



Morris Resource  
Economics Ltd



# Cheshire and Warrington Natural Capital Audit and Investment Plan

## 3. Workshop report

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## Key Messages from the Workshop

- Participants considered that the Natural Capital approach has potential to improve the alignment of development opportunities, needs and funding potential in support of the prosperity and wellbeing of people and of the protection of nature in the Cheshire and Warrington area.
- The Natural Capital approach can help provide a strategic framework for decision support within which local initiatives addressing local issues can fit alongside bigger larger scale projects that target national policy outcomes.
- Preliminary findings are considered compatible with, and add further support to, existing planning and development priorities in the area. The approach can help to integrate national policies regarding, for example, carbon and biodiversity and local needs such as air quality and public health and wellbeing.
- Projects to protect and enhance natural capital and ecosystem services should be prioritised according to objectives and needs (and not exclusively according to opportunities). Benefits, cost-effectiveness (value for money) and funding feasibility are key criteria. A mix of relatively easy short term and more ambitious projects longer term will probably be needed.
- Social acceptance is important. The map-based assessments that are a feature of the Natural Capital approach can help to engage the public and key stakeholders in prioritising and choosing development options, especially at the local scale.
- Location is considered a key factor affecting the demand for and potential to provide different types of benefits, whether economic, social or environmental. In this respect, a spatially focused approach, concentrating on key selected benefits, is considered to offer greatest potential.
- More focus could be placed on funding opportunities by identifying projects that will appeal to potential investors and attract investment funds to the area. The Natural Capital framework can facilitate the assembly of different funding sources and provide a focal point for would-be investors.

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## 1. Introduction

The Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership (C&W LEP) have identified the need for an assessment of the interrelationship between natural capital and its economic and social development ambitions for the area. Natural Capital is defined as:

*“..elements of nature that directly or indirectly produce value or benefits to people, including ecosystems, species, freshwater, land, minerals, the air and oceans, as well as natural processes and functions” (Natural Capital Committee 2014<sup>1</sup>).*

It is the stock of natural assets (e.g. soils, water, biodiversity) that produces a wide range of ecosystem services that provide benefits to people. These benefits include food production, regulation of flooding and climate, pollination of crops, and cultural benefits such as aesthetic value and recreational opportunities.

Natural capital supports all other forms of capital on which human systems depend, whether man-made, human or social. However, many of the outputs produced by natural capital, such as the regulation of flooding and atmospheric gases by forest lands, are not included in the decisions of private individuals or organisations. This is because they often involve non-priced public goods that are not traded in the market place and are not subject to formal property rights and entitlements (TEEB, 2010<sup>2</sup>). Elements of natural capital are therefore liable to be overused, degraded, depleted and eventually lost, with consequences for long term welfare and the sustainability of economic systems. There is now much greater awareness of the role of natural capital in the design and achievement of economic and social development strategies, with strong links to business and enterprise<sup>3</sup>. The C&W LEP’s interest in natural capital assessment is also set within its commitment to develop quality of place as a platform for sustained growth.

The C&W LEP have commissioned this project to produce a Natural Capital Audit, and support the development of a Natural Capital Investment Plan for the area. This is driven by the need not only to manage risks to the natural environment associated with economic development that could undermine successful achievement, but also to explore the opportunities to tap into new funding sources and mechanisms for innovative investments that can achieve substantial gains for people and the natural world. In this respect, there is a need to develop a strategic network of natural capital oriented projects to support and extend C&W LEP’s strategy through to 2040, engaging key stakeholder interests in the process. The investment plan covers the three local authority areas of Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East, and Warrington.

An extensive evidence base has been built-up to support the development of the **Natural Capital Audit and Investment Plan** (NCAIP). The evidence is summarised in the main NCAIP report, but is presented in much greater detail in the form of five technical reports:

1. **Natural capital audit and policy analysis** – a baseline assessment of the natural capital assets currently present across Cheshire and Warrington, the benefits that flow from those assets and their monetary value, together with an analysis of policies at the local and national scale that effect natural capital, and an identification of priority themes and sectors.

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<sup>1</sup> Natural Capital Committee 2014. Towards a Framework for Defining and Measuring Changes in Natural Capital. Working Paper 1, Natural Capital Committee.

<sup>2</sup> TEEB. 2010. The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity: Ecological and Economic Foundations. Earthscan, Oxford & NY.

