

Data Collection and Management

Introduction and Vision Statement

Within Carmarthenshire there are an enormous number of records that have been collected over the years by all sorts of organisations and individuals. Volunteers play a big role in data collection and contribute hugely to the knowledge of species within the county. They are also vital in contributing to many national and local recording schemes. Conservation and environmental agencies, local government and other wildlife organisations all collect biodiversity data. In the past this data may have been widespread and uncoordinated. In the past few years a network of local records centres (including one in west Wales) has been established that collates and interprets data collected within the county.

Biodiversity data is vital if we are to understand the distribution and abundance of species and habitats and how these are changing. In addition decision makers, conservation organisations and the general public all use biodiversity data to inform their actions - without it, making informed decisions on how to protect the county's biodiversity is much more difficult.

This plan aims to ensure that data relating to the biodiversity resource within Carmarthenshire is effectively stored, managed and used to ensure that Carmarthenshire's biodiversity is conserved and enhanced and to help increase the public appreciation of wildlife.

Action Plan Objectives

- DCM1** To maintain a Local Records Centre for Carmarthenshire within the west Wales area

- DCM2** To provide a detailed, quantitative assessment of the current distribution, quality and extent of the biodiversity resource within Carmarthenshire

- DCM3** To use biological survey information to further the conservation, enhancement and understanding of the biodiversity resource

- DCM4** To promote biological recording within Carmarthenshire

Actions

CODE	TEXT	START/ END DATE	Lead partner	Action goals	Key Partners	Funding	Priority	Report Jan–Dec 2010	Report Jan–Dec 2011	
DCM1.01	Maintain a fully functioning Local Records Centre for Carmarthenshire	Ongoing	WWBIC		Carmarthenshire Biodiversity Partnership			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information supplied for all relevant planning applications. • Settlement limits study undertaken. 		
DCM1.02	Devise methodology/agreement to transfer ecological data collected as part of planning applications to WWBIC	Ongoing	CCC	100% of relevant applications				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing 		
DCM1.03	Transfer ecological data collected as part of Partners' work to WWBIC	Ongoing	Carms LBAP	100% of relevant project survey work				CCW/EAW/WTSWW all pass data to WWBIC.		
DCM2.01	Collate and report information on loss of BAP Priority habitats through development control or other LA regulated/managed activities and report on BARS	Ongoing	CCC	Annual report on BARS				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanism needed to monitor/record habitat loss through other department's work. 		
DCM2.02	Create criteria by which roadside verges can be assessed, based on wildlife sites criteria	2010–11	CCC	Criteria established	TAYO, WTSWW Volunteers Streetscene			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action for winter 2010/11- RC. 		
DCM2.03	Based on agreed criteria undertake systematic sample survey of the county to establish a series of Roadside Verge Nature Reserves	2010–2015	CCC	Sample surveys undertaken	Vols Contractors CCC WTSWW TAYO	Funding required		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action for 2011. 		
DCM2.04	Write exec board report to get verge criteria agreed as policy in CCC	2010-11	CCC	Report written and submitted						
DCM2.05	Create distribution maps of all LBAP species and habitats for display on the website	2010–11	WWBIC	Maps produced	CCC			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As many maps as possible on website – species maps need updating. 		
DCM3.01	Maintain annual service level agreement with WWBIC to receive	Ongoing	CCC			Funding required		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding of LRC maintained in 2010-11. 		

	biological data for planning application sites									
DCM4.01	Promote recording opportunities to the public through local and national recording schemes via newsletter, press releases and schools	Ongoing	CCC	PR Newsletter item	WWBIC					• 2011 action
DCM4.02	Produce a list of national recording schemes in the county that people can get involved in and out on website	Ongoing	CCC	List available on website PR to promote						• List available on website and circulated via e-mail to schools/LBAP partners/Country parks