

SLP Climate & Nature Online Workshop

**Strategic &
Local Plan**
Cheltenham, Gloucester & Tewkesbury



Structure of today's session

- Introduction to the Strategic and Local Plan (SLP): what is it, why do we need it, the stage of the Plan i.e. what are we consulting on?
- **Climate and Nature in the SLP (Main item – discussion & interaction)**
- How can you engage
- Next steps

Why do we need a plan?

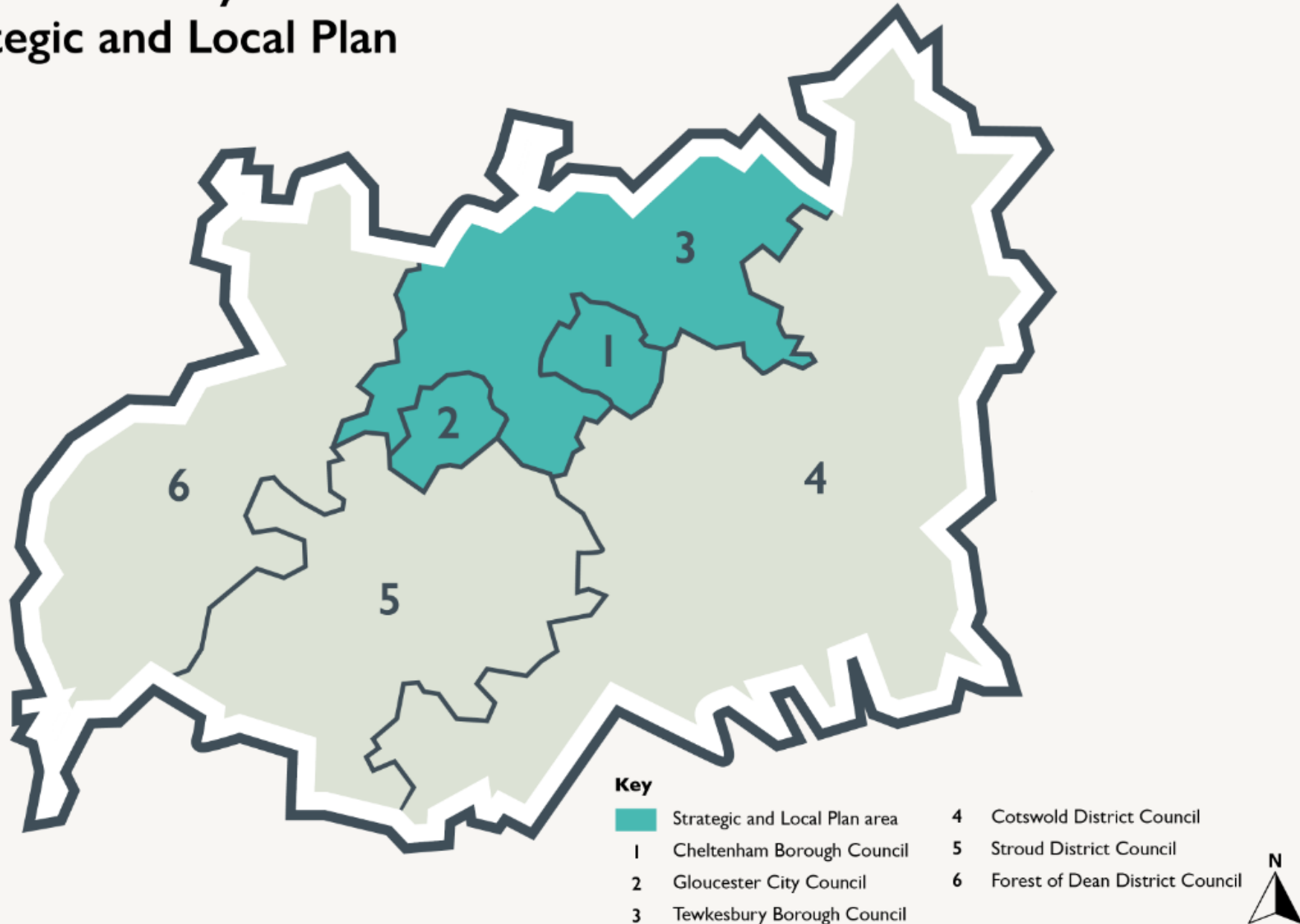


- The climate is changing, and nature is increasingly depleted.
 - Our population will continue to grow and age.
 - Our communities will need more:
 - Homes of the right type
 - Workspaces
 - Transport Infrastructure
 - Schools
 - Shops etc
- ... all of which needs to be coordinated

What is the SLP?

- A development plan for Cheltenham, Gloucester & Tewkesbury
- When adopted will supersede the Joint Core Strategy and the various Local Plans for Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury
- First key stage: Issues and Options (this consultation)

Area covered by the Strategic and Local Plan



Issues and Options: What are we consulting on?

Early engagement to identify issues and shape priorities. First of two-part Regulation 18 stage.

Covering issues such as:

- What timeframe should the SLP cover?
- What should the vision and the strategic objectives for the area be?
- What policies should be cross-boundary, and which are of local significance?
- **How should it respond to climate change and nature recovery?**
- How much development should be planned for?
- How could it be delivered in a sustainable way? Presents 6 development 'scenarios'

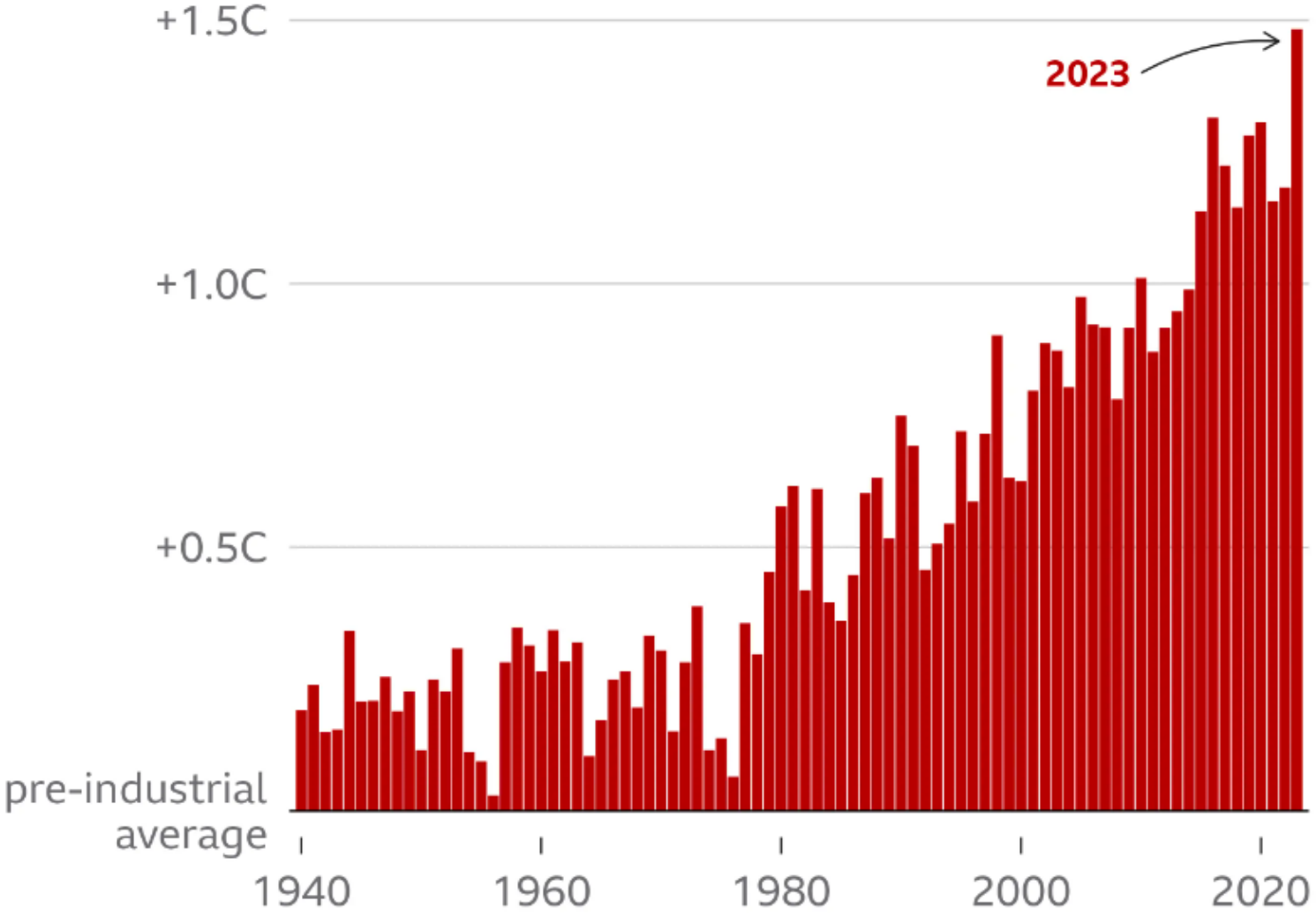
Climate & nature issues in the SLP are important because they affect us all - including future generations...and the evidence is clear that urgent action is necessary

There is also legal requirement for plans to assist in meeting statutory targets through the 2008 Climate Change Act

Hottest year on record



Global average temperature by year, compared with pre-industrial average (1850-1900)

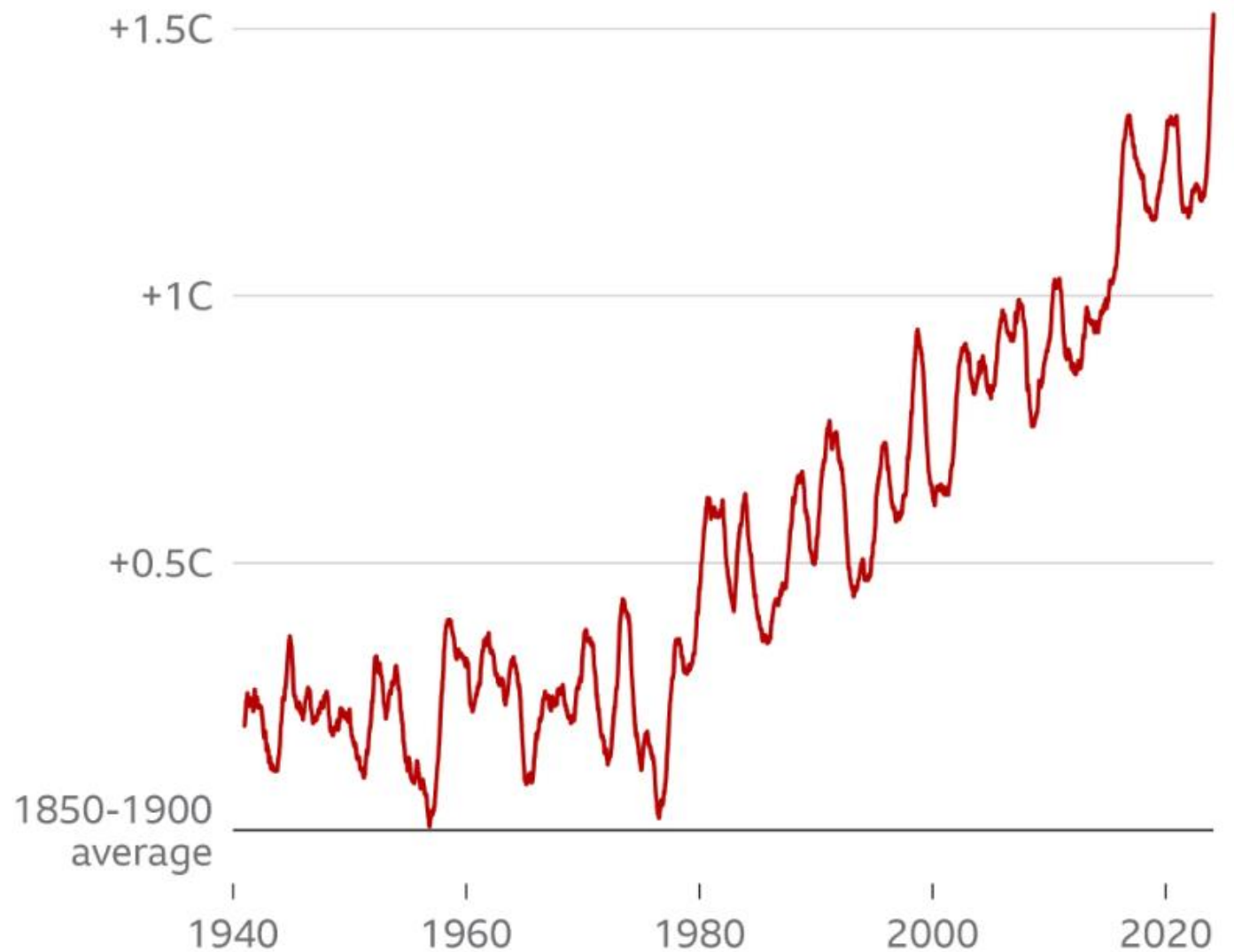


Source: ERA5, C3S/ECMWF



Temperature rises pass 1.5C for full year

Average global air temperature compared with pre-industrial levels, running average of 365 days



Source: ERA5, C3S/ECMWF

BBC



Blog

Natural England

Organisations: [Natural England](#)

State of Nature

[Pete Brotherton](#), 29 September 2023 - [Biodiversity](#), [Science and evidence](#), [Species recovery](#), [Wildlife](#)

Dr. Pete Brotherton, Director of Science



The fourth **State of Nature Report** (Sept 2023) highlights the recent serious decline in across the UK, a country that is already one of the most nature-depleted in the world.

