




OBJECTIVE <i>Objectives will be reset in the light of progress 2011-2016</i>	TARGET	PROGRESS	PLAN STATUS	
			2008-2010	2011-2016
A. To achieve condition of 960ha of existing unimproved and semi-improved lowland neutral grassland above 0.25ha that are currently in unfavourable condition, to favourable or recovering, giving priority to those holding UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species & Red Data Book species.	2026	Target has already been achieved by 202% through Natural England agri-environment options, by Local Authorities and by local organisations.  <b>WHILST TARGETS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED, ONLY 30% OF THE WHOLE AREA OF EXISTING NEUTRAL GRASSLAND (6735ha) IS BEING MANAGED.</b>	↑	↑
B. To restore 1031ha of degraded lowland neutral grassland.	2026	Target already achieved by 119% through Natural England agri-environment options and by local authorities, other organisations and landowners.		
C. To expand the extent of the habitat by 200ha.	2026	Target already achieved by 196% through Natural England agri-environment options, by local authorities and organisations and by landowners.		

**Key to status: 2010:** ↑ Any improvement ↔ No change ↓ Decline      **2016:** ↑ Good progress ↑ Some progress ↔ No change ↓ Decline

PROPOSED ACTIONS	BY	REPORTED PROGRESS	NO.OF SITES/ ITEMS	TOTAL AREA/ LENGTH	% OF TARGET	ACTION STATUS ↑↑↔↓
<b>PL1.</b> Ensure that any site meeting the relevant criteria is considered for designation as an SSSI.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>Natural England (NE):</b> 1 potential site.	1 pSSSI			↔
<b>PL2.</b> Continue to select all qualifying lowland neutral grassland sites as LWSs and enter onto database.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>Local Wildlife Sites project (LWSP):</b> many sites have been designated since 2011, too numerous to list here.	100+			↑
<b>PL3.</b> Ensure that the protection of all designated neutral grassland is included in Local Development Plans, Neighbourhood Plans and any other relevant strategies, including targets for maintenance, restoration and expansion for each Local Authority.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>Warwickshire County Council (WCC):</b> • 2016 - 1 known neighbourhood plan for Shipston-on-Stour.  <b>More detail in 2017 plans</b>	1 plan			↑
<b>PL4.</b> Ensure that new minor or major developments result in net biodiversity gain through adherence to the mitigation hierarchy.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>WCC:</b> • leads on Biodiversity Offsetting within the Coventry and Warwickshire LPAs. It strictly promotes the mitigation hierarchy and employs the locally derived Defra Offsetting Metrics to seek net gains through all minor and major planning applications. • not yet in a position to report on net gains and losses through the Biodiversity Offsetting metrics, but if resources				↑

		can be secured will be able to in the future.				
<b>SM1. Achieve favourable condition of 300ha of existing neutral grassland by 2015 and a further 660ha by 2026 by appropriate management.</b>	<b>2015, 2026</b>	<p><b>Target achieved.</b></p> <p><b>NE:</b> uptake of agri-environment options (<b>1923.55ha</b>) has contributed to the 2015 target, including:</p> <p><b>WCC:</b> some of country parks have come under <b>Higher Level Scheme</b> management since 2012, e.g. <b>Kingsbury, Ryton Pools</b> and the <b>Burton Dassett Hills</b>; agreements run for 10 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at Kingsbury 2ha is being maintained.</li> <li>• at Burton Dassett, 21.5ha of mainly neutral grassland is being managed, including some calcareous species on the upper slope.</li> </ul> <p><b>WCC:</b> at 3 sites, <b>6.52ha</b> have been enhanced by biodiversity offsetting.</p> <p><b>Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC):</b> all <b>4.65ha</b> of neutral grassland under SMBC ownership is under appropriate management e.g. Brueton Park LNR.</p> <p><b>Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT):</b> grassland management at Tame Valley - Kingsbury Meadow <b>2.85ha</b> and Cole End Park <b>3ha</b>.</p>		<b>1941ha</b>	<b>Area is 647% of target for 2015</b>	
<b>SM2. Continue restoration of degraded neutral grassland by at least 323ha by 2015 and a further 708ha by 2026, including at least one flood meadow or flood pasture.</b>	<b>2015, 2026</b>	<p><b>Target achieved.</b></p> <p><b>NE:</b> uptake of agri-environment options (<b>1214.57ha</b>) has contributed to the 2015 target including:</p> <p><b>WCC:</b> at Kingsbury Country Park, <b>1.5ha</b> of neutral grassland is being restored under HLS.</p> <p><b>Warwick District Council (WDC):</b> <b>1ha</b> re-seeded at St Nicholas Park, Warwick.</p> <p><b>WWT: 2.85ha</b> Dunchurch meadow restored with green hay from Draycote Meadow.</p> <p><b>Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire (BCW):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1.65ha</b> at Pagets Pool escarpment, Oversley Wood, Ryton Wood Meadows and Weston Wood.</li> <li>• <b>8ha</b> of semi-improved field of ridge and furrow near Dorsington (HoE Estate).</li> <li>• <b>0.1ha</b> enhancement through scarifying and reseeding at Polesworth and <b>0.1ha</b> of scrub clearance.</li> </ul>	<b>6 sites min.</b>	<b>1228.27ha</b>	<b>Area is 380% of target for 2015</b>	
<b>SM3. Expand the extent of neutral grassland by 63ha by 2015 and a further 137ha by 2026, including 4 sites of at least 5ha, preferably adjacent to existing grassland.</b>	<b>2015, 2026</b>	<p><b>Target achieved.</b></p> <p><b>NE:</b> uptake of agri-environment options (<b>341.21ha</b>) has contributed to the 2015 target, including <b>7ha</b> at Astley and <b>17ha</b> at Upton.</p> <p><b>Compton Verney: 28.7ha</b> resown in 2 fields,.</p> <p><b>Sun Rising Natural Burial Ground:</b> creation of <b>0.7ha</b> of wildflower meadow.</p>	<b>10 sites min.</b>	<b>391.762ha</b>	<b>Area is 622% of 2015 target, including 4 x 5ha sites.</b>	

