

THE EXECUTIVE

8 FEBRUARY 2005

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT

BARKING AND DAGENHAM'S DRAFT LOCAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN		FOR DECISION
<p><i>This report contains policy issues of a strategic nature, on which decision is reserved to the Executive.</i></p>		
<p>Summary</p> <p>Barking and Dagenham's Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) has been completed through partnership working with internal departments and the community. The LBAP was produced as a daughter document to the Community Strategy 'Building Communities and Transforming Lives' 2004 and the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy 2003. It sets out a structure to protect and enhance the borough's flora and fauna. The LBAP, which is attached at Appendix A, sets out the Council's objectives for the creation and protection of nature conservation in the urban and natural environment.</p>		
<p>Wards Affected : The Action Plan sets out to improve biodiversity across all wards.</p>		
<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is asked to formally adopt the LBAP for the Borough, as attached at Appendix A.</p>		
<p>Reasons</p> <p>To help achieve the Council's Community Priorities of "Making Barking and Dagenham Cleaner, Greener and Safer" and "Better Education and Learning for all", and to support and promote the incorporation of greening initiatives for the protection and enhancement of local biodiversity in the urban and natural environment.</p>		
Contact Officer: Gordon Glenday	Group Manager Sustainable Development Team	Tel: 020 8227 3929 Fax: 0208 227 Email: gordon.glenday@lbbd.gov.uk

1 Background

Biodiversity can be defined as variety of life. It is the myriad of species, plants and animals on earth and the range of habitats they live in. The production of the LBAP document is an objective within the Boroughs Community Strategy and Parks and Green Spaces Strategy.

2 Proposal

The purpose of Barking and Dagenham's LBAP is to outline a five-year programme of protection and enhancement of the Borough's natural assets. The LBAP maps out a

co-ordinated approach between the Council and the local community whereby they work together to create a better environment.

The LBAP sets out to achieve a greener, visually impressive and ecologically rich borough. The LBAP aims to achieve high quality management of our parks and green spaces and to support and promote the integration of greening initiatives into current and future regeneration programmes as well as the planning process.

The document will also support and assist the Borough's Local Biodiversity Partnership and work towards working with the community and local schools to increase people's knowledge and involvement in nature conservation.

3 Financial Implications

The Local Biodiversity Action Plan will have financial implications. These will be identified within existing budgets such as the neighbourhood renewal fund. External funding to support projects to support local Biodiversity may also be sought.

4 Consultation

The following were consulted in the development of the LBAP document.

<u>External</u>	<u>Internal</u>
The Local Biodiversity Partnership London Development Agency The Environment Agency The London Borough Biodiversity Forum The London Biodiversity Partnership The Greater London Authority The Thames Gateway London Partnership The London Wildlife Trust The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds The Association of London Governments Froglife Charity The Bat Conservation Trust The Thames Chase Community Forest The Countryside Agency The Woodland Trust The British Trust of Ornithology	Planning and Transportation Parks and Countryside Parks and Leisure Regeneration and Implementation