

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6
The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty



November 2025

LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL

Llantwit Major Town Council provides a range of services to the local community which have an impact on biodiversity. These include:

- Responsibility for a number of green spaces including
 - Recreation Ground – A large park covering 9.63 acres, consisting of 2 play areas, 3 Rugby pitches, Open Space with seats, hedgerows and trees, Tennis Courts, 1 bowling green and 2 pavilions
 - Seaview Park – A Large community park covering 4.64 acres and protected by Fields in Trust. Popular with dog walkers and residents. It contains large grassy areas, trees, benches and hedgerows.
 - Lorna Hughes Park – A community park covering 0.78 acres. A green space protected by Fields in Trust consisting of an open grass area with numerous trees, 5 large flower beds, 3 benches with a path leading through the park.
 - West Street Pool and the Mid Well – West Street Pool is a large ornamental pond and has 5 species of wildlife around and inhabiting the pond. Surrounded by trees. Mid Well is an ancient and historic well. Plans are being made to improve the sites biodiversity.
 - Allotments – 106 Allotments
 - Cemetery
 - Cenotaph & Steps. Base of War memorial Grade II Listed.
 - Stradling Park and Community Garden – This park was signed over to the Town Council from Vale of Glamorgan Council on a 99 year lease in 2022. The park consists of 2 areas, 1 being an open space the other is now a community garden. We obtained a grant from National Lottery Heritage Fund and the smaller area was developed from an overgrown neglected space into a thriving Community Garden used by local residents and groups to grown fruit and vegetables. This garden was officially opened in 2025.

The Council provides 5 community buildings, 2 of which are listed.

Currently we have 3 areas within our facilities that have been allowed to grow and wildflowers have been planted to encourage insects and bees. Have included a wet area with Community Garden to attract insects. Within both Stradling Park and Lorna Hughes Park introduced hedgehog highways to ensure they have a safe route to and from known nesting and feeding areas.

Provide an Annual Grant to Llanilltud Fawr in Flower to provide flower displays/bedding plants around the town.

Action Report

Action carried out to:		Monitored by:
Embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	<p>The Town Council Planning Committee look at all TPO & TCA Planning Application requests within our town. Although not technically part of Town Councils remit the importance of querying trees felled within the town is considered by the Council to be of great environmental importance and hence the reason the Planning Committee question some TPO applications.</p> <p>Planning Applications that are considered unacceptable to the environment / area are objected to. Over the last few years, the Planning Committee have studied and related objections to specified Welsh Government Planning Regulations and Vale of Glamorgan Council LDP policies when the council believe that the proposed application does not preserve the natural and conservation area of our town.</p>	<p>The Town Council staff and Planning committee</p> <p>The Town Council staff and Planning Committee</p>
Raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	<p>LMTC are working with The Vale of Glamorgan Local Nature Partnership Officers to work on two major projects in LM – Mid Well / West Street Pool and Stradling Park to enhance an increase biodiversity in the two areas.</p> <p>Documenting and publicising progress to encourage community interest and volunteers and raise awareness of the biodiversity in our town.</p> <p>Encourage training sessions for LMTC Councillors and staff.</p>	<p>Full Town Council record in minutes</p> <p>Town Council staff to publicise via website and social media</p> <p>LMTC Training plan</p>
Safeguard principal species and habitats	<p>LMTC has allocated 3 plots within its open spaces where wildflowers are cultivated and sewn each year. We provide suitable and appropriately managed habitats for protected species where appropriate and ensure no negative impact on protected species and the environment.</p>	<p>The Town Council staff to monitor and record</p>

	<p>Manage wooded and hedgerow areas to encourage biodiversity. Reduce and remove use of herbicides. Maintain historical stone memorials to protect lichen growth.</p>	
<p>Restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks</p>	<p>LMTC recently acquired a lease from the local unitary authority, the Vale of Glamorgan Council for another small open space – Stradling Park. We are now running very successful community garden and involve organisation within the town eg local schools, environmental groups, nature organisations.</p> <p>Ensure new projects contribute and enhance the biodiversity of the area. Ensuring there is no negative impact on protected species and wildlife</p> <p>Plant native pollinator friendly flowers and bedding plants and introduce new pollinator opportunities in our parks, recreation field and cemetery. Manage wooded areas and introduce new tree and hedgerow planting where possible.</p> <p>Changed mowing and maintenance regimes at all sites to encourage wildflowers and other pollinator friendly plants, also providing cover for small mammals, birds and reptiles.</p>	<p>Full Town Council meeting</p>
<p>Tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species</p>	<p>LMTC works closely with groups and organisations within the Town on several environmental projects, including a refill scheme to reduce plastic waste.</p> <p>LMTC is not a waste of highway authority it does not have any direct responsibility for these matters. However litter picks are undertaken daily in all our Parks and open space areas. Llantwit Youth Council organise frequent litter picking events.</p>	<p>LMTC staff</p>
<p>Use improve and share evidence</p>	<p>Worked with Local Nature Partnership team from the local unitary authority, the Vale of Glamorgan Council to provide us with advice and ways of improving biodiversity in our Town. Sharing this via LMTC and social media sites</p>	<p>LMTC Staff</p>

	Ensure LMTC website provides information on current projects and information on the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty.	
Support capacity and/or other organisations	Where possible provide guidance, grants and support to local organisation so they can deliver improvements in the local environment, biodiversity and sustainability of the community.	All members of LMTC

Review of s6 duty

- **What has worked well?**

We ensure where possible that work is given to local contractors thus reducing carbon footprint.

We ensure that the replacement or procurement of any new benches, planters etc are made from recyclable materials.

The creation of wildflower and plant areas

- **What have the barriers been?**

Unfortunately the planned work with a local group Plant Llantwit has not materialised. This is mainly due to the groups members dwindling in recent years.

People perception and understanding of biodiversity and the need for it.

- **What will you change?**

Continue to look at ways to increase the biodiversity of our Town by using Stradling Park as a Project to ensure organisations come together to provide a globally responsible area for the town that can educate and work with all age categories of the community.

LMTC need to look for further training and development opportunities, to increase the awareness of its members in relation to biodiversity and sustainability.

Ensure LMTC website and social media sites promotes the Biodiversity in our parks and projects.

- **How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?**

This Report was prepared by the Town Clerk in liaison with councillors and published in November 2025.

The Council will monitor action against the objectives set out above and the plan will be reviewed annually.