



Environment Act Forward Plan Measures & Actions objectives report at End of Year 2017/18



Filtered by:

Organisation - Carmarthenshire County Council
Source document - Environment Act Forward Plan

This report should be read with the understanding that while the PIMS actions it contains were all circulated to the relevant Head of Service when they were drafted, the Head of Service did not necessarily see the first PIMS reporting round. As a result some of the actions were not reported on although progress in their delivery had nonetheless been achieved. This is now being addressed.

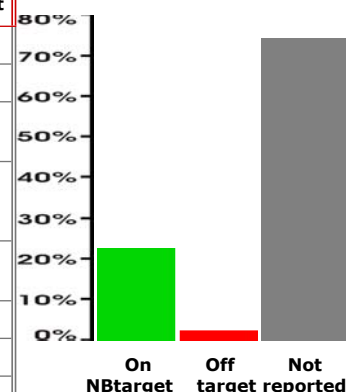
Updates on each action where available have been included in blue for this report.

Additional notes have been provided where these are considered to be relevant

The table below provides a summary progress against target for the Actions and Measures contained within the selected document

		Total	On target	Off target	Not reported	Not available	Annual / Not started	% on target	Overall % on target
PLANNING	Actions	4	3	0	1	N/A	0	75%	75%
PROPERTY	Actions	1	0	0	1	N/A	0	0%	0%
TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS	Actions	7	2	1	4	N/A	0	29%	29%
WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	Actions	3	1	0	2	N/A	0	33%	33%
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	Actions	11	0	0	11	N/A	0	0%	0%
LEISURE	Actions	6	0	0	6	N/A	0	0%	0%
JOINT	Actions	3	2	0	1	N/A	0	67%	67%
Overall Performance	Actions and Measures	35	8	1	26	0	0	23%	

Performance against Target





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The table below provides a breakdown by organisational structure

			Total	On target	Off target	Not reported	Not available	Annual / Not started	% on target	Overall % on target
Environment	Planning	Actions	35	8	1	26	N/A	0	23%	23%
Overall Performance		Actions and Measures	35	8	1	26	0	0	23%	
Updates on targets not previously reported - noted below in blue						17				
Actions where there has been no reporting or updating						9				

OFF TARGET



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Objective: TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS			
Outcome: Not defined			
Action	12975	Target date	31/01/2018
Action promised	Safe Routes to School - pilot project for schemes to be implemented in 2018/19 proposals for SRTs will be passed to Rural Conservation Assessment of likely impacts on biodiversity & ecosystem resilience will be assessed & any issues to be addressed. Proposals in Sept-Dec 17, to be implemented 2018, will be submitted to Rural Conservation		
Comment	The Rural Conservation Team has yet to be consulted on the 2018/19 Safe Routes to School programme.		
Remedial Action	In order to comply with its published Env Act Forward Plan, which will be audited by WG and its S6 duties under the Env Act , the Rural Conservation Section is to be consulted on the 2018/19 Safe Routes to School programme. Generally routes are put for wards for consideration in the autumn for works to commence early in the financial year.		
Service Head: Stephen Pilliner		Performance status: Off target ☹	
The Rural Conservation section is happy to be consulted on the SRTs for 2018/19 and 2019/20, as appropriate, so as to ensure that CCC delivers its S6 duties. In many instances the proposed routes are not expected to impact on the natural environment			

Objective: GROUNDS MAINTENANCE			
Outcome: Not defined			
Action	13043	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Review grass cutting heights and frequency for amenity cut areas with objectives to: i) blade height ii) identify areas where cutting can be less frequent iii) trial this approach iv) use this approach v) consider use of small signs/press coverage		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: Action not reported ✘	
On going discussions with Grounds.			
Action	13044	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Arrange a 'service improvement' with meeting with grass cutters to discuss mowing regime (see above) and benefits of higher cuts/leaving areas for pollinators		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: Action not reported ✘	
RC and IM have met with Grounds Maintenance to discuss this subject. Advice has been provided			
Action	13045	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Continue cut and collection of arisings from cutting grass at Delta Lakes and Burry Port (adjacent to Shoreline Caravan park) - cut paths through site to allow people to walk through site		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: Action not reported ✘	
The Burry Port site is continuing to be managed in this way			
Action	13046	Target date	31/03/2018



