

# Consultation on improvements to Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership



We are interested in making some changes to the ways of working, communicating and organising in Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership, to improve our strength as a partnership.

Some of the reasons we are interested in improving and strengthening the partnership are:

- Lots of people consider themselves part of the Local Nature Partnership, but have very different pictures of what that means to them.
- There are uncertainties about what the partnership is and what being a member means.
- As a wide and varied partnership, do our methods of communication and sharing information need updating – is there something that would serve your needs better?
- Some areas of current Local Nature Partnership strategy have groups that meet or communicate more specifically. What can we organise to connect and involve people where this isn't the case?

We organised a focus group of a range of Local Nature Partnership members who met three times in Autumn 2025, to look at these questions and also give related input into draft Local Nature Partnership strategy.

Issues identified by the focus group include:

- There is a lack of clarity about who is in the partnership – which organisations, and which people from those organisations would be the key LNP contacts.
- The GLNP board appears to be somewhat of a closed shop, and there is a desire for a more inclusive and participatory approach that better connects wider members of the partnership.
- Organisations want to be part of the Local Nature Partnership in order to connect, collaborate and feel plugged in to a wider picture and communicate more easily. However, if they are not part of an existing working group or allied network, it is very difficult to achieve this.
- There's a range of different understandings in the wider Partnership over the role of the Local Nature Partnership and the way it works, so better open communication, clarity and transparency is needed.

The focus group made a range of recommendations which have also been considered and discussed by the GLNP board.

We would like to consult you all now to see whether you would like these changes to be made, or whether you have adjustments and suggestions to consider.

Our recommended changes are described below. Please do respond to this survey by the end of Monday 8 June 2026 to give your views!

## Proposals that we are consulting on:

1. We should create a simple but clear sign-up that your organisation is part of Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership, with text such as:

I confirm that [organisation name] is a member of Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership.

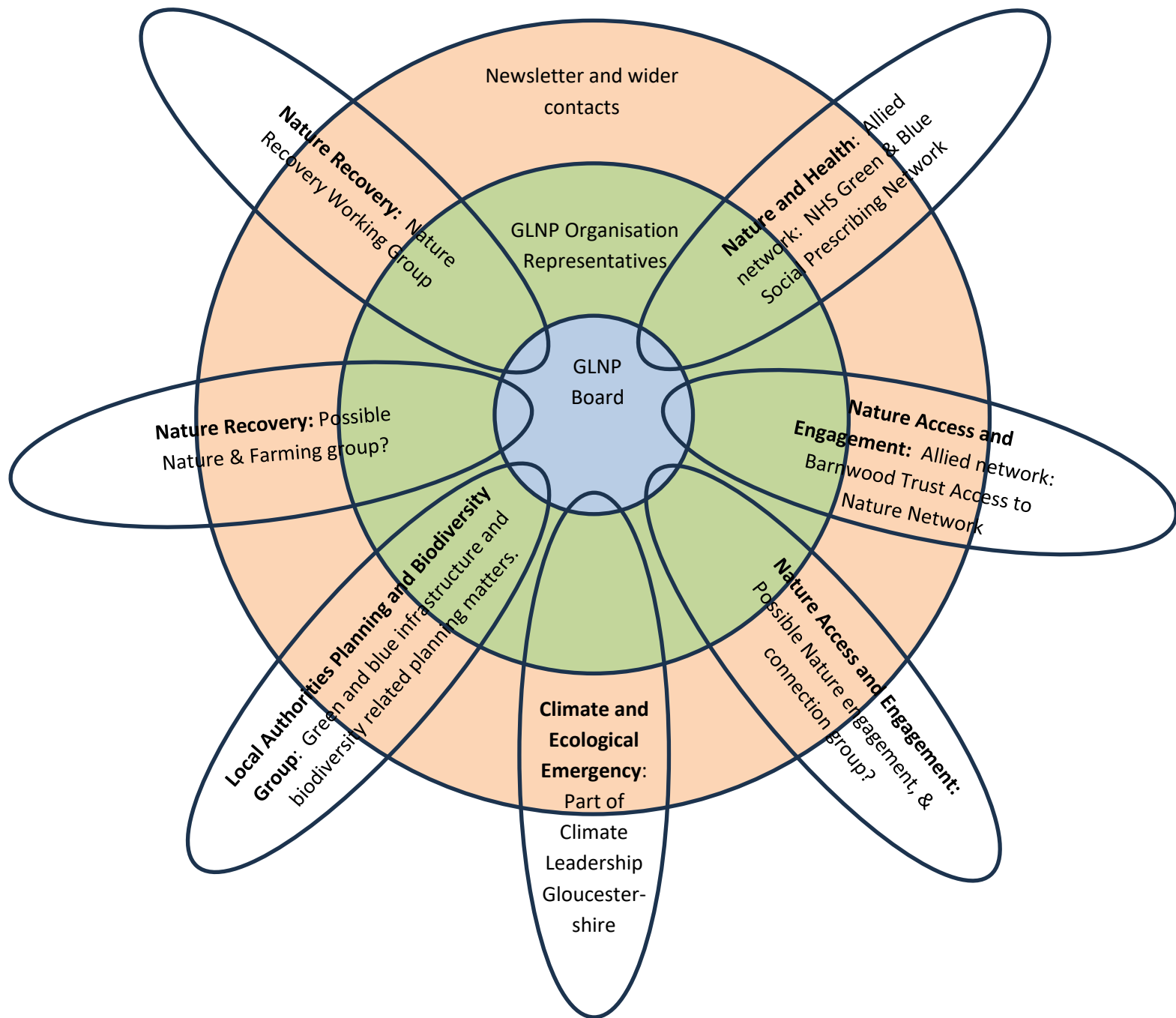
We believe that we achieve more for people and nature by working together.

Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership aims to put nature at the heart of local decision-making, for the benefit of nature recovery, people and the local economy.

Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership brings organisations together to share knowledge, improve practice and policy, and draw together connections and resources, to collaborate on strategic ambitions for nature in Gloucestershire.

2. Each organisation can nominate approximately 2 representatives per organisation or department who would like to be in more regular connection and communication with other LNP members. These “LNP Organisation Representatives” can opt to join a contact list if they like, to share updates, questions, information and feedback to and from the Local Nature Partnership board, more quickly and responsively. The method of communication could be moderated email group (using groups.io, similar to the academic jiscmail), a LinkedIn private group, or a simple unmoderated email group.
3. We would arrange whole partnership gatherings at least annually.
4. The GLNP board membership framework should include:
  1. Independent chair, and vice-chair.
  2. Executive members for strategic leadership.
  3. Working group leads or representatives as nominated by working groups or allied networks, as agreed by the LNP board in line with LNP strategy. (these board reps could potentially change more frequently as working groups evolve or form)
5. There would be a range of ways people can be involved in the Local Nature Partnership, as shown in the diagram below. You can be part of a working group or network and no other involvement; you can be part of the newsletter circulation and no other involvement; or you can also be in a LNP organisation representative email group with more contact and communication. We would retain flexibility about the ways that working groups or more temporary task & finish groups can be organised.

**Visualisation of potential Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership structure**



6. Purpose – Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership exists to:

- **Achieve more for people and nature by working together.**
- **Put nature at the heart of local decision-making**, for the benefit of nature recovery, people and the local economy. Be local champions influencing decision-making relating to Gloucestershire’s natural environment and its value to the county’s long term economic prosperity and the health and well-being of its residents.
- **Drive positive change** in the local natural environment, taking a strategic view of the challenges and opportunities involved and identifying ways to manage it as a system for the benefit of nature, people and the economy.
- **Bring organisations together to share** knowledge, improve practice and policy, and draw together connections and resources, to collaborate on strategic ambitions for nature in Gloucestershire.

***In so doing, develop actions, programmes and projects that address the urgent global ecological and climate crises being expressed locally in the County.***

7. Purposes of Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership board could include:

1. Facilitate collective strategic leadership on natural environment issues in Gloucestershire.
2. Develop Local Nature Partnership strategy for Gloucestershire.
3. Agree Local Nature Partnership priorities and workplan.
4. Approve working groups, networks and task and finish groups that can support collaboration, provide a strong constructive voice for the environment and promote delivery of LNP strategic themes.
5. Support Gloucestershire Nature and Climate Fund as Gloucestershire’s initiative to develop natural capital investment.
6. Advise on engagement in nature-related policy and decision-making in Gloucestershire.
7. Ensure GLNP is adequately funded and resourced through cross-sectoral support.
8. Ensure good governance for GLNP.

8. There is a draft proposition for the next goals of Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership as a whole, below:

**Climate and Ecological Emergency** - over-arching – all of the other themes are part of this

**Part of Climate Leadership Gloucestershire**

**Nature Access and Engaging people in connection to nature**

- Support increased access to nature by disadvantaged groups, through Barnwood Trust’s Access to Nature network.
- Co-produce work on removing barriers to communities accessing nature.
- Share and connect work on environment education and nature connection?

**Nature Recovery**

- Support the delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- Create and resource a countywide monitoring strategy, including a State of Nature report.
- Quantifying our ambition for nature and linking to research.
- Supporting partners working with farmers and landowners to encourage regenerative farming and access nature recovery advice and funding.

**Nature and Health**

- Champion nature engagement in health commissioning.
- Develop and resource green social prescribing.
- Utilise the opportunity of social value funding if feasible.
- Continue to build evidence base between nature and health & wellbeing.
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**Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership potential Strategic Themes**

**Green and blue infrastructure**

- Embedding nature in county strategies and policies.
- Champion best practice in green and blue infrastructure, and recreational access to suitable alternative natural green spaces.

**Finance for Nature**

- Support the development of Gloucestershire Nature and Climate Fund to finance nature.
- Work together to develop better understanding of carbon sequestration through habitat management and land use change?