

8. BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN TO 2030

Theme 1: Nature Recovery and Management

Objective 1: In line with national and international '30by30' biodiversity commitments, support and enable 30% of land owned by Warwick District Council to be effectively conserved and managed for the purpose of nature's recovery by 2030 and commit to support any superseding goals for biodiversity. This includes Protected Areas and Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
1.1.1	Understand what proportion (%) of Warwick District Council land is currently under active management for biodiversity in Year 1 of this action plan and then continue to maintain a log to inform progress against the 30% target by 2030.	2024 (with annual review)	2030	GMC, HBA, WCC, WWT
1.1.2	Review all existing Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) on Warwick District Council land and ensure that management/maintenance plans are in place, implemented and reviewed at appropriate intervals to ensure effective active management for biodiversity.	2025	2026	GMC, HBA, WCC, WWT
1.1.3	Review existing Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) on Warwick District Council land and implement measures that allow them to transition to Local Nature Reserve (LNR) status to afford them more formal statutory protection.	2027	2030	GMC, HBA, WCC, WWT
1.1.4	Identify suitable sites to expand existing or create new Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) on Warwick District Council land. Develop and deliver a programme of work to implement measures to enable these sites to receive designated status.	2026	2030	GMC, HBA, WCC, WWT
1.1.5	Identify other suitable sites on Warwick District Council land (including Council housing estates) and implement measures to restore or create wildlife rich habitat in order for them to be recognised as Other Effective Area Based Conservation Measures, in line with the Government's Environmental Improvement Plan.	2026	2030	GMC, HBA, WCC, WWT

Objective 2: As part of the Local Nature Recovery Network, identify opportunities to create, restore and enhance target habitats on Council land to provide opportunities for connectivity and for target species to thrive.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
1.2.1	Support and influence the development of Warwickshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy, working strategically and collaboratively with partners and stakeholders within Warwick District.	2024	2025	All
1.2.2	Use the Warwickshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy to help target work on Warwick District Council land with the greatest potential for restoring and enhancing ecological networks.	2025	2030	HBA, LBCG, LNP, WCC, WWT
1.2.3	In collaboration with partners, support and influence the development of other emerging concepts and plans which promote nature's recovery and connectivity of ecological networks in Warwick District.	2024	2030	All

