

REPORT TO BIODIVERSITY TASK GROUP

Open		Would any recommendations proposed from the Group:	
Any especially affected Wards	Discretionary /	Be for cabinet to consider and decide	YES
		Need to be recommendations to Council	NO
	Operational	Is it a Key Decision	NO
Lead Member: Cllr de Whalley			
Lead Officer: Claire Wiggs E-mail: Claire.wiggs@west-norfolk.gov.uk			

Date of meeting: 15 April 2024

DEVELOPING A LOCAL POLLINATOR STRATEGY

Developing a Local Pollinator Strategy or Plan does not need to be a massive undertaking, however it is important that it seeks commitment and involvement from across the local authority, so that awareness and subsequent actions for pollinators are enshrined into all parts of local authority work. **Local Nature Partnerships and wildlife organisations** should all be in a position to provide further advice and information on local habitats and species, and to help to join up work on the ground.

A Local Pollinator Strategy or Plan should sit alongside other **Local Biodiversity Action Plans, greenspace and green infrastructure strategies**, and link into existing Local Development Plans or policies. It should outline a range of positive principles and associated actions which can be applied across the management of local authority projects, assets and decision-making processes. At its core, it should be about providing pollinator food and shelter across all types of land so that our pollinators can survive and thrive.

There are many ways local authorities can take action for pollinators. [Bugslife](#) recommend that a good Strategy should include objectives and actions under the following themes:

1. Helping pollinators through regulatory functions - Local Planning/ Development control
2. Using land for the benefit of pollinators (land management)
3. Raising awareness in the wider community
4. Wider opportunities on the local authority estate
5. Monitoring actions and publicising success Further information on these themes along with some suggested actions are given on the following pages

Bugslife offer quite detailed information to help inform pollinator action plan - [Helping pollinators locally.pdf \(friendsoftheearth.uk\)](#)

What difference can a plan make:

- Ensure pollinators' needs are taken into account across a local authority's work;
- Raise the awareness of pollinators' needs across all of a local authority's staf, contracts and networks;
- Do the same in local communities through its staf and elected members who represent those communities;
- Help to identify previously unrecognised ways to help pollinators;
- Ensure the wellbeing of pollinators is a principal consideration in land management;
- Help pollinator populations to recover to the benefit of farming and food production;

Content to consider:

- What are pollinators
- What are the threats / issues
 - Habitat loss (loss and degradation of habitats)
 - Habitat fragmentation
 - Climate Change
 - Pesticides
 - Diseases and Invasive species

Consider splitting these threats into key themes hen looking at actions to take.

- What do pollinators need?
 - Shelter (habitat features, such as bare ground, old masonry, dense grassy tussocks, standing deadwood, stone piles, where our pollinators can nest, hibernate and shelter.)
 - Forage (nectar and pollen, food plants. A range of habitats provide food sources, from wildflower rich grasslands, road verges, trees and wetlands to brownfield sites and our urban parks and gardens.)
- What's being done?
 - How can we address these issues
 - Wider benefits
 - Advertise government initiatives (bee lines, UK pollinator monitoring Scheme, National Pollinator Strategy, National pollinator week (22-28 June))
- Action already taking place in KLWNBC?

Authority / Location	✓ Things Done Well	X Not so well
North Norfolk Helping%20pollinators%20locally.pdf (north-norfolk.gov.uk)	Use of Pilot Sites In order to assess the feasibility of delivering a project of this nature across the district,	
Kent BEE (kent.gov.uk)	Reader friendly Good clear information	

	and targets	
Stirling draft_stirling_pollinator_action_plan.pdf	Good use of themes to target actions	
South Gloucestershire South Gloucestershire Council Pollinator Action Plan 2022 (southglos.gov.uk)	Good use of themes	
Dorset b0e518b5-5bd7-8e2c-48e3-b85fd9031887 (dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)	Good use of themes Further splits actions into areas i.e. schools, farms, offices ect	
York Annex 6 CYC Pollinator Strategy Draft v2.pdf (york.gov.uk)	Good definition of what pollinators needs `York Urban buzz project` a good case study	Quite dense text Strategy and objectives section not very detailed in terms of actual actions to take
St Ives town cornwalls_pollinator_action_plan_web.pdf	Sets out what is being done well; nationally, in Cornwall and by individuals Good case study examples Good tips for individuals Reader friendly	Not much strategic level action
Glasgow chttpandler.ashx (glasgow.gov.uk)	Link to biodiversity duty Specific targets with accountable parties	Dense text / not reader friendly
Wales action-plan-for-pollinators-review-and-future-actions-en.pdf (gov.wales)	Leaflets for crews who carry out cutting Pollinators guide to seasonal plants leaflets	Lengthy documents
North Lanarkshire N (northlanarkshire.gov.uk)	Good outline of threats and current actions Good targets	Not reader friendly

Natural Scot offers good advice on specific management - [Guidance - Pollinators in Planning and Construction guide | NatureScot](#)

Good blog post on types of pollinators: [Pollinators – Norfolk Botanical Garden](#)