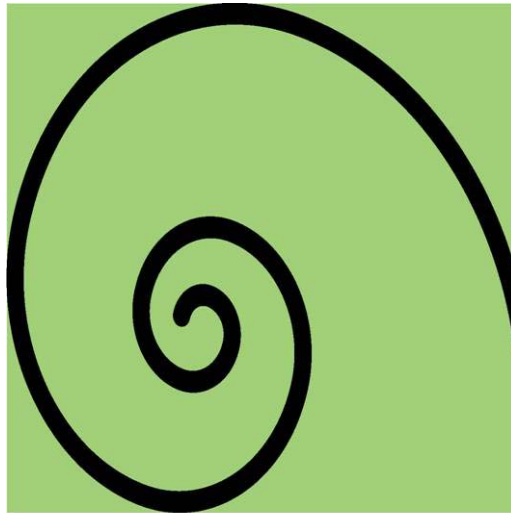
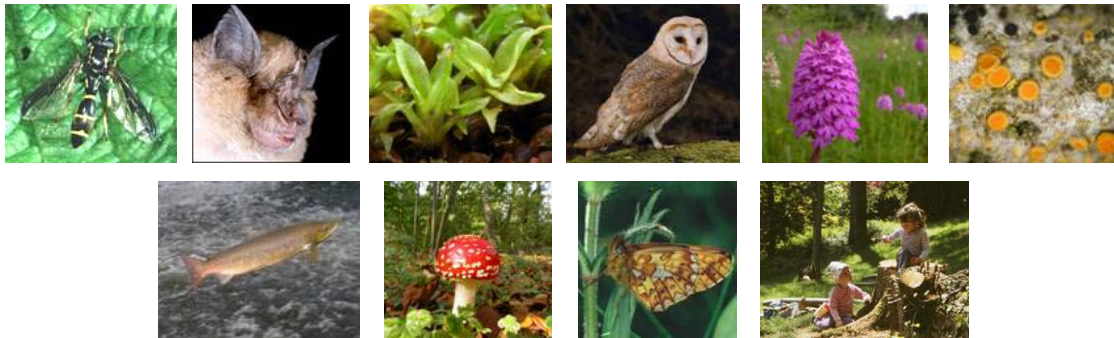


Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership
Delivery Plan
Second edition

2009 - 2011



SHROPSHIRE
BIODIVERSITY
PARTNERSHIP



Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

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Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

1 Introduction

This Delivery Plan sets out a timetable for tackling some of the tasks critical to achieving the objectives of the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan. These overarching tasks are beyond the scope of individual species or habitat action plan and need to be addressed before the biodiversity process in Shropshire can really be seen to drive positive change. Using 'SMART' targets will allow the progress of this plan to be more effectively monitored.

This plan will be updated every year to take on board changes to the LBAP process and structure, achievements, and any additional actions for the partnership. As an annually updated plan the focus is primarily on the year ahead but it also picks up actions that are likely to be required within a longer period of around 3 years.

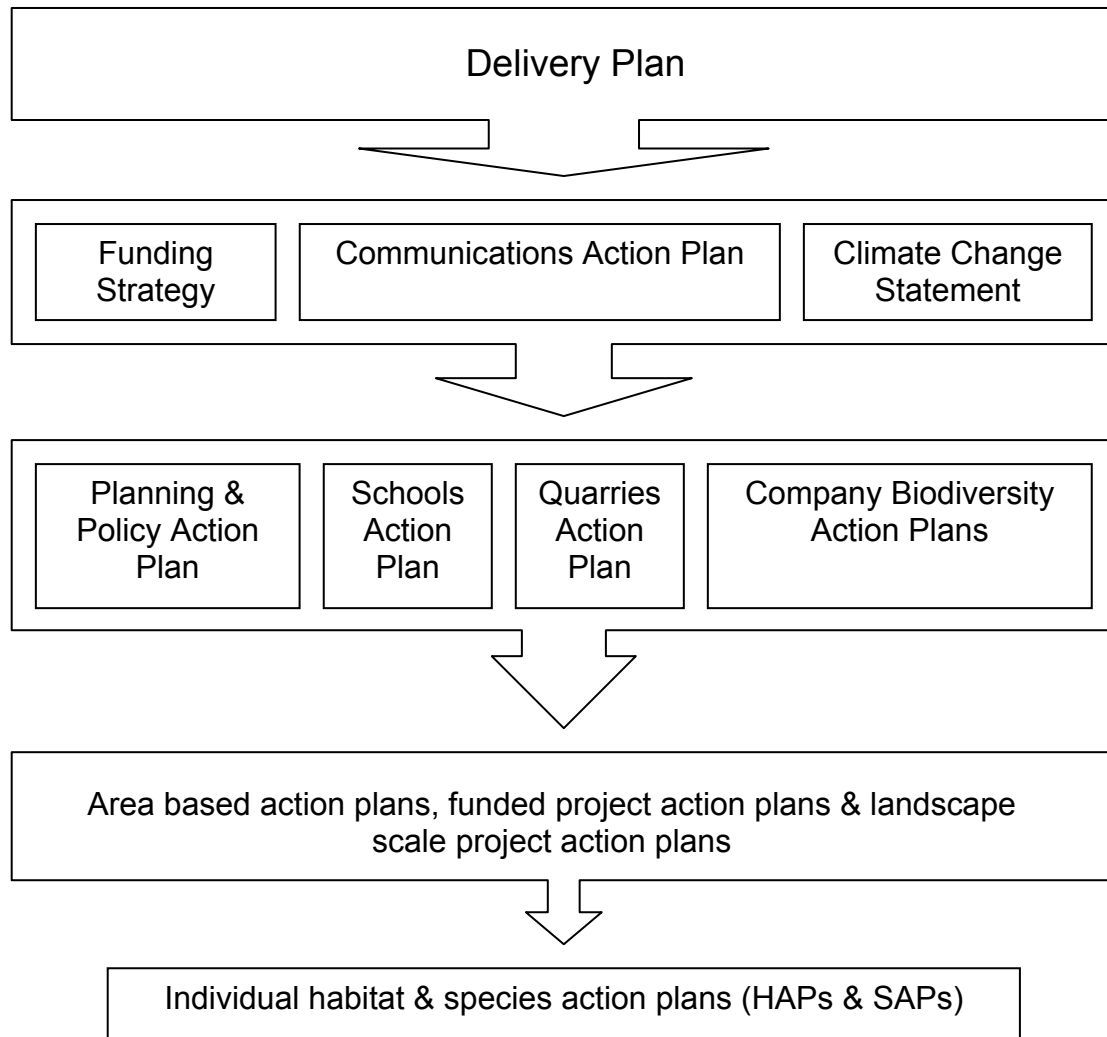
Formal reporting against the actions of this Delivery Plan will take place at the January meeting of the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership Steering Group though reports can be added to the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) at any time. A draft plan for the next year will also be discussed and hopefully signed up in January of each year.

All actions in this plan are listed on the online Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS).

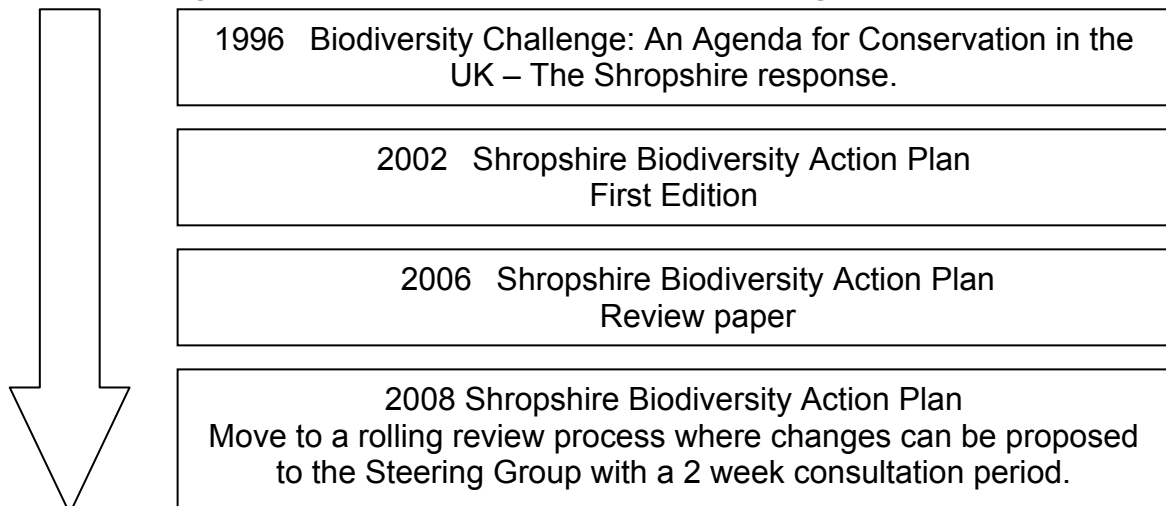


www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk

2 Structure of the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan



3 History of the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan



4 Evidence base for the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

The Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership has worked to develop a strong evidence base to inform and steer the direction of all plans from generic plans down to site specific actions in habitat and species plans. This evidence base is currently managed by several organisations under the guise of the Shropshire Ecological Data Network (SEDN).

