



BIODIVERSITY AUDIT



INTRODUCTION

Biodiversity plays a vital role in creating healthy, resilient and attractive football environments. From native trees and hedgerows to wildflower areas and pollinator habitats, football clubs across Wales have significant opportunities to support nature while enhancing their facilities for players, volunteers and local communities.

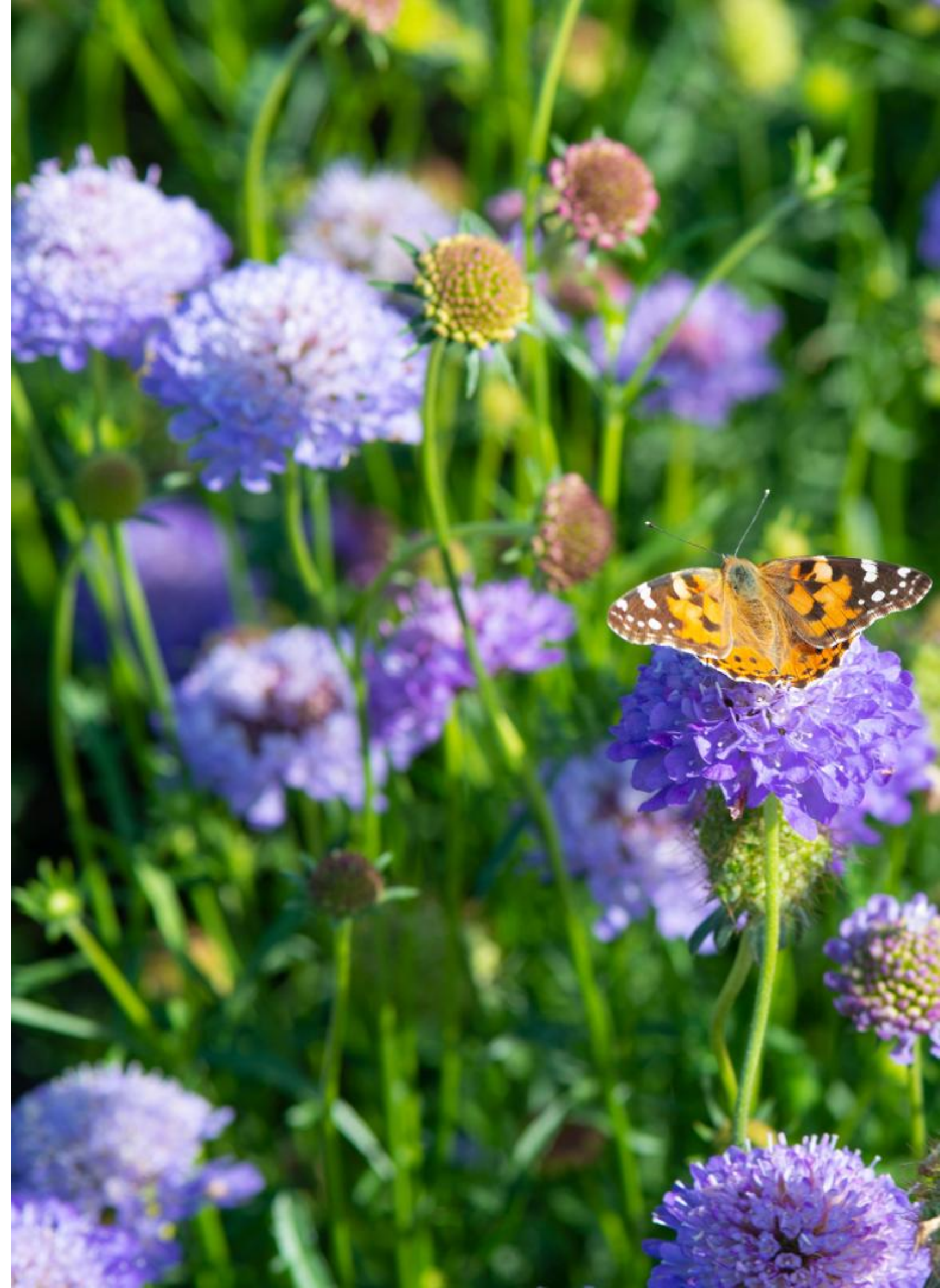
The Together Greener Biodiversity Audit has been designed to help Clubs understand their current biodiversity baseline, identify existing habitats and wildlife features, and highlight opportunities to enhance nature on and around Club grounds.

The audit supports the FAW's commitment to environmental sustainability and contributes to wider Welsh biodiversity objectives, including the protection of nature, pollinators and local ecosystems.

Whether your Club manages a large facility or a small community pitch, this audit will help you identify practical actions that can make a positive difference for biodiversity.

This resource will support your Club to:

- Understand the current biodiversity value of your site.
- Identify existing habitats, species and natural features.
- Recognise opportunities to improve biodiversity on club grounds.
- Engage volunteers, players and the local community in nature recovery.
- Inform your Biodiversity Action Plan and Together Greener Green Goals.
- Contribute to national and local nature recovery priorities in Wales.





WHY AUDIT?

Why Conduct a Biodiversity Audit?

Before taking action to improve biodiversity, it is important to understand what already exists on your site.

