ENGLISH NATURE

A consultation of

Reconnecting People and Nature:

English Nature's Approach

English Nature Research Reports

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English Nature Research Reports

Number 481

A consultation on 'Reconnecting People and Nature: English Nature's Approach'

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English Nature

Executive summary

1. Through the summer of 2002, English Nature consulted over its approach to 'Reconnecting People and Nature'. Contact was made with 260 organisations representing a broad range of social and environmental interests, ie The Sensory Trust, Youth Justice Board, ODPM Social Inclusion Unit and local authorities, as well as more traditional conservation partners. 148 responses were received, equivalent to 57%.

2. The overwhelming weight of opinion was that the statement was a positive step by English Nature. Engagement in the 'People and Nature' arena would be welcomed. It was felt the statement should be more explicit around principles of social inclusion and sustainability.

3. Community involvement, education, partnership and funding emerged as the headline issues needing to be addressed if the initiative was to make a real difference.

4. There are many organisations engaged in 'People and Nature' activity. What is English Nature's niche? Analysis and interpretation of the results point to a number of characteristics that should be a feature of English Nature's People and Nature initiative if the organisation is to add value to the suite of existing activities in this arena. These are:

   o Leadership: establishing a national framework; engaging with government; provision of expert advice, best practice examples advice and information.
   o Partnership: working with existing players to compliment and enhance current activities; utilising and working with extant skills and knowledge to add value.
   o Stability and investment: a long-term commitment to People and Wildlife; long-term financial support for partners to enable projects to develop; support tried and tested approaches.
   o Innovation: risk taking, pilot new approaches; develop new alliances, eg public health.

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Executive summary

1. Introduction

English Nature values people and nature. In 2002, English Nature's Executive Committee took a decision to enhance the organisations engagement with people: to make more explicit that English Nature values people; and to develop an initiative that contributes to reconnecting people and nature.

The developing initiative is called 'People and Nature'. It has three underlying tenants. First, that a long-term sustainable future for biodiversity is dependent upon peoples recognition and support for environmental concerns. Second, that integration of biodiversity into daily life will benefit the 'quality of life' of all people, socially, economically and aesthetically. English Nature's report entitled 'Revealing the Value of Nature' sets out the value of nature to people relating to quality of life. Third, People and Nature is underpinned by values of social inclusion - the benefits derived from nature are not just for a privileged few.

There are numerous organisations working closely with a wide range of social groups, eg schools, local communities and ethnic minorities. Many of these organisations seek to address environmental considerations in their work. The People and Nature programme aims to compliment this work, not compete. So that this would be the case, the initial period of work on this initiative focused on developing English Nature's understanding of the work area through dialogue with key players, research, and assessment of internal strengths and added value roles.

English Nature has resources it can 'bring to the table', specialist skills and knowledge, staff, finance, and land holdings. How can these best be deployed to fulfil programme objectives, compliment others and add value'? Simply, what is English Nature's niche?

This report sets out the results of a consultation exercise formed part of the initiative development exercise. Its focus was inform answers to the above questions. The discussion draws out views of what and how English Nature might do to add value. Recommendations for the development of the People and Nature initiative are given.

2. Aims and method

In July 2002, English Nature consulted over its People and Nature initiative. The aims were:

i.   to clarify and focus the guiding principles underlying the initiative;
ii.   to identify work areas where English Nature could add value and provide leadership;
iii.   to identify implementation approaches that would be effective, and compliment and support others.

The statement 'Reconnecting People and Nature: English Nature's Approach' (see Annex 1) set out guiding principles, values, and an outline implementation programme. It was sent to a targeted audience of Government departments and agencies, non-governmental organisations, local authorities and community groups

with an interest in social and environmental issues. The statement was accompanied by a simple questionnaire (see Appendix A) intended to elicit categorical and textual responses.

Electronic versions of the documents were also made available through the English Nature website. Other interested parties outside of the target audience were invited to participate through articles in English Nature Magazine, Biodiversity News (a Defra publication), and the UK Public Health Association News.

3. Results

260 questionnaires were sent to a targeted audience. 148 responses were received by the deadline, equivalent to a 57% response rate, and were subject to analysis. A further 47 responses were received after the deadline, giving a total of 195 responses.

A simple taxonomy of the target audience was applied to group organisations into interest classes. Table 1 shows the classes and percentage profiles of the targeted audience and respondents. There was a significant shift in the profile towards Local Authorities. It is also noteworthy that 89.9% of respondents considered their organisation to be knowledgeable about English Nature (see Figure 1) though only 44.4% were currently directly engaged with the organisation.