Many of the documents listed below are available on the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership website www.naturalshropshire.org.uk

If you cannot find what you require or would like more information please contact the Biodiversity Officer at sustainability@shropshire.gov.uk

The documents and projects informing the Shropshire BAP include:

[Shropshire Local Recording Groups](#)

[Biodiversity Opportunity Maps](#)

Climate Change Resilience Map

[Woodland Opportunity Map](#)

Woodland Bird Data & Map

[Indicator Species Maps \(Axiophyte maps – split into BAP habitats\)](#)

Shropshire Habitat Mapping Project

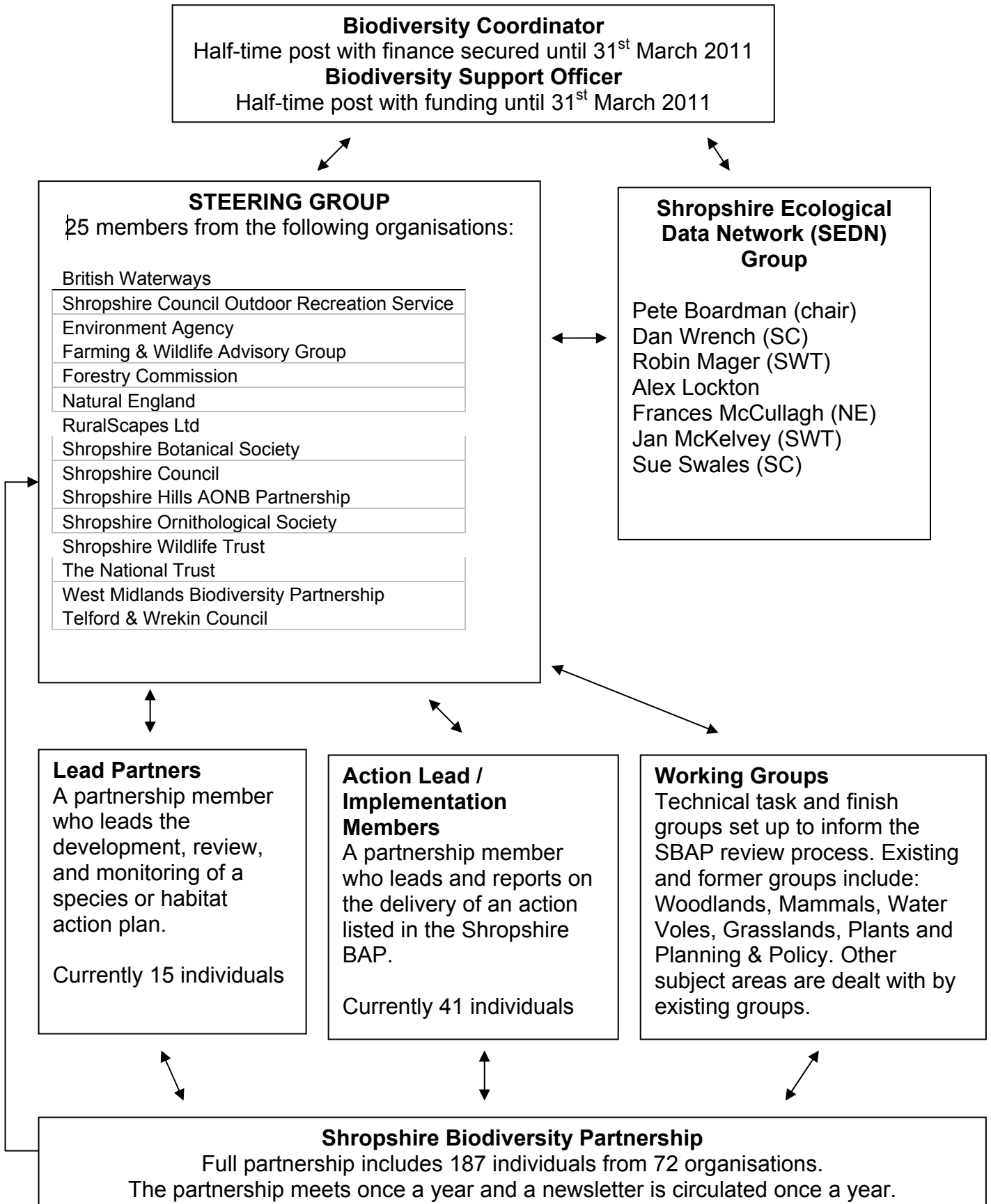
Wildlife Site database

Environmental Stewardship Data (Provided by Natural England)

Shropshire BAP Habitat and Species Working Groups

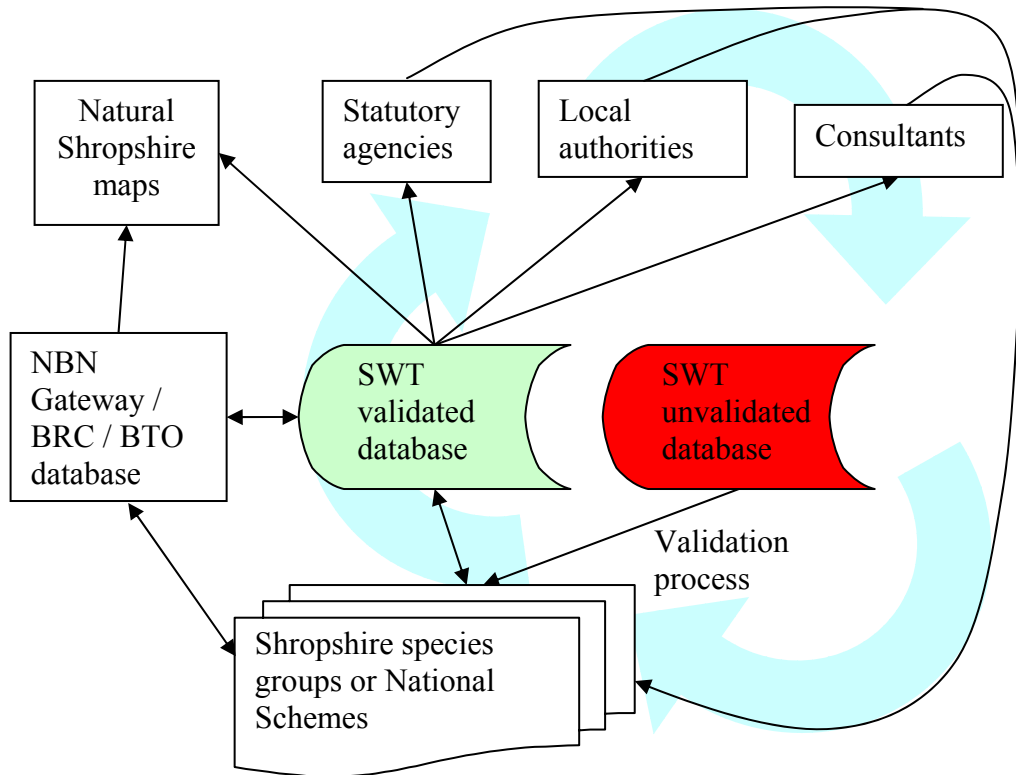
Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

5 Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership Structure



Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Shropshire Ecological Data Network Data Flow Diagram



6 Core Services

The funding partners of the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership are signed up to delivering seven core services as set out by Natural England. These core services provide the framework for this Delivery Plan upon which progress is measured and actions are planned. Details of the services are listed below while specific outputs of the SBAP as a whole are listed against the core service in the Delivery Chart on page 10.

1. Establishing and Maintaining a Broad Partnership

As far as possible, ensure that all relevant sectors are engaged in the local biodiversity partnership.

2. Delivering BAP Locally

Ensure that local biodiversity objectives include spatially-explicit SMART targets for the delivery of habitats and species.

Take into account national targets and regional target integration work (Integrating Regional and Local Habitat Targets for the West Midlands: L Rennocks on behalf of the WMBP May 2005).

Work with the partnership to agree priorities and then to agree a range of projects which deliver the local biodiversity objectives.

3. Fund-raising for BAP Delivery

Develop and implement a funding strategy to obtain national (e.g. HLF) and local sources of external funding in support of BAP projects and to obtain funding for the local biodiversity service in the long term.

Work with the regional biodiversity partnership in the development of funding bids for collaborative projects.

4. Reporting and Monitoring Progress

Train and support partners in use of the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) to report on the implementation and delivery of actions initiated

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

5. Integrating BAP into Local Policies

Proactively support local authorities so that they are better able to develop innovative ways of delivering biodiversity locally.

Actively promote the inclusion of biodiversity objectives into Community Strategies, Local Area Agreements and other local plans and policies.

Promote best practice in the planning system, providing support and advice to Local Planning Authorities to avoid loss of features through development, and to make the most of opportunities from planning gain.

6. Promoting BAP Locally

Develop and implement a communication plan to raise awareness in support of BAP, working with partners and any established public awareness working groups.

Celebrate and communicate successes of LBAP projects as well as those of partner organisations.

Increase the engagement of local businesses and communities in the BAP process.

7. Representation

Ensure the LBAP partnership is represented on the regional biodiversity forum and other relevant regional and national meetings.

Respond to consultation from partners at regional and national levels of the BAP process.

7 Links with other plans and strategies

England Biodiversity Strategy Working with the Grain of Nature

The England Biodiversity Strategy seeks to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy and sets out a five year programme to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work within the grain of ecosystems rather than against them. In November 2006 'Working with the grain of nature – taking it forward' was published to report progress between 2002 and 2006.

