

# Southend-on-Sea

## Local Biodiversity Action Plan

### Annual Report for 2014

*Prepared by the Parks Technical Section of  
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council*



## SECTION 1 Southend's Local Biodiversity Action Plan Introduction

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council's Local **Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)** has been produced as a result of an international agreement, called the Convention of Biological Diversity, which the UK Government signed at the 'Earth Summit' held at Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

The UK Government has prepared national plans for over 400 species and 40 habitats, but recognised that for national plans to be successful they need to be adopted by those local communities that live side by side with the biodiversity.

Local Authorities have been encouraged to prepare 'Local' Biodiversity Action Plans in partnership with local communities. These plans identify species and habitats unique to, or important to those communities. All Local Authorities have a '**Duty to Biodiversity**' which is detailed in Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006.

Southend's Local Biodiversity Action Plan was launched on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2003 after considerable effort from the former Leisure, Culture and Amenity Services Department and its partners, who consisted of local and regional wildlife and environmental groups and organisations.

The Local Biodiversity Action Plan consists of individual action plans for 18 Southend habitats (plus one habitat statement) and 14 species. During 2003 copies of the Action Plan were distributed to local partners. The Local Biodiversity Action Plan is also on Southend-on-Sea Borough Council's web site, where it can be viewed at:

[http://www.southend.gov.uk/downloads/download/138/local\\_biodiversity\\_action\\_plan](http://www.southend.gov.uk/downloads/download/138/local_biodiversity_action_plan)

The Local Biodiversity Action Plan is an on-going process that consists of a number of key objectives. Under each of the objectives is a series of targets, many of which are open-ended and can be considered as 'on-going'.

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council can only deliver all of the objectives within the Action Plan in partnership. Everyone can get involved to help to meet biodiversity objectives and ensure our wildlife and important green spaces are conserved for future generations.

The support and enthusiasm of partners is very important, and a special Thank You goes to everybody that has contributed during the year.

Previous Annual Reports (2008 – 2013) can also be found on Southend Council's web site.

[http://www.southend.gov.uk/downloads/download/138/local\\_biodiversity\\_action\\_plan](http://www.southend.gov.uk/downloads/download/138/local_biodiversity_action_plan)

*Louise Morris*  
*Southend Environmental Projects Manager*

### ***What is Biodiversity?***

*Biological diversity, or biodiversity as it is commonly known, is the collective term given to the huge variety of life that exists today. Not only does it include all species of plants and animals, but also their genetic variation and the complex ecosystems in which they live. It is not just rare or threatened species either: it encompasses the entire natural world including the plants and animals familiar to us in places where we live or work.*

## SECTION 2 Meeting the Local Biodiversity Action Plan in 2014

### Species Record

#### Heath Fritillary Butterfly

Hadleigh Great Wood

Date	Number	Grid Ref	% Sun	Wind	Temp 'C	Sex	Comments
01/06/2014	1	TQ81748776	90	Low	20	M	Fresh emergent seen by Rob Smith in 2012's Coppice Coupe no 8
06/06/2014	3	TQ 81905 87690	100%	Low	22	M	Same as above male with notch out of left & right forewing
		TQ 81817 87857	100%	Low	22	M	Fresh afternoon emergent basking on bramble and flight
		TQ 81817 87857	100%	Low	22	M	Fresh afternoon emergent basking on bramble and flight
10/06/2014	6	TQ 81877 87878	100%	Low	23	M	Fresh emergent basking on bramble and flight
		TQ 81877 87878	100%	Low	23	M	Fresh emergent basking on bramble and flight
		TQ 81905 87690	100%	Low	23	M	Same as above male with notch out of right wing
		TQ 81905 87690	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking on bramble and flight
		TQ 81879 87647	100%	Low	23	F?	Fresh emergent basking on bramble and flight
		TQ 81977	100%	Low	23	M	Fresh emergent basking on creeping buttercup and in

		87832					flight patrolling Ride. Notch out of right forewing
12/06/2014	14	TQ 81959 87847	100%	Low	23	M	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81959 87847	100%	Low	23	F	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81959 87847	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81959 87847	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81950 87772	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81935 87697	100%	Low	23	M	Pair mating
		TQ 81935 87697	100%	Low	23	F	Pair mating
		TQ 81956 87656	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81864 87645	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81791 87675	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81811 87651	100%	Low	23	M	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81923 87878	100%	Low	23	M	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81923 87878	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81883 87868	100%	Low	23	F	Fresh emergent basking/feeding on bramble and flight

