



Enhanced Biodiversity Report 2021-25

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Introduction

Bromley is London's greenest borough, home to over 77 km² of designated Green Belt land and more than 28 km² of open spaces. As of 2025, our borough contains 119 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and 5 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), reflecting our rich natural environment.

This connection to nature is part of Bromley's heritage. Charles Darwin, the renowned naturalist lived at Downe House for 40 years, located in the borough. The landscapes and wildlife of Bromley played a formative role in shaping his scientific thinking.

Today, the borough's biodiversity and green spaces remain a top priority for the Council. This report outlines the actions taken over the past four years to protect and enhance biodiversity, and since 2024 to implement Biodiversity Net Gain. It also sets out our plan for protecting biodiversity for the next five-year reporting period.



1. A Sustainable Planting Trial bed on Glebe Way, Coney Hall

Legislation

As introduced in the [Environment Act 2021](#), public authorities who operate in England have a statutory responsibility to comply with the strengthened biodiversity duty. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has released guidance specifying that public authorities in England must:¹

1. Consider what the local authority can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
2. Agree policies and specific objectives based on the Council's [consideration](#).
3. Act to deliver the Council's policies and objectives.
4. Report on the Council's Biodiversity Duty actions and outcomes.

This Enhanced Biodiversity Report documents the policies and actions of the Council to comply with the biodiversity duty.²

Reporting Period

The London Borough of Bromley (LBB) has adopted November the 9th 2021, the date [the Environment Act 2021](#) became law, as the start of the reporting period for this biodiversity report. The table below outlines the time periods covered by the first reporting period. Following this initial report, subsequent reports are required every five years and must be published within 12 weeks of the end of each reporting period.

Report	Must be published by
1 st Report: 9 th of November 2021 – 31 st of August 2025	23 rd of November 2025
2 nd Report: 1 st of September 2025 – 31 st August 2030	23 rd of November 2030

For the sections reporting on Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), the timeline will reflect when developments were required to comply with BNG as set out in the [Environment Act 2021](#). This came into effect from 12th of February 2024 for major developments and for small sites from 2nd of April 2024.

The first consideration

Local authorities were required to consider by 1st of January 2024 what they could do to conserve biodiversity in their area, which formed part of the strengthened Environment Act 2021. The Council has considered biodiversity through its policies and strategies and taken many actions to benefit biodiversity. These are detailed in this report.

¹ [Complying with the biodiversity duty - GOV.UK](#)

² [Reporting your biodiversity duty actions - GOV.UK](#)

Section 1: Our policies, objectives and actions:

Top Achievements:

Bromley is London's greenest Borough and conserving biodiversity for the benefit of our residents has been the primary driver behind several initiatives delivered in the last five years. Some of our key achievements between 2021 to 2025 include:

- **Desilting Kelsey Lakes**, with this project to remove 22,400 tonnes of silt successfully concluded in March 2025. This work helped to improve water quality and habitats for wildlife at the Lakes and have contributed towards a wider initiative being delivered in partnership with the Environment Agency and Thames21 to improve the water environment for the River Beck. Overtime these works will help improve the biodiversity of the local area.
- Six **micro forests** have been successfully planted in parks and greenspaces in the borough. A variety of native tree species have been densely planted in prepared ground mimicking naturally occurring forest structures to create resilient, biodiverse woodlands in the borough's urban spaces. Once established, they will become a haven for biodiversity within Bromley's green spaces, supported by the local community.
- Bromley conducted **Nature-Friendly Verges (NFV)** trials across 11 sites between 2023 and 2025, with 8 sites subsequently converted into permanent NFVs. The NFVs are cut once annually and left to grow for the rest of the year to provide habitat and support for the creation of pollinator corridors that link greenspaces. Biodiversity increased significantly, with 80 floral species recorded at the start of the trial in 2023, rising to 147 species by 2025. A new trial is currently underway across 5 additional sites.
- Since 2023, Bromley has conducted a **Sustainable Planting Trial** across 10 flower beds throughout the borough. The trial replaces planting that relies heavily on annuals with a mixture of perennials. These regenerating plants are less resource intensive to maintain and create enhanced habitats and mini ecosystems which are of particular benefits to pollinators and invertebrates.
- Between 2021 and 2024, the Council planted an additional 5000 street trees under our **Treemendous Tree Planting Programme** recognising the health benefits that trees provide whilst also providing habitats and contributing to healthy ecosystems. Tree species were carefully selected to support the diversification of trees for resilience and habitat benefits.

Policy, Objectives and Actions:

The table in this section of the report identifies how Bromley's policies and strategies work to conserve and enhanced biodiversity in the borough, and what actions the Council has taken between 2021 and 2025 to deliver these ambitions.

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Relevance to biodiversity duty and progress achieved Action (A)
Council wide	<p><u>Net Zero Action Plan</u> (updated annually) (P)</p> <p>Initiative 6: Woodlands, Parks and Greenspaces: tree planting is a medium and long-term solution for carbon sequestration. Tree planting has a co-benefit of improving biodiversity and eco-systems. Achieving net zero globally will help mitigate the worst impacts on biodiversity.</p> <p><u>Making Bromley Even Better</u> (corporate strategy) 2021-2031. London Borough of Bromley.</p> <p>Ambition 4: For residents to live responsibly and prosper in a safe, clean and green environment great for today and a sustainable future.</p> <p>The London Borough of Bromley (LBB) is committed to managing its open spaces and woodlands to promote environmental sustainability and community well-being.</p>
Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration	
	<p><u>Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan</u> (2021 – 2026) (S)</p> <p>The <u>Bromley Biodiversity Plan (BBP)</u>, which covers a period from 2021 – 2026, was published prior to the government guidance on biodiversity reporting. Its overarching aims are centred around improving biodiversity and its objectives are centred on biodiversity being a material consideration when dealing with planning applications.</p> <p><u>The Local Plan</u> (January 2019) (S)</p> <p>Biodiversity is extensively covered within the Local Plan, with two of the main thematic chapters titled 'Valued Environment' and 'Environmental Challenges'. It also outlines objectives for Open Space and the Natural Environment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage, protect and enhance natural environments. • Encourage the protection and enhancement of biodiversity. • Protect and enhance the Green Belt so that it continues to fulfil its functions.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of open space and encourage provision in areas of deficiency and in any new development.
<u>Urban Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (July 2023)</u> (S)	<p>The Urban Design Guide SPD sets out the principles for achieving good design with the aim of significantly raising the quality of development within the borough. The SPD includes guidance relating to biodiversity, including setting out a biodiversity mitigation hierarchy, and specifying the key planning process requirements that new development proposals should follow to ensure that biodiversity and ecological requirements are properly addressed.</p>
<u>Regeneration Strategy (2020 – 2030)</u> (S)	<p>Within the Regeneration Strategy, one of the priority areas is 'nurturing our green spaces'. This priority reflects the Council's commitment to protecting and enhancing its green spaces. This includes the conservation of Scadbury Park Nature Reserve, including its rich natural habitats and historical features. This directly relates to improving and preserving biodiversity within the borough.</p>
	<p>The Council has been awarded grant funding to undertake a second phase of conservation works to Scadbury Moated Manor, an= scheduled monument in Scadbury Park; this aims to conserve the moated manor moat and the habitat is provides for Great Crested Newts.</p>
Planning – Biodiversity Net Gain (A)	<p>On certain relevant applications, we include a Biodiversity Enhancement Condition, which typically requires measures such as the installation of bat boxes. This condition is usually applied where a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) or Phase 1/2 Survey has been submitted and identifies opportunities for biodiversity improvements. More information is provided in the <u>Biodiversity Net Gain section</u>.</p>

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Carbon Management and Green Space	<p><u>Open Space Strategy</u> (2021 – 2031) (S)</p> <p>Our <u>Open Space Strategy</u> (2021-2031) outlines our approach for managing our green spaces. It has 5 strategic objectives (SO) and three have a biodiversity aspect included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (SO2) Natural, cultural and historical assets 2. (SO3) Health, wellbeing and community 3. (SO5) Financial Sustainability and modernisation <p>Within (SO5) the Council aims to continue its record in achieving enhancements through environmental stewardship schemes.</p>
	<p><u>Tree Management Strategy</u> (2023 – 2027) (S)</p> <p>Bromley is home to the largest number of park and street trees in London and to two thirds of London's woodlands. The Tree Management Strategy includes five strategic objectives to ensure that trees are planted, preserved, and managed in accordance with good arboriculture practice. This will ensure the ecological and biodiversity benefits trees bring is preserved for both current and future generations.</p>
The 'idverde Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan' (iBBAP) (S)	<p>The iBBAP aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote biodiversity at a local level through collaborative action. • Identify and protect priority habitats and species in Bromley. • Provide best practice guidance for land managers, planners, developers, schools, and community groups. • Ensure long-term sustainability of Bromley's natural environment, inspired by the borough's rich ecological heritage (including its connection to Charles Darwin). <p>Key targets include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Habitat-specific objectives. 2. Species protection.

