

# Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership meeting

21<sup>st</sup> January 2026 at 5pm



<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>
1.	Welcome/Introductions/Apologies	17:00 – 17:05
2.	Minutes and matters arising, species highlights	17:05 – 17:40
3.	Problems/issues that partners would like to discuss – only those sent in advance will be discussed.	17:40 – 18:10
4.	Partner updates – only focus on upcoming events, unusual wildlife sightings and site updates that are relevant for all members	18:10 – 18:30
5.	Lewisham update (inc. Yearly summary)	18:30 – 18:50
6.	AOB	18:50 – 18:55
7.	Next meeting and meeting close	18:55 – 19:00

# ACTIONS

- All to send What3Words locations and basic details of bird/bat/other boxes in their sites to EM/EWD/JK to be added to the Lewisham database - **ongoing**
- Anyone who needs hedgelaying advice or support can reach out to Robert Cole
- All to let Maggie know if you have plant pots to donate or drop off at Chinbrook Allotments
- EWD to follow up with Network Rail regarding Hither Green Station works – **done**
- Emily to send around FIT count methodology – FIT count finished for the year so EM to circulate methodology again next year when it starts

Feel free to share information with the whole partnership (e.g. events, questions) via the [lewishambiodiversitypartnership@googlegroups.com](mailto:lewishambiodiversitypartnership@googlegroups.com) email. Please note, if you reply all to an email your response will go to the **whole group** so please **check the recipients** of your email carefully to avoid sending unintended emails to the group.

**Google group reminder:**

[lewishambiodiversitypartnership@googlegroups.com](mailto:lewishambiodiversitypartnership@googlegroups.com)

## Minutes and matters arising



## Birds & Other sightings of interest



- Wonderful image by Kevin Percival on the “To Move is to Bloom” installation in Manor House Gardens.
- Kestrel in Blackheath
- Tawny owl heard in Grove Park

- **Gorne Wood** Asset for Community Value issues – Anna-Maria Cahalane
- **Tree selection** in London in a changing climate – Caroline Cupitt

Further details here: <https://www.gigl.org.uk/2025/12/18/the-use-of-data-in-tree-selection-for-the-future/>

If there is an issue that you would like to discuss now, please let us know. Just please be aware we might not be able to respond if it requires discussions with colleagues.

Biodiversity Partnership – Problems/issues  
to be raised





Please let the Partnership know of any upcoming events/wildlife sightings which might be of interest.

Please note these are not your updates.

Please makes us aware if you need to leave early so that we come to you first.

	EDUCATION			VOLUNTEERS				EVENTS			
	Events	Adults	Children	Events	Adults	Children	Hours	Events	Adults	Children	Awards
<b>Totals for 2024</b>	111	432	3,285	757	3,697	135	13,306.75	117	4,407	840	16
<b>Totals for 2025</b>	314	808	6,587	829	4,687	493	18243.05	373	6,650	1,066	23
<b>Trend</b>	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑

<b>Nature Conservation Website</b>				
YEAR/SITE	Views	Visits	Posts	Trend
Nature Conservation Lewisham 2024	14,721	8230	19	↓
Nature Conservation Lewisham 2025	13,090	8,145	13	
Rivers and People 2024	3,019	1,491	22	↑
Rivers and People 2025	3,076	1,685	11	

<b>Planning application reviewed/advice given</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>Totals for 2024</b>	182
<b>Totals for 2025</b>	137
<b>Trend</b>	↓

\* London in Bloom – 13  
Green flag community – 7  
+ Green Roots - 3

<b>Surveys</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>Totals for 2024</b>	161
<b>Totals for 2025</b>	192
<b>Trend</b>	↑

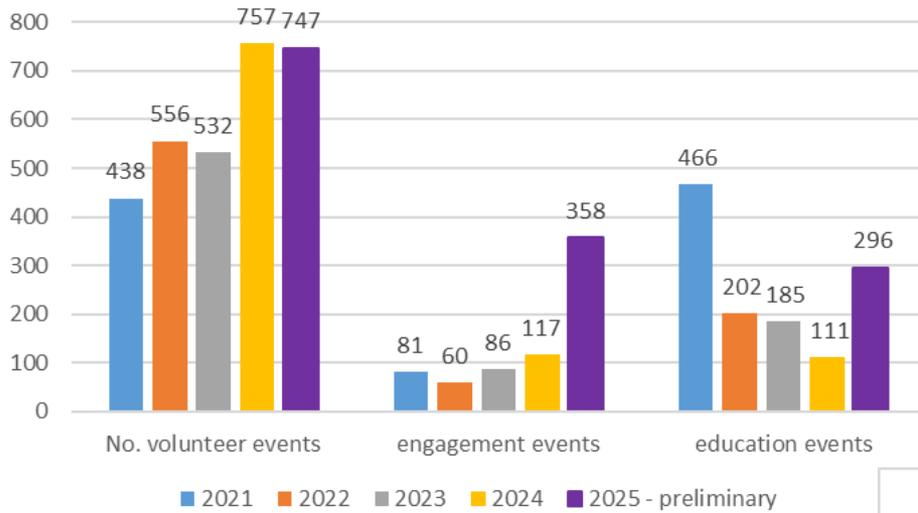
	Hedge (m)	Loggery	Bird Box	Bat box	Bug hotel	Trees	Pond	Living roof (m2)
<b>NC 2024</b>	402	28	6	23	13	3,674	10	0
<b>NC 2025</b>	400	15	16	8	43	259	19	0
<b>Planning 2024</b>	778	14	113	84	21	317	0	2626
<b>Planning 2025</b>	0	0	10	2	0	39	0	1784
<b>Totals 2024</b>	1,180	42	119	107	34	3,991	10	2,626
<b>Totals 2025</b>	400	15	26	10	43	297	19	1784
<b>Trend</b>	↓	↓	↓	↓	↑	↓	↑	↓



