

## Sedgemoor and Somerset West and Taunton Districts' Proposed Ecological Emergency Action Plan

| Ref. No  | Project   | Term   | District    | Ref. No | Sub-project  | Term      | District | Ambitions |   |   | Targets  | Delivery Type |
|--|---|--------|-------------|---------|--|-----------|----------|-----------|---|---|----------|---------------|
| <b>Theme 1: Embed nature recovery throughout all our own work within SWT/SDC</b>                           |   |        |             |         |  |           |          |           |   |   |          |               |
| <b>Action 1 Build the business case for nature protection to inform decisions across the council</b>       |   |        |             |         |  |           |          |           |   |   |          |               |
| 1.1  | Pilot innovative projects that demonstrate the business case for nature.  | short  | SDC/<br>SWT | 1.1.1   | Undertake cost analysis of new grass cutting management plan.  | Immediate | SWT      | 1         | 2 | 3 | 2b/3d/3b | Deliver       |
| 1.2  | Undertake review of mechanisms for decision making which include ecological improvement and protection.   | short  | SDC/<br>SWT |         |  |           |          | 1         |   | 3 | 1b/3a    | Deliver       |
| 1.3  | All staff undertake training to understand biodiversity loss and how they can have a role in supporting it.   | Short  | SDC/<br>SWT |         |  |           |          |           |   | 3 | 3e       | Enable        |
| <b>Action 2 Develop and implement planning policies that support ecological protection and improvement</b> |   |        |             |         |  |           |          |           |   |   |          |               |
| 2.1  | As part of new unitary Local Plan develop policies that support nature recovery, including Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and Biodiversity Net Gain (links to CNCR 133). | medium | SDC/<br>SWT | 2.1.1   | Work with Somerset County Council and others to develop Interim Planning guidance statement that explicitly seeks to secure ecological | Immediate | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1c/ 3c   | Deliver       |

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|         |         |      |          |         | protection and enhancement, supporting Biodiversity Net Gain and Nature Recovery Networks consistent with adopted Local Plans and NPPF requirements.   |       |          |           |  |   |         |               |         |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.2   | Review and update existing local validation requirements/guidance and include multifunctional landscapes that deliver benefits such as SUDS; ecological protection and enhancement; climate mitigation; retention of soil function (structure and health). | short | SDC/SWT  | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/ 3c        | Deliver |

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|         |         |      |          |         |   |        |          |           |  |   |         |               |         |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.3   | Develop Local Plan policies and guidance, setting out expectations with regards to on-site measures to protect habitats, biodiversity, protected species delivery a minimum of 10% BNG from new developments (links to CNCR 141).                     | Medium | SDC/SWT  | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/ 3c        | Deliver |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.4   | Within interim planning guidance encourage the incorporation of simple on sites measures within development that can help contribute to addressing biodiversity decline (e.g. bee bricks, nesting, roosting and hibernation boxes) where appropriate. | short  | SDC/SWT  | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/ 3c        | Support |

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|         |         |      |          |         |   |        |          | 1         | 3 |   |         |               |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.5   | Develop Local Plan policies requiring retention and protection of ancient trees and habitats within new development sites (links to CNCR 134).  | Medium | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1c/ 3c  | Deliver       |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.6   | Develop Local Plan and corporate policies requiring replacement of any trees that are removed using right tree right place principle or with other habitats that have a better impact biodiversity, and are consistent with forthcoming Biodiversity Net Gain requirements. (Amended CNCR 135). | Medium | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1c/ 3c  | Deliver       |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.7   | Develop local Plan policies that maximise brownfield site   | Medium | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1c/ 3c  | Deliver       |

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|         |         |      |          |         | development opportunities.   |        |          |           |  |   |         |               |         |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.8   | Develop local Plan policies that support nature positive farming practices and diversification that can deliver more viable ecosystem services (CNCR Ref 114 amended). | Medium | SDC/SWT  | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/ 3c        | Deliver |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.9   | Develop Local Plan policies that protect existing and allocated land and set requirements to support new traditional orchards and allotments (CNCR 110 amended).       | Medium | SDC/SWT  | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/ 3c        | Deliver |
|         |         |      |          | 2.1.10  | Develop local plan and policies that protect and create pollinator habitats (CEAP 94).   | Medium | SDC/SWT  | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/ 3c        | Deliver |

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|         |   |       |             |         |   |       |          | 1         | 3 |   |         |               |
| 2.2     | Ensure ecological conditions of planned developments are enforced and where appropriate take action where breaches are identified.                          | short | SDC/<br>SWT | 2.2.1   | Build capacity and capability of planning team by appointment of additional tree, ecology, landscape and enforcement officers and provide training to existing staff to monitor compliance of tree and biodiversity net gain policies and deliver ecological protection under LGR (CNCR 288 amended). | short | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1c/ 3c  | Deliver       |
| 2.3     | Support developers to integrate high quality landscapes and SUDS in all new developments to support flood management and water quality (links to CEAP 100). | short | SDC/<br>SWT | 2.3.1   | Review and update existing local validation requirements/guidance and include multifunctional landscapes that deliver benefits such as SUDS; ecological protection and enhancement;   | short | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1c/ 3c  | Deliver       |

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|         |  |       |          |         | climate mitigation; retention of soil function (structure and health).   |       |          |           |  |   |         |               |         |
|         |  |       |          | 2.3.2   | Signpost developers to Somerset Council's SUDS guidance when published.  | short | SDC/SWT  | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/3d         | Support |
|         |  |       |          | 2.3.3   | Provide guidance to developers on delivering phosphate neutral developments and monitor effect of measures P neutral measures. | short | SWT      | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/3c         | Support |
| 2.4     | Landscape management schemes on new developments deliver high quality habitats that support wildlife and have long-term maintenance plans in place meeting 10% Biodiversity Net Gain requirement as a minimum. | Short | SDC/ SWT |         |  |       |          | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1c/3c         | Deliver |

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|                 |   |           |          |         |             |      |          | 1         | 3 | 4 |         |               |         |
| 2.5             | Request that all construction/ sustainability method statements for all new developments include soil resource plans for the best and most fertile soils.   | short     | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 |         | 1c/3c         | Deliver |
| 2.6             | Firepool development in Taunton is delivered as an exemplar site that integrates ecological protection and enhancement into the fabric of the site design.  | long      | SWT      |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 |         | 1c/3c         | Deliver |
| 2.7             | Support and encourage parish or town councils to develop neighbourhood plans that protect and enhance biodiversity and habitat recovery.  | ongoing   | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 | 4       | 1c/3c/4a      | Support |
| <b>Action 3</b> | <b>Embed ecological protection and enhancement within all green and blue infrastructure plans, and river and coastal flood mitigation projects to contribute towards the delivery of the Nature Recovery Networks</b> |           |          |         |             |      |          |           |   |   |         |               |         |
| 3.1             | Complete a new Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy for the district drawing together opportunities to improve access to green spaces, active travel  | Immediate | SWT      |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 |         | 1c/3c         | Deliver |



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|         | linkages, reinstate and create green landscape linkages, improve biodiversity, re-wild and regenerate the landscape and increase carbon sequestration and climate resilience (CNCR 120). |       |             |         |   |           |          |           |  |   |         |               |
| 3.2     | Review and integrate ecological improvements within green infrastructure design delivering multi-functional benefits that support nature recovery networks.                              | short | SDC/<br>SWT |         |   |           |          | 1         |  | 3 | 1c/3a   | Deliver       |
| 3.3     | Consider ecological protection and improvement within all coastal flood mitigation projects and where appropriate implement nature-based solutions.                                      | Long  | SDC/<br>SWT | 3.3.1   | Continue Berrow Dunes, Bridgwater (LNR/SSSI) management and The Meads Eco Park to support rare habitats and a nature-based solution for higher risk of tidal flooding (relates to CEAP 97). | Immediate | SDC      | 1         |  | 3 | 1c/ 3a  | Deliver       |

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|                 |   |                  |          | 3.3.2   | Deliver Longrun Meadow flood mitigation project.  | Medium          | SWT      | 1         |   | 3 |         | 1c/3a         | Deliver |
| 3.4             | Consider ecological protection and improvement within all river flood mitigation projects and where appropriate implement nature-based solutions. | Medium           | SDC/ SWT | 3.4.1   | Parrett Barrier includes mitigation measures to protect wildlife e.g. inclusion of eel and fish passes within the design. | short to medium | SDC      | 1         |   | 3 |         | 1c/3a         | Enable  |
|                 |   |                  |          | 3.4.2   | Deliver e-meandering of Tone in Vivary Park, Taunton supporting the creation of habitats and wildlife.                    | Medium          | SWT      | 1         |   | 3 |         | 1c/3a         | Deliver |
| <b>Action 4</b> | <b>Manage assets to support healthy habitats and biodiversity</b>   |                  |          |         |   |                 |          |           |   |   |         |               |         |
| 4.1             | Retrofit artificial nesting, roosting and hibernations boxes to council owned property to support key species in region.                          | Immediate -short | SDC/ SWT | 4.1.1   | Identify opportunities to deliver nesting boxes in appropriate place.   | Immediate       | SDC/SWT  | 1         | 2 | 3 |         | 1d/2e/3a      | Deliver |
| 4.2             | Manage heritage properties to support nature recovery.  | Long             | SDC/ SWT | 4.2.1   | Incorporate ecological protection within development of Toneworks heritage site,  | Long            | SWT      | 1         | 2 | 3 |         | 1d/2e/3a      | Deliver |

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|                 |   |           |          |         | Wellington alongside cultural importance.   |           |          |           |   |   |   |             |               |
| 4.3             | Sedgemoor software upgrade and refurbishment considers environmental impacts of equipment and manages old equipment following the waste hierarchy principles i.e. reuse and recycle where possible thus reducing impact of raw material extraction. | Immediate | SDC      |         |   |           |          | 3         |   |   |   | 3b          | Deliver       |
| <b>Action 5</b> | <b>Manage our outdoor spaces in a way that supports wildlife enhancement alongside public accessibility and usability; and carbon sequestration (links to CNCR 271)</b>   |           |          |         |   |           |          |           |   |   |   |             |               |
| 5.1             | Develop and implement a grassland strategy to support pollinators and invertebrates (linked to CEAP 94).  | Short     | SDC/SWT  | 5.1.1   | Conduct annual review of grassland management and determine success, continual improvement. | Medium    | SDC/SWT  | 1         | 2 | 3 |   | 1b/2b/3a    | Deliver       |
| 5.2             | Review, update and implement LNR and other open spaces management plans to support wildlife (CNCR 142 adapted).   | Immediate | SWT      | 5.2.1   | Children's Wood & Hankridge improvements.   | Immediate | SWT      | 1         | 2 |   | 4 | 1b/1d/2a/4c |               |

