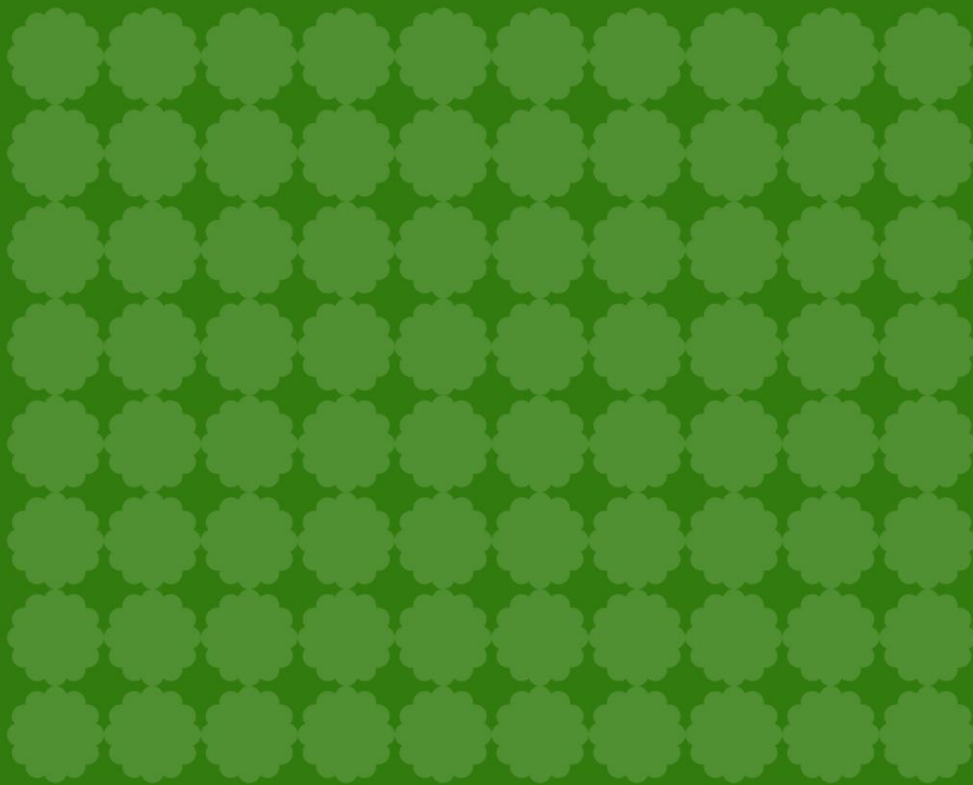


'Plan for Nature' Survey Report

Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy

30.08.2024



Introduction

The primary focus of the GM 'Plan for Nature' survey was to capture residents, organisations, businesses, farmers and landowners' views on the priorities and actions for nature recovery across Greater Manchester (GM). Responses from the survey were used to inform the development of the aims, targets, priorities and actions in the Greater Manchester's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). This is in line with DEFRA's requirement that all LNRS' undergo public engagement as part of their preparation¹ and the public survey is a key component of this process.

The survey included a range of quantitative and qualitative questions to gather respondents' views on various topics, from the perceived state of nature in Greater Manchester to the top actions individuals want to see in the strategy. It was hosted on GMCA's dedicated consultation homepage, GM Consult, which can be accessed at [Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Citizen Space \(gmconsult.org\)](https://gmconsult.org). GM Consult serves as the primary consultation page for residents across Greater Manchester.

The survey was also promoted on Greater Manchester Combined Authorities (GMCA) networks and newsletters and also by a range of partners organisations on our GM LNRS Steering Group and Officer Group, such as Natural England, The National Trust and local universities, as well as many more. Additionally, the survey was advertised at numerous events, including the RHS's first ever Urban Show held in Manchester, the GM Moving conference in Salford, and various roundtables targeting key groups like businesses. To enhance the survey's outreach, we utilised online promotion through blogs and social media posts. Additionally, we distributed leaflets containing a QR code that led users to GM Consult for them to complete the survey. For individuals with limited access to technology at events, we provided paper copies of the survey for them to fill out.

¹ [Local nature recovery strategies: the preparation process and contents government response and summary of responses \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Overall, **the survey received a total of 804 responses**, including 799 online submissions and 5 paper responses collected at events where we had promoted the LNRS.

The survey analysis varied based on the type of question. Qualitative questions underwent thematic analysis, where responses were grouped into categories based on their core themes, to identify common themes. These thematic categories were then used to create the final results presented in this report. All results were verified through a thorough checking process.

Main Questions

The following sections details the responses received to each of the main questions asked in the survey. These questions were asked to all respondents taking the survey, regardless of who they were responding as. The questions below vary in the information they are trying to collect, but generally aimed to capture respondents' views on the the state of nature across Greater Manchester and the wildlife, habitats and actions respondents would like to see prioritised and actions in the strategy.

General Respondent Information

This section details responses to questions that gather general information from respondents, such as type of respondents they were and the local authority to which they live in. Both of these questions were mandatory and had a total of 804 responses.

1: Which of the following are you completing this form as?

