

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Plan 2026-28

Name of Town or Community Council: Portskewett Community Council

Introduction and Context

Portskewett Community Council covers three wards with approximately 2,186 residents. The precept for 2026/2027 is £54,951.

The Council has 10 councillors and employs a part-time clerk and caretaker. The does not own any property but manages a number of green spaces, The Quest playpark, Harold's Field, Stowball Common and The Village Green. Harold's Field has a resident population of slow worms.

Portskewett is a rural community and it lies on the banks of the River Severn, where the Black Rock Lave Net Fisheries are located, which is the only site in Europe to still practice the traditional fishing methods. The Village of Sudbrook has an industrial heritage and is where the pumping station for the Severn Tunnel is located.

We hold a Community Fun Day in the Summer, a village laser display and barbeque on Bonfire night and host Carols on the Village Green in the run up to Christmas.

The council has established a Community Awards scheme to recognise the contribution made by volunteers within the community recognising Green champions and supports projects in the area through grant funding.

Action Report

Aim	Action	Monitored by
<p><i>NRAP Objective 1</i></p> <p>Embed biodiversity into decision making and procurement</p>	<p>Biodiversity is considered when making recommendations on planning applications</p> <p>We tendered for new contracts for the management of our green spaces and review cutting equipment raising height to reduce likelihood of disturbing wildlife</p> <p>Support establishment of Solar Farms in the local area</p> <p>Carbon footprint considered when procuring goods and services, and recycled products purchased wherever possible.</p>	<p>Full Council and Clerk/RFO</p> <p>Consideration given in planning application decision process</p> <p>Number of cuts carried out and limiting the areas cut</p>
<p><i>NRAP Objective 1</i></p> <p>Raise awareness of Biodiversity and its importance</p>	<p>Maintain pollinator areas</p> <p>Maintain planters at entrances to villages with more resilient native species</p> <p>Publish information on website</p> <p>Working with the local school and other local organisations in the community</p> <p>Create slow worm friendly habit on Harolds field in 2026.</p>	<p>Number of signed pollinator areas</p> <p>Councillors maintain planters and watering</p> <p>Clerk publishing links on website</p> <p>Councillors and clerk promoting the activity</p> <p>Ensure work done and effect checked by December 2026</p>

	<p>Build bug huts in Harolds field</p> <p>Build and install bird boxes in Harolds field to encourage nesting</p> <p>Producing a Place Plan which requires the provision of green areas in any new developments</p>	<p>Ensure built and installed</p> <p>Ensure built and installed</p> <p>Councillors seeking adoption of the Place Plan as SPG</p>
<p><i>NRAP Objective 2</i></p> <p>Safeguard principal species and their habitats</p>	<p>Attention paid to the impact of new developments in the area and potential issues raised with relevant regulatory body</p> <p>Safeguarding areas known to be inhabited by protected species</p>	<p>Councillors and clerk</p> <p>Number of issues raised resulting in corrective action being required</p> <p>Reported sightings of the protected species</p>
<p><i>NRAP Objective 3</i></p> <p>Restore and create habitats and resilient ecological networks</p>	<p>Maintain planting of areas of land with native pollinator friendly flowers</p> <p>Plant planters with pollinator friendly flowers. Continue with new mowing regimes, reducing the area being cut to allow nature corridors to establish around the edge of the green areas, also providing cover for small mammals and reptiles; and reducing frequency of cuts to encourage pollinator friendly plants</p> <p>Where possible leaving patches of fallen leaves or vegetation cuttings to provide habitats for insects, birds and small mammals</p>	<p>Councillors and clerk</p> <p>Area of habitat increased</p> <p>The areas have been seen full of bees and butterflies in the summer.</p>
<p><i>NRAP Objective 4</i></p> <p>Tackle negative factors: e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species</p>	<p>Recycle paper and cardboard waste from the office</p> <p>Recycle used ink cartridges</p> <p>Only print papers when absolutely necessary so reduce amount of paper used in office</p> <p>Recycle batteries used in Christmas lights and defibrillators</p> <p>Organise Community Litter Picks</p> <p>Working group meetings held remotely whenever possible to reduce the impact of travel on the environment</p>	<p>Councillors and clerk</p> <p>100% recycled</p> <p>100% recycled</p> <p>Reduction in amount purchased</p> <p>100% recycled</p> <p>Amount of rubbish collected</p>
<p><i>NRAP Objective 5</i></p> <p>Use, improve and share evidence</p>	<p>Publish Section 6 plan on Council website</p>	<p>Councillors and clerk</p> <p>Publish updated plan on approval by Council</p>

	<p>Share information received with community organisations to increase their awareness of opportunities to improve biodiversity within the community</p> <p>Councillors and clerk made aware of Biodiversity and climate training available</p>	<p>Share information on grant funding and biodiversity packages with local organisations.</p> <p>Attend biodiversity training</p>
<p><i>NRAP Objective 6</i></p> <p>Support capacity and/or other organisations</p>	<p>Community litter picks held encouraging community participation</p> <p>Continued contact with OVW Local Places for Nature officer</p>	<p>Councillors and clerk</p> <p>Number of litter picks held</p> <p>Share information received</p>
<p>How and when will the S6 duty be monitored and the S6 plan be reviewed?</p> <p>Produce a new Section 6 plan in early 2026, to be reviewed annually at the November Council meeting.</p>		

Date reviewed: 30th January 2026

Next review date: 25th November 2026

Approved by council on: 25th February 2026