

# **The Southwark Biodiversity Partnership**

## **Terms of reference**

### **Introduction;**

The Southwark Biodiversity Partnership was set up in 2004.

Partners in the Southwark Biodiversity Partnership are:

- The Conservation Volunteers, formally the Trust for Urban Ecology
- The London Wildlife Trust
- The Bankside Open Spaces Trust
- Team London Bridge
- Better Bankside
- Walworth Garden
- Surrey Docks Farm
- Idverde
- Thames Estuary Partnership

Southwark Council Departments:

- Environment & Leisure
- Chief Executive's
- Housing & Modernisation
- Children & Adult Services

Since its formation in 2004 the Southwark Biodiversity Partnership successfully works to protect, enhance, and promote biodiversity.

The partnership has successfully raised the profile of biodiversity in Southwark and has delivered many nature conservation projects, all the while engaging with the people of Southwark. There have been numerous contributions by volunteers, trusts, societies and friends groups. This highlights the importance with which stakeholders and the wider public hold for biodiversity in Southwark. The partnership has produced and delivered 2 Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP).

## **Core responsibilities;**

The partnerships core role is to protect and promote and enhance biodiversity in Southwark.

This includes:

- Delivering projects for habitats and flora and fauna in Southwark
- Promoting biodiversity
- Improving access to nature
- Delivering community engagement for biodiversity
- Providing volunteer opportunities
- Providing educational opportunities
- Delivering habitat management
- Fund raising

One of the partnerships key functions is to produce and deliver a Local Biodiversity Action Plan for the London Borough of Southwark.

The partnership works collectively on delivery of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan. The BAP is a borough wide plan of the council and aims to deliver Regional and National Biodiversity objectives at the borough level.

The partnership will guide management of biodiversity in the Borough of Southwark and include conservation, enhancement and promotion of biodiversity. There are a number of internal and external influences impacting on this partnership.

The Southwark Biodiversity Action Plan contributes to key council policies including the Fairer Future promises, Council Plan and Health and wellbeing.

## **Limitations;**

The focus of the partnership is biodiversity, ecology and nature conservation. The partnership does not attempt to address the wider environmental and sustainability issues such as Climate Change although actions for biodiversity may benefit the wider sustainability agenda or visa versa.

Membership to the partnership is voluntary.

The partnership has no budget allocation.

The partnership does not act as a formal body responding to Local, regional or national consultations.