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SUMMARY

Biodiversity simply means the variety of life around us from the tiniest ant to the huge unruly ocean. It encompasses all wildlife, both common and rare. Biodiversity is vital for our quality of life, from the simple pleasure of bird song to life-saving cancer drugs. It is a life-support system which provides for all our needs, whether practical or spiritual and one that must be safeguarded, not only now but for future generations.

In 1992 the largest ever gathering of world leaders discussed environmental concerns during the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro. An important outcome of the summit was the Convention on Biological Diversity which was signed by over 150 countries and ratified in the UK in June 1994. The Convention sets out to conserve global biological diversity and ensure the sustainable use of its components. The UK government published *Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan* in 1994, which recommended setting up a UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Steering Group. The Steering Group published a report in 1995 that identified Country groups and Local BAPs as mechanisms for implementing the UK BAP. In accordance with the principles of Local Agenda 21, also an outcome of the Rio Summit, Local BAPs are a means for delivering effective on the ground action at a local level.

Gwynedd's Biodiversity Action Plan - Natur Gwynedd - is a blueprint for the conservation of Gwynedd's wildlife. This plan covers the area within Gwynedd county, outside of the Snowdonia National Park (the existing Snowdonia Biodiversity Action Plan covers this area). It aims to safeguard the habitats and species we have and to make improvements where possible.

Within the BAP many of Gwynedd's notable or rare species and habitats have been identified, with an individual action plan written for each one. The species and habitat action plans aim to understand, improve and safeguard the current status of that habitat or species, with actions and targets on how this can be achieved.

The plan has been initiated by creating partnerships with non-governmental organisations, statutory bodies, neighbouring local authorities, local groups, agricultural unions, tourism and local businesses - anyone with an interest in Gwynedd's biodiversity! This partnership wrote the species and habitat action plans, and also signed up to their implementation.

Each habitat and species has one or more lead partner who have agreed to co-ordinate action with other key partners to achieve targets. Annual monitoring and review will be co-ordinated by the lead partners, and periodic reports will be produced.

Natur Gwynedd aims to be a living and workable document, with the intention of adding further action plans and editing existing plans. Additional background information found within the appendices includes a list of statutory sites of importance for wildlife in Gwynedd, plus brief outlines of relevant wildlife legislation, planning policy and guidance.

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

1 BIODIVERSITY: THE VARIETY OF LIFE

1.1 Introduction

Gwynedd^a has a wealth of wildlife and a diversity of habitats. The beautiful coast of Pen Llŷn, with its soft cliffs and sandy beaches, is characterised by narrow lanes and distinctive cloddiau^b. In stark contrast are the windswept uplands and spectacular mountains of Snowdonia, which lead us dramatically down into green valleys and remnant ancient woodlands.

Our marine life is a rich variety of animals, including soft corals, sea anemones, fish, octopus and crabs, which populate the reefs and seabed around our coast. Gwynedd's coastal strip and abandoned slate quarries provide habitats for the chough, the rarest species of crow breeding in Britain. Approximately half of the Welsh chough population breeds in Gwynedd (including the Snowdonia National Park). Pen Llŷn, where mink numbers are still thought to be relatively low, is also an important area for the water vole. Gwynedd also has nine species of bat, including the critically endangered lesser horseshoe bat, which has disappeared from most of its northern range in Europe.

It is no wonder that tourists flock to the area in their thousands during the year, and spill out into the countryside to marvel at our wildlife and spectacular landscape, or just to 'get away from it all'.

Our breathtaking landscapes and rich variety of wildlife are by no means secure however. Across Wales, and around the world, wildlife is being threatened by modern lifestyles. Threats include the dumping of waste on fragile habitats; new developments such as roads, houses, and shops for our ever-increasing population; changes within farming; and perhaps a lack of respect for something we all seem to take for granted.

In order to allow our children to inherit and enjoy Gwynedd's most prized asset we all have to take some responsibility for the welfare of our biodiversity, and play a small part in its conservation. Our two main industries in Gwynedd, namely agriculture and tourism, are inter-linked with our environment. It is essential that we all work together to promote a healthy local economy while at the same time protecting the wealth of spectacular local wildlife. Natur Gwynedd (Gwynedd's Biodiversity Action Plan) aims to provide a means of halting the decline in our biodiversity through the actions and efforts of the people who live and work here.

1.2 What is biodiversity?

'Biodiversity' is an amalgamation of the two words biological and diversity. It means the variety of all the organisms that inhabit the Earth and how they interact to enable it to sustain life. This includes the smallest spider to the largest of ancient oak trees, from a small colourfully-planted window box to the deep sea bed. Biodiversity includes genetic variation within individual species, the variety of species on earth, and also the diversity of habitats in which species are found.

^a Within this document the term "Gwynedd" refers to areas outside the Snowdonia National Park area, except where specified otherwise (see Map 1).

^b A type of boundary characteristic of Pen Llŷn, cloddiau are raised earth banks, usually stone faced, with possibly a hedge planted on top.

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1.3 Importance of biodiversity

'Biodiversity is the key to the maintenance of the world as we know it'^c. Box 1 below illustrates many of the benefits of biodiversity.

Box 1: Examples of the Benefits of Biodiversity

- *Provision of natural services* - purification of air and water, flood defence, erosion prevention, water filtration, pollination of crops, pollution monitoring.
- *Source of food and other products* - including cereal crops domesticated from wild grasses which can still provide valuable genetic material today; "wild foods" such as fruits, nuts, mushrooms and fish; medicinal products including the potential for as yet undiscovered cures; timber.
- *Cultural associations* - old traditions such as wearing daffodils on St. David's Day, the presence of nature in the magical tales of the Mabinogion, and also in the Bible, references to nature within local place-names.
- *Promotion of healthier lifestyles* - among those who bird-watch, sea-watch, or simply enjoy walking within the local environment.
- *Education* - biodiversity is a highly effective educational tool, useful for teaching not only scientific concepts but mathematical, geographical and artistic skills to name but a few. By studying the environment and wildlife we learn basic skills from nature which help us throughout our lives. We are also inspired by it.
- *Spirituality* - We get a "feel good factor" from seeing, feeling and sensing our environment. It is said that daily contact with natural vegetation can make us healthier and happier.
- *Sustainability* - To survive. We all have a moral duty and responsibility to introduce our children to an environment which is as varied as the one we have today.
- *Economic well-being* - fishing and leisure activities depend upon high quality rivers, lakes and seas, tourists are attracted to landscapes rich in habitats and species, and to areas known for specific rarities e.g. red kites in Powys Kite Country.

It is obvious that biodiversity not only enriches our lives, but is essential to our sustainability. Human society's interaction with biodiversity shows whether our economic and social development is sustainable¹. In fact biodiversity is widely recognised as an indicator of sustainable development. The Welsh Assembly Government is legally committed to promoting sustainable development in everything that it does², and its vision of a sustainable Wales includes "the environment being cherished and protected so that it remains healthy and biologically diverse, and can continue to support us all"³.

Box 2: Welsh Assembly Government commitments

As part of its Sustainable Development Scheme the Welsh Assembly Government is committed to: "respecting environmental limits, so that resources are not irrecoverably depleted or the environment irreversibly damaged: this implies, for instance, contributing to protection of the planet's climate; **protecting and enhancing biodiversity**; minimising harmful emissions; promoting sustainable use of natural resources"³.

^c E.O. Wilson: inspiration behind the concept of biodiversity.

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Biodiversity contributes to the health of our local economy. The Welsh environment, its high quality defined by landscape and its component habitats and species, is of huge economic significance. Recent research suggests that over £6 billion of annual business turnover in Wales can be directly attributed to the management and use of the Welsh environment. Management of the environment and its sustainable use has been found to contribute to around £1.8 billion in salaries in Wales and account for 1 in 6 jobs⁴. The richness of Gwynedd's biodiversity is responsible for attracting millions of visitors every year, and this contributes extensively to our local economy.

It is in our interests to conserve and enhance Gwynedd's biodiversity. This should also contribute to securing a sustainable economic future for the county.

1.4 Loss of biodiversity

At present the UK's biodiversity is declining. We are decimating species numbers on a scale never seen before. The UK has already lost over 100 species in the last hundred years, including 7% of our dragonflies, 5% of our butterflies, and 2% of our fish and mammals, with many more on the brink of extinction. A number of once common species and habitats have also declined. The predictions for the future are even more frightening; 50% of our global biodiversity might be extinct in the next 20 years.

Biodiversity is a complex web of interactions, and loss of one species or habitat can have unforeseen consequences for a whole chain of others. Appendix 5 illustrates the relationship between many of Gwynedd's species and habitats.

These processes can be halted and even reversed however. In Wales the otter and red kite have recovered from the brink of extinction, through a co-ordinated partnership approach to biodiversity conservation and enhancement.

2. THE BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN PROCESS

2.1 How it all began - The Rio "Earth Summit"

In June 1992 there was a groundbreaking meeting of world leaders in Rio de Janeiro. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the "Earth Summit") was the largest ever gathering of world leaders, with over 150 Heads of State or Governments attending. There were a number of important outcomes of the "Earth Summit", including the Rio Declaration; a Statement of Principles which addressed the need to balance the protection of our environment with the need for sustainable development. Other major agreements included Agenda 21, The Convention on Climate Change and the Biodiversity Convention. (See figure 1)

In response to the Biodiversity Convention, which required those signing up "to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, or to adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes..."⁵ a group of voluntary conservation organisations produced a consultation document, "Biodiversity Challenge", in 1994⁶. This set out "an agenda for conservation action in the UK". Later the same year the UK Government published: Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan⁷ (UK BAP). (see figure 1)

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2.2 The UK Biodiversity Action Plan

Besides setting out the many values of biodiversity (see section 1.3), the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) identified ways in which society can and should work with nature, with biodiversity considerations "integrated into all sectors of economic and social activity; as an important component of sustainable development and as a principle measure of its success"⁸. This document was followed by a number of other publications^d which set out how the UK BAP was to be implemented⁹.

Box 3: Overall goal of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan

"To conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and to contribute to the conservation of global biodiversity through all appropriate mechanisms".

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) Steering Group reports introduced the concept of Action Plans for particular species and habitats identified as being of highest priority for conservation. These Species and Habitat Action Plans (SAPs and HAPs) aim to achieve specific targets for maintaining and restoring species and habitats, and are delivered through a partnership approach.

In 2001 the "Millennium Biodiversity Report (MBR)" was published looking at progress over the first five years of the UK BAP¹. It identified a number of achievements, including drawing up of 391 Species Action Plans (SAPs) and 45 Habitat Action Plans (HAPs), with 54% of these showing progress towards their targets. It also reported on the incorporation of the Biodiversity Convention into domestic law, through the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

2.3 Implementing the UK Biodiversity Action Plan in Wales

The Wales Biodiversity Partnership (formerly Wales Biodiversity Group) has provided overall leadership for implementation of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) in Wales. (See figure 1) This group is made up of representatives of a wide variety of organisations, including voluntary conservation groups (e.g. National Trust), statutory agencies (e.g. Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency), the Welsh Assembly Government and the farming unions. Its role is "to promote, monitor and advise the National Assembly for Wales on action to maintain and enhance biodiversity in Wales"¹⁰.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 gave the Welsh Assembly Government a new overarching duty in relation to biodiversity conservation. Under section 74 of the Act, duties were placed on the National Assembly "to have regard to the purpose of biodiversity conservation in exercising its functions; and to take steps, and promote the taking of steps by others, to further the conservation of habitats and "living organisms" (species) that are of principal importance for biodiversity conservation"¹¹. A list of "Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for Conservation of Biological Diversity" in Wales was published by the National Assembly in 2003¹².

^d produced by the UK BAP Steering Group and later by its successor, the UK Biodiversity Group, now expanded into the UK Biodiversity Partnership

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2.4 Local action

"Biodiversity is ultimately lost or conserved at the local level. Government policies create the incentives that facilitate or constrain local action" (Biodiversity - The UK Action Plan¹³).

In Wales, as in Scotland and England, Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) are seen as an effective means of translating the national targets set out within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) process into on the ground action, as recommended in the UK Biodiversity Steering Group Report¹⁴. (See figure 1) This report also saw LBAPs as a crucial part of the Local Agenda 21 process. Box 4 below outlines the functions of LBAPs, which are produced by local partnerships made up of public, voluntary and private sector organizations. There are twenty four partnerships in Wales covering each local planning authority area, including Gwynedd.

