

# **Haringey**

# **Biodiversity Action Plan**

**September 2009**

# Contents

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. Consultation</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. Biodiversity</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1 What is Biodiversity?	4
3.2 Why Does Biodiversity Matter?	5
<b>4. Biodiversity and Climate Change</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1 How Does Climate Change Effect Biodiversity?	7
<b>5. Biodiversity Policy and Legislation</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>6. Meeting the Biodiversity Duty</b>	<b>9</b>
6.1 Biodiversity in LB Haringey Strategies	10
6.2 Integrating Biodiversity into Council Services	10
<b>6.3 Council Services Biodiversity Duty Statements</b>	<b>12</b>
6.3.1 Homes for Haringey	12
6.3.2 Culture, Libraries and Learning	13
6.3.3 Street Lighting	14
6.3.4 Better Haringey	15
6.3.5 Corporate Procurement Unit	16
6.3.6 Haringey Youth Offending Service	17
6.3.7 Recreation Services	18
6.3.8 Children and Young People's Service	19
<b>7. National Indicator 197</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>8. Biodiversity Infrastructure in Haringey</b>	<b>21</b>

8.1	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation	21
8.2	Areas of Nature Conservation Deficiency	23
8.3	Local Nature Reserves	25
8.4	Green Chains and Ecological Corridors	27
8.5	Haringey Biodiversity Partnership	27
<b>9.</b>	<b>Habitat and Species Action Plans</b>	<b>28</b>
9.1	Biodiversity Action Reporting System	28
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Habitat Action Plans</b>	<b>29</b>
9.2.1	Allotments	29
9.2.2	Gardens	32
9.2.3	Parks and Green Spaces	36
9.2.4	Woodland	40
9.2.5	Standing Water	43
9.2.6	Built Structures	45
<b>9.3</b>	<b>Species Action Plans</b>	<b>48</b>
9.3.1	Bats (all species)	48
<b>9.4</b>	<b>Habitat Statements</b>	<b>53</b>
9.4.1	Wasteland	53
9.4.2	Railway Land	54
<b>10.</b>	<b>Monitoring and Delivery</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Appendix 1</b>	<b>BAP (2004) Review</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Appendix 2</b>	<b>Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation</b>	<b>57</b>
	<b>References</b>	<b>58</b>
	<b>Glossary</b>	<b>58</b>

# Draft Haringey Biodiversity Action Plan - April 2009

## 1. Introduction

The Haringey Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) aims to improve biodiversity value across the Borough and support the priorities and targets of both the London and UK plans.

The plan makes reference to existing policies and actions but most importantly includes a programme of new action.

In addition to specific actions on selected habitats and species the document includes details on how the London Borough of Haringey will meet its 'Biodiversity Duty' as set out in the 'Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006':

"Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity."

## 2. Consultation

This plan has been developed through internal and external consultation with a wide number of organisations and Council services.

The principal method for consultation is via the Project Working Group which is made up of representatives of several Council services but also both the Haringey and London Biodiversity Partnerships.

The Haringey Biodiversity Partnership (HBP) includes amongst its members local 'Friends Groups' with a special interest in particular sites within Haringey such as a Wood or park, organisations from the voluntary sector, and concerned individuals. The HBP were key in helping to write and review the original 2004 BAP. Those habitats and species selected for new action plans were chosen through consultation with the HBP.

The London Biodiversity Partnership is a regional body responsible for securing biodiversity objectives for London as part of the wider United Kingdom BAP. It has over 60 partnership members from the voluntary, statutory and commercial sectors and sits as an external review body on the project working group.

## 3. Biodiversity

### 3.1 What is Biodiversity?

“Biodiversity is a term commonly used to describe the variety of life on Earth.

This encompasses the whole of the natural world and all living things with which we share the planet. It includes plants, animals, even invisible micro-organisms and bacteria which, together, interact in complex ways with the inanimate environment to create living ecosystems.

Biodiversity is all around us: not just in wild places and nature reserves but also in our cities, the places we live and work, our farmland and our countryside. We are an integral part of this biodiversity and exert a major influence over it.” (*Natural England - Biodiversity*)

Biodiversity is not restricted to rare or threatened species but includes the whole of the natural world from the commonplace to the critically endangered.

### 3.2 Why Does Biodiversity Matter?

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) lists the following numerous reasons why biodiversity matters;

- **“It plays an important role in tackling climate change.** Wildlife habitats such as woodlands and peat bogs act as carbon sinks, helping to reduce the severity of climate change. Other habitats such as natural floodplains and coastal habitats can help reduce flooding and dissipate wave energy. Natural habitats are also important in providing corridors to allow mobile species to move in response to changes in climate.
- **It is an indicator of the wider health of our environment.** An environment rich in biodiversity is also likely to perform well against other measures of environmental quality (such as air and water quality), and to provide a healthy and attractive living environment for people. Biodiversity is therefore a key indicator of sustainable development.
- **It helps to sustain local economies.** Conserving biodiversity supports jobs and incomes in conservation management, and provides additional benefits by attracting visitors to rural areas. It also provides new market opportunities to farmers and land managers. These economic impacts can be significant at the local level, particularly in nature rich areas with limited alternative employment opportunities.
- **It supports other vital services that sustain life on earth (Ecosystem Services).** Human life and economic activity depend on vital services provided by ecosystems, such as the provision of clean air and water, defence against floods and storms, and the management of waste and pollution. Studies have shown that the economic value of these ecosystem services is immense, and that a large proportion of this value depends on the biological diversity of these systems.

- **It contributes to our health and wellbeing.** Studies have shown that nature helps to enhance our physical and mental health, by encouraging outdoor recreation, exercise and relaxation. Biodiversity plays an important role in enhancing and encouraging outdoor recreation by increasing the variety, attractiveness and interest of the landscape. Biodiversity also plays an important role in educating us about the world around us.
- **It is an important part of our cultural heritage and identity.** Biodiversity is important in defining local character and distinctiveness. It helps to shape environments in which local authorities operate, affecting the quality of life of residents.
- **It offers opportunities for community engagement and volunteering.** Local biodiversity projects offer opportunities to engage local communities and promote social inclusion. Many people derive huge satisfaction as volunteers in conservation projects, giving them an opportunity to get involved in a practical way in managing the environment.
- **It provides us with essential products and materials.** Biodiversity is a source of many vital products such as food, medicines and building materials. Biodiversity conservation is important to ensure that these products continue to be available to us and to future generations... Biodiversity offers widespread opportunities to develop new medicines, foodstuffs and other products, which will be lost if we fail to conserve it.
- **We have a responsibility to conserve biodiversity.** Apart from the benefits that it provides to people, there are strong ethical reasons why mankind should conserve biodiversity. We share the planet with many other species, and many would argue that we have no right to preside over the extinction of other animals and plants. As well as the intrinsic values of biodiversity, we have a responsibility to pass on a healthy stock of natural capital to future generations.

In summary, conserving biodiversity is not only the right thing to do – it is vital for our future existence on this planet. We are improving our understanding of the importance of natural systems and processes in sustaining life, and the role that biodiversity plays in maintaining these. We are aware that biodiversity continues to be lost at an alarming rate as a result of human activities, but we do not yet know whether and how long this can continue before we undermine the life support functions on which we depend.” (*The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2007*)

## 4. Biodiversity and Climate Change

The threat that climate change poses our society and the planet is well documented, however the role and importance of biodiversity in regulating climate is less commonly understood and often takes a back seat to the more widely publicised need to reduce carbon emissions.

The Royal Society and DEFRA both express the critical importance of biodiversity in relation to climate change and the urgency for action:

“Ecosystems are important in climate regulation and deliver a range of other services of importance to human wellbeing. Diverse ecological systems tend to be more dynamic and resilient to change. Failure to halt the losses of biodiversity caused by overexploitation, pollution, invasive species and habitat change, and to manage the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, will therefore have increasingly significant implications for human health and wellbeing, economic livelihoods, and ecosystem services including climate regulation.

The messages are clear and simple. Biodiversity and ecosystem resilience are necessary for climate regulation and human wellbeing. Climate change is unequivocal and inevitable. Adaptation is necessary and mitigation essential if dangerous climate change is to be avoided. Urgent, global action is required if the health and livelihoods of people around the world are to be protected and improved, if biodiversity loss is to be halted, and dangerous climate change avoided.” (*The Royal Society, 2007*)

“The speed and scale of climate change require action now. We cannot know exactly how the climate will change or how it will impact directly or indirectly on species, habitats and ecosystems, particularly at a local scale. We cannot wait until the evidence demonstrates greater certainty, as delay will result in more severe impacts, fewer available options for action and increased costs of damage and intervention (Stern, 2006). This is because of the length of time it will take to implement adaptation action and for biodiversity to respond.” (*Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2008*)

### 4.1 How Does Climate Change Affect Biodiversity?

Climate change affects biodiversity in a number of ways; the UK Biodiversity Partnership has listed the following;

- “changes in the timings of seasonal events, leading to loss of synchrony between species and the availability of food, and other resources upon which they depend
- shifts in suitable climate conditions for individual species leading to change in abundance and range

- changes in the habitats which species occupy
- changes to the composition of plant and animal communities
- changes to habitats and ecosystems, such as altered water regimes, increased rates of decomposition in bogs and higher growth rates in forests.”  
(*UK Biodiversity Partnership, 2007*)

Other factors such as extreme weather events and changes in land use due to climate change are also likely to have an adverse effect upon biodiversity.

