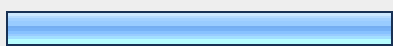



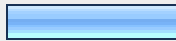



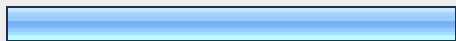
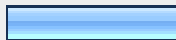
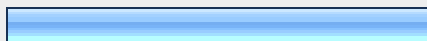
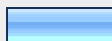
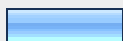


Survey To Inform New Web-based Biodiversity Toolkit for Planning (EW)


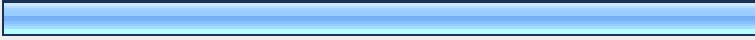


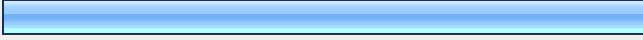
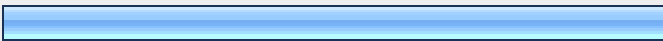
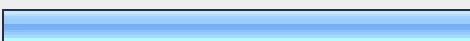

What is the name of your planning authority?		Response Count
		128
answered question		128
skipped question		11

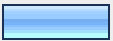
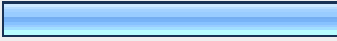
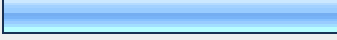


What type of authority do you work for?			Response Percent	Response Count
District Council		41.0%	55	
County Council		11.9%	16	
London Borough Council		9.0%	12	
Metropolitan Borough Council		11.9%	16	
Unitary Authority		18.7%	25	
County Borough Council		1.5%	2	
National Park Authority		3.0%	4	
Regional Authority		0.0%	0	
Other (please specify)		3.0%	4	
answered question			134	
skipped question			5	

How would you characterise the predominant landscape of your authority? (Please tick all that apply)				
			Response Percent	Response Count
Rural Lowland			48.5%	64
Rural Upland			18.2%	24
Urban			45.5%	60
Coastal			11.4%	15
Other (please specify)			12.1%	16
			answered question	132
			skipped question	7


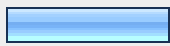
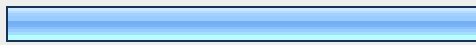
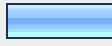


Where do you get the majority of your professional ecological advice to determine planning applications? (Please tick all that apply and indicate which are not applicable)							
	No input	Occasional input	Regular input	Majority of input	N/A	Rating Average	Response Count
In-house ecological staff	4.9% (6)	8.2% (10)	27.0% (33)	52.5% (64)	7.4% (9)	3.37	122
Biodiversity Officer within the Local Biodiversity Partnership	27.0% (20)	23.0% (17)	13.5% (10)	2.7% (2)	33.8% (25)	1.88	74
Natural England	6.7% (7)	45.2% (47)	30.8% (32)	7.7% (8)	9.6% (10)	2.44	104
Countryside Council for Wales	29.2% (21)	2.8% (2)	8.3% (6)	0.0% (0)	59.7% (43)	1.48	72
The local Wildlife Trust	9.8% (10)	49.0% (50)	30.4% (31)	4.9% (5)	5.9% (6)	2.32	102
The RSPB	27.7% (23)	59.0% (49)	7.2% (6)	0.0% (0)	6.0% (5)	1.78	83
Other conservation organisations	10.3% (9)	66.7% (58)	14.9% (13)	0.0% (0)	8.0% (7)	2.05	87
Private consultants through a Service Level Agreement	42.4% (28)	7.6% (5)	0.0% (0)	1.5% (1)	48.5% (32)	1.24	66
Private consultants on an ad hoc basis	29.7% (22)	32.4% (24)	2.7% (2)	0.0% (0)	35.1% (26)	1.58	74
Other	16.0% (8)	14.0% (7)	18.0% (9)	6.0% (3)	46.0% (23)	2.26	50
						answered question	129
						skipped question	10