Objective 3: Maximise opportunities for biodiversity to flourish in the way we manage and maintain Warwick District Council land and assets, with a specific focus on improving our grounds maintenance practices.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
Focus on Target Habitats: Woodland, Wood Pasture and Parkland habitats (including Ancient Woodland, Scrub and hedgerows), Trees (including ancient, veteran and other important trees) and associated target species (dormice, bats, hedgehog, farmland/urban birds, pollinators, amphibians, slow worm, common lizard, barn owl, dingy skipper, wood white butterfly, argent and sable moth, white letter hairstreak, black poplar and grass snake)				
1.3.1	Review all woodland, wood pasture and parkland habitats on Warwick District Council land and ensure that management plans are in place, implemented and reviewed at appropriate intervals to maximise all opportunities for biodiversity. To include appropriate invasive non-native species (INNS) treatment and eradication.	2026	2029	EC, FC, FE, HBA, LBCG, LNP, WCC, WT, WWT
1.3.2	Review sites on Warwick District Council land with significant tree collections (also known as Arboretums) and ensure that management/succession plans are in place, implemented and reviewed at appropriate intervals to maintain these locally important collections.	2027	2028	EC, FC, FE, HBA, LBCG, LNP, WCC, WT, WWT
1.3.3	Identify suitable trees on Warwick District Council land to carry out veteranisation (in line with best practice) to help improve biodiversity. <i>NB Veteranisation is a tried and tested process to recreate valuable micro-habitats within younger living trees through careful controlled 'damage' such as the creation of hollows to mimic naturally occurring decay features that would otherwise only be found on ancient and veteran or other old trees. These micro-habitats within living trees can be hotspots for biodiversity in particular fungi, lichen, invertebrates, bats and birds.</i>	2027	2028	FC, FE, LBCG, LNP, WBRC, WCC, WT, WWT
1.3.4	Where individual trees are felled for safety reasons on Warwick District Council land, retain a significant portion of the trunk (where safe to do so) to create 'standing monoliths' with bat crevices and solitary bee holes to provide new opportunities for biodiversity.	2024	2030	WCC
1.3.5	Taking account of the Warwickshire County Council Tree and Woodland Strategy, review Warwick District Council's 'Trees for our Future' project with a view to developing a woodland enhancement and management strategy to enhance the biodiversity of the Council's existing woodlands, increase canopy cover and determine where and how to enhance woodland habitats by delivering "the right tree, right habitat, right place" principles.	2024	2025	EC, FC, FE, HBA, LBCG, LNP, WCC, WT, WWT
1.3.6	Identify and implement opportunities where they arise for tree planting, woodland expansion and/or woodland creation on existing Warwick District Council land.	2024	2030	FC, FE, HBA, LBCG, WCC, WT, WWT
1.3.7	Actively explore the potential to bring forward additional land/sites which have the potential to expand woodland habitats in the district and increase tree canopy cover towards the Government's national target of 16.5% by 2050 (as detailed in the Environmental Improvement Plan 2023).	2024	2030	EC, FC, FE, HBA, LBCG, LNP, WCC, WT, WWT
1.3.8	Review Warwick District Council's hedgerow management/maintenance programme and implement measures to benefit biodiversity, including reduced cutting frequencies, appropriate timing of cutting to ensure provision of important food sources for target species at key times of year (Spring and Winter), and the introduction of native hedgerow ground flora and climbing species into hedge laying works.	2025	2026	GMC, LBCG, WCC, WWT

Objective 3: Maximise opportunities for biodiversity to flourish in the way we manage and maintain Warwick District Council land and assets, with a specific focus on improving our grounds maintenance practices.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
1.3.9	Identify suitable sites on Warwick District Council land to implement hedgerow reinstatement or new hedgerow planting to enhance biodiversity and create/restore connectivity, with consideration given to the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and/or other green infrastructure policies. Develop and deliver a programme of work to implement these changes.	2025	2027	GMC, LBCC, WCC, WWT
<p>Focus on Target Habitats: Grassland habitats (including all Habitats of Principal Importance (HoPI), roadside verges, public open space and arable field margins) and associated target species (hedgehog, farmland birds, wading birds, urban birds, barn owl, amphibians, slow worm, grass snake, common lizard, dingy skipper, wood white butterfly, argent & sable moth, white letter hairstreak, all pollinators.)</p>				
1.3.10	Identify a minimum of 6 grass verges in Warwick District to act as trial plots for improving roadside biodiversity. Reduce mowing frequency to 2 cuts per year (Spring and Autumn) and remove grass arisings from site to prevent nutrient enrichment. Include overseeding with tolerant native flowering species for invertebrates (including pollinators) once a year. Carry out baseline ecological surveys before the trial and then 2-3 years following start of the trial to help inform future expansion to other grass verges.	2025	2028	GMC, HBA, LBCC, TPC, WBRC, WCC, WWT
1.3.11	Continue to support Plant life's No Mow May initiative by suspending grass cutting throughout May in suitable areas on Warwick District Council land and helping to inspire local action for nature. Consider conflicting land use requirements in the selection of sites.	2024	2030	GMC, TPC, WCC
1.3.12	Identify suitable sites on Warwick District Council land to transition to good example grassland habitats through changes to current grassland management/maintenance practices including appropriate scarification, a continuous programme of overseeding with suitable species, changes to cutting frequencies where appropriate, maintaining and increasing the height of cut, and the introduction of buffer zones where appropriate. Develop and deliver a programme of work to implement these changes.	2025	2030	GMC, HBA, LBCC, WWT
1.3.13	Restrict the use of pesticides and herbicides in Warwick District Council parks and open spaces for essential pest and invasive species control in order to reduce impacts on the target habitats and species listed identified in this plan. Maximise the use of horticultural management methods for the control of pernicious weeds instead.	2024	2030	GMC
1.3.14	Identify 6 wards in Warwick District to act as trial areas for reducing herbicide (i.e. glyphosate) use in street cleansing operations for the control of weeds on hardstanding areas of the public highway (e.g. public pavements, road junctions, etc.) to reduce impacts on biodiversity. Reduce to 1 application of herbicide per year in these trial areas, from the current starting point of 2 applications per year. Carry out an annual review of the trial to help inform future expansion to other areas.	2024 (with annual review)	2030	GMC, WCC
1.3.15	Identify additional sites on Warwick District Council land suitable for wild bird feeding crops and implement a programme of work to seed 1 new site every 2-3 years for the duration of this plan, as well as reseeding all bird crop sites every year.	2025	2030	GMC, HBA, LBCC, WWT