# 2024 vs 2025 Totals



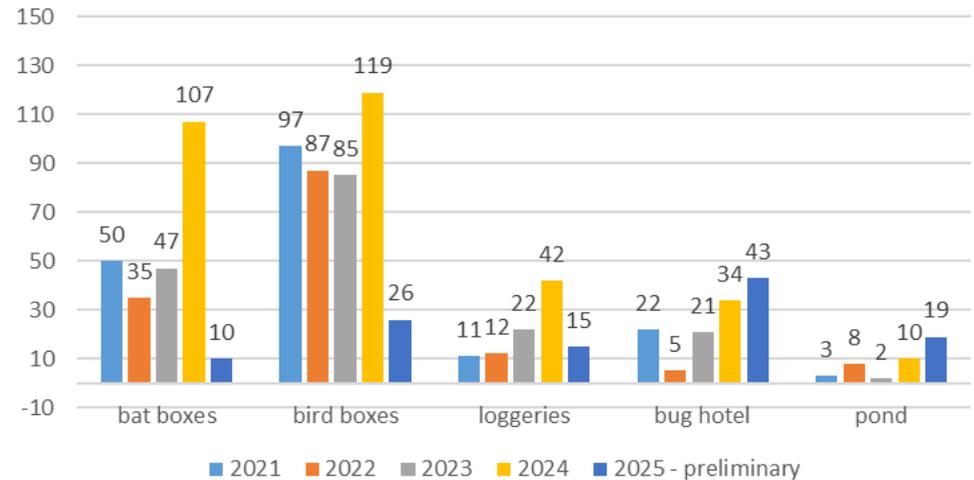
## Events



Kenneth White projects	Number
2021	9
2022	11
2023	7
2024	11
2025	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

Year	Number of events	Number of individuals engaged
2021	985	16,282
2022	818	14,424
2023	803	11,886
2024	985	12,796
2025	1,401	18,545
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,992</b>	<b>71,933</b>

## Biodiversity improvements 2021-25



Totals since 2021

## Nature Conservation (Parks)

- 14 conservation sessions (Nature's Gym and Rivers & People)
  - Great efforts with reed clearance in Folkestone Gardens pond
  - Pathways through Southend Park nature area
  - Improving river access in Manor Park
- Supporting DoE students in the parks
- Delivered a fun nature folklore talk for families at Northbrook Park
- Rivers & People website has had a much needed update!



- The two new Office roles for the Nature Towns and Cities bid were very popular. Interviews taking place and hopefully people in post soon. I have been working on the other paperwork required.
- London in Bloom Success! 3 Gold Awards and Garthorne Road NR also won Best Conservation Site in London, and Chinbrook Allotment Orchard won the Biodiversity Award!
- Green Flag applications for 2026 to be submitted by the end of January.
- New licences for Forest Schools need to be submitted
- And of course, schools and volunteering



## Beckenham Place Park

- I led five winter walk and talks in the park just before Christmas.
- In Christmas week the vols were planting hedgerow species to fill in gaps round the lake hedge, we also topped the hedge earlier in December.
- Woodland work is back in full swing, continuing holly reduction with the volunteers.

- **Sustainable Development Select Committee (SDSC) and Biodiversity Duty reporting**

- Prepared and presented a biodiversity update report to SDSC
- Covering 4+ years since adoption of BAP; good feedback

- **Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)**

- Launch in March on the GLA website:  
<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/environment-and-climate-change/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/local-nature-recovery-strategy>

- **Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-26 → Local Nature Recovery Plan**

- 'BAP with a map'
- New priority species/habitat to include?

**Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)**

Number of SINCs: 69

SINC area: 546.4 ha, 15.5% of borough

Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature:  
238.7 ha, 6.8% of borough

- AOB
- DONM or 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 4pm

AOB and Date of next meeting





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Thank you!

