

Biodiversity enhancements in the built environment

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Welcome & introductions

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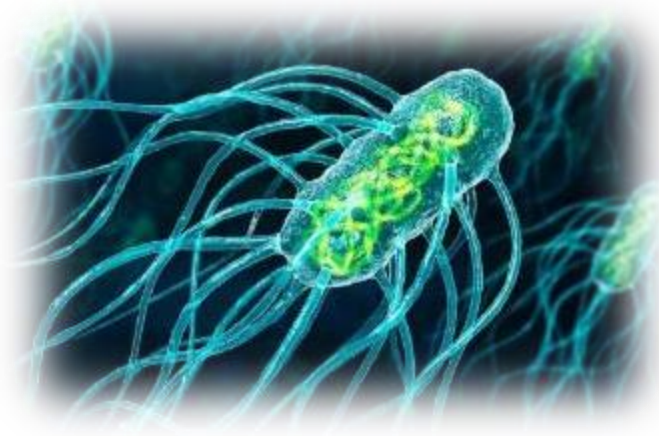




Agenda

- Introduction – what are biodiversity enhancements
- Why are biodiversity enhancements important
- The Mitigation Hierarchy & Net Gain overview
- Scotland's Approach – positive effects for Biodiversity
- Group exercise – Next Steps

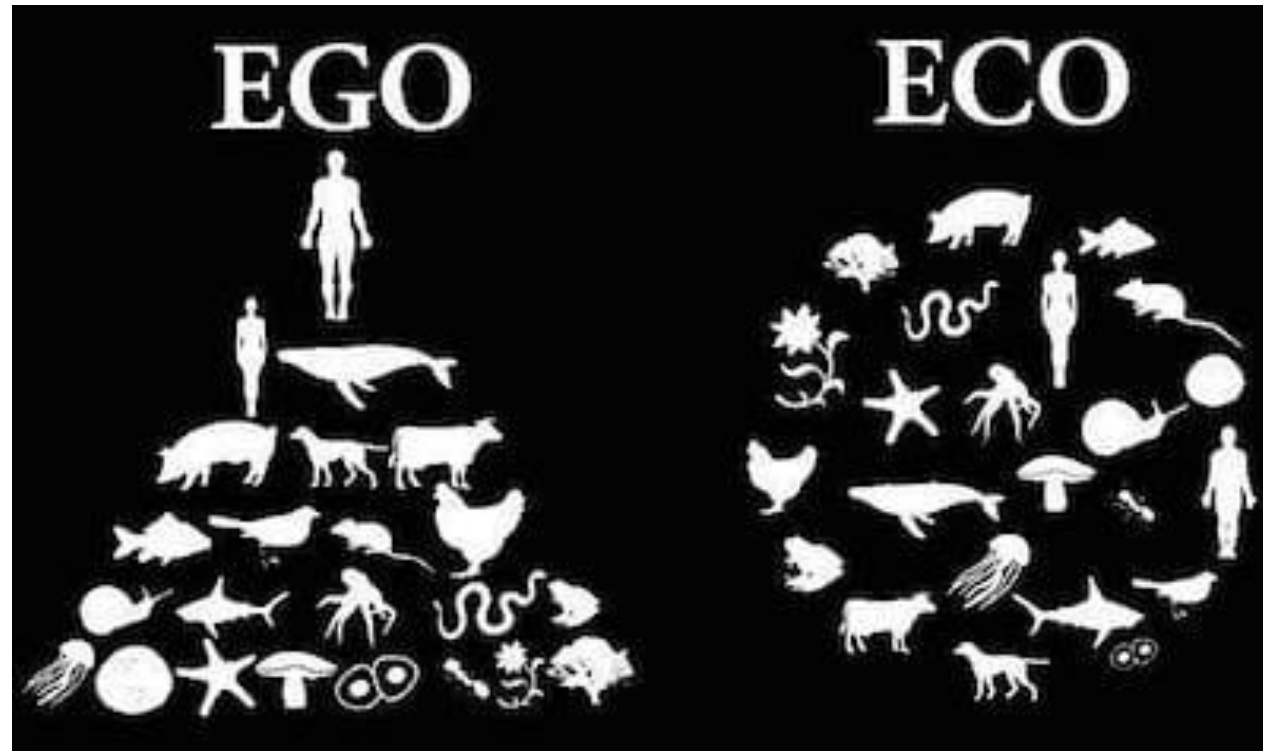
Introduction



Menti Word Cloud – What
does biodiversity
enhancement mean to
you?