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Action promised	Consider amendments to grass cutting on land around sheltered housing/old age homes, etc. as part of review of contract with housing to undertake this work (This could be linked to consultation with residents to identify areas by IM and CT – for 2018)		
Service Head: Les James	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
Discuss with Clare Tinkler			
Action	13047	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Talk to Emily Hughes re sites that are being transferred to T&CCs, where trees may become under threat and where TPOs may be appropriate. Liaise with Steve Edwards, regarding the Tree Safety Surveys. Also refer to guidance that could be provided to T&CCs on biodiversity when land is being transferred		
Service Head: Jonathan Fearn	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
Action	13048	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Land transfer to community Councils. Look at opportunities for liaising with Community Development Officers of key Town and Community Councils and Rural District Councils re Env Act duty and grass cutting and biodiversity management of land under their control		
Service Head: Rosie Carmichael	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
Guidance notes sent to CC and TC subject to S6 duty on managing land for biodiversity			
Action	13049	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Check if bedding plants are grown in peat-free compost and, if not, discuss with supplier how this can be achieved with objective to switch to peat-free compost		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
Action	13050	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Eastgate roundabout Llanelli - investigate if our landscape officer could prepare a simple planting design for this that would be a low cost, sustainable low maintenance and meet the Council's expectations		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
Discussions have been initiated between Conservation and Grounds Maintenance regarding alternative more environmentally friendly design for the roundabout			
Action	13051	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Aim to visit schools to discuss content of SLA agreement with head teachers and revise SLAs to reflect new approaches to grass cutting, with a view to reducing the amount of grass that is cut regularly, where this is appropriate		
Service Head: Andi Morgan	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
Action	13052	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Parc Howard. Work in collaboration with Friend's group/landscape officer/biodiversity officer to look at management of the park and review its management for biodiversity and generally improve horticulture here		
Service Head: Rosie Carmichael	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
IM has met with Grounds –partnership work is on going with Llanelli TC			
Action	13054	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Produce a Pollinator Strategy for the Council to inform positive action for pollinators throughout the Council's work. This could be endorsed by Community Councils, PSB and strategic developments, etc.		
Service Head: Llinos Quelch	Performance status: Action not reported		✘
IM has draft a Pollinator Strategy for CCC which is currently being considered by Environment DMT It will contain action plans for specific sites			



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Objective: JOINT			
Outcome: Not defined			
Action	12969	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Environment Department to deliver an integrated and long term approach to the implementation of projects on the Llanelli Levels. Identify and work with partners and stakeholders e.g. Network Rail, Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Wildlife Trust, local communities		
Comment	Creation of new ponds outside WWT reserve on CCC land that will provide additional suitable habitat for water vole using s106 money that as raised for this purpose. WWT supervised the work and will assist in monitoring in future years. Worked with NRW to ensure flood alleviation benefits both drainage and biodiversity. Working with Persimmon Homes to ensure long term management of wetland area in Llanelli Levels		
Service Head: Llinos Quelch		Performance status: On target	
Action	12977	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Commissioning of ecological surveys - In order to demonstrate that CCC is embedding biodiversity into its ways of thinking, in-house ecological surveyors and consultants appointed by Highways and Transportation and Property will be asked to consider, when assessing a site or a building, issues relating to ecosystem resilience		
Comment	As part of our design process and commissioning work we require contractors and consultants to commission ecological surveys as appropriate to the developments being undertaken and include consultation with the in-house ecology team on bio-diversity and ecological resilience		
Service Head: Jonathan Fearn***		Performance status: On target	
This action must also apply to Highways and Transportation so will need to be designed for both Service Areas within the PIMS system			
Action	13055	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Seek funding for a pollinator project for Llanelli, which seeks to include elements involving schools, communities, housing, MCP, PCP, grounds maintenance, highways. It would include practical management (purchase of kit and wild flower seed), public events, workshops		
Service Head: Llinos Quelch		Performance status: Action not reported	
See links with 13043 above On-going discussions with GM. This would need to be a project running across several service areas			

