

Llandrindod Wells Town Council

REPORT UNDER BIODIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY (Part 1, Section 6, Environment (Wales) Act 2016)

Llandrindod Wells Town Council is committed to reducing the decline of biodiversity in its area and realises the importance of biodiversity conservation and enhancement for our community's health and wellbeing and enables behaviour change towards a sustainable lifestyle.

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Under the Environment (Wales) Act (2016) all public bodies in Wales are required to;

1. Maintain and enhance biodiversity when carrying out their responsibilities and in doing so promote the resilience of ecosystems
2. Demonstrate an ecosystem approach by applying the principles set out in the Act
3. Prepare and publish a plan outlining how they intend to fulfil the duty
4. Publish a report, every three years, on the actions which they have taken to meet this duty

A public authority, in complying with the Section 6 duty, must have regard to:

- The Section 7 list of habitats and species of principle importance for Wales.
- The State of Nature Report published by Natural Resources Wales.
- Any area statement which covers all or part of the area in which the authority exercises its functions, once these are produced.

Complying with the Section 6 duty will also help Public Authorities subject to the Well-being of future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to maximise their contributions to the Well-being goals. At present this is not a statutory obligation for Llandrindod Wells Town Council.

- Objective 1: Engage and support participation and understanding **to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels**
- Objective 2: **Safeguard species and habitats** of principal importance and improve their management
- Objective 3: **Increase the resilience* of our natural environment** by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation.

- Objective 4: **Tackle key pressures** on species and habitats
- Objective 5: Improve our **evidence, understanding and monitoring**
- Objective 6: Put in place a framework of **governance and support** for delivery

Town Council Land

The Town Council owns and/or manages the following areas of land:

Crabtree Green Allotments – 39 full size plots

Oxford Road Field – Junior Football pitch

Princes Avenue Leisure Park – Outdoor sporting recreation area including Crazy Golf Course

Skate Ramp (surrounding area) – Half Pipe with minimal surrounding area

Memorial Gardens Flower Beds – Manage unitary authority flower beds

Temple Gardens Flower Beds - Manage unitary authority flower beds

North Avenue Roundabout - Manage unitary authority flower beds

HSBC/Commodore Roundabout - Manage unitary authority flower beds

Hampton/Station Crescent Roundabout - Manage unitary authority flower beds

Below is the analysis of activities:

Short description of PA & its functions and context in relation to biodiversity (e.g. management of land, influence over land management, or indirect influence through procurement, funding projects, etc)	<p>The Town Council is responsible for several outdoor areas as listed above.</p> <p>It ensures that all natural habitats are protected at all times and introduces pollinator friendly plants whenever possible. Bird and Bat Boxes are programmed for installation shortly at the Princes Avenue Leisure Park</p>	
Action carried out to:		Monitored by:
-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	<p>Careful monitoring of the Powys County Council LDP and other decisions.</p> <p>Commencement of Place Planning Project</p>	<p>Town Clerk</p> <p>A Curtis</p>
-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain local flower beds • Maintain and plant roundabout • Manage stocked fish pond, • Manage local town allotments 	Town Clerk/Members

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold bi-annual Allotment Tenants meetings. • Council representatives on the Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition group currently working on Climate Emergency. • Council representative on the Fairtrade Group. 	<p>Allotment Committee</p> <p>S Meredudd/ K Brelstaff</p> <p>S Meredudd</p>
-safeguard principal species and habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No herbicides or insecticides used in grounds maintenance or allotments • Pleached hedges at the allotments to support wildlife and nesting (timescale 2nd September to 28th February annually.) • Trees assessed regularly • Installation of Bird & Bat Nesting Boxes at Leisure Park • Maintain hedgehog habitat • Allocation of finances within the budget to sustain environmental projects and bio-diversity. 	<p>Allotment Committee</p> <p>Council</p> <p>Council</p>
-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careful monitoring of planning applications for removal of hedgerows and trees. • Lopping or removing of dangerous of nuisance trees • Exploring grant applications to extend works to be planned • Ground nesting birds and rare newts do not nesting on our owned or managed land currently, This will be monitored. 	<p>Council</p> <p>Town Clerk</p>
-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular recycling undertaken • Tidying of various planting areas • Support Tidy Towns Wales Dog Mess Awareness Campaign 	<p>Council</p>

address invasive species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Clean Up initiatives with local groups – Army Cadets • Motion to One Voice Wales with regard to single-use plastics 	S Meredudd
-use, improve and share evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities record in Council Minutes, included on Website and Facebook/Social Media • Regular reports from members on specific projects 	Town Clerk
-support capacity, and/or other organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarding grants to various local Environmental groups e.g. Friends of Rock Park, Gardner’s for Wildlife, Radnorshire Wildlife Trust, Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition, Cefnlllys Allotments, Pomarium 	Council
Key outcomes: use narrative and metrics where possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of an unused site as a Leisure Park which includes bee-friendly planting, Bird & Bat Nesting Boxes, trees, hedgerows and outdoor equipment, promoting outdoor activities. • Currently developing a Place Plan – Llandrindod Future Planning covering environmental aspects and implications. • Installation of benches • Installation of Interpretation boards identifying trees, plants and wildlife • Design and print of several walking leaflets promoting outdoor recreation. • Awarding of grants to local Environmental groups to facilitate their works 	
Review points, for e.g. enablers and barriers to action, improvements to forward plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the effect decisions made have on bio-diversity and the environment. • Reduce use of paper by producing electronic documents • Creation of new habitats via Bird & Bat nesting boxes • Monitor hedgehog habitats • Maintain all hedges providing natural habitats (timescale 2nd September to 28th February annually) • Continue to work closely with Radnorshire Wildlife Trust, Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition and other groups. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Natural Resources Wales to identify grant funding for future projects • Planting Flowerbeds & planters with pollinator friendly plants • Implementation of a new 3-year Composting System for the Allotments to ensure that waste is used to sustain new growth – implemented October 2019
How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be an ongoing process of monitoring against objectives, with an annual review of the S6 Plan by Council. • Encourage members to attend relevant training

Action Plan

1. To continue to provide organic allotments
2. Seek grant funding for additional projects
3. Award grants to local groups supporting bio-diversity projects
4. Install Bird & Bat Boxes on sites
5. Continue to work in partnership with Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition
6. Work in conjunction with “Incredible Edible” Project
7. Continue to work with Radnorshire Wildlife Trust to develop projects
8. Take over additional land from Powys County Council to enable further bio-diversity projects and work to be carried out including wildflower planting.
9. Liaise with County Council to take over coppice land to house “bug hotels.”
10. Encourage County Council to plant wildflowers on road verges and other unsuitable for development
11. Monitor public rights of ways, their hedges or other boundaries, trees, streams and grassland.
12. Encourage local land owners to be eco-friendly e.g. Hoteliers
13. Encourage and support local schools and youth groups to engage in bio-diversity projects
14. Introduce bio-diversity community consultations
15. Involve local people in planting indigenous trees in town owned or managed land

19.02.20