Period Covered: 2002 - 2007

NE Delivery Framework 'Securing Biodiversity' A New Framework for Delivering Priority Species & Habitats in England

This framework has been developed to enhance the recovery of priority species and habitats and to contribute to delivering the England Biodiversity Strategy. The document outlines aims to work through an ecosystem approach, by embedding climate change issues and through delivery priorities across whole landscapes. It also highlights the importance of improving communication and strengthening partnerships.

Period Covered: 2008 onwards

UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

The 2007 UK BAP review lists 1149 species and 65 habitats as priorities for conservation action. There are currently 30 species action plans, 15 habitat action plans, 2 landscape scale projects and one generic action plan listed on the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) for Shropshire although revision of the Shropshire BAP is ongoing and is moving away from species action plans towards habitat actions plans and landscape scale action plans gradually as guided by the UK BAP and Natural England.



Click on the BARS logo for the Shropshire BAP

Public Service Agreement 28

Secure a Healthy Natural Environment for Today and the Future

The Government set out in October 2007 its priority outcomes for the period 2008 – 2011 in a series of Public Service Agreements (PSA). PSA 28 deals with the natural environment and makes clear that the England Biodiversity Strategy will aim to deliver the vision of biodiversity valued, safeguarded and enhanced. Natural England, the Government's conservation agency, is the organisation charged with delivery of this vision.

Period Covered: 2008 -2011

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act (NERC Act) 2006 The Biodiversity Duty

The NERC Act (2006) states that *'Every public body 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.'* There is a guidance document 'Guidance for Public Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty' available from the Defra website. There are links to a full text version of the NERC Act (2006) and some example case studies on the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership Website at: www.naturalshropshire.org.uk

Period Covered: 2007 onwards

Local Area Agreement National Indicator 197 Improved Local Biodiversity

Local Area Agreements (LAA) set out the priorities for an area based on an agreement between central government and a local area (Local Authority and Local Strategic Partnership). The LAA contains 200 indicators from which a local area chooses a range to report against but also has to record, to a lesser level, progress on all the other indicators. LAA NI 197 measures Improved Local Biodiversity via a measure of active management on local sites e.g. Local Wildlife Sites and Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). During 2009 a baseline of sites proven to be under appropriate management will be established and improvement will be measured year on year.

Period Covered: 2009 onwards

Planning Policy Statement 9 Biodiversity & Geological Conservation

This is the National planning policy guidance on biodiversity and geological conservation.

Regional Biodiversity Strategy for the West Midlands Restoring the Region's Wildlife

The West Midlands Regional Biodiversity Strategy sets out 5 key challenges to restoring biodiversity; Maintaining and improving the condition of species, habitats and ecosystems, Developing an area based approach, Monitoring condition of species, habitats and ecosystems, Re-connecting and integrating action for biodiversity with other environmental, social and economic activity, and Coping with the impacts of climate change. The need for a co-ordinated and integrated approach across the region is highlighted. The Regional Biodiversity Strategy is a key driver for regional and local partnerships.



Click on the logo for a PDF of 'Restoring the Region's Wildlife.'

Period Covered: 2005 - 2009

Supplement to Planning Policy Statement 1 Delivering Sustainable Development

PPS 1 covers Planning and Climate Change and makes reference to biodiversity networks.

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy

The West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy is currently undergoing some revision of the Strategy set out in 2004. Policy QE1 of the strategy 'Conserving & Enhancing the Environment' makes reference to the conservation of specific areas (e.g. AONB, European wildlife sites etc.), BAP habitats, BAP species and important landscape featured.

Policy QE7 identifies Biodiversity Enhancement Areas (BEA) in the West Midlands. There are several BEAs identified in Shropshire including Meres & Mosses, Wrekin to Wenlock Edge and Shropshire Hills. Annex B provides specific area targets for BAP habitats.

Period Covered: 2004 onwards

The West Midlands Regional Forestry Framework Growing Our Future

The Regional Forestry Framework sets out what is special about forestry in the West Midlands and seeks to find a balance between social, environmental and economic aspects of woodland and forestry. Biodiversity Conservation is listed as one of the overarching aims of the Framework. A Woodland Opportunities map was produced to go with this framework, Shropshire County Council produced the biodiversity theme of this map which can be found on the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership website at: www.naturalshropshire.org.uk

Shropshire Geodiversity Action Plan

The Shropshire Geodiversity Action Plan covers the wide range of geological landscapes from natural rock outcrops to historic mining features. The plan identifies links with other subject areas and specifically identifies the Shropshire BAP as a key document with which to 'identify synergies between biodiversity and geodiversity conservation.'

Telford Local Development Framework

This range of planning documents is in various stages of production and contains policies on biodiversity and climate change. The Shropshire BAP Steering Group will comment on all stages of the Telford Local Development Framework during any public consultation periods.

Period Covered: 2006 – 2026.

Shropshire Local Development Framework

There are currently various Local Development Framework documents in Shropshire across the 5 district and borough councils but on the 1st of April 2009 Shropshire will move to being a single unitary authority under Shropshire Council.

The new Local Development Framework for the whole of Shropshire as a unitary authority is already being drafted and the first consultations on the Issues and Options phase will begin at the end of January 2009. Throughout the process the Biodiversity Officer will ensure that the documents are made available for consultation to the BAP steering group to ensure that appropriate references to biodiversity, priority species and habitats, designated sites and the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan are included in the documents.

Period Covered: 2009 - 2026

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Shropshire Partnership Community Strategy

The Community Strategy sets out the priorities and actions that councils and partners will take over a 4 year period to improve local and countryside services to meet Shropshire's needs. The strategy includes an action to 'review the Shropshire BAP and monitor progress towards targets.'

Period Covered: 2006 – 2010.

Shropshire Community Strategy

There are currently district community strategies but there will be a new Shropshire Council Community Strategy for the new Shropshire Unitary Authority. The Biodiversity Officer will ensure that the draft is made available to the Shropshire BAP Steering Group for comments during any public consultation periods.

Telford & Wrekin Community Strategy

The Telford & Wrekin Community Strategy includes targets to; Implement action plans for the conservation and enhancement of the environment on key sites and maintain diversity of key species, Contribute to the establishment and implementation of targets in the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan that seek to maximise the opportunity for nature conservation and enhancement, and Designate additional Local Nature Reserves.

Period Covered: 2006 – 2011.

Parish Plans

Parish plans cover social, economic and environmental issues of relevance to local residence in each parish. They provide an opportunity to help guide the future development of parishes. They vary greatly in content and detail but some have included habitat and/or landscape assessments of their parish and have identified biodiversity issues.

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

8 Delivery charts

These charts detail progress and the future timetable for delivery of the Core Services of the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership. The actions below have been entered onto BARS under Delivery Plan.

1. Establishing and Maintaining a Broad Partnership

Actions which should occur annually:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Review Steering Group	Review structure and membership of the Steering Group		Report on any changes to Steering Group.	Biodiversity Officer		Detailed in minutes of Steering Group meeting (available on web site)	Annual
Widen partnership	Review LBAP membership and invite representation from organisations when necessary to fill gaps in coverage.	Link to communications plan	Review membership of Steering Group every 3 years and continual adjustment of full partnership mailing list.	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time	Names of Steering Group and BAP 'implementation' members are available from the BARS web site	Ongoing
Shropshire BAP workshop	Workshop to cover BAP process including involvement, BARS and biodiversity data		1 workshop	Biodiversity Officer	Approx £100 for Tea, Coffee & room hire if not in-kind.	Advertised by email, post and Natural Shropshire web site.	March 2009
Workshop / training for field staff	Raising awareness of the BAP, SEDN and the data available to assist field staff	Link to Communications Action Plan	Either one large session or, more likely, 3 separate sessions for EA, FC and NE	Biodiversity Officer and SWT	Minimal for teas and coffees		March 2010

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Essential actions 2009 – 2011:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Increase cross-sector participation through working groups	Renew Planning & Policies Working group.		One meeting of the Planning & Policies working group	Shropshire County Council		Minutes of meeting published and discussed at Steering Group.	Dec 2009
Increased representation	Increase representation from the business/ industrial sector by 2 new organisations.		2 new private organisations involved in the LBAP	Biodiversity Officer		Including attendance at Working Group or Steering Group or listing on BARS for agreed actions.	Dec 2009
Increase cross-sector participation through working groups	Initiate additional sub-group for at least one group: health; business; education; voluntary naturalist groups; parish groups.		A meeting with one or more of the sectors listed.	Biodiversity Officer and full partnership		Minutes of meeting published and discussed at Steering Group.	October 2009
Partnership roles and responsibilities	Produce guidance for each active group within the BAP partnership		Specific guidance published	Biodiversity Officer		Guidance published on Natural Shropshire web site and provided to regional LBAP coordinators	July 2009
Partnership roles and responsibilities	Strengthen the partnership 'voice' by Produce at least one statement from the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership to highlight the role of the Steering Group and develop its voice and concerns		One letter, publicised statement, or response to a consultation per year – depending on demand.	Any member of the Steering Group	None		April 2010
LBAP involvement	NE, EA, and FC to provide a statement to the Steering Group detailing their level of involvement in the LBAP.		One statement from each statutory authority. To include level of involvement in LBAP review and BARS use.	Chair of the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership to request statement.	None	Date of request and response to be discussed at Steering Group and made available via the minutes	April 2010

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

2. Delivering BAP Locally

Essential Actions 2009 – 2011:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Haughmond Hill consultation	Ongoing discussion with FC / FE on the Forest Management Plan		A formal SBP response to the plan	SWT, SC + Steering Group		A formal statement of the Steering Group response will be submitted by the Chair to FC	Feb 2009
List of top priority 'large projects'	Development of a list of those projects requiring large scale funding		A list of 10 high priority projects, agreed by the Steering Group, which require significant external funding.	Biodiversity Officer			July 2009
Landscapes for Living	Mapping biodiversity opportunities relating to social economic, water management issues	Regional Spatial Strategy; Local Development Frameworks	Development of Local Opportunity Map for Landscapes for Living	SC is likely to take a lead role in production of the maps, SWT	Funded by the WMBP and Wildlife Trusts	Final maps and report publicised by WMBP and on Natural Shropshire web site	Dec 2009
LBAP Process	Find lead partners for 2 plans which do not currently have plan leads		2 Lead Partners signed up.	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time	Request for volunteers at the Steering Group	Dec 2009
Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership statement on climate change	Adapt Partnership Climate Change Statement into SMART actions within Generic Plans	Link to relevant HAPs and SAPs, in addition to generic plans.	SMART actions produced	SWT; SC	Staff time. Possible funding required for publicity of statement	Progress to be reported at Steering Group meetings (minutes are available to public) and presented to the wider partnership	Dec 2009
Identify climate change resilient biodiversity opportunities	Identify 5 LDUs of high resilience to climate change but low current biodiversity interest.	Linked to SBP Climate Change statement	Map with 5 LDUs highlighted	SC; Biodiversity Officer		Maps sent to Steering Group and Lead Partners for comment then posted on Natural Shropshire once approved	Dec 2009

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Essential Actions 2009 – 2011 (continued):							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Quarries BAP	Production of a Shropshire Quarries BAP	Link to Shropshire Geodiversity Action Plan. Links to HAPs, SAPs & to Quarry BAPs.	Shropshire Quarry BAP signed up.	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time	Quarry biodiversity event in December 2007.	Draft plan by Dec 2009
Landscape scale project development	Develop one project from the Shropshire 10 landscape scale projects list with a view to making a funding application.		One project to pre-application stage and clear idea of potential funders.	Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership	Staff time		Dec 2009
Local Records Centre development	Development of a Data Strategy for the Shropshire Ecological Data Network		A strategy produced by the SEDN subgroup and agreed by the BAP Steering Group	Biodiversity Officer, & SEDN subgroup	Biodiversity Officer time		Dec 2009
Generic action plans / strategies	Develop a Shropshire Communications Action Plan	Links to all plans in LBAP	Plan signed up by Steering Group and any lead partners	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time		Dec 2009
Generic action plans / strategies	Develop a Funding Action Plan for the Shropshire BAP.	Links to all plans in LBAP	Plan signed up by Steering Group and any lead partners	Biodiversity Officer; SEDN	Staff time		Dec 2009.
NI 197 (Local Area Agreement Biodiversity Indicator)	Collecting data on management of Wildlife Sites and establishing mechanisms for reporting on NI197	Link to relevant HAPs and SAPs, in addition to generic plans.	Achieve a positive outcome for biodiversity on 20% of County Wildlife Sites and produce a first report.	SWT; SC	Staff time	Reported on BARS and at full partnership event	First report by Jan 2010.

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Essential Actions 2009 – 2011 (continued 2):

Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
LBAP Process	Find Lead Partners for 4 new UK habitats: Rock outcrop & scree, Traditional Orchards, Upland Flushes, Fens & Swamp, Mosaics of Habitats on Previously Developed Land		4 Lead Partners signed up.	Biodiversity Officer and whole partnership	Staff time	Request for volunteers at the Steering Group	Dec 2010
Generic action plans / strategies	Develop a Biodiversity & the Economy Strategy for the Shropshire BAP	Links to all plans in LBAP	Plan signed up by Steering Group and any lead partners	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time		Dec 2010
Generic action plans / strategies	Develop a Planning & Policies Action Plan for the Shropshire BAP	Links to all plans in LBAP	Plan signed up by Steering Group and any lead partners	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time		Dec 2010

Desirable Actions 2009 – 2011:

Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Adaptation to Climate Change	Establish positive land management over 20% of the land area of LDUs identified as having high resilience to climate change but low existing biodiversity.	Linked to climate change statement and to HLS targeting.	20% of selected LDUs land area in positive management.	NE, SWT			Dec 2011.
Integration with site management plans	All site management plans with a biodiversity element produced by partners should list all actions contributing toward LBAP targets on BARS	Site actions will be automatically link to related plans in BARS	All new management plans with 'BAP actions' appendix with these actions listed on BARS	Site managers and Biodiversity Officer	Staff Time	BARS will help publicise the management plans and make them more useful to other practitioners as well as accessible to the public	Dec 2010

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

3. Fund-raising for BAP Delivery

Essential Actions 2009 – 2011:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Online list of funding sources	Create an online resource on funders, funding opportunities, key dates and links to web resources on Natural Shropshire.		Up to date list of potential funders	Biodiversity Officer; SWT	Staff time	List promoted in BAP newsletter	Dec 2009
Funding Strategy	Implementation of the funding strategy			SC & SWT			
Small grants funding (capacity building)	Implementation of the recommendations of the small grants funding plan.		Bid for small grants fund submitted	SWT			April 2008
Small grants funding	Report on use of Clive Tate Memorial Fund	Communications action plan	Report presented at Steering Group	SWT	None	Report included in SBAP newsletter	Report quarterly
Appropriate indication of funding sources	Actions will be labelled in BARS to indicate potential or known funding sources	Funding Strategy and all funding sources	All new, relevant actions to be appropriately linked to at least one funding source.	Lead Partners and Biodiversity Officers	Staff time		Dec 2010

4. Reporting and Monitoring Progress

Actions which should occur annually:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Habitat & Species Action Plan revisions	Produce draft plans through consultation with relevant partners and sign up plan through Steering Group		2 new or revised plans per annum. Species should be incorporated into HAPs where possible & area based plans should be considered.	HAP or SAP Lead Partner & Biodiversity Officer	Staff time		Annually

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Essential Actions 2009 – 2011:

Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Voluntary species recording groups	Species status, trend and losses data to be gathered from societies by Lead Partners		Updated species reports in BARS	Lead Partners and voluntary recording groups	Biodiversity Officer time	Results available from BARS web site	By Dec of each year
Key Partner Organisation Involvement	Improve buy in to the BAP from key organisations NE, EA, FC		Steering Group members will meet with key organisations (NE, FC, EA) at an appropriate level to establish how they plan to satisfy their commitment to BAP in the future	SWT, Biodiversity Officer, NE, EA, FC		Progress reported to the Steering Group	Dec 2009
Action progress reporting and revision of plans	Provide support to any partner in use of BARS and also with review of organisations actions		Biodiversity officer to spend one to one time with 3 organisations / members of the partnership giving support in BARS use	Biodiversity Officer	Biodiversity Officer time	Changes will be proposed to the steering group via the 'log of alterations for approval'. Reports will be published on BARS	Dec 2009
	Facilitating Lead Partners in their responsibilities		50% of all targets reported on	Lead Partners		Provide progress reports to Steering Group and wider partnership	Dec 2009
Action progress reporting	Facilitating the reporting of actions on BARS		75% of all actions reported on BARS	Action Leads		Provide progress reports to Steering Group and wider partnership	Dec 2009
Report on NERC Act compliance.	Report 5 new case studies showing how organisations are satisfying their biodiversity duty under the NERC Act (2006)		5 new case studies online	Biodiversity Officer	Biodiversity Officer time	Case studies published on new NERC Act section of the Natural Shropshire website	Dec 2009
Formal signing up to BAP actions	For each new action added to the LBAP the action lead partner will formally accept the action in writing		For each plan reviewed until 2010	Biodiversity Officer		Acceptance will be by email to the Biodiversity Officer	Dec 2010

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

5. Integrating BAP into Local Policies

Essential Actions 2009 – 2011:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Ensure biodiversity is sufficiently covered in Local Development Frameworks	Incorporate biodiversity policies in Local Development Documents as they are produced/ revised.	Regional Spatial Strategy. Planning & Policies Working Group	All new Local Development Documents to have sufficient policies on biodiversity to cover PPS9 and reference the SBAP where appropriate.	Shropshire Council; Telford & Wrekin Council; SWT	Covered by development planning process.	Full public consultation	Process started, timetable tbc post-unitary. Depends on timetables of individual documents
Ensure biodiversity is sufficiently covered in Local Development Frameworks	Produce Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)		Provide detailed supplement to above documents.	SC	Staff time	Consultation and then publish on the E-Planning website	Process started. Timetable affected by move to unitary.
Ensure biodiversity is sufficiently covered in Local Development Frameworks	Produce a Green Space Strategy SPD		Provide detailed supplement to Local Development Documents.	Telford & Wrekin Council			Unknown
Ensure biodiversity is fully covered in new Planning Validation Lists	Train new Unitary Authority planning staff in use of the biodiversity section of validation list & develop good working practice		All planning applications to have covered biodiversity issues before being validated, including necessary surveys.	Shropshire Council. SC Ecologist	Staff time	Consultation process and then through E-Planning to developers and the public.	April 2009