The majority of respondents identified as 'members of the public,' accounting for just over 85% of the total respondents. In contrast, members and representatives of commercial organisations constituted the smallest proportion, with only 4 responses, representing 0.50% of the total respondents.

The table below includes the results for all respondents of the survey.

| Option | Total number of respondents | Percent |
|--|-----------------------------|---------|
| Member of the public | 686 | 85.32% |
| Community organisation (member or representative) | 70 | 8.71% |
| Charitable organisation (member or representative) | 24 | 2.99% |
| Other | 15 | 1.86% |
| Farmer, landowner or land manager | 5 | 0.62% |
| Commercial organisation (member or representative) | 4 | 0.50% |

2: Which local authority area do you live in (if you're responding on behalf of yourself) or work in (if you're responding on behalf of an organisation)?

Respondents could select from 10 districts within Greater Manchester or indicate if they were responding on behalf of an organisation, such as 'a Greater Manchester organisation,' 'a North West organisation,' 'a national organisation,' or choose 'prefer not to say'.

There was a relatively even distribution of responses across the local authorities. Despite the generally even spread of responses from the districts, Manchester had the highest number of responses, accounting for 27.49% of the final total. Bolton

followed with 14.55%. Wigan had the fewest responses, with only 25 submissions, making up about 3.11% of the final total.

From an organisational perspective, Greater Manchester organisations contributed the most responses, but this still represented a very small portion of the overall results, accounting for only 1.24%.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| Manchester | 221 | 27.49% |
| Bolton | 117 | 14.55% |
| Stockport | 98 | 12.18% |
| Trafford | 94 | 11.69% |
| Rochdale | 51 | 6.34% |
| Bury | 48 | 5.97% |
| Oldham | 42 | 5.22% |
| Salford | 41 | 5.10% |
| Tameside | 40 | 4.97% |
| Wigan | 25 | 3.11% |
| A Greater Manchester organisation | 10 | 1.24% |
| Prefer not to say | 9 | 1.12% |
| A national organisation | 5 | 0.62% |
| A North West organisation | 3 | 0.37% |

Nature in Greater Manchester

This portion of the survey asked respondents to reflect on what they currently thought of the state of nature and wildlife across Greater Manchester. These questions were not mandatory, so there were differing levels of responses when compared to the previous section of mandatory questions.

3: What do you think about the current state of nature in Greater Manchester?

This question asked respondents to evaluate the current state of nature across Greater Manchester. Individuals were asked to categorise the state of nature as 'very poor,' 'poor,' 'moderate,' 'good,' 'very good,' or to opt out of answering since the question was not mandatory.

Overall, the state of nature across Greater Manchester was largely considered poor (42.27%) or very poor (15.09%) by respondents. Combined these two categories covered over half of all respondents (57.36%). The majority of other respondents considered the state of nature across Greater Manchester as moderate (37.91%). Only 4.11% considered it the state of nature good, and only 0.62% categorised it as very good.

This question had a total of 802 responses.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Poor | 339 | 42.27% |
| Moderate | 304 | 37.91% |
| Very poor | 121 | 15.09% |
| Good | 33 | 4.11% |
| Very good | 5 | 0.62% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 0.25% |

4: What local actions already help support wildlife in your area?

This was the first qualitative question in the survey, garnering a total of 729 responses. Participants were given a free text box, resulting in a diverse range of submissions in both content and length. Each response underwent thematic analysis, where they were categorised, then rephrased and condensed for readability while maintaining the original intent. For instance, "Litter picking activities and groups (e.g., parks and canal clean-ups)" was categorised as "Litter picking and clean-ups."

Although there were 729 responses, using a free text box led to 1,197 specific mentions of different local actions in the final analysis. This discrepancy arose because some respondents included multiple themes in their answers, so each distinct theme was counted separately.

Below are the top 15 condensed local actions reported by respondents when asked about the actions that already support wildlife in their local areas. Community action was the most frequently mentioned, accounting for just over a quarter of all mentions (26%). Following community action were mentions of parks and public spaces that prioritise wildlife, tree planting, and efforts by various environmental groups and NGOs. Other local actions, such as public education and awareness, received fewer mentions.

| Local action theme | Total | Percent |
|---|-------|---------|
| Community action, projects and volunteering | 313 | 26% |
| Parks and public green and blue spaces that prioritise wildlife | 168 | 14% |
| Tree planting | 128 | 11% |
| Environmental NGOs or partnerships and local specialist nature groups | 116 | 10% |
| Nature reserves and country parks that protect wildlife | 102 | 9% |
| Activism and protection of greenspaces from development | 87 | 7% |
| Litter picking and clean ups | 76 | 6% |

| | | |
|---|----|----|
| Wildflower meadows and wildflower verges | 53 | 4% |
| Wildlife friendly private gardens and alley and feeding wildlife | 52 | 4% |
| Building wildlife homes/refuges | 36 | 3% |
| Green active travel routes and paths - well-made and maintained | 35 | 3% |
| Creation of new greenspaces | 34 | 3% |
| Reduced mowing / hedge cutting | 32 | 3% |
| Public education and awareness | 30 | 3% |
| Wildlife recording and monitoring | 29 | 2% |

Priority species

The next section of the survey focused on the types of wildlife and specific species that respondents would like to see more of across Greater Manchester.

