

Doncaster's Biodiversity



Biodiversity: the variety of life...

Doncaster
Biodiversity
Action Partnership

Supported by



Doncaster
Metropolitan Borough Council



The habitat action plans

Doncaster's landscape is made up of a colourful mosaic of habitats, which reflect the Borough's diverse geological, environmental and cultural heritage. Doncaster's Biodiversity Action Plan will provide conservation guidance on each of the habitat priorities below:

- Lowland Heathland and Acid Grassland Mosaics
- Parkland, Wood Pasture and Veteran Trees
- Craggs and Caves
- Post Industrial and Brownfield Sites
- Rivers, Oxbows, Subsidence Flashes and Canals
- Reedbeds
- Ponds and Marshes (including ditches and drains)
- Lowland Raised Mire
- Fens, Springs, Flushes, Fenny Fields, Streams and other Flowing Water
- Grassland: Calcareous, Neutral and Acid Grasslands

- Woodland and Scrub: Wet, Limestone, Carr and Heathy Woodlands
- Ancient and/or Species-rich Hedgerows
- Greenways: tracks to byways
- Cereal Field Margins
- Urban Greenspace: Parks, Gardens and Allotments





The species action plans

Some of Doncaster's habitats, such as woodlands and peat bogs, have been developing for thousands of years and provide food and shelter for the animal communities which have evolved with these surroundings. Examples include the rare Mire Pill Beetle and the Nightjar, both associated with Thorne and Hatfield Moors.

Other species have been able to exploit some of the Borough's new habitats, which have colonised old industrial and formerly developed or 'brownfield' sites. Examples of these species include the Great Crested Newt and the Brown Hare. These can often offer suitable conditions for mobile species to thrive, where their preferred semi-natural habitats are under threat and are being diminished or degraded such as agricultural land.

Such diversity is evident through the species that exist in the Borough, which include nationally important conservation priorities as well as the more locally distinct. For instance the Borough now has improving numbers of the nationally scarce Bittern, a bird of reedy areas. It also has local rarities such as the plant called Petty Whin, from the Gorse family of plants.

A full list of Doncaster's conservation priorities can be accessed on www.doncasterbiodiversity.org.uk and their conservation will be addressed through Doncaster's Biodiversity Action Plan.





Species Recording

With the current urgency to monitor, understand and conserve the rapidly changing Biodiversity of Doncaster and its neighbouring regions it is important to receive records of sightings from experts and members of the public so that work to help conserve habitats and species can be targeted in the right way.

Doncaster museum, founded originally by the Doncaster Scientific (now Naturalists') Society, has throughout its history maintained a strong involvement in recording, and monitoring the flora, fauna and geology (biodiversity) of Doncaster and its region. The Museum's Keeper of Environmental Records is always happy to receive records providing they include sufficient information:

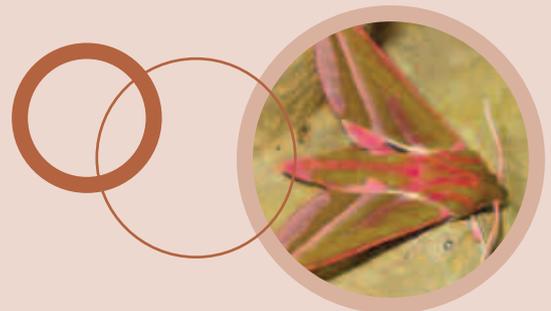
- The species name
- The location of the sighting, preferably including the grid reference

- The date when the sighting was made
- The details of the recorder

You can use the form on the back of this page to send in a record.

Disclaimer

- Records are accepted by the Doncaster Museum on the understanding that you agree that the information can be entered on to computer and used for the promotion of the biodiversity of Doncaster.
- The copyright of the records remains with the original recorder.
- Doncaster Museum retains the right to reject records not fulfilling the necessary requirements.



Species recording form



Species seen:

Location:

Grid Reference (e.g. SK 987231):

Date of sighting:

Comments:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Please send in this record, using the following address:

Keeper of Environmental Records
Doncaster Museum
Chequer Road
Doncaster
DN1 2AE

E-mail brc@doncaster.gov.uk



Play your part!

We all have a role to play in ensuring that the rich diversity of wildlife that exists around us is conserved and can be enjoyed for generations to come. By following the actions set out in Doncaster's Biodiversity Action Plan, you can make a difference to the species or wildlife sites that you are most interested in. Here are a few ways in which you can help:

- Let us know what species, or wildlife sites are special to you and why. These may be locally distinctive or just ones that you particularly value and feel should join the list of Doncaster's conservation priorities.
- Learn more about the Species and Habitats of the Borough through the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and help to protect and conserve them by following the advice provided.

- Send your species and habitat observations to the Museum's Local Record Centre to help us monitor how our environment is changing and measure our conservation efforts. Generally we will need to know: what you have seen, the date and where (as accurately as possible). Any other interesting facts are a bonus! You can use the recording form attached to this leaflet.
- Keep an eye on our website **www.doncasterbiodiversity.org.uk** for the latest Biodiversity news and to find out about any new projects and initiatives in your area and how to get involved.

Alternatively contact DMBC's Biodiversity Officer on 01302 737404 or email bio.diversity@doncaster.gov.uk

We would like to thank Louise Hill, Tim Prosser, English Nature and DMBC staff for the use of image.

