Report Summary

Cross Cutting Business and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee has decided to consider whether the Council’s Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan (BERP), in conjunction with the approach to developing the Council’s planning processes, satisfy the requirements of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 dictates that all public bodies ‘must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the proper exercise of their functions and in doing so promote the resilience of ecosystems’. The duty is reflected in the objectives of the Torfaen well-being Plan.

To comply with the legislation, the plan cannot be a ‘stand-alone’ document, but must be imbedded into the day to day business of the Council. It is therefore implicit in all decision making, and as such requires consideration at a corporate level. It is for this reason that Cross Cutting Business and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee has decided to consider this.

An external consultant was engaged to prepare a draft Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan for the Council which includes a series of actions that Members are invited to scrutinise.

1. Scrutiny Activity

1.1 Cross Cutting Business and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee has decided to consider whether the Council’s Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan (BERP), in conjunction with the approach to developing the Council’s planning processes, satisfy the requirements of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

1.2 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 dictates that all public bodies ‘must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the proper exercise of their functions and in doing so promote the resilience of ecosystems’.

1.3 The Council is required to prepare and publish a plan on how it intends to comply with this Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty. To comply with the legislation, the plan cannot be a ‘stand-alone’ document, but must be imbedded into the day to day business of the Council. It is therefore implicit in all decision
making, and as such requires consideration at a corporate level.

1.4 The Committee is asked to scrutinise the extent to which preparations have been made to satisfy the requirements of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, and in doing so the committee should offer recommendations on the,

- Draft Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan (BERP)
- Proposed approach to raising awareness across the Council of the requirements of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

2. Background

2.1 Wales’ commitments to sustainable development, green growth and the principles of the Ecosystem Approach\(^1\) are enshrined in Welsh law through the Well-being of Future Generations (WFG), Environment (Wales) and Planning (Wales) Acts. The relationship between these Acts is set out on pages 5 and 12 of the draft BERP (Appendix 2).

2.2 Section 6 under Part 1 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (the S6 duty) for public authorities in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales.

2.3 The S6 duty requires that public authorities must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity so far as consistent with the proper exercise of their functions and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems.

2.4 To comply with the S6 duty public authorities should embed the consideration of biodiversity and ecosystems into their early thinking and business planning, including any policies, plans, programmes and projects, as well as their day to day activities.

2.5 To comply with the S6 duty, most public authorities must prepare and publish a plan setting out what they propose to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity, and promote resilience. The plan can and should be an integral part of any planning document as part of the public authority’s business or corporate planning processes. A standalone plan is not necessarily required.

2.6 A public authority, in complying with the S6 duty, must have regard to:

- The section 7 list of habitats and species of principal importance for Wales (see Appendix 1 of the draft BERP)
- The State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR), published by Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
- Any Area Statement which covers all or part of the area in which the authority exercises its functions, once these are produced (The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 made it a duty for NRW to produce Area statements. They will bring together data, information and ways of

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\(^1\) A strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way.
2.7 The Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales contains six objectives which should be used to help develop and guide actions to comply with the S6 duty, and further technical guidance will be produced.

2.8 A report on what the public authority has done to comply with the duty must be published by the end of 2019 and then every three years after this date.

2.9 Complying with the S6 duty will help public bodies subject to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (the WFG Act) to maximise their contributions to the Well-being goals.

3. Discussion on Torfaen County Borough Council’s Approach

3.1 A shared vision for future generations is set out in the Well-being Plan for Torfaen, incorporating this statement:

‘Natural resources will be protected and enhanced and resilient to a changing climate. Water and air quality will be good, soils will be healthy and ecological connectivity will be maximised. Our citizens’ will understand and be able to realise the many benefits that our natural resources can provide.’

Objective 1 of the well-being Plan is to ‘Develop a functional connected network of natural areas that support the current and future well-being needs of local populations.’ Included within this is the development of a shared green infrastructure strategy, to include amongst other targets, support for biodiversity and ecological resilience.

