

Policy and Legislation Action Plan

Vision statement

Nature conservation in the UK is affected by a complex framework of legislation and policy at the international, national, regional and local levels. At a local level Biodiversity Action Plans are seen as the principal mechanism by which biodiversity conservation can be implemented and this is supported by a range of policy and legislation as well as other local plans and strategies. Biodiversity is integral to sustainable development, which aims to integrate social, economic and environmental objectives to improve well being now and in the future. Any long-term vision for Wales has to include biodiversity conservation as one of its core objectives with policy and legislation reflecting this and working together to achieve this goal. The Unitary Development Plan (Local Development Plan in the future), Community Plan, Forest Design Plans, Catchment Management Plans and Shoreline Management Plan all provide mechanisms for delivering biodiversity objectives. 'Cross compliance' between the Carmarthenshire LBAP and other plans and strategies is essential for its effective implementation.

It is important to influence the development or review of national or local policies and strategies that all the Partnership may be involved in to ensure that biodiversity conservation is considered fully and integrated within them.

Action plan objectives

- POL1** To ensure that LBAP habitats and species are protected and enhanced through planning and development control process.
- POL2** To identify and designate a series of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) within Carmarthenshire
- POL3** To ensure that all relevant policies, plans strategies and projects produced by or consulted on by the Partnership adequately address biodiversity issues.
- POL4** To work within the Community Plan structure to ensure that links to biodiversity benefits are made within all areas of the plan.
- POL5** To raise awareness of the relevant biodiversity legislation and provide guidance on compliance and requirements

Actions

CODE	TEXT	START/END DATE	Lead partners	Action goals	Key Partners	Funding	Priorities	Report Jan–Dec 2010	Report Jan–Dec 2011
POL1.01	Undertake a biodiversity assessment of settlement limits and buffer zone to inform LDP process	2010	CCC	GIS layers/maps created	WWBIC	Funding required	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed – GIS layer and hard copy maps created. • Informing LDP allocation process. 	
POL1.02	Produce Biodiversity Topic paper for the county	2010–2013	CCC	Topic paper written				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started. 	
POL1.03	Consider biodiversity issues in relevant planning applications	Ongoing	CCC	100% of all relevant planning applications	CCW EAW			Reported against in individual action plans.	
POL1.04	Ensure emerging LDP has robust biodiversity policies	2010–2013	CCC	LDP has biodiversity policies	CCW EAW RSPB WTSWW			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started – the Conservation Section is consulted on the LDP as part of a Technical Working Group. • Potential allocations are being consulted on. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulted on biodiversity policies – limited time for consultation.
POL2.02	Adapt adopted SINC site selection criteria for Carmarthenshire	2010–2013	CCC	Carms-specific SINC criteria established	CCW WTSWW			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started. 	
POL2.03	Produce a list of candidate SINC sites for sites within settlements as first stage in SINC project for the county	2010	CCC	Map of cSINC sites produced	WWBIC	Funding required		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started. 	
POL2.04	Establish a steering group to examine and approve the SINC sites	2010–2013	CCC	Steering group established				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started. 	
POL2.05	Raise awareness about SINC sites	2010–2015	CCC	Briefing note produced Info on planning website				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started. 	
POL3.01	Integrate biodiversity into other plans, strategies and policies as they are developed by LBAP Partners	2010–2015	CCC	100% of all relevant plans, strategies and policies	LBAP Partners			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Plan revision has biodiversity issues included in it. 	
POL3.02	Feedback on biodiversity issues through consultation process on relevant statutory consultation documents	2010–2015	CCC	Feedback on 100% of all relevant consultations				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responded to NEF consultation. • Responded to SMP consultation. 	
POL3.03	Produce checklist for council projects so that biodiversity assessment can be undertaken	2010	CCC	Checklist produced				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist been produced. • Passed to Regeneration dept; Corporate property; Env Enhancement Housing Project; KWT and Tidy Towns. 	
POL3.04	Liase with Streetscene re the revision of management of	2010-11	CCC	Revised policy produced.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting in December 2010 with Streetscene. 	

	verges on the gateway roads into Llanelli							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principle of amendments to management agreed and procedure. • Site visit to finalise revised management in Jan 2010 		
POL4.01	Give presentation to Environment Partnership of Community Plan on Biodiversity Action within the county	2010	CCC	1 presentation given				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation given in December 2009. 		
POL4.02	Work on a project with Environment Partnership Co-ordinator to raise awareness of biodiversity with the Community Plan Partnership	2010–2012	CCC	1 project developed				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started. Env Partnership co-ordinator left and not replaced so potential projects not implemented. 		
POL4.03	Feedback and contribute to the revision of Carmarthenshire's Community Plan	2010–2011	CCC	Responses to emerging drafts of CP	LBAP Partners			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses and input made into revision of Community Plan in 2010. 		
POL5.01	Continue with series of guidance notes on protected species/habitats for issue with planning applications and make available on website	2010–2015	CCC	At least 3 notes produced				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not started. 		
POL5.02	Produce agreed action plan & timetable re implementation of NERC Act duty 2006 within the Council	2010	CCC	Produce agreed action plan and timetable				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual meeting with WAG held in December 2009 and action plan for 2010 agreed. • 2010 meeting delayed until January 2011. 		
POL5.03	Meet with Heads of Service to discuss NERC Act and Habitats Regulations duty issues and agree action	2010–2011	CCC	Meet with all HoS				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No individual meetings held • Target Tech Services in 2011. 		
POL5.04	Outside country parks develop/review management guidelines for CCC owned/managed sites so that biodiversity enhancement/management is included, e.g. parks	2010–2012	CCC	Guidelines developed				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Assistant Grounds Maintenance officer in 2010. • Passed on biodiversity assessments of a number of parks to inform potential management. 		
POL5.05	Undertake talks to community councils on NERC duty	2010–2012	CCC	Every community council addressed				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk given to community councils via PROW seminars • Talk to community Councils via planning seminar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to Pontyberem on 22/02/2011 	