

A close-up photograph of a bumblebee on a purple flower. The bee is positioned in the center-left of the frame, facing left. It has a black and yellow striped body and is surrounded by numerous small, purple, tubular flowers. The background is a soft-focus field of similar flowers and green foliage under a bright sky.

***DRAFT***

*Clackmannanshire Council  
Pollinator Strategy 2024 – 2029*



**Clackmannanshire  
Council**

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# Foreword



**Councillor Fiona Law,  
Spokesperson for Environment and Net Zero**

*Pollinators are a crucial element of our local biodiversity and significantly contribute towards making our neighbourhoods, homes and workplaces more attractive to live in and work in.*

*They have a pivotal role to play in our ecosystems, have a significant impact on our local economy in terms of the food and farming and play a critical role in our health and wellbeing.*

*Our native pollinators; bees, flies, moths, butterflies, wasps and beetles are vital for the maintenance of ecosystem health and for global food security, with 75% of crop species, 35% of global crop production, and up to 88% of flowering plant species being dependent on insect pollinators to some extent.*

*NatureScot<sup>1</sup> have identified that our wild pollinators are in trouble and facing pressures such as habitat loss and fragmentation, changes in land use, disease, pesticides and climate change.*

*Clackmannanshire Council's pollinator strategy is about raising awareness of the importance of pollinators and what we can all do to make Clackmannanshire more pollinator friendly, and in the process make our countryside, our gardens, our workplaces and green spaces a haven for nature and human wellbeing.*

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<sup>1</sup> Scotland's Nature Agency

## Introduction

This is Clackmannanshire Council's first pollinator strategy and action plan. The document acknowledges the importance of pollinators within our community and provides an action plan that identifies the role that the Council will take in helping to tackle the decline in pollinator populations.



The strategy aligns with the [Pollinator Strategy for Scotland 2017-2027](#) and the Council's Climate Change strategy. Pollinators ensure the continuation of plant populations that lock up carbon in their woody stems, roots, bulbs and tubers. The best way to restore natural habitats to help fight global warming is through natural regeneration from seeds, and for that we need pollinators.

Pollination is not just fascinating natural history. It is an essential ecological survival function. Without pollinators, the human race and all of earth's terrestrial ecosystems would not survive.

## The Importance of pollinators

Pollinators are fundamentally linked to the wellbeing of the planet. Without pollinators there would be food shortages, loss of plant species and a great loss of biodiversity. The role of pollinators in the past has very much been taken for granted and habitats have been stripped away without a second thought for the implications on their populations.

Since the 1930s, over **97%** of wildflower meadows have been [lost](#). Where once thirty species of plants would bloom under your outstretched arms, in most of our fields there are now just six.

Pollinators are an essential part of our Biodiversity. Our native pollinators include bumblebees and other bees, butterflies, moths, flies, hoverflies, beetles and wasps. In the UK we have over 4,000 pollinating species of insect that are responsible for the pollination of native plants and food crops. At least one in every three bites of food is from a [plant pollinated](#) by an insect.

Losing pollinators will result in damage to plants and animals, agricultural yields, our economy and wellbeing. For individuals this means higher food costs and possible health challenges. Pollination has a direct economic value through increasing the yield and quality of insect-dependent crops. In the UK, this includes oilseed rape, orchard fruit, soft fruit and beans. Total loss of pollinators could cost up to £440m a year, about 13% of [UK income](#) from farming. Insect dependent crops can be pollinated by hand, but the cost of this would be prohibitive (initial estimate of labour costs is £1500m a year). Pollination, through its

essential role in maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, also provides indirect benefits to agriculture. These benefits have not been valued, but probably exceed its direct value.

The pollinators are also food for other creatures and are themselves an important link in the food chain. The loss of pollinators will eventually cause the loss of other associated species.

