

NORWICH BIODIVERSITY BASELINE MAPPING: WORKSHOP SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REPORT

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THANK YOU from the team

Norfolk County Council and Norwich City Council are extremely grateful for your participation in the workshop held on the 13th March in Norwich concerning the **biodiversity baseline study** for the city.

Your contribution at the workshop provided us with additional and very relevant data on your organisation's priorities and site-specific information that we consider extremely valuable for this study. We have now undertaken a review of the inputs and are pleased to provide you with a brief summary of the main findings and key messages below.

MAIN FINDINGS and KEY MESSAGES

Collectively, delegates at the workshop agreed on the importance of good management for habitats and species conservation. Other recurring themes, sites and species highlighted for their importance were corridors, woods, chalk rivers and bats. Delegates listed the following suggestions for priorities for the city:

- Identifying indicator species for the city. The identification of these species will need to be a combination of local knowledge and expertise as well as drawing on national indicator lists
- Updating data and undertaking regular recording to record population changes; robust baseline dataset needs to be less than 10 years old and continually monitored
- Improving connectivity, including areas beyond Norwich City that need to be integrated into the planning system when planning for biodiversity.
- Promoting behaviour change and education of residents and visitors.
- Allocating money and resources to biodiversity and conservation.

Developments and climate change were identified as main threats, but opportunities, such as increased community involvement and improvement in the management of city parks were also identified. Other areas of opportunity included golf courses, prison land, road verges, UEA landholdings and corners of Parks and Cemeteries.



Word cloud depicting the recurring themes among participants to the workshop

Delegates also provided us with information on additional sources of data, including but not limited to: swift mapper, cemetery records, and NVC Survey for Marston Marshes.

NEXT STEPS

The aim of the Biodiversity Baseline Study is to create a comprehensive evidence base outlining the biodiversity baseline in Norwich and is expected to be finalised in summer 2023. This work is intended to:

- help deliver the aims of Norwich City Council's Biodiversity Strategy,
- help inform the production of a biodiversity net gain guidance/supplementary planning document and
- link to other relevant strategies such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and 2030 species recovery targets set out in the Environment Act 2021.

We continue to analyse the data you have provided us with and will continue with our consultation to gather more information on the sources of data identified during the workshop. With our team of ecologists, we aim to develop a biodiversity opportunity map as well as to develop a monitoring and survey framework.

At the workshop, delegates also highlighted the need to network and collaborate more effectively with other organisations.

For the above reasons, we are asking you the following:

1. Will you be happy for the project team to contact you again for further information and data gathering? ☐ Yes/ ☐ No. In the interim, please feel free to send us any further information (e.g. survey or monitoring data) you consider relevant for setting the biodiversity baseline for Norwich.
2. Will you be happy to share your name among the delegate list so you can continue communication with the relevant community? ☐ Yes/ ☐ No.

Data Protection:

The name and organisation information that you supply will only be used in connection with the Baseline Biodiversity Mapping that Norfolk County Council is carrying out for Norwich City Council.

Norfolk County Council processes this data and your contact details (postal and/or email address) in their capacity as a public authority in compliance with data protection legislation. These details will be used for the purposes of this study only. These details will be retained on file whilst the Council understands that you remain the relevant contact for biodiversity monitoring, unless you request that we delete your record.



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☐ I agree that my contact details (name, email address and phone number where given) can be retained by NCC for the reasons set out above.