



Biodiversity Policy

1. Introduction

Bangor University recognises the crucial role biodiversity plays in maintaining the health and resilience of ecosystems and the benefits it provides for its students and staff, as well as for the local community and wider society.

Biodiversity is essential to support all life on Earth. Without a wide range of animals, plants and microorganisms, we cannot have the healthy ecosystems that we rely on to live sustainably.

The University is highly regarded for its teaching and research of the natural environment and is committed to taking positive action to help protect, support and where practicable enhance biodiversity across its estate and operations, as well as promoting biodiversity conservation and restoration in the wider community.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Policy are to support our teaching, research, and civic mission, by:

- i. Protecting and enhancing biodiversity on the University estate through the application of environmentally friendly management techniques, awareness, and good practice
- ii. Ensuring the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems associated with the University, in particular woodlands, forests, mountains, and drylands
- iii. Managing and improving existing green spaces on campus, and where practicable creating new habitats that are important for biodiversity, particularly woodland and scattered trees, meadow, amenity grassland and around buildings
- iv. Identifying, monitoring and protecting any IUCN Red Listed species and national conservation list species with habits in areas affected by the operation of the University
- v. Reducing the impact of invasive and non-native species (INNS) on campus
- vi. Seeking to continuously improve our biodiversity performance through monitoring, reporting, and the regular review of data and findings
- vii. Considering how we evaluate biodiversity needs, including pollution prevention, in investments, procurement, planning and design, new-build and construction, servicing and maintenance and promoting positive impact
- viii. Promoting healthy living and well-being through biodiversity enhancements and use of species-rich outdoor areas
- ix. Providing opportunities for students, staff and the local community to engage with biodiversity and nature
- x. Promoting better understanding and development of biodiversity themes in the University's teaching, learning, research, operations and facilities
- xi. Communicating and raising awareness of the importance of protecting and enhancing biodiversity across the University campus and beyond to students, staff and the wider community
- xii. Engaging with students, staff and the community in the development and implementation of biodiversity conservation programmes that protect and enhance biodiversity conservation and highlight the role of natural ecosystems in supporting human health and wellbeing

3. Implementation

To achieve these objectives, the University will:

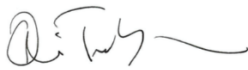
- i. Comply with all legal requirements and applicable standards, including those outlined in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – Section 6 regarding the assessment of ecosystems for resilience and protecting the Section 7 list of habitats and species of principle importance for Wales
- ii. Identify and prioritise biodiversity risks and opportunities in our operations and facilities and develop and implement management plans to mitigate risks and enhance opportunities
- iii. Support the *30 by 30 in 30* biodiversity initiative, which aspires to create 30 new locations to better support wildlife across the University estate by 2030
- iv. Create, deliver and maintain a **Biodiversity Enhancement Plan** that addresses identified risks and opportunities concerning biodiversity and ensure that it is formally consulted during the design phase of all new developments at the University
- v. Incorporate biodiversity considerations into significant and relevant decision-making processes, including procurement, project development, and land use planning
- vi. Promote sustainable land use practices that protect and enhance biodiversity, such as habitat creation and restoration and the development of green infrastructure
- vii. Encourage and support student, staff and community involvement in biodiversity conservation and restoration initiatives
- viii. Monitor and report on biodiversity performance regularly to ensure continuous improvement
- ix. Review and update this Biodiversity Policy periodically to reflect new knowledge or changing circumstances

Partnerships and Collaboration

The University recognises that biodiversity conservation and restoration require collective action and collaboration. Therefore, it will seek to:

- i. Collaborate and engage where practicable with Undeb Bangor, government agencies, NGOs, academic institutions, community and student groups, other stakeholders, and the community to promote action on biodiversity conservation and restoration
- ii. Support initiatives and partnerships that promote sustainable development, ecosystem restoration, and biodiversity conservation

Approved by:



Date: 15/10/2024

Professor Oliver Turnbull, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Chair of the Sustainability Strategy Group

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Date Valid from: 15th October 2024

Review Date: 2027