

South Yorkshire LRC Harmonisation Project

Sheffield Wildlife Trust and Partners

Brief

BE Group has been commissioned by Sheffield Wildlife Trust and partners, to identify an appropriate model to harmonise the Local Record Centres (LRCs) in South Yorkshire. LRCs collate and record biological data to inform the protection of biodiversity. The study covers four local authority areas: Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster and Barnsley. The study is supported by Defra and Natural England, who have identified the need for nationally consistent biological dataset to support policy and planning decision making in order to protect biodiversity.

The key objectives are :

- Secure the future of the LRCs
- Ensure full LRC coverage across South Yorkshire (Barnsley is currently not covered)
- Promote consistent and accredited data standards
- Integrate the LRCs into the Yorkshire & Humber Environmental Data Network (YHEDN).

Promote understanding of the need for LRCs among local authority decision makers.



Activities

The methodology was designed to maximise commitment and ownership of the study among local stakeholders. An Interim Report summarised options identified through consultations and a stakeholder workshop undertaken in March 2009. These are now being tested to identify a preferred option, which will be presented to local authority decision makers. An Implementation Group, made up of local authority officers and other stakeholders is currently being formed to steer the options and content of the presentations, in order to secure greatest buy-in.



Outcome

Awaiting

