



ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

1 March 2022

REPORT TITLE:	POLLINATORS PLAN WORKSHOP - UPDATE
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT SUMMARY

In January 2022 officers from Neighbourhood Services brought a report entitled 'Operation Evaluation – Pollinator Pilot' which focused on providing an operational evaluation of the Pollinator Plan, which supports the Council's biodiversity commitment within the policy, 'Transforming our Open Spaces and Enhancing Biodiversity'.

One of the recommendations agreed by the Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport Committee was that a workshop be convened as a part of the development of the Council's Pollinator Plan, to agree future pollinator and cessation sites.

The workshop enabled officer and member liaison on the proposed Pollinator Plan, discussion, and allowed a direction for the Pollinator Plan to be obtained. Because of the timescales, it was not possible to write a full feedback report. As such, this report will support a verbal update at Committee. Following the workshop officers will develop the Council's Pollinator Plan and present for approval by Committee at a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport Committee is recommended to note and comment on the update.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Committee to consider feedback and outcomes from the Pollinator Plan Workshop which was held in February 2022. Because of the time scales, it was not possible to write a full feedback report. As such, this report will support an update at Committee.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The Chair and party spokespersons discussed not bringing an update report to Committee, however this was discounted due to the public interest surrounding the pilot.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 A report was brought to the Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport Committee in January 2021 on the development of the Pollinator Plan and recommended to convene a Members' Workshop on the subject. Committee will receive the Council's Pollinator Plan for approval at a future meeting.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This report is for information purposes and there are no direct financial implications. Set out in the appended report are the budget proposals which were identified for 2021/22.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council has a statutory duty to keep roadside verges cut to a reasonable height to maintain sightlines for road users.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

- 6.1 This report is for information purposes and as such there are no direct resource implications.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 This report is for information purposes and as such there are no direct risk implications.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 This report is for information purposes only. Public consultation will be undertaken as part of the development of the Pollinator Plan.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.
- 9.2 This report is for information purposes only as an such does not require an Equality Impact Assessment. The Equality Impact Assessment for the Pollinator Plan will be undertaken as part of its development prior to approval.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The Environment and Climate implications are fully set out in the report to Committee from January 2022, entitled 'Operational Evaluation – Pollinator Pilot.'

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Community wealth implications are set out in the report to Committee from January 2022, entitled 'Operational Evaluation – Pollinator Pilot.'

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APPENDICES

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Plantlife "The good verge guide: a different approach to managing our waysides and verges" (2016)

Buglife "Road Verges and their potential for pollinators: A review of costs, benefits and management options" (2019)

Wirral Council's Environment and Climate Emergency Policy (2021)

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Environment, Climate Emergency & Transport Committee - Operational Evaluation – Pollinator Pilot.	20 January 2022