

Environmental (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1  
Section 6 – The Biodiversity a Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

**BIODIVERSITY STATEMENT/PLAN**

**Overview**

Community and Town Councils are subject to the biodiversity and ecosystems resilience duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, known as the S6 duty.

To comply with the S6 duty we must prepare and publish a plan setting out what we are currently doing and proposing to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience.

Complying with the S6 duty will help maximize our contribution to the Well being goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

This Statement/Plan will steer the Council and will be reviewed annually and published.

**Introduction**

Llanbradach and Pwllypant Community Council comprises of 9 Community Councillors, the majority of which are elected, serving 1,954 dwellings, one paid member of staff and approximately 20 volunteers (PALS – People Against Litter Society)

In 2021/22 a precept of £34,018.43 was raised, which meant an increase of 1.5% from the previous year, from £22.55 to £22.89 per annum per Band D dwelling.

The Community Council owns one small parcel of land at 17 De Winton Terrace.

Within the geographical area of the Community Council, which notably in 1913 had the largest colliery in South Wales, residents benefit from many natural resources including Coed Llanbradach, Cwm Las and the Rhymney Riverside Walk which forms part of the Valleys Regional Park.

**Action Plan**

Llanbradach & Pwllypant Community Council will seek and continue to maintain and enhance biodiversity so far as consistent with the proper exercise of our functions and in doing so, promote the resilience of ecosystems:

**Tackle negative factors (e.g. pollution)**

- Source locally
- Recycle materials wherever possible
- Support energy saving initiatives within the community
- Aim to go paperless – send agendas electronically, online banking

### Support capacity and/or other organizations

- Equip our volunteer litter pickers with protective clothing, equipment and insurance
- Encourage and support local halls to go GREEN
- Work with the Local Authority (LA) in implementing GREEN initiatives such as installing electric charging points, solar panels on public buildings, reducing the frequency of mowing, encourage swathes of grass meadow growing to provide cover for small mammals and reptiles.
- Actively support our allotments
- Request local organizations receiving a grant how it will contribute to supporting biodiversity as part of their project
- Collaborate with other bodies such as Keep Wales Tidy to implement planting projects and installing habitats e.g. for birds, bats and hedgehogs
- Working with the community to plant more native fruit trees and bushes in the locality to encourage GROW EAT COOK initiative.

### Embed biodiversity into decision making, policy and procurement

- Take into account biodiversity considerations when considering planning applications and other associated matters and make formal objections/representation in relation to applications from developers on green field sites, impacts of developments on public rights of way, footpath diversion orders tree preservation and the safeguarding of SINCs.
- Use local suppliers wherever possible

### Raise Awareness of Biodiversity and its Importance

- Engage and encourage the community to volunteer on nature projects
- Encourage and support Eco projects within our schools
- Use social media
- Continue to promote and encourage our front garden competition and encourage the use of native pollinator friendly flowers

### Safeguarding Principal Species and Habitats

- Plant native bulbs
- Safeguarding principal species and habitats including Local Wildlife Sites / Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
- Ensuring no negative impact on protected species
- Work with LA's Ecologist Officer

### What happens next?

- Council will continue to work on existing opportunities and identify new ones to embed biodiversity and eco systems into its activities.
- This Statement/Plan will be reviewed annually