<sup>3</sup> TEEB. 2012. The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity in Business and Enterprise. Earthscan. London; New York.

2. **Intervention and investment opportunities report** – habitat opportunity mapping to identify the best locations to deliver specific or multiple objectives, along with mapping of strategic themes based on local policies, to prioritise locations for investment.
3. **Workshop report** – write-up of stakeholder workshop to present the approach used to map natural capital opportunities, and to discuss key priorities across C&W.
4. **Future financing report** – review of emerging financing options, including a typology of different funding opportunities, the ecosystem services and habitats covered by each, and an approach to identifying the most appropriate funding mechanism for different projects.
5. **Case studies report** – presentation of five case studies to demonstrate how the opportunity maps can be used to identify habitat creation potential based on different objectives, to highlight the benefits of such projects, and to show how funding requirements and potential funding sources can be identified.

An additional output from this project are the numerous GIS maps and layers. These are being supplied to project partners as a data package.

**This report is the third of these technical reports; the workshop report.** A virtual workshop was held with key stakeholders to discuss the approach and preliminary findings of the C&W Natural Capital Audit and Investment Plan. This document reports on the workshop proceedings and findings.

## 1.1 Workshop Objectives

These were:

- i. to provide all invited stakeholders with a shared understanding of the approach used in developing the Natural Capital opportunity maps and its potential advantages and limitations as a tool for supporting development decisions;
- ii. to enable all invited stakeholders to be involved in the discussion on decision making/choices regarding prioritisation of Natural Capital initiatives; and
- iii. to generate interest and buy-in to the process moving forward.

## 2. Workshop Organisation

Invitations to the Workshop were sent by the Study Steering Committee to key stakeholders who were perceived to have actual or potential interest in the subject matter. These included representatives from Local Government Authority Planning and Development, business and commerce, utilities, transport, farming and land management, nature conservation, and other organisations, including development consultants and finance.

In addition to 8 members of the study team, 23 persons took part in the workshop, five of which were members of the Study's Steering group. A list of participants is contained in Appendix 1.

The workshop was carried out in a virtual on-line 'Zoom' format, supported by the C&W LEP. It ran for three hours. After a formal presentation on the study approach and preliminary findings, participants were organised into 4 groups that 'met' in three successive breakout sessions to consider a series of questions. The discussion in each group was led by a member of the research team. The discussion in each breakout session was recorded in note form by a (different) member of the research team. Each break out session was followed by a brief plenary whole-group feedback session. A live 'chat room' was maintained through the workshop proceedings and the content of text entries have been incorporated in the reporting below.

The workshop schedule is contained in Appendix 2.

The intention was to have a mix of interests across the breakout groups and to include representation for the Steering Committee and the Study Research Team. In the event, there tended to be a concentration of planners and developers in one particular, relative to other groups in which broader ecological and environmental management were more evenly represented. Overall, however, the combined views expressed were considered to provide a reasonable representation of key stakeholder views.

The workshop was held on Thursday 26th November 2020, 9.30 - 12.30.

### 3. Workshop Findings

#### 3.1 Study Approach and Preliminary Findings

A presentation was made of the approach used and results, including examples of GIS mapped results of opportunities<sup>4</sup>.

The concepts of Natural Capital, Natural Capital Auditing and Ecosystem Services were introduced. The application of these concepts into the practice of policy and planning was explained, for example with respect to climate change mitigation, biodiversity net gain, environmental land management, and public policies for enhancing health and wellbeing.

The workflow used in the study was explained, namely: assess Natural Capital baseline, determine flow of services and demand for benefits; assess opportunities against needs/demand priorities; identify investment and financing opportunities and priorities to achieve overall development outcomes.

Points of information were raised, including questions about treatment of local air quality aspects affecting public health, about consideration of carbon fluxes on habitats other than woodlands, of links to major infrastructural proposals, of implication for water quality and resources. It was explained how these issues were dealt with. The need to integrate the work with other on-going studies and project initiatives on these topics was noted.

#### 3.2 Breakout Session 1: Discussion on the approach and preliminary results

**Question: Do the initial results as presented align with views on what is important and feasible?**

There was general convergence of ideas across the groups, although emphasis varied according to the make-up of the groups.

Responses raised by the participants in breakout sessions included the following points (Note these reflect the views expressed. They do not reflect a consensus, although where a view was widely held, this is noted).