Table 1: % profiles of targeted audience and respondents

	Audience Targeted	Audience Responded	Significant Difference
Local Authorities	13.8%	40.5%	p<0.01
Gov't Agency	11.7%	10.1%	ns
Business	3.8%	2.0%	ns
Community NGO	13.3%	6.8%	p<0.01
Conservation NGO	31.5%	23.0%	p<0.01
Community / Env NGO	25.8%	17.6%	p<0.01

Awareness Of English Nature

Quite Knowledgeable (54, 36.5%)

Not Very Knowledgeable
(13, 8.8%)

Not at all Knowledgeable
(2, 1.4%)

Very Knowledgeable (79, 53.4%)
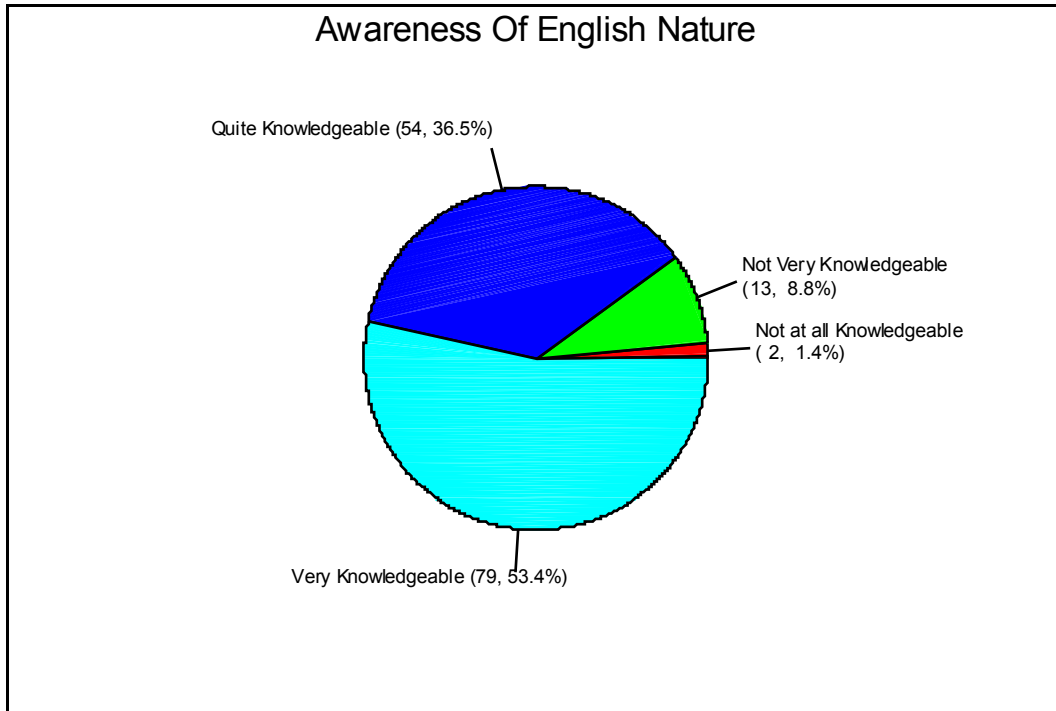
Figure 1: Respondents awareness of English Nature.

Agreement with guiding principles

Agree   (59, 39.9%)

Disagree   (1, 0.7%)
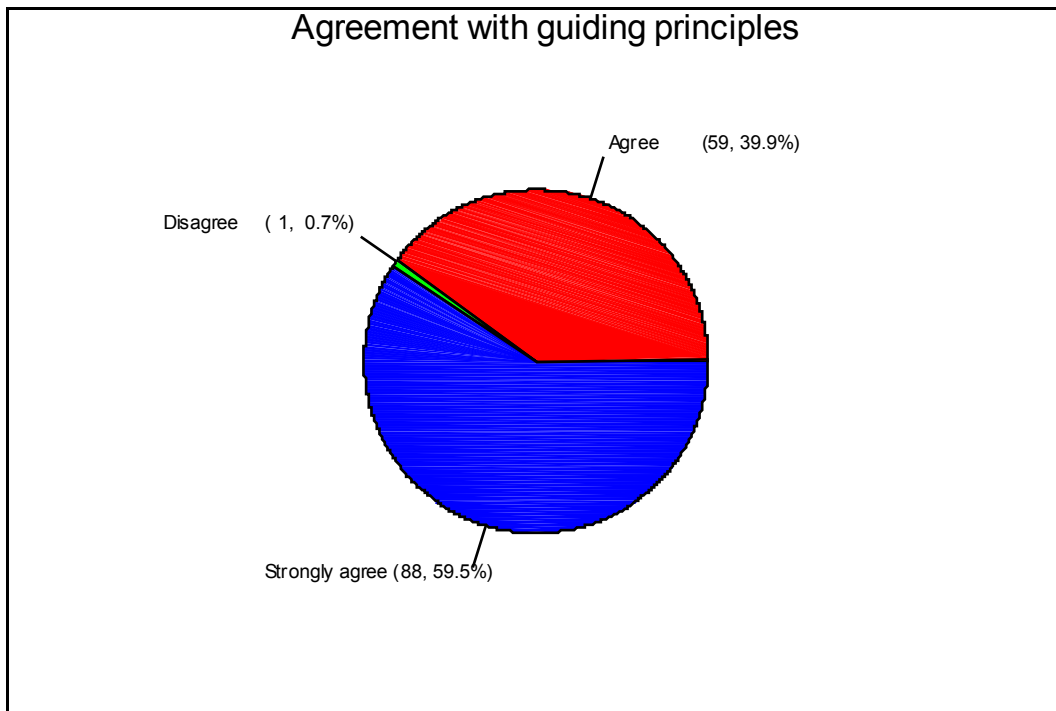
Strongly agree (88, 59.5%)

Figure 2: Respondents agreement with guiding principles.

