

Reporting on Section 6

Community and Town Councils

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

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2025

Name of Community or Town Council:	Knighton Town Council
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Group:	2
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Introduction and Context

Knighton Town Council is the Council of a small town in Mid-Wales, on the Wales/England border. A large part of the town is in a Conservation Area. The Town Council retains a part-time Clerk and two road workers. It manages some allotments, a Civic Centre (with garden), public toilets, part of the land on local landmark Offa's Dyke, and planters/hanging baskets around town. In 2025/26 it entered Wales in Bloom in the 'Large Village' category and won silver. The precept for 2025/26 is £168,128.61.



Action Report 2023 - 2025

NRAP Objective	Action carried out to...		Monitored by:
1	-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	Knighton Town Council pledged commitment to biodiversity and this is considered when making decisions (e.g . Selecting suppliers and quotes). Local suppliers are preferred and chosen where possible.	The Clerk, The Council
	-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	Knighton Town Council has considered biodiversity when providing funding to local groups. Providing funding to the Knighton Woodland Tots aided in a River Testing Project that raised awareness about dangers to local natural spaces. Information about biodiversity is shared via the Knighton Town Council facebook and website. A Knighton in Bloom working group is developing a plan to engage local businesses in providing biodiverse flower displays. Knighton entered the Wales in Bloom competition in 2025 and won silver, drawing attention to the biodiverse flower displays and garden.	The Clerk, The Council Knighton in Bloom working group
2	-safeguard principal species and habitats	Knighton Town Council has requested the minimum safety cuts of local grass verges, allowing for local plant species and insects to grow. A plan for sowing wildflowers in these verges is being developed. Knighton Town Council's public garden next to the Civic Centre is biodiverse containing local plant species. The land at Pinner's Hole of Offa's Dyke that the Council co-manages is monitored regularly for protection of the landmark and plant life.	The Council, Knighton in Bloom working group, Volunteer Gardener
3	-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	Knighton Town Council has accessed Green Spaces for Nature funding as well as budgeted directly to expand the number of planters around the town. The planters and hanging baskets have been filled with locally sourced, biodiversity and insect friendly plants. Knighton Town Council's public garden next to the Civic Centre is biodiverse containing local plant species.	



4	-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	Knighton Town Council does not use pesticides for weeding and instead uses natural tools such as hoes. Knighton Town Council prefers local businesses when making orders or choosing suppliers. Knighton Town Council advocates for better public transport connections to reduce pollution. When developing plans for building works, Knighton Town Council has sought advice from officers at the District Council and from experts on local protected species. Knighton Town Council has purchased benches made from recycled materials.	The Clerk The Personnel Committee Road workers
5	-use improve and share evidence	Knighton Town Council accesses advice on biodiversity best practices from OVW, SLCC, and the District Council. Expert opinions are sought when plans are being developed.	The Clerk, The Council
6	-support capacity and/or other organisations	When considering Financial Assistance applications and other request from local organisations, biodiversity is a factor.	The Council



Review of S6 duty actions for 2023-2025

What has worked well?	Reduction of grass cuts and natural weeding have benefited local species. Use of biodiversity friendly plants in planters assisted local species and raised awareness via contributing to the Wales in Bloom award. Advocacy for local transport routes has contributed to several new local bus routes, reducing car pollution.
What have the barriers been?	Natural weeding is more labour intensive, though advice on best practices has been sought. Awareness of the reasons for biodiversity friendly choices of plants and for avoiding grass cuts is lacking.
What will you change?	Advice on natural weeding methods is being sought and considered. Wildflowers are being considered for planting on verges. Signs in areas where biodiversity is being protected can demonstrate the reasoning and raise awareness.
How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?	The duty will be monitored through the Knighton in Bloom working group, Full Council and individual members and the Clerk reporting back to the council on the success or otherwise of the actions taken through the usual weekly, monthly and annual inspections. The s6 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, but this will be done within the next six months.