



Wyre Council Biodiversity Duty Report: 2026

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Introduction

Wyre Council as the Local Authority and Planning Authority is under a legal obligation to act in accordance with the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. This is known as the Biodiversity Duty and is established by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 as amended by the Environment Act 2021.

Local authorities are required to consider what action they can properly take to further the Biodiversity Duty. This includes considering relevant functions, what actions to take and where to conserve and enhance biodiversity, identify specific policies and objectives based on the considerations.

Actions associated with Local Nature Recovery and Biodiversity Net Gain should be seen in this context. Local authorities are required to report on these considerations.

Wyre Council as the Local Planning Authority (LPA) undertook its first consideration of the biodiversity duty on 1 January 2024 in a so-called “baseline” report. Please refer to the baseline report at <https://www.wyre.gov.uk/downloads/file/1871/biodiversity-duty-january-2024> for further background on the Duty and the baseline position.

As set out in the baseline report, it is intended to report against the Biodiversity Duty on an annual basis, with the base date 1 January each year. Each report will look back at the previous 12-month period and forward over the next five years.

The second Biodiversity Report (2025) can be found at <https://www.wyre.gov.uk/downloads/file/2294/biodiversity-duty-report-2025>.

By law, each report must include:

- a summary of the action taken to comply with the biodiversity duty; and
- how you plan to comply with the biodiversity duty in the next reporting period; and
- any other information you consider appropriate.

Reports from Local Planning Authorities must also include the following Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) information:

- the actions carried out to meet BNG obligations; and
- details of BNG resulting, or expected to result, from approved biodiversity gain plans; and
- how you plan to meet BNG obligations in the next reporting period.

Spatial Characteristics of Wyre

Wyre is a Lancashire coastal district bounded by the sea along parts of its western and northern boundaries. It shares a common land boundary with the City of Lancaster to the north, the City of Preston to the southeast, the boroughs of Ribble Valley and Fylde to the east and south respectively, and with Blackpool Unitary Authority along the remainder of its south-western boundary.

Wyre lies in the north of what collectively with Fylde and Blackpool is known as the Fylde Coast sub-region. Wyre however extends a considerable way inland in the east and includes part of the Forest of Bowland National Landscape. The northern coastline from Fleetwood to Pilling forms part of Morecambe Bay which continues along the coastline to Barrow in Cumbria.

Wyre itself is characterised by a distinct geographical polarity with the main urban areas situated in the west of the borough, and a large expanse of rural area to the east.

The urban areas are primarily situated on a peninsula west of the River Wyre, and includes the coastal towns of Fleetwood, Thornton and Cleveleys, and to the south, slightly inland, the market town of Poulton-le-Fylde.

The main rural area settlements with the most service provision (i.e. shops etc.) are the market town of Garstang, Knott End/Preesall and Great Eccleston. The rural area is itself characterised by a large area of low-lying countryside and farmland, and east of the M6, the Bowland Fells which fall within the Forest of Bowland National Landscape.

Figure 1 – Wyre location map

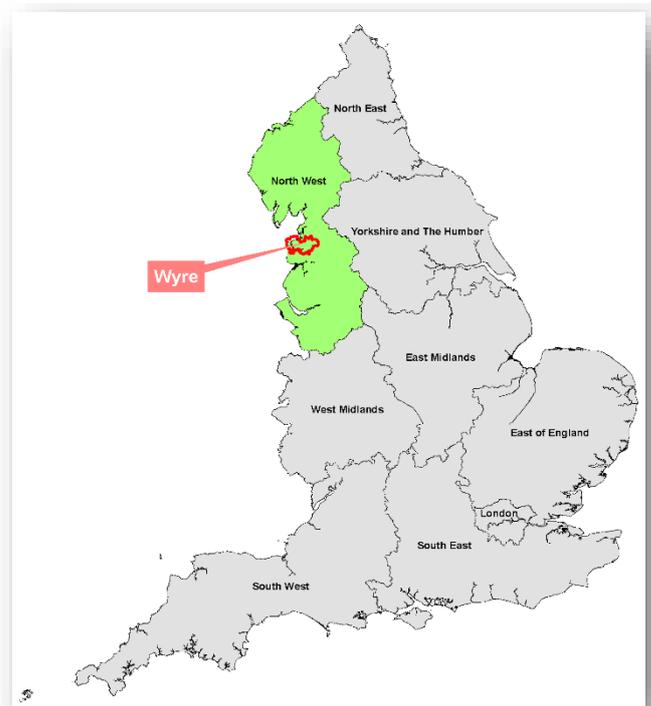
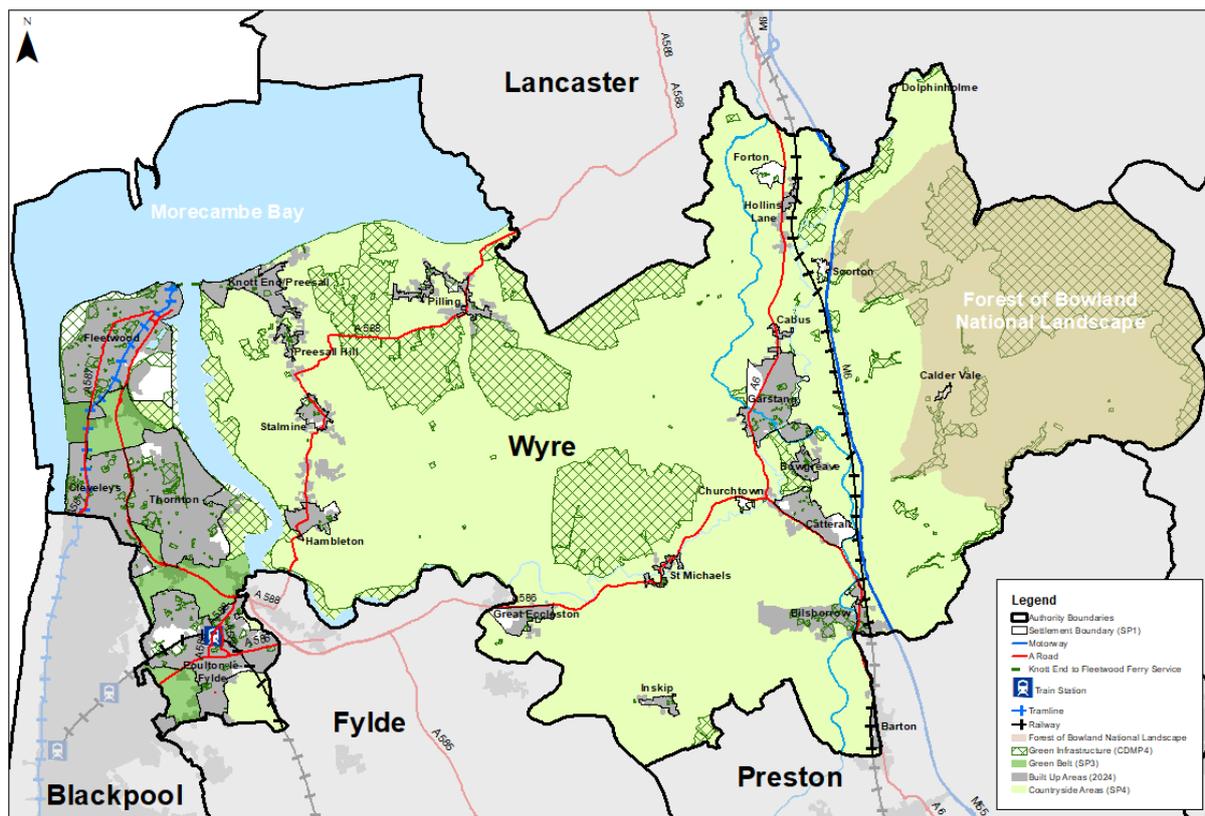


Figure 2 - Wyre's Spatial Characteristics



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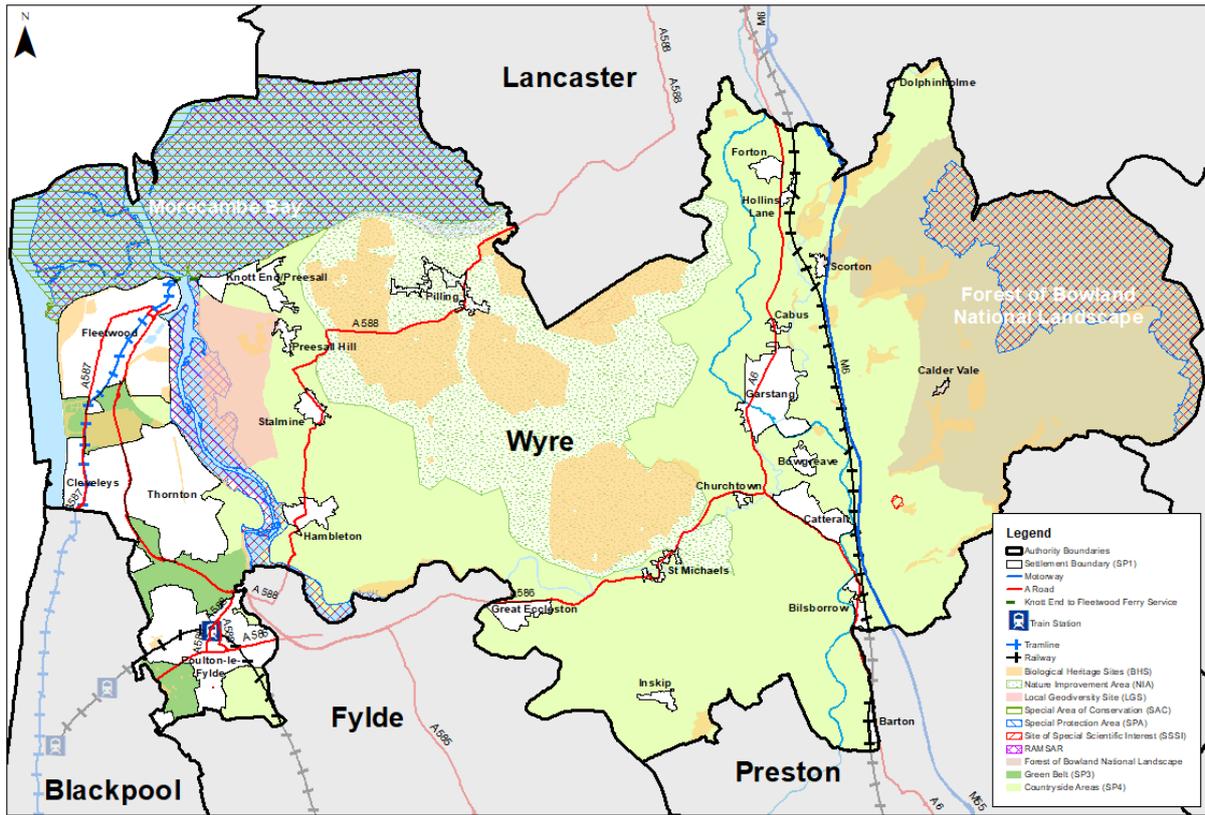
One of the borough's assets is its attractive natural environment, made up of a large green infrastructure network including biodiversity and geological sites, open spaces, parks and gardens, the coastline and beaches and dunes, the River Wyre and Lune estuaries, Wyre and Lune tributaries, Lancaster Canal and open countryside. Large parts of the countryside comprise agricultural farmland with ponds, wetlands, meadows, hedgerows and woodlands.

The Northwest River Basin District contains fifteen management catchments. Two of these, the Lune and the Wyre cover the administrative area. The Lune contains six operational catchments whilst the Wyre contains three. The Northwest river basin district has a rich diversity of wildlife and habitats, supporting many species of global and national importance. These include migratory salmon rivers with native white clawed crayfish and pearl mussel populations and lakes containing the Arctic char and the rare vendace and the ecologically important estuarine fish Smelt found in the Wyre and Lune estuaries. The management catchments that make up the river basin district include many interconnected rivers, lakes, groundwater, wetlands, and coastal waters.

The Wyre coast and countryside is a tourism destination and makes a significant contribution to the local economy.

As shown on Figure 3, there are significant areas designated for their environmental importance. Table 1 illustrates the number and total area of the environmental designations in Wyre.

Figure 3 - Environmental Designations and Key Considerations in Wyre



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Table 1 - Environmental Designations in Wyre (February 2026)

Designation and Key Considerations	Total Number	Total Area (hectare)
National Landscapes (formerly AONB)	1	5,078
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	5	6,297
Special Protection Area (SPA)	2	6,229
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	1	4,058
Biological Heritage Sites (BHS)	69	3,308
Local Geodiversity Sites (LGS)	4	616.4
Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ)	1	4,047
Statutory Irreplaceable Habitats (as set out in the Lancashire LNRS)		
Ancient Woodland	140	262.29
Blanket Bog	12	316.76
Coastal Sand Dunes	16	57.49
Lowland Fens	24	25.27

As of October 2025, the designated Green Belt in Wyre covers an area of 684.7 hectares on the urban peninsula to the west of the borough between Fleetwood, Thornton and Cleveleys; and between Poulton-le-Fylde, Thornton, Cleveleys and Blackpool.

To the east of the borough is the Forest of Bowland National Landscape which partially lies within Wyre (see Figure 3). The area is an important national asset designated because of its outstanding landscape whose distinctive character and natural beauty are so precious that it is safeguarded in the national interest.

Lancaster Canal to the east of the borough is also an important asset with a multi-functional role as a historical, leisure, recreation, and tourism asset. Lancaster Canal is also designated as a Biological Heritage Site, emphasising the importance towards wildlife and as an ecological corridor/resource. The Canal links Wyre to Lancaster to the North and Preston to the South and passes through the three main River Catchments that flow into Morecambe Bay and the Fylde Coast.

