

Date: Thursday 12th February 2026

Please note these meeting notes are to be read in conjunction with the final slide deck as circulated to all.

Meeting Notes:

1. Welcome & introductions

- Ben Stone welcomed attendees and introduced the team.
- First-time attendees introduced themselves (name, organisation, role, and reason for joining).
- Mark Turner outlined the agenda:
 - 1. Welcome & introductions**
 - 2. Recap of business plan 2025/26**
 - 3. Business Plan 2026/27**
 - 4. Update – School and Green Finance Institute Working Group**
 - 5. Update – New Nature Learning Pathways**
 - 6. Content update**
 - 7. Update – Planned Site Visit (27th March 2026)**
 - 8. Update – Training programme**
 - 9. AOB and Date of Next Meetings for 2026/27**

2. Recap of business plan 2025/26

- The group reviewed progress towards the target of reaching 60,000 active individuals by the end of April, noting continued strong engagement from companies and users of School resources
- The 2025/26 plan has prioritised strengthening fundamentals in nature and providing more basic environmental management skills, recognising there is still more to do on this which leads into our next year's 2026/27 business plan
- The School has also continued its commitment to reporting and disclosure guidance through collaboration with the Green Finance Institute (GFI) and the TNFD Peer-to-Peer Sub-Group
- Work on addressing materials-related risks has progressed, supported by practical engagement initiatives such as the virtual COP event, "Bridging Climate and Nature," that the Nature Group delivered with the Climate Action Group.

Focus 2025

Key focus for 25/26

To grow the collaborative influence and impact of the group in fundamentals, understanding of materials related risks, and reporting and disclosure

• Focus on Fundamentals

- Produce accessible learning on basics for key audiences including groundworkers, procurement teams, those responsible for aspects of Biodiversity Net Gain and equivalents, curating accessible range of materials including development and recordings of webinars, fact sheets, links to existing resources etc
- Develop relevant entry level learning pathway
- Run at least one webinar devoted to these topics - to include context addressing mutuality in dealing with climate change driven risks

• Guidance for Reporting and Disclosure

- Prepare partners and members for the impacts and practicalities of voluntary and mandatory reporting on Nature
- Emphasise and promote nature-based solutions to climate change challenges and opportunity for integrated reporting
- Collaborate with the GFI (Green Finance Institute) and TNFD hosting peer to peer group sessions and reporting to wider group and School
- Host webinar or VC addressing aspects of integrated reporting, BNG one year on, benefits and examples of voluntary reporting initiatives

• Addressing Materials related Risks

- Materials are likely to be a major focus in formalised mandatory reporting
- Enhance knowledge and competence of designers, clients, procurement and site managers etc
- Curate additional learning resources and add to enhanced School resource "widget"
- Develop webinar on key risk materials (timber, HVO, Soils etc)

• Practical Collaboration and Engagement

- Achieve cross industry and discipline collaboration including supply chain, procurement and the waste / climate groups (HVO, soils, timber etc) to promote practical learning
- Arrange two site visits to relevant projects in collaboration with partner organisations.

1. Business (Delivery) Plan 2026/2027

- The 2026/27 delivery plan will build on the current structure but place greater emphasis **on the fundamentals** and building foundational environmental skills, particularly for supply chains, subcontractors and operational teams with limited in-house sustainability expertise
- Another key focus shall be on **materials and supply chain** – particularly looking at how we ensure materials entering projects are responsibly sourced and that nature-related risks are effectively managed
- There is also a focus on supply chains and data – with current demand to reduce inconsistent and excessive supplier data requests by exploring a more standardised and proportionate supply chain data approach - Ben Stone is working alongside the Climate Action Group in the School to help support and ensure nature considerations, including high-risk materials such as timber (or even think of battery supply chains), remain integrated into supply chain discussions
- DEFRA Environmental Improvement Plans were referenced, with discussion on how the sector can contribute realistically to national target
- There is potential (subject to funding being secured) to develop a collaborative materials mapping project focused on a small number of high-risk materials, potentially in partnership with UKGBC – one way in which Partners could help is donating some of their School consultancy days or expertise to the support its development.

