



**GLNP**  
GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE  
NATURE PARTNERSHIP

# Annual Review 2013-14



# Chairman's Foreword



Grebe Lake, Whisby. © Rachel Shaw

## This has been a year of consolidation and action for the GLNP.

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It was clear from the outset that there was a need to concentrate on certain clear priorities and even in this short amount of time, these have been agreed and progress has been made. Spatial planning is one such priority and this formed the focus of our annual conference in October (page 12). Following the conference, Partners attending the annual Forum adopted the Business and Advocacy Plans that will guide our work for the next five years. Also at the Forum, the GLNP welcomed a new Partner: the Lincolnshire Rivers Trust, a recently formed charity, bringing the number of Partners to 45.

Issues in the external environment have been challenging. The dominant concern this year has been the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy and its implications for farmers and nature. The consultation on how the reform will be implemented in England began in October 2013 and was highly contested across many sectors. The key areas of contention were greening, crop diversification and inter-pillar transfer – the amount of money moved from direct payments to other forms of support, such as agri-environment schemes. The GLNP has kept Partners up to date with developments and has become increasingly involved (page 11).

As always, many of the GLNP's actions have been progressed by the Partners and coordinated by the Team. The momentum of the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan continues, with over 80% of actions underway (pages 9-10). In the Local Sites work area, another 66 Local Wildlife Sites and nine Local Geological Sites have been selected (pages 7-8). The Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre reports a significant increase in data usage (pages 5-6) and the Geodiversity Group continues to be very active (page 3-4).

The GLNP is delivering for its Partners, its key priorities and, most pertinently, for nature with impetus provided by the hard work and commitment of the Team and the Partnership's active participants. My sense of privilege at being a part of this continues – which is a feeling, I'm sure, shared throughout the Partnership.

Richard Chadd  
Chairman, Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership

# Financial summary

This year the GLNP finances are in deficit. This was expected and agreed by the Steering Group. Project funds were used to cover this deficit in order to allow the Team to continue to work on the newly agreed priorities of the GLNP. The deficit is slightly smaller than expected due to higher than budgeted income through LERC. Many Environment Records Centres across England are reporting an increase in data searches and this trend could be due to the upturn in the economy.

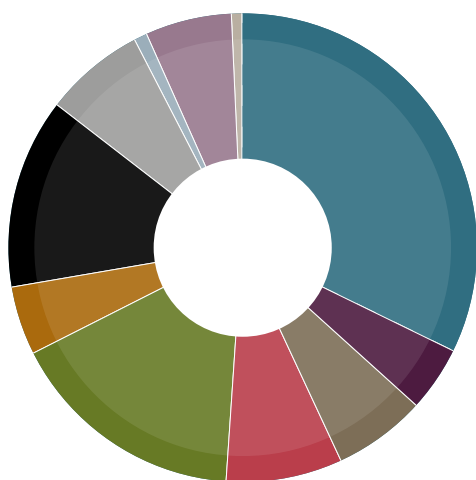
This financial year continues the financial accounting convention of reporting income due for this year, regardless of the year in which it was paid. For example, the income for the Himalayan balsam project work (page 6) was paid in the 2012-13 financial year but to support work in the 2013-14 financial year and it has been allocated as such.

The GLNP continues to carry forward a project fund and it is anticipated this will contribute to several projects in the 2014-15 financial year. In addition the financial reserves required for the GLNP have been better identified and are shown individually below.

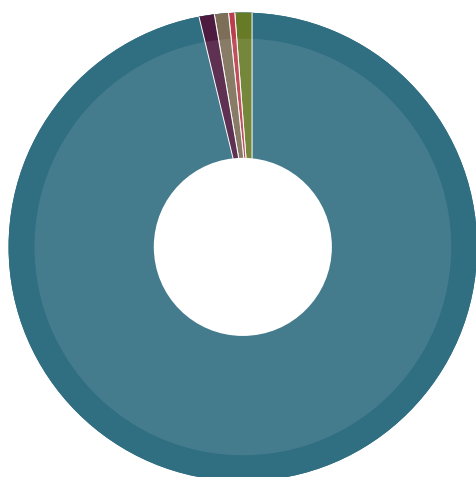
Formal sign off of the annual accounts is at the autumn forum for Partners, following external audit of the accounts via the hosting body the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

<b>Income £119,343</b>	<b>Expenditure £131,434</b>
Deficit £12,091	Project fund £118,387

## The breakdown:



Income and reserves	
Project fund	118,387
Unforeseen reserve	17,000
Working capital reserve	23,000
Winding up reserve	30,000
Deficit reserve	60,000
Statutory agencies	17,440
Local authorities	48,338
NGOs	26,000
IDBs	2,750
Data requests	21,815
Projects	3,000

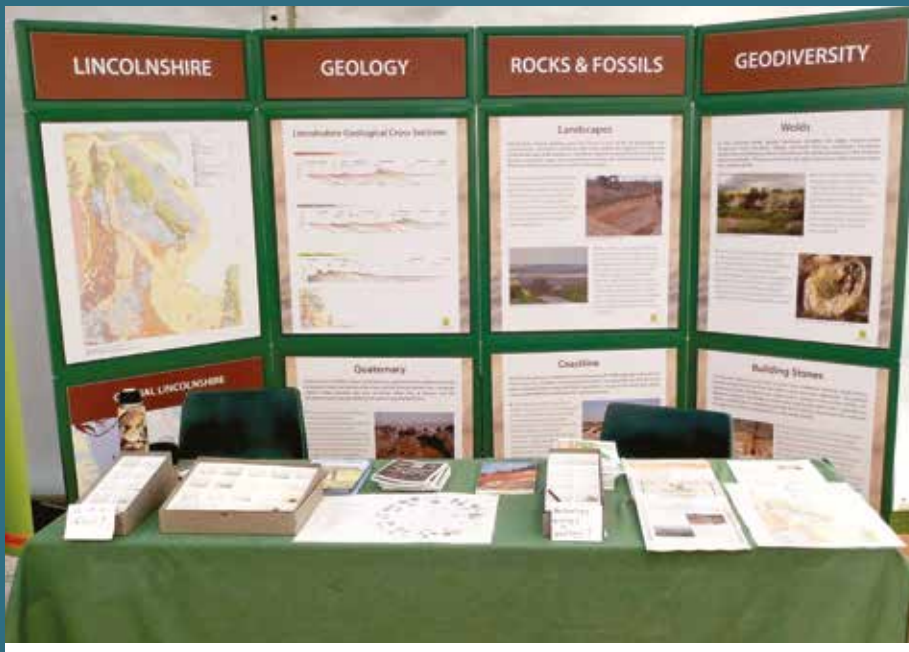


Expenditure	
Core functions	126,671
Publications and website	1298
Events	1487
Local Recording Fund	453
Projects	1525

# Geodiversity Strategy

The Geodiversity Group is an independent group of amateur and professional geologists working for the benefit of geodiversity in Greater Lincolnshire; the GLNP Team coordinates the activities of this group. The vision for the Geodiversity Strategy is: *That Greater Lincolnshire's geodiversity assets are recorded, promoted, understood and enjoyed by all.*

As part of its work the Geodiversity Group aims to deliver the Local Geodiversity Action Plan (LGAP). The LGAP for Greater Lincolnshire was published in 2010. Its main purpose is to promote action to conserve and enhance the diverse geological heritage of Greater Lincolnshire whilst promoting and managing the sustainable use of its geodiversity resources.



Come and chat to the Geodiversity Group at the Lincolnshire Show 2014. © Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

## Bridging the GAP

Work continued this year towards achieving the Geodiversity Strategy vision and the targets outlined in the LGAP. A key part of the LGAP is the survey and designation of Local Geological Sites, which are discussed on pages 7-8.

The Geodiversity Group compiled a response to the vitally important 'Draft Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Lincolnshire County Council Minerals and Waste Plan'. Contribution to this is a great achievement for the Geodiversity Group and makes great headway on attaining Objective 3 in the LGAP: "To have geodiversity

included in relevant plans and policies of all local and regional authorities and relevant organisations by 2015".