4627 8816

We are nature!





Kittiwakes on the Baltic Mill
in Newcastle-upon-Tyne



Kittiwakes in their natural..?
nesting habitat

What is Happening (WWF Living Planet Report)

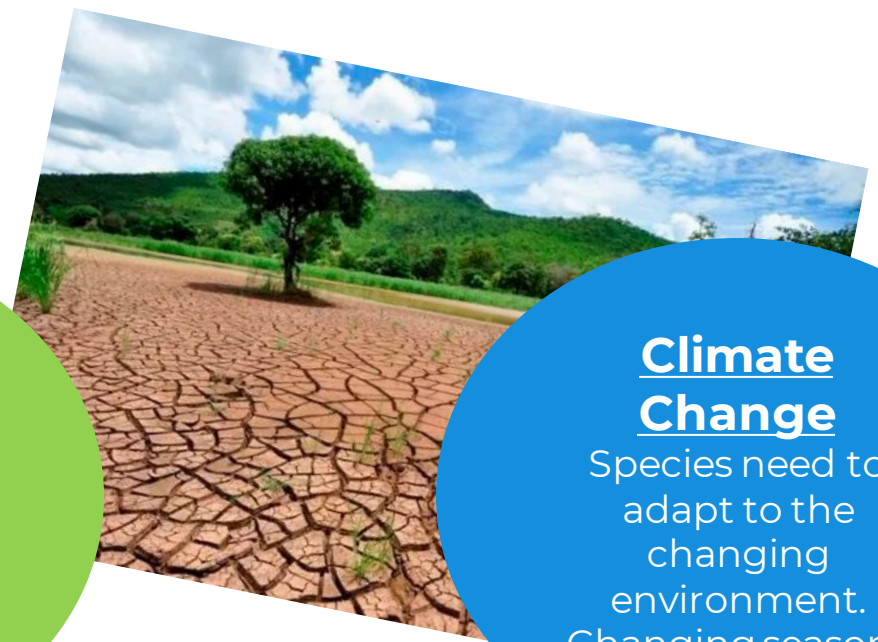
Changes in land and sea use resulting in habitat loss and degradation

Species over-exploitation through direct hunting and loss of non target species

Climate Change
Species need to adapt to the changing environment. Changing seasons

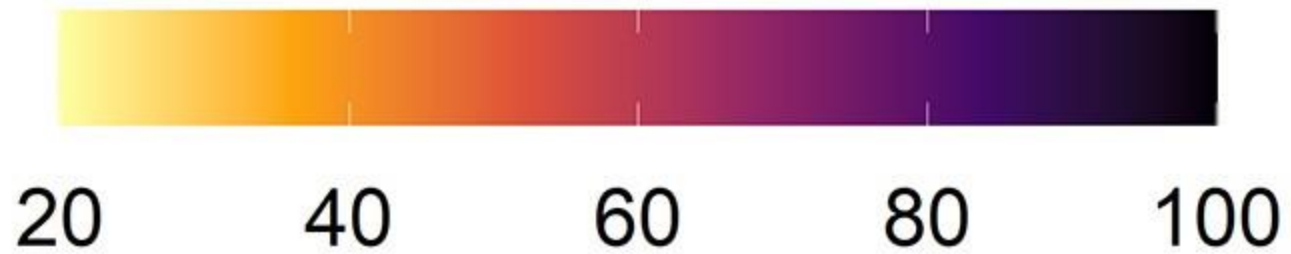
Invasive species and disease
Which compete with native species for space and resources