Habitat fragmentation is one of the major problems for pollinators and connecting habitats is part of the solution. Pollinators are found in all sorts of different habitats (not just wildflower meadows) and it is important to keep that in mind – no matter where you are there is a difference that you can make to help pollinators. We need to create connections; even the smallest pots of nectar and pollen rich plants can have a positive effect. Many areas are constantly 'tidied up' to make the area look tidy to the human eye but this is effectively creating deserts with no food or shelter for pollinators. This is a situation that needs to be remedied and by leaving areas to grow and reducing cutting of grass it provides opportunities for plants and therefore pollinators to thrive.

## A Commitment from Clackmannanshire Council

Clackmannanshire Council is committed to increasing the numbers of pollinators across Clackmannanshire and ensuring habitats are well connected both within Clackmannanshire, and neighbouring counties. This commitment will ensure that pollinators' needs are considered and protected in the delivery of the Council's services and responsibilities.

### We will fulfil this commitment by:



Protecting and enhancing the amount and quality of pollinator habitat present in Clackmannanshire. Habitats such as open spaces, woodlands, and road verges will be managed to increase benefits for pollinators. Planting schemes will incorporate plants that benefit pollinators where possible, and planning will also include areas that have pollinator potential.



Supporting projects working to connect habitats to increase species movement create habitats and enhance places for pollinators.

The Council's Interim Climate Change Strategy sets out a framework for achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040 at the latest for the Council's own operations and by 2045 at the latest for the Clackmannanshire area. This Pollinator Strategy supports the framework and actions incorporated into achieving the net zero emissions. This includes regular interim emission reduction targets leading up to net zero by 2040 and a Climate Emergency Action with specific actions to reduce emissions.

Pollinators constitute a core part of achieving net zero such as through the emissions absorption potential of nature and biodiversity's role in climate resilience.

## The Pollinator Action Plan Consultees

The Pollinators Strategy 2023-2029 went through a thorough process of consultations between different stakeholders at national and local level to help shaping efficient programmes and actions to tackle the decline in pollinator populations. The Council plans to collaborate and support where relevant initiatives aligning with the aim of this strategy.



## Why do we need a Pollinator Plan?

Scotland's pollinators are under threat. The Pollinator Strategy for Scotland, and the accompanying Implementation Plan, set out how Scotland can become a place where Pollinators can thrive and the actions that are needed if the objectives are to be achieved. It aims to address the causes of decline in populations, diversity and range of our pollinator species, and to help them thrive into the future. The Strategy links to all five of the Scottish Government's strategic objectives, making a direct contribution to the 'Wealthier and Fairer' and 'Greener' objectives. By helping to secure and improve the resilience of our food supplies through a pollinator service the Strategy contributes to the Environmental Sustainability objective of Scotland's National Food and Drink Policy: Good Food Nation, and to the development of a strategy for sustainable agriculture.

The Clackmannanshire Pollinator Strategy supports the National Strategy by detailing local action, helping to halt pollinator declines and leading to increases in diversity and numbers of pollinators overall. The aim of the plan is to achieve a strong, healthy and varied population of pollinators in Clackmannanshire. The habitats will maintain and create essential links in the pollinator habitats of Scotland and aid pollinators in their local and national distribution.

The strategy's Action Plan is a key supporting document that will help to deliver the council's target to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions. It will achieve this by providing a framework for the Council and partners to deliver actions to benefit pollinators, whilst also helping achieve aims to halt biodiversity loss, contributing to the achievement of a zero-carbon economy, and creating healthier, wealthier and happier people and places.

The plan will also help to deliver on the Council’s unanimous decision to [sign](#) the Edinburgh Declaration on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. This commits us to adopt a Council-wide approach to the conservation of biodiversity that embeds biodiversity considerations into corporate & service plans, policies, strategies and operations is required so that all decision-making takes account of the potential impacts on local biodiversity.