- **Metrics, reporting and disclosure (4. GFI Update)**
 - The group discussed ongoing work with GFI in relation to TNFD and nature-related metrics
 - Although GFI is no longer convening workshops, it remains supportive, and the group will determine how best to continue engagement
 - Options discussed included quarterly structured meetings or establishing a correspondence group with meetings held when needed
 - It was acknowledged that organisations are at different stages of reporting maturity, and a balanced, practical approach will be required
 - The first meeting of the new cycle is provisionally planned for the end of April
 - Challenges still remain in securing robust raw materials data for reporting purposes, although GFI has provided supporting information and is requesting further submissions.

ACTIONS:

Partners to:

- Discuss internally if you would like your organisation to be involved within the GFI Working Group
- It will require frank discussion, mutual honesty and learning for all
- Please contact Ben, Mark or Grace if your organisation is interested in joining
- We really encourage organisations to get involved no matter where you are in your TNFD or nature disclosure development
- **Please note: Joining the Group does not require you as a business to become a TNFD adopter.**

• **Collaboration**

- The group expressed interest in increasing collaborative activity through additional webinars, virtual conferences and site visits
- Expanding the network and strengthening mutually beneficial partnerships with other organisations was identified as a priority.

FOCUS 2026

Insert groups key focus for 26/27 e.g:

To enhance understanding and knowledge for protecting Nature including reporting on progress and challenges

• Basics for protecting Nature:

- Develop entry level School resource addressing what organisations of any size can do to protect and enhance nature. Further support and updates on Biodiversity Net Gain and equivalents
- Develop and deliver associated collaborative webinar: working title “Protecting and enhancing Nature at your sites, projects and locations”

• Materials and supply chain:

- Determining the main materials and measurable supply chain operations that can be addressed for impacts on Nature:
- Understanding holistic sustainability impacts of materials - Contribute to School's upcoming collaborative key materials supply chain mapping project
- Develop and deliver collaborative webinar: working title “Materials and supply – key impacts and practical actions for Nature”

• Metrics, reporting and disclosure:

- Host/ attendup to four x Peer to Peer subgroup meetings with key focus on metrics – liaise with GFI/TNFD on metrics, transition planning etc
- Host webinar (or interactive workshop); working title “Developing a Nature Scorecard for your business”

• Collaboration:

- Develop and enhance relationships with stakeholder organisations, including but not limited to; DEFRA, Enforcement Agencies, Naturescot, Wildlife Trusts, RSPB, Woodland Trust, UKGBC, INCA, UK Business and Biodiversity Forum, BNG Unit providers
- Conduct two site visits
- Contribute to Virtual Conference 21st May: working title “Acting and reporting on Nature”. VC will bring together an agenda covering updates and insights on basics, BNG and equivalents, strategy including transition planning, metrics, disclosure and reporting and supply chain actions.

ACTIONS:

Partners to:

- Please contact Grace or Mark if your organisation is interested in supporting a collaborative mapping project on high risk materials and have consultancy days to offer/use (note this would be holistic – i.e. not just Nature focused but also looking at other key risks such as modern slavery, carbon etc)
- If you had any comments or feedback on this next year's 2026/2027 business plan – please also contact Grace and Mark.

5. Update – New Nature Learning Pathways

- The group formally noted the launch of the **new Nature Learning Pathways** in the School, designed to provide structured, accessible guidance to support organisations in building nature-related knowledge and capability
- The pathways are intended to support a broad audience, recognising differing levels of maturity and expertise across organisations.
- Although there were plans to produce 1 pathway as part of this year's Group business plan, 3 have instead been produced that focus on:

1. Nature and Biodiversity – An Introduction - In the built environment, we have a massive opportunity to deliver benefits for nature and biodiversity on our projects. We’re working in the natural environment, and this means that the decisions we make have impacts on the habitats around us. This learning pathway introduces what we mean by the terms ‘nature’ and ‘biodiversity’, why they are so important and how they matter for everyday business decisions and projects. As an entry-level pathway, it is designed to build shared understanding and confidence, even for those who are new to the topic of nature and biodiversity.