Objective 3: Maximise opportunities for biodiversity to flourish in the way we manage and maintain Warwick District Council land and assets, with a specific focus on improving our grounds maintenance practices.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
1.3.16	Identify suitable sites on Warwick District Council land for rewilding (the process of allowing land to naturally repair, restore and regenerate itself through non-intervention) and implement a programme of work to rewild 1 new site every 2-3 years for the duration of this action plan.	2025	2030	GMC, HBA, LBCG, WWT
1.3.17	Identify additional sites on Warwick District Council land suitable for spring bulb planting and introduce an annual programme of work for new bulb planting, as well as the overplanting of existing bulb sites.	2024	2030	GMC
1.3.18	Review those areas of Warwick District Council land currently left unmaintained to determine the site specific management practices required to improve biodiversity, including tree management programmes, provision of deadwood habitats, planting and overseeding, introduction of appropriate habitat boosts (e.g. invertebrate homes, hedgehog houses, etc.). Develop and deliver a programme of work to implement these changes.	2025	2030	GMC, LBCG
1.3.19	Review the current grounds maintenance contract and build flexibility into future contracts to enable reduced grass cutting frequencies during periods of adverse weather (e.g. hot, dry periods).	2026	2029	GMC

Focus on Target Habitats: Rivers, Canals, Wetlands and Ponds and associated target species (otter, water vole, grass snake, amphibians, wading birds, bats, barn owl and pollinators)

1.3.20	Review wetlands, ponds, ditches and other water habitats on Warwick District Council land and ensure that management/maintenance plans are in place, implemented and reviewed at appropriate intervals to ensure active management for biodiversity. To include appropriate tree management, reed cutting, reed stacking, wet grassland management, other nature-based solutions, and the effective management of inlets and outlets.	2026	2027	CP, CRT, EA, GMC, LBCG, WCC, WWT
1.3.21	Identify and implement opportunities where they arise for wetland expansion and the restoration or creation of ponds, swales, scrapes, ditches and rain gardens on Warwick District Council land.	2024	2030	CP, CRT, EA, GMC, LBCG, WCC, WWT
1.3.22	Review maintenance programmes for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) on Warwick District Council land to ensure they are being effectively managed for biodiversity. To include appropriate tree management and the effective maintenance of all channels and inlets/outlets.	2024	2030	EC, GMC, LBCG, WCC, WWT
1.3.23	Where Warwick District Council is riparian owner, effectively manage invasive species (e.g. giant hogweed, knotweed, etc.) and introduce appropriate habitat improvements based on individual site assessment and recommendations (e.g. otter holts, overplanting with native friendly plants and reeds, providing shelter for fish, etc.).	2024	2030	CP, CRT, EA, GMC, LBCG, WCC, WWT