Questions were raised about the feasibility of delivering on the identified investment opportunities, especially reading the feasibility of securing funding.

It was thought that opportunity-based assessment may not align with needs assessment; there is a risk that a focus on green space and green belts may exclude more 'needy', more deprived, often urban, areas. This is an important issue for planners who tend to be much more needs/demand oriented, e.g. using public health (rather than by implication ecological health) as a major driver. In this respect projects should be prioritised in terms of potential benefits (and damage/costs avoided). (This view was reinforced and generally widely accepted as the workshop proceeded).

Interventions in non-urban areas would, however, deliver benefits to urban areas. Some participants were pleased to see benefits clustering around urban areas but identified challenges associated with high land values and limited availability of land in the urban space. There will be a need to 'stack' multiple benefits and funding to make land available.

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<sup>4</sup> The Slide Set used in the workshop is available as a separate pdf document.

There was concern that the mapped asset and opportunity-based approach could encourage developers to go for easy wins, rather than more challenging but potentially more beneficial interventions.

Across all groups, carbon was identified as a major policy domain and driver of investment, including opportunities for offsetting and links to other benefits and financing: it was very important ‘to get carbon right’. In this respect, there was a need for a comprehensive assessment to include carbon storage and sequestration by a range of habitats other than woodland.

Reflecting ecological perspectives in particular, detailed points were raised about the treatment of particular habitats and that some may be less constrained (e.g. woodlands) than others, possibly leading to unintended outcomes (e.g. inappropriate plantings of woodland on peatland).

It was thought ecological networks are clearly important and it is important to build on existing work on ecological mapping, especially in East Cheshire. Some assessment of the ‘restorability’ of (degraded) habitats is also important.

**Question: Are there gaps in terms of needs or opportunities?**

Key points raised across all groups related to the importance of links between key policy areas, and hence policy objectives, opportunities and constraints. Generally the importance was noted of explicitly considering, for example, green belts (priorities and options), water resources and water quality (affected by pollution and sediment loads), and major infrastructure projects. There was specific reference to the importance of soils and water, the latter set in the context of the legacy Water Framework Directive, and with respect to catchment management planning.

It was pointed out that the mapped based approach offered scope to align with other work such as . Nature Recovery Networks, climate induced changes in habitats and species, and Green Belt designation and management.

It was pointed out that the maps and assessment were relatively high level and more detailed assessment may be required at a finer resolution to support specific project interventions

### **3.2 Breakout Session 2: Discussion on criteria and ecosystem services for prioritisation.**

**Question : What are the main criteria for prioritisation?**

A prompt list of criteria was made available.

- Economic benefits
- Social benefits
- Environmental benefits (excluding biodiversity)
- Biodiversity benefits
- Ease of implementation
- Time to delivery
- Cost effectiveness
- Funding potential
- Longevity

Group members were asked if other criteria should be added, and then whether some were more important than others. There was general agreement about and acceptance of the relevance of the criteria listed, although questions were raised about the detail of definition and measurement, for example on defining and quantification of benefits, of cost effectiveness, and of longevity.

Additional identified criteria included:

- *scale of impact/scaleability*, particularly as this links to replicability. This would favour interventions that can apply in more than one very specific setting.
- *policy alignment* was identified as another important criterion, notably links to policies on climate change generally and specifically carbon, on biodiversity, and on the post COVID green recovery agenda. This might require explicit reference to key policy drivers. Furthermore, funding would be easier to access if policy alignment and delivery at a national or local level can be clearly demonstrated.
- *legal imperative* may be another criterion, that is the delivery of statutory obligations, such as air or water quality. Although, statutory requirements are not optional, it was thought the map-based approach could support their achievement while delivering other discretionary benefits.

Regarding funding potential, this criterion needs to incorporate 'investability', that is, the extent to which a project offers an attractive investment across a range of investor motivations, whether financial, environmental, social or governance related.

**Question: Are some criteria more important in Cheshire and Warrington than others?**

There was general agreement about the importance of prioritising according to a range of benefits, although views varied on the relative importance of economic, social and environmental benefits, mainly reflecting individual stakeholder interest and responsibilities.

There was a general agreement that multiple benefits should be sought, but a recognition that it is difficult to compare different types of benefit on a common scale. Weighting different types of benefits according to local preferences (or perceived needs) was one suggested approach.

