



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)
Request ID: FOI653825652**

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

You have requested the following information:

I am requesting the following information related to biodiversity net gain:

1. Any policies or papers published since 1 November 2023 which state 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.

None. However, we have produced a Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document before the 1st of November 2023, which states that a net 10% net gain will be achieved. We have not sought an increase in the percentage as Ecology assessment and revision of any submitted metric provides greater certainty that gains are achieved.

2. How many hectares of land has been improved for biodiversity on-site as part of a development for the purposes of biodiversity net gain since 12 February 2024.

Currently since the 12th of February 2024, there have been no planning applications consisting of more than 10 dwellings that are not an outline or reserved matter. There have been approximately 10 applications that have been received involving smaller developments and/or over 25sqm of habitat. These planning applications have resulted in approximately 0.4 hectares of greenspace being improved on site, however as these applications have only recently received permission

most have not yet started construction.

3. How many hectares of land has been improved for biodiversity off-site for the purposes of biodiversity net gain related to developments in your authority area since 12 February 2024.

None currently, however we have three Biodiversity Net Gain sites that are currently being registered for off-site habitat creation. These currently total 41.51 hectares. The council are looking into expanding these habitat banks further and are exploring other areas within Coventry.

Coventry (together with Warwickshire) has been using a form of BNG for a number of years and many developments before 12 February 2024 are providing offsite mitigation (assessed using the Warwickshire BNG metric). Most of the offsite mitigation is required by 2 very large developments (Sustainable Urban Extensions) final details of the mitigation are currently being agreed a part of Reserved Matters applications with full landscaping plans. It is expected that a significant proportion of the 41ha land bank will be required over the next few years.

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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

Information Governance