The Morecambe Bay Limestones and Wetlands Nature Improvement Area partially covers Wyre (see Figure 3) and is an area internationally significant for nature conservation by improving and connecting the area's special wetland, limestone grassland and woodland habitats, as well as inspiring community action and supporting sustainable farming, wood fuel and wildlife tourism.

Morecambe Bay in north-west England is the confluence of four principal estuaries, the Leven, Kent, Lune and Wyre, together with other smaller examples such as the Keer. Collectively these form the largest single area of continuous intertidal mudflats and sandflats in the UK and the best example of muddy sandflats on the west coast. The estuaries are macro-tidal with a spring tidal range of 9m. It is of particular importance to Wyre. The vast area of sands, dunes, saltmarshes and the coast provide the borough with a large area for nature, fishing, leisure and tourism. The area is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, classified as a Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation and a Ramsar site (see Figure 3). Morecambe Bay is a Marine Protected Area (previously known as a European Marine Site). Designated in 2019, the Wyre-Lune Marine Conservation Zone, which is an inshore site, made up of two estuaries that result in saltmarsh where river meets sea. This site was designated for the protection of breeding populations of smelt, also known as the cucumber fish due to its distinctive cucumber-like smell. The Wyre and Lune Estuaries are also important for many species wading birds that find plenty of food here.

The borough contains some 8,500 hectares of green infrastructure across 601 sites. This includes natural/semi-natural greenspace, amenity greenspace, parks and gardens, playing fields, play space and water features (so called 'blue infrastructure'). This green resource includes several important Strategic Linear Routes such as the River Wyre, Lancaster Canal and Wyre Way that provide links between different parts of the borough and with adjacent areas. However, although there appears to be a significant green resource, there are shortfalls in provision across the borough and across different types of green infrastructure.

The borough is connected by a large network of Public Rights of Way (PROW), footpaths, cycle routes and bridleways that provide important local connectivity. This is supplemented by concessionary access routes where gaps in the network exist. The Knott End Ferry provides a strategic crossing point for two long distance

recreational routes. The Wyre Way is a 73km walking route that follows the River Wyre from its source in the Bowland Fells to the estuary mouth in Fleetwood. The North-West section of the King Charles III England Coast Path (a 2,700-mile National Trail around England's coast) will run from the Scottish border near Gretna Green down to the Welsh border near Chester and will link some of the North West's greatest coastal landscapes, heritage and settlements. The "Silverdale to Cleveleys" stretch of the path is currently at Stage 5: Open (not yet available for public use - work to establish the route is currently taking place), whilst the "Cleveleys to Pier Head (Liverpool)" stretch is part open and part in Stage 5. Both the Wyre Way and the North-West Coastal path contribute to an important local and sub-regional green infrastructure network.

Policies, objectives and actions

Planning

Development Management

The Local Planning Authority has a live Local Validation Checklist (LVC) that sets out what information is required to validate a planning application. This is continually under review in accordance with national policy. Where appropriate, applicants are required to submit the following types of supporting material that relate to biodiversity values or there is an intrinsic link between the topic area and biodiversity:

- NR.9 – Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)
- WR.3 – Air Quality Assessment
- WR.4 – AONB Statement
- WR.5 – Biodiversity Report
- WR.6 – Biodiversity Net Gain Statement & Metric
- WR.8 – Climate Change Statement
- WR.9 – Coastal Change Management Area Statement
- WR.12 – Environmental Impact Statement
- WR.15 – Flood Risk Assessment and Sequential and Exception Tests
- WR.16 – Green Infrastructure Impact Assessment
- WR.19 – Land Contamination Risk Assessment
- WR.20 – Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- WR.21 – Lighting Assessment
- WR.24 – Noise and Vibration statement
- WR.27 – Refuse and Recycling Statement
- WR.31 – Sustainability Statement
- WR.32 – Sustainable Drainage Systems and SuDS Pro-Forma
- WR.33 – Transport Assessments and Transport Statements
- WR.34 – Tree/Arboricultural Implications Assessment

Officers' reports on planning applications for determination either by planning committee or by the Head of Planning under delegated powers refer to all material considerations including national and local policy. As a matter of course, Local Plan

policies, including those relating to biodiversity and the natural environment, are addressed as appropriate.

Wyre Local Plan Policy “CDMP 4 – Environmental Assets” provides the statutory planning basis for assessing planning applications in terms of protecting important habitats and seeking habitat enhancements. There is greater awareness of the need for applications to include boundary treatments which contain wildlife access points (e.g. for hedgehogs).

It may be appropriate to secure off-site mitigation or enhancement areas that relate directly to ecology. An ecological mitigation area was secured via s106 legal agreement for land in Hambleton. For more information, please see the s106 that corresponds with planning application 16/00217/OULMAJ. A second ecological enhancement area was secured in via Unilateral Undertaking (UU) for land in Poulton-le-Fylde. The purpose is to mitigate against any indirect impacts upon the adjacent Woodhouse Farm Biological Heritage Site (BHS). The ecological enhancement area is to compensate for any loss of habitat and to increase biodiversity of the wider area by creating, managing and maintaining an area of ecological enhancement for great crested newts and other important species. For more information, please see the UU that corresponds with planning application 19/00615/OULMAJ. Maps have been produced for each application to demonstrate the mitigation/enhancement areas – these can be viewed at Appendix 1.

Planning Enforcement

Planning enforcement is the investigation of alleged breaches of planning control and, where a breach of planning control is identified, the aim is to resolve these using the most appropriate action. This can include enforcement for not complying with Biodiversity Net Gain requirements.

During 2025, the Planning Enforcement team updated the Planning Enforcement Policy (February 2025). It is intended to simplify the previous policy document and reflect legislative changes. The Enforcement Policy sets out the actions the council may undertake to resolve an enforcement matter. A key addition is the ability to take direct action which offers the opportunity for the council to resolve a breach through remedial action.

During 2025, the Planning Enforcement team have not been required to enforce in the context of Biodiversity Net Gain.

Planning Policy

During 2025, the planning policy team has continued to prepare a robust evidence base that will support the new Local Plan. The team has also regularly engaged with members to ensure planning policies are prepared to reflect council priorities. This includes policies surrounding the natural environment.

Where appropriate, the planning policy team will continue to engage with the public and stakeholders through the local plan production process.

During 2025, planning policy officers facilitated meetings with interested stakeholders to discuss habitat bank creation. These requests will continue to be supported.

Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

Section 198 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) empowers Local Planning Authorities to protect trees or woodlands in their area in the interests of amenity by making tree preservation orders. Following the introduction of **The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012**, The Local Planning Authority is required to confirm a tree preservation order within six months of the issue date if it is to continue to have effect after that period.

A Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is an order made by a local planning authority in England to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity. An order prohibits the:

- Cutting down
- Topping
- Lopping
- Uprooting
- Wilful damage
- Wilful destruction

of trees without the local planning authority's written consent. If consent is given, it can be subject to conditions which have to be followed. In the Secretary of State's view, cutting roots is also a prohibited activity and requires the authority's consent.

During 2025 14 TPO's have been confirmed. Additionally, at the time of writing three TPO's going to Planning Committee to consider objections and determine whether or not to confirm the three TPO's without modifications or subject to such modifications as is considered expedient, or not to be confirmed.

At the time of writing there are 406 Tree Preservation Orders in the borough, and this caseload is under constant review with new TPO's being added when expedient and existing TPO's being modified or in a small number of cases revoked.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

BNG Guidance

Wyre has prepared a [Guidance for Applicants: Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain \(V1.3 April 2025\)](#) document. This guidance will remain under review and will be updated when required.

The purpose of the guidance is to assist applicants for planning permission with implementing the mandatory requirement for a minimum 10% BNG where this is required as part of a development proposal.

During 2025, officers have secured BNG via planning conditions and/or appropriate legal mechanisms. Officers will continue to secure BNG as part of statutory planning functions.

BNG Training

During 2025, officers have provided internal training for officers and elected members. Officers will also continue to provide training where necessary and

continue to attend any external specialist groups, where appropriate, in relation to BNG.

BNG Legal Agreements

To facilitate the BNG process, the council has produced two templates for s106 agreements. One for “significant” on-site BNG and one for off-site BNG where the off-site provision is in Wyre (not including habitat banks). The templates are based on those produced by the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) and are intended to provide applicants with a solid basis for coming to an agreement with the council. These will be continually reviewed.

BNG Monitoring

During 2025, Wyre introduced and approved a BNG Monitoring fee which came into effect on 1 April 2025. The fee is payable by those developments where it is agreed that a series of monitoring reports will be submitted to the council. Typically, this will be for some on-site BNG solutions (i.e. where BNG is defined as “significant”) and for planning applications where the off-site BNG solution is in Wyre. The fee structure is arranged around the net increase in biodiversity units required to meet the statutory minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain. The fee is designed to cover the costs of Wyre Council and Greater Manchester Ecology Unit who are the council’s BNG advisors. The payment of the fee will require a legal agreement with the council.

Officers have continued to monitor the provision of BNG that is proposed through planning applications, and this will continue in 2026.

BNG Monitoring Results

The reporting period for this data is 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025. Where planning permission is granted and conditions have been used to secure BNG, it may be that these conditions are yet to be discharged.

Expected results from approved Biodiversity Gain (BG) Plans

During 2025 there have been 2 Biodiversity Gain Plans approved. Figures have been rounded to two decimal places.

Table 2 – Total expected results from approved BG Plans in 2025

	Habitat	Hedgerow	Watercourse
On Site BNG			
Baseline Units	0.85	0.06	0
Post Intervention (proposed) Units	1.00	0.07	0
Post Intervention Net Change Units	0.15	0.01	0
Off Site BNG			
Baseline Units	0	0	0
Post Intervention (proposed) Units	0	0	0

	Habitat	Hedgerow	Watercourse
Post Intervention Net Change Units	0	0	0

Table 3 – Individual Planning application total net unit and % change

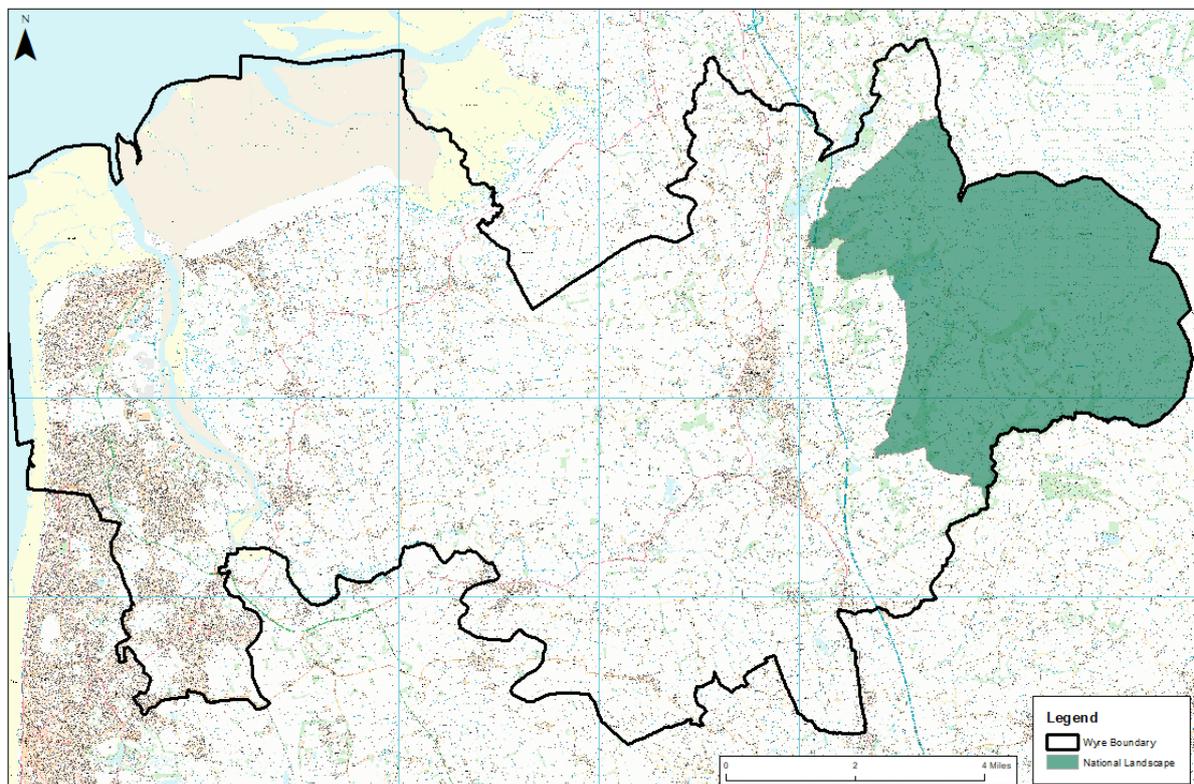
Application Reference	Total Net Unit Change			Total % Change		
	Habitat	Hedgerow	Watercourse	Habitat	Hedgerow	Watercourse
24/00689/FUL (24/00689/DIS)	0.215	0.0067	n/a	20.84	10.27	n/a
24/00860/FUL (24/00860/DIS)	0.13	n/a	n/a	17.18	n/a	n/a

Forest of Bowland National Landscape (previously Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty)

The Forest of Bowland National Landscape covers an area of 803 square kilometres straddling six local authority boundaries. The Rivers Wyre, Brock and Calder originate in the upland core of the Bowland Fells.

The Forest of Bowland National Landscape designation within Wyre can be seen in Figure 4.

