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Cardiff Local Nature Partnership

Newsletter - April 2020

Welcome to the first edition of the Cardiff Local Nature Partnership (LNP) newsletter. We hope it will provide you with some useful information about the LNP Cymru project and the role of the Cardiff LNP. We've also got some information about some of the activities we're planning post-'lockdown' and an update on Wales Nature Week this year.



Local Nature Partnership (LNP) Cymru project

The LNP Cymru project is funded by Welsh Government until April 2022.

The project is managed through the Welsh Council for Volunteer Action (WCVA) with support from Wales Biodiversity Partnership (WBP) and the Local Environment Records Centres (SEWBReC for Cardiff).

The project aims to;

- Establish an all-Wales network of Local Nature Partnerships.
- Develop local Nature Recovery Action Plans (NRAPs) in all local authority/national park areas.

- Promote the value of nature recovery.
- Help to integrate NRAPs and Well-being of Future Generations Act objectives in policy development at local and national level.
- Widen participation and investment in the LNP Cymru project locally and nationally.

Cardiff LNP

Prior to 'lockdown' we were planning to hold a launch event for the Cardiff LNP in early June. This would have provided an opportunity to present some of our ideas for projects and activities this year and gather your comments, suggestions, and ideas. The launch will now be held later in the year. In the meantime, here's a summary of the progress we have made so far.



Steering group - Following advice from the LNP Cymru project team we propose that the Cardiff LNP will be directed and supported by a Steering Group. Members will represent organisations involved in nature conservation across the City.

We are pleased to announce that Councillor Bob Derbyshire has accepted the invitation to Chair the Steering Group. Organisations invited as members are listed below;

WCVA, WBP, Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales, RSPB, Buglife Cymru, Plantlife Cymru, SEWBReC, Cardiff Civic Society, Cardiff University, Glamorgan Bird Club.



Wider Partnership - Local 'Friends' groups, community groups, organisations, businesses, volunteers and interested individuals will form the wider Partnership and undertake projects and activities in order to help achieve the objectives of the Local NRAP. So far over 25 groups and individuals have expressed an interest in joining the Partnership.

LNP coordinator - The project is funding a part-time LNP coordinator in each Local Authority and National Park in Wales.

The role of the LNP coordinator will be to produce a Local NRAP and co-ordinate and record the work of the Cardiff LNP to achieve Local NRAP objectives. The coordinator will also liaise with the LNP Cymru project team and other LNPs across Wales to share ideas and best practise and seek opportunities for partnership working and cross-boundary projects.

Projects for 2020/2021

Each LNP has been allocated a small budget to promote and support LNP events

and activities. Additional grant funding has been provided by Welsh Government for 2020/2021 through the '**Local Places for Nature**' Capital Fund.



Under the grant heading '**Greening the Council Estate**' the Cardiff LNP has been allocated funding for developing a 'green walls' project for Council buildings in areas of poor air quality. Climbing plants will be grown in containers at the Council's nursery for subsequent installation at two Council buildings.



A citizen science project will be developed with the local community to monitor changes in air quality and biodiversity at the chosen locations. The results will be used to inform any future green wall projects around the City.

We are currently working with colleagues responsible for monitoring air quality to create a short-list of potential locations and have asked Bute Park nursery staff to check whether the necessary plants and hardware can be procured during 'lockdown'.

Under the grant heading '**Environmental Growth on your doorstep**' the Cardiff LNP has been allocated funding to

purchase equipment, plants, and seeds to improve the management of meadows and create and enhance areas of pollinator planting across the City.



Wildlife identification workshops for staff, volunteers, and community groups will be organised, and survey tools and equipment purchased to support a coordinated programme of survey work to monitor key species and habitats. The data will be used to support and improve management practises and identify opportunities enhance species and habitat connectivity.



Wales Nature Week update

Wales Nature Week will continue to run this year from the 30th May to the 7th June. As it's likely that social distancing restrictions will still be in place, ideas for engaging with nature in the garden or nearest green space are being developed. So far these include a daily garden 'bioblitz', online 'ask the expert' chats and 'how to' habitat creation videos.

Our next newsletter will provide details of the final programme and how you can get involved.

If you would like to share any ideas you have for wildlife activities which can be undertaken whilst social distancing or know of any organisations running 'lockdown' projects, please let us know.

Hedgehog Awareness Week 3rd - 9th May

Information about hedgehogs and ideas for making your garden or local green space more hedgehog friendly can be found on the following websites;

www.hedgehogstreet.org

www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

Something as simple as making a hole in your garden fence or gate can help hedgehogs find more food to eat and a safe place to nest.



To celebrate Wales Nature Week we'll be giving away 30 hedgehog fence-hole markers. More details will be provided in the next edition.

Your feedback

We hope you have enjoyed this newsletter. If you would like further information about any of the articles or wish to join the Cardiff LNP mailing list, please contact Sam Eaves (Local Nature Partnership Co-ordinator) at Biodiversity.Team@cardiff.gov.uk

The next newsletter will be published at the end of May. If you wish to contribute an article or share some news please forward details by Wednesday 20th May.

Take care and stay safe!

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg