

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2019

Chepstow Town Council

Chepstow Town Council provide a range of services to its local community which have an impact on biodiversity. These include:

- Responsibility for the Riverbank Area
- Organising planters and hanging baskets in the town
- Provision of Community grants. This impacts on biodiversity through funding criteria

The Town Council aims to promote sustainability and biodiversity goals as part of its operational activity whenever possible.

Action carried out to:		Monitored by:
-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	<p>The Planning and Administration Committee to consider biodiversity considerations as part of their decision making process</p> <p>The Town Amenities Committee has been restructured into the Environment and Amenities Committee and will be taking on the responsibility for environmental and biodiversity projects</p> <p><i>Draw up a sustainable procurement policy*</i></p>	Community Project Officer
-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	<i>Investigate training for Members in areas of sustainability and carbon reduction</i>	Community Project Officer
-safeguard principal species and habitats	<i>Awaiting information on section 7 species and habitats to discover how the Town Council can best support their protection</i>	Community Project Officer
-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	The grass cutting regime in the Riverbank area has been reviewed to improve habitats for pollinators and	Community Project Officer

**Items in red show ongoing actions/aspirations at date of publication*

	<p>investigate further planting of native perennial plants.</p> <p><i>Consider, as a Council, how to support the Long Forest Project to improve wildlife corridors</i></p> <p><i>Investigate green roofs for public conveniences, green bike rack shelters and bin stores to provide wildlife habitats for beneficial insects</i></p>	
<p>-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species</p>	<p><i>The Town Council is investigating the installation of a living green barrier to be installed along the A48 to tackle high levels of pollution.</i></p> <p><i>Investigate the reinstatement of the Dell Water fountain and install a new fountain at the Riverbank to reduce plastic waste</i></p> <p><i>Investigate green walls in the town centre</i></p> <p>10 of the planting barrels in the 2020 Chepstow town planting scheme to be planted up with pollinator friendly plants with a review 2020/21 to discuss installing pollinator friendly/perennial planting in all the barrels/hanging baskets.</p> <p>All Town Council planters and hanging baskets use peat free compost</p> <p>The Town Council is investigating the purchase of a machine which mechanically removes weeds in order to replace the use of weed killers.</p>	<p>Community Projects Officer</p> <p>Environment and Amenities Committee</p>
<p>-use, improve and share evidence</p>	<p>Community Officer and interested Town Council Members to attend the county led Climate Champions meetings (first meeting to be held end of Jan 2020)</p>	<p>Council wide</p>

*Items in red show ongoing actions/aspirations at date of publication

-support capacity, and/or other organisations	Supported Transition Chepstow in their Plastic Free Chepstow initiative and 1000 tree planting scheme <i>Offer community grants for projects that enhance local biodiversity</i>	Council wide
Key outcomes: use narrative and metrics where possible		
Review points, for e.g. enablers and barriers to action, improvements to forward plan		
How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?	<i>To be reviewed by the Environment Committee at their first 2020 meeting and in this meeting propose an ongoing review methodology</i>	

**Items in red show ongoing actions/aspirations at date of publication*