Figure 4 - Forest of Bowland National Landscape Map



The National Landscape Designation covers, either wholly or partially, the following wards and parished areas:

Wards

- Brock with Catterall
- Calder
- Wyresdale

Parishes

- Barnacre-with-Bonds
- Bleasdale
- Claughton
- Nether Wyresdale

The Forest of Bowland landscape retains its sense of local distinctiveness, notably the wide-open moorland character of the Bowland Fells, undulating lowland farmland, clough woodlands, traditional buildings and the settlement patterns of its villages, hamlets and farmsteads. It is a landscape valued for the range of services and benefits it provides for society, with a functioning, diverse natural heritage where land management practices allow opportunity for natural processes to develop and flourish; and where partnership-working between land managers, conservation bodies, communities and businesses is focused on delivering more for nature together. The rich cultural heritage of the area is also better understood and managed; and both the nature and culture of the area help to support a resilient and sustainable local economy. The Forest of Bowland is a truly outstanding landscape, where it can clearly be demonstrated that the management of the National Landscape has conserved and enhanced the quality, understanding and enjoyment of the landscape for all.'

Wyre Local Plan Policy "SP5 Forest of Bowland AONB" provides the basis for determining planning applications within the National Landscape. It protects the character, appearance and setting of the National Landscape irrespective of whether the proposed development lies within or outside the designation. The policy remains consistent with the National Landscape Management Plan (formerly the AONB Management Plan). SP5 will be reviewed as part of the current review of the Wyre Local Plan (2011-2031). This will by necessity involve changing the policy name to reflect the new designation.

During 2025, Wyre officers have engaged with the Forest of Bowland National Landscape Unit who continue to prepare a new management plan. This included a summer partnership group workshop to help better inform the management plan.

Wyre officers will continue to work as part of the Forest of Bowland Natural Landscape partnership and deliver on-going landscape and habitat management and engagement priorities.

Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2019 – 2024

Joint Advisory Committee (JAC)

Delivery of the AONB Management Plan is encouraged through effective partnership working, rather than through enforcement.

Since it was constituted in 1986, the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) has been responsible for strategic liaison and decision-making between the wide range of partner organisations and interests within the AONB.

The AONB JAC objectives are to:

- Protect, conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the Forest of Bowland AONB;
- Promote the sustainable social and economic development of the area, particularly where such activity conserves and enhances the environment; and
- Encourage enjoyment of the area where it is consistent with the first two objectives.

The current JAC membership comprises the following organisations:

Natural England, United Utilities plc, Environment Agency, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), The Ramblers Association, Moorland Association, Bowland Land Managers Forum, Bowland Sustainable Tourism Network, Champion Bowland (A registered charity, which supports the aims and objectives of the AONB Partnership), Friends of Bowland ('Friends' group to support volunteering in the Forest of Bowland), Lancashire County Council, North Yorkshire County Council, Craven District Council, Lancaster City Council, Pendle Borough Council, Preston City Council, Ribble Valley Borough Council, Wyre Council, Lancashire Association of Local Councils (representing Parish Councils and Yorkshire Local Councils Association).

Wyre representatives will continue to engage and support the Joint Advisory Committee.

AONB Unit

The Forest of Bowland National Landscape benefits from dedicated staff, who are responsible for coordinating and delivering many National Landscape projects and activities which make a significant contribution to the delivery of the National Landscape Management Plan. This dedicated staff team has been known collectively as the AONB Unit (this may change to National Landscape unit in the future).

The responsibility of the AONB Unit includes:

- Coordination and management of the National Landscape Partnership and the review of the National Landscape Management Plan
- Develop and manage key projects and activities to support delivery of the National Landscape Management Plan
- Raise funds to support the delivery of the National Landscape Management Plan
- Raise awareness about the importance of the National Landscape
- Working closely with local communities and businesses to increase involvement in the work of the National Landscape Partnership

- The AONB Unit produces a rolling three-year business plan (agreed by the National Landscape Joint Advisory Committee) with detailed objectives and actions to guide the Unit's day-to-day activities

Wyre representatives will continue to engage and support the AONB Unit.

Action Plan

The Action Plan is delivered in Wyre through a collaborative stakeholder approach, bringing together council officers and volunteers in partnership with the JAC, National Landscape (AONB) Unit and partners.

The action plan includes three key themes:

- 1) An Outstanding Landscape of Natural and Cultural Heritage
- 2) Resilient and Sustainable Communities
- 3) A Strong Connection between People and the Landscape

The Action Plan objectives, actions, key partners and how these are delivered in Wyre can be seen at Appendix 2.

During the lifetime of this management plan Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) undertook a review of National Parks and AONBs resulting in the re-naming of AONBs as National Landscapes.

Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

Although Wyre has a significant ecological resource, there is a national focus on halting the decline in our natural environment. England is considered to be one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. National government has made legally binding commitments to end these declines and to allow nature to recover through a series of nature recovery strategies.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) are a system of strategies for nature and environmental improvement required by law under the Environment Act 2021.

Throughout 2024 and 2025 Wyre officers supported and attended LNRS development and engagement workshops, land managers forums and habitat focussed workshops including hosting a public engagement workshop at the Wyre Civic Centre. Wyre officers will continue to work with the LNRS delivery team at LCC funded by DEFRA to enable land managers, local authorities and statutory bodies to achieve their biodiversity duty in Wyre.

Throughout 2025, Wyre officers attended the Lancashire County Council (LCC) LNRS Steering Group, as a Supporting Authority, to ensure that the LNRS was robustly prepared. Officers will continue to attend future Steering Group meetings where appropriate.

The Lancashire Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) was recently published (16 January 2026) and identifies priority areas for nature recovery to halt this decline and, in time, reverse biodiversity loss. The associated Habitats Map allows users to identify Potential Measures.

The LNRS is not a delivery plan but a tool to identify the best opportunities for nature recovery. It will assist land managers, developers, planners, environmental

organisations, community groups and residents to pursue opportunities to help nature recover, and to target action and funding.

The [National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF, December 2024\)](#) sets out at Paragraph 159:

*“The improvements to green spaces required as part of the Golden Rules should contribute positively to the landscape setting of the development, support nature recovery and meet local standards for green space provision where these exist in the development plan. Where no locally specific standards exist, development proposals should meet national standards relevant to the development (these include Natural England standards on accessible green space and urban greening factor and Green Flag criteria). **Where land has been identified as having particular potential for habitat creation or nature recovery within Local Nature Recovery Strategies, proposals should contribute towards these outcomes.**”*

The [National Planning Practice Guidance \(NPPG\)](#) sets out at Paragraph 047 Reference ID: 8-047-20250219 (Revision date: 19 02 2025):

“How should local planning authorities have regard to Local Nature Recovery Strategies in planning decision making?”

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy is an evidence base which contains information that may be a ‘**material consideration**’ in the planning system, especially where development plan documents for an area pre-date Local Nature Recovery Strategy publication. It is for the decision-maker to determine what is a relevant material consideration based on the individual circumstances of the case.

In cases where there is a draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy that has been consulted upon but not yet finalised and published, the draft strategy may contain useful evidential information that can support appropriate decision making.”

The Lancashire LNRS includes a Statement of Biodiversity Priorities and a Local Habitats Map. Both can be used to make informed decisions regarding the natural environment. Where appropriate, Wyre Planning Officers will consider the LNRS in decision making. Local Plans prepared by Local Planning Authorities must be consistent with national policy, as set out in the NPPF. The LNRS should be used by plan-makers to inform the way they address the NPPF requirements for plans to protect and enhance biodiversity. Officers will therefore also consider the LNRS in plan making, particularly when considering potential future allocations and preparing planning policies.

Green Infrastructure Strategy

In 2022, Wyre Borough Council, as part of its Green Infrastructure (GI) Local Plan evidence base, commissioned a [Green Infrastructure Strategy \(GISt\)](#) to replace its 2015 Green Infrastructure Strategy.

The refreshed evidence base provides a strong basis for corporate policies designed to promote sustainable environments (including biodiversity and climate change adaptation and mitigation) and improve health and well-being across Wyre and be sufficiently robust to support a new Wyre Local Plan (WLP).

The Green Infrastructure Strategy will help the council develop a set of overarching planning policies for the Local Plan to ensure that new built development within Wyre protects and enhances the green infrastructure and contributes to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience.

There is no doubt that green infrastructure makes a particularly strong contribution to Wyre's quality of place and, by implication, the quality of life of its residents. The distribution and functions of Green Infrastructure are the major contributing factor to Wyre's 'sense of place' as it defines the landscape, urban and rural characteristics of the borough. Green infrastructure also separates settlements and helps them to retain their individuality.

The Wyre Green Infrastructure Strategic Framework, contained within the Green Infrastructure Strategy, is designed to establish strategic priorities and local actions for the five-year period December 2023 to December 2028. It supports and complements a series of related initiatives, strategies and action plans including:

- Local Nature Recovery
- Biodiversity Net Gain delivery
- Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan
- Wyre Moving More – physical activity and sport strategy
- The Wyre Local Plan

The Strategic Framework comprises four key elements:

- Aim
- Themes
- Principles and strategic priorities
- Action plan

The Action plan can be seen at Appendix 3 and includes an additional column which sets out progress made against the actions.

Climate Change Strategy and Action Plans (2024-2035)

Climate change is one of the greatest threats we face. The ecological and climate emergencies are intrinsically linked. Our geography in Wyre means we are at particular risk from rising sea levels and flooding from more frequent and intense storms. It is vital that we all work together to reduce our carbon emissions in a responsible and sustainable way and prepare ourselves for the increased risks of climate change happening now and in the future.

Wyre Council declared a Climate Emergency on 11 July 2019, which recognised the severe impacts of climate breakdown and acknowledged the need for climate action to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change. Following this, the council prepared a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plans document which acts as a guide path, setting out how we plan to reduce our levels of polluting emissions

locally and adapt and build resilience to the growing risks of climate change, including those to biodiversity.

The strategy highlights the main risks we face from the changing climate within Wyre, including the costs to our community, local wildlife and impacts on council services. We also outline the opportunities we have for reducing our pollution through a variety of ways, as well as the positive outcomes of doing so; by creating jobs, improving our lifestyles and contributing to Sustainable Development Goals.

We have created eight objectives that will help us to tackle climate change among the main areas we can influence as a council. Separate action plans for each objective outline how we plan to achieve them. Objective 5 – “Biodiversity” sets out to “protect and increase biodiversity” with actions including:

- Review the use of pesticides and herbicides with a view to limit use on all council owned and managed land.
- Commit to enhancing Wyre’s biodiversity on council land through a range of measures.
- Ensure new qualifying developments achieve Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).
- Use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to accurately plot council land and key sites of importance.
- Deter residents, landowners and businesses from polluting our waterways.
- Showcase Wyre’s natural environment through the yearly Great Outdoors programme.
- Work with local schools and community groups to raise awareness of the natural environment and to help increase biodiversity.
- Communicate with the public to reduce recreational disturbance of wildlife.
- Create a Biodiversity Strategy.
- Increase tree cover across the borough.
- Use nature-based solutions to manage and make space for water, sequester carbon and protect against flooding in Wyre.
- Help landowners to improve biodiversity and carbon storage on farmland and reduce emissions through changes in land management practices.
- Work closely with partners to protect and improve biodiversity on land, watercourses and wetlands throughout Wyre.
- Support the creation of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). The Lancashire LNRS was subsequently published in January 2026.

Progress against these actions are reported to the council’s Overview and Scrutiny Climate Change Sub-Committee throughout the year to ensure continued progress. Further information can be found in the meeting minutes on the Council’s website.

Parks, Public Realm, the Coast and Countryside

Britain in Bloom

Britain in Bloom is endorsed by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) and is the largest horticultural campaign in the UK. Wyre currently have 12 Bloom groups and twenty ‘It’s Your Neighbourhood’ groups, all are dedicated local people from mainly Parish and our two town councils. The key focus for all the groups are: Greening up a grey and disused space with local people; Feature floral displays; Cleaning up litter

picking; Social prescribing; Creating and caring for public community gardens; Educating and inspiring the community; Bulb and tree planting; Inspiring people from across the community to enjoy the benefits of gardening; Sowing wildflower meadows, wildlife habitats and maintaining conservation areas.

There are lots of categories to compete within, ranging from large city to small village dependant on population, categories also include parks, railway stations and neighbourhoods. The awards are annual and the areas that each submission is judged against include, horticulture, environment, community and conservation and biodiversity. There are also discretionary awards.

Biodiversity goals and objectives are assessed in the Judging. Applicants are encouraged to have active policies on recycling, reduction on the demand on natural resources (water peat and timber), pesticide and nitrate fertiliser use should be at a minimal. Consideration for greening solutions should also be considered green roofs/walls etc.

This national initiative continues to be popular across Wyre, allowing communities to contribute to biodiversity improvements. Previous winners, along with information on how to get involved can be found on the [council website](#).

Key Sites

Wyre officers continue to implement Management Plans for key biodiverse sites in Wyre – Larkholme Grasslands, Wyre Estuary Country Park, Fleetwood coastal grasslands and Dunes, Hawthorne Park, King Georges Fields, Towers, Pheasants and Branksome Avenue community woodlands and Anchorsholme Pond.

In July 2025, five of Wyre's parks (Poulton's Vicarage Park, Hawthorne Park and Wyre Estuary Country Park in Thornton, Memorial Park and The Mount in Fleetwood) were officially recognised by being awarded Green Flag Awards.

Wyre Estuary Country Park is supported by a team of volunteers who undertake patrols and practical activities and lead walks and activities to promote nature and protect the area from recreational pressures. The recently developed Friends of the Wyre Estuary have taken up the mantle of fund raising to support nature and landscape improvement in the Estuary.

