

How to declare a local nature reserve

To declare your site as a LNR, first you should contact Natural England by email: consultations@naturalengland.org.uk or telephone: 0300 060 3900.

You'll be asked to formally declare your LNR by sending a draft declaration document - you can use this [declaration document template](#) (MS Word Document, 26 KB). It must be signed by the relevant local authority committees, have a map showing the boundary and a management plan detailing:

- ownership of the land
- any agreements or partnerships
- why the LNR site was chosen
- aims and objectives
- biodiversity management and environmental education
- community participation, access and visitor management
- costs and funding arrangements

Following the consultation you will be asked to send the final declaration document to Natural England, signed by the relevant local authority committees.

Announce your local nature reserve

You should put an advert announcing the LNR in a local paper - you can use this [sample notice](#) (MS Word Document, 25 KB) - and let the public inspect the declaration and boundary map free of charge.

You can hold an official opening ceremony once you have formally declared your LNR.

Natural England will add your LNR to the [Designated Sites View website](#) which provides information about LNRs to the public.