

UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON  
**ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION**  
2021-2030

# NATURE POSITIVE VERIFICATION SERVICE



Nature Positive Universities are piloting this new service in 2026, aiming to support institutions who have made the Nature Positive Pledge in their nature-positive journey.

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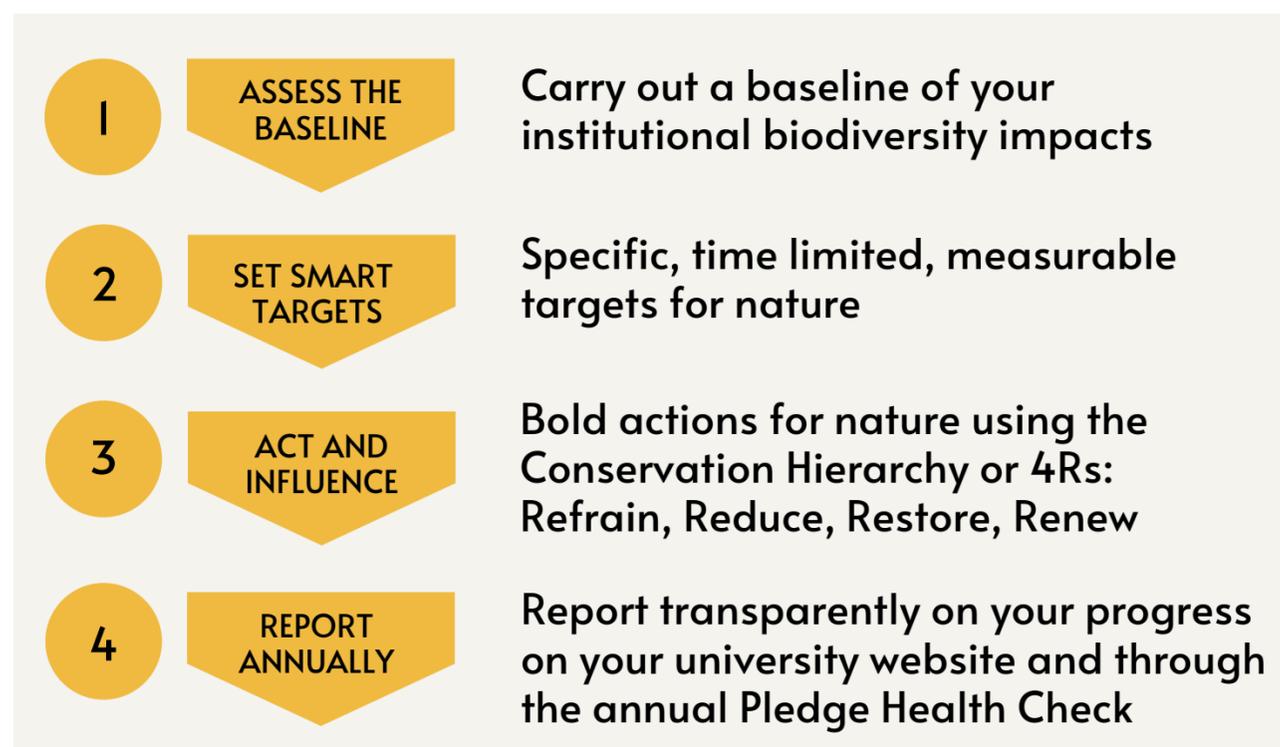
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# WHAT IS THE VERIFICATION SERVICE?



*Steps of the Nature Positive Pledge*

As part of the annual Nature Positive Pledge Health Check (or as part of the initial Nature Positive Pledge form), institutions can **submit their institutional activities** and apply for verification for their nature-positive journey, whereby the Nature Positive Universities (NPU) team **independently checks and verifies an institution's progress towards nature-positive outcomes.**

The verified institutions and their activities will be **spotlighted on the NPU website** and will be provided with a **badge** which can be added to institutional websites and communications.

# HOW DOES THE SERVICE WORK?



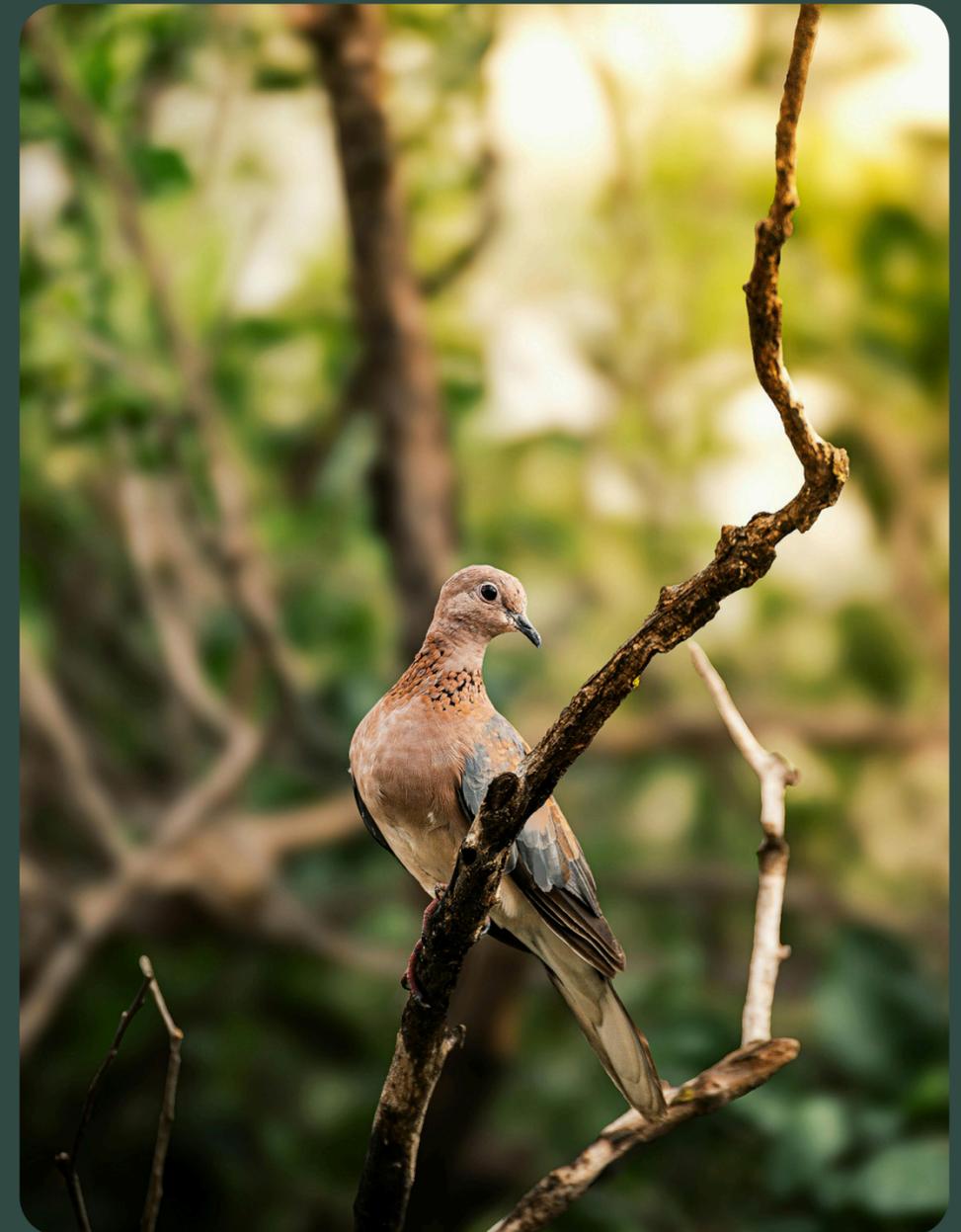
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Once an institution has confirmed they wish to proceed with verification, they will be asked to complete a pre-screening form and once approved, payment. If verification is selected as part of the Pledge process, this pre-screening form will not be needed.

As part of the verification process, the NPU team will conduct an independent review of the information provided in the Pledge or Health Check Form and check the institution's progress towards nature-positive outcomes. The team will look for evidence of capacity and a plan to achieve measurable outcomes together with reporting on progress.

Once verified, a badge will be issued which can be used on an institution's website and in their communications. The verified institution and their activities will also be spotlighted on the NPU website. There may be instances where we cannot award verification based on the evidence provided to us, in this case we would contact the institution and support them to provide additional evidence.

Verification is conducted annually and can be applied for as part of the Pledge Health Check, within the initial Pledge form, or can be applied for on a rolling basis whenever an institution is ready to get verified.



