

QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Biodiversity Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Overview:

Section 6 under Part 1 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of the ecosystems duty (the S6 duty) for public authorities in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales.

The S6 duty requires that public authorities must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity so far as is consistent with the Budget,

Biodiversity is Life on Earth- Their habitats and interactions between them and their preservation. It includes awareness of the diversity of living organisms and their differences.

A key part of this Council is to preserve Ecosystems for Future Generations.

To this end, Council regards biodiversity conservation as an essential component of the vision for this area, and for the future of our community

Council actively promotes the preservation of resilient ecological network through its Wards regarding our playing fields, verges, hedgerows and water courses. Wild life and wild flower presentation has commenced with unmown verges and suitable areas.

The local schools have launched relevant activities with tree planting etc. and future purchases will be sustainably sourced.

Advice is taken from the Wildlife and Nature Officer from One Voice Wales and aims to co-operate with requests and advice from such sources.

It recognises the crucial role it has in helping its residents, both as individuals and communities, to understand what they can do locally for biodiversity and is committed to involving individuals and local communities as widely as possible in local biodiversity action. Waste Management and recycling are also taken into consideration.

Council recognises that to fulfil its duties and commitments to biodiversity, it needs to employ appropriately qualified persons to provide the required service and guidance.

Council is committed to ensuring its own land management practises contribute to biodiversity. Also, it will ensure that good practice is taken into consideration of the planning applications received

Site features: buildings, bridges or other man made structures with features that may support roosting bats.

Trees with features that may support wildlife,

Agricultural buildings or rural outbuildings, ponds or slow flowing water bodies on or within a 100m from a minor development

Ponds or slow flowing watercourses on or within 100m from a minor development.

Rough grassland, parkland, meadow or pasture.

Watercourses including rivers ditches or lakes on or adjacent to the site.

Woodland, heathland, scrub hedgerows on or adjacent to the site.

Derelict land.

Gravel pits or quarries.

What should Ecological Assessment include?

The ecological assessment will need to identify features adjacent to the site that may be impacted upon by the proposed development and the likely impacts that the would have on those features, These features include:-- European protected species e.g. Bats and the great crested newts, nationally protected species badgers reptiles and amphibians.

Protected sites e.g., local wild life sites sites of special scientific interest, special protected areas & special areas of conservation

Policy to be reviewed at regular intervals.

