

## Appendix 7. Habitat priorities and actions, including technical details technical details

*The text in italics provides examples and further technical details for suggested actions.*

*Actions that have been mapped in the Nature Network have been indicated with an asterisk (\*).*

### Urban green spaces and buildings

Priority	Measures and suggested example actions
<p><b>More schools, hospitals, public, commercial and community buildings have nature-rich accessible spaces, better for wildlife and people</b></p>	<p><b>Enhance and increase the diversity of existing greenspaces and create dedicated wilder set-aside areas for nature.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: more native planting; encouraging a greater variety of habitats; encouraging a range of tree species, age structure and wooded habitats; safely allowing areas of scrub and dead wood, reducing pesticide use; reducing mowing; removing invasive species; cleaning up litter; reducing water and light pollution; creating dedicated set aside areas; creating wildflower strips, meadows or pollinator friendly planting; creating wildlife ponds; planting trees; creating and implementing long term habitat management plans</i></p>
	<p><b>Create more nature-friendly multiple-use spaces, such as wellbeing gardens, community grow spaces or orchards, that provide habitats for urban species and benefit people.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: creating nature friendly wellbeing or community gardens with pollinator-friendly planting and dedicated homes for wildlife; encourage creation of school nature areas for education and nature benefit; installing planters or raised beds; integrating green roofs or green walls onto buildings.</i></p>
	<p><b>Support species by installing homes for wildlife and reducing barriers to species movements across and between greenspaces.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: installing bug hotels, bird or bat boxes, swift bricks; installing ponds; wildlife crossing points and corridors (such as hedgerows) between and within spaces, for target species like hedgehogs.</i></p>
	<p><b>Create or allow more space for water and install sustainable drainage, providing water for wildlife and adaptation to climate change.</b></p>

	<p><i>Through for example: installing ponds, raingardens, swales or other permeable surfaces.</i></p>
	<p><b>Support and involve local communities in the creation and maintenance of spaces for nature.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: improving access and inclusion; boosting awareness of nature recovery; installing better paths, access points and signage; supporting and involving communities with greenspace creation and maintenance; running awareness campaigns, training, courses, workshops or other promotional activities.</i></p>
<p><b>Better parks and open spaces, enhanced and managed to be nature-rich and climate-adapted, with a range of habitats for wildlife supported by local communities</b></p>	<p><b>Enhance and increase the diversity of existing greenspaces for nature and create dedicated wilder set-aside areas for nature.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: more native planting; encouraging a greater variety of habitats; encouraging a range of tree species, age structure and wooded habitats; safely allowing areas of scrub and dead wood; reducing pesticide use; reducing mowing; removing invasive species; cleaning up litter; reducing water and light pollution; creating dedicated set aside areas; creating wildflower strips, meadows or pollinator friendly planting; creating wildlife ponds; planting trees; creating and implementing long term habitat management plans.</i></p>
	<p><b>Create and maintain longer grasses and wildflower strips</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: reducing or modifying mowing regimes to allow longer grass; maintaining access with mown paths; creating wildflower strips and meadows of a variety of scales.</i></p>
	<p><b>Support species by installing homes for wildlife and reducing barriers to species movements across and between greenspaces</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: installing bug hotels, bird or bat boxes, swift bricks; installing ponds; more wildlife crossing points and corridors (such as hedgerows) between and within spaces for target species like hedgehogs.</i></p>
	<p><b>Create or allow more space for water and install sustainable drainage, providing water for wildlife and adaptation to climate change</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: installing ponds, raingardens, swales and permeable surfaces; daylighting brooks, streams or rivers where possible.</i></p>

	<p><b>Create more nature-friendly multi-use spaces, with improved access for all, such as pocket parks and community grow spaces that benefit urban species and people</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: creating community orchards or community gardens with pollinator friendly planting and dedicated homes for wildlife; creating community growing spaces; installing or maintaining better paths; installing more access points and signage.</i></p>
	<p><b>Support and involve local communities in the creation and maintenance of spaces for nature and improve public awareness of the benefits of nature recovery</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: installing or maintaining better paths; installing more access points and signage; supporting and involving communities with greenspace creation and maintenance; running awareness campaigns, training, courses, workshops or other promotional activities.</i></p>
<p><b>More streets, roads, pedestrian and cycle routes are greener and tree-lined, acting as corridors for nature and adapted to climate change</b></p>	<p><b>Enhance and increase the diversity of streets and highways verges, with longer grasses, native wildflower strips and meadows and more dedicated spaces for nature</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: more native planting; encouraging a greater variety of habitats; encouraging a range of tree species, age structure and wooded habitats; safely allowing areas of scrub and dead wood, reducing pesticide use; reducing mowing; removing invasive species; cleaning up litter; reducing water and light pollution; creating dedicated set aside areas; creating wildflower strips, meadows or pollinator friendly planting; creating wildlife ponds; planting trees; creating and implementing long term habitat management plans</i></p>
	<p><b>Create greener spaces, and more connected habitats, along existing and new streets, highways and cycle-ways (our Bee Network).</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: creating new greenspaces and green verges as part of highways improvements; planting more street trees; encouraging a range of tree species, age structure and wooded habitats; installing raingardens, planters or pocket parks along streets as part of improvement works; targeting greenspace creation in those communities with the least access to greenspace; encouraging peer-to-peer learning between councils.</i></p>
	<p><b>Create or allow more space for water and install sustainable drainage along our existing and new streets, highways and cycle paths (our Bee Network).</b></p>

	<p><i>Through for example: installing raingardens, swales, bioretention areas, SuDS enabled tree pits or more permeable surfaces along cycle paths, pavements and streets as part of improvements works.</i></p>
	<p><b>Reduce key barriers to wildlife movement across our major highways</b></p>
	<p><b>Support and encourage more community involvement and more community adoption of unused greenspaces on streets and highways.</b></p>
<p><b>Town and city regeneration and development driving new and enhanced nature-rich greenspace creation, building more biodiverse, accessible and climate-adapted places</b></p>	<p><b>Safeguard and enhance important local habitats and greenspaces.</b></p>
	<p><b>Restore, expand and connect existing local habitats and greenspaces.</b></p>
	<p><b>Create dedicated new multifunctional and inclusive greenspaces as part of new development and regeneration, to meet the national Urban Greening Factors of 0.3 on commercial and 0.4 on residential development or the local authority set Urban Green Factor.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: creating a range of greenspaces from green roofs and walls to hedgerows or street trees; newly created greenspaces and habitats should have long term management plans and funding in place in perpetuity; follow clear standards e.g. Building with Nature.</i></p>
	<p><b>Support species by installing homes for wildlife on buildings and reducing barriers to species movements across and between greenspaces.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: installing bug hotels, bird or bat boxes, swift brick; installing ponds; more wildlife crossing points and corridors (such as hedgerows) between and within spaces for target species like hedgehogs.</i></p>
	<p><b>Create dedicated space for water and wetter habitats by installing sustainable drainage and providing sufficient space for river corridors.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: installing ponds, raingardens, swales or other permeable surfaces.</i></p>
	<p><b>Support and involve communities in the design and creation of new or regenerated greenspaces.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: running awareness campaigns, training, courses, workshops and promotional activities.</i></p>

<b>More nature-friendly and climate-adapted gardens, balconies, yards and driveways</b>	<b>Plant gardens, yards and balconies that support local wildlife, using pollinator-friendly planting or planting size appropriate shrubs or trees</b>
	<b>Support species by installing homes for wildlife and reduce barriers to species movements across and between gardens.</b> <i>Through for example: installing bug hotels, bird or bat boxes, swift bricks; installing ponds; installing hedgehog highways between gardens, swapping fences for hedges and working with neighbours.</i>
	<b>Manage spaces in a wildlife-friendly way by leaving areas of longer grass for wildlife in gardens or reduce mowing, reducing use of pesticides and herbicides.</b>
	<b>Create more space for water in gardens and encourage more sustainable water use.</b> <i>Through for example: using ponds, raingardens or permeable surfaces; creating more permeable spaces rather than paving gardens; reducing garden water use by installing a water butt.</i>
	<b>Boost awareness of the need for wildlife friendly gardening.</b> <i>Through for example: campaigns raising awareness of the need for wildlife friendly gardens; promoting guidance on wildlife friendly planting; initiatives such as Britain in Bloom, My Wild City and others.</i>
<b>More community-led creation of new nature-rich greenspaces and increased opportunities for local food growing</b>	<b>Encourage or enable the creation of new community-led greenspaces in our least green areas.</b> <i>Through for example: helping communities apply for funding; supporting land allocation towards community greenspace; providing more training opportunities.</i>
	<b>Enable more opportunities for community-led action and community adoption of local greenspaces.</b> <i>Through for example: establishing a network of community nature groups; promoting community initiatives and projects e.g. clean ups and litter picks.</i>
	<b>Support more opportunities for local food growing and the ‘right to grow’.</b>
	<b>Boost awareness and skills in nature recovery and connection to nature.</b>

