

Reporting on Section 6

Community and Town Councils

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6 *The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty*

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2025	
Name of Community or Town Council:	Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council
Group:	2
<p>Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council covers the Dolforwyn Ward.</p> <p>The Community Council represents and serves many rural communities in Mid-West Wales: Abermule with Llandyssil has a population of 1282 as of 11th January 2026.</p> <p>The precept for 2025/26 is £60,000</p> <p>There are currently 11 Councillors representing the communities within Abermule (7) and Llandyssil (4).</p> <p>Abermule with Llandyssil currently owns Dragon Field in Llandyssil and manages the following areas, Millfield Amenities Land Trust, Llanmerewig burial ground, the play area in front of the school in Abermule, and the play area in Llandyssil.</p> <p>The topography of the community is defined by the valley of the River Severn, the road and rail routes that follow its course, and the hills and tributary valleys leading away from it. Settlement in this community is defined by the routes that lead to the A483 and Newtown.</p> <p>Abermule has seen a significant amount of development in recent years. Abermule is classified as a key settlement in the Local Development Plan,</p>	


benefiting from some of community services and infrastructure and having the capacity to accommodate additional development with improvements to infrastructure.

Llandyssil is classified as a small village. The remainder of the population lives in scattered farms and dwellings and in the small rural settlements of Green Lane, Llanmerewig, Aberbechan, New Wells, and Cefn-y-coed. Within the geographical areas served by the Community Council, residents undoubtedly benefit from many natural resources being located within rural settlements. There are several Nature Reserves, Dolforwyn Woods Nature Reserve and Llanmerewig Glebe Nature Reserve all owned and managed by MWT as well as several roadside nature reserves. The River Severn and the Montgomery Canal connect our communities with the route 81 cycleway and footpaths to the larger towns, Newtown and Welshpool, providing opportunities to meet the seven Wellbeing goals, being prosperous by promoting a low carbon society, healthier, globally responsible and building cohesive communities.

Our communities benefit from a good number and network of footpaths and bridleways that criss-cross through mixed agricultural, woodland and some ancient woodland landscapes. These are maintained by a volunteer group as part of the Vale of Montgomery Rural Cluster group (VMRC) which is a group of 4 local rural councils.

Local communities are also fortunate to enjoy some historical sites, some of which they have access to; Dolforwyn Castle 1273 (CADW), Brynderwen bridge in Abermule. A grade II listed iron bridge that was designed by Thomas Penson and constructed in 1852. Brynderwen Motte and Bailey Castle is a medieval military stronghold and is of national importance (CADW).

Action Report 2023 - 2025

NRAP Objective	Action carried out to...	Monitored by:
	<p>-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement</p> <p>Established a Biodiversity Working Party Dec 22 to write an action plan & complete the S6 duty report.</p>	Community Council
1	<p>-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance</p> <p><u>Dragon Field in Llandyssil</u> Swift talk & nest box building session. Information boards erected in MALT area in Abermule and in Churchyard at Llandyssil. Raise awareness day at Llandyssil church as part of VMRC cluster group activity.</p> 	Community Council
2	<p>-safeguard principal species and habitats</p> <p><u>Dragon Field in Llandyssil</u> Swift boxes put up on the church and in the village. Bat boxes, Bord boxes.</p> <p><u>Llandyssil Churchyard</u> Sections are left unmown, stonewall and ancient trees provide excellent habitats for wildlife. Hedgehog, Bat and Bird boxes.</p> <p><u>MALT (Millfield Amenity Land Trust) in Abermule</u> Bird boxes, Bat boxes and hedgehog boxes.</p>	Community Council

3	-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	<p><u>Dragon Field in Llandyssil</u> Creation of a wildflower meadow in Llandyssil on Dragon field, visited by Peter Worlock Society. Planting of daffodil bulbs.</p> <p><u>MALT</u> Altered management (mowing) in peripheral areas to encourage wildflower meadow establishment, Bluebell bulbs planted.</p> <p>Fruit trees were planted in April 2022 & Spring 2023</p> <p>Planted a length of native hedgerow alongside the Mill race to provide nesting opportunities, shelter and food for birds and wildlife – pleach hedge after strong growth management – trimming hedge every 3 years. More regular alongside public path.</p>	Community Council
4	-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	Balsam bashing on Canal Tow path at Abermule.	Community Council
5	-use improve and share evidence		
6	-support capacity and/or other organisations		

Review of S6 duty actions for 2023-2025	
What has worked well?	Wildflower areas have been established, wildlife habitat boxes have been put in place, and fruit trees, a hedge, and a Christmas tree have been planted.
What have the barriers been?	The hot summer was a bit of a challenge.
What will you change?	Look to involve organisations in the community such as scouts/cubs.
How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?	Action plan for 2026 – 29 is in place. Biodiversity will be reviewed annually and on completion of the 2026 community survey.



Group	Description of organisation relative to biodiversity.	Minimum Actions	Examples	NRAP objectives for Action Reporting (see template Annex 1)
	Organisations:			
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that own or occupy an office building only and whose functions are not directly connected to biodiversity and/or land management. 	Actions related to buildings management, procurement, sustainability, awareness raising, training, or in partnership with other organisations	Commissions, DVLA	NRAP objectives 1, 4, 6
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that own, occupy or manage land their own buildings and grounds, whose functions are connected with biodiversity and/or land management, or that can influence those who own or manage land. 	As per Group 1 above PLUS grounds management, cascading funding criteria, providing education and training	Public Health Wales, Universities, Sport Wales	NRAP objectives 1,4,6 as above NRAP objectives 2, 3, 5 relating to own grounds
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that own or manage land beyond their own grounds, whether their functions are connected with biodiversity and/or land management or not. 	As per Groups 1 and 2 above PLUS land management to maintain and enhance biodiversity, and promote the resilience of ecosystems.	Dŵr Cymru, Local Authorities, NRW, Welsh Government	All NRAP objectives

The **Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales (NRAP)** sets out six objectives for reversing the decline of biodiversity which should be used to help develop and guide actions to comply with the section 6 duty:

The **6 objectives** to maintain and enhance biodiversity are:

- Objective 1:** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels
- Objective 2:** Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management
- Objective 3:** Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation
- Objective 4:** Tackle key pressures on species and habitats
- Objective 5:** Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring
- Objective 6:** Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery