

Biodiversity Strategy for Eastside: Meeting the requirements of PPS 1 and 9

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National Planning and Environmental Policy

- PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
- PPG 2 Green Belt
- PPG 3 Housing
- PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation
- Government Circular: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation Statutory Obligations and their impact within the Planning System
- PPG 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation
- PPG 25 Development and Flood Risk
- England Biodiversity Strategy
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan
- The Planning Response to Climate Change
- Sustainable Development – a better quality of life

Regional and Local Planning and Environmental Policy

Regional

- RSS 11 – Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands

Local

- The Birmingham Plan
- Birmingham's Nature Conservation Strategy
- Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham and the Black Country
- BCC Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan
- Draft Eastside Design and Movement Framework

PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development

- Encourages protection and enhancement of biodiversity:

“A high level of protection should be given to most valued townscapes and landscapes, wildlife habitats and natural resources.”

“...the conservation and improvement of the natural and built environment brings social and economic benefit for local communities.”

“...the conservation and enhancement of wildlife species and habitats and the promotion of biodiversity...”

PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

- Emphasises the need for up-to-date information on the biological resources of an area
- Development Plan policies and planning decisions should: *“maintain, and enhance, restore or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests”*
- Promotes *“opportunities for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development”*
- Avoid harm and enhance, mitigate or compensate
- Recognises the importance of previously developed land which may contain *“significant biodiversity interests of recognised local importance”* encourages developers to incorporate it into developments

Eastside Biodiversity Audit 2004

- Surveyed habitats, plants, invertebrates, birds & bats
- Found legally protected species: black redstart and 2 bat species
- 19 bird species on IUCN list of Conservation Concern
- Found nationally rare insect species – diverse and abundant insect community vital for ecological health
- Post-industrial sites had most biodiversity while designed and heavily managed sites had least

Eastside Biodiversity Strategy

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Prepared by Sustainable Eastside
by
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The Wildlife Trust
for Birmingham and
the Black Country

Advantage
West Midlands

ebns
East Birmingham North Solihull
Regeneration Zone

Birmingham City Council

Eastside Sustainability
Advisory Group

ENVIRONMENT
AGENCY

BIRMINGHAM
& SOLIHULL

THIS PROJECT IS BEING
PART-FINANCED BY THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
European Regional
Development Fund

Guidance Note

- Aimed at decision-makers and stakeholders
- Currently under consultation – hope to gain SPD status
- Contains Planning Policy relevant to nature conservation
- Contains guiding principles and detailed targets for the regeneration of Eastside

Guiding principles

- Appropriately timed ecological surveys for known Eastside habitats and species
- New developments should score 100 'Green Points' per hectare
- Wildlife-friendly maintenance regimes, management plans and briefs
- Protect areas of semi-mature woodland
- Continuity and total area of brownfield habitats should be maintained – temporary habitat creation plus compensation with biodiversity roofs

Guiding principles

- Each new/renovated building should:
 - make provision for bats and birds (esp. black redstart) – at least 1 bird + 1 bat box
 - make provision for insect species – insect boxes and habitat
- Formal landscaping/planting should include native/wildlife-friendly species and be maintained in a wildlife-friendly way
- Heavily modified water bodies (e.g. River Rea) should be brought up to ‘good ecological potential’