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PENTYRCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



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***Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6
 The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty
 Report 2019***

Introduction and Context

PCC provides a range of services to its local community which have an impact on biodiversity. These include:

- Responsibility for a number of green spaces including woodland, play area, park, recreation area, moorland and church yards.
- A community allotment site which is managed by an allotment group.
- Supporting local groups who organise planters and providing hanging baskets village centres.
- Funding - we give grants for projects in the PCC area, for example to the local Woodland Trust group for tools which enables more people to participate in more environmental improvement activities.
- Employing Cardiff Conservation Volunteers to do some environmental work on PCC's behalf such as footpath repair, clearing blocked waterways, coppicing. This provides environmental activities and experience for volunteers.

We promote sustainability and biodiversity by pursuing sustainability goals and sustainable practices whenever possible.

We serve approximately 7,000 residents. The precept for 2019-20 is £155,000

Action Report

Action	Example	Monitoring
Embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	Reflected the commitment to biodiversity and natural areas in the Council's 2018-19 Annual Report.	Commitments made in documents
	Taken into account biodiversity when considering planning applications and other associated matters, such as footpath diversion orders at local quarries, large local housing developments, road widening scheme.	Consideration of biodiversity demonstrated in decisions on planning applications.

Restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	Manage own woodland to improve it for wildlife	Annual tree survey and management
	Support community groups working to increase biodiversity in local green and woodland spaces	Grants Councillor involvement
	Consider how to create wildlife areas in church yards to provide nesting and hibernating areas to encourage a range of species.	Annual tree survey and management Seeking advice from external experts
	Changed mowing regimes by reducing the frequency of cuts in some areas to encourage wildflowers and other pollinator friendly plants, also providing cover for small mammals and reptiles.	Seeking advice from external experts Enthusiasm from outdoor staff
	Planning to sow wildflower seed in grass areas to increase local biodiversity and pollinator plants	Success of seed germination assessed
Tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	Moving to battery-powered tools where practical and safe for staff.	Continuing and successful where already done.
	Reducing use of herbicide by use of injectors for Japanese Knotweed Programme of JKW control	Areas of invasive species tackled Staff trained to use herbicide injectors Amount of pesticide applied Staff request for training in identifying pests and diseases

Review of S6 Duty

What has worked well?

Moving to battery powered tools. Supporting enthusiastic local groups. Leaving some areas of grass to grow long.

What have the barriers been?

Lack of expertise to identify changes needed or best practice. Need to plan activities like preparation of areas for sowing wildflower seed. Sometimes no response to request for help/advice from external experts.

What will you change?

Train staff where practical. Keep seeing external advice. Look to increase areas of grass left long and areas for sown wildflower seed.

May be taking over land to manage from Cardiff Council as part of community asset transfer. This will greatly increase the land PCC manages and can improve.

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

The duty will be monitored through the newly established Climate Change working group and individual officers reporting back to the council on the success or otherwise of the actions taken through the usual weekly, monthly and annual inspections.

The s6 plan will be reviewed in light of these reports and any other evidence or information that is made available to PCCI. 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 within the next six months.