

Biodiversity for All – 2024

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority awarded Huntingdonshire District Council a three-year £1.35 million bid to accelerate the delivery of measurable biodiversity net gain in Huntingdonshire. This will be delivered through five key themes – CPCA Overview, Jobs and Skills, Strategic Open Spaces, Community Driven Delivery and Mapping. Four of these themes have developed into their own work programmes - please see project updates below.

Project Updates: 5 July 2024

Jobs and Skills

The Vision:

To increase local green skills to help tackle the biodiversity crisis and facilitate further green jobs, bringing local stakeholders and residents together to support nature, educate and contribute towards a Net Zero Huntingdonshire. Find out more [here](#).

What has been achieved this week?

- Continued: case study documents are being written up to summarise previous Green Skills projects.
- The next Green Skills project has been announced. This will begin on 10th July at Stukeley Meadows in Huntingdon. Please email biodiversity@huntingdonshire.gov.uk for more information or follow the link to fill out an application form - [Green Recovery Upcoming Courses](#).



Join our next Green Recovery Project at Stukeley Meadows!

Want to help improve your local green space, work on your mental health, and achieve a **City & Guilds Level 1 Award in Practical Horticulture?**

- > Start date: 10th July 2024
- > Gain careers advice and support
- > 10am-3pm Wed - Fri, for 8 weeks, Age 19+
- > Engage with nature and increase your conservation knowledge
- > £50 voucher upon course completion and PPE provided!
- > Improve your confidence, motivation, and well-being

If you are interested in finding out more: drop by Huntingdon Jobcentre on the 11th, 19th, 24th, 27th of June or the 4th of July!

Or call, text, email Eve: T: 07736132497 E: eve.lucas@groundwork.org.uk **Or apply here!**

Strategic Open Spaces

The Vision:

To prioritise key HDC strategic sites across Huntingdonshire for biodiversity development. The aim is to gather evidence, engage with the community to co-design and deliver on projects to boost biodiversity on these sites.

What has been achieved this week?

- Last week, Glendales, have been on site at Priory Park in St. Neots to conduct an eDNA test at the pond. This is to explore if there is presence of Great crested Newts. **This week**, we are awaiting results from this test.
- Great feedback about the innovative about the Biodiversity For All projects at the APSE Energy Event on Tuesday 25th June. This event shared case studies in tackling the climate, change and sustainability agenda. You can read more about this event [here](#).



Community Driven Delivery

The Vision:

To encourage and enable others within Huntingdonshire to increase biodiversity through community engagement and delivery.

What has been achieved this week?

- This week, further site visits were made to Offords Millenium Green and The Pightle in St. Neots for biodiversity audits. Past unfavourable weather conditions with past biodiversity audits mean that the Graduate Ecologists can make several site visits to ensure full biodiversity capture.

Offords Millenium Green:

Read more about the public open space here - [Millennium Green – Offord Cluny & Offord Darcy Parish Council \(offords-pc.gov.uk\)](#)





The Pightle, St.Neots:

Read more about the public open space here - [The Pightle, Eaton Socon \(eatonsoconpightle.org.uk\)](http://eatonsoconpightle.org.uk)

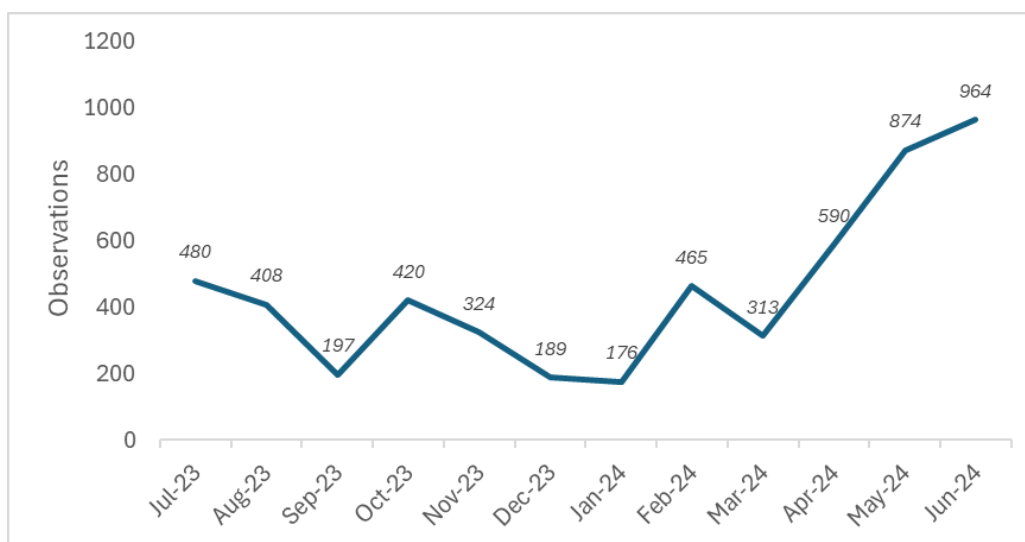
Mapping

The Vision:

To collate data, collecting observations of species on sites. To inspire and educate future generations to raise awareness of biodiversity and the part they play in the ecosystem.

What has been achieved this week:

- iNaturalist statistics – In the past week, observations have increased by **220** to an overall total of **12,909** and identified species have increased by **16**, totalling **2,105**. There are currently **1,036** Huntingdonshire residents signed up to log observations through the iNaturalist app. The graph below shows an overall increase in monthly Huntingdonshire observations with peaks being in Spring and Summer!



- This week, observers found (amongst many!):

Marbled White Butterfly



Common Froghopper



Read about what has been observed across the district this week by following 'Huntingdonshire's Complete Biodiversity' project on the iNaturalist app!

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