3.1   Categorical responses

Respondents were asked if their organisation agreed with guiding principles and if their organisation felt they provided a sound foundation for 'Reconnecting People and Nature'. 99.3% agreed or strongly agreed with the guiding principles and 94.6% felt they provided a sound foundation (see Figure 2).

Respondents were asked if their organisations considered the outline 'People and Nature initiative would make a difference. 89.4% considered it could, and 83.9% considered their organisation would take advantage of it (see Figure 3).

Uptake of electronic versions of the documentation was poor. Only 27 respondents used the electronic version of the documents and over half of these were part of the target audience group to whom a hard copy was sent. Of those respondents that had accessed electronic documents 70% only occasionally access English Nature's website (see Figure 4).

3.2   Textual responses

Five questions about 'Reconnecting People and Nature' required a textual response. These enabled respondents to express views about; editorial changes to the statement text; issues in respect of content or delivery; and issues relating to the delivery of English Nature's wider programme. Editorial suggestions were referred to the statement authors. Wider programme issues were collated for separate consideration.

Textual issues about the statement were classified using a variant of he opportunity / constraint classification developed for the analysis of UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Lead Partner reports in 2000. Sixteen categories of issue were identified and the frequency calculated (see Figure 5). The headline issues were community involvement (14.69%), education (13.44%), partnership (12.19%), funding (11.56%), and raising awareness/publicity (9.38%). The headline figures mask the opportunities and constraints identified within them. These are considered further in section 4 of this report.
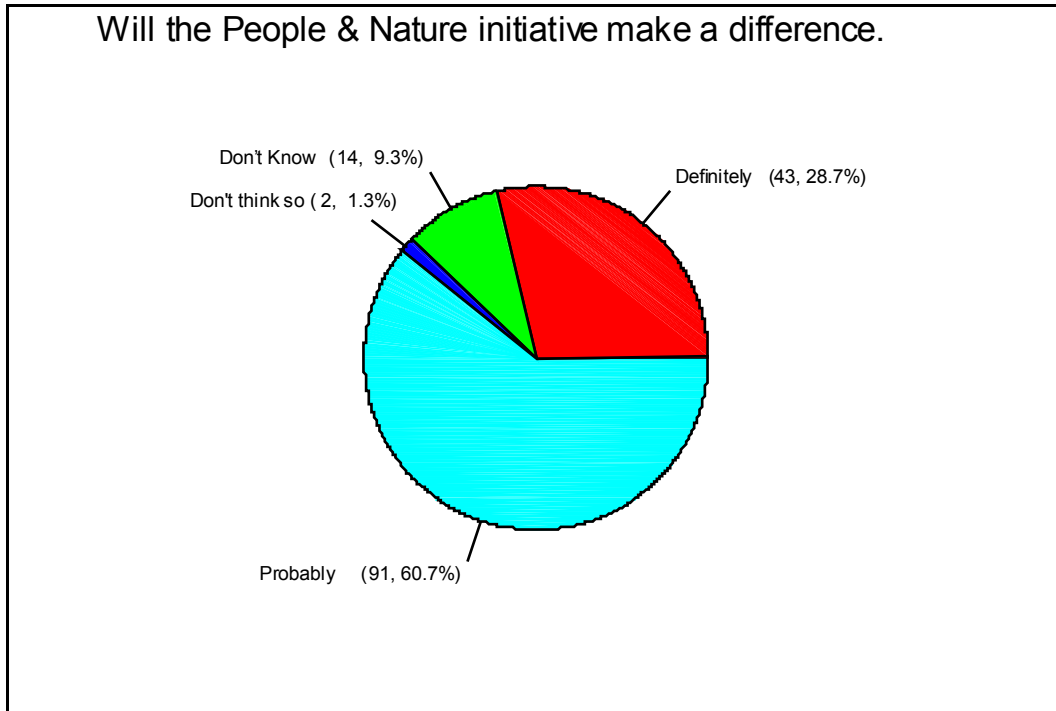
Will the People & Nature initiative make a difference.

Don't Know (14, 9.3%)
Don't think so (2, 1.3%)
Definitely   (43, 28.7%)
Probably   (91, 60.7%)

Figure3: Respondents view of the outline initiative.

Frequency of website use

Never   (3, 11.1%)
Monthly   (4, 14.8%)
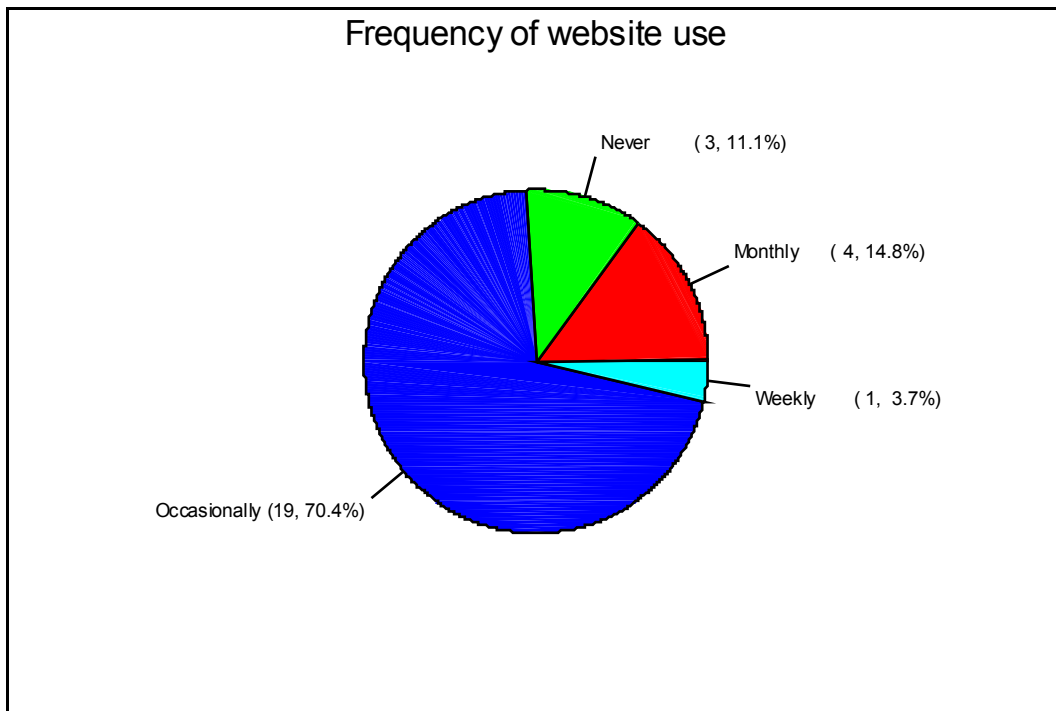Weekly   (1, 3.7%)
Occasionally (19, 70.4%)

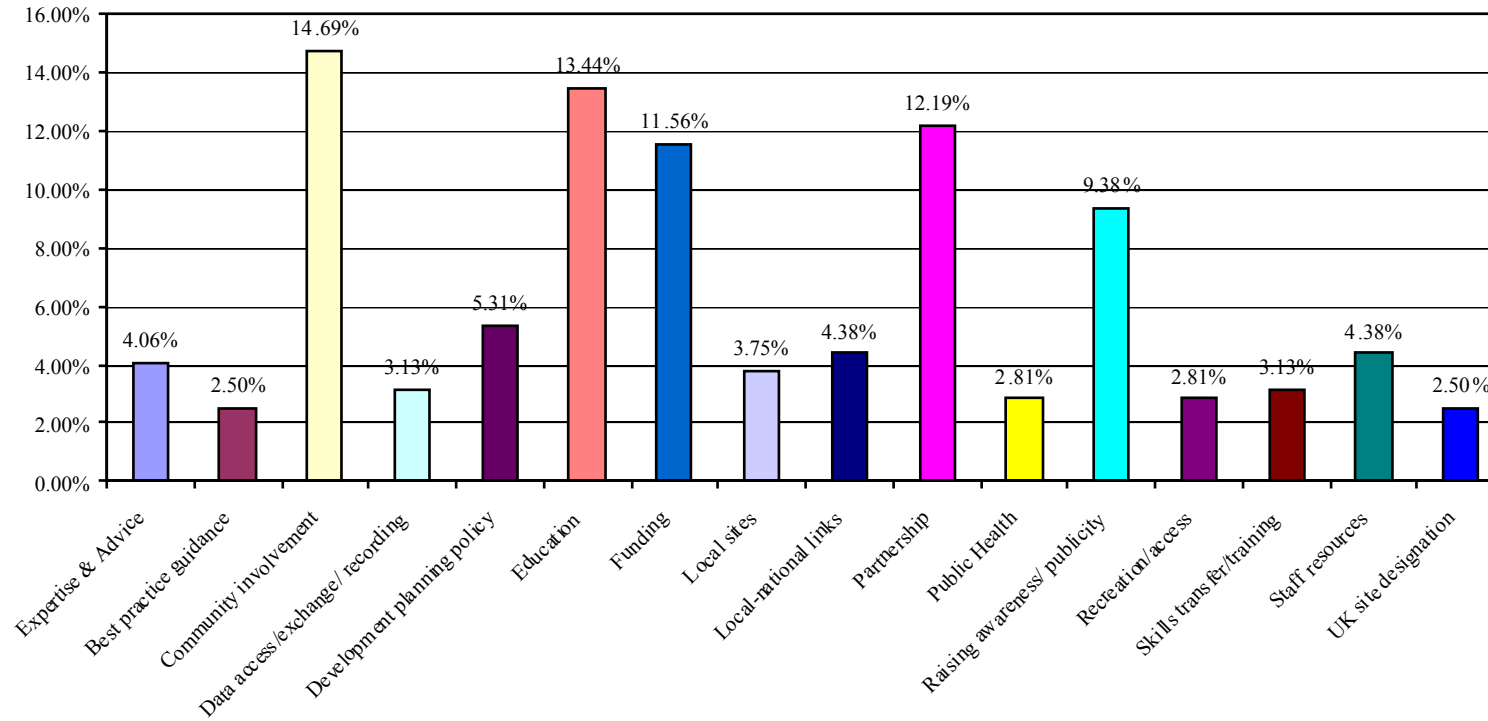**Figure 4: Use of English Nature's website.**

