

To: Climate and Environment Panel
Date: 29 November 2023
Report of: Scrutiny Officer
Title of Report: Biodiversity Action Plan for Oxford City Council Parks and Nature Areas – September 2023 Review

| Summary and recommendations | |
|---|--|
| Purpose of report: | To update the Climate and Environment Panel on the review of the Biodiversity Action Plan for Oxford City Council Parks and Nature Areas undertaken in September 2023. |
| Key decision: | No |
| Cabinet Member with responsibility: | Councillor Chewe Munkonge, Deputy Leader (Non-Statutory and Cabinet Member for Leisure and Parks) |
| Corporate Priority: | Pursue a Zero Carbon Oxford |
| Policy Framework: | Council Strategy 2020-24 |
| Recommendation(s): That the Panel resolves to: | |
| 1. Note and comment on the September 2023 review of the Biodiversity Action Plan for Oxford City Council Parks and Nature areas and agree any recommendations. | |

| Appendices | |
|-------------------|--|
| Appendix A | Biodiversity Review for Oxford City Council Parks and Nature Areas 2020 |
| Appendix B | Review of Biodiversity Action Plan for Oxford City Council Parks and Nature Areas – September 2023 |

Introduction and background

1. In June 2020, Oxford City Council [published](#) a Biodiversity Review for its parks and nature areas which set out the initiatives that had been put in place to further protect and increase biodiversity in the green spaces managed by the Council and what additional steps could be taken to ensure these vital urban habitats were achieving their potential. A copy of the document is set out at Appendix A.
2. The 2020 review sought to complement the Council’s Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-20, rather than repeat any of the information contained within it.

3. The Biodiversity Review for Oxford City Council’s Parks and Nature Areas set out a site-specific five-year action plan comprised of:
 - Top twelve priority projects (for the larger parks and nature areas).
 - Smaller urban park projects.
4. A review of progress against the Action Plan was undertaken in September 2023 and is set out at Appendix B.

Financial implications

5. There are no financial implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

Legal issues

6. There are no legal issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Report author | Alice Courtney |
| Job title | Scrutiny Officer |
| Service area or department | Law and Governance |
| Telephone | 01865 529834 |
| e-mail | acourtney@oxford.gov.uk |

| |
|--------------------------------|
| Background Papers: None |
|--------------------------------|