



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)
Request ID: FOI651598745**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Biodiversity Duty.

You have requested the following information:

1. A record of your first considerations of what action to take for biodiversity, which was due to be completed by 1 January 2024.

Coventry City Council has not produced a report regarding the enhanced Biodiversity Duty and the opportunities across the Council's activities

2. Any policies and objectives for biodiversity which were agreed as soon as possible after this.

Coventry City Council has not agreed any new policies and objectives for biodiversity since 1st January 2024.

Related comments:

- A Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document was produced previously, available at the Council's website:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/39624/biodiversity-net-gain-spd>

- The Local Plan is currently being reviewed and includes proposed changes reflecting recent changes in relevant legislation and guidance
- The Coventry Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan has just been completed and includes

objectives and actions specifically for biodiversity

- The Council is closely involved in the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, led by WMCA, and will develop further local action when this project is completed (March 2025). This will include developing a Biodiversity Strategy and Green/Blue Infrastructure documents

3. How many hectares of priority habitat you have identified for restoration or creation in the next five years

The Council has agreed 3 sites covering over 41ha as habitat banks within the Local Authority which are currently being submitted to the national register of BNG sites.

1. Elm Fields 7.54ha
2. Sherbourne Whitley 7.68ha
3. Coundon 26.29ha

Details of the habitats at each site are currently being finalised, however the table below shows the likely habitat changes. The development of habitats depends on the amount of development and it is probable that the 3 sites will be sufficient for over 5 years, however a further selection of sites is currently being agreed.

Habitat	Area created ha	Area enhanced ha
Broad leaf woodland	7	6
Neutral semi-improved grassland	5	20
Other (wetland, scrub)	3	

Related comments:

- The Council has substantial land outside Coventry and plans to “rewild” a 60ha site. If the plans are implemented this will create a further 30 ha SI grassland, 10ha broadleaf woodland and 15ha wetland

- Over 50 areas of amenity grassland are being considered as potential biodiversity sites. This could allow the creation of approximately 50ha of habitat within the city, eg 25ha (poorer) SI grassland, 20ha broadleaf woodland/parkland, 5ha wetland

- Biodiverse SuDS are being created at numerous sites and a number of projects to enhance streets with rain gardens and planting will be completed in coming year

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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

Information Governance