In which area of forward planning would your authority benefit most from access to online information and assistance? (Please tick all that apply)				
	Not necessary	Would be useful	Would be essential	Response Count
Practical measures to create a strategic spatial vision for biodiversity within the plan area	6.2% (4)	80.0% (52)	13.8% (9)	65
Guidance and practical measures on obtaining baseline data for forward planning	10.4% (7)	55.2% (37)	34.3% (23)	67
Good practice for working with Local Biodiversity Partnerships on forward planning issues	12.3% (8)	76.9% (50)	10.8% (7)	65
Guidance on how to incorporate measures for biodiversity enhancement into plan proposals and allocations	4.3% (3)	71.0% (49)	24.6% (17)	69
Examples of planning objectives and targets for biodiversity	2.9% (2)	79.7% (55)	17.4% (12)	69
Examples of effective planning policies for biodiversity appropriate for various plan documents	5.7% (4)	70.0% (49)	24.3% (17)	70
Tools to assist in SEA and SA where biodiversity is concerned	3.0% (2)	62.7% (42)	34.3% (23)	67
Templates and protocols for monitoring biodiversity in order to report on net losses and gains (e.g. for Annual Monitoring Reports)	6.2% (4)	60.0% (39)	33.8% (22)	65
Templates for supplementary planning guidance that is fit for purpose	7.1% (5)	72.9% (51)	20.0% (14)	70
	answered question			72
	skipped question			67

For which of the following does your authority currently have a planning policy? (Please tick all that apply)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
International site protection		61.8%	47
National site protection		81.6%	62
Local site protection		96.1%	73
Protected species		85.5%	65
Management of landscape features of major importance for wildlife		69.7%	53
To secure ecological mitigation and compensation		71.1%	54
To seek and encourage enhancement measures and a net gain in biodiversity		50.0%	38
Other (please specify)		9.2%	7
		<i>answered question</i>	76
		<i>skipped question</i>	63

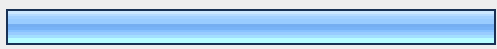
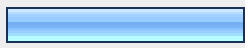
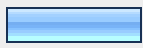

Is your authority considering how climate change will affect biodiversity in the future?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes - in the current development plan		11.3%	8
Yes - in draft for the next plan		36.6%	26
Maybe - but not sure how we could achieve it		36.6%	26
No - but it is proposed for future development plans		9.9%	7
No - not sure if this is relevant		5.6%	4
		<i>answered question</i>	71
		<i>skipped question</i>	68

Do you have a question relating to biodiversity on your current planning application forms (this should be a question in addition to any about trees and TPOs)?				
	Yes	No	Rating Average	Response Count
About designated sites	9.1% (5)	90.9% (50)	1.91	55
About European protected species	7.4% (4)	92.6% (50)	1.93	54
About UK BAP priority habitats	1.8% (1)	98.2% (54)	1.98	55
About UK BAP priority species	1.8% (1)	98.2% (54)	1.98	55
A general question about biodiversity	9.1% (5)	90.9% (50)	1.91	55
answered question				57
skipped question				82

How confident are you in dealing with biodiversity as part of a planning application? (please tick the answer that most closely matches how you feel)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Biodiversity is an area where I do not have a lot of expertise		9.7%	6
I am confident to make a planning recommendation as long as I have input from nature conservation consultees		17.7%	11
I am confident to make a planning recommendation as long as I have input from the authority's ecologist/biodiversity officer		50.0%	31
I leave the biodiversity input and recommendations to the authority's ecologist/biodiversity officer		11.3%	7
I am confident of making my own assessment and recommendation where biodiversity issues are a material consideration		4.8%	3
Other? please comment		6.5%	4
answered question			62
skipped question			77

