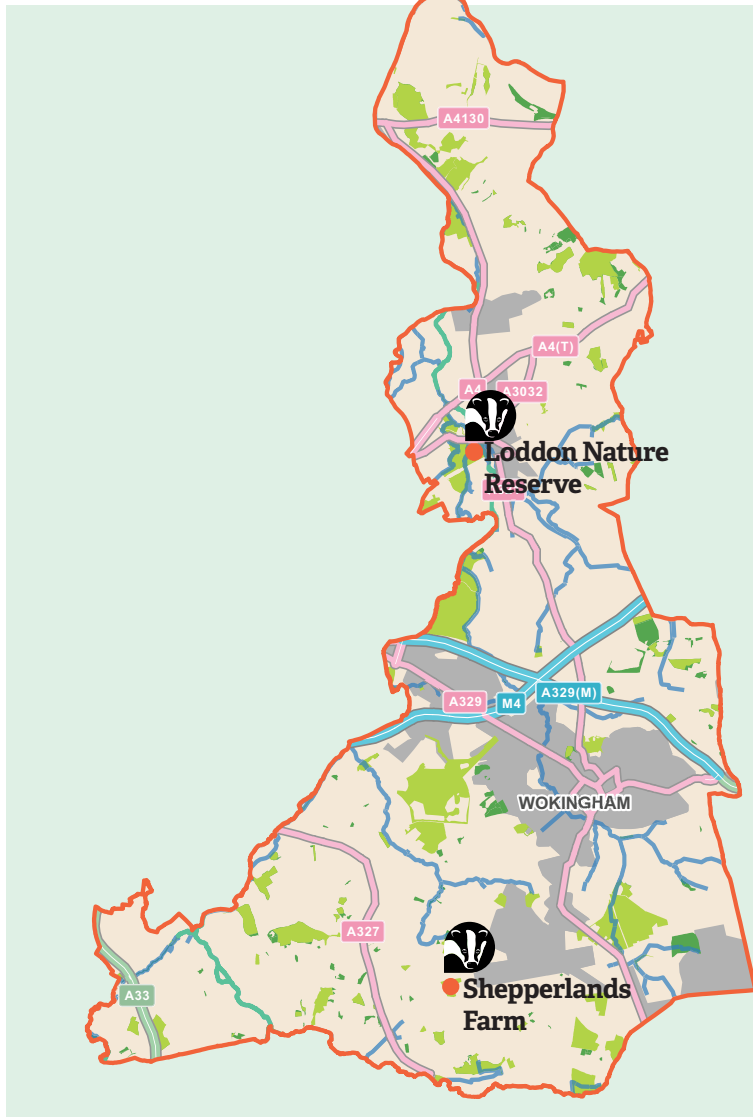


Wokingham Constituency



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire
Wildlife Trust**



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

In this constituency, there are:

- over 2,500 BBOWT members
- 2 BBOWT nature reserves
- 93 Local Wildlife Sites (1,097 Ha)

Nature in the constituency

The Wokingham constituency has 1,097 ha of Local Wildlife Sites. In addition to the precious meadows, ancient woodlands, heathland and rivers, former gravel pits are becoming increasingly valuable wildlife habitats. The River Loddon, which runs through the constituency, however, is not in good ecological health.

The Loddon Valley

Former gravel pits are becoming important wildlife habitats. Our Loddon Nature Reserve in Twyford is a large, flooded gravel pit with several islands and a scrubby

fringe, providing ideal conditions for wintering birds. In spring oystercatchers can be seen on the island.

Shepperlands Farm

A beautiful trio – heath, wood and meadow teeming with wildlife. The small heathland glade was resurrected from pine plantation and is developing into a valuable addition to this regionally significant habitat. In the summer the ground is carpeted in a haze of purple heather, while tucked away in sheltered sunny spots common lizards can be seen basking, and the lucky visitor

might even spot an adder. There are some wonderful old oak trees scattered through the younger trees on the reserve. These trees and their decaying wood make homes for countless insects, as well as the woodpeckers and treecreepers and the purple hairstreak butterfly. The small damp meadow is a rare wildlife survivor escaping the ravages of modern intensive farming. In spring and summer, wildflowers such as common bird's-foot-trefoil and cuckooflower create a paradise for butterflies and grasshoppers.



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.

Volunteering

Wokingham is covered by the East Berkshire regional group of volunteers, which plays a key role in raising the profile of BBOWT in the area. The group helps to raise vital funds primarily through the selling of BBOWT goods at local fairs held throughout the year, street collections, and sales of Christmas trees.

It also seeks to increase the membership by organising local events and volunteer work parties. Walks, talks and training courses are organised at various times, some of which are run in conjunction with other charitable organisations.

“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.



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire**
Wildlife Trust

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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).