## The wider benefits

<b>Biodiversity increase</b>	As the number of pollinators increases so do the number of plants that they pollinate and the number of species that feed on the pollinators. Up and down the food chain there will be an overall positive effect.
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>	Being outdoors in greenspaces is well known to be beneficial to health and wellbeing. Pollinators are essential for the plants that we eat and therefore the nutrition that we gain from them. They play a massive role in allowing us to have a healthy, varied diet.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	Increasing the carbon absorbed by more plants. More plants mean more carbon dioxide is absorbed and Pollinators create more plants by successful pollination.
<b>Cultural</b>	Changing the perception of pollinators as pests and instead considering them as natural pest controllers (e.g. wasps).

## Pollinators need our help

Since 1980 the number of pollinating insects in Scotland - has declined by an estimated [51%](#), leading to fears of a negative impact on agriculture, food security, the economy and human health. There are several known interacting factors that are causing a decline in pollinators. The problems facing pollinators are complicated but can be summed up as:

### Climate change

The changing climate [impacts](#) pollinators by shifting growing and blooming seasons and potentially weakening the plant populations that pollinators depend on. Additionally, warmer temperatures have altered migration patterns, affecting pollinator species like butterflies.

### Habitat loss and land use change impacting on nesting or breeding sites

Pollinating insects need nectar rich areas where they can feed and where they can also access pollen throughout the time of year when they are active. Insect larvae require access to food plants (for food and for shelter). To be able to increase in number and move around, pollinators need food and shelter spread through the landscape (both urban and rural). A range of habitats provide food sources from wildflower meadows, road verges, trees and wetlands to brownfield sites, recreation areas, urban parks and gardens. Bare ground, old masonry, dense grassy tussocks, standing deadwood and stone piles may not appear important but they are places where pollinators can nest, hibernate and shelter.

### Pesticides

Insecticides directly kill insects when they are exposed to a lethal dosage. Exposure to insecticides at a lower level – non-lethal doses can have detrimental effects on a pollinator’s ability to navigate, feed and reproduce.

## What can we do to help pollinators?

It is important to look at places with Pollinators in mind and when making decisions, whether they be planning, landscaping, farming and even just gardening to take into consideration features for pollinators. If we lose the pollinators, we risk damaging the plants, animals, agricultural yields, our economy and our well-being.

Clackmannanshire Council, as a local authority, is in a position where it can make meaningful changes to help safeguard our local pollinators. There are so many potential opportunities within the work of the council, through local planning, land management of spaces within open space, green infrastructure and land such as schools, roadside verges and roundabouts.

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As a council we have a duty to educate people in the importance of pollinators and to encourage a culture of accepting more native, nectar rich plants growing in places that were once mown. A reduction in mowing to encourage these plants and the sowing of wildflower mixes is being carried out. It is essential to note that this is not something that the council can do on its own, there needs to be a collective responsibility. In some cases, the council will need to play a part in persuading and supporting others to take action.

Everyone has a part to play in helping pollinators. The Public can have an impact with even the smallest changes, gardening for wildlife, phasing out pesticide use and challenging the idea of 'neat and tidy'. A small pot of nectar rich flowers can give a pollinator enough fuel to carry on to the next food source. Leaving grass uncut, even for May ([no mow May](#)) will allow pollinators to have a source of food at a time when food is scarce. More areas that are left uncut and allow wildflowers to flourish will give pollinators food, shelter and opportunities to increase in number.

The Pollinator Action Plan provides an opportunity to review the current management of council owned land to identify areas that can benefit pollinators and potentially reduce costs at the same time. Developing this plan and implementing it demonstrates the council's commitment to increasing pollinators and contributing to the Pollinator Strategy for Scotland. It also helps to fulfil Actions mentioned in the Clackmannanshire Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan (Theme 4: Biodiversity, Carbon Storage and Agriculture).

The plan has been developed to raise awareness of pollinators and to try and ensure that each department within the council considers pollinators in the work that they carry out.



# Clackmannanshire's Pollinator Strategy Vision

The vision for Clackmannanshire is to become a haven for pollinators which will improve the health and wellbeing of the community, help to prevent the negative impact of climate change and increase biodiversity.

Our local environment will be rich in pollinator habitats, helping support sustainable pollinator populations and making places more attractive for people to live and work in.