# CRITERIA FOR VERIFICATION

- ✓ University, college or higher education institution has made the Nature Positive Pledge
- ✓ Evidence of capacity or dedicated resources to facilitate action
- ✓ Evidence of measurable progress towards nature positive outcomes as part of the Nature Positive Pledge (progress towards baselines, targets, actions and public reporting).

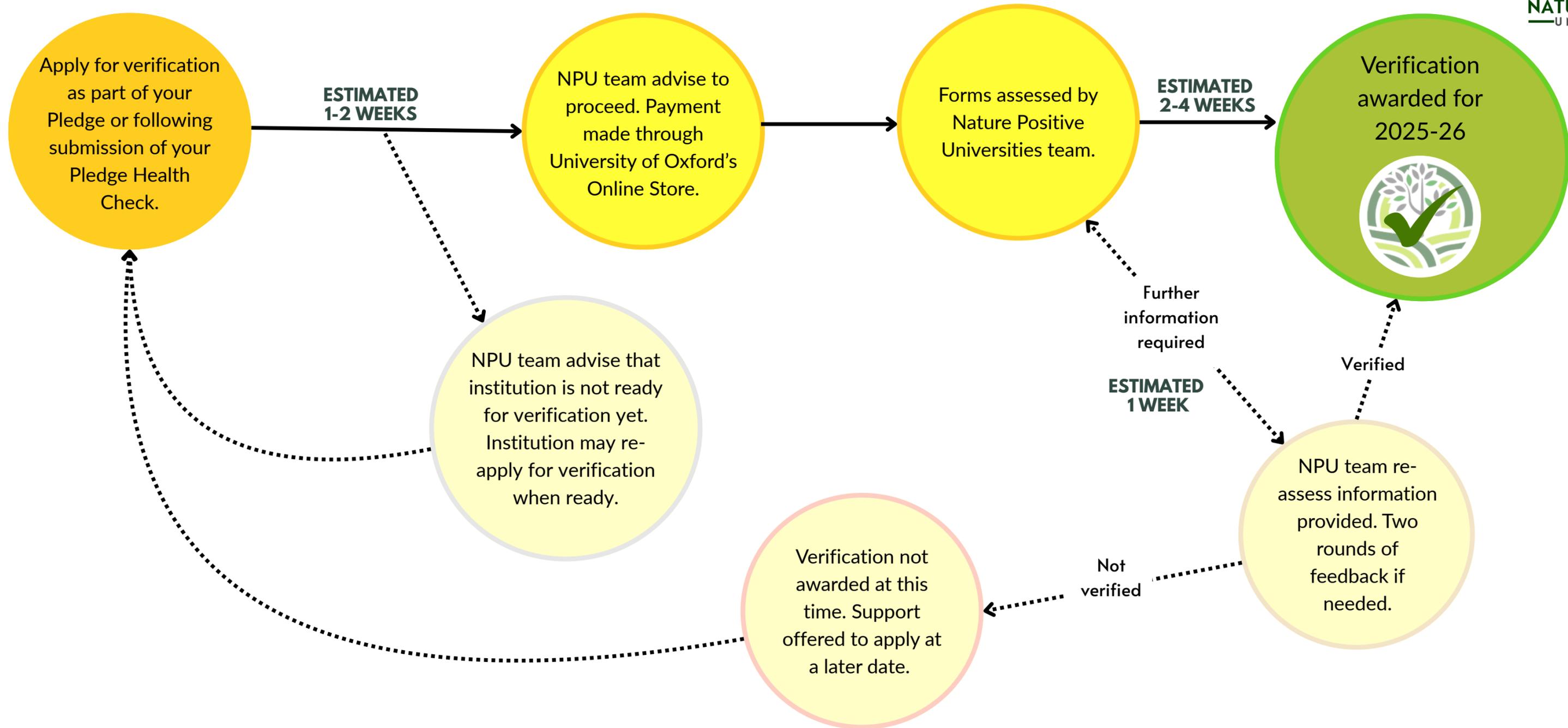
NB: If you have completed the 2025 Pledge Health Check form, this will form the basis of the evidence used.



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# VERIFICATION FRAMEWORK & TIMELINE\*



\*FOR THE PILOT YEAR 2025-26

# PROCESS AND COSTS



During the first year of piloting this service, the cost is heavily subsidised and will be **£1000\* GBP** with a **discount available for lower income institutions**, with verification lasting for a year. If an institution signs up for this service in 2026, then we can guarantee the pilot price for 2 years. Payments for this service are to be made through the University of Oxford's Online Store.

