

# Pollinator Action Plan

2023 to 2028





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## INTRODUCTION

Canterbury City Council has developed this Pollinator Action Plan to help protect all pollinator populations in the district. Together with our partners and stakeholders we aim to protect and improve habitats for this threatened group of insects by changing the way that we manage the land that we own and control, and by empowering everyone who lives and works in this district to take action too.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Populations of pollinating insects are in steep decline. Pollination is essential for ecosystem function and food production so action must be taken quickly. Across the district, many organisations are already working to create, conserve and enhance pollinator habitats. One such project has found that 95% of Hogs Fennel plants support Fisher’s Estuarine Moth. This plan sets out how the council will change the way it operates, through management of its own land, through the planning process and through influencing others, to contribute to a reversal in the decline of pollinator numbers.



## AIMS

The aims of the Pollinator Action Plan are to work in partnership to:

- ensure that the needs of pollinators are always considered across all relevant Council functions and responsibilities, and are taken into account in all our relevant strategies and policies
- manage Canterbury City Council assets and operations to ensure they are increasingly pollinator friendly
- safeguard locally threatened species by conserving, enhancing and expanding their habitats
- raise awareness of different types of pollinators and their habitat needs within the Council and across local communities, businesses and landowners
- empower individuals, organisations and community groups (for example Friends Groups) to take action to protect and monitor pollinator populations
- increase local knowledge and understanding of pollinators by supporting monitoring and data collection



# BACKGROUND



## WHAT ARE POLLINATORS?

Pollinators are insects that transfer pollen from flower to flower. This is essential for many plants to reproduce, allowing them to grow fruits and seeds. Most of the pollination in the UK is carried out by insects, but some pollen is carried by wind or water, and some plants can pollinate themselves.

Various types of insects carry out this vital pollination service in the UK, including bees, moths, flies, butterflies, wasps and beetles.

## WHY ARE POLLINATORS IMPORTANT?

The value of the service that pollinators provide for agriculture in the UK is estimated to be £690 million per year. Much of the food and drink that we consume depends on the work of these important insects.

Pollinators are not just important for our crops. They allow our wildflowers to reproduce, providing colour in our gardens and across the countryside. They are part of the complex web of species which make up the natural world, a world which we are ourselves a part of.

## WHAT DO POLLINATORS NEED?

Pollinators are a diverse group and therefore have a variety of different needs throughout the different stages of their lifecycles.

### **They need food**

Flowers are a key component when providing for pollinators. Adults feed on sugary nectar and many also on pollen. Some pollinators, such as bees, collect both to feed their larvae. The larger the variety of shapes of flowers providing these resources throughout the season, the greater the variety of pollinators they will attract. It's not only herbaceous plants that provide food, flowering trees play their part too, especially small-leaved lime and bird cherry which are particularly good for pollinators.

A large proportion of butterflies and moths feed on native plants as caterpillars. The larvae of other pollinators, such as hoverflies, eat decaying

vegetation, aphids and microbes, while those of beetles often prefer dead wood.

### **They need breeding, nesting & overwintering sites**

Dead wood and areas of bare ground are important habitats for solitary bees and wasps to nest in. They also provide a home to certain types of flies and beetles. Bumblebees may prefer tussocky areas of grass or the abandoned burrows of mice and voles. The larvae of some pollinating flies live underwater in ponds, ditches and streams.

During the winter months, shelter for pollinators is vital. This could include leaf litter, hollow plant stems, seed heads or denser areas of vegetation like ivy.

### **They need habitat diversity and connectivity**

Many species of pollinator need plants and trees of different sizes, shapes and species at different stages of their life cycle. In general, the more diverse a habitat, the more species of insect it will contain.

As pollinators often cannot move very far without feeding or resting, areas of high-quality habitat like nature reserves and parks must be connected. This allows pollinators to disperse through areas of intensive agriculture and urban development which would otherwise be inhospitable to wildlife. Often called 'green networks', these corridors might include gardens managed for wildlife, hedgerows, field edges or roadside verges.

## IMPORTANT HABITATS AND POLLINATOR SPECIES IN THE CANTERBURY DISTRICT

A high diversity of soil types and historic land uses in the district has led to a very diverse set of habitats, supporting many pollinating insects of national importance for conservation. For example, five out of the seven species of bumblebee which are national priorities for conservation occur in the district. Public bodies have a legal responsibility to protect biodiversity on the land that they own, and everyone has a responsibility to future generations to do the same.

Key habitats found in the district are described below, together with some of the important species they support.



## Woodland

The many woods to the north of Canterbury are collectively known as the Blean Complex, the largest continuous area of woodland in the South-East. Woodland specialist butterflies and moths such as the Heath Fritillary *Melitaea athalia* and White Spotted Sable *Anania funebris* can be found in sunny rides, glades and coppiced areas within the woodland.

## Grassland

The south of the district falls within the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Small fragments of flower-rich, unimproved chalk grassland survive here, totalling only around 18ha. This habitat is often a patchwork of grassland, scrub and woods. The Duke of Burgundy butterfly *Hamearis lucina* can be found on a handful of sites here, in open areas within woodland. Species-rich acid grassland can be found at Old Park and Chequers Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest, and there are small fragments of heath within the Blean Complex.

## Wetland

Wetland habitats found in the river valleys of the Stour and its tributaries include reedbed, wet woods and grassland. The Great Stour above Canterbury is classed as a Chalk Stream, a habitat of international importance. The nationally scarce Reed Yellow Face Bee *Hylaeus pectoralis* nests in the stalks of Common Reed *Phragmites australis*. The Kentish Neb Moth *Monochroa niphognatha* is found at only one site in the whole of the UK, Stodmarsh National Nature Reserve.

## Coastal

Coastal habitats found in the Canterbury district include shingle beaches, eroding cliffs, saltmarsh, sea walls and coastal grassland. The latter is home to the rare Fisher's Estuarine Moth *Gortyna borelii*, found only in Kent and Essex. A population of the Sea Astor Mining Bee *Colletes halophilus* near Reculver is of international importance.



**Images left to right:**

*Fisher's Estuarine Moths*

*Heath Fritillary*

## Agricultural

Farmland can be valuable for pollinators where agri-environment schemes support nature-friendly farming. Farmers receive financial support to maintain flower-rich field margins, meadows and pastures, along with individual trees, hedges and woods. These habitats are crucial in providing connectivity between nature-rich sites like nature reserves. In some cases, they also provide habitat in their own right for rare species – like the Shril Carder Bee *Bombus sylvarum*, one of the rarest bees in the UK. The new Environmental Land Management Scheme is currently being introduced and will pay farmers for the ecosystem services and biodiversity that their land supports.

## Urban

Parks, gardens, brownfield sites and other urban spaces are sometimes overlooked as wildlife habitat but can support many pollinator species. The Four Banded Flower Bee *Anthophora quadrimaculata* and Long-horned Bee *Eucera longicornis* have both been found in urban areas along the north coast of the district. Like farmland, urban sites can also be part of a 'green network'.

## WHY DO POLLINATORS NEED OUR HELP?

Many studies have shown that pollinator populations are in decline. A downward trend of 30% was recorded between 1980 and 2017 across an indicator group that included various bees and hoverflies. Similarly, the abundance of larger moths in Britain was found to have decreased by a third between 1968 and 2017, with more pronounced declines in southern England. Most alarmingly of all, recently published data from a citizen science survey spanning the 17 years from 2004 to 2021 found that the abundance of flying insects in the UK had fallen by nearly 60% over that time, while the figure for Kent was over 70%. Declines are often greater for more specialised species than those that are more common and widespread, as illustrated by trends for butterflies.

Pollinators are under threat from many different factors.

**Habitat Loss:** Habitat loss due to development for housing and roads is sudden and obvious. However, gradual degradation due to intensive farming and other unsympathetic land management is just as

important. Fragmentation of the remaining habitat makes it more difficult for pollinating insects to move through the landscape.

In the Canterbury District, the built environment has roughly doubled in area since 1961. Across the UK, since the 1930s, 97% of wildflower rich meadows have been lost.

**Pesticides:** The widespread use of pesticides is also a problem for pollinators. Neonicotinoids are a class of insecticide known to have detrimental impacts on bees and other pollinators. The widely used herbicide Glyphosate, commonly sold as Roundup, is also considered toxic to pollinators.

**Climate Change:** Another key threat to pollinators is climate change, which is causing once rare extreme weather events to become more common. Floods can destroy nests, while droughts may cause flowers to produce less nectar. Another feature of climate change, unseasonal weather, can cause the flowering time of plants to move out of sync with the lifecycle of the insects which pollinate them.

## WHAT IS BEING DONE TO HELP POLLINATORS?

### Nationally

The National Pollinator Strategy for England was launched by the UK government in 2014. This sets out a 10-year plan to help pollinating insects survive and thrive. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pollinator-strategy-for-bees-and-other-pollinators-in-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pollinator-strategy-for-bees-and-other-pollinators-in-england)

An accompanying Pollinator Implementation Plan was published in May 2022. This contains specific actions and lists partner organisations involved in fulfilling the vision, aims and objectives of the National Pollinator Strategy. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pollinator-strategy-2014-to-2024-implementation-plan](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pollinator-strategy-2014-to-2024-implementation-plan)

District Councils are listed as partners for two of the actions:

- ✿ Encourage and support other major landowners and managers, including county farm managers, public authorities outside central government, parliamentary groups and other bodies, to take action and agree plans and objectives for pollinators.



**Images left to right:**

*Franciscan Gardens*

*Canterbury Cathedral*

*Green Winged Orchids at*

*The Catholic Church of St Joseph*

*Butterfly Garden*

*Privately owned gardens*



- ❁ Work with stakeholders, including local authorities, to (i) support the development of guidance on the use of pesticides by amenity managers, including Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and sustainable approaches for weed control which consider pollinators, and (ii) explore ways to maximise uptake of IPM by amenity users

Buglife's B-lines initiative has mapped out a series of 'insect pathways' across the UK. The aim is to focus work on pollinators by restoring and creating habitats for insects along these B-lines, creating stepping-stones to link areas together. [www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines](http://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines)

### In Kent

In 2019, Kent County Council published Kent's Plan Bee following a unanimous vote by Members. This plan is designed to take a lead in mobilising the people of Kent to act to improve habitats for these insects and to help reverse their decline. It is already addressing the management of Kent County Council's estate, by bringing more pollinator-friendly focus to its policies, contracts and delivery across the county. It is also providing the stimulus to encourage other local authorities and organisations to take similar action.

### [www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/nature-and-biodiversity/pollinators/kents-plan-bee-pollinator-action-plan](http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/nature-and-biodiversity/pollinators/kents-plan-bee-pollinator-action-plan)

Throughout Kent, many projects are focusing on the conservation of rare pollinator groups, encouraging public involvement and enabling cooperation. Here a few recent examples which have made a difference across large parts of the county:

- ❁ **Bee Connected** A three year project run by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust (BBCT) aiming to increase habitat and connectivity at the landscape scale across Kent and East Sussex for four rare species of bee
- ❁ **Kent's Magnificent Moths** Butterfly Conservation are bringing focus to nationally rare moth species in East Kent through advice, training and practical habitat management.
- ❁ **Making a Buzz for the Coast** Concluded in 2021, this BBCT project focused on rare bumblebees along the north Kent coast.

### In the Canterbury District

The Draft Canterbury District Local Plan To 2045 includes two measures to benefit pollinators. Firstly,



for large developments (more than 300 homes), developers must demonstrate how the needs of pollinators have been met – for example, through planting schemes. Secondly, walking and cycling routes should provide for ecological connectivity and pollinators wherever possible.

## EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS FROM ACROSS THE CANTERBURY DISTRICT

### Franciscan Gardens

Hidden in the centre of Canterbury, this garden honours the Franciscan Monks’ connection to nature. A wildflower meadow of annuals and perennials, heritage fruit tree varieties, and a native hedge with flowering shrubs attract 11 species of solitary bee and many common butterfly species.

### World Heritage Sites: Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine’s Abbey and St Martin’s Church

A new approach has recently been adopted for managing the Cathedral gardens sensitively for wildlife. Measures benefitting pollinators include choosing plants with long flowering periods and creating ‘dead hedges’ as overwintering habitat for insects and other

wildlife. Flowers and shrubs have been planted at St Martin’s to provide year-round nectar. Areas of grass at the Abbey are left unmown until late summer to allow wildflowers to grow.

### Churches and Burial Grounds

Many churchyards and burial grounds in the district are managed with pollinators in mind. These include St Alphege in Seasalter, The Catholic Church of St Joseph Chestfield, St Dunstan’s in Canterbury, and Canterbury cemetery.

### Small Gardens: The Butterfly Garden

Next to the river in central Canterbury, the Butterfly Garden demonstrates what can be achieved for pollinators in a small area. Garden-friendly varieties of perennials, herbs, climbers and shrubs have been carefully chosen to provide year-round nectar and refuge.

### Privately Owned Gardens

Some residents in the district plant their gardens to attract a range of pollinators, like this bijou front garden in Whitstable.

## **Canterbury in Bloom: Christchurch University Grounds**

Canterbury has been awarded gold in the South and Southeast in Bloom regional competition every year but one since 2015. The grounds of Canterbury Christchurch University have played a central part in this success. Guided by the Bumblebee Trust, recent changes include new wildflower meadows, planting fruit trees and allowing dead trees to remain in place as insect habitat. A recent project has been the renovation of the Wellbeing Garden, where a low-intervention approach has been taken. Wildflowers such as Comfrey and Wild Garlic are common here.

### **Council-Owned Parks and Nature Reserves**

The Council has managed its parks and nature reserves to help wildlife for many years. Much of this work will have specifically benefited pollinators. Working in partnership with Kent Wildlife Trust, coppicing at Larkey Valley Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest near Chartham has allowed woodland plants to flourish. Prospect Field in Whitstable is mown only twice a year to encourage native plants and insects. Whitehall Meadows in

Canterbury, managed with support from the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership, supports many species of flowering wetland plant.

### **Community-Managed Sites: Jumping Down**

Many parks and nature reserves across the district are owned or managed by Friends Groups, charitable organisations and Parish Councils. Local residents give up their time to help to manage these sites. One such example is Jumping Down, a Local Nature Reserve owned by a Charitable Trust. This small patch of chalk grassland is managed through grazing by sheep, with scrub control carried out by volunteer parties organised by the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership.

### **Roadside Nature Reserves**

Kent Wildlife Trust monitors and manages several Roadside Nature Reserves in the District, with funding from Kent County Council and help from volunteer





wardens. One example consists of several sections of verge alongside the Old Thanet Way between Whitstable and Herne Bay. Neutral and chalk meadow plant communities here support many common species of butterfly. The verges are mown once a year in October, with cuttings removed to preserve the array of wildflowers.

### **Planning and Development: Gorrell Valley Nature Reserve**

Salsify seed heads on former arable field at Gorrell Valley Nature Reserve

In 2016 a planning agreement was reached over the development of land on the outskirts of Whitstable, next to the former Duncan Downs Park. In return for building 400 homes, the developer agreed to a land exchange which resulted in the total area of the park, now renamed Gorrell Valley Nature Reserve,

more than doubling. Land added to the original park includes woods and former arable fields which have been converted to wildflower meadows.

### **Allotments**

Some allotment holders in the district are now sowing pollinator mixes on part of their allotments instead of growing vegetables and fruit or cut flowers.

### **Tree planting in Whitstable**

A recent community-led tree planting initiative in Whitstable resulted in 14 new street trees in a residential area. Trees were planted by local volunteers organised led by the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership and included native flowering species such as Small-leaved Lime and Bird Cherry, which are good sources of nectar for pollinators.

#### **Images left to right:**

*Christchurch University Grounds*

*Celery leaved buttercup*

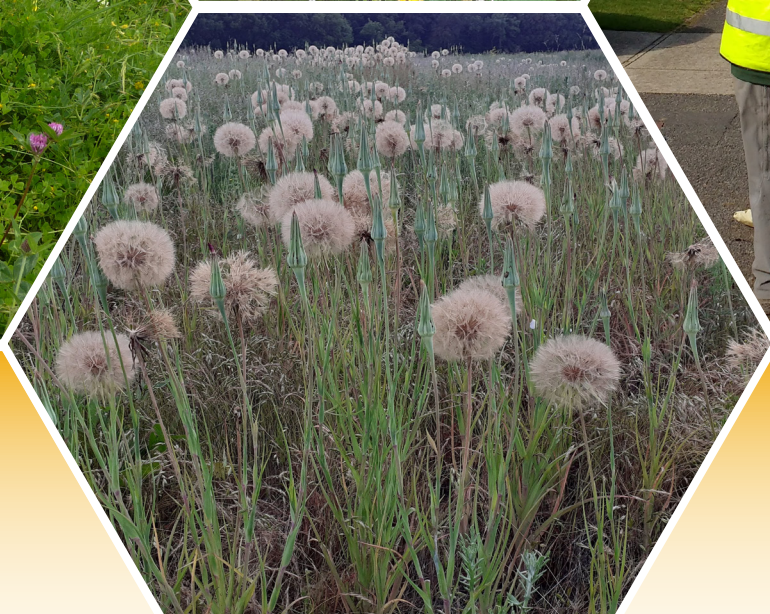
*Jumping Down*

*Roadside Nature Reserves*

*Allotments*

*Salsify seed heads on former arable field at Gorrell Valley Nature Reserve*

*Tree planting in Whitstable*



# OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS



## OBJECTIVE 1

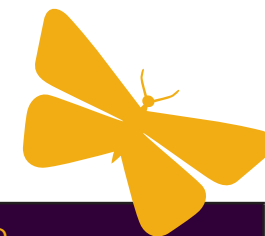
Canterbury City Council to promote/support strategic-level actions to protect, enhance and expand pollinator habitat

ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
1.1 Consider pollinator needs in relevant council strategies, policies and processes	1.1.1 Where appropriate, embed the needs of pollinators in procurement and commissioning policies	On-going	CCC Environment Team
	1.1.2 Embed the needs of pollinators in environment and climate change impact assessments	On-going	CCC Environment Team
	1.1.3 Ensure that management and general consideration for pollinators is included in all relevant contract renewals	On-going	CCC Environment Team
	1.1.4 Consider establishing a Pollinator Forum consisting of council officers, stakeholders and two Councillors	Sep 2023	CCC Environment Team
1.2 Identify key areas in the District to act as pollinator corridors	1.2.1 Use Buglife's B-lines map to record past projects and target new pollinator initiatives	Oct 23	CCC Environment Team
	1.2.2 Work with landowners and community groups to trial a stand-alone 'pollinator pathway' along the river Stour between Chartham and Fordwich consisting of feeding and over-wintering habitat in parks, open spaces and other riverside areas	April 25	All
	1.2.3 Work with Kent County Council and town/parish councils to ensure a joined-up approach when targeting areas	On-going	CCC Environment Team



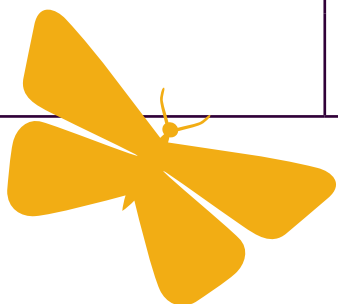
## OBJECTIVE 2

Canterbury City Council to manage the land it owns, controls or can influence for the benefit of pollinators



ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
<p>2.1 Increase the value of public open spaces and other greenspace for pollinators, taking a phased approach to changing management practices</p>	<p>2.1.1 Develop site-specific action plans for a small number of pilot sites. Grassland management regimes will include reduced frequency of cutting, zoning with different cutting rotations and areas left uncut through winter.</p>	<p>April 24</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team/ Contracts</p>
	<p>2.1.2 Monitor and review implementation of site-specific action plans to gauge capacity of the council's contractor to implement changes.</p>	<p>April 25/26</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p>
	<p>2.1.3 Seek additional funding and expand grassland management regimes from pilot sites with reduced frequency of cutting with allowance for skills, training, equipment and plant resources and scaling issues</p>	<p>April 25</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p>
	<p>2.1.4 Longer term, create a set of approximately 20 sites where a longer (less than annual) cut would be suitable, achieving moderate gains for pollinators while matching current council contractor staff capacity, skills and plant required</p>	<p>April 26</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p>
	<p>2.1.5 Consider the use of cut and collect machinery, with the collection and removal of arisings from site and the budget implications both capital and revenue</p>	<p>April 25</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team/ Contracts</p>
	<p>2.1.6 Consider use of 'flowering lawn' seed mixes for locations where taller vegetation is not appropriate</p>	<p>April 24</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p>
	<p>2.1.7 Share good practice greenspace management advice for pollinators with churchyard/ burial ground managers and housing associations to encourage them to modify their own land management.</p>	<p>April 24</p>	<p>All interested parties</p>
	<p>2.1.8 Select suitable site to use as a pollinator demonstration site to showcase good practice management</p>	<p>April 25</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p>
	<p>2.1.9 Ensure work which falls outside of the main contract for vegetation management is assessed for its potential negative and positive impacts on pollinators prior to implementation).</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team/ Contracts</p>
	<p>2.1.10 Explore opportunities to purchase small-scale equipment for sharing between community groups which manage small areas of grassland</p>	<p>April 25</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p>

ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
2.2 Reduce the use of biocides across the common estate	<p>2.2.1 With reference to KCC's review of biocides, review the current use of biocides across grassland sites across the district.</p> <p>2.2.2 Monitor development of cost-effective alternatives to herbicides across the landscape sector</p> <p>2.2.3 Identify areas where it is cost effective to reduce the use of herbicides.</p> <p>2.2.4 Support the non use of insecticides by Canenco.</p> <p>2.2.5 Aim to ensure that all bulbs, seeds and plants which are sourced have not been treated with insecticides (bulb/seed coating, soil treatments or foliar sprays)</p>	<p>Report from KCC soon</p> <p>April 25</p> <p>April 25</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>TBC</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>Contracts</p> <p>Contracts</p> <p>Contracts</p> <p>Contracts</p>
2.3 Review current sowing and planting schemes across the district and CCC own land.	<p>2.3.1 Ensure that planting schemes are sustainable. Consider the use of bulbs, perennials and shrubs instead of annual bedding plants. Also consider the use of drought tolerant plants</p> <p>2.3.2 Use pollinator friendly plants where possible (see Resources)</p> <p>2.3.3 For wildflower meadows, use native seed mixes of UK provenance. Consider the use of perennial seed mixes instead of annuals, or a mixture of annuals and perennials</p> <p>2.3.4 For tree planting initiatives, consider the use of flowering trees that will provide foliage and flowers for a range of pollinators native. Choice of native or non-native will depend on location.</p> <p>2.3.5 Ensure that flowering time is considered when planning planting schemes in order to provide year-round foraging opportunities for pollinators</p> <p>2.3.6 Ensure that planting schemes use a variety of different types of plants (from different families) to ensure that different types of pollinators are catered for</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team/ Contracts</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p>



ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
2.4 Explore training opportunities for staff and contractors on pollinators	<p>2.4.1 Identify training opportunities for staff and contractors involved in the management of Council land to enable them to learn about the needs of pollinators, to ensure these are considered in their day-to-day work, and to encourage ownership of the concept of pollinator conservation</p> <p>2.4.2 Deliver training sessions for staff and contractors across all sections of the council, tailored to different audiences</p> <p>2.4.3 Ensure that new staff and contractors are provided with training and that refresher training is provided to existing staff and contractors</p>	<p>April 24</p> <p>June 24</p> <p>June 24</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>Contracts</p>
2.5 Seek funding opportunities for pollinator projects	<p>2.5.1 Explore sponsorship opportunities with local businesses, such as for green roofs, pollinator friendly seed mixes for residents, pollinator friendly flower borders, planters and beds</p> <p>2.5.2 Explore opportunities to use Section 106 funding for pollinator habitat management/ creation projects and related capital items</p> <p>2.5.3 Seek external funding for projects to create or improve management of habitat for pollinators</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team/ Pollinator forum</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership</p>
2.6 Enhance site connectivity to allow migration of pollinators between key sites	2.6.1 Contribute to actions identified within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, once published	LNRS legislation in Nov 2023 - then 18 months	CCC Environment Team
2.7 Consider opportunities for greening existing buildings	Explore opportunities for retrofitting pollinator friendly features, such as green roofs and bee hotels, in residential, education and cultural infrastructure across the district	April 2026	All stakeholders



### OBJECTIVE 3

Canterbury City Council to use the planning system to better protect pollinators and to increase suitable habitat and connectivity between existing habitat

ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
3.1 Consider the needs of pollinators within the planning system	<p>3.1.1 Use the pollinator planning guidance under development as part of Kent's Plan Bee to ensure the needs of pollinators are considered by developers</p> <p>3.1.2 Embed the needs of pollinators into Green Infrastructure plans and Green Gap Improvement Plans to ensure they are considered</p> <p>3.1.3 Work with developers, where appropriate, to encourage consideration of pollinator measures when designing Biodiversity Net Gain.</p>	<p>Report expected from KCC in 2023</p> <p>On-going - trial for the Whitstable and Herne Bay GG</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>CCC Planning Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p>
3.2 Provide training opportunities for council planning staff and Planning Committee on pollinators	<p>3.2.1 Identify training opportunities for planning officers and Planning Committee members to enable them to learn about the needs of pollinators and ensure these are considered in their day-to-day work</p> <p>3.2.2 Deliver training sessions for planning officers and Planning Committee members</p> <p>3.2.3 Ensure that new planning officers are provided training and that refresher training opportunities are available to existing staff</p>	<p>June 2023</p> <p>June 2023</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team/ Planning Team</p>
3.3 Ensure priority pollinator species are protected through the planning process	3.3.1 Ensure planning officers have access to good quality information, which identifies priority and locally threatened pollinator species and their habitats	On-going	CCC Environment Team/ Planning Team

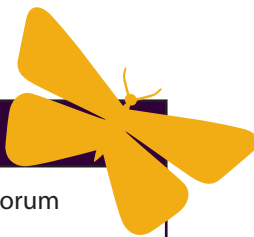


## OBJECTIVE 4

All partners to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and encourage people to take action themselves



ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
4.1 Develop a clear communications plan	<p>4.1.1 Create a communications strategy for the duration of the Plan, with clear ideas set out to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• raise public awareness about pollinators</li> <li>• highlight what the Council are doing to help pollinators</li> <li>• encourage residents, community groups, businesses, Parish Councils, churches and schools to take action themselves</li> <li>• provide support to Councillors when engaging with the public on this topic</li> </ul> <p>4.1.2 Seek to provide information on the Council website about the Plan, with further information about pollinators and links to helpful resources including those already available under Kent's Plan Bee</p> <p>4.1.3 Monitor annual Plan Bee Communications Plans to ensure alignment of messaging and avoid duplication of effort</p>	<p>April 2024</p> <p>April 24</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>CCC Environment Team/ Pollinator forum</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>CCC Environment Team/ Pollinator forum</p>
4.2 Raise awareness about the importance of pollinators and their needs	<p>4.2.1 Provide information on pollinator friendly approaches to land managers, business owners and local communities through social media content</p> <p>4.2.2 Encourage land managers, business owners and local communities to participate in local or national pollinator award schemes (see Resources)</p> <p>4.2.3 Provide information on pollinator friendly gardening activities to local residents, communities, allotment holders, In Bloom groups and others (see Resources)</p> <p>4.2.4 Encourage local schools to develop pollinator friendly areas in their school grounds and to participate in pollinator award schemes such as Kent Wildlife Trust's 'Wilder Kent' awards (see Resources)</p> <p>4.2.5 Create appropriate signage to highlight Council sites that are being managed for pollinators</p> <p>4.2.6 Councillors on Pollinator Forum to engage with fellow Councillors over issues relating to pollinator habitat</p> <p>4.2.7 Work with local town/parish councils to provide information on pollinator friendly approaches</p> <p>4.2.8 Consider providing training to other teams within the City Council, such as Social Housing, Marketing and Comms</p>	<p>July 24</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>April 24</p> <p>April 25</p> <p>April 24</p> <p>April 24</p> <p>April 24</p> <p>April 24</p>	<p>CCC Communications Team and KSCP</p> <p>Pollinator Forum</p> <p>Pollinator Forum</p> <p>Pollinator Forum</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>Pollinator forum</p> <p>CCC Environment Team</p> <p>Pollinator forum</p>



ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
4.3 Promote the recording and monitoring of pollinators	4.3.1 Encourage the public to submit sightings of pollinator species using smartphone apps or traditional means (see Resources). Target specific groups, organisations, educational establishments and amateur recorders.	May 24	Pollinator Forum
	4.3.2 Highlight the importance of national pollinator monitoring schemes and promote these to encourage more public involvement (see Resources)	On-going	Pollinator forum
4.4 Encourage sustainable beekeeping practices	4.4.1 Promote information on good practice honeybee husbandry to reduce potential for pathogen transmission to wild pollinators	April 24	Whitstable and Herne Bay Beekeepers Asscn, Canterbury Beekeepers
	4.4.2 Encourage new and prospective beekeepers to consider whether there is sufficient forage in an area before introducing honeybees	April 24	
4.5 Promote local pollinator projects	4.5.1 Monitor new and ongoing pollinator projects	On-going	Pollinator Forum
	4.5.2 Promote projects through website and social media	On-going	CCC Environment Team
4.6 Promote flower-growing on allotments	4.6.1 Promote the growing of pollinator-friendly plants to allotment holders	April 24	City and Parish Councils
4.7 Encourage feedback on the Plan	4.7.1 Provide an area on the Plan webpage for the public to provide feedback (positive and negative) and to suggest local sites to enhance for pollinators.	April 24	CCC Environment Team
	4.7.2 Consider the feedback provided and use it to determine whether actions within this Plan should be modified	May 24	CCC Environment Team
	4.7.3 Develop a FAQs page on the Council website, taking into account feedback from the public	June 24	CCC Environment Team







## OBJECTIVE 5

Monitor actions and outcomes and report on progress

ACTION	DETAIL	DEADLINE	LEAD
5.1 Monitor Delivery of Plan	5.1.1 Review progress on Actions annually	Feb 24 – on-going	Pollinator Forum
	5.1.2 Review after five- year period to inform next five-year Plan	April 28	Pollinator forum
5.2 Baseline surveys	5.2.1 Seek resources to undertake baseline surveys of pollinators on a number (3) of trial plots and repeat these surveys on a periodic basis	April 24	CCC Environment Team



