

Mold Town Council

Biodiversity Action Plan – 2025-2028

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6 The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Name of Town Council: Mold Town Council

Introduction and Context

Mold Town Council is the local authority serving the vibrant market town of Mold, located in Flintshire, North Wales. Nestled at the foot of the Clwydian Range – an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – Mold is a historic town known for its rich cultural heritage, strong community spirit, and thriving local economy.

The town is conveniently situated approximately 10 miles west of the English border, and just 12 miles from the city of Chester, making it a key centre within North East Wales. It offers a mix of traditional charm and modern amenities, with attractions including the renowned Mold Market, Theatr Clwyd, and numerous independent shops and eateries.

Mold Town Council represents the interests of residents, supports local services and events, and works in partnership with other organisations to enhance the wellbeing and prosperity of the town. The Council plays an important role in promoting civic pride, sustainability, and community development throughout the area.

Mold Town Council – Key Services, Activities and Responsibilities Impacting Biodiversity

Mold Town Council, like other local councils in Wales, has a range of services, activities, and responsibilities that can significantly impact biodiversity. These are aligned with the Council's duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The following activities directly support or influence that duty:

- Cemetery & Burial Grounds Management – Managing burial spaces with sensitivity to wildlife and green habitat preservation. Enhancing biodiversity in cemeteries through wildflower planting and habitat care.
- Town Centre Hanging Baskets and Gateway Signage – Promoting pollinator-friendly planting throughout the town and on entry to the town.
- Grants for Community Groups – support with funding is available through the Town Council. Local groups and organisations are able to apply to support their activities.
- Mold Town Youth Council – The Youth Council has opportunities to influence and participate in environmental projects.
- Planning – Mold Town Council's Planning Committee is a consultee on Planning Applications and can advocate for biodiversity as a consultee.
- Events and Community Engagement – Mold Town Council supports local events and groups that promote biodiversity, such as Mold Spring Clean.

Objective	Biodiversity objectives	Action planned	Progress	Monitored by:
1	- Embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	- When discussing planning applications, effects on biodiversity is also considered when providing responses as a statutory consultee.	Ongoing	Chair of Planning Committee
		- Embed biodiversity as a standard agenda item within one or more appropriate Mold Town Council committees to ensure ongoing oversight and integration into decision making.	Ongoing	Town Clerk
		- Continue engagement with Flintshire County Council and relevant partners regarding climate change and biodiversity initiatives.	Ongoing	Town Clerk
		- Ensure biodiversity and environmental sustainability considerations are included within relevant procurement and purchasing decisions where practical.	Ongoing	Town Clerk and Chairs of Committees
		- Review opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of Town Council operations, including energy use, waste reduction and sustainable purchasing.	Ongoing	Town Clerk and Chairs of Committees
	- Raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	- Utilise Mold Town Council communication channels, including social media, to share biodiversity information, local environmental initiatives and seasonal wildlife updates. - Include Climate Change as an agenda item for discussion at Mold Town Youth Council Meeting. - Develop a dedicated biodiversity section within the new Mold Town Council website to provide accessible information on biodiversity projects, wild life friendly practices, relevant legislation and local initiatives.	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	Town Clerk Town Clerk Town Clerk

		- Promote local species recording initiatives through the Council's website and social media channels.	Ongoing	Town Clerk
2	- Safeguard principle species and habitats	- Continue promoting species recording and wildlife observation initiatives linked to Bailey Hill and other local green spaces through partnership working.	Annual	Town Clerk
		- Continue promoting species recording and wildlife observation initiatives linked to Bailey Hill and other local green spaces through partnership working	Ongoing	Town Clerk/ Support Officer
		- Continue retaining suitable deadwood and natural habitat areas within Mold Cemetery where operationally appropriate.	Ongoing	Town Clerk/ Cemetery Superintendent
		- Undertake periodic biodiversity monitoring within Mold Cemetery, including formal recording of birds, pollinators and flora to support future management decisions.	Ongoing	Town Clerk/ Cemetery Superintendent
		- Ensure biodiversity and wildlife legislation is considered before undertaking habitat or vegetation management works.	Ongoing	Town Clerk/ Cemetery Committee
3	- Restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	- Continue selecting pollinator-friendly plants and flowers for hanging baskets, planters and gateway signs.	Annual	Community & Engagement Officer
		- Continue creating and maintaining wildlife friendly areas with Mold Cemetery where operationally suitable.	Ongoing	Cemetery Superintendent/ Cemetery Committee
		- Continue annual maintenance of the Bailey Hill Centre living roof through partnership arrangements.	Annual	Admin Support Officer – Bailey Hill
		- Continue to avoid the use of pesticides, herbicides and peat-based products where operationally feasible.	Ongoing	Cemetery Superintendent

		- Create habitat piles and natural invertebrate habitats within suitable areas of Mold Cemetery using retained timber, logs and natural materials where appropriate. - Explore opportunities for additional pollinator friendly planting and habitat enhancement within Mold Cemetery.	Ongoing Ongoing	Cemetery Superintendent Cemetery Superintendent/ Cemetery Committee
4	- Tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature-based solutions, address invasive species.	- Review energy contracts and seek greener and more sustainable suppliers where feasible. - Continue reviewing and strengthening measures to reduce single use plastics at Town Council supported events. - Promote environmentally responsible waste management and recycling practices at Town Council premises and supported events. - Encourage sustainable event management practices when working with external businesses, contractors and community organisations	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	Town Clerk Events and Community Engagement Officer Town Clerk/ Events and Community Engagement Officer Town Clerk/ Events and Community Engagement Officer
5	- Use, improve, and share experience	- Continue to utilise the Council's social media platforms to disseminate information on Council services, community initiatives, and environmental priorities, ensuring consistent and accessible communication with residents. - Explore opportunities for volunteer involvement in biodiversity projects and habitat management activities linked to Mold Cemetery. - Work collaboratively with partner organisations, community groups and volunteers to support biodiversity initiatives where opportunities arise.	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	Town Clerk Cemetery Superintendent/ Cemetery Committee Town Clerk

6	- Support capacity and/or other organisations	- Continue supporting local groups and organisation through the Town Grants process where projects contribute positively to biodiversity, sustainability and environmental wellbeing. - Continue having a Mold Town Council representative on Mold Plastic Reduction Steering Group. - Continue discussions with Flintshire County Council regarding opportunities to support biodiversity enhancement projects within publicly owned green spaces. - Continue partnership working with stakeholders involved in the management and improvement of Bailey Hill and other local green spaces. - Explore opportunities to establish or support community-led environmental or "Friends of" groups where appropriate and feasible.	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	Finance Committee Town Clerk CDR Committee CDR Committee CDR Committee