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Essential Actions 2009 – 2011 (Continued):

Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Incorporating biodiversity into Community Strategies.	Ensure biodiversity is sufficiently covered in the Community Strategy and all other documents and plans relating to the new unitary Shropshire Council	Proposed Planning & Policies BAP	Quarterly reporting.	Local Strategic Partnership – Environment Forum.	Staff time	Progress published on SCC website	Dec 2010
Input into Core Strategy	Input to biodiversity element of Shropshire County Council's Core Strategy by 2009.	Links into producing other documents for the Local Development Framework	Comment during public consultation period	SC	Staff time	Steering Group invited to comment during public consultation period	Dec 2009

Desirable Actions 2009 – 2011:

Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Work with Parish Groups	Carry out a 'mapping exercise' to determine who is doing what in relation to working with Parish groups		Report incorporating details of all groups currently working on biodiversity issues at the Parish level.	SC/SWT	Staff time		Jan 2009
Parish Environment Groups	Assist with the production of 1 Parish Environment Plan in Shropshire		1 Parish Environment Plan with input from members of the Biodiversity Partnership	Countryside Service; Biodiversity Officer	Funds for training required (circa £300 per Parish)	Addition of the plan to the Natural Shropshire webs site and perhaps a press release.	Dec 2009
Biodiversity Pledge	Lobby Shropshire Council to sign the 'Biodiversity Pledge' committing to fulfil the biodiversity Duty of the NERC Act.		Shropshire Council should sign the 'Biodiversity Pledge'.	SC / SWT		The commitment of the new Shropshire Unitary Authority made in signing the Biodiversity Pledge should be publicised.	Dec 2009.

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

6. Promoting BAP Locally

Actions which should occur annually:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Branding	Ensure partners use SBP logo where possible	Communications Action Plan	Use of logo in all partner documents naming the SBP	Full partnership	None	Logo is available from the Natural Shropshire web site	Ongoing
Publicity	Make full use of the 'Newsworthy Story' section of BARS	Communications Action Plan	At least one new story per quarter	Lead Partners and Biodiversity Officers	None	Additional link to stories is available from the Natural Shropshire web site	Quarterly
Essential Actions 2009 – 2011:							
Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Communications Action Plan	Action the Communications Action Plan.	Other HAPs, SAPs and generic plans	Specific actions and targets listed in the Communications Action Plan	Action Leads		Action progress will be reported through BARS and highlights picked out in annual newsletter.	Dec 2010
Volunteering promotion	Promote opportunities for volunteering on LBAP projects through web resources.	Communications Action Plan	Specific web page and promotion of the page to key partners and public	Biodiversity Officer	Biodiversity Officer time	Create section on Natural Shropshire website aimed at facilitating join up between volunteers and projects	Dec 2010

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7. Representation

Actions which should occur annually:

Action name	Activity	Linkage	Specific target	Lead partner	Budget	Communications	Time-frame
Attendance at national biodiversity meetings	Partnership to be represented at the UK BAP event and give talks if necessary		Typically one meeting per year	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time	Report back to Steering Group and sub-groups where necessary	Annually
Attendance at regional biodiversity meetings	Regional LBAP coordinator meetings		Attend quarterly meetings	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time	Report back to Steering Group and sub-groups where necessary	Quarterly
Attendance at West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership meetings or sub-groups	Attend Data Group meetings and provide report to, or attend, full WMBP meeting	Links with development of the Shropshire Biological Data Strategy	Attend quarterly meetings and occasionally the full WMBP meeting	Biodiversity Officer	Staff time	Report back to Steering Group, other LBAP coordinators and sub-groups where necessary	Quarterly

9 Monitoring Action

BARS

To date the monitoring of actions has been led by national reporting deadlines such as the end of 2005 and 2008 reporting periods. Core Service 4 requires the use of “the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) to report on the implementation and delivery of actions initiated locally”. Training has been provided to the partnership in both group sessions and on a one to one basis and reporting is improving (see Figure 1 & 2 and Appendix 3). There is a need for further improvements in 2009 / 2010. There is currently a lack of compulsion for reporting on BARS unless funding for a specific action requires BARS reporting, such as the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, SITA, or BAP delivery funds from Natural England.

Figure 1: Action progress reporting up to 15/05/2007

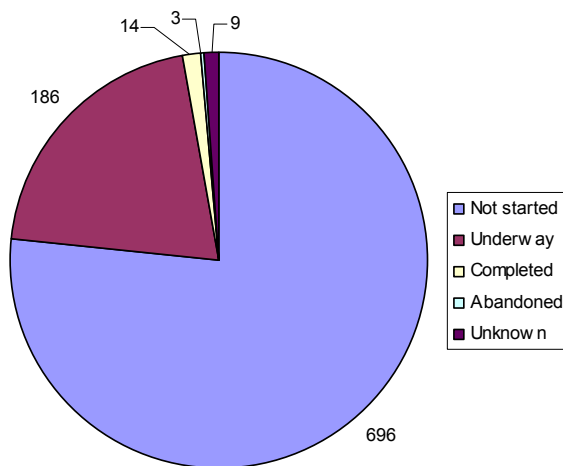


Figure 1 provides an indication of the use of BARS by the partnership in 2007.

Action for biodiversity was taking place but the majority of this work was not being reported on BARS.

Figure 2: Action progress reporting up to 14/1/2009

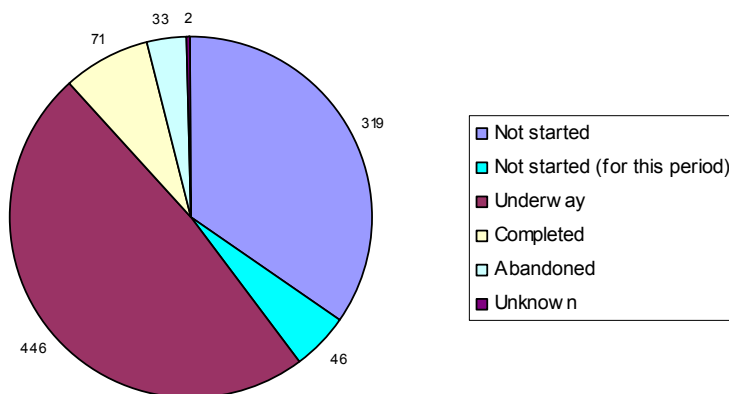


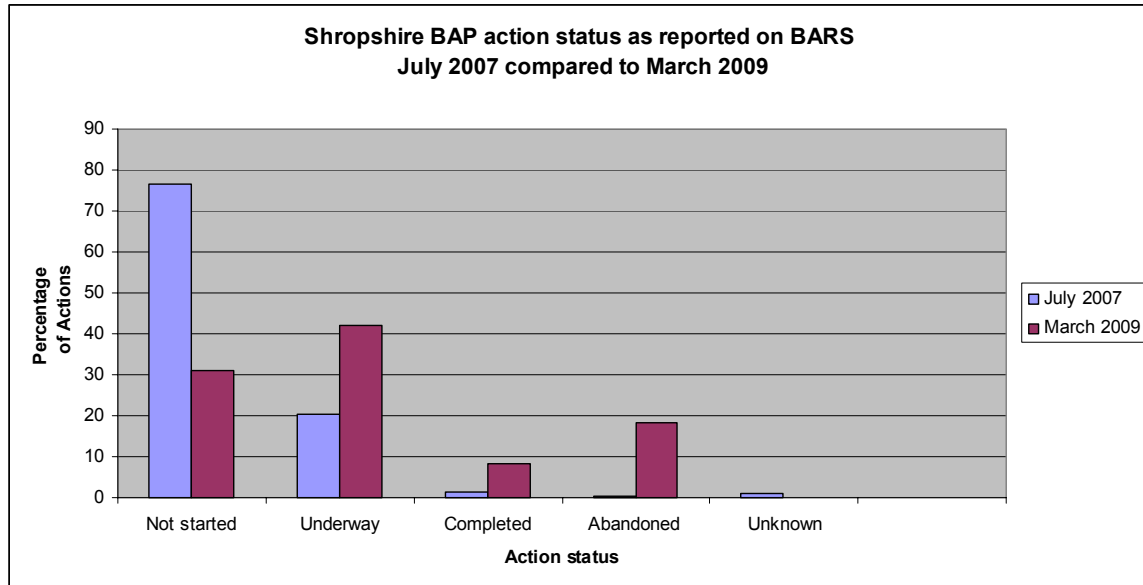
Figure 2 (2009) shows significant improvement in BARS reporting since 2007. Most of this improvement has occurred since the Biodiversity Support Officer has been in post as she has been reporting on behalf of several partners.

The category ‘not started (for this period)’ indicates that the action, while not being underway, has been reported on i.e. giving reasons for delay etc.

Many actions are not due to start until later this year or even next year. This reporting is an important part of identifying blockages in BAP action such as funding, staff capacity, volunteer resources etc.

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Figure 3: Comparison of 2007 BARS reporting to 2009



The changes shown by this graph between 2007 and 2009 reflect significant activity in revising the 2006 Shropshire BAP which has led to actions being abandoned as well as many actions being 'underway' and 'completed.' There has been significant effort to reduce the listing on some organisations for actions which outline tasks either dictated by legislation or by internal working practice guidance, this has led to a number of actions being abandoned with an explanation as to why this has occurred.