Meanwhile, the small (but perfectly formed!) group of geological experts that we know as the Geodiversity Group have also been very active at various events again this year working to "raise awareness of geodiversity among local authorities, professional partners, landowners and managers, across all levels of education and to the general public" (Objective 4 in the LGAP).



# Geodiversity Strategy

## Out and about with the Geodiversity Group

The month of May proved to be exceptionally busy for the Geodiversity Group in 2013. The geodiversity boards, quizzes, specimens and rummage boxes attracted interested children and adults alike at the launch of the Lincolnshire Wolds Walking Festival at Scrivelsby Estate. Nearly 900 people enjoyed the festival walk and the stands in the marquee, with the Geodiversity Group volunteers so busy, they nearly missed out on tea and cake!

The Group also ran a successful open day at the disused sand and gravel quarry at Welton le Wold, in partnership with the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service. The day attracted over 40 geologically minded people from a variety of places and organisations. Members from Yorkshire, Hull and the East Midlands Geological Societies joined with members of the Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union, and



Participants at the Welton le Wold day in May 2013.  
© Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

students from Horncastle Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, to explore this varied site and celebrate the work led by the late John Aram who worked tirelessly to improve this site and promote the value of geodiversity to a wider audience.

### Comments from the Welton le Wold day:

*'An excellent day – even arranged the weather!'*

*'A most interesting and enjoyable day – great work from the Geodiversity Group'*

## Of molluscs and men

In August 2013, Paul Hildreth of the Geodiversity Group led a group comprising members and guests of the Yorkshire Geological Society on a visit to look at the lithostratigraphy of the Chalk Group in north Lincolnshire. The group began its itinerary in the village of Bigby noting the use of chalk as a building material, common practice in the north of England but almost unknown in the south.

The group then visited Bigby Quarry, an important site for studying the Ferriby Chalk Formation, and the lime works at Melton Ross where a short talk on chalk extraction and production methods ensued.

The afternoon was spent in Ulceby Vale Quarry. Here beds of the Burnham Chalk Formation are exposed including a section that correlates with the Turonian "Flint Maximum" and a marl band (Ulceby Marl) that has been shown to be weathered volcanic ash.



Ammonite in Ferriby Chalk at Bigby Quarry. © David Hill

One member found a specimen of a fossil nautiloid (a marine mollusc), which may prove to be significant. The group were also shown a section, about 58m in length, displaying deformation in the form of folding and faulting. The cause of this deformation is still to be resolved.



# Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre

The Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre (LERC) collates wildlife and geological information for Greater Lincolnshire and makes it available for various uses. The vision for LERC is to be: *The trusted source of wildlife, habitat and geological information for Greater Lincolnshire.*

The data LERC provides is crucial for ensuring sustainable development, aiding conservation management of sites and understanding the distribution of species and trends over time.



Natterjack toad - one of the species on the map for Greater Lincolnshire. © Peter Roworth

## LERC update

LERC fulfilled 338 requests for information in 2013-14 - an increase of 28% compared to the previous year - with 75% of requests coming from ecological consultants. Requests for data were also received from local authorities, individuals, academics, statutory agencies and charities.

Twelve datasets were provided to the National Biodiversity Network Gateway which brings the number of records supplied by LERC to over 630,000. This means that over a third of the data held by LERC is made available for non-commercial and academic use – with even more data presented through national recording schemes. This availability of data to the wider public ensures Greater Lincolnshire is 'on the map' for the nature.

## Data made public

In December the NBN Gateway was updated with improved user interface and administration. These new updates not only allow the data to be viewed more easily and in different ways but allow data providers, such as LERC, to understand how data is used and for what purpose.

Since the launch of the new version of the NBN Gateway, there have been over 700 downloads of data comprising over one million individual records - and this isn't counting the times LERC's data was viewed on the interactive map as part of wider national and regional views.

