

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY INQUIRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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| Staff Name: | TRACEY MEREDITH |
| Position: | HEAD OF LEGAL, DEM SERVICES AND BI |
| Service Area: | HEAD OF LEGAL, DEM SERVICES AND BI |
| Directorate: | CORPORATE RESOURCES |

1. Prior to receiving this questionnaire, did you know that the City and County of Swansea has a Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty?

Please tick

YES
NO

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| X |
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2. Briefly describe below the main local authority functions undertaken in your service area.

Legal Services – to provide legal and statutory advice to the authority, members and committees
Dem Services – to provide dem services support to committees, members and officers.
Access to Services – to provide equality and engagement advice to authority, members and committees. To liaise with outside organisations to provide assistance in accessing services. Advice on consultation.
Scrutiny – to provide scrutiny support to officers, members and committee.

3. During your day to day work, do you currently consider biodiversity when making decisions? If YES please describe what you currently do to maintain and enhance the Natural Environment and Biodiversity.

In general the department does not make decisions. It does however provide legislative advice in decision making to client departments.

The department has already engaged with client department in relation to provision of advice on biodiversity duties. A dedicated legal officer has been identified to research and provide advice where necessary and appropriate.

- 4. Do you have any ideas about how your department could do more/work differently to contribute to the maintenance, enhancement and promotion of the natural environment and biodiversity in Swansea Council?**

The dedicated legal officer has been requested to provide an advice note to legal officers (for wider circulation if necessary) on duties under the legislation. This will enable legal officers when considering reports to ensure that duties are understood by client department.

- 5. Please list below any constraints that may prevent the delivery of the above actions.**

None.

- 6. What help and support would enable you overcome these constraints? If you have any other comments, please list them here.**