Little changes in the way areas are managed can create big changes for the pollinators as a whole. Clackmannanshire's Pollinator Strategy will help to create better food, shelter and corridors for pollinators to move around and thrive, by creating pollinator friendly habitats and adopting good practices. The strategy aims to help people understand that there is more need for areas to be left for wildlife and not to be 'neat and tidy'.

## How will we do this?

### Aims

Ensure the needs of pollinators are represented in policy and guidance

Protect, increase and enhance the amount of pollinator habitat in Clackmannanshire to help prevent extinctions; and improve the status of any locally threatened pollinator species

Increase awareness of pollinators and their habitat needs across local residents, businesses and other landowners

Increase the contribution of land under the ownership of, or managed by the Council to pollinator conservation

Improve our knowledge and understanding of pollinators in our local area.

# Clackmannanshire Pollinator Action Plan

## Key Objectives

Clackmannanshire Council will take action across Services to meet 5 key objectives:

<b>Objective 1:</b>	<b>Help raise awareness of the importance of pollinators</b>
<b>Objective 2:</b>	<b>Protect existing habitat for pollinators</b>
<b>Objective 3:</b>	<b>Create habitat for pollinators</b>
<b>Objective 4:</b>	<b>Contribute to the monitoring of pollinator populations</b>
<b>Objective 5:</b>	<b>Contribute to the delivery of Clackmannanshire's Climate Emergency Action Plan</b>

*Feedback on these objectives will be reported to the Council's Climate Emergency Board to allow for monitoring and as an opportunity to encourage further input and support for the Pollinator strategy.*



## Objective 1: Help raise awareness of the importance of pollinators

Pollinating insects have a higher profile with the general public than a few years ago. There is a fairly broad awareness that they are threatened and that they are valuable. However, it is a message that does need to be reinforced and often what can be lacking are clear actions that the public can take to help. Clackmannanshire Council will aim to raise public awareness in the ways identified below.

Actions	Detail	Lead	Periods
Clackmannanshire Council to raise awareness of pollinators	A minimum of 6 sessions per year with schools, groups and communities to raise awareness of pollinators.	Energy and Sustainability Team / Community Learning and Development	Annually
Schools to design signage	Local schools to design signage to help engage young learners and create better understanding of why areas are being left to grow.	Countryside Rangers Service/ Community Learning and Development/NGOs	March - April
Make available materials which promote pollinating insects	Pollinator identification leaflet and '5 steps for pollinators' leaflet available on website and in printed form	Countryside Rangers Service/Energy and Sustainability Team	October 2023
Create Council Pollinator Champions	Promote biodiversity education pack for schools and provide teaching staff training on the pollinator activities	Countryside Rangers Service/NatureScot	April – March
	Work with Councillor pollinator champions to promote and protect pollinators	Countryside Rangers Service/Active travel manager/ Community Learning and Development	April - March
Council employee workshops	Create council employee workshops to increase understanding of pollinator needs and what can be done to help.	Energy and Sustainability Team / Community Learning and Development / On the verge	April - June
Use social media to raise awareness of pollinators	Use social media to promote pollinators.	Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Services	April - September
Inform and participate at regional and national level platforms	Respond to relevant national consultations on pollinators and pollinator habitat ensuring the situation in Clackmannanshire is represented.	Countryside Rangers Service / Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Services	Throughout the year
Share pollinator advice with Factors	Share advice and guidance with Factors who maintain housing estates to enable them to use more pollinator friendly maintenance.	Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Services / Planning team	Ongoing
Community and land manager advice and support	Provide support and guidance to community groups and land managers seeking to improve their local sites for pollinators	Planning team / Energy and Sustainability team / TCV	Ongoing
Work with partners and communities to protect and promote pollinators	Work with partners, including neighbouring local authorities and the Biodiversity Partnership, to promote and protect pollinators	Countryside Rangers Service / Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Services / Forth Climate Forest	Throughout the year
	Provide advice to communities, where asked, regarding pollinators		

## Objective 2: Protect existing habitat for pollinators

Protect existing habitat for pollinators. The local development plan also contains policies to protect areas rich in biodiversity within the wider countryside from inappropriate development and identifies green networks within major settlements. Habitat survey will assist with identifying areas of value to pollinators.

