

Creating a **sustainable future for all**

MAG Nature Conservation Strategy



Creating a sustainable future for all

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CSO introduction – Neil Robinson

Our Nature Conservation Strategy:

Creating a sustainable future for all



I am pleased to introduce MAG's Nature Conservation Strategy. The publication of this new Strategy comes at an important time for aviation, as the industry works to adopt climate change and global nature recovery targets.

At MAG, we understand that our role extends beyond facilitating air travel. As the UK's largest airports group with three airports spanning the North, Midlands and the South, we recognise our responsibility to operate and grow sustainably by reducing our emissions, protecting the environment, creating education and employment opportunities and supporting our local communities.

Our ambitions are set out in our Sustainability Strategy: Creating a sustainable future for all. Under its Protecting our Environment pillar, we are clear in our commitment to safeguarding the environment and preserving the natural world around us. On and around our airport sites, we continue to invest in nature-based initiatives from volunteering to improving local habitats and biodiversity. This includes working with our communities to mitigate impacts and finding opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.

Protecting nature has been a focus for MAG for more than two decades. This has reflected through our conservation initiatives and longstanding recognition of the vital role nature plays in our operations – for clean air, climate regulation, water purification and raw materials. With significant areas of land surrounding our airports, we have both a responsibility and a unique opportunity to protect and enhance the natural environment.

Our Nature Conservation Strategy outlines how we will protect and enhance nature across our sites and beyond. It supports us in embedding nature into decision making, minimising risk, staying ahead of regulations and delivering on our wider sustainability goals. Our approach has five priorities: Empowering people for nature, Protecting biodiversity and habitats, Integrating nature-positive principles into projects, safe operations and supply chains, Collaborating with local communities and other stakeholders, and Delivering transparent governance and reporting.

I am proud of the approach we are taking to protect our natural environment and of the commitments we have set out in this Strategy. We understand that our work is ambitious and will be challenging, but I am confident that through the hard work and passion of our colleagues we can take positive and measurable steps to ensuring that our natural environment can thrive alongside our airport operations in our pursuit to create a sustainable future for all.

Neil Robinson
Chief Sustainability Officer

Nature conservation

Why it matters

The preservation of nature is fundamental to our existence. The natural environment brings multiple benefits to our society and our ability to live healthy lives.

These benefits – often described as ‘ecosystem services’ – include clean air, clean water and effective and abundant food production. However, across the globe the delivery of these benefits is under threat. In recent decades, habitat destruction, climate change, pollution, overexploitation, invasive species and land use change have created significant challenges to the preservation of a natural environment that can meet our needs.

The loss of global biodiversity threatens ecosystem functionality, economic stability, human health, and reduces resiliency to climate change, food and water shortages. Recent research from The World Wildlife Fund Living Planet Report found 73% decline in wildlife populations over the last 50 years¹. The 2025 World Economic Forum Global Risks Report found that biodiversity loss is the second largest global risk after extreme weather events, in the next 10 years².

Recognising the severity of the risk these findings represent, there is now a global effort to halt biodiversity loss, led by the Global Biodiversity Framework. At the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2022 the Framework set a global mission to halt and reverse the loss of nature by 2030³.

References

- 1 World Wildlife Fund (2024), Living Planet Report 2024, available at: <https://www.wwf.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/living-planet-report-2024.pdf>.
- 2 World Economic Forum (2025), Global Risks Report 2025, available at: https://reports.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Global_Risks_Report_2025.pdf.
- 3 Convention on Biological Diversity (2022) Decision 15/4: Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity COP15, 19 Dec 2022. Available at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf>.
- 4 Fiona Burns, Simone Mordue, Nida al Fulaij, Philipp Boersch-Supan, et al., State of Nature 2023 (State of Nature Partnership, 2023), available at: https://stateofnature.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/TP25999-State-of-Nature-main-report_2023_FULL-DOC-v12.pdf.
- 5 Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (2025), Environmental Improvement Plan 2025. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/692d8d9cce50d215cae962a5/Environmental_Improvement_Plan__EIP__2025.pdf.

The Framework also highlighted the need for businesses to disclose their nature-related impacts, risks and dependencies. We will use the Task Force for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) to disclose our impacts and commit to publishing in our Annual Report and Financial Statements from 2026/27.

The UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. The State of Nature Report found 41% of species in the UK have declined in abundance or range since 1970⁴. To reduce the negative decline of biodiversity in the UK, government legislation under the Environment Act (2021) requires qualifying developments to leave nature in a better state and new local plans – known as Local Nature Recovery Strategies – to facilitate the restoration of nature. The 2023 Environmental Improvement Plan, published by the government, sets out what needs to be done over the next ten years to help nature recover and thrive⁵.

We are committed to playing our part in both local and global nature recovery. This means working closely with partners, communities, and landowners to support real and lasting change alongside our airport operations. Our Nature Conservation Strategy will help us achieve this and builds on our strong track record of protecting and enhancing biodiversity. It sets out clear targets from restoring habitats and improving green spaces, to species recovery and embedding nature into planning and decision making. By taking a collaborative and long-term approach, we aim to deliver meaningful lasting benefits for biodiversity and communities at our airports and beyond.

MAG at a glance

Who we are

Our purpose: At MAG, our role is to connect our customers to the world with great airport experiences and innovative travel services.

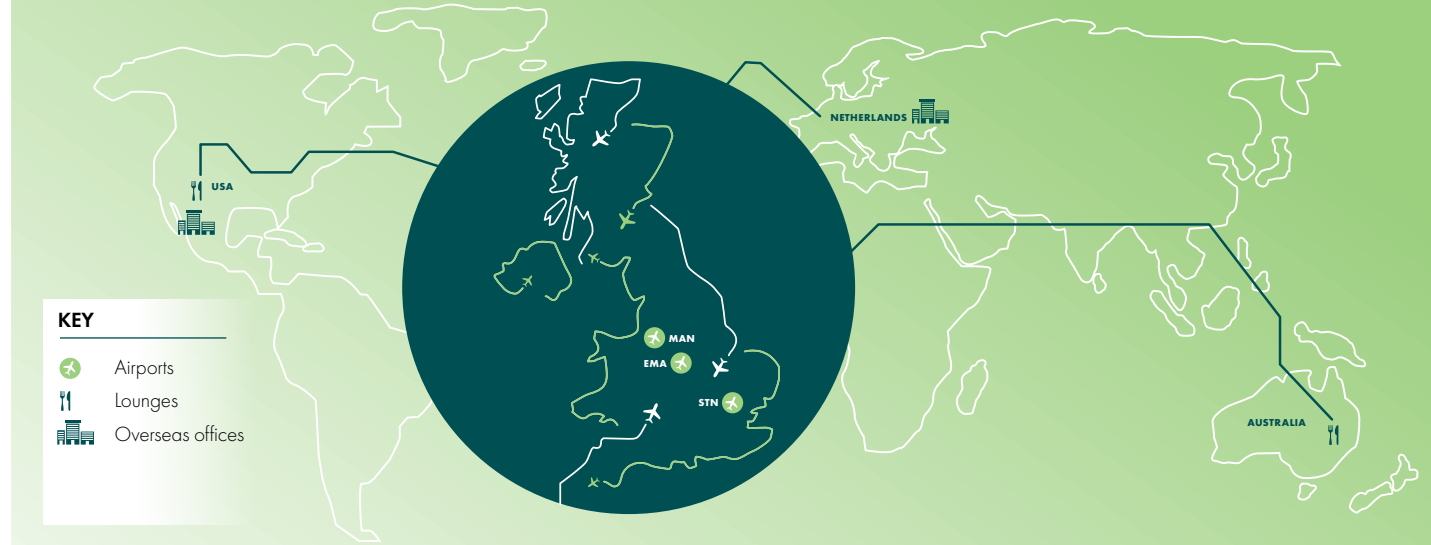
Manchester Airports Group (MAG) is unique as a business. Founded in Manchester more than 85 years ago, it has grown to become the UK's largest group of airports, with operations spanning the whole of the country and the wider world.