Box 4: Functions of Local Biodiversity Action Plans¹⁵

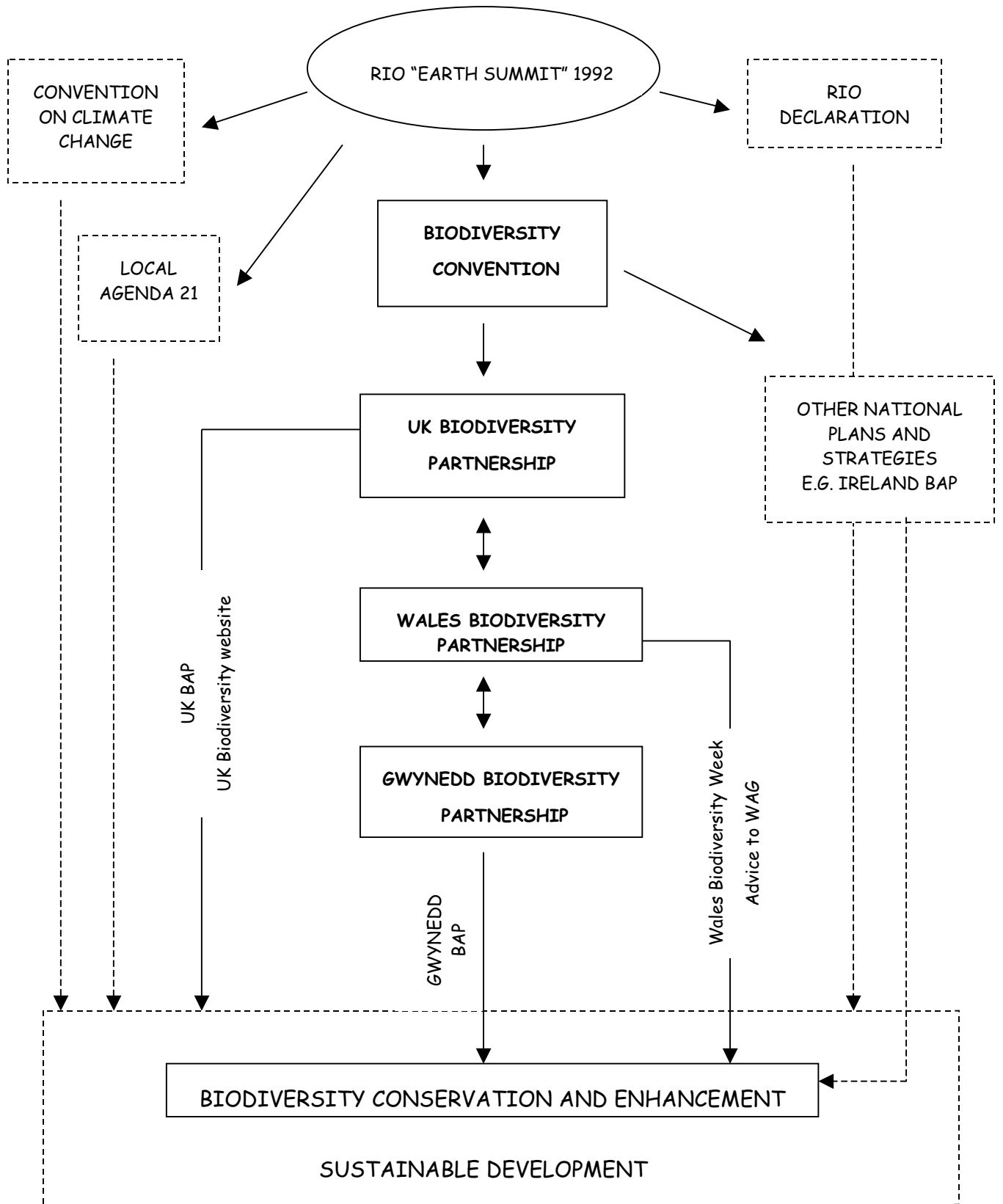
- To ensure that national targets for species and habitats, as specified in the UK action plans, are translated into effective action at the local level.
- To identify targets for species and habitats appropriate to the local area, reflecting the values of people locally.
- To develop effective local partnerships to ensure that programmes for biodiversity conservation are maintained in the long term.
- To raise awareness of the need for biodiversity conservation in the local context.
- To ensure that opportunities for conservation and enhancement of the whole biodiversity resource are fully considered.
- To provide a basis for monitoring progress in biodiversity conservation, at both a local and national level.