	<i>Through for example: campaigns; running training sessions, skills sessions or educational talks; volunteering days; green social prescribing; events or self-led activities; encouraging wildlife monitoring and citizen science e.g. bioblitzs; developing a network of community nature groups.</i>
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### Woodlands, trees, scrub and hedgerow

Priority	Measure and suggested example actions
<b>More existing woodlands, hedgerows, trees and scrub are safeguarded, restored and resilient</b>	<p><b>Safeguard, enhance and celebrate ancient, long-established and designated woodlands, veteran and notable trees*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: the identification, designation and safeguarding of ancient woodlands, long-established woodlands, veteran and notable trees; producing management plans and bringing more ancient or long-established woodland into management; restoring Plantation Ancient Woodland Sites.</i></p>
	<p><b>Enhance existing woodlands, scrub, and hedgerows and diversify, where appropriate, to increase resilience to pests, disease and climate change*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: creating and implementing more woodland management plans targeting key types of woodland habitats and species; safely retaining standing or fallen dead wood, dead or dying trees; diversifying age and stand structure; encouraging species suitable for existing site conditions and future climate (taking site status into account); incorporating open space such as rides and glades; using natural colonisation or planting species of local provenance; introducing low impact silvicultural systems; managing grazing pressure; removing invasive species; controlling pests and disease (where practical); encourage or creating of clearings or rides; maintaining paths and rights of way.</i></p>
	<p><b>Promote better understanding of the value of woodland, scrub, trees, hedgerow, wood pasture and agroforestry habitats.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: supporting community groups; running training sessions and talks; adding signage boards.</i></p>
	<p><b>Encourage wildlife-friendly recreational use of woodlands.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: clearly maintaining marked paths; reducing damaging recreational uses; wildlife-friendly lighting.</i></p>

<b>Bigger and better connected woodlands, trees and scrub, integrated with patchworks of other habitats</b>	<p><b>Target native woodland and scrub creation, where it will connect existing woodlands and scrub*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: planting or natural colonisation of woodland, scrub and trees of a range of different sizes and across a range of different land ownership and land use types; targeted planting or natural regeneration of riparian or wet woodlands; follow the ‘right tree, right place, right reason’ principle; targeted planting where these habitats have been lost; planting species of local provenance (where appropriate).</i></p>
	<p><b>Expand existing woodland and scrub, including through natural regeneration, colonisation and other woodland fringe habitats*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: the expansion of woodlands next to existing woodland sites or buffering of existing woodlands with other woodland fringe habitats; creation of woodlands of a range of different sizes and across a range of different land ownership and land use types; follow the ‘right tree, right place, right reason’ principle; planting species of local provenance (where appropriate); use planting, natural regeneration or colonisation; protection from grazing and browsing; supplementary planting if needed.</i></p>
	<p><b>Encourage the planting of trees, woodland and scrub where they will play a role in natural flood management, control of pollution or reduce soil erosion.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: targeted planting of contour woodlands or shelterbelts; targeted planting of strips of trees; clough planting; planting of SuDs enabled street trees; follow the ‘right tree, right place, right reason’ principle; target planting projects where diffuse pollution and soil erosion is a known issue (for example near slurry pits or livestock housing).</i></p>
	<p><b>Ensure new woodlands are well managed to maximise biodiversity, accessibility and support a variety of locally appropriate woodland types, mixes and scrub.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: diversifying species (where appropriate) and age structure; planting species of local provenance (where possible); choosing species for future resilience to pests and diseases and adapting to climate change (where appropriate); creating more woodland management plans, targeting key types of woodland habitats and species.</i></p>
	<p><b>Involve local communities in new tree planting, woodland and scrub creation.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: establish small stands of trees or tiny forests within schools; engaging community groups and volunteers with tree planting and woodland habitat management; boost awareness of the benefits of trees and woods.</i></p>