Which of the following development types do you think are likely to have an effect on biodiversity?							
	Affects habitats	Affects species	Affects both	Dont know	N/A	Rating Average	Response Count
Conversion of agricultural buidlings	5.7% (4)	34.3% (24)	52.9% (37)	4.3% (3)	2.9% (2)	2.57	70
New road developments	4.3% (3)	1.4% (1)	91.4% (64)	0.0% (0)	2.9% (2)	2.90	70
New housing developments	4.2% (3)	1.4% (1)	91.5% (65)	1.4% (1)	1.4% (1)	2.91	71
New industrial developments	4.3% (3)	1.4% (1)	85.7% (60)	7.1% (5)	1.4% (1)	2.97	70
Applications for listed building or conservation area consent	5.7% (4)	24.3% (17)	41.4% (29)	14.3% (10)	14.3% (10)	2.75	70
New sport and leisure facilities	7.1% (5)	1.4% (1)	85.7% (60)	4.3% (3)	1.4% (1)	2.88	70
New overhead power lines	8.6% (6)	14.3% (10)	57.1% (40)	12.9% (9)	7.1% (5)	2.80	70
New coastal defences	2.9% (2)	0.0% (0)	75.4% (52)	2.9% (2)	18.8% (13)	2.96	69
Windfarm/renewable energy developments	4.3% (3)	7.1% (5)	78.6% (55)	5.7% (4)	4.3% (3)	2.90	70
Applications for loft conversions and roof extensions etc	7.1% (5)	34.3% (24)	38.6% (27)	10.0% (7)	10.0% (7)	2.57	70
Minerals applications	7.2% (5)	1.4% (1)	79.7% (55)	7.2% (5)	4.3% (3)	2.91	69
Waste disposal applications	5.7% (4)	1.4% (1)	80.0% (56)	10.0% (7)	2.9% (2)	2.97	70
	answered question						71
	skipped question						68



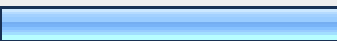



Approximately how many applications each year does your authority receive where the biodiversity value of the following are a material consideration:						
	Dont know	Less than 10	10 to 50	More than 50	Rating Average	Response Count
Conversion of agricultural buildings	23.3% (14)	40.0% (24)	25.0% (15)	11.7% (7)	2.25	60
Rivers, streams, ditches and canals	23.3% (14)	50.0% (30)	21.7% (13)	5.0% (3)	2.08	60
Deciduous Woodland	27.9% (17)	55.7% (34)	14.8% (9)	1.6% (1)	1.90	61
Conifer Woodland	31.6% (18)	63.2% (36)	3.5% (2)	1.8% (1)	1.75	57
Flower-rich meadows	35.6% (21)	59.3% (35)	3.4% (2)	1.7% (1)	1.71	59
Heathland	41.4% (24)	55.2% (32)	1.7% (1)	1.7% (1)	1.64	58
Blanket bog	45.5% (25)	52.7% (29)	0.0% (0)	1.8% (1)	1.58	55
Ponds and lakes	27.9% (17)	47.5% (29)	23.0% (14)	1.6% (1)	1.98	61
Disused mineral workings	44.1% (26)	49.2% (29)	5.1% (3)	1.7% (1)	1.64	59
Caves, disused mines and tunnels	44.8% (26)	50.0% (29)	3.4% (2)	1.7% (1)	1.62	58
Ancient and veteran trees	33.9% (20)	52.5% (31)	11.9% (7)	1.7% (1)	1.81	59
Moorland	44.6% (25)	53.6% (30)	0.0% (0)	1.8% (1)	1.59	56
Upland grassland	49.1% (28)	45.6% (26)	3.5% (2)	1.8% (1)	1.58	57
Chalk grassland	46.4% (26)	51.8% (29)	0.0% (0)	1.8% (1)	1.57	56
Boundary features (hedges and walls)	26.2% (16)	16.4% (10)	41.0% (25)	16.4% (10)	2.48	61
Wetland (reedbeds, fens, water meadows)	35.0% (21)	53.3% (32)	10.0% (6)	1.7% (1)	1.78	60
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	45.8% (27)	45.8% (27)	6.8% (4)	1.7% (1)	1.64	59
Other coastal habitats	48.2% (27)	42.9% (24)	5.4% (3)	3.6% (2)	1.64	56
	answered question					61
	skipped question					78

