



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough

Draft

Biodiversity Duty

Consideration Report & Action Plan

Part 2. Action Plan

June 2025

Introduction

This spreadsheet is to be read, and used, in conjunction with Telford & Wrekin Council's Biodiversity Duty: Consideration Report & Action Plan, Part 1. Consideration & Action Setting, June 2025.

Action ref code	Activity					
	What?		Where?	When?		Outcome
	The government's suggested topic area	Action	Location	Start date	Expected completion date	Measure/s of success
Green Space and Site-based topics						
G01	Enhance protected sites: Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance)	Action 1. Ecology Team continue to be consulted, and where relevant, carry out Habitat Regulations Assessments (HRA) on developments which may increase pressures on Aqualate Mere.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	HRAs on all relevant applications to be completed
G02	Enhance protected sites: Sites of Special Scientific Interest	Action 1. Newport Canal SSSI - create and adopt a new management plan to fully identify causes of damage and identify solutions.	Newport Canal SSSI	April 2025	March 2026	Management Plan adopted
G03		Action 2. The Wrekin & The Ercall SSSI - liaise with majority owner (Shropshire Wildlife Trust) and create and adopt a new management plan to identify improvements.	Wrekin & The Ercall SSSI	April 2029	March 2030	Management Plan adopted
G04		Action 3. Muxton Marsh SSSI - deliver works in current management plan (Granville LNR) and identify funding/solution for deterioration of fen. Ensure management plan is reviewed and refreshed in due course.	Granville Country Park LNR	Ongoing	Dec 2029	SSSI in good management
G05		Action 4. Lydebrook Dingle SSSI - create and adopt a new management plan to identify solutions for recovery and improvements	Lydebrook Dingle SSSI	April 2026	March 2027	Management Plan adopted
G06		Action 5. Lincoln Hill SSSI - create and adopt a new management plan to identify solutions for recovery and improvements	Lincoln Hill SSSI	April 2028	March 2029	Management Plan adopted
G07		Action 6. Tick Wood & Benthall Edge SSSI - create and adopt a new management plan to identify solutions for recovery and improvements	Tick Wood & Benthall Edge SSSI	April 2027	March 2028	Management Plan adopted
G08	Enhance protected sites: Local Nature Reserves and Local Sites	Action 1. Continue to designate proposed LNRs	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Dec 2026	Heath Hill & Pool Hill, Holmer Lake with Kemberton Meadow & Mounds and Snedshill & the Flash.
G09		Action 2. Identify Local Sites not covered by LNR declaration and consider creating management briefs.	Albion Hill, St Georges, plus other sites as appropriate	Ongoing	Oct 2026	Local residents engaged in Friends group. Regular volunteer engagement. Possible future LNR site(s)
G10		Action 3. Ensure management plans/briefs are enacted. (Linked with G18)	LNRs	Ongoing	Ongoing	Improve condition of LNR's

G11		Action 4. Ensure management plans are reviewed appropriately over time. (Linked with G13)	LNRs	Ongoing	Ongoing	LNRs have current management plans adopted.
G12	Actions in national parks or National Landscapes (areas of outstanding natural beauty): helping to develop and implement management plans for national parks or National Landscapes	Action 1. One officer and one elected representative sits on relevant National Landscape committees and contribute to plan making.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Continuation of attendance
G13		Action 2. Ercall & Lawrence's Hill LNR and Limekiln Wood LNR have new management plans written to align with wider NL and LNRS priorities and opportunities for beneficial management identified. (Linked with G11)	Ercall & Lawrence's Hill LNR and Limekiln Wood LNR	April 2029	March 2030	Revised plan adopted
G14		Action 1. Deliver works identified in the forthcoming management plans for Ercall & Lawrence's Hill LNR and Limekiln Wood LNR. (Linked with G10)	Ercall & Lawrence's Hill LNR and Limekiln Wood LNR	April 2030	TBC	Works delivered
G15	Manage land to improve biodiversity: consider how to manage 'nature corridors' that connect existing habitats	Action 1. Use LNRS and GI studies to identify wildlife corridors and required ecological functions	Sites across the Borough	April 2025	March 2026	GIS mapped corridors and functions
G16		Action 2. Integrate actions to enhance required ecological functions within management plans of sites in network	Sites across the Borough	March 2026	Ongoing	New management plans and reviews include consideration.
G17		Action 3. Integrate actions to enhance required ecological functions within maintenance schedules of sites' in network	Sites across the Borough	March 2026	Ongoing	Maintenance schedules amended appropriately during reviews
G18	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Aid landscape recovery	Action 1. Provide officer time to fully engage and support the production and delivery of the LNRS (Linked with G22&23)	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Officer duties include support of LNRS production and delivery as required
G19		Action 2. Formal approval of the LNRS (Linked with G22&23)	Sites across the Borough	Jan 2025	Dec 2025	Adoption of LNRS Winter 2025
G20		Action 3. Open space management plans assess, and where possible commit to, actions to support LNRS priorities (Linked with G22&23)	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	New management plans and reviews include consideration.
G21	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Woodlands and nature reserves	Action 1. TWC to continue to foster links with partners like The Smallwoods Association to help in the proactive management of woodland and to continue to support volunteer groups to help manage sites through Telford Green Spaces Partnership by engaging, advising, training and resourcing	Apley Woods, Rough Park, Randlay Valley, Dawley Hamlets, The Cockshutt, Dothill & Shawbirch, Holmer Lake & Madeley Pitmounds LNR's	Ongoing	Ongoing	Maintain and where possible increase involvement of 3rd sector and volunteers
G22	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Canals and rivers	(Incorporated by TWC into G18 - G20)				