17/06/2014	9	TQ 81980 87652	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81954 87651	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81954 87651	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	19	F	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81905 87690	90%	Low	19	F	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81817 87857	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
20/06/2014	6	TQ 81989 87812	70%	Low	19	F	Basking & Flight/Mating
		TQ 81989 87812	70%	Low	19	F	Basking & occasional weak Flight heavy with eggs
		TQ 81989 87812	70%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight/Mating
		TQ 81989 87812	70%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81989 87812	70%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81989	70%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight

		87812					
25/06/2014	2	TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	19	F	Basking & Flight
		TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
27/06/2014	1	TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	19	M	Basking & Flight
29/06/2014	1	TQ 81989 87812	90%	Low	21	M	Same as above Basking & Flight

#### Dodds Grove

Date	Number	Grid Ref	% Sun	Wind	Temp 'C	Sex	Comments
01/06/2014	3	TQ 81688 87929	90%	Low	20	M	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
06/06/2014	5	TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	22	M	Fresh emergent basking, feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	22	M	Fresh emergent basking, feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	22	M	Fresh emergent basking, feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	22	M	Fresh emergent basking, feeding on bramble and flight
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	22	M	Fresh emergent basking, feeding on bramble and flight
09/06/2014	8	TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
		TQ 81688	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down

		87929					
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Low	23	?	Fresh emergent, seen by Don Down
04/07/2014	7	TQ 81688 87929	90%	Low	21	M/F	Fresh emergent basking, 2 pairs seen mating and in flight
		TQ 81688 87929	100%	Med N/E	25	?	Flight and basking
		TQ 81677 87904	100%	Med	25	?	Flight and basking
08/07/2014	5	TQ 81696 87940	100%	Med	25	?	Flight and basking
11/07/2014	1	TQ 81696 87940	100%	Med	24	M	Flight and basking

Person who identified the species	Person who verified the species	Date	Location	Habitat	Grid ref	Comments
Don Down	Don Down	11.04.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		<b>long sunny periods</b>
Don Down	Don Down	23.04.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		sunny; at times warmer
Don Down	Don Down	04.05.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		overcast but dry
Don Down	Don Down	14.05.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		sunny with chilly winds
Don Down	Don Down	02.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		sunny intervals warm
Don Down	Don Down	06.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		sunny and warm
Don Down	Don Down	08.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		very warm morning
Don Down	Don Down	10.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		very warm and sunny
Don Down	Don Down	15.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		sunny spells
Don Down	Don Down	17.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		warm and humid
Don Down	Don Down	21.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		sunny morning
Don Down	Don Down	27.06.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		a warm and sunny day
Don Down	Don Down	01.07.14	Dodds Grove	Woodland		a warm and sunny day



## Dormouse

Common name	Scientific Name	Quantity	Person who identified the species	Person who verified the species	Date	Location	Habitat	Grid ref	Comments
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	5	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	April 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	13	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	May 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		1 wood mouse
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	14	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	June 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		1 wood mouse
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	21	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	July 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		7 wood mice
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	33	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	August 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		5 woodmice
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	30	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	September 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		4 wood mice
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	43	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	October 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		3 wood mice
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	4	Karen Bigmore	Sue Portsmouth	November 14	Hadleigh Great Wood	Woodland		1 wood mouse

## Reptiles

Common name	Scientific Name	Quantity	Person who identified the species	Person who verified the species	Date	Location	Habitat	Grid ref	Comments
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>	1	M.Bones	M. Bones	08/09/2014	TwoTree Island	Mixed Grassland	TQ820850	
Common Lizard	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	1	M.Bridges	M.Bridges	21/09/2014	TwoTree Island	Mixed Grassland	TQ827850	

## Water vole

Common name	Scientific Name	Quantity	Person who identified the species	Person who verified the species	Date	Location	Habitat	Grid ref	Comments
Water Vole	<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	3	M.Bridges	M.Bridges	16/