

Community & Town Councils Biodiversity Action Plan

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

Name of Community & Town Council:	Towyn and Kinmel Bay Town Council
Council type (Group 1, 2 or 3 for NRAP Objectives):	3
Introduction and Context	
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Towyn and Kinmel Bay Town Council (TKBTC) serves a geographically large area relative to its size, with a resident population of 8,350 across approximately 3,851 households. According to data from the 2020 Census, the area is home to a slightly older demographic, a characteristic common in smaller seaside towns, and demonstrates higher-than-average levels of deprivation compared to the Welsh national average. The towns saw significant development during the 1930s, with many residential properties built on small plots. While recent flood defence improvements, commenced in 2024 and due to be completed in 2025/26, have greatly mitigated the risk of coastal flooding, there remains a risk of non-coastal flooding from the nearby River Elwy and River Clwyd. As a result, development in the area is approached with caution, and new builds or alterations to existing residential properties are subject to strict conditions and oversight. During peak holiday seasons, the town's population can rise by approximately 40,000- 50,000 due to the of numerous holiday parks located within Towyn and Kinmel Bay. Despite this seasonal influx, there is a notable shortage of residential green space and private gardens. This limits opportunities for plant biodiversity, year-round habitat provision, pollinator forage, and broader food chain sustainability within residential zones. Outside the settlement boundary, much of the surrounding land comprises of pasture and unused fields. These areas, while green in appearance, are often ecologically barren—lacking in diversity and offering minimal support for pollinators and wildlife—earning the description of "green deserts." In contrast, the smaller green areas directly managed by TKBTC are cared for with intention and in line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. These spaces are developed to promote biodiversity, environmental sustainability, and community well-being.	

TKBTC currently serves 6,216 registered electors across 3,851 households, with a precept of £322,646 for the 2025–26 financial year.

The Council delivers a variety of services that have a direct impact on local biodiversity, including:

- **Planting and maintenance** of raised planters, tree planting, mass bulb planting along verges, and installation of hanging baskets.
- **Support for green spaces** such as Tir Prince Park, where the Town Council has funded projects including the installation of LED Solar Street lighting and hosting 'Playing Out' sessions for children.
- **Grant funding to local schools and groups**, including support for a recent Educational Garden Event aimed at enhancing outdoor learning and environmental awareness.
- **Public engagement and education**, using community events and youth activities to raise awareness of local ecosystems, climate action, and conservation.

TKBTC directly maintains the following biodiversity-focused areas under land lease or maintenance agreements with Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC):

Chester Avenue Woodland

Managed to sustain a diverse range of native trees, plants, and shrubs. Public access is preserved, while safety and biodiversity are prioritised through regular maintenance and storm damage response.

Ffordd Y Berllan Field

Features of the site include hedgerows that are managed outside of nesting seasons, a designated meadow area specifically maintained to support pollinators and enhance the diversity of plant and bird species and wildlife corridors which provide safe passage for wildlife to move between different habitats, ensuring genetic diversity and access to food, water, and shelter.

Owain Glyndwr Community Garden

The site is actively maintained to support pollinators through the planting of herbs, flowers, and nectar-rich species. A polytunnel has been installed to facilitate the growth of fruits and vegetables, enhancing both biodiversity and community engagement in sustainable practices. Regular maintenance includes watering, weeding, harvesting, and general site upkeep. In 2024, twelve fruit trees were planted to further diversify the habitat and support local ecosystems.

Planters throughout Kinmel Bay and Towyn

Installing planters filled with native flowers and plants in Towyn and Kinmel Bay has proven to be a valuable contribution to both the environment and the community. These planters not only beautify the area, making it more visually inviting, but they also provide essential habitats for pollinators such as bees and butterflies. By offering food, shelter, and improved connectivity for various species, the planters support biodiversity and promote a healthier local ecosystem. Additionally, they help enhance air quality and encourage plant diversity, further enriching the community's natural environment and fostering a greater appreciation for nature.

Additional Biodiversity Areas Within the TKBTC Wards (Managed by Other Authorities):

- **Tir Prince Park** – Protected grass areas to support biodiversity (CCBC)
- **Kendal Road Park** (CCBC)
- **Kinmel Dunes** (CCBC)
- **Raised Beds at Kinmel Bay Square** (CCBC)
- **Park Avenue Land** (Welsh Government)
- **Tir Prince Raceway Pond** (Private – Tir Prince Group)
- **Kinmel Bay Cob** (Mixed ownership: Welsh Water/private)
- **Dutton's Field (Manor Way)** (Privately owned)
- **Towyn Allotments** (CCBC)
- **Clwyd Park** (CCBC)
- **Owain Glyndwr Park** (CCBC)
- **Tir Llwyd Industrial Estate** (CCBC/Welsh Government)
- **St Asaph Avenue Playing Field** (Managed by a local charity)
- **Quarry Line Path** (CCBC)

By continuing to invest in green infrastructure and environmental initiatives, TKBTC aims to strengthen its role in enhancing local biodiversity and promoting long-term well-being for residents.

