

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Forward Plan (2019-2022) 2019/20 annual report

Section 2.5. Appendix 2.

2019/20 Progress and 2020/21 Activity Plan

Service Area	Business Plan linked Objectives	Progress 2019/20	Areas of Focus and Opportunity 2020/21	Environment Champion/s	Assessment Red – Amber – Green
Governance & Partnerships	1. Support the integration of Forward Plan objectives into council Corporate Business Plans and provide quarterly reporting 2. Provide a link to Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan and Public Service Board	1. Objectives now in all Service Area business plans where relevant. 2. Led on delivery of BG on the Move project with associated biodiversity benefits on the Ebbw Fawr Trail. PSB project funded by partners.	Share action on Section 6 duty with other public bodies via Blaenau Gwent Public Service Board and Well-being Plan linked projects. Reference Section 6 duty in Council report guidance	Yes – One (Governance)	Green
Resources	None set	-	Set objectives with Section 6 duty leads	Yes – One (Accounting)	Amber
Commercial Services	Organisational Development (OD): 1. Take further steps towards implementation of a “paperless office” via the further development of the iTrent system and the roll-out of the self service functions	Pay slips now paperless Expenses now paperless Progress has been made through the Low Carbon project, part of the Bridging the Gap programme, on the resource use aim, in line with the ambition to have a zero carbon public sector by 2030.	Include section in Staff Newsletter	Yes – Two (OD; Business Support)	Green

Social Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environment Act leads to attend Provider Managers meeting annually 2. Encourage nature friendly management at our Provider Services outside spaces 3. Engage our citizens and staff with the environment through involvement in environmental projects within our Provider Services 	Ongoing development of outside spaces and delivery of projects.	To be determined	Yes – Two (Adult; Child)	Green
Regeneration & Community Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work towards the Local Development Plan (LDP) aims 2. Maintain and enhance biodiversity and improve ecosystem resilience on council owned land, particularly with regard to Section 7 priority species and habitats in partnership with community groups, Gwent Wildlife Trust and others. 3. Ensure that the Council Embraces the Well-being of Future 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supported the inclusion of ecosystem resilience in the Local Development Plan 2018-2033 and reference up to date policies from the Environment Act including Natural Resources Policy and Area Statements. 2. Five Local Nature Reserves were designated in March 2019 3. Engaged with student project to recycle crisp packets (Appendix 2a). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop Biodiversity Net Benefit tracking system in Planning development control as required by Planning Policy Wales 10 (2018) and highlighted by the Chief Planner in October 2019 (Appendix 2d). 2. Support Local Nature Reserves and community groups via collaborative management plans. 3. Continue 4. Support the Blaenau Gwent & Torfaen Local Nature 	Yes – Two (Regeneration; Natural Environment)	Green

	<p>Generations Act across the service functions and contribute to improving educational standards in relation to biodiversity.</p> <p>4. Support the Local Nature Partnership (LNP) in its work as a strategic partnership of organisations and individuals directing and delivering nature conservation in both Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent boroughs, at local and wider landscape scales.</p>	<p>4. Supported the Local Nature Partnership (Appendix 2b).</p> <p>Supported community groups running events and assisted with promotion materials for Wales Nature Week in June 2019 (Appendix 2c).</p>	<p>Partnership Nature Recovery Action Plan. Bring to council for scrutiny and approval.</p>		
Education	<p>1. Engage schools and students via educational sessions and eco-councils and embed sustainability</p> <p>2. Environment Act leads to attend a Head Teachers meeting annually</p> <p>3. Encourage nature friendly management on school grounds</p> <p>4. Engage young people with the environment through the youth service</p>	<p>1. SLA with Natural Environment team; engaging with 17 schools providing indoor and outdoor learning sessions linked to the natural environment</p> <p>2. Update provided in newsletter</p> <p>3. Via School Eco Councils</p> <p>4. Ongoing</p> <p>Schools built as part of the 21st Century Schools programme built to excellent Building Research</p>	<p>To be determined. Adaptation required for Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>Schools built as part of the 21st Century Schools programme built to excellent Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) standard.</p>	<p>Yes – One (Education transformation)</p>	<p>Green</p>

		Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) standard.			
Councillors	N/A	N/A	Update briefing on Activity Plan and funding outputs. Virtual or in person.	Yes – Nature Champion Cllr Lee Parsons	Green