Time to achieve benefits was considered important: longer times may be associated with greater uncertainty (although it was noted ambitious projects take longer to set up and achieve intended impacts).

Funding is a critical criterion that determined overall feasibility. Some projects may generate revenues that support a revolving fund from which to launch other initiatives. Renewable energy projects were an example.

The practical issue was raised of how and under what circumstances the criteria would be applied. The long list implied a large degree of choice amongst many projects with different characteristics, and this may or may not be the case. Furthermore, strict application of criteria may result in inequitable spatial distribution of projects to the exclusion of less favoured areas.

Social acceptance is important, which is often linked to ease of implementation. This has implications for social engagement and participation at the local scale. Thus, it is important to engage the public (and their representatives) in the application of the criteria and project choice. Acceptance may be particularly important amongst key 'influential' stakeholders, notably landowners where projects involve changes in land use, management and rewards. Ambitious

programmes, especially those that challenge existing beliefs or interests, can be hard to implement, even though long terms benefits may be high (as noted above).

The view was expressed that because the focus is on Natural Capital, the increase in ecosystem service benefits should be the key criterion, and after that ease of implementation. Others argued that projects identified in the Natural Capital approach would need to meet generally applied criteria which usually means, it was argued, cost effectiveness, funding and implementation feasibility.

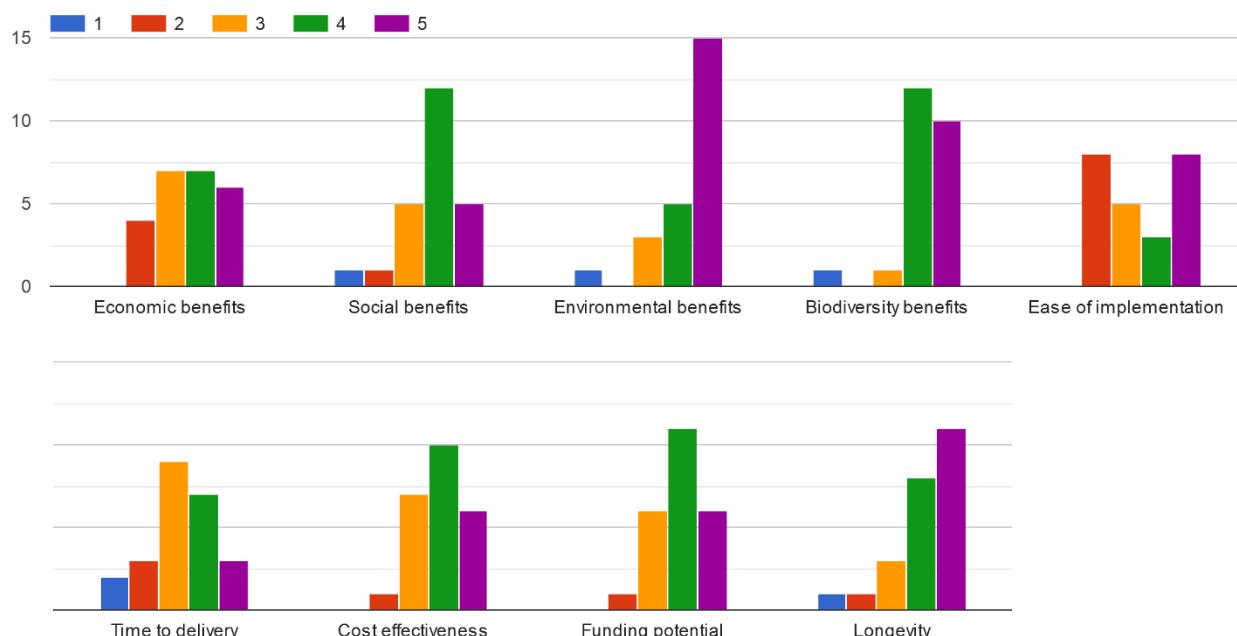
It may be appropriate to prioritise by location first, and then by criteria after, to ensure solutions are suited to the place of intervention, (although it was noted initial spatial prioritisation implies that selection criteria are used, such as need or potential benefit).

Criteria should also be used to monitor project implementation and evaluate impact, feeding back to the planning process.

Projects should not be assessed in isolation, but as clusters, that can lever additional benefits and possibly share costs and the means of implementation.