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|         |   |           |             |         |   |           |          | 1         | 2 | 3 |         |               |
| 5.4     | Work with Plantlife to develop wildflower areas to promote rare arable weed species. Improve reedbed habitats.    | Immediate | SDC         |         |   |           |          | 1         | 2 |   | 1b/2c   | Deliver       |
| 5.5     | Nursery practices support ecological recovery.  | medium    | SWT         | 5.5.1   | Replace peat compost with peat free compost within the nursery.   | Immediate | SWT      |           | 2 | 3 | 2d/3b   | Deliver       |
|         |   |           |             | 5.5.2   | Review current nursery practices with a view to encouraging wildlife with plants grown and distributed across the districts e.g. bedding plant vs perennials; polinator attractors; and trees (target 2,000 whips) (relates to CNCR 144). | short     | SWT      |           | 2 | 3 | 2a3b    | Deliver       |
| 5.6     | Review use of chemicals e.g. herbicides/ pesticides across outdoor spaces according to ecological value of sites. | short     | SDC/<br>SWT | 5.6.1   | Review use of herbicide/ pesticides across council owned assets with ambition to  | Immediate | SDC/SWT  |           | 2 | 3 | 2c/3b   | Deliver       |

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|         |   |        |          |         | minimise usage and find alternatives where appropriate.   |           |          |           |   |   |                    |               |
|         |   |        |          | 5.6.2   | Support Parish Councils to reduce the use of chemicals on parish owned sites.   | Short     | SDC/SWT  | 2         |   |   | 2c                 | Support       |
| 5.7     | Use drought-resistant / pollinator friendly plants in verges and flower displays to help prepare for the changing climate, such as extreme weather events like flooding, droughts (CEAP F18). | short  | SDC/SWT  |         |   |           |          | 2         |   |   | 2d                 | Deliver       |
| 5.8     | Build capacity and capability of Open Spaces team to deliver ecological improvements across outdoor spaces.   | medium | SWT      | 5.8.1   | Upskill /train operatives to implement ecological best practices across districts. E.g. train the trainer opportunities/ peer to peer/ species identification such as invasive species. | Immediate | SDC/SWT  | 1         | 2 | 3 | 1a, 1d, 2a, 2b, 3e | Deliver       |

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|                 |   |           |          | 5.8.2   | Recruit strategic and planning expertise to oversee longer term ecological goals of open spaces.                                    | short | SWT      | 1         | 2 | 3 | 1b, 2a,3e |               |         |
| <b>Action 6</b> | <b>Develop and implement a tree strategy to plant and maintain the right trees in the right place</b>   |           |          |         |   |       |          |           |   |   |           |               |         |
| 6.1             | Create a tree planting strategy for district.   | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |   |       |          | 1         | 2 |   | 1a/2d     | Deliver       |         |
| 6.2             | Deliver right tree/right place planting, hedgerow creation and other relevant projects on Council owned land and other holdings contributing towards the Nature Recovery Network and Green infrastructure (CNCR 121 amended). | Immediate | SDC/ SWT | 6.2.1   | Work with partners to deliver and expand on proposals for planting at least 11,000 trees as part of the Somerset Forest (CNCR 298). | Short | SWT      | 1         |   |   | 1a        | Enable        |         |
|                 |   |           |          | 6.2.2   | Working with the Highways Authority and Somerset County Council to identify roadside areas where tree planting is possible.         | short | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1a/1c/3d  | Deliver       |         |
| 6.3             | Support community groups to deliver right tree/ right place and develop a toolkit/  | short     | SDC/ SWT |         |   |       |          | 1         | 2 |   | 4         | 1a/1c/4a      | Deliver |

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|         | guidance for community tree planting in line with the Nature Recovery Network Strategy (CNCR 285/143 amended).   |           |             |         |  |       |          |           |   |  |   |          |               |
| 6.4     | Work with partners to develop and deliver on an Ash Die Back Action Plan to ensure replacement of affected trees and utilisation of wood for biomass energy and also making sure some remain on site as invertebrate habitat (CNCR 131). | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |  |       |          | 1         | 2 |  |   | 1a/1c/2a | Deliver       |
| 6.5     | Work with town and parish councils and community groups to identify opportunities to deliver community woodlands and other habitats to support biodiversity (CNCR 295 amended).  | Short     | SDC/<br>SWT | 6.5.1   | Deliver the Maidenbrook Country Park, including the planting of 4,500 trees and creation of active travel routes linking Monkton Heathfield and Nerrols (CNCR action 292). | Short | SWT      | 1         |   |  | 4 | 1a/1b/4c | Support       |

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|                 |  |           |          |         |             |      |          | 1         | 2 | 3 |         |               | 4       |
| 6.6             | Work with community groups to develop a Tree Warden Scheme to provide a network of volunteers to help water and maintain trees across the district (CNCR action 297)/ CEAP Ref 92).  | Short     | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   |   | 4       | 1a/4c         | Enable  |
| 6.7             | Implement and monitor 3 for 1 trees principle across district.   | Immediate | SWT      |         |             |      |          | 1         |   |   | 4       | 1a/4c         | Deliver |
| 6.8             | Deliver major urban tree planting schemes on Council-owned land (CNCR action 128 amended).   | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   |   |         | 1a            | Deliver |
| 6.9             | Support partners to work with farmers and landowners to bring forward, encourage and enable tree planting and hedgerow creation, restoration and expansion (CNCR action 138 amended).  | Short     | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 |         | 1a/3d         | Support |
| <b>Action 7</b> | <b>Develop and Implement a Green Procurement strategy that takes into account ecological impact for all purchases and enables staff to make sustainable choices that minimise our impact on globally important habitats. (links to CNCR 184)</b> |           |          |         |             |      |          |           |   |   |         |               |         |