Actions	Detail	Lead	Periods
Survey for wildflower rich grassland sites and other pollinator habitat	Carry out Habitat surveys in Clackmannanshire to identify valuable grassland sites and other valuable pollinator habitats	Countryside Rangers Service/Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Services / TCV	June 2025
Map pollinator sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Map existing pollinator sites</li> <li>Map sites with pollinator potential</li> </ul>	Countryside Rangers Service / Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Service/ NatureScot	Mar - Sept
Protect valuable pollinator habitat in the development management process	Ensure development complies with Local Development Plan policies on natural heritage/biodiversity protection	Planning Team	Ongoing
	Where undesignated wildflower rich grassland or other key pollinator habitat is identified consider designating these areas as a Local Nature Conservation Site	Countryside Rangers Service / Energy and Sustainability Team / Planning	Ongoing
Include consideration of pollinators in all council plans where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify sites with pollinator potential on the Local Development Plan maps.</li> <li>Describe the types of areas in a policy text and advise how developments should take these into account (to be considered through individual planning applications)</li> </ul>	Planning	Ongoing
Ensure that biodiversity is entrenched in Town centre master plans	<p>Include the availability of greenspace, parks linkages and greening options through a place- based lens. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designing places with biodiversity in mind.</li> <li>Hedgehog holes in fences</li> <li>Bat bricks in houses</li> <li>Wildflowers (including 'nature islands', hedge and tree planting.</li> </ul>	Planning	Ongoing
Local Nature Conservation Site	Local Nature Conservation Sites (designated and potential) to be taken into consideration when approving new building sites.	Planning	Ongoing

Protect pollinator habitat from inappropriate afforestation	Consider impacts on pollinator habitat when responding to forestry planting consultations	Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Services / Planning / Forth Climate Forest	Ongoing
Manage existing pollinator habitat on Council owned/ managed land	Manage existing habitat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in public greenspace</li> <li>• at offices including Kilncraigs</li> <li>• other sites including paths and road verges</li> <li>• grass cutting/strimming and land maintenance to allow pollinator friendly plants to flourish</li> </ul>	Land Services	Ongoing
	Provide online courses and toolbox talks to Council staff and elected members to raise awareness of pollinators and pollinator friendly management practices.	Countryside Rangers Service / Energy and Sustainability Team / Community Learning and Development	Ongoing

### Objective 3: Create habitat for pollinators

We have lost around 97% of ancient wildflower meadows in the UK over the last 80 years. Where wildflower meadows do still exist, they are often small and isolated from each other, making it difficult for populations of insect pollinators to colonise new areas. Larger areas and better connectivity of suitable wild or cultivated habitat is needed. Council owned and managed land presents an opportunity to improve habitat for pollinators. In addition, we can influence others through our Development Management policies and process for example.

Actions	Detail	Lead	Periods
Increase the area of Council land that is managed in a pollinator-friendly way.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council managed public greenspace to be enhanced and managed for pollinators &amp; biodiversity</li> <li>• Maximise opportunities for pollinator habitat at Corporate Offices as part of maintenance review</li> <li>• Measures for pollinators introduced in at school grounds</li> </ul>	Land Service / Property Management / Community Learning and Development / Forth Climate Forest / TCV	Ongoing
	Explore habitat creation at Council owned woodland site, road verges, shrub planting in open areas or woodland edge.		
Use and supply pollinator friendly plants	Supply community groups with native wildflower seed to trial on 100 to 200m <sup>2</sup> areas	Countryside Rangers Service / Land Services / On the verge / FEL / TCV	March – September
	Explore alternatives to existing plant provision on Council owned sites that will encourage more pollinators		
	Develop guidance on native plant seed collection and propagation		

