

## Biodiversity Subgroup

### Terms of Reference of the Sussex Local Nature Partnership Biodiversity Subgroup

#### Aim

The purpose of the Sussex Local Nature Partnership is to work across sectors and organisations to secure the healthiest ecological system possible thereby protecting and enhancing the natural environment and all that it gives us. The aim of the Biodiversity Sub Group of the Sussex Local Nature Partnership is to develop a contemporary agenda for Biodiversity which can then be led by the Sussex Local Nature Partnership. This agenda will contribute towards the Sussex LNP Purpose and cover several key outputs:

#### Outputs

The group will deliver its outputs through:

- The overall biodiversity strategy for the Sussex LNP
- Making appropriate evidence and information available
- Ensuring appropriate Sussex LNP responses to national biodiversity initiatives
- Developing delivery mechanisms for enhancement of Ecosystem Structure and Core Ecosystem processes

#### Ways of Working

The forum will:

- Provide an open and broadly based consultative forum;
- Develop joint/group projects;
- Encourage co-operation and dialogue between organisations
- Direct and encourage the gathering, necessary research and dissemination of knowledge in relation to Ecosystem Structure and Core Ecosystem processes in Sussex
- The group will work co-operatively with the Ecosystem Service subgroup
- The group will report to the Sussex LNP Executive Committee

#### Meetings

The group will meet as required, with the date of the next meeting to be confirmed at the end of each meeting. Teleconferences and email correspondence will form a normal part of the group's communication.

#### Membership

The following organisations are represented on the forum:

Environment Agency, East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council, Natural England (Pending), RSPB (Pending), National Trust (Pending), Woodland Trust (Pending), Sussex Wildlife Trust, South Downs National Park. Membership to the group will be at the agreement of the forum.

At least one member of the forum must be a member of the Sussex LNP Executive Group and able to liaise between the groups.

#### Chair and Secretariat

Each meeting will be led by a rolling chair and Secretariat. Responsibility for the planning of the next meeting will be an ongoing agenda item.

#### November 2014

