**Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6**

**The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty**

**Reporting on Section 6 – Reporting Template for Llannon Community Council**

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| ***Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6***  ***The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022*** |
| **Name of Town or Community Council:** Llannon Community Council |
| **Introduction and Context**  Llannon Community Council provide a range of services to its local community which have an impact on biodiversity. These include:   * Responsibilities for a number of green spaces including parks and cemeteries. * Organising planters and hanging baskets around the community. * Funding – we give grants for projects within the Council’s wards. This impacts on biodiversity through cascading funding criteria.   We promote sustainability and biodiversity by pursuing sustainability goals and sustainability practices whenever possible.  We serve approximately xxxxx residents. The precept for 2022 – 2023 is £363,385. |
| **Action Report** |

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| Action carried out to: |  | Monitored by: |
| -embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement | * Reflected the commitment to biodiversity and natural areas in the Council’s 2022 Annual Report. * Taken into account biodiversity considerations when considering planning applications and other associated matters, such as footpath diversion orders and neighbourhood services matters. Developing adaption & mitigation responses to the impacts of climate change. | Commitments made in documents.  Consideration of biodiversity demonstrated in decisions on planning applications. |
| -raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance | * Organised awareness raising and training sessions for members of staff. * Encouraged the community as a whole to volunteer in the context of nature/green spaces. * Posted details of the actions we have taken to help biodiversity on our website, social media platforms. * Included information on our noticeboards. | Through feedback from Council members and residents.  Number of people taking part in activities. |
| -safeguard principal species and habitats | * Managed land around them to buffer and join them up as part of resilient ecological networks. * Ensured no negative impact on protective species. | Records of any sites or species safeguarded. |
| -restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks | * Planted hanging baskets and planters with native pollinator friendly flowers. * Planted trees and shrubs which is now a haven for wildlife and includes features such as a community bench. * Created wildlife areas in cemeteries to provide nesting and hibernation areas to encourage a range of species. * Changed mowing regimes by reducing the frequency of cuts to encourage wildflowers and other pollinator friendly plants, also providing cover for small mammals and reptiles. | Area of habitat increased.  Numbers of nesting sites provided. |
| -tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species | * Ensuring office supplies such as paper, cleaning products and office furniture are sustainably sources (e.g. locally and/or made from recycled material). * Composting bins for our green waste. In time this will be used in our planters and hanging baskets. * The use of more environmentally friendly tools. We purchased cleaner, greener gardening tools to help protect the earth’s resources. * Reduced the use of pesticides to only where absolutely necessary such as to control invasive non-native species. | Areas of invasive species tackled.  Amount of pesticide applied. |
| -use improve and share evidence | * Worked with the Biodiversity Officer at Carmarthenshire County Council to ensure use of best practice and to increase knowledge of local issues. * Taken advice from the Local Environmental Record Centres (LERCs) on local sites and species of interest, | Use of expert advice. |
| -support capacity and/or other organisations | * Required any organisations receiving grants from us to demonstrate how this will contribute to supporting biodiversity as part of their project. * Worked in partnership with local environmental organisations to provide extra volunteers to improve local wildlife areas. | Partnerships formed to deliver biodiversity benefit. |
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| **Review of s6 duty** |
| * What has worked well?   The creation of wildflower and plant areas has been a success, especially as it has proved attractive to residents in addition to helping biodiversity. Also, there have been some cost savings through the reduction in mowing.   * What have the barriers been?   Lack of expertise to identify changes needed or best practice.   * What will you change?   Work with the Local Environmental Records Centre and the Local Biodiversity Officer to seek advice.   * How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?   The duty will be monitored through the Environmental Committee and individual officers reporting back to the council on the success or otherwise of the actions taken through the usual inspections.  The S6 plan will be reviewed in light of these reports and any other evidence or information that is made available to the Council. 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. |