Appendix 1

Glasgow Local Biodiversity Action Plan Monitoring 2025-2026

1. Introduction

1.1 This annual monitoring report has been compiled with the support of the Council's partners in the Glasgow Biodiversity Partnership. The purpose of the partnership is to bring a broad range of expertise to the development of Glasgow's Local Biodiversity Action Plan. The Council established a Glasgow Biodiversity Partnership consisting of representatives from 18 different environmental organisations. Key partners include NatureScot, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Scotland) along with other environmental interest groups.

1.2 The Council announced a Climate and Ecological Emergency in May 2019. The implementation of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Pollinator Plan play a vital role in addressing these emergencies through protecting, enhancing, and creating biodiverse habitats, protecting and enhancing a diversity of species; and providing nature-based solutions to support climate mitigation and adaptation.

1.3 Under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act (2004), all public bodies in Scotland are required to further the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their responsibilities. The Council fulfils this primarily through the implementation of the Glasgow Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act (2011) further requires public bodies in Scotland to provide a publicly available report, every three years, on the actions they have carried out to meet the biodiversity duty.

1.4 Scotland faces an unprecedented nature-climate crisis. In light of mounting evidence that Scotland continues to experience dramatic declines in biodiversity, the Scottish Government has set out an ambitious new framework to halt biodiversity loss and be Nature Positive by 2030 and to have restored and regenerated biodiversity across the country by 2045. The Local Biodiversity Action Plan Delivery Plan supports the new Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and its Delivery Plan by implementing actions at a local level.

1.5 The Local Biodiversity Action Plan Red Amber Green report (appendix 2) shows how the 95 Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Pollinator Plan actions are progressing using Green for actions achieved, ongoing or underway; Amber for ongoing or delayed; Red for no progress. For 2025/26 progress, 94 actions are assessed as green, with only 1 action assessed as amber:

- Farmland action 4 - carry out surveys for Yellowhammer and Grey Partridge. Lead Agency reported that they focused on other priorities during this reporting period and will investigate feasibility of carrying out these species' surveys going forward.

2. Biological Audit

2.1 As of March 2026, Glasgow Museums Biological Records Centre holds 1,300,241 biological records in their database. The majority of these cover the Glasgow City Region. 113,648 new biological records were added between April 2025 and March 2026.

The main sources of information were: BTO Birdtrack, moth recorders, other local naturalists (some via iRecord), and biodiversity and greenspace staff at local authorities across the Glasgow City Region.

2.2 There were 160 new species added to the Glasgow Species Audit. This is specifically for the Glasgow City Council area. The new species include:

- Scottish Biodiversity List species: Liverwort Navel fungus (Loreleia marchantiae); Blue Mason Bee (Osmia caerulescens) and Anomalous moth (Stilbia anomala)
- Notable / Scarce species: beetle Carpelimus similis, beetle Pseudomedon obscurellus, and a seed-bug Eremocoris abietis

Whilst the discovery of new species in Glasgow is mainly due to increased recording effort by species experts, volunteers and citizen science, habitat creation and positive management also contribute by providing space for species to thrive.

3. Local Nature Reserves

3.1 The following new sites and extensions were declared in 2025/26:

- Crookston Wood
- Househill Park
- Bishop Loch (extension)
- Hamiltonhill Claypits (extension)

20 hectares of Local Nature Reserves were managed to improve biodiversity and access.

4. Key Projects

4.1 Green Connectors

Creating and enhancing greenspaces across the city through meadow, hedgerows and woodland planting, connecting habitats to form Glasgow's Nature Network.

- 54,200 wildflower plugs were planted across the city.
- Over 500,000 daffodils and other bulbs were planted city-wide
- Over 27,000 tree whips were planted.
- 1088 standard trees were planted.
- 2828 metres of hedgerow planted.

4.2 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds North Glasgow Greener Futures

The project delivered:

- 5 hedge planting sessions with cooperate volunteers
- Put up 20 bat boxes and 20 nest boxes in Eastfield and Springburn Park
- Delivered 33 plug planting sessions with volunteers and local community.
- Overall planted – 25,000 plug plants, 50kg of wildflower seed, 1750 hedge whips.
- Recruited practical conservation volunteers and engaged with schools and the community to deliver work and engage people with the project.