Stakeholder Engagement and Volunteering

We delivered a partnership project on the Wyre Estuary with Wyre Rivers Trust, Royal Society of Biology which culminates in a three, yearly (weeklong) scientific study involving local naturalists, scientists, and volunteers to help assess nature and wildlife that is living within the project boundary. Following the first initial 24-hour Bioblitz in 2015, we have supported and achieved a Bioblitz in 2018, 2021 and in 2024. Through successful funding bids and partnership work, summary reports of data and activities were produced in 2018 and 2021, with the 2024 report scheduled for publication in 2026, following a recent trial of a Winter Wyre Estuary Bioblitz held in December 2025. The data gathered from these focused days of surveys and public engagement activities is shared with Lancashire Environmental Record Network (LERN) and key partners to help with land management decisions, share

knowledge of species and habitat change and has created connections with a wide variety of people with environmental expertise and local knowledge.

Wyres Coast and Countryside Service, alongside over 100 dedicated volunteers, continue to deliver a wide range of services to support Wyres natural environment. Activities have included:

- Leading accessible wellbeing walks
- Upgrading public access paths and trails
- Planting trees
- Installing 'leaky dams' within the upland river catchment
- Creating brush bundle and dead hedges from coppiced materials in woodlands
- Managing traditional boundaries such as hedgerows and drystone walls
- Managing local woodlands and meadows
- Undertaking regular patrols and litter picking exercises at various locations
- Undertaking wildlife surveying
- Developing nature interpretation
- Hosting guided tours of Rossall Point Tower
- Promoting Wyres nature in Morcambe Bay and the Wyre Estuary, along Wyres's coast and in the countryside, including within the National Landscape.

These volunteers have continually contributed to Wyres natural green and blue spaces throughout the borough. They are trained, guided and supported by the councils Coast and Countryside team. They have helped to improve many kilometres of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and concessionary paths. They have managed many hectares of biodiverse land, including ancient semi natural woodlands, sand dunes and ponds that are both in the council's ownership and in partnership with landowners and key local environmental groups such as the Wyre Rivers Trust. Volunteers have provided, on average, over 25,900 annual volunteer hours.

Wyre Council officers are encouraged to utilise their two days volunteering allowance each year within Wyre. During the last year, one member of staff spent one day contributing to peatland habitat restoration and a further twelve members of staff contributed one day towards a beach clean at Fleetwood.

Wyre Great Outdoors Programme

Wyre's annual programme of public environmental engagement activities supports over 7,480 public attendees a year in Wyre. It includes the Garstang Walking Festival, Heritage Open Days and many other specific annual events and activities.

A Wyre Great Outdoors brochure is produced and published on the Council website, as well as being available at events. It promotes activities and the Countryside Code and Seaside and Marine Codes. We help people enjoy Wyre's natural environment in a safe, responsible, and environmentally sensitive way.

The programme is developed and delivered by Wyre officers in partnership with:

- Friends' groups
- Local community groups
- Wyre volunteer rangers
- Walk leaders
- Partners, such as Wyre Rivers Trust
- Lancashire Wildlife Trust's Bay team
- Forest of Bowland National Landscape Unit
- Specialist volunteer naturalists
- Local heritage experts

It supports the Wyre Moving More Strategy objectives to improve people's health, wellbeing and overall fitness whilst supporting the Council to deliver meaningful engagement around wildlife and landscape.

The public are invited to take part in a variety of access to nature activities which include:

- Short access for all walks into the coast and countryside (including with trampers) (4x4 – offroad motorised mobility aids)
- Guided themed nature walks , e.g. birds, bats, moths, riverflies, wildflowers and river wildlife
- Wildlife survey walks and sea watches
- Longer more challenging walks into through the rural farmed, coastal and upland landscapes of Wyre
- Habitat conservation management days with the Wyre Rivers Trust
- Invasive species management sessions
- Beach and community clean ups
- Citizen science walks and activities
- Gardening clubs
- Hedgelaying and countryside craft training days
- Family nature activities
- The Bay wellbeing walks and activities
- Adaptive cycling and social cycling activities
- Heritage walks

These activities are lead and supported by trained council, partner staff and volunteers who enable local people and visitors to find out about and understand and appreciate nature in Wyre.

Great Big Green Week

For the third successive year, Wyre held “Great Big Green Week” – part of a UK wide celebration of community climate action. Hosted at the Wyre Estuary Country Park, this event showcases the great work of local communities and organisations in caring for their environment, highlighting through exhibitions, stalls, theatre and hands on family friendly activities what we can all do to look after our biodiversity and reduce our carbon footprint.

Beach and Estuary Cleans

We continue to work in partnership with many local groups and volunteers who come out to our coast to undertake regular litter picking from our shorelines, saltmarshes and beaches. Regular beach cleans are publicised and take place at:

- Larkholme Grasslands
- Cleveleys Beach
- Rossall Beach (Cleveleys)
- Rossall Point (Fleetwood)
- Harbour Village
- Knott End Beach

There are also 'Big beach and estuary cleans' where wider stakeholders and volunteering groups come together to remove litter from lesser accessible areas.

The River Wyre has a strong tidal pull; by removing litter from the coastline, it helps to protect the inland river, marine and coastal environment and wildlife whilst improving the aesthetic appearance of the coastal landscape. In 2025, 1,873 bags of litter were collected by a monthly average of 149 people attending beach and estuary cleans.

Dynamic Dunescapes (Fleetwood)

Dynamic Dunescape was a research, engagement and habitat management project for Fleetwood, and Cumbria, through a collaboration with Natural England and the Wildlife Trust which focused on explaining the dynamism of our coast, in particular Sand Dunes. Managing invasive species such as Rosa Rugosa and Japanese Knott weed and undertaking citizen science Dynamic Dunescape surveys of the Fleetwood Coast with the support of local volunteers, community members, specialist contractors and training delivered by Natural England, funded through the National Lottery.

The Bay: A Blueprint for Recovery

The Bay Blueprint for recovery project – set up by Lancashire wildlife trust in partnership with numerous organisations and various funders has successfully delivered community nature and wellbeing walks and activities in Wyre at Rossall Point Tower, Wyre Estuary Country Park, Fleetwood beach and Knott End and Preesall. It also delivers small group sessions which are designed for participants to get the most out of the Five Ways to Wellbeing, by:

- 1) Being Active
- 2) Connecting
- 3) Taking Notice
- 4) Keeping Learning
- 5) Giving Back

The Bay team work closely with Wyre's coast and countryside team to help manage and improve the habitats and wildlife of the Wyre Estuary Country Park.

Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership – Wyre Rivers Trust

The Wyre Rivers Trust lead the partnership with support from Wyre officers, volunteers and other partners. A significant success includes the delivery of the

unique Wyre Catchment Natural Flood Management project, which is the first example in the UK of private investment, enabling the delivery of natural flood management. Wyre Council was a key investor of this project. The project delivered more than 1,000 targeted measures to store, slow down and intercept flood water and to prevent peak flow through interventions hosted by local farmers. Beneficiaries of the reduced flood risk are paying for the interventions, and the Project's Community Interest Company has successfully raised a nine-year £850,000 private loan facility to help fund the interventions. These interventions all provide enhanced habitat management and promotion of biodiversity.

The Wyre Rivers Trust, in partnership with local landowners and farmers has successfully piloted the development phase of a Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) National Landscape recovery project. The Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery development phase of the project was completed in 2025 and the Wyre Rivers Trust team successfully engaged with and worked with local stakeholders to develop a proposal for a 20-year Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery project which is currently going through a DEFRA assurance process.

The Wyre Waters Partnership steering group and Wyre Estuary user group guide the Wyre Waters Catchment Management Plan which includes many actions for nature recovery, invasive species management, water quality improvement, and sustainable riverside habitat management with local landowners and farmers including on Wyre's own estate.

Wyre Council will continue to engage with Wyre Rivers Trust and where appropriate, assist and facilitate collaborative partnership working.

Our Future coast (OFC)

Our Future Coast (OFC) is one of the 25 Flood and Coastal Innovation Programmes, funded by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and managed by the Environment Agency. It spans the Northwest Coastline from Millom to Formby and Wyre Council is the lead authority and ultimately responsible. The project runs to March 2027. The project aims to use innovative techniques to deliver Shoreline Management Plan Policies in areas which would not normally qualify for grant in aid funding.

A large part of the project is to look at engaging with communities at risk from increased erosion and flood risk due to climate change. To engage with residents and communities we have been working closely with Lancashire Wildlife Trust and Morecambe Bay Partnership. Through these partnerships we have undertaken a significant amount of face-to-face engagement and events. We also carried out a Readiness Survey in Fleetwood to assess local understanding of climate change, its expected impacts on the coastline, and how residents feel about these issues. Another key strand of engagement involves collaborating with the Morecambe Bay Partnership on a Visioning project. This includes a large-scale consultation to understand what communities want The Bay to look like in 2050, supported by visual tools to present the findings. We are also working with Lancaster University to develop interactive gaming tools to help us engage younger audiences in the broader context of coastal management decisions making. In addition, through Lancaster University's Morecambe Bay Curriculum initiative, we are collaborating

with local schools to embed nature-based solutions, including disseminating Northwest case studies to use these as part of educational learning. In the future, we intend to create new saltmarsh education materials for the River Room at Stanah.

OFC is a strong example of how collaboration with local Environmental Non-Governmental Organisations (ENGOS) can help deliver climate resilience along our coastline. OFC continues to work with both Wyre and Lune Rivers Trusts to deliver significant farming engagement at Pilling, including aiding farmers to manage land drainage in more environmentally friendly ways. OFC will also deliver a test and trial of nature-based solutions on the salt marshes at Stanah and Skippool. The project has also commissioned a report looking at green finance options for salt marsh landowners in the NW, which be available in spring 2026.

Climate Change

Responsibilities

The Climate Change department is responsible for the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plans as endorsed by full council in September 2024. Part of this responsibility is to protect and increase biodiversity through a range of direct and indirect actions within the strategy's action plan.

The Climate Change department continued to review Use of Land applications by evaluating the event sustainability/environmental considerations of events on council land. This looks at how applicants will incorporate sustainability measures across waste, energy use, transport, mitigating damage to wildlife and nature, and promoting positive climate action.

Where appropriate, the Climate Change Team will continue to provide consultee responses on planning applications.

Council Reports

Climate Change Impact Assessments (CCIA) are utilised at the council for key reports and projects to highlight any positive climate impacts but to also mitigate any negative impacts. The CCIA includes specific reference to biodiversity. A number of staff training sessions have been offered to improve awareness of the CCIA and correct use.

Stakeholder Engagement

The Climate Change department delivered numerous presentations on the council's carbon footprint to the Central Management Team, Members Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Climate Change Sub-Committee, within which, the progress on a range of our biodiversity actions was highlighted to demonstrate progress towards achieving the councils target of achieving at least a 78% reduction in emissions by 2035, before reaching net zero in 2050.

On 18 September 2025, Engineering officers provided a verbal update to the Overview and Scrutiny Climate Change Sub-Committee (see website for more information) on the Our Future Coast Project, which has biodiversity themes throughout.

The Overview and Scrutiny Climate Change Sub-Committee invited the Director of Farm Operations and Innovation at Myerscough College to deliver a presentation on the farming industry and addressing the implications of climate change. More details can be found in the meeting minutes on our website dated 4 December 2025. Topics included regenerative farming, agriculture-environment schemes, conservation work and much more.

The Climate Change department created a new suite of leaflets for Summer 2025, which included biodiversity topics such as making space for wildlife in your garden and storing and making space for water. Both leaflets provided practical ways people can help, for example creating bug hotels, creating mini wildflower meadows or building a rain garden, complete with signposting to websites or links to guidance for further detail. The leaflets have been distributed at events.

Recruitment and E-Learning

The council has updated all new job descriptions to include climate action, which emphasises the requirement to support the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plans to achieve net zero in 2050.

The council has implemented a mandatory climate change e-learning course for all new employees to raise awareness of climate change impacts and how to reduce their impact at work and home.

WBC Estates

The council installed the first water bottle refill station on Fleetwood Promenade on the DANFO toilets near Marine Hall. This demonstrates the council's commitment to tackling climate change and reducing single use plastics, helping to reduce plastic pollution and protect our environment for future generations. Not only does this action support improved health and wellbeing and our Moving More Strategy but brings people closer to nature through its proximity to our coastal environment, which should in turn build a connection to nature, therefore supporting its protection and enhancement.

The Green Infrastructure Strategy supports the use of the council's own land for biodiversity benefits.

In the future, the Council will explore how the utilisation of digital mapping systems to ensure all Wyre owned assets are spatially mapped. This will assist site managers undertaking their responsibilities.

Future actions 2026-and beyond

Planning & Wyre Local Plan

Over the coming years the LPA will be particularly focused on the review of the Local Plan and bringing the reviewed plan to adoption. This will involve both the development of the Local Plan evidence base and a review of the specific objectives and policies of the current Local Plan (2011-2031). Post adoption, the focus will be on implementing the policies of the reviewed Local Plan with monitoring to ensure that the policies contained therein are delivering the expected outcomes. Future

editions of this report will provide more detail on the integration of matters relating to biodiversity into the Local Plan policies and objectives as the review progresses.

The LPA will continue work with relevant stakeholders to apply statutory BNG in accordance with the legislation, regulations and national policy and guidance. In particular, the LPA will wish to ensure that the LNRS and the Local Plan provide a complementary strategic view of biodiversity issues and the application of policy.

At the time of writing, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) are consulting on a draft NPPF which will close on 10th March. The LPA will have due regard to any revisions to the NPPF once published.

Forest of Bowland National Landscape

In spring 2026, the Forest of Bowland National Landscape will unveil its new five-year Management Plan — a bold and refreshed vision to protect, enhance and celebrate this extraordinary place for generations to come.

Formerly designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Forest of Bowland now forms part of the National Landscapes family — a name that better reflects the significance of these protected landscapes.

The draft 2026–2031 Management Plan has been developed with input from a wide range of partners via workshops and meetings during 2025. The plan sets out what makes the Forest of Bowland so special, the challenges it faces, and the actions needed to conserve, enhance and celebrate its components of natural beauty and special qualities.

The Management Plan aims to:

- Celebrate the unique character and special qualities of the Forest of Bowland.
- Present a shared vision for its future, shaped by those who live in, work in and care for the landscape.
- Set out clear outcomes and measures to guide decision-making and action.
- Reflect the aspirations of a wide range of stakeholders, from local communities, farmers and landowners to local authorities and conservation organisations.

It is intended that the Forest of Bowland National Landscape Management Plan will be adopted by Wyre Council. For planning purposes, once adopted, it will become a material planning consideration in decision making and will be considered in future plan making.

From Wyre's perspective as an enabler and champion of biodiversity enhancement, nature recovery, and landscape management, the council will continue to collaborate with the Forest of Bowland National Landscape Unit and its partners to support biodiversity engagement and delivery.

Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) were introduced by the Environment Act 2021 to drive nature's recovery and provide wider environmental improvements.

Their main purpose is to identify locations to create or improve habitat most likely to provide the greatest benefit for nature and the wider environment.

The Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) was published on 16th January 2026, in accordance with the requirements of The Environment (Local Nature Recovery Strategies) (Procedure) Regulations 2023 and taking account of the results of a public consultation which concluded in August 2025.

The LNRS is a tool to identify opportunities for nature recovery, which can be used to target action and funding. It is important to note that the LNRS is not a delivery plan and does not place any obligations or restrictions on landowners. It identifies the best opportunities and locations for nature recovery. However, this does not preclude nature recovery action in other locations.

Wyre will consider the LNRS when, preparing and updating site management plans, considering any new proposals and developments on Council owned assets and in partnership with land managers and environmental organisations with a focus to improve and enhance opportunities for nature recovery and landscape management in Wyre.

Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership

Continue to attend and report to the steering group and the Wyre Estuary Group of the Partnership

Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership

Continue to attend and investigate opportunities for partnership lead landscape, nature recovery and species recovery projects.

Lancashire Local Nature Partnership

Continue to attend and investigate opportunities for partnership lead landscape, nature recovery and species recovery projects.

Key Achievements

- In 2025, Wyre Council provided opportunities through three event windows for Wyre residents to collect a free tree (whip). Approximately 500 trees were collected, with the aim to boost biodiversity and climate action locally. In addition to this, Wyre Council successfully planted 8,001 trees, created 1.1 hectares of native woodland compartment, 140m of native countryside hedgerow, 66 standard trees and 2 Miyawaki micro woods. A cumulative Total of 27,343 tree planting by close of 2024-2025 tree planting season exceeded the set project target of 25000 trees by 9%, marking a significant milestone in our environmental restoration efforts. Many of these tree planting opportunities were supported by local volunteers.
- In July 2025, Wyre held its second “Wanderland” event. As part of the event, our Coast and Countryside, Parks and Open Spaces and Climate Change officers and volunteers delivered a ‘bug house’ building session, allowing young people to connect with nature. Wider biodiversity and climate change information was presented via displays. During the event, native wildflower seeds (specifically for butterflies and bee’s) were distributed to attendees as

well as the Great Outdoors programme to encourage more people get out in nature.

- Two Miyawaki (Japanese-style) micro woods have been planted in Fleetwood, 1 at Roundway, and 1 at Memorial Park. This has been made possible by collaboration with Lancashire County Council Treescapes Team and help from the local community. Collectively 1,800 sapling native trees have been planted into circular areas of enriched ground enclosed in a chestnut pale fence with a public access gate. The micro woods require some maintenance for the first three growing seasons after which becomes self-sustaining. The trees grow much quicker than in a traditional plantation as the soils mimic the conditions in a long-established woodland ecosystem. The trees draw in and sequester carbon rapidly and provide many benefits for ecology, wildlife and the public.

Raising Awareness and Educating Communities

- We raised awareness in schools by inviting students to take part in the Young Wyre Bloom competition (summer 2025). The event celebrated teachers, staff and students who work to improve their school environment through nature and sustainability.
- At the Wyre Estuary Country Park, Wyre's Coast and Countryside Team collaborated with the Wyre Rivers Trust to deliver educational sessions for schools focused on saltmarsh habitats and the Wyre's river network.
- Wyre held various "Bioblitz" events. A Bioblitz is a 24-hour event in which teams of volunteer scientists, families, students, teachers, and other community members work together to find and identify as many species of plants, animals, fungi, and other organisms as possible. The events were guided by experienced naturalists and wildlife watchers, with recordings being documented and passed on to local and national databases that monitor wildlife.
- Wyre Council held a Wyre Estuary Citizen Science Walk at the Country Park. This allowed residents to become a citizen scientist for a few hours to help monitor the ever-changing saltmarsh landscape. Attendees play a crucial role in tracking environmental changes over time.
- Wyre Council Coast and Countryside Team held monthly conservation days to help maintain and improve local habitats, as well as improving areas for biodiversity and wildlife. Marine ecology days were also supported and conducted by professional marine biologist.
- Digital newsletters that include important planning policy news and updates are circulated to registered Local Plan Consultees.
- Wyre Great Outdoors Programmes delivered in 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 many activities for the public lead by volunteers and Wyre staff, which showcase the biodiversity, habitat and landscapes of Wyre from bird walks to geology of the beach to meadow management and dune management days, moth surveys and bat walks, and wildflower ID walks and strandline surveys.

- The Wyre Estuary Country Park Riverside Rooms have hosted many biodiversity training sessions, Wyre Estuary Partnership Meetings and Local Nature Recovery Meetings. We encourage collaborative working for the environment with volunteers and the local community and invite schools and youth groups to make the most of our Country Park and offices. The coast and countryside team using the resources at Stanah have taken an active part in the wildlife and nature learning landscape with wildlife ID training in partnership with the Royal Society of Biology, the Wyre Rivers Trust, the Lancashire Wildlife Trust nature and wellbeing team, Our Future Coast and the Marine Conservation Society.
- The council uses press releases, social media, and its website to highlight biodiversity, raising awareness of its importance and encouraging people to take positive action.
- In 2025, the council arranged two events for local democracy week. During the activity session, the focus was 'climate'. Students from local schools were given a hypothetical scenario to consider. They were tasked with designing a new eco-friendly area within a settlement to help tackle the climate emergency. Each group was provided with an imaginary budget of £100, along with a 'project menu' that could be implemented. Some of which included nature-based solutions such as planting trees, creating a wildlife pond, building a community garden and building a bird/bat box. This raised awareness of the importance of biodiversity in solutions.

Conclusion

Wyre has reported on its consideration of current approaches to ensuring that that biodiversity duty is being met.

Looking forward to the next five years and beyond, there are several key areas of focus and consideration:

Local Plan and Policy integration

- Local Plan review
- Embedding national planning reforms, including proposed National Development Management Policies
- Integrating implications of any government review of the Environment Plan
- Incorporating species conservation strategies and protected site strategies into local planning policy and decisions
- Integrating the Lancashire LNRS into plan making and decision taking

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and Habitat Delivery

- Continued implementation of mandatory BNG
- Exploring options for creating and promoting habitat banks
- Exploring opportunities for council owned sites
- Explore how Geographical Information Systems (GIS) can support ecological projects and improvements

Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

- Supporting, implementing and delivering measures from the Lancashire LNRS
- Using the LNRS and LERN data to inform land management and advice to communities and wider stakeholders
- Explore how the LNRS can be considered in site management plans, Council asset proposals and partnership work in rural and coastal areas of Wyre

Community Engagement, Education and Partnerships

- Continuing to educate communities about the importance of biodiversity
- Continuing to work with partners across all aspects of biodiversity
- Continuing to support community biodiversity action through volunteering opportunities
- Continuing to support in-Bloom groups and recognise awards
- Delivering the next Wyre Estuary Bioblitz
- Continuing to work with schools and youth groups on the Wyre Estuary
- Continuing to deliver the Wyre Great Outdoors Programme
- Working with partners to contribute towards the Forest of Bowland National Landscape Management Plan
- Supporting delivery of the Protecting Sites Strategy for Morcambe Bay
- Working with Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership
- Working with the two local nature partnerships covering Wyre

Strategic Opportunities

- Prepare and adopt the Jubilee Masterplan
- Progressing biodiversity actions from the Climate Change Strategy, including a dedicated Biodiversity Strategy
- Progressing biodiversity actions from the Green Infrastructure Strategy

Glossary

Term / Phrase	Meaning
Agri-environment schemes	Agri-environment schemes are Government programmes set up to help farmers manage their land in an environmentally friendly way. Agri-environmental schemes are important for the conservation of farmed environments of high nature value, for improved genetic diversity and for protection of agro-ecosystems.
Ancient or veteran tree	A tree which, because of its age, size and condition, is of exceptional biodiversity, cultural or heritage value. All ancient trees are veteran trees. Not all veteran trees are old enough to be ancient, but are old relative to other trees of the same species. Very few trees of any species reach the ancient life-stage.
Ancient woodland	An area that has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD. It includes ancient semi-natural woodland and plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS).
Biodiversity	The variety of life (abbreviation of biological diversity)
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	<p>BNG is an approach to development, and/or land management, that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was beforehand.</p> <p>It delivers measurable improvements for biodiversity by creating or enhancing habitats in association with development. BNG can be achieved on-site, off-site or through a combination of on-site and off-site measures.</p> <p>Biodiversity net gain - GOV.UK https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/biodiversity-net-gain</p>
Biological Heritage Site (BHS)	Non-statutory (not controlled by law) wildlife sites of at least County significance within Lancashire.
Blanket Bog	Blanket Bogs are a type of peatland characterised by a thick layer of peat that blankets the landscape, typically found in areas with high rainfall and low evaporation.
Blue Infrastructure	Blue infrastructure refers to water environments; natural – such as rivers, lakes, streams and the sea, and built – such as marinas, canals and lidos
Carbon Sink	An area that absorbs and stores carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, such as a forest or peatland.
Catchment	A natural drainage basin that collects water from various sources and channels them into a low point.
Coastal Change Management Area	An area identified in plans as likely to be affected by physical change to the shoreline through erosion, coastal landslip, permanent inundation or coastal accretion.

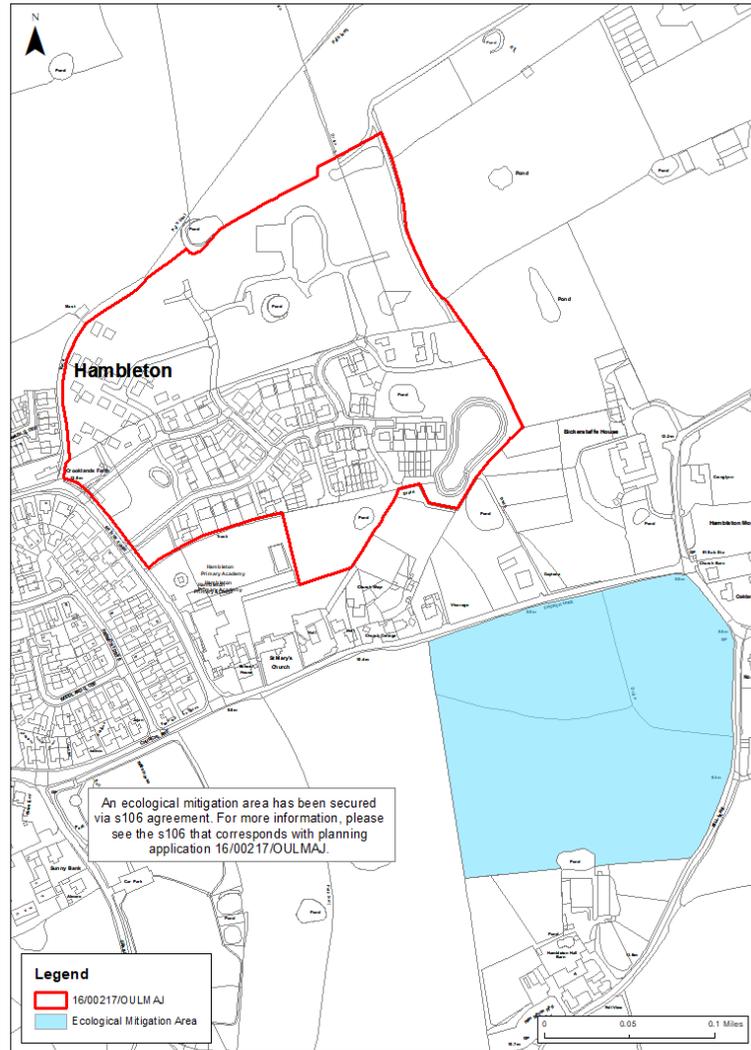
Term / Phrase	Meaning
Coastal Sand Dunes	A Coastal Sand Dune is defined as a hill or ridge of sand found along the sea.
Ecology	The science of interrelationships between organisms and their interactions with their environment.
Functionally linked land	<p>A term used to describe areas of land or sea occurring outside a designated site which is considered to be critical to, or necessary for, the ecological or behavioural functions in a relevant season of a qualifying feature for which a Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)/ Special Protection Area (SPA)/ Ramsar site has been designated.</p> <p>These habitats are frequently used by SPA species and support the functionality and integrity of the designated sites for these features.</p>
Green Infrastructure	A network of multi-functional green and blue spaces and other natural features, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, climate, local and wider communities and prosperity.
Greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenspace can be an area of vegetation that is set within a landscape or townscape and may include built environment features. • Greenspace is not necessarily accessible to the public e.g. greenspaces include allotments (that are normally locked and only accessible to key holders), and golf courses (which may require club membership and or payment of a fee to access). Such greenspace has a significant role to play in the overall provision of greenspaces for recreation and enjoyment. • High quality greenspace is designed and managed to deliver its intended functions and to meet defined needs. Greenspace may be urban or rural
Habitat	A habitat is an environment inhabited by living organisms. There are a range of systems for classifying habitats into categories.
Irreplaceable habitat	<p>Habitats that would be technically very difficult (or take a very significant time) to restore, recreate or replace once destroyed, taking into account their age, uniqueness, species diversity or rarity.</p> <p>'The statutory' irreplaceable habitats found in Lancashire (as defined by the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ancient woodland • ancient and veteran trees • blanket bog • limestone pavement

