Appendix 4 - National Environmental Objectives

National targets set under the Environment Act (2021)

National targets set under the Environment Act (2021) Objective	How LNRSs can contribute	Can the Notts LNRS contribute?
Biodiversity on land - Restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitat outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022 levels	The purpose of LNRSs is to identify opportunities to create or improve habitat in locations where it would have the greatest benefit to biodiversity and the wider environment.	**Yes**
Biodiversity on land – Halt the decline of species abundance by 2030. Ensure that species abundance in 2042 is greater than in 2022, and at least 10% greater than 2030	All actions proposed in every LNRS should be designed to make a positive contribution to biodiversity, including species abundance, considering their habitat and connectivity requirements.	**Yes**
Biodiversity on land - reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022	All LNRSs should include targeted habitat creation or improvement to support the recovery of the most threatened and near threatened species which are present.	**Yes**
Woodland cover - Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050	All LNRSs should seek to identify opportunities for new areas of woodland, expand existing areas of woodland and trees outside of woodland where this will benefit biodiversity and other environmental outcomes.	**Yes**
Improve water quality and availability - Reduce nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and sediment pollution from agriculture into the water environment by at least 40% by 2038, compared to a 2018 baseline	All LNRSs should seek to make a positive contribution to the water environment, including by limiting or mitigating nutrient and sediment pollution from agriculture, through the creation or improvement of habitat. For example, through creation of habitat along water courses to reduce the inflow of surface water carrying agricultural pollutants whilst also acting as wildlife corridors.	**Yes, although limited?**

Appendix 4 - National Environmental Objectives

Key additional relevant commitment from the Environmental Improvement Plan (2023)

Objective	How LNRSs can contribute	Can the Notts LNRS contribute?
Work to ensure that everyone in England lives within 15 minutes' walk of a green or blue space	All LNRSs should look for opportunities to contribute to improving public access when proposing actions to enhance biodiversity. This includes actively seeking to target actions and areas for nature recovery in Green Belts and other suitable areas near to people's homes (See paras 56 & 83 of the statutory guidance).	**Co-benefit**
Restore approximately 280,000 hectares of peatland in England by 2050	All LNRSs in suitable upland and lowland parts of England should seek to identify locations for peat restoration and appropriate management.	**Yes – but peatland resource is limited**
Restore 75% of our water bodies to good ecological status	All LNRSs should seek to make a positive contribution to the water environment through the creation or improvement of habitat for biodiversity.	**Possibly**
Protect 30% of land and of sea in the UK for nature's recovery by 2030	All LNRSs will identify opportunities to create and improve wildlife-rich habitat which could, where protection or agreements for ongoing management are in place, contribute to meeting the 30by30 goal. Responsible authorities should focus on National Parks and AONBs to help increase biodiversity in these existing protected areas.	**Yes**
Support farmers to create or restore 30,000 miles of hedgerows by 2037 and 45,000 miles of hedgerows by 2050	All LNRSs should seek to identify opportunities where the creation, restoration or connection of hedgerows would make a particular contribution to biodiversity or wider environmental outcomes.	**Yes**
Manage our woodlands for biodiversity, climate and sustainable forestry	All LNRSs should seek to identify opportunities to improve the management of existing areas of woodland for biodiversity and wider benefits.	**Yes**

Appendix 4 - National Environmental Objectives

Objective	How LNRSs can contribute	Can the Notts LNRS contribute?
Restore 75% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest to favourable condition by 2042. By 31 January 2028 50% of SSSIs will have actions on track to achieve favourable condition.	All LNRSs should seek to help improve the condition of SSSIs in their area by identifying opportunities for the creation or improvement of habitat in connected areas outside the SSSI boundary. For example, through action upstream of a wetland site to improve water quality. LNRSs may also propose actions on SSSIs themselves but should not duplicate or conflict with statutory requirements.	**LNRS role unclear**
Ensure delivery & management of actions & policies that contribute towards our 25YEP goals are suitable & adaptive to a changing climate	All LNRSs should consider the anticipated impacts of climate change throughout their preparation to help biodiversity and the environment in their area adapt to future changes.	**Yes**
Make sure LNRSs include proposals for Nature-based Solutions which improve flood risk management where appropriate	All LNRSs should seek to identify opportunities and suitable locations for undertaking natural flood management through the creation or improvement of habitat for biodiversity	**Yes**
Achieve Good Environmental Status for our seas	Coastal LNRSs should seek opportunities to create or improve habitat at the coast or in the inter-tidal zone that would benefit the marine or coastal environment. For example, through the creation of saltmarsh in suitable areas. Wider actions to improve water quality in rivers will also benefit estuarine and marine habitats downstream.	**Possible, but minor role**
Reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by 73% and ammonia by 16% by 2030 relative to 2005 levels	LNRSs should consider opportunities for targeted creation or improvement of nitrogen-tolerant habitats for biodiversity that can buffer or shield more nitrogen-sensitive habitats from significant nitrogen sources. For example, planting of tree shelter belts.	**Possibly**
Reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of invasive non-native species by at least 50%, by 2030	Restoration of habitats may sometimes involve the removal of invasive non-native species. Delivery of actions proposed should be mindful of the risks of introducing or enabling the spread of non-native species. For example, by appropriate sourcing of tree saplings.	**Yes**