

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

***Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6***

***The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022***

**Name of Town or Community Council: HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL**

**Introduction and Context**

- Holywell Town Council is an elected body of fifteen councillors with several statutory powers and duties. It operates at grass roots level and is nearest the electorate and local community. The geographical area covered by the council includes the wards of Holywell Central, Holywell East, Holywell West, and Greenfield. Both Holywell and Greenfield are within the County of Flintshire.

- ***how we help with:***

- ***biodiversity (through functions with regard to land management, grant funding, education activities, for e.g.)***

The Council implemented its Biodiversity Policy in November 2020, and the policy (similar to all Council policies) is reviewed every two years on a cyclical basis, to ensure its continued suitability and effectiveness, and adherence with the Council's current aims and objectives.

- ***spatial scale and place (e.g. how much land does it cover, population, precept?)***

Holywell and Greenfield have an aggregated population of circa 12,000 and there are circa 6,500 residents registered on the electoral roll. Its current local taxation precept paid by residents is £75.40, that generates precepted income of £254,850 across the 3,379.85 units allocated in the area's tax base.

- ***public service delivery (e.g. is it subject to the Well-being of Future Generations (WFG) Act?)***

The Council had a turnover that exceeded £200,000 in each of the financial years since 2017/18 and from 2019/20 this triggered an annual report, that outlined how the Council had supported the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015. The latest annual report completed for the year 2021/22 identified the following core contribution areas, aligned to the Flintshire County Council Well-being Plan:

**1) Community Safety**

Liaison with North Wales Police, CCTV coverage in the town centre, Deployment of mobile CCTV cameras at targeted community hot spots, Councillor representative on Community Liaison Meetings, funding of summer play schemes.

**2) Economy and Skills**

Implementation of 50/50 voucher scheme for local businesses and the community, encourage volunteers and community engagement, re-establishment of the Holywell Business Group, establishment of a business showcase page on Facebook for all local businesses to use and promote their businesses.

**3) Environment**

Wales in Bloom participation, hanging basket displays in the town centre and other areas, establishment of wildflower verges, community litter picks, annual participation in the match fund scheme to upgrade existing play areas across the community.

**4) Healthy and Independent Living**

Contributions to the Mayoral Charities the Daniel Inskip Memorial Fund and Holywell Swimming Club, grants and contributions to community groups, contribution to Holywell Leisure Centre, offering use of the Council Offices to community groups free of charge.

**5) Resilient Communities**

Remembrance Sunday Service and parade, Christmas Lights Switch On event, St David's Day Celebration, annual Community Endeavour Awards, the continued operation of the Eco School Uniform Initiative.

**Action Report**

| Action carried out to:                                                                                    | Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Monitored by:         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| -embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement                                                    | Accredited Bee Friendly town, installation of bug hotels, implementation of heritage grant scheme involving the planting of trees and installation of bat and bird boxes on the active travel route from the Strand estate to Pen y Maes woods, attend partnership meetings with Greenfield Valley Trust, support for local groups such as the Friends of the Holway and Transition Holywell & District, expansion of the floral basket displays in the town centre and other areas, annual entry into the Wales in Bloom competition, running of the schools Wales in Bloom competition, planting of wild flowers on grass verges, establishment of a council committee to consider biodiversity initiatives (Development Committee). | Development Committee |
| -raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |
| -safeguard principal species and habitats                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |
| -restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |
| -tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |

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| -use improve and share evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |  |
| -support capacity and/or other organisations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |  |
| <b>Review of s6 duty</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What has worked well? What have the barriers been? What will you change?<br/>The reporting committee has committed to the continued development of the Wales in Bloom initiative and associated biodiversity considerations.</li> <li>• How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?<br/>The s6 duty will continue to be monitored through the Development Committee. The s6 plan will next be reviewed in December 2025 in line with the statutory three year review cycle. The Council's Biodiversity Policy is reviewed every two years.</li> </ul> |  |  |