



Nottinghamshire & Nottingham

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy and Biodiversity Net Gain

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working in partnership



Nottinghamshire
County Council



Nottingham
City Council

This short guidance document has been prepared to assist those submitting or assessing planning applications involving Biodiversity Net Gain within Nottinghamshire and Nottingham, specifically in relation to the ‘strategic significance’ multiplier.

Through Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is intended to promote the delivery of offsite biodiversity gain in the right places. This applies where offsite provision is needed to meet the biodiversity gain condition for a development, because it cannot be met in full through onsite habitat enhancements.

More information about BNG can be found at [Biodiversity Net Gain \(gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/biodiversity-net-gain) and about the relationship between the LNRS and BNG on page 12 of the [Statement of Biodiversity Priorities](#).

Specifically, LNRSs play a role in BNG by determining the ‘**strategic significance**’ multiplier within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (SBM). This mechanism means that there is an incentive for developers to align with the LNRS in their area when choosing the location of off-site BNG units.

DEFRA has published [The Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide \(PDF\) \(gov.uk\)](#) to provide relevant guidance.

Table 7 of the guidance indicates that a ‘high’ strategic significance category can be applied in the SBM when:

- The location of the habitat parcel has been mapped in [the Local Habitat Map](#) as an area where a potential measure has been proposed to help deliver the priorities of the LNRS; and
- The intervention is consistent with the **Potential Measure** proposed at that location.

The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham LNRS uses general habitat definitions to

ensure that it is user friendly and non-technical and therefore is accessible to non-specialists, whereas the SBM uses a more detailed and technical habitat classification system called the [UK Habitat Classification \(ukhab.org\)](https://ukhab.org/), or UKHab.

When undertaking a SBM calculation and determining the strategic significance there is a need to translate between the UKHab habitats used within the calculation and the more general habitat types used within the LNRS.

The table provided below provides this translation to ensure that the habitat types used in the LNRS can be correctly translated into the relevant UKHab habitat type, to avoid confusion or mis-application. It should be noted that the translation provided relates to all habitats covered by the LNRS, but does mean that some habitats are listed for which there is no corresponding potential measure mapped on the Local Habitat Map.

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When submitting or assessing a planning application involving offsite BNG provision you will therefore need to refer to the table below.

Priorities and Measures grouping	LNRS habitat type	UKHab habitat type	UKHab code
Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	w1f
	Wet woodland	Wet woodland	w1d
	Wood pasture and parkland	Wood-pasture and parkland	26
	Planted coniferous woodland	Other coniferous woodland	w2c
	Other broadleaved woodlands	Other broadleaved woodland	w1g
		Other woodland – mixed	w1h
	Scrub	Blackthorn scrub	h3a
		Hazel scrub	h3b
		Gorse scrub	h3e
		Hawthorn scrub	h3f
		Mixed scrub	h3h
		Willow scrub	h3j
	Ancient and veteran trees	Veteran tree, Ancient tree	204, 205
Watercourse	Rivers	Rivers (priority habitat)	r2a
		Other rivers and streams	r2b
	Streams	Other rivers and streams	r2b
	Canals	Canals	r1e
Wetland	Floodplain grazing marsh	Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	19
	Eutrophic standing water	Eutrophic standing waters	r1a
	Mesotrophic lakes	Mesotrophic lakes	r1b
	Ponds	Ponds (priority habitat), pond (non-priority)	40, 41
	Reedbed	Reedbeds	f2e
	Lowland fen	Lowland fens	f2a
	Marsh and swamp	Aquatic marginal vegetation	f2d
		Other wetlands	f2f
		Swamp	406

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Heathland	Lowland heathland	Lowland heathland	h1a
	Lowland dry acid grassland	Lowland dry acid grassland	g1a
		Other lowland dry acid grassland	g1d
Grassland	Lowland calcareous grassland	Lowland calcareous grassland	g2a
	Lowland meadows	Lowland meadows	g3a
	Other semi-improved grassland	Other calcareous grassland	g2c
		Other neutral grassland	g3c
Farmland	Arable field margins	Arable field margins	c1a
	Hedgerows	Native hedgerow	h2a
	Traditional orchards	Traditional orchards	27
	Arable farmland	Temporary grass and clover leys	c1b
		Cereal crops	c1c
		Non-cereal crops	c1d
		Intensive orchards	c1e
		Horticulture	c1f
	Improved grassland	Modified grassland	g4
	Ditches	Ditch	50
	Woodland / watercourse / wetland / heathland / grassland as above	See above under relevant habitat grouping	See above
Urban and Post-industrial	Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	80
	Urban green and blue spaces (including gardens)	Suburban mosaic of developed and natural surface	u1d
		Garden	827
		Cemeteries and churchyards	90
		Bioswale	849
		See above under relevant habitat grouping	See above
	Buildings	Developed land; sealed surface	u1b
		Green roof, Biodiverse green roof, Other green roof	86, 87, 89
	Woodland / watercourse / wetland / heathland / grassland as above	See above under relevant habitat grouping	See above