

Management Response – Well-being of Future Generations: An examination of ‘Improving access to, and the quality of open spaces for the benefit of our communities, businesses and visitors’ – Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Document Reference: 1537A2019-20

Date Issued: October 2019

Ref	Proposal for Improvement	Actions to take forward	Completion Date	Responsible Officer
Long Term	Develop a clearer vision within the Corporate Plan – long term 30 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the year 2 evaluation of the Corporate Plan (undertaking the self assessment from the Commissioner) include reference to long term planning with regards to the Environment and Carbon etc. Approval at Council and then formal publication. 	June / July 2020	Gemma Wasley with CLT and Executive
	Increase areas of managed land (woodlands / grassland / habitats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Natural Environment Team are currently developing funding through Welsh Governments (WG) Enabling Natural Resources and Wellbeing (ENRaW) Fund that identifies resources to improve management of land. The programme will cover a 3 year period from 2020 to 2023. The Natural Environment Team have secured funding under the above WG funding (ENRaW) for 3 years to improve management for biodiversity 	April 2020 - 23 July 2019- July 2022	Chris. Engel Liz Hancocks
	Engage with parents at an early stage to support a greater level of early years engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A service level agreement has been established within a number of our schools to develop a greater understanding of the benefits of our natural environment. This initiative is to be developed within Education to expand future benefits and engagement with Parents. 	Sept 2019- 22	Nadine Morgan
	Encourage economic ventures that will ensure management of the resource through employment and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities are to be explored through collaborative work with Regeneration and through ENRaW 	April 2023	Chris Engel/ Ellie Fry
	Preparation Designation and Declaration of 5 Local Nature Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal to designate and declare Sirhowy Hill Woodlands, Beaufort Hill Ponds and Woodlands, Parc Bryn Bach, Garden City and Central Valley as local nature reserves(LNR) To be considered at Community Services committee on 16th January 2020, approval at Executive 29th January 2020., followed by Welsh Government approval. 	April 2020	Liz Hancocks/ Chris Engel
Prevention	Ensure people feel, and are able to access open spaces, e.g. through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Providing the right information – maps, routes etc – Promotion – Culture and behaviour change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and evaluation of the ENRaW programme 	April 2023	Liz Hancocks/ Chris Engel

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	– Ensuring open spaces are accessible, inclusive and safe			
Integration	Build on the Forward Environment Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business plan updates to be used to inform the progression of the Environment Plan. 	Now onwards	Gemma Wasley / Liz Hancock
	Ensure all business plans recognise the step and play an active role. Section 6 duty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Act Champion actions included within relevant business plans and to inform Joint Report in future and annual review of Environment Plan. Business plans to be updated alongside the review of the Corporate Plan. (See Long Term above) 	Complete June / July 2020	Gemma Wasley / Liz Hancock Gemma Wasley
	Ensure there are clear goals that all organisations can buy into and work towards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business plans to be updated alongside the review of the Corporate Plan. (See Long Term above) 		
Collaboration	Expand ‘Blaenau Gwent we want’ to capture and help understand people’s views on open and green spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring through ‘Blaenau Gwent We want 		Chris Engel / Emma Scherptong
Involvement	Collate local evidence of groups with status and increase the number of constituted community groups involved in managing Green Open Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENRaW – monitoring and evaluation 	April 2020 - 23	Liz Hancocks/ Chris Engel