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	<p>3. Community engagement. 4. Monitoring and reporting. 5. Policy integration.</p> <p>Actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural and urban bat and bird box installations • Year-wide surveys of a range of sites across our parks and green spaces <p>Updates on the Non-native invasive species control annual plans.</p> <p>Bromley Biodiversity Survey Report: biodiversity surveys and monitoring (ongoing) (A)</p> <p>On behalf of the Council, the Idverde ranger team, together with volunteers, conducts extensive biodiversity surveys and monitoring across more than 150 of Bromley's parks and open spaces. The full Bromley Biodiversity Survey Report 2025 report is shown in Appendix A, while Appendix B outlines the key highlights of the 2025 report. Surveys undertaken includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazel Dormice (<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>) Surveys • Orchid Counts • Darrick Orchid count • High Elms Orchid count • Glow worm (<i>Lampyris noctiluca</i>) surveys at High Elms • Moth Surveys at High Elms • Hayes Common moth trapping • Keston Common moth trapping • Bat surveys • Badgers (<i>Meles meles</i>) in Bromley • Reptiles and Amphibians • Adder's (<i>Vipera berus</i>) on Hayes Common • Brown Hairstreak (<i>Thecla betulae</i>) egg hunting • Bird surveying and nest boxes

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odonata Survey on Keston Common <p>Some of the highlights are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 182 woodland flora species recorded across the 27 surveyed woodland sites. • A total of 1,003 individuals from 173 moth species were recorded, including rare finds such as the Clifdon Nonpareil and the Scarce Shoot Borer. • Rare butterfly species, such as the Small Blue were also observed in greater numbers than previous years.
<u>Nature Friendly Verges</u> trials (2023 – present) (A)	<p>A Nature Friendly Verge (NFV) trial started in March 2023 on selected sites across the borough for an initial trial period of 2 years. This is where grass verges are allowed to grow, receiving on cut annually. These NFV act as wildlife corridors to connect habitats and greenspaces, increasing floral diversity and pollinator habitats. Following feedback from the public and data from the trial, eight sites were made permanent (shown in Appendix G), and as of 2025, a second NFV trial is currently being conducted on five new sites across the borough.</p> <p>Throughout the trial, there has been a marked increase in floral species. Across all the sites, 80 floral species were present in 2023 (at the start of the trial), this increased to 147 in 2025, with an additional 80 invertebrate species found.</p>
Naturalised grassland management regimes (2019 – present) (A)	<p>On behalf of the Council, idverde has introduced naturalised grassland management regimes in suitable locations across many urban sites between 2019 to 2023. As of 2025, naturalised grasslands and long-grass areas span more than 42 urban parks across the borough, covering more than 25 hectares. These long grass areas are cut and collected once a year in September, mirroring traditional wildflower meadow management practices. Long grass areas play a key role in supporting biodiversity across the borough by providing a vital habitat, refuge and foodplants for small</p>

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	mammals, reptiles, and a wide range of pollinators including butterflies, moths, beetles and bees. These areas also act as connective corridors between key sites and help to mitigate against the effects of a changing climate through acting as carbon stores.
Kelsey Park Desilting Project (2024 – 2025) (A)	<p>Desilting Works were conducted between autumn 2024 and spring 2025. The desilting of the lakes was deemed a priority due to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High levels of silt within the lakes • Continuous reduction of water capacity in the lakes. • Associated health & safety concerns. • Concern on the impact of wildlife. <p>Silt was retained in the banks of the Lower Lake, to reinstate eroded banks and to introduce additional marginal aquatic habitat space.</p>
Local Authority Treescapes Fund (LATF) tree planting in parks and open spaces (2025) (A)	With funding from the LATF, the Council has planted five micro forests, each approximately 200 m ² in size and containing around 600 trees. These micro forests feature a diverse range of native species, which will further enhance local biodiversity. There was further whip planting at 3 other sites which extended the existing tree line. These tree planting projects aim to increase canopy cover in those parts of the borough where canopy cover is at its lowest.
Cator Park Tiny Forest™ (2024) (A)	With Council support, the Friends of Alexandra Recreation Ground and Cator Park planted a Tiny Forest™ in Cator Park, Beckenham. (This is a micro forest planted with approx. 600 mixed species of native trees and shrubs).
Water Environment Improvement Fund (WEIF) - Bromley (River Beck) tree planting (A).	Tree planting was completed in riparian zones on four sites in the borough: Harvington Sports Ground, High Broom Wood, Kelsey Park and Norman Park. The project was funded by a grant from the Environment Agency's WEIF and planted 1,600 trees (both whips and standards) within the Ravensbourne catchment. The benefits include improving water quality by filtering surface water runoff and creating habitats that enhance biodiversity.

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	<p><u>Treemendous Tree planting programme (2021 – 2025)</u> (A)</p> <p>The programme planted 5000 trees over a 4-year period. In 2025, the target of 5000 trees was met. A diverse mix of 42 tree species were chosen for resilience and benefits to biodiversity.</p>
	<p><u>The Platinum Jubilee Parks Fund</u> (2022 – present) (A)</p> <p>As part of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, Bromley Council launched a community-led fund of £1 million to support projects aimed at enhancing local green spaces. The fund closed in March 2025, with 52 projects delivered and 13 more to be completed in 2026. Up to £20K could be applied for per project, with £40K available per ward. 11 of the projects had biodiversity relevance. This includes pond restoration at Scadbury park to create habitats for Great Crested Newts. The £1 million in investment leveraged a further circa £500k through community fundraising. A full list of biodiversity relevant projects is shown in Appendix E.</p>
	<p><u>Riverside Gardens – Wetland Restoration Project</u> (The Platinum Jubilee Parks Fund) (2025) (A)</p> <p>The South East Rivers Trust (SERT), in collaboration with the Environment Agency, led a project to transform 1.4km of the Upper Cray. The initiative was supported by the Mayor of London (in partnership with the London Wildlife Trust), Thames21, and Bromley Council. The project focused on a wetland along the River Cray which had become silted up and cut off from the main river. The silt was removed and the river reprofiled to create an effective silt trap. Planting in the river was carried out by volunteers. The native species will absorb excess nutrients, support wetland animals like dragonflies, damselflies, amphibians, and birds such as the native Kingfisher. The Council contributed £20K to the project with a proportion of the funds earmarked for future maintenance to ensure the longevity of the project.</p>
	<p>Offsite BNG trial (A)</p> <p>A Biodiversity Net Gain assessment has been completed for several new tree/hedgerow/scrub planted areas at Harvington Sports Ground. Transparency and compliance have been achieved using the DEFRA biodiversity Metric 4.0.</p>

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Woodland Establishment Project (A)	The Council received a Woodland Creation Planning Grant (WCPG) from the Forestry Commission to explore the viability of converting three former grazing sites to woodland. Designs have been completed for all sites. Suitable funding opportunities to progress to planting has and continues to be explored, as set out below.
Scadbury Moated Manor – Rural Payments Agency (Countryside Stewardship) (A)	The Council has received funding through the RPA Countryside Stewardship PA2 Feasibility Study Grant. This funding will support feasibility work to determine the capital repairs required for the moat walls. To minimise the impact on flora and fauna, the moat will be drained in accordance with Natural England's requirements. Scadbury moat is a habitat for the Great Crested Newt, and Great Crested Newt licenses will be obtained to ensure their protection. Additional funding from RPA HE1 for the capital repair works has been identified, and these works are subject to a successful bid. Overall, the works will help maintain an important ecological habitat.
Keston Ponds Project – Development Phase (2025 -2026) (A)	<p>The Council has received grant funding through the Water Restoration Fund Grant for the one-year development phase of a project to improve the water environment at Keston Pond and the river section of Keston Common. The development phase is being delivered between June 2025 - May 2026. The project will deliver the following, all focussed on interventions that will realise water quality, habitat and flood risk management benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological, topographical, utility, arboriculture, geotechnical, hydrology etc. surveys. • Consultant's reports based on survey findings. • Feasibility studies • Impact assessments • Early Contractor Involvement • Stakeholder Engagement • Statutory consultee engagement, pre-app meetings, and permit applications. • Maintenance review and programme.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding applications for delivery of the project. <p>Crofton and Sparrow Woods - Water Environment Improvement Fund (WEIF) and Thames Water AMP8. (A)</p> <p>Bromley Council has received a conditional grant offer of just under £28K in WEIF funding for Crofton and Sparrow Woods. This is to support the development phase of a project that focuses on delivering Natural Flood Management (NFM) and habitat enhancement within the upper Kyd Brook catchment, located in Crofton and Sparrow Woods, Petts Wood.</p> <p>The grant funding will be used to seed-fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecological surveys and data collection. Constraints assessment and site planning. Utility searches. Outline design development. <p>Bromley Council has submitted an application to Thames Water AMP8 for the delivery phase of the project. The proposed interventions aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slow the flow of water and fine sediment. Improve water quality. Enhance ecological conditions across the site. Protect the SSSI status of the woodland by restoring natural hydrology through the removal of artificial barriers and rewetting woodland areas. <p>Key interventions being explored include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaky dams and bank flowering. Floodplain attenuation areas. Drainage naturalisation. Public access management. Invasive species control. In-channel enhancements. <p>Removal of redundant engineering structures.</p>

