

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2020 16:10
To: WEB Local Plan
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Stroud Local Plan Review - National Trust response
Attachments: Stroud District Local Plan Review - National Trust response.docx
Importance: High
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached the National Trust's formal response to the Stroud District Council's Local Plan review.

To reiterate our initial comment made in the response document, the National Trust is broadly supportive of the priority issues that have been identified, in particular the following two:

- Moving the District towards becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030, whilst adapting to the impacts of climate change and providing resilience for the future.
- Conserving and enhancing Stroud District's countryside and biodiversity, including maximising the potential for a green infrastructure network across the District

Having said that, it would be good to see a **stronger commitment to improving the condition of nature within the District**. References to 'conserving and enhancing biodiversity' have been used for some time now, yet the Lawton Report (Making Space for Nature, 2010) and the recent declarations of climate and ecological emergencies by many councils, suggest that more needs to be done going forwards.

The green infrastructure plan should be aligned with the emerging Gloucestershire Nature Recovery Network (NRN) (developed by GWT) to make sure new habitats are created in places where they make the most ecological sense and contribute to the Lawton principles.

The mechanism for delivering these sites should be a Biodiversity Net Gain policy (mentioned throughout the document) which will become mandatory in the coming years. This will require all developments to deliver a minimum 10% net gain in biodiversity, which can be delivered off site once the mitigation hierarchy has been followed (see P 186).

To be truly progressive, the local plan could allocate land for habitat restoration in a similar fashion to the way land is allocated for development. This should be guided by the NRN map so as to maximise biodiversity benefits.

We would welcome opportunity to discuss any points from our response.

Best regards

[REDACTED]



National Trust

[REDACTED]
Lead Ranger

National Trust
Cotswolds
The Ebworth Centre, The Camp, Stroud GL6 7ES

01452 810640
07909 872497
[National Trust/Cotswolds](#)

The National Trust is a registered charity no. 205846. Our registered office is Heelis, Kemble Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 2NA. The views expressed in this email are personal and may not necessarily reflect those of the National Trust unless explicitly stated otherwise. This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error, please notify me immediately. If you are not the intended recipient of this email, you should not copy it for any purpose, or disclose its contents to any other person. Senders and recipients of email should be aware that, under the Data Protection Act 2018, the contents may have to be disclosed. The National Trust has scanned this email for security issues. However the National Trust cannot accept liability for any form of malware that may be in this email and we recommend that you check all emails with an appropriate security tool.