5: What wildlife would you like to see more of?

Respondents were asked to rank groups of wildlife from the group they most wanted to see more of, to the group they least wanted to see. Wildlife was categorised into five groups:

- *Our most vulnerable wildlife*
- *Reintroduce lost wildlife*
- *Our most iconic wildlife*
- *Our most common wildlife*
- *Other*

Overall, "our most vulnerable wildlife" was the top-ranked category respondents wanted to see more of, followed by "reintroduce lost wildlife," "our most iconic wildlife," and "our most common wildlife." "Other" was the least ranked option.

There was a varied distribution of rankings across each category, as some respondents chose to rank only their top 3 or even just their top choice instead of all five. This variation is explored further below.

Our most vulnerable wildlife

Our most vulnerable wildlife received 789 responses, with more than two-thirds of respondents ranking it as the top group they would like to see more of (63.93%). This group includes species that are most at risk across Greater Manchester, such as (Willow Tit).

| Rankings of 'our most vulnerable wildlife' | Total | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| 1 | 514 | 63.93% |
| 2 | 122 | 15.17% |

| | | |
|---------------------|----|-------|
| 3 | 57 | 7.09% |
| 4 | 25 | 3.11% |
| 5 | 71 | 8.83% |
| Not Answered | 15 | 1.87% |

Our most iconic wildlife

Our most iconic wildlife includes species that are emblematic to local communities. This group received 778 responses, with most participants ranking it as the third group they would like to see more of in Greater Manchester. Just over a third (36.44%) placed it third. Responses for this group were more scattered, with the majority of respondents ranking it as the second, third, and fourth most important group.

| Rank of 'our most iconic wildlife' | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 1 | 31 | 3.86% |
| 2 | 223 | 27.74% |
| 3 | 293 | 36.44% |
| 4 | 202 | 25.12% |
| 5 | 29 | 3.61% |
| Not Answered | 26 | 3.32% |

Reintroduction of lost wildlife

The reintroduction of lost wildlife received a total of 777 responses and made reference to the wildlife that we would like to see return to Greater Manchester (e.g. Beavers or red squirrels). Similarly to the previous group, responses were quite scattered, with the majority of respondents ranking it as either the second (31.59%) or fourth (25.62%) most important group.

| Ranks of 'reintroduce lost wildlife' | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 1 | 74 | 9.20% |
| 2 | 254 | 31.59% |
| 3 | 190 | 23.63% |

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|--------|
| 4 | 206 | 25.62% |
| 5 | 53 | 6.59% |
| Not Answered | 27 | 3.36% |

Our most common wildlife

This group referred to the wildlife that is already most commonly seen around Greater Manchester, such as (e.g. foxes, rabbits or magpies). The rankings for this group were relatively evenly distributed, but it was most commonly placed fourth by respondents, with 33.58% ranking it there.

| Rank of 'our most common wildlife' | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 1 | 74 | 9.20% |
| 2 | 162 | 20.15% |
| 3 | 204 | 25.37% |
| 4 | 270 | 33.58% |
| 5 | 66 | 8.21% |
| Not Answered | 28 | 3.48% |

Other wildlife

The final group allowed respondents to select "other" if they wanted to suggest an alternative group not listed. This option received the fewest responses, with a total of 645, indicating that 19.78% of respondents chose not to answer this part of the question. "Other" was most commonly ranked fifth, with over half of the respondents (56.59%) placing it in this position.

The option to suggest other wildlife is followed by the next question, which allows respondents to specify a particular species.

| Rank of 'other' | Total | Percent |
|-----------------|-------|---------|
| 1 | 79 | 9.83% |
| 2 | 18 | 2.24% |
| 3 | 27 | 3.36% |
| 4 | 66 | 8.21% |

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|--------|
| 5 | 455 | 56.59% |
| Not Answered | 159 | 19.78% |

6: If you would like to suggest a specific species, please let us know in the box below.

Following the ranking question regarding the groups of wildlife, respondents had the option to suggest a specific species they wanted to see conserved.

This question received a total of 451 responses. The number of suggestions varied, with some respondents suggesting multiple species in one answer. Each suggestion was counted individually, resulting in over 161 different species listed and a total of 725 individual responses.

Respondents provided varying levels of detail in their suggestions. To maintain the integrity of their answers, general suggestions like "birds" were kept separate from more specific ones like "willow tits." Additionally, a miscellaneous category was created for responses that did not suggest a species but mentioned something entirely different that could not be categorised.

