

Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces (refer to 2.4 of the Open Spaces Strategy)

No.	Policy	What we have done...	Next Steps	Lead	Time frame
a)	Promote and pursue positive conservation management of semi-natural habitats on the council’s managed land holdings, especially in designated nature conservation sites, the Nature Improvement Area, priority habitats and those acting as a wildlife stepping stone, and for priority species.	<p>Worked with a range of community groups, corporate volunteers and other volunteers to enhance and improve sites for wildlife across the city.</p> <p>Working with colleagues in Estates regarding the management of the council’s farmland. Identify funding from the SDNPA to increase grazing in Bevendean and Balsdean.</p> <p>Continue to manage butterfly banks and engage local community in the management of their sites.</p> <p>Started to undertake programme of reptile relocation funded by developers from Anston House & the Preston Barracks sites.</p> <p>Reviewed Local Wildlife Sites for Cityplan 2, and revised sites with specific management requirements.</p>	<p>a) We are working on reptile mitigation projects for a couple of large developments which have the potential to bring about some improvements such as creating new ponds, rich grassland which will benefit a wide range of wildlife/ reptiles. These project will form part of the planning agreement through s106 agreements</p> <p>b) Provide training and support to existing groups to operate more independently thus freeing up ranger time to support more groups.</p> <p>c) Identify management requirements for Local Wildlife Sites identified on City Plan 2</p>	Cityparks	2017-2027
b)	Seek ways to encourage investment in the Public Rights of Way and Open Access infrastructure including missing paths, signs, fences and gates etc. EQ	<p>Completed first draft of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan which went to the Local Access Forum (LAF) in October 2017.</p> <p>Stanmer Access project. Presented to the LAF. The Stanmer Lottery requirements indicate creating three or so walking trails for different times, distance, themes, as well</p>	<p>a) Second draft of ‘Rights of Way improvement Plan’ going to ETS committee.</p> <p>b) Consult with other departments with regards to funding opportunities.</p> <p>c) Twelve week public consultation for Rights of Way Improvement Plan</p>	<p>Cityparks</p> <p>Cityparks</p> <p>Cityparks</p>	<p>Dec 17</p> <p>Jan 2018</p> <p>Feb-Apr 2018</p>

Appendix 6

		as multi user off road cycle trails and adventure cycle trails. Met the LAF representatives to discuss trail options summer 2017.	d) Present to LAF on trails.		Jan 2018
c)	Continue to implement wildflower planting within all open spaces including parks and gardens which can enhance biodiversity, taking into account resilience to climate change and the need for less intensive maintenance.	Ongoing management of existing wildflower sites. Working with National Trust to identify sites for wildflower plants and potential funding. Ongoing research with University of Sussex and volunteers who have been monitoring pollinators visiting butterfly banks.	a) New wildflower schemes will need to demonstrate biodiversity gains. b) Plans to identify further opportunity for wildflower planting.	Cityparks	Ongoing
No.	Action	What we have done...	Next Steps	Lead	Time frame
1.	Deliver positive conservation management through the council's existing Higher Level Stewardship scheme until 2021, by when we will seek to continue and expand this under a successor countryside stewardship scheme.	Grazed 130Ha over 18 sites to improved biodiversity working with over 150 (lookers) voluntary shepherds and train an additional 25 in the last year. Ponies have been located onto Council land in addition to sheep to assist with grazing and increasing biodiversity habitats. Their first location is '19 Acres' near Dyke Road.	a) Continue to adjust timing of grazing to achieve best conservation outcomes b) Investigate replacement funding when the current HLS agreement expires. Identify partnership bids by maintaining and developing relationships with external organisations. c) Creating interpretation boards to promote grazing funded from downland initiative. d) Looking to expand cattle use on the land as part of grazing variety.	Cityparks	2011 to 2021
2.	Identify other wildlife enhancement funds and opportunities for the urban fringe and the city's parks.	Working with the National Trust, Cityparks are bidding for £380,000 to develop Nature Improvement Areas in and around the city.	n/a	Cityparks	Ongoing