Following group discussion, participants were asked to individually assess the relative importance of appraisal criteria on a scale of 1 low to 5 high. Overall, social, environmental and biodiversity benefits appear to be relatively more important than economic benefits, to a degree reflecting the dominant interests of the participants. Cost effectiveness, funding potential and longevity (of impact) are shown to be important criteria for project design and selection.

How important are the following criteria when prioritising projects?



**Figure 1: The Importance of criteria for the design and selection of Natural Capital related projects in the Cheshire and Warrington LEP area**

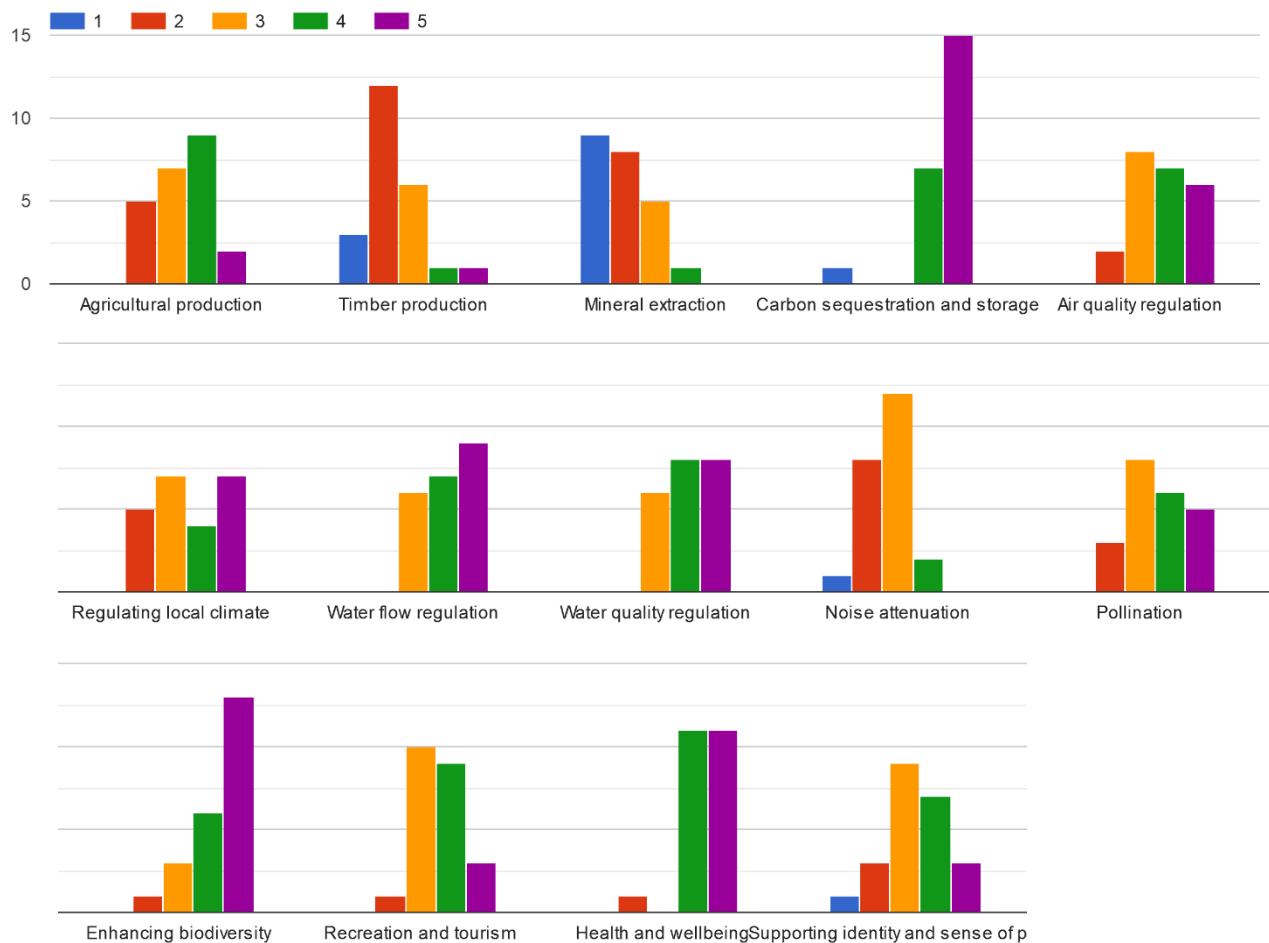
**Question: Are some ecosystem services more important in Cheshire and Warrington than others?**

A list of ecosystem services assessed in the study was presented (as shown in Figure 2 below).