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Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) and Countryside Stewardship (CS) funding (A)	<p>The Council receives funding from the Rural Payments Agency to protect and improve environmentally important sites it manages. Funding is received for 255.84 Hectares of land (for 2024/25), including for SSSIs such as High Elms and Keston Common, and SINCs such as Scadbury Park.</p> <p>This funding has enabled the Council to manage these sites to provide biodiversity benefits through its service provider, idverde. This includes species rich grassland management with tailored regimes for chalk, grassland flora, butterflies, bats and reptiles, pond management and hedgerow management. It has also funded selective coppicing and invasive species control, ride creation and management and scrub management.</p>
Invasive Species Management Plan (idverde) (A)	<p>The Council's parks management and grounds maintenance contractor delivers and Invasive Species Management Plan to tackle invasive non-native species (INNS) on Council owned and managed land. idverde has halved its pesticide use every year since 2018, only using under 2 litres in 2024 in all our INNS treatments.</p> <p>idverde are actively pursuing alternatives to pesticides and herbicides, such as tree poppers and winching INNS tree stumps rather than painting with herbicides.</p>
Sustainable Planting Trial (2023 – 2026)	<p>Since 2023, a sustainable planting trial has taken place in ten of the borough's flower beds; the trial is to assess the suitability of the planting, and the impact on biodiversity. Annual, seasonal bedding has been replaced with sustainable, regenerative planting that are designed to be of value to pollinators.</p> <p>The project aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve biodiversity with wildflower rich pollinating plants to support butterflies and other invertebrates in the borough. • Create landscape connectivity across the borough. • Reduce water usage and costs through planting of drought tolerant plants.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce border maintenance through planting of shrubs and perennial species. <p>Replacing bedding that relies heavily on annuals with perennial and annual planting aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to provide mini ecosystems and enhanced habitats, which are of particular benefit to pollinators, less cultivation of beds improves soil structure and allows for earthworms and mycorrhizal fungi to flourish which supports plant life, a less resource intensive management regime produces less carbon. <p>When compared to traditional annual bedding, the biodiversity benefits have increased. Some highlights in the surveying thus far includes: 13 different bee species recorded, 18 different beetles recorded, 7 different ladybirds recorded, 13 different spiders recorded, 17 different lepidoptera species recorded. Notably, this includes the Welsh Chafer Beetle, which has only been recorded seven times previously in Bromley. Sites as of 2025 are listed in Appendix H.</p>
Bromley Environmental Education at High Elms (BEECHE):	BEECHE is a place where people can observe Bromley's wildlife. It was established in 2008 by the Council to showcase the very best of Bromley's natural environment and to encourage people of all ages to get involved and learn about wildlife. There are educational sessions for schools and the public more generally. Events include wildlife walks, moth mornings and invertebrate short courses raising awareness and empowering our residents to understand and support enhancing biodiversity in the borough.
Brilliant Butterflies (2021 – 2023) (A)	Between 2021 to 2023, and thanks to funding from Butterfly Conservation and the Wildlife Trust, new habitats for butterflies and insects were created in our parks and open spaces in 8 established locations, including Biggin Hill Recreation Ground, Leaves Green Common, Coney Hall Recreation Ground and Green Street Green

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	<p>Common. Chalk grassland with wildflowers was established to attract butterflies and pollinating insects. An extensive volunteer monitoring programme is conducted annually from mid-April to mid-August, using a simple 15-minute survey method to track changes in butterfly populations. On behalf of the Council, idverde rangers are implementing traditional wildflower meadow management techniques on the banks carrying out an annual cut and collect 'hay cut' between mid-July & September.</p> <p>Green Flag Awards (A) We have achieved Green Flag Awards for 10 sites and our Friends of Parks groups have achieved 3 Community Green Flag Awards. Each of these Green Flag sites are assessed on a stringent criterion to ensure high quality. This includes environmental management, and biodiversity, landscape and heritage. This ensures that these parks protect and enhance biodiversity, whilst remaining vital community assets. For a list of sites see Appendix F.</p>
Neighbourhood Management	
	<p>Enforcement Policy (P) Waste that is left in the environment is hazardous for both nature and humans. The enviro-crimes team lead investigations against fly-tipping within the borough. This has a clear benefit in protecting biodiversity. There has been a 68% reduction in large fly-tipping, and 22 vehicle seizures in 2023 to 2024.</p> <p>Use of injunctions against named individuals and person unknown (A) A successful injunction was obtained to prevent fly-tipping and the burning of waste on LBB greenspace within St Paul's Cray Country Park in 2024.</p> <p>Waste Management (P) Bromley has London's highest recycling rates at 50.9% for 2023/24. In addition, almost no waste from the borough was sent to landfill. These strong recycling efforts</p>

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	contribute to overall sustainability and support global biodiversity through reducing demand for raw materials.
Traffic and Parking	
	<p>Chinese Roundabout (Road Safety Scheme)</p> <p>At the Chinese Roundabout, a local road safety improvement scheme, a comprehensive planting scheme was introduced to enhance biodiversity and improve the visual quality of the space. Approximately 20 different plant species were carefully selected and arranged to create a resilient green environment. This initiative contributes to Bromley's commitment to sustainable and nature-positive infrastructure.</p>
Stakeholders / Partnership working with other organisations	
<p>The Friends Forum, Friends of Parks, Tree Friends and Bromley Countryside Volunteers</p>	<p>Friends of Parks are volunteer organisations that care for their respective park. They are represented collectively by the Friends Forum who host quarterly partnership meetings with the Council and idverde. Friends of Parks and Countryside Volunteers support biodiversity in many ways, including practical workdays, regular litter picking, and completion of habitat surveys. Additionally, they are involved in fundraising and grant funding application to improve the parks. Tree Friends are individuals who support the Council to care for the borough's publicly owned trees. This includes young tree maintenance such as providing additional watering, replacing tree ties and removing basal growth.</p>
Bromley Biodiversity Partnership	The Bromley Biodiversity Partnership consists of representatives from local groups, key organisations and individuals with specific expertise who are committed to understanding, protecting, enhancing and celebrating biodiversity within the London

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	Borough of Bromley (LBB). Their meetings are also attended by Council officers and idverde.
Bromley Countryside Consultative Panel	The Bromley Council Consultative Panel is a stakeholder body that includes elected members, Council and idverde officers and key organisations and other interested parties to discuss matters relating to Bromley's countryside and green spaces. Its purpose is to provide input for the Council's strategies for parks, greenspace and the countryside in Bromley including addressing proposals for enhancing and conserving it.
Parks, Green Space and Countryside Stakeholder Panel	The Parks, Green Space and Countryside Stakeholder Panel was created as part of the governance structure for the contract between the Council and idverde for parks management and grounds maintenance. This Panel of stakeholders provides feedback on the contract, including delivery of biodiversity projects and management regimes.
idverde	The Council's contractor for parks management and grounds maintenance is the key delivery partner for delivering biodiversity conservation and enhancements on Council owned and managed land.
RSPB partnership	<p>The RSPB provide biodiversity advice into public green space in Bromley. This involves embedding an RSPB biodiversity advisor within the Council's parks management and grounds maintenance contractor (idverde).</p> <p>The key objectives of the partnership are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To optimise biodiversity opportunities in urban and peri-urban Green Infrastructure in London. • To pilot a way of working in partnership that would be transferable within idverde operations. • To increase the number of active skilled community conservation volunteers working on London

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Thames21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify potential for RSPB community engagement through the partnership. <p>An example is the partnership between the Council, idverde and the RSPB which has seen a member of the latter's team based within Bromley for the incorporation of their expertise and best practice in the management of Council sites, whilst also giving communities the opportunity to access the wildlife within their local area.</p> <p>Bromley Council work alongside Thames21's to support the restoration of the rivers within the borough.</p> <p>Thames21 and its partners have been working on the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ravensbourne River – a project to improve Glassmill Pond was completed in 2024. This included interventions to improve water quality and fish passage. River Beck – works to improve the river sections through Harvington Wood and High Broom Wood completed in 2025, with further works planned for 2026. River Beck – works to improve Langley Waterside Nature Reserve have been scoped with delivery planned for 2026. River Beck & Chaffinch Brook – development of interventions to improve the river's environment in Cator Park has commenced in 2025. River Ravensbourne – options to improve the river's environment and passage through Queensmead Recreation Ground are being developed with community consultation taking place in 2025.
Environment Agency (EA)	<p>Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the EA provides strategic leadership while Lead Local Flood Authorities (the Council) manages local flood risks. The EA supports the Council with data, modelling, funding, and technical guidance for flood risk assessments and mitigation projects.</p> <p>The EA supports the Council to co-develop and co-fund natural flood management interventions, wetland restoration, and river improvement projects. The focus has</p>