So far, the four biggest uses of data have been for personal interest, education, conservation and scientific research with 120 requests for access to more information about the data.

# Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre

## Local Recording Fund

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**Three applications to the Local Recording Fund, the aim of which is to promote and encourage environmental recording in Greater Lincolnshire, were successful in 2013-14.**

One applicant applied for funding to cover the cost of tutor fees to help run a course on training potential species recorders in the survey methods, and reasons why environmental information is needed. Three courses will be run across Greater Lincolnshire and the aim is to encourage individuals to get more involved in environmental recording and submit their records. It is hoped these courses will be the start of more in depth training and encourage long term monitoring of species and sites.

A second applicant is looking to monitor the status and distribution of the barbastelle bat in Greater Lincolnshire. In

a joint publication with the Lincolnshire Bat Group published in March 2013, the barbastelle bat was described as a widespread but uncommon woodland species. Bat boxes have been specifically designed to aid population studies of the barbastelle bat and increase our knowledge of the species within Greater Lincolnshire.

The third successful applicant applied for funding to cover the costs of chalk stream monitoring equipment. Volunteers using the equipment will survey their sites having been trained on the techniques involved for sampling and identification. The aim of the project is to monitor the health of chalk streams within Greater Lincolnshire as part of the wider national Riverfly Partnership Riverfly Monitoring Initiative.

Could a grant of £200 - £500 help support your work? If so, find out more on the website.

## Tracking invasives

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**During the summer of 2013 the Environment Agency tasked the GLNP with helping to track the spread of the invasive non-native species, Himalayan balsam.**

Himalayan balsam grows in such dense clumps that it crowds out most native plants and has spread throughout the UK since it was introduced in the 19th century, favouring damp areas and the banks of rivers or drains. It's considered such a threat to our wildlife that it is listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, making it an offence to plant it or introduce it into the wild.

An online sightings form was constructed to collect records from members of the public and a spread sheet was developed in collaboration with the Environment Agency so staff could quickly and easily log sightings. The spreadsheet was developed in such a way to ensure the data could be integrated into the main LERC database.

The survey efforts were publicised throughout the season on the GLNP website, through the Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. ID guides and reporting spreadsheets were also distributed to the Internal Drainage Boards and Water Level Management Boards throughout Greater Lincolnshire.



*Himalayan balsam – an invasive non-native species in Greater Lincolnshire.*  
© Les Binns

The survey resulted in a 17% increase in the records of Himalayan balsam held by LERC, with 11 records representing new sites. The data will enable organisations such as the Environment Agency to monitor and take action to control invasive non-natives species where necessary.

Have you seen an invasive non-native species in Greater Lincolnshire? If so, please do get in touch.





# Local Sites

Local Sites, along with Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), are the most important places for wildlife and geology in Greater Lincolnshire. The vision for the Local Sites system is: *To establish an up to date comprehensive suite of sites of substantive wildlife and geological value.*

Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) and Local Geological Sites (LGSs) are selected by the Nature Partnership, based on recommendations made by its expert LWS and LGS Panels. The Register of Local Sites is then submitted for inclusion in local authority planning policy.

Identifying and designating these sites helps local authorities to meet their obligations under legislation and government guidance.

## Local Sites update

The Greater Lincolnshire register of Local Sites now has 1117 LWSs and 91 LGSs.

This year 101 candidate LWSs were surveyed and assessed by the Panel; 24 of these were previously designated as Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCl)s, while the rest were newly identified. Of these, 66 were selected as new LWSs and 15 will extend existing LWSs.

For the third year in a row, Natural England funding allowed the GLNP to conduct a number of LGS surveys of previously designated Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGSs). Data for 16 sites was assessed by the Panel, and nine sites were selected as new LGSs, while one existing LGS was extended. Only 24 RIGSs now remain unassessed by the Panel as LGSs.

### Tickled pink on the waterways

Ahead of the 2013 survey season, funding was made available by the Environment Agency to look at a number of sites in Greater Lincolnshire.