Objective 3: Maximise opportunities for biodiversity to flourish in the way we manage and maintain Warwick District Council land and assets, with a specific focus on improving our grounds maintenance practices.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
Focus on Target Habitat: Urban Environment and associated target species (bats, urban birds, hedgehog, pollinators, amphibians, slow worm, grass snake, common lizard)				
1.3.24	Introduce new bird feeding stations in appropriate locations on Warwick District Council land to encourage a range of birds into these areas. Bird feeding stations to include a variety of food sources to support a diversity of birds, receive a monthly clean to reduce spread of disease and be installed within water bodies (e.g. lakes, ponds, etc.) to provide access to clean fresh water and minimise issues with pests (e.g. rats). Once feeding has commenced this must continue year round to avoid impacts on birds which have become dependent on this new food source.	2024	2025	GMC, LBCC
1.3.25	Review, identify and implement additional biodiversity enhancement measures in Warwick District Council cemeteries and closed churchyards (where appropriate), with a particular focus on benefitting the target urban species identified in this plan (e.g. hedgehog boxes/homes, habitat piles, hibernacula, solitary bee homes, wildflowers, planting schemes to provide food, foraging and nesting potential, sources of water, etc.)	2025	2027	GMC, LBCC
1.3.26	Consider the installation of biodiversity enhancement measures as part of repair, maintenance and improvement programmes for Warwick District Council properties/buildings where appropriate, with a particular focus on urban and semi-urban areas. Measures could include swift bricks, bat boxes, peregrine falcon trays/boxes on high rise buildings, hedgehog highways, bug boxes, etc. Support residents who specifically request these measures by determining suitability and assisting with provision and installation.	2025	2030	LBCC, WWT
1.3.27	Create and maintain a register of bat roosts in Warwick District Council properties (buildings, bridges, etc.) and ensure their maintenance and protection.	2027	2027	LBCC, WBRC, WCC, WWT
1.3.28	Consider implementing changes to grounds maintenance practices to reimagine high profile urban landscapes in town centres, for example moving away from traditional short mown grassed areas to landscaping schemes that provide benefits for biodiversity.	2026	2030	GMC, GW, LBCC, LM, TPC, WCC, WWT

Theme 2: Involving People and Partnerships

Objective 1: Find ways to engage, connect, involve, inspire and support individuals, communities and landowners including town and parish councils, to take action for nature in their local area.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
2.1.1	Provide guidance to town and parish councils in Warwick District on developing Local Nature Action Plans to help comply with their statutory biodiversity duty, whilst also delivering wider biodiversity benefits and enabling ecological connectivity, particularly where their land adjoins Warwick District Council land.	2025	2030	HBA, LBCC, LNP, TPC, WBRC, WCC, WWT
2.1.2	Encourage and support allotment groups in Warwick District to maximise biodiversity potential in allotments and enable ecological connectivity, particularly where allotments adjoin Warwick District Council land.	2026	2030	AG, LBCC, TPC, WBRC, WCC, WWT
2.1.3	Develop and deliver a seasonal communications plan to inspire local residents to make space for nature at home and in their community as well as informing the public of progress against actions in this plan and sharing success stories.	2024	2030	
2.1.4	Organise or support at least one annual Warwick District event promoting biodiversity (e.g. Ecofest, BioBlitz, etc.).	2024	2030	
2.1.5	Encourage wildlife friendly gardening and herbicide reduction to benefit target species identified in this plan (e.g. mini meadows, wildlife friendly ponds, bug homes, hedgehog highways, etc.) through promotion of Warwick District Council best practice.	2025	2030	
2.1.6	Encourage, support and inspire tenants of Warwick District Council owned homes to enhance biodiversity at home and in their local community through hands on activities, events and projects.	2025	2030	GMC, LBCC, WCC, WWT
2.1.7	Increase awareness of Warwick District Council's green and blue spaces and connecting corridors throughout the district to help reconnect people with nature and use these as a recreational resource, in line with ambitions in the Government's Environmental Improvement Plan for everyone to live within 15 minutes' walk of green or blue spaces.	2026	2027	
2.1.8	Ensure alignment with Warwick District Council's Climate Change Action Programme to deliver actions with shared benefits for biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation.	2024	2030	
2.1.9	Identify and promote partner initiatives through Warwick District Council communication channels to encourage uptake and inspire action (e.g. Incredible Edibles, Bee Friendly Groups/Towns, Woodland Trust seed collection and tree packs, RSPB local initiatives, National Trust 'Helping Communities Blossom' campaign, etc.)	2024	2030	All

