



Nature Positive for the ESA



THE NATURE POSITIVE BUSINESS PLEDGE

'On a journey to bring nature back.'

NATURE POSITIVE BUSINESS PLEDGE PRINCIPLES

The pledge is for all businesses of all sizes and sectors who want to reduce their negative impacts on nature and make nature positive decisions. To accomplish these ambitious objectives, **the pledge follows these overarching principles.**

Core Principles

- **The Mitigation Hierarchy** – apply the mitigation hierarchy to all facets of the business, i.e. first avoiding then minimising negative impacts on nature, before restoring and finally compensating and offsetting residual impacts.
- **Long term benefits** – generate long-term benefits for nature and the services it provides.
- **Additionality** – for all Nature Positive actions to be additional to what would have happened without these actions, seeking to achieve net gain or net positive impact.
- **The Precautionary Approach** – where there is a lack of evidence or information the precautionary approach will be applied, meaning that where there may be impacts on nature, realistic 'worst case' impacts should be assumed.

¹ [TNFD – Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures](#)

² [Resources – Science Based Targets Network](#)

³ [Biodiversity Net Gain: Good Practice Principles for](#)

⁴ [Guidelines for planning and monitoring corporate bi](#)

Setting the direction

HOW WILL IT WORK?

Nature Positive will not be exactly the same for each business; and

Becoming Nature Positive is a journey for each business to take.

The Nature Positive Business Pledge will help guide businesses to be taking action to progressively halt and reverse their impact on nature through their entire value chain and with increasing ambition. This journey will be suited to all businesses, no matter their size, sector or where they are on their Nature Positive journey.

The Pledge **will not set a specific approach**. Instead, the businesses signing up will be encouraged to set their own path towards Nature Positive, in line with the principles and with the aim of contributing to the Global Goal for Nature: halt and reverse nature loss measured from a baseline of 2020, achieve net positive by 2030, and full recovery by 2050⁵. It will also encourage aligning with governmental national strategies and targets, such as the UK's legally binding nature targets being set through the Environment Act 2021⁶.

Businesses will need to work together to understand how each business can **set evidence-based targets**. The Pledge will encourage basing targets on those released by the Science-Based Targets for Nature and applying the approach developed by the Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures.

The Pledge **will set up a ratcheted commitment system which will be reviewed annually**. This will be similar to international climate goals, where a company will be able to commit to something simple to deliver at first, and periodically increase the ambition and extent of their commitments over time. If a company does not periodically increase their ambition (at least once every three years), they will no longer be part of the journey to Nature Positive, and therefore will not be committed to the Pledge.

⁵ <https://www.naturepositive.org>

⁶ [Environment Act 2021 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

Nature Positive Pledge - Purpose

- **Provide a set of principles** that will help deliver Nature Positive as a robust approach and deliver real benefits for nature whilst contributing to wider societal and environmental goals
- Establish a **clear process for businesses to become Nature Positive**: a step wise journey that will enable businesses to take action and track real progress
- **Showcase and celebrate success**



Nature Positive Pledge - Principles

- **Core Principles**

- The Mitigation hierarchy
- Long term outcomes

- Additionality
- The Precautionary Approach

- **Setting the direction**

- Identify and set SMART targets
- Collaborate across the business and between organisations

- Integration with existing commitments, initiatives and guidance materials

- **Delivering Nature Positive**

- Follow a structured, comprehensive and evidence-based approach
 - Assessing and prioritising
 - Setting goals and targets
 - Identifying, selecting and rolling out actions
 - Measuring and monitoring
 - Reporting and updating

- Address all stages of the value chain
- Incorporate Nature-Based Solutions
- Deliver sustainable use and shared benefits

Becoming Nature Positive

A Nature Positive UK by 2030

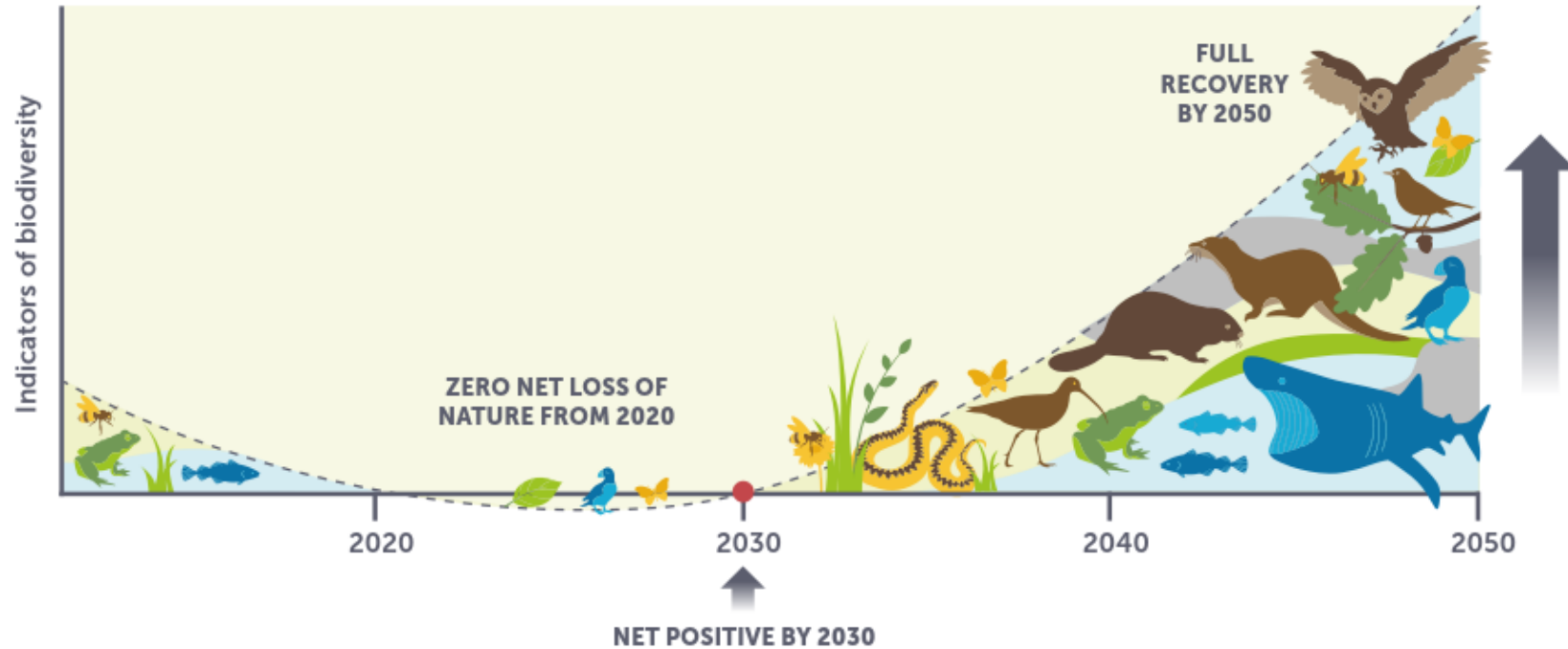


Image credit: RSPB

- Nature Positive plan
- Identifying a biodiversity baseline and assessing their impact
- Setting SMART and costed targets
- Annually assessing and reporting on their progress
- Ratcheting up the commitment every three years

Nature Positive Process for ESA



- *To produce an engaging, informative and practical process for ESA members to become Nature Positive: both through their operations and as organisations*
- *Based on the UKBBF Nature Positive Principles*
- *Step-by-step account with examples*
- *Sign-posting to sources of information*
- *Advice on emerging frameworks*