Term / Phrase	Meaning
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coastal sand dunes • lowland fen
Limestone pavement	A limestone pavement is a natural karst landform (landform worn away by water) consisting of a flat, incised surface of exposed limestone that resembles an artificial pavement
Local Geodiversity Site (LGS)	Local Geodiversity Sites are identified by GeoLancashire, they are the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land
Local Nature Partnership	A body, designated by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, established for the purpose of protecting and improving the natural environment in an area and the benefits derived from it.
Local Nature Recovery Strategy	A Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is a plan introduced under the Environment Act aimed at improving local ecosystems and biodiversity. It serves as a blueprint for identifying areas that need environmental protection and enhancement, helping to coordinate efforts for nature recovery at a local level.
Local Plan	A plan for the future development of a local area, drawn up by the local planning authority in consultation with the community, under the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. A local plan can consist of either strategic or nonstrategic policies, or a combination of the two.
Local Planning Authority	The public authority whose duty it is to carry out specific planning functions for a particular area.
Lowland Fens	A Lowland Fen is a type of wetland habitat characterised by water-logged areas dominated by reeds, rushes, and sedge, supporting a diverse range of plant and animal communities.
Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)	Diverse marine conservation zones protecting habitats, biodiversity, and ecological balance across coastal and underwater regions.
Mitigate	Make something bad less severe
National Landscape	National Landscapes (designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 and Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.) are on par with the UK's National Parks, each is an outstanding landscape whose distinctive character and natural beauty is safeguarded in the national interest.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	The National Planning Policy Framework is a government policy document that serves as a guide for planning in England.
National trails	Long distance routes for walking, cycling and horse riding.
Natural Flood Management	Managing flood and coastal erosion risk by protecting, restoring and emulating the natural 'regulating' function of catchments, rivers, floodplains and coasts.

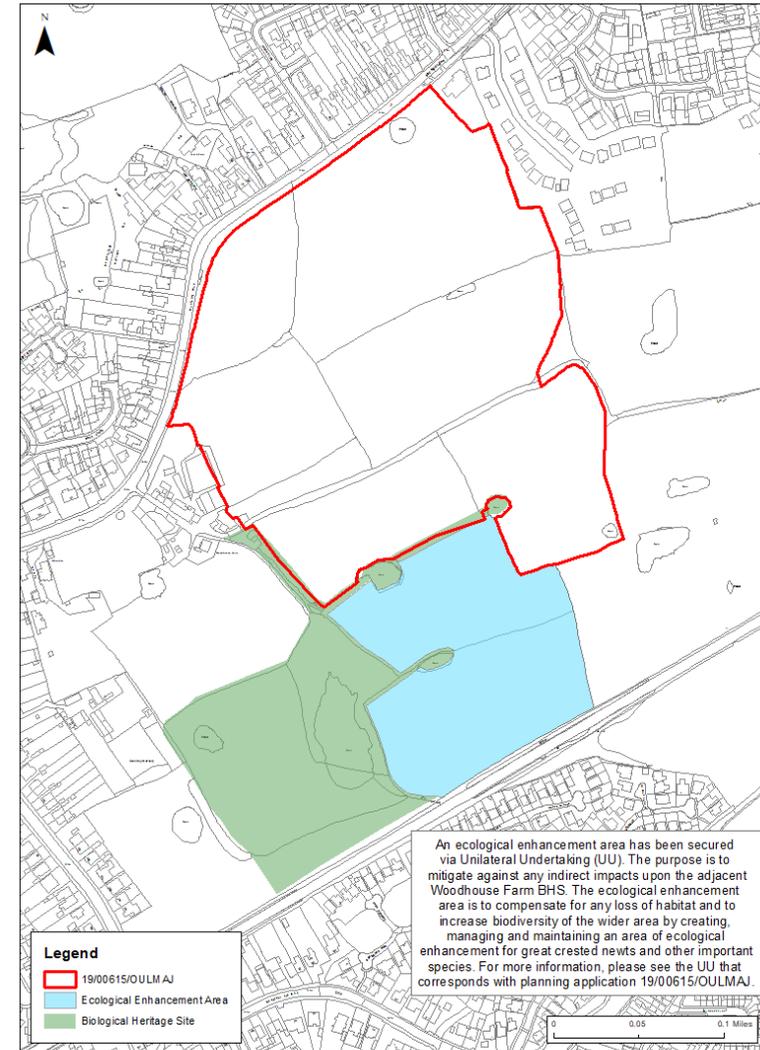
Term / Phrase	Meaning
Nature Recovery Network	An expanding, increasingly connected, network of wildlife- rich habitats supporting species recovery, alongside wider benefits such as carbon capture, water quality improvements, natural flood risk management and recreation. It includes the existing network of protected sites and other wildlife rich habitats as well as and landscape or catchment scale recovery areas where there is coordinated action for species and habitats.
Nature-based Solutions (NBS)	Actions which support and draw on nature to provide wider environmental or societal benefits.
Open Space	All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.
Potential Measures	Potential measures are specific practical actions to achieve priorities (set out in the Lancashire LNRS).
Priority habitats and species	Species and Habitats of Principal Importance included in the England Biodiversity List published by the Secretary of State under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.
Ramsar sites	Wetlands of international importance designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention.
Semi-improved grasslands	Semi-improved grassland is a transition category between improved and unimproved grasslands that have undergone some modification through the use of, for example, fertilisers, herbicides and grazing
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Nationally designated sites of special scientific interest. SSSIs are legally protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Special Area for Conservation (SAC)	Protect one or more special habitats and/or species listed in the Habitats Directive. They cover both terrestrial and marine habitats and species. Designated under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Internationally designated areas on land or at sea which protect vulnerable bird species in the UK. Designated under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
Species	Commonly defined as a group of similar organisms that can successfully breed to produce fertile offspring.
Stepping stones	Pockets of habitat that, while not necessarily connected, facilitate the movement of species across otherwise inhospitable landscapes.
Strategic Significance	BNG Strategic Significance refers to the local significance of a habitat based on its location and habitat type.

Term / Phrase	Meaning
Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	A sustainable drainage system controls surface water run off close to where it falls, combining a mixture of built and nature-based techniques to mimic natural drainage as closely as possible, and accounting for the predicted impacts of climate change.
Veteran tree	A tree that is of interest biologically, culturally or aesthetically because of its age, size or condition. Characteristic features of veteran trees include (for example) a large girth, cavities/hollowing, crevices, dead wood, fungal growth etc. Such features contribute to their biodiversity, cultural and heritage value. They are considered a statutory irreplaceable habitat. All 167 ancient trees are veteran trees, but not all veteran trees are ancient.
Watercourse	A channel through which water flows, such as rivers and streams.
Wetlands	Wetlands are areas of land that are either permanently or seasonally inundated with water, supporting species that are adapted to live there. They include a range of habitat types that are important for wildlife and people and play an important role in reducing flood risk and slowing the flow of water.
Wildlife Corridor	Areas of habitat connecting wildlife populations.
Wyre Local Plan	The statutory document prepared by Wyre Borough Council (as the responsible Local Planning Authority) that outlines the vision, policies, and framework for future development.

Appendix 1 – Ecological mitigation and enhancement maps



wyre council 16/00217/OULMAJ - Ecological Mitigation Area
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wyre council 19/00615/OULMAJ - Ecological Enhancement Area
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Appendix 2 – Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan 2019 – 2024 (Action Plan Extract – Wyre only)

<https://www.forestofbowland.com/files/images/FOB%20ManPlan0719bLoRes.pdf>

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
Landscape			
1.1 Apply the guiding principles of the European Landscape Convention, using landscape characterisation as the basis for policy- and decision making for land and development management, to conserve and enhance natural beauty of the landscape.	1.1A Provide landscape planning advice and guidance for local planning authorities, highway authorities, government agencies, local communities and developers based on the Forest of Bowland AONB Landscape Character Assessment 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local planning authorities Highway authorities Natural England Environment Agency Forestry Commission Utility companies 	Lead & Advise.
	1.1F Continue to deliver 'Traditional Boundaries' programmes (via both the AONB and Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership), supporting training and competitions to help manage traditional boundaries and promote traditional rural skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lancashire and Westmorland Hedge laying Association Drystone Walling Association Farmers and landowners Natural England 	2024 & 2025 Training days for farmers and volunteers have been arranged with Wyre Rivers Trust, Local Landowners and Wyre coast and countryside service.
Habitats and Species			
1.2 Conserve, enhance and restore the AONB's characteristic mosaic of habitats by improving their connectivity, extent and	1.2E Work with moorland owners to deliver landscape-scale projects to restore and re-wet at least 250 ha. of blanket bog habitat, including Pennine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moorland owners Defra Lancashire Peat Partnership Natural England 	Upland peat restoration has taken place in upper Wyre Catchments and on the Brock and Calder Tributaries and Bleasdale uplands.

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
<p>condition: whilst taking targeted action to conserve key species and improving understanding of the biodiversity of the AONB.</p>	<p>Peat LIFE Project; Northern England Peat Project, Ribble Life and United Utilities PR 19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Agency • United Utilities Rivers • Trusts LWT • Wyre Rivers Trust 	
	<p>1.2G Support the creation and establishment of at least 200 ha. of new native and mixed woodland that enhances the AONB landscape, with priority given to projects that conserve and enhance existing key habitats and species, increase carbon storage, keep rivers cool and help reduce flooding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers and landowners • Woodland agents • Forestry Commission • Natural England • Woodland Trust • YDMT • Rivers Trust 	<p>Significant natural flood management woodland creation in uplands of the Wyre Catchment and Brock and Calder Tributaries. Wyre Rivers Trust supported by its own and Wyre Volunteers.</p>
	<p>1.2J Support a catchment-based approach to the delivery of projects to conserve, enhance and restore riparian habitat; including Ribble Life Together, Pendle WINNS.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catchment Partnerships • Rivers Trusts • Environment Agency • Natural England 	<p>Support to the Wyre Waters Catchment Partnership and in-kind practical support from Wyre officers and volunteers.</p>
	<p>1.2L Support 'Restoring Sustainable Abstraction' (RSA) Programme being delivered by the relevant authorities and United Utilities, particularly on the Wyre catchment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Agency • United Utilities • Rivers Trusts 	<p>Support & Encourage.</p>
	<p>1.2M Devise and deliver local species recovery plans for threatened or priority species either locally or nationally;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers and landowners • Natural England • RSPB 	<p>Bowland Unit and NE and RSPB have given advice and support to local landowners and farmers on Curlew</p>

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
	ensuring synergy with national species recovery plans, where these exist or are under development; including curlew, hen harrier, black grouse and threatened or locally important plant species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GWCT • NUC LNP 	protection and land management for wader species such as Lapwing and Redshank within Wyre.
Historic Environment			
1.3 Support the conservation, restoration and management of the historic environment and wider cultural landscape	1.3C Support community-based projects to conserve, enhance and restore historic environment features; and help increase access to- and understanding of the historic environment and wider cultural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pendle Hill LP • Historic England • Friends of Bowland • Local history groups • Slaidburn Archive • Champion Bowland • Heritage Lottery Fund • UCLan Archaeology • Arts organisation 	Support events and activities at the Bleasdale Parish Hall Heritage Centre. Work with the volunteers to promote Heritage Open Days and the heritage of the area in the Garstang Walking Festival, Wyre Great Outdoors programmes.
Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services			
1.4 Seek to better understand and promote the value of the natural capital of the landscape and the public benefits derived from these assets; guiding land and development management decision-making to increase the natural capital of the AONB	1.4D Use the developing evidence base on natural capital and ecosystems services to influence and shape local delivery of the Government's proposed 'Environmental Land Management System', which prioritises support for the supply of public goods such as biodiversity, carbon, natural flood management, water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra • Environment Agency • Natural England • Farmers and landowners • Rivers Trusts • LWT • LERN • NEYEDC • NUC LNP 	Natural Flood Management project developed in the Wyre Catchment with Wyre Rivers Trust and various partners including Wyre Council. Developed Landscape Recovery project feasibility in the Brock and Calder area with Wyre Rivers Trust and Local Landowner and Farmers.

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
	quality and access to the countryside.		
Farming and Land Management			
2.1 Encourage, promote and support farming and land management practices that help to conserve and enhance natural beauty	2.1A Promote and provide advice on land management practices which help to conserve and enhance the landscape, based on within the Forest of Bowland AONB Landscape Character Assessment, e.g. woodland management plans, felling licence applications, agri-environment scheme agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers and landowners • Natural England • Environment Agency • Forestry Commission • Rivers Trusts • Moorland Association 	Bowland unit lead a farmers and land managers group. Wyre Rivers Trust have developed a local farm cluster providing advice and support.
	2.1D Influence, test and trial new approaches to the Government’s proposed Environmental Land Management System, using the AONB Management Plan as the basis for the priorities of new schemes in the AONB and proposing the area as a testbed, where appropriate and when opportunity arises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pendle Hill Farmers Network • Loud Catchment Farmers Group • Long Preston Floodplain Farmers Group • Abbeystead Farmers Group • Bowland Land Managers Forum • Northern Hill Farmers Panel • NUC LNP • Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority • Wyre Rivers Trust 	Development of bid to DEFRA for a national landscape Bid. Bid successful and developed 2023 – 2025 – Brock and Calder Landscape Recovery Project Development Phase.

