern as it is not a helpful target for this Borough which already has one of the highest amount of woodland - 18.85% land cover – in Kent.</p> <p>Not a very helpful target at a borough level. We are one of the most wooded boroughs in Kent (18.85% land cover) and in some locations e.g. common land, heath, wood pasture the problem can be too many trees!</p>	<p>Will be applying a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we're prioritising in the LNRS. Also need to consider landscape character as well as current habitat.</p> <p>Can TWBC advice which of the WTH measures they feel is not appropriate for inclusion in the borough – or which areas they should not be applied to. We can then see if we can amend mapping to exclude these areas.</p>	KWT  KATIE
WTH2.1 and 2.3	<p>Extension of existing woodland through natural colonisation and planting; and conversion of unproductive land for arable into woodland.</p> <p>WTH 2.1 do not agree with using lower grade agricultural land as data set for this as that is virtually the whole borough and overlooks the importance of lower grade agricultural land in the High Weald AONB – ditto WTH 2.3 and use of grades 4 and 5 as these may be important complimentary grassland habitats to existing woodland.</p>	<p>Will be applying a filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped over other habitats we're prioritising in the LNRS. Also need to consider landscape character as well as current habitat.</p> <p>Check with KWT – for WTH2.1 use of low grade agricultural land is to rule out high grade rather than target low grade for tree establishment.</p> <p>Check with HWNL and TWBC – is inclusion of WTH2.3 measure anywhere in the HWNL area no appropriate; would they prefer it to be excluded? Or will aforementioned filter to woodland creation to ensure it is not mapped where it shouldn't be habitat-wise be enough?</p> <p>Note that mapping does not mean measure has to happen there.</p>	KWT  KWT  KATIE
WTH2.5	Use tree and hedgerow establishment and scrub to increase	This is covered under WTH8.	

	<p>connectivity, provide wildlife corridors and address fragmented areas of woodland.</p> <p>Hedgerows should focus on restoring historical hedgerows to help with connectivity</p>		
WTH7	<p>Retain and safeguard the High Weald's unique gill woodland and the plant species they support and the important functions they provide for the wider river catchment.</p> <p>Mapped but not included – think there should be included and disagree that it is “an indiscrete area of south-west Kent” – the high Weald and the water course are clearly mapped and can be clearly identified. What is unclear is where gill woodland remains and where it needs to be reinstated and/or buffered. Perhaps noting the regionally important flora of gill streams which is dependent upon the water in terms of humidity these should be in the Freshwater habitat? Having looked at these it is difficult to see how the mapping is as it is. Possibly it is the number of veteran trees and the 75m buffer? This should have a reinstate gill woodland where lost and should be easy to map.</p>	<p>We have not been able to secure mapped data for this but are hoping High Weald NL may be able to assist in identifying priority areas to allow it to be.</p> <p>The current area is too broad and undefined to include in ACIB currently – but would welcome suggestions on ways to refine it – either with data or anecdotal evidence – follow up with HWNL and TWBC.</p>	KATIE
<b>COASTAL</b>			
General	<p>Not sure about coastal opportunities on top of bluebell hill – the connectivity circles aren't useful to be mapped here, they need to be refined. It doesn't take into account topography</p>	<p>Mapping for CL2.5 needs to be reworked as it mapped inland wetland sites.</p>	KWT
Gravesham	<p>No room for coastal measure at riverfront. The riverfront, which the intention of the Environment Agency subject to where the T 2100 will actually go. But regardless of that the desire is for the flood defences in the urban area to be increased in height so there won't be any scope or direct improvements along the urban area. If anything, it'll be more of a separation.</p>	<p>CL1.5 (hard defences removed) is identified for GBC shoreline – need to speak with EA and ensure that <u>all</u> the mapping for CL1.5 and CL1.3 is correct.</p>	RA
Gravesham	<p>Bottlenecks need refining – freshwater and coastal blobs cover a large area but we don't have any water courses other than on the east side and they are within the canal and running into the canal basin. But they're relatively small tributaries that, yes can be improved but not to this scale. (also included in freshwater)</p>	<p>All connectivity mapping to be reworked.</p>	KWT