MAG operates Manchester, London Stansted and East Midlands airports and, through its digital division CAVU, trades travel services from lounges and car parks to hotels and insurance in all four corners of the world.

Our evolution has been made possible by our unique ownership model, which brings together public and private sector shareholders that have a shared long-term vision to grow our business in a sustainable and socially-responsible way. MAG has a mission to make its airports and travel services the number one choice for travellers and airlines.

In 2024/25, we served more than 65m passengers and facilitated travel to more than 260 destinations worldwide. With airport catchment areas spanning the length of the UK, approximately 70% of the population live within a two-hour journey of a MAG airport. The Group plays its role as a significant economic enabler, directly employing more than 7,500 people – in total supporting more than 40,000 on-site jobs – and contributing £10.6bn to the UK economy annually.

MANCHESTER ROOTS, GLOBAL BRANCHES



MANCHESTER AIRPORT

Manchester Airport is proud to connect the North with nearly 200 global destinations. Serving 31m passengers a year, it is the only airport outside of London with two full length runways. With the airport's £1.3bn investment programme due for completion later this year, more than 70% of its passengers will travel through the transformed Terminal 2 facilities.

LONDON STANSTED AIRPORT

London Stansted Airport offers more links to European destinations than any other UK airport, serving more than 29m passengers each year. It is the only airport in the South East with the capacity to grow sustainably over the coming decades, offering more passengers a broader choice of destinations and experiences.

EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT

East Midlands Airport offers four million annual passengers an effortless and affordable travel experience at the same time as powering seamless trade as the home of the largest pure freight operation in the UK. It handles more than 394,000 tonnes of cargo each year, helping high value industries compete on the global stage through its connectivity.

CAVU

Founded in 2022, CAVU is MAG's travel services business. It delivers digital solutions and physical experiences that make air travel smoother and more enjoyable. From operating lounges in the UK, the USA and Australia, to implementing cutting-edge technology, CAVU works with hundreds of clients around the world, extending MAG's footprint internationally.

MAG at a glance

Our values

At MAG, our values guide everything we do. They reflect our commitment to delivering excellence: for passengers, colleagues and communities, all while driving sustainable growth and innovation.



SAFE HANDS

The safety and security of our colleagues, customers and service partners is our number one priority. We can be trusted to deliver on our promises, acting with the highest standards of honesty, integrity and responsibility. We care about each other's wellbeing and creating a safe space for people to do their best work.



PEOPLE AT OUR CORE

We are all united by a shared purpose to connect people with the world, and we take the time to truly understand what's important to our customers and partners. We couldn't do all this without our colleagues. That's why we're committed to energising and inspiring people and continuously improving the colleague experience.



THE POWER OF TEAMWORK

We believe that we are more than the sum of our parts. That's why we continually seek to work together with our colleagues, partners and communities to reach the best solutions. We are inclusive, respectful, and open to different perspectives. We strive for the success of our teams, airports, passengers and the business.



GROWING EVERY DAY

We are performance-focused, with a commitment to excellence in the delivery of real, tangible results. We keep our finger on the pulse of the industry, responding to the evolving needs and expectations of all our stakeholders. This helps us to continually improve and deliver more value to our customers. We support colleagues in their personal growth journeys and celebrate success.



SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL

Sustainability is integral to MAG's vision. We are determined to lead the aviation industry toward a net zero future, with ambitious goals to reduce emissions and create a positive impact on the environment. Through collaboration with communities and partners, we invest in initiatives that benefit people and the planet, ensuring that our growth supports long-term progress.



Our journey so far

For more than two decades, MAG has been committed to reducing its impacts on the natural environment and to promoting biodiversity surrounding our airports.

This Strategy builds on those firm foundations which has focused on environmental land management, biodiversity action plans and integrating environmental mitigation into our investment and development projects. It also expands on our more recent initiatives such as large-scale conservation of our landholdings and species re-introduction and translocation projects. These initiatives also sit alongside education, training and volunteering programmes for our colleagues as well as local stakeholders, community groups and charities.



LOOKING BACK



Our journey so far continued

2024

AWARDED A GREEN APPLE AWARD FOR THE CONSERVATION PROJECT AT MANCHESTER AIRPORT

Manchester Airport was given a prestigious Green Apple Award for a project delivered on land designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest – Cotteril Clough. The award recognised a project in collaboration with Styles Ecology Ltd, which shared rare plants such as bluebells, wild garlic and wood anemones with other local sites.

2022

UPDATED OUR CSR MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT

We updated our CSR materiality assessment, to reflect the evolution of stakeholder priorities. The results show that nature-related impacts are considered highly important to stakeholders and are of financial significance to the business. Highlighting that nature is a priority area for us.

2020

LAUNCHED MAG'S CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) STRATEGY

Our CSR Strategy 'Working Together for a Brighter Future' set out a comprehensive, challenging and ambitious plan to deliver sustainable growth. It had three strategic priorities: Zero Carbon Airports, Opportunity for All and Local Voices. One of our commitments within Zero Carbon Airports was to publish a new Conservation Strategy.

2025

LAUNCHED OUR SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 'CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL'

Our Sustainability Strategy has a vision for creating a sustainable future for all and includes a commitment to protecting our environment, prioritising decarbonising aviation, protecting nature and responsible use of resources. The protecting nature pillar of this Strategy has led to the launch of our Nature Conservation Strategy.

2026

PUBLISHED OUR NATURE CONSERVATION STRATEGY

We published our Nature Conservation Strategy, which formalises our approach and sets targets for reducing our impact and protecting nature, supporting the implementation of our Sustainability Strategy.

Our airports

Our airports are situated in different locations around the UK – covering the North, Midlands and South. Each has its own unique habitat that influences the type and population of different species found on their landholdings.

The safety of our airports is the highest priority, and all of the practices that we adopt must recognise the measures that are necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft operations. Guided by the requirements of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), aerodrome safeguarding requirements are a prerequisite that has informed our Strategy.

