

<p>The Colne Valley Regional Park (CVRP)</p> <p>Covers 110 sq km west of London and is on the doorstep of millions of people. Its 70 lakes and 200km of rivers are nationally important for wildlife such as water voles, otters, kingfishers and rare waterbirds. Established in the 1960s, the Park is overseen by a registered charity that campaigns for restoration and enhancement of the natural environment.</p>	<p>Heathrow Expansion Proposals</p> <p>The new runway will be built over five rivers, harming ecological links between the Thames and the internationally rare chalk streams of the Chilterns.</p> <p>Expansion will have devastating and unprecedented impact on communities, with major loss of green belt and the natural environment currently on their doorstep.</p>
<p>The CVRP has fundamental concerns about the impact of airport expansion</p> <p>If this scheme is to go ahead then it must include and fund key Green and Blue Infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connecting places through excellent green and blue corridors.• Promoting and delivering improved biodiversity, health and well-being for people.• Enhancing the remaining natural environment around Heathrow to restore the first taste of 'England's green and pleasant land', making it something the whole UK can be proud of.	
<p>WE EXPECT THAT HEATHROW EXPANSION MUST:</p>	
<p>Create a rich natural legacy by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving biodiversity near the expanded airport, across the southern Colne Valley Regional Park and the wider Colne Catchment. Mitigation must be focused on the landscape and catchment that is being directly and significantly harmed.• Revealing rivers and breathing new life into them. Enhanced connectivity for migratory fish and other wildlife.• Protected sites enhanced and connected to each other through the wider landscape.• Adequately funded maintenance plan.	<p>Create an attractive, well-maintained, interconnected landscape including convenient green routes by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Linking communities around the airport with green assets.• Enabling people to enjoy nature by walking and cycling.• Providing public transport and active travel connections between where people live and their chosen places of work/ leisure around (or at) Heathrow – to complement 'on road' routes e.g. into work on road; back home via green route.• Restoration of landscape quality which is maintained in perpetuity