Views on relative importance tended to reflect dominant interests or concerns, notably air quality, carbon, water quality, biodiversity, and flood management. It was generally thought that importance is context and location specific for many (but not all) ecosystems services. There was a strong feeling that importance should be assessed at the local scale to reflect local issues and needs.

The discussion was carried forward into a virtual poll completed by individuals to rank ecosystem services in terms of relative importance (Figure 2), where 1 is low and 5 is high. The responses reflected the discussion in the breakout sessions with carbon, water and biodiversity related ecosystem services being ranked with relatively high importance. Health and wellbeing ranked very highly for most participants. Identity or sense of place was of medium importance overall, but the view was expressed that the main concern is probably with 'quality' of place that is evident in the other measures of ecosystem services at the local scale.

How important are the following benefits (ecosystem services) when selecting projects in Cheshire and Warrington?



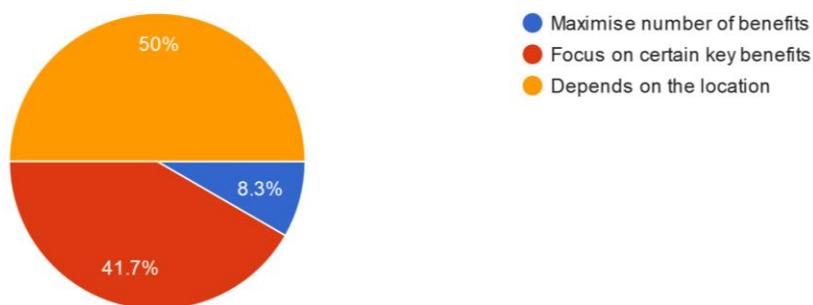
**Figure 2: The perceived importance of ecosystem services in the Cheshire and Warrington LEP area**

**Question: should the emphasis be on maximising a few or multiple benefits?**

In terms of benefit focus, half of the participants felt that location was a key factor affecting the type and number of benefits (Figure 3). Most of the remainder felt it best to focus on selected benefits while a small number thought maximising the number of different benefit types was important.

Are we trying to maximise the number of benefits delivered or focus on certain key benefits?

24 responses



**Figure 3: The relative importance of benefit focus in the Warrington and Cheshire LEP area**

### 3.3 Breakout Session 3: Project opportunities and priorities

Reference was made to the slides presented earlier that identified (i) spatially focussed clusters of interventions involving multiple themes, for example around the Warrington area and around the Elmsmere Port area and (ii) interventions that focused on selected key themes, such as a focus on growth, on ecological outcomes such as woodland or wetlands, or on air quality.

**Question: Are some of the proposed opportunities more appealing than others? Which projects could be delivered quickly or are longer-term, more ambitious projects?**

Responses from participants with local area planning responsibilities thought that the spatial focus had potential to align with Council local plans helping to lever further opportunities for benefit. Examples included major ongoing (or committed) developments such as the Protos scheme, east of the Stanlow complex. The indicative results presented here seem to fit well with the areas and priorities of the local Council.

Opportunities identified here appear to align well with what would be expected based on knowledge of local issues and demand. It was noted that the mapped based assessment picked up major sources of pollution and noise for example, and was also attuned to major developments such as HS2.

Planners thought that the spatial focus of interventions around urban areas was not surprising: the results seem to align with the main features of the local plan and the opportunity maps appear to match with areas needing investment.

Both short term and long term projects are important – short term for highlighting the effective use of the method, and long term projects to maximise gains. It was thought the approach could help support project identification.

It was considered a good idea to explore the association between type and size of benefits and key project features, such as the type and scale of the changes required, or whether there is an urban or a rural focus. For example, urban benefits may focus on health and wellbeing, whereas rural may focus on carbon, water-related services, and biodiversity (although partitioning may be difficult or misleading).

There are big existing spatial differences (in the baseline) reflecting existing provision. This needs to be accounted for. In some areas extra green space will make little difference, but in other areas deprived of green space, the impact is large. It is important therefore to integrate opportunity and need. The planners emphasised the latter.