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	<p>been on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) benefits within the Ravensbourne Catchment due to its current moderate ecological potential status.</p> <p>Also, the Council works with the Environment Agency to investigate, enforce and prosecute against fly tipping and enviro-crimes. As a national enforcer, they are a key stakeholder in our enviro-crimes works. Previous partnerships include the EA's 2017 clearance of a former Waste4Fuel scheme on Cornwall Drive, after which the land was handed over to the Council.</p>
Natural England (NE)	<p>Natural England partners with Bromley Council in several strategic and practical ways to support nature recovery, biodiversity, and sustainable development.</p> <p>NE advise Bromley Council on the Countryside Stewardship Funding opportunities and they oversee all the existing agreements in the borough, providing support and monitoring.</p> <p>NE have provided advice on habitat restoration and water quality improvement opportunities for the Keston Ponds Project. They have endorsed the project and advised on funding opportunities for the delivery of the scheme.</p>
The Ravensbourne Catchment Improvement Group (RCIG).	<p>The group aligns with the Ravensbourne (CABA) Catchment Plan and Environment Agency's Catchment Team priorities, EA 2025, and the Ravensbourne Flood Risk Strategy.</p> <p>Bromley Council is a partner of the RCIG. The RCIG meets regularly throughout the year to share information and build knowledge about sustainable water and river management and identify opportunities to improve local river sites across the whole Ravensbourne catchment.</p>
South East London Local Flood Risk	<p>Flood risks do not start and stop at the geographical boundaries of a local authority. To address this, Bromley, Bexley, Lewisham, and Royal Greenwich Councils have</p>

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Relevance to biodiversity duty and progress achieved Action (A)
Management Partnership	<p>come together as the South East London Flood Risk Partnership to develop the South East London Local Flood Risk Management Partnership. Working in partnership across the four Boroughs enables a better use of public resources whilst allowing each Borough to respond to local concerns. Other organisations such as the Environment Agency and Thames Water play their part to manage flood risk in a local context. Natural Flood Management interventions and funding opportunities are highlighted at the regular meetings. These interventions will consequently result in positive biodiversity benefits.</p>
The Ravensbourne Catchment Integrated Flood Modelling Project (RCIFM)	<p>Thames RFCC have provided grant funding for the RCIFM project. Key project information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A cross-borough partnership with the London Borough of Bromley, the London Borough of Croydon, the London Borough of Lewisham, the Royal Borough of Greenwich, the Environment Agency and Ravensbourne Catchment Improvement Group (RCIG), has been setup to identify deliverable cross-boundary small-scale interventions throughout the Ravensbourne catchment. • In partnership, levy funding is being requested to fund catchment scale hydraulic modelling which will determine the flood risk management benefits of strategic small-scale interventions. • Using the levy funded hydraulic modelling, a catchment-wide long-term programme for small-scale nature-based flood risk management solutions will be developed. • These nature-based solutions will deliver meaningful biodiversity benefits.
South East Rivers Trust	<p>The South East Rivers Trust are an important stakeholder. They co-host the Catchment Partnership for the River Darent and Cray, with the Northwest Kent Countryside Partnership (with the River Cray rising in Priory Gardens, Orpington). They are undertaking a mission to transform the River Cray.</p>
Thames RFCC and Southern RFCC	<p>The Thames and Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) support Bromley Council in several keyways to manage flood risks, with a focus on natural</p>

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Relevance to biodiversity duty and progress achieved Action (A)
	<p>flood management and sustainable urban drainage solutions. Biodiversity benefits result from such schemes should they be delivered.</p> <p>Flood Ready London (Surface Water Catchment Strategy) Flood Ready London is a partnership of key organisations across London including the Environment Agency, London Boroughs, and Thames Water. The London Borough of Bromley is part of two surface water catchment partnerships, the Ravensbourne and the South East London. The overall goal of the strategy is to set a vision for how London can address the growing risk of surface water flooding. A guiding principle includes nature-based solutions which develop approaches of managing flood risk and having co-benefits for nature and biodiversity.</p>
Historic England	<p>Historic England partners with the London Borough of Bromley (LBB) in several strategic and practical ways to support the conservation and enhancement of the borough's heritage assets. This includes Scadbury Moated Manor.</p> <p>They assist LBB in conserving important heritage sites by providing funding and supporting funding external applications, as well as through their advice and expertise.</p> <p>Historic England also plays a strategic and advisory role as a key stakeholder in heritage matters, offering guidance on borough-wide initiatives and specific LBB projects.</p>

Section 2: How we have raised awareness and educated the community:

Bromley Environmental Education Centre at High Elms (BEECHE):

Located within High Elms Country Park, the BEECHE Centre serves as both an educational facility and a visitor hub. During school terms, it provides environmental education programs for students, and on weekends and school holidays, it opens to the public as an information and visitor centre. There are also opportunities for birthday party fun education adventures and volunteering for Duke of Edinburgh awards.

Community days:

There have been numerous community days conducted by the Council and supported by various stakeholders, such as our parks management and ground maintenance contractor idverde. Several of these days are listed in the actions taken above, such as the planting of the micro forests. In addition to this, follow-up biodiversity monitoring days with the community were conducted. Community volunteers have included Friends of Parks, Tree Friends, school children, Resident Associations and corporate volunteers.

Training sessions for Friends of Parks and Bromley Countryside Volunteers (BCV)

Our contractor idverde offer five free training sessions each year to our Friends of Parks, with course options including training on non-native invasive species, biodiversity in amenity spaces, meadow surveying, hedge laying, and bioblitz surveys. These training courses help inform the volunteer groups that help protect biodiversity within our parks and green spaces.

Bromley allotments biodiversity courses:

idverde also offer an annual biodiversity course for allotment holders within the borough. In 2025, the topic was "Bats – Nature's Pest Controller", aimed at equipping Allotment Biodiversity Champions with the knowledge and skills to create safe, wildlife-friendly spaces in their allotments. The course also provided training on surveying species and recording data to contribute to local biodiversity records. Every champion who attended the training course was gifted a Kent style bat box for their allotment site. Idverde rangers have now installed these bat boxes across 11 allotment sites.

Volunteer workdays:

There are also regular supervised volunteer workdays in parks and open spaces, with idverde leading the days and providing biodiversity support. Volunteer work tasks included cutting back encroaching vegetation along paths, infrastructure repairs, and survey work. The total supervised hours from 2021 to date are as follows:

Period	Cumulative hours volunteered
April 2021- Mar 2022	10,304.25
April 2022- Mar 2023	8,666.40
April 2023- Mar 2024	9,434.50
April 2024- Mar 2025	11,098.50
April 2025- Aug 2025	3,081.50

Public consultations

The Council has sought feedback on biodiversity initiatives through several public consultations, including:

- Annual Parks User Satisfaction Survey (online)
- Woodlands Establishment Project (online and face to face)
- Nature Friendly Verges (online)
- Sustainable Planting Trial
- Wetland Restoration (through the Planning department)

The most recent public consultation related to Parks User Satisfaction Survey (August 2025). The survey specifically asked about satisfaction with biodiversity and what improvements residents wanted to see.

Website improvements

The Council has improved information available to our residents on the borough's biodiversity on its website. This included creating a new biodiversity homepage, a non-native invasive species page, and providing updates about various schemes such as the Kelsey Lakes Desilting project, which also included an email sign-up form, allowing residents to receive updates from the Council on the project's progress.

My Bromley Magazine

'My Bromley' Magazine is a magazine that is produced by the Council and is distributed to every household in the borough. It includes a mixture of Council news and feature articles signposting a range of services and has featured several biodiversity related news items. This has included information on the Treemendous tree planting programme, biodiversity initiatives funded by the Council's Platinum Jubilee Parks Fund, and on the planting of micro forests.

Bromley Biodiversity Partnership

The Bromley Biodiversity Partnership group includes a panel of neighbouring landowners within the borough and organisations such as the National Trust, London Wildlife Trust, Kent Wildlife Trust, Chislehurst Conservators and the Holwood Estate. The panel also comprises of local ecologists, idverde, RSPB, Butterfly Conservation, LBB officers, the Friends Forum, and other biodiversity stakeholders active in the borough. As of 2025, the group meets three times a year

to discuss current events regarding biodiversity, planning, funding opportunities, and partnership within conservation.

Innovation Fund

The Innovation Fund is financed by Bromley Council and the NHS South East London Integrated Care Board (ICB). Its funding categories amongst others includes helping health and wellbeing, as well as promoting and supporting volunteering. Projects funded that have raised awareness about biodiversity and environmental sustainability include:

- Greener and Cleaner: the funding was used for recruiting and developing a diverse cohort of volunteers to assist in delivering environmentally friendly activities such as repair and reuse workshops, work on the community allotment, raise awareness and disseminate messages for environmentally friendly living.
- GoodGym: funding was awarded to GoodGym, a UK charity that focuses on environmental and community volunteering whilst keeping people fit. They set up three GoodGym groups across the borough. Activities sometimes include cleaning up and protecting natural spaces.



Section 3: How we have considered other strategies

Local nature recovery strategy (LNRS) developed by Greater London Authority (GLA):

The Council was consulted during the creation of the London Local Nature Recovery Strategy which includes biodiversity considerations within Bromley. The GIS maps produced will help to inform future projects and management of land to support and enhance biodiversity.

