

Biodiversity Strategy 2020/21

This is an overview of the strategy as an initiating document with the intention of being developed into an operational plan.

Part 1, Section 6 of Environment (Wales) Act 2016, introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty for public authorities, and works hand in hand with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

Requirements of the Act

- seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity
- promote the resilience of ecosystems
- embed the consideration of biodiversity and ecosystems in policies, plans, programmes and projects, as well as day to day activities
- duty is about taking steps to protect nature in our public places and wider landscape, both through practical action on the ground, and in the way all public functions are carried out.

Llanbadoc Community Council is a small rural community and owns a number of Commons, including ancient woodlands, play areas, playing fields and roadside verges. These provide a valuable resource for the community which is extremely important in terms of ecological, amenity and landscape.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

In line with the requirements of Section 6 of Environment (Wales) Act 2016 our aims and objectives include:

- Provide a strategic overview for biodiversity conservation
- Encourage a common approach to biodiversity conservation and identify areas of best practice
- Encourage education, community action and involvement as a key part of the biodiversity process
- Acknowledge biodiversity conservation as a key element of sustainable development
- Promote the importance of biodiversity at a local level

PERFORMANCE TARGETS 2020/21

1. Embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement, eg review management of grassland verges and public open space
2. Raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance, eg use of signage, leaflets, website
3. Safeguard principal species and habitats, eg identify funding and other available resources for management
4. Restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks, eg new planting of saplings to develop an understory and ensure the resilience of the woodlands, wildflowers.
5. Tackle negative factors e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species
6. Encourage public access and ensure footpaths are clearly indicated and kept clear to ensure that damage to ground flora is kept to a minimum.
7. Encourage & facilitate community groups to get involved with projects
8. Engage and mirror what is happening in the wider community, eg, no mow May with MCC, Bees for Development - Monmouth Bee Town, Monmouthshire Meadows, Plantlife etc

NEXT STEPS

1. To be agreed/discussed further monitoring and demonstrating effectiveness of strategy and plan, ie how performance targets will be met and maintained.
2. Respond to environmental factors as appropriate
3. Review plan 3 yearly or before as necessary

References

Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

One Voice Wales

<https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Section-6>

Woodlands for Wales Strategy

The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

<https://monmouthshiremeadows.org.uk/>

<https://plantlife.love-wildflowers.org.uk/roadvergecampaign/management-guidelines>

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/policies-plans-strategies/the-bristol-biodiversity-action-plan>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-duty-public-authority-duty-to-have-regard-to-conserving-biodiversity>

<https://www.ecowatch.com/nature-destruction-pandemics-2646191121.html?rebelltitem=1#rebelltitem1>