

Community & Town Councils

Biodiversity Action Plan 2026-2028

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

Name of Community s Town Council:	Prestatyn Town council
Council type (Group 1, 2 or 3 for NRAP Objectives):	2
Introduction and Context	
Prestatyn Town Council is a mostly urban council covering six ward areas with approximately 21,000 residents. Our precept for 2026/2027 is £672,115. PTC currently has 18 Councillors and employs a full-time Clerk, a full-time Assistant Clerk and several other officers as needed. The council owns three community centres and manages Ty Pendre Building and Memorial Gardens. There are various green spaces around the town and village. PTC also owns and manages bus shelters, various street furniture, street planters, noticeboards and display hanging baskets around the town from Spring to Autumn. Meliden is a village located to the south of Prestatyn and Prestatyn is a seaside town situated along the North Wales coast with a history leading back to before the Roman era. We have a Roman bathhouse and are a thriving tourist location in the summer months. Prestatyn hosts a summer carnival every year, Winterfest in November and various other events throughout the year which the council hosts, manages or is involved with. We are fortunate to be at the start/end of the Offa’s Dyke path, and the area hosts little terns.	

VERSION UPDATES		
DATE	CHANGES	COMMITTEE / SUB-COMMITTEE/CLLRS
January 2026	First draft document	Compiled by Legal & HR Support Officer
13.03.2026	Second draft document	Reviewed by Policy Review Sub-Committee
17.03.2026	No changes	Approved by Policy Review Sub-Committee
08.04.2026	-	Presented to Finance & Management Committee
22.04.2026	-	Presented to Full Council

NRAP Objectives	Biodiversity Objectives	Action Planned	Time Scale	Monitored by:
1	 Embed biodiversity into decision making and procurement	The Town Clerk will take the lead for biodiversity action planning alongside the Policy Review Sub-Committee until the council's 2026 Annual General Meeting.	May 2026	Policy Sub-Committee
		A Biodiversity Councillor lead will be established at 2026 AGM to take over from the Policy Review Sub-Committee. The lead will take responsibility for delivering this action plan alongside the Town Clerk and produce documents for all biodiversity related issues to bring to the town council for approval.	May 2026	Town Clerk
		The Staffing Sub-Committee will consider the need for a part-time biodiversity officer to help produce biodiversity documents and carry out the council's biodiversity actions.	March / April 2026	Staffing Sub-Committee
		Commitments have been made in relevant council policies and documents, such as the Grants & Aid Policy 2026.	Ongoing	Policy Sub-Committee
		Consideration of biodiversity is demonstrated in decisions on planning applications.	Ongoing	Town Planning Committee
		A budget for biodiversity and nature projects will be included in the annual budget for 2026/2027.	May 2026	Full Council
		Impacts on local and global biodiversity will be considered when choosing contractors, banking providers, insurance and products for asset purchase and maintenance.	Ongoing	Biodiversity leaders
		When making decisions and arrangements for building works and maintenance, environmental impacts will be considered by questioning contractors on biodiversity issues (in particular waste disposal).	Ongoing	PTC
		The windows in the council offices will be replaced, and loft insulation will be explored, to improve insulation in the office building. The building is in a conservation area, so consideration will be given to this.	April / May 2026	Assistant Town Clerk & Town Clerk

1	Embed biodiversity into decision making and procurement	Produce a Biodiversity Guide for Councillors' reference during council meetings, which will apply in a variety of circumstances.	April 2026	Legal & HR Support Officer
		The planning committee will refer to the OVW Planning and Biodiversity Guide when responding to planning applications in its role as statutory consultee.	At every meeting	Town Planning Committee
		The council will ensure all Councillors are aware of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 Section 6 duty and the duties; and receive mandatory training.	Ongoing	Biodiversity leaders
		The council will encourage members of the community to join in with biodiversity initiatives and become actively involved; this will ensure accountability and allow skills and knowledge sharing. Information about biodiversity meetings will be advertised within the community through social media, posters and online.	Where relevant	Biodiversity leaders / officer
		Council will ensure any impact on biodiversity is considered in every decision and all tenders made.	Where relevant	Biodiversity leaders

1	Raise awareness of biodiversity importance	Engage with the Plastic Free Prestatyn (PFPS) group, arrange a meeting and encourage community action.	April / May 2026	Community officer / biodiversity officer
		Utilise and increase awareness of Denbighshire's Talking Points to help locals find out about volunteering with environmental community activities.		
		Increase student interactions and volunteering opportunities. Connect with Llandrillo College and bring together student groups.		
		Air quality monitoring and awareness through schemes such as air quality monitoring walks and alternative-to-car journeys. Engage with Prestatyn's walking group to organise and incorporate this.		
		Link with Denbighshire County Council, Countryside Services and other relevant local partners (Garry Davis) to share information on initiatives, events and training / volunteering opportunities.		
		Biodiversity officer encouraged to provide feedback to the council about Prestatyn Environmental Group and other groups.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer to report to the relevant Committee (CDRC) at every meeting
		Consider sponsoring a prize category for the most wildlife friendly garden in the Mayor's Awards or other similar category with defined parameters, utilising PTC's Community Awards Policy.	Summer 2026	Biodiversity officer
		A section will be added onto the website to include information on general Climate, biodiversity issues and community initiatives, and a monthly round-up of species recorded in our area.	April 2026	Legal & HR Support Officer will create Biodiversity officer will maintain
		Where changes are made, signage and communication will be used to explain the benefits to biodiversity.	Where relevant	Biodiversity leaders
		Involve local schools and the youth club in all initiatives where possible.	Ongoing	Community officer / biodiversity officer

2	Safeguard principal species & habitats	Maintain beds, troughs and street planters.	Ongoing	Prestatyn in Bloom & council
		Look at the provision of hanging baskets.	April 2026	Biodiversity officer
		Seek advice on suitable plants and possible funding.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Advice will be sought from the National Landscapes team, OVW, and Local Nature Partnership on which Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 Section 7 priority species C habitats are present in the area.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Investigate creating a volunteer group / mechanism for recording species in the park so people can send sightings of what they see, and the Town Council can then publish this on the website.	May 2026	Biodiversity officer
		Look at providing more help for (and awareness of) local species, such as Little Terns, hedgehogs and bats. Link in with Hedgehog Help Prestatyn and Garry Davis (DCC).	May 2026	Biodiversity officer

3	Restore create habitats and resilient ecological networks	Refer to the '5 pillars of Nature Recovery' in the OVW Nature Recovery Action Guide (and Countryside Services) to plan to provide healthy habitats and corridors for key species identified.  A bog garden/pond was created in Bodnant Field that is continuing well.	Summer 2026	Biodiversity officer
		The council will consult with the local community and obtain expert advice on potential locations for further bog garden/rain gardens or wildlife ponds.	By end of 2026	Biodiversity officer
		The council will consult with the local community and obtain expert advice on potential locations for tree planting.	By end of 2026	Biodiversity officer

3	Restore create habitats and resilient ecological networks	The council provides funding for the core activities of the Prestatyn in Bloom Committee, which works hard throughout the year to champion the local environment. Prestatyn won the Wales in Bloom competition in 2025 and will enter Britain in Bloom in 2026.	Ongoing	Prestatyn in Bloom
		There is an annual / biannual planting scheme by the town council which includes tier planters, troughs and hanging baskets throughout Prestatyn. This standard is maintained. Sustainable methods to help improve soil quality are used, such as sheep fleece.	Ongoing	PTC
		Ensure that gardeners employed only use non-chemical pesticides that may affect the environment.	Ongoing	Biodiversity leaders / officer
		The council will work with local volunteers and groups to plant native hedging trees and fill in gaps of existing hedge around parks / green spaces. This restored hedgerow could increase connections for target species and other wildlife.	Ongoing	Prestatyn Environmental & Biodiversity officer
		The council have applied to OVW for the hedging biodiversity package and similar funding. The new hedgerow management plan will follow best practice advice from OVW / County Biodiversity officers as needed.	Summer / Autumn 2026	Assistant Town Clerk & Biodiversity officer
		Where plants species diversity is low on unmown areas, we will seek advice from OVW and consider adding seeds and plug plants using Local Places for Nature funding through OVW. Bus shelters have been identified as a particular planting site.	Spring / Summer 2026	Biodiversity officer
		Working with volunteers, local schools and Prestatyn Youth Club, the council will aim to plant over 1000 native bulbs (which have been applied for) over the next three years. Species may include wild daffodils, snowdrops and bluebells.	Ongoing	Assistant Town Clerk & Biodiversity officer
		The council will seek advice and guidance to assess the viability of installing green roofs within the town.	June 2026	Biodiversity officer

		Investigate whether bird boxes can be placed on any buildings or in green locations, particularly on the trees at Pendre Gardens.	By Autumn 2026	Legal & HR Support Officer to initiate / biodiversity officer to continue
		Liaise with Denbighshire Tree Nursery, who have been collecting local seeds, and consult with their biodiversity officer as to whether the council can obtain a portion of these to plant.	April 2026	
3	Restore create habitats and resilient ecological networks	Meliden councillors have arranged a grant for Meliden Community Centre for litter picking equipment and will encourage participation through the Meliden Restoration Action Group.	Ongoing	Meliden Residents Action Group
		Arrange with partners and undertake Beach Clean exercises across the coastline several times during the year which reduces the negative impact of pollution along the coast and further afield through tidal flow.	Ongoing	Tracey (Hedgehog Help) & Biodiversity officer
		Conducting environmental audits (with partner organisations) and supporting local beach / environmental clean-ups.	May 2026 onwards	Biodiversity officer
		The council office acts as a litter picking focus, with the provision of litter picking bags and other equipment for local litter pick events on loan free of charge. The council will look to engage more closely with Prestatyn Litterpickers and arrange and support town litter pick events to encourage a reduction in the attraction of vermin.	Ongoing	PTC & Biodiversity officer
		The council has provided funding for new street furniture and other environmental enhancements, through grants, and will continue to do this as needed to encourage outdoor activities, awareness of the local environment and the use of open spaces.	Ongoing	PTC
		Support community-led activities, such as the garden planting undertaken by volunteers from the Friends of Coronation Gardens.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer & Community officer
		Help with Pride of Place – funded by the Local Regeneration Fund.	Ongoing	PTC & Councillors