3.2 In order to comply with the S.6 duties described in paragraph 2 above, officers procured external experts Resources for Change, to prepare a draft Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan (BERP) for consultation with officers across the wider Council and Members (Appendix 2). The preparation process has been a collaborative one involving a steering group of officers from many areas of the Council, together with expert input from external organisations.

3.3 The Plan lays out:

- The context for the work, both locally and nationally
- The process used to develop the plan
- A brief summary of the contents of the plan
- The Action Plan
- Appendices, which list reading material and web links used

3.4 Section 7 list of Habitats and Species

3.4.1 Appendix 1 of the BERP document lists the habitats and species of principal importance for Wales. Many of these are present in Torfaen as a result of the unique combination of geology, altitudinal variation, water corridors and post-industrial features. Consequently we have 4 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI’s), 7 Local Nature Reserves (LNR’s) and more than 200 Sites of Importance...
for Nature Conservation (SINC’s). Important habitats include heather moorland, ancient woodland and wild flower rich meadows. Important species include birds such as Lapwing and Red Grouse, wild flowers including Round-leaved sundew, Otters and Glow Worms, to name just a few.

3.4.2 Members are invited to consider whether the draft BERP has sufficient regard to the Section 7 list of species and habitats.

3.5 State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR)

3.5.1 The BERP is required to have regard to the ground-breaking State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) published by NRW. https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/the-state-of-natural-resources-report-assessment-of-the-sustainable-management-of-natural-resources/?lang=en

SoNaRR sets out the state of Wales’ natural resources. It assesses the extent to which natural resources in Wales are being sustainably managed, and recommends a proactive approach to building resilience. The report links the resilience of Welsh natural resources to the well-being of the people of Wales. It looks at how pressures on Wales’ natural resources are resulting in risks and threats to long-term social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being, as set out in the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

3.5.2 When natural resources flourish, society and the economy thrive as well. Natural resources and ecosystems are essential in ensuring a sustainable supply of food, help us to reduce flooding, improve air quality and supply materials for construction. They also provide a home for a variety of wildlife, and give us iconic landscapes to enjoy, which also boosts the economy through tourism.

3.5.3 The SoNaRR Report recognises that a range of issues, which are difficult to manage or regulate, is contributing to reducing the resilience of Wales’ ecosystems. This affects the delivery of ecosystem benefits, which in turn impacts on people’s well-being. It concludes that our actions as a society are lowering our and future generations’ quality of life.

3.5.4 The full value of natural resources and ecosystems is not being adequately taken into consideration in various decision-making processes. Under the Environment Act, Wales now has the opportunity to address this disjointed system and take a more integrated approach.

3.5.5 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 placed a duty on NRW to produce Area statements. Area statements will bring together data, information and ways of engaging others to help us better understand the state and trends of natural resources in an area, the pressures on them and their benefits. This in turn will help prioritise actions to safeguard species and habitats on a regional and local basis. Torfaen falls within the South East Wales Area statement which is consistent with Gwent (Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Newport and Monmouthshire) https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/media/687082/as-areas-and-ua-boundaries.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=13183721565000000

3.5.6 The draft Torfaen BERP has a key role to play in changing the way the Council considers biodiversity as part of all its functions.
3.5.7 Members are invited to comment on the extent to which the draft BERP in its current form can achieve this. Are any amendments required?

3.6 Nature Recovery Plan for Wales

3.6.1 The Nature Recovery Action Plan consists of three parts:

Part 1: Sets out the position with regard to biodiversity in Wales, the issues that need to be addressed, and guiding policies.

Part 2: Sets out actions which have been specifically identified to support biodiversity, over and above but contributing to the delivery of the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Wales.

Part 3: The Nature Recovery Framework is under development and will show the roles and responsibilities of the key players for delivery of action for biodiversity in Wales, as well as how they will fit into the delivery framework for the Well-being of Future Generations Act and the Environment (Wales) Act.

