

Morecambe Bay

Local Nature Partnership

Morecambe Bay is famous for its diverse wildlife and stunning landscape. Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership aims to create a bright future for the area by significantly improving the quality of the natural environment and connecting up nature, businesses and communities.

We are an influential team of key organisations working together in a collaborative way and our achievements are recognised at a national level. We have an excellent track record of attracting significant external funding from a wide range of sources and ensuring community and organisational support for major initiatives.

Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership is:

- Bringing about a step change in the quality of the natural environment around Morecambe Bay by improving, creating and linking wildlife habitats
- Coordinating and delivering major initiatives to secure optimum outcomes for nature, businesses and communities
- Championing the importance of the natural environment in improving the Morecambe Bay area as a place to live, work, play and invest
- Supporting opportunities for growth linked to the natural environment – of key sectors such as the visitor economy, farming, forestry and woodfuel

Morecambe Bay LNP partners include:

Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership; Butterfly Conservation; Cumbria and Lancashire Wildlife Trusts; Lune Rivers Trust; Morecambe Bay Partnership; National Trust; RSPB; Forestry Commission; Natural England; Environment Agency; South Cumbria Rivers Trust; Cumbria Woodlands; Wyre Council; and others. We are committed to cooperating closely with Cumbria and Lancashire Local Nature Partnerships to ensure joined up working and added value.

Current Projects the LNP is leading or involved with include:

Morecambe Bay & Limestones & Wetlands Nature Improvement Area
Headlands 2 Headspace - Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnership Scheme
Source 2 Sea - Catchment Restoration Fund
700 Days - Coastal Communities Fund
Dunes of Barrow – Wren
Futurescapes - EU Life Communications +
Leighton Moss Hide & Seek – HLF
Morecambe Bay Butterflies - SITA/Coop

Headline outputs include:

Environmental

- 1,760ha priority S41 habitat improved and enhanced through NIA: 301ha Grassland, 816ha Woodland, 651ha Wetlands, over 60% within designated landscapes
- 25.8km river bank restored, 6,995 trees planted
- 867ha blanket bog restored, 48 ponds created
- 2 European eel & salmonid barriers removed, 2 large easements installed
- 1,258 direct volunteer days
- 38 beach cleans, 413 volunteers
- 24,000 tonnes of carbon/yr saved

Economic

- 12 Direct FTE jobs and 1 apprenticeship & 1 internship
- NIA woodlands support 207FTE jobs
- Woodland businesses annual turnover £4m - £7m
- Established MB Nature Tourism Business Network and resources produced – 110 businesses participating. 173 training days delivered
- Input into development of new Morecambe Bay destination brand

Social

- Hosting 2020VISION spectacular street gallery exhibition
- 12 Community Woodfuel projects supported (1,168Mwh Woodfuel extracted value £47,396 pa)
- Sense of Place Toolkit published
- 10 Nature on your doorstep visitor guides and 4 Seldom Seen map guides produced
- Developing 200km Bay Cycle Way
- 23 Schools engaged, 794 children
- Website launched giving Morecambe Bay a 'natural' identity:
<http://www.morecambebaynature.org.uk/home>