Un Llais Cymru

One Voice Wales

Community & Town Councils

Biodiversity Action Plan

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6 The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Name of Community & Town Council:	Welshpool Town Council
Council type (Group 1, 2 or 3 for NRAP Objectives):	Group 2

Introduction and Context

Welshpool Town Council serves a rural market town of approximately 6,500 residents and is responsible for the management and maintenance of a wide range of public assets, including parks, play areas, amenity land, civic buildings and community facilities.

The Council directly manages or influences approximately 64 acres of land, including Maes y Dre Recreation Ground, Burgess Lands, Dol y Felin, Little Henfaes, the Country Park, Vicarage Gardens, the Town Hall, as well as Lower Powis Castle Park through agreement.

Through its responsibilities for land management, procurement, events, community engagement and partnerships, the Council is well placed to contribute to biodiversity enhancement at a local level.

The Council is subject to the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and recognises its duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience.

This plan covers 2026-2028 with the next Section 6 report issued in December 2028.

NRAP Objective	Biodiversity objectives	Action planned	Time scale	Monitored by:
1	**-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement**	• Continue to report on biodiversity implications in all written reports • Continue to reduce paper use through digital systems and e-Invoicing.	Short term	Town Clerk / Committees

		• Maintain preference for local procurement where possible to reduce environmental impacts.		
	-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	• Improve communication with the public around biodiversity initiatives e.g. No Mow May • Use signage, social media and seasonal messaging to explain environmental works. • Support community events and volunteer days focused on biodiversity. • Look to entering some Council owned land into the Green Flag award (long term).	Short term	Town Clerk / Communications / Committees
2	**-safeguard principal species and habitats**	• Create a tree map of Council land including species identification. • Commission a professional tree survey every 3 – 5 years to assess health and risk. • Install additional bat boxes, bird boxes and explore swift boxes on suitable buildings and sites. • Continue reduced mowing regimes to support pollinators and wildlife.	Short term Medium term Ongoing	Operations Team / Town Clerk / Committees
3	**-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks**	• Explore pollinator-friendly planting across the Welshpool Information Centre, bus station planters and hanging baskets in town centre. • Ensure that planting schemes align visually with ongoing works on Town Centre Improvements. • Prioritising town centre planting schemes which increase ecological networks.	Short to medium term	Operations Team / Committees

		• Create attractive insect hotels and dead hedges using natural materials. • Install a sedum roof in Maes y Dre works. • Continue tree planting and habitat creation across land.		
4	**-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species**	• Baseline waste streams including waste collected by us and PCC. • Continue improving recycling including food waste and material separation where possible. • Explore feasibility for biodigester for grass cuttings with potential to reduce waste and generate heat. • Investigate opportunities to further reduce single-use items across all services. • Continue use of EV vehicles and look to replace Council vehicles with EV where possible.	Short to medium term	Operations Team / Town Clerk
5	**-use, improve, and share evidence**	• Introduce simple monitoring indicators e.g. number of trees, habitat boxes, pollinator areas which support citizen science and community engagement • Investigate grant funding to support biodiversity projects. • Improve internal recording of environmental actions and outcomes.	Short term	Town Clerk
6	**-support capacity and/or other organisations**	• Engage with partners and local volunteer groups on projects. • Identify and engage with partners including Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust, CAT, Canal & River Trust, TRAMPS and others. • Support community groups maintaining plants and green spaces.	Ongoing	Town Clerk

		• Support groups adopting planters		
	Additional environmental improvements	• Investigate use of existing rainwater harvesting systems • Explore wider opportunities for renewable energy. • Explore possible public EV chargers at Council owned parking spaces.	Short term	Operations Team / Town Clerk

Annual review of the Biodiversity Action Plan	**Date reviewed:**	
What has worked well?		
What have the barriers been?		
What will you change?		