The information below is based on the draft LNRS. As shown in the LNRS, the three landscape areas located in LBB are:

1. River Cray and Southern Marshes (north-east of the borough)
2. South East London Green Chain Plus (north-west of the borough)
3. London's Downlands (south of the borough)

These landscape areas highlight the different biodiversity and ecology across the borough. London's Downlands make up the largest proportion of landscape areas in the borough, dominating the southern more rural and agricultural part of Bromley. A further description of the habitats can be found in [Appendix D](#).

Draft Overarching Priorities:

The overarching priorities of the draft LNRS are listed below.

1. **Bigger, better, more connected, and more diverse**
2. **Species abundance**
3. **Invertebrates**
4. **Soils and fungi**
5. **People**
6. **Invasive species and biosecurity**

The Council's biodiversity actions and projects going forward will consider these priorities. Many of current actions align with the LNRS priorities. For example, our Nature Friendly Verges help connect our open spaces and provides habitats for invertebrates. Our other projects such as the Keston Ponds Project and Micro Forest tree planting strongly align with the LNRS priorities.

Local Nature Recovery Action Plans:

As outlined in 'future actions', the London Borough of Bromley will explore opportunities to use the LNRS to create a Local Nature Recovery Action Plans. Further is awaited, and the Council will liaise with neighbouring boroughs and the Greater London Authority to understand what is required.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs):

There are [three SSSIs](#) on London Borough of Bromley land and 5 in total based within the borough (visualised in [Appendix I](#)). There are active management plans for all SSSI sites, which incorporate Natural England's stewardship targets. The Council's owned and managed SSSI sites are:

- Keston and Hayes Commons SSSI
- High Elms Country Park, (part of the Downe Bank and High Elms SSSI)
- Sparrow Wood and Crofton Heath

The additional SSSIs across the borough are:

- Downe Bank (managed by the [Kent Wildlife Trust](#) and part of the Downe Bank and High Elms SSSI)
- Saltbox Hill (managed by the [London Wildlife Trust](#))
- Ruxley Gravel Pits (managed by the [Environment Agency](#))

The Council's active management of the SSSI sites it owns includes:

- Liaising with Natural England (NE) regarding ongoing management to preserve and enhance their SSSI status. NE representatives visit the sites, accompanied by idverde's Biodiversity Manager, to review work programmes and assess site conditions.
- For Keston and Hayes Commons SSSI the Council applied and received funding for the development phase of the Keston Ponds Project, to develop a project to improve the water environment. Keston and Hayes Common has also been designated Local Nature Reserve status highlighting its local importance. With the aim to protect the SSSI status, conserve and improve the sites, now and for future generations.

All three of the sites listed above have active Friends of Parks group who partner us in the management of these sites. (Friends of Hayes Commons, Friends of Keston Common, Friends of High Elms, and Friends of Crofton and Sparrow Woods).

Local Nature Reserves:

There are five [Local Nature Reserves](#) (LNRs) within the borough (visualised in [Appendix J](#)), alongside Keston Commons and High Elms. These are:

- Jubilee Country Park
- Scadbury Park
- Darrick and Newstead Woods

On behalf of the Council, idverde manage the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) sites in collaboration with the Friends groups with the management plans reflecting the designation of the site and prioritising biodiversity.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs):

There are 119 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) across the borough (visualised in [Appendix I](#))³. Council owned and managed sites are actively managed by idverde, while others are overseen by organisations such as the London Wildlife Trust and the National Trust. These are listed in [Appendix C](#). A number of these sites are being reviewed as part of the Local Plan review⁴, and it is anticipated that several new or upgraded SINCs will be designated as part of the new plan.

Kent Downs National Landscape (visualised in [Appendix K](#)):

The Kent Downs National Landscape is a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and has a [management plan for 2021 to 2026](#). The Council is part of the Joint Advisory Committee that has joint responsibility to prepare and review the plans. Policy 76 in [Local Plan](#) states “The Council will protect, conserve and enhance the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and its setting, from development considered to have a detrimental impact on the landscape of the area.” This highlights that Kent Downs AONB is already a planning consideration with the London Borough of Bromley. The Kent Downs National Landscape is looking to secure [Cross-Channel UNESCO Global Geopark](#) status.

Conservation Strategies:

Species conservation strategies were introduced in the Environment Act 2021⁵ and place a new duty on Local Planning Authorities to cooperate with Natural England in the establishment of the strategies. The Council will work with Natural England to help implement these strategies within our borough where possible.

Species action plans:

Bromley has a series of species action plans, the predecessor of the species conservation strategies⁶, including for:

- [Swifts](#)
- [Bats](#)
- [Dormice](#)
- [Hedgehogs](#)
- [Toads](#)
- [White Admiral Butterflies](#)

These documents provide further guidance on the protection, conservation and enhancement of habitat for some of the important and declining species in Bromley.

³ Number of SINC sites is from the 2023 SINC review: [Review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation](#)

⁴ <https://www.bromley.gov.uk/planning-policy/review-bromley-local-plan/3>

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2020/10-march-2020-nature-and-conservation-covenants-parts-6-and-7>

⁶ [Biodiversity in Bromley](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2020/10-march-2020-nature-and-conservation-covenants-parts-6-and-7) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2020/10-march-2020-nature-and-conservation-covenants-parts-6-and-7>



Section 4: Our future actions

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Action (A)	Relevance to biodiversity duty	Timeline
Council-wide	Net Zero Action Plan (updated annual update) (P)	<p>Initiative 6: Woodlands, Parks and Greenspaces: tree planting is a medium and long-term solution for carbon sequestration.</p> <p>Tree planting is a long-term policy of the Council, with opportunities on Council land continually explored where grant funding allows.</p>	Ongoing
Carbon Management and Green Space	<p>Open Space Strategy (2021 – 2031) (S)</p> <p>The Council will continue to deliver against its Open Space Strategy (2021-2031) including those Strategic Objectives with biodiversity implications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Natural, cultural and historical assets 5. Health, wellbeing and community <p>Progress against the strategy is scrutinised annually by the Environment & Community Services Policy Development & Scrutiny Committee.</p>		Until 2031
	<p>Tree Management Strategy (S)</p> <p>The current Tree Management Strategy will be delivered until 2027. The Strategy will be reviewed and updated after 2027, with the Strategy formally adopted by the Portfolio Holder through the committee process.</p>		Until 2027

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Action (A)	Relevance to biodiversity duty	Timeline
	Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan (S)	The Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan expires in 2026. The Council will work with the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership to develop a new and updated plan to conserve and enhance biodiversity in the borough from 2026 -2031	2026
	idverde Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan (S)	This action plan details how idverde will enhance and conserve biodiversity in the borough in their delivery of management and maintenance of parks and open spaces on the Council's behalf, with reference to the direction of the wider ranging Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan. The iBBAP will be updated in 2026 to cover a five-year period.	2026
	Bromley Biodiversity Survey Reports: biodiversity surveys and monitoring	On behalf of the Council, the idverde ranger team will continue to conduct extensive biodiversity surveys across Bromley's open space portfolio. The results of which will culminate in a yearly Bromley Biodiversity Survey Report. The 2025 report can be found in Appendix A .	Ongoing
	Naturalised grassland management regimes	On behalf of the Council, Idverde will continue to manage the over 25 hectares of existing naturalised grassland areas, mirroring traditional wildflower meadow management practices for the benefit of biodiversity.	Ongoing
	<u>Nature Friendly Verges</u> (NFV)(A) (2023 – present)	As of 2025, there are eight permanent and five new trial NFV sites (found in Appendix G). This new trial is due to conclude in 2027 after which it will be decided if any of these trial sites will be NFVs permanently.	Ongoing
	Sustainable Planting Trial (A)	NFV will continue to serve as vital wildlife corridors, connecting green spaces throughout the borough.	2026 onwards
		The sustainable planting trial results will be reported in 2026 with consideration given to next steps which may	

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Action (A)	Relevance to biodiversity duty	Timeline
	<p>Waterbody Improvement (P)</p>	<p>include permanently converting the current trial beds and/or extending the management regime into other beds in the borough either on a trial or permanent basis.</p> <p>The Council is seeking funding opportunities to improve waterbodies on land that it owns and manages with associated biodiversity benefits. The priorities for funding are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keston Ponds. 2. Church House Gardens Pond. 3. Crofton and Sparrow Wood 4. Shaftesbury Park 	Ongoing
	<p>Offsite Biodiversity Net Gain Sites (A)</p>	<p>The Council is exploring the viability of creating offsite biodiversity units on Bromley land for the private market. This is a new mechanism of bringing in revenue to improve habitats for 30 years and beyond. Feasibility and financial viability of these projects is being explored.</p>	Ongoing
	<p>Communication and education (A)</p>	<p>As listed in section two, the Council has many active communication and educational channels and will look to utilise these to raise awareness and empower communities to enhance and conserve biodiversity in the borough.</p>	Ongoing
	<p>Keston Ponds Project – Delivery Phase (A)</p>	<p>Funding needs to be secured for the delivery phase of the project, with a funding application submitted and under review. Should funding be granted, the delivery Phase will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works to ultimately protect the designated SSSI status of the site. 	Estimated 2026 - 2028 (subject to funding)