There are a number of protected habitats across our landholdings. These include ancient woodland, fen, hedgerows, lowland meadow and priority ponds. Some of these habitats are associated with protected areas including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), and Sites of Biological Importance (SBI), all of which will benefit from our Nature Conservation Strategy.

In addition to these special habitats, our landholdings are home to protected species including bats, badgers, great crested newts and orchids. We have a strong track record and have always been at the forefront of conservation for these species with, for example, highly successful bat barns at Manchester, mitigation ponds, and species-diverse grassland swards. We are committed to further linking up these efforts as part of our Nature Conservation Strategy to ensure benefits and protections of these species.

Nature does not exist in isolation; it thrives through connectivity and movement. To protect and sustain it, we must ensure that ecosystems are interconnected, allowing species to move freely across landscapes. Through our Strategy, we support local biodiversity and nature plans impacting our airports, and will work with local stakeholders to enhance biodiversity, align with community values and foster long-term local stewardship.



Our airports continued

Manchester Airport

Manchester Airport is situated in the south of Greater Manchester and extends into northern parts of Cheshire. Outside of the airport boundary our landholdings encompass approximately 380 hectares of non-operational land which includes arable farmland, areas of ancient woodland and wildflower meadows.

This is a gently undulating region characterised by open pastoral landscape, dotted with farms and rural dwellings. During the construction of our second runway, the River Bollin was carefully re-directed to flow beneath it.

There are areas of high ecological value on our landholdings including our Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), as well as Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) and Local Wildlife Sites (LWS). Cotteril Clough, an ancient woodland, is the City of Manchester's only SSSI and sits partly on Manchester Airport's land. Its proximity to the airfield means it's been protected from human interference for many years and is home to a combination of rare and protected species.

Manchester Airport has several custom-built bat barns that support local bat populations, replacing roosting areas impacted by the development of the airport.

The bat barns have multiple entry points and provide ideal spaces for roosting and hibernation. We have partnered with the Cheshire Bat Group on continued monitoring for more than two decades. The local bat volunteers undertake surveys each year to monitor the population size and species of bats that are using the bat barns at Manchester Airport. Between May and August, more than 300 bats can roost in a single barn at one time.

Our landholdings at Manchester Airport also provide suitable habitat for great crested newts, which are a protected species due to their ecological importance, rarity and conservation concerns. Our mitigation measures to protect great crested newts include translocations and the creation of compensatory habitats and ponds, where they can seek refuge and are protected from harm.

1 x SSSI




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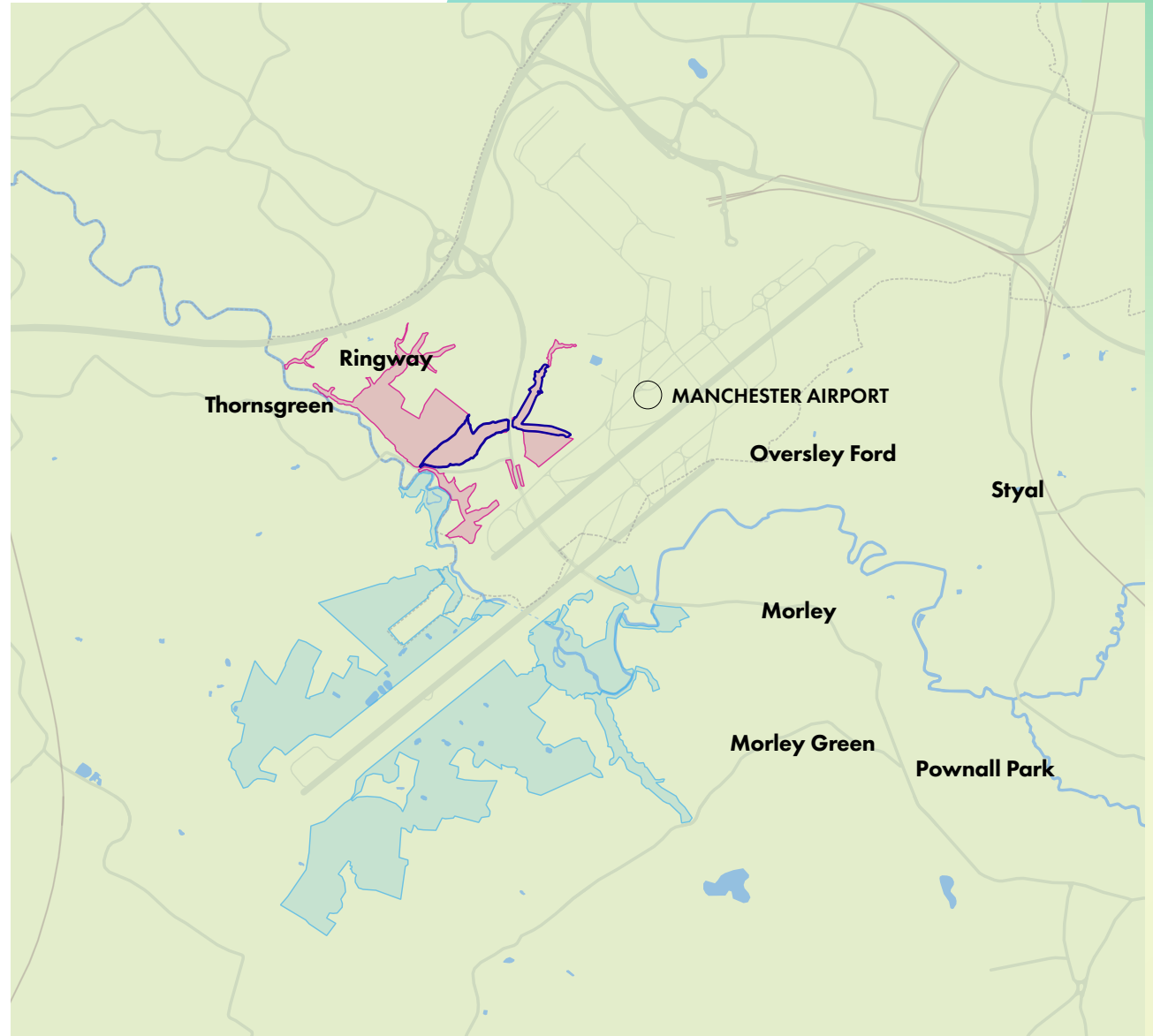
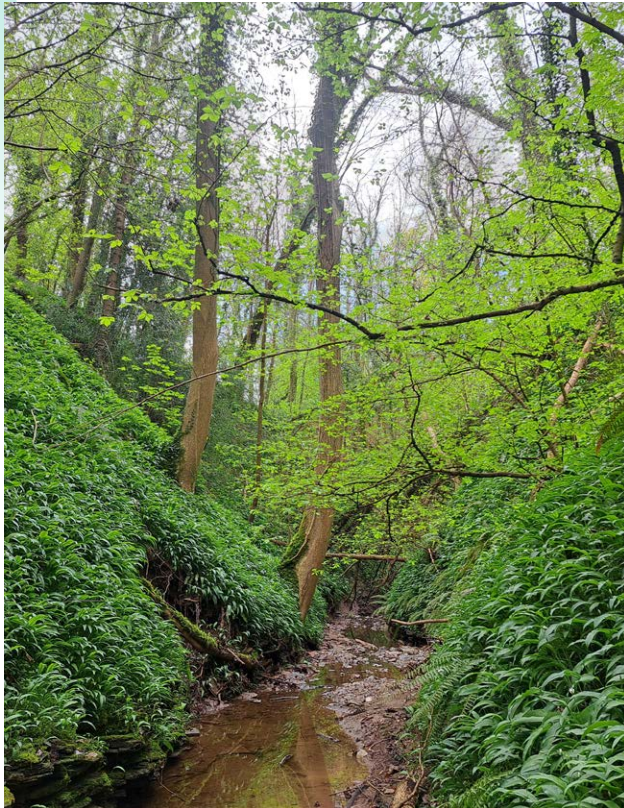
Local Wildlife Sites/Sites of Biological Importance



