

# Biodiversity, the role of small green spaces

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@Mitie Plan Zero



# Welcome

Lucinda Lay  
Sustainability Programme Director, Mitie

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# Agenda

08:30-08:40 | Lucinda Lay – Mitie: Welcome

08:40-08:50 | Peter Dorans – Wildlife Trusts: Policy landscape and shifting national focus

08:50-09:00 | Tim Howell – Mitie Landscapes: Industry trends and insights

09:00-09:10 | Cheryl Jones – Lloyds Banking Group: Reimagining outdoor spaces with LBG

09:10-09:20 | Ana Fernandez Campos - JLL: Learnings from JLL

09:20-09:30 | Naomi Conway - National Parks: Net Zero With Nature

09:30-10:00 | Discussion/Q&A



# Policy Landscape and Shifting National Focus

Peter Dorans

Corporate Relations Manager, The Wildlife Trusts

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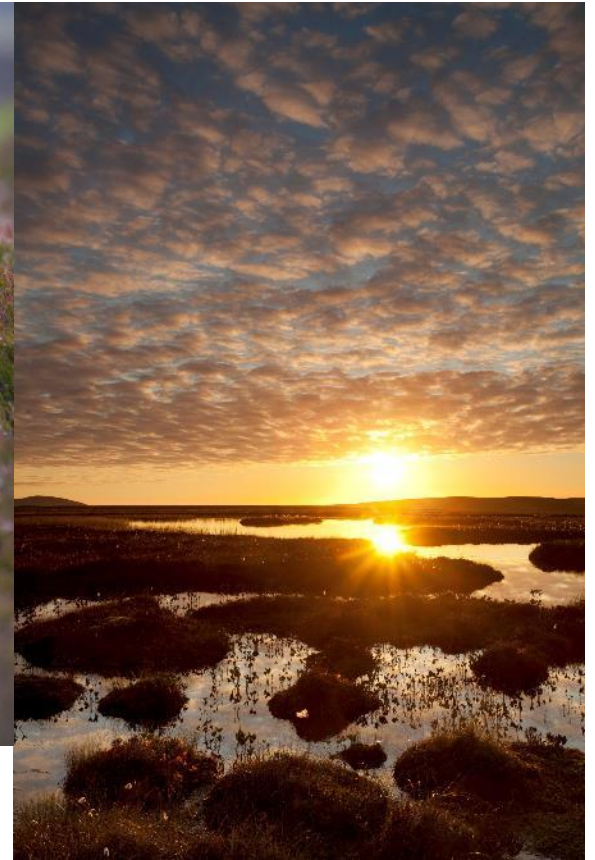
# For nature, for climate, for people

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The climate and ecological crises are twin and interlinked.

We won't solve one without solving the other.





30% of land and  
seas for nature

A Nature Recovery  
Network

*"Every space in Britain  
must be used to help  
wildlife"*

*Sir David Attenborough  
President Emeritus, The Wildlife Trusts*





It's not just about wildlife – it's about us too!



Spaces around workplaces can be multi-functional – supporting wellbeing and productivity.







### The Wildlife Trusts

The Wildlife Trusts are on a mission to restore at least a third of the UK's land and seas for nature by 2030. We believe everyone, everywhere should have access to nature and all the joy and health benefits it brings us. No matter where you are in the UK, there is a Wildlife Trust inspiring people about the natural world and standing up for wildlife and wild places near you. Each Wildlife Trust is an independent charity formed by people getting together to make a positive difference for wildlife, climate and future generations. Together, we care for 2,300 diverse and beautiful nature reserves and work with others to manage their land with nature in mind too.

### Wildlife Trusts – in numbers

- 46 Wildlife Trusts and RSWT
- More than 870,000 members
- 2,300 nature reserves covering 104,000 ha
- Advice given to land managers across 200,000 ha
- 12,700 trainees
- 1.66 million volunteer hours donated
- 14.4 million visits to Wildlife Trust nature reserves



# Industry Trends and Insights

Tim Howell  
Managing Director. Mitie Landscaping

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# Biodiversity

from birdbox to board room



# A short history of sustainable landscaping

An obsession with stripes



2010



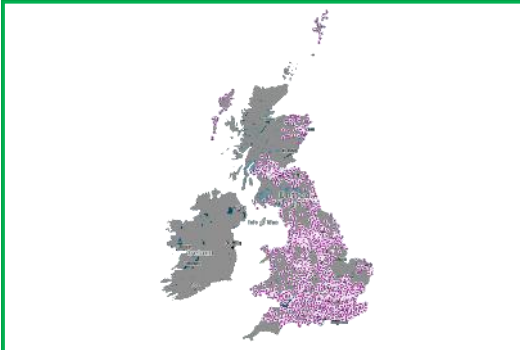
Growing focus on sustainability, biodiversity, well being, wildlife – why?



