

PCC Biodiversity Strategy Responses to Consultation

Document section	Comments received	PCC response
Table 1 - Objective 1 Biodiversity in Planning (Pages 5-6)	<p>It is considered that the applicant should make significant efforts to go beyond the requirement to consult with Natural England (NE). There are many sites within the Fens which are not SSSI, Ramsar, SPA or SACs but, nonetheless, are of local importance forming an integral component of England's ecological network and have an important role to play in both the Middle Level Commissioners and Whittlesey and District IDBs biodiversity objectives.</p> <p>Development has been delayed because of the relevant parties' failure to consult with all the relevant bodies.</p>	Comments are noted, however it is not considered necessary to revise the text of the strategy based on the response submitted as IDB's are already consulted on planning applications where appropriate, and the value of ecological networks is adequately addressed elsewhere within the strategy.
Vision	Support the vision. We welcome the inclusion of aims to join up, buffer and enhance habitats as part of wider ecological networks, and to achieve a net gain in biodiversity, in line with Lawton review/Making Space for Nature and NPPF principles.	Noted.
Table1, Promoting Biodiversity in Planning,	The following should be added at the end of	Agree, objective should be revised to include

Objective 1 – Biodiversity in Planning	the paragraph: “as well as enhancement measures to deliver a net gain in biodiversity.”	reference to net gain.
Table1, Promoting Biodiversity in Planning, Objective 1 – Biodiversity in Planning, Specific actions for PCC to Deliver Objective	Support all actions listed, with two modifications. In line with the new NPPF “where possible” should be removed from the second action, so the action reads “All developments to demonstrate no net loss to biodiversity and achieve net gains.” The third action should refer to Natural Cambridgeshire’s “Developing with Nature Toolkit” to give it its official title.	Agree, action should be revised to reflect new NPPF. Agree, action should be revised to correctly reference toolkit.
Table1, Promoting Biodiversity in Planning, Objective 2 – Biodiversity Data	Support the objective and action	Noted.
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in managing PCC land, Objective 3 – Green Spaces, Specific actions for PCC to Deliver Objective	Support the actions listed.	Noted.
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in managing PCC land, Objective 4 – Non-native invasive species	Support, but note that for some species such as Japanese Knotweed there is a legal duty to control non-native invasive species irrespective of whether there is a threat to local habitats or species.	Agree, action should be revised to reference legal duty.
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in objective and actions. managing PCC land, Objective 5 – Priority Habitat and species targets.	Support objective and actions.	Noted.
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in	Support objective and actions.	Noted.

managing PCC land, Objective 6 – Local Wildlife Groups		
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in managing PCC land, Objective 6 – Local Wildlife Groups	Support objective and actions.	Noted.
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in managing PCC land, Objective 7 – Awareness Raising	Support objective and action.	Noted.
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in managing PCC land, Objective 8 – Wider Understanding	Support the objective and action. Could an additional action of working with partners such as conservation organisations and others to increase wider understanding be added?	Agree, actions should be revised to include reference to working with partners.
Table1, Showing regard for biodiversity in managing PCC land, Objective 9 – Involvement	Support the emphasis on taking action.	Noted.
Table1, Protected Sites and Areas, Objective 10 – Statutory Sites, Specific actions for PCC to Deliver Objective	We suggest rephrasing the second action to: “Assist Natural England with the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs, for example through supporting the creation of habitat links to connect SSSIs within the wider landscape”	Agree, actions should be revised to include more appropriate phrasing.
Table1, Protected Sites and Areas, Objective 11 – Non-Statutory Sites	Support.	Noted.
Table1, Protected Sites and Areas, Objective 11 – Non-Statutory Sites, Specific actions for PCC to Deliver Objective	Support the first three actions as written. We suggest rephrasing the fourth action to: “Maintain a regular programme of re-survey or monitoring visits to County Wildlife Sites in	Agree, actions should be revised to include more appropriate phrasing, however specific reference to an SLA with the Wildlife Trust is not to be included.

	the Peterborough area, partly through a service level agreement between the Wildlife Trust and City Council.”	
Table1, Protected Sites and Areas, Objective 12 – Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area	Support objective and actions.	Noted.