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|         |  |                  |          |         |             |      |          |           |   |  |         |               |
| 7.1     | Adopt an interim procurement statement setting out an expectation that suppliers and their supply chains are actively working towards reducing their carbon and ecological footprint (adapted CNCR action 91). | Immediate -short | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          |           | 3 |  | 3b      | Deliver       |
| 7.2     | Review existing social value policy as part of LGR to include ecological protection and enhancement alongside climate change.  | Short            | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          |           | 3 |  | 3b      | Deliver       |
| 7.3     | Procurement of food within local authority control (mainly corporate refreshments) from initially local, then national and international 'wildlife friendly' sources (CNCR 274 amended).                       | Short            | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          |           | 3 |  | 3b      | Deliver       |

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| 7.4  | Deliver training to all officers responsible for commissioning services and purchasing goods to ensure they understand how they should take account of climate and ecological considerations during the procurement process (CNCR 266 amended). | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          |           | 3 |   | 3b/3e    | Deliver       |
| <b>Theme 2: Work with partners including businesses to deliver ecological enhancement and protection</b> |   |           |             |         |             |      |          |           |   |   |          |               |
| <b>Action 8</b>  | <b>Work with partners through the Local Nature Partnership to develop and deliver upon a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (CNCR 119)</b>  |           |             |         |             |      |          |           |   |   |          |               |
| 8.1  | Work with the Local Nature Partnership to complete a Nature Recovery Network Strategy including an interactive online map and user guide (CNCR 120).  | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 | 1b/3c    | Support       |
| 8.2  | Working with partners, co-create a Vision for the natural environment in Somerset, develop a strategy for implementing the Vision (CNCR 122).   | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 | 1b/1c/3c | Support       |

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|                 |  |           |             |         |             |      |          | 1         | 2 | 3 |                            |               |
| 8.3             | Identify and map partners at national and local level including those with significant land holdings and designated sites.   | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 | 1b/1c/3c                   | Support       |
| 8.4             | Promote Team wilder with Parish/Ward and community groups .  | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          |           |   | 4 | 4a                         | Support       |
| 8.5             | Work with partners to develop access to nature social prescribing programmes and communicate the health and wellbeing benefits of engaging with the natural environment (CNCR 287).  | short     | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          |           |   | 4 | 4a/4b/4c                   | Support       |
| 8.6             | Deliver training on the Nature Recovery Network Strategy, data and map to all relevant officers, Members and communities (CNCR 283).   | short     | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         | 2 | 3 | 1a/1c/2a/2b/2c/2d/2e/3a/3e | Support       |
| <b>Action 9</b> | <b>Contribute towards State of Nature and National Recovery Network for Somerset by identifying opportunities to connect existing council land assets to wildlife corridors, and improving the landscape's resilience to climate change.</b> |           |             |         |             |      |          |           |   |   |                            |               |
| 9.1             | Work with partners within the LNP to map beelines (Buglife) as   | Short     | SDC/<br>SWT |         |             |      |          | 1         |   | 3 | 1d/3d                      | Support       |

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|         | part of pollinator action plan and LNRS.   |       |             |         |                                      |      |          |           |  |   |         |               |         |
| 9.2     | Work with partners to develop a Land Management Strategy to protect and enhance soils through more regenerative agricultural processes (CNCR 112).   | short |             |         |                                      |      |          | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1b/3d         | Support |
| 9.3     | Work with town and parish councils and community groups to develop, co-ordinate, support and train a Community Nature Network of volunteers to help deliver the NRN (CNCR 284, links to CNCR 143). | Short |             |         |                                      |      |          |           |  | 3 | 4       | 3d/4a         | Support |
| 9.4     | Work with partners to establish a "Wilder Somerset Fund" aiming for a combined pot of £500,000 per year to deliver the actions of the Nature Recovery Network (CNCR 290).                          | Short |             |         |                                      |      |          |           |  | 3 |         | 3d            | Support |
| 9.5     | Support efforts to secure land that will contribute to NRN and   | Long  | SDC/<br>SWT | 9.5.1   | Work with partners to seek long-term | Long | SWT      | 1         |  | 3 |         | 1a/3d         | Support |

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|                  | large landscape-scale projects.  |           |             |         | phosphate mitigation   |                    |          |           |        |   |           |               |
| 9.6              | Work with the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust to create large-scale wetland habitats at The Meads Eco Park, Bridgwater .  | Immediate | SDC         |         |  |                    |          | 1         | 2<br>a |   | 1b/ 1c/2a | Deliver       |
| <b>Action 10</b> | <b>Work with Somerset Wildlife Trust; Exmoor National Park Authority, Quantock Hills AONB, Blackdowns Hills AONB, Mendips AONB and other council allies across Somerset in a co-ordinated approach to delivering shared goals such as Peat Action Plan and Tree strategy, pollinator action plan, and biosecurity and invasive species control</b> |           |             |         |  |                    |          |           |        |   |           |               |
| 10.1             | Provide funding to Exmoor National Park to help deliver SWT tree planting objective.   | Immediate | SWT         |         |  |                    |          | 1         |        | 3 | 1a/1b/3d  | Enable        |
| 10.2             | Work with partners to develop a Somerset Land Use Strategy comprising of a soil strategy, water quality strategy, peat strategy, land use capacity/potential, planning for sea level rise (CNCR action 289).   | Short     | SDC/<br>SWT | 10.2.1  | Work with Somerset County Council and other NE County Wide to deliver nutrient catchment management plan | short              | SDC/SWT  |           |        | 3 | 3d        | Support       |
| 10.3             | Work with partners to set out how to restore peatlands in Somerset by establishing a Peat Partnership, revitalising the Somerset Levels and  | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT | 10.3.1  | Support initiatives that help peat based businesses find alternative business models.                    | Immediate to short | SDC/SWT  | 1         |        | 3 | 1a/3d     | Support       |