A biodiversity audit provides a simple assessment of habitats, natural features and opportunities for enhancement. It helps Clubs establish a baseline from which progress can be measured and ensures resources are directed towards actions that will have the greatest impact.

A biodiversity audit can help your Club:

- Identify biodiversity assets already present.
- Understand where habitats can be improved.
- Support applications for environmental grants and funding.
- Inform long-term site management decisions.
- Demonstrate environmental commitment to members, partners and stakeholders.
- Create opportunities for education and community engagement.





AUDIT COMPLETION

How to Complete the Audit

The audit should ideally be completed by members of your Green Team, facility staff, volunteers or local environmental groups who are familiar with the site.

Walk around all accessible areas of your facility and answer the questions below.

For each question, record:

- Yes.
- No.
- Unsure.

Use the notes section to record observations, opportunities or actions that may be required.

Where possible, take photographs to support future planning and monitor progress over time.





BIODIVERSITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Habitats and Natural Features

QUESTION	YES/NO/UNSURE	COMMENTS
Are there native trees growing on Club grounds?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there native hedgerows around the site?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there areas of natural grassland or wildflower growth?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there flower beds or planters containing pollinator-friendly plants?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there ponds, wetlands or other water features present?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there areas of woodland or scrub habitat?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there mature trees that provide habitat for birds and insects?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there uncultivated or low-maintenance areas that support wildlife?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	



BIODIVERSITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Pollinators and Wildlife

QUESTION	YES/NO/UNSURE	COMMENTS
Have pollinators such as bees, butterflies or hoverflies been observed on site?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Have birds regularly been observed using the site?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Have bats been recorded or observed nearby?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there nesting opportunities for birds on site?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there insect habitats such as log piles or deadwood areas?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there wildlife corridors connecting habitats around the site?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Is the club aware of any protected or priority species in the local area?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	



BIODIVERSITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Grounds Management

QUESTION	YES/NO/UNSURE	COMMENTS
Are areas of grass managed specifically for biodiversity?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are mowing frequencies reduced in selected areas?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are pesticides or herbicides minimised where possible?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are leaves, logs or natural materials retained to create habitat?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Is any planting focused on native Welsh species?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Does the Club consider biodiversity when planning facility improvements?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	



BIODIVERSITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Opportunities for Enhancement

QUESTION	YES/NO/UNSURE	COMMENTS
Are there unused grass areas suitable for wildflower meadows?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there opportunities to plant native trees?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there opportunities to create native hedgerows?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there south-facing banks suitable for pollinator habitat?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there opportunities to install bird boxes?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there opportunities to install bat boxes?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there opportunities to create bug hotels or insect habitats?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are there opportunities to improve biodiversity around car parks or buildings?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	



BIODIVERSITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Awareness and Engagement

QUESTION	YES/NO/UNSURE	COMMENTS
Has the Club completed a biodiversity or wildlife survey previously?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Does the Club have biodiversity signage or interpretation boards?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are biodiversity activities promoted to members?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Does the Club engage schools or community groups in environmental projects?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Has the Club celebrated events such as Wales Nature Week or National Insect Week?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	
Are biodiversity actions included within Club plans or strategies?	Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐	



BIODIVERSITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Additional Observations

USE THIS SPACE TO CAPTURE ANY OTHER ISSUES OR OPPORTUNITIES IDENTIFIED DURING THE AUDIT.

Audit completed by:



AUDIT FINDINGS

Once completed, review your responses and identify key strengths, opportunities and priorities.

Strong Biodiversity Foundations

If your club answered "Yes" to many questions, you may already have valuable habitats and wildlife features in place.

Your focus should be on:

- Protecting existing habitats.
- Improving habitat quality.
- Increasing awareness and engagement.
- Monitoring biodiversity over time.

Biodiversity Improvement Opportunities

If your club answered "No" to several questions, there may be opportunities to introduce simple biodiversity enhancements.

Potential actions could include:

- Creating wildflower areas.
- Planting native trees and hedgerows.
- Installing bird or bat boxes.
- Creating insect habitats.
- Reviewing grounds maintenance practices.





COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Community and Education Opportunities

Many biodiversity improvements can be delivered through volunteer activity and community partnerships.

Consider engaging:

- Schools.
- Community groups.
- Wildlife and nature conservation organisations.
- Local authorities.
- Environmental charities.

This can increase impact while reducing costs.





FURTHER SUPPORT

Completing this Biodiversity Audit will give your Club a clearer understanding of its current contribution to nature and identify practical opportunities to enhance biodiversity on and around your facilities.

You do not need to undertake every action immediately. Use your responses to identify a small number of priority projects that can be incorporated into your Biodiversity Action Plan and delivered over time.

This audit can be revisited annually to measure progress, celebrate achievements and identify new opportunities as your Club develops.

Use what you have learned in this resource to:

- Inform one of your two mandatory Green Goals.
- Complete your Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Identify opportunities to protect and enhance nature.
- Engage volunteers, members and local communities.
- Support future funding and grant applications.
- Track biodiversity improvements year on year.

Even small actions, such as planting native species, reducing mowing in selected areas or creating habitats for pollinators, can make a meaningful contribution to nature recovery and help create a more sustainable future for football in Wales.

Further information on Biodiversity can be found at www.faw.cymru/togethergreener-biodiversity

If you require support completing this audit, please contact sustainability@faw.cymru