

26th National Biodiversity Network Conference
Thursday 19 November 2026 - Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds
*"Nature as National Resilience: turning biodiversity data into action
 for people, place and a changing climate"*

08:45 - 09:10 Registration

Morning session

09:10 - 09:20 Welcome and introduction by Pete Tomlin, NBN Trust Chairperson

09:20 – 09:45 Keynote address

**Session 1: Planning, land use and resilient places – chair of session –
 Vanessa Neill Brown, NBN Trustee**

09:45 – 10:00 Deb Muscat, Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (ALERC)

10:00 – 10:15 Becky Garden, Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) –
"Delivering a Biodiversity Audit for South Kensington's Culture Quarter"

10:15 – 10:30 Jamie Robins, Buglife – *"Important Invertebrate Areas – Putting Bugs on the
 Map"*

10:30 - 10:40 Q&A

10:40 – 11:10 Tea / coffee break

**Session 2: Data and digital infrastructure for nature recovery– chair of session -
 Dom Aslan, NBN Trustee**

11:15 – 11:30 Julie Bunt - The UK Archive for Marine Species and Habitats Data (DASSH), The
 Marine Biological Association – *"DASSH and the NBN: Enhancing Two-Way
 Marine Data Integration"*

11:30 – 11:45 Alex Rabeau. PhD, SPHERE-PPL (Imperial College London) – *"Applying AI
 Forecasting to Species Distribution Modelling Using the NBN Atlas"*

11:45 – 12:00 Tree Robinson and Joe Taylor, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)
 – *"Biodiversity data in action"*

12:00 – 12:10 Q&A

Session 3: NBN Trust technical updates – chair of session - Dom Aslan, NBN Trustee

12:10 – 12:20 Will Millard, NBN Trust Data & Analytics Manager – *"Recent enhancements to the
 NBN Atlas"*

12:20 – 12:30 Phil Bysh / Joshua Keenan – NBN Trust – *"NBN Record Manager – a new
 system for managing, curating and sharing biological records"*

12:30 – 13:40 Lunch, posters and displays

12:30 – 12:45 NBN Trust AGM

NB: Timings are still subject to slight change

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Afternoon session

13:45 – 14:10 The Sir John Burnett Memorial Lecture 2026

Session 4: Wildlife recording and community action – chair of session TBC

14:10 – 14:25 Sarah Staunton-Lamb, Earthwatch Europe – *“Communities and citizen science”*

14:25 – 14:40 Hollie Alhasan-Warman, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust – *“INNS Mapper – recording invasive non-native species – management, sightings, and surveys”*

14:40 – 14:50 Q&A

Session 5: Panel Discussion

14:50 – 15:15 *“Verification – Challenges and Opportunities”*
(Dr Abigail Lowe, Keiron Brown plus others)

15:15 – 15:40 Tea / coffee break

**Session 6: Research, policy and investment decisions – chair of session –
Dr Katie Leach, NBN Trustee**

15:45 – 16:00 Alison Smith, Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery, University of Oxford –
“Nature for resilience and security: evidence for smarter policymaking”

16:00 – 16:15 Emily Field, British Standards Institution – *“From ambition to action: the role of standards in building resilience through nature”*

16:15 – 16:30 Juliette Perche, Natcap – *“Understanding Nature’s ROI: Practical examples of business opportunities in nature action”*

16:30 – 16:40 Q&A

16:40 – 16:50 Gareth Thomas, NBN Trust CEO closing remarks

17:00 End of NBN Conference

17:15 – 18:00 NBN Awards for Wildlife Recording

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NBN Conference is organised by:

With huge thanks to our 2026 NBN Conference partners: