

Bracknell Forest Council

# Biodiversity Action Plan 2024-2029

## Aims, objectives and targets

This document includes the aims, objectives and targets of the draft Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) 2024-2029, without the supporting information. The section numbering matches the full plan.

### 2.1 Aim

The aim of the BAP is to conserve and enhance biodiversity within Bracknell Forest Borough.

This will be achieved through:

- Targeted monitoring
- Positive management
- Effective communication
- Proactive policies

### 2.2 Objectives

The BAP has the following objectives:

**(A) Track the condition of designated sites**

**(B) Monitor key sites, features and indicator species to understand trends and inform management**

**(C) Enhance, restore or create high quality habitats, through Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and Passive Open Space of Value (OSPV) projects and other project routes**

**(D) Designate the best sites for nature**

**(E) Improve habitat connectivity**

**(F) Enhance sites for wildlife by providing opportunities for nesting, foraging, hibernation and movement**

**(G) Build awareness and engage communities**

**(H) Contribute to related strategic plans and activities within Bracknell Forest and across administrative boundaries**

**(I) Contribute to climate change mitigation (lowering emissions and/or carbon storage)**

**(J) Contribute to climate change adaptation (improving the resilience of habitats, species and people to a changing climate)**

The objectives link through to each of the targets in the plan. This is shown under each target.

### 6.1 General Themes Targets

1. Track condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

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Contributes to objective: (A)

**2. Survey each Local Wildlife Site every 10 years**

Contributes to objective: (A) (B)

**3. 75% Local Wildlife Sites in positive management**

Contributes to objective: (A) (B)

**4. Review the network of Local Nature Reserves and designate appropriate sites**

Contributes to objective: (A) (D)

**5. Produce an annual report on the state of nature in Bracknell Forest**

Contributes to objective: (B) (H)

**6. Promote wildlife recording including submitting records to TVERC**

Contributes to objective: (B) (G)

**7. Involve educational institutions in monitoring and management of biodiversity**

Contributes to objective: (B) (G)

**8. Hold or publish at least 30 events and articles each year promoting the importance of biodiversity within the borough (see also individual habitat plans), including links to climate change where possible**

Contributes to objective: (G) (H) (I)

(J)

**9. Host at least 8000 hours of volunteering for nature each year**

Contributes to objective: (C) (F) (G)

(J)

**10. Bring together, review and enhance the plans and strategies for green infrastructure in Bracknell Forest**

Contributes to objective: (H) (I)

(J)

**11. Secure and monitor at least 10% biodiversity net gain on relevant developments**

Contributes to objective: (C) (H)

(J)

**12. Engage with the development of the Berkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)**

Contributes to objective: (H)

**13. Support the delivery of the Berkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)**

Contributes to objective: (H)

**14. Support and work with the Joint Climate Action Board, including the biodiversity working group**

Contributes to objective: (G) (H) (I)

(J)

### 7.7 Grassland Targets

**15. Design and undertake regular surveys of key grassland sites/species to understand trends and feed into annual report (see General Themes target 5)**

Contributes to objective: (B)

**16. Enhance, restore or create 15ha grassland habitats**

Contributes to objective: (C)

(J)

**17. Survey 5ha grassland to propose as Local Wildlife Sites**

Contributes to objective: (B) (D)

**18. Make management advice available to grassland landowners**

Contributes to objective: (C) (G)

**19. Raise awareness of grassland biodiversity within annual events and articles (see General Themes target 8)**

Contribute to objective: (G)

### 8.7 Woodland Targets

**20. Design and undertake regular surveys of key woodland sites/species to understand trends and feed into annual report (see General Themes target 5)**

Contributes to objective: (B)

**21. Enhance, restore or create 25ha woodland habitats, including ancient woodland sites where possible**

Contributes to objective: (C) (I)

(J)

**22. Enhance, restore or create 5km native hedgerow**

Contributes to objective: (C) (E) (F) (I)

(J)

**23. Survey 5ha woodland to propose as Local Wildlife Sites**

Contributes to objective: (B) (D)

**24. Consolidate veteran tree data, identify gaps and undertake targeted surveys to identify veteran trees**

Contributes to objective: (B) (G)

**25. Identify 50 trees with potential to become veterans and improve management**

Contributes to objective: (C)

