

Objective 1 Embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels

Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
<p>1.1 Ensure RLDP allocations where delivery of Net Benefit for biodiversity will be possible. Ensure RLDP Development Management policies are robust and associated Supplementary Planning Guidance for Nature Recovery is developed.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>Part, Core</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Policies and planning guidance in place</p>		
<p>1.2 Continue to identify services & operations that have potential to deliver a net benefit for biodiversity and incorporate action into business plans including Highways & Flooding and Landlord Services.</p>	<p>Highways Landlord Services Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>Full, Core, Local Places for Nature Revenue</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Audits undertaken and further actions identified</p>		

<p>1.3 Ensure that the review and implementation of the Council’s Asset Management Strategy considers Biodiversity & Ecosystem Resilience through consultation.</p>	<p>Landlord Services</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>Full, Core, Local Places for Nature Revenue</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Biodiversity & Ecosystem Resilience considered</p>		
<p>1.4 Improve the consideration of biodiversity through Highways Operations and Suds Approving Body (SAB) process through use of checklists and consultation.</p>	<p>Highways Flooding Risk Management</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>Full, Core</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>More schemes delivering meaningful biodiversity benefits</p>		
<p>1.5 Rollout the use of the new procurement guidelines to limit effects on climate and nature</p>	<p>Procurement All Procuring Services</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>Full, Core</p>	<p>Carbon Emissions plan</p>	<p>More procurement considers climate & nature</p>		

Objective 2 Provide nature-based opportunities to raise awareness, support health and well-being and encourage action for nature

Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
2.1 Continue to deliver nature-based opportunities to raise awareness, support health and well-being and encourage action for nature through the Gwent Green Grid (see Appendix for Nature Networks and SPF project outputs)	Green Infrastructure	2024-2026	Full, Nature Networks, SPF	-	Grant relevant Key Performance Indicators		
2.2 Work with young people to enable them to take positive action on nature recovery and climate change	Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing Leisure Services Development and Heritage Attractions	Ongoing	Full, Core, Nature Networks, SPF, Food Partnership	Community Climate Action Plan	TBC		

	Sustainable Food Outdoor Education						
2.3 Continue with work on the E Learning module and seek to make it compulsory corporate training.	Green Infrastructure	2024	Full, SPF/Local Places for Nature	-	Completion of learning module. Number of officers completed training.		
2.4 Work collaboratively to seek alternative funding models including Green Finance to ensure long term sustainable delivery of awareness raising and encouraging action.	Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Part, Nature Networks	-	Opportunities identified.		
2.5 Explore opportunities for Duke of Edinburgh Award voluntary work to aid nature recovery.	Outdoor Education Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	No	-	Opportunities identified.		
2.6 Explore funding to update interpretation and materials at the One Planet Centre, strengthen links with partners and	Grounds and Cleansing	TBC	No	-	TBC		

<p>increase the use of the centre.</p>							
<p>2.7 Support schools to utilise the opportunity provided by the new curriculum to ensure nature recovery & climate change education is embedded into young people’s learning</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing Development and Heritage Attractions Leisure Services Sustainable Food</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Part, Nature Networks, SPF</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Number of schools engaged.</p>		
<p>2.8 Encourage public understanding of food systems – including production, processing, cooking, nutrition, and waste – to encourage planet-friendly food choices and informed decision-making</p>	<p>Sustainable Food</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Part, Food Partnership</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>TBC</p>		

<p>2.9 Deliver Nature & Climate awareness raising to groups</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing Development and Heritage Attractions</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Core, Local Places for Nature</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>TBC</p>		
<p>2.10 Assess the need and aspirations for schools in Monmouthshire to have an environmental charter and improve sharing of best practice on projects such as school grounds improvements to enhance ecosystem services.</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing Active Travel Sustainable Food Children and Young People</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Core, Local Places for Nature, Food Partnership</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>TBC</p>		
<p>2.11 Continue with a programme of training for site managers, operatives & development management officers as need arises e.g. protected species, construction, and</p>	<p>Highways Grounds and Cleansing MonLife Attractions</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Part, SPF</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Number of officer/operatives trained</p>		

management of GI assets e.g. Rain Gardens.	Green Infrastructure Development and Heritage Attractions						
2.12 Nature & Climate Comms campaign	Communications Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing	Ongoing	Part, Core, Nature Networks, Local Places for Nature	-	TBC		