## **5. Biodiversity Policy and Legislation**

In 1992 the UK Government signed the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It was the first treaty to provide a legal framework for biodiversity conservation. It called for the creation and enforcement of national strategies and action plans to conserve, protect and enhance biological diversity.

As a result of this and subsequent agreements the UK established a system of Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP's) at national, regional and local level. Each local plan including the Haringey BAP works on the basis of partnership to identify local priorities and to determine the contribution they can make to the delivery of the national Species and Habitat Action Plan targets

In 2002 the England Biodiversity Strategy was published which recognised that in order to protect biodiversity the focus on individual species and habitats needed to be broadened to cover the wider environment as well. It attempts to do this by encouraging the consideration of biodiversity within mainstream policies and decision making throughout society.

The Government expects Local Strategic Partnerships to incorporate biodiversity within their Community Strategies and sees biodiversity as essential in meeting the challenge of building sustainable communities.



## 6. Meeting the Biodiversity Duty

The LB Haringey has produced a number of strategies that take the conservation of biodiversity into account. This document provides a number of actions to help deliver those strategies and the objectives and targets within them.

### 6.1 Biodiversity in LB Haringey Strategies

- **Haringey's Community Strategy**

The second of six key outcomes identified in this strategy is 'An Environmentally Sustainable Future'. This addresses the need to tackle climate change, engage with children and young people in environmental issues and protect biodiversity and open space.

- **Unitary Development Plan**

Haringey's Unitary Development plan (UDP) contains Council policies covering the environment and open space including areas such as biodiversity, ecologically valuable sites, green chains and ecological corridors.

Open Spaces objectives include:

"Ensure that the flora and fauna with nature conservation value, environmental value or amenity value in the borough is protected and encouraged and that the provision helps to meet the aims of the Haringey Biodiversity Action Plan..."

The forthcoming Local Development Framework will take over from the UDP and will continue to cover these planning issues.

- **The Greenest Borough Strategy**

'Protecting the Natural Environment' is one of seven priorities in LB Haringey's Greenest Borough Strategy which states;

"We will protect Haringey's natural environment by working with local people and other partners to ensure that we preserve, improve, and increase, green spaces and their biodiversity through improved maintenance, accessibility and sustainable practices."

Although key to this priority in particular, biodiversity is an issue of importance relevant to the whole of the Greenest Borough Strategy.

- **The Open Spaces Strategy**

As well as aiming to promote biodiversity and the conservation, protection and enrichment of species and habitats, it also identifies areas of deficiency in access to natural green space, as does the London Plan.

- **Environmental Education Strategy**

Key to raising awareness of environmental matters across the community the Environmental Education Strategy aims to encourage and support pupils, staff and parents to adopt and maintain behaviour changes which will promote their health and well being and help make Haringey a cleaner and healthier place in which to live and work.

By promoting the National Sustainable Schools Framework the strategy will support biodiversity through improvements to school buildings and grounds, and through the active participation of individuals.

## **Actions**

- The Council will continue to include biodiversity within key strategies. This should be achieved through external consultation with nature conservation organisations and partners such as the London and Haringey Biodiversity Partnerships and Natural England.

## **6.2 Integrating Biodiversity into Council Services**

Guidance on meeting the biodiversity duty encourages local authorities to consider biodiversity as a cross cutting agenda to be integrated into the delivery of all services.

“Biodiversity should not be viewed solely as an environmental issue, but a core component of sustainable development. It can contribute to a range of quality-of-life indicators across several local authority service areas. This cross-cutting approach should be manifest in the Borough’s own Biodiversity Action Plan, which itself should be part of the Borough’s Sustainable Communities Strategy.” (*Greater London Authority, London Biodiversity Partnership and Natural England, 2008*)

## **Actions**

- In order to achieve this integrated approach to biodiversity each Council Service will identify actions for meeting the biodiversity duty within their annual business plan.
- Each service will identify a lead officer to sit on a biodiversity project group to oversee the delivery of the identified actions and to participate in an annual review.
- The Council will support and encourage other public bodies such as utility companies and NHS Haringey to meet their biodiversity duty by offering advice and partnership working wherever possible.
- A timetable for actions will be agreed by the Better Haringey Programme Board.

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## 6.3 Council Services Biodiversity Duty Statements

### 6.3.1 Homes for Haringey

Homes for Haringey manage over 21,000 Council and leasehold homes, including the management and maintenance of estate grounds. As one of the biggest land managers in the borough the potential benefit of continued environmental improvements for biodiversity are considerable.

#### Objectives

- To enhance the natural environment of housing land for residents and wildlife alike.

#### Actions

- Identify 2 housing estates as potential flagship sites for natural enhancement.
- Support efforts to meet relevant action targets within the Gardens Habitat Action Plan.
- Install bird and bat boxes.
- Continue to plant 60 new trees per year.
- Incorporate 'Design for Biodiversity'\* principles as a key consideration of all new Homes for Haringey developments.

#### Lead Officer – Peter Purdie

\* "Design for Biodiversity is an initiative established to provide guidance for developers, architects, landscape designers and planners and other interested parties on how ecologically sensitive designs and features can be integrated into new and existing developments." Design for Biodiversity website 20.02.09. <http://www.d4b.org.uk/index.asp>

### **6.3.2 Culture, Libraries and Learning**

Culture, Libraries and Learning manages 9 libraries, 2 Museums and the White Hart Lane Learning Centre. The service already runs a series of events based on wildlife and the natural environment each year including walks and talks, exhibitions and free summer activity programmes. Culture, Libraries and Learning also has a number of gardens and even a green roof.

#### **Objectives**

- To promote the natural environment through the continued provision of public events, exhibitions and resource materials.
- To enhance the natural environment through the sympathetic management of Culture, Libraries and Learning grounds and buildings.

#### **Actions**

- Organise 6 wildlife based walks and talks per year.
- Hold 1 wildlife/biodiversity related exhibition per year.
- Run 4 wildlife/biodiversity themed family activities per year.
- Produce a general policy and/or management plans regarding the management of Culture, Libraries and Learning grounds and buildings with regard to enhancing and protecting biodiversity.

**Lead Officer – Maria Stephanou**

### **6.3.3 Street Lighting**

Light pollution is of particular concern for nocturnal animals such as bats and moths as it can disrupt their natural behaviour. In the case of bats artificial light can prevent them from leaving roosts and impact upon their feeding pattern.

Haringey's Street Lighting department has already been working with 'Lee Valley Bats' and has retro-fitted luminaire shields to lights along a section of the Lee Navigation to direct light only where it is needed and away from the water course itself.

#### **Objectives**

- To consider and reduce potential impact upon wildlife when installing new lighting schemes, particularly in or adjacent to areas identified as important to nature conservation.
- Reduce light pollution through sensitive design and the use of new technology.

#### **Actions**

- Install new lights along stretches of the Lee Valley Navigation on reduced towers (4m) with luminaire shields to direct light away from the water and onto the towpath where it is needed.
- Watermead Way – remove every other existing column and replace with more directional lighting to reduce unnecessary light pollution. This area is adjacent to 2 sites of importance for nature conservation.
- Trial new LED lighting with motion sensors to improve energy efficiency and reduce light pollution. Lights will be dimmed until needed when the light will increase to full power.
- Install lower wattage more directional street lighting across the borough as part of a renewal programme (In line with legislation).

**Lead Officer – Steve Lain**

### **6.3.4 Better Haringey**

The Better Haringey team coordinates the overall implementation of the Greenest Borough Strategy whilst organising a range of events aimed at raising awareness and involvement within the community. The scope for the community to become educated and involved with the area of biodiversity through the Better Haringey team is vast.

#### **Objectives**

- To promote and educate people about the borough's biodiversity action plan through events, and consider the effects when coordinating the implementation of the Greenest Borough Strategy.

#### **Actions**

- Have a biodiversity area at the annual Better Haringey Green Fair
- Promote biodiversity internally and introduce the area within the 'leading by example' priority in the Greenest Borough Strategy and promote its importance through the Green Champions

**Lead Officer – Alex Grear**

### **6.3.5 Corporate Procurement Unit**

The CPU develops the procurement strategy, policies and processes within which the Council operates. The unit provides project management for strategic corporate contracts, and also manages specific procurement initiatives such as Constructing Excellence, and support for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and Black and Minority Ethnic Businesses supply chains.

In wider sustainable procurement practice, we demonstrate improvements to our impact on the environment and the quality of life of our constituents by assessing various outputs of our contracts. These outputs have been identified by the Sustainable Procurement Task Force report – eighteen sustainability indicators that organisations affect when buying goods and services, one of which is biodiversity. Harvesting raw materials, climate change and waste disposal all alter the conditions which maintain biodiversity levels.'