Our airports continued Manchester Airport

Key:

-  Cotteril Clough Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
-  Sites of Biological Importance (SBI)
-  Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)



Our airports continued

London Stansted Airport

London Stansted is in a rural location, largely surrounded by open countryside. It lies in the South Suffolk and North Essex Claylands' National Character Area, which is defined by a gently undulating plateau of chalky boulder clay.

This area is notable for its complex networks of species-rich hedgerows, ancient woodlands, parklands, meadows, streams and eastward flowing river.

There are ecologically rich habitats at Stansted Airport. Within the airport boundary is Coopers Fen, designated as an Essex Local Wildlife Trust Site. Surrounding the airport boundary is Elsenham Woods SSSI. The primary features of the wood are its ancient woodland character, its ground flora of oxlip, herb-paris and bugle and ponds vital for invertebrates. In addition, the airport has invested in two on-site habitat creation areas for great crested newts.

At the priority woodland, Priory Wood, there is a thriving population of oxlips. The oxlip is a small, perennial, endangered ancient woodland plant, only found in small discrete areas of East Anglia. In 2024, the airport's Environment Team partnered with the National Trust to harvest seeds from the airport's land and re-introduce them to Hatfield Forest, a site nearby where the flowers have been in decline due to deer and human activity. This project is helping save the oxlip from local extinction.


1 x SSSI



Our airports continued

London Stansted Airport

Key:

 Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)



Our airports continued

East Midlands Airport

East Midlands Airport is situated in a semi-rural area and lies within two distinct National Character Areas: the Melbourne Parklands, known for its parklands, woodlands and hedgerows, and the Langley Lowlands, characterised by gently rolling landscapes and ancient woodlands.

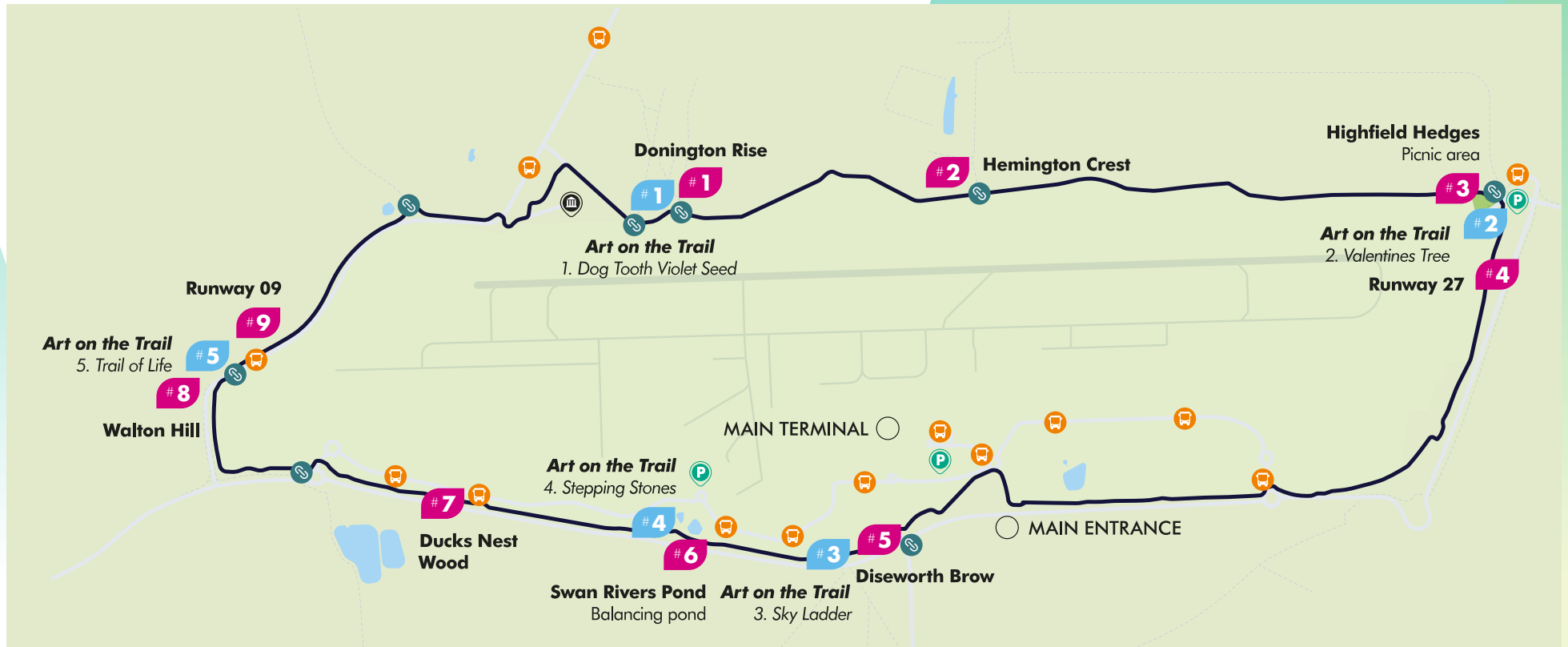
The airport is well integrated into the surrounding countryside with native planting and trees with Tree Preservation Orders providing a natural screening.

Additionally, the airport offers a designated Airport Trail, allowing safe and enjoyable walking access through its scenic surroundings. The six-mile Airport Trail offers a scenic route around the airport perimeter. Passing through woodlands, parkland and meadows, the trail benefits from an extensive planting programme.







The area also supports local biodiversity, providing habitats for wildlife, including bat boxes. Over recent years we have worked with local primary schools on a tree planting programme and a unique sculpture to make the walk more biodiverse and engaging. Recently, we installed bat boxes and also worked with The Wildlife Trusts to design and install information boards along the trail, as part of activity to mark the Airport's 60th Anniversary.



Our airports continued East Midlands Airport



Key:

-  Airport Trail Information Board
-  Art on the Trail
-  Linkage Point to a wider rights of way network
-  Aviation Museum
-  Skylink Bus Stop
-  Parking

Airport Trail Information Board

1. **Donington Rise:** solicitor.spend remainder
2. **Hemington Crest:** viewing.tumblers.live
3. **Highfield Hedges:** lamplight.afterglow.data
4. **Runway 27:** raking.hairspray.wizards
5. **Diseworth Brow:** trickles.bridge wording
6. **Swan Rivers Pond:** juggles.coveted.extra
7. **Ducks Nest Wood:** keyboards.underline.chosen
8. **Walton Hill:** saved.essay.obvious
9. **Runway 09:** drive.highly.puffed

Art on the Trail

1. **Dog Tooth Violet Seed:** solicitor.spend remainders
2. **Valentines Tree:** lamplight.afterglow.data
3. **Sky Ladder:** trickles.bridge wording
4. **Stepping Stones:** juggles.coveted.extra
5. **Trail of Life:** saved.essay.obvious

Our Nature Conservation Strategy

Our Nature Conservation Strategy is a product of our materiality assessment, our Sustainable Development Plans and our commitment made in MAG's Sustainability Strategy: Creating a sustainable future for all.

The Strategy outlines our approach and our commitment to protecting biodiversity on our landholdings and reducing the impact of our business on nature. Our Strategy will help us better consider and integrate nature into all aspects of daily operations and decision making including in our land management, development plans, operations and supply chain.

MAG's Sustainability Strategy: Creating a sustainable future for all is split into two strategic pillars: Protecting our Environment and Community at our Core. Under the Protecting our Environment pillar, we made a number of commitments to preserving nature and promoting biodiversity. For full strategic alignment, seven of these commitments have been carried across into our Nature Conservation Strategy and will outline a clear plan to deliver them.

BY 2035, WE AIM TO ACHIEVE:



A forward thinking, industry-leading approach to protecting, enhancing and managing nature and biodiversity across our landholdings



A reduction in the impacts of our developments, operations and supply chain on nature



Measurable gains in biodiversity that contribute to our airport's future and sustainable growth

OUR COMMITMENT TO TRANSPARENT REPORTING

To ensure transparency and continuous improvement, we commit to refresh our Nature Conservation Strategy periodically, as a minimum every five years.

Through our annual reporting processes, we will provide a regular review of our progress, challenges and achievements against the Strategy's defined priority areas, objectives and targets.

We are committed to adopting new legislation, emerging voluntary frameworks and global initiatives, including Biodiversity Net Gain, and the Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD).

Our Nature Conservation Strategy continued

Five priority areas of our Nature Conservation Strategy

We recognise that there are important steps we must take to achieve our vision. This Strategy sets out a clear plan for the next five years. Our strategy has five priority areas:



Our objectives have been carefully chosen to help us develop forward thinking and ambitious targets. These include:



Our Nature Conservation Strategy: Priority 1

Empowering people for nature

We are committed to empowering our colleagues, stakeholders and local communities to actively participate in protecting and restoring nature, through forums, training, volunteering and outreach. By creating opportunities for meaningful involvement, we aim to build a shared sense of responsibility and facilitate long-term, collective support for nature conservation efforts.

OBJECTIVES	DETAIL	TARGETS
<p>OBJECTIVE 1.1 Establish a nature forum and embed nature-training opportunities across colleagues' development</p>	<p>We aim to establish nature forums to raise awareness and equip colleagues to take meaningful action in their roles and decisions. Empowering colleagues through training not only builds their knowledge and confidence but also embeds nature considerations across the business. We are committed to expanding nature-focused education for colleagues including induction training and e-learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement nature induction training, e-learning materials, and engagement programmes for colleagues by 2027. • Establish a nature forum at each of our airports by 2028 (Sustainability Strategy 2025 Target).
<p>OBJECTIVE 1.2 Deliver nature-focused education, outreach, and employability programmes</p>	<p>We deliver education and employability programmes as part of our commitment to providing opportunities for all. We are committed to building on our existing work to create opportunities for people to engage with nature through our education, outreach and employability schemes. We will work collaboratively with our Youth Forums, Aerozones, Academies to promote green skills and inspire environmental careers in the aviation sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities to integrate nature and sustainability into existing education, outreach and employability programmes by 2027. • Deliver nature-focused education, outreach and employability programmes by 2028.
<p>OBJECTIVE 1.3 Empower colleagues to make a positive impact on biodiversity by participating in volunteer programmes</p>	<p>Our colleagues are encouraged to take part in volunteering. By providing nature-related volunteering opportunities for colleagues, we aim to engage colleagues in conservation efforts, improve wellbeing, raise awareness about biodiversity in the community, and foster a sense of responsibility and connection to nature in the local and regional area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review current opportunities and partnerships to support nature-based projects through our portfolio of volunteering opportunities by 2026 (Sustainability Strategy 2025 Target).
<p>OBJECTIVE 1.4 Promote access to our landholdings to support health, wellbeing and connection with nature</p>	<p>Nature provides powerful benefits for health and wellbeing. We will encourage public access to nature and the outdoors on our landholdings to support community health wellbeing and quality of life. This is important for nature education, biodiversity awareness and opportunities for employee and community engagement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and improve the Public Rights of Way on our landholdings by 2026. • Investigate and promote opportunities to use our landholdings to support health, wellbeing and connection to nature by 2029.



Our Nature Conservation Strategy: Priority 2

Integrating nature-positive principles into projects, safe operations and supply chains

We are committed to embedding nature into our decision making across the business, including our developments, operations and supply chain in a way that supports aerodrome safety as a foundational priority. By integrating nature into decision making we aim to reduce our impact, unlock opportunities for restoration and ensure that our activities benefit both nature and the safety of the communities we serve.

