



About the Green Halo Partnership

The Green Halo Partnership is convened by the New Forest National Park Authority but supported by a steering group drawn from across the public and private sector. Thanks are extended to the steering group members who give their time to guide the development of the Green Halo Partnership.

Find out more about the partnership and how to join at www.greenhalo.org.uk

 Search for Green Halo Partnership on LinkedIn.



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Green Halo Partnership 2019 - the year in review

The Green Halo Partnership's vision is for our most precious landscapes to work in harmony with a thriving, economically successful community.

In the three years since the Partnership was formed the need for this vision has only become greater. The climate and nature crises have become more urgent; a time of political change now provides the opportunity for Thinking Bigger.

Our mission has been to put natural capital at the heart of the Partnership's four key themes:

- Enhancing the natural environment
- Supporting the local economy
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Encouraging sustainable living.



Update on activity during 2019 under the four key themes

Enhancing the natural environment

The 25 Year Environment Plan set out the Government's plans for nature recovery and last year Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust issued a call to arms with its WILDER campaign.

The Landscapes Review commissioned by the Government and published in September highlighted the leading role that national parks can play in nature recovery, underpinned by a natural capital approach. In its document "Understanding the New Forest's Natural Capital", the New Forest Farming Group provided an evidence base from which to start the work.



Supporting the local economy

The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) specifically encouraged investment in natural capital through its Solent Prosperity Fund. Members of the Green Halo Partnership provided support to business through the Solent Growth Hub, working with the LEP on a Natural Capital Masterclass. All LEPs are charged with preparing a Local Industrial Strategy, including developing a baseline of natural capital assets and identifying environmentally based competitive opportunities.

The Green Halo Partnership has sought to bring the four local LEPs together over the year to share information and good practice.

Improving health and wellbeing

Social prescribing is a holistic approach to health provision where primary care professionals refer people to non-clinical services which can lead to a range of positive health outcomes.

In the New Forest, a Local Pathways to Nature project is exploring how people can benefit from being prescribed different outdoor activities. West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group has been working with a number of Green Halo Partners to shape a number of local initiatives which will encourage people to enjoy nature.

A conference at Bournemouth University in May 2020 will examine the importance to health of access to green space and the role of National Landscapes as potential hubs of excellence and places of innovation for nature-based approaches for health and well-being.

Encouraging sustainable living

Local plans suggest significant growth in the Green Halo area in the coming years, the equivalent of a conurbation the size of Bournemouth or Southampton.

In April a roundtable of stakeholders, convened by the Green Halo Partnership, heard from Dieter Helm, the Chair of the Natural Capital Committee. Outlining the need for a positive approach to managing the environment and its natural capital if the economy is to grow, Professor Helm endorsed the Green Halo as one of the great national natural capital projects.

Challenges posed by the need for cleaner air and nitrate neutrality in the Solent will require a strategic approach if they are to be resolved. Thorough coordinating a draft delivery framework for environmental net gain, the Green Halo Partnership has encouraged planning officers across Hampshire to address this new approach to decision-making likely to emerge in the new Environment Bill later this year. The developers of the former power station site at Fawley Waterside are working alongside Professor Helm to see how they can bring natural capital into their scheme.

