



**Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council**  
**5-Year Green Living and Biodiversity Action Plan**  
**(2025-2030)**

**Full Council Approval: November 2025**

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## **1. Introduction**

This Biodiversity Action Plan outlines the strategic approach Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council will take over the next five years to enhance, protect, and celebrate biodiversity in the parish. In alignment with statutory duties under the 2021 Environment Act, the plan includes actionable goals and engages the local community in nature-based solutions.

## **2. Vision**

Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council will champion a five-year strategy fostering a cleaner and greener environment that supports diverse ecosystems, connects green spaces, and encourages community participation in nature-enhancing activities.

## **3. Objectives**

- **Enhance and protect existing green spaces to promote ecological diversity**
- **Promote habitat creation and species conservation**
- **Encourage nature friendly community practices**
- **Raise awareness of biodiversity and climate change issues**
- **Monitor and evaluate biodiversity improvements regularly**

## **4. 5-Year Action Plan**

### **Year 1 (2025-2026) - Laying the Foundations for Biodiversity**

- **Policy and Strategy Development:**
  - Finalise and adopt the Biodiversity Action Plan.
  - Identify Council owned assets that can make further provision to support local biodiversity e.g. Allotments, Millenium Wood
  - Consider green environment and biodiversity within the review of the 2017 Neighbourhood Plan and within planning applications
  - Work in partnership with Net Zero Leiston to promote nature focussed actions which increase biodiversity and capture carbon.
  - Confirm Grounds Maintenance contractors' approach to using environmentally friendly practices that will promote biodiversity

- **Surveys and Audits:**
  - Complete biodiversity mapping to identify connectivity opportunities within the 2017 Neighbourhood Plan review
- **Community Engagement:**
  - Annual Community Litter Pick event
- **Work toward delivery of Infrastructure:**
  - Support delivery of Cycling and Walking strategy as part of Sizewell C Deed of Obligation Works to create safe and accessible routes to encourage walking and cycling.
  - Deliver nature schemes which add recreational and environmental features to Leiston

## Year 2 (2026-2027) - Implementation and Expansion

- **Strategic Review**
  - Review the green assets owned by Council to identify further opportunity areas.
- **Habitat Creation and Enhancement:**
  - Develop a forward Tree and Hedge Management husbandry strategy
  - Instal bird, bat and insect hotels (as appropriate) at Haylings Pond, Victory Road Recreation Ground and King Georges Avenue Recreation Ground
  - Extend wildflower areas in Council owned green spaces
  - Establish an enhancement and management plan for Millenium Wood.
  - Establish plans for improving habitat and water conservation on allotment sites
- **Infrastructure Projects:**
  - Collaborate with SCC Floods Team for flood retention basins near King George's Avenue Primary School.
- **Community Involvement:**
  - Develop comprehensive volunteering strategy to support green spaces eg Millenium Wood, Allotments
  - Organise three volunteering events including the Annual Community Litter Pick event on green spaces
- **Monitoring and Policy Review:**
  - Measure progress against Green Living and Biodiversity KPIs.
  - Measure progress in Planning Application responses

## Year 3 (2027-2028) - Mid-Plan Review and Strengthening Initiatives

- **Strategic Review:**

- Assess progress and publish a biodiversity impact report.
- Update objectives based on findings and feedback.
- **Green Corridors and Connectivity:**
  - Implement habitat connectivity initiatives linking green spaces.
- **Community Initiatives:**
  - Expand community events
  - Review progress with the community – what next?
  - Expand volunteers’ network.

#### Year 4 (2028-2029) - Community and Environmental Leadership

- **Infrastructure and Green Initiatives:**
  - Enhance biodiversity management at Victory Road Recreation Ground.
  - Complete greening projects at King George’s Avenue Recreation Ground.
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:**
  - Deepen collaboration with all partners seeking to improve green living
  - Partner with local ecological groups for conservation initiatives.
- **Policy and Best Practices:**
  - Strengthen guidelines for biodiversity-friendly development.
- **Awareness Campaigns:**
  - Launch a biodiversity and climate emergency awareness campaign.

#### Year 5 (2029-2030) - Legacy and Future Planning

- **Evaluation and Reporting:**
  - Conduct a comprehensive biodiversity audit.
  - Publish a final five-year biodiversity impact report.
  - Measure success using KPIs
- **Policy Review and Updates:**
  - Reassess and update the Biodiversity Action Plan.
- **Celebration and Legacy Projects:**
  - Organise a community biodiversity celebration event.
  - Establish a biodiversity legacy fund for future initiatives.

### 5. Measuring Success

- Regular biodiversity surveys and audits using SBIS data.
- Establish KPIs for habitat creation, species counts, and community participation.
- Conduct annual reviews and publish updates at the Annual Town Meeting.

## **6. Conclusion**

**This five-year plan serves as a dynamic and collaborative roadmap to enhance Leiston-cum-Sizewell's natural environment, fostering a healthier and more biodiverse parish for future generations.**