#### **Objectives**

- To reduce LB Haringey's impact upon biodiversity through implementing best practice in sustainable procurement.

#### **Actions**

- Haringey Council will only accept transparently and sustainably sourced timber (softwoods, temperate hardwoods and wood derived products) in all contracts relating to the provision of construction, civil engineering and furniture. This policy will affect all procurement officers and suppliers of relevant market segments. It is designed such that contractors providing wood or wood derived products must be chain of custody (CoC) certified or else, ensure that their supplier maintains certification. Contractors will have to supply a copy of their or their supplier's CoC certificate. Delivery notes accompanying the relevant products must hold a CoC number synonymous with the certificate. Audits will be run at random to ensure compliance.

**Lead Officer – Ben Brown**



### **6.3.6 Haringey Youth Offending Service**

The Youth Offending Service (YOS) works with children and young people aged 10 to 17 who have committed offences; some of the work is to prevent re-offending. The YOS also works with the victims of crime.

#### **Objectives**

- To improve the natural environment for the community through reparation work aimed to help prevent further offending and to make amends for crimes committed.

#### **Actions**

- The YOS Reparation Officer has identified a disused piece of land within the boundaries of the Keston Centre. This piece of land will be developed by YOS as part of reparation by young people – it will include, a seated area, a farmers market and an existing pond will be brought back into use. There is already a wide variety of bird life in Downhill's Park (which borders Keston) and these will be encouraged onto Keston Green Project by installing bird feeders & baths. There are wild flowers present which will be left and staff will research the promotion of more growth.

The area will be used by staff, young people, staff and children from the Maya Angelou Nursery and staff and users of Ermine day centre.

- The reparation officer will liaise with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers to ascertain if young people on reparation can contribute to conservation work elsewhere within the borough.

**Lead Officer - TBC**

### **6.3.7 Recreation Services**

Recreation Services has a wide remit including the management of Sports Centres, Playgrounds and Trees, and is also responsible for the management of many of the Boroughs Parks and Open Spaces which in turn are some of Haringey's most valuable wildlife habitats. Recreation Services is responsible for the delivery of key objectives in the Greenest Borough Strategy and the Biodiversity Action Plan.

#### **Objectives**

- To improve biodiversity value within Haringey and increase its accessibility to residents and visitors alike.

#### **Actions**

- To actively manage Council owned sites to achieve the aims and objectives identified in the Greenest Borough Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan including :
  - Produce and implement a Borough Tree Strategy
  - Produce a Parks Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Action Plan
  - Include adaptation and mitigation actions in site/park management plans
  - Work with partners to improve biodiversity in open spaces and protect and improve local sites of importance for nature conservation
  - Reduce areas of deficiency in access to natural greenspace
  - Produce and deliver Habitat and Species Action Plan targets
  - Increase the number of Local Nature Reserves from 3 to 6
- To provide support to individuals, schools, local organisations, other Council Services and the Private Sector in achieving the objectives identified within the Biodiversity Action Plan and Greenest Borough Strategy.

**Lead Officer – Ian Holt**

### **6.3.8 Children and Young People's Service**

The Children and Young People's Service is located on two separate council sites at 48 Station Road, and at Haringey Professional Centre. The latter site is a training centre for teachers and non teaching staff and there are opportunities within the grounds to make the site more biodiverse. School Standards and Inclusion, part of the Children and Young People's Service, works directly with schools and provides support and challenge for the 63 primary schools, 11 secondary schools and 4 special schools in the borough.

Through the DCSF Sustainable Schools and Eco-schools frameworks there are many opportunities to encourage schools to improve biodiversity in their estates. In particular, there is a specific Biodiversity theme in the Eco-schools framework which invites schools to examine the usage of their school grounds and to explore ways of providing a greater variety of habitats for animals, birds and insects. Many schools have set up growing clubs and are growing a wide range of fruit and vegetables and a number of schools have nature areas. Schools are encouraged to compost their fruit and vegetable waste and this is used on the school gardens to enrich the soil. A CD "Sustainable Schools in Haringey" has been developed to support schools with this area of work and includes many best practice examples from Haringey schools.

Through the science and geography curricula children and young people learn about their own local area and look at the built and natural environment in their vicinity.

#### **Objectives**

- To improve the biodiversity of school sites

To improve awareness of biodiversity issues among children, young people and school staff.

#### **Actions**

- To ensure that there is a 20% year on year increase of schools achieving Eco-schools awards (which includes the Biodiversity theme).
- Develop and maintain a network of Environmental Education providers (including BTCV) to ensure effective communication around bio-diversity projects for schools.
- Carry out audit with 75% of schools to establish engagement with the Sustainable Schools framework.
- Signpost schools to appropriate organisations who specialise in biodiversity.

**Lead Officer – Jude Clements**

## 7. National Indicator 197

National Indicator 197: Improved Local Biodiversity – ‘active management of local sites’ is one of a new list of national indicators by which Local Government performance is to be measured.

In this instance active management means maintaining, restoring or enhancing biodiversity, and performance is calculated as a proportion of all sites where active conservation management has taken place over the last 5 years. The sites refer to designated ‘Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation’ of which there are 60 (see Appendix 2) in the LB Haringey. Not all of these sites are Council owned and managed e.g. they include private golf courses, operational railway lines and reservoirs.

To prove active management documented evidence is needed, this should include one or more of the following:

- A site management plan (which is being implemented)
- Inclusion in a management scheme such as Woodland Grant Scheme or Environmental Stewardship
- Evidence of the site being managed in accordance with Biodiversity Action Plan targets.
- Evidence of written or verbal ecological management guidance and advice having been given and subsequent management undertaken.

**The baseline figure for Haringey is 17% (March 2009).**

### Action

- LB Haringey will seek to improve on the baseline figure by 5% per year from 2010 to 2015. This will be achieved through the writing and delivery of ecological management plans for Council owned sites.
- The following sites have been identified for improvement by March 2010 and will each receive new management plans;
  - Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve
  - Queen’s Wood Local Nature Reserve
  - Palace Gates Embankment Nature Reserve
  - Lordship Recreation Ground

- Implementation of the Allotments Habitat Action Plan. Nearly a quarter of Haringey's Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation are allotments and as such delivery of the HAP will work toward improved NI197 figures from 2010 to 2015.
- LB Haringey and the Haringey Biodiversity Partnership will also encourage and support other managers of sites of importance for nature conservation to actively manage their land for biodiversity and provide the partnership with documented evidence to this effect.

## **8. Biodiversity Infrastructure in Haringey**

Despite its urban environment Haringey is blessed with a variety of valuable habitats for wildlife such as the ancient woodlands of Bluebell, Coldfall, Highgate and Queen's Woods in the west of the borough and Tottenham Marshes in the east, as well as large and historic public parks including Finsbury and Alexandra Palace. The large number of private gardens and housing estate land also play a significant part in habitat provision throughout the Borough.

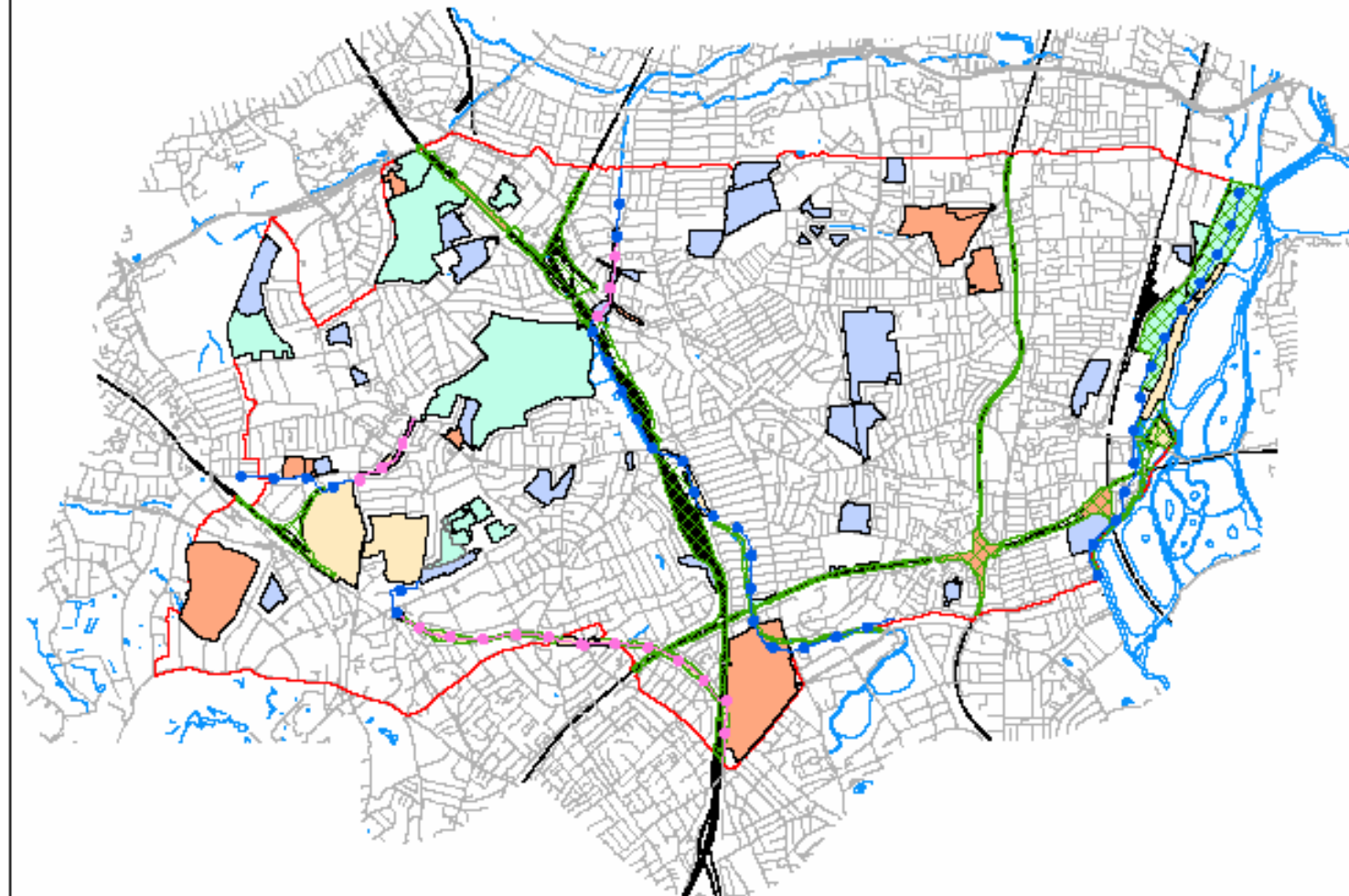
### **8.1 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation**