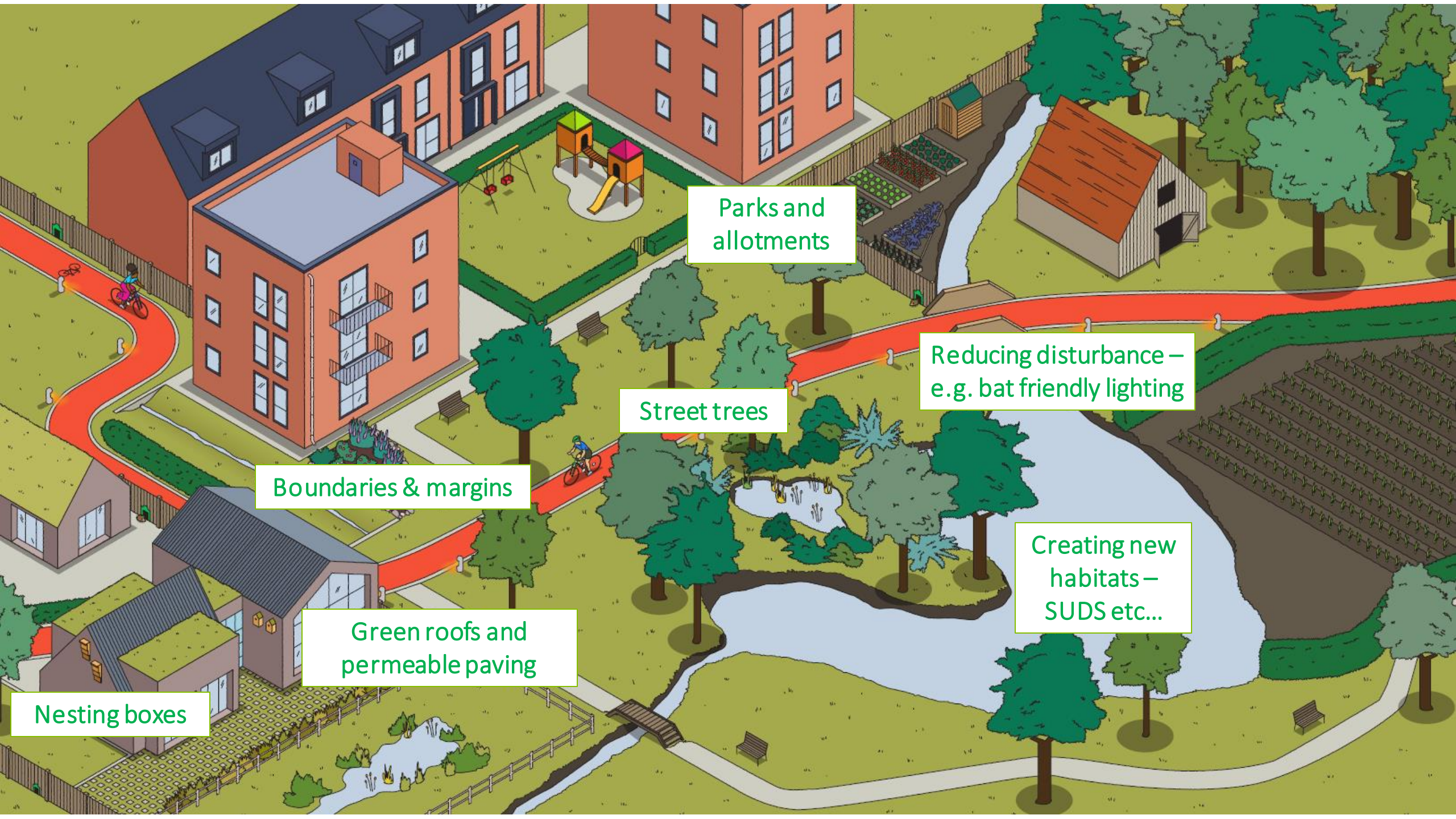
Pollution
Making an environment unsuitable for survival, food ability or biology



% habitat not
modified by
humans

BII (%)





Parks and
allotments

Reducing disturbance –
e.g. bat friendly lighting

Street trees

Boundaries & margins

Creating new
habitats –
SUDS etc...

