

North East Local Nature Partnership 2020: 3rd executive meeting

Date 19th November 2020 **Start time** 15.00 **Finish time** 17.00

Location [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)
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Attendees

Paul Brannen, NEENP, Chair	Rob Murfin, Northumberland County Council	Jim Cokill, Durham Wildlife Trust
Ian Brown, Forestry Commission	Lydia Nixon, Natural England	Donna Robinson, Environment Agency
Clare Deasy Northumbria Water Group	Alister Scott, Northumbria University	Steve Bhowmick, Durham Council,
Claire Thompson, NEENP & CNE	Charles Sellers, Innovation and business representative	Dan Hattle, Sunderland City Council
Andy Smith, Intimation	David Feige, Northumberland	Justine Hancock, Banks Group
Mike Pratt, Northumberland Wildlife Trust	Neil Wilkinson, Gateshead Council	Glyn Smith, Public Health England
George Gerring, Water Hub	Elizabeth Bray, Northumberland Access Forum	

Apologies/ Currently tentative

Steve Bhowmick, Durham Council	Fiona Morris, Environment Agency – Rep sent	Steph Bird-Halton, Natural England – Rep sent
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Agenda

Item	Description	Owner
1	Welcome and introductions Chair welcomed all, specially those new to the group Glyn Smith, PHE and George Gerring, Water Hub.	PB
2	Previous minutes and matters arising Accepted and actions noted as completed.	PB
3	Role of Chair and Vice Chair Chair announced his passing baton to someone new at end of January 2021. Appointed Ian Brown to Vice Chair formally to support Mike Pratt, Vice Chair and Claire Thompson to find a new Chair for the NEENP for Feb 1 st 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request to consider appointing a business Vice Chair Charles Sellers offered to assist in search Ian Brown accepted role and offered to step down if needed once a Chair is appointed. Support to Ian in this role was offered. Mike Pratt stressed that he is keen to remain Vice Chair and representing the environment and third sector Need to revisit skills audit and sector representation to build a committee that operates as a joined-up whole. Re-state the governance arrangement for appointing the executive as noted in the Terms of Reference. Ian Brown takes over chairing the rest of the meeting.	PB

	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skills audit early Q1 2021 – CT - New Chair – IB/ MP 	
	<p>Item brought forward from AOB.</p> <p>LEP update</p> <p>Engagement – LEP are engaging with us and have meeting with Richard Baker and Helen Golightly in the diary. Plan is to look at where LNPs and LEPs have worked well, what we can replicate and mapping the environment landscape as lots happening to identify gaps/ where can add value. Claire is representing NEENP on NEECCo executive for now. This is useful as maintains continuity and ability to make contacts as needed.</p> <p>The new Chair will need to be comfortable operating at a senior level once the new NEECCo structure is revealed in spring. Ideally someone with an interest in the environment but not necessarily and environmental specialist with strong network and ability to community opportunities for the NEENP.</p> <p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide an update on discussions and options for collaborating with NELEP – CT 	IB/ CT
4	<p>Local Nature Recovery Strategy Pilot</p> <p>Northumberland has been selected as a pilot area for LNRS. Natural England locally decided to ask the councils economic team to lead on this based on their Borderlands work. Defra said this approach was different to other areas and were interested in trying different approaches. There is a core team (Natural England, Northumberland Council, Environment Agency, Forestry Committee, National Parks and Wildlife Trust). They are working on developing a project plan, biodiversity statement and agreement on how the area will be mapped. The core team stressed to Borderlands team that biodiversity is the focus to connect and enhance nature rather than a natural capital project.</p> <p>Have developed a proposal for the NEENP to have an engagement role in LNRS. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Defra stated ideally Nature Partnerships would be engaged at stage 1 but if not absolutely by stage 3.</p> <p>Not a lot of time to develop and deliver with an end of March 2021 project completion date. The team are working at speed and hope to share some useful learnings about the process and model chosen with Defra.</p> <p>Thanks to NE and Council for accepting the challenge from Defra and taking a lead on LNRS development.</p> <p>Will agree to provide updates as local LNRS work progresses.</p>	MP
5	<p>North East of England Climate Coalition</p> <p>1.0 General update</p> <p>https://www.neecco.org.uk/</p> <p>Website is on set up and running, plenty of partners. First such coalition anywhere in England that embraces the public, private and vol sector. Lord Deben has been very supportive and lent his name to the enterprise. There will be a full launch in autumn 2021. The Chair wants councils around the table before plans are finalised. North of Tyne CA is very supportive and keen to formalise involvement asap. Been an impressive journey over last 12 months.</p>	PB
6	<p>North East of England Climate Coalition</p> <p>Preparatory Planning Groups (PPGs) are being developed from the Committee and climate change recommendations. Housing is important, we have a lot of old housing stock and consequently fuel poverty, cold homes and emissions.</p> <p>NEENP is supporting the Peri Urban PPG and Land Use PPG in addition to leading the Indicators Group. Alister Scott's paper to create an appreciated and dynamic peri urban landscape is guiding the development of this work. Ian Brown is Chairing the Land Use Group and Anneliese Hutchinson, Director at Gateshead Council the Peri Urban PPG.</p> <p>Early in the New Year will turn focus back to Indicators Group and will require NEENP</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>AS</p> <p>IB</p> <p>CT</p>

	<p>support and comments on progress to date and metrics to include.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>- Report back on NEECCo progress and – CT</p>	
7	<p>Creating financial resilience</p> <p>There is good will in the bank with NEECCo and this should yield positive support got the NEENP in future. At the same time the NEENP needs to consider what it needs to function at its full potential.</p> <p>Lottery Heritage Fund is open for business again. Issue is that we aren't the right type of organisation to lead and receive funds as we are a partnership and don't have bank account. The North of the river might be a good place to start given they have a Combined Authority, and the Mayor is showing an interest in the climate agenda. Something that connects heritage and place and helps to build back better would be good and probably well received. Consider how can add to existing projects such as the Community Forest, linking with Gateshead on green space and inequality. Claire and Mike will look into this for 2021.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>- Link with NECF - IB</p> <p>- North of Tyne project – MP/ CT</p> <p>- Review other LNP funding models and report back as part of wider LNP planning work - CT</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>JC</p>
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>CNE update – Have applied for various posts of funding. Have been success with a LEP application for funding to support the rebrand to Genee and continue the plans agreed in the work for the PICNIC fund (fund cancelled due to Covid). Andy Smith form Intimation is registered with NBSL (fund administrator) as a provider and is working with us on the rebrand with in kind hours included. Claire will email after this meeting and ask for options and ideas, we'll then work up 3 examples for comment before Christmas and then rework ideas with the Directors of CNE deciding in Jan. Important to keep the process fluid and move onto concepts quickly and bring them back to the executive Dec/ early Jan to keep with fund timelines.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>- Update on CNE rebranding and funding work - CT</p>	IB
9	<p>Next meeting and close</p> <p>Ian Brown thanked Paul for his time and leadership and wished him well in his new role.</p> <p>11th Feb 2021 - remote</p>	IB

Summary of actions from 19th November 2021

1. Skills audit early Q1 2021 – CT – Outstanding.
2. New Chair – IB/ MP – Ongoing.
3. Provide an update on discussions and options for collaborating with NELEP – CT – Done.
4. Report back on NEECCo progress and opportunities – CT – Done.
5. Link with NECF – IB – Done.
6. North of Tyne project – MP/ CT – Ongoing.
7. Review other LNP funding models and report back as part of wider LNP planning work – CT – Ongoing via LEP collaboration.
8. Update on CNE rebranding and funding work – CT – Done.