

LCC POSITION STATEMENT: SECTION 106 LEGAL AGREEMENTS FOR HABITAT BANKS

Leicestershire County Council does not currently have a scheme in place with respect to entering into Section 106 legal agreements to secure Habitat Bank land.

It is not a statutory requirement for an Local Planning Authority (LPA) to enter into a Section 106 agreement with a provider of habitat units (or habitat bank) within their jurisdiction. Land for this purpose can be secured through the alternative route of a Conservation Covenant with a Responsible Body.

During the financial year 2025-2026, the LCC Ecology and Biodiversity Team will investigate the risks and opportunities which might result from developing a Section 106 habitat bank or habitat unit provider scheme. This will be put before elected members for their consideration. This scheme would be undertaken by Leicestershire County Council and offered across the county of Leicestershire and Rutland.

It is **not** therefore recommended that Habitat Bank providers wait for any potential scheme. There will be a considerable lead in time before this is considered by elected members; and the process, should it be supported by elected members and taken forward, would then need to be designed and implemented.

With respect to the 7 LPA partners within the Leicestershire and Rutland Area Partnership (listed below), some districts may have arrangements in place directly with habitat bank providers within their jurisdiction. Partners should be contacted directly for further information.

Partner LPA's in the Leicestershire and Rutland Area Partnership:

<i>Blaby District</i>	<i>North-West Leicestershire District</i>
<i>Harborough District</i>	<i>Oadby and Wigston Borough</i>
<i>Hinckley and Bosworth Borough</i>	<i>Melton Borough</i>
<i>Leicestershire County Council</i>	<i>Rutland County Council</i>