Green roofs and
permeable paving

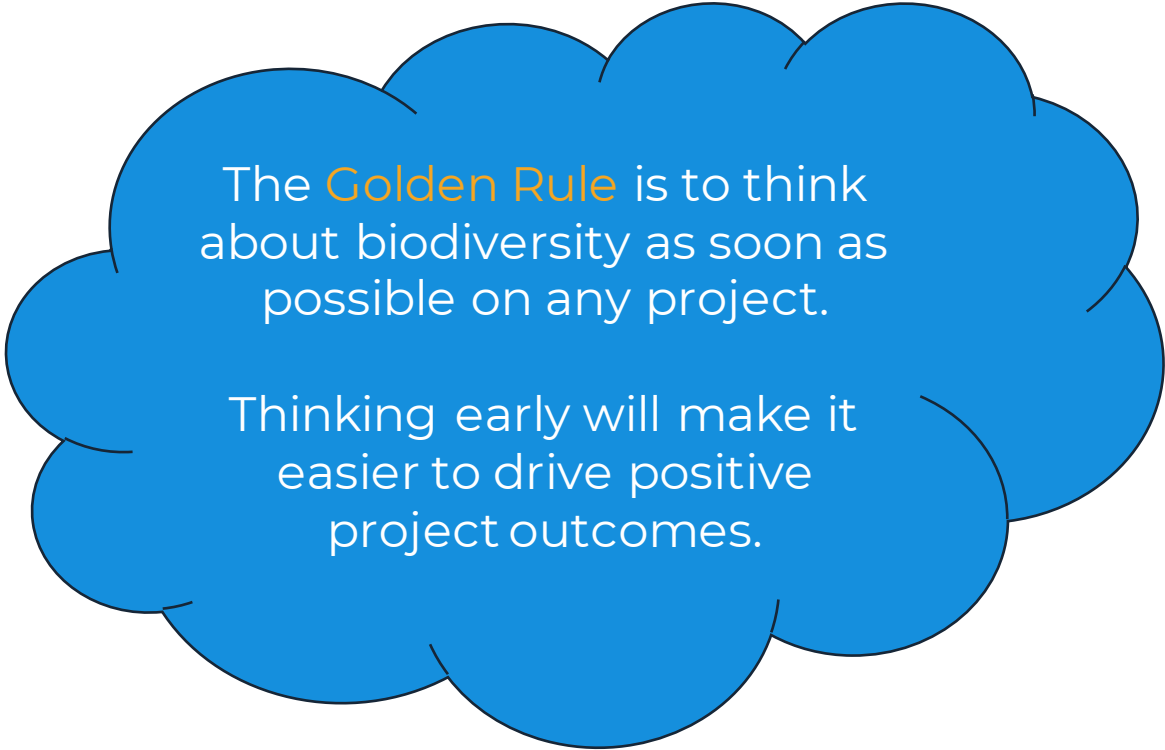
Nesting boxes

Biodiversity & Construction

Biodiversity Enhancements in Construction



In construction we have a fantastic opportunity to drive biodiversity benefits on projects



The **Golden Rule** is to think about biodiversity as soon as possible on any project.

Thinking early will make it easier to drive positive project outcomes.