Next review due:	
Approved by Council on:	

Un Llais Cymru

One Voice Wales

Back

Group	Description of organisation relative to biodiversity. Organisations:	Minimum Actions	Examples	NRAP objectives for Action Reporting (see template Annex 1)
1	• that own or occupy an office building only and • whose functions are not directly connected to biodiversity and/or land management.	Actions related to buildings management, procurement, sustainability, awareness raising, training, or in partnership with other organisations	Commissions, DVLA	NRAP objectives 1, 4, 6
2	• that own, occupy or manage land their own buildings and grounds, • whose functions are connected with biodiversity and/or land management, or • that can influence those who own or manage land.	As per Group 1 above PLUS grounds management, cascading funding criteria, providing education and training	Public Health Wales, Universities, Sport Wales	NRAP objectives 1,4,6 as above NRAP objectives 2, 3, 5 relating to own grounds
3	• that own or manage land beyond their own grounds, whether their functions are connected with biodiversity and/or land management or not.	As per Groups 1 and 2 above PLUS land management to maintain and enhance biodiversity, and promote the resilience of ecosystems.	Dŵr Cymru, Local Authorities, NRW, Welsh Government	All NRAP objectives

The **Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales (NRAP)** sets out six objectives for reversing the decline of biodiversity which should be used to help develop and guide actions to comply with the section 6 duty:

The **6 objectives** to maintain and enhance biodiversity are:

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

Un Llais Cymru

One Voice Wales

Nôl

Grŵp	Disgrifiad o sefydliad mewn perthynas â bioamrywiaeth Sefydliadau:	Camau Gweithredu Sylfaenol	Enghreifftiau	Amcanion NRAP ar gyfer Adrodd ar gamau Gweithredu (Gweler Templedi)
1	• sy'n berchen neu'n meddiannu adeilad swyddfa yn unig • ac nad yw eu swyddogaethau'n gysylltiedig yn uniongyrchol â bioamrywiaeth a/neu reoli tir.	Camau sy'n gysylltiedig a rheoli adeiladau, caffael, cynaliadwyedd, codi ymwybyddiaeth, hyfforddiant, neu mewn partneriaeth â sefydliadau eraill.	Comisynau, DVLA	Amcanion NRAP: **1, 4, a 6**
2	• sy'n berchen yn meddiannu neu'n rheoli eu adeiladau a'u tir eu hunain, • y mae eu swyddogaethau'n gysylltiedig a bioamrywiaeth a/neu reoli tir, neu • sy'n gallu dylanwadu ar y rhai sy'n berchen ar dir neu'n rheoli tir.	Fel Grŵp 1 uchod A rheoli tir, rhaeadru meini prawf cyllido, darparu addysg a hyfforddiant	Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, Prifysgolion, Chwaraeon Cymru	Amcanion NRAP: **1,4, a 6** *fel uchod* + Amcanion NRAP: **2, 3, a 5** *yn ymwneud â thir y sefydliad*
3	• sy'n berchen ar dir neu'n rheoli tir y tu hwnt I'w tir eu hunain, waeth a yw eu swyddogaethau'n gysylltiedig â bioamrywiaeth a/neu reoli tir ai peidio.	Fel Grwpiau 1 a 2 uchod A rheoli tir er mwyn cynnal a gwella bioamrywiaeth, a hyrwyddo cydnerthedd ecosystemau.	Dŵr Cymru, Awdurdodau Lleol, CNC, Llywodraeth Cymru	Holl amcanion NRAP: **1,2,3,4,5 a 6**

Mae **Cyllun Gweithredu Adfer Natur Cymru (NRAP)** yn gosod chwe amcan ar gyfer gwrthdroi dirywiad bioamrywiaeth a dylid eu defnyddio i helpu i ddatblygu ac arwain gweithredoedd i gydymffurfio â dyletswydd adran 6:

Y **6 amcan** i gynnal a gwella bioamrywiaeth yw:

Amcan 1: Ymgysylltu a chynorthwyo cyfranogi a dealltwriaeth er mwyn gwreiddio bioamrywiaeth ledled y penderfyniadau a wneir ar bob lefel

Amcan 2: Diogelu'r rhywogaethau a'r cynefinoedd pwysicaf, a gwella'r modd y'u rheolir

Amcan 3: Cynyddu cydnerthedd ein hamgylchedd naturiol trwy adfer cynefinoedd a ddiraddiwyd, a chreu cynefinoedd

Amcan 4: Mynd i'r afael â'r pwysau allweddol sydd ar rywogaethau a chynefinoedd

Amcan 5: Gwella ein tystiolaeth, ein dealltwriaeth a'n systemau monitro

Amcan 6: Sefydlu fframwaith llywodraethu a chymorth ar gyfer cyflenwi