If you are from a lower income institution and cannot afford the full cost of this service, then please reach out to us via email at [emily.stott@biology.ox.ac.uk](mailto:emily.stott@biology.ox.ac.uk) and [hollie.thompson@biology.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hollie.thompson@biology.ox.ac.uk) and we can discuss this with you.

Following applying for the service, the main contact(s) at the institution will be asked to complete a pre-screening form. If verification is selected as part of the Pledge process, this pre-screening form will not be needed.

Once this form has been reviewed by the NPU team and the verification request approved, further details will be provided to the institution, including a link to the University of Oxford's Online Store.

A screenshot of a web form titled "Verification service" on the Nature Positive Universities website. The form includes fields for personal and institutional details, a confirmation section, and a "Submit" button. The form is set against a background image of a forest and mountains.

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## Verification service

Complete the pre-screening form below

Please complete the below form and click 'Submit'. Once this form has been reviewed by the Nature Positive Universities team and the verification request approved, further details will be provided to the institution, including a link to the University of Oxford's Online Store to make payment for this service.

Name of person completing this form: \* Position of person completing this form: \*

Email address of person completing this form: \*

Name of institution \* Country \*

Please confirm that you would like to apply for the verification service: \*

Yes, I want to apply for verification

In order to proceed with verification, please confirm the following: \*

I can confirm that my university, college or higher education institution has made the Nature Positive Pledge

I can provide evidence to document measurable progress towards nature positive outcomes as part of the Nature Positive Pledge (and Nature Positive Health Check, if applicable) made by my institution

I understand that for this pilot year (2025-26), the cost of the verification will be £1000 GBP (if you are a lower income institution and would like to request a discount, please indicate in the box below)

I understand that a summary of my university's progress will be shared (either on my website, or on the NPU website) as part of the verification process. Please note: we will contact you to confirm this information, and NPU will not publish any information on the NPU website without your permission

I can provide evidence that resources have been dedicated to take action (this could include a named member of staff responsible or existence of a working group within the institution)

Please use this space to share any questions or comments you have about the verification service:

Submit

Screenshot of pre-screening form



\*This cost will be reviewed annually and is subject to change

# BENEFITS OF THIS SERVICE



Independent review of your institutional activities showing accountability

If verification is applied for by an institution, the NPU Team will conduct a independent review of the information provided in the latest Health Check Form (and/or the initial Nature Positive Pledge form) and check the institution's progress towards nature-positive outcomes.



A badge to showcase your commitment and leadership for nature

Once an institution has been verified, they will be provided with a time-stamped badge which can be added to institutional websites, email banners and other communications to showcase that they are an NPU verified institution.



A spotlight on the Nature Positive Universities website

Verified institutions will be spotlighted on the NPU website, in newsletters and on social media, which will include a summary of their progress being shared and could also include their activities being featured in a highlighted case study.



Supporting the Nature Positive Universities community

Verification supports the core costs of the Nature Positive Universities initiative such as the NPU website, staff time, webinars and student support, and allows us to build an inclusive community of higher education institutions across 100 countries.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



- **What are the timings of the verification process?** You can be verified with evidence of your activities over the last year (as submitted in the Pledge or Pledge Health Check) at any point in 2026 and verification will last for a year from date of award. More information about the timings of the process can be found on page 6. All pledged and verified institutions will need to complete the Pledge Health Check annually in November.
- **Can an institution get verified when they make the Nature Positive Pledge?** Yes, there is an option to select verification when you complete the initial Nature Positive Pledge form, however we would only advise to select this option if you have already completed work on the stages of the pledge. If you have not yet completed this work, then this is not the time to verify.
- **Does being verified mean I am a Nature Positive University?** By being verified it means you've taken meaningful steps towards measurable nature-positive outcomes, which will contribute towards a global nature-positive goal. However organisations cannot be nature-positive because this is a societal goal that requires whole-system change.
- **What is the cost of verification?** During the first year of piloting this service (in 2026), the cost will be heavily subsidised at £1000 GBP with a 50% discount available for lower income institutions. This lasts for a year from receiving verification. Any members verified in 2026 will be able to access the 2026 price for 2027 verification.

# CONTACT US



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*If you have  
questions,  
please  
contact us:*



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