Rutland County Council

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Report by Councillor A Brown to Council under Item 13 – Joint Arrangements and External Organisations – regarding the Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Issues to be highlighted to Council

- 99% of the attendees (>100) agreed nature was important.
- Humans and their domestic animals make up 96% of the biomass of vertebrates on earth.
- Climate change is contributing to: accelerated extinction, increased disease transmission to humans from animals, threatening food security.
- 53% of species in Leics and Rutland are showing strong changes to numbers.
- 65% of SSSIs are not in favourable condition.
- There has been a 1.8 degree C increase in temperature on Leics and Rutland since 1960.
- There could be a 4 degree rise in global temperatures by 2100.
- Each county will have its own Local Nature Recovery Strategy (48 in England).
- The Environment Act 2021 includes statutory environmental targets.
- LNRS will not have a delivery plan or draw red lines on a map. Neither will they give permission to do certain things or prevent them and they are not binding.
- The responsible authority will be Leicestershire County Council and Rutland CC will be a supporting authority along with Leicester City and the other District Councils.
- Actions will be led by landowners/managers through incentives and funding.
- Every Local Authority must have regard to the LNRS.
- There will be a 2 year funding award via a section 31 grant from central government.
- There will be collaboration with other funding such as ELMs.
- RCC is represented on the LNRS steering group.
- Public sector spending on biodiversity has decline by 42% since 2008/9.
- They are recruiting a LNRS strategy manager and formulation structures like terms of reference etc.
- They are looking for volunteers and offers of help from those with the right knowledge.
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