2. Biodiversity Net Gain Equivalents and Green Infrastructure - This learning pathway brings together relevant resources to further understanding of the term ‘Biodiversity Net Gain’ and its equivalents across the UK. This includes the similarities and differences in approaches taking across the devolved nations, and the role of ‘Green Infrastructure’ in delivering measurable nature and biodiversity outcomes. This pathway supports organisations to respond to evolving policy and planning frameworks, embed nature into decision-making, and deliver resilient, nature-positive projects and places.

3. Nature Reporting and Disclosure - Nature reporting and disclosure are becoming critical requirements for the built environment as organisations respond to growing regulatory, investor and stakeholder expectations. This learning pathway brings together key resources to help learners understand the principles and practical application of nature-related reporting and disclosure. Learners will explore emerging frameworks and standards such as the TNFD, how to identify and assess nature-related risks, impacts and dependencies, and how data from projects and supply chains can support transparent, consistent reporting. The pathway supports organisations to integrate nature into governance and decision-making, strengthen compliance and assurance, and demonstrate credible, nature-positive action.

5) New Nature Pathways – Launched and NOW LIVE!

Massive thanks to all those involved in the production and review of these pathways.



Pathway 1 – Nature and Biodiversity – An Introduction

(Beginner) - In the built environment, we have a massive opportunity to deliver benefits for nature and biodiversity on our projects. We’re working in the natural environment, and this means that the decisions we make have impacts on the habitats around us. This learning pathway introduces what we mean by the terms ‘nature’ and ‘biodiversity’, why they are so important and how they matter for everyday business decisions and projects. As an entry-level pathway, it is designed to build shared understanding and confidence, even for those who are new to the topic of nature and biodiversity.



Pathway 2 – Biodiversity Net Gain Equivalents and Green Infrastructure

(Intermediate) - This learning pathway brings together relevant resources to further understanding of the term ‘Biodiversity Net Gain’ and its equivalents across the UK. This includes the similarities and differences in approaches taking across the devolved nations, and the role of ‘Green Infrastructure’ in delivering measurable nature and biodiversity outcomes. Learners will explore how biodiversity value is assessed and enhanced across the project lifecycle - from early design and planning through construction and long-term management. This pathway supports organisations to respond to evolving policy and planning frameworks, embed nature into decision-making, and deliver resilient, nature-positive projects and places.



Pathway 3- Nature Reporting and Disclosure

(Advanced) - Nature reporting and disclosure are becoming critical requirements for the built environment as organisations respond to growing regulatory, investor and stakeholder expectations. This learning pathway brings together key resources to help learners understand the principles and practical application of nature-related reporting and disclosure. Learners will explore emerging frameworks and standards such as the TNFD, how to identify and assess nature-related risks, impacts and dependencies, and how data from projects and supply chains can support transparent, consistent reporting. The pathway supports organisations to integrate nature into governance and decision-making, strengthen compliance and assurance, and demonstrate credible, nature-positive action.

ACTIONS:

Partners to:

- Please promote the new Pathways to your colleagues, peers and suppliers. We'd like to drive as much engagement to them as possible!
- The pathways, although public facing, can also be created within your own School dashboards if you wish to use some of the pre-existing resources from these and other bespoke resources for your internal colleagues and supply chain
- If you'd like more support on setting up your own nature pathways in your School accounts, please contact Grace.

6. Content update

- The group noted the addition of new soils-focused resources to the School, developed to strengthen knowledge and practical understanding of soil management across projects and operational sites
- New TNFD sector specific guidance for engineering, construction and real estate has also been a valuable added resource alongside some example nature strategies from our Partners (including Kier's Climate and Nature Report which is aligned to the TNFD)
- We have also released an updated version of a ['Nature and Biodiversity – Sustainability Short'](#) in the School to act as a beginner-level friendly resource for those delivering projects in the built environment and what positive benefits can be brought to habitats and biodiversity.