<b>New urban street trees, urban community orchards and woodlands, improving access to nature and climate adaptation</b>	<b>Targeted urban tree and woodland planting where it will increase connectivity, climate adaption and accessibility.</b> <i>Through for example: targeting planting where it will boost local access to shaded greenspace or provide other environmental benefits such as intercepting surface water flooding.</i>
	<b>Create new and enhance old or traditional orchards and urban community woodlands, and work to ensure better access for communities.</b>
	<b>Improve woodland path networks, in line with standards, to diversify access for all users.</b>
	<b>Support and engage diverse local groups with local woodlands, orchards and trees and encourage positive recreational use of woodlands.</b>
<b>More native hedgerows created and maintained, linking together spaces for wildlife</b>	<b>Safeguard, manage and restore the species diversity and structure of existing hedgerows.</b> <i>Through for example: filling gaps in hedgerows with new native species (where appropriate); restoring hedgerows along existing linear routes; following existing legislation and standards; managing using the hedgerow management cycle; introducing or favouring the development of mature trees along the hedgerow.</i>
	<b>Create more native hedgerows, particularly, where they act as corridors between existing trees and woodlands, or where they could intercept diffuse pollution or reduce soil erosion.</b>
	<b>Encourage more mature trees in hedgerows</b> <i>Through for example: including native tree species when planting new hedgerows; include trees at irregular spacings minimum distance of 20m apart, tag and protect from routine hedgerow trimming.</i>
<b>More varied trees, parkland, scrub and woodland</b>	<b>Enhance productive woodlands, parklands, scrub and orchards to maximise benefits to biodiversity, alongside the production of timber, food and environmental benefits, such as flood risk reduction.</b> <i>Through for example: manage grazing pressure within existing woodland; low input orchards; uptake of agro-forestry and low density in-field tree planting; bringing more plantation woodlands into positive management for nature.</i>



<p><b>habitats incorporated into our farmlands and more productive woodlands delivering nature recovery.</b></p>	<p><b>Encourage wildlife-friendly farm diversification opportunities which will enable more woodland, tree and hedgerow planting as well as agro-forestry.</b></p> <p><i>Through, for example: supporting and promoting financial incentives for tree planting and hedgerow creation; promoting support for agroforestry projects; facilitating access to funding for farm diversification that benefits nature.</i></p>
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### Rivers, canals and waterbodies

Priority	Measure and suggested example actions
<p><b>More accessible and visible rivers, canals and waterbodies, with fewer barriers to species movement</b></p>	<p><b>Unblock, improve, and extend rights of way along waterbodies and improve connections between these networks and our wider ecological corridors and recreational routes.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: removing invasive plants that block access, clear and maintain footpaths and continuous access along routes.</i></p>
	<p><b>Expansion, creation or restoration of a variety of waterside habitats, including woodlands, wetlands and meadows, where it will better connect up existing habitats along our rivers, supporting species movement*.</b></p>
	<p><b>Improve mobility for aquatic creatures by removing barriers, daylighting buried or covered waterbodies or installing by-pass structures, where feasible*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: barrier removal including weirs and culverts; creation of by-pass structures or ledges.</i></p>
	<p><b>Celebrate rivers, canals, and waterbodies as part of the local identity and increase understanding of their natural value and management.</b></p>

	<p><i>Through for example: increased provision of; signage, interpretation boards, guided walks, boat trips, guides, and web resources; more river monitoring e.g. using citizen science; more education about riparian ownership responsibilities and opportunities to assist nature.</i></p>
<p><b>Cleaner, more natural and resilient rivers and waterbodies, that are well protected, maintained and biodiverse</b></p>	<p><b>Make water channels more natural and complex, re-meander channels and reconnect to floodplains where feasible*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: encouraging a range of chutes, pools and submerged and exposed sediment bars, to vary flow and create habitats while providing shelter; reconnecting to floodplains and introduce more natural features where feasible and appropriate such as re-meandering; removal of culverts.</i></p>
	<p><b>Enhance existing habitats within our waterbodies and adjacent grassland, wetland and woodland habitats to increase species richness*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: enhancing existing riparian grassland, wetlands and woodlands; removing invasive species.</i></p>
	<p><b>Restore more natural riverbanks, in appropriate locations, and reduce invasive species*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: adding buffer strips where possible to support a range of bankside topology and riparian habitat; bank modifications that cannot be removed being softened by adding material at their base; hibernacula for reptiles and amphibians to shelter/over winter; sand and shingle patches to act as microhabitats for insects; vertical banks as nest sites for kingfishers and sand martins; tree planting for shade creation and water cooling; restoring space for expanded and new habitats and species to establish by controlling the spread of invasive plants, and other invasive species and diseases as necessary, with community involvement where appropriate.</i></p>
	<p><b>Reduce point source pollution by identifying and tackling critical locations.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: targeted creating of sustainable drainage and wetland filter habitats (including raingardens, swales, bioretention areas and new reedbeds); raising awareness of misconceptions and illegal discharges; reducing CSO spills; monitoring/management of domestic misconceptions; appropriate land management activities; public campaigns; targeting critical locations.</i></p>
	<p><b>Reduce urban diffuse pollution using sustainable drainage and tackling litter and plastic pollution.</b></p>

	<p><i>Through for example: buffer strips; land decontamination; reedbeds and ponds used to clean water from industrial agricultural land; better management of road runoff; reduced macro and micro plastic loads from various sources such as urban runoff, by for instance, a public litter campaign, and/or a deep clean of urban hard surface.</i></p>
	<p><b>Encourage agricultural, industrial and land management practices that deliver water quality improvements.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: improving agricultural practices in relation to soil, nutrient, and pesticide management e.g. Water Friendly Farming projects or wetter farming; land decontamination; and the management of diffuse pollution from industry sites; targeting critical locations; adoption of low impact silvicultural techniques.</i></p>
<b>Increased habitat connectivity along our river corridors, canals and waterbodies</b>	<p><b>Expansion, creation or restoration of a variety of waterside habitats, including woodlands, wetlands and meadows, where they will better connect existing habitats*.</b></p>
	<p><b>Improve mobility for aquatic creatures by removing barriers, daylighting buried or covered waterbodies or installing by-pass structures, where feasible*.</b></p>
<b>More space for water and natural flood management in our communities and across catchments.</b>	<p><b>Install more sustainable drainage schemes, natural flood management schemes and permeable surfaces, in areas which will benefit nature and are most at risk of surface water flooding.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: site appropriate swales; bioretention areas; rain gardens; buffer or filter strips along roads; more permeable land surfaces across all our public and private spaces</i></p>
	<p><b>Increase awareness and understanding of sustainable drainage and natural flood management schemes.</b></p>
<b>Cleaner canals, restored for nature and people</b>	<p><b>Restoration and reconnection of canalside habitats, including targeted woodland creation and tree planting*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: encouraging the preparation and implementation of long-term management plans for all our canals for nature.</i></p>
	<p><b>Softening manmade canal banks using natural materials and native plants*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: soft engineering solutions with coir rolls and native local provenance planting instead of sheet piles.</i></p>

	<p><b>Reduce litter and pollution in canals.</b></p>
	<p><b>Encourage responsible recreational use of canals and maintain a good balance between more natural and diverse vegetation and keeping canals clear for recreation.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: disposing of dredged material where it will have least negative impact; boat speed limits; keeping paths clear; controlling invasive species such a Greater Reedmace (native) and Japanese Knotweed (non-native).</i></p>

### Lowland wetlands and mosslands

Priority	Measure and suggested example actions
<p><b>More lowland bogs, fens and other wetland habitats are restored and better managed for nature, able to store more water and emit less carbon</b></p>	<p><b>Enhance and manage existing and remnant areas of lowland raised bog, fens and other wetland habitats over the long term, to improve diversity*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: manage and work to reduce key pressures including reducing pollution and run-off from roads, agriculture, and industry; reducing pesticides and fertiliser; reducing land drainage and optimising water tables; reducing invasive species; reducing overgrazing; working to create agreed management plans where appropriate, based upon agreed best management practice to reach good condition; always follow existing best practice and use existing standards and decision-support frameworks.</i></p>
	<p><b>Enhance patchworks of semi-natural habitats surrounding our remaining lowland raised bog, fens and other wetland habitats to improve resilience*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: enhancing and working towards dynamic lowland wetland mosaics and associated habitats surrounding remaining sites, such as brooks, open water bodies, bog, fen, swamp, flashes, ponds, wet woodland and wet species-rich grassland; reducing overgrazing; reducing land drainage; removing invasives; always follow existing best practice and use existing standards and decision-support frameworks.</i></p>
	<p><b>Reintroduce lost species across a range of mossland and wetland communities*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: establish satellite nurseries to grow the rare wetland plants.</i></p>

