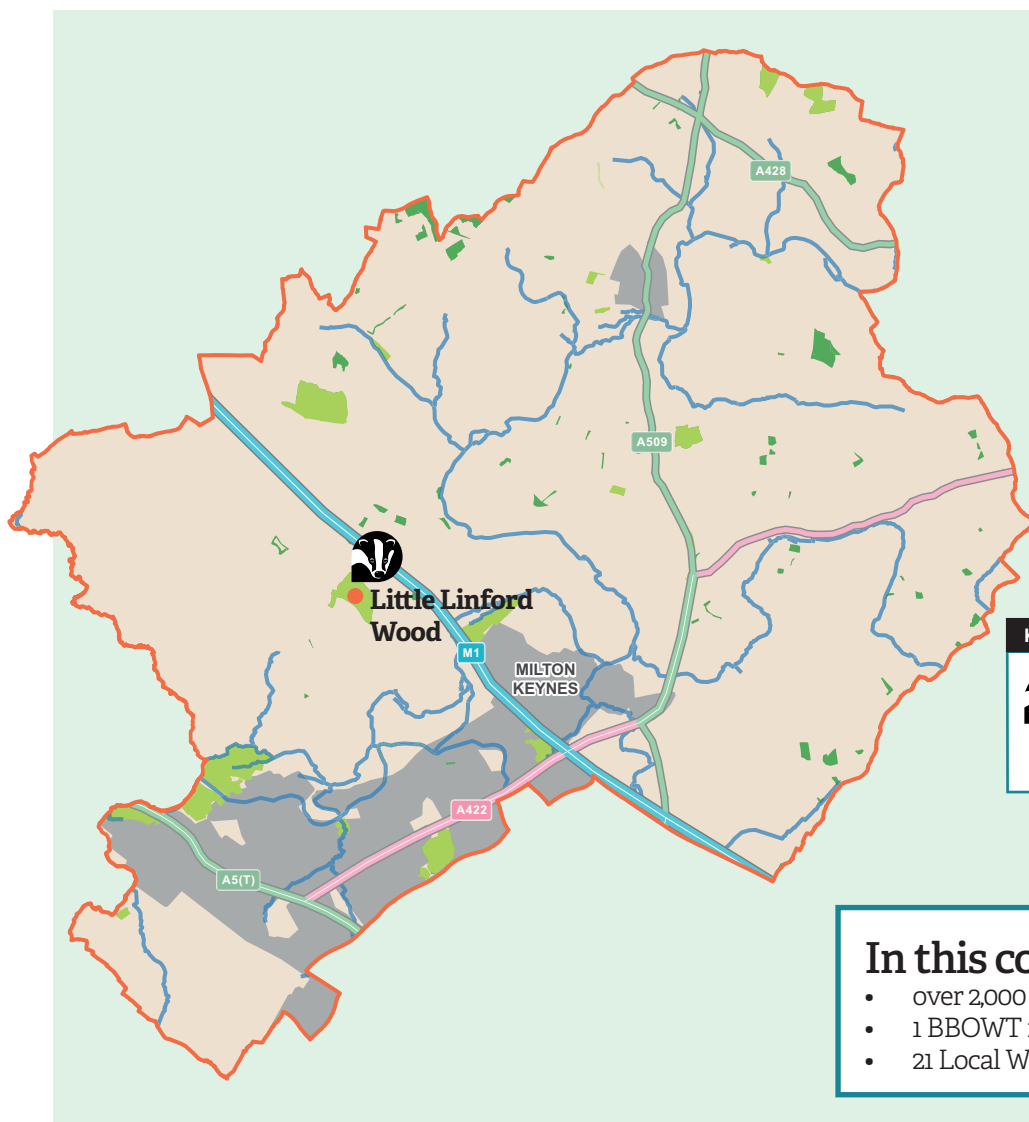






Milton Keynes North Constituency



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire
Wildlife Trust**



KEY	
	Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve
	Nationally designated wildlife site
	Rivers and streams
	Local Wildlife Site (LWS)

In this constituency, there are:

- over 2,000 BBOWT members
- 1 BBOWT nature reserve
- 21 Local Wildlife Sites (453 Ha)

Nature in the constituency

A large proportion of this constituency is rural in nature and typical of the Midlands clay vales, with an attractive countryside made up of relatively small fields and hedgerow networks. The Great Ouse runs through the constituency. However, as the recent State of Nature reports consistently highlight, wildlife across England, including in this constituency, is in severe decline. The recent State of our Rivers 2024 report showed the River Ouse to be in moderate ecological conditioning whilst the nearby Chicheley Brook was in poor ecological condition.

Woodland

Yardley Chase, which partly crosses the border into the constituency, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to the significant wildlife value of the woodland and parkland habitats.

Little Linford Wood is a great example of how woodlands can bounce back. The woodland is now recovering after large parts were clear felled in 1980, just before the Trust took over the site. The site is home to a wide range of rare plants and insects including the nationally scarce black

hairstreak and wood white butterflies. Unique and important floodplain meadow habitat has been created alongside stretches of the Great Ouse.

Local Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

The Ouse Valley Extension has important floodplain meadows which offer significant opportunities for improving wildlife habitats and enabling the county to meet its Biodiversity Action Plan targets. Management and restoration of the lowland meadows will encourage more wildlife including otters.



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 seeks to promote interest in wildlife and to encourage the study and preservation of our flora and fauna.

The Friends of Linford Lakes Nature Reserve consists of around 400 members who carry out practical conservation tasks and organise events and regular open days.

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.

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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Wildlife Trust

Contact details

Estelle Bailey
Chief Executive
e publicaffairs@bbowt.org.uk
t 01865 775476
bbowt.org.uk
wildlifetrusts.org

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