On-Demand Page

- The group noted the launch of a new On-Demand page within the School, designed to improve accessibility and navigation of the School's recorded webinars and virtual conferences
- The page has been created to provide a centralised, user-friendly hub where members can access content flexibly and at a time that suits their schedules
- The On-Demand page is intended to complement live events and training sessions, extending the lifespan and reach of existing content
- The page shall be updated each quarter to ensure content remains current, relevant and aligned with emerging policy and industry developments.

Missed a training session?

Catch up on-demand

No problem! Catch up with our on-demand webinars. Simply browse through our selection, log into your School account, and start learning.

Want more? We're hosting over three virtual training sessions weekly, including interactive workshops, multi-speaker panels, and conferences.

Explore our upcoming training sessions [here](#).

- 1. Sustainability**
Sustainability addresses the social, environmental and economic challenges we face in today's ever-changing world.
- 2. Fairness, Inclusion and Respect (FIR)**
Fairness, Inclusion and Respect (FIR) is an industry-wide initiative that aims to make workplaces better for everyone.
- 3. Retrofit**
Retrofit means changing existing buildings to make them more energy efficient; making fabric changes, technology changes and occupier behavioural changes.
- 4. Procurement & Materials**
There is compelling evidence that more competent procurement will enable projects to be more productive, be delivered on time and help satisfy the client. In essence, better procurement adds value.
- 5. Operational Excellence through Lean Thinking**
Developing teams and individuals with the skillsets to drive improvement is a business imperative and creates an environment whereby excellence and continuous improvement are the goals.
- 6. Digital**
Without widespread digital adoption, the built environment risks being marginalised and losing a generation of new talent to other sectors.
- 7. Offsite**
Offsite construction is the planning, design, manufacture and assembly of building elements at a location other than their final installed location in order to increase the speed of, and efficient construction of a permanent structure.

Click here to access the on-demand page: <https://www.supplychainschool.co.uk/learn/on-demand-learning/>

ACTIONS:

Partners to:

- Please promote the on-demand page to your peers, colleagues and supply chain. If you have missed a recent session in the School, please check the on-demand page in the first instance to see if the recording has been uploaded there and where you can catch up from.

7. Next Planned Site Visit – Toddbrook Reservoir

- Kier have kindly offered to allow us to explore Toddbrook Reservoir (Whaley Bridge – near Manchester) – where they are rebuilding a Victorian dam (plans to finish in Summer 2026).
 - The dam nearly breached and flooded the town prior to Kier's involvement
 - Raised new spill way – designed for 1 in 10,000 year flood event
 - Green community space below dam
 - SSSI around reservoir behind
- This should be a nice project to visit with interlinkages between community, climate adaptation of aging infrastructure and doing it all in a protected habitat.

- Maximum 12 people and bring your own PPE.

ACTIONS:

Partners to:

- Please express your interest and attendance to Grace/Mark by the **27th February**. We already have 6 spaces taken.
- If partners don't have PPE available (hat, gloves, glasses, boots, jacket, trousers) let Mark and Grace know and we will try to source collectively.

8. Training programme

- The session then turned its interest to the delivery plans for events (webinars, virtual conferences) across the next year and what our Partners think should be included – what topics/speakers.

Webinar 1 – (Working title) - Protecting and enhancing Nature at your sites, projects and locations

- The session could focus on practical biodiversity enhancement measures across different site types and operational contexts
- Topics may include:
 - Tree establishment and maintenance
 - Wildlife connectivity structures (underpasses, guide walls)
 - Landscaping delivery challenges
 - Biodiversity Net Gain opportunities
 - Long-term maintenance and effective communication of environmental interventions
 - Balancing ecological enhancement with recreational access
 - Empowering site operatives to take ownership of biodiversity improvements
 - Inclusion of VSCEs and specialist organisations
 - Hedgerow management
- The general format could follow:
 - Engagement > Context and when and where to working > Whole life through design and implementation through to maintenance

Potential speakers:

- Olivia Phillips olivia.phillips@canarywharf.com; Canary Wharf vertical meadow
- Terry Wilkinson twilkinson@aco.co.uk; ACO connectivity – structures and access for wildlife