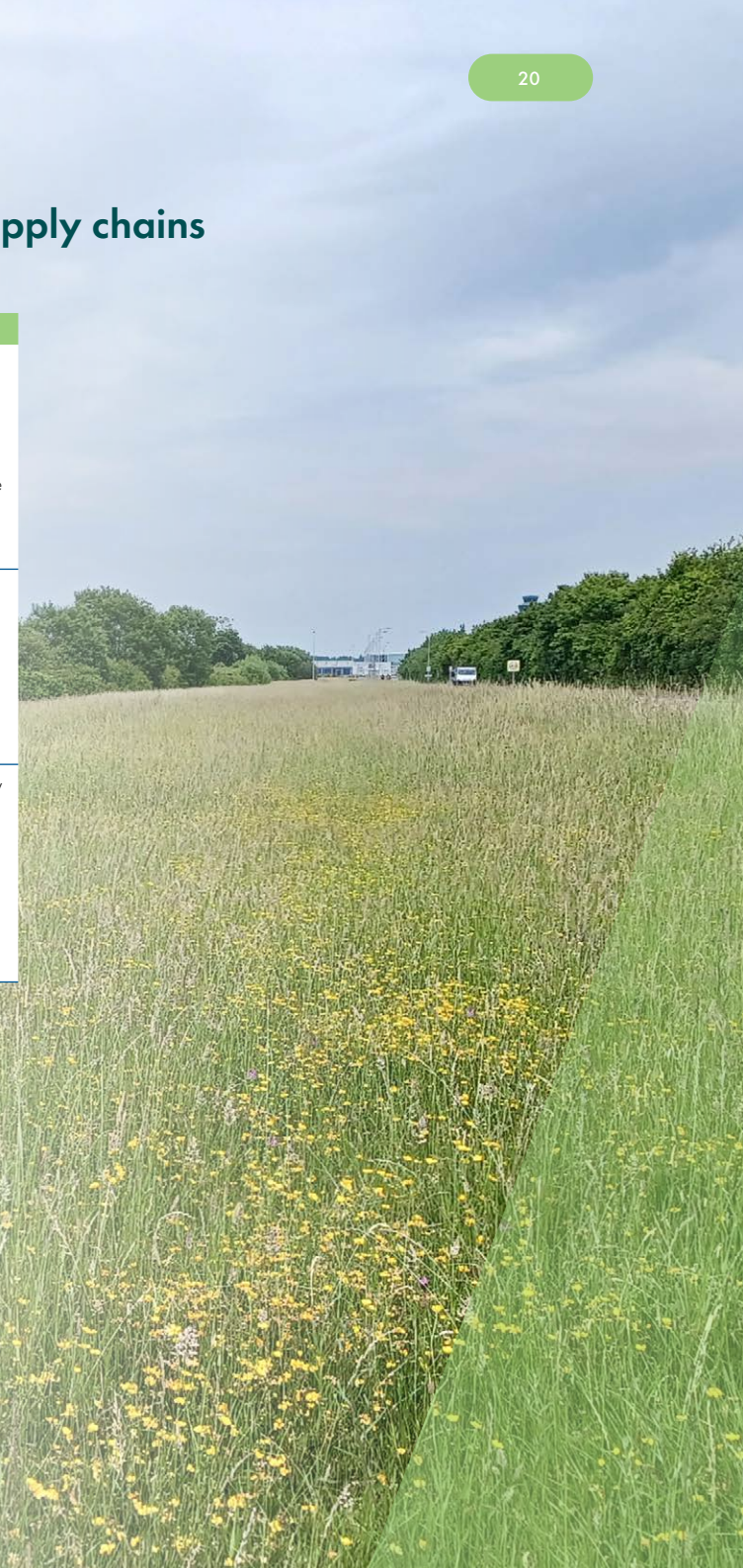
OBJECTIVES	DETAIL	TARGETS
OBJECTIVE 2.1 Safety first – protecting and enhancing nature in a safe aerodrome	<p>Aerodrome safety is our first priority. All our objectives and targets will take account of the need to continue to offer a safe operating environment. We recognise the unique challenges and responsibilities of achieving nature positive targets whilst upholding aerodrome safety standards. Every measure to protect and enhance nature will be carefully designed to align with the highest standards of aerodrome safety and meet regulatory requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerodrome safeguarding considerations will be a primary design principle and requirement for all our development projects and environmental works. • Educate all stakeholders on aerodrome safeguarding requirements.
OBJECTIVE 2.2 Promote the use of sustainably sourced products and consumables that support nature and biodiversity outcomes	<p>Airport operations, retailers and third party partners have the opportunity to lessen their impact on nature by sourcing materials responsibly and addressing nature-related risks and impacts within their supply chains. We aim to reduce the impact of products offered to colleagues and passengers at our airports on nature and biodiversity, and to encourage sustainably sourced products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a working group to understand the impacts of products and consumables being provided at our airports by 2028.
OBJECTIVE 2.3 Quantify the impact of our airport development, operation and supply chain on nature using the TNFD framework	<p>We recognise the importance of protecting and enhancing nature as part of our responsibility as an airport operator. We have been implementing measures to reduce the impact of our business on the natural environment. We are committed to strengthen this work using the Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures framework (TNFD), to set measurable targets and actions to reduce our impact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collaboratively to quantify the impacts of airport on nature by 2028, with the aim of defining measurable actions as our understanding of impacts evolve.
OBJECTIVE 2.4 Integrating nature-based principles into future development projects	<p>Development projects can impact nature by disrupting local ecosystems, causing habitat loss, and potentially harming wildlife through noise, air pollution or increased human activity. We are committed to understanding and mitigating these risks, whilst ensuring that we comply with wildlife protection laws, biodiversity net gain legislation and other planning obligations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally set a process based on our Biodiversity Net Gain Standard by 2026 and audit against this by 2027. • Adopting government guidance, establish a quantified target for biodiversity net gain at each of our airports by 2028, measured using standardised biodiversity units (Sustainability Strategy 2025 Target). • Investigate options for habitat banking and the integration of nature-based solutions on our landholdings by 2027.



Our Nature Conservation Strategy: Priority 2 continued

Integrating nature-positive principles into projects, safe operations and supply chains

OBJECTIVES	DETAIL	TARGETS
<p>OBJECTIVE 2.5 Identify nature impacts in our supply chain</p>	<p>The goods and services purchased by our airports can impact nature at both a local and international scale. An example is the purchase of construction materials like concrete and asphalt, whose extraction and production can lead to habitat destruction and increased carbon emissions. We are committed to identifying the nature impacts of the goods and services that we purchase and implementing initiatives to minimise this impact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update procurement processes to incorporate nature-positive requirements where appropriate by 2027. • Utilise the Procurement's sustainability risk management system (EcoVadis) to encourage suppliers to identify and disclose their nature-related impacts by 2028. • To collaborate with strategic suppliers to limit and reduce nature-related impacts through our goods, works and services, while fostering innovations that are nature-positive where applicable by 2029.
<p>OBJECTIVE 2.6 Embed best practice principles into all nature-based carbon offsetting investment</p>	<p>Nature-based projects can provide carbon offsetting and, in some instances, provide an enduring source of carbon removal. Natural processes, such as reforestation and wetland conservation, capture and store carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. These projects (locally and internationally) can also enhance ecosystems. We will consider nature-based offsets and removals within our portfolio of projects we support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support nature-based projects, through our portfolio of carbon offsets and removals, where they can demonstrate appropriate accreditation by 2028 (Sustainability Strategy 2025 Target).
<p>OBJECTIVE 2.7 Apply a standard approach to ensure no net loss to biodiversity with permitted development projects</p>	<p>We recognise that construction under permitted development rights often falls outside formal planning processes, and BNG, but can still have a negative impact on biodiversity.</p> <p>To address this, we will assess all significant permitted development projects for biodiversity impacts and ensure that they deliver no net loss to biodiversity, in line with the new MAG standard.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A MAG standard for permitted development biodiversity will be established internally by 2027 and applied across all relevant projects. • 100% of permitted development projects assessed for impact to biodiversity by 2026, and shown to deliver no net loss to biodiversity by 2027.



Our Nature Conservation Strategy: Priority 3

Protecting biodiversity and habitats

We are committed to managing, protecting and enhancing nature on our landholdings and beyond, including species, habitats and ecosystem services. We will improve the condition of habitats, protected species, as well as monitor and quantify the ecosystem services that nature provides our business. By actively stewarding biodiversity and habitats on our landholdings we are safeguarding the ecosystem services they provide as well as recognising that, as a large business, we have a local and regional responsibility to manage our landholdings for nature conservation.

OBJECTIVES	DETAIL	TARGETS
<p>OBJECTIVE 3.1 Lead and engage in species-based conservation projects</p>	<p>The landholdings that we are responsible for are home to many species of plants and animals. These species play an important part in local ecosystems, shaping their habitat and ensuring a holistic function to nature. We've engaged in a variety of species-based projects including, monitoring, species translocation and habitat restoration. We are committed to protecting species on our landholdings and beyond, by working with stakeholders to undertake species-based conservation projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a comprehensive series of Group Environment Standards that cover working with species and habitats by 2026, and audit compliance against these by 2027. • Identify and work with local stakeholders and experts to undertake projects that focus on conserving and protecting species by 2026.
<p>OBJECTIVE 3.2 Monitor and improve the condition of our habitats</p>	<p>There are multiple ecologically important sites across our landholdings including SSSIs, LWSs and SBIs. Some of these sites are protected by law and others by policy as they support important and protected species and habitats. A bigger, better, more joined up approach to these designated sites is seen as essential to preserving biodiversity and maintaining vital ecosystems. We are committed to improving the condition of our habitats and will work with local stakeholders to deliver this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the condition of statutory designated sites (SSSIs) to 'favourable, recovering', and implement long-term management and monitoring plans by 2030. • Bring a minimum of 50% of non-statutory designated sites (LWSs and SBIs etc) into active management for nature conservation by 2030, and continue to reduce the impacts of airport operations on them.
<p>OBJECTIVE 3.3 Monitor the health of our habitats and species</p>	<p>It is important for us to regularly monitor the health of the habitats and species on and around our land holdings, including bespoke mitigation measures like ponds and bat barns. Regular surveys are important to understand the current state of local ecosystems and species, help identify potential impacts on nature, ensure compliance with regulations and the development of effective conservation and mitigation strategies. We will create an overarching approach to baselining and monitoring of our landholdings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the maintenance and monitoring of S106 agreements and other mitigation control measures including bat barns and ponds by 2026. • Undertake a biodiversity baseline assessment at each airport by 2027 to understand the current biodiversity value of our landholdings and identify areas for conservation and enhancement, and we will repeat this every three to five years (Sustainability Strategy 2025 Target).



Our Nature Conservation Strategy: Priority 3 continued

Protecting biodiversity and habitats

OBJECTIVES	DETAIL	TARGETS
<p>OBJECTIVE 3.4 Explore and investigate our ecosystem services provision</p>	<p>Ecosystem services are important for airports as they help maintain natural processes such as clean air and water regulation, in addition to noise reduction through natural vegetation and flood regulation by wetlands and permeable surfaces. These services can reduce operational costs and help airports and their surrounding environments be more resilient to environmental challenges. We will undertake work to better understand ecosystem services and how natural systems can be utilised to reduce the environmental impact of our operations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the ecosystem services on our landholdings and identify key areas for improvement by 2029.
<p>OBJECTIVE 3.5 Achieve The Wildlife Trusts' Biodiversity Benchmark</p>	<p>We aim to obtain the Biodiversity Benchmark, a certification granted by The Wildlife Trusts to businesses that manage their landholdings for the benefit of nature. To achieve and maintain the benchmark, we must be able to evidence continual biodiversity protection and enhancement. By aligning with this certification, we are eager to contribute to mitigating climate change impacts and biodiversity loss through the implementation of robust land management practises and strengthening stakeholder relations for the benefit of nature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with stakeholders and The Wildlife Trusts to obtain the Capitalise Biodiversity Benchmark certification by 2028 (Sustainability Strategy 2025 Target).
<p>OBJECTIVE 3.6 Monitor and manage trees responsibly for aerodrome safeguarding and biodiversity</p>	<p>We are committed to managing and protecting trees on and around our landholdings, recognising their vital role in supporting biodiversity and ecosystem services. Where tree management is required for aerodrome safety, we will act responsibly and transparently. If individual trees must be removed and this falls outside of planning or internal Biodiversity Net Gain requirements and standards, we will mitigate impacts through a like-for-like replacement policy, prioritising native and locally important species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with Trees and Hedgerows Standard implemented across all relevant sites by 2026. Annual audit of tree management activities completed and reported, including replacement actions and biodiversity outcomes by 2027.



Our Nature Conservation Strategy: Priority 4

Collaborating with communities and stakeholders

We are committed to working with communities around our airports and a variety of stakeholders to deliver ecological connectivity, species and habitat-focused conservation projects, and collaborate and exchange knowledge in the industry. By collaborating with communities and other stakeholders we aim to share knowledge and amplify the impact of nature conservation beyond our airport boundaries.

OBJECTIVES	DETAIL	TARGETS
<p>OBJECTIVE 4.1 Lead and engage in collaborative efforts to deliver nature conservation</p>	<p>We work closely with stakeholders including academic institutions, charities and local community groups to deliver land management objectives and our nature conservation goals include conserving species, restoring habitats and monitoring nature. This collaboration brings together expertise, resources and perspectives, to support the drafting of management plans, project delivery work on the ground and monitoring of protected species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review partnerships with local organisations, charities and communities to ensure that existing collaboration can be built on to further benefit nature by 2027. Collaborate and partner with stakeholders on new and existing nature-based projects by 2029.
<p>OBJECTIVE 4.2 Collaborate with stakeholders to create connectivity</p>	<p>The Lawton Report in 2010¹ identified that a 'bigger, better, more joined up' approach to nature conservation was required to create more effective and resilient ecological connectivity. We will work with stakeholders including local landowners and charities, ensuring that natural habitats and ecosystems on and around the airport are linked, allowing wildlife to move freely and maintain healthy populations on and off our landholdings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate suitable areas for wildlife corridors and collaborate with partners to deliver ecological connectivity by 2030. Support the implementation of local nature recovery strategies by 2028.
<p>OBJECTIVE 4.3 Lead collaborative efforts and knowledge sharing in the sector</p>	<p>Collaboration is needed across the aviation, travel and tourism sectors (and all industries we operate with) to share knowledge, expertise and develop collaborative strategies to reduce our impacts on nature, and work towards the global goal of Nature Positive by 2030. Working together fosters collaborative action, drives innovation and amplifies positive nature outcomes across the sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an international aviation nature forum, starting with setting up one with UK airports by 2028.
<p>OBJECTIVE 4.4 Increase awareness and collaborate with stakeholders to combat illegal wildlife trade (IWT)</p>	<p>The illegal capture, transport and sale of plants, animals or their parts, often for profit, threatens biodiversity and can contribute to the extinction of a species. By serving as transit points or entry/exit hubs for smuggled wildlife, airports can inadvertently be drawn into this trade. We are committed to tackling IWT to prevent harm to biodiversity and comply with international regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with authorities and stakeholder groups (CITES, TRAFFIC International etc), and raise public awareness of the issue to protect nature.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/making-space-for-nature-a-review-of-englands-wildlife-sites-published-today>.