At what stage do you most often request basic ecological surveys?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Prior to the submission of the planning application (so that information is submitted with the application)		52.4%	33
After the application has been submitted, but before determination		25.4%	16
Often following consultation responses from consultees		14.3%	9
We often request further ecological information (including surveys) through a planning condition once consent has been granted		7.9%	5
answered question			63
skipped question			76

In what situations does your authority use planning conditions for biodiversity purposes							
	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Regularly	Always	Rating Average	Response Count
To obtain ecological surveys on important species and habitats prior to the start of development	6.8% (4)	22.0% (13)	40.7% (24)	27.1% (16)	3.4% (2)	2.98	59
To impose seasonal constraints on aspects of the development (e.g. on when scrub/trees/hedgerows can be removed - in order to protect nesting birds)	8.6% (5)	8.6% (5)	43.1% (25)	34.5% (20)	5.2% (3)	3.19	58
To secure biodiversity enhancement measures	1.7% (1)	17.2% (10)	48.3% (28)	29.3% (17)	3.4% (2)	3.16	58
To avoid harm or damage to existing biodiversity features	1.7% (1)	6.9% (4)	43.1% (25)	39.7% (23)	8.6% (5)	3.47	58
To mitigate or reduce impacts on biodiversity	0.0% (0)	8.6% (5)	50.0% (29)	32.8% (19)	8.6% (5)	3.41	58
To compensate for losses or impacts that cannot be mitigated or avoided	1.7% (1)	31.0% (18)	39.7% (23)	20.7% (12)	6.9% (4)	3.00	58
To prevent the start of development until a European protected species	44.6% (25)	14.3% (8)	25.0% (14)	8.9% (5)	7.1% (4)	2.20	56

Survey To Inform New Web-based Biodiversity Toolkit for Planning (EW)

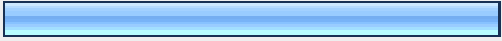
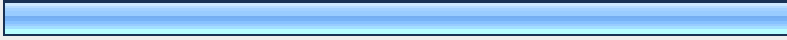





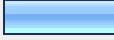

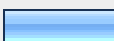

licence has been obtained (where one is required)							
To secure long term management of biodiversity features	6.9% (4)	27.6% (16)	41.4% (24)	20.7% (12)	3.4% (2)	2.86	58
Other	50.0% (5)	20.0% (2)	20.0% (2)	10.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	1.90	10
	answered question						59
	skipped question						80

How does your authority ensure that its planning decisions are professionally qualified, competent and lawful in relation to biodiversity? (Please tick all that apply)			Response Percent	Response Count
We rely upon input from the Council's ecologist/biodiversity officer			81.0%	51
We rely upon responses from the statutory consultees			79.4%	50
We rely upon response from the non-statutory consultees			36.5%	23
We rely upon ecological advice provided by consultants under a service level agreement			4.8%	3
There are very few applications where we need ecological advice, and planning officers are capable of dealing with these on a case by case basis			1.6%	1
Other (please specify)			3.2%	2
	answered question			63
	skipped question			76

On average, how often does your authority take planning enforcement action on biodiversity issues, and who would you involve? (Please tick all that apply)							
	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Once or twice per year	Never	Rating Average	Response Count
Planning enforcement staff	1.9% (1)	1.9% (1)	5.7% (3)	62.3% (33)	28.3% (15)	4.13	53
The authority's ecologist	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	8.9% (4)	62.2% (28)	28.9% (13)	4.20	45
The police	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	38.5% (15)	61.5% (24)	4.62	39
Natural England	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	7.0% (3)	34.9% (15)	58.1% (25)	4.51	43
Countryside Council for Wales	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	11.4% (4)	88.6% (31)	4.89	35
The local Wildlife Trust	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	4.9% (2)	34.1% (14)	61.0% (25)	4.56	41
The RSPB	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	20.5% (8)	79.5% (31)	4.79	39
The Bat Conservation Trust	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	5.4% (2)	16.2% (6)	78.4% (29)	4.73	37
Other organisations	0.0% (0)	3.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	25.0% (8)	71.9% (23)	4.66	32
	answered question						54
	skipped question						85

How often in the last year has your authority refused planning permission because of likely unacceptable impacts on the following?					
	None	Less than 10	More than 10	Rating Average	Response Count
Statutorily designated sites	65.3% (32)	32.7% (16)	2.0% (1)	1.37	49
Locally designated sites	45.1% (23)	49.0% (25)	5.9% (3)	1.61	51
European protected species	55.3% (26)	42.6% (20)	2.1% (1)	1.47	47
Other protected species	62.5% (30)	35.4% (17)	2.1% (1)	1.40	48
UK BAP priority habitats	82.6% (38)	15.2% (7)	2.2% (1)	1.20	46
UK BAP priority species	91.3% (42)	6.5% (3)	2.2% (1)	1.11	46
Other biodiversity features	67.4% (29)	32.6% (14)	0.0% (0)	1.33	43
	answered question				51
	skipped question				88

What are the main problems encountered when determining an application where biodiversity is a material consideration? (Please tick all that apply)						
	Never a problem	Rarely a problem	Often a problem	Regularly a problem	Rating Average	Response Count
Poor understanding by the applicant as to what is required of them on biodiversity issues	0.0% (0)	5.6% (3)	57.4% (31)	37.0% (20)	3.31	54
Uncertainty by planning officers as to what is relevant and what should be considered with the application	3.8% (2)	49.1% (26)	35.8% (19)	11.3% (6)	2.55	53
Inadequate information on biodiversity submitted with the application	0.0% (0)	1.8% (1)	63.6% (35)	34.5% (19)	3.33	55
Poor assessment by applicant of likely impacts on biodiversity present	0.0% (0)	9.3% (5)	70.4% (38)	20.4% (11)	3.11	54
Inadequate measures for impact mitigation and compensation	0.0% (0)	15.1% (8)	67.9% (36)	17.0% (9)	3.02	53
Inadequate measures for the enhancement of biodiversity resources and features	0.0% (0)	21.6% (11)	64.7% (33)	13.7% (7)	2.92	51
Reluctance on the part of the applicant to deal with key biodiversity issues prior to receiving planning permission	0.0% (0)	22.2% (12)	55.6% (30)	22.2% (12)	3.00	54
Poor implementation of biodiversity measures after planning permission has been granted	0.0% (0)	35.8% (19)	58.5% (31)	5.7% (3)	2.70	53
Potential delay in determination of an application while waiting for further information to be submitted	1.8% (1)	12.7% (7)	47.3% (26)	38.2% (21)	3.22	55
	<i>answered question</i>					55
	<i>skipped question</i>					84

Which of the following information do you have available to you on GIS?			Response Percent	Response Count
International designations			54.0%	34
National designations			84.1%	53
Local designations			93.7%	59
European protected species			23.8%	15
Other protected species			17.5%	11
UK BAP priority habitats			12.7%	8
UK BAP priority species			9.5%	6
Full Phase I habitat survey for the authority's area			12.7%	8
Full National Vegetation Classification survey of key sites			6.4%	4
Other survey data (for instance for bats, birds, butterflies, amphibians and reptiles)			12.7%	8
For other surveys - please give details			19.1%	12
		answered question		63
		skipped question		76


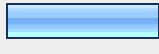
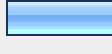

