



“Effective action to benefit nature, people and the economy happens when the right people come together locally in partnership.”

Creating Nature Partnerships
Defra, Natural Environment White Paper, 2011

The North East England Nature Partnership (NEENP) is a public, private, health, education and NGO partnership. We are responsible for promoting and developing **Environmental Growth** by championing investment in our natural capital. The environment is vital to many aspects of our lives and by leading on strategic, cross boundary and cross sector opportunities we can ensure that our economic and social ambitions also create places that are sustainable, resilient and rich in natural capital now and into the future.

Nature Partnerships were formed following the **Natural Environment White Paper** in 2011. This government initiative invited partners from all sectors to form strategic partnerships across the country resulting in 48 being approved.

Communicating the successes, challenges and opportunities of the environment sector is essential to the work of the partnership. By focusing on the **role of nature across the course of our lives** as well as its intrinsic value, we can engage a variety of sectors and interests in our work; developing networks and projects that provide multiple benefits for North East England.



Environment



Economic
growth



Personal
wellbeing

Environmental Growth recognises the link between health, the economy and the environment. It involves investing in Nature, so that it is more connected, functions better and provides more for people and wildlife.

- NEENP covers a similar area to the NELEP excluding the Durham uplands.
- Extends 6 miles off shore
- Work cooperatively with Tees Valley and The Northern Upland Chain LNPs

By giving parity to our **natural capital** in decision making processes, the region's natural environment can be enhanced and better connected, with new natural assets created and the quality of existing ones maintained into the future.

2018 Priorities

1. Communicating the important role of **nature across the course of our lives**.
2. Working strategically with North of Tyne Combined Authority, South of Tyne Local Authorities & Local Enterprise Partnerships to achieve **Environmental Growth**.
3. Developing a **Natural Capital Investment Map**.
4. Driving regional delivery of Government initiatives and policy such as the **Clean Growth Strategy** and **25 Year Environment Plan** to ensure that they contribute to achieving Environmental Growth.
5. Advocating the **importance of biodiversity** and the danger of the continuation of current trends resulting in an overall decline.
6. **Greening the Economy of North East England - GENEE**

‘Achieving Environmental Growth for a thriving natural environment and a healthier and wealthier North East England’

20-year Vision for Environmental Growth to achieve our mission of

'A thriving natural environment providing for a healthier and wealthier North East England'

To achieve Environmental Growth the NEENP engages with many partners, ensuring all interactions with the environment are understood and environmental considerations and enhancements become part of every activities. This interconnectivity is reflected in our **Vision for Environmental Growth**, which reflects the importance of a healthy and resilient environment for all and efforts to improve and enhance our landscapes, at all scales is in everyone's interest.

Through our **4 work themes** we aim to highlight priorities and opportunities that exist across sectors.



Increase our natural capital and biodiversity resource by restoring the natural environment at a landscape scale to create a resilient, connected and coherent ecological network in North East England.



For communities to have regular access and exposure to biodiverse landscapes to enhance health and wellbeing; giving children the best start in life and reduce the costs of long term conditions and social care



Achieve economic growth that is environmentally sustainable and intergenerationally fair by demonstrating the value of the natural environment as an employer, wealth creator and an attraction to investors.



For every child in North East England to maximise their creativity, academic performance and healthy development with access to outdoor learning throughout their school life.

'The North East England Nature Partnership is the collective voice for environmental matters. We are here to support partners and integrate environmental growth into decision making.'

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Successes

Our successes can be characterised into 3 areas:

1. **Strategic networks** – Policy, landscape projects, creative meetings, Elected Members Guide
2. **Funding** – Bid development and writing, funding raising
3. **Capability North East** established - Sustainability services and environment fund.



CAPABILITY NORTH EAST

We are an outward looking organisation that understands the value of collaboration and horizon scanning for the right environment initiatives that will define NEENP from other Nature Partnerships.

This is demonstrated by our early plastics and litter work, encouraging partners to review their organisations contribution and role in reducing waste and championing North East England to be an early adopter of Deposit Return Schemes.



We welcome the 25 Year Defra plan and were very pleased that our vision and themes developed 18 months earlier are supported by the plan, as well as our proposed approach to natural capital investments.

