



Information Governance Team

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13 December 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) Request ID: FOI562246407

Thank you for your request for information relating to Biodiversity net gain requirement for planning permission.

You have requested the following information:

1. Any policies and papers, from 1 Jan 2022 to 1 November 2023, stating the percentage of biodiversity net gain your council will require as a condition for planning permission (under the Environment Act 2021) (a) as part of an agreed Local Plan; or (b) as part of a draft Local Plan.

We have a Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This is published and accessible via the following webpage:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/planning-policy/coventry-local-plan-2011-2031/2>

2. Any polices and papers, from 1 Jan 2019 to 1 November 2023, stating whether you have formally declared a nature/ecological emergency.

Coventry City Council has not formally declared any nature/ecological emergency. The Local Plan Review recognises the need to address biodiversity decline and seeks to strengthen existing policies in the area. Currently there is no comprehensive data on the extent of wildlife habitats in Coventry but this will be available shortly. The data (satellite imagery) will be backdated and change over time will be assessed.

3. Any policies and papers, from 1 Jan 2022 to 1 November 2023, containing a target for your area to contribute to protect and manage 30% of land and sea for nature by 2030.

The City Council has not formally adopted any target to protect and manage 30% of the area for

nature by 2030. As Coventry is primarily urban the target is more challenging, all sites need to be multifunctional and deliver benefits for people, wildlife and the wider environment.

The table below shows relevant data for Coventry and excludes large areas of green infrastructure outside parks. The table suggests that the City would be able to meet a target of 30% of land managed sympathetically for nature and a number of projects are being undertaken towards this. If land owned by the Council outside the local authority boundary could be considered the target could be met very simply.

Feature	Total area (km ²)	% Coventry
Coventry	98.34	100 (30% = 29.5 km ²)
Local Wildlife Sites (selected for wildlife value)	9.17	9.32
Parks/greenspaces	10.56	10.74
Green belt (not selected for wildlife value)	14.88	15.13

4. On what date your current Local Plan will be five years old and when you expect a new Local Plan to be agreed.

The Local Plan is currently being reviewed as it was five years old on 6 December 2022. Please see the following webpage for details:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/localplanreview>

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For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

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