		<p><b>Warwickshire Biological Record Centre (WBRC):</b> 2011-2014 - <b>1ha</b> created at Whichford Wood for barbastelle project.</p> <p><b>BCW/ Heart of England:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>0.05ha</b> scallop creation at Bilton cutting</li> <li>• <b>20ha</b> of wheatfields near Dorsington returned to meadows to benefit butterflies and other wildlife (HoE Estate).</li> </ul> <p><b>WWT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 - creation of <b>0.1ha</b> at Guphill Brook, Coventry.</li> <li>• 2014/5 – creation of <b>0.002ha</b> of wild flower meadow at Brandon Wood Farm</li> </ul>				
<p><b>SM4.</b> Work at a <b>landscape scale</b>, focusing effort on identified important clusters of neutral grassland to maximise benefit, ‘rewilding’ the wider countryside and restoring the range of the habitat to build resilience to climate change. Target areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tame Valley</b> floodplain meadows</li> <li>• <b>West Arden</b> landscape area</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<p><b>Some progress.</b></p> <p><b>WWT::</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• restoration of <b>1.5ha</b> of floodplain meadow <b>Tameside LNR Tamworth</b>, involving a number of events and many schoolchildren.</li> <li>• <b>4ha</b> of floodplain meadow created at <b>Kingsbury Water Park</b> - ‘Kingsbury’s Community Wetland.</li> <li>• <b>West Arden:</b> 2 meadow areas around Earlswood: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Woodfield farm - <b>0.3ha</b> trial meadow creation on arable field</li> <li>▪ Rushbrook farm – <b>0.2ha</b> trial meadow enhancement with clay wildflower/grass mix oversown on improved grassland</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>4 sites</b>	<b>6.0ha</b>		↑
<p><b>RM1.</b> Map digitally the remnant areas of unimproved and semi-improved neutral grassland.</p>	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b>				↑
<p><b>RM2.</b> Identify sites for potential expansion of neutral grassland and restoration of water meadows.</p>	2015	<b>No progress.</b>				↔
<p><b>RM3.</b> Identify plant indicator species to establish criteria for assessing the quality of neutral grassland habitat.</p>	Completed	<p><b>Achieved.</b></p> <p><b>HBA:</b> action completed.</p>				↑
<p><b>RM4.</b> Use indicator species criteria for monitoring neutral grassland condition and expansion every 5 years, particularly on LWSs.</p>	5 yearly	<p><b>In progress.</b></p> <p><b>WWT:</b> condition monitoring is carried out at all grassland reserves.</p>				↑
<p><b>CP1.</b> Inform and advise on the management of lowland neutral grassland to land owners in order to illustrate best practice, at relevant events and meetings.</p>	ongoing	<b>No known progress.</b>				↔