Surveys were targeted in the Upper Witham catchment area, looking at existing SNCl)s and important watercourses including the River Brant and the various stretches of the River Witham itself. Around 21 sites were surveyed, with many smaller subdivisions within these. Nine were finally selected, many of which are owned or managed by Partner organisations including the Environment Agency, Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board, National Trust and Anglian Water.

Meanwhile in South Holland the District Council is continuing to identify new sites with very high botanical and wildlife value. Highlights from the 2013



Deptford pink. ©Jenna Poole

surveys include stretches of the South Forty Foot Drain that scored as high as 17 for their freshwater indicator species, and the Risegate Eau where surveyor Jeremy Fraser found Deptford pink *Dianthus armeria* on the bank – this is one of only two records for this species in Greater Lincolnshire.



# Local Sites



Grazing marsh creation near Skegness. © Roger Wardle

## Caught in the Middlemarsh

The new grazing marsh criteria were put to the test this year when the LWS Panel assessed bird data for an area of grazing marsh on farmland near Skegness, and subsequently selected the site. The importance of grazing marsh has now been fully recognised within the LWS selection process.

In the mid-2000s, this site was transformed from arable land into grazing marsh. Since its creation breeding, passage and wintering birds typical of the coastal grazing marshes have flourished on this site, including seven species of breeding

wader. The new ridge and furrow effect of long and narrow strips of water with higher ground in between maximises the amount of edge habitat, and maintains areas of drier land that can be grazed by cattle.

## Reporting on Local Sites

Single Data List Indicator 160-00 "Proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being achieved" is a proxy measure of local biodiversity and is used by central government to assess the performance of local authorities. The table below gives the figures for 2013-14:

	LWSs	LGSs	Local Sites	Sites in positive management	
				Number	Proportion
Boston	26	0	26	22	85%
City of Lincoln	50	2	52	19	37%
East Lindsey	364	15	379	226	60%
North Kesteven	137	8	145	69	48%
South Holland	48	0	48	40	83%
South Kesteven	113	15	128	56	44%
West Lindsey	177	9	186	105	56%
Central Lincolnshire JPU <sup>1</sup>	354	18	372	189	51%
South East Lincolnshire JSPC <sup>2</sup>	73	0	73	61	84%
Lincolnshire County	882	48	930	517	56%
North East Lincolnshire	32	6	38	28	74%
North Lincolnshire	212	38	250	184	74%
Greater Lincolnshire	1117	91	1208	722	60%

<sup>1</sup> Central Lincolnshire Joint Planning Unit (City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey).

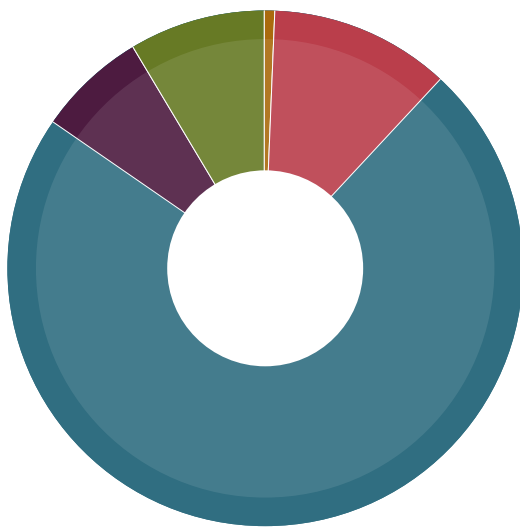
<sup>2</sup> South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (Boston and South Holland).








# Nature Strategy

The strategy for nature in Greater Lincolnshire is detailed in the third edition of the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), which builds on the strength of the previous two and continues to be the driving force for nature conservation in Greater Lincolnshire. The vision for the Nature Strategy is: *That Greater Lincolnshire and its neighbouring seas are much richer in biodiversity.*

The year 2013-14 was the second full reporting year for this latest edition of the Lincolnshire BAP. Last year's reporting demonstrated a great start with over 80% of actions being underway or ongoing.



