











Biodiversity Action Plan 2020

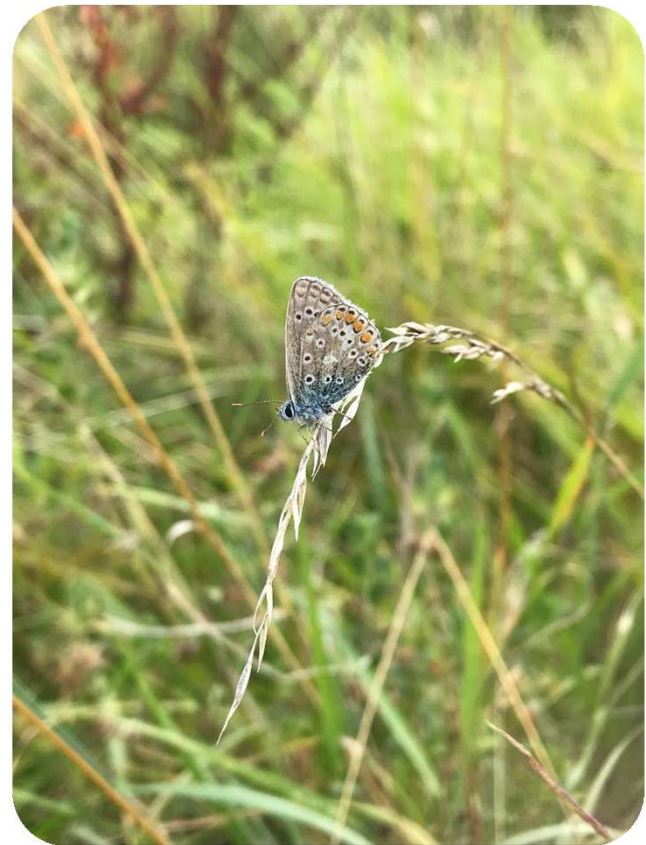
Health and Environment Policy Group

Natural Environment and Recreation Team



Outline

-  Biodiversity – why it matters
-  Key aims
-  Key drivers and support for key documents
-  Key outcomes
-  Key habitats and species
-  How the BAP will be delivered
-  Annual Action Plan headings
-  Reporting and monitoring
-  Funding and resources
-  HEP advice



Biodiversity – Why it matters

- Essential for life – oxygen, food, water, medicine
- Contributes to climate stability
- Key test of sustainability
- Nature based solutions
- Boosts business
- Moral right to access & benefit from biodiversity
- Benefits for health and wellbeing









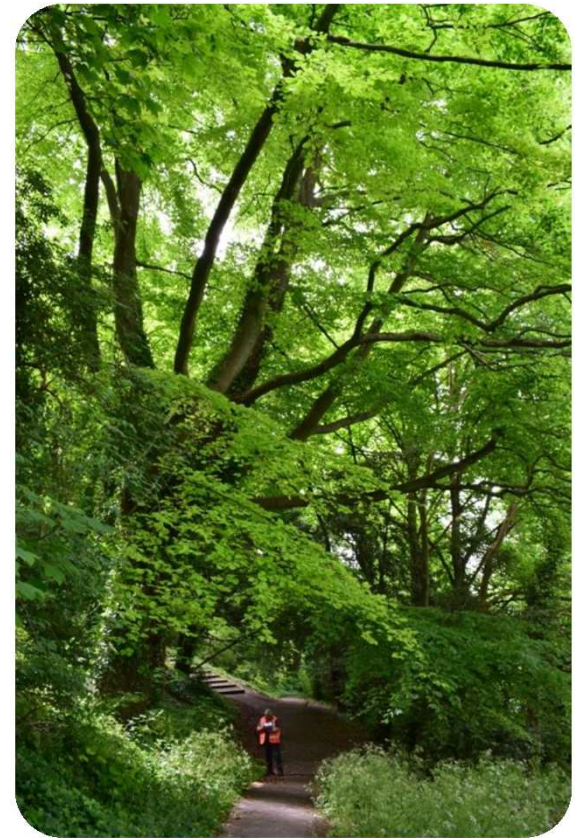
But the world and the Winchester District included is losing biodiversity at an alarming rate...

WCC has both legal duties and a moral responsibility to consider biodiversity across all its functions, to help halt the loss of biodiversity and seek opportunities to reverse the decline

BAP 2020 – Key Aims

To provide strategic direction for the City Council to deliver actions which protect, enhance and restore biodiversity across the district.