<b>Bigger mosslands and wetlands, with more habitat corridors and stepping stones reconnecting and expanding remaining habitats</b>	<b>Restore degraded wetland sites and areas of restorable deep peat, particularly where they will connect remaining wetland habitats*.</b>  <i>Through for example expanding or buffering existing sites; maintain an optimal water table, restore habitat-specific vegetation; targeted creation of continuous habitat corridors between sites; creation of new patches of habitat where they will act as stepping stones; always follow existing best practice and use existing standards and decision-support frameworks.</i>
	<b>Create more patchworks of wetland habitats and transitional habitats, particularly around remaining and restored lowland raised bog, fens and other wetland habitats*.</b>  <i>Through for example: maintain an optimal water table surrounding key remaining sites; always following existing best practice and use existing standards and decision-support frameworks.</i>
	<b>Maintain and enhance restored sites and new corridors over the long term to maximise benefits for nature, carbon emissions reductions and water management.</b>  <i>Through for example: maintain an optimal water table, restore habitat-specific vegetation; always following existing best practice and use existing standards and decision-support frameworks.</i>
<b>More of our historic wetlands and restorable peat are wet</b>	<b>Identify former wetland habitats and investigate their potential for restoration to contribute to climate resilience and nature recovery.</b>
	<b>Reduce land drainage and positively manage the hydrology of land adjacent to lowland raised bog, fens and other sensitive wetland habitats, to increase climate resilience</b>  <i>Through for example: managing surface water drainage and groundwater abstraction to help re-wet peat soils and prevent harm from lower water levels; always following existing best practice and use existing standards and decision-support frameworks.</i>
	<b>Encourage the uptake of wetter farming and commercial paludiculture.</b>
	<b>Enable more well-managed recreational access to mosslands and wetlands.</b>

<b>Reconnect local communities to mosslands and wetlands, and their heritage</b>	<p><b>Increase awareness of the importance and benefits of healthy mosslands and wetlands.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example more signage, campaigns and the promotion of peat-free products.</i></p>
	<p><b>Enhance and extend networks and other access opportunities for walkers, cyclists, horse-riders and other outdoor recreational pursuits in ways that are compatible with habitat enhancement.</b></p>
<b>Better quality and better connected ponds</b>	<p><b>Safeguard, enhance and appropriately manage existing ponds and encourage good connectivity to surrounding habitats.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: controlling scrub; reduced pollution and pesticide runoff; removing invasive species; controlling livestock access to decrease poaching or contamination from farm animals; creating supporting ditch and pool infrastructure; ensure the sloping edges around ponds are structurally diverse and include hibernacula for reptiles and amphibians to shelter/over winter.</i></p>
	<p><b>Create a variety of new ponds, in the right places to connect existing ponds</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: following the existing site hydrology; ensuring variety in terms of size, depth, seasonality and vegetation.</i></p>

## Grasslands, farmlands and lowland heath

Priority	Measure and suggested example actions
<b>Species-rich and semi-natural grasslands and lowland heath are safeguarded, well-managed and restored</b>	<b>Identify and safeguard remaining notable semi-natural grasslands*.</b>
	<b>Enhance and appropriately manage remaining semi-natural grasslands and lowland heath, including increasing species richness*.</b> <i>Through for example: writing management plans when appropriate; promoting good management of public access; removing invasive species, targeted grazing management and mowing regimes for key species.</i>
	<b>Showcase successful grassland and heath management and encourage awareness of the value of these habitats.</b>
<b>More species-rich grasslands and lowland heath created, particularly where they will connect existing habitats</b>	<b>Creation or restoration of species-rich grasslands and lowland heath, particularly where they will expand or act as stepping stones or corridors*.</b> <i>Through for example: using seedbanks of local provenance; reducing mowing; reintroducing appropriate native species and where appropriate reducing nutrients by stripping topsoil or cut-collect regimes; monitoring and tracking grassland creation.</i>
	<b>Ensure appropriate long-term management of newly created grassland to achieve increased species-richness, and lowland heath</b>
	<b>Enhance and manage improved or semi-improved grasslands to boost species richness*.</b> <i>Through for example: wildlife-friendly cutting, mowing or grazing regimes; reducing spraying regimes or nutrient enhancement; where appropriate reducing nutrients by stripping topsoil; reducing the intensity of management.</i>
<b>More urban meadows, with</b>	<b>Allow areas of urban grasslands to grow long and flower and increase species diversity through planting or other measures.</b>