Figure 5: Frequency of Opportunity / Constraint classes within textual responses   n=384

4. Discussion

4.1 Audience profile

The shift between the profiles of the target audience and respondents married with the awareness of English Nature needs some reflection as it may bias the results. The reduced response levels of particular categories (eg Community NGO: target 13.3% - actual 6.8%) raises the question, 'is Reconnecting People and Nature key to the agenda of organisation in the categories with a significantly lower than expected response rate? Alternatively, it should be considered that a 'low level of awareness' of English Nature might be an over-riding factor in limiting the level of response from organisations in these categories. However, it is likely that a combination of these factors underlies the pattern of response. This being the case, consideration would need to be given to raising the awareness of, and influencing the agenda of sectors within the target audience should they be viewed as key partners in the implementation of the People and Nature initiative.

The high level of response from Local Authorities should not be overlooked. Clearly, 'Reconnecting People and Nature' has struck a chord with Local Authorities, which have responsibilities to consider and deliver on both community and environmental matters.

The shift between the target and respondent profiles is unlikely to have biased the results given the variation of occupational backgrounds of the respondees. For example, Countryside Officers, Planning Policy managers and Councillors submitted Local Authority responses. Bias may be introduced by the high level of awareness of English Nature, perhaps indicating a pre-disposition towards environmental matters.

4.2 Should English Nature engage in 'People and Nature'?

The intention of the guiding principles was to set out the ethics or values underlying English Nature's People and Nature initiative. Respondents clearly agreed with these both with their categorical responses (99.3%) and comments. 94.6% of respondents also felt the execution of the guiding principles through English Nature's work programmes would provide a sound foundation for reconnecting people and wildlife. There is strong support for putting these principles into effect through English Nature's work programme, and 89.4% of respondents though it would make a difference on-the-ground.

In relation to the above the issue of effectively targeting 'People and Nature' both socially and geographically emerged from the supporting comments. It was felt that the breadth of the statement made it all encompassing; a degree of specifity and targeting was considered necessary if English Nature's work was to add value and make a difference on-the-ground. It was also considered that the statement should be more explicit about its social inclusion and sustainability values.

Should English Nature be engaged in 'People and Nature'? The weight of opinion indicates that this would be viewed favourably especially if the ensuing initiative was clearly targeted and robustly underpinned by explicit socially inclusive and sustainable values.

4.3 How should English Nature take the People and Nature initiative forward?

The questionnaire provided respondents with the opportunity to comment on different aspects of the statement. Analysis of these comments highlighted a range of views, issues, opportunities and constraints that fell broadly into two camps; the characteristics of English Nature's engagement - the role and function of English Nature; and areas of work that should be considered as part of developing a robust operational programme.

4.4 Characteristics of English Nature's engagement with People and Nature

The consultation exercise has revealed that English Nature's operational programme should exhibit the characteristics of leadership, partnership, stability and investment and innovation. Each of these presents a challenge to English Nature.

Leadership – key social policies where links with biodiversity issues would be worthwhile should be identified and the links built through policy advocacy work and the advisory role. There is a gap in the leadership in this area at present. The opportunity exists for English Nature to take the lead in linking the social policy agenda to nature conservation and work through Defra and other Government Agencies to influence both the thinking and direction of future Government initiatives, for example public health. English Nature needs to focus on where we can make a significant difference, for example the urban regeneration debate, where the green space standards have a key role to play. Mechanisms such as Nature On-line could be used to gather evidence and to enable sharing of expert advice and best practice. English Nature should position itself to lead on models of best practice; ensure access to conservation information and data; and be at the forefront of publicity and awareness campaigns for target audiences - local authority councillors were mention especially in this respect. In providing leadership, it was felt that English Nature should emphasize the development of national frameworks and support their translation to local action - the national-local link.

Partnerships - English Nature has a tradition and reputation for, partnership working. English Nature should capitalise on this strength, consolidate and underpin some existing partnerships and extend the range of key partners to support our policy advocacy and leadership role. English Nature will need to be selective and work with organisations that are leaders in their field so that value is added to their work of parties. English Nature will need to reassure traditional partners that they are seeking to be complementary rather than competitive, and by forging partnerships with new organisations opportunities for wider involvement can be extended. English Nature should also to facilitate debate within the social inclusion movement so the importance of a healthy wildlife rich environment is understood and valued by decision makers and practitioners alike.

Stability and investment - clearly there is a view among potential partners that English Nature's and others' interest in the social inclusion agenda may be a passing fancy. English Nature's past behaviour in relation to urban nature conservation where involvement was scaled back during the1990s and similarly with education and schools, probably reinforces this view. English Nature must demonstrate a new commitment by securing sufficient resources to deliver long-term commitment and action. Many social inclusion projects have long lead-in times and are notoriously difficult to evaluate. In an output, target-driven

organisation, meaningful targets need to be identified and resources secured, both through our Grant in Aid and external funding mechanisms.