The importance of Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) in delivering biodiversity action in Wales is not only widely recognised but enshrined in policy. In 2001 the Welsh Assembly Government committed itself to enhancing biodiversity by supporting the development of local action plans¹⁶, and a new National Assembly for Wales Performance Indicator was developed for 2002 to 2003¹⁷, which requires LBAPs to be in place for all local authority areas. In 2002 Planning Policy Wales¹⁸ encouraged local authorities to adopt LBAPs as supplementary planning guidance. The National Assembly for Wales Environment, Planning and Transport (EPT) Committee chose to review local biodiversity action during 2002-3. Among the recommendations made within the EPT Review (and unanimously accepted by the EPT Committee¹⁹) was the following:

"That the Welsh Assembly Government considers means of strengthening local government commitment to local biodiversity action, and presses all Local Authorities in Wales to adopt Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) as supplementary planning guidance, in line with planning policy guidance, and use them to underpin Community Strategies"²⁰.

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Figure 1 - The worldwide process and Natur Gwynedd



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3. DEVELOPING NATUR GWYNEDD^e

3.1 Partnership building

An effective partnership is crucial to the success of any Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP), within the initial developmental stages and throughout the ongoing process of implementation. Ideally partnerships are broad-based and include all those who have an interest in, or an impact on, land use within the LBAP area. They should include voluntary conservation organisations (e.g. RSPB Cymru); statutory agencies (e.g. Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales); local conservation groups (e.g. wildlife trusts); industry and commercial organisations; landowners and managers (e.g. farmers, water companies); schools, colleges and other educational bodies, local species recorders and other interested individuals.

In Gwynedd the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) process began by partnership building, with the aim of ensuring that partners were committed from the start. Two public Biodiversity Seminars were organised, in 1999 and 2000, to stimulate local interest in a Gwynedd BAP, to discuss the process, and to form a list of rare/notable species and habitats for the county. As a result of the Seminars a number of working groups on habitats, species and community sectors were established. An overall Steering Group for the Gwynedd BAP (now known as Natur Gwynedd) was also set up^f. (See appendix 2 for details of current membership.)

Box 5: Natur Gwynedd's area

Gwynedd county covers an area of 254,000 hectares, however of this 174,200 hectares is contained within the Snowdonia National Park, and this area is covered by the Snowdonia Biodiversity Action Plan^g. Natur Gwynedd is concerned with the remaining 79,800 hectares. Roughly speaking this covers an area from the tip of Pen Llŷn through to Llanberis, and almost up to Llanfairfechan. It also includes smaller areas within Meirionnydd such as Tywyn, Abermaw, Corris, east of Bala, and Blaenau Ffestiniog. Map 1 illustrates these areas.

In addition the Natur Gwynedd area extends out to sea to cover a range of marine species and habitats, and here no definitive boundary has been set.

The Gwynedd and Snowdonia BAPs must complement each other if they are to be truly successful in safeguarding local biodiversity. A close working relationship between the two partnerships is therefore essential, sharing resources and working together on projects where possible.

3.2 The process

The Biodiversity Action Planning (BAP) process, whether national or local, can be simplified into five key steps (see figure 2). It is not a linear process, and implementation, monitoring and updating of the BAP are all ongoing.

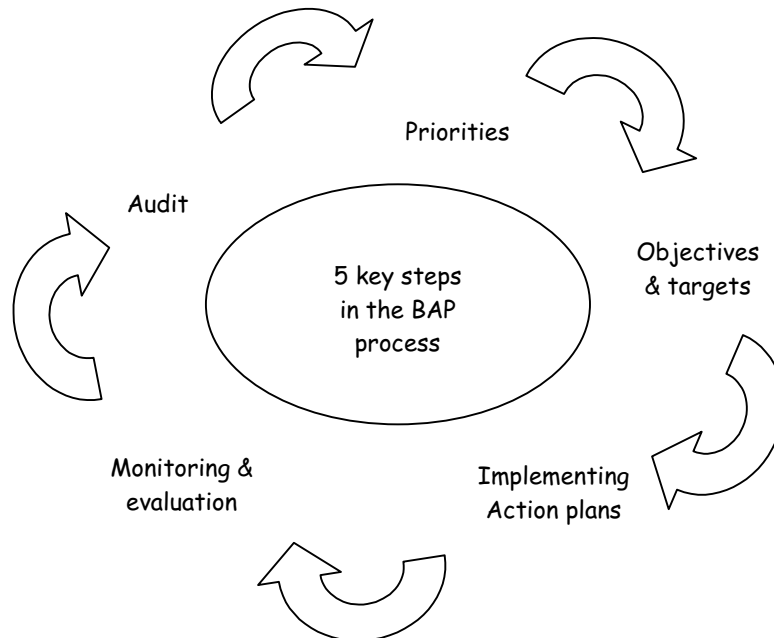
^e Further details of the process are given in appendix 1.

