



# NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY NETWORK CONFERENCE 2026

Leeds, UK, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2026



***“Nature as National Resilience”***

*Turning biodiversity data into action for people, place  
and a changing climate*

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Conference 2026

The annual NBN Conference brings together >200 individuals and organisations from across wildlife recording, nature recovery, research, policy and responsible business.

It is a one-day national event for members and stakeholders across the National Biodiversity Network and beyond. The focus is practical, evidence led action, how biodiversity data is collected, shared and used to support better decisions and stronger outcomes for nature.

Each year the NBN Conference moves around the UK. Recent venues have included the SS Great Britain in Bristol, the National Maritime Museum in Liverpool, and the Natural History Museum in London. The 2026 conference will be held in Leeds, with venue confirmation to follow.

### 1 day event

Focused on how biodiversity data supports practical action for nature recovery

### 200+ delegates

Targeting a broad mix of network members, public bodies, researchers, NGOs and selected private sector attendees

### National reach

A trusted, cross sector convening point with strong alignment to policy, practice, digital infrastructure and resilience

## Conference Theme

At a time of growing concern about biodiversity loss, ecosystem resilience and wider national risk, the overarching theme for the NBN Conference 2026 is:

***“Nature as National Resilience: turning biodiversity data into action for people, place and a changing climate”***

Nature as National Resilience is a strong framing for 2026. Resilience is now the language of infrastructure, public services, local communities, food systems, water, flooding, health, land use and business continuity. Nature is part of the operating system for society and the economy.

The conference will show how biodiversity data helps move from abstract concern to practical action, risk management, and better choices. The programme will speak to communities, decision makers, and organisations that need credible evidence to plan, manage, and respond to change.

## Likely programme threads

- Wildlife recording and community action
- Data and digital infrastructure for nature recovery
- Planning, land use and resilient places
- Research, policy and investment decisions

## Keynote Speakers

In previous years, our keynote speakers have included Professor Sir John Lawton, Chair of the landmark “Making Space for Nature” report; Mairi McAllan MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition; Natalie Prosser, CEO, Office for Environmental Protection; Craig Bennett, CEO, The Wildlife Trusts; and Tony Juniper CBE, Chair, Natural England. We are currently planning this year’s NBN Conference programme and envisage securing Keynote Speakers of similarly notable profile.

## Why now?

- 2026 is a particularly relevant year for our conference theme. In February 2026, the UK hosted the twelfth session of the Plenary of [Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services \(IPBES-12\)](#) in Manchester, bringing business and biodiversity to the fore and reinforcing the need for better evidence, clearer decisions, and practical implementation.
- The conference lands in the same international policy season as the [Convention of Biological Diversity's \(CBD\) COP17](#) in Yerevan and the [UN Climate Change Conference \(UNFCCC\) COP31](#) in Antalya, creating a timely UK forum to turn global commitments on biodiversity, climate adaptation and resilience into practical action.
- CBD COP17 follows a major implementation year for the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#), with countries submitting their 7th National Reports against the Framework's 23 global targets. That makes 2026 a year of sharper focus on delivery, accountability, and the quality of the data underpinning action.
- UNFCCC COP31 is explicitly framed around **adaptation and resilience**, and the conference takes place during the same fortnight as the NBN Conference 2026. That gives added relevance to conversations about how biodiversity data can support better decisions on land, infrastructure, flooding, housing, and long-term place-based resilience.
- In January 2026, the UK Government published its [Global Biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and national security](#) assessment, which aims to support UK national security planning by identifying risks to the UK from global biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse.



## Target audiences

Audience segment	Share	Who this includes
Public sector and regulators	25%	UK Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (Natural England, NatureScot etc), Defra, regulators, policy, and local authorities
NGOs and land managers	25%	Nature recovery organisations, eNGOs, ecologists, landowners, and managers
Wildlife recording community	20%	Local environmental records centres, recording schemes and societies, recorders, verifiers, citizen scientists
Research and academia	15%	Professors, researchers, subject matter experts, and early career practitioners
Private sector	15%	Consultancies, utilities, developers, financial institutions, insurers, and technology companies

## Why this matters to sponsors

- A national, cross sector audience brought together in a high trust setting
- Strong alignment to policy, planning, nature recovery, science, digital infrastructure, and risk
- A clear route to visibility, credibility and relationship building, without it being a trade show
- The opportunity to support bursaries and wider access for students and community participants
- Association with practical, data led action for nature, rather than generic sustainability messaging

## Recent conference highlights

- A long-running annual conference that brings together the National Biodiversity Network and wider nature recovery sector.
- Recent high-profile sessions have included:
  - Tom Gray, Head of Nature (BBC) exploring how we “*Engage the Widest Audience for Nature*”
  - Richard Benwell, Chief Executive of the Wildlife and Countryside Link discussing “*Targets trends and trajectories: can DEFRA halt the decline of nature?*”
  - Natalie Prosser, Chief Executive of the Office for Environmental Protection examining how we “*Tackle the biodiversity crisis through effective environmental governance*”.