The Biodiversity Mitigation Hierarchy



Least
Preferable

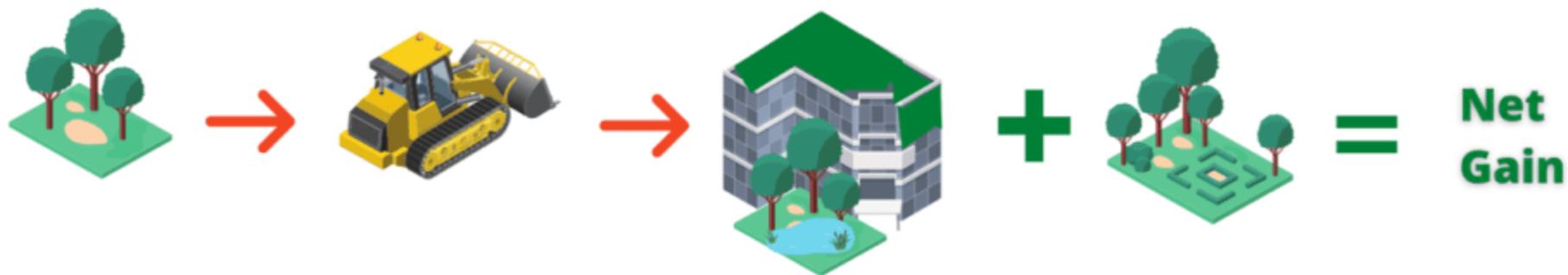
Most Preferable

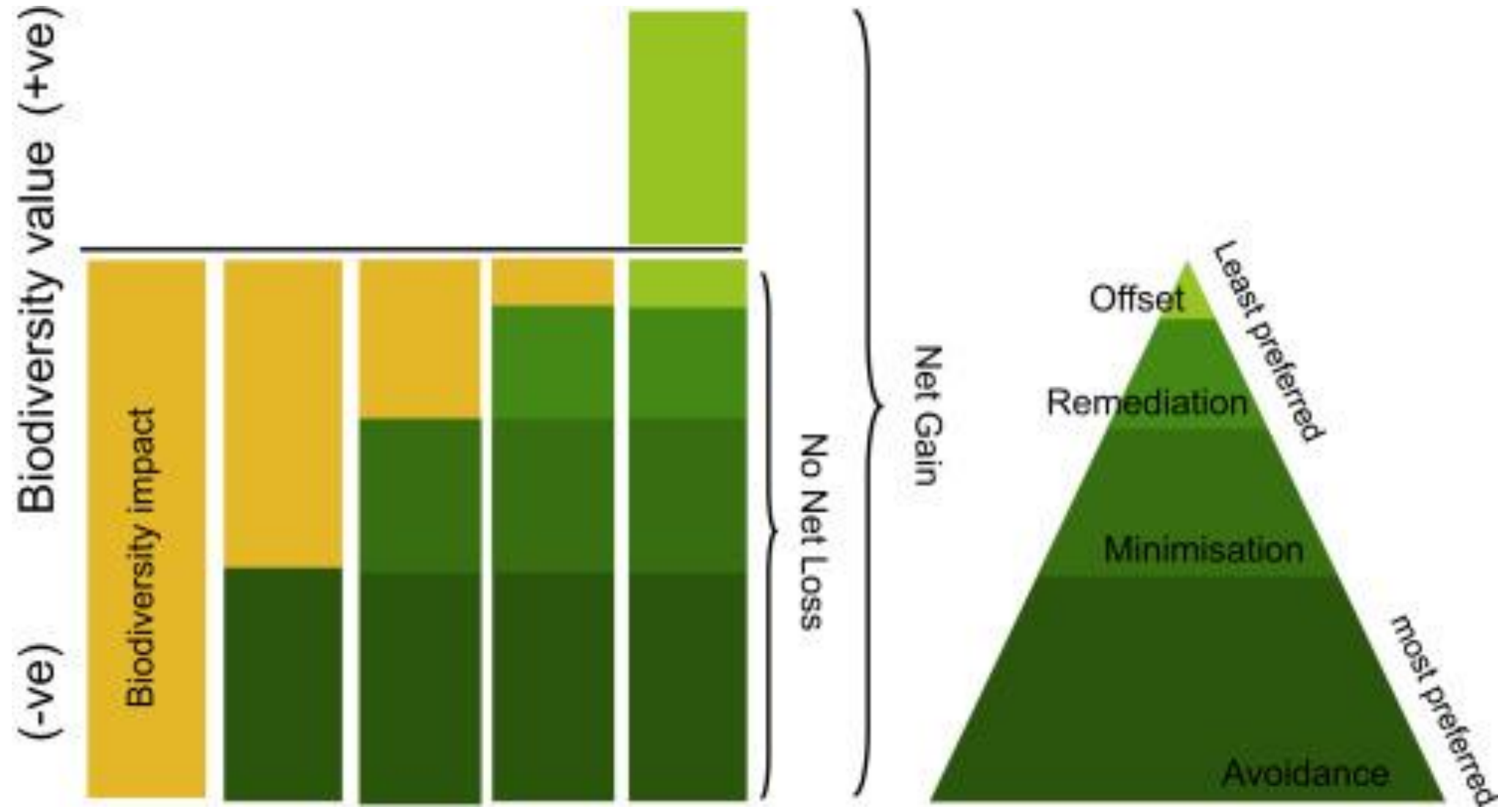
AVOID direct
impacts to
species &
habitats

MINIMISE any impacts you will
have, e.g. during de-vegetation

RESTORE any habitats that are
destroyed

OFFSET impacts based on the
number of biodiversity units lost –
e.g biodiversity Net Gain







How can you help?

