

Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)



We have produced a Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and are

consulting on a draft document from October 2023 for six weeks. There was previously a Biodiversity and Trees SPD, but this has now been split into two separate documents which are both being consulted on. (The Trees SPD will follow later this year).

The purpose of the [Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document](#) is to guide those submitting planning applications by supplementing the policies and proposals relating to biodiversity in the adopted North Somerset Core Strategy and the emerging North Somerset Replacement Local Plan.

It is expected that developers will follow the advice contained in this Supplementary Planning Document. The information provided by developers will be taken into account in the determination of planning applications. Developers are encouraged to consider the potential of their development in making a contribution to the biodiversity objectives and targets for particular types of habitat and species found in North Somerset. In this way the aim of no net loss of biodiversity within North Somerset should be achieved.

Have your say!

We invite you to share your views on the draft [Biodiversity SPD](#) by completing our short [questionnaire](#). The consultation is open until **5pm 27th November 2023**.

Hard copies of the document are available to view at all libraries in North Somerset. If you require any additional information regarding



Biodiversity Net Gain policy set out under the Environment Act 2021 is due to come into force in January 2024. Most planning applications will be required to demonstrate that biodiversity net gain of 10% has been achieved. This will be submitted to the council together with a Biodiversity Gain Plan, as part of the planning application.

The current SPD dates back to November 2005 and is therefore in need of a comprehensive update, particularly in light of the council's 2019 declaration of a Climate Emergency and Nature Emergency in November 2020.

Benefits of the Biodiversity SPD can include:

- Helping meet local, national and international nature recovery and climate change commitments
- Delivery of Council priorities around re-wilding and the nature emergency
- Delivery of site enhancements as part of North Somerset Council's green infrastructure strategy
- Creation of principles and approach for biodiversity offsetting and net gain delivery
- Safeguarding of public access to high quality nature within North Somerset.

Supporting Information

[2021 Green Infrastructure strategy](#)

[Biodiversity and trees SPD 2005](#)

[Local Plan](#)

this consultation please contact
biodiversity@n-somerset.gov.uk.

[Local Plan](#)

[DEFRA - Biodiversity metric](#)



Biodiversity
Supplementary Planning
Document



Tell us what you think!

Consultation ends in:

42 0 32 52

days hours minutes seconds

Timeline



Opened
16 Oct 2023 at 10:00



Closes
27 Nov 2023 at 17:00

Consultation Documents

[Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document](#)

Supporting Documents

[Green Infrastructure Strategy](#)

2005 Biodiversity and Trees Supplementary Planning Document

Respond

Respond by filling in the online questionnaire

Links

- [Sign up for notifications about this consultation](#)

Details

Organisational Information

Job role or team to contact for questions	Natural Environment
Job title	Natural Environment Manager
Contact Email	biodiversity@n-somerset.gov.uk
Contact Telephone	01934 426513

Project Information

Aim of this consultation We wish to seek all views on how affected parties (this will mainly be users of the SPD (planning agents, consultants and developers) but may also include occupiers and the wider community) would be affected by the policies and guidance contained within the draft document. Statements of support for the document are also welcome.

Close Date 27 Nov 2023 17:00

Consultation Topic

- Culture and leisure: including libraries, t...
- Environment: including rubbish and recy...
- Housing: including home-building*, renti...
- Policy: including new or changed counci...

Context for this consultation We are consulting on the SPD now to gain feedback on the draft document.

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