10 Cross cutting themes

Data strategy & the Shropshire Ecological Data Network (SEDN)

During the last phase of the delivery plan (2007 – 2008) significant progress has been made on the gathering, managing and provision of high quality species, habitat and landscape data.

In 2008 The Shropshire Ecological Data Network (SEDN) was created with funding provided by NE and Shropshire Council. Shropshire Wildlife Trust is to hold a 'clean' database of species and habitat data which has been validated by the relevant county recorder before being passed to the Shropshire Wildlife Trust and / or being uploaded to the Natural Shropshire web site. These two data sources and the species groups databases are, in effect, a virtual record centre for Shropshire.

The long term aim is for the SEDN to do more than simply hold records, it should also allow use of the data to produce maps which can influence planning policy, it should identify gaps in the data and commission new survey work and it should support field recording, training and publications by local groups.

The SEDN is in its early stages and procedures are still being established.

One of the main targets for 2009 for SEDN is to establish a full Data Strategy which will sit within the Shropshire BAP. The SEDN group is currently a sub-group of the Shropshire BAP Steering Group.

Communications strategy and action plan

The Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership is producing a complete communications strategy and action plan during 2009 which will exist as an overarching document within the SBAP. All actions in the communication plan will be listed and reported on via BARS.

Clear lines of communication are at the heart of good partnership working. The LBAP has processes in place to help its members keep up to date with biodiversity activity in Shropshire. These processes are coordinated by the Biodiversity Officers and are reviewed regularly to ensure partners are kept up to date and that the partnership works effectively.

Effective communication is also required to get across the message that high levels of biodiversity are of value and of direct and indirect benefit to the people of Shropshire.

One of the underlying principals of the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan is that 'individuals and communities should be intimately involved in biodiversity conservation'. The local BAP process should be as inclusive as possible whilst maintaining focus on the delivery of the core biodiversity services of the partnership.

Communications objectives for the Communication Action Plan:

- Ensure effective communication within the current Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership as well as regional and national biodiversity partnerships.
- Increase the range of sectors involved in the partnership
- Ensure that the key messages are reaching the appropriate audiences

Delivery mechanisms for the Communication Action Plan:

To deal with detailed communications issues, a generic action plan will be prepared by December 2009. This will include actions that cover raising awareness of specific species, habitats or other biodiversity issues, disseminating knowledge and encouraging involvement.

Key stakeholders in the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership:

Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership

Steering Group

Lead Partners

Action Leads

Wider partnership

West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership

Steering Group

Regional LBAP coordinator

Sub-groups (e.g. Data Group, Climate Change group)

England Biodiversity Partnership

Full partnership – conference

National Lead Partners

Voluntary naturalist groups

Species specific groups e.g. Shropshire Ornithological Society

Area based groups e.g. Upper Onny Wildlife Group, parish environmental groups

Wider audience for the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan:

Politicians

Health sector

Education

Media Groups

Other public bodies

- Prison service, Police, Fire Service, Armed forces

Business

- Farmers, Developers, Aggregates industry, Airfields

Tourism & leisure

- Golf Clubs, Camping / caravan sites, Angling clubs

Other interest groups

- Allotment associations, Ramblers Groups, Parish Planners

Biodiversity & the economy

The links between economic development and biodiversity are difficult to quantify however some work on this subject has been carried out and one of the prime roles of the Communications Action Plan should be to highlight the positive links between biodiversity and the economy. Later reviews of the Delivery Plan will include more specific actions aimed at providing evidenced based links between high levels of biodiversity and a thriving economy.

Planning and Policies Strategy

An action in the Delivery Chart of this document is to revive the Planning & Policies Working Group. One of the key tasks of this group is to produce a generic Planning & Policies Action Plan. This generic plan will provide a document tailored to planners and policy makers.

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Funding strategy

The Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership will develop a full funding strategy during 2009 which will exist as an overarching document within the BAP alongside the delivery and communication plans.

This section does not provide a detailed funding strategy but rather it is a short statement of what the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership wants to achieve in the short term and the financial mechanisms by which we propose to do this. Our aim is to list only those tasks which are over and above what each member of the partnership is already working towards and so few items are specified.

Funding issues for the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership can be broken down into three main categories:

- 1. Small voluntary groups**
- 2. Larger organisations / BAP partners**
- 3. Core activities and costs**

1. Small voluntary groups

The smaller groups have issues with capacity, training and low key material and equipment costs which can attract a variety of small grants including the locally SWT administered Clive Tate Fund but also could qualify for external funding sources. The Biodiversity Officer has a role in sign-posting these, mainly through email circular, the Natural Shropshire web site and newsletters.

Appendix 4 has been produced by Shropshire Wildlife Trust to address issues of capacity in voluntary groups.

2. Larger organisations / BAP partners

Larger organisations have their own systems in place in terms of resource prioritisation however the partnership is developing a top priority list for larger scale projects covering a range of habitats and species using an area based approach. Projects can be cherry picked from this list to make the most of the ever changing and sporadic nature of major funding sources e.g. SITA, Countdown 2010, Natural England underspend etc.

Funding bodies often look to Biodiversity Partnerships for support of large projects so a pre-approved list will shorten this process by ensuring the Steering Group already has an outline understanding of projects on the list.

3. Core activities and costs

Core funding for the Biodiversity Officer post still presents difficulties for many LBAP partnerships including Shropshire. Typically the main partners meet the costs with occasional supplements from specific projects such as the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund projects of the last four years. Currently the core funding is supplied by Shropshire Council, Natural England, Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Telford & Wrekin Council. Forestry Commission will no longer be providing funding after April 2009.

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Specific initiatives directly managed through the BAP process may assist in providing further funding from partners such as Environment Agency. Recent examples include funding from NE to assist in promotion of the NERC duty, and the NE funding to assist recording the work of the 'Grow with Wyre' project on BARS.

By making a clear statement as to how the core funding should be met gives a clear basis on which to approach other potential funding organisations.

Climate change action plan

The Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership (SBP) has produced a draft climate change statement in 2008 and will formally adopt the statement during 2009. The climate change statement will sit within the BAP as an overarching statement alongside the delivery, communication and funding plans. SMART actions within generic plans will be developed detailing how it intends to start addressing mitigation and adaptation issues in practical terms. We will seek funding for project work during 2009 / 2010.

As new actions in plans are developed they will be labelled in BARS if they are likely to assist climate change adaptation or mitigation measures. Reports can then be produced detailing all the biodiversity actions that are relevant to climate change issues.

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Appendix 1. Roles of active partner organisations.

These data are likely to change following most Steering Group meetings as new actions are signed up. These data are correct as of March 2009. Those organisations with statutory biodiversity duties (e.g. CROW Act 2000, NERC Act 2006) are indicated by darker shading.

Organisation	Lead Role	Support Role	Plans leading on
Bridgnorth District Council	28	38	
British Bryological Society	1	5	
British Dragonfly Society	6	3	Club tailed dragonfly White faced darter
British Trust for Ornithology	3	0	
British Waterways	16	7	
Butterfly Conservation	114	24	Argent & Sable Dingy Skipper Grizzled Skipper Grayling Pearl-bordered Fritillary Wood White Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary Silver-studded Blue
Caring for Gods Acre	7	11	
E.ON UK plc	18	1	
Environment Agency	47	44	
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group	16	75	
Field Studies Council	1	5	
Forestry Commission England	48	65	Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland
Long Mynd Breeding Bird Project	0	14	
National Farmers Union	0	1	
National Trust	38	58	Dormouse Pink Waxcap
Natural England	144	119	
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	6	20	
RuralScapes	5	33	
SCC Conservation & Ranger Team	27	33	Water Vole Lowland Wood Pasture and Veteran Trees
Severn Gorge Countryside Trust	1	0	
Severn Trent Water	0	1	
Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council	29	39	
Shropshire Barn Owl Group	5	3	Barn Owl
Shropshire Bat Group	19	12	Bat Species
Shropshire Botanical Society	3	8	
Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership (Biodiversity Officer)			Marsh Flapwort
Shropshire County Council	105	282	Species-Rich Grassland Plans, Policies and Legislation Delivery Plan Communications Plan Climate Change Strategy
Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership	14	42	Rivers and Streams
Shropshire Mammal Group	7	8	Brown Hare

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Shropshire Ornithological Society	11	47	Generic Birds Action Plan Farmland Birds Ring Ouzel Song Thrush Barn Owl Spotted Flycatcher Red Grouse Plus actions for some other bird species which will be covered by HAPs	Nightjar Lapwing Snipe Curlew Dipper Turtle Dove
Shropshire Ponds Project			Standing Open Water	
Shropshire Wildlife Trust	155	208	Upland and Lowland Heathland Great Crested Newt Floodplain Grazing Marsh	
Smallwoods Association	12	0		
Tarmac Limited	5	0		
Telford and Wrekin Council	31	47		
University of Wolverhampton	0	4		
Upper Clun Community Wildlife Group	0	6		
Upper Onny Wildlife Group	3	32		
Whitchurch Community Water Vole Project	7	10		
Woodland Trust	0	2		
Wyre Forest Study Group	1	16		

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Appendix 2. A guide for HAP or SAP Lead Partners

Who should lead a plan?