Innovation- this requires English Nature to seize opportunities and be more fleet of foot. English Nature need to horizon scan effectively to identify emerging issues and be prepared to create and promote their own ideas and projects. Entrepreneurial staff should be given encouragement and support to develop new exciting partnerships and develop the rules of engagement from which others can learn. English Nature must be prepared to take calculated risks and be prepared for success and failure from which they must learn. The process for learning needs to be ritualised within the organisation and the results needs to be widely shared with people beyond English Nature. By piloting projects English Nature can take a measured approach that allows them to transfer learning and develop skills and knowledge.

4.5　Shaping the programme

Funding - A number of organisations reflected a need for increased financial support for their 'People and Nature' work. Others appreciated the limited resources available to English Nature and identified targeting of funds as important. A secondary message was the need for financial support to be long term. Several responses reflected upon the timescales involved with community based projects (3 - 5 years minimum) and the need for sustained support after that period in order to maintain momentum. The need to support 'tried and tested methods' as well as innovative projects was also identified.

Local sites / Citizen science - there was a suite of issues related to community engagement. First, local sites (brown field, LNR and second tier) were considered key foci for galvanizing action and ownership by communities. It was considered that English Nature should be proactive in its support of such sites. Also access to sites of national and local interest / importance should be facilitated. To this end, National Nature Reserves could provide a key resource within the management gift of English Nature. Secondly, there was a clear view that citizen science should be facilitated through accessible 'biological recording', ie garden butterflies, and that English Nature should provide a lead in this area.

Community involvement emerged as a key opportunity / constraint. The initiative must seek to directly engage local communities with their local environment. The point was made that there are a large number of organisations already engaged in the work. It was considered English Nature could add vale through supporting existing initiatives, Local Biodiversity Action Plans, for example, and through specific projects to test approaches and identify best practice.

Education was frequently raised as an issue. Responses reflected a need to engage with all educational sectors, but in particular key stage 2, secondary and tertiary sectors.. Education is one of the cross-cutting workstreams in the Government's England Biodiversity Strategy. Its inclusion gives Governmental and Departmental recognition of environmental education as a lifelong process and cornerstone of sustainable biodiversity delivery. English Nature need to develop approaches that allow them demonstrate leadership and partnership, and make a limited practical contribution in this area.

English Nature will need to invest in developing limited materials and in making these available through Nature On-line and other media. Nature On-line could also provide a gateway to services and materials provided by partners. English Nature could also promote

the importance of Education for Sustainable Development within DfES, and seek to influence the development of the national curriculum to support nature conservation. English Nature could further develop its own assets, in particular National Nature Reserves, to provide educational facilities that make a practical contribution.

Urban / rural: it was stressed by numerous respondents that 'People and Nature' should encompass urban and rural environments. Any programme of work should be balanced, recognising issues of rural regeneration as much as urban.

Development planning policy or more precisely influencing it was seen by many, particularly local authorities, as a 'must do' component of any 'People and Nature initiative. It was considered that current planning guidance does not encourage planners to consider the natural environment. In particular local natural space and brown field sites were identified as under threat. Facets such as strategic planning of green space (including connectivity) and 'designing in nature' also need to feature.

Skills and training: does English Nature have the right skills amongst its staff for local delivery? Embracing the leadership role will still require staff at the local level with the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to deliver programmes on the ground. It can be argued that effective partnership depends on recognition and understanding of the strengths of each partner. An audit of skills and a supportive training package might be considered as part of the initiative development. It should be noted that offers of training were received from recognised experts in community environment work.

Staff resources: in the same light concerns were raised about the availability of staff resources to deliver at the local level. Careful assessment of staff resource requirements will need to be integral to the development of the 'People and Nature' initiative.

Sites and access: concerns were also raised that People and Nature' shouldn't detract from the statutory needs of designated site work. Equally, some respondents were concerned about provision of physical access to ecologically sensitive sites. Given these concerns it would be reasonable for English Nature to unambiguously address the role of 'People and Nature in taking forward designated site work. English Nature has a developed position on access to ecologically sensitive sites following on from the provisions under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000).

Public health: the issue of links between public health and the environment was considered an area where English Nature, in partnership with others, might develop innovative approaches. The wide social relevance of this issue was pointed out.

4.6   Use of the website for consultation

Despite broad advertising the contribution made to the consultation responses was very limited. Nearly 50% of respondents using electronic versions of the documentation had been contacted by post in the first instance. Only 13 respondents actually made an electronic submission.

The low usage / uptake of the web-based consultation material suggests it is not an appropriate medium for a consultative exercise. The evidence of this exercise is that targeted

contact with a specific audience will encourage a higher level of response. This suggests that any further consultative exercises should not rely on web access to reach an audience.

5. Conclusions and recommendations

The consultation exercise around 'Reconnecting People and Nature: English Nature's Approach' set out to gather views of people about how and what English Nature might do to add value to this area of work. A good level of responses was received, and these were welcoming and positive about English Nature's move to explicitly engage in this area of work.

