



**Information Governance Team**

Postal Address:  
Coventry City Council  
PO Box 15  
Council House  
Coventry  
CV1 5RR

[www.coventry.gov.uk](http://www.coventry.gov.uk)

E-mail: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

Phone: 024 7697 5408

05 September 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

**Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)  
Request ID: FOI636136964**

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

You have requested the following information:

**1. Are you bringing forward your own habitat bank for the purposes of offering offsite biodiversity units?**

Coventry City Council is proposing three sites in different parts of the City which will be submitted to the Register. The sites total 40 ha, the total number of units available has not yet been finalised.

**2. If so, at what stage of development is it?**

Currently all the required information is being compiled and the sites are hoped to be submitted by October 2024. HMMPs will soon be completed

**3. Have you decided methodology for pricing units yet?**

Pricing for units is not yet finalised, it is hoped that Warwickshire and the WMCA will agree a common approach to pricing BNG units. The price will be competitive with national scheme but will be a Full Cost Recovery approach to managing the site for a 30 year minimum period. It is hoped that all Natural Capital income can be pooled and used to ensure sites will be managed in perpetuity.

**4. If the answer to Q3 is yes, what is it and is it expected to cover the long-term cost of**

## **habitat delivery?**

Not applicable.

## **5. Please supply a full, redacted or template version of any s106 agreement for such an LPA habitat bank, if it exists.**

A template S106 is being developed, nationally DEFRA has shared draft templates which the Council Legal team is considering

## **6. Please supply copies of all completed section 106 agreements for other habitat banks in your LPA area.**

Not applicable, there are currently no habitat banks in the LPA area and no section 106 agreements.

## **7. What is the total value of biodiversity offsetting contributions paid to the authority over the previous two years?**

Warwickshire (including Coventry) have been operating a biodiversity offset scheme for a number of years. £457,899.44 has been received in Coventry since 01/01/2022

## **8. Of the total value given in Q7, how much has been deployed into habitat creation, enhancement and management and how much remains unspent?**

Details of the finance are not available, it is part of additional offset monies received at other times and income provided by DEFRA for BNG, grant income etc. Overall, the income has been used for the following purposes;

- New Planning/Ecology/BNG staff posts
- Match funding for biodiversity grant money (Species Recovery Grant, LATF etc)
- Match funding for biodiversity research at local universities
- Biodiversity enhancement projects at various sites

Most of the budget remains unspent, significant grant income in recent years has supported most related project work to date. Salaries are the largest expense.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

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](mailto: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](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

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

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**