4.3 Water Vole Conservation

- Funding from Scottish Government Planning Hub was secured for updated Spatial Habitat Modelling to assist with finalisation of water vole key sites and corridors as well as potential receptor sites mapping. The aim is to help protect water voles as well unlock sites for needed development.
- Water Vole Population Status and Long-Term Monitoring Plan was produced by University of Glasgow.
- Research Associate in Ecology and Landscape Genetics was appointed at the University of Glasgow to update surveys/monitoring and carry out genetic work on water voles (GALLANT funded).
- 'Early Braes Park emerges as a sanctuary for wildlife' article on GCC website highlighting water vole presence, and ongoing partnership work with TCV to increase biodiversity https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/13366/Early-Braes-Park-emerges-as-a-sanctuary-for-wildlife
- BBC One Show- Glasgow's Water Voles aired in October 2025. This featured local schoolchildren from Sandaig Primary School, biodiversity staff from GCC and University of Glasgow, as well as Glasgow's unique fossorial water voles.

4.4 Wild Spaces Project

The Butterfly Conservation Wild Spaces Project, funded by the National Lottery Fund and supported by Glasgow City Council, was launched at St Martha's Primary School, Springburn in February 2026. The project is about providing opportunities for currently underserved audiences to be able to access and enjoy butterflies and moths; and nature. The project will co-create Wild Spaces with communities so that each one is unique and specific to local needs and desires.

https://butterfly-conservation.org/news-and-blog/butterfly-conservation-to-create-wild-spaces-across-glasgow

4.5 Seven Lochs Project

Ongoing delivery of the Seven Lochs Project has primarily been through partnership projects to regenerate vacant and derelict land as new multi-functional greenspace. Funding has been secured to improve seven sites, including by enhancing habitats for protected species, improving access to LNRs, and creating new, accessible outdoor learning areas. The Conservation Volunteers Scotland have continued to deliver a programme of volunteering and community engagement in the Seven Lochs area, with some projects targeting improving people health and well-being through engagement with the natural environment. This has delivered 565 volunteer days, 42 community events and 44 outdoor learning activities.

An ongoing programme of heritage and nature events and activities has been delivered at the 4 park visitor centres – Hogganfield Park, Provan Hall, Drumpellier Country Parks and Glenboig Life Centre.

5. City-wide activity

5.1 Grassland

- 12.7 hectares of meadow was managed across the city.
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Greener Futures project identified and planted in 5 areas across Springburn creating 2.41 hectares of species rich grasslands
- Dams to Darnley Local Nature Reserve countryside ranger carried out extensive removal of invasive species including Himalayan Balsam, White Butterbur, London Pride resulting in the return of native grasses and wildflowers

5.2 Wetland

- Hogganfield Park Local Nature Reserve- implementation of first phase of habitat works with Friends of Glasgow's Local Nature Reserves including construction of dead hedge and habitat work on the island/creation of a bird nesting platform as part of the Wetland Ecosystems Project.
- Friends of Glasgow's Local Nature Reserves installed 5 Bat Boxes on Hogganfield Park Local Nature Reserve Island.
- Friends of Glasgow's Local Nature Reserves monitored the usage of five biohavens at Hogganfield Park Local Nature Reserve. The biohavens were installed in April 2016 and have proved popular with birds using them to nest e.g. Great Crested Grebes every year, rest and preen.
- Scottish Wildlife Trust upgraded signage at Possil Marsh reserve to highlight habitat and the marsh's importance as a wildlife site, upgraded footpaths, thinned areas of invasive scrub, including grey willow; and monitored areas of Typha latifolia and Reed Sweet-grass.

