



Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

ADEPT President's Awards 2022

Entry form

Award category:	Shaping places for people
Title:	Local Nature Action Plan partnership: Empowering Town and Parish Councils to tackle the Nature and Climate Emergency
Entrant:	South Gloucestershire Council
Main contact name:	Matt Lipton
Email address:	matthew.lipton@southglos.gov.uk
Partner/s (if applicable):	Local Town and Parish Councils, local community groups
Headline summary (150 characters, c. 20-25 words) The Local Nature Action Plan partnership shares best practice in tackling the ecological crisis. Further resources are being developed in response to demands.	

Please note we need **at least one supporting image** per award submission.
Supporting images should be attached separately as jpg or png files.

Please paste links to any supporting video evidence here

Link 1	Webinar 1 Introduction to Local Nature Action Plans https://youtu.be/Ig9Kj0hGclM
Link 2	Webinar 2 Identifying Opportunities for Nature https://youtu.be/pHMxG4RbTEM
Link 3	Webinar 3 A Swift Recovery https://youtu.be/wLZrBe3W-RE



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500-word project outline (please ensure you do not exceed the word count and address all the judges' criteria – for more info see [here](#))

South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) like most authorities recognises the Nature and Climate Emergency. To help our Town & Parish Councils (T&PCs) take action, the Commons and Biodiversity Team developed the [Local Nature Action Plan \(LNAP\)](#).

LNAP is a resource for T&PCs. It provides guidance to help T&PCs develop, consult on, and deliver their own LNAP. The process complements SGC's Biodiversity Action Plan and individual town and parish biodiversity plans. All local authorities, including T&PCs have a duty to have regard for biodiversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

SGC works to address the ecological crisis on a strategic scale through its partnerships. Protecting and restoring nature is a commitment in the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy Action Plan, developing LNAPs with Town and Parish Council's is an example of that commitment in action.

LNAP's were launched Summer 2021 at the Town and Parish Council Forum. Information was published online and sent to all Town/Parish Clerks for sharing with local Councillors.

Those interested in participating had to confirm by the end of September, with draft LNAPs. Three heavy standard trees were offered as an incentive to meet the deadline.

Outcomes:

Over 25% of our T&PC's are participating.

136 Town and Parish Councillors = decision makers, diverting time and resources to tackle the ecological crisis.

86,921 residents (2011 Census) = involved through communication channels, supporting the work or funding changes through their local precepts.

14639.39 hectares = a quarter of South Gloucestershire's land mass will have an LNAP.

Three webinars = delivered and generating further interest.

LNAPs shared with APSE = featured on their website and promoted as an example of good industry practice.

Frampton Cotterell and community group 'Floral friends of Frampton' are creating connected habitats to help pollinators thrive.

Yate Town Council included their LNAP within a South Gloucestershire Council Master planning document and taken it out to public consultation. This demonstrates how their LNAP is being used to ensure consideration for nature influences how their town evolves.

The aim is to provide ongoing support and resources to T&PCs to do more and stay engaged with the process at a minimal cost to the Council. Future webinars are planned, such as 'Happy Hedgehogs' 'Magnificent Meadows' and business support like 'How to deliver communications effectively'.



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SGC support will empower T&PCs to increase tree planting, improve grounds maintenance, restore, and create ponds, link up work on neighbouring green spaces, share best practice with SGC, neighbouring parishes and residents through the T&PC communications networks.

The benefits of encouraging greater participation are huge. This is a partnership effort, turning lots of small collective steps into big positive differences for wildlife and residents.

The LNAP process is evolving to meet communities' needs and priorities. It is not currently funded but managed through officer 'business as usual' time. The team are committed to encourage and support T&PCs so we can jointly achieve strategic objectives like doubling our tree canopy cover. Ultimately, by working together we can do more to tackle the ecological crisis.