Over the past year the BAP Habitat Groups, other Partners and individuals have been working hard to identify priorities and opportunities to meet BAP targets. The priorities for the upcoming year include a wide range of key habitats, where work will focus on making the most of new opportunities and providing multiple benefits.

		2013-14 progress
	Aspiration/Planned	1%
	No progress reported	11%
	On/Ahead of schedule	73%
	Behind schedule	7%
	Completed	8%

## Two birds with one stone

This year the GLNP Team and members of the Urban Habitat Group have been working to fulfil a long held aspiration: getting the Lincolnshire Bird Club's (LBC) Garden Bird Survey online and able to reach a far wider audience.

The GLNP have been trialling the new online system over the winter survey season and were ready to fully launch the system at the beginning of April 2014. LBC have been running the Garden Bird Survey for the past 25 years, which has provided useful insight into the long term changes in abundance and feeding behaviour. The survey system can also help other BAP targets to be achieved by enabling us to assess the number of wildlife friendly gardens in our area and by allowing us to adapt the system to run surveys for other priority species. Data from the surveys will be fed directly into LERC (see pages 5-6) and will help to form the evidence base for future BAP projects and action.



Feeding frenzy. ©Amy Lewis

# Nature Strategy

## A pinch of salt



Monitoring at RSPB Frieston Shore. © Clare Sterling

In September 2013, the Coastal and Marine Habitat Group invited landowners and managers of saline lagoons to a surveying workshop hosted by the RSPB at Frieston Shore.

The day was well attended with representatives from 10 organisations involved in the management of saline or brackish habitat. The workshop began with a talk on a range of issues including water level management, saline tolerance and which parameters are used to identify saline lagoon habitat. Following on from the presentation the group undertook practical surveying methods to determine the abundance of key indicator species in order to assess the health of the habitat and the ability to support organisms higher up the food chain. Breaches to sea defences during the 5 December 2013 tidal surge lead to an influx of seawater into many ordinarily freshwater habitats. Although this of course has had detrimental impacts on the existing habitat, there may now be an opportunity to increase the extent of saline lagoons and ditches, thus providing the conditions needed for a range of invertebrates rarely found elsewhere and providing important habitat for a range of waders and seabirds.

## Weeding between the lines

According to the State of Nature report published May 2013, "Arable plants are considered the fastest-declining group of plants in the UK – some of these species are considered Critically Endangered and have an extremely high risk of extinction in the UK".

The Farmland and Grassland Habitat Group made it a priority to analyse records from the Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union and the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland to find out more about the distribution of arable weed species in Greater Lincolnshire. Other records held by LERC were incorporated and it is hoped that the forthcoming distribution report will identify gaps in recording and allow for future efforts to be more focused. Many of these scarce species may still be present in the seed-bank and simply need the right conditions to give them the opportunity grow, flower and set seed. The report will provide a baseline for comparison as we monitor the impact of the new environmental land management schemes.

## A fishy business



Releasing 20,000 eels, a Lincolnshire BAP species. © Lincolnshire Rivers Trust

The newest partner of the GLNP has hit the water swimming. Lincolnshire Rivers Trust (LRT) officially became a member at the GLNP annual conference in October 2013 (page 12).

Since forming, the LRT have been successful at securing funding to host the Witham Catchment Partnership which is currently working with stakeholders to identify shared priorities. The GLNP are collaborating with the LRT to find ways to achieve the aims of the Lincolnshire BAP through this new catchment based approach.





# Farming with nature

Agriculture has shaped the landscape of Greater Lincolnshire. By working in partnership, policies and practices will be developed to ensure that both farm profitability and biodiversity can be conserved now and in the future. The vision is: *Thriving nature in a productive farmed landscape.*

## If the CAP fits...

After almost two years of negotiations between the EU Commission, the European Parliament and the Council, a political agreement on the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was reached on 26 June 2013. This led to much uncertainty about how the new policy would be implemented in the UK and what the impacts would be for farm businesses and nature in Greater Lincolnshire.



Best Farm/Rural Enterprise 2013 Lincolnshire Environment Awards.  
© J.E. Piccaver

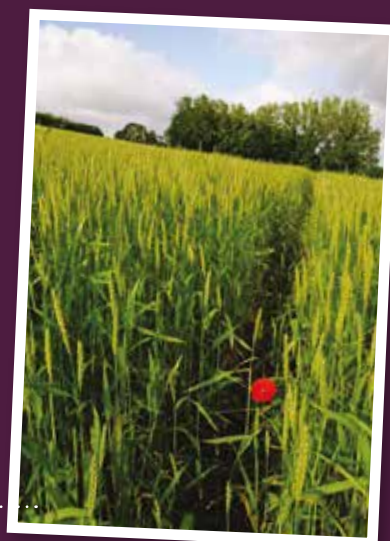
The new Basic Payment Scheme will incorporate a 30% payment for farms that carry out 'greening' measures such as Ecological Focus Areas, permanent grassland, and crop diversification. Features qualifying for Ecological Focus Areas will include among others hedgerows and trees, ponds and ditches, and arable field margins. Many of these features would have previously been paid for under an Environmental Stewardship agreement but are now covered by the basic payment.

The New Environmental Land Management Schemes (NELMS) agreements will not start until January 2016; in the meantime the GLNP is working hard to influence the targeting of new schemes to ensure they are best placed to achieve more for nature and the farmed environment. Alongside providing up-to-date species and habitat data, the GLNP have developed a process to identify local Nature Improvement Areas (NIA). These areas will be selected only if it can be demonstrated that sufficient resources are in place and there is demonstrable support from land owners and managers. It is hoped that through effective NELMS targeting and Local NIA selection, the best farmed landscapes in Greater Lincolnshire will thrive.

### Best in show

The 2013 Lincolnshire Show provided the best opportunity yet to engage with the farming community and get to know the real issues and challenges faced by modern farm businesses.

Armed with clip boards (which seemed to strike fear into the heart of some), we got out and about and spoke to over 30 representatives from the sector. From farmers to agronomists to grain suppliers, we spoke to a range of people the majority of which supported the conservation of nature within the farmed environment and welcomed technological innovations that would lead to better soil and water management to ensure long term prosperity of agriculture in Greater Lincolnshire.



Making space for nature. © Zsuzsanna Bird





# Planning with nature

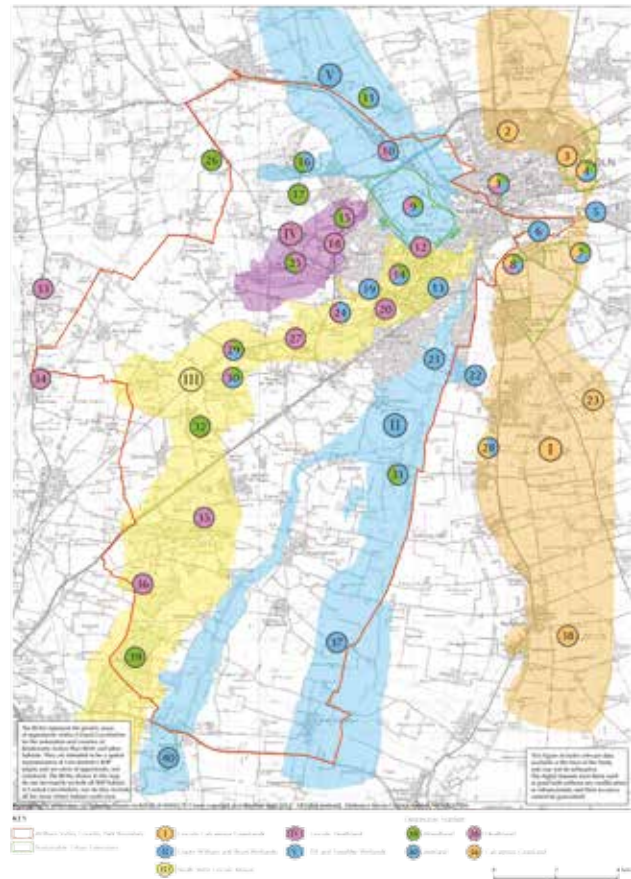
Spatial planning is at the heart of landscape and settlement change. By working in partnership, development plans of all types can progress more smoothly, beneficial elements can be incorporated and many issues can be avoided. The vision is: *Planning processes across Greater Lincolnshire make the most of opportunities for nature.*