| Ref. No          | Project   | Term      | District | Ref. No | Sub-project   | Term               | District | Ambitions |   |   | Targets | Delivery Type |
|------------------|---|-----------|----------|---------|---|--------------------|----------|-----------|---|---|---------|---------------|
|                  | Moors Peatland Task Force and working with the IUCN Peatland Programme (CNCR 130).  |           |          |         |   |                    |          |           |   |   |         |               |
| 10.4             | Work with partners to deliver Somerset Forest (ring around the Levels) (CNCR 344).  | Short     | SDC/SWT  |         |   |                    |          | 1         |   |   | 1a      | Support       |
| 10.5             | Identify opportunities with partners and create nature-based projects that enhance coastal and offshore biodiversity e.g. salt marshes. | Short     | SDC/SWT  |         |   |                    |          | 1         | 3 |   | 1a/3d   | Support       |
| <b>Action 11</b> | <b>Work with partners to deliver good water and soil quality and healthy aquatic (including wetlands) and terrestrial habitats</b>      |           |          |         |   |                    |          |           |   |   |         |               |
| 11.1             | Work with partners and local groups to deliver actions which address the issues of nitrate and phosphate loading on RAMSAR sites.       | Immediate | SDC/SWT  | 11.1.1  | Work with partners to seek longterm phosphate mitigation measures.      | Long               | SWT      | 1         |   | 3 |         | Support       |
|                  |   |           |          | 11.1.2  | Support best farming practices and promote to farmers through partners. | Immediate to short | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   | 3 | 1a/3d   | Support       |

| Ref. No          | Project  | Term      | District | Ref. No | Sub-project  | Term   | District | Ambitions |   |   | Targets  | Delivery Type |
|------------------|--|-----------|----------|---------|--|--------|----------|-----------|---|---|----------|---------------|
|                  |  |           |          |         |  |        |          | 1         | 2 | 3 |          |               |
|                  |  |           |          | 11.1.3  | Develop Cotford St Luke into a wetland habitat as part of Phosphate Mitigation Interim measures and put into place appropriate long term management plans. | Medium | SWT      | 1         | 2 | 3 | 1c/2a/3a | Deliver       |
| <b>Action 12</b> | <b>Work with Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership and other partners to support businesses help deliver nature recovery through their operations and supply chains</b> |           |          |         |  |        |          |           |   |   |          |               |
| 12.1             | Work with partners to encourage green business/technology / green jobs into district using Somerset's USP; university links (links to CNCR 89? 337 and 338).                           | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |  |        |          |           |   | 3 | 3d       | Enable        |
| 12.2             | Support the LNP to develop a communications campaign to sell the economic case for landowners and farmers changing land use/management practices (CNCR 114, 280, 281, and 282).        | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |  |        |          |           |   | 3 | 3d       | Support       |

| Ref. No          | Project  | Term   | District | Ref. No | Sub-project  | Term              | District | Ambitions |  |   | Targets | Delivery Type |
|------------------|--|--------|----------|---------|--|-------------------|----------|-----------|--|---|---------|---------------|
|                  |  |        |          |         |  |                   |          |           |  |   |         |               |
| 12.3             | Signpost/support businesses to best practices to deliver ecological protection (links to CNCR 92, 242 and 244).  | Short  | SDC/SWT  | 12.3.1  | Review options to incentivise businesses to take action for the wildlife e.g. grant opportunities/ tool and resources. | Immediate - short | SDC/SWT  |           |  | 3 | 3d      | Enable        |
|                  |  |        | SDC/SWT  | 12.3.2  | Support Leisure and tourism sector to support nature recovery e.g. avoidance of single use plastics.                   | Immediate - short | SDC/SWT  |           |  | 4 | 4d      | Support       |
| 12.4             | Work with partners to develop a University in Taunton and Research and Innovation Park at Taunton with a focus on the circular economy, innovation in manufacturing processes, and delivering carbon neutrality and ecological recovery in the South West (adapted from CNCR 337). | Medium | SWT      |         |  |                   |          |           |  | 3 | 3d      | Enable        |
| <b>Action 13</b> | <b>Lobby government to support ecological enhancement and protection.</b>  |        |          |         |  |                   |          |           |  |   |         |               |



| Ref. No   | Project  | Term      | District    | Ref. No | Sub-project  | Term      | District | Ambitions |   |   |   | Targets | Delivery Type |
|---|--|-----------|-------------|---------|--|-----------|----------|-----------|---|---|---|---------|---------------|
|   |  |           |             |         |  |           |          | 1         | 2 | 3 | 4 |         |               |
| 13.1  | Lobby Government to introduce a national ban on peat extraction (CNCR action 129).   | Immediate | SWT         |         |  |           |          | 1         |   | 3 |   | 1b/3e   | lobby         |
| 13.2  | Lobby Highways England to plant hedges along the M5 motorway (CNCR 116).   | Immediate | SWT         |         |  |           |          | 1         |   | 3 |   | 1b/3e   | lobby         |
| 13.3  | Lobby government to get water companies to do necessary work to remove Phosphates.   | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |  |           |          | 1         |   | 3 |   | 1b/3e   | lobby         |
| 13.4  | Identify other key areas to lobby for wildlife enhancement & protection e.g. neonicotinoids, sewage discharge.                                     | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |  |           |          | 1         |   | 3 |   | 1b/3e   | lobby         |
| <b>Theme 3: Enable citizens to connect and take action for nature</b> |  |           |             |         |  |           |          |           |   |   |   |         |               |
| <b>Action 14</b>  | <b>Create opportunities to connect the community such as 'friends of' groups, schools, and householders with nature</b>                            |           |             |         |  |           |          |           |   |   |   |         |               |
| 14.1  | Provide or signpost good practice guidance and funding opportunities to community groups on habitat creation (Links to CNCR 139,155, 292 and 318). | Short     | SDC/<br>SWT | 14.1.1  | Develop an information pack, standard agreement and communications campaign for community groups and parish councils who wish to | Immediate | SDC/SWT  | 1         |   |   | 4 | 1b/4a   | Enable        |

