



Biodiversity Strategy



Biodiversity – *all the plants, animals, fungi and micro-organisms that make up the natural world*



- 15% of UK species are threatened with extinction and
- 41% of species have declined in abundance since the early 1970s



A Climate and Ecological Crisis



- The climate is heating up faster than nature can adapt, so wildlife is threatened.
- Nature can provide solutions -shade, absorbing carbon or reducing the effects of extreme weather events.



A physical and mental health crisis

“... improve long-term physical health and mental wellbeing, get young people more active, and ultimately save lives.”

Redcar & Cleveland Corporate Plan



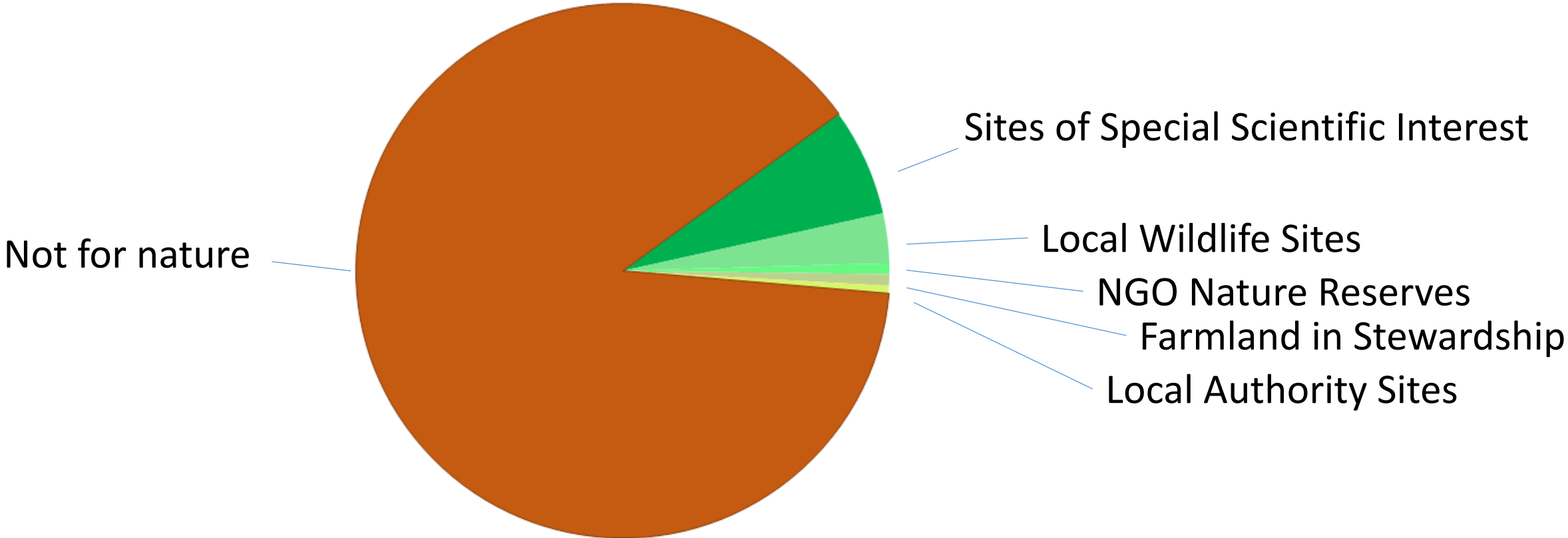
Working together to address the Climate & Biodiversity Crisis



- A local charity / company and part of the national partnership of Wildlife Trusts
- Owns / manages 320 hectares of nature reserves
- Shared objectives –
 - 30% of land good for nature
 - 1 in 4 people active for nature
 - Carbon neutral by 2030



Only 11% of land is protected for wildlife in the Tees Valley



A new approach to restoring biodiversity

- Local Nature Recovery Strategies
- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Nutrient Neutrality
- Carbon Credits
- District Level Licencing
- Habitat Banking
- Green Social Prescribing
- Tourism
- Nature-related Financial Disclosures



Objective 1: Protecting and Restoring Biodiversity

Enrich biodiversity in parks, greenspaces and road verges

Improve water-based, biodiverse habitats

A Local Nature Recovery Strategy to guide nature's recovery

Manage and improve designated sites so they provide the foundation from which nature can recover



Objective 2: People Active for and benefitting from nature

Engage communities with nature to support the Council's ambitions for biodiversity

Ensuring natural environments are accessible, enjoyable and safe

- Environmental education
- Friends Groups at Local Nature Reserves
- Corporates / employee volunteering
- Green Social Prescribing
- A communications strategy



Objective 3: Reducing the Council's Ecological Footprint

Wildlife-friendly purchasing and procurement of goods and services

Compliance with the new legal obligations under the Environment Act 2021.

Reviewing use of herbicides

Considering the impact on pollinators of LED lighting at sensitive sites

Non-native invasive species



Objective 4: Working with Nature to Tackle the Climate Crisis

Capturing and storing carbon in woodlands and other natural habitats

Reducing the impact of surface water flooding and coastal flooding

Providing shade in hot weather



Enriching biodiversity in parks, greenspaces



Redcar & Cleveland mows more than 1 million square metres of grass



Enriching biodiversity in parks, greenspaces



People Active for and benefitting from nature