Hedgehogs were the most frequently suggested species, comprising 15% of the final results, with over 100 specific mentions. This was significantly higher than the second most suggested species, bees, which received 25 mentions. Below is a table of the top 15 suggested species from the survey, though it should be noted that there were a vast number of different suggestions.

| Top 15 suggested species | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Hedgehogs | 108 | 15% |
| Bees | 35 | 5% |
| Beavers | 34 | 5% |
| Birds | 34 | 5% |
| Badgers | 28 | 4% |
| Miscellaneous | 27 | 4% |
| Swifts | 24 | 3% |

| | | |
|---------------------|----|----|
| Bats | 21 | 3% |
| Otters | 21 | 3% |
| Owls | 18 | 2% |
| Insects | 17 | 2% |
| Willow Tits | 16 | 2% |
| Butterflies | 15 | 2% |
| Water Voles | 15 | 2% |
| Red Squirrel | 14 | 2% |

Envisioning a more nature friendly Greater Manchester

As part of developing Greater Manchester's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), this question sought to capture residents' visions for the future. Respondents were asked to provide three words that describe what they would like to see in a greener Greater Manchester:

7: Tell us three words that describe what you would like a more nature-friendly Greater Manchester to look like.

The question included three free text boxes and received approximately 2,231 responses. Some respondents provided more than three words, resulting in a total of 2,254 suggestions.

These responses underwent thematic analysis, grouping them based on common themes. For example, many respondents expressed a desire for a "greener" Greater Manchester, leading to the creation of a "Green" category for suggestions related to increased greenery.

"Green" was the most frequently mentioned theme, followed by a strong desire for more wooded areas. Many respondents also emphasised the need for a "cleaner" Greater Manchester, with specific calls for less litter in green and blue spaces. There were frequent mentions of a more biodiverse city, with a variety of species thriving throughout the region, and a more natural environment with minimal human interference. Access was mentioned 135 times, with requests for more inclusive and accessible green and wilder spaces. Additionally, respondents indicated that Greater Manchester should be better protected, valued, and connected.

| Top 10 suggested words | Total | Percent |
|------------------------|-------|---------|
| Green | 323 | 14% |
| Woodland | 181 | 8% |
| Clean | 177 | 8% |
| Biodiversity | 152 | 7% |
| Natural | 138 | 6% |
| Accessible | 135 | 6% |

| | | |
|------------------|-----|----|
| Wild | 102 | 5% |
| Protected | 96 | 4% |
| Valued | 68 | 3% |
| Connected | 68 | 3% |

Habitats across Greater Manchester

This section of the survey asked respondents to rank various habitat types across Greater Manchester from most important to least important for wildlife in their view. Respondents were asked to rank the following habitat types:

- *Trees, woodland and hedges*
- *Grasslands and croplands*
- *Rivers, canals, lakes and ponds*
- *Lowland, mossland and wetland*
- *Urban green spaces, gardens and parks*
- *Upland, moorland and heath*

Woodland emerged as the most valued habitat, with nearly half of respondents (43.28%) ranking it as the top priority. Uplands and grasslands were ranked as the least important habitats, though specific rankings will be detailed below.

8: Which of the following spaces do you think it is most important to support nature in Greater Manchester?

Trees, Woodlands and Hedges

Trees, woodlands, and hedges were ranked as the top habitat type, with just over 80% of respondents listing them as either the first, second, or third most important habitat.

| Rank of trees, woodlands and hedges | Total | Percent |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 1 | 348 | 43.28% |
| 2 | 179 | 22.26% |
| 3 | 123 | 15.30% |
| 4 | 66 | 8.21% |
| 5 | 39 | 4.85% |
| 6 | 36 | 4.48% |

| | | |
|---------------------|----|-------|
| Not Answered | 13 | 1.62% |
|---------------------|----|-------|

Grasslands and Croplands

Grasslands and croplands were ranked significantly lower compared to woodlands, with the most common ranking being sixth (24.13%). Only 4.48% of respondents listed grasslands as their top priority habitat.

| Rank of grasslands and croplands | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 1 | 36 | 4.48% |
| 2 | 97 | 12.06% |
| 3 | 105 | 13.06% |
| 4 | 166 | 20.65% |
| 5 | 167 | 20.77% |
| 6 | 194 | 24.13% |
| Not Answered | 39 | 4.85% |

Rivers, Canals, Lakes and Ponds

Rivers and waterbodies were ranked relatively higher compared to other habitat types, with most respondents placing them as either the second or third most important habitat.

| Rank of rivers, canals, lakes and ponds | Total | Percent |
|---|-------|---------|
| 1 | 107 | 13.31% |
| 2 | 210 | 26.12% |
| 3 | 213 | 26.49% |
| 4 | 136 | 16.92% |
| 5 | 91 | 11.32% |
| 6 | 21 | 2.61% |
| Not Answered | 26 | 3.23% |

Lowland, Mossland and Wetlands

Lowlands, mosslands, and wetlands were most commonly ranked as the fourth or fifth most important habitat types, with nearly a quarter of respondents placing them in the fourth rank (24.38%).

| Rank of lowland, mosslands and wetlands | Total | Percent |
|---|-------|---------|
| 1 | 87 | 10.82% |
| 2 | 116 | 14.43% |
| 3 | 147 | 18.28% |
| 4 | 196 | 24.38% |
| 5 | 172 | 21.39% |
| 6 | 62 | 7.71% |
| Not Answered | 24 | 2.99% |

Urban Green Spaces, Gardens and Parks

Urban green spaces showed the widest range of rankings, with the most common response being a rank of 6 (20.65%), while a notable number of respondents ranked them as the most important habitat (19.53%). This disparity may reflect varying quality of green spaces and parks across different districts.

