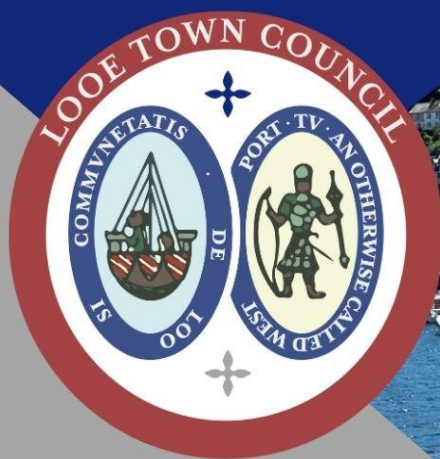


LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

KONSEL TRE LOGH

Biodiversity Policy



Adopted by Council:
21st April 2026

Next review: 30th April 2027



Looe Town Council Biodiversity Policy

1. Introduction

- a. Looe Town Council has a responsibility to ensure that it is reducing its impact on the environment throughout its operations.
- b. The Looe Neighbourhood Plan also includes policies to protect the environment and increase biodiversity, including Section 6 (page 25) titled “Tackling the Impacts and Causes of the Climate Emergency”. It is also positioned within the South Coast East section of the Cornish National Landscape and the ‘Zone of Influence’ of the Tamar Estuaries Complex Special Protection Area and the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries Special Area of Conservation.
- c. This policy will provide information on ways to better protect nature, reduce waste and increase sustainability.
- d. Overall, this policy recognises that although some of Looe Town Council’s activities may have an adverse effect on the environment, it will take steps to mitigate and minimise those effects as a healthy environment is at the heart of the wellbeing of our community.
- e. The Council will comply with and where possible, exceed all environmental regulations, laws and codes of practice.

2. Aims of the Policy

- a. To provide guidance and information on steps Councillors and staff can take to reduce the impact of their activities on the environment.
- b. To promote the need for sound environmental practice within the town for the benefit of all.
- c. To support the community’s efforts in protecting the environment, promoting sustainability and increasing biodiversity.

3. Biodiversity

- a. Encourage the conservation of trees, hedgerows, waterways and other habitats throughout the parish.
- b. Encourage new planting of trees, hedges and other native plants wherever possible.
- c. Manage Council assets in a way that protects and increases biodiversity.
- d. To not cut, or allow to be cut, trees or hedges or other areas during the nesting season (April to September) to protect nesting birds and their chicks.
- e. Consider installing swift bricks on Council owned buildings and promote swift bricks to other building owners in the town.
- f. Consider installing bat boxes, hedgehog houses, bug hotels and other wildlife habitat additions to Council owned premises and promote them to other land and building owners in the town.
- g. Introduce wildlife-friendly planting and features where possible, including leaving some areas uncultivated for pollinators. Adopt ‘No Mow May’ where applicable.
- h. Reduce and ultimately eliminate the use of pesticides on Town Council assets (with the exception of use for the control of Schedule 9 plants under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, such as Japanese Knotweed, or where it is used to reduce material risks to asset integrity.).
- i. To consider developing a local nature recovery strategy.

4. Community

- a. Promote awareness of environmental and sustainability issues within the community and encourage action where possible.
- b. Partner with local groups and charities to deliver environmental engagement events for better awareness of environmental issues in the community.
- c. Ensure all suppliers and contractors are aware of Looe Town Council’s Biodiversity Policy and request they align with the aims.