On this latter point, there was agreement about the importance of priorities based on objectives and needs (rather than what was possible or easy). This reinforced the earlier points made on a demand rather than opportunities driven approach. There was a call for involving local residents and organisations in priority setting, using the Natural Capital framework and supporting data.

The usefulness of an urban/rural divide was questioned: it was thought better to consider projects on their own merits. Because, however, given limited resources, priority may always fall to urban areas, some types of projects and benefits in less populated rural areas may be disadvantaged and never make it for implementation.

It was thought important to have a strategic framework, within which local initiatives addressing local issues could fit alongside bigger larger scale projects that target national policy outcomes. Such a strategic view would, for example, support new projects that link to new policy initiatives such as the Environmental Land Management scheme (ELMs), or Nature Recovery Networks. It is important to explore how small-scale local actions can have a positive cumulative effect, but also check that they do not conflict or have unintended negative consequences.

While Natural Capital auditing could help to provide a framework within which projects can be identified and promoted, it would need to be sufficiently flexible to cover the range of contexts, interests, and applications.

The Natural Capital framework can facilitate the assembly of different funding sources and provide a focal point for would-be investors. In this respect the framework, and supporting data and analysis, would need to be maintained and be sufficiently flexible to suit different users and situations.

There was concern that bias may arise due to estimation methods and data. The area and theme foci may depend on what data are available and on the methods for estimation: i.e. different data sets and methods may give different priority areas, and this needs to be tested for.

Maps and assessments based on stakeholder interest (or influence?) may generate different priorities reflecting for example the interests of water companies, NHS, Natural England or Highways England. In this way, prioritisation in practice could be stakeholder driven. There needs to be an understanding of stakeholder need (and influence).

More focus could be placed on funding opportunities: identifying projects that will appeal to potential investors and then attracting investment funds to the area. Reference was made to the

Greater Manchester Natural Capital Investment Plan that suggested area specific funding opportunities, such as SuDS, giving investors opportunities for different projects, with advertising of projects accordingly. What are investors and funders willing to finance? For example, can the LEP offer specific project opportunities for carbon offsetting that also deliver multiple benefits, such as biodiversity? Priority areas could be used as case studies to identify examples of themed investment opportunities, e.g. the Cheshire East development area.

There was a call to encourage people and organisations to place their visions of future projects into the baseline provided by the Natural Capital framework to show how their proposed projects will make a difference, align with broader strategies and also attract funding.

### **3.4 Workshop Roundup and Close**

The participants were thanked for joining the workshop. It was explained that access to the workshop slides would be provided to attendees. Participants will be informed of the study results as these become available in spring 2021 and how these will be used to inform future action.

The Workshop Closed at 12.40 pm.

## Appendix 1: Workshop Attendees

**Participants:** (\* = Member of the steering group)

\*Paul Nolan (Mersey Forest)

Ingo Schuder (Brillianto Consulting)

John Sanders (Mersey Rivers Trust)

\*Joanne Holden (Peel L&P)

Jason Beedell (Strutt & Parker)

Josie Martin (Environment Agency)

David Butler (Cheshire West & Chester)

\*Andy Hulme (CW LEP)

Kevin Usher (Warrington BC)

Rick Holland (Innovate UK)

\*Brendan Flanagan (Cheshire East)

\*Annette McDonald (Tatton Estate)

Steve Densley (Active Cheshire)

Ian Hesketh (Cheshire West & Chester)

Martin Varley (Cheshire Wildlife Trust)

Charlotte Harris (Cheshire Wildlife Trust)

Petula Neilson (Natural England)

Simon Mageean (Woodland Trust)

David Job (Cheshire West & Chester)

Roger Goulding (Cheshire West & Chester)

Lucy Dowdall (LJMU)

Andy Kehoe (Cheshire East)

**Project team:**

Jim Rouquette (Project Lead, Natural Capital Solutions)

Colm Bowe (Project Lead, Liverpool John Moores University)

Joe Morris (Project Lead, Morris Resource Economics)

Teresa Fenn (Project Lead, RPA)

Karl Busdieker (Notes, Liverpool John Moores University)

Sandra Angers-Blondin (Notes, Liverpool John Moores University)

Alison Holt (Notes, Natural Capital Solutions)

Lillian Lochner (Notes, RPA)

Monica Escebedo (Meeting Host)