Objective: LEISURE			
Outcome: Not defined			
Action	13056	Target date	30/04/2020
Action promised	Develop simple biodiversity management plans for each countryside site that Leisure manage, linking the plan to recreation and the management of natural resources and WFG Act well-being goals, Environment Act biodiversity duty and WG Bee-friendly action guide: Pembrey CP, Llyn Llech Owain CP, Mynydd Mawr, Ynys Dawela, M Coastal Path, etc		
Service Head: Ian Jones		Performance status: Action not reported	
Leisure are developing management plans as part of WG funded work programme for 2018/19 with Simeon Jones			
Action	13057	Target date	30/11/2018
Action promised	With the teams involved, identify wildlife and ecology training needs and consider which needs can be met through skill sharing and those which require external trainers. Summarise in a training plan, and identify trainers, and deliver		
Service Head: Ian Jones		Performance status: Action not reported	
Action	13058	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Ensure rangers are familiar with biological recording and submit records to West Wales Biological Recording Centre in Whitland. WWBIC can provide training		
Service Head: Ian Jones		Performance status: Action not reported	
Bioblitz held at Pembrey CP 10th June 2018. Info on wildlife recording sent to all rangers and PROW staff rangers involved in recording with WWBIC at that event			
Action	13059	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Having developed management plans for sites, use laminated bilingual signs to explain changes in grass cutting regimes, and other management changes to the public in an informative way. Develop prototype sign		
Service Head: Ian Jones		Performance status: Action not reported	



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See also 13043 On-going discussions with Grounds. Signage now being installed for sites where less frequent cutting is to be experimented with – e.g. at Sandy Water Park working with BBCT and MCP and Planning Ecology Graduate (work based learning module for MSC)			
Action	13060	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Identify equipment needs to deliver long-term management objectives for habitats (as per management plans) within Leisure sites and identify training needs associated with any new management practice or piece of machinery to be used for conservation purposes, and deliver training		
Service Head: Ian Jones		Performance status: Action not reported	
Action	13061	Target date	30/09/2017
Action promised	Identify staff who would benefit from refresher course in Tree Inspections and liaise with Steven Edwards re arranging the necessary course		
Service Head: Ian Jones		Performance status: Action not reported	
In hand courses to be arrange for Summer 2018			

Objective: PLANNING			
Outcome: Not defined			
Action	12965	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Undertake workshops with relevant Divisions in other CCC Departments to generate action/s for these Divisions to incorporate into the Forward Plan in 2018		
Comment	Workshops have been run with colleagues across the Environment Dept (Planning, Property, Grounds Maintenance, Highways and Transportation, and with Leisure, in Community Service and recently we have had discussions with Chief Execs, so workshops have been run in 3/5 departments		
Service Head: Llinos Quelch		Performance status: On target	
Action	12966	Target date	28/02/2017
Action promised	Produce guidance notes on protected species for use by colleagues to ensure that we work within the legislation with regard to protected species and to be consistent with our duty under the Environment Act 2016		
Service Head: Rosie Carmichael		Performance status: Action not reported	
Bilingual guidance notes produced and circulated, colleagues will be contacted shortly to gain feed-back. Notes now on Council File Plan, aiming to get them on the intranet asap			
Action	12967	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Review the Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Carmarthenshire in light of the new legislation and guidance		
Comment	The Biodiversity Officer has attended all-Wales meetings with WG to consider future local action in light of the emerging national drivers, including WG's Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales and current legislation (Env Act/WFG Act). Workshops are being arranged internally and with local partners to develop a local Nature Recovery Plan fo the county.		
Service Head: Llinos Quelch		Performance status: On target	
Action	12968	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	The Planning Division will develop a consistent approach to ensuring that biodiversity is maintained and enhanced, and that ecosystem resilience is promoted as part of the planning system and also within its Conservation, Minerals and Building Control activities		
Comment	Workshops have been held with DM managers, and the Enforcement team where it has been identified how the planning service can evidence how it is ensuring that biodiversity is maintained and enhanced and how through its work ecosystems resilience is promotes. The new registration system , ARCUS will enable us to monitor those applications where it is considered by both planning ecologist and DM officers that a development is addressing these issues. This will be achieved by Dec 2018		
Service Head: Llinos Quelch		Performance status: On target	

Objective: PROPERTY			
Outcome: Not defined			
Action	12978	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Sites that are being retained - Carry out biodiversity assessments of these sites and identify both the biodiversity they support and the contribution that they make to ecosystem resilience. Review management of these sites		
Service Head: Jonathan Fearn		Performance status: Action not reported	