<b>native wildflower species and longer grasses</b>	<i>Through for example: reducing mowing or cutting regimes, using seedbanks of local provenance and appropriate native species; removal of topsoil and wildflower seeding of subsoil.</i>
	<p><b>Encourage greater understanding and acceptance of long grass and less intensively managed grasslands.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example engagement with local communities to explain changes and increase acceptance.</i></p>
<b>More dedicated spaces for wildlife integrated into farmland and buildings, alongside food production</b>	<p><b>Install or enable more accessible homes for birds and bats on and around farms and rural buildings.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: homes for species such as barn owl, house martin, swift and bats; avoid blocking or covering existing access points.</i></p>
	<p><b>Set aside dedicated patches of unmanaged or uncropped areas, along field boundaries, margins, corners or less productive areas, particularly where they will connect.</b></p>
	<p><b>Create and maintain forage areas and homes for species on farmland, alongside food production.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: species-diverse hedgerows; ponds; scrapes; in-field blocks or strips of wildflower pollen or nectar flower mixes.</i></p>
	<p><b>Grow and maintain multi-species cover crops, and cut later in the year, to provide food and cover for wildlife.</b></p>
	<p><b>Support and collaborate with farmers, landowners and managers to enhance their land for nature, alongside food production, and involve farmers in targeted species conservation programmes.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: collaborating with farmers, farmer groups and landowners to build on existing success including through, local farm open days, local knowledge and stories sharing; providing resources such as a tailored and easily accessible guide for wilder farming funding and delivery; increase uptake of relevant agri-environment schemes.</i></p>
<b>More biodiverse farmland, with healthier soils, better water management and</b>	<p><b>Manage grassland and cropland at lower intensity and with low inputs.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: adjusting timing of cropping or mowing to better protect wildlife; reduce herbicide, pesticide use and minimise use of artificial fertilisers.</i></p>
	<p><b>Reduce soil erosion, minimise bare ground and encourage soil recovery.</b></p>



<b>fewer intensively managed areas</b>	<i>Through for example: practices such as direct drilling and maintaining ground cover.</i>
	<b>Support switch to diversified plant species for grazing livestock, establish and maintain herbal lays or species-rich hay meadows</b> <i>Through for example: promoting rotational grazing practices.</i>
	<b>Improve water quality and pollution management on farmland, in farmyards and control livestock access to waterbodies.</b> <i>Through for example: installing roofs over slurry/silo stores; discouraging arable production on steeply sloping fields; fencing off or hedging ditches and water bodies to prevent poaching and contamination by farm animals; encouraging the growth of diverse riverside habitats, conversion away from arable crops in frequently flooded areas.</i>

#### Upland moorlands

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Measure and suggested example actions</b>
<b>More varied and well-functioning upland habitats, with patchworks of restored bog, heath, trees, springs and flushes, reducing flood and wildfire risk</b>	<b>Stabilise, rewet and restore deep bare peat towards active blanket bog*.</b> <i>Through for example: nurse crops; raising the water table; reducing land drainage; grip and gully blocking; reprofiling gully sides, bunding, reintroduction or translocation of moorland plants e.g. sphagnum, reduced grazing; always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks.</i>
	<b>Encourage more diverse native vegetation and more flower-rich habitats on existing upland moorlands*.</b> <i>Through for example: cutting to create a varied age structure; bracken and invasive species control; reintroduction of blanket bog plants; lower intensity grazing regimes to encourage more plant diversity and dynamic habitats; ensuring a diversity of heathland structure and managing fire risk; flower-rich habitat restoration and creation; always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks.</i>
	<b>Create transitional habitats or corridors to increase linkage between our uplands and lowland habitats, where conditions allow*.</b>