Enhancing biodiversity in the built environment – Scotland's approach

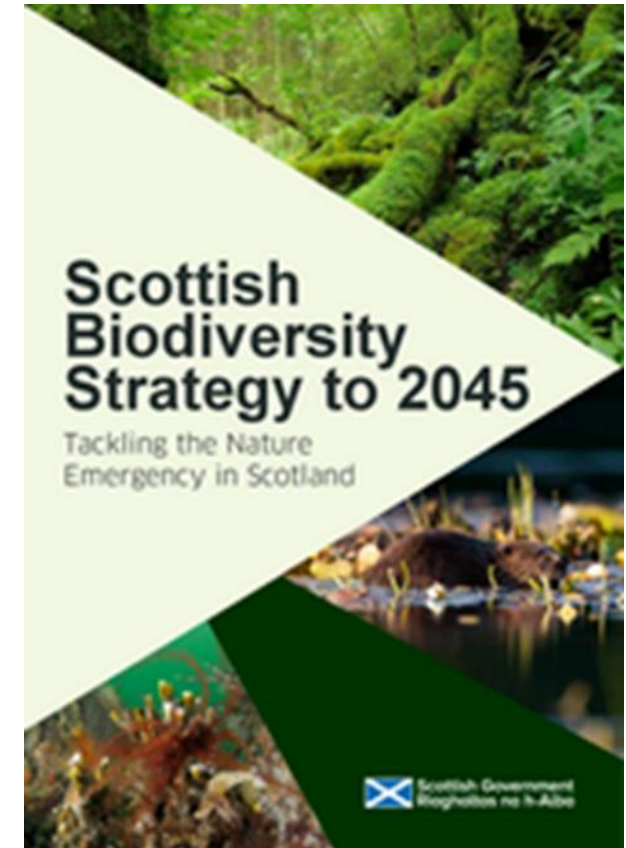
Simon Brooks – NatureScot Strategic Planning Manager

Scottish Context



49% of species have **decreased** in abundance
24% **decline** in average species abundance
14% **decline** in average species distribution
11% of species are **threatened**

*Scotland to be Nature Positive by 2030,
and to have restored and regenerated
biodiversity across the country by 2045.*



England and Scotland – Distinct Approaches

	ENGLAND	SCOTLAND
	Biodiversity Net Gain	Enhancing biodiversity
Requirement	Statutory	Policy
	10% + BU uplift	<i>“enhancement”</i>
Applies to	Development excluding householder and permitted development	
		Excludes aquaculture
Assessment	Defra Metric	Best practice
	Defra Small Sites Metric	National & local guidance
Reporting	Biodiversity gain plan	?
Legacy	30 years	?
On-/ Off-site	On-site preference	

Applying a nature rich approach



1. Apply the mitigation hierarchy
2. Consider biodiversity from the outset
3. Provide synergies & connectivity for nature
4. Integrate nature to deliver multiple benefits
5. Prioritise on-site enhancement before off-site delivery
6. Take a place-based & inclusive approach
7. Ensure long term enhancement is secured



Scotland's policy led approach



“securing positive effects for biodiversity”

- 1 Tackling the climate & nature crises
- 3 Biodiversity
- 4 Natural Places
- 5 Soils
- 6 Forestry, woodland & trees
- 9 Brownfield & vacant land
- 14 Design, quality & place
- 18 Infrastructure first
- 20 Blue & green infrastructure



Policy 1 Tackling the climate & nature crises

*When considering all development proposals **significant weight** will be given to the global climate and nature crises.*

Policy 3 Biodiversity

*Policy Intent: To protect biodiversity, reverse biodiversity loss, **deliver positive effects from development** and strengthen nature networks*

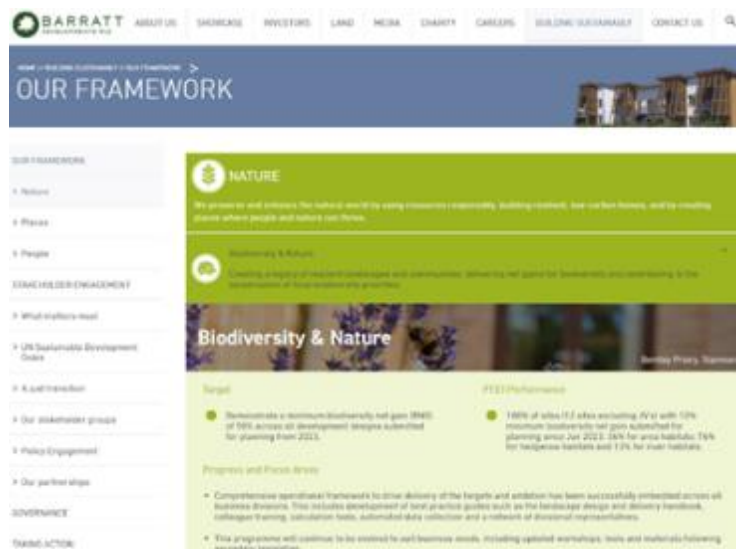
NPF4 Policy 3 Biodiversity



LDPs should protect, conserve, **restore and enhance** biodiversity

a) Development **will contribute to enhancement**

b) National / major / EIA development – provide **significant enhancement** and leave in a **demonstrably better state** than without intervention



NPF4 Policy 3 Biodiversity



LDPs should protect, conserve, **restore and enhance** biodiversity

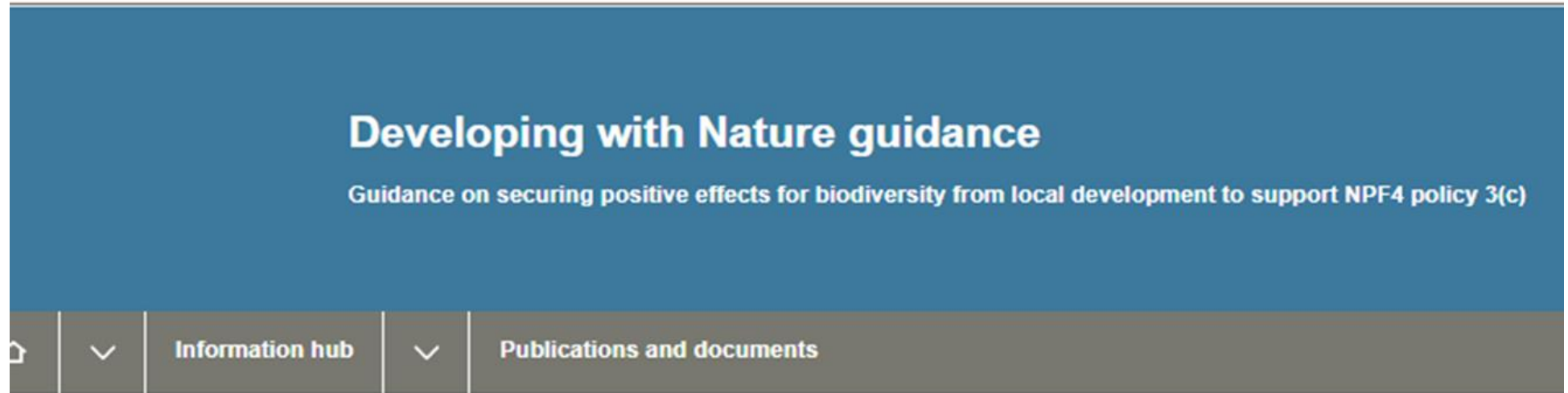
a) Development **will contribute to enhancement**

b) National / major / EIA development – provide **significant enhancement** and leave in a **demonstrably better state** than without intervention

c) Certain local developments – **will include appropriate measures**

d) Adverse **impacts minimised**, taking account of need to reverse loss, safeguarding ecosystem services and building resilience

Policy 3c - Developing with Nature Guidance



7 Newgetows



14 OWIS

15 Bats

16 Wildlife wall

17 Wildlife tower

18 Lighting



Selecting the right Measures



Ecological	Practical
Locally & ecologically relevant	People & nature together
Careful species choice	Long term retention & management
Connected & permeable for nature	Local community involvement
Space for adaption	Multiple benefits
Allow for synergies	
Scale of provision	



Challenges?

1. Clarity & consistency
2. Supporting framework
3. Capacity & skills
4. Implementation



Implementation – Woodland and Tree planting



Woodland

- ❖ 11 / 28 sites planted as planned
- ❖ 14 / 28 sites missing >50% planting
- ❖ 12 / 20 planted sites >50% in good condition

Street / Open space trees

- ❖ 11 / 43 sites planted as planned
- ❖ 10 / 43 sites missing >50% individual trees