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Action (A)	Relevance to biodiversity duty	Timeline
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve water quality by using natural source control measures. • Remove and reuse silt from the ponds to create shelves for water quality and habitat benefits. • Restore and extend high quality habitats in the riparian zones. • Increase stakeholder engagement through better understanding of the ponds and their ecological and historical significance. 	
	Woodland Establishment Project (A)	The Council is seeking funding for the delivery of new woodland sites under the woodland establishment project, with support from community stakeholders.	Estimated 2026 - 2028
	Local Nature Recovery Action Plans	Following on from the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, the Council will review opportunities to create a Local Nature Recovery Action Plan. Guidance is yet to be released.	By 2030
	Chislehurst and Walden Recreation Ground Swale (A)	There are preliminary plans for the creation of a 'swale'. This is dependent of external funding.	TBC
	<u>Brilliant Butterflies</u> (A)	The Council would like to replicate the previous success of the Brilliant Butterflies project. Funding opportunities continue to be explored to create butterfly banks and scrapes in other recreation grounds across the borough. This is additional to the ongoing traditional maintenance techniques and volunteer survey efforts on the 8 existing sites.	By 2030, subject to funding.

Department/ team	Policy (P)/ Strategy (S)/ Action (A)	Relevance to biodiversity duty	Timeline
Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration	<u>Bromley Local Plan Review</u>	<p>The Bromley Local Plan is currently being reviewed. The Council consulted on a 'Direction of Travel' draft plan between July and September 2025. This document set out the Council's preferred policy direction across a number of areas including green infrastructure, open space and biodiversity. This includes the intention to plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure.</p>	Adoption of the new Local Plan expected by end of 2027

Section 5: Biodiversity Net Gain

To date, the Local Planning Authority's Development Management team has received two Biodiversity Gain Plans. In both cases, the proposed on-site biodiversity enhancements were minimal, and therefore no legal agreements or ongoing monitoring obligations have been imposed by the Council. Biodiversity will be monitored in cases that meet the criteria set out in the relevant legislation and guidance. The team has recorded cases that are liable for Biodiversity Net Gain Plans to meet biodiversity gain plan objectives.

In total, 17 planning applications have been identified as BNG-liable. Of these, 10 were refused; should any of these be granted permission at appeal, a Biodiversity Gain Plan will be required.

The Local Planning Authority has incorporated clear and consistent wording within decision notices to indicate when BNG requirements apply and when exemptions are relevant, in accordance with national policy objectives. Decision Notices are in the public domain which detail when a case is liable or exempt from submitting a Biodiversity Net Gain Plan.

To facilitate future monitoring and reporting, BNG-specific fields have now been integrated into the back-office planning system.

These include:

- Whether a Biodiversity Gain Plan is required
- Whether the gain is delivered on-site, off-site, or via statutory credits
- Whether a legal agreement or conservation covenant is necessary

As identified in Section 4, the Bromley Local Plan is currently under review. The Council consulted on a 'Direction of Travel' draft between July and September 2025, which set out its preferred policy direction across several areas, including green infrastructure, open space, and biodiversity. This includes a commitment to planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement, and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. These principles form part of the planning basis to support the objectives for the next reporting period, alongside the other measures outlined above.

Section 6: Monitoring and evaluating our actions

idverde Bromley Biodiversity Action Plan (iBBAP):

Biodiversity performance data is currently collected through the idverde Bromley Biodiversity Action plan (iBBAP). As outlined in our current actions section, key targets include:

1. Habitat-specific objectives.
2. Species protection.
3. Community engagement.
4. Monitoring and reporting.
5. Policy integration.

We have site management plans for 30 of our sites and these have been active since April 2019 which are reviewed periodically. Alongside this, our contractor has an annual plan to control non-native invasive species (NNIS) which is monitored annually. This includes controlling and eradicating NNIS such as Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed, and Rhododendron.

The Council carries out a wide range of seasonal biodiversity surveys across its sites. This includes bat box checks, bat hibernation surveys, amphibian surveys (including Great Crested Newts), reptile refugia surveys, butterfly transect surveys, odonata surveys, woodland ground flora surveys, meadow condition assessments, small mammal surveys, glow-worm surveys, moth surveys, nature-friendly verge surveys, and sustainable bedding surveys. The results of which culminate in the Bromley Biodiversity Survey Report, with many of these survey findings reported to GIGL (Greenspace Information for Greater London).

Fix My Street:

The Council has a system for members of the public to report problems in our parks and green spaces, including for environment and biodiversity issues. This data under continuous review, with management reports reviewed weekly, and trends analysed both monthly and annually.

Countryside Stewardship (CS):

Our Countryside Stewardship agreements are monitored by Natural England advisors during annual site visits. In addition, the Council is required to monitor certain prescriptions, such as annual hay cuts and evidencing the actions taken such as with photographs.

Open Space Strategy update report:

An annual report is produced each year to provide an update on the OSS deliverables since its adoption in 2021; this is scrutinised through the Council's committee process.

Appendices

Appendix A: The Bromley Biodiversity Survey Report (2025)

The Bromley Biodiversity Survey Report is listed alongside this report on the Council's website.

Appendix B: The Bromley Biodiversity Survey Report (2025) highlights from 2025

Key Highlights from 2025:

- Woodland Flora: 182 species recorded across 27 surveyed woodlands, with Ancient Woodland indicators present in many sites.
- Hazel Dormice: A promising increase from 1 individual in 2023 to 9 (including juveniles) in 2025 at High Elms.
- Orchids: 15 species recorded borough-wide, including nationally rare Lizard orchids. Warren Road NFV showed notable increases.
- Glow Worms: Despite low female sightings, male captures suggest a viable breeding population remains.
- Moths: 1,003 individuals of 173 species recorded, including rare finds like Clifdon Nonpareil and the Scarce Shoot Borer.
- Butterflies: Meadow Brown was the most recorded species across the borough. Rare species like the Small Blue and the Hairstreak's were also observed in improved numbers.
- Birds: 55 fledglings from 7 active nest boxes; successful ringing of species like Goldcrest and Blackcap.
- Reptiles & Amphibians: Hayes Common remains a stronghold for Adders (est. 75–100 individuals). Great Crested Newts confirmed at Jubilee and Scadbury.
- Odonata: High diversity recorded at Keston Common, including breeding evidence for Willow Emerald Damselfly.
- Community Engagement: Expansion of bat box monitoring to allotments and increased volunteer-led surveys across taxa.

Appendix C: List of Bromley Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) information from the Open Space Strategy

Open Space	Greater London Authority designation	Other Designation
Belmont Pasture	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Bourne Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Bradsmanshill Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Chelsfield Hill	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Crofton Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	SSSI
Crown Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Cudham Valley South	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Downe Bank and Cudham Valley North	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	Part SSSI
Hewitts Chalk Bank	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
High Broom Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
High Elms	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	SSSI, LNR
Hockenden Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Jubilee Country Park	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	LNR
Ninehams Wood, Lake Wood, South Park Paddocks and Holwood Estate	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Norsted Valley Woods	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
R. Ravensbourne, Ravensbourne Valley Woodlands, Keston Common, Hayes Common, West Wickham Common	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	Part SSSI, LNR
River Cray	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Rushmore Hill Woodlands	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Ruxley Gravel Pits	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	SSSI
Saltbox Hill and Jewels Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	Part SSSI
Scadbury Park, St Paul's Cray Common, Pett's Wood, and Hawkwood Estate	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	LNR
Shirley Heath, Spring Park and Threehalfpenny Wood	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
West Kent Golf Course and Down House	Sites of Metropolitan Importance	
Biggin Hill South and Painter's Wood	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Charm Wood and Lower Brooms Wood	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	

Chislehurst Common	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Covet Wood	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Crystal Palace Park	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Darrick & Newstead Woods	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	LNR
Fox Hill Shaw	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Fuller's Wood, James's Wood and Broomfieldbank Shaw	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Furze Bottom and Higham Hill	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Goddington Park	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Griff's Wood	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Hockenden Sand Pit	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Lilly's Wood and Black Bush Wood	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Norheads Lane Woodlands	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Sevenoaks Road Chalk Bank	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
St Martin's Churchyard, Chelsfield	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Hayes	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Sundridge Park Golf Course, Elmstead Wood and Lower Marvels Wood	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
The Warren	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
Well Wood, Long Shaw and Cooper's Wood	Sites of Borough Grade I Importance	
All Saints Churchyard, Orpington	Sites of Borough Grade II Importance	
Bassetts Pond	Sites of Borough Grade II Importance	
Bogey Lane, Farthing Street and Orange Court Lane	Sites of Borough Grade II Importance	
Bullers Wood School and Yester Road Railway Embankment	Sites of Borough Grade II Importance	

Appendix D: London LNRs further information (taken from the LNRs public consultation draft document), Landscape areas in Bromley

(Text extracts from the Annex 2: Description of the Strategy Area page 9 - 10).

