

# University of Leeds Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2022

Last updated: July 2019

No.	Objective	Action	Target	Measure	Responsible person	Accountable person	Consulted	Informed	Target Date	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Complete
1	Development of 'zoning' plan that identifies all current habitat types on campus, including woodland and scrub	Complete zoning plan that will be used to support and measure progress towards improving campus biodiversity	Plan complete & used for measuring progress	Plan complete	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Steve Gilley, Leonard Wilson, James Dixon-Gough	Biodiversity Group	2017-2018	30% Complete	100% complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	100%
2	In addition to projects, develop structural diversity in planting, with all canopy layers represented wherever possible in multiple locations across campus to support stepping stone habitats	Identify and introduce structured planting across campus & ensure introduced species provide a diversity of food sources for invertebrates and birds (i.e. blossoms for nectar, berries, seed-heads)	2000m <sup>2</sup>	m <sup>2</sup> improved	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group	Ongoing		2000m <sup>2</sup>	Complete	Complete	Complete	100%
3	Protect areas important to local or campus biodiversity	Identify, protect and develop basic management plans for areas important to campus or local biodiversity	Locations identified and protected	yes/no	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard, Steve Gilley, Louise Ellis, James Dixon-Gough, Leonard Wilson, Leeds City Council	Biodiversity Group	2017-2018		All locations identified				0%
4	Create wildlife corridors & stepping stone habitats across campus that also link with /support the wider city region	Identify and create new 'stepping stone' habitats & improvements required for wildlife corridors.	15 stepping stone sites identified and improved	Number of sites	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard, Leeds City Council	Biodiversity Group	2021		4 Sites identified	4 Sites identified	4 Sites identified	3 Sites identified	53%
5	Increase the planting of native tree and shrub species to include seed and fruit bearing species	Continue native tree planting where possible, identify and include seed and fruit bearing species.	10% more trees over BAP period against 2017 total	No. of native trees/shrubs planted	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard, Brian Ford	Biodiversity Group	2021		3% more trees	3% more trees	3% more trees	3% more trees	100%
6	Increase dead-wood to provide habitat for fungi and invertebrates, including log-piles of other forms	Using mapping software, identify and implement in 10 additional locations	10 new locations	No. of sites	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group	2019	3 Locations	3 Locations	4 Locations			30%
7	Encourage the development of woodland ground flora (e.g. bluebells)	Implement planting programme of seeds/bulbs - measure progress by number of areas planted	3 new sites (tbc)	Number of sites	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group	2019	1 Location	1 Location	1 Location			66%
8	Increase the area of linear hedgerows on campus, including the replacement of fences with hedgerows where appropriate. This will improve the connectivity of hedgerows so that they act as 'green corridors' for the safe movement of wildlife across the campus	Plant at least 500m of hedgerow over the next five years on the city campus	500m (tbc)	Metres of planting	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group	2021	100m	100m	100m	100m	100m	60%
9	Improve the biodiversity value of hedgerows on campus.	Improve the biodiversity value of 50% of hedgerows through a combination of the following: • Increase percentage of berry and flower producing plants over alternatives with little or no biodiversity value and measure this as a percentage; • Reduce the cutting of existing hedgerows to encourage the development of a dense habitat offering opportunities for shelter and nesting; • Encourage the growth of tall herb and grass vegetation along the base of hedgerows, and continue to sympathetically manage.	50% of existing hedgerows complete	% of improved hedgerow	James Wright, Atlas Green	Craig Hirst, Mike Leonard	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group	Ongoing	50%	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	100%
10	Record locations and maintain areas of Ivy growth in order to maintain important habitat	Monitor and manage sites where climbing plants can be tolerated to improve habitat for a variety of species (treecreepers, bees, bats, etc.)	5 Locations identified and protected	No. of sites actively managed	James Wright	Michael Howroyd, Craig Hirst	Mike Leonard, Local building managers	Biodiversity Group, RSPB	Ongoing		n/a	4 Sites managed	5 Sites managed	5 Sites managed	80%
11	Relaxation of management in appropriate areas of campus green space to allow development of taller swards and wildflowers	Identify location and introduce relaxed mowing regime supported with signage	500m <sup>2</sup> of relaxed management (tbc) Signage for each site c.5 signs (tbc)	m <sup>2</sup> & number of signs in place	James Wright, Atlas Green	Michael Howroyd, Craig Hirst	Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group	2021		500m <sup>2</sup> identified and managed	Complete	Complete	Complete	100%
12	Identify suitable locations for the creation of ponds, marshy ground or standing water to provide support for variety of wildlife	Using mapping software, identify suitable locations for habitat creation to maximise connectivity across the campus and to wider networks	2 locations on campus	No. of sites	Mike Howroyd, James Wright	Michael Howroyd	Mike Leonard, Leeds City Council	Biodiversity Group	2018 - 1 Location 2020 - 1 Location		1 Location		1 Location		50%
13	Improve the biodiversity value of ornamental borders	Improve the biodiversity value of 70% of Campus borders via the following: • Plant 'butterfly bars' that contain an abundance of flowers with different structures, including open, flat flowers for generalist species, and tubular flowers for more specialist pollinators such as long-tongued bumblebees. Phase out, where possible the use of double-flowered cultivars that provide little or no nectar or pollen resources; • Ensure the provision of a good variety of flowers throughout the year, in particular in early spring and late summer/autumn; • Introduce structure planting that supports invertebrates and feeding birds.	70% of borders to have biodiversity value (agree with James W + need to work out meterage of borders as part of zoning plan)	% with biodiversity value	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group, RSPB, Campus Beekeepers	2022	20%	20%	10%	10%	10%	60%
14	Introduce climbing plants onto walls that have biodiversity value	Identify locations and plant climbers that have biodiversity value e.g. clematis for pollination	5 locations planted with new climbers	No. of locations	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard, Local building managers	Biodiversity Group, Campus Beekeepers	2021	1 Location	1 Location	1 Location	1 Location	1 Location	100%
16	Increase the number of green roofs on campus, both through construction and via shelters (smoking, bike, etc.)	Consider incorporation of green roofs into new developments and new shelters	3 additional locations	No. of new locations	Brian Ford, Robert Gale, Craig Hirst	Len Wilson, Matthew Tidmarsh	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard, Claire Booth	Biodiversity Group	2021	1 Location		1 Location		1 Location	100%
17	Create additional green infrastructure in areas of low quality / low greenery	Develop new green infrastructure in areas where planting / greenery is currently low	10 new locations	No. of new locations	Brian Ford, Robert Gale, Craig Hirst	Len Wilson, Matthew Tidmarsh	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group	2021		2 Locations identified and managed	4 Locations identified & managed	6 Locations identified & managed	10 Locations identified & managed	60%
18	Increase area of wildflower meadows on campus	Increase area of wildflower meadows on campus to improve corridors for pollinating insects	Additional 1000m <sup>2</sup> (tbc)	additional m <sup>2</sup>	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard	Biodiversity Group, Campus Beekeepers	2021		100m <sup>2</sup> managed	110m <sup>2</sup> managed		1000m <sup>2</sup> managed	11%
19	Ensure wildflower meadows are managed successfully for wildlife and aesthetics	Test different management practices with University wildflower meadows to come up with successful management practice	100% of existing sites brought up to acceptable standard.	%	James Wright	Craig Hirst	Mike Howroyd, Mike Leonard, Thom Cooper	Biodiversity Group	2022		100% of 100m <sup>2</sup>	100% of 110 m <sup>2</sup>		100% of 1000m <sup>2</sup> managed	11%