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On-going discussions with Property, including discussions re a possible pilot study on 2 county farms

Objective: TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS
Outcome: Not defined

Action	12970	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Verge Cutting - Continue to implement policy, deliver annual tool box talk and make provision for late cut verges		
Comment	Verge Management has been the subject of a Member's task and Finish Group in 2017/18. We continue to liaise with colleagues in Highways, provide tool box talks/guidance for contractors and raise awareness of alternative methods for managing roadside verges. Budget cuts will inevitably result in less cutting		

Service Head: Stephen Pilliner **Performance status:** On target

Action	12971	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	The review of Rights Of Way Improvement Plan will address new duties placed on LAs under this Act. The review will be completed in 2018		

Service Head: Stephen Pilliner **Performance status:** Action not reported ✘

Action	12972	Target date	31/10/2018
Action promised	The Highway Asset Management Plan that is being developed will address the LAs responsibilities under this new Act. Highway Asset Management Plan to be completed by October 2018 as recommended by Well Managed Highways Code of Practice		

Service Head: Stephen Pilliner **Performance status:** Action not reported ✘

Action	12973	Target date	30/11/2017
Action promised	Integrated Network Plans - H and T to review these plans with Rural Conservation Section, and in particular the contribution PROWs, and other off road routes are making to ecological resilience, in terms of the habitats alongside these routes. Review the management of routes that have biodiversity interest		

Service Head: Stephen Pilliner **Performance status:** Action not reported ✘

Action	12974	Target date	31/01/2018
Action promised	Carmarthenshire Cycling Strategy (currently in draft) Rural Conservation will be consulted on this plan to assess whether it creates opportunities for managing and enhancing biodiversity and promoting ecological resilience. Consultation with Rural Conservation in mid Jan 2017		

Rural Conservation commented on Cycling Strategy in July 2017. Subsequent discussions have indicated that the theme groups that are to be set up to deliver this strategy will address S6 responsibilities. The Rural Conservation Section looks forwards to working with these groups to highlight the role of the natural environment in providing the backdrop for the delivery of the strategy, certainly in the rural areas

Service Head: Stephen Pilliner **Performance status:** Action not reported ✘

Action	12976	Target date	28/02/2017
Action promised	Tywi Valley Cycle-Rural Conservation review impact of cycle way on biodiversity & ecosystem resilience (report done). Opportunities Scheme could deliver for promoting ecosystem resilience & enhancing biodiversity will be explored. Project team to discuss initial proposals & response by Feb 17; OUTPUT: Plan that addresses ecological concerns raised		

Comment Rural Conservation Section has been involved in regular liaison meetings with the TV Cycle way Project. To date these meetings have focused on the preparation of the EIA/ ES and the design of the scheme, so as to minimize impact on the natural environment. The S6 duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity has been discussed and ideas suggested. Now that the route crosses farmland owned by CCC there are greater opportunities for enhancement that could be realized.

Service Head: Stephen Pilliner **Performance status:** On target



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Objective: WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES			
Outcome: Not defined			
Action	12979	Target date	30/06/2017
Action promised	Flood Defence - Develop working methods that address biodiversity issues. Build these into method statements for work being done at individual sites. Develop procedure for contractors carrying out works on site are aware of the site's biodiversity. Review training needs for officers & contractors & provide training needs		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: Action not reported	X
Rural Conservation Section has prepared a comprehensive guidance document for Flood Defence and applicants for these consents which is now in use. A training session using this guidance has also been delivered			
Action	12980	Target date	31/01/2017
Action promised	Pride in your place - provide links to suitable sources of biodiversity information that can be added to Pride in your place web page		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: Action not reported	X
Action	12981	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	Management of land managed by the division e.g. Wern Ddu & Ammanford Cemetery; Carry out biodiversity assessments of sites & include contribution to ecosystem resilience; where appropriate develop management plans to protect, enhance biodiversity & promote ecosystem resilience		
Comment	Field surveys have been completed at Wern Ddu and further work is required summer 2018. This will inform the development of a site management plan. 103 plant species have already been identified. An assessment of the biodiversity opportunities at Ammanford cemetery will be carried out in 2018/19		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: On target	