Should English Nature become engaged in this area of work? There was strong support for the principles and English Nature's engagement. However, there is a degree of ambiguity within the guiding principles that leaves them open to interpretation. **It is recommended that social inclusion, sustainability, and urban-rural balance are made more explicit within the guiding principles.**

What is English Nature's niche in the 'People and Nature' arena? The clear message from the consultation is that organisations will look to English Nature for leadership through expert advice, national frameworks, best practice guidance etc (see 4.3.6). **It is recommended that English Nature seek to position itself in the leadership role.**

The 'People and Nature' arena is a broad church encompassing a wide range of different types of work. the results of the consultation indicate that the following are key areas for engagement:

- community involvement;
- education (environmental)
- funding
- local site networks; and
- citizen science.

It is recommended that English Nature addresses these areas as priority in the development of an operational programme.

Aspects of this work are being undertaken by a large number of organisations. Success for English Nature in providing leadership will depend on successful strategic partnerships. **It is recommended that English Nature seeks to identify key players in the priority areas and seeks to develop appropriate relationships, especially beyond traditional conservation audiences.**

Development planning policy is considered by many players as a constraint. It is recommended that English Nature continue working to influencing planning policy seeking to overcome these constraints.

Investment in the staff and skills necessary to deliver a People and Nature initiative is clearly required if English Nature are to be effective in leadership. **It is recommended that audit of skill be undertaken and training needs be assessed.**

Levels of staff resource available to major in this area of work are clearly a consideration especially given the range of work pressures within English Nature. **It is recommended that all People and Nature projects undertake an assessment of staff resource requirements as part of the PID**

Innovative is a feature of leadership and should be a feature of English Nature's operational programme. The issue of public health and environment is emergent and presents an opportunity for English Nature to demonstrate this characteristic in its leadership approach. **It is recommended that a short-term programme be put in place to explore the public health and environment issue. It is recommended that a programme of horizon scanning be maintained to identify emergent issues.**

A long-term commitment to 'People and Nature' is what is expected. This needs to be manifest in the actions English Nature as well as words. The development and maintenance of community involvement, education initiatives etc need long-term commitment and investment. This will require English Nature to provide support over and above the minimum establishment periods. **It is recommended that English Nature give consideration to its internal and external support mechanisms with a view to sustained support for People and Nature work.**

Annex 1
Reconnecting People and Nature: English Nature's approach

Reconnecting People and Nature*: English Nature's Approach

People need nature: a sustainable natural environment is essential not just for our physical and mental well-being. Natural processes provide services that are essential to our lives, such as climate regulation, flood control, decomposition of waste, pollination of crops, and purification of water. Nature also provides products that are essential to our everyday lives; food and drink, fuel, fibres for clothing, and even medicines. Nature's contribution goes beyond meeting our physical needs. Appreciation of nature inspires artists, develops our sense of history and place, and contributes to our cultural identity and spiritual well-being. Nature provides resources to satisfy the human quest for knowledge; from children watching spiders spin webs, to the monitoring of global climate change.

In urban locations, where we are increasingly surrounded by new technologies, it is easy to forget how much we depend on the natural world. Given this separation from daily life it is no surprise that environmental issues are not a central political concern.

English Nature values the natural environment and its diversity. We believe it is important to reconnect people and wildlife by bringing them closer together, and by demonstrating the relevance and importance of environmental quality to everyone's daily life. Our People and Wildlife programme will help to reconnect people and wildlife.

The guiding principles of our People and Nature programme are:

- Environmental considerations to be at the heart of sustainable social and economic decision making;

- Opportunities to experience nature are an important social right and an essential component of an improved quality of life;

- Everyone should have easy and safe access to experience nature, in a manner that matches their individual needs and abilities;

- People experience nature at different times and in different ways - at home, work, or on holiday. It's these experiences that help us all to value nature, and they are provided by everyday wildlife, as well as by the rare and elusive;

- An improved local environment for people and nature will bring economic, social and health benefits to society.

July 2002

Those concerned with the protection of the natural environment in England have long been aware of its importance to people. In stressing the links between people and nature, English Nature is following in the footsteps of many others.

Over the last decade we have run community grant schemes to support urban wildlife groups, schools, and others working to reconnect people and wildlife. Our Conservation Officers have also provided advice and guidance and we have run environmental art and education events, especially as part of the millennium celebrations.

People continue to be at the heart of our programmes as we:

- improve access to all National Nature Reserves in our control;
- improve interpretation on key National Nature Reserves;
- expand opportunities for people to get directly involved in nature conservation on local nature reserves (LNRs) and regionally important geological sites (RIGS);
- continue to provide community-based grants schemes such as the Biodiversity Grant and Wildspace!;
- fund research into the barriers that stop people enjoying the natural environment, and into the socio-economic importance of wildlife;
- provide advice and financial help for the creation of and access to more high quality open natural greenspace in towns and cities or wherever it is needed;
- provide support through funding, advice, and staff time - for wildlife groups, voluntary organisations, and other local initiatives already working to engage people with their local environment.