Use Buglife identified 'B-lines' as a catalyst for habitat creation in Clackmannanshire	Work in partnership with Buglife to develop a B-lines delivery mechanism project. Use findings/outputs to shape further work. Support the <a href="#">John Muir Pollinator Way</a>	Energy and Sustainability Team / Active Travel Manager	Ongoing
Use Inner Forth Habitat concept maps to guide where links can be developed.	The <a href="#">Inner Forth Habitat Network</a> Concept Maps (East) and (West) & User Guide (40Mb) shows existing and potential areas for the five key habitat types that were identified. The User Guide describes how to locate where the conservation, restoration and management of an existing habitat is the priority for the coherence of the habitat network, and where the Opportunity Network is located i.e. places to strengthen the habitat network.	Countryside Rangers Service / Energy and Sustainability Team / Land Services	Ongoing
Support at least 10 pollinator projects in Clackmannanshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Tullibody community garden with their wildflower areas</li> <li>• Support Alva Glen Heritage Trust with planting Rockrose for Northern Brown Argus.</li> <li>• Support On the Verge to create wildflower meadows / pollinator friendly areas.</li> <li>• Support TCV with tree planting and wildflower meadow creation</li> <li>• Support schools to plant pollinator friendly plants (orchards, wildflowers, edible plants that are also good for pollinators).</li> <li>• Support Menstrie Mains residents to create a wildflower area.</li> <li>• Support RSPB site management at Black Devon Wetlands</li> </ul>	Energy and Sustainability Team / TCV / FEL / On the Verge / RSPB / Alva Glen Heritage Trust / CLD / Land Service	Ongoing
Transition to Native Pollinator-Friendly Plantings	Reduce annual bedding on Council owned / managed land – replace with native pollinator friendly seed mixes and/or perennials where possible.	Land Services	Ongoing
Development Management enhances pollinator habitat	Ensure developments provide and enhance habitats for pollinating insects through complying with Local Development Plan policies on biodiversity enhancement, landscaping (including landscaping maintenance) and watercourse buffer strips	Planning	Ongoing
Provide advice on communal areas in new developments	Provide advice / guidance on design, specifications and maintenance of communal areas in new developments to include pollinator friendly areas.	Countryside Rangers Service / Energy and Sustainability Team/ Land Services / Planning	Ongoing

**Objective 4: Contribute to the monitoring of pollinator populations**

Pollinators are a highly diverse group of insects that are subject to variable levels of recording and monitoring. Many are difficult to identify without some specialist knowledge, however others like butterflies and moths, have successful national recording schemes. TWIC is the local biological records centre and encourages recording of pollinating insects. Monitoring provides a base line measure for assessing the impacts of our actions to improve, connect and conserve habitats for pollinators.

Actions	Detail	Lead	Periods
Increase pollinator monitoring and identification skills in the community and encourage participation in monitoring.	Run at least one TWIC training course per year which focuses on volunteer recording of specific pollinating insects.	TWIC / SIEC / TCV / BARNARDOS	Annually
Process and manage records of pollinating species from local recorders.	Identify pollinating species to manage and process any records of pollinators received from local recorders	Countryside Rangers Service / On the verge	Ongoing
	Map pollinator friendly changes to show how Pollinator resources are growing in Clackmannanshire.		
Input into national recording schemes and citizen science surveys for pollinating species.	Promote (through sessions and social media) and provide support and guidance for volunteers and community groups on national recording schemes for butterflies and moths and citizen science surveys for pollinators.	Energy and Sustainability Team / Bumblebee Conservation Trust / Butterfly Conservation	Ongoing
	Take part in national recording schemes for butterflies and moths and citizen science surveys for pollinators.		
	Provide local records to national recording schemes.		

**Objective 5: Contribute to the delivery of Clackmannanshire’s Climate Emergency Action Plan**

By enhancing outdoor spaces and integrating pollinator habitats, the plan addresses environmental challenges and promotes ecosystem health. These efforts improve water and soil quality, reduce herbicide use, and are incorporated into broader land use planning. This comprehensive approach ensures long-term environmental resilience and sustainability, aligning local actions with overarching climate goals.