Today – 23 events in calendar, huge range of options, - greater understanding



9000 opportunities  
& the rest



Government Strategy &  
Environment Bill



“Biodiversity is a key lever to help combat climate change”  
“Reduce decline, increase improvements, restore areas”



# Trends & insights

Doing something tangible shows your  
commitment to our planets needs



Used well, biodiversity leads to brand  
positivity



Leading brands  
Responsible action



Detailed recording of actions  
and benefits



Engagement = success



“Biodiversity is on  
trend”  
Trends come and go,  
this needs to become a  
habit

# And through to the boardroom

## Delivering now

- Highly visible schemes
- Brand enhancement
- Well being & engagement
- Demonstrate environmental intent
- Competition - Bug hotels!
- Sustainable landscaping
- Greener city team
- Nature based solutions
- Green building envelopes

## Building blocks

- Training, learning & advisory
- Engage & Communicate
- Community visibility
- Specialist support groups
- Avoid biodiversity loss, create more and restore



## Boardroom habits

- Measure & monetise
- Improve – impact analysis, marketing, HR, financial
- Communicate benefits
- Corporate strategy – procurement /carbon reduction





# Reimagining Outdoors Spaces with LBG

Cheryl Jones

Sustainability Manager, Lloyds Banking Group

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# REIMAGINING OUTDOOR SPACES AT LLOYDS BANKING GROUP

CHERYL JONES  
SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER

# OUR GREENER FUTURE





# COLLEAGUE SURVEYS



**Manchester**



**Solihull**



**Copley**  
(2021 implementation)



LLOYDS  
BANKING GROUP



## 175+

Colleague survey  
respondents across  
3 sites

## 100%

### AGREE

or strongly agree  
that it's important to  
spend time in  
nature and they  
enjoy doing so

## 90%

### ENJOY

seeing wildlife in  
their day-to-day life,  
and would like to see  
more nature around  
their workplace

## ~ 50%

Currently use the  
outdoor spaces at  
their workplace for  
relaxation or  
exercise

## 85%

Would like to use  
their outdoor spaces  
more and would be  
encouraged to do so  
if there was more  
nature to experience

## 98%

Agreed that it's  
important that LBG  
manages it's  
outdoor spaces to  
support nature

# OUR SET OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- No (or less) human intervention after initial planting – e.g. self-seeding meadows, reduced mowing/pruning
- Conserve existing and create new natural habitats / wildlife corridors to encourage pollinators & native species
- Engage colleagues on project aims, benefits, and opportunities to interact
- At least 30% of green space managed for nature at rewilded sites





# 2020



 Manchester



 Solihull



 Corby



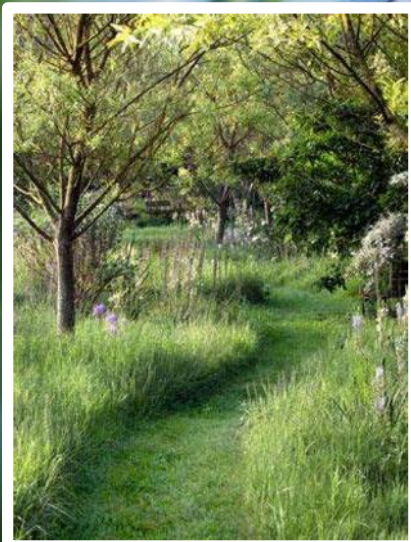


# 2021

LLOYDS  
BANKING GROUP



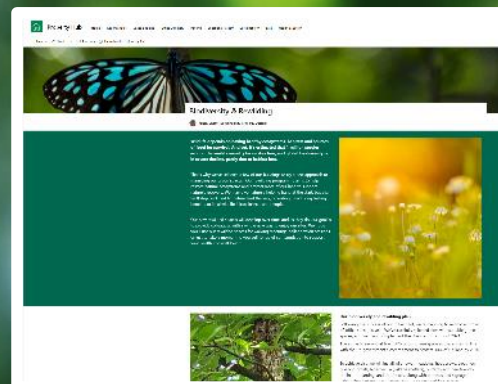
## Expand to 10 additional sites



## Colleague engagement



## Evolving our BAU approach





# Woodland Trust Partnership

Launched in 2020, our partnership will:



Plant 1 million trees a year, and 10m over the next decade



Serve as a significant contribution to UK's reforestation efforts



Enable us to work collaboratively with other private, public and civil leaders in reforestation



Serve as a critical proof-point of our sustainability strategy



# Learnings from JLL

Ana Fernandez Campos

Sustainability Manager, JLL

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# Biodiversity learnings

## MS Sustainability



Ana Fernandez Campos  
JLL Sustainability Manager

19<sup>th</sup> May 2021





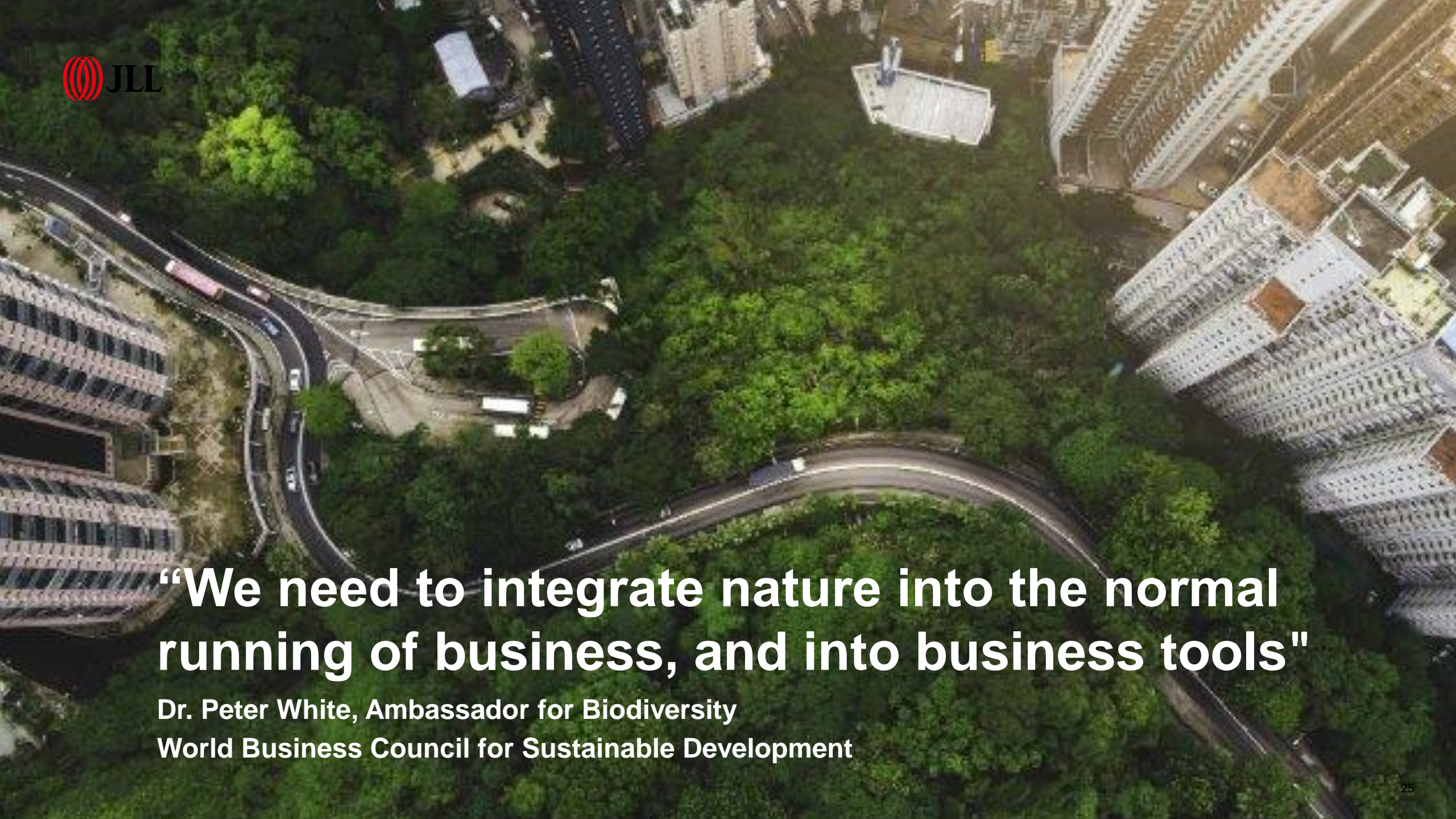
# Agenda

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1. Driving sustainability change in Real Estate
2. JLL contributing to a green recovery
3. Can data help to increase biodiversity?