3.6.2 A number of objectives have been identified to address the issues that are driving the decline in biodiversity, and to support recovery:

- Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels;
- Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management. Including the requirement on Welsh Ministers to prepare and publish a list of the living organisms and types of habitat which are of principal importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in Wales;
- Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation;
- Tackle key pressures on species and habitats;
- Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring; and,
- Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery

4. Implications

4.1 The draft Torfaen BERP includes an action plan specifically aimed at delivering the Nature Recovery Plan objectives listed above. Fundamentally the Council’s duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 must form a key component of the corporate planning process, and be reflected in the service plans of every area of the Council.

‘To comply with the S6 duty public authorities should embed the consideration of biodiversity and ecosystems into their early thinking and business planning, including any policies, plans, programmes and projects, as well as their day to day activities.’ Welsh Government 2016
4.2 The BERP Action Plan also includes the following:

4.2.1 Internal Council Actions

- Assessment of the plan by Cross Cutting Scrutiny Committee to ensure it meets our legislative duties and to ensure whole Council understanding and commitment.

- Develop and support a team of internal champions who understand the legislative requirements as they apply to their service areas.

- Create and support a team of Community Champions at ward level, who develop understanding of the legislative requirements as they apply to their community.

- Celebrate achievements and have regular relevant item Council social media and in the relating to successes / challenges in relation to S.6.

- A wider publicity campaign to help communities and individuals understand land management for biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.

- Identify educational opportunities within the curriculum and educational facilities to transfer environmental knowledge and skills.

- Develop a process for S.6 proofing all decisions made by the Council.

- In delivering the Council’s Clean Corporate Priority, strategic and operational actions will reflect duties set out in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, through the BERP Action Plan.

- Improve data management so that GIS and all data re biodiversity, flood risk, wildlife corridors etc. is together and accessible for all teams; to enable informed strategic and day to day decisions. Better information provided (data sets) at planning stage to better understand environmental impact / benefit.

- Undertake a real cost benefit analysis for each task or project by completing the Council’s corporate well-being assessment template.

- Adapting processes to align with the Plan, or vice versa when some processes can’t be adapted

4.2.2 Actions for the Natural Environment and Streetscene Operations Group

- Develop and publish a tree strategy, incorporating clear policies relating to tree, woodland and hedgerow management.

- Increase and enhance blue/green corridors utilising measures in road side verge management, green space, canal, cycleway and river.

- Become an exemplar by promoting good practice in land / water
management.

- Rights of Way - Produce accessible information for TCBC.

- Rights of Way – maintain existing routes as ecological corridors, providing information and signage to encourage regular use.

- Rights of Way – Access Team work with planning department to ensure that ROWs and the cycling network are considered at pre-application stage.

- Countryside Access – Appoint volunteer recruiter /coordinator to restore the lost capacity of volunteers to maintain ROWs and the cycling network and act as community champions for our countryside and green routes. Invest in promotion.

- Create wildflower buffer zones in parks and amenity areas and some roadside verges.

- Work with community groups/adult care to create pollinator beds (seed beds of colourful flowers that attract pollinators).

### 4.2.3 Actions Relating to the Built Environment

- Travel Routes – Create and maintain Active Travel Routes and Safe Routes to School using sub-based material rather than bound where suitable.

- Planning – introduce the requirement to align with this plan on all new developments at pre-planning stage. Use failure to comply as a reason for rejection. Seek to process more quickly applications which take positive action to meet the requirements of the plan.

- Planning – support members with briefings re the council’s responsibility under S.6.

- Scoping Tool for all Future Builds – Design and Construction Toolkit - this is being developed and should be adopted throughout the Council so that as the Council approaches any new project the materials, processes etc that offer the best for biodiversity and ecosystem resilience will be first choice, unless there is a good reason not to do.

- 21st century schools - review and settle design principles using Design and Construction Toolkit.

- Procuring Local Labour - Increase the level of local labour used on construction and other time limited contracts via procurement, working, where necessary with local colleges to identify skills currently in short supply and provide accredited training

### 4.2.4 Actions Relating to Waste and Energy Efficiency

- Energy and Waste – Work with relevant teams to examine opportunities to
identify and record baseline for waste created internally at Torfaen offices.

