## Killay Community Council Biodiversity Plan 2023

#### Introduction

Killay is a residential area on the western fringe of Swansea City conurbation. It covers an area of approximately 300 hectares and is home to roughly 5,000 people according to the 2021 census. It was originally a farming and mining community and although now part of Swansea City, Killay still retains a definite identity and is referred to, by many residents, as the village. It has a shopping area mainly clustered around the A4118 Gower Road running through it from east to south west.



There are still semi rural areas to the north and south, giving a split of approximately 50% green spaces and 50% houses. It is the gardens of properties which create the green areas and green corridors for wildlife to exist, move around and, hopefully, flourish.

Killay Community Council (KCC) covers the former City Council Wards of North and South Killay. The boundary has not been changed to reflect the amalgamation of Killay North and South and Dunvant as a new City Council ward.

Community/Town council - Killay Community Council - Swansea

# Overarching Acts, Polices and Statements that apply for the area of Killay Community Council

The overarching Act that Local Authorities and Town & Community Councils in Wales have to comply with is the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

#### https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2016/3/section/6

"A public authority must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity......"

A factsheet published by Welsh Government summarises the main points of the Act relating to actions required by Community Councils.

https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-08/environment-wales-act-2016biodiversity-resilience-ecosystems.pdf

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Section 6(7) requires Community Councils to publish a 3 yearly plan.

In addition, the Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales Act 2015 also encompasses responsibilities for "improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales"

This Act requires that the City Council and, where applicable\* Town & Community Councils need to comply with necessary legislation.

This includes Planning applications and permissions **Biodiversity and Development - Swansea** 

Guidance note: biodiversity enhancements - Swansea

\*A community council is subject to compliance with the objectives of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 only if, for each of the preceding three financial years prior to the local well-being plan for its area being published, either its gross income or its gross expenditure was at least £200,000.

City and County of Swansea Biodiversity Action Plan is here <u>Swansea Local Biodiversity Action</u> <u>Plan - Swansea</u>

City and County of Swansea declared a Climate Emergency which encompasses Biodiversity.

Climate change and nature recovery - Swansea

In normal years, we arrange several events for various members of our community. For the majority of these, we need to procure a variety of items. If there are several options available to us, we always select the most environmentally protective and climate positive supplier. We already use green energy to run the Christmas lights in The Precinct and strive to undertake recycling at these events

#### **Gardening Committee**

- 1. In areas we manage, we will look to nature-based solutions. For example, when weeding the flower beds in The Precinct, we will only weed by hand and not by chemical methods.
- 2. Our flower displays, which we pay CCS for, we will ask that soil provided is peat free and that the flowers supplied are native species.
- 3. For other areas, in consultation with CCS, we seek to enhance and promote the planting of native wildflowers and daffodils.

4. We will promote biodiversity and climate resilience in our work with residents. We will create an annual Best Wildlife Garden Competition, for both adults and children in the Killay area.

### Partners

- 1. We will work with Clyne Valley Community Project and Swansea Council to enhance Killay Marshes Nature Reserve.
- 2. We will help to promote and provide a platform for engagement for community groups with biodiversity aims e.g., Clyne Valley Community Project
- 3. In our two roles as Community Governors, one in Dunvant Primary School and the other in Hendrefoilan Primary School, we will work with staff and pupils to enhance and protect biodiversity.

#### **Statutory Roles**

- 1. In our role as consultee under the Town and Country Planning Act- we will uphold the pillars of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act in our consultee responses and pay due attention to Planning Permissions that may infringe upon these green spaces
- 2. In our role as Footpath Committee, we will enhance and promote biodiversity as well as the Active Travel Plans for Killay through to other destinations. <u>Active travel Swansea</u>

Written 6.03.2023 Review date 2025.

KCC Committee	Action	Time Period	Evaluation
Public Rights of Way	Working with Clyne Valley Volunteers, carry out bracken trampling on PRoW in Killay North and South	April - July	
Finance Committee	Provide funds to allow ideas to be developed Wildlife Enhancements		
Social Media	Use Facebook and website to promote events e.g RSPB Birdwatch event 27-29 January 23 Ask the Community what they want us to do in terms of promoting biodiversity		

#### Ideas to improve Biodiversity within the area of Killay Community Council

Planning	Include biodiversity and a net gain approach when commenting on planning applications Influence City Council for nature based solutions for big infrastructure works in the area.	
Community Governors	Establish links between School and Clyne Valley Community Project project eg field trips, bracken trampling	
Gardening	Survey residents to who will plant wildflowers and provide funding for seeds Garden Competition Native plug plants	