5.3 Urban Parks & Open Spaces

- Clyde Ringing Group carried out bird ringing of waterfowl and passerines at Hogganfield Park Local Nature Reserve.
- Clyde Ringing Group have carried out bird ringing of a variety of species including gulls and Tree Sparrows across the city's parks and greenspaces and tracked the birds' journeys to breed and overwinter.
- Friends of Glasgow's Local Nature Reserves monitored bird box usage at Dawsholm Park, Hogganfield Park, Bingham's Pond and Cardowan Moss
- Dead hedges were created at Hogganfield Park Local Nature Reserve and Knightswood Park to enhance habitat and provide a natural barrier to ponds and wetland scrapes.
- The Dams to Darnley Local Nature Reserve countryside ranger continued monitoring 29 bat box units with the assistance of a licenced volunteer bat worker.

6. Education and engagement

6.1 Urban Awareness Raising

GCC Countryside Rangers carried out the following:

- Supported 21 community groups and interacted with over 2500 people on biodiversity
- Led 51 events with 888 participants
- Carried out 100 Curriculum for Excellence visits to 52 schools and 1643 pupils using 25 city parks
- Facilitated a small project with local schools and the Glasgow Botanic Gardens, where four schools have collected local provenance wildflower seeds. The pupils sowed the seeds in their school grounds,

with the aim of planting half on site and half to the parks where the seeds were originally collected to help enhance the existing meadows, creating mini green connector sites.

Awareness Raising carried out by other groups:

- Glasgow Natural History Society held 3 field excursions.
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds delivered 15 teacher training session as part of early primary sessions at Kelvingrove Museum.
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds delivered 30 Outdoor Learning sessions reaching 464 primary school pupils and 222 secondary pupils.
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds ran 53 sessions with 3D Drumchapel with up to 30 children per session, 8 Kelvin College Sessions; 7 sessions with up to 35 students who were refugees and asylum seekers from Clyde College; 3 sessions Hyndland Nurture group; 7 sessions with LGBT Youth; Get Started Programme with the Prince's Trust (5 sessions); 2 sessions with Maryhill scouts.
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds ran 11 activities in Kelvingrove and engaged with 913 children and 680 adults.
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds ran City Nature Challenge bioblitzes in Eastfield Park and Glasgow Botanic Gardens. At Glasgow Botanic Gardens, other participating groups included TCV, GNHS, Butterfly Conservation and Froglife. The bioblitzes engaged with 140 participants. 2059 Observations of 586 species were made.
- Dams to Darnley Local Nature Reserve countryside ranger carried out a guided walk for the Pollok Country Park Over 50s Walking Group.

6.2 Community Involvement

Many citizens volunteer in Glasgow's greenspaces and contribute positively to them. Volunteers benefit too from increased health and wellbeing.

The Conservation Volunteers have carried out the following:

- 1288 workdays at 57 different sites, 58% in the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods
- 229 sessions delivered with over 5796 work hours
- 87 individual TCV volunteers learnt green skills and improved their wellbeing
- Built 48 Homes for Nature
- 100% of volunteers reported feeling more connected to nature

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds have a range of volunteers:

- 7 biological recording volunteers across Glasgow; 15 practical conservation volunteers who help with practical activities e.g. planting days; 6 events volunteers who support with activities.

Friends of Parks and other community groups in the city carry out a vital role in protecting, enhancing and promoting our parks and greenspaces. Friends of Groups undertake projects, events and activities in their local patch.

- Friends of Hayburn Park planted 4 fruit trees and a raised bed of spring bulbs.
- Maxwell Park Volunteers planted over 1500 daffodils and other bulbs.
- Urban Roots planted 150 snowdrops, 150 wild garlic bulbs, 200 wild bluebells and 100 wood anemones into the woodland along with 16 orchard trees, 38 craft willow whips, 30 hedgerow whips and 10 rowan trees.

7. Local Biodiversity Action Plan Partners

Buglife

Butterfly Conservation (Scotland)

Clyde River Foundation

Friends of Glasgow's Local Nature Reserves

Froglife

Glasgow City Council

Glasgow Life

Glasgow Museums Resource Centre

Glasgow Natural History Society

NatureScot

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Scotland)

Scottish Canals

Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Scottish Ornithologists' Club

Scottish Wildlife Trust

Seven Lochs Wetland Park

The Conservation Volunteers

Urban Roots