The data show that **since 1970 UK species have declined by about 19% on average, and nearly 1 in 6 species (16.1%) are now threatened with extinction.** We are losing familiar wildlife that we cherish including the hazel dormouse and skylark.



Walmore Common
(SPA, Ramsar) – in FoD but
close to SLP area.

What will changes in migratory
patterns mean for precious
sites like this?

If winters are warmer how
does this impact
'over-wintering'?

Climate & Nature: Broad issues we've raised

- Need for a transition to a low carbon future.
- Need for radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Need to minimise vulnerability and improve resilience to climate change impacts.
- Need to respond to a significant decline in biodiversity and support nature to recover.


Climate & Nature: In the Vision & Objectives (slide 1)

1. Ensure that growth contributes to **decarbonisation** through reduced reliance on fossil fuels and achievement of biodiversity net gain; and the delivery of zero and low carbon development that is resilient and adaptable to climate change incorporating measures to aid urban cooling and biodiversity such as green walls and tree planting.
2. Ensuring growth takes place in sustainable locations that **minimise the need to travel and provide genuine sustainable transport and active travel options.**
3. Making the most **effective use of previously developed land**, including higher density development in city and town centres and other locations well served by public transport.
4. **Ensure development effectively integrates with existing development**, and/or is a self-contained development that provides shops, services, facilities through walking, cycling or public transport.

Climate & Nature: In the Vision & Objectives (slide 2)

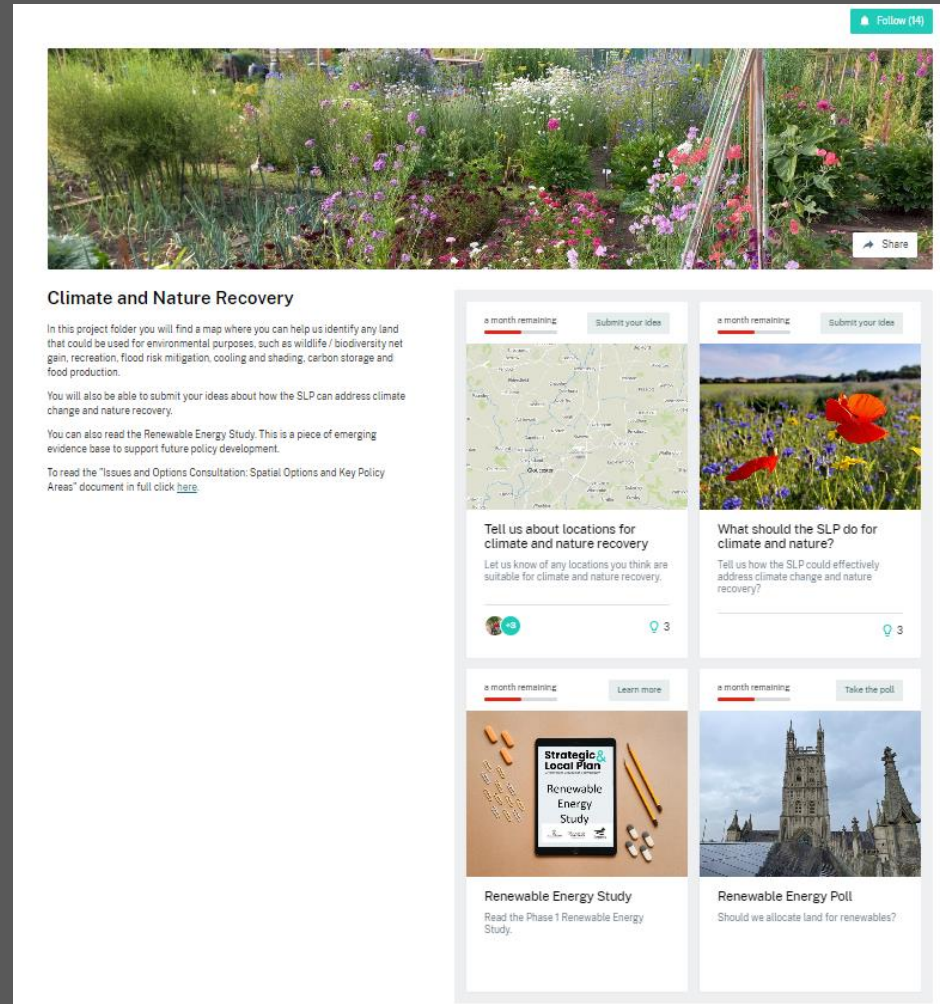
5. Delivers low and zero carbon energy development, making the most **effective use of renewable energy opportunities**, both in new developments and off-site energy generation.
6. Ensure development is located in areas that are not liable to **flooding**, considering the implications of climate change, making effective use of sustainable drainage systems and natural flood management techniques. Ensure that existing infrastructure is adequately protected from the threat of flooding, and that existing flood defences are protected and enhanced.
7. Ensure development incorporates measures to **reduce waste**.
8. Ensure people can make **carbon friendly choices at home** by providing easy to use cycle storage, covered space to dry washing outside, space to grow food and compost.

Climate & Nature: In the chapter - summary of possible areas for action

Climate Change 			
Built Environment	Natural Environment	Movement	Renewable Energy
Energy efficient homes, practical homes, the right location, layout, density, amenity space, design, materials, waste, allotments, air pollution, reuse, retrofit schemes, heating and cooling, insulation.	Flooding, sustainable urban drainage, green infrastructure, biodiversity (plants and animals), protecting soil, beautiful places, shading, sustainable urban drainage, agricultural land and food security, open space, management of waste and pollution, creation of carbon sinks through tree planting and wetland creation.	Sustainable transport, active travel, choice, proximity of jobs, shops and services, low emission vehicles, e-bikes, cycling and walking.	Homes and businesses generating their own power, making the most of wind and solar opportunities, air source heat pumps, ground source heat pumps, phasing out gas, decentralised, combined district heating.



We want to hear your views. Some responses already in the Citizen Lab consultation portal...



The screenshot shows a consultation page with a header image of a garden, a 'Follow (14)' button, and a 'Share' button. The main content is titled 'Climate and Nature Recovery' and includes several paragraphs of text. Below the text is a grid of four interactive cards, each with a '1 month remaining' timer and a 'Submit your idea' or 'Take the poll' button. The cards are: 1. 'Tell us about locations for climate and nature recovery' with a map image. 2. 'What should the SLP do for climate and nature?' with a field of flowers image. 3. 'Renewable Energy Study' with a book and pencils image. 4. 'Renewable Energy Poll' with a church image.

Climate and Nature Recovery

In this project folder you will find a map where you can help us identify any land that could be used for environmental purposes, such as wildlife / biodiversity net gain, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling and shading, carbon storage and food production.

You will also be able to submit your ideas about how the SLP can address climate change and nature recovery.

You can also read the Renewable Energy Study. This is a piece of emerging evidence base to support future policy development.

To read the "Issues and Options Consultation: Spatial Options and Key Policy Areas" document in full click [here](#)

Tell us about locations for climate and nature recovery
Let us know of any locations you think are suitable for climate and nature recovery.

What should the SLP do for climate and nature?
Tell us how the SLP could effectively address climate change and nature recovery?

Renewable Energy Study
Read the Phase 1 Renewable Energy Study.

Renewable Energy Poll
Should we allocate land for renewables?



Discussion

On Climate & Nature there are 6 standard questions in the Consultation document...

Summary of the full questions in the document

- 1. In what ways can the Plan most effectively address the impacts of climate change and help nature recover?**
- 2. In addressing climate change/nature recovery what environmental measures and standards should the Plan introduce for:**
 - a. The construction and operation of new buildings?**
 - b. The retention and reuse of existing buildings?**
- 3. Should the Plan require more than the mandatory minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain through development?**
- 4. Are you aware of any land that could be identified for environmental purposes, such as wildlife / biodiversity net gain, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling and shading, carbon storage and food production?**
- 5. To reduce the need to travel which key services / facilities are most important to be provided within easy reach of developments?**
- 6. Should we allocate sites in the Plan specifically for renewable energy generation or storage?
If so, what forms of renewable energy would be appropriate and in which locations?**

How can I engage in the process?

- Dedicated website

<https://strategiclocalplan.org/>

- Various in-person and digital events taking place

<https://strategiclocalplan.citizenlab.co/en-GB/events>

- Strongly encourage people to respond through the online consultation system

<https://strategiclocalplan.citizenlab.co/en-GB/>

- **Consultation runs until 11.59pm on 12th March 2024**



SCAN ME

What are the next steps?

March
2025

- Preferred Options Consultation (Reg 18)

Jan
2026

- Pre-Submission Publication Consultation (Reg 19)

Apr
2026

- Submission to Secretary of State