



## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

# Report

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### AGENDA ITEM 6

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2011

**Title:** Local Nature Partnerships

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The establishment of Local Nature Partnerships (LNP) has been proposed following publication of the Government's Natural Environment White Paper and Local Access Forums are identified as one of the possible members of an LNP. A successful bid has been made to Defra for capacity building funds to support creation of a new Partnership that encompasses Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes.

Development activities to take this work forward are currently being scheduled for the period November 2011 – May 2012, and shall culminate in a submission to Government for LNP status in spring 2012. Topics to be addressed as part of the development phase include:

- Bring together a range of organisations interested in forming a LNP and develop common agreement about the way forward. Identify opportunities and priority outcomes using an ecosystems approach and define the linked benefits for local communities and businesses. Work collaboratively with a range of relevant stakeholders across sectors.
- Develop a new integrated environmental vision, or expand an existing one across the partnership for improving the natural environment in a collaborative way that reflects its wider social and economic benefits, and the need to manage this in a more integrated, landscape-scale way.
- Expand the membership of the partnership to reflect a more integrated, outcome focused and landscape scale approach to delivering action that improves the natural environment.
- Propose ways to diversify the financial support currently provided to the partnership, putting it on a more broad-based and sustainable footing, by reflecting the wider benefits which a healthy natural environment has for social and economic priorities.

An update will be provided.

**Recommendation: Members to consider comments and support.**