An aerial photograph of a city landscape. A large, dense green park area occupies the center. To the left, a multi-lane highway curves through the scene with several vehicles. To the right, several tall, modern apartment buildings with balconies are visible. The overall scene illustrates the integration of nature into an urban environment.

**“We need to integrate nature into the normal running of business, and into business tools”**

**Dr. Peter White, Ambassador for Biodiversity  
World Business Council for Sustainable Development**



**“With a million species at risk, companies and investors call for biodiversity reporting and targets”**



## Driving sustainability change in real estate



### Be the leaders driving **sustainable** change in real estate

- Deliver market leading sustainability solutions
- Lead the sector in tackling the climate and nature emergency
- Significantly contribute to a just and equal society
- Support our employees to live sustainably and drive social and environmental change through our supply chain

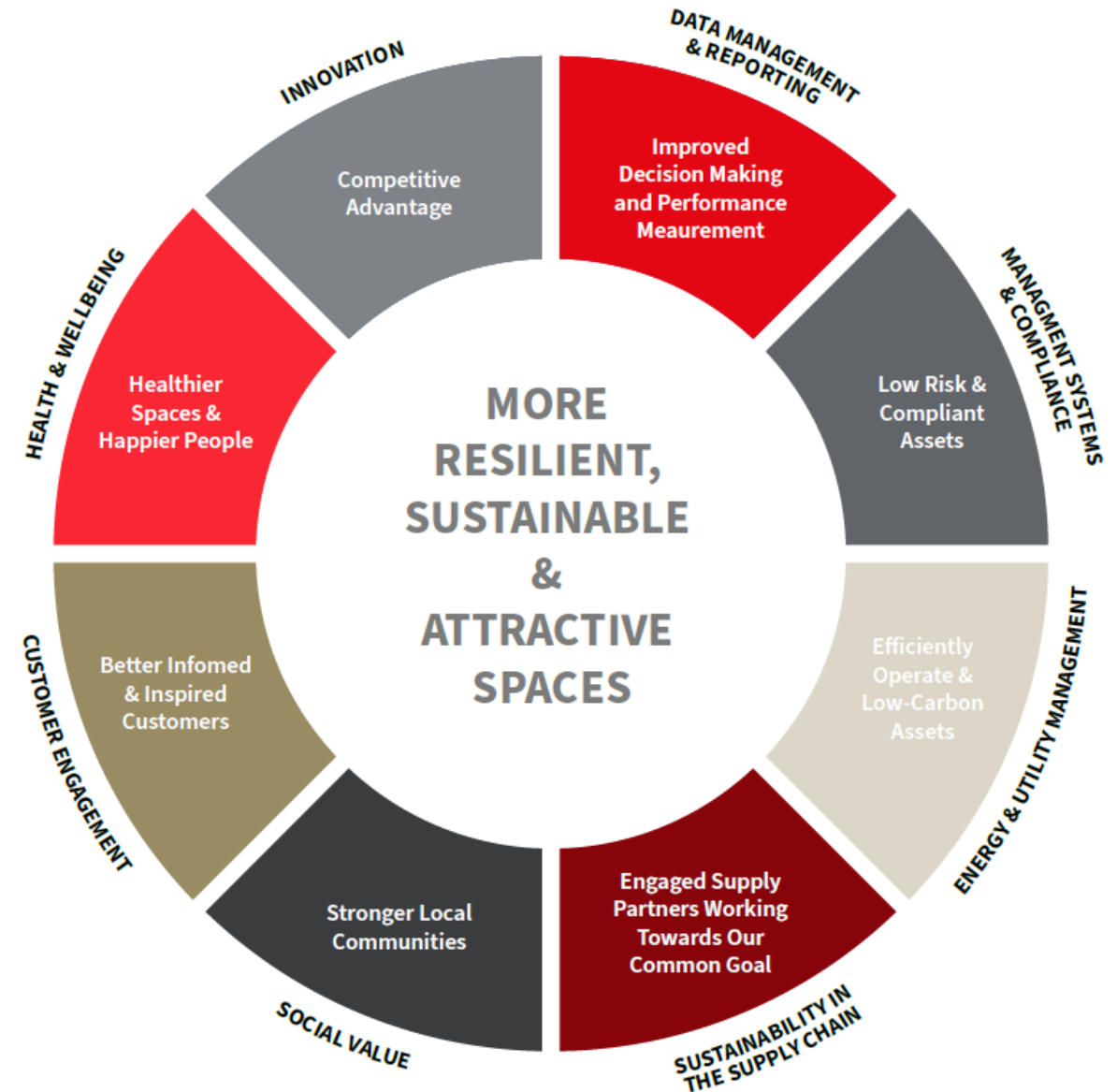
#### **2021 priority:**

Ensure that sustainability is always part of our client conversations





**We want to  
promote our  
ecosystems'  
health through  
various  
sustainability  
services**



An aerial view of a modern building's courtyard. The courtyard is circular, paved with light-colored gravel, and surrounded by a curved, white, modern architectural structure. Five people are standing in a circle in the center of the courtyard, looking at a document held by one of them. There are two small green plants in the courtyard. The text "How we can contribute to a green recovery" is overlaid in red on the right side of the image.

# How we can contribute to a green recovery



## How is MS Sustainability team supporting?

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Developing biodiversity focus, integrating it into our service offers



Supporting our clients in the implementation of biodiversity within their sites



Educating and informing colleagues about the benefits of biodiversity



Championing biodiversity performance, providing recognition



Gathering data and tracking biodiversity activities



Promoting best practices



Taking part in volunteering initiatives and work related to biodiversity



Working together with our supply chain to implement biodiversity actions