G23	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Water-dependent habitats	(Incorporated by TWC into G18 - G20)				
G24	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Field margins and hedgerows	Action 1. New agreements to include wording encouraging biodiversity through reduced overgrazing and the creation of wildlife corridors when installing new fences.	Sites across the Borough	March 2025	March 2027	Installation of new fences
G25	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Allotments	Action 1. New agreements to include wording encouraging biodiversity through the reduced use of pesticides, composting and organic gardening techniques	Wellington and Brookside Allotments	March 2025	March 2027	Adoption of new gardening techniques
G26	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Cemeteries	Action 1. Seek potential areas for meadow cut grass areas and liaise with Registrars, Cllrs and Town & Parish Councils to educate them on the benefits of improving the biodiversity	Castle Green, Wellington & Wombridge	Ongoing	2028	Designated meadow cut areas in all cemeteries where appropriate
G27	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Parks and sports fields	Action 1. Works have been identified to improve biodiversity in all of the formal parks by changing grass cutting maintenance regimes, sowing bulbs and wildflowers, planting trees and hedging and installing information boards. Formal Green Flag parks have no pesticide use. Opportunities have also been found to leave margins around sports fields and plant trees and wildflower areas	Formal parks are - Telford Town Park, Bowring park, Dale End park, Dawley park, Hartshill park and Victoria park	Ongoing	Ongoing	Implementation of works
G28	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Amenity spaces and communal gardens	Action 1. Work has already been done with communities and Cllrs to plant community orchards and identify areas for wildflower sowing	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Sites identified and projects delivered
G29	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Roadside and railway verges	Action 1. Many wider urban verges have received baseline surveys leading to meadow cut regimes for over 15yrs. Continue identifying potential verges to reduce maintenance to one cut & collect. This needs to be balanced with sight line safety	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Verge meadows maintained and new suitable verges added
G30	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Rights of way and access routes	Action1. Ensuring that landowners are adhering to their responsibilities.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Sound habitat management
G31		Action 2. Continue to obtain appropriate advice on any works TWC undertakes on PROW that may impact biodiversity.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Contracted work avoids harm to biodiversity
G32	Make space for wildlife: School grounds – create gardens, ponds, meadows or woodlands to improve biodiversity and aid education	Action 1. Head teachers informed of their Biodiversity Duty and opportunities for improvements to school grounds that benefit students' learning and wellbeing.	Sites across the Borough	Oct 2025	June 2026	LA schools contacted and information provided.
G33		Action 2. Online workshop held to share resources and discuss constraints and opportunities.	Sites across the Borough	June 2025	June 2025	2hr online workshop held

B02	Improve how you manage buildings: Managing vegetation around car parks (implied)	Action 1. Raise awareness amongst Surveyors and contractors. Consider re planting when re designing car parks shrub areas.	Across built portfolio	Ongoing	Ongoing	Number of buildings sites/improved
B03	Make space for wildlife: Build and install nest boxes for birds, bats and other animals	Action 1. Raise awareness amongst Surveyors and contractors. Consider in refurbishment and new build schemes.	Across built portfolio	Ongoing	Ongoing	Number of buildings sites/improved
B04	Make space for wildlife: Add green walls or roofs to existing or new buildings	Action 1. Raise awareness amongst Surveyors and contractors. Consider in refurbishment and new build schemes.	Across built portfolio	Ongoing	Ongoing	Number of buildings sites/improved
B05	Make space for wildlife: Hard landscaping (not explicitly in guidance but implied)	Action 1. Installing rain gardens where appropriate to intercept run-off and provide both filtration of surface water and a slowing of the flow into watercourses.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Increase in number of rain gardens
B06	Improve how you manage buildings: Reduce the use of energy and water to help reduce pollution and address the pressure it puts on wildlife	Action 1. Accurate monitoring of water and energy use. Consider this in new build and refurbishment projects.	Across built portfolio	Ongoing	Ongoing	Reduced consumption for each building
B07	Review internal policies and processes: Water – improve water efficiency to reduce the effect water abstraction can have on sensitive habitats and species	Action 1. When building new or refurbishing buildings Architects and Project Managers will consider water use and ways of reducing it. This includes rainwater harvesting etc.	Across Operational and School buildings	Ongoing	Ongoing	Reduced water consumption
B08	Improve how you manage buildings: Use of chemicals on the premises	Action 1. All cleaning chemicals used remain to the same or better environmentally friendly standards (currently use the Jangro range).	Council buildings	Ongoing	Ongoing	Cleaning products remain of same or higher environmentally friendly standards
People and Communities topics						
P01	Educate, advise and raise awareness: Feature biodiversity in public or internal communications	Action 1. Biodiversity is included as a key message in all internal and external communications that promote the work we are doing - usually included within Cabinet Member quotes to ensure media publication.	All relevant proactive and reactive communications via media releases, social media and email bulletins.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Media coverage and social media engagement
P02	Educate, advise and raise awareness: Raise public awareness of how their gardens can support biodiversity, for example by avoiding artificial grass	Action 1. Media opportunities will be taken to incorporate ideas public and staff can take themselves to benefit biodiversity including wildlife gardening and volunteering.	All relevant proactive and reactive communications via media releases, social media and email bulletins.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Media coverage and social media engagement
P03	Educate, advise and raise awareness: Include biodiversity considerations in advice for internal and external clients and service users	Action 1. Environment & Neighbourhood and the Ecology Teams will continue to provide advice and raise awareness through interactions with wider colleagues, contractors and the public as part of their daily duties. This will include advising Cllrs on Pride Fund projects.	All relevant proactive and reactive communications	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ecological advice is made available proactively and upon request

P04	Educate, advise and raise awareness: Educate staff on your biodiversity actions and why they are important	Action 1. Biodiversity is included as a key message in all internal communications that promote the work we are doing.	Internal comms	Ongoing	Ongoing	Internal comms and engagement
P05	Educate, advise and raise awareness: Use libraries and museums to raise awareness of biodiversity	Action 1. Arrange outreach using sole council library at SW1 and liaise with community managed libraries to help promote/use space in their sites.	SW1 primarily, but also community managed libraries	April 2025	Ongoing	Events held
P06	Educate, advise and raise awareness: Put information boards in green spaces or offer guided walks	Action 1. Identify key sites such as LNRs and formal parks for extra information about site history, habitats, wildlife, walking routes and facilities. Install QR code links to TWC website.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	All LNRs have appropriate interpretation and a sustainable number of guided walks
P07	Educate, advise and raise awareness: Include the public in projects to improve biodiversity.	Action 1. Work with Town and Parish councils, partner organisations, "Friends of" groups and the public to engage them in events and projects to help a greater understanding and awareness. Carry out consultations where required and hold events to engage residents.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Greater sign up for "Friends of" groups, citizen science and better reporting of negative impacts
P08		Action 2. Offer training session to Town and Parish Clerks on the biodiversity duty and actions they might take.	Sites across the Borough	April 2025	March 2026	Training session offered
Development Planning topics						
D01	Consider biodiversity in development plan making and decisions	Action 1. Maintain a team of minimum 4FTE biodiversity officers within the planning service to assist with TWC planning policy and development management functions. (See D13 Prepare for biodiversity net gain: Consider how existing planning advice and strategies can protect and enhance biodiversity. Action 1.)	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Minimum 4FTE biodiversity officers within planning service
D02	Consider relevant strategies: Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Action 1. Identify and align appropriate TWC activities to contribute to the delivery of the LNRS via appropriate strategy/plan reviews and project delivery.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	LNRS included as appropriate
D03	Consider relevant strategies: Protected Site Strategies	Action 1. Monitor publication of Protected Site Strategies every January and address implications.	Sites across the Borough	Jan 2025 Jan 2026 Jan 2027 Jan 2028 Jan 2029	Jan 2025 Jan 2026 Jan 2027 Jan 2028 Jan 2029	Any relevant Protected Site Strategies are identified and addressed in TWC policy/practice
D04	Consider relevant strategies: Species Conservation Strategies	Action 1. Monitor publication of Species Conservation Strategies every January and address implications.	Sites across the Borough	Jan 2025 Jan 2026 Jan 2027 Jan 2028 Jan 2029	Jan 2025 Jan 2026 Jan 2027 Jan 2028 Jan 2029	Any relevant Species Conservation Strategies are identified and addressed in TWC policy/practice
D05	Consideration process: check existing data about wildlife and habitats in the area	Action 1. Use the Local Records' Centre as appropriate.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Budget and officer time retained