Construction impact

- ❖ 14 / 44 sites evidenced damage to trees

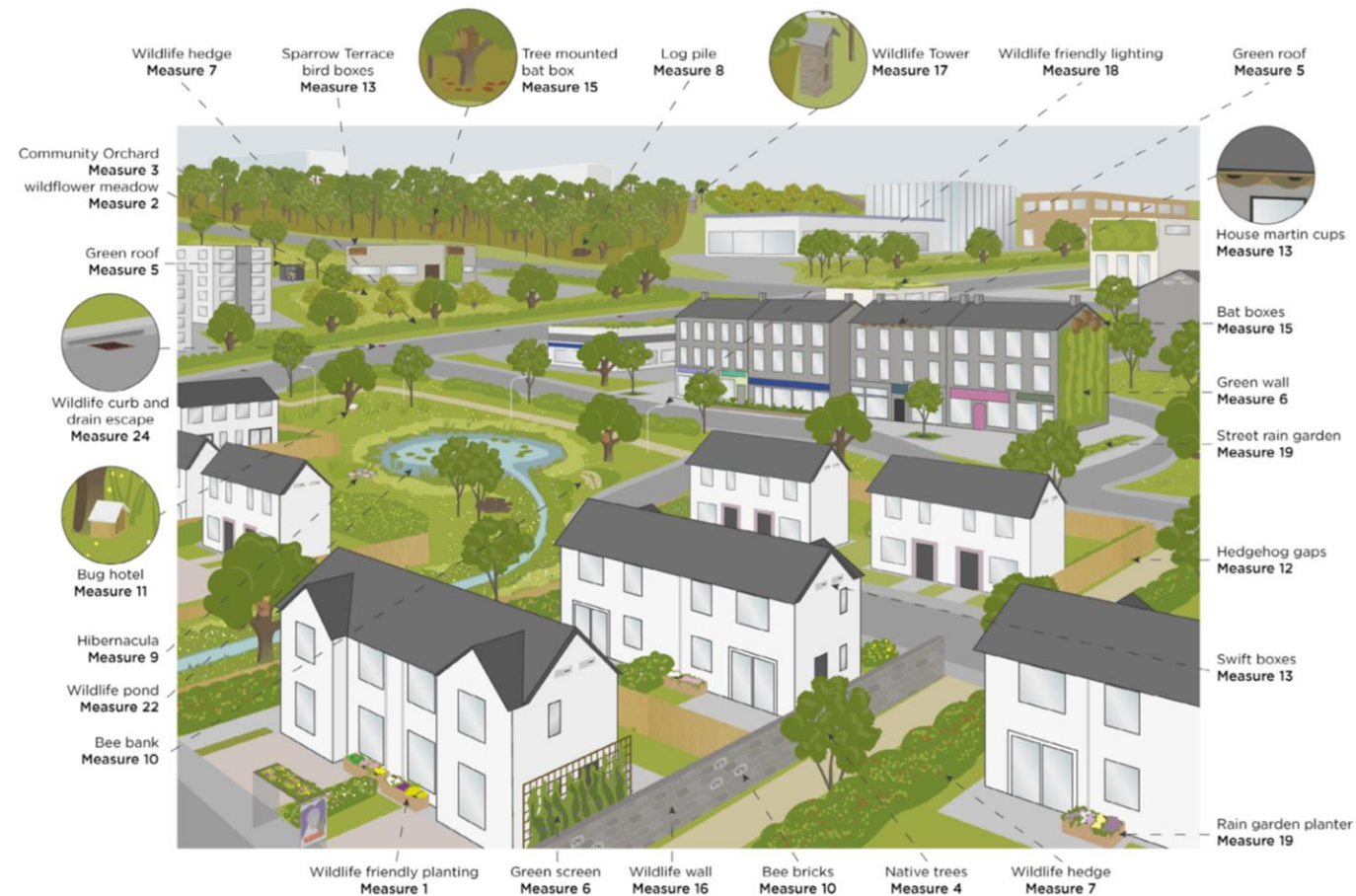


Challenges?

1. Clarity & consistency
2. Supporting framework
3. Capacity & skills
4. Implementation
5. Future Management



<https://www.nature.scot/doc/developing-nature-guidance>



Mural Exercise:

SWOT Analysis – Scotland's Approach

The image shows a digital mural board interface. On the left is a vertical toolbar with icons for creating and editing post-it notes. A red arrow points from a red text box to the 'Create post-it' icon in the toolbar. The main area is a 2x2 grid titled 'How Can You Help?'. To the right of the grid are two colored boxes: a yellow one for work and a green one for home. At the bottom right are icons for a smiley face and a speech bubble labeled 'RP'.

Create a post-it and drag onto the mural board

How Can You Help?

Start now	For your next project
Potential idea	Stop doing


Use a yellow post-it for work

Use a green post-it for at home

😊 RP

Mural Exercise:

What will you do differently after this session?



<https://app.mural.co/t/actionsustainabilitytradingl8908/m/actionsustainabilitytradingl8908/1695812008195/ec5531d5cd28727d857d266f94aba65484224cbc?sender=ross1618>



THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS?



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