

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6
The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty
Report 2024 Adopted 16.06.24

Name of Town or Community Council: **Wentlooge Community Council**

Introduction and Context

Wentlooge Community Council arrange a variety of services for its local community via the Local Authority and via volunteers which have an impact on biodiversity. These include:

- Litter picks inland and foreshore.
- Upkeep of planters at village hall
- Reporting of waste tipping. To the local authority and NRW and to actively use the Fly Mapper system to record incidents
- Reporting of damage of the environment to the Local Authority and NRW.
- Focusing heavily on the effects and impact on the environment when considering planning applications.

We promote sustainability and biodiversity by pursuing sustainability goals and sustainable practices whenever possible. This has been enhanced by the further training and advice given from agencies over the last 12 months.

We serve approximately 642 residents. The precept for 2024-25 is £18291.

Action	Detail	Monitor
Raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	Represent community with all Gwent Levels Stakeholder Groups: Natural Resources Wales Gwent Wildlife Trust Friends of Gwent Levels Neighbouring Community Councils Newport City Council Cardiff City Council	Community Council members and residents.

	<p>Report current issues with resolutions on the WCC Web site and notice boards.</p> <p>Organise awareness raising for members of the Community Council.</p> <p>Encourage the community to volunteer in the context of nature/green spaces.</p> <p>Post details of the actions we have taken to help biodiversity on our website, social media platforms.</p> <p>Register a climate emergency to engage critical stakeholders and attract funding to remediate loss of habitat</p>	<p>Participating community taking part in activities.</p>
<p>Safeguard principal species and habitats</p>	<p>Contributed via third parties to the management of protected sites and species, including Local Wildlife Sites/Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)</p> <p>Managed land via third parties around them to buffer and join them up as part of resilient ecological networks.</p> <p>Ensured no negative impacts on protected species.</p>	<p>Records of any sites or species safeguarded via stakeholders.</p>
<p>Restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks.</p>	<p>Planted hanging baskets and planters with native pollinator friendly flowers.</p> <p>Supported local community woodland which has delivered tree and shrub planting which is now a haven for wildlife and includes features such as a community bench.</p> <p>Created wildlife areas in church yards to provide nesting and hibernating areas</p>	<p>Area of habitat increased/improved via Council monitoring.</p>

	<p>to encourage a range of species.</p> <p>Advice on tree management via Living Levels Project. This has expanded into the orchard programme with numbers of new trees planted and ancient orchards being rescued and restored.</p> <p>Information board and monuments installed to promote the unique eco system in the area.</p>	
Use of expert advice	<p>Taken advice <i>from the Local Environmental Record Centres</i> (LERCs) on local sites and species of interest</p> <p>Via the experts in the living levels project, CPRW, Gwent Wildlife trust, RSPB and Keep Wales Tidy</p>	Records submitted to LERC
Support capacity and/or other organisations	Worked in partnership with Local Wildlife Trust to provide extra volunteers to improve local wildlife area	Partnerships formed to deliver biodiversity benefit.

Review of S6 duty

What has worked well?

The level of volunteers for activities such as litter pick initiatives. This has expanded to involve a group of 3 teams across the Wentlooge area.

The monitoring process and the reporting of issues such as fly tipping and environment destruction.

The work with stakeholders and the knowledge that has been obtained by Councillors.

To review an increase of the installation of a pollinator garden to promote awareness of the environment, eco system and wildlife.

What have the barriers been?

No Community Council control of local spaces. No budget to effect changes and reliant on third parties in all activity.

Large scale developers targeting the green space.

Unauthorised development and lack of planning enforcement to remediate.

What will you change?

Work with stakeholders to affect change and ensure critical planning rules observed such as removal of hedgerows, tree felling, ground coverage with tarmac etc.

How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?

The duty will be monitored through individual officers reporting back to the Community Council on the success or otherwise of the actions taken through the usual weekly, monthly and annual inspections.

The s6 plan will be reviewed considering these reports and any other evidence or information that is made available to the Council. At the time of this report's publication, there is no specific time or date set for the plan to be reviewed, but this will be done quarterly as part of the area monitoring.

Sara Nurse

Clerk
Wentlooge Community Council

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