1. River Cray and Southern Marshes:

The River Cray and Southern Marshes includes major bands of chalk that rise close to the surface and defines much of the flora and fauna of the river valleys. The local Green Belt includes the slopes of the North Downs, which contain ancient woodland connected by hedgerows surrounded by open farmland.

2. South East London Green Chain Plus:

The South East London Green Chain Plus includes areas of ancient woodland, meadows and commons, sitting alongside formal gardens and playing fields. Tidal creeks and rivers, with their associated wetlands, parks and green corridors, are also characteristic of this area, including the River Thames and rivers Pool, Quaggy, Ravensbourne and Shuttle. The eastern marshlands stretch into the southern ridge towards Thamesmead. The South East London Green Chain Plus includes parts of the boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Croydon, Greenwich, Lewisham and Southwark.

3. London's Downlands:

This area contains most of London's woodlands, trees, hedgerows, and chalk grasslands, with a mosaic of small mixed farming and arable fields. The Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Kent Downs AONB adjoin the Green Belt and overlap the edge of this area, which makes access into open countryside feasible from the London's Downlands. Large accessible and nature rich open spaces, such as Farthing Downs, Happy Valley and Coulsdon Common, form part of the South London Downs National Nature Reserve and create green corridors that extend into the more urban parts of this area. The London's Downlands Area includes the boroughs of Bromley, Croydon and Sutton.

Appendix E: Platinum Jubilee Projects related to Biodiversity

Scadbury Park – Pond restoration project. Two large natural ponds were created in a glade of Scadbury Park to add to the network of ponds currently on site. The ponds create much needed nesting habitat for great crested newts.

Beckenham Green – Sustainable planting in the large beds on the high street and the creation of a mini woodland trail.

Riverside Gardens – Wetland restoration project. A wetland along the river Cray had become silted up and cut off from the main river. The silt was removed and the river reprofiled to create an effective silt trap. Planting in the river was carried out by volunteers. The native species will absorb excess nutrients, support wetland animals like dragonflies, damselflies, amphibians, and birds such as the native Kingfisher.

Priory Gardens – Garden Enhancements & Restoration. As part of the wider project, coir rolls have been added to one of the major ponds within Priory Gardens. Coir rolls encourage vegetation growth by providing structural support, moisture retention, and protection from harsh conditions, fostering healthy root systems. They also provide a natural habitat for various species, including insects, small animals, and vegetation, enriching biodiversity and promoting ecological balance.

Jubilee Country Park – Orchard Project. The Friends created a community orchard which they will nurture along with students from adjacent Bromley High School.

Richmal Crompton – Wilderness Project. The Friends created an orchard and a sensory garden to commemorate the passing of Queen Elizabeth II.

Kelsey Park – Community Garden. The Friends of Kelsey received funding for the creation of a community garden in the place of a disused depot within Kelsey Park. The project involved the clearing of the old site which had become severely overgrown, fencing the site to make it more secure and building raised beds.

Winsford Gardens – Woodland Stumpery Project. The Friends of Winsford Gardens created a stumpery garden in the place of a disused bog garden. The project involved utilising wood stumps and other logs from around the site to create a naturalised garden feature that is an inviting habitat for toads, beetles and many other creatures.

Southland Road Allotments – Community Allotment. Cleaner & Greener Bromley received a grant for tools, seeds and equipment for their community garden plot. The plot aims to get people involved planting activities and free specific educational workshops are held on a regular basis that the community can book on to.

Bromley Palace Park – Biodiversity improvement and walking trail project. The Friends have improved biodiversity in the park through the introduction of many different shrubbery plants along with a persimmon tree.

Well Wood – Woodland Improvement Project. Due to the loss of many trees at the site there has been a decline in available nesting habitat. The Friends plan to put up bird boxes suitable for an array of different species. They also wish to gap up existing hedging to create more habitat for birds and invertebrates.

Appendix F: Green Flag and Community Green Flag Sites:

Green Flag Sites (as of 2025):

Biggin Hill Recreation Ground
Cator Park
Chislehurst & Walden Recreation Ground
Darrick & Newstead Woods
Hayes Common
High Elms Country Park
Kelsey Park
Keston Commons
Queens Gardens
South Hill Woods
Chislehurst & St Paul's Common's (managed by the Chislehurst Conservators).

Community Green Flag Sites (as of 2025):

Dorset Road Allotments
Hoblingwell Wood & Recreation Ground
Winsford Gardens

Appendix G: Nature Friendly Verges Sites:

8 Permanent sites as of 2025

- Addington Road (West Wickham)
- Court Road (Orpington)
- Downs Hill Road (Shortlands)
- Ormonde Avenue (Orpington)
- Pickhurst Lane (Hayes)
- Riverpool Walk (Beckenham)
- Rangefield Road (Downham)
- Warren Road (Chelsfield)

5 Trial sites (2025 – 2027)

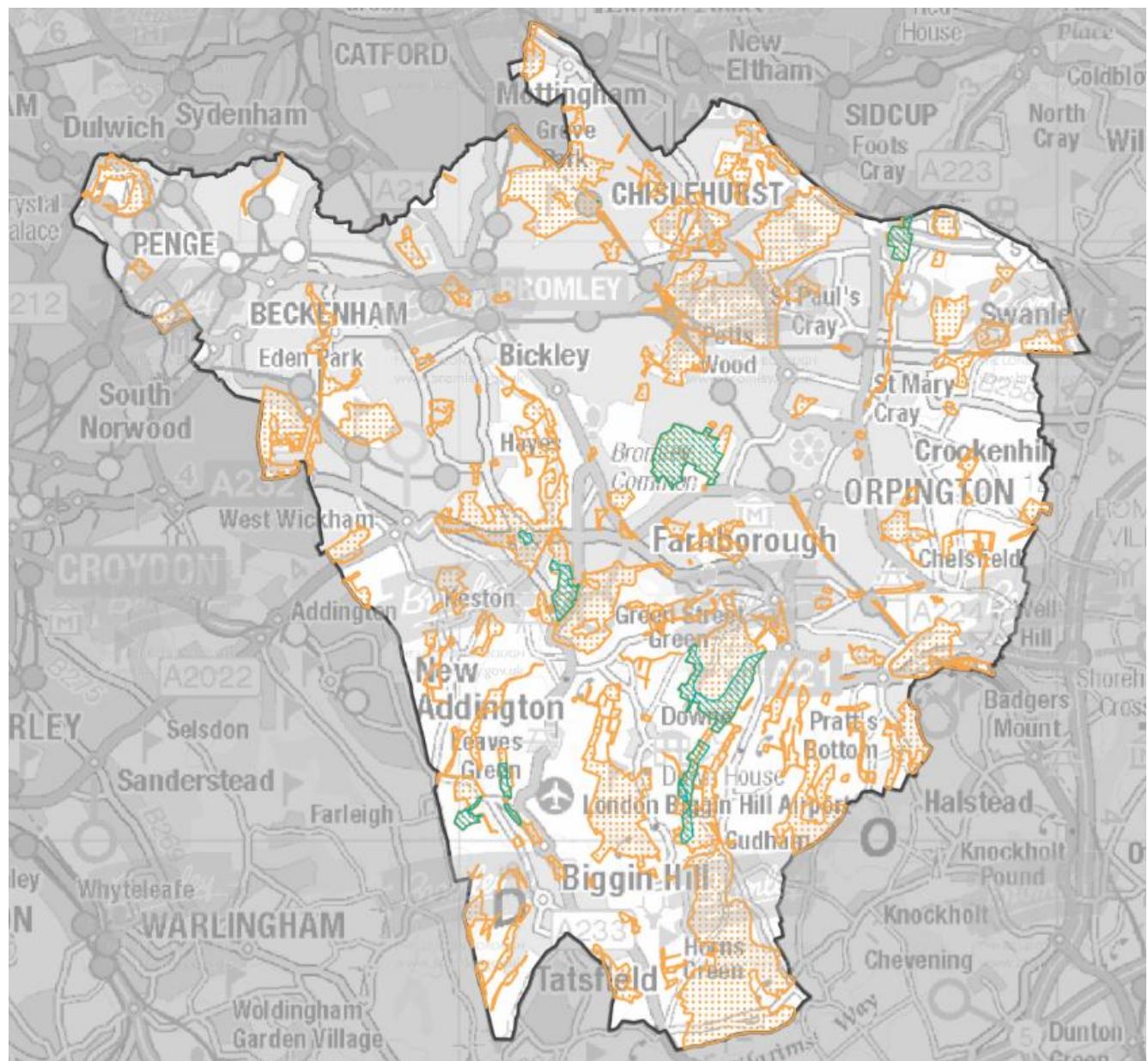
- Broad Oaks Way (Shortlands)
- Cameron Road (Langley)
- Crofton Road (Orpington)
- Foxgrove Road (Beckenham)
- Gates Green Road (Coney Hall)

Appendix H: Sustainable Planting Trial Sites (as of 2025):

- Waterman's Square, Penge (Penge and Cator)
- Elmers End Green, Elmers End (Kelsey and Eden Park)
- Betts Park, Anerley (Crystal Palace and Anerley)
- Kelsey Park, Beckenham (Kelsey and Eden Park)
- St Mary Cray High Street, St. Mary Cray (St Mary Cray)
- Shortlands Green, Shortlands (Shortlands and Park Langley)
- Croydon Road Recreation Ground, Beckenham (Kelsey and Eden Park)
- Coney Hall Recreation Ground, Coney Hall (Hayes and Coney Hall)
- Beds surrounding Coney Hall Roundabout, Glebe Way (Hayes and Coney Hall/West Wickham)
- Chislehurst High Street, Chislehurst (Chislehurst)

Appendix I: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) locations within the borough of Bromley.