| Rank of urban green spaces | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|
| 1 | 157 | 19.53% |
| 2 | 119 | 14.80% |
| 3 | 112 | 13.93% |
| 4 | 97 | 12.06% |
| 5 | 134 | 16.67% |
| 6 | 166 | 20.65% |
| Not Answered | 19 | 2.36% |

Upland, Moorland and Heath

Uplands were most commonly ranked as fourth, fifth, or sixth, with the most frequent placement being last, at 33.46%.

| Rank of upland, moorland and heath | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|--------|
| 1 | 54 | 6.72% |
| 2 | 68 | 8.46% |
| 3 | 88 | 10.95% |
| 4 | 121 | 15.05% |
| 5 | 176 | 21.89% |
| 6 | 269 | 33.46% |
| Not Answered | 28 | 3.48% |

Envisioning the strategy

This part of the survey asked respondents to consider what they would like included in the strategy:

9: What are the top 5 actions you would like to see included in our strategy to help recover nature in Greater Manchester?

Respondents were asked to identify actions they would like to see in Greater Manchester's LNRS. The goal was to gather specific actions that could contribute to creating a more nature-friendly Greater Manchester.

The responses were analysed through a thematic analysis process. Suggestions were grouped into common themes and then rephrased and condensed for clarity. While most respondents provided five distinct actions or themes, some offered more or fewer suggestions.

The top suggested actions included the creation and restoration of green spaces, outdoor recreation areas, and nature reserves (16%). This was followed by the protection and enhancement of existing green and blue spaces (8%), as well as educational and awareness-raising initiatives (8%).

This question had 2,132 individual suggestions, which were initially grouped into 62 thematic categories and later condensed into 33 distinct categories. Below are the top 15 shortened suggestions.

| Top 15 suggested actions | Total | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| Create and restore more green spaces, wildlife friendly outdoor recreation and spaces for nature (including nature reserves) | 344 | 16% |
| Maintain, protect and enhance existing greenspaces and blue spaces and spaces for nature | 175 | 8% |
| Education and awareness raising | 158 | 8% |
| Less development and more protection of greenbelt or greenspace | 145 | 7% |

| | | |
|--|-----|----|
| More tree planting and hedge planting and more new woodlands | 135 | 6% |
| More wildflower meadows and verges | 112 | 5% |
| Improve water quality | 112 | 5% |
| Support community projects and community volunteering | 107 | 5% |
| Less litter and cleaner areas | 106 | 5% |
| More wildlife friendly development, regeneration and existing buildings | 97 | 5% |
| Reduce pollution | 88 | 4% |
| Increase habitat diversity | 87 | 4% |
| Species specific support (e.g swift brick or conservation plans for certain species) | 57 | 3% |
| Restore or create more waterways, canals, more ponds, natural flood management, wetlands or sustainable drainage schemes | 50 | 2% |
| Reduce or ban pesticide use | 45 | 2% |

10: What action(s) could you take to help nature recover?

This question asks people to think about the actions they could personally take to aid the recovery of nature. This question acts as a follow up question from the previous question by helping respondents visualise the acts they could potentially take independently.

This question received 690 responses, totalling 745 specific actions mentioned. These responses were analysed thematically, resulting in 11 final categories of broader actions that individuals could take to support nature recovery.

The most frequently suggested action was managing one's home for wildlife, such as making private gardens more wildlife friendly. Volunteering was also prominently mentioned, with the second most common suggestion being volunteering for habitat

development and the third for litter picking or clean-up efforts. Recycling and reusing was much less frequently suggested and accounted for only 2% of the final results.

Below are the top 10 final suggestions.

| Top 10 suggested actions | Total | Percent |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| Manage home for wildlife | 181 | 24% |
| Volunteer - Habitat creation or improvement | 108 | 14% |
| Volunteer - Maintenance / Clean ups | 98 | 13% |
| Campaign more | 71 | 10% |
| Sustainable travel modes | 59 | 8% |
| Educating others | 56 | 8% |
| Volunteer recording - Species surveys | 54 | 7% |
| Donate to Conservation / Wildlife Charities | 40 | 5% |
| Ethical Consumers | 34 | 5% |
| Urban rewilding | 28 | 4% |

11: Is there anything else you would like to tell us to help inform the Local Nature Recovery Strategy?

Respondents were then given a final opportunity to feedback anything else they would like to see included in Greater Manchester’s Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

This question had 488 answers and responses were again put into broader thematic categories, there were a diverse range of answers from respondents who each wanted to inform the strategy in a different way. Below are the top 11 suggestions of respondents that they would like to see inform the strategy.

| Top 10 suggested actions | Total | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| LNRS must be high priority for Local Authority Planning teams | 82 | 23% |
| Less development on greenspace and brownfield sites with high biodiversity | 43 | 12% |

| | | |
|--|----|----|
| Properly fund enforcement on new developments and corporate pollution | 29 | 8% |
| Large communications campaign to encourage community participation | 28 | 8% |
| Increase habitat coverage in urban areas (Green bus stops, planters, etc.) | 27 | 8% |
| Support local authorities to improve biodiversity of parks and public land | 26 | 7% |
| Educate local councilors on actions beneficial for biodiversity | 25 | 7% |
| Include Nature-Based Solutions for climate adaptation | 16 | 5% |
| Support in increasing participation and enabling community-led projects | 15 | 4% |
| Leverage more private sector / innovative investment | 14 | 4% |
| Prioritise less affluent areas of GM for nature recovery | 14 | 4% |

Organisation Specific Questions

This section of the survey was exclusively for members or representatives of organisations. Only those respondents could answer the questions below. A total of 85 different organisations participated in our 'Plan for Nature' survey.