## Opportunities abound

Throughout 2013 the GLNP worked with a number of Partners on the Central Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Study. This contributes to the Central Lincolnshire (City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey) Local Plan by highlighting the opportunities for biodiversity. Chris Blandford Associates consultants were used to crunch the vast amount of data and summarise the main areas of opportunity for each different habitat. Broad areas for each habitat can be seen on the maps at the Central Lincolnshire scale, although it is clear even at the Lincoln scale that local knowledge is important as some areas were suitable for both acid and calcareous habitats over very short spatial distances.

This work also helps conservationists by identifying focal areas for habitat restoration and expansion whilst also giving greater clarity to developers. Crucially this work helps to change perceptions by identifying that there are opportunities for biodiversity through development rather than the idea of biodiversity as a challenge to be overcome.

The map shading indicates broad habitat suitability. The numbers indicate a specific project and the shading in the circles highlights the proportion each broad habitat may contribute to that project.



Opportunities for biodiversity around Lincoln. Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO. © Crown copyright and database rights 2012. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number NK100017926

## Natural values

The 2013 conference demonstrated the value of the natural environment to economic growth and society in Greater Lincolnshire and how this can be incorporated within spatial planning.

The keynote was from Professor David Hill, Chairman of the Environment Bank and Deputy Chair of Natural England, on the environmental markets and the contribution of natural capital to Gross Domestic Product. This was followed by talks from Paul Learoyd Chief Executive of the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, and Nathan Vear Head of Neighbourhood Improvement at North East Lincolnshire Council.

The day concluded with the launch of the Central Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping study (see above).

Dominic Watkins of Chris Blandford Associates gave a talk on Establishing a Green Infrastructure Network for Central Lincolnshire and the role of Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping.

A lively debate was had during the question and answer sessions, with attendees taking the opportunity to elicit further information from the speakers.

The event was again well attended by over 100 individuals from over 50 organisations.



# Future look



Preparing for flight. © Amy Lewis

The good news everywhere is that the economy has started to improve. This fragile recovery is to be celebrated as the growth agenda should lead to more opportunities to work with others to achieve more for nature. However it is not all good news: significant funding cuts in the public sector and the resulting changes will influence the way the GLNP works on spatial planning. How this will change is not yet clear but resources are stretched all round and demand from the public and developers for services seems to be on the increase.

There is also much work still to be done ahead of the launch date of 1 January 2015 for the rural development programme. The far reaching impacts of the changes in both form and budget of the new agri-environment schemes are yet to become clear and this is one opportunity for the GLNP. Working with Partners to find common ground is a crucial way of influencing to ensure that farmers and nature get the most out of the schemes in Greater Lincolnshire.

To this end we are working on position statements for the agricultural and spatial planning aspects of our work. This will give us a consistent voice in our influencing work and allow the Team to work more proactively, achieving the GLNP's aims more effectively.

Such position statements, and all the work we do, are built on a solid foundation of evidence. This is the bedrock of our credibility as a partnership. In the 2014-15 year we intend to use the project fund to invest in this evidence base; developing our GIS data for the Nature Strategy and adding further detail to the Local Sites database through temporary staff time.

Only by understanding the organisations we wish to talk to and having strong evidence can we be effective.

**The GLNP is achieving more for nature.**





The continuing success of the GLNP is down to the hard work of its many Partner organisations and individuals who devote their time to the Steering Group, working groups and other work of the Nature Partnership. *Thanks go to all those that contributed information and/or images for this review.*



# Annual Review 2013-14

*Achieving more for nature*

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*Front cover photo © Les Binns*

*Printed May 2014 on FSC accredited paper*