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
Sustainable Tourism			
<p>2.2 Develop, co-ordinate and promote sustainable tourism activity within and close to the AONB.</p>	<p>2.2A Continue to support the Bowland Sustainable Tourism Network (BSTN), working with a network steering group drawn from the business members to lead new sustainable tourism activity in the AONB.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSTN members • BSTN steering group • Local authority tourism officers • Marketing Lancashire • Welcome to Yorkshire 	<p>Support and attend events.</p>
Community Engagement and Volunteering			
<p>2.4 Support local communities and businesses to become more involved in activities and projects to conserve, enhance and celebrate the natural and cultural heritage of the AONB.</p>	<p>2.4 E Support and promote volunteering activities, involving a diverse range of people, which help deliver the AONB Management Plan objectives and conserve, enhance and celebrate the nature, culture and landscape of the AONB.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of Bowland • Site-based 'Friends' Groups • Pendle Hill Volunteers • Wyre Coast and Countryside Service • Ribble Rivers Trust • Wyre Rivers Trust 	<p>Regular volunteer days with support of the coast and countryside team on a wide variety of access and habitat management projects. Public conservation days. Volunteer walk guided walk leading. Volunteer patrolling and litter picking of key access points and locations.</p>
	<p>2.2F Support volunteer groups involved in the management of countryside sites and recreational facilities in and around the AONB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lancashire County Council Countryside Service • Wyre Council Coast and Countryside Service • Other local authority countryside staff • Friends of Bowland • Site-based 'Friends' Groups 	<p>Weekly site custodial patrols, litter picks and customer engagement with trained Wyre volunteers – Brock Picnic Area and Valley, Nicky Nook and Grizedale Valley, and Holme Wood.</p>

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Utilities • Forestry Commission 	
Countryside Access			
<p>3.1 Maintain and improve access to the countryside in a sustainable way for a diverse range of people and that promotes responsible, safe and quiet enjoyment.</p>	<p>3.1A Maintain and improve the Public Rights of Way network and signage, making necessary repairs and improvements to AONB 'Promoted Routes' and strategic routes/links in and around the AONB.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lancashire County Council PRow • North Yorkshire County Council PRow • Farmers and landowners • Promoted Routes Volunteers • Lancashire Local Access Forum • Ramblers Association • British Horse Society • Bridleways Groups 	<p>Patrol and support landowners and Bowland team with maintenance of the following promoted routes: Wyre Way, Holme Wood, Nicky Nook and Grizedale Valley Brock Valley and Bleasdale Nature Trail.</p>
	<p>3.1B Develop and promote countryside access opportunities for all, seeking to meet the needs of a diverse range of users; considering use of least restrictive access furniture, appropriate surfacing and special signage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pendle Hill LP • Farmers and landowners • Forestry Commission • Disabled Ramblers • Bentham Community Rail Partnership • British Horse Society • Bridleways Groups 	<p>Promote the access for all (Tramper routes and facilities) Cobble Hey. Support the management and maintenance of the accessible bird hides at Lower Fairsnape Farm, Bleasdale and Cobble Hey Farm, Claughton.</p>
	<p>3.1D Support volunteers to help survey and maintain the PRow network, particularly focusing on AONB 'Promoted Routes'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Promoted Routes' volunteers • Wyre Council Coast and Countryside Service 	<p>As listed above in particular on the Wyre Way and connecting routes such as the Garstang Millennium Green, coronation riverside path at Garstang.</p>

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
	<p>3.2 E Manage, improve and, where appropriate, create new visitor interpretation and information, using both print and digital media to raise awareness of the special qualities of the AONB landscape, e.g. Pendle Hill LP 'Access for All' project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pendle Hill LP • AONB partner organisation 	<p>Support the dissemination of visitor information for use at key sites in Wyre.</p>
	<p>3.1G Maintain concessionary routes and countryside access created via Agri-environment schemes, where these are important or valued links in the wider countryside access network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers and landowners • Lancashire County Council • North Yorkshire County Council • Ramblers Association • Lancashire Local Access Forum 	<p>Worked with Farming In Protected Landscape Officers, Wyre volunteers, Wyre coast and countryside and local landowners in Bleasdale to improve Bleasdale nature trail and Cobble Hey trails . Worked with United Utilities and Bowland unit to improve boardwalk in Holme Wood. Developed access for all improvements at key sites in Wyre. Surfaced paths and accessible gates installed with support of volunteers. Improve paths in Brock Picnic Area with support of WRT and landowners.</p>
<p>3.2 Visitor Management and Information Provide high quality visitor facilities and information to enable people to understand</p>	<p>3.2A Facilitate meetings/forums between key partners on access and visitor management issues for popular visitor sites and hubs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers and landowners • Local authorities • Pendle Hill LP 	<p>Wyre officers worked with the Bowland Unit and partners to address issues on key sites in Wyre.</p>

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
and enjoy the special qualities of the AONB	e.g. Pendle Hill, Gisburn Forest and Stocks and Beacon Fell Country Park		
	3.2B Promote responsible and safe access for visitors to the countryside (e.g. Countryside Code and advice on walking with dogs) via all media channels and on-site information and signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers and landowners • Local authorities • Pendle Hill LP 	Wyre, Bowland and Lancashire officers provided signs and advice to landowners and farmers, erected signs on key sites and promoted in the Wyre Great Outdoors and other channels.
	3.2D Play an active role in the Lancashire Fire Operations Group (FOG), helping to maintain up-to-date fire plans for moorland areas and raise awareness of the risk and impacts of wildfire in the AONB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moorland owners • Moorland Association • Lancashire Fire Service • Natural England • Local authorities 	Wyre Officers attended FOG meetings and shared information on resources available in case of wildlife and placed signs on sites and shared warnings.
3.3 Discovering and Learning Provide opportunities to discover and learn about the special qualities of the AONB by connecting people with nature, culture and the landscape	3.3A Organise, support and promote an annual Festival Bowland programme of AONB and partner-led events for both visitors and local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AONB partner organisations • Festival Bowland steering group • Marketing Lancashire 	Wyre officers have supported the steering group and contributed a large number of annual activities delivered in Wyre in the Festival Bowland Programme from 2019 to 2025.
3.4 Health and Well-being Provide opportunities for people to improve their health and wellbeing by connecting with nature, culture and the landscape	3.B Deliver projects and activities in the AONB that deliver health and well-being outcomes, including the 'People Enjoying Nature' project, easy access trails,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pendle Hill LP • Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust • Burnley FC in the Community 	People enjoying nature have visited sites in Wyre – delivered by Bowland Unit. Bowland Unit have worked with Wyre staff to develop dementia friendly

Objectives	Actions	Key Partners	Delivery in Wyre
	dementia-friendly trails and activities, active volunteering and inclusive events	(Whitehough Education Centre) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bentham Community Rail Partnership • Disabled Ramblers • AONB partner organisations 	partnerships, activities and training and delivered events in Wyre.

Appendix 3 – Green Infrastructure Strategy (Action Plan Extract)

<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/downloads/file/1982/wbc-green-infrastructure-strategy-final-2024>

Theme 1 - Place

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
1.1 Nature rich places	Complete the Dynamic Dunescape Project.	WBC, Natural England	ST	Completed.
	Deliver the Wyre Estuary Biobitz 2024.	WBC, Wyre Rivers Trust, RSB, LERN	ST	Completed, plus an additional Winter Bioblitz in 2025.
	Deliver the Forest of Bowland Nature Recovery Plan.	WBC, Forest of Bowland National Landscape Partnership, LCC, Rivers Trusts	ST	Delivered.
	Implement the Stanah Saltmarsh project part of the Our Future Coast Programme (development of improved biodiversity on the saltmarsh to improve its resilience to climate and recreational pressures). Implement the Gateway to the Wyre Estuary project (restoration of the	WBC, Wyre Rivers Trust, Our Future Coast and Natural England WBC, Rural UK Shared Prosperity Fund, LCC Public Rights of Way	ST-MT ST	Project in development, through engagement and consultation. Completed – the Gateway path official opening was in June 2025. Since opening, a people counter

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	public right of way between Stanah and Skippool).			has been installed to assist with monitoring usage along with estuary interpretation panels.
	Continue to plan for new sites and plant new trees and hedgerows in line with Wyre's Commitment to plant 25,000 trees before 2025.	WBC, Woodland Trust, Wyre River Trust, Forestry Commission	On-going	Completed.
	Continue to promote Wyre's Green Flag parks and other award winning spaces including Vicarage Park, Hawthorne Park, Wyre Estuary Country Park Memorial Park and The Mount.	WBC (Parks and Open Spaces, Countryside)	On-going	All parks promoted and achieved improvements.
	Continue to monitor and regularly update management plans for Wyre's key parks, open spaces, coastal sites and public realm sites, focusing on site management in terms of site maintenance and improvements including improving biodiversity, adopting sustainable mowing and planting, addressing invasive species, and reducing climate change impacts.	WBC (Parks and Open Spaces, Countryside)	On-going	Management plans for key sites in place and updated annually or biannually.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Support natural flood management projects in the Wyre Catchment including on council owned land (e.g. King Georges Playing Field – Thornton).	WBC, Wyre Rivers Trust, United Utilities, Environment Agency	On-going	Successful completion of King Georges Playing Field natural flood management project, with increased water storage and biodiversity on site.
	Continue to be a key stakeholder and support the Wyre CIC Natural Flood Management programme delivered by Wyre Rivers Trust for the whole of the Wyre Catchment– at a strategic and front line practical level.	WBC, Wyre Rivers Trust	MT	Project successfully completed with many miles of riparian hedgerows and woodlands planted and “leaky dams” and other natural flood management measures installed.
	Consider the development of a Wyre Biodiversity Strategy.	WBC and partners	ST	Discussions on-going and to be considered.
	Produce a Biodiversity Net Gain Guide for Applicants.	WBC (Planning)	ST	Completed.
	Review the Wyre Local Plan to ensure that its policies are reflective of the latest Wyre GI Strategy.	WBC (Planning)	MT	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Work with the Forest of Bowland National Landscape and local famers to deliver Farming in Protected Landscape access to nature projects.	WBC, Forest of Bowland National Landscape, farmers	On-going	On-going the FiPL landscape project has been renewed for a further 3 years in 2026.
	Through planning and policy decisions and project management opportunities, connect green and blue spaces and corridors for biodiversity creation, enhancement and conservation.	WBC	On-going	Improvements made in parks and open spaces with the Gateway to the Wyre Estuary, King Georges Playing Field, Dynamic Dunescapes project in Fleetwood, Larkholme Grasslands and Wyre Estuary Country Park Plans for improvements in Cottam Hall.
	Through planning and policy decisions and project management opportunities increase tree cover including within settlements and new development, based on the principle of 'right tree, right place'.	WBC	On-going	On-going with many tree planting schemes taking place within the borough through partnerships with LCC Treescapes, Woodland Trust and Wyre Rivers Trust.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Through planning decisions and project management opportunities prioritise native species and ensure biosecurity principles are adhered to avoid spreading non-native invasive species and diseases.	WBC	On-going	On-going, working in partnership with Wyre Rivers Trust, Dynamic Dunescapes to reduce the spread of invasives in our riparian landscape and coast.
	Consider how council owned land and buildings can support nature and improve biodiversity.	WBC (Estates)	LT	In development.
	Protect veteran trees, semi-natural woodland and ancient hedgerows, and irreplaceable habitats, and maintain in good condition where the council is a landowner.	WBC, Lancashire County Council	On-going	Veteran tree training has been delivered to volunteers and landowners. Through the newly adopted LNRS all these features are recorded on the Lancashire Nature Recovery Habitat Map with information and priorities in place to support positive measures to protect

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Contribute to and support the Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy as a Supporting Authority.	WBC, LCC	LT	Completed, LRNS adopted and on-going discussions re delivery awaiting guidelines from the government.
	Contribute to and support local nature recovery in the Forest of Bowland.	WBC, Forest of Bowland National Landscape Partnership	LT	On-going, the Bowland LNRS was incorporated into the Lancashire LNRS and delivery with partners is taking place.
	Support the delivery of the Forest of Bowland Management Plan Action Plan 2019-2024.	WBC, Forest of Bowland National Landscape Partnership	MT	Completed - The 2026 Management Plan consultation closed on 2 nd March.
	Work with the Wyre Catchment Partnership to achieve landscape and biodiversity improvements.	WBC, Wyre Catchment Partnership	On-going	Completed and on-going. Active involvement with the WRT, the Wyre Catchment Partnership and wider partners to achieve landscape and biodiversity improvements. Of note are the Brock and Calder Nature

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
				Recovery Project and OFC innovation projects.
	Support a partnership project across Morecambe Bay to reduce the impact of recreational disturbance and increase positive engagement with nature around the Bay.	WBC, Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership, Natural England	On-going	On-going – working with Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership to consider the Protected Sites Strategy for Morecambe Bay with a primary focus on reducing the negative impacts and encouraging positive engagement.
	Work with Natural England and other stakeholders to deliver as appropriate species conservation strategies and protected site strategies for Wyre.	WBC, Natural England	LT	As above.
1.2 Well designed and distinctive places	Review Wyre Local Plan design policy to create an enhanced focus on GI design principles and expectations.	WBC (Planning)	ST	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Review and update the existing Wyre Local Plan Policy HP9 GI Guidance for Applicants.	WBC (Planning)	ST	On-going.
	Develop and implement the Cottam Hall Masterplan – a plan to create a well-designed and distinctive place for all site users.	WBC	ST	Masterplan completed and adopted. Further development works for the next phase in progress.
	Consider the need for a design guide for trees in development (increasing and managing tree cover).	WBC	MT	To review. SPG2 which was adopted in 1998. Although existing principles within the guidance are accurate and haven't changed, the document may require an update to reflect current British standards.
	Continue to monitor and regularly update management plans for Wyre's key parks, open spaces and public realm sites, focusing on site management in terms of site maintenance, improving biodiversity,	WBC (Parks and Open Spaces, Countryside)	On-going	On-going with annual and biannual reviews of key sites and assessment of need for change to management