# In partnership with our landscaping contractors



## MS Sustainability Biodiversity checklist



JLL is committed to delivering a sustainable future for our stakeholders through our global sustainability strategy, which includes enhancing biodiversity. For many of our stakeholders, biodiversity is one of the main pillars of their sustainability strategy and therefore we need to support to help them achieve this ambition. We need to ensure that biodiversity is being protected and enhanced at all our managed sites, which we can do by working together with our landscaping contractors.

### Examples of initiatives you can implement to enhance biodiversity:

- 1 Plant trees** - Engage with your landscaping provider to plant trees. Different types of trees will suit different environments, however you might want to consider planting fruit trees as they offer nectar for bees and pollinators, as well as providing a food source.
- 2 Encourage bees** - Bees play a vital role in our ecosystem by pollinating our plants and crops. If you have space on site (even a secluded area in a retail park or a rooftop of an office building), let out space to a local beekeeper in exchange for honey which you can then provide to occupiers!
- 3 Compost** - Reduce the amount of waste removed from your site by composting. Compost can then be put back onto the beds to nourish the ground.
- 4 Planting** - Engage with your landscaping provider to plant shrubs or hedges that attract birds, insects, and other wildlife. These grow densely and flower to produce fruit to allow for nesting, pollen, and food sources. If your property does not have enough green space, install hanging baskets.
- 5 Enhance habitats** - Create a log pile and provide a shelter for hibernating small mammals and insects. The worms and grubs provide food for birds and mice and all sorts of interesting fungi can end up growing there. In less than two years a wildlife community can be created.
- 6 Encourage birds** - Install a bird box. This not only provides a safe home for birds but also provides nesting opportunities.
- 7 Sustainable gardening** - Speak with your landscaping provider and discuss swapping chemical pesticides/herbicides for organic treatments.
- 8 Create habitats** - Make a home for wildlife by installing a bat box or a hedgehog house on site. If you have less space, install a bug hotel to protect insects over winter. These can come in various shapes and sizes so can be appropriate for all property types. Small mammals and invertebrates help decompose waste products and help pollinate flowers and crops, so look after them!