The Council's Commitment to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

TKBTC contributes to the goals of the Act by:

- Supporting grassroots and community-led projects and events
- Collaborating with local schools, services, and community groups
- Advocating for improved infrastructure, transport links, and flood resilience through engagement with key partners such as Natural Resources Wales, Network Rail, and Conwy County Borough Council

NRAP Object ive	Biodiversity objectives	Action planned	Time scale	Monitored by:
1	Embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	TKBTC will continue to embed biodiversity considerations into relevant policies and strategic planning processes. This includes ensuring biodiversity is a key factor in decisions relating to planning, public space management, infrastructure development, and community engagement. TKBTC is committed to making environmentally responsible procurement decisions. Wherever reasonably practicable, projects will prioritise the use of sustainable, recycled, or ethically sourced materials. This applies to construction, maintenance, landscaping, and other capital works, thereby reducing environmental impact and promoting a circular economy. For all major projects, TKBTC will continue to evaluate potential impacts on local wildlife and habitats prior to commencement. These assessments ensure that biodiversity	Annually	Scrutiny of minutes and agendas, along with established follow-up procedures, is conducted as part of best practice to ensure transparency, accountability, and effective governance.

		is protected and, where possible, enhanced through responsible development and land use. When commissioning grounds maintenance, landscaping, or environmental services, TKBTC will include biodiversity-focused criteria as far as reasonably practicable. This includes: • Prioritising the use of native and pollinator-friendly plant species • Avoiding the use of harmful pesticides and herbicides • Maintaining or enhancing wildlife habitats as part of standard service delivery. • Ensure that hedgerows managed outside of nesting seasons. Town Councillors and staff will continue to participate in relevant training that links biodiversity with wider community priorities such as climate resilience, flood mitigation, and public well-being. This ongoing learning ensures that the Council remains informed, proactive, and aligned with both legislative obligations and best practice.		
	Raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	Councillors will continue to collaborate with School Eco Councils, local environmental groups and committees, Keep Wales Tidy, and Llais y Goedwig to support and deliver environmental projects.	Annually	Councillors and community members are encouraged to actively report and share relevant

		The Town Council will maintain its commitment to public engagement by sharing informative content through its social media platforms and newsletters. This will include raising awareness of biodiversity, promoting educational events, and providing regular updates on ongoing and upcoming environmental initiatives.		events, meetings, and plans taking place across TKBTC, the wider community, and Conwy CBC.
2	Safeguard principal species and habitats	The Town Council will continue to maintain all green areas in ways that actively support and encourage nature to thrive. This includes practices such as leaving wild corridors undisturbed, reducing mowing frequency, and avoiding the use of pesticides. Specifically, reduced grass cutting will continue at the designated wildlife area in Ffordd Y Berllan Field to promote biodiversity and support local pollinators and wildlife.	Annually	TKBTC Councillors and staff/contractors.
3	Restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	The Town Council will continue to care for, repair, and improve all installed bug hotels, habitats, and hibernacula to ensure they remain effective and support local wildlife. Furthermore, any damaged woodland areas will be restored through the planting of native trees, litter removal, and the implementation of pollution control measures, all aimed at protecting and revitalising local ecosystems.	Annually	TKBTC Councillors and staff/contractors.
4	Tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature-based solutions, address invasive species	The Town Council will remain vigilant in identifying and removing invasive plant and animal species, such as Himalayan balsam or Japanese knotweed, that threaten local wildlife and will replace them with native species to support biodiversity.	Annually	TKBTC Councillors will play a central role in monitoring. Groups such as Keep Wales Tidy, Llais Y

		Additionally, the Town Council will continue to collaborate with local groups, schools, and the wider community to organise clean-up days, monitor invasive species, and promote eco-friendly initiatives.		Goedwig, and other community environmental organisations will monitor and report on local biodiversity and invasive species. They may also work in partnership with the Town Council to implement action plans. As a government agency responsible for natural resources, NRW may provide guidance and monitoring on the removal of invasive species and broader environmental conservation efforts. Residents, volunteers, and community groups can assist with monitoring efforts, providing valuable information and hands-on support to ensure initiatives are successful.
5	Use, improve, and share evidence	The Town Council will continue to collaborate with conservation groups and experts to seek guidance and support in delivering projects that protect vulnerable species and habitats.	Annually	TKBTC Councillors and staff will play a central role in monitoring.

		Additionally, the Council will maintain partnerships with environmental organisations and local groups to gather improved data and advice on how to better protect and enhance nature.		
6	Support capacity and/or other organisations	The Town Council will continue collaborating with local groups and schools that contribute to nature conservation by providing small grants or resources. The use of the Community Garden will remain open to groups and organisations for hosting educational events focused on environmental awareness. Additionally, the Council will maintain support for local volunteer initiatives, including beach, park, and woodland clean-up days.	Annually	Councillors and community members are encouraged to actively report and share relevant events, meetings, and plans taking place across TKBTC, the wider community, and Conwy CBC.

Annual review of the Biodiversity Action Plan		Date reviewed:	
What has worked well?			
What have the barriers been?			
What will you change?			

Next review due:	
Approved by Council on:	