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	likely climate change impacts and site improvements			practices to all sites as appropriate.
	Deliver public realm improvements associated with the Wyre Beach Management Scheme, creating opportunities for biodiversity enhancement wherever possible.	WBC, Rossall Residents, the Environment Agency, Natural England and others	MT	On-going with some opportunities through Dynamic Dunescapes, OFC, the Beach Management Scheme capital works have achieved the construction of bird refuges.
	Identify funding opportunities to develop a Fleetwood Linear Park as part of flood defence improvements at Fleetwood Docks.	WBC, Environment Agency	Funding dependent	Currently no scheme developed.
	Support the development and implementation of GI schemes within Town Centre Frameworks.	WBC and various	ST-LT	Pending start - awaiting suitable opportunities.
	Use S106 monies (developer contributions) to improve existing GI or create new GI.	WBC	On-going	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
1.3 Active and healthy places	Support the creation and continuation of a strategic network of cycling, walking, horse riding and wheeling routes that meet multiple needs, including the Wyre Way, Wyre Estuary Way and King Charles III England Coast Path.	WBC, Lancashire County Council, Natural England	LT	On-going with improvements on 1kn section of the Wyre Way on the Wyre Estuary completed, further network improvements in the area completed and some improvements planned on the KC111 England Coast Path with LCC.
	Consider the development of Wyre Estuary Country Park as an “Environmental Learning Hub”.	WBC, Wyre Rivers Trust, RSB	ST	In development estimated completion early 2027.
	Work with appropriate stakeholders to deliver a Bay Cycleway (Glasson to Fleetwood).	WBC, Morecambe Bay Partnership	MT	On-going when opportunities arise.
	Work with appropriate stakeholders to refresh the Wyre Estuary Way and Wyre Way long-distance recreation route.	WBC	MT	On-going - Work undertaken on the Wyre Estuary and the upper sections with LCC.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Implement the Active Environment action plan (Wyre Moving More Strategy)	WBC	ST-MT	Launched in 2025 and on-going delivery.
	Develop and implement the Cottam Hall Masterplan in support of Active and Healthy Places.	WBC	On-going	In progress.
	Align GI strategy principles with the Fylde Coast Local Cycling, Walking Infrastructure Plan and ensure synergy between relevant actions plans.	WBC	ST	Partnership working through Wyre Moving More environmental sub-group to ensure synergy.
	Deliver towpath improvements (Lancaster Canal)	WBC, Canal and Rivers Trust	ST-LT subject to funding	No update.
	Identify spatial and community inequalities in access to GI, including sports provision, and consider how such inequalities can be reduced.	WBC	MT	On-going
	Manage council-owned GI to deliver eco-system services that can improve health outcomes such as urban cooling, noise reduction, flood risk management and air quality improvements.	WBC	On-going	On-going. Flood management schemes have improved some of our sites, trees and hedgerows planted, meadows and

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
				woodlands managed.
	Identify key health and wellbeing outcomes for Wyre where GI can have a positive role to play in improving health in key groups and areas.	WBC	LT	The Wyre Moving More environmental group programme is addressing this. On-going.
	Implement a playground strategy (for council owned sites) which includes a playground improvement plan.	WBC	ST-LT	On-going.
	Continue to develop and promote the Wyre Great Outdoors programme for local people and visitors.	WBC and partners	On-going	On-going with annual programmes of wellbeing walks and activities, nature and ecology activities and thousands of attendances each year. With strong engagement delivered through the highly trained, expert volunteer, staff and partner activity leaders.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
1.4 Thriving and prospering places	Use council owned GI to uplift the quality and economic value of an area.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Where appropriate, integrate GI into plans and projects and consider the eco-system service and value benefits it can bring including air quality regulation, flood risk management, noise mitigation, recreation, urban cooling, and pollination.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Continue to develop and promote the Wyre Great Outdoors Programme for local people and visitors.	WBC and partners	On-going	On-going.
	Continue to promote Wyre's Green Flag parks and other award-winning spaces including Vicarage Park, Hawthorne Park, Wyre Estuary Country Park Memorial Park and The Mount.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Consider establishing a GI standard for new non-residential development.	WBC	ST	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Develop training and learning in GI creation and management with appropriate internal and external stakeholders	WBC	MT	On-going.
1.5 Climate positive and resilient places	Approve and implement the Wyre Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.	WBC	ST-LT	Climate Change Strategy produced and adopted.
	Continue to monitor and regularly update management plans for Wyre's key parks, open spaces and public realm sites, focusing on site management in terms of site maintenance, improving biodiversity, likely climate change impacts and site improvements.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Incorporate adaptive management to ensure GI is planned to provide multi-functional benefits and continues to do so as the climate changes.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Raise awareness of the climate change and ecological emergency online and through events and the need for climate adaptation and resilience.	WBC	LT	Wyre's climate change strategy addresses this with many annual actions.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Continue to apply for funding for infrastructure and land management projects that will reduce flood risk, including Natural Flood Management.	WBC, Wyre Rivers Trust	On-going	On-going.

Theme 2 - A multifunctional green infrastructure

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
2.1 Multiple services and benefits	Approve and implement the Wyre Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.	WBC	ST-LT	Implementation on-going, reported and monitored.
	Through planning decisions, policies and project management opportunities create appropriate accessible nature rich spaces close to where people live and work.	WBC (Planning)	On-going	On-going.
	Develop and apply best practice examples to promote the use of GI as an eco-system service.	WBC	On-going	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Capture the multi-functional benefits of green infrastructure using appropriate qualitative and quantitative assessments or tools.	WBC	LT	To be developed.
2.2 Sustainable water environment	Explore opportunities to “daylight” culverts by reverting them back to their natural state as an open watercourse.	WBC, LLFA	LT	On-going.
	Through planning decisions and project management opportunities connect recreational, natural green and blue spaces.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Undertake a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment as part of the Wyre Local Plan evidence base.	WBC (Planning) with Fylde Council and Blackpool Council	ST	Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment produced and published.
	Use water to enhance public open space for a variety of appropriate recreational uses, ensuring potential conflicts, including with ecologically important area such as	WBC, Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership,	On-going	On-going. Once completed by Natural England (with stakeholder support), the Morcambe Bay

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Morecambe Bay and Wyre Estuary are managed.	Wyre Rivers Trust		Protected Sites Strategy will support this action.
	Provide positive water management and appropriate habitat creation through Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).	WBC, Lead Local Food Authority	On-going	On-going.
	Apply the four pillars of SUDS ¹ in system design.	WBC, Lead Local Food Authority	On-going	On-going.
	Support the Our Future Coast project and the development of a sustainable coast in Wyre.	WBC, Environment Agency, Morecambe Bay Partnership, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Wyre Rivers Trust, and others	LT	On-going project due to complete in March 2027.
	Support the current Shoreline Management Plan and any updates.	WBC, NW Coastal Group, NW	On-going	On-going.

¹ The four pillar are in summary, water quality, water quantity, amenity and biodiversity.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
		SMP Co-ordinator		
	Collaborate with the Lune Rivers Trust and other stakeholders to explore the potential for projects in the Pilling and Cocker catchments that can deliver benefits to watercourses and provide benefits to nature and communities.	WBC, Lune Rivers Trust	On-going	On-going.
	Support natural flood management projects in the Wyre Catchment including on council owned land (e.g. King Georges Playing Field – Thornton and Wyre Estuary Country Park).	WBC, Wyre Rivers Trust	On-going	Completed natural flood management project at King Georges Playing Field and on-going projects on the Wyre Estuary country park. Many projects being undertaken by Wyre Rivers Trust with support from Wyre volunteers in rural Wyre.
2.3 Variety	Use GI creation and enhancement to create a variety of habitats.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Encourage the use of the borough's parks and open spaces by providing a varied	WBC	On-going	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	offer to meet different recreational needs.			
	Improve the variety of sporting opportunities including sports provision for female participants and other low participation groups (see the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy).	WBC	LT	On-going.
	Protect GI from losses in-line with Wyre Local Plan policy.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Create a varied and accessible GI offer within housing developments in-line with Wyre Local Plan policy and guidance.	WBC (Planning)	On-going	On-going.
2.4 Connectivity	Create a GIS-based database of GI assets and use to identify opportunities to create greater connectivity at a local and strategic scale.	WBC (Planning)	ST	Interactive Green Infrastructure Audit Map produced - https://www.wyre.gov.uk/evidence-monitoring-information/environment-evidence/3 .
	Support the creation and continuation of a strategic network of cycling, walking, horse riding and wheeling	WBC, Lancashire County Council and	MT	Numerous projects in Wyre – notably the Gateway to the Wyre Estuary, Scorton Millennium Way and KC 111 England Coast Path.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	routes that meet multiple needs, including the Wyre Way, Wyre Estuary Way and King Charles III England Coast Path.	Natural England		
	Work with appropriate stakeholders to deliver a Bay Cycleway (Glasson to Fleetwood).	WBC and Morecambe Bay Partnership	MT	On-going when opportunities arise.
	Align GI strategy principles with the Fylde Coast Local Cycling, Walking Infrastructure Plan and ensure synergy between relevant actions plans.	WBC	ST	Partnership working through Wyre Moving More environmental sub-group to ensure synergy.
	Contribute to and support the Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy as a Supporting Authority.	WBC, LCC	LT	On going through Partnerships with National Landscape Unit, Wyre Rivers Trust, LERN, Natural England.
	Contribute to and support local nature recovery in the Forest of Bowland.	WBC, Forest of Bowland National Landscape Partnership	LT	Wyre officers supported development meetings – influenced the LNRS for the Bowland areas.
	Undertake a review of GI policies as part of the new	WBC (Planning)	ST	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Local Plan and identify and protect key corridors and stepping stones			
	Apply Wyre Local Policies designed to protect GI from development.	WBC (Planning)	ST	On-going.
	Ensure the functions and services provided by individual projects meet the needs of users, benefits the wider environment, connects to GI networks within the boundary of the project, links with existing and planned GI in the surrounding area, and contributes to the Biodiversity Duty.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
2.5 Accessibility	Ensure the functions and services provided by individual projects meet the needs of users.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Design GI to accessibility principles to create an inclusive and varied offer.	WBC	On-going	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Review access links to green spaces such as the Wyre Estuary Country Park and the Garstang Millennium Green.	WBC	ST	On-going - Partnership working with Lancashire County Council, Wyre Rivers Trust and Environment Agency to improve access links from Public Rights of Way and public highways.
	Focus on addressing deficits in local Green Infrastructure supply and quality.	WBC	On-going	On-going.
	Review the Lancashire Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan and Cycling and Walking Strategy with regard to improving gaps in network in Wyre.	WBC, Lancashire County Council	ST	On-going.
	Identify areas with poor access to GI and develop detailed actions to improve the position.	WBC	LT	On-going.
	Improve the variety of sporting opportunities including sports provision for female participants.	WBC	LT	On-going.

Theme 3 - Strategic thinking and delivery in partnership

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
3.1 Partnership working and collaboration	Develop a Wyre GI Network of stakeholder organisations who can play a role in delivering strategic and local outcomes.	WBC and partners	MT	To be considered.
	Work with stakeholder organisations to support bids for GI-related activities and projects.	WBC and partners	On-going	On-going.
	Continue to support and develop volunteer teams and work with voluntary groups and friends groups to support and enhance the sustainable management of Wyre's green infrastructure.	WBC and partners	On-going	New Friends of Wyre Estuary Group set up in 2025 . Existing Friends groups at Hawthorne Park, Memorial Park, Vicarage Park, and Garstang Walking Festival.
	Promote success in the delivery, management, protection and enhancement of GI.	WBC and partners	On-going	On-going.
	Through existing structures work with farmers and land managers to deliver environmental benefits for Wyre	WBC and partners	On-going	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
3.2 Evidence base	Regularly review the GI audit database, including a consideration of relevant climate change and ecological matters.	WBC (Planning)	MT	No update.
	Review Wyre Local Plan GI policies and apply new standards if evidenced and required.	WBC (Planning)	ST	On-going.
	Monitor GI as part of new development against Local Plan Policy HP9 and associated Guidance for Applicants.	WBC (Planning)	On-going	On-going.
3.3 Key strategic asset	Develop a Wyre GI Network of stakeholder organisations who can play a role in delivering strategic and local outcomes.	WBC and partners	ST	On-going collaborative stakeholder and partnership working.
	Promote the GI strategy and key findings from the three elements of the GI Study.	WBC	ST	On-going.
	Address spatial and social inequalities in GI provision including sport and access to nature.	WBC	On-going	On-going.

Wyre GI Principles	Actions	Delivery	Timescale	Progress
	Support the current Shoreline Management Plan and any updates.	WBC, NW Coastal Group, NW SMP Co-ordinator	On-going	On-going.
3.4 Implementation framework	Develop a project-level GI action plan designed to implement the GI Principles.	WBC	ST	Not started.
	Review this GI Framework and the project-level action plan on an annual basis with a refresh and update every five years.	WBC	ST-LT	On-going.
	Apply the findings from the GI Study to the review of the Wyre Local Plan.	WBC (Planning)	ST	On-going.
	Update the Local Plan Policy HP9 GI Guidance for applicants on an annual basis.	WBC (Planning)	ST	On-going.