Objective 2: Establish strong working relationships with partners delivering on nature recovery, as well as those targeting climate change, health and wellbeing, and air quality to ensure effective collaboration across the district.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
2.2.1	Where relevant to Warwick District, and where local authorities are cited as a partner, seek to support ongoing implementation of the Warwickshire Habitat and Species Actions Plans (Proposed Local Actions) that relate to target habitats and species identified in this plan.	2025	2030	LBCG, LNP, WCC, WWT
2.2.2	Create a Warwick District Biodiversity Action Group to link with the Local Nature Partnership for governance support and identify opportunities for networking to help deliver the actions in this plan and achieve maximum benefits for biodiversity in Warwick District.	2025	2026	LBCG, LNP, WCC, WWT
2.2.3	Work with partners to support the delivery of practical conservation/ volunteering activities throughout Warwick District that help to deliver the actions in this plan.	2024	2030	All
2.2.4	Support partners with the delivery of community engagement and awareness raising for biodiversity (e.g. public events, face-to-face or online initiatives, resources for schools, etc.)	2024	2030	All
2.2.5	Form partnerships with and support local specialist biodiversity groups and draw upon their knowledge and expertise to help inform delivery of the actions in this plan (where appropriate).	2024	2030	LBCG, LNP, WCC, WWT
2.2.6	Where opportunities arise, work with partners to deliver water quality improvements which benefit biodiversity in rivers and other water habitats in Warwick District.	2024	2030	CRT, EA, STW
2.2.7	Work with rural hub and local farming groups to understand how to support farmers in maximising biodiversity on their land and through their farming practices.	2026	2030	AEP

Objective 3: Strive to be an exemplar in the management of our own estate, helping to inspire others to do the same.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
2.3.1	Through the implementation of actions identified in Theme 1, set an exemplar standard within council owned land to promote landowners and land managers to follow suit. Provide advice and awareness on improving biodiversity.	2027	2030	
2.3.2	Engage with relevant educational establishments to provide research opportunities for monitoring and measuring changes in biodiversity arising from the actions in this plan.	2027	2030	WU

Theme 3: Legal, Planning, Policy and Funding Commitments

Objective 1: Embed biodiversity into Warwick District Council's policies and operations to help protect, conserve and enhance biodiversity and comply with the Council's statutory biodiversity duty.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
3.1.1	Maintain access to live and accurate habitat data for Warwick District through continued funding for the Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Natural Capital Assessment Partnership (formerly Habitat Biodiversity Audit).	2024	2030	HBA, LNP, WCC, WWT
3.1.2	Mainstream biodiversity into Warwick District Council project planning and prioritisation processes - introduce a biodiversity impact tracker into the project design stage to consider the measures needed to protect, conserve and enhance biodiversity.	2024	2025	
3.1.3	Embed consideration of biodiversity impacts into all Council operations and services through inclusion in Service Area Plans, Risk Registers, Cabinet Reports, etc.	2024	2030	
3.1.4	Embed biodiversity considerations within criteria for assessing Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) projects.	2024	2025	
3.1.5	Inform and engage Warwick District Council officers, Councillors and grounds maintenance contractor staff in the delivery of this plan using activities such as workshops, annual biodiversity days, activity days (e.g. tree planting, etc.), lunchtime nature walks, infographics to report on progress, sharing success stories, etc.	2025	2030	GMC, LBCG, WCC, WWT
3.1.6	Provide training to relevant Warwick District Council officers on changes or updates to legal/policy requirements relating to Council duties on biodiversity.	2025	2030	EC, WCC, WWT
3.1.7	In light of increasing responsibilities associated with biodiversity and the delivery of this plan, review staffing requirements to complete actions, monitor measures and support on biodiversity duty reporting to Government.	2024	2030	

Objective 2: Ensure Warwick District Council is best placed to secure long-term funding opportunities to help the recovery of nature, including opportunities around biodiversity net gain and other nature markets.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
3.2.1	Identify and apply (where appropriate) for external funding opportunities that will help deliver the actions in this plan.	2024	2030	All
3.2.2	Conduct a high-level review of Warwick District Council land to identify sites that could be taken forward for biodiversity enhancement using biodiversity net gain as a funding mechanism.	2024	2025	HBA, WCC, WWT
3.2.3	Conduct baseline habitat surveys and biodiversity net gain (BNG) feasibility assessments on key Warwick District Council sites to confirm selection for potential BNG funding.	2024	2025	EC
3.2.4	In line with biodiversity net gain (BNG) requirements, produce Habitat Management and Monitoring Plans (HMMP) for Warwick District Council sites to be put forward for BNG funding to demonstrate how target habitats will be created, maintained and managed on these sites for 30 years.	2024	2030	EC

Objective 2: Ensure Warwick District Council is best placed to secure long-term funding opportunities to help the recovery of nature, including opportunities around biodiversity net gain and other nature markets.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
3.2.5	Support and influence the development of a Warwickshire Local Authority Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Implementation Plan to determine how income streams from nature markets should be invested, thereby creating potential funding routes to deliver the actions in this plan.	2024	2025	WCC
3.2.6	Support the development and operation of high-integrity nature markets in Warwick District through the Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Ecosystems Services Trading Protocol.	2024	2030	WCC

Objective 3: Draw on best practice to develop ambitious local planning policies which maximise opportunities to protect and enhance nature through the planning system.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
3.3.1	Produce a biodiversity net gain (BNG) implementation plan to ensure that Warwick District Council has appropriate planning policies and processes in place to support and maximise delivery of BNG, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compliance with the mitigation hierarchy (avoid loss [particularly irreplaceable habitat], minimise loss, adequate mitigation, and compensation as a last resort) • implementation of a spatial hierarchy which prioritises on-site delivery of BNG (delivered in the most appropriate way), followed by local off-site delivery and then the national credit system as a last resort • identification of appropriate policies/strategies that will be used to demonstrate 'strategic significance' and 'spatial risk' in the biodiversity metric • decisions on how active Warwick District Council wants to be in the BNG market • a communications plan for staff, Councillors, partners, developers, etc. • a training plan for staff and Councillors • reference to relevant local strategies including the Warwickshire Local Authority Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Implementation Plan, and the Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Ecosystems Services Trading Protocol. 	2024	2025	WCC
3.3.2	Ensure Warwick District Council's planning service has the appropriate capacity, capability and skills to monitor and enforce delivery of biodiversity net gain (BNG) agreements in Warwick District (where required).	2024	2025	WCC
3.3.3	Support the development of a Warwickshire environmental net gain (ENG) policy and consider its implementation in Warwick District through the South Warwickshire Local Plan to provide additional funding opportunities for nature's recovery.	2024	2025	WCC
3.3.4	Explore any aspiration to go above and beyond the statutory requirement for 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG) and obtain the evidence needed to enshrine this into local planning policy. Consider in line with wider work associated with environmental net gain (ENG).	2024	2025	WCC

Objective 3: Draw on best practice to develop ambitious local planning policies which maximise opportunities to protect and enhance nature through the planning system.