Action	Detail	Lead	Periods
Improving comfort in the outdoors	Consider projected heat spots of climate change impacts in Clackmannanshire and opportunities for greening and resilience through local wildlife pathways, tree planting and food planting.	Planning team	Ongoing

Using pollinator habitats as solution to extreme weather	Reducing the impact of extreme weather when pollinator habitat is integrated into windbreaks, hedgerows, and/or stream buffers	Planning team	Ongoing
Improve water and soil quality	Provide guidance into choosing the appropriate soil and geology of the area, to ensure that they are long-lasting and can naturally thrive	SIEC + SEPA + NatureScot	Ongoing
Minimise herbicide use wherever possible	Control and reduce the use of herbicide across land owned or managed by the Council, except where no viable alternative exists and continue to review alternatives as they become available	Land Services	Ongoing
Embed Climate change and potential responses into wider land use planning decisions.	Embed climate change adaptation considerations and potential responses such as habitat networks and green networks into wider land use planning decisions using Forestry and Woodland Strategies, National Planning Framework 4, Regional land use strategies, including the Regional Spatial Strategy, the Local Development Plan and development masterplans.	Planning Team + Energy and Sustainability Team NatureScot	Ongoing



# Legislation and Strategies

The main legislation and strategies relevant to the Pollinator Strategy can be summed up as:

## **Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004**

Public bodies in Scotland have a duty to further the conservation of biodiversity. This biodiversity duty is about taking care of nature all around us, not just in specific protected sites and for particular species (<https://www.nature.scot/>).

## **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981**

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 is the primary legislation which protects animals, plants and habitats in the UK. (<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/wildlife-and-the-law/wildlife-and-countryside-act/>).

## **Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011**

The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 introduces a requirement for all public bodies to report every three years on their compliance with their duties to further the conservation of biodiversity through the publication of biodiversity duty reports. (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2011/6/contents/enacted>).

## **2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity**

The 2020 challenge sets out the major steps needed to improve the state of Scotland. It aims to:

- Protect and restore biodiversity on land and in our seas, and to support healthier ecosystems
- Connect people with the natural world, for their health and wellbeing and to involve them more in decisions about their environment.
- Maximise the benefits for Scotland of a diverse natural environment and the services it provides, contributing to sustainable economic growth.

## **Climate Change Act 2009 and 2019**

The [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#) was amended by the [Climate Change \(Emissions Reduction Targets\) \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#), increasing the ambition of Scotland's emissions reduction targets to net zero by 2045 and revising interim and annual emissions reduction targets. (<https://www.gov.scot/policies/climate-change>).

## **Clackmannanshire Climate Change Strategy**

<https://www.clacks.gov.uk/environment/sustainabilityandclimate/>

## **National Planning Framework 4**

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2023/02/national-planning-framework-4/documents/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/govscot%3Adocument/national-planning-framework-4.pdf>

Clackmannanshire Council's pollinator strategy aligns with global targets:

**Aichi Biodiversity targets** (<https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>)

- Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society
- Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use
- To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity
- Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/nature/beefriendly-plants-every-season>

**Butterfly Conservation Wild spaces** – A Guide to creating a space for Butterflies and Moths to thrive

[https://www.butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/Wild%20Spaces%20Guide%20Scotland\\_0.pdf](https://www.butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/Wild%20Spaces%20Guide%20Scotland_0.pdf)

**Inner Forth Habitat Network**

<https://www.innerforthlandscape.co.uk/about/habitat-network-project>

**Nature Networks** - Background on Nature Networks to help inform the co-design of Scotland's Nature Network framework

<https://www.nature.scot/nature-networks-toolbox/what-are-nature-networks/nature-networks-explained>

**Edinburgh Declaration** – Edinburgh Declaration on post-2020 global biodiversity framework

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/edinburgh-declaration-on-post-2020-biodiversity-framework/>