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's) are areas protected through the planning process having been designated for their high biodiversity value.

The borough has a total of 59 areas designated as SINC's, of these there are 5 of Metropolitan importance, 9 of Borough Grade I importance, 13 Borough Grade II and 32 of Local importance.

#### **Action**

- Improve active management of SINC's (see 6. National Indicator 197 p21).



## LEGEND

- Site of Metropolitan importance
- Site of Borough importance (grade 1)
- Site of Borough importance (grade 2)
- Site of Local importance
- Green Chain - Existing
- Green Chain - Proposed
- Ecological Corridor
- OS Road Features
- OS Water Features
- OS Rail Features
- Borough Boundary

PROJECT	Haringey Open Space Study
TITLE	Figure 6.0 Nature Conservation Designations
SCALE	1:50,000 at A4
DATE	9th April 2003

## 8.2 Areas of Nature Conservation Deficiency

Despite a large network of SINC's there are some areas of the Borough where access to natural green space is not readily available. These areas are predominantly but not exclusively in the east of the Borough.

In order to reduce these areas of deficiency it is necessary to increase access to Borough Grade II SINC's or sites with a higher designation. This can be achieved in three ways;

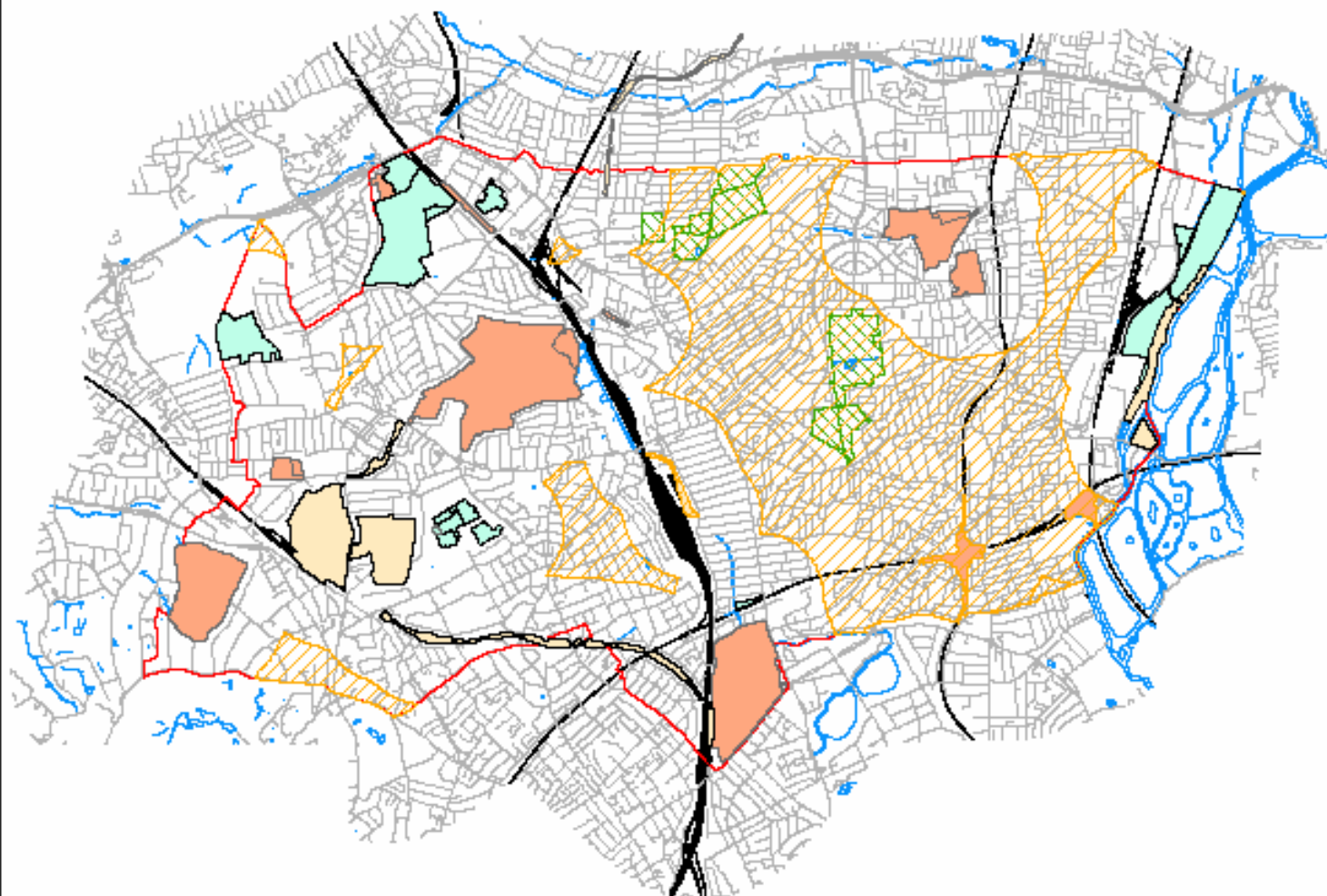
- Remove barriers to access e.g. by creating new entrances/gateways to existing sites closer to peoples homes.
- Improve the biodiversity of existing sites to increase their designation to Borough Grade e.g. by creating meadows and ponds in parks designated as Local SINC's.
- By creating new sites e.g. plant new woodlands in areas of deficiency.

### Action

- Increase the SINC designation of Lordship Recreation Ground to Borough Importance by 2014. This is to be achieved through major works such as de-culverting the River Moselle, creating large areas of meadow grassland and reed beds, etc. The location of the park will help to reduce a major area of deficiency.
- Explore the possibility of creating public access to Stroud Green Railway Embankment SINC with Network Rail and Homes for Haringey.
- Pursue planning gain from new developments for the creation of new sites in areas of deficiency; particularly in areas where there is a deficiency in all types of open space e.g. Northumberland Park.

## LEGEND

-  Areas Deficient in Accessible Wildlife Sites (general or de facto public access)
-  Metropolitan Importance
-  Borough Importance (grade 1)
-  Borough Importance (grade 2)
-  Open Spaces with potential to meet deficiency
-  OG Road Features
-  OG Water Features
-  OG Rail Features
-  Borough Boundary



PROJECT  
Haringey Open Space Study

TITLE  
Figure B6 Areas of Nature Conservation Deficiency

SCALE  
1:50,000 at A4

DATE  
28th June 2007



### 7.3 Local Nature Reserves

Local Nature Reserves (LNR's) are places with wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally. They offer people special opportunities to study or learn about nature or simply to enjoy it. LNR's are a statutory designation made under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

There are currently 3 Local Nature Reserves in Haringey;

- The Parkland Walk
- Railway Fields
- Queen's Wood

Natural England suggests a ratio of 1 hectare of LNR for every 1000 population. Haringey currently has 0.16 hectares per 1000 residents and it is predicted that this will fall to 0.14 hectares by 2016 due to population growth.