**If you have any comments or suggestions, please get in touch:**  
ManagedServicesSustainabilityTeam@eu.jll.com

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## Julie Hogarth – Head of Sustainability TCE

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- "Honeybees are wild – they don't always do what the books tell you"
- A biodiversity project can be a great way for your supply chain to support you
- Develop customer engagement initiatives to share the bees with occupiers / customers





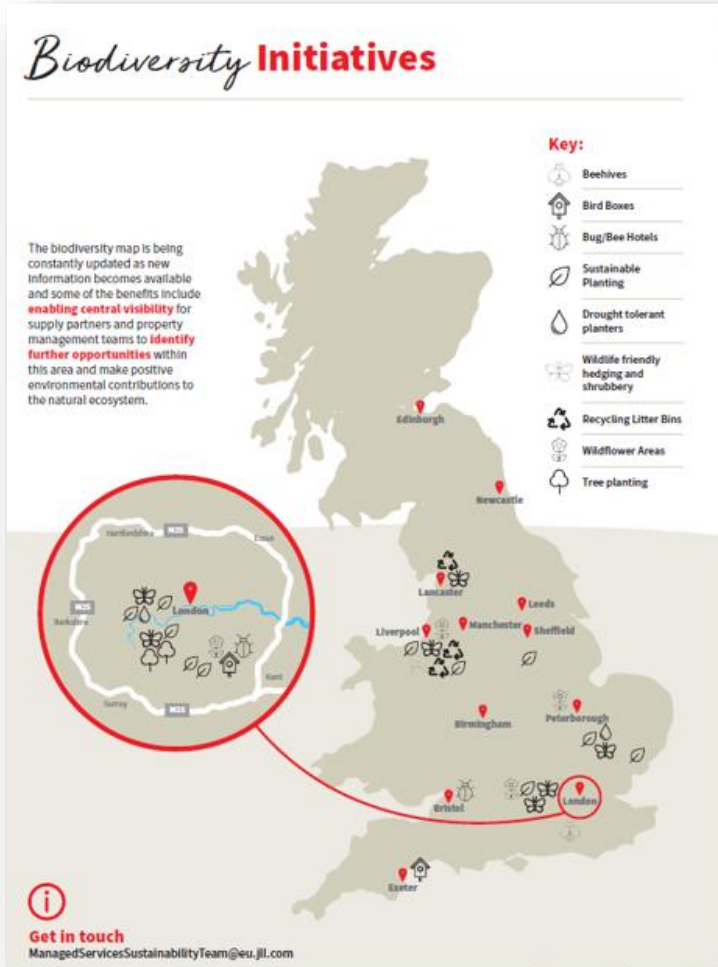
An aerial photograph of a modern park or urban landscape. A wide, light-colored paved path winds through the center of the image. The path is bordered by lush greenery, including large, vibrant green ferns and other tropical plants. Several people are walking along the path, some in groups and some alone. The overall scene is bright and sunny, with the greenery appearing very vibrant. The text "Can data help to increase biodiversity?" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

**Can data help to increase biodiversity?**











# Net Zero With Nature

Naomi Conway

Development Director, National Parks

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# ***Net Zero With Nature***

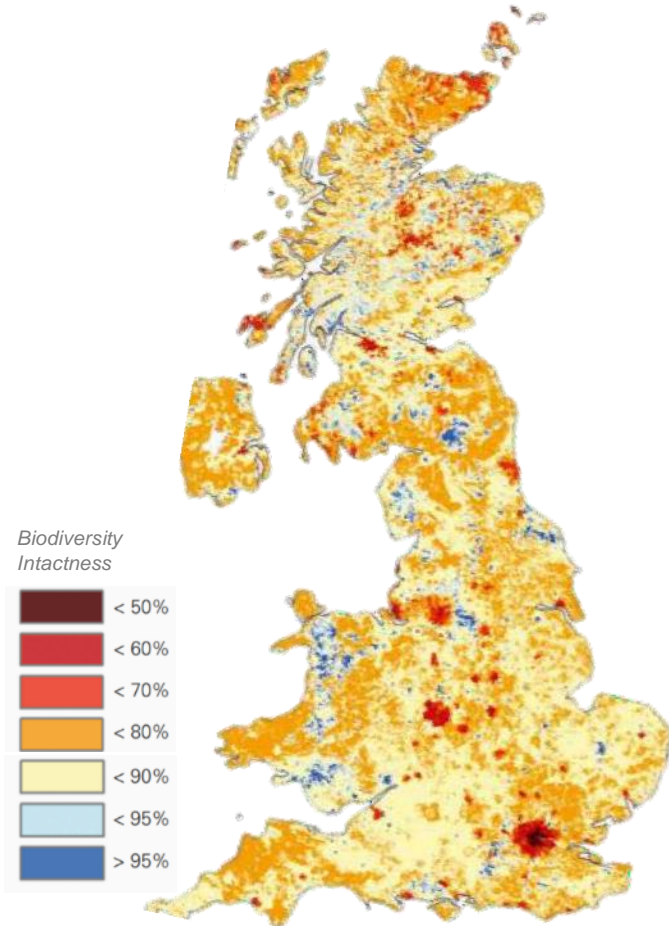
Restoring UK biodiversity - the role of BIG green spaces