	<p><i>Through for example: Using carefully designed woodland, heath and scrub mosaics on moorland edges and in valleys replacing modified grassland or bracken dominated ground; expand upland heath habitat (e.g. substrate and nutrient levels); using locally sourced heather brash (dry and wet heath).</i></p>
	<p><b>Improve wildfire risk management by creating natural fire breaks and boost awareness.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example creating more flushes, dense trees and bunds, re-wetted and restoring water tables, to act as firebreaks; reducing gorse cover in targeted areas to minimise fire risk; influencing people’s awareness and behaviour; always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks.</i></p>
<p><b>More of our upland flushes are thriving, rich with sphagnum moss, rushes and sedges, supporting a diverse range of species</b></p>	<p><b>Restore more naturalised wet areas, flushes and ponds*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: bunds, grip and gully blocking, scrapes and pond creation.</i></p> <p><b>Create rough, diverse grasslands around flushes and wetlands, wet in some areas with rushes around flushes and springs*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: cutting or managing for different sward heights.</i></p> <p><b>Reduce and slow land drainage and encourage natural flood management.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: bunds, grip and gully blocking, leaky dams, scrapes and pond creation.</i></p>
<p><b>More trees, small woods and scrub are naturally regenerating, in appropriate places, across our uplands, helping slow and store water</b></p>	<p><b>Encourage the restoration and regeneration of existing upland woodlands and clough woodlands*.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: more woodland management plans created and implemented; targeted restoration, natural colonisation or regeneration of key woodland types and shrubs (such as temperate Atlantic rainforest forest, upland oak woodland and wood pasture) to reach good condition; restore and increase clough woodlands and scrub, adding to the habitat available for woodland species; restoration efforts should always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks.</i></p> <p><b>Increase woodland and tree regeneration and planting, with varying density from closed canopy woodland in places to scattered trees in others.</b></p>

	<p><i>Through for example: adding fencing in target areas to enable natural colonisation or planting of less-dense woodlands, scrub and scattered trees over the top of cloughs onto the edges of less-sensitive open moorland; using traditional boundaries, fencing and grazing management; restore and increase clough woodlands and scrub edges to expand tree cover, adding to the habitat available for woodland species; fence and let natural colonisation occur; planting efforts should always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks to avoid planting on important existing grassland, heath or bog habitats.</i></p>
	<p><b>Encourage moorland and clough edges to ‘scrub up’, to improve diversity, securing soils and slowing water flow.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: fencing or reducing grazing pressure to enable the natural colonisation of trees and scrub; always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks.</i></p>
	<p><b>Target woodland creation, tree planting and the creation of leaky dams, where they will also contribute towards slowing water flow.</b></p>
<p><b>Restore and rewet bare peat to active blanket bog and wet heath, to retain more carbon and hold more rainwater</b></p>	<p><b>Stabilise, rewet and restore deep bare peat towards active blanket bog and wet heath</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: nurse crops; raising water table; reducing land drainage; grip and gully blocking; reprofiling gully sides, bunding, reintroduction or translocation of moorland plants e.g. sphagnum; always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks.</i></p>
	<p><b>Work at scale to restore larger areas of remaining blanket bog faster.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example: reducing heath and grass dominance by cutting and reintroduction of blanket bog plants; reducing grazing pressure on blanket bogs; reducing burning on deep peat, blanket bog and wet heath; always follow existing best practice, standards and decision-support frameworks.</i></p>
<p><b>More upland communities, land managers and landowners are rewarded for</b></p>	<p><b>Support the switch to land management practices that will further enhance the diversity of upland habitats.</b></p> <p><i>Through for example support to create management plans for more nature friendly land uses; encourage more landowners to access support for woodland and tree planting or agro-forestry or other relevant agri-environment schemes; coordinating support for farmers across partners.</i></p>
	<p><b>Encourage a reduction in the intensity of upland grazing and less intensive management of uplands.</b></p>

<b>helping nature recover</b>	<i>Through for example: Encouraging rotational and mixed grazing systems that can reduce grazing intensity while maintaining productivity and supporting upland biodiversity.</i>
	<b>Maintain, restore and increase upland hedgerows, hedgerow trees and field boundaries as important habitats.</b>
	<b>Encourage sustainable recreation and reduce activities that damage upland habitats.</b> <i>Through for example: promoting awareness and education about the impacts of accidental fires and damage from off-road vehicles and implementing measures to prevent such damages.</i>