Ref.	Actions to 2030	Start date	End date	Suggested partners
3.3.5	Strengthen existing planning policies around the protection of important habitats and species when developing the new South Warwickshire Local Plan to include consideration for the target species and habitats identified in this plan, alongside those included in the Warwickshire Habitat and Species Action Plans. Include additional requirements for protection, enhancement and/or mitigation measures (where impacts cannot be avoided). This is in addition to statutory protection afforded by legally protected species.	2024	2025	HBA, LBCG, LNP, WBRC, WCC, WWT
3.3.6	Enhance existing planning policies around tree protection when developing the new South Warwickshire Local Plan to include the retention of ancient, veteran and important trees (a target habitat in this Biodiversity Action Programme). Include requirements for a tree mitigation hierarchy (e.g. avoiding tree damage, minimising loss, adequate mitigation, and compensation as a last resort).	2024	2025	FC, FE, HBA, LBCG, LNP, WBRC, WCC, WT, WWT
3.3.7	Drawing on the evidence base provided by the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy and other related studies, ensure that the new South Warwickshire Local Plan provides the planning framework to protect and enhance areas of existing and potential ecological value and connectivity.	2024	2025	HBA, LBCG, LNP, WBRC, WCC, WWT
3.3.8	Consider the inclusion of tree planting, establishment or canopy cover targets in the South Warwickshire Local Plan that would require developers to plant and establish a defined number of trees per household or per size of development.	2024	2025	FC, FE, HBA, LBCG, LNP, WCC, WT, WWT
3.3.9	Review existing or create a new Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to set out how developers can enable wildlife-friendly developments and space for nature, with a specific focus on urban areas, in line with South Warwickshire Local Plan policies. To include guidance on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> landscaping schemes which maximise biodiversity benefits nature-based solutions including SuDs, green roofs, etc. protection and enhancement measures for target habitats and species included in this plan requirements for planting and establishing trees appropriate tree species selection (with consideration for future changes in climate) and use of native species with local provenance (where possible) consideration of biodiversity net gain (BNG) principles and implementation of the mitigation hierarchy reference to Natural England's 'Urban Greening Factor for England' - a standard for the provision of green infrastructure within development sites. 	2024	2026	AG, EC, FC, FE, GMC, HBA, LBCG, LM, TPC, WCC, WT, WWT
3.3.10	Review existing or create a new Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the provision of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) in new developments to provide greater clarity on developer obligations for the design, construction, management and maintenance of SuDS, with a particular focus on biodiversity. Guidance to also consider the inclusion of rain gardens, swales, scrapes, ditches, etc.	2024	2026	EC, GMC, LBCG, LM, TPC, WCC, WWT

Key for suggested partners

Abbreviation	Partner
AEP	Agri-Environmental Partners (NFU, Warwickshire Farming Clusters (Arden Farm Wildlife Network), Farming Representatives, Sustainable Farming Warwickshire Rural Hub)
AG	Local Allotment Groups
CP	Warwickshire Avon Catchment Partnership
CRT	Canals and Rivers Trust
EA	Environment Agency
EC	External Consultants
FC	Forestry Commission
FE	Forestry England (currently manage Hay Wood and Waverley Wood)
GMC	Grounds Maintenance Contractor
GW	Groundwork
HBA	Natural Capital Assessment Partnership (formerly Habitat Biodiversity Audit)
LBCG	Local Biodiversity Conservation Groups
LM	Land Managers/ Landowners
LNP	Local Nature Partnership
NT	National Trust
STW	Severn Trent Water
SWAN	South Warwickshire Area Network for Wildlife
TPC	Town and Parish Councils (including WALC)
WBRC	Warwickshire Biological Records Centre
WCC	Warwickshire County Council
WT	Woodland Trust
WU	Warwick University
WWT	Warwickshire Wildlife Trust

Local Biodiversity Conservation Groups include (but are not limited to):

Coventry and Warwickshire RSPB Local Group
 Warwick Natural History Society
 Warwickshire Amphibian and Reptile Group (WART)
 Warwickshire Badger Group
 Warwickshire Bat Group
 Warwickshire Butterfly Conservation
 Dormouse Conservation Warwickshire
 Warwickshire Dragonfly Group
 Warwickshire Flora Group
 Warwickshire Fungus Group
 Warwickshire Mammal Group
 West Midland Bird Club
 Warwickshire Beekeepers Association
 Warwick and Leamington Beekeepers
 Local Bee Friendly Groups (Cubbington, Kenilworth, Leamington and Warwick)