### What delegates can expect

Keynotes, practical examples, policy insight, data and digital innovation, awards, exhibition, and networking

### What sponsors can expect

A curated, tiered offer with clear recognition, access to delegates, balanced between visibility and delivery



## Sponsorship Packages

All packages are designed to create meaningful visibility and relationship building, while protecting the quality and integrity of the conference. Any speaking opportunity is subject to NBN curation and final programme design. Delegate contact details are not shared unless attendees choose to opt in.

### Headline Partner

**1 opportunity available**

**£25,000**

- Named as headline partner across core conference communications
- Prime logo placement on conference webpage, slides, signage and programme
- Social media acknowledgement linked to the event
- One curated, co-designed session contribution or fireside conversation
- Prime location exhibition stand
- Six delegate places
- Invitation to a private roundtable with the CEO and selected stakeholders
- Recognition as bursary supporter
- Company profile on the conference webpage
- One agreed post-event blog or case study, subject to approval
- Short post-event impact summary covering audience reach, sector mix and delivered sponsor visibility.
- Exclusive, renewal, and multi-year arrangements can be discussed separately.

### Gold Sponsor

**Up to 2 opportunities available**

**£12,500**

- Strong logo placement on conference materials and webpage
- Social media acknowledgement linked to the event
- Option for a curated case study or speaker contribution, subject to fit
- Exhibition stand
- Three delegate places
- Invitation to a sponsor networking opportunity, subject to final programme
- Potential association with a defined conference moment, such as a networking break or reception, subject to final programme and sponsor mix.
- Company profile on the conference webpage

### Silver Sponsor

**Up to 3 opportunities available**

**£6,000**

- Logo on conference materials and webpage
- Small exhibition or display space
- Up to two delegate places
- Invitation to a sponsor networking opportunity, subject to final programme
- Company profile on the conference webpage
- Social media acknowledgement linked to the event

## Bronze Sponsor

Up to 4 opportunities available

**£3,000**

- Logo on conference materials and webpage
- One delegate place
- Name included in sponsor thank-you communications
- Short company listing on the conference webpage

## Supporter

Up to 3 opportunities available

**£1,000**

- Logo included in sponsor list on webpage and event slides
- Acknowledgement in post-event thank-you communications

## Package design principles

- Each package retains value and benefits build by sponsorship tier.
- All speaking engagement content is curated
- Access to attendee contact data based on opt-in (GDPR compliant)
- Benefits are designed to be proportionate and deliverable within a one-day conference format.

## Invitation-only Roundtable

The headline package includes a small, invitation-only roundtable chaired by the NBN Trust CEO.

- We envisage 8 to 12 participants drawn from public bodies, research, nature organisations, and selected business representatives.
- The focus could be a practical discussion on resilience, risk, place, and the role of biodiversity data in better decision making.
- The final theme, format, and guest list would be agreed in advance with the headline partner.



NBN Trust Chief Executive, Dr Gareth Thomas, leading a private roundtable during UN Climate Change Conference COP30 in 2025, at the Climate Innovation Zone



NBN Conference 2025

## Sponsorship Package Comparison

Benefit	Headline	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Supporter
Price	£25,000*	£12,500	£6,000	£3,000	£1,000
Opportunities available	1	2	3	4	3
Named partner status	Yes	-	-	-	-
Curated session or speaking contribution	Yes	By agreement	-	-	-
Exhibition presence	Prime stand	Stand	Small display	-	-
Delegate places included	6	3	2	1	-
Logo on website, slides, and programme	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Sponsor list
Company profile on conference webpage	Full profile	Full profile	Profile	Short listing	-
Sponsor networking invitation	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-
Opt-in lead capture support	Yes	Yes	By agreement	-	-
Private roundtable invitation	Yes	-	-	-	-
Bursary supporter recognition	Yes	-	-	-	-
Post-event content opportunity	Yes	-	-	-	-
Post-event impact summary	Yes	-	-	-	-

\*Exclusive and multi-year arrangements available at additional cost

## About the NBN Trust

The National Biodiversity Network Trust exists to promote the collection, sharing and use of biodiversity data to support UK nature recovery.

We are a bridge between those who record wildlife and gather biodiversity data, and those who need high quality data to plan, manage and assess change in the natural environment.

We develop and host the [NBN Atlas](#), the world's largest national biodiversity data platform. The NBN Atlas is an essential resource containing more than 335 million wildlife records, approximately 1 billion records downloaded a year, and over 2.5-million-page views annually.

We also promote wildlife recording and citizen science tools such as [iNaturalistUK](#), and support, connect and celebrate the wildlife conservation community through the [National Biodiversity Network](#), one of the UK's largest partnerships for nature.

**To discuss sponsoring the  
NBN Conference 2026, contact:**

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**NBN Trust**   
Making data work for nature



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**National Biodiversity Network Trust 2026**

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