It is not likely that the Natural England target for LNR's will ever be achieved in such a densely populated area as Haringey however 4 possible new sites for LNR designation have been identified;

- Alexandra Palace Nature Reserve
- Coldfall Wood
- Tottenham Marshes
- The Paddock

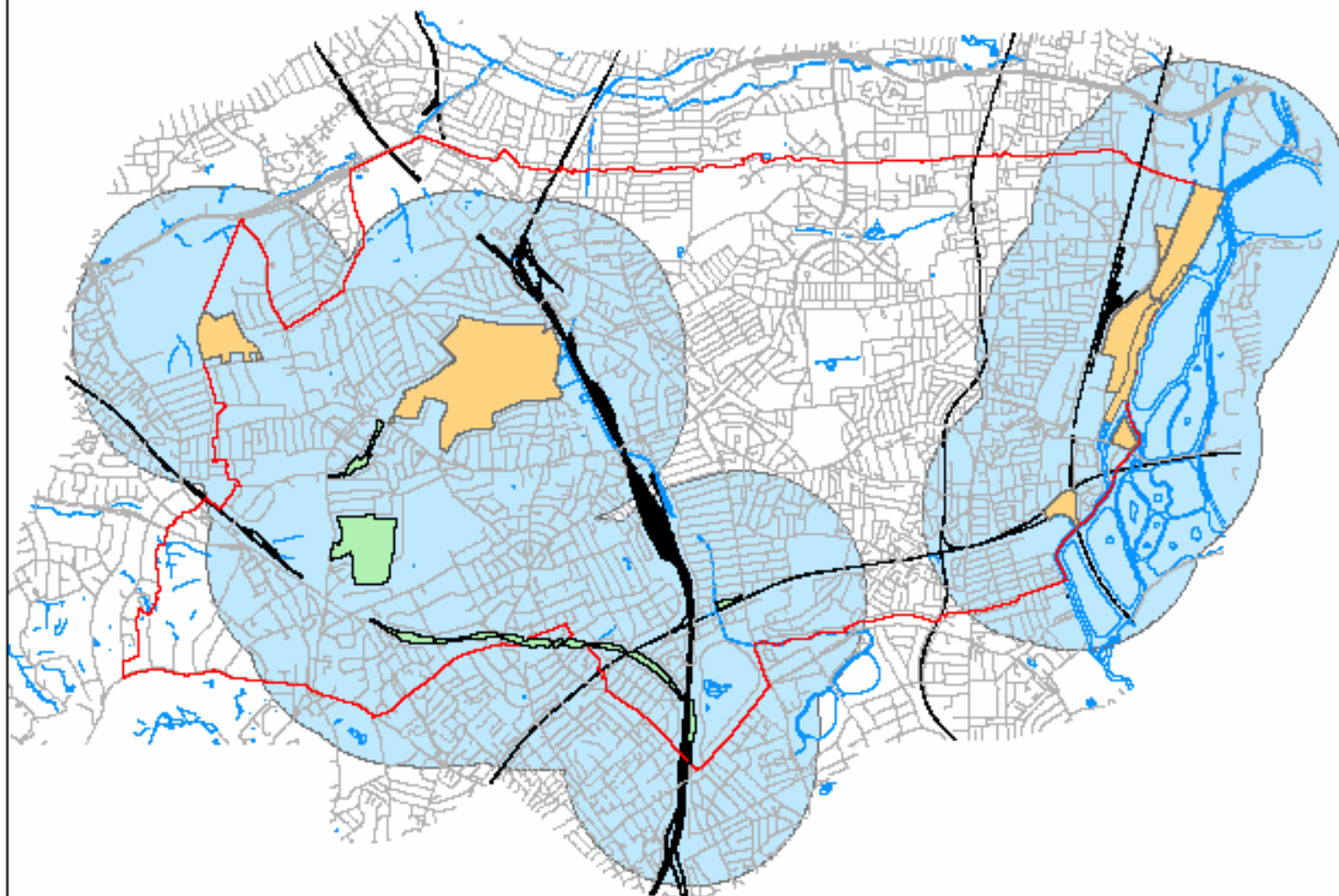
The Greenest Borough Strategy has set a target of 3 additional LNR's for LB Haringey.

#### **Action**

- LB Haringey will work with Natural England to designate Coldfall Wood and The Paddock as new LNR's by 2014.
- LB Haringey will work with Natural England, The Alexandra Palace Charitable Trust and Lee Valley Regional Park Authority to investigate the possibility of declaring Alexandra Palace Nature Reserve and Tottenham Marshes as LNR's by 2014.

## LEGEND

- Local Nature Reserve
- Potential Local Nature Reserve
- 1Km Buffer Zone
- OS Road Features
- OS Water Features
- OS Rail Features
- Borough Boundary



PROJECT	Haringey Open Space Study
TITLE	Figure 6.2 Accessibility to Local Nature Reserves
SCALE	1:50,000 at A4
DATE	9th April 2003

## **8.4 Green Chains and Ecological Corridors**

Ecological Corridors are relatively continuous areas of green space running through built up areas that allow the movement of plants and animals to other areas and habitats. In Haringey they largely follow the railways and rivers but they also link to larger open spaces such as Finsbury Park and Highgate Wood.

Whereas the majority of Ecological Corridors in Haringey are inaccessible to the public, Green Chains are used for informal recreation providing walking and/or cycling routes through open spaces. Green Chains can also be Ecological Corridors such as the Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve.

### **Action**

- Explore the option of opening the New River (Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature conservation) as a Green Chain walking route with Thames Water as proposed in the 2006 Unitary Development Plan.

## **8.5 The Haringey Biodiversity Partnership**

The Haringey Biodiversity Partnership (HBP) is formed of individuals and organisations working to improve biodiversity in Haringey such as Friends of the Earth, the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, and numerous 'Friends' groups associated with local green spaces. Its role is to help produce and deliver the targets set out in the BAP. Its membership should include all those landowners and managers responsible for sites of importance for nature conservation within the borough.

The partnership also has a wider advisory role and provides feedback to the Council on issues such as new strategies and planning applications. The partnership is also available to provide information to local business, residents, schools, etc.

### **Action**

- To recognise the valuable role played by the voluntary sector in protecting and enhancing Haringey's biodiversity and to support the work of the Haringey Biodiversity Partnership.

## **9. Habitat and Species Action Plans**

Haringey contributes to the regional and UKBAP by helping selected habitats and species that are important to the borough. Each has its own action plan that sets out ways to improve its condition.

### **9.1 Biodiversity Action Reporting System**

In order for all new HAP's and SAP's to feed into the UKBAP they will be reported on using the national Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS). This means that all objectives, targets and actions have to be written in a particular SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time based) format.

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## 9.2.1 Allotments Habitat Action Plan

### Vision Statement

- To increase the value of Haringey's allotment sites for the benefit of biodiversity.
- To increase public and allotment plot holders awareness of the benefits of biodiversity to allotments, and the benefit of allotments for biodiversity.

### Targets

**Target 1 – To protect and enhance existing habitats beneficial to wildlife on LB Haringey Allotment Sites by 2015**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding
1.1 Audit each local authority allotment site for habitats such as ponds, hedgerows, buffer strips and uncultivated margins, etc.	2010	LBH/ AA's	GIGL	Existing LBH budget
1.2 Produce and implement agreed wildlife friendly management plans for each allotment designated a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (3 per annum).	2015	LBH/ AA's		Existing LBH budget
1.3 Encourage management of excess plots for wildlife set aside.	2010	LBH/ AA's		No additional cost

**Target 2 – Establish 10 new communally managed ponds on allotment sites by 2015**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>	<b>Other partners</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
2.1 Construct 2 new wildlife ponds per annum.	2015	ARC/LBH	AA's	Grant/ Partner Organisations
2.2 Provide all allotment associations with information on the maintenance of ponds for wildlife.	2011	ARC	LBH	No additional cost

**Target 3 – Promote best practice in allotment management**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>	<b>Other partners</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
3.1 Produce an agreed statement of intent to reduce the use of pesticides and chemicals on all local authority allotments.	2015	LBH/AA's		No additional cost
3.2 Include allotments as a category in the Haringey in Bloom competition.	2010	LBH	AA's	No additional cost
3.3 Produce and distribute leaflets on wildlife and hedges, compost heaps, ponds, and set aside plots.	2013	LBH	AA's ARC	Existing LBH budget
3.4 Promote organic vegetable and fruit production through public talks and events. (1 per annum).	2015	LBH	AA's SH	Partner Organisations

## How You Can Help

- If you are a plot holder or member of an allotment association take a lead in delivering the actions at your site.
- If you are involved in a community growing project on a housing estate or other area of open space support the actions and principles stated in the action plan and let us know.
- Avoid the use of pesticides
- Enter your allotments for Haringey in Bloom

## Links with other Actions Plans

<b>Haringey Plans</b>	<b>London Plans</b>
Standing Water	Standing Water
Gardens	Gardens

## Abbreviations

AA's	Allotment Associations
ARC	Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
LBH	London Borough of Haringey
SH	Sustainable Haringey

## 9.2.2 Gardens Habitat Action Plan

### Vision Statement

- To highlight and protect the overall resource for wildlife provided by gardens (public and private) and housing estate land.
- To improve individual gardens and housing estate land as habitat for a range of local wildlife.