D06		Action 2. Ensure TWC officers can access ecological data via Ecology Team as required.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Adequate ecological data available to officers
D07	Manage land to improve biodiversity: Use Green Infrastructure Framework	Action 1. Create a refreshed GI Strategy to include mapping and priority setting.	Sites across the Borough	June 2025	June 2027	Strategy adopted
D08		Action 2. Adopt and implement a Local Plan policy for 20% BNG target and support delivered within the borough. (See D12 Prepare for biodiversity net gain: Consider including biodiversity net gain policy in the local plan Action 1)	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	March 2025	Policy in Publication Plan
D09		Action 3. Adopt and implement a Local Plan policy to introduce the Urban Greening Factor for appropriate developments.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	March 2025	Policy in Publication Plan
D10		Action 4. Telford has a remarkably high volume of tree cover. As part of the GI Strategy, map tree canopy cover for the borough and identify priority areas for increasing cover using the Tree Equity Score analysis.	Sites across the Borough	April 2025	March 2026	Tree Equity Score analysis mapped for areas of the borough covered
D11		Action 5. Telford has a remarkably high supply of accessible open space. As part of the GI Strategy, map accessible open space standard for the borough and identify priority areas for increasing cover using the Green Infrastructure Framework standards.	Sites across the Borough	April 2025	March 2026	Open space supply and need mapped across borough
D12	Prepare for biodiversity net gain: Consider including biodiversity net gain policy in the local plan	Action 1. Adopt and implement a Local Plan policy for 20% BNG target and support delivered within the borough. (See D08 Manage land to improve biodiversity: Use Green Infrastructure Framework. Action 2.)	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	March 2025	Policy in Publication Plan
D13	Prepare for biodiversity net gain: Consider how existing planning advice and strategies can protect and enhance biodiversity	Action 1. Maintain a team of minimum 4FTE officers within the planning service to assist with TWC planning policy and development management functions. (See D01 Consider biodiversity in development plan making and decisions. Action 1.)	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Retention or expansion
Broader Corporate Policy topics						
C01	Decision making: Consider using the Natural Capital approach for decisions	Action 1. Specifically include the consideration of biodiversity within the Environment section of the decision paper template to enable officers and Cabinet to formally evaluate impacts.	Sites across the Borough	March 2025	March 2025	Wording incorporated into the Council's standard decision paper template
C02	Review internal policies and processes: Procurement – buy sustainable materials and supplies to reduce the demand on natural resources	Action 1. Add standard question/s within bidder response documents, to evaluate potential suppliers' relative impacts upon the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.	Sites across the Borough	Feb 2025	March 2025	Template Tender Documents located on the Procurement SharePoint site. Questions are in situ and suppliers will provide guidance on their processes

C03	Review internal policies and processes: Waste – review waste management and recycling processes to reduce water pollution and air pollution from waste transport and landfill	Action 1. Waste transport stations continue to adhere to licencing requirements including monitoring and reporting of drainage system integrity & water quality of effluent. Fuel storage is bunded and spill kits are on hand.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Continued compliance
C04		Action 2. Waste collection vehicles are fitted with leachate collection equipment to prevent leaks during transport.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Continued compliance
C05		Action 3. The waste collection Contractor to report annually on Greenhouse Gas emissions and how improvements has been made as part of their waste management activities.	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Improvements reported to TWC
C06	Review internal policies and processes: Light – make sure the design of artificial lighting minimises effects on nature	Action 1. Updated design guidance for lighting that can be used for internal and external works	Sites across the Borough	Aug 2026	Aug 2027	Guidance updated
C07	Review internal policies and processes: Transport – support sustainable travel to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality	Action 1. Introduction of electric fleet vehicles across the Council	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Reduction in corporate mileage
C08		Action 2. Pool car scheme introduced allowing staff to book vehicles with the latest engine technology to reduce emissions	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Reduction in corporate mileage
C09		Action 3. Promoting the use of Microsoft Teams where appropriate to remove the need for un-necessary travel	Sites across the Borough	Ongoing	Ongoing	Reduction in corporate mileage