

**Cabinet**  
**28<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT ACT  
FORWARD PLAN 2020 – 2023**

**Purpose:** The Forward plan sets out how CCC is delivering its Environment Act Duty 2020 - 2023

**Recommendations / key decisions required:**

- To endorse the attached Carmarthenshire County Council Environment Act Forward Plan 2020 – 2023 and recommend that it be presented to Pre-Cabinet.
- To endorse the actions set out in the attached Forward Plan and commit to their delivery across the relevant CCC services.

**Reasons:**

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 requires that all public bodies in Wales, such as local authorities, publish and deliver an Environment Act Forward Plan.

It is a statutory requirement that every three years Carmarthenshire County Council prepares, and reports on the delivery of its Environment Act duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience.

The Council's first Environment Act Forward Plan was published in March 2017, and delivery of it was reported to Welsh Government in December 2019. The following report refers to the Council's second three-year plan which runs from Jan 2020 to Dec 2023. The actions it contains are monitored in June and December each year via the Council's Performance Improvement Management System. It is Council procedure that the progress in delivering the Forward Plan is reported to EPP Scrutiny Committee every year.

**Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted:** YES

**Environment & Public Protection SCRUTINY**

Cabinet Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required NO

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:**

Cllr Philip Hughes Biodiversity Champion

Cllr Hazel Evans - Environment

**Directorate:** Environment

**Designations:**

**Name of Head of Service:**

Head of Place and Sustainability

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**Cabinet**  
**28<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**Carmarthenshire County Council Environment Act**  
**Forward Plan 2020 - 2023**

**1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report and the plan attached is to set out the actions the Council will be taking across its services to deliver the Biodiversity Duty placed on it by the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and seeks approval of the plan for Pre-Cabinet consideration.

The Forward Plan links the necessary Environment Act actions to the Council's Well-being Objectives and identifies target dates for delivery of each action and the officers responsible. Actions included in the Forward Plan will be included in the relevant departmental business plans 2021/2022.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

**IMPLICATIONS**

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed:



Head of Place and Sustainability

Policy, Crime &  
Disorder and  
Equalities

Legal

Finance

ICT

Risk  
Management  
Issues

Staffing  
Implications

Physical  
Assets

**NONE**

**YES**

**YES**

**NONE**

**YES**

**NONE**

**YES**

## 2. Legal

The delivery of the Environment Act Forward Plan 2020 – 2023 is consistent with the S6 Biodiversity Duty placed on all public bodies in Wales under the Environment Act (Wales) 2016.

Delivery of the actions set out in the Report evidences the Council's delivery and commitment of this duty and its compliance with this Act. It is also consistent with its responsibilities under the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 in particular the Resilient Wales goal.

## 3. Finance

While the action plan identifies actions that will result in costs, these costs will be met by the budgets linked to these projects e.g., in Section 5 all the site management works proposed are covered by existing budgets and grant aid. In both Section 6 Caeau Mynydd Mawr project and Section 7 Delivering Biodiversity on Development sites, all the actions proposed will be delivered via S106 agreements funded by developers.

## 5. Risk Management Issues

Failure to publish and deliver its Environment Act Forward Plan 2020-2023 places a reputational risk on the Council and risks its compliance with its S6 Biodiversity Duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

## 6. Physical Assets

Delivery of the Environment Act Forward Plan will have an impact on how the Council manages some of the assets for which it is responsible e.g., grassland management at amenity sites, around property and housing, where these areas will be managed in line with the Council's Strategy for land management use for the benefit of Pollinators

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed:



Head of Place and Sustainability

**1. Scrutiny Committee** EPP Scrutiny to be consulted post Pre-Cabinet

**2. Local Member(s)** Cllr Phillip Hughes - Biodiversity Champion

Comments – none received to date

**3. Community / Town Council** Not applicable

**4. Relevant Partners** Not applicable

**5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** Not applicable

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO  
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**Include any observations here**  
None to date

## Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:  
THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Carmarthenshire County Council Environment Act Forward Plan		<a href="#">Legislation and Guidance (gov.wales)</a> (in the downloads section)