^f The original steering group included one representative from each Working Group, plus a representative from Conwy County Borough Council, Snowdonia National Park Authority, Environment Agency Wales, Countryside Council for Wales, North Wales Wildlife Trust, and Gwynedd Council. See appendix 3.

^g Available online at <http://www.eryri-npa.co.uk>

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Figure 2: Five key steps in the Biodiversity Action Plan process



3.2.1 Biodiversity audit

It is logical to start with a biodiversity audit, which enables the biodiversity resource within the BAP area to be identified. During 1999 a desk assessment of the habitats in Gwynedd, outside the Snowdonia National Park, was conducted in co-operation with the North Wales Wildlife Trust. A number of potential Wildlife Sites in Gwynedd were identified through this process and these will be acknowledged in the Unitary Development Plan's policies. During 2000 - 2001 a preliminary Species Audit was also carried out.

The data gathered during these preliminary biodiversity audits can, at best, only be considered as baseline information on which to determine priorities for action. For all habitats and species there is a need to obtain more data on which to base management decisions. However a lack of data should not prevent actions to safeguard biodiversity taking place. Both action and information gathering are parallel strands of the biodiversity process.

3.2.2 Determining priorities

In determining priorities for local biodiversity action, consideration must be given to meeting both national and local priorities. The decisions regarding which habitats and species to include within the consultation draft of *Natur Gwynedd*^h were taken by the various working groups and the steering group, with the aim of protecting not only nationally and globally threatened / important habitats and species, but also those of local significance.

In terms of national priorities, about 4500 species are listed on the UK Species of Conservation Concern (SoCC) listⁱ. Two criteria^j have been applied to this list to select 391 species in need of targeted UK action plans ("UK priority species"), these being:

^h Published online November 2002, at <http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk>

ⁱ The UK Species of Conservation Concern list is available from the UK Biodiversity Group website at <http://www.ukbap.org.uk>.

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- Species which are globally threatened
- Species which are rapidly declining in the UK, i.e. by more than 50% in the last 25 years

A list of UK priority species occurring in Gwynedd is included as Appendix 8.

Habitats are treated in a similar way. The UK Biodiversity Steering Group reports identify 39 key habitats of which 24 have action plans prepared. A list is also provided of 32 broad habitat types with accompanying statements. This classification has since been revised to produce 45 priority habitats and 27 broad habitats. A table showing the extents of priority habitat types in Gwynedd is included as Appendix 7.

In Wales, the "List of Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for Conservation of Biological Diversity", published in 2003, is the reference point for national conservation priorities²¹ (See section 2.3). This list contains a number of additional non-UK priority species which are of conservation importance in Wales.

There are also many species and habitats that do not appear on the UK / Welsh lists but are nonetheless of local significance, either because they are unusual locally or are familiar in or representative of Gwynedd. Some of these species can be regarded as "flagship" species, particularly important for raising public awareness about related species or habitats.

The list of Species and Habitat Action Plans (SAPs and HAPs) to be included within Natur Gwynedd was updated following the results of the public consultation, in light of comments and the availability of new guidance. (See appendix 4 for updated list of SAPs and HAPs.) This list is open to future revision pending further surveys, research and monitoring. Appendix 5 illustrates the relationships between the Species and Habitat Action Plans.

In addition to actions specific to particular species and habitats, a number of generic actions have been identified which are best addressed through a series of "themed" plans. These Topic Action Plans (TAPs) look at a number of key areas and target particular sectors. (See appendix 4 for list of TAPs.)

3.2.3 Setting objectives, actions and targets - writing Natur Gwynedd

A number of overall aims and objectives have been identified for Natur Gwynedd. These are shown in box 6 below. These objectives should also be incorporated into Gwynedd's emerging Community Strategy.

^j Criteria originally included within Biodiversity: The UK Steering Group Report. Vol. 1, Meeting the Rio Challenge, 1995

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species and habitats experts, specialist interest groups, voluntary and statutory organisations and focus on delivering actions contained within one or more species, habitat or topic action plans.

