



Green Planning and Opportunities to Promote Biodiversity in Housing Strategies

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November 2021



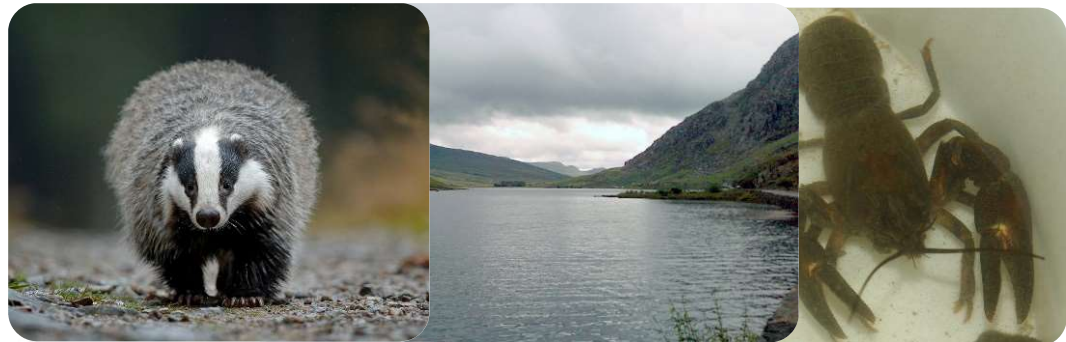
Introduction

- Current situation
- Policy changes
- The importance of biodiversity data
- Examples
- Local Environmental Records Centres
 - Not-for-profit organisations that collect, collate and manage information on the natural environment for a defined geographic area.
 - Represented by the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (ALERC)



Currently

- Protected species
 - Habitat regs
 - Wildlife and Countryside Act
 - Badgers
- Have regard to priority species under the NERC act.
- Prevent or mitigate harm to these.
- Invasive non-native species.



Changes

- These will still be in place but concern that they are not really working and that they make house building more difficult have meant new policies are coming in
 - District Licensing
 - Net Gain
- Planning for the Future
 - “based on data”



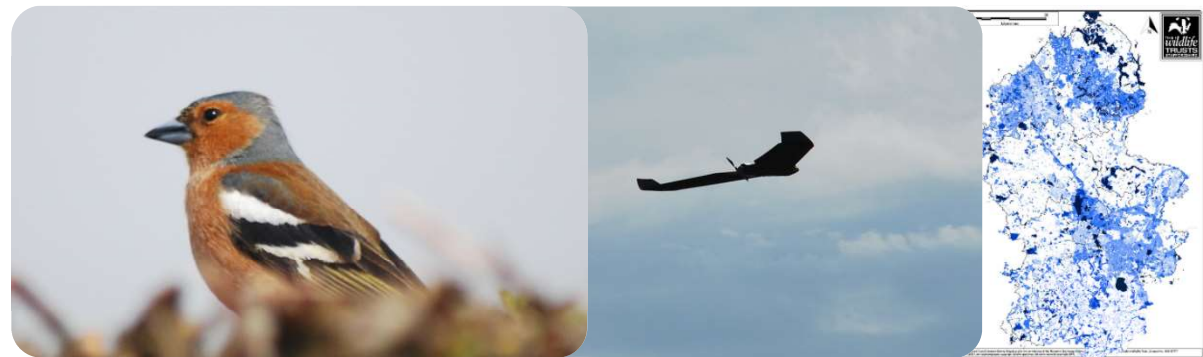
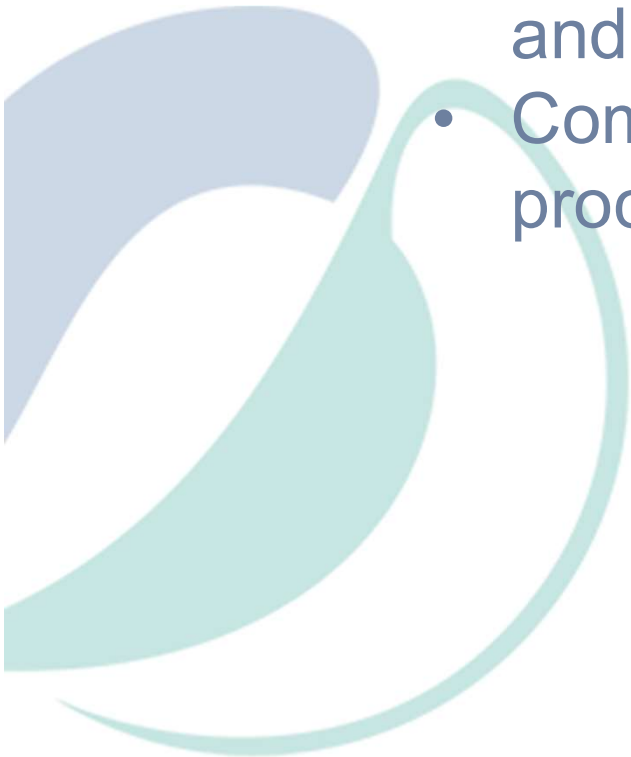
What are biodiversity data?

- Records, usually of a particular species or habitat
- For a defined location and time
- Collected through a wide range of sources
- Volunteer and amateur naturalists a very large source of this information.



Future data needs

- Data needs are changing and growing.
 - More data from new sources, e.g. eDNA and UAVs
 - More important for data to be retained and reused
 - Community engagement with the data processes



Example of community engagement: Southern Housing biodiversity toolkit.

- Toolkit developed with a range of partners to “guide on some of the best ways to improve the quality of green spaces for wildlife while involving residents in key decision making”
- Includes biodiversity management options
- Ways to include the community in this, including recording – generating new data.

www.shgroup.org.uk/about-us/sustainability/biodiversity-toolkit-increasing-biodiversity-in-urban-green-spaces/



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