General Organisational Respondent Information

This section explores the questions within our 'Plan for Nature' survey that gathered general information from those responding as members or representatives of organisations.

12: What organisation are you a part of?

This question had a total of 98 responses, from community organisations, charitable organisations, and commercial organisations. Respondents could participate as either members or representatives of these categories.

Community organisations had the highest response rate in comparison to other types of organisations making up 71.43% of the final responses solely from organisations.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| Community organisation (member or representative) | 70 | 71.43% |
| Charitable organisation (member or representative) | 24 | 24.49% |
| Commercial organisation (member or representative) | 4 | 4.08% |

13: Does your organisation own or manage land?

There were 95 responses to this question, which aimed to determine the land ownership status of organisations. This question was only applicable to those responding as a member or representative of an organisation.

The vast majority of organisations did not own their land, with just over 40% reporting land ownership.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 44 | 44.90% |
| No | 51 | 52.04% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 3.06% |

Benefits provided by nature and actions already undertaken by organisations

This section asked organisations about what benefits they thought they received from nature and gathered information about the actions already being taken by organisations to support nature.

14: How does local access to nature benefit your organisation?

This question had 84 responses, with 141 individual mentions of the benefits access to nature provides organisations. Responses were again analysed using the same process as previous questions, following the emergence of common themes from answers and which were then turned into categories. As there was a much smaller sample size there was only a total of 10 categories.

The top result were the health and wellbeing benefits access to nature provides to organisations with 24% of respondents listing this as a benefit. This was followed by the benefits access to nature provides for biodiversity (17%) and then finally the education and awareness opportunities it provides (14%). There was again a small 'miscellaneous' categories for responses provided that were not an answer to the question, however these made up a very small subsection of the results.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|
| Health and wellbeing | 36 | 24.65% |
| Biodiversity | 25 | 17.61% |
| Education and awareness | 20 | 14.08% |
| Community cohesion | 18 | 12.68% |
| Nature is integral | 15 | 10.56% |
| Supports projects | 11 | 7.75% |
| Enjoyment/Aesthetics | 9 | 6.34% |
| Miscellaneous | 4 | 2.82% |
| Climate change mitigation | 3 | 2.11% |
| Food growing | 1 | 0.70% |

15: Does your organisation already take action to support nature recovery locally?

This question aims to gather information on what actions organisations are already taking to help nature recover and what the most common actions which could be encouraged. This question had a total of 87 responses that resulted in 221 individual actions being counted across respondents' suggestions.

The top three actions recorded were general 'greening' including activities such as planting which made up 19% of the final results. This was followed by 'increasing biodiversity' which was mentioned 37 times followed by respondents generally stating 'projects' which were mentioned 25 times.

There was a total of 10 categories following the thematic analysis, including a 'miscellaneous' for responses that did not relate to the question.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Greening | 42 | 19.00% |
| Increasing biodiversity | 37 | 16.74% |
| Managing and monitoring | 31 | 14.03% |
| Educating and raising awareness | 30 | 13.57% |
| Projects | 25 | 11.31% |
| Protecting and restoring | 25 | 11.31% |
| Cleaning | 18 | 8.14% |
| Miscellaneous | 11 | 4.98% |
| Small actions | 1 | 0.45% |
| Climate friendly practices | 1 | 0.45% |

What more could organisations do, and what support would they need?

This section addresses questions regarding additional actions organisations could take to aid nature recovery and the support they would need to implement these actions. It also tried to gather insights into potential barriers currently preventing organisations from taking action for nature.

16: What actions would your organisation like to see more of across the city region to better support nature?

A total of 85 organisations responded to this question, suggesting 159 specific actions. The discrepancy between the number of responses and specific actions is due to respondents proposing multiple measures they would like to see implemented across the city region to better support nature.

The most common action was more greenery and green projects across Greater Manchester that accounted for 16.35% of all mentions, followed by further protection (12.58%) and more joined up thinking (10.06%).

| Option | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| More green/green projects | 26 | 16.35% |
| Protect | 20 | 12.58% |
| Joined up thinking | 16 | 10.06% |
| Education and awareness | 13 | 8.18% |
| Conserve and consider biodiversity | 12 | 7.55% |
| More funding | 12 | 7.55% |
| Clear baselines and legislation | 12 | 7.55% |
| Less interference (more natural) | 10 | 6.29% |
| Cleaner | 7 | 4.40% |
| Better support for volunteers | 7 | 4.40% |
| Improve spaces | 6 | 3.77% |
| Tackle invasives | 4 | 2.52% |
| Better support for projects | 4 | 2.52% |
| Natural solutions | 3 | 1.89% |
| Safe | 2 | 1.26% |

17: What would help your organisation to take action for nature recovery?