For each Action Plan a Lead organisation has been identified, which will take on the role of co-ordinating implementation of the Action Plan. A Lead partner is also identified for each action, together with other organisations who will also contribute to its delivery. A matrix showing which actions each organisation is responsible for leading on will be produced and circulated among partners on a regular basis.

A Communications plan has also been put together for the Gwynedd Biodiversity Action Plan. This proposes that glossy/colourful versions of the SAPs / HAPs should also be produced, which will provide members of the public with a more practical outlook. These would include a distribution map, a description of the species / habitat, some relevant local history and culture, a number of practical actions for all to implement, and useful local contacts. These glossy sheets will be made available individually or in appropriate series.

3.2.5 Monitoring and review

Monitoring the implementation of the numerous actions contained within the Species, Habitat and Topic Action Plans is vital to the effectiveness of Natur Gwynedd. Keeping track of all these actions will be facilitated by a UK Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) which is to become available to all Local Biodiversity Action Plan groups in 2003. This will enable an annual progress report to be produced to show whether actions are being delivered within the target timescale. Gwynedd's BAP will also contribute to the next UK BAP reporting round in 2005, and every three years thereafter.

Monitoring of the implementation of the Action Plans may well mean that further information is added to the biodiversity audit, that priorities shift, that objectives and targets are modified and that further Action Plans are produced.

Biodiversity records on species and habitats also need to be collated. This includes new records for habitats and species, and changes in the extent of a habitat or the population of a species previously recorded. This will enable us to identify a baseline of data on which a programme of biological monitoring can be built. This may then lead to new Habitat and Species Action Plans being prepared, or existing plans being edited.

The UK Action Plans will be reviewed every five years by the UK Steering Group and their advice and any changes to the UK Action Plans will be an important element for us to consider. It is proposed that Natur Gwynedd be reviewed in 2009 (and every five years thereafter) by the Natur Gwynedd Steering Group.

Version 1, 2004

¹ *Sustaining the variety of life - 5 years of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan*. Report of the UK Biodiversity Group, 2001.

² Section 121 of the Local Government Act 1998

³ *Learning to live differently - the sustainable development scheme of the National Assembly for Wales*.

⁴ *Valuing Our Environment: Economic Impact of the Environment of Wales*, 2001. Full report available at www.nationaltrust.org.uk

⁵ Article 6A of the Convention on Biological Diversity

⁶ *Biodiversity Challenge - an agenda for conservation action in the UK*. RSPB, 1994. Second expanded edition published 1995.

⁷ *Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan*. HMSO, 1994.

⁸ *Sustaining the variety of life - 5 years of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan*. DETR, 2001. P.10

⁹ *Biodiversity: The UK Steering Group Report - volume 1 (Meeting the Rio Challenge) and 2 (Action Plans)*, HMSO, 1995.

UK Biodiversity Group: Tranche 2 Action Plans. Volumes I to VI. 1998-1999.

¹⁰ *Future Biodiversity Action in Wales - Advice to the National Assembly for Wales on the UK Millennium Biodiversity Report*. The Wales Biodiversity Group, 2002, p. 27

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- ¹¹ *Future Biodiversity Action in Wales - Advice to the National Assembly for Wales on the UK Millennium Biodiversity Report*. The Wales Biodiversity Group, 2002.
- ¹² *Welsh Assembly Government, Going Wild in Wales - List of Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for the Conservation of Biological Diversity*. Crown Copyright, 2003.
- ¹³ *Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan*, HMSO, 1994, page 111.
- ¹⁴ *Biodiversity: The UK Steering Group Report - volume 2 (Action Plans)*, HMSO, 1995.
- ¹⁵ *Guidance for local biodiversity action plans - an introduction*. (Local Government Management Board / UK Biodiversity Group)
- ¹⁶ Welsh Assembly Government, *Plan for Wales 2001*.
- ¹⁷ Environment, Planning and Transport Committee - *Review of Local Biodiversity Action*. 2003.
- ¹⁸ Welsh Assembly Government, *Planning Policy Wales*, March 2002.
- ¹⁹ Environment, Planning and Transport Committee Proceedings of Plenary Debate 26 February 2003
- ²⁰ Environment, Planning and Transport Committee - *Review of Local Biodiversity Action*, p. 18. 2003.
- ²¹ *Welsh Assembly Government, Going Wild in Wales - List of Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for the Conservation of Biological Diversity*. Crown Copyright 2003.