Folkstone & Hythe	Use new draft strategic flood risk assessment (not yet published) - Pent stream is always an 'emergency planning area', biggest problem area (also included in freshwater)	If not yet published, it is too late to inform mapping. Where we need to refine NBS/NFM mapping, could we see if opportunity areas overlap with anecdotal "problem" areas?	
Dartford	<p>The coastal measures should run all the way across the top because there are still mudflats (also strange shapes). Would have thought it would be a bottle neck in between these oblongs also.</p> 	<p>All connectivity mapping to be reworked.</p> <p>Check mapping for Dartford district for why areas of shore have been excluded.</p>	KWT
Swale	Coastal measures over Queensborough which is already pretty developed so unrealistic.	<p>CL1.2 Refuges for wildlife created with either 'no go' or restricted areas. Mapped by beach nesting sites, frontages, roost site data for Thanet, additional bird nesting sites from marine specialists in the county.</p> <p>CL1.4 Create areas for saltmarsh restoration, seagrass regeneration and high tide roosts as well as breeding areas for seabirds and waders. Mapped by Seagrass Restoration (MMO1135) , Seagrass Potential (MMO1135), beach nesting bird sites, saltmarsh extent, seagrass layer, frontages &amp; roost sites in Thanet</p> <p>CL1.5 Hard defences removed where appropriate to enable reconnection of fragmented areas through managed realignment. Mapped by AIMS Spatial Flood Defences, including: bridge abutments, flood gates, quays, spillway, and walls.</p> <p>CL2.1 (saltmarsh and mudflats) Maintain high roosts and nesting sites, with key sites fenced off, to limit disturbance and safeguard inland feeding, breeding and</p>	KATIE



		<p>overwintering areas. Mapped by Beach nesting sites.</p> <p>CL3.2 Remove invasive spartina to reduce smothering of seagrass. Mapped by Spartina species data.</p> <p>CL4.2 Control leisure boat and other recreational activity in chalk reef areas. Mapped by Marine Conservation Zone</p> <p>CL5.3 Create suitable substrate for native oysters to colonise, focussing on existing/historic areas. Mapped by Native Oyster Bed Potential.</p> <p>Check with SBC if happy to retain mapped measure in this area.</p> <p>Where there is a conflict, request site location from SBC to exclude from mapping.</p>	
<b>LAND MANAGEMENT</b>			
Gravesham	You've captured parts of Lower Thames crossing where there'll be a road going through those areas.	Do we map across LTC area for now, given there is still no decision and won't be until at least May 2025.	DEMTAG
Dartford	Use public assessable open space, smaller parks and areas, west of borough where lacking		
Dartford	Extends into Ebbsfleet?	Check mapping layer is correct as based on Arable and Horticulture in CEH	KWT
Ashford	Map open spaces from local plan for Land Management measures	Does ABC have GIS layer we can use?	KATIE
Folkstone & Hythe	The Warren is already being well managed by White Cliffs Countryside Partnership.		
Medway	Top left area suspected to be classed as grey belt, development location.	Can we get specific locations for these conflicts from Medway.	KATIE
Medway	North of Halling set for development		
Medway			

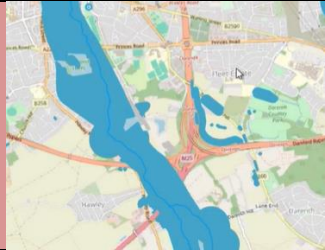

	Former quarry covered by LM measures.		
Medway	Not the most obvious sites chosen, picked up on areas which wouldn't necessarily be appropriate, would actually avoid areas already covered. Some areas are very urban and not suitable – hog marsh valley could be covered by LM. This layer could do so much more.		
Medway	Lots more opportunity west of the borough. East or north of Rainham would have a number of benefits of biodiversity and landscape strengthening, the Hoo peninsula areas around Warden (?)	Can we get specific locations for these missed opportunities from Medway.	KATIE
LM2.1	Identify key pieces of farmland that are strategically important for linking natural habitats Rainham grade 1 land would really benefit from land management measures as well as lots of other land in grade1, that would benefit from LM strengthening of hedgerows, field margins woodland etc. e.g. cliff, cooling.	Connectivity mapping to be redone – look at what agricultural land is picked up after this.	KWT
LM 5.1	Protection of habitats and species sensitive to disturbance by employing site management, and other measures, which support connection to, and experience of, wildlife but ensures our most sensitive sites remain undisturbed.  DDC could possibly add spaces managed for wildlife to the Land Management Layer so this so could be mapped I have also attached a zipped shapefile with polygons showing land owned by DDC that has some management for biodiversity (not necessarily the whole site) or has an aspiration to be managed for biodiversity (including as a potential DDC habitat bank) – the attribute table shows which are aspirational. (received files)	Add in DDC sites.	KWT
LM5.1 & 5.2	LM5.1 Protection of habitats and species sensitive to disturbance by employing site management, and other measures, which support connection to, and experience of, wildlife but ensures our most sensitive sites remain undisturbed. LM5.2 Create sacrificial and honey pot public sites to reduce the impact of visitors on vulnerable sites.	Clarify with FHDC what this is and how it could be used.	KATIE