- Jane King Jane.King@cavendishnuclear.com Communication
- Esther Taylor esther.taylor@uuplc.co.uk Communication
- Jackie Cuthbert jackie.cuthbert@hiresafesolutions.com
- Geraint Rowland geraint.rowland@costain.com and Matthew Gardiner - Certainty in timescales for implementation – to enable best outcome
- Cait Norman cait.norman@savills.com Examples from a variety of sources – not just construction – retail parks, offices, commercial premises etc

Action:

Any potential contributors please confirm with Mark and Grace if you would be willing to help.

Webinar 2 – (Working title) Materials and supply – key impacts and practical actions for Nature

- The session could examine nature-related risks within materials and supply chains and outline practical mitigation actions
- Topics may include:
 - Data-driven design decision
 - Integration of carbon and nature considerations
 - Climate resilience through natural SuDS and responsible timber sourcing
 - How materials impact nature, high impact materials, sustainability certifications & traceability, circular approaches in practice (all the R's)

Potential organisations/speakers:

- Amy Dickinson – data driven decisions
- UKGBC – share learning
- Water/SuDS
- Arco – PPE example – mature supply chain controls – use for learning
- Timber – ask Charlie Law at UKTD

Action:

Any potential contributors please confirm with Mark and Grace if you would be willing to help.

Webinar 3 – (Working title) Developing a Nature Scorecard for your business

- The group discussed the integration of nature considerations into reporting frameworks, including the potential to collate and track metrics such as water usage, waste generation, environmental incident rates and land use change
- The concept of trade-offs in nature-related decision-making was discussed, including how organisations assess and transparently communicate environmental compromises across projects

- It was agreed that future guidance should avoid an overemphasis on planning led requirements like Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) compliance alone and instead articulate what “good” looks like in broader nature performance terms
- The development of a Nature Scorecard with the view that it should extend beyond nature metrics to include wellbeing and wider social impact considerations
- Airports were identified as a sector where nature considerations are becoming a significant strategic driver, indicating increased regulatory and stakeholder pressure
- Importance of including a robust section on scoping and materiality within any reporting or scorecard framework, as this step is frequently overlooked but is essential in determining what should be measured
- Materiality assessments should address both impact materiality (the organisation’s impact on nature) and financial materiality (nature-related risks and dependencies that affect business performance)
- The group highlighted the need to explicitly link nature metrics and scorecards to business risk management, ensuring alignment with nature-related operational and strategic risks
- A financial lens was recommended when framing nature performance, encouraging organisations to view nature as a financial asset and consider how positive nature outcomes can create long-term commercial value and investment opportunities.

ACTIONS:

Any potential contributors please confirm with Mark and Grace if you would be willing to help.

9. AOB and Date of Next Meetings for 2026/27

- 20th May 2026 – 10-12pm
- 23rd September 2026 – 10-12pm
- 13th November 2026 – 10-12pm
- 11th February 2027 – 10-12pm

Invites have been sent around already to your diaries – please let Grace know if you haven’t received these.

AOB: Nature Awards

- The group discussed introducing a prize fund and competition at the School’s Annual Summit to recognise and celebrate best practice sites for nature
- An example from Kier’s “Love Your Workplace” campaign was referenced, where staff shared photos of their workplace on a specific date, suggesting a similar, light-touch approach could be effective

- Rather than creating a large-scale awards process, the Group proposed encouraging nature-rich site photos and positive stories to be shared via LinkedIn and other social media platforms
- The initiative would aim to drive softer engagement with nature by showcasing real, practical examples of working with and enhancing nature on live sites
- Participants would be invited to submit approved content, ensuring it has been cleared through their internal communications processes
- Submitted examples would be distributed and promoted through the School's marketing channels to amplify positive nature actions across the network.

ACTIONS:

Partners to:

- Please contact Grace or Mark if you have any nature rich photos from projects/sites you'd like to share.

The date of the next Group meeting is 20th May 2026, 10am-12pm.

END OF MEETING NOTES.