### Targets

#### Target 1 – Identify and protect the garden resource within Haringey by 2015

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
1.1 Assess the number and area of private gardens in LB Haringey through digital mapping.	2010	GIGL	LBH	Existing LBH budget
1.2 Produce a report on the change in the amount, type (e.g. paving/lawn) and distribution of private gardens over time within Haringey.	2010	GIGL	LBH	Existing LBH budget
1.3 Publicise policy and criteria for protection of garden sites from built development (via website link)	2010	LBH	GLA	No additional cost
1.4 Establish criteria for the creation of new gardens (private and communal) in building developments.	2015	LBH		TBC



**Target 2 – Support and encourage the recording of biodiversity in gardens, compiling baseline information on wildlife in Haringey’s gardens and housing estates by 2011**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>	<b>Other partners</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
2.1 Carry out species survey in gardens and housing estate land	2011	GIGL	HBP RA's PH's	Existing LBH budget
2.2 Compile and analyse survey information from surveys on species in gardens	2011	GIGL	RSPB HBP RA's PH's	Existing LBH budget

**Target 3 – Raise public awareness of, and encourage wildlife gardening by increasing interest in events and resources offered by partner organisations by 2015**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>	<b>Other partners</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
3.1 Promote wildlife gardening through talks and training days (1 per annum)	5 by 2015	LBH	LWT SH	Partner Organisations
3.2 Include wildlife gardening as a category in Haringey in Bloom.	2010	LBH		No additional cost
3.3 Provide website links to partner organisations and wildlife gardening information packs.	2010	LBH	LWT GC's	No additional cost

## Target 4 – Improve biodiversity value of housing estate land by 2015

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
4.1 Pilot habitat improvements on Ferry Lane Estate and Sycamore Gardens housing estates	2010	HfH C33 LWT NE	LBH RA's FLAG	Grant funding
4.2 Produce and implement wildlife friendly management plans for housing estates (2 per annum).	10 by 2015	HfH LBH	HA's, RA's	Existing LBH budget

### How You Can Help

- If you are lucky enough to have a garden don't pave over it!
- Avoid using pesticides
- Provide food and habitats for wildlife such as nectar giving flowers or ponds
- Enter your garden for Haringey in Bloom
- Encourage your landlord to manage communal gardens/land for the benefit of wildlife and people

### Links with other Actions Plans

Haringey Plans	London Plans
Standing Water	Standing Water
Bats	Private Gardens
Allotments	Bats

### Abbreviations

C33	Circle 33
FLAG	Ferry Lane Action Group
GC's	Garden Centres
GIGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London
GLA	Greater London Authority
HA's	Housing Associations
HBP	Haringey Biodiversity Partnership
LBH	London Borough of Haringey
LWT	London Wildlife Trust
NE	Natural England
PH's	Private Householder's
RA's	Residents Associations

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## 9.2.3 Parks and Green Spaces Habitat Action Plan

### Vision Statement

- To encourage good conservation practice in parks and green spaces across LB Haringey, respecting their varied functions and the aspirations of local communities.
- To improve access to nature in Haringey's parks and green spaces, particularly in areas of deficiency in access to natural green space.
- To raise awareness of the importance of parks, squares and green spaces in the conservation of Haringey's biodiversity.

### Targets

**Target 1 – Raise awareness of how parks management can be improved to enhance access to nature for Haringey residents and visitors.**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
1.1 Organise one seminar per year on issues linked to biodiversity in parks for staff, residents associations and 'Friends' groups.	5 by 2015	LBH	ARC BTCV FG's	Existing LBH budget
1.2 Produce/distribute a parks and green space management booklet showcasing best practice for parks staff and ground maintenance contractors.	2011	GLA/LBH		TBC

**Target 2 – Undertake biodiversity improvement work in a minimum of 10 LB Haringey parks and green spaces by 2015**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>	<b>Other partners</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
2.1 Identify 10 priority sites for biodiversity improvements taking into account areas of deficiency and the need to increase the active management of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation	2010	LBH		No additional cost
2.2 Write/amend management plans for the identified sites incorporating biodiversity improvements (2/3 per annum).	2014	LBH	LO's FG's BTCV	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
2.3 Implement works on the 10 priority sites by 2015 (2 per annum from 2010).	2015	LBH/BTCV	LO's FG's	Existing LBH budgets/ Partners Organisations
2.4 Ensure that biodiversity enhancement work is included in all LB Haringey major park restoration or creation schemes.	2015	LBH	FG's BTCV	TBC

**Target 3 –Increase the number of volunteers recording wildlife in Haringey’s parks and green spaces.**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>	<b>Other partners</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
3.1 Organise and implement a long term training programme in wildlife identification and monitoring for staff and volunteers.	2010	LBH	LNHS	Grant funding/ Partner Organisations
3.2 Develop a simple wildlife recording form for use by non-specialists in consultation with GIGL.	2010	LBH/GIGL	FG’s	Existing LBH budget

**How You Can Help**

- Join one of the friends groups helping to manage parks and green spaces in Haringey;
- Take part in or start a wildlife monitoring programme.
- Join BTCV volunteer work days
- Report antisocial behaviour (including the dumping of garden waste) and vandalism to Haringey Council; report fires to the fire services immediately.
- Keep to the byelaws.

## Links with other Actions Plans

Haringey Plans	London Plans
Standing Water	Parks and Green Spaces
Bats	Private Gardens
Gardens	Bats
Woodlands	Stag Beetles
	Woodland
	Churchyards and Cemeteries
	Standing Water

## Abbreviations

ARC	Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
BTCV	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
FG's	Friends Groups
GIGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London
GLA	Greater London Authority
LBH	London Borough of Haringey
LO's	Land Owners
LNHS	London Natural History Society
LWT	London Wildlife Trust

## 9.2.4 Woodland Habitat Action Plan

### Vision Statement

- To conserve and enhance Haringey's woodland for the benefit of biodiversity and for both the current and future generations of people.
- To increase the area woodland in Haringey, particularly in areas where there is little accessible woodland.

### Targets

**Target 1 – To increase the extent of woodland habitat in Haringey by 0.5 hectares by 2015**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
1.1 Based on areas of deficiency survey results identify suitable sites for tree planting/ woodland creation projects.	2010	LBH	FC GIGL	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
1.2 Establish additional 0.5ha of woodland through planting or natural regeneration.	2015	LBH	BTCV	Existing LBH budget/ Grant funding

**Target 2 – To increase public benefit, understanding and community involvement in Haringey's Woodlands by 2012**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
2.1 Maintain a programme of practical conservation work days in	120 by 2015	CoL/LBH	BTCV FQW FCW	Existing LBH budget/ Partner



Haringey's woodlands (24 per annum)				Organisations
2.2 Programme of public talks/walks (30 per annum)	20 by 2015	CoL	BTCV FQW FCW LBH	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations

**Target 3 – Promote knowledge of best practice in woodland management and increase the area of woodland that is managed appropriately by the end of 2015**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
3.1 Produce and implement 3 new management plans for Haringey Woodlands	2011	LBH	FQW FCW FC	Existing LBH budget/ Grant funding
3.2 Achieve UKWAS standard for 3 of Haringey's Ancient Woodlands	2013	LBH	FQW FCW FC	Existing LBH budget

**Target 4 – To protect and conserve Haringey's veteran trees**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
4.1 Identify and map Haringey's veteran trees	2012	LBH	TW's FG's GIGL CoL	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
4.2 Enhance the management of 20% of veteran trees identified through restorative management such as mulching, retrenchment and halo pruning	2015	LBH	LO's CoL	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
4.3 Produce and implement a plan to establish future veteran trees in	2013	LBH	CoL TW's FG's LO's	TBC

## **How You Can Help**

- Join one of the 'Friends' groups helping to manage our ancient woodlands such as the Friends of Coldfall or Queen's Woods.
- Become a Tree Warden
- Join the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers on one of their practical work days
- Keep to the byelaws and avoid picking wildflowers
- Report antisocial behaviour (including the dumping of garden waste) and vandalism to Haringey Council; report fires to the fire services immediately.

## **Links with other Actions Plans**

<b>Haringey Plans</b>	<b>London Plans</b>
Gardens	Parks and Green Spaces
Bats	Private Gardens
Parks and Greenspaces	Bats
	Stag Beetles
	Woodland
	Churchyards and Cemeteries

## **Abbreviations**

BTCV	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
CoL	City of London
FC	Forestry Commission
FCW	Friends of Coldfall Wood
FG's	Friends Groups
FQW	Friends of Queen's Wood
GIGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London
LBH	London Borough of Haringey
LO's	Land Owners

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## 9.2.5 Standing Water Habitat Action Plan

### Vision Statement

- To restore standing water habitats
- To increase the number of standing water habitats
- To increase knowledge and awareness of the importance of standing water habitats

### Targets

**Target 1 – To carry out improvements to existing standing water habitats and to create new exemplar sites**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
1.1 Identify and map the existing distribution of standing water habitats in Haringey	2011	ARC GIGL		Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
1.2 Improve existing standing water habitats (1 per year)	5 by 2015	ARC/LBH		Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
1.3 Create new ponds as part of Amphibian and Reptile Conservations Living Waters Project	4 by 2012	ARC	FG's LBH	Grant funding / Partner Organisations
1.4 Contact all schools in Haringey to offer advice on pond management and creation	2010	ARC/LBH		Partner Organisation
1.5 Produce and distribute publicity on creating and maintaining ponds	2011	ARC/LBH		Grant Funding / Partner

				Organisation
1.6 Offer site management training to community groups with standing water		ARC		Partner Organisation

## How You Can Help

- Build a pond
- Avoid buying invasive non-native aquatic plants
- Don't move frogs, toads, newts or their spawn as it can cause them harm by spreading disease
- Join a nature conservation organisation such as Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

## Links with other Actions Plans

Haringey Plans	London Plans
Parks and Greenspaces	Standing Water
Gardens	Private Gardens

## Abbreviations

ARC	Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
FG's	Friends Groups
GIGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London
LBH	London Borough of Haringey
SM's	Site Managers

## 9.2.6 Built Structures Habitat Action Plan

### Vision Statement

- To improve the overall value of built structures in Haringey for the benefit of biodiversity.
- To increase awareness of the value and potential of built structures amongst planners, architects, developers and the general public.

### Targets

#### Target 1 – To conserve and enhance existing built structures of biodiversity value

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
1.1 Identify and map key examples of existing structures of biodiversity value within Haringey	2011	LBH/GIGL		Existing LBH budget
1.2 Identify 5 Council owned structures with potential for key biodiversity improvements and implement those improvements	2015	LBH	PO's	TBC
1.3 Install bird and bat boxes on 250 properties (50 per year)	2015	LBH	PO's	Existing LBH Budget/ Partner Organisations/ Land Owners
1.4 Provide guidance notes for planners, developers, architects and the general public on protecting bats and birds when working on roofs and loft spaces	2010	LBH	BCT  LS	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisation

**Target 2 – To promote the construction of biodiversity features within new developments**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>	<b>Other partners</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
2.1 Hold a seminar on 'Design for Biodiversity' for planners, architects and developers	2010	LBH	EC	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
2.2 Arrange a visit for Council Members and Planners to visit examples of best practice	2010	LBH		Existing LBH budgets
2.3 Construct green roofs and walls on new Council buildings	3 by 2015	LBH		TBC
2.4 Encourage developers to incorporate 'Design for Biodiversity' through new Council planning policy	2015	LBH		Existing LBH budget

**How You Can Help**

- Install bat and bird boxes on your home and place of work, and encourage others to do the same
- Make space for wildlife when repairing roofs or installing insulation and avoid disturbance to nesting/roosting birds and bats
- Grow wildlife friendly plants up walls and fences
- Join nature conservation organisations such as London Swifts, the Bat Conservation Trust, Lee Valley Bats or the London Bat Group

## Links with other Actions Plans

Haringey Plans	London Plans
Bats	Bats
	Built Environment (proposed)

## Abbreviations

BCT	Bat Conservation Trust
EC	Ecology Consultants
GIGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London
LBH	London Borough of Haringey
LS	London Swifts
PO's	Property Owners



## 9.3 Species Action Plans

### 9.3.1 Bats (all species) Species Action Plan

#### Vision Statement

- To help reverse the current population decline in bats.
- To redress public misconceptions about bats and secure their status as culturally valued animals.

#### Targets

**Target 1 – Raise and maintain awareness of bat conservation issues within key sectors (specifically planners, land managers and tree and building contractors), by advancing a targeted programme of relevant best practice advice dissemination by 2011**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
1.1 Establish a database of operatives and agents in key sectors across LB Haringey	2010	LBH	LBG LTOA CoL	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
1.2 Promote best practice to all major tree contractors/wardens in Haringey through written letters and the existing 'Bats in Trees' leaflet	2010	LBH	LTOA BCT LBG	No additional cost
1.3 Promote existing Bat Advice Note for all LB Haringey planners	2010	LBH	BCT	No additional cost
1.4 Establish regular e-bulletin to update/alert database to new advice/guidance/case-studies on a (future) annual basis	2010	LBG	LBH NE	Existing LBH budget

1.5 Promote model management of foraging habitat for bats by encouraging grant scheme applications to subsidise implementation of a revised management plan for at least 1 important site	2011	LBH	FC LBG BCT LVRPA	Grant funding
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**Target 2 – Increase knowledge of bat distribution and species in Haringey by 2015**

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
2.1 Collate current and historical records for all bats in LB Haringey	2010	GIGL	LBH LBG FG's CoL	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
2.2 Recruit 10 volunteers to monitor existing bat boxes in Haringey parks and open spaces	2011	LBG/ LVB	LBH CoL FG's	Existing LBH budget/ Partner Organisations
2.3 Implement 1 significant research project on bat activity in Haringey	2012	LBH	TW TFL LBG LVB BCT EE's	TBC

### Target 3 – Create/improve 3 artificial roosting sites by 2015

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
3.1 Identify potential sites for roost creation opportunities	2010	LBH	LBG LVB	No additional cost
3.2 Create/improve 1 hibernation roosting site	2014	LBH	LBG LVB FG's	Grant funding/ Partner Organisations
3.3 Incorporate artificial bat roosting opportunities into at least 1 major building development	2015	LBH	PD's LBG LVB BCT	TBC
3.4 Create an artificial roosting site in at least 1 Haringey park or open space	2012	LBH	LBG LVB FG's	Existing LBH budget

### Target 4 – Increase public awareness of and involvement in bat conservation by 2015

Action	Target date	Lead partners	Other partners	Funding Source
4.1 Maintain a co-ordinated programme of guided bat walks, attracting a total of at least 150 attendees per annum	750 attendees by 2015	LBH	CoL LBG LVB FG's	Partner Organisations
4.2 Maintain a programme of events e.g. training, public talks. 2 per annum	10 by 2015	LBH	LVB LBG FG's	Grant funding/ Partner Organisations
4.3 1 scripted media article per annum	5 by 2015	LBH	LVB LBG	No additional cost

## How You Can Help

- Put up a bat box
- Learn more about bats by attending a 'bat walk'
- Get involved in our bat box monitoring programme
- Report any bats you see to London Bat Group
- Join a bat conservation organisation such as the Bat Conservation Trust, London Bat Group or Lee Valley Bats

## Links with other Actions Plans

<b>Haringey Plans</b>	<b>London Plans</b>
Woodlands	Bats
Standing Water	Parks and Green Spaces
Parks and Greenspaces	Private Gardens
Built Structures	Reedbeds
	Wasteland
	Woodland
	Churchyards and Cemeteries
	Canals
	Rivers and Streams
	Standing Water

## Abbreviations

BCT	Bat Conservation Trust
CoL	City of London
EE's	Educational Establishments
FC	Forestry Commission
FG's	Friends Groups
GIGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London
LBG	London Bat Group
LBH	London Borough of Haringey
LTOA	London Tree Officers Association
LVB	Lee Valley Bats
LVRPA	Lee Valley Regional Park Authority
NE	Natural England
PD's	Property Developers
TFL	Transport for London
TW	Thames Water

## **9.4 Habitat Statements**

In addition to the habitats with specific action plans three additional habitats found in Haringey have been identified for special mention due to their significance within the borough. These are Wastelands, Rivers and Streams, and Railway Land.

### **9.4.1 Wasteland**

Wasteland comprises the range of habitats that develop on land whose industrial, commercial or residential use has declined or ceased. Much of Haringey's wasteland is also termed brownfield land – land that has been previously developed. Brownfield sites may once have been the location of railway sidings, factories, housing, sewage treatment works. The biodiversity they can support can be stunning and unique, providing a mosaic of species and communities at different stages of succession that enriches our urban environment. Wasteland provides ideal foraging habitat for birds like goldfinches, linnets and, on a few sites, black redstarts. The open character of these areas makes many sites excellent for invertebrates and reptiles. Haringey's wastelands may be second only to ancient woodland for rare invertebrates.

Their substrates can be highly variable and include demolition rubble, railway ballast and pulverised fuel ash, as well as natural substrates. These substrates are characteristically nutrient-poor and free-draining and, as a result, the vegetation of early colonised wasteland is typically sparse, containing species adapted to the physical and chemical conditions.

Wasteland provides important open spaces for local people in the urban environment. These sites are often the truly “wild” city spaces, and there is great potential to make them more accessible, safe and enjoyable through positive management. Both native and exotic species are found in these habitats and this mixture is a reflection of the past and present international trade and cultural links.

Due to the rapid rate of development many of Haringey's best wasteland sites have been lost however it is hoped that where they have been designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation that they can be protected and managed in favour of wildlife.

## **9.4.2 Railway Land**

Land owned and managed by Network Rail and Transport for London includes several Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), as well as ecological and green corridors as defined in Haringey's Unitary Development Plan. Together these play an important role in Haringey's green infrastructure providing links for wildlife between natural green spaces across and beyond the borough.

Although operational and safety constraints make public access to most of these sites impractical or dangerous there is a possibility for future public access at Stroud Green Embankment a relatively large SINC close to an area of deficiency in access to natural green space. It is hoped that an agreement with Network Rail to allow this to happen can be reached during the course of this five year plan. However this will not only be dependent upon a sympathetic Network Rail but also upon funding for security fencing and footpath construction.

Elsewhere it is hoped that Network Rail and Transport for London will manage their land with biodiversity in mind protecting existing sites and providing mitigation where this is not possible.

## **9.4.3 Rivers and Streams**

Unfortunately as with the majority of London's rivers and streams Haringey's watercourses have suffered as a result of urbanisation to the extent that now only a few sections of the Boroughs natural streams can be seen above ground. Always an extremely valuable habitat the importance of rivers and streams for wildlife will only increase due to climate change putting increased pressure on natural resources. Improving these habitats will be essential in mitigating any negative effects of climate change.

There are limited opportunities to improve or increase this habitat due to the built up nature of the Borough but planning policy offers a degree of protection from further development along watercourses and the Council seeks to promote river corridors as important areas of open land. This includes seeking to restore and enhance natural elements of the river environment through actions such as deculverting and/or naturalisation, and contributing towards the conservation and enhancement of the ecology of all rivers and the floodplain.

Recent works have seen improvements to the water quality of the Coldfall Stream in Coldfall Wood and future plans include the restoration of the Moselle Brook in Lordship Recreation Ground, Tottenham. Other opportunities to restore water courses exist on the former Friern Barnet Sewage Works site and in plans for the Haringey Heartlands development area. The LB Haringey will work with numerous partners including landowners, the Environment Agency and Thames Water in achieving improvements to this habitat.

## 10. Monitoring and Delivery

Delivery and monitoring of the BAP is to be reviewed at quarterly working group meetings. Information gathered at these meetings is then reported to the Recreation Services Policy and Development Officer and Assistant Director for feedback.

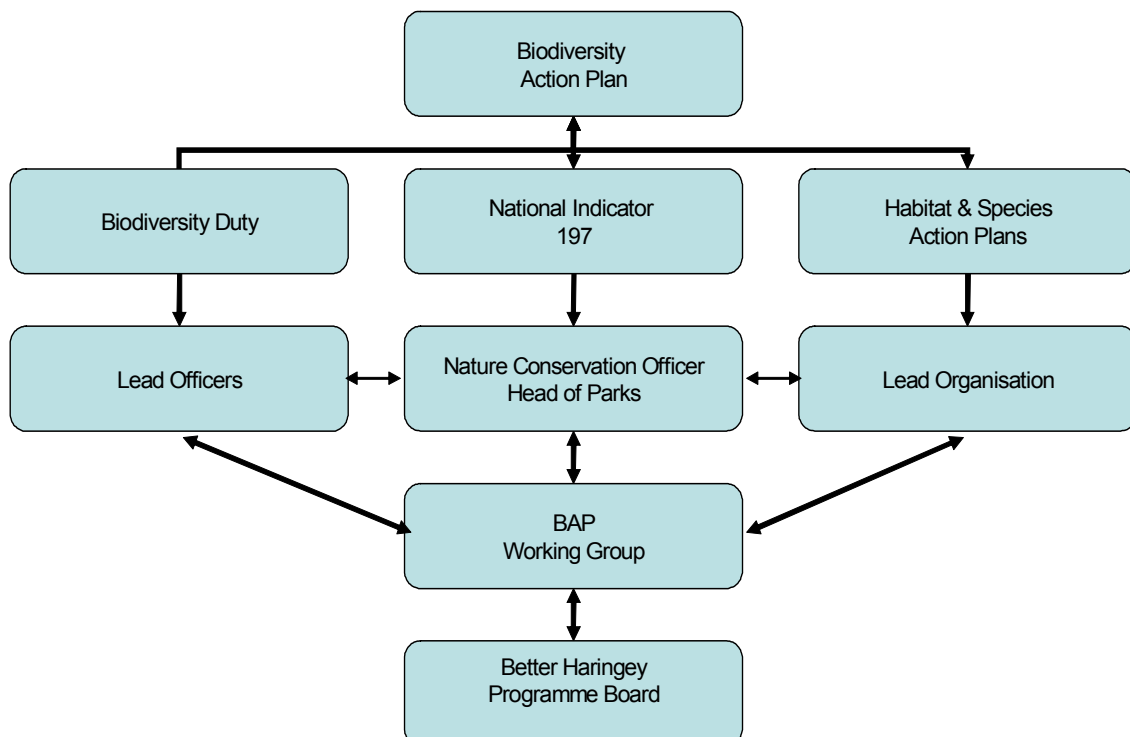
Delivery of the BAP is broken down into three key areas;

**Biodiversity Duty** - Delivery of the Biodiversity Duty actions will be the responsibility of each individual service and the lead officer for each service who will report to the BAP working group at quarterly meetings. This information will be used to guide the choice of actions for the following year which should be compiled as part of the Business Plan.

**National Indicator 197** - Delivery will be the responsibility of the Nature Conservation Project Officer and Head of Parks who will report back to the BAP working group. In addition to the working group NI197 figures are checked and verified by the London Biodiversity Partnership before being sent to DEFRA at the end of each financial year.

**Habitat and Species Action Plans** – Each plan has a lead organisation and working group representative who will present any progress at quarterly meetings. HAP and SAP objectives, actions and progress are also recorded on the national Biological Action Reporting System (BARS) which can generate reports as and when required. It is the responsibility of the Nature Conservation Project Officer to keep BARS up to date.

### Haringey BAP Monitoring Process





## Appendix 1

### BAP (2004) Review

The Haringey Biodiversity Partnership (HBP) which was instrumental in producing the 2004 BAP reformed in late 2007 to take forward the cause of biodiversity in Haringey and review the effectiveness of the BAP to date.

Unfortunately the success of the 2004 BAP has been mixed with many of the identified objectives and actions not having been achieved. However it was noted that where successes were recorded they occurred in fields where voluntary groups in Haringey are particularly strong i.e. in woodlands and bats.

It was also noted that there had been a large amount of voluntary work taking place within the Borough that was either outside the HAP and SAP targets or that had gone unrecorded.

In reviewing the BAP the HBP noted that some of the habitats previously chosen for HAPs should be reselected whereas others such as Wasteland and Railway Land should be recognised for their importance through statements rather than full action plans. This was largely due to the considerable difficulties in achieving objectives where the habitats are subject to strong operational and access constraints i.e. railway land or where in the case of wastelands many of the important sites have been lost to development.

It was also agreed under the review, that a closer working relationship with **Greenspace Information for Greater London** (London's biological records centre) through the exchange of records would be beneficial in assessing the success of future nature conservation work in Haringey and support nature conservation in London as a region.

## Appendix 2

### Sites of Importance for Nature conservation

1	Albert Road Recreation Ground	31	Marsh Lane Allotments
2	Alexandra Park	32	Muswell Hill Playing Fields
3	Alexandra Park Allotments	33	New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane Rec and Woodside Park
4	Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill Golf Course	34	Nightingale Gardens and Avenue Gardens
5	Bruce Grove Wood	35	North Bank, Pages Lane
6	Chestnuts Recreation Ground	36	Paignton Road Open Space
7	Chitts Hill Allotments	37	Palace Gates
8	Coldfall Wood	38	Railway Fields
9	Coles Park Allotments	39	Rhodes Avenue Spinney
10	Courtman Road Allotments	40	Scout Park
11	Creighton Avenue Allotments	41	Shepherds Hill Allotments
12	Crouch End Playing Fields	42	Shepherd's Hill Garden
13	Devonshire Hill Allotments	43	Southwood Lane Wood
14	Down Lane Recreation Ground	44	St Anne's Hospital Wood
15	Downhills Park	45	St Mary's Churchyard, Hornsey
16	Easthale Allotments	46	Stockton Road Allotments
17	Finsbury Park	47	Stroud Green railway Bank
18	Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works	48	The Priory Park
19	Fortis Green Covered Reservoir	49	Thorold Road Allotments
20	Gospatrick Road Allotments	50	Tottenham Cemetery and Bruce Castle Park
21	Granville Road Wood	51	Tottenham Hale to Northumberland Park Railsides
22	Grove Lodge, Muswell Hill	52	Tottenham Marshes
23	Harringay Stadium Slopes	53	Tottenham Railsides
24	Harrington Site	54	Tower Gardens
25	Highgate Golf Course	55	Tunnel Gardens
26	Hollickwood Park	56	Wood Green Reservoirs
27	Land behind 3 Fairfield Road	57	Yeatman Road Allotments
28	Land beside Fortismere School	58	The New River
29	Lordship Lane Recreation Ground	59	Parkland Walk, Queen's Wood and Highgate Wood

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## Glossary

**Adaptation** – to change or modify to suit new conditions.

**Ecosystem** – an interdependent system involving the interactions between organisms and their environment.

**Environment** – the surroundings and external factors which influence an organisms development and behaviour.

**Habitat** – the natural home and environment of a plant or animal.

**Mitigation** – to moderate the negative affects of something, to reduce its severity.

**Sustainable** – Capable of being maintained at a steady level without depleting natural resources or causing ecological damage.