A HAP or SAP Lead Partner should be someone with an active interest in the given habitat or species and ideally seen as an authority on the habitat or species in Shropshire. They should know or be able to find out who is carrying out work towards the habitat or species. Shropshire BAP currently lacks lead partners for several habitats, recruiting lead partners is a priority for the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership in 2009.

Role	Responsibilities for plans
Biodiversity Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinates the delivery of the Shropshire BAP ○ Provides guidance & training to partners on BAP issues ○ Helps standardise plans and ensure links with the regional strategy, the UK BAP and neighbouring LBAPs. ○ Reports on overall SBAP progress on BARS and reports to partnership
Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delivers overarching actions through the SBAP delivery plan, the communications plan, the funding strategy, the planning & policies action plan, and the data strategy. ○ Identifies priorities for the LBAP ○ Responsible for the sign-up of new plans or changes to existing plans.
Lead Partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reports on progress towards the targets of a HAP or SAP ○ Provides a brief, annual 'plan overview report' ○ Reports, when possible, on the status, trend and losses of the species or habitat. ○ Ensures that partners responsible for carrying out specific actions (Action Leads) report any progress made. ○ Ensures the HAP or SAP is updated when necessary through communication with the Action Leads and Biodiversity Officers.
Action Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensures the action they are leading on is carried out within the timeframe specified. ○ Reports progress on actions (even if 'no action') on BARS or direct to Lead Partner. ○ If problems with delivery of the action are identified they should report this on BARS or to the Lead Partner or both. Changes to the action can then be made if necessary.
Action Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supports work towards achieving action(s) and reports progress to the Action Lead.

Appendix 3. Use of BARS (Biodiversity Action Reporting System)



www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk

All reporting should be carried out on BARS. Training and one to one support can be provided free of charge by the Biodiversity Officers. In some cases the Biodiversity Officers can arrange for brief reports to be entered onto BARS on behalf of the Lead Partner or Action Lead.

Plan Lead Partners should ensure that their nominated plan is factually correct and the most up to date version is available on BARS.

Plan Lead Partners should maintain a watching brief over other plans and neighbouring LBAP partnerships to see where links can be made and also to determine what other ongoing work might help achieve targets. This may also help bring in new partners. Details of any new partners should be sent to the Biodiversity Officers.

Checking action progress

Every 6 months Plan Lead Partners should check the action progress reports for their plan(s) on BARS and request progress reports from Action Leads that have yet to report (reminder emails can be automatically be sent out by BARS if required). Plan Lead Partners should highlight to the Steering Group actions that are falling behind and investigate why this might be so. Action Leads may need chasing!

Updating target progress

By December 31st each year Plan Lead Partners should use all the action progress reports to update progress towards targets. Textual reports can be made in the 'Progress reports' section while numerical 'SMART' targets should be reported under the 'Target goals' section.

Plan overview reports

Plan overview reports should be written periodically (at least once a year) when further detail regarding the overall progress of the plan needs reporting.

Status, trends and losses

Lead Partners are responsible for ensuring that the status, trends and losses section for each habitat or species is up to date. For other LBAPs this is part of the core services of the Local Records Centre. Voluntary recording groups, the Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Shropshire Council should be asked for the relevant species and habitat data. This function should become easier as the Shropshire Ecological Data Network develops.

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Modifying and revising plans

As part of each periodic report consideration should be made as to whether modifications or additions are required to targets, actions or the textual part of the plan. Changes to the plan may be required when:

- One or more targets have been met
- Target dates have expired
- New target or actions are required
- Significant changes to delivery are expected
- New legislation or funding schemes come into effect

New Actions

Where a new action has been identified as being necessary an individual Action Lead needs to be identified. The Action Lead should agree in writing to attempt to complete the action in the specified time and with the specified support. Those listed as supporting the action should also be contacted by the Lead Partner or the Biodiversity Officer.

Costed Actions

Costed actions are very useful as these can be used to help mop up end of year under-spend money at short notice or to put together funding bids. In addition a series of large scale costed and preferably area based projects should be proposed and developed to allow the partnership to respond quickly to new funding opportunities.

The Shropshire BAP funding strategy which will be produced in 2009 will identify mechanisms by which the majority of actions within the Shropshire BAP will have a cost attributed to them. The aim is for already costed actions and costed plans to be delivered through making funding applications to appropriate funding bodies.

Proposing new actions or updates to plans

Changes to actions or targets can now be made to the BAP on a rolling program. Any proposed changes or additions should be sent to the Biodiversity Officer who will circulate them by email to the steering group. The steering group has a period of 2 weeks to make any comments on the proposals which after this time will be considered agreed and added to the Shropshire BAP.

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Appendix 4. Building capacity in local taxonomic and special interest groups

Aim

- 1 To support a wide range of local specialist groups capable of helping to deliver, steer and monitor the BAP.

Background

- 2 Shropshire is lucky to have a number of groups interested in aspects of wildlife. These range in size from Shropshire Ornithological Society with a membership of hundreds and its own nature reserve to groups with a handful of members studying more esoteric taxa such as liverworts or crane flies. All share a passion and dedication to their subject and all provide valuable voluntary effort furthering understanding and conservation of biodiversity in Shropshire.
- 3 It is the smaller groups that sometimes struggle to find the resources to meet their ambitions. With more members, the help of other organisations or with a little money they could achieve so much more. There can also be poor connection between the work of these groups and the strategic needs of delivering and monitoring the BAP.

Local recording groups in Shropshire

- 4 A list of some of the active groups in Shropshire can be found at www.naturalshropshire.org.uk under 'species groups' and is available to members of the public. This does not claim to be comprehensive. There may, for example, be groups not focused on Shropshire that operate in the county.

Needs of these groups

- 5 In most cases their needs are not complex, but fall into two areas:

Members: most of these groups are destined to have a very small membership and often survive thanks to the dedication of one or two individuals.

Money: many groups are voluntary and have no source of income. Many have little need of money although it could be useful in attracting new members. However, occasionally all embark on projects requiring funds. These might be the production of a distribution atlas, or some urgent practical management work.

Recommendations

- 6 It is crucial that groups retain their independence. The following is not meant to be a take over of small groups by bigger ones. The passion and specialism of the groups would soon be lost. Rather it recognises that larger groups can play a co-ordinating and supporting role, helping ease some of the bureaucracy that pervades all modern activity.

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Members

- 7 People cannot join groups they have never heard of so publicity can keep groups alive. The internet is an excellent medium for promotion. Groups should be encouraged and supported in developing websites, or be given a page on an existing site (e.g. Natural Shropshire or Shropshire Wildlife Trust web sites). These could be used to promote meetings and events and to make a direct ask for more volunteers.
- 8 To involve new volunteers it is important to not to throw them in at the deep end! Taster sessions are a valuable means of recruitment. A wildlife fair could be organised at a suitable venue (possibly SWT HQ or Venus Pool) to allow all groups to “pitch” to potential volunteers. A similar event was held in early 2007 by the Biodiversity Training Project based at Preston Montford. This project started in 2006 and has already organised 50 events and is planning another 4 years of biodiversity training activities. This project should be further promoted by the partnership.

Money

- 9 Some groups are capable of applying for and administering external grants. Smaller groups may be more comfortable with these procedures being handled by a larger organisation. Shropshire Wildlife Trust has already set up the Clive Tate Fund to support local groups with small amounts of money (up to £500). This is a straightforward scheme that needs to be augmented.
- 10 There are various small grants available; eg from local authorities, Shropshire Hills AONB or National Lottery Awards for All. Application procedures vary in complexity, but support could be given from the Biodiversity Officers or Wildlife Trust development staff, who are experienced in grant applications.
- 11 Additionally, the LBAP should explore an application to a larger fund (such as Heritage Lottery) on behalf of a number of groups to provide publicity, equipment, training etc. This has already been partly addressed by the FSC Biodiversity Training Project, but there are other funds and plenty more work to do.
- 12 The Shropshire Ecological Data Network will also be an effective way of funding actions by small local recording groups to fill gaps in existing data sets held by SEDN. Gaps will be identified in the Data Strategy.

Communication

- 13 There needs to be better communications between those undertaking recording and those working at a strategic level. Records must be used to inform strategy and decision-making and the SEDN will play a vital role in providing data and informing decisions. Equally, the BAP process will indicate those species for which records are particularly valuable. It should be a key role of the Biodiversity Officers to quarterly contact all groups with updates on BAP projects and to discuss any specific habitats, species or locations for which data is required.

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Appendix 5. Report on key challenges of 2006 review

The following ten key challenges were identified during the 2006 Shropshire BAP review. A report on how the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership has responded to these challenges between 2006 and 2008 will be available from the partnership website www.naturalshropshire.org.uk once it has been formally agreed by the steering group.

KEY CHALLENGE 1

Members of the Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership to meet their commitments within the SBAP and report on progress publicly (via BARS, media etc). Reporting mechanisms to be in place by 2007.

KEY CHALLENGE 2

Natural England on its formation in late 2006 to continue to deliver biodiversity targets through Environmental Stewardship schemes.

KEY CHALLENGE 3

The Environment Agency to integrate river catchment management policy and practice to reflect BAP targets and priorities.

KEY CHALLENGE 4

The Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to continue to prioritise actions and targets listed in the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan, and reflect this in the AONB Management Plan revision in 2007.