# The challenge: restoring the UK's natural heritage and reaching net zero emissions by 2050

## National Parks cover 10% of Great Britain's landmass

Biodiversity across the UK is highly fragmented



Our natural capital and ecosystem services are depleted



One quarter of Britain's native mammals are now at risk of extinction.



The UK has a tree cover rate of just 13%: one of the lowest on the continent.



Only 1% of the UK's 2.6 million hectares of peatland are in a natural, undamaged state.



Current land management practices generate a 10% chance of flooding with £10 billion of damage in 20 years.

Current funding models do not meet the scale of need

**National Parks and NGOs stuck in an unsustainable model for funding nature restoration :**

- Continually applying for short term government and/or philanthropic grants
- Unable to deliver work at the scale that net zero commitments require
- Unable to plan in the long term to create a pipeline of nature restoration work that will create the required improvement to UK nature

# Net Zero With Nature: a nature restoration solution from the UK National Parks

An opportunity to restore precious UK landscapes and deliver crucial environmental services at scale



**NZWN is £239m of nature restoration activity by 2030 including peatland restoration, woodland planting/management and habitat improvements**



**Biodiversity:** Species diversity and reconnected ecosystems.



**Climate Change:** Enhances carbon sinks, reduces emissions, protects against flood and fire



**National Heritage:** Restoring natural sites of significant importance to UK



**Rural Economy:** Provides employment opportunities in rural communities

## Net Zero With Nature

NZWN projects will restore nature *and* deliver crucial environmental services. With our partner Palladium, we are talking now with companies about:

- UK generated carbon offsets
- Biodiversity Net Gain Credits
- Water Services



# High-quality carbon credits: created, verified, and traded in the UK

- Alongside an ambitious emissions reduction plan, offsets are essential to most corporate carbon footprint strategies
- NZWN will offer UK generated credits - from projects sequestering carbon and avoiding emissions by restoring National Parks landscapes
- Credits will be assured by standards which have been endorsed by the United nations and / or the UK government
- New, developing UK offset - partners will play a crucial role in developing a sustainable funding model for nature-based solutions in the UK



Credits from all National Parks will be assured by established carbon codes

Each carbon credit will be:



Assured by a UK government-recognised standard



Independently validated by qualified auditors



Transparently recorded on professional registries



# Net Zero With Nature biodiversity credits

## Legislation Briefing



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is an incoming piece of government legislation. With each development, BNG aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than beforehand.

BNG introduces obligations to all organisations involved in planning, construction, infrastructure, utilities, and more.

Each development will be required to quantify pre- and post-development biodiversity using DEFRA's Biodiversity Metric 2.0. Any biodiversity loss which can not be mitigated will have to be compensated by **110%**.

If on-site compensation is impossible, biodiversity credits can be used.

## Biodiversity credits from Net Zero With Nature add value

- By buying NZWN biodiversity credits, companies can gain tangible links to specific, high-quality nature restoration activities in the National Parks.
- Restoration creates essential habitat for a diverse range of species e.g. bringing peatland bogs back to health supports at-risk birds and insects.

## Streamline BNG compliance

- National Parks have sites across the country in need of restoration, providing local credits through a single nationwide partnership
- Restoration areas will be precisely mapped and quantified, integrating seamlessly with Defra's Biodiversity Metric 2.0
- For companies setting targets for significant net biodiversity gain across their portfolios, NZWN could provide a powerful way to achieve this



# ***Net Zero With Nature***



**Get in touch!**

**Naomi Conway**  
**National Parks Partnerships**  
**[naomi.conway@nationalparks.co.uk](mailto:naomi.conway@nationalparks.co.uk)**



# Q&A

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# Thank you

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