| Ref. No | Project   | Term      | District | Ref. No | Sub-project   | Term      | District | Ambitions |   |   | Targets  | Delivery Type |
|---------|---|-----------|----------|---------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|---|---|----------|---------------|
|         |   |           |          |         | manage Council-owned open spaces.   |           |          |           |   |   |          |               |
|         |   |           |          | 14.1.2  | Drive forward Environmental Champions Scheme to encourage residents of all ages and backgrounds to take action for wildlife (CEAP 6). | Immediate | SDC/SWT  |           |   | 4 | 4a       | Deliver       |
|         |   |           |          | 14.1.3  | Work with partners to improve ecological benefits of Steam Coast Trail and communicate to users.                                      | short     | SWT      | 1         | 2 | 4 | 1c/2a/4c | Deliver       |
| 14.2    | Support local groups to take part in activities on council owned open spaces that support wildlife. | Short     | SDC/SWT  | 14.2.1  | Ecosculpture and skills development project in partnership with Hestercombe House.  | Immediate | SWT      | 1         | 2 | 4 | 1c/2a/4a | Enable        |
| 14.3    | Support initiatives that help to remove litter particularly along our coastline.                    | Immediate | SDC/SWT  |         |   |           |          |           | 2 | 4 | 2a/4a/4c | Enable        |

| Ref. No          | Project   | Term      | District    | Ref. No | Sub-project   | Term      | District | Ambitions |   |   | Targets | Delivery Type |         |
|------------------|---|-----------|-------------|---------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|---|---|---------|---------------|---------|
|                  |   |           |             |         |   |           |          | 1         | 3 | 4 |         |               |         |
|                  | Work with town and parish councils and community groups to provide opportunities for local people to get involved with planting trees and habitat creation (CNCR action 296 adapted). | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |   |           |          | 1         |   | 3 | 4       | 1c/2a/4a      | Enable  |
|                  | Investigate engagement with West Country Rivers Trust's citizen science program - monitoring water quality to feed into Natural England's County Water improve strategy 22/23.        | Immediate | SWT         |         |   |           |          |           |   | 3 |         | 3f            | Support |
| <b>Action 15</b> | <b>Use our open spaces and nature reserves as opportunities to communicate to citizens about the importance of the natural world</b>  |           |             |         |   |           |          |           |   |   |         |               |         |
| 15.1             | Develop communications for all open space sites to engage citizens about habitat and wildlife on site.  | medium    | SDC/<br>SWT | 15.1.1  | Create signage and interpretation for grassland management. | Immediate |          |           |   |   | 4       | 4c            | Deliver |
| 15.2             | Maintain and where necessary improve access to council owned local wildlife sites and local nature reserves.  | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |   |           |          |           |   |   | 4       | 4c            | Deliver |

| Ref. No          | Project   | Term      | District | Ref. No | Sub-project   | Term      | District | Ambitions | Targets | Delivery Type |    |         |
|------------------|---|-----------|----------|---------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|----|---------|
| <b>Action 16</b> | <b>Develop an ecological emergency communications plan linked with climate change to inform householders of actions taken by the councils and partners and how they can get involved (links to CNCR action 123)</b>                   |           |          |         |   |           |          |           |         |               |    |         |
| 16.1             | Promote/signpost resources to support householders take action for nature.  | Immediate | SDC/ SWT | 16.1.1  | Make householders aware of Somerset prepared/ Team Wilder/Environmental Champions and other groups that deliver nature recovery.                                      | Immediate | SDC/SWT  |           |         | 4             | 4a | Deliver |
| <b>Action 17</b> | <b>Work with partners to deliver behaviour change campaigns and communications to support householders and businesses to make lifestyle choices to reduce consumption and protect local and globally important wildlife habitats.</b> |           |          |         |   |           |          |           |         |               |    |         |
| 17.1             | Work with partners linking up with existing communications e.g. Wildlife Trust's Team Wilder, active travel links to our AONBs.   | Immediate | SDC/ SWT | 17.1.1  | Promote nature recovery by protecting and Restoring Somerset - Pride in looking after our area including communities within it. Having pride in our home of Somerset. |           |          |           |         | 4             | 4a | Support |
| 17.2             | Working with partners communicate to council tenants and other householders about ideas that support wildlife within gardens e.g. wilding garden lawns.   | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |   |           |          | 1         | 3       | 4             | 4a | Deliver |

| Ref. No | Project   | Term      | District | Ref. No | Sub-project | Term | District | Ambitions |  |   |       | Targets | Delivery Type |
|---------|---|-----------|----------|---------|-------------|------|----------|-----------|--|---|-------|---------|---------------|
|         |   |           |          |         |             |      |          |           |  |   |       |         |               |
| 17.3    | Communication to allotment growers -best practice for wildlife (links to CNCR 107).   | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          |           |  | 4 | 4a    | Deliver |               |
| 17.4    | Increase awareness in businesses and young people of the value of local pollinators, improving knowledge and understanding of pollinators in the area (CEAP 160).     | Immediate | SDC      |         |             |      |          | 1         |  | 4 | 1d/4d | Support |               |
| 17.5    | Develop an awards scheme focusing on celebrating climate and ecological action in the community (CNCR 323 adapted).   | Short     | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          |           |  | 4 | 4a    | Support |               |
| 17.6    | Champion our nature recovery outside designated sites and link into Green Infrastructure strategy.  | short     |          |         |             |      |          | 1         |  | 4 | 1c/4a | Support |               |
| 17.7    | Deliver community and school workshops building awareness about nature recovery and how they can take action for wildlife (and climate change) (relates to CEAP 102). | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          |           |  | 4 | 4a    | Support |               |

