

**Bracknell Forest Council  
Record of Decision**

<b>Work Programme Reference</b>	<b>I122555</b>
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1. **TITLE:** Approval of Biodiversity Action Plan 2024-2029

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Place

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To seek approval of the Biodiversity Action Plan 2024-2029 for publication

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

That the Bracknell Forest Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) 2024-2029 and supporting summary document is approved.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

1. The BAP forms part of the statutory duty for all public authorities to consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
2. The recent Bracknell Forest Council declaration of a climate and biodiversity emergency reinforces the importance of action for biodiversity across the borough. The motion includes an item to “Revise the Biodiversity Action Plan to include audits of the state of nature in the borough and to highlight local biodiversity threats due to climate change” which has been taken into consideration in the revised plan.
3. The Bracknell Forest BAP demonstrates the commitment of the Council and local people to protecting and enhancing nature in the borough.
4. The plan for 2024-2029 builds upon the previous Biodiversity Action Plans. It is a partnership plan, having been co-produced with input from key stakeholders, including the Bracknell Forest Nature Partnership.
5. A draft plan was approved for consultation by Executive on 23 April 2024. A 4-week public consultation on the draft plan was undertaken to allow the council to gather feedback more widely from anyone who lives in, works in or visits the borough. Feedback has been used to refine and develop the final plan and a more detailed delivery plan.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The alternative option is to rely entirely on external policies and strategies to help guide and shape the future support for our local biodiversity. This approach would not focus specifically on the needs of Bracknell Forest’s wildlife and residents. It may reduce the opportunities to achieve the council’s objectives.

9. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Executive Director: People

10. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** No

<b>Date Decision Made</b>	<b>Final Day of Call-in Period</b>
17 September 2024	25 September 2024