

Chelmsford Garden Community Council Biodiversity statement

1. Statement Purpose

This statement is made by Chelmsford Garden Community Council (the Council) to evidence its compliance with the terms of the Environment Act 2021 which imposes upon all local authorities the following duties –

1. Consider what you can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity
2. Agree policies and specific objectives based on its consideration
3. Act to deliver the policies and achieve the objectives

Councils are obliged to publish an initial statement no later than 1st January 2024.

The Council understands that the issue of the preservation and improvement of biodiversity is a vital issue for the wellbeing of both current residents and future generations and is committed to engaging with this issue as set out in this statement.

2. Aims of the Council

The Council has taken into consideration that it does not own any land or buildings, nevertheless, the Council has agreed the following objectives and aims –

Representations – When responding to consultations whether it is planning applications, applications in relation to the emerging Chelmsford Garden Community Development or other consultations issued by public authorities for comment by this Council, to consider the impact upon biodiversity when responding to the consultations with the overarching aim of commenting upon how bio-diversity can be best protected in the circumstances.

Education – Considering how education opportunities in relation to bio-diversity can be brought to the attention of or provided to residents.

Events – The Council will consider hosting events for residents that will promote bio-diversity initiatives for residents or signposting events hosted by other organisations that promote biodiversity.

3. Strategy Document

The Council will formulate a more detailed policy document and set out the strategy and action plan to promote the above aims and comply with legal requirements within the next 12 months.

This statement was agreed by Chelmsford Garden Community Council at its meeting on 9th November 2023.

Date for review: May 2024