

Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy 2021 – 2025 (DRAFT)

FOREWORD

In 2018 the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) declared a Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Crisis, stating “that the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis are inextricably linked and must be addressed together. Restoring biodiversity has the potential to both mitigate against the effects of climate change, through enhancing carbon-storing habitats ... and helping society and nature to adapt to the inevitable challenges we face from a changing climate”. CIEEM called for action ... through nature-based solutions”.

In 2020 an International statement of intent, known as the Edinburgh Declaration, calling for bold action on biodiversity loss has been made in Scotland by subnational governments, cities and local authorities.

The community have consistently shown that there is a great deal of interest in the natural environment of Rushcliffe. When residents are aware that sensitive wildlife sites are threatened, they are quick to show their concern. This strategy not only sets out to try to safeguard existing known sites of interest, but also to encourage the development and improvement of new sites, while seeking to address the Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Crisis we all face. The strategy also seeks to preserve the existing links between wildlife sites and to establish new links to allow the spread of wild native plants and animals.

The objective of the strategy is not only to benefit wildlife; visitors and residents will also benefit through the opportunities to observe and enjoy nature. A wildlife-rich environment has been shown to provide health benefits and economic benefits. Properly pursued, the strategy will benefit not only those who live and work in Rushcliffe now, but also future generations.

Public interest must be translated from words to action. Everyone has a responsibility to do their bit and this strategy outlines actions that statutory and voluntary organisations, businesses and individuals working together can implement.

This strategy replaces previous strategies produced in 2003, 2010 and 2015. The strategy has been developed by the Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy Implementation Group (RNCSIG), which brings together statutory agencies and voluntary bodies, with the Borough Council and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust playing leading roles, in partnership with a wide group of individuals, groups and organisations. This strategy supports the work of the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group, implementing the county Biodiversity Action Plan at the borough level.

Changes in government guidance on sustainable development, biodiversity and planning, climate change and changes in legislation all emphasise the importance of effective environmental protection and wildlife conservation for meeting the aims of sustainable development, and the need to provide a good quality environment in which people can live and work.

The major organisations shown below commend this strategy to everyone who reads it. We will do our bit, so please join us and do yours.

Rushcliffe Borough Council



Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust



Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group



Nottinghamshire County Council



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED IN DOCUMENT

| | |
|--------|--|
| BG | British Gypsum |
| BTC | Bingham Town Council |
| TCV | The Conservation Volunteers (Previously BTCV) |
| BTO | British Trust for Ornithology |
| BuC | Butterfly Conservation |
| CA | Countryside Agency |
| CLA | Country Land & Business Association |
| CPRE | Campaign to Protect Rural England |
| CRT | Canal & River Trust (Previously British Waterways) |
| CTC | Cotgrave Town Council |
| CE | Crown Estate |
| DEFRA | Dept. of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs |
| EA | Environment Agency |
| FC | Forestry Commission |
| FoG's | Friends of Groups |
| FoRCP | Friends of Rushcliffe Country Park |
| GPC | Gotham Parish Council |
| IWA | Inland Waterways Association |
| KPC | Keyworth Parish Council |
| LBAP | Local Biodiversity Action Plan |
| LNR | Local Nature Reserve |
| LWS | Local Wildlife Site (Previously SINC's) |
| MFDS | Manor Farm Donkey Sanctuary |
| NBAG | Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group |
| NBGRC | Nottinghamshire Biological & Geological Records Centre |
| NCC | Nottinghamshire County Council |
| NE | Natural England |
| NFU | National Farmers Union |
| NFaW | Nottinghamshire Farming and Wildlife |
| NBW | Nottinghamshire Birdwatchers |
| NPPF | National Planning Policy Framework |
| NRV | Notified Road Verges |
| NU | University of Nottingham |
| NWT | Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust |
| PCs | Parish/Town Councils |
| RBC | Rushcliffe Borough Council |
| RCAN | Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire |
| RNCSIG | Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy Implementation Group |
| RSPB | Royal Society for the Protection of Birds |
| RuBOP | Rushcliffe Barn Owl Project |
| SBPC | Sutton Bonington Parish Council |
| SSSI | Site of Special Scientific Interest |
| STW | Severn Trent Water |
| TVIDB | Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board |
| Vol's | Volunteers |
| WWF | World Wide Fund for Nature |