	NE did a SARMS into vegetated shingle 5—6 years ago, never shared the results with F&H so could be used.		
LM 5.2	Create sacrificial and honey pot public sites to reduce the impact of visitors on vulnerable sites. Sangs? Whitfield expansion- some is delivered, and some is in progress. We know likely outline.	Does SANGS offer anything in terms of mapping for LM5.2?	KWT
<b>URBAN</b>			
Dover	Aylesham identified as a urban area would be useful there may be opportunities there	Add in	KWT
Thanet	Can we use the localised urban boundary from local plans to refine these measures because it will cause problems with the residents thinking that it will all the development.	Use TDC urban boundary. Request this boundary from all LPAs and apply to urban measures.	KWT KATIE
Dartford	Looks completely wrong, covering farmland and non-urban areas. Use Dartford urban boundary	Use DDC urban boundary. Request this boundary from all LPAs and apply to urban measures.	KWT KATIE
Thanet	Where woodland and urban measures overlap for trees can we remove this from urban priorities to refine it further	KWT to consider suggestion.	KWT
Canterbury	Urban measures cover a too broad an area	Use CCC urban boundary. Request this boundary from all LPAs and apply to urban measures.	KWT KATIE
Swale	Can we include smaller urban areas, is there a population cut off? Plenty of smaller urban areas	Request details of urban areas in Swale SBC would like included.	KATIE
Medway/all	Chatham design code- urban layers will impact these. E.g. Great Lines Heritage Park. Design codes pop up which need to be mindful of across the region which may impact strategic objectives.	Noted.	
URB1	URB1 Address habitat fragmentation of the urban environment, ensuring urban species can freely move about and developed areas and infrastructure does not impede passage. URB2.5 Target tree establishment to areas of low canopy cover. Use tree Planting from KCC to refine	Not sure how existing and planned tree planting will help map this measure – unless it is to be used to eliminate areas and refine?	KWT?
URB 1.1	URB1.1 Employ conservation cuts, and minimise mowing, on verges and grass areas in areas known to be of importance for pollinators connectivity. Use open spaces, wildflower meadows, mini orchards etc to	These are included in the land management measures for urban areas – just not mapped.	

	increase pollinator network so would like included.		
URB 1.1	URB1.1 Employ conservation cuts, and minimise mowing, on verges and grass areas in areas known to be of importance for pollinators connectivity. Use pollinator strategy <a href="#">Canterbury District Pollinator Action Plan 2023.pdf</a>	Clarify with CCC what from this plan will assist with mapping for URB1.1	KATIE
URB 1.5	Green bridges and tunnels installed (or existing crossings modified) to traverse new and existing barriers to wildlife movement in the urban environment. Underpass under m20 could be used	Securing mapped layer of existing assets.	
URB 2	Deliver benefits for wildlife through urban public greenspace and land management. FWAG have wildflower wildstrip plans in Thanet	Noted.	
URB 3.1	<b>URB3.1</b> Trees and hedgerows specifically planted to deliver air quality, temperature regulation/cooling and surface water management benefits and targeted to areas where it is most needed and will deliver the greatest impact. Use tree Planting from KCC to refine	Not sure how existing and planned tree planting will help map this measure – unless it is to be used to eliminate areas and refine?	KWT?
URB3.5	<b>URB3.5</b> Increased green and blue infrastructure, and more natural space, is targeted to communities where it is most needed to deliver health and wellbeing benefits and greater connection with nature. Map noticeably excludes some areas of deprivation, such as Elms Vale, Buckland, Maxon, and Aycliff. DDC explained that if everything is covered except the most deprived wards, that might be uncomfortable politically. Because layer has been removed from ACIB	Need to check this layer as it should be focussing on most deprived areas.	KWT
URB3.5	<b>URB3.5</b> Increased green and blue infrastructure, and more natural space, is targeted to communities where it is most needed to deliver health and wellbeing benefits and greater connection with nature. Under Urban potential measures I see that IMD data has been used and I think this is why the mapping for this measure is so extensive within our urban settlements, esp Sittingbourne. Whilst deprivation might be a driver for improved NBS, I'm not sure that it necessarily helps with the mapping.	To note by KWT.	KWT