Objective 3 Undertake land management for biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience							
Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
3.1 Develop the management of green infrastructure to improve climate & ecosystem resilience	Grounds and Cleansing Countryside Access Development and Heritage Attractions MonLife Attractions	Ongoing	Part, Local Places for Nature, Brilliant Basics, Nature Networks, SPF	-	TBC		
3.2 Continue to deliver green infrastructure improvements and changes to management practices through the Gwent Green Grid Partnership	Green Infrastructure	March 2026	Full, Nature Networks, SPF	-	Grant relevant Key Performance Indicators		
3.3 Maintain Nature Isn't Neat Management at 38Ha and increase sustainable disposal /	Grounds and Cleansing Highways	Ongoing	Full, Core, Local Places for Nature	-	Management Maintained at 38Ha		

utilisation of grass cutting arisings							
3.4 Implement the River Gavenny project via the Local Nature Partnership	Green Infrastructure	2024	Part, Section 106, Nature Networks	-	Project Underway		
3.5 Develop Green Infrastructure Management Plans for Mill Common, Breezy Bank and the new Countryside Park at Nant y Castell.	Green Infrastructure	March 2026	Part, Section 106, Planning Obligation, (TWIG funding application underway)	-	Plans completed		
3.6 Continue with the development and implementation of the Neddern Brook Strategy and monitor effectiveness	MonLife Attractions Green Infrastructure Flood Risk Management	Ongoing	Part, Nature Networks	-	Strategy in place. Management undertaken.		
3.7 Seek TWIG funding for woodland management plans and future woodland management	Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing	2024	Full, Nature Networks	-	Funding secured.		

<p>3.8 Secure National Forest Accreditation for priority woodland sites</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure MonLife Attractions Countryside Access Grounds and Cleansing Landlord Services</p>	<p>March 2026</p>	<p>Full, Nature Networks, (TWIG funding application underway)</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Number of MCC sites with National Forest Accreditation</p>		
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Objective 4 Influence land management to improve ecosystem resilience							
Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
4.1 Promote and, as opportunities arise, use our county farms as exemplars for nature friendly, sustainable, and regenerative agriculture	Sustainable Food Landlord Services Flood Risk Management	Ongoing	Part, Food Partnership	-	TBC		
4.2 Promote sustainable land management and agricultural practices, including nutrient/soil management and natural flood management	Flood Risk Management Sustainable Food	Ongoing	Part, Food Partnership	-	TBC		
4.3 Work with partners to understand potential for and implement natural flood management for climate adaption	Flood Risk Management	Ongoing	Part, NFM, SPF, Food Partnership	-	TBC		
4.4 Work with Landlord Services to	Sustainable Food	Ongoing	Full, Food Partnership	-	TBC		

update the Incredible Edible license template to include a duty to use chemicals only as a last resort.							
4.5 Work with Town and Community councils to deliver Section 6	Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing	Ongoing	Part, Local Places for Nature	-	Number of Community Councils engaged		
4.6 Continue to work with Gwent Wildlife Trust, Monmouthshire Meadows Group and Natural Resources Wales to identify sites that meet the Local Wildlife Sites / Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation criteria.	Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Full, Core	-	Number of Local Wildlife Sites / Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation		
4.7 Protect and enhance green infrastructure through new and existing development	Planning Policy and Development Management Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Part, Core	-	TBC		
4.8 Promote community access to land for growing food	Sustainable Food	Ongoing	Part, SPF, Food Partnership	-	TBC		

	Planning Policy and Development Management						
4.9 Signpost businesses to support, advice and information to help them to contribute to Nature Recovery	Enterprise and Community Animation Destination Management Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Part, Core	-	Number of businesses engaged.		

Objective 5 Tackle key pressures on species and habitats							
Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
5.1 Continue to develop the Nature Recovery Action Plan and support and encourage delivery	Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Part, Local Places for Nature	-	NRAP published.		
5.2 Continue to identify and promote new Green Infrastructure projects through the Green Infrastructure Strategy	Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing Sustainable Food Flood Risk Management	Ongoing	Part, Nature Networks, SPF, Local Places for Nature	-	No of green infrastructure projects delivered.		
5.3 Develop a Dark skies policy and explore a street lighting charter which consider reducing and limiting impacts on nature	Street Lighting Green Infrastructure Planning Policy and	Ongoing	Part, Local Places for Nature	-	Policy and charter formulated.		

	Development Management						
5.4 Delivery of Net Benefit for biodiversity through Active Travel and other sustainable travel infrastructure projects	Active Travel Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Full, Active Travel Fund	-	TBC		
5.5 Work with partners to support and promote actions to improve river water quality	Green Infrastructure Planning Policy and Development Management Flood Risk Management Sustainable Food	Ongoing	Part, Core, SPF, Food Partnership	Rivers & Ocean	TBC		
5.6 Development of a voluntary Tree Warden scheme to encourage residents to monitor and maintain existing and new tree planting.	Grounds and Cleansing Green Infrastructure Countryside Access	TBC	TWIG Funding Application Underway	-	Pilot scheme in place.		

<p>5.7 Work in partnership to plant more trees, increase area of woodland, improve woodland management, and retain and protect existing woodland and trees</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Part, Nature Networks, SPF, Section 106</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>TBC</p>		
<p>5.8 Explore and establish a target for an increase in the percentage of urban and rural tree cover</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Part, Core</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>TBC</p>		
<p>5.9 Provide information to encourage new tree planting and protect existing trees in private gardens</p>	<p>Grounds and Cleansing Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Part, Core, Nature Networks</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>TBC</p>		
<p>5.10 Work with Stump Up for Trees and other similar local organisations to evaluate benefits of biochar for tree plant health and locking up carbon</p>	<p>Grounds and Cleansing</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>TBC</p>		
<p>5.11 Eliminate the use of peat-based compost from our supply chain</p>	<p>Procurement Grounds and Cleansing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Council Emissions</p>	<p>TBC</p>		

	Green Infrastructure Highways Active Travel						
5.12 Increase urban tree canopy including new street trees and in car parks to increase carbon capture, water storage, ecosystem resilience, and provide a cooling effect	Green Infrastructure Planning Policy and Development Management Highways	Ongoing	Local Places for Nature, SPF, Nature Networks	-	TBC		

Objective 6 Support landscape scale projects and partnerships to maximise delivery

Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
6.1 Continue to lead on the Gwent Green Grid through Nature Networks and SPF funding	Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Nature Networks, SPF	-	Continued leadership of GGG		
6.2 Continue to take active roles in the Usk Catchment Partnership and Wye Catchment Partnership	Elected Members Chief officer Communities and Place Green Infrastructure Head of Planning	Ongoing	Full, Core	Rivers & Ocean	Continued involvement with partnerships		
6.3 Continue to support Living Levels Landscape Partnership	Elected Members Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Full, Core	-	Continued involvement with partnership		
6.4 Continue to work on the coast and the wider	Elected Members	Ongoing	Full, Core	-	Continued involvement		

<p>estuary through Coastal Capacity, ASERA, Severn Estuary Partnership and Severn Estuary Coastal Group.</p>	<p>Chief officer Communities and Place Green Infrastructure Sustainability Planning, Placemaking and Flooding</p>				<p>with partnerships</p>		
<p>6.5 Continue to host and maintain the Monmouthshire Local Nature Partnership</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Part, Local Places for Nature</p>	<p>Nature Recovery Action Plan</p>	<p>Continued hosting of Local Nature Partnership</p>		

Objective 7 Use improved evidence, understanding and monitoring to inform action

Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
7.1 Continue to monitor grassland diversity and pollinators (through POMS) to provide evidence to our Nature isn't Neat management	Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing	Ongoing	Full, Nature Networks, Core	-	TBC		
7.2 Continue to secure the Service Level Agreement with the South East Wales Biodiversity Record Centre (SEWBReC)	Planning Policy and Development Management	Ongoing	Full, Core	-	Continuation of SLA.		
7.3 Development of Nature Networks Mapping and continue to work with NRW to develop Resilient Ecological Networks	Green Infrastructure	Ongoing	Part, Nature Networks	-	Nature Networks and Resilient Ecological Networks complete.		
7.4 Use of Nature Networks mapping in project design and to inform delivery of Net Benefit for Biodiversity	Planning Policy and Development Management	TBC	Part, Core	-	TBC		

through development using Supplementary Planning Guidance	Green Infrastructure						
7.5 Seek funding to explore opportunities / methods for monitoring carbon and water storage on Council land and in Green Infrastructure assets	Green Infrastructure Grounds and Cleansing Landlord Services	TBC	No	-	TBC		

Objective 8 Monitor the effectiveness of the plan and review

Action	Responsible Service Area(s)	Timescale	Funding	Also cited in	How to measure progress	Progress	Progress (red, amber, green)
8.1 Review the plan in 2025 in line with the Section 6 reporting requirement	Green Infrastructure	2025	Full, Core	-	Plan Reviewed.		
8.2 Assess the need to review the refreshed forward plan in 2026	Green Infrastructure	2026	Full, Core		Assessment undertaken.		