**26. Plant trees in an open, parkland-style setting at 5 sites**

Contributes to objective: (C) (I)

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**27. Install loggeries and bat roosting opportunities at 30 sites with limited deadwood**

Contributes to target: **(F)**

**28. Make management advice available to woodland and hedgerow landowners**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (G) (I)**

**(J)**

**29. Raise awareness of woodland biodiversity within annual events and articles (see General Themes target 8)**

Contributes to objective: **(G)**

**30. Review Bracknell Forest Borough Tree Strategy**

Contributes to objective: **(H) (I)**

**(J)**

**9.7 Rivers and Wetlands Targets**

**31. Design and undertake regular surveys of key wetland sites/species to understand trends and feed into annual report (see General Themes target 5)**

Contributes to objective: **(B)**

**32. Monitor outfalls at least every 4 years**

Contributes to objective: **(B) (G) (H)**

**33. Enhance, restore or create 20 ponds**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (F) (I)**

**(J)**

**34. Restore or enhance 2km of river or stream habitat**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (E) (F)**

**(J)**

**35. Tackle invasive Himalayan Balsam at 5 sites**

Contributes to objective: **(C)**

**(J)**

**36. Review access patterns at two river or wetland sites and adapt access management**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (G)**

**37. Make management advice available to riverside landowners**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (G)**

**38. Raise awareness of wetland biodiversity, including issues facing rivers and opportunities for communities to get involved, within annual events and articles (see General Themes target 8)**

Contributes to objective: **(G)**

**39. Engage with the Catchment Partnership and its strategic plans**

Contributes to objective: (H)

**10.7 Heathland Targets**

**40. Design and undertake regular surveys of key heathland sites/species to understand trends and feed into annual report (see General Themes target 5)**

Contributes to objective: (B)

**41. Enhance, restore or create 10ha of heathland**

Contributes to objective: (C) (I)

(J)

**42. Create 5 new bogs or ponds within heathland**

Contributes to objective: (C) (I)

(J)

**43. Promote SANGs to reduce pressure on SPA heathland**

Contributes to objective: (G) (H)

**44. Review access patterns at two heathland sites and adapt access management**

Contributes to objective: (C) (G)

**45. Run 20 educational sessions on heathland wildlife and conservation**

Contributes to objective: (G)

**46. Raise awareness of heathland biodiversity within annual events and articles (see General Themes target 8)**

Contributes to objective: (G)

**11.6 Farmland Targets**

**47. Monitor trends in farmland bird species and feed into annual report (see General Themes target 5)**

Contributes to objective: (B)

**48. Monitor barn owl boxes**

Contributes to objective: (B) (F)

**49. Share information on new agri-environment schemes and monitor uptake**

Contributes to objective: (C) (G) (H) (I)

(J)

**50. Make management advice available to farmland landowners and horse owners**

Contributes to objective: (C) (G) (I)

(J)

**51. Raise awareness of farmland biodiversity within annual events and articles (see General Themes target 8)**

Contributes to objective: (G)

## 12.6 Urban Targets

- 52. Design and undertake regular surveys of key urban sites/species to understand trends and feed into annual report (see General Themes target 5)**

Contributes to objective: **(B)**

- 53. Identify, protect and increase the number of active swift nest sites**

Contributes to objective: **(B) (F)**

- 54. Plant or replace 50 large native urban trees**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (I)**

**(J)**

- 55. Enhance 10 community spaces for wildlife**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (F) (G)**

**(J)**

- 56. At least 10 private landowners to have enhanced their grounds for wildlife**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (F) (G)**

- 57. Secure wildlife enhancement features, including nest boxes, hibernation features and gaps for movement, within new and existing urban spaces**

Contributes to objective: **(F)**

- 58. Planning permissions in areas with badger setts to ensure measures for badger protection**

Contributes to objective: **(F) (H)**

- 59. All public greenspace management plans to include biodiversity actions**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (F) (H)**

- 60. Make management advice available to urban landowners, such as businesses**

Contributes to objective: **(C) (G)**

- 61. Raise awareness of urban and garden biodiversity, and opportunities for communities to get involved, within annual events and articles (see General Themes target 8)**

Contributes to objective: **(G)**

- 62. Promote Local Access to Nature to residents**

Contributes to objective: **(G)**