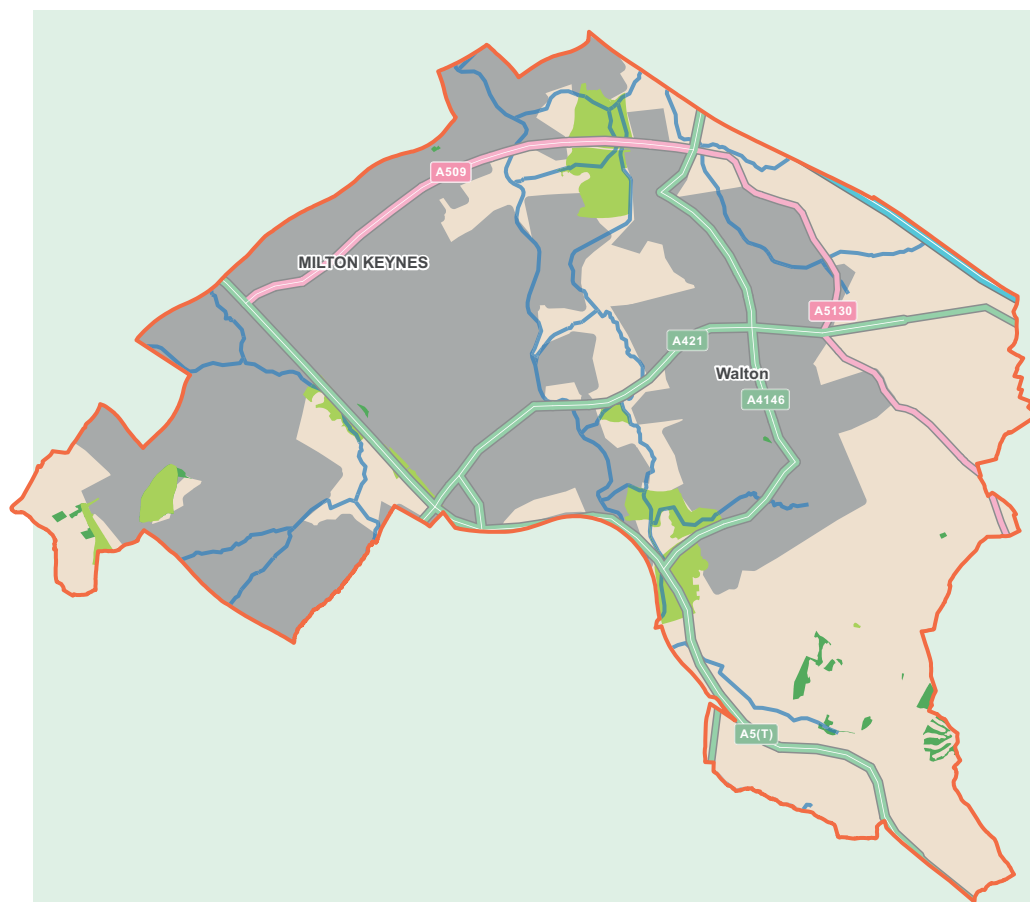


# Milton Keynes Central Constituency



**Berkshire  
Buckinghamshire  
& Oxfordshire  
Wildlife Trust**



## In this constituency, there are:

- over 1,400 BBOWT members
- 9 Local Wildlife Sites (270 Ha)

### KEY

- Nationally designated wildlife sites
- Local Wildlife Site (LWS)
- Rivers and streams

## Nature in the constituency

The Milton Keynes Central constituency offers close access to landscapes recognised as nationally important for the wildlife they support. However, as the recent State of Nature reports consistently highlight, wildlife across England, including in this constituency is in severe decline.

### Local Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

The Ouzel Valley has important floodplain meadows which offer significant opportunities for improving wildlife habitats and enabling the county to meet its Biodiversity Action Plan targets. Habitat

conservation and re-creation along the Ouzel Valley will give more space for wildlife and more opportunities for people to enjoy watching overwintering birds on Willen Lake and butterflies along the hedgerows near Stoke Hammond.

The River Ouzel, which runs down the heart of the constituency, was recently classified as being in moderate ecological health according to the State of Our Rivers 2024 report.

Oxley Mead is a Site of Special Scientific Interest in the Oxley Park district of Milton Keynes Central covering nearly four hectares. The site is an ancient hay meadow that has been traditionally managed without the resort to fertilisers or herbicides. The main plants are herbs such as great burnet and meadow sweet, and grasses include meadow foxtail and sweet vernal grass. The meadow is surrounded by hedgerows which have a wide variety of trees and shrubs.



There are 46 Wildlife Trusts across the UK working towards nature's recovery. The Wildlife Trusts are a grassroots movement of people from a wide range of backgrounds and all walks of life, who believe that we need nature and nature needs us.

## Working for wildlife



Building a bird nest box ©Evie + Tom photography

### Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)

LNRS will set out and map priorities for nature's recovery in each of 48 areas in England. BBOWT is working with local authorities and other organisations on preparing LNRS across our three counties.

### #teamWILDER

Team Wilder is a rapidly growing movement of people who care about our environment and want to help wildlife thrive. Through Team Wilder we are empowering communities to act for a wilder future. If 1 in 4 people takes visible action for nature, we will create the social tipping point required to reverse nature's devastating decline. People are stepping forward from every sector of society to lead change in their fields and we welcome farmers, businesses, schools, politicians, and individuals as part of Team Wilder.

### Community Groups

Independent of BBOWT, there are several community groups in the Milton Keynes area whose aims align with ours in terms of expanding and reconnecting local communities with nature. The Milton Keynes Natural History Society, for instance, seeks to promote public interest in wildlife and to encourage the study and preservation of our flora and fauna. Many of the sites in the area are managed by the Parks Trust, an independent charity that expertly cares for over 6000 acres of green space in Milton Keynes.

“Volunteering with BBOWT nourishes the soul and helps maintain a balance in my life”  
BBOWT volunteer

## About BBOWT

BBOWT has a vision of a wilder Berks, Bucks and Oxon, with more nature everywhere, for everyone. Our aim is to create bigger, wilder, connected landscapes, where wildlife can thrive. We want to put nature into recovery, with 30% of land in our three counties well managed for wildlife by 2030.

Our mission is to bring about nature's recovery through local action, empowering more people to connect with their local wildlife and take action to save it.

We work to manage habitats to tackle the nature and climate crisis locally. We also help give nature a voice in major planning or policy decisions that threaten nature's recovery.



## Our five priorities for the next government

- 1. Bring back the UK's lost wildlife** – BBOWT's Water Vole Recovery Project has already helped to increase the local range of water voles by more than 50 per cent over the past 15 years.
- 2. End river pollution and water scarcity** – BBOWT has joined a Wildlife Trusts' campaign calling on Government to create new bespoke legal protections for these habitats.
- 3. Fund wildlife-friendly farming** – BBOWT works with farmers across the three counties who prove that wildlife-friendly farming is possible and profitable.
- 4. Enable healthy communities** – BBOWT works with urban communities in Bicester, Banbury, Slough and Reading to help people and nature thrive together.
- 5. Tackle the climate emergency** – BBOWT's Chimney Meadows nature reserve project will help store more carbon than other habitats.



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Buckinghamshire  
& Oxfordshire**  
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### Contact details

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All 46 Wildlife Trusts are members of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (Registered charity number 207238. BBOWT registered charity number 204330).