

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

David Wimble, Cabinet Member for (the Kent) Environment

DECISION NO:

25/00075

For publication

Key decision: YES

Subject Matter / Title of Decision: Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for (the Kent) Environment, I agree to:

APPROVE and ADOPT the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy, developed by Kent County Council as the Responsible Authority under the Environment Act 2021, subject to the formal endorsement by relevant supporting authorities

DELEGATE authority to the Director for Environment and Circular Economy in conjunction with the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy Board to publish the strategy and take any necessary actions to support its implementation and associated monitoring functions.

DELEGATE authority to the Director for Environment and Circular Economy in conjunction with the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy Board in consultation with the Cabinet member for Environment to make non-substantive revisions or updates to the strategy as appropriate during its lifetime

DELEGATE authority to the Director for Environment and Circular Economy to take relevant actions, including but not limited to finalising the terms of, and entering into required contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary to implement the decision

Reason(s) for decision:

Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been created under the 2021 Environment Act and are a system of spatial strategies for nature and environmental improvement that will underpin England's Nature Recovery Network. In 2023, Kent County Council was appointed the Responsible Authority for the development of the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy and have been collaboratively developing the strategy for Kent and Medway.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

On 16th January 2025, an 8-week consultation was launched running until 12th March 2025, which received 330 responses.

The proposal is being considered by members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 9 September.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Do not publish the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, or support implementation and delivery of the strategy. This is not an option as this is a legally required document. Kent County Council were also provided funding for the preparation of the strategy and hence to not publish would mean re-payment of the grant

Any interest declared when the decision was taken, and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

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signed

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date

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