This question received 84 responses, with a total of 120 actionable suggestions for promoting nature recovery, as some respondents provided multiple ideas. Suggestions that did not directly relate to the question were categorised as miscellaneous.

The most frequently mentioned suggestion was increased and better-managed funding, comprising nearly 20% of the responses. Through thematic analysis, 12 categories were identified based on the organisations' responses, similar to the analysis process used for previous questions. The least mentioned action was more volunteering opportunities, with only three mentions.

Below are the top ten suggestions from organisations.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| Increased and better-managed funding | 22 | 18.33% |
| Joined up thinking | 19 | 15.83% |
| Education and Awareness | 17 | 14.17% |
| Coordinated resources | 13 | 10.83% |
| More support for volunteers and more volunteers | 12 | 10.00% |
| Clear baselines and commitments | 7 | 5.83% |
| Better protection | 7 | 5.83% |
| Miscellaneous | 6 | 5.00% |
| Help with project management | 5 | 4.17% |
| Help with securing funding | 5 | 4.17% |

Farmers, Landowners and Land Managers Specific Questions

This section of the survey analyses the farmers, landowners or land manager specific questions from the 'Plan for Nature' survey. There was a total of 5 respondents from this category, making up the smallest portion of respondents within any other group responding to the survey. None of the questions in this section were mandatory, meaning response rates varied from question to question.

Land information

The questions within this section contain information regarding respondents land they either own or manage.

18: In hectares, approximately how much land do you own or manage?

This question asked respondents how much specific land they owned or managed. This question was not mandatory and therefore only received 3 responses, which showed that the average respondents owned or managed around 490 hectares of land.

| Respondent | Hectares of land owned or managed |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 750 |
| 2 | 710 |
| 3 | 11 |

19: Do you own or rent your land?

This question aimed to find out whether respondents own or rent their land. This question only had 3 total responses from farmers, landowners or land managers.

The majority of respondents owned their land, with the only other response being other or a non-response.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| Own | 2 | 40.00% |
| Other | 1 | 20.00% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 40.00% |

20: What do you primarily use your land for?

This question sought to determine the primary uses of respondents' land. Due to the small sample size, each response has been recorded as a separate category. Only three respondents participated in this section, with some indicating multiple uses for their land, resulting in six total suggestions.

Public access was the most frequently mentioned use, accounting for over a third of the responses.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Conservation | 1 | 12.50% |
| Public access | 3 | 37.50% |
| Grazing | 1 | 12.50% |
| Recreation | 1 | 12.50% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 25.00% |

Actions Landowners and Managers already take and potential areas for increased effort

The questions in this section aim to gather information on the actions landowners and managers currently take to support nature and identify additional measures they could implement to further enhance and protect natural environments.

21: What actions do you already take on the land you own or manage that help support nature?

This question asked land owners and land managers about the actions they already take to help support nature, and received a total of 4 responses, resulting in 6 total different actions. The actions mentioned only formed three categories, with the most mentioned action being taken for nature was active 'Nature Recovery' with over 50% stating it in their answers. Engaging with their local communities and food growing made up the other mentioned actions,

| Option | Total | Percent |
|-------------------------|-------|---------|
| Nature Recovery | 4 | 57.14% |
| Engage with Communities | 1 | 14.29% |
| Food Growing | 1 | 14.29% |
| Not Answered | 1 | 14.29% |

22: Alongside your primary land use, what do you think you could do more of to enhance nature?

There were only two responses to this question, with one being categorised as miscellaneous since the respondent answered "all of the above," which could not be precisely categorised.

The most frequent response was no response at all. Among the actual responses received, the only respondent mentioned a need for more education and awareness raising, as well as increased investment.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Education and Awareness Raising | 1 | 16.67% |
| Investment | 1 | 16.67% |
| N/A | 1 | 16.67% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 50.00% |

What Landowners and Managers Would Like to See Included in the Strategy

This section of the report aimed to understand what farmers, landowners, and managers would like to see included in the strategy, requesting specific suggestions and desired species.

23: Are there any particular actions you would like to see supported in our strategy to help nature recover?

This question aimed to gather information on the actions farmers, landowners and land managers would like to see included in the strategy.

There were three responses to this question, with each response detailing multiple actions, resulting in a total of 8 specific actions. The most frequently mentioned action was 'Education and Awareness,' which appeared in every response. Additionally, the responses included a range of other actions.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Education and Awareness | 3 | 30.00% |
| Access Management | 1 | 10.00% |
| Tackle Invasives | 1 | 10.00% |
| Woodland Creation | 1 | 10.00% |
| Support for Food Production | 1 | 10.00% |
| Habitat Restoration | 1 | 10.00% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 20.00% |

24: Are there any particular species you would like to recommend for inclusion in the strategy?

Similar to the question which asked general respondents about species suggestions, this question received a wide variety of responses. There was only a total of 2 responses for this question, however a total of 11 specific species mentioned in respondents' answers. Both respondents gave a number of different suggestions, and the table below details them all as there was no commonality within their answers.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Badgers | 1 | 7.14% |
| Bilberry Bumble Bee | 1 | 7.14% |
| Brown Hare | 1 | 7.14% |
| Curlew | 1 | 7.14% |
| Dragonflies | 1 | 7.14% |
| Dunlin | 1 | 7.14% |
| Golden Plover | 1 | 7.14% |
| Great Crested Newts | 1 | 7.14% |
| Green and Purple Hairstreak | 1 | 7.14% |
| Pollinators | 1 | 7.14% |
| Swifts | 1 | 7.14% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 21.43% |

Respondent Information

This section of the report examines the demographics of the respondents who completed the survey. It provides insights into their age, gender, ethnic background, and disability status to better understand the profile of the survey sample.

It is important to note that none of the questions within this section of the survey were mandatory. Consequently, there are figures representing respondents who chose not to answer these questions. This choice is reflected in the data, where non-responses have been recorded as such.

Age

A total of 785 people responded to this part of the survey, with only 19 respondents choosing to not answer this question, offering a solid sample size to gauge the typical age of respondents. Age data was categorised into standard age groups, such as '16-24'. The most common age range of respondents was 45-54 years old, though there was a relatively even distribution among respondents aged 25-69.

Commented [H11]: Add in a not answered section

| Option | Total | Percent |
|----------|-------|---------|
| Under 16 | 1 | 0.13% |
| 16-24 | 18 | 2.25% |
| 25-34 | 84 | 10.51% |
| 35-44 | 126 | 15.77% |
| 45-54 | 167 | 20.90% |
| 55-59 | 90 | 11.26% |
| 60-64 | 97 | 12.14% |
| 65-69 | 91 | 11.39% |
| 70-74 | 62 | 7.76% |
| 75-79 | 40 | 5.01% |
| 80-84 | 7 | 0.88% |
| 85-89 | 2 | 0.25% |
| 90+ | 0 | 0.00% |

| | | |
|---------------------|----|-------|
| Not Answered | 19 | 2.36% |
|---------------------|----|-------|

Gender

There were 781 responses to this question. This question asked respondents to identify their gender, offering the following categories: 'a man (including a trans man)', 'a woman (including a trans woman)', 'non-binary', 'in another way', 'prefer not to say', and an option to not answer.

More than half of the respondents identified as a woman (including trans women), while around a third identified as a man (including trans men). Approximately 7% of respondents chose not to disclose their gender, making this the third largest category in the data.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| A man (including trans man) | 262 | 32.59% |
| A woman (including trans woman) | 439 | 54.60% |
| Non-binary | 13 | 1.62% |
| In another way | 8 | 1.00% |
| Prefer not to say | 59 | 7.34% |
| Not Answered | 23 | 2.85% |

Ethnic Background

Respondents were then asked to describe their ethnic background by selecting from a list of categories. This question received a total of 781 responses.

More than three-quarters of respondents identified as White, specifically English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, or British. Almost 5% identified as 'White – Other'. 5% of respondents chose the 'Prefer not to say' option, and 2% chose not to answer.

| Option | Total | Percent |
|--|-------|---------|
| White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British | 657 | 81.72% |
| White - Irish | 23 | 2.86% |
| White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 0 | 0.00% |
| White - Roma | 0 | 0.00% |
| White – Other | 35 | 4.35% |
| Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups - White and Black Caribbean | 3 | 0.37% |
| Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups - White and Black African | 1 | 0.12% |
| Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups - White and Asian | 3 | 0.37% |
| Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups - Any other mixed or multiple background | 1 | 0.12% |
| Asian or Asian British - Indian | 3 | 0.37% |
| Asian or Asian British - Pakistani | 6 | 0.75% |
| Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi | 0 | 0.00% |
| Asian or Asian British – Chinese | 3 | 0.37% |
| Asian or Asian British – Any other Asian background | 2 | 0.25% |
| Black, Black British, Caribbean or African - Caribbean | 1 | 0.12% |
| Black, Black British, Caribbean or African - African background, | 0 | 0.00% |
| Black, Black British, Caribbean or African - Any other black, Black British or Caribbean | 0 | 0.00% |
| Arab | 1 | 0.12% |
| Other - Any other ethnic group | 3 | 0.37% |
| Prefer not to say | 43 | 5.35% |
| Not Answered | 19 | 2.36% |

Disability

This question asked respondents whether they had a disability, with options categorised by different types of disabilities. There were also 'Prefer not to say' and 'No answer' options. A total of 777 responses were recorded.

More than three-quarters of respondents reported not having a disability. The second most common response was 'Yes – other disability,' followed by 'mobility disability.'

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|
| No | 614 | 76.37% |
| Yes - learning disability | 12 | 1.49% |
| Yes - mental ill health | 27 | 3.36% |
| Yes - mobility disability | 39 | 4.85% |
| Yes - sensory disability | 25 | 3.11% |
| Yes - other disability | 48 | 5.97% |
| Prefer not to say | 46 | 5.72% |
| Not Answered | 27 | 3.36% |