| Ref. No  | Project   | Term      | District | Ref. No | Sub-project | Term | District | Ambitions | Targets | Delivery Type |
|--|---|-----------|----------|---------|-------------|------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|
| <b>Action 18</b>   | <b>Promote ways to reduce, reuse and recycle; support product durability, energy efficiency and renewable energy generation.</b>            |           |          |         |             |      |          |           |         |               |
| 18.1   | Work with Somerset Waste Partners on Recycle More (Refer to CNCR actions 253 - 270).  | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 3 4       | 3d/4a   | Support       |
| <b>Theme 4: Governance' funding, monitoring and reporting progress over time</b> |   |           |          |         |             |      |          |           |         |               |
| <b>Action 19</b>   | <b>Co-ordinate and have oversight of all SDC/SWTC ecological improvement activities so that it can be reviewed and continually improve.</b> |           |          |         |             |      |          |           |         |               |
| 19.1   | Develop methodology to enable the council to monitor progress towards ambitions and targets.  | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 3         | 3f      | Deliver       |
| 19.2   | Agree method by which progress of actions will be monitored over time. E.g. through Pantana (SDC) or other.                                 | Short     | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 3         | 3f      | Deliver       |
| <b>Action 20</b>   | <b>Work with partners to agree a methodology to measure progress against our KPIs and targets (relates to CNCR146)</b>                      |           |          |         |             |      |          |           |         |               |
| 20.1   | Committee and council reporting to include ecological impact, alongside those already for climate and sustainability.                       | Immediate | SDC/ SWT |         |             |      |          | 3         | 3f      | Deliver       |

| Ref. No          | Project  | Term      | District    | Ref. No | Sub-project   | Term      | District | Ambitions |  |   | Targets | Delivery Type |
|------------------|--|-----------|-------------|---------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|--|---|---------|---------------|
| 20.2             | Work with partners to disseminate best practice monitoring methodology to local community groups in order to feed into Somerset species monitoring for LNRS. | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |   |           |          |           |  | 3 | 3f      | Deliver       |
| <b>Action 21</b> | <b>Develop a fundraising strategy to deliver action plan where there are insufficient budget and resources.</b>  |           |             |         |   |           |          |           |  |   |         |               |
| 21.1             | Produce and communicate a list of potential woodland creation grants, and forward plan bids where possible (Amended CNCR 138)                                | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT |         |   |           |          |           |  | 3 | 3a      | Deliver       |
| 21.2             | Seek funds to support ecological protection and improvement projects.  | Immediate | SDC/<br>SWT | 21.2.1  | Build Up a Tree Fund with businesses and stakeholders (already seeded by the council) to deliver tree planting days with local residents and community groups to increase tree coverage (SDCA CEAP 92). | Immediate | SDC      | 1         |  |   | 1a      | Deliver       |

| Ref. No | Project | Term | District | Ref. No | Sub-project            | Term      | District | Ambitions |   |   |   | Targets     | Delivery Type |
|---------|---------|------|----------|---------|------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|---|---|---|-------------|---------------|
|         |         |      |          | 21.2.2  | Toneworks, Wellington. | Immediate | SWT      | 1         |   | 3 | 4 | 1d/2e/3c/4a | Deliver       |
|         |         |      |          | 21.2.3  | Steam Coastal Trail    | Immediate | SWT      | 1         |   | 3 | 4 | 1c/3c/4a    | Deliver       |
|         |         |      |          | 21.2.3  | Hibernation boxes      | Immediate | SWT/SDC  | 1         | 2 |   | 4 | 1c/2e/4a    | Deliver       |

**Key:**

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| <b>Term:</b>                       |
| Immediate – financial Year 2022/23 |
| Short - 2023-2025                  |
| Medium 2025-2028                   |
| Long 2028-2030                     |