**Apologies:**

Ralph Kemp (Cheshire East)

Tom Roberts

Josie Malloy (Community Forest Trust)

## Appendix 2: Workshop Agenda and Schedule

### Cheshire and Warrington Natural Capital Audit and Investment Plan: Prioritisation Workshop

**Thursday 26th November, 9.30 - 12.30, online (Zoom)**

#### Objectives, Venue and Logistics

<b>Workshop objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide all invited stakeholders with a shared understanding of the approach used in developing the opportunity maps and its potential advantages and limitations as a tool for supporting development decisions</li> <li>2. To enable all invited stakeholders to be involved in the discussion on decision making/choices regarding prioritisation of Natural Capital initiatives</li> <li>3. To generate interest and buy-in to the process moving forwards</li> </ol>
<b>Workshop preparation</b>	The workshop will involve discussions about priorities for Natural Capital projects. Some information on existing projects has already been collected (through Paul Nolan, Mersey Forest). If you could give some thought to your project priorities before the workshop, this will help to inform the discussions on the day
<b>Workshop leaders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jim Rouquette, Natural Capital Solutions (project team/workshop lead and group facilitator)</li> <li>• Colm Bowe, Liverpool John Moores University (project team and group facilitator)</li> <li>• Joe Morris, Morris Resource Economics (project team and group facilitator)</li> <li>• Teresa Fenn, Risk &amp; Policy Analysts (project team and group facilitator)</li> <li>• One member of the Steering Group will also join each of the breakout groups</li> </ul>
<b>Date and timings</b>	9:30 to 12:30, Thursday 26 November
<b>Venue address</b>	<p>Zoom meeting: an invitation has been sent separately with joining instructions.</p> <p>Link to join Zoom Meeting is here:  <a href="https://zoom.us/j/94547840430?pwd=S3JSQWdPbnlqTUVhZHloQjUzK0RsUT09">https://zoom.us/j/94547840430?pwd=S3JSQWdPbnlqTUVhZHloQjUzK0RsUT09</a></p> <p>Passcode: Cheshire</p>
<b>Emergency contact</b>	<p>If you have any questions in advance, please contact either Paul Nolan (paul.nolan@merseyforest.org.uk) or Jim Rouquette (jim.rouquette@naturalcapitalsolutions.co.uk)</p> <p>For technical issues on the day, please contact the Zoom host, Monica Escobedo, m.escobedo@marketingcheshire.co.uk</p>

## Agenda

Indicative Timings	Activity	Summary of the proposed content
9:30-9:40	Introduction	Welcome from Andy Hulme, C&WLEP Workshop objectives
9:40-10:05	The approach to the study and results so far	Presentation of the approach used and results, including examples of GIS mapped results of opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecosystem services and wider benefits</li> <li>• Opportunity maps</li> <li>• Key themes and policies</li> </ul>
10:05-10:15	Questions and answers	Opportunity for questions on approach and results to date
10:15-10:35	Breakout session 1: discussion on results presented to date to obtain stakeholders views on the broad priorities and the overall suitability and feasibility of the approach	Small group discussion on the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do the initial results as presented align with views on what is important and feasible?</li> <li>• Are there gaps in terms of needs or opportunities?</li> </ul>
10:35-10:45	Whole group feedback	Feedback from each breakout group on key discussion points
10:45-10:55	Break	
10:55-11:20	Breakout session 2: discussion on criteria and ecosystem services for prioritisation	Small group discussion on the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the main criteria for prioritisation? (a list of suggested criteria will be provided). Are some criteria more important in Cheshire and Warrington than others?</li> <li>• Are some ecosystem services more important in Cheshire and Warrington than others?</li> </ul>
11:20-11:25	Whole group voting	Individual polling on relative importance of criteria
11:25-11:35	Whole group discussion	Presentation of results and opportunity for feedback
11:35-12:10	Breakout session 3: discussion on project opportunities and their priority	Small group discussion on the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are some of the proposed opportunities more appealing than others?</li> <li>• Which projects could be delivered quickly or are longer-term, more ambitious projects?</li> </ul>

<b>Indicative Timings</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Summary of the proposed content</b>
12:10-12:25	Whole group discussion and final questions	Feedback from each group and discussion on findings
12:25-12:30	Round up	Closing comments from workshop lead
12:30	Close	