KEY CHALLENGE 5

All Local Authorities have in place within their Local Development Framework clear and accountable policies for biodiversity including species, habitat and site protection, and habitat network provision (particularly in urban areas) with reference to the SBAP by 2008.

KEY CHALLENGE 6

Every resident in Shropshire should have access to wild Greenspace within a 10 minute walking distance – an aim which should be supported through the planning process by 2008.

KEY CHALLENGE 7

The Local Education Authority and local schools make provision for every young person of school age to have access to wildspace within the curriculum planning process at least once a year by 2008.

KEY CHALLENGE 8

All partners to raise awareness at the regional and national level of the lack of funding for practical biodiversity work prioritised in LBAPs, and to seek sources of funding where possible.

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KEY CHALLENGE 9

All partners should take note of, and help to shape landscape scale biodiversity initiatives across the region (e.g. Biodiversity Enhancement Areas, Landscapes for Living) and within Shropshire (e.g. Meres and Mosses and the Stiperstones and Long Mynd 'Longstones Project').

KEY CHALLENGE 10

Manage a continuous review procedure for the SBAP, beginning in 2006, to allow quick responses to new guidance and biodiversity trends. Topics to have greater coverage in future include:

- Impacts of climate change
- Development pressure on brownfield sites, particularly in urban areas.
- Balancing biodiversity with sustainable energy generation (e.g. wind farms, biofuels etc.).
- Economic and social value of biodiversity in real terms to the population of Shropshire (e.g. tourist numbers to biodiversity hot spots, value of biodiversity to healthcare, fitness, and flood relief issues, etc.)
- Pooling information on biodiversity to enable monitoring of progress towards SBAP targets and environmental change.

Appendix 6. Key biodiversity challenges for the West Midlands region

The Regional Biodiversity Strategy for the West Midlands aims to focus attention on the most important priorities for biodiversity in the Region, set out in five key challenges:

- Maintaining and improving the condition of habitats, species and ecosystems
- Developing an area based approach to restoring wildlife
- Monitoring the condition of habitats, species and ecosystems
- Re-connecting and integrating action for biodiversity with other environmental, social and economic activity
- Coping with the impacts of climate change

The West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership recognises the need to explore each of these challenges and to integrate links with climate change, local and national policy and other sectors being key to the success of the Biodiversity Strategy.

The Regional Biodiversity Strategy can be downloaded from the West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership web site:

www.wmbp.org

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Appendix 7. Action progress reported on BARS

Reporting on BARS is not complete. Therefore the chart below is partly an indication of the use of BARS by reporting partners rather than levels activity for a given species or habitat. This table was produced from BARS on 5th January 2009

Plan action progress summary

Search criteria All action plans for Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan
specified: All locations

Plan name	Status of actions					
	Not started	Underway	Completed	Abandoned	Unknown	Total
Argent and Sable	1	6	4	1	1	13
Back to Orange: Conserving the Fritillaries of the Wyre	3	19	3	0	0	25
Barn Owl	2	9	0	0	0	11
Bat Species	22	5	0	0	0	27
Bird species - generic actions	35	11	0	0	0	46
Black Poplar (Populus nigra var 'betulifolia')	2	5	0	1	0	8
Brown Hare	7	3	0	0	0	10
Club-tailed Dragonfly	5	3	1	0	0	9
Curlew	12	9	0	0	0	21
Delivery Plan	11	29	4	0	0	44
Dingy Skipper	0	12	3	1	0	16
Dipper	5	10	0	0	0	15
Dormouse	3	5	2	0	0	10
Farmland Birds	7	6	0	0	0	13
Field Margins	10	0	1	0	0	11
Floating Water-plantain	8	16	2	1	0	27
Floodplain Grazing Marsh	8	9	0	0	0	17
Grayling	3	10	1	1	0	15
Great Crested Newt	1	2	3	2	0	8
Green-winged Orchid	4	4	1	0	0	9
Grizzled Skipper	2	8	2	2	0	14
Hedgerows	1	5	2	1	0	9

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Lapwing	10	11	0	0	0	21
Lesser Horseshoe Bat	6	4	0	3	0	13
Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	5	11	3	0	0	19
Lowland Heathland	4	7	0	0	0	11
Lowland Wood Pasture, Parkland and Veteran Trees	8	13	2	2	0	25
Marsh Flapwort	4	4	1	0	0	9
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	1	7	1	2	0	11
Peat Bogs	3	4	0	2	0	9
Pink Meadow Cap	4	15	1	0	0	20
Pipistrelle Bat (Common and Soprano)	9	4	0	0	0	13
Reedbeds	7	3	0	0	0	10
Ring Ouzel	9	9	1	1	0	20
Rivers and Streams	24	9	1	1	0	35
Semi-improved Upland Rough Grazing	7	5	0	0	0	12
Semi-Natural Broadleaved Woodland	9	4	0	0	0	13
Silver-studded Blue	3	8	5	0	0	16
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	2	6	2	1	0	11
Snipe	15	10	0	0	0	25
Song Thrush	7	6	0	0	0	13
Species-rich Grassland (Neutral and Calcareous)	35	3	1	0	0	39
Standing Open Water (Meres, Pools, Canals and Ponds)	5	8	2	2	0	17
Upland Heathland	3	6	0	0	1	10
Urban Areas	2	9	0	0	0	11
Water Vole	9	15	7	0	0	31
West Midlands Woodland Species Restoration Project - Shropshire (SITA funded)	11	0	0	0	0	11
White-faced Darter	1	4	0	0	0	5
Wood White	0	7	4	1	0	12

N.B. In this table all "Underway" categories are merged. For a detailed action output for each plan use 'Action status report' or 'Action progress report'.

BARS allows actions to be shared across plans. Therefore the total number of actions in an LBAP may be less than the sum of the number of actions in each plan.

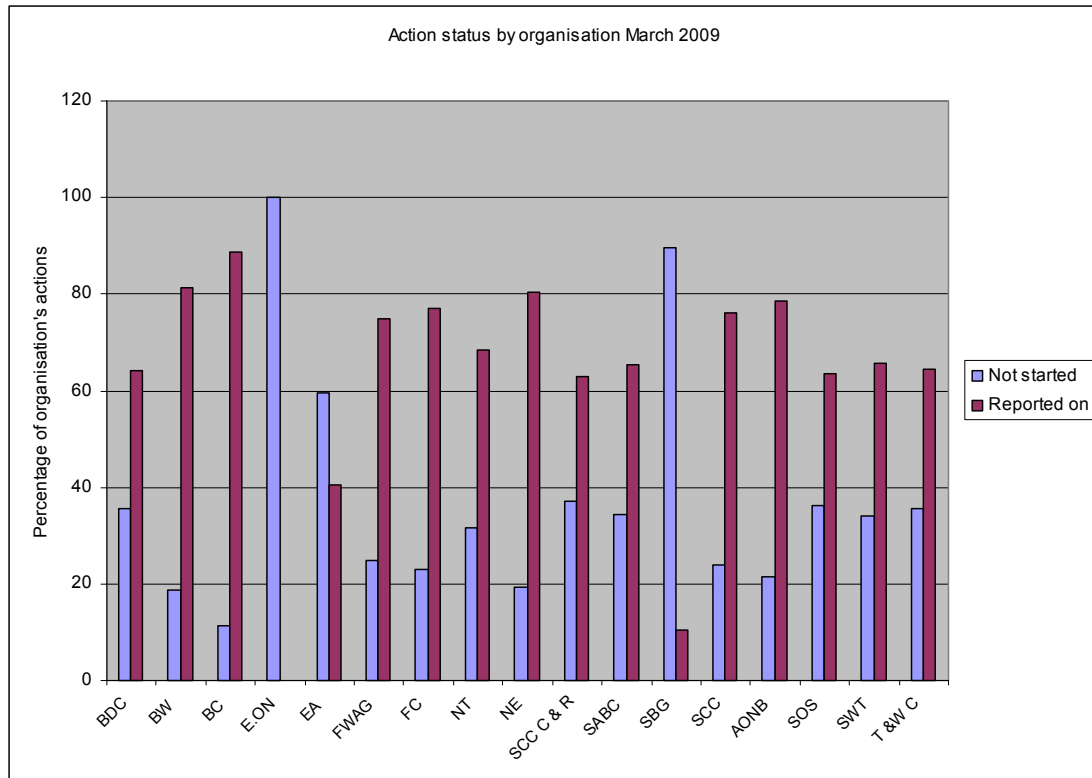
This report was generated on 05/01/2009 using the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) © 2004-2009

Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Appendix 8. Percentage of actions reported on BARS split into organisations

NB: This graph shows the 17 organisations with the most actions listed against them and shows the percentage of actions listed as 'not started' compared to those which have been reported on.

This data is correct on 12/3/2009



Key to organisations

BDC	Bridgnorth District Council
BW	British Waterways
BC	Butterfly Conservation
E.ON	E.ON UK Plc
EA	Environment Agency
FWAG	Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group
FC	Forestry Commission
NT	National Trust
NE	Natural England
SCC C&R	Shropshire County Council Conservation & Ranger Team
SABC	Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council
SBG	Shropshire Bat Group
SCC	Shropshire County Council
AONB	Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership
SOS	Shropshire Ornithological Society
SWT	Shropshire Wildlife Trust
T&W C	Telford & Wrekin Council