Map from the Bromley Local Plan [interactive map](#).



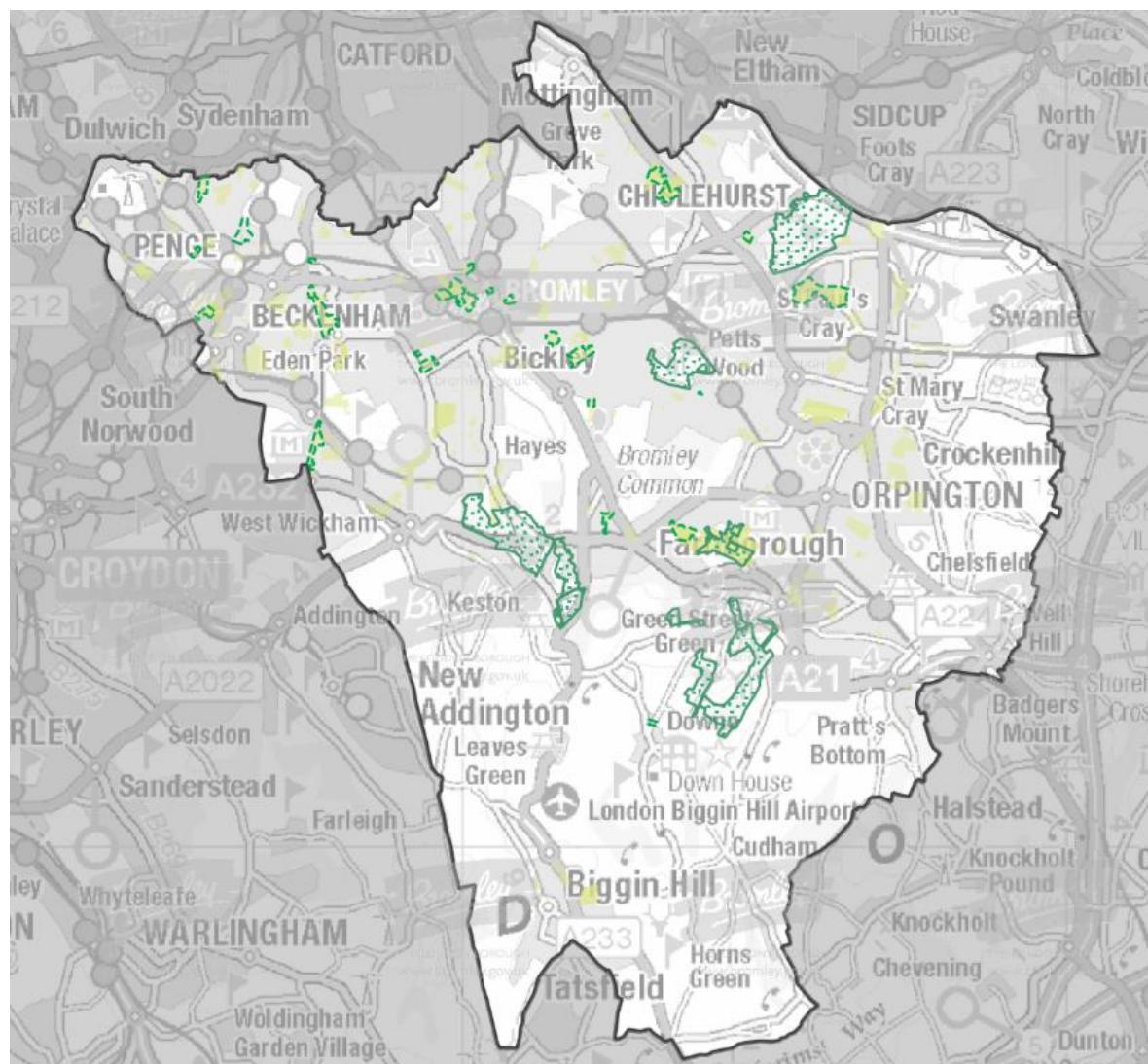
Sites of Special Scientific Interest



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Appendix J: Urban Open Space, Local Nature Reserves and Local Green Space locations within the borough of Bromley.

Map from the Bromley Local Plan [interactive map](#).



Urban Open Space



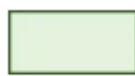
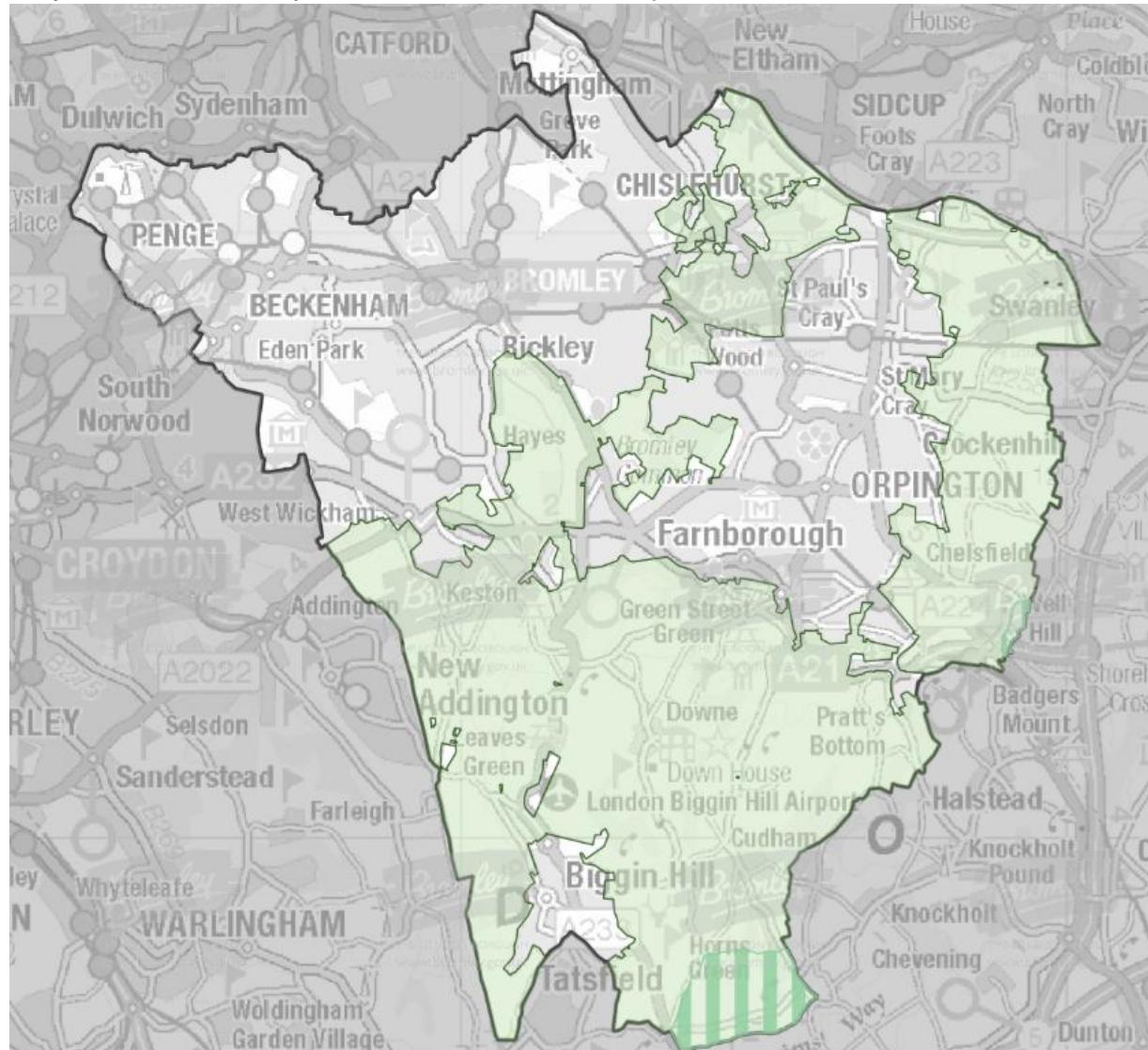
Local Nature Reserves



Local Green Space

Appendix K: Green Belt and Kent Downs National Landscape locations within the borough of Bromley.

Map from the Bromley Local Plan [interactive map](#).



Green Belt



Kent Downs National Landscape Areas