**Images left to right:**

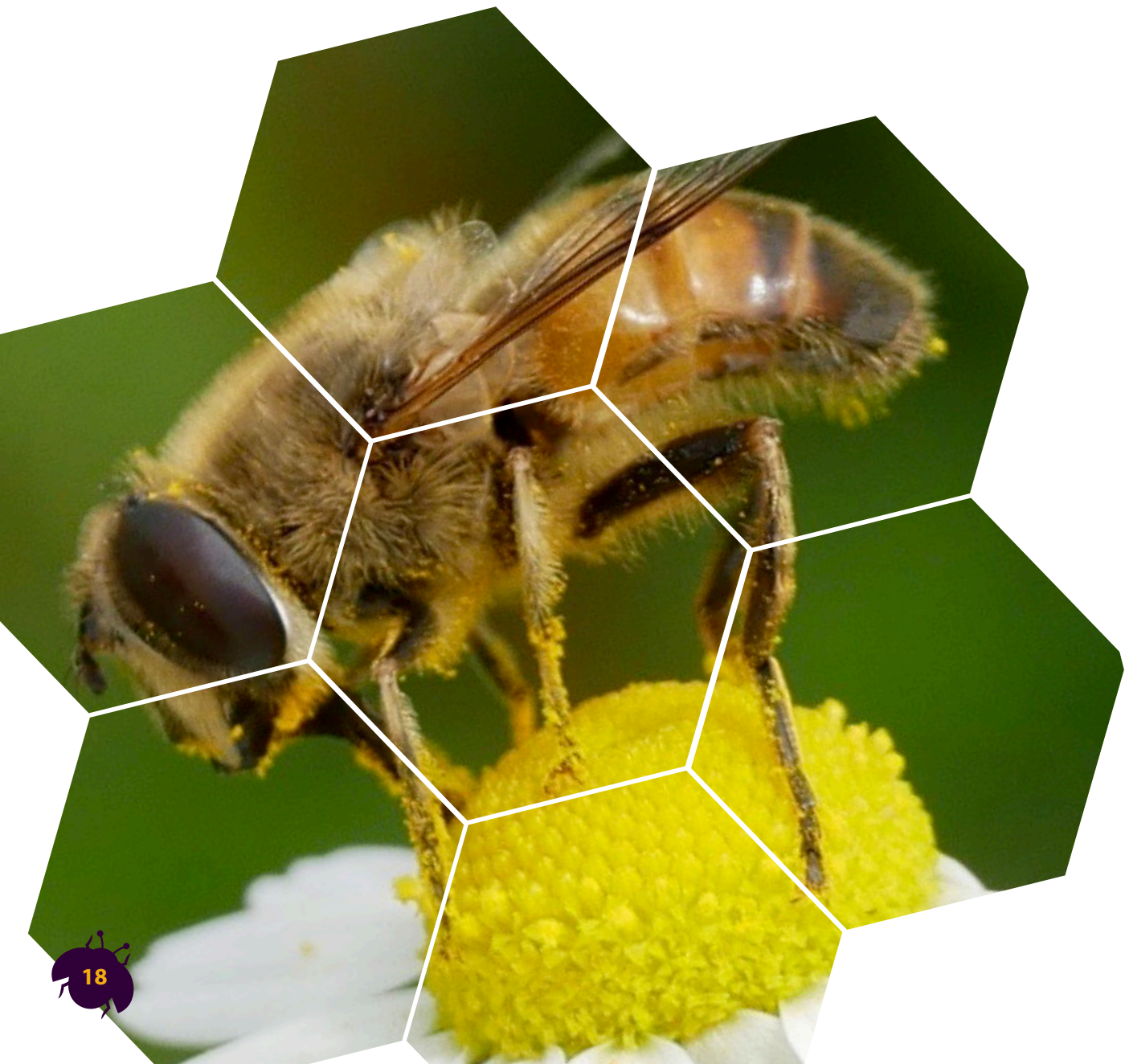
*Red Soldier Beetle, Rhagonycha Fulva*

*Swollen-Thighed Beetle, Oedemera Nobilis*

# LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Alliance of Canterbury Residents Associations  
Brymore Nature Group  
Canterbury Beekeepers  
Canterbury Business Improvement District (BID)  
Canterbury Cathedral  
Canterbury Christchurch University  
Canterbury Riverside Group  
Canterbury Society  
Franciscan Gardens  
Friends of Beverley Meadows  
Friends of Dane John and St Mary de Castro  
Friends of Kingsmead Field  
Friends of Old Park and Chequers Wood

Friends of Prospect Field  
Friends of Reculver and Bishopstone  
Friends of St Martin's  
Friends of Westgate Parks  
Gorrell Valley Nature Reserve  
Herne Bay Beekeepers Association  
Jumping Downs Trust  
Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership  
Kent Wildlife Trust  
Love Hambrook Marshes CIC  
No Mans Orchard Management Committee  
St Dunstan's Church, Canterbury  
University of Kent



# ONLINE RESOURCES

## Support for Churches and Burial Grounds

Eco Church Kent Facebook Group

Caring for God's Acre

[www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)

## Advice for Professional Land Managers

Buglife guides

[www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/b-lines-guidance/habitat-management](http://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/b-lines-guidance/habitat-management)

BBCT guides

[www.bumblebeeconservation.org/land-management-advice](http://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/land-management-advice)

Centre for Ecology and Hydrology book on pollinator habitat creation

[www.ceh.ac.uk/book-habitat-creation-and-management-pollinators](http://www.ceh.ac.uk/book-habitat-creation-and-management-pollinators)

## Advice for Schools and Gardeners

Kent Wildlife Trust's Gardening for a Wilder Kent

[www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/wilder-gardens](http://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/wilder-gardens)

KWT's Wilder Kent Awards

[www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/get-involved/wilder-kent-awards](http://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/get-involved/wilder-kent-awards)

Pollinator-friendly plants

[www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators](http://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators)

## Species Recording Apps

iNaturalist:

[www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org) (for beginners and small numbers of records)

iRecord

[www.brc.ac.uk/irecord](http://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord) (for more experienced recorders and longer lists of species)

## National Monitoring Schemes

UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme

[www.ceh.ac.uk/our-science/projects/pollinator-monitoring](http://www.ceh.ac.uk/our-science/projects/pollinator-monitoring) (Includes simple timed insect count suitable for all)

UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme

[www.ukbms.org](http://www.ukbms.org)

Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey

[www.ukbms.org/wcbs](http://www.ukbms.org/wcbs)

BeeWalk Survey Scheme

[www.beewalk.org.uk](http://www.beewalk.org.uk)

## Planning Guidance

Scottish National Heritage

[www.nature.scot/doc/guidance-pollinators-planning-and-construction-guide](http://www.nature.scot/doc/guidance-pollinators-planning-and-construction-guide)



## PHOTO CREDITS

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*Fisher's Estuarine*

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*Franciscan Gardens*

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*Canterbury Cathedral*

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*Green Winged Orchids*

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*The Butterfly Garden*

Sian Pettman

*Privately owned gardens*

Jon Shelton

*Christchurch University Grounds*

John Hills

*Celery Leaved Buttercup*

Jon Shelton

*Jumping Downs*

Jon Shelton

*Roadside Nature Reserves*

Bethany Pateman

*Gorrel Valley Nature Reserve*

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*Allotment*

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*Whitstable trees*

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