- Develop targets to reduce and monitor waste from all TCBC offices and other places of work.
- Identify Champions at each work site.
- Energy and Waste - Identify and record baseline Set up targets for reducing waste in schools, libraries and other TCBC non office establishments where the public are regular users.
- Energy – Continue to implement the existing energy efficiency programme for TCBC buildings.
- Increasing the efficiency of the use of council owned vehicles - Consider alternatives when replacing or renewing leasing schemes

4.3 **Do Members feel the actions are appropriate and sufficient to meet the objectives? Are there any omissions?**

4.4 Officers from across the wider Council will have collective responsibility for delivering the above actions. However the success of the approach and the Council’s ability to satisfy the legislative duties will only be possible by having an appropriately qualified individual to provide leadership and coordination. The reallocation of resources within Neighbourhood Services through a reconfiguration of the Environment and Streetscene Group will enable the appointment of a suitably qualified ecologist to coordinate the delivery of this plan.

5. **Plan Review Period**

5.1 The legislative guidance states that all authorities must report on:

- How well corporate planning systems have considered and committed to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.
- How well the Nature Recovery Action Plan objectives are being met, including the use of best available evidence.
- How the aspects of ecosystem resilience have been used pro-actively.
- Any measures of biodiversity and ecosystem resilience that can be applied (for example, contributing to the National Indicators for the WFG Act).
- Notable achievements for habitats or species.

5.2 Further guidance is anticipated from Welsh Government on reporting against the Plan in due course. However it is anticipated that the corporate performance management and evaluation systems currently in place within the Council will be used to monitor progress. Annual service evaluation undertaken by each department will need to reflect contributions to delivering BERP actions, and inform any revisions to the document on an annual basis.
5.3 Are Members content that existing Council performance management and review systems are appropriate for monitoring progress and reviewing future priorities for the BERP?

6. **Well-being Assessment**

6.1 A Well-being Assessment is attached as Appendix 1

7. **Consultations**

7.1 The draft BERP has been circulated widely across the Council and to stakeholder organisations. Amendments have been made to the draft document to reflect comments received from the following:

*Internal Responses:*
- Innovation and Development Manager, Social Care and Housing
- Highways Maintenance Team
- Neighbourhood Services Finance Team Leader
- Rural Development Land Management Officer

*External Responses:*
- Friends of the Earth
- Wales Biodiversity Partnership
- Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent Local Nature Partnership
- Gwent Wildlife Trust

8. **Conclusions**

8.1 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 dictates that all public bodies ‘must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the proper exercise of their functions and in doing so promote the resilience of ecosystems’. To comply, the Council has prepared a draft plan which Scrutiny Committee Members are invited to discuss to determine whether it meets the requirements of the Act.

9. **Scrutiny Activity**

9.1 The Committee is asked to scrutinise the extent to which preparations have been made to satisfy the requirements of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, through the preparation of a Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan (BERP):

1. Are Members content with the BERP approach taken to date?

2. Members are invited to consider whether the draft BERP has sufficient regard to the Section 7 list of species and habitats.

3. Members are invited to comment on the extent to which the draft BERP in its current form can achieve this. Are any amendments required?

4. Do Members feel the actions in the Action Plan are appropriate and sufficient to meet the objectives, particularly those which focus on raising awareness across the Council of the requirements of the Environment
(Wales) Act 2016? Are there any omissions?

5. Are Members content that existing Council performance management and review systems are appropriate for monitoring progress and reviewing future priorities for the BERP?

| Appendices | Appendix 1 Well Being Assessment  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Appendix 2 Draft Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Background Papers | NS-2017-98 REPORT TO INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER, NEIGHBOURHOODS PLANNING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION  
|                   | 12 September 2017                                      |
|                   | TORFAEN BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE PLAN     |

For a copy of the background papers or for further information about this report, please telephone: Andrew Osborne, Group Leader, Environment Strategy & Streetscene Operations. 07951 029034
### Project Description (key aims): Torfaen Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Plan