4	Tackle negative factors: e.g. reduce pollution use nature-based solutions, address invasive species	Council members will attend training to help identify the most common Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) and check to see if they are present (e.g. Japanese knotweed, Himalayan balsam, Cotoneaster etc.), seeking expert advice and training where needed.	Spring/ Summer 2026	PTC (with biodiversity leaders taking the lead)
		Any INNS identified will be recorded and the appropriate steps taken to remove it taken.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		The council will investigate potential green roof installations shelters will increase water retention, provide forage and water for pollinators, birds and insects and provide urban cooling and carbon sequestration. (1,2,3,4)	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		The council will share accurate information on the negative impacts of herbicides and pesticides using social media, keeping PTC's website up to date, possible leafletting and leading by example.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		The council aims to work effectively alongside Plastic Free Prestatyn (PFPSS) and local businesses to reduce the use of plastic materials by encouraging local businesses, utilising the local Business Forum, to move plastic-free.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		A local directory can be produced detailing the names of businesses signed up to this voluntary incentive which can be accessed by locals and visitors through social media.	Spring/ Summer 2026	
		Work with PFPSS to progress the plastic structure: the council will help PFPSS to engage with Denbighshire for a new location for the plastic recycling statue – or look at further options.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Link in and work with local businesses (consult with Cllrs Sampson and Jones) regarding reducing single use plastic, etc.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer

5	Use, improve and share evidence	The completed Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Report 2025 has been shared on the council's website and with the relevant partners.	Completed	Legal & HR Support Officer
		This Biodiversity Action Plan has been published on the council's website.	Completed	Legal & HR Support Officer
		Review this plan as needed, adjust and add actions where relevant and ensure an updated version is published on the website.	Ongoing	Legal & HR Support Officer and Biodiversity officer
		Publish any species records on our website, to generate more interest and participation.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Take advice from Cofnod (North Wales' Local Environmental Record Centre [LERC] on local sites and species of interest.	April 2026	Legal & HR Support Officer
		Provide any data collected through local surveys to Cofnod.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Maintain communications with OVW Biodiversity Team, National Landscapes and any other organisations as needed.	Ongoing	Biodiversity leads
		All council Members and staff will be offered the opportunity to attend biodiversity related training courses and webinars according to the council's training plan and budget.	Ongoing	Legal & HR Support Officer
		Look at opportunities for volunteer groups to attend free training events with the National Landscapes and other organisations and share these as they become available.	Ongoing	Community officer & Biodiversity officer
		Work with the Biodiversity Officer at Denbighshire County Council to ensure use of best practice and to increase knowledge of local issues.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Look at tree trimming reports and planning records and share data collected with Cofnod.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Tree trimming is undertaken every October in Ty Pendre and tree reports are provided. This will be shared with LERCs.	Ongoing	Legal & HR Support Officer

6	Support capacity and/or other organisations	Create and maintain good links and lines of communication with partner organisations.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		The council will continue to support the Prestatyn in Bloom committee, Friends of Coronation Gardens and other environmentally friendly local community groups.	Ongoing	PTC
		As part of the annual Mayoral Awards scheme, the achievements of those residents or local organisations championing environmental issues are recognised.	Ongoing	Biodiversity leads
		Work in partnership with local groups and the Local Wildlife Trust to provide extra volunteers to improve local wildlife areas.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer
		Require any organisations receiving grants from the council to demonstrate how this will contribute to supporting biodiversity, if relevant, as part of their project. This has been incorporated into the council's Grants & Aid Policy 2026.	Completed	Legal & HR Support Officer
		The council will offer small grants (of up to £200) to local organisations to improve biodiversity. This will be proactively pursued.	Ongoing	PTC
		Opportunities to work with local charities and organisations will be explored.	Ongoing	Biodiversity officer

Review of the Biodiversity Action Plan				
	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026	August 2026
What has worked well?	Considering biodiversity within the Policy Review Sub-Committee has put the Section 6 duty to the forefront of the council's agenda and kept considerations current.	The Local Regeneration Fund has agreed to pay for this year's planting costs. The trees have arrived (no cost – One Voice Wales) ready for planting.		
What have the barriers been?	The amount of work needed for this duty to be properly carried out has highlighted the absence of an PTC officer who can take on the bulk of this work.	The continued lack of a biodiversity officer (and workload pressures of other officers) has impacted upon the ability to carry out biodiversity actions.		
What will you change?	PTC will look at hiring or diversifying its officers and having one councillor who can take the lead for biodiversity. This should help with the workload and improve community initiatives in this area.	The Policy Review Sub-Committee have submitted a proposal to create a new biodiversity project officer role within the council or to engage a contractor to fulfil these tasks.		

Approved by: Policy Review Sub-Committee
Date of next review: May 2026
Date reviewed: 02.04.2026