

Title of action plan being assessed	NI 197 Biodiversity Wildlife Sites
Number of Action plan being assessed (e.g COL 3)	SE1
LAA indicator	NI 197
Name and role of officer completing this assessment	John Hall, Target Lead
Contact Telephone Number	01621 862960
Date Assessment Completed	30/9/2008
Which Partners are involved?	All Local Authorities All LSPs All Essex Partnership

1. What are the aims and objectives of this action plan, in addition to achieving LAA indicator target? i.e. What do you want to achieve?

The main aim is to encourage and achieve Positive Conservation Management on 50% of the 1400 Local Wildlife Sites in Essex.

This will mean that these Local Wildlife Sites will not deteriorate and lose their wildlife value because of poor/lack of management.

This will mean that Local Wildlife Sites are better known and not damaged or lost through inappropriate development and provide good quality sites for interested people.

2. What are the processes used to deliver the action plan?

1. Bring together representatives of all partner organisations.
2. Ensure we all understand what Local Wildlife Sites are, where they are, why they are important and how they can be looked after.
3. Determine who owns which sites and contact them.
4. Write or encourage the writing of Positive Conservation Management (PCM) statements for 144 Local Wildlife Sites each year through support and incentives of grants.
5. Feedback which Local Wildlife Sites have PCM written to the agreed criteria.
6. Celebrate success each year so that everybody is acknowledged and informed.

3.a. Think about each of the equality groups in turn. Could your action plan have an adverse or positive effect on people in the group? Put a tick against any group that could be positively affected, and a cross against any group that could be negatively affected. Some groups may have a tick and a cross.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race and Culture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disability
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion and Belief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rurality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Economic deprivation

3.b. Set out the issues that you think are relevant under each equality strand, and what changes you will make to the action plan as a result.

Race and Culture

Our experience is that relatively few people from ethnic minorities would know much about important species, habitats or wildlife sites.

We will aim to consult them and provide them with information which explains their importance.

We will include this on the criteria for Positive Conservation Management.

Age

Our experience is that many older people have not had the educational courses needed to develop their interest in wildlife site conservation – and many young people also miss out.

We will aim to provide information on line which gives and encourages access to this.

Sexual Orientation

None identified to date

Disability

Physically disabled cannot visit such sites.

Audio-visually impaired people will not be able to gain physical access nor information on line.

We will aim to get PCMs in a form that they can be read on line or downloaded via IPOD or mobile phone.

We will include this on the criteria for positive Conservation Management.

Gender

None identified

Religion and Belief

None identified

Rural Isolation

Most Local Wildlife Sites are not in the middle of towns, they are in rural situations so these will be of benefit to the quality of life of rural people.

We will emphasise this in the PCM criteria.

Economic Disadvantage

Landowners who do not have much money will :

- a) not be likely to spend money on a PCM statement,
- b) not be able to implement any positive management.

We will introduce a Grant Scheme to support those landowners who are prepared to get a PCM statement and we will promote this Grant Scheme.

4. What data or other evidence could you use to help you to support or dispute your initial conclusions? How will you collect this evidence and/or how you will check your presumptions by consulting with particular equality and diversity groups?

Complete the tables below. Identify the evidence you need and the questions that you need answer to. If you feel that particular organisations or community/ voluntary groups will be able to help you please list these too.

DATA PLAN

What evidence do you want?	Where are you going to look or who are you going to ask?	How will you use the evidence?
Is species and habitat conservation important to ethnic minorities?	ECC Schools Essex Equality Diversity Project.	Change our targeting of information to Ethnic Groups.
In what format should species/habitat information be presented to people with different disabilities?	ECC Adult Participation Network.	Change the way we present information so it is more accessible to those with disabilities.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN

What do you want to know?	Who are you going to ask?	What question will you ask?	What will you do with the answer?	Name of planned source (if known)
How much do different cultures understand about Essex habitats?	Focus Group including representatives from Ethnic Minorities.	Which of the following habitats do you believe are important in Essex? Coastal marsh, Ancient wood, Freshwater ponds/lakes, Flower rich grassland, Heathland, Sand dune, Rocky coast, Moorland, Bogs.	Change our information and promotion to suit the audience.	
Is money the reason that landowners may not engage?	Landowner of Local Wildlife Sites.	What will persuade you to have a PCM statement done for a Local Wildlife Site on your land?	Improve the targeting of the Grant Scheme.	
How could the Local Wildlife Sites information be best used by young or old?	Essex Schools/ University of Third Age.	Here is the Local Wildlife Sites GIS map – how can we develop a good project on this which will interest all school children/elderly students?	Change the way we present information to young children through school computers, and elderly people.	

5. The Essex Partnership needs a copy of this Section of your EIA in order to co-ordinate any public engagement activities. You will be given feed back by the Essex partnership on the best way to manage the public engagement activity you have identified on the form. Please send this completed section of your EIA to the e-mail address below.

Please submit this form to the Essex Partnership team: info@essexpartnership.org