

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1- Section 6

The biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2019

Name of Council

Sesswick Community Council

Introduction and Context

Sesswick Community Council is a small, rural parish in Wrexham County Borough, covering the village of Cross Lanes, the hamlets of Pickhill and Bedwell and the township of Royton. All are approximately three miles from Wrexham.

The vast majority of the local- government services impacting biodiversity are provided by the county council rather than at community council level.

Sesswick Community Council is not responsible for any green spaces. There are no planters or hanging baskets in the parish which are maintained by the community council.

Per the last census in 2011, the population of Sesswick was 609. The precept for the 2019/ 2020 financial year was set at £3,000.00.

Due to its small size, Sesswick Community Council currently does not fall under the scope of the Well- Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and consequently does not produce an Annual Report detailing its activities during the preceding twelve months.

Action report

Actions carried out to:	Examples	Monitored by
Embed biodiversity into decision- making and procurement	Taken into account biodiversity considerations when responding to planning applications consultations	Consideration of biodiversity demonstrated in decisions on planning applications
Raise awareness of biodiversity and its importance	This report to be published on the community council website and notice board Staff and members made aware of this legislation and the importance of considering	Publication on the web and on the notice boards Actions taken by the community council

	the criticality of biodiversity and ecosystems in all the community council's actions and decisions	and noted in the minutes
Safeguard principal species and habitats	Highlighted to the local planning authority the importance of the great crested newt community and other areas of ecological significance in recent planning applications	Actions taken by the community council and noted in the minutes
Restore and create habitats and resilient ecological networks	<p>Daffodils planted around the community</p> <p>Tree planted on Bedwell Crescent green</p>	Spring blooming
Tackle negative factors. For example, reduce pollution, use nature- based solutions, address invasive species	<p>Periodic village litter- picks are facilitated by the county councillor and Keep Wales Tidy, where volunteer and corporate involvement is encouraged</p> <p>Car- shares are arranged by the clerk to reduce the number of private vehicles going to council meetings. Some members walk to meetings</p> <p>Clerk recycles as much as possible (spent printer ink cartridges, paper & magazines)</p> <p>The community council has budgeted for its street light</p>	<p>Number of people taking part in the litter- picks</p> <p>Reduction of journeys taken</p>

	<p>bulbs to be upgraded to energy efficient LED's once replacement is due</p> <p>Matters of environmental concern flagged to Natural Resources Wales</p>	<p>Volume of waste binned</p> <p>Purchasing decisions to be taken</p> <p>Discussions recorded in the minutes</p>
Use, improve and share evidence	Worked with the county council (public protection and planning) to share relevant evidence with environmental impacts	Discussions recorded in the minutes
Support capacity and/ or other organisations	Liaison with the North Wales Wildlife Trust on a number of environmental projects	Discussions recorded in the minutes

Review of section 6 duty

What has worked well?

Planning consultations have flagged environmental and biodiversity concerns to the local planning authority

What have the barriers been?

Extremely limited finances.

Lack of expertise and time available at the community council level to identify changes needed or best practice

Resources at Wrexham Country Borough Council on these matters have been reduced considerably due to cutbacks

What will you change?

All decisions taken by the community council will take biodiversity and ecosystems into account as a key determinant.

The council will try to become more proactive with the limited remit in which it operates, working with other bodies where possible.

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How and when will the section 6 duty be monitored, and the section 6 plan reviewed?

This obligation will be monitored by the community council's officer and Chairman on an ongoing basis and reported back to the full council at appropriate points in the bi-monthly meetings.

The section 6 plan will be reviewed in light of these reports and any other evidence or information that is made available to the Council.

At the time of this report's publication, there is no specific time or date set for the plan to be reviewed. However, this will be done by November 2022 at the latest, or earlier if deemed necessary (if required by legislation or the current plan becomes obsolete).

Approved by council: 22nd November 2019 (minute 19/80)