English Nature wants to help put sustainability and wildlife issues closer to the centre of social and political debate by revealing the hidden values of nature and by showing how it affects all our lives. We need to show people that the environment actually matters even in this technological age. The health of our environment underpins our current and future welfare.

In the future English Nature wishes to build on its experience by extending our People and Nature programme to:

- press local authorities to adopt English Nature standards for minimum provision of accessible natural greenspace**;
- seek new funding opportunities to help communities carry out wildlife and geological projects based on school grounds, churchyards, business premises, and other local sites;
- explore the connections between nature conservation and other areas of social, economic, and environmental policy;
- create and develop more opportunities for people to experience nature through partnerships related to health, gardening, green housing and construction, the arts, tourism, education, sustainable transport;
- promote the wildlife value of gardens and explore how it can be increased;
- pilot projects with partners that are innovative, creative and build on others knowledge and experience;

- improve access to information about wildlife via our internet programme 'Nature On-Line';

- understand more fully the values that key groups place on wildlife and the natural environment, and reflect the results in targeted programmes of work;

- develop opportunities to make explicit the economic, social and health value of a sustainable nature rich environment;

- explore how we can add value to the opportunities offered by Education for Sustainable Development and other formal programmes targeted at the education sector;

- press for the incorporation of wildlife friendly greenspace and sustainable construction in development areas.

In undertaking all this - and in every other aspect of our work - we must make clear the relevance of what we do, to a far wider audience. Our People and Nature programme must be socially inclusive, reaching out to all sectors of society. We are keen that our work complements and supports organisations leading in this field.

* The term "nature" as used here includes our geological and geomorphological heritage as well as plants and animals and their supporting ecosystems.

** English Nature recommends that people living in towns and cities should have:

- An accessible natural greenspace less than 300 metres (in a straight line) from home;

- Statutory Local Nature Reserves provided at a minimum level of one hectare per thousand population;

- At least one accessible 20 hectare site within 2 kilometres of home; one accessible 100 hectare site within 5 kilometres of home; and one accessible 500 hectare site within 10 kilometres at home.

For further information about the work of English Nature, please visit our website at
www.english-nature.org.uk

Appendix A
Consultation questionnaire

ENGLISH NATURE

English Nature's People and Nature initiative

Questionnaire

We welcome all responses to this questionnaire. We have asked for some personal details only for analysing your feedback. All responses will be non-attributable, treated in confidence, and used only for the development of our People and Nature initiative.

The objectives of this questionnaire are to aid:

- Evaluation among stakeholders, customers, and audiences of the level of awareness of English Nature.
- Evaluation of stakeholder, customer and audience responses to English Nature's 'Approach' to reconnecting People and Nature.
- To evaluate awareness/use of English Nature's web site.

Questionnaire

1. Profile

Your name:

Your title:

Your organisation:

What does your organisation do?

2. Awareness

How would you rate your organisation's awareness of English Nature and its role? (please tick one box only)

Very knowledgeable ☐
Quite knowledgeable ☐
Not very knowledgeable ☐
Not at all knowledgeable ☐

Reconnecting People and Nature – guiding principles

3.   To what extent does your organisation agree with the guiding principles? (Please tick one box only)

        Strongly agree   ☐
        Agree   ☐
        Disagree   ☐
        Strongly disagree   ☐

4.   What additions or changes would improve the guiding principles?

5.   Does your organisation feel that our guiding principles provide a sound foundation for Reconnecting People and Nature?

        Yes ☐ No ☐

6.   Does your organisation have any further comments on our guiding principles?

Reconnecting People and Nature – English Nature's current programme

7.   Has your organisation taken advantage of English Nature's current programme?

        Yes ☐ No ☐

8.   If so, please explain briefly how.

Reconnecting People and Nature – What English Nature plans to offer

9.   Does your organisation think our plans will add value to our programme and make a difference in bringing People and Nature closer? (please tick one box only)

        Yes, definitely   ☐
        Yes, probably   ☐
        No, don't think so   ☐
        No, definitely not   ☐
        Don't know   ☐

10. Would you take advantage of what English Nature plans to offer?

Yes ☐   No ☐

11. What additions or changes would improve our planned programme?

12. Does your organisation have any further comments on our planned programme?

13. What elements of your organisation's work might benefit from working in partnership with English Nature?

Reconnecting People and Nature – your views

14. Please use this space to tell us any further views you may have on our approach to Reconnecting People and Nature. Are there key issues or initiatives that we should be aware of?

15. English Nature's web site

How often do you use English Nature's web site? (please tick one box only)

Never   ☐
Occasionally ☐
Monthly   ☐
Weekly   ☐
Daily   ☐

16. English Nature's web site

What more would you like to see on English Nature's web site?

17. We would like to follow through some responses personally. Would you be agreeable to English Nature contacting you?

Yes ☐   No ☐

If so please provide your contact details

Telephone:

Email:

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this questionnaire.

Please return it in the pre-paid envelope supplied to:

Dave Stone
External Relations Team
English Nature
Northminster House
Peterborough
PE1 1UA

or e mail dave.stone@english-nature.org.uk

Awarded for excellence