#### Section 1) Complete the table below to assess how well you have applied the 5 ways of working.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integration</th>
<th>1. How does your project / activity deliver economic, social, environmental &amp; cultural outcomes together?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This plan aims to embed the requirements of s6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 into all functions of the local authority. It recognises that a green, well connected and resilient Torfaen that values its natural environment can make a positive contribution to the economy, peoples health and well-being and local distinctiveness. The plan sets out cross cutting actions to deliver biodiversity and ecosystem resilience across all four strands of sustainability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long-term</th>
<th>2. How does your project / activity balance short-term need with the long-term and planning for the future?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The plan recognises the importance of taking actions today to ensure we pass on a quality natural environment that is rich in biodiversity and resilient against the impacts of climate change to future generations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevention</th>
<th>3. How does your project / activity put resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The plan seeks to promote the enhancement of biodiversity by promoting subtle cost-effective changes in working practices that can achieve short and long-term benefits for the natural environment. For example ensuring council run projects consider biodiversity at an early stage.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collaboration</th>
<th>4. How does your project / activity involve working together with partners (internal and external) to deliver well-being objectives?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The plan aims to work collaboratively across all council departments especially with those not previously engaged in protecting and enhancing biodiversity. It will put in place an officer working group to help promote and steer positive and cost effective action.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|            | 5. How does your project / activity involve stakeholders with an interest in achieving the well-being goals? How do those stakeholders reflect the diversity of the area? |
|            |                                                                                                  |
**Involvement**

We will establish a cross-departmental team to drive the plan forward, consult on amendments and report on progress to partners both internally and externally. The Local Nature Partnership that consists of stakeholders interested in the natural environment will be kept informed. Social media will be used to reach a wide range Torfaen residents.

**Section 2** Assess how well your project / activity will result in multiple benefits for our communities and contribute to the national well-being goals (use Appendix 1 to help you).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of the Well-being goals</th>
<th>How will your project / activity deliver benefits to our communities under the national well-being goals?</th>
<th>Is there anyway to maximise the benefits or minimise any negative impacts to our communities (and the contribution to the national well-being goals)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A prosperous Wales</strong> An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</td>
<td>Protecting and enhancing biodiveristy and ecosystem resilience can help Torfaen adapt to the impacts of climate change and promote features that soil carbon, such as woodlands and peat bogs. Opportunities should be explored to promote the green economy.</td>
<td>The plan aims to promote the value of the natural environment across all council departments to maximise its contribution to the seven well-being goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A resilient Wales</strong> A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</td>
<td>The plan specifically addresses this goal.</td>
<td>Embed the actions within the plan into all council departments and decision making processes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A healthier Wales</strong> A society in which people’s physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</td>
<td>A well managed, biodiversity rich natural environment has recognised benefits for physical and mental well-being.</td>
<td>As above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A more equal Wales</strong></td>
<td>A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).</td>
<td>An accessible and diverse natural environment is available to all socio economic backgrounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Wales of cohesive communities</strong></td>
<td>Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</td>
<td>Well managed green space supports well connected communities. Furthermore, tree lined streets provide an attractive environment for residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</strong></td>
<td>A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</td>
<td>Subject to Members comments and decision, the final plan will be made available in Welsh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A globally responsible Wales</strong></td>
<td>A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.</td>
<td>Biodiversity does not respect administrative or national boundaries. By protecting and enhancing biodiversity we can ensure it continues to thrive and benefit society both nationally and internationally.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 3)** Will your project / activity affect people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Explain what will be done to maximise any positive impacts or minimise any negative impacts.

<p>| Protected characteristics | Will your project / activity have any positive impacts on those with a protected characteristic? | Will your project / activity have any negative impacts on those with a protected characteristic? | Is there any way to maximise any positive impacts or minimise any negative impacts? |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender reassignment</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage and civil partnership</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pregnancy and maternity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion or Belief</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual orientation</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 4** Identify decision meetings for project/activity e.g. Cabinet, Council or delegated decisions taken by Executive Members and/or Chief Officers.

**Officer Name and Job Title:** Steve Williams. Team Leader Ecology  
**Date:** 28 January 2019