FRESHWATER			
Gravesham	Bottlenecks need refining – freshwater and coastal blobs cover a large area but we don't have any water courses other than on the east side and they are within the canal and running into the canal basin. But they're relatively small tributaries that, yes can be improved but not to this scale. (also included in coastal)	Connectivity mapping to be redone – check coverage of Gravesham district once complete.	KWT RA
Folkstone & Hythe	Use new draft strategic flood risk assessment (not yet published) - Pent stream is always an 'emergency planning area', biggest problem area. (also included in coastal)	If not yet published, it is too late to inform mapping. Where we need to refine NBS/NFM mapping, could we see if opportunity areas overlap with anecdotal "problem" areas?	
Canterbury	Reservoir ecology measure for Broadoak new reservoir	Add to FW11.1 mapping.	KWT
Canterbury	Use shoreline management plan for flooding perspective and manage re-alignment	Has been used.	
Swale	Community mapping not included - I mention this as I submitted an area in Faversham (on behalf of the Friends of the Westbrook) and I can't see if it's included.	Community mapping to be applied once the measures maps are revised.	KWT
Swale	SERT study of chalks streams which might be useful evidence for the Freshwater measure <a href="#">Updated_SERT_North_Kent_Chalk_Streams_Survey_2023 - CG.pdf (wordpress.com)</a>	Check with Cleo.	KWT
Thanet	Measures are incorrect as it is tidal/brackish water up to Grove Ferry.	Amend mapping.	KWT
Dartford	Dartford Heath, where there are woodland concerns - couple of ephemeral ponds and dew pond not mapped. One of those ephemeral ponds actually sits on the marginal edge of the woodland before it becomes lowland heath and acid grassland, so where we are turning it back into wood pasture. Dew pond is by where is known locally as 'glory bumps'	Add to FW8 mapping.	KWT
Dartford	Darenth Country Park – no water there, its wildflower meadow.	Amend mapping.	KWT
Dartford	Area between interchange and darenth country park looks odd, don't know where that has come from, unlikely to be presence of water.	Check mapping for errors.	KWT



				
Dartford	No presence of water here 		Check mapping for errors.	KWT
Medway	There are a lot of freshwater measures that cover brackish water and tidal. Shouldn't they be under coastal? Some freshwater inland but turns brackish and tidal quickly round Rochester Riverside.		Amend mapping.	KWT
Medway	Minimal freshwater opportunity due to amount of development in/around Rochester, Strood and Chatham. Not enough land to do anything on, even with freshwater bottlenecks there.		Review mapped freshwater measures for Medway (with Cleo input) and determine if should be removed.	KWT
<b>OTHER</b>				
Tonbridge and Malling	To refine measures - <a href="https://www.tmbc.gov.uk">CONTENTS (tmbc.gov.uk)</a> . New strategy not available yet. They would also use habitat surveys for refining.			
All	The use of black on the APIB is quite distracting, maybe a grey and labelled what is included		This was just for illustrative purposes – will be cut out of ACIB.	
Ashford	M20 corridor is where they had a significant amount of submissions coming to them.		?	
Thanet	Birchington and Westgate allocations are covered by measures.		Need to make decision on what we do with development areas conflicting within the mapping. Do we have data layer for their site allocations?	DEMTAG
All	Use NE GI layer, Local plan layers, GI strategies, tree equity scale, Flood risk assessments, open spaces.		Can we review if we have used these data layers to their most effective.	KWT

All	Use urban boundaries shown in local plans to restrict/refine urban priorities	Apply.	KWT
Medway	Make sure to use landscape character assessment to make it realistic and deliverable on the ground. Needs to be a balance of information.	Can we consider how this could be used.	DEMTAG
Medway	Medway Council is discussing releasing lots of sites that are identified on the mapping. Couple near Rochester, riverside country park, big field south of Hempstead valley shopping centre.	Don't believe these should be excluded from mapping on this basis.	DEMTAG
Medway	Upper stoke and land east of Hoo missing for nature improvements.	Check why these have not been picked up in mapping.	KWT
Medway	Use Green grid strategy 2000, some areas developed, some haven't changed at all. Medway are drafting a GI strategy.	What does this have that could be of use to mapping?	KATIE
Medway	Is even 3 years too long before reviewing the LNRS with new local plans happening after publication	Review will be instructed by SoS.	
Urban/ woodland	Plan Tree- different maps for different projects, not in one central area- highways etc. use to refine?	Not clear how projects would be used to refine.	KWT?

#### LPA comments on mapping for publication:

- Allow the ability to adjust transparent layers so you can see what the land is underneath the measures. Or when you zoom in the layers become translucent
- Have the description of each measure on screen for each map
- Allow the selecting of an area and share all the measures associated with the area
- Outline the measures to make it clear which areas are to safeguard, extend etc through layer
- Would be good to know which areas are to safeguard and which to extend etc, outlined differently. If its there currently, or an aspiration for local plans.

#### Questions from SA's

- How exactly will be use local plan allocations
- Full explanation of data used in bottleneck connectivity data
- Where does deliverability on the ground come into mapping (came into priority shortlisting?)
- Has landscape character/topography been considered in mapping
- Major concern for areas included in APIB not getting funding (Clare Russell email)
- Sarah Parker query over grade 3 agricultural land (see grassland section)
- Can we be provided with a briefing document on what to expect from consultation so we can prepare
- Will the criteria for refinement be uniform across county
- Need definitions on 'consider'/'content' to appreciate real affect on planning

- Want GIS layers