-  Focus on Council land and operations to ensure immediate action
-  Seek opportunities to work in partnership to deliver more
-  Identify and deliver actions to halt loss, recreate and restore biodiversity
-  Monitor biodiversity and the effectiveness of actions
-  Provide evidence and input for key policy documents including the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan, Local Plan and Council Plan
-  Engage with a wide audience



Key Drivers -

- 🏰 Biodiversity loss
- 🏰 Council Plan – climate emergency and living well
- 🏰 Carbon Neutrality Action Plan
- 🏰 Environment Bill
- 🏰 Biodiversity Net Gain
- 🏰 Nutrient Neutrality

Supports Key Documents -

- 🏰 Local Plan
- 🏰 Tree Policy (to be written)
- 🏰 GI Infrastructure (started)
- 🏰 River Maintenance Action Plan
- 🏰 Playing Pitch Strategy
- 🏰 Housing Strategy
- 🏰 WCC Position
- 🏰 Statement Nitrate Neutrality
- 🏰 SDNP Management Plan
- 🏰 PUSH
- 🏰 Partner documents






BAP 2020 - Key Outcomes

- 🏰 Demonstrate how WCC is delivering work which
 - 🏰 benefits biodiversity
 - 🏰 delivers Carbon Neutrality Action Plan
 - 🏰 Meets legal duty
 - 🏰 Meets moral duty
- 🏰 Provide data and information which will result in better understanding
- 🏰 Show how we are prioritising resources
- 🏰 Produce an annual Action Plan
- 🏰 Deliver 80% of actions



Key Habitats

-  Species-rich Grassland
-  Woodland
-  Chalk Rivers
-  Hedgerows & Arable Field Margins



Key Species

-  Hazel Dormouse
-  Bats
-  Water Vole
-  Hedgehog
-  Swift
-  House Sparrow
-  Skylark
-  Grey Partridge
-  Great Spotted Woodpecker
-  Great Crested Newt
-  Slow Worm
-  Common Lizard
-  Common Toad
-  White-clawed Crayfish
-  Stag Beetle
-  Southern Damselfly
-  Bumblebees
-  Chalk Hill Blue Butterfly
-  Silver Spotted Skipper
-  Stripped Lychnis Moth
-  Green Winged Orchid
-  Bee Orchid

How the BAP will be delivered

- Build on existing work programme
 - Creation of new areas, habitats and Nature Reserve
 - Improving site management
 - Tree surveying and planting
 - Biodiversity monitoring
 - Development management and Hedgerow Regulations

Produce an Annual Action Plan



Annual Action Plan headings

- Statutory functions – Development Management, Strategic Planning, Enforcement, Hedgerow Regulations and compliance with legislation
- Wider WCC work – support Property Service team, Estates, New Housing, survey WCC trees
- Management of existing land holdings in partnership
- Project delivery
- Habitat creation
- Working with partners/volunteers/community
- Engagement
- Monitoring and surveying.
- Will include information on timing/funding/lead.












Reporting & Monitoring

- Annual feedback into the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan:
 - Actions completed within Annual Action Plan
 - WCC Biodiversity Survey Reports
 - Partner surveys & reports
- Public access to reports



Funding

-  Limited annual budget
-  Dedicated Resource
-  Sponsorship
-  Partnership
-  Volunteering
-  Community projects
-  Grant applications
-  Constant review of budget
-  Budget requests

Resources

-  2 full time Ecologist/Biodiversity officers

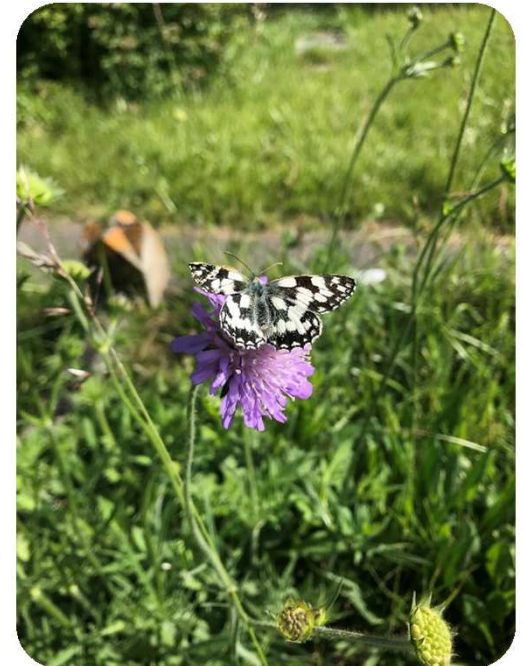


HEP advice

What is the view of the Policy Group of the actions identified and the direction of travel which aim to :

- Support the Council's key priorities including the Climate Emergency
- Feed directly into the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan
- Accord to the Council Plan
- Support other key WCC documents
- Fulfil the council's legal and moral duty to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity

Are there further or issues issues which need to be taken into account in the BAP delivery?



Any Questions?

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