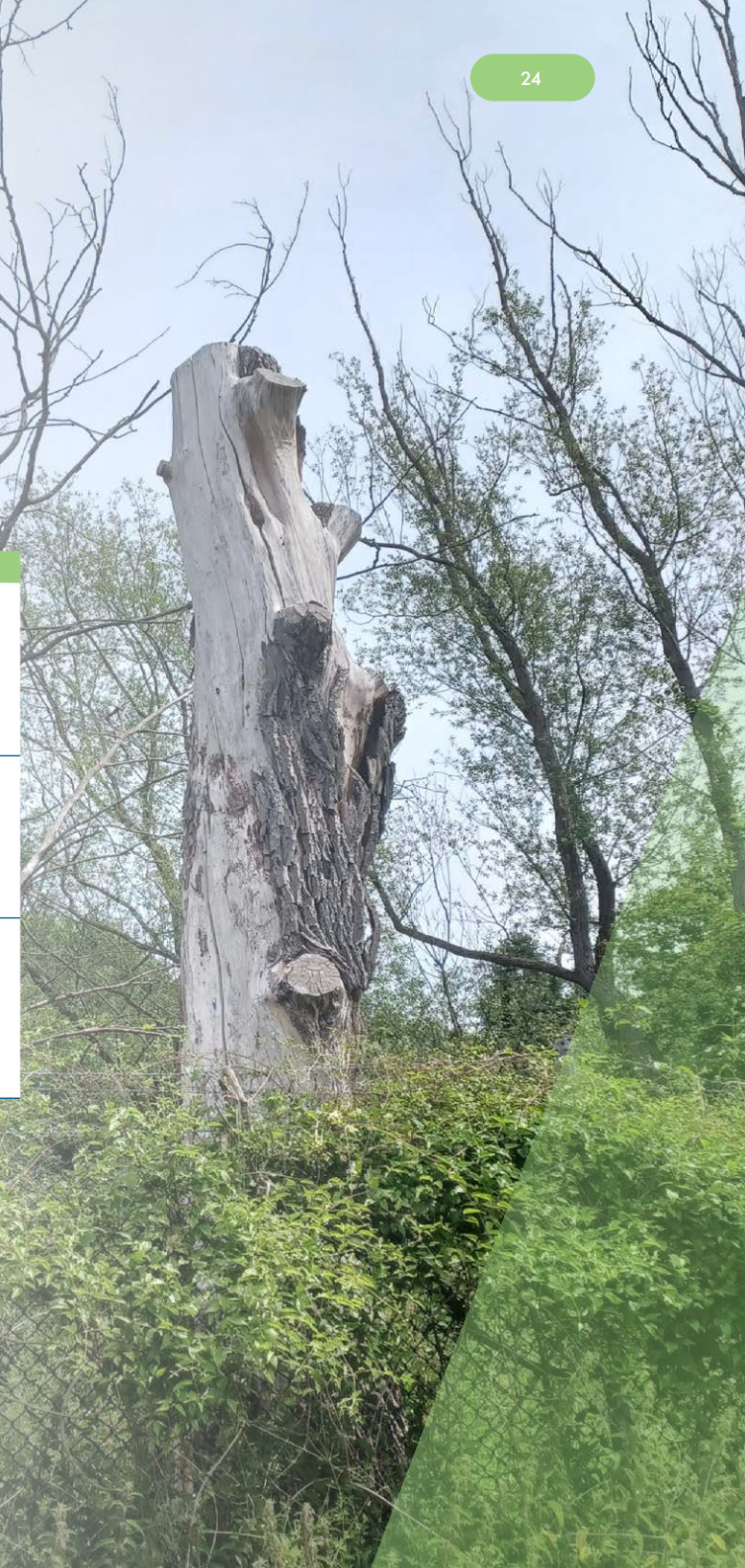


Our Nature Conservation Strategy: Priority 5

Delivering transparent governance and reporting

We are committed to embedding nature within the business, by quantifying, managing and transparently reporting our impacts on nature. This includes integrating nature into strategic decision making and risk management, while sharing data openly with stakeholders. Strong governance and clear reporting will help drive continuous improvement, ensure accountability and build trust through measurable progress for nature.

OBJECTIVES	DETAIL	TARGETS
<p>OBJECTIVE 5.1 Streamline and Share Nature-Related Data</p>	<p>Data about nature is essential to making informed decisions, complying with regulations and understanding our risks and opportunities. We are committed to streamlining our data collection, management and storage to improve decision making and efficiency. We will share data with local record centres and stakeholders to foster transparency and collaboration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamline and improve nature data collection, management and storage across our airports, and share data with local record centres and stakeholders by 2027.
<p>OBJECTIVE 5.2 Fully disclose our nature impacts, dependencies, risks and opportunities</p>	<p>It's important for us to understand our reliance and effects on nature to reduce and mitigate our impacts. By adopting the recommendations provided by the TNFD, we will be transparent, comply with emerging regulations, inform stakeholders and support informed decision making.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the recommendations of the TNFD and assess the risks and opportunities posed by nature, publishing the results in our FY27 Annual Report and Financial Statement and regularly disclosing thereafter (Sustainability Strategy 2025 Target).
<p>OBJECTIVE 5.3 Integrate nature into strategic decision making and risk management</p>	<p>Embedding nature into decision making enables us to operate more sustainably, reducing our impact on nature and protects local ecosystems. By considering nature-related risks and opportunities we can strengthen our resilience, enhance risk management and ensure regulatory preparedness. This approach supports long term successful operation of the business while protecting nature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an annual review of the governance and formalise a route for nature reporting, budget and project approval by 2027. Integrate nature-related considerations into our risk management and decision-making frameworks by 2027.



Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain; referring to the Biodiversity Net Gain legislation introduced under the Environment Act 2021.
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility.
IWT	Illegal Wildlife Trade.
LWS	Local Wildlife Sites are non-statutory areas of conservation. They have policy protections through the local plan of each Local Authority. They are recognised for their local importance, distinctive and threatened species and habitats.
Local nature recovery strategies	Local nature recovery strategies were established in 2021 under the Environment Act. The strategies involve identifying areas of nature and wildlife that need recovering and creating targeted plans for their restoration and protection. There are 48 Strategy areas which cover the whole of England to provide a joined up national effort. The Strategy areas overlap with areas of our holdings, and we are keen to collaborate with local conservation efforts for key species and habitats.
Local Record Centres	Local Records Centres are organisations that collect, collate, manage and disseminate information relating to the biodiversity and geodiversity of a region on a not-for-profit basis.
MAG	Manchester Airports Group.
SBI	Sites of Biological Importance are non-statutory areas that are locally important for wildlife. They are protected from development through national and local planning policy. They are used locally by certain local councils for areas that can also be designated as Local Wildlife Sites (LWS).
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest are areas of statutory conservation and scientific interest, due to the presence of rare species of fauna and flora. These sites are protected by law.
TNFD	Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures.



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