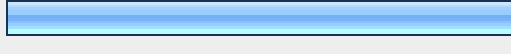

How useful would the following tools be to you if they were available via a user-friendly web site accessible on your PC ?					
	Not useful	Might be useful	Would be very useful	Rating Average	Response Count
Desk top access to wildlife legislation that is relevant to various types of planning case work	1.5% (1)	45.5% (30)	53.0% (35)	2.52	66
Desk top access to biodiversity planning guidance specific to various applications types	0.0% (0)	29.7% (19)	70.3% (45)	2.70	64
Desk top access to help identify when biodiversity is likely to be encountered by different types of development	0.0% (0)	39.7% (25)	60.3% (38)	2.60	63
Case studies and good practice showing how to achieve appropriate mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures in a wide variety of situations	1.6% (1)	45.2% (28)	53.2% (33)	2.52	62
Desk top access to tools that will help with key stages and tasks in development plan preparation	6.7% (4)	45.0% (27)	48.3% (29)	2.42	60
Protocols and aides memoire explaining situations where statutory procedures must be followed prior to determination of an application	3.2% (2)	37.1% (23)	59.7% (37)	2.56	62
Checklists to ensure that applications are valid and that sufficient biodiversity information has been submitted to enable determination of the application	3.2% (2)	33.9% (21)	62.9% (39)	2.60	62
Online references and links to sources of expert advice	7.9% (5)	55.6% (35)	36.5% (23)	2.29	63
Online guidance to identify when wildlife surveys are required	0.0% (0)	46.0% (29)	54.0% (34)	2.54	63
Seasonal calendars showing sensitive times of year for particular species and/or habitats	8.2% (5)	37.7% (23)	54.1% (33)	2.46	61
Model planning conditions for biodiversity	3.1% (2)	28.1% (18)	68.8% (44)	2.66	64
Useful web links to conservation organisations	11.5% (7)	65.6% (40)	23.0% (14)	2.11	61
Model documents (such as					

Survey To Inform New Web-based Biodiversity Toolkit for Planning (EW)

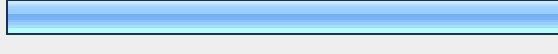
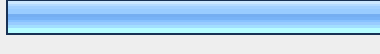
biodiversity clauses for planning obligations)	1.6% (1)	51.6% (33)	46.9% (30)	2.45	64
Material that can help with pre-application discussions and advice	1.6% (1)	41.3% (26)	57.1% (36)	2.56	63
Templates for various types of supplementary planning guidance for biodiversity	9.7% (6)	45.2% (28)	45.2% (28)	2.35	62
				<i>answered question</i>	68
				<i>skipped question</i>	71

Do you have any other suggestions for the types of tools that you would find most useful?		
		Response Count
		8
	<i>answered question</i>	8
	<i>skipped question</i>	131

Would you be interested in attending a workshop to help identify the scope and content for the biodiversity toolkit?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		46.3%	31
No		53.7%	36
	<i>answered question</i>		67
	<i>skipped question</i>		72

Do you have a preference for which organisation hosts the Web-based Biodiversity Toolkit (e.g. responsible for its update and management)?			Response Percent	Response Count
Association of Local Government Ecologists			6.6%	4
The Planning Portal (in England and Wales)			16.4%	10
The RTPI			11.5%	7
One of the statutory nature conservation organisations			4.9%	3
Where it is hosted is not important as long as it is easy to use, accurate and up to date			54.1%	33
Other (please specify)			6.6%	4
			answered question	61
			skipped question	78

Would your authority be prepared to pay an annual subscription towards update and maintenance of the proposed biodiversity toolkit - especially if this meant all staff in the department then had access? (Please comment below)		Response Count
		44
		answered question
		44
		skipped question
		95

Would you like to receive a copy of the results from this survey?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			59.7%	40
No			40.3%	27
			answered question	67
			skipped question	72

Would you mind providing your name, position in the authority and a contact telephone number?		Response Count
		51
	<i>answered question</i>	51
	<i>skipped question</i>	88