

Cyngor Tref Castellnewydd Emlyn



Newcastle Emlyn Town Council

Environment (Wales) Act 2016: Section 6 –

The Biodiversity & Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2025

There are six objectives set out in the **Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales[NRAP]** that aim to help develop and guide actions to comply with Section 6 Duty.

- **Objective 1.** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels.
- **Objective 2.** Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management.
- **Objective 3.** Increase resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation.
- **Objective 4.** Tackle key pressures on species and habitats.
- **Objective 5.** Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring
- **Objective 6.** Put in place framework of governance and support for delivery

Introduction & Context - Group 2

- Newcastle Emlyn is a small market town on the border of Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion with a population of approximately???. In 2024-25 the Council worked on a precept of just under £33,300
- It has 10 Councillors with a handyman and toilet caretaker/cleaner
- The Council owns the Cawdor Hall which houses the Digital Library, Attic Theatre and Four units run by different businesses.
- The Council leases and looks after the Castle and its grounds and works in collaboration with CADW to ensure that the land management schemes comply with the strict management requirements associated with being custodians of the castle and its grounds, Dôl Llewellyn a green space which the Council has taken on its improvement and care.
- The Town is part of the CCC 10 Towns Project which has seen a lot of work carried out to enhance the town

Action Report

This Report sets out what has been carried out by Newcastle Emlyn Town Council to date. The Section 6 duty requires that public authorities seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.

Action carried out to: December 2025 **Monitored by: Town Council**

NRAP Objective 1

- Protection of habitats and Green Spaces will be carried out and taken into account before any work is carried out in its management of the land it cares for.
- When considering planning applications.
- When examining any environmental issues in its area, e.g. invasive plants

NRAP Objective 2

- The Town Council has carried out work to maintain and enhance wild life areas – two Wild Flower meadows have been created and maintained by the council
- The Council is committed to the fact that it will make changes to its management plan as necessary to maintain and improve habitats

NRAP Objective 3

- The Council has ensured areas of uncut grass at different locations
- It has created a Pollinator Habitat which was funded by a National Lottery Grant – the Council worked in collaboration with youngsters from both local schools to create the habitat.
- A Grant was provided by Tidy Wales to create a Fruit Orchard and we have also installed Bird & Bat Boxes with help from a special needs group
- Council manages two areas and is committed to maintain wildlife and look for opportunities to improve biodiversity with local support from various groups

NRAP Objective 4

- With the help of volunteers every effort has been made to tackle invasive plants that are trying to take over the river bank in some areas e.g. the Himalayan Balsam
- Cutting of grass has been reduced in some areas to ensure and try to improve wildlife habitat

NRAP Objective 5

- Council aims to work with the local group & schools to endeavour to improve the management of biodiversity in the area

NRAP Objective 6

- Council works with Fair Trade and has had trees planted in the town
- The 10 Towns initiative has worked closely with the Council to install planters and also to create an open air amphitheatre ensuring that where possible suitable natural materials were used as well as plants that draw pollinators. Surveys had to be made to comply with specific rules and guide lines.

Review of Section 6 Duty

What has worked well?

- Working in partnership with individuals, schools and organisations.
- These groups have the same aim as the Council to support biodiversity.
- Meadow areas in the green spaces have worked well checking for ash die back in wooded areas and any timber that has been cut down is left for habitation for all forms of life.
- Funding the local primary school to fund a Bugs Hotel instilling interest in the children to be aware of their environment and the importance of biodiversity

What have the barriers been?

- Finding sufficient volunteers to continue to work long term on various projects
- Keeping control of invasive plants
- Youngsters on occasions damaging young trees

What will you change?

- Endeavour to have the full support of all Council members in the forthcoming planning.
- Produce signage of what is planted with the aim of educating children/people of the importance of planting
- Street planters – possibility of replacing annuals with more resilient, native perennials that are pollinator friendly and more drought resilient[to minimise the use of water]

How and when will the S6 duty be monitored and the S6 plan reviewed?

- The S6 duty is monitored continuously and what ever improvements or work is required is carried out as necessary
- A new 'Biodiversity and Environment Development Action Plan' will be introduced in 2026 following a meeting with the OVW Biodiversity Team for guidance on how to further enhance the Council's biodiversity aims and objectives.



Images of the wildflower meadow at the Dol Llewellyn Site with the Honeycomb pollinator habitat. Both projects flourishing and attracting pollinators.