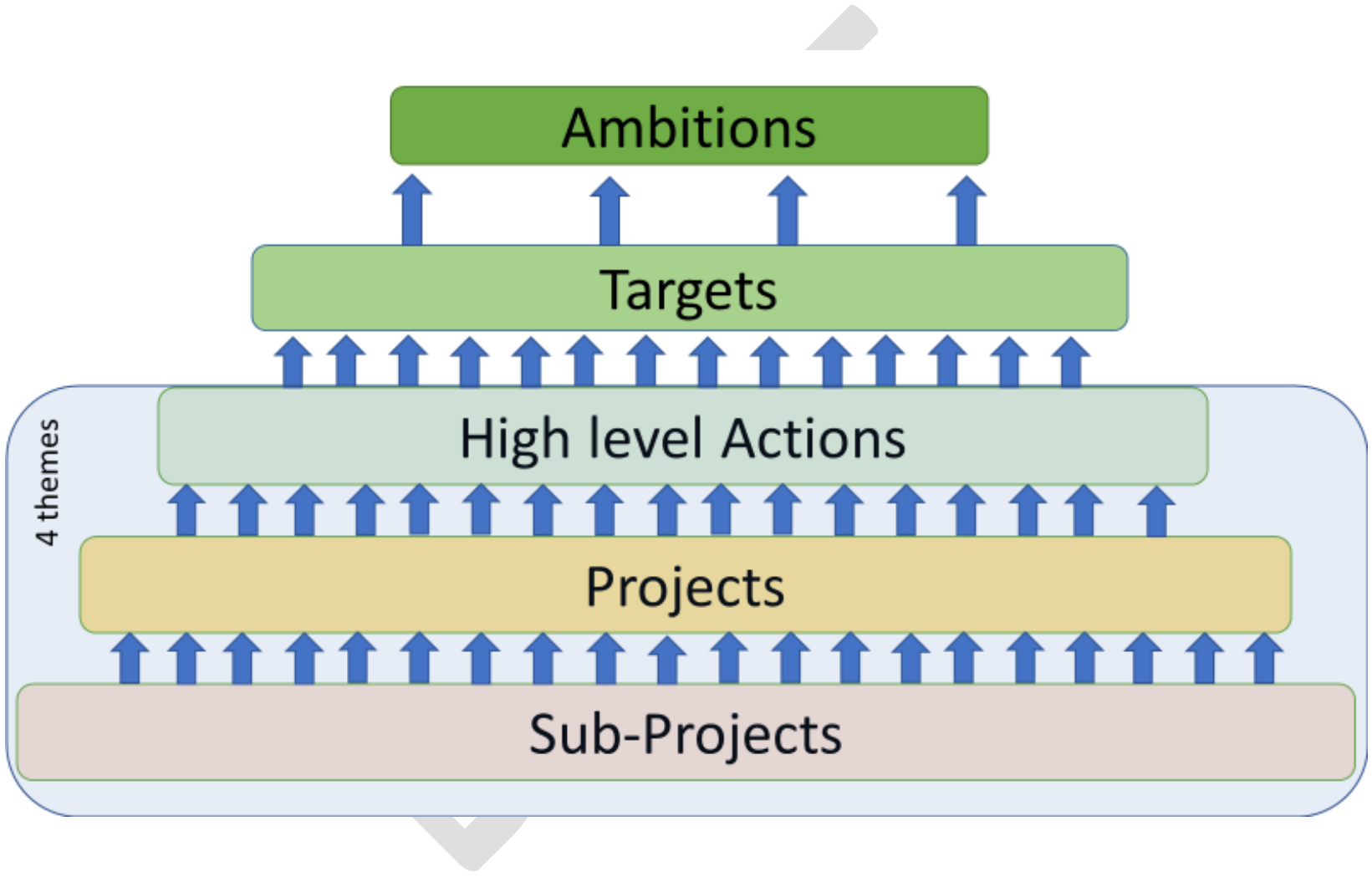
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|---|
| <b>Delivery</b>   |
| <b>Deliver</b> – those actions where the Council can directly deliver a defined outcome/  |
| <b>Enable</b> – those actions where the Council’s role is to facilitate delivery of defined outcomes, for instance changes to policy.                     |
| <b>Support</b> – those actions where the Council can support or encourage the delivery of a defined outcome, namely working with groups or organisations. |
| <b>Lobby</b> – those actions where the Council’s primary role is to promote and push for change, e.g., a change to policy, legislation or funding.        |

**District**

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| SDC -Sedgemoor District Council      |
| SWT – Somerset West District Council |



**Action Plan Project Hierarchy:**



## The Action Plan will deliver the following ambitions and targets:

| Collaborating with partners |   |                      |  |            |  |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------|--|------------|--|
| Ambitions                   |   |                      |  |            |  |
| Wildlife                    |   | Assets & open spaces |  | Our values |  |
| People and nature           |   |                      |  |            |  |
| <b>Our targets by 2030:</b> |   |                      |  |            |  |
| 1a                          | Large scale tree planting and other nature recovery projects across the district and wider area are delivered with partners           | 2a                   | Open spaces are well managed either by community groups with support by the local authority or directly by the council       | 3a         | The environmental and ecological well-being of our district is integrated into all policy decisions made by the council.   |
| 1b                          | Habitats across the district including the councils' designated sites are in a favourable condition.                                  | 2b                   | All grassland areas are managed in accordance with best practice grassland management to support wildlife where appropriate  | 3b         | Procurement policies enable the purchase of products and services that support ecological protection and improvement at a local, national and international level. |
| 1c                          | Our green and blue infrastructure connect to the wider environment and contribute to Somerset's nature recovery network               | 2c                   | The use of chemicals is minimised, and alternatives are used where possible.   | 3c         | All planning decisions consider ecological footprint of all new developments and contribute to a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain.                             |
| 1d                          | County notable and red list species (specifically Hazel dormouse, lapwing and Grizzled skipper) thrive in our district and wider area | 2d                   | All plants are grown or sourced in peat free growing medium and contribute to climate change resilience and nature recovery. | 3d         | We collaborate with others and lobby government to ensure policies protect our wildlife and natural environment.   |
|                             |   | 2e                   | All council owned buildings support ecological recovery where appropriate  | 3e         | Our staff understand the importance that nature plays and have the skills and knowledge to consider it in their decisions making and implementation of their roles |
|                             |   |                      |  | 3f         | We monitor and communicate our progress towards nature recovery  |
| 4a                          | 1 in 4 citizens take action for wildlife (aligned with Somerset Wildlife Trust's Team Wilder campaign)                                |                      |  |            |  |
| 4b                          | All pupils complete one term of environmental education by the time they leave primary school   |                      |  |            |  |
| 4c                          | All publically owned open spaces have a community group, good signage and are accessible to the public.                               |                      |  |            |  |
| 4d                          | Businesses play their role in supporting wildlife recovery  |                      |  |            |  |