

# **Mold Town Council**

## **Biodiversity and Environment Policy**



Adopted by Mold Town Council on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## **Introduction**

Mold Town Council recognises the importance of protecting the environment and enhancing biodiversity to ensure a sustainable future for current and future generations. In accordance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, the Council has a legal duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems in the exercise of its functions.

This policy outlines the Council's commitment to biodiversity and environmental sustainability and sets out how these priorities will be embedded into its governance, operations, partnerships and community engagement.

This policy is supported by the Mold Town Council Biodiversity Action Plan, which details specific actions the Council will take to achieve these aims and monitor progress.

## **Our Commitment**

Mold Town Council will:

- Integrate biodiversity and environmental considerations into all relevant decisions and activities.
- Act to reduce its environmental impact, including waste, energy use and pollution.
- Support community and partnership efforts to create a cleaner, greener Mold.
- Lead by example in the sustainable management of land and resources.
- Deliver and review its Biodiversity Action Plan to ensure practical implementation of this policy.

## **Objectives**

### **A. Enhancing Biodiversity**

#### **1. Incorporate biodiversity in decision-making**

- Embed biodiversity as a standing agenda item in a relevant Council Committee.
- Consider biodiversity in planning feedback and local development matters.
- Promote planting schemes that support pollinators and native species.

#### **2. Manage land sustainably**

- Manage Council-owned/ maintained areas, such as Mold Cemetery in a way that enhances habitat quality and ecosystem resilience.
- Support nature-based solutions where applicable, such as wildflower planting and habitat creation.

#### **3. Support community biodiversity**

- When possible provide Community Grants to groups enhancing local biodiversity and green spaces.

- Partner with local schools, residents and community groups to deliver environmental initiatives.
- Support youth engagement through Mold Town Youth Council on environmental projects.

## **B. Reducing Environmental Impact**

### **4. Reduce single-use plastics**

- Review and update policies to reduce single-use plastics at Council events.
- Prioritise environmentally conscious traders and suppliers when organising and supporting events.

### **5. Sustainable procurement and energy use**

- Review energy suppliers for all Council-managed premises and switch to green/renewable energy providers at contract renewal points.
- Consider environmental credentials in procurement decisions.

### **6. Waste and resource management**

- Promote recycling and responsible waste management at Council facilities and events.
- Participate in or support local litter-picking, clean-up initiatives and Plastic-Free Mold efforts.

## **C. Community Engagement and Awareness**

### **7. Communication and education**

- Share information on biodiversity, environmental issues and Council actions through social media.
- Create a dedicated page on the Council's website to highlight biodiversity projects and useful links.

### **8. Collaborative partnerships**

- Lead and support the Mold Cittaslow Working Group, aligning with its ethos of sustainability and community wellbeing.
- Appoint a Council representative to the Mold Plastic Reduction Steering Group with regular reporting back to Full Council.

## **Biodiversity Action Plan**

This policy is supported by the Mold Town Council Biodiversity Action Plan, which sets out detailed, measurable actions under each policy objective. The Action Plan is reviewed and updated regularly to reflect progress and emerging priorities.

### **Monitoring and Reporting**

- An annual review of progress will be undertaken by the designated committee.
- Key actions and updates will be reported to Full Council.
- A statutory Biodiversity Report will be submitted every three years as required by law.
- The Biodiversity Action Plan will be reviewed and updated in conjunction with this policy to ensure continued relevance and delivery.

### **Review and Approval**

This policy was adopted by Mold Town Council on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025. It will be reviewed every three years or sooner if legislation or priorities change.