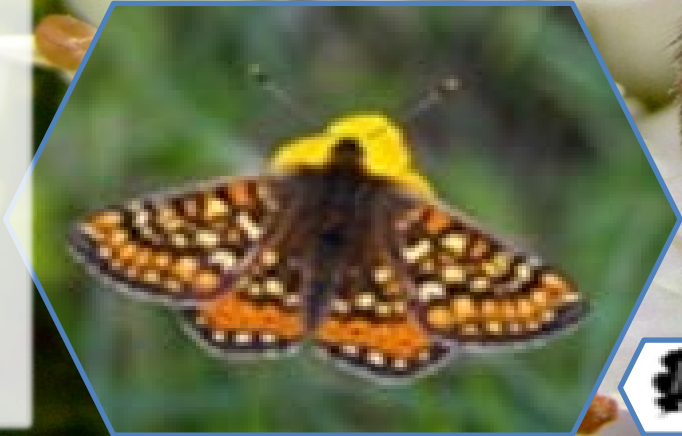


**Argyll and Bute Council
Biodiversity Duty Action Plan
Report 2017.**



7 Themes.

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Legal | 5. Information |
| 2. Planning | 6. Community Engagement |
| 3. Economic Development | 7. Education |
| 4. Asset Management | |

The Themes are linked to the following Outcomes.

Outcome 1.

Biodiversity Action to maintain and enhance within a range of developments- this includes good practice within planning, infrastructure, mineral extraction and where appropriate within the Argyll and Bute Council estate.

Outcome 2.

Sustainable management of our biodiversity- for consistency to meet both social and economic needs in terms of usage and enjoyment of Argyll and Bute's natural resources i.e. clean air, potable water, soil, native flora and fauna.

Outcome 3.

Biodiversity contributing to community and economic benefits- education (formal, informal and lifelong learning), social inclusion, contributing to sustainable economic development, health and wellbeing and community cohesion.

Outcome 4.

Conservation management for future proofing biodiversity – this includes environmental activities to manage climate change.

Single Outcome Agreement- Long tem outcome

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|--|--|
| 1. The economy is diverse and thriving. | 4. Children and young people have the best possible start. |
| 2. We have infrastructure that supports sustainable growth | 5. People live active, healthier and independent lives |
| 3. Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all. | 6. People live in safer and stronger communities. |

Outcomes	SOA	Action Theme: Legislation, Policy and Plans	Department and Service	Target	New/ Ongoing	Complete by	Resources		Progress Report 2017-
							Staff	Finance	
1	all	Contribute to the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy by aligning the refreshed Argyll and Bute Council Biodiversity Duty Action Plan	Development and Infrastructure-Development Policy	Engage with Senior Officers in developing the A&BC BDAP and complete draft document.	New	Jan 2016 Yes.	LB Officer	No cost.	Yes, progress being made. Await decision from partners has yet to be confirmed on an interim refresh LBAP to align with the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy
3	As appropriate	Assist with the development of strategies and plans by inputting the biodiversity element as appropriate	All relevant departments	Input biodiversity in the preparation of new and revised strategies and plans.	New and Ongoing	ongoing	LB Officer.	No cost	As and when required.
Outcome	SOA	Action Theme: Development Policy	Department and Service	Target	New/ Ongoing	Complete by	Resources		Progress Report 2017-
							Staff	Finance	
1	1	Take account of Biodiversity in the drafting of the Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan	Development and Infrastructure-Development Policy	Contribute biodiversity information to support the development of the next LDP	Ongoing	Ongoing	LB ¹ Officer	no cost	Yes- as reflected in ENV 1 – Biodiversity, ENV 8 Green Networks and emerging LDP
1	1 and 2	Ensure that Argyll and Bute LDP ² continues to take account of the constraints and opportunities for biodiversity including Landfill and Mineral workings	Development and Infrastructure-Development Policy	Biodiversity is fully considered in the LDP with supplementary guidance provided on landfill and mineral workings	New	2020	LDP Team	No cost	Yes, ENV11 Soils and Peat, ENV 10 Geodiversity.
1,2,3,4	1,2,3,4	Argyll and Bute Council Strategies	All relevant departments	Corporate, Environmental Strategies,	New	As appropriate	Yes	No cost	Yes, Climate Change
1,2,3,4		Argyll and Bute Local Biodiversity Action Plan- refresh the current tranche	Development Policy	Report on Progress made on the latest Tranche.	Ongoing	2017	A&BLB P ³	No Cost	Interim Refresh due 2017

Outcome	SOA	Action Theme: Economic Development	Department and Service	Target	New/ Ongoing	Complete by	Resources		Progress Report 2017
							Staff	Finance	
2	1	Biodiversity Included in the Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP)	D&I-Economic Development	Provide biodiversity information for sustainable economic growth.	New	Annual review	LB Officer	No cost	Under Natural Capital
1,2	2	Ensure Biodiversity is Included in the Argyll and Bute Council Infrastructure Strategy and Transport Schemes	D&I- ED working with DP	Provide biodiversity relevant infrastructure	New	Annual review	LB Officer	No cost	Roadside Verge draft Biodiversity Action Plan
2,3	1	Promote the Business and Biodiversity guide.	D&I with DP	Review the current guidance to ensure that it is up to date	New	Annually	LB Officer and ED Staff	No cost	Review commenced under Natural Capital objectives
Outcome	SOA	Action Theme: Biodiversity Information	Department and Service	Target	New/ Ongoing	Complete by	Resources		Progress Report 2017
							Staff	Finance	
3,4	3	Ensure Biodiversity Information including reports posted on Argyll and Bute Council website are up to date	Corporate Services (CS)	Regular updates to be sent to Communications	Ongoing	As appropriate	LB Officer	No cost	Yes ongoing, particularly A&BLBAP doc.
3	3	Promote Biodiversity to Argyll and Bute Council Staff	CS and D&I (Development and Infrastructure).	Survey Monkey	New	2016	LB Officer	No cost	Pilot carried out with LDP staff.
3	3	Promote Biodiversity Species and Habitats on a month by month basis.	CS, Communications and LBAP officer	Month by month species and habitats selected.	New/through Planning Twitter a/c	Ongoing	LB Officer	No cost	Yes, through Twitter
3,4	3	Provide advice on Habitat Restoration that involves the eradication of Invasive Non-Native Species via the Biodiversity webpage	D&I/CS	LBAP Officer to provide information and appropriate web links	Ongoing	Ongoing	LB Officer	No cost	Provided advise on individual sites to developers and community groups

Outcome	SOA	Action Theme: Planning	Department and Service	Target	New/ Ongoing	Complete by	Resources		Progress Report 2017
							Staff	Finance	
1	1 and 6	Re. Planning Applications including Pre- App and Development Proposals: where appropriate ensure protection, positive management and enhancement opportunities are taken into account.	D&I Planning and Regulatory Services	Screening of wide range of applications with a focus on biodiversity protection, enhancement and restoration in tandem with the Biodiversity Check sheet...	New approach, Ongoing process	DM and LB Officer	Yes	No cost	Biodiversity Technical Note- Guidance includes Biodiversity Checklist
4	1 and 6	Promote Biodiversity conservation and enhancement in council development proposals.	D&I- Planning and Regulatory Services	Biodiversity Assessment of Council sites using the Biodiversity Check Sheet.	New	Ongoing	Yes	No cost	Yes: Dunbeg, Bowmore, Inveraray – Master Plan and Kirk Road Improvement.
	6	Officer Biosecurity Information for site visits.	D&I- Planning and Regulatory Services	Biosecurity and Biodiversity information for Officer visits	Draft completed.	LB Officer	Yes	No cost	Yes completed.
Outcome	SOA	Action Theme: Asset Management	Department and Service	Target	New/Ongoing	Completed by	Resources		Progress Report 2017
							Staff	Finance	
2	2	Roadside verges, roundabouts management plans.	D&I	Roadside verge and roundabout maintenance timed to maximise biodiversity	Ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	Budget in place	Yes- annual maintenance plan incorporates Biodiversity
1	2	Amenity spaces- parks, public gardens.	D&I	Maintenance timed to maximise biodiversity	Ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	Budget in place	Yes.
1	2	Graveyards Maintenance Plan.	D&I	Designated Green Burials sites identified within existing Grave Yards	Ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	Budget in place	Yes- update on usage required
1,2	2	Taking account of biodiversity in other environmental programmes such as waste management, energy conservation and response to climate change.	D&I	Biodiversity information input as required.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	No cost	Includes SUDs. Peatland restoration- project information to SNH. Information for Heritage Park Restoration project.

Outcome	SOA	Action Theme: Community Engagement	Department and Service	Target	New/Ongoing	Completed by	Resources		Progress Report 2017
							Staff	Finance	
3	5	Community Planning – Single Outcome SOA 5. People live active, healthier and independent lives.	Corporate Services.	Market guidance on the benefits of biodiversity/nature on our health and wellbeing	New	Ongoing	Yes	No cost in terms of advice	Twitter- Biodiversity Activity promotion
3	5	Promote the benefits of biodiversity to our communities' health and wellbeing by working with the Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust.	Development and Infrastructure Service.	Work in partnership with the Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust	New and ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	No cost in terms of advice	Yes- ACT Hubs projects
3	5	Adult and Children Care Homes x 23. Audit results to promote low cost measures such as bird feeders, bird boxes and gardening activities.	Development and Infrastructure. (D&I)	Carry out an audit of biodiversity interest in the grounds of Adult and Children's Homes to inform potential opportunities.	New	2018	Yes	No cost in terms of advice	Audit questions drafted, Some took part in the Big garden Bird Count.
Outcome	SOA	Action Theme: Education	Department and Service	Target	New/Ongoing	Completed by	Resources		Progress Report 2017
							Staff	Finance	
3	3	Promote biodiversity and associated projects to schools through online information and email communication.	D&I- Education	Support schools to develop and deliver plans for the enhancement, management and use of their grounds	Ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	No cost	Yes, ongoing- Growing Wild Project, Funding opportunities and Biodiversity Activities
3	3	Carry out an bi-annual biodiversity activities survey of all schools in Argyll and Bute.	D&I- Education	Develop a survey suited to on line completion- Survey Monkey.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	No cost	Due end of 2018
3	3	Provide advice on biodiversity to individual school projects.	D&I- Education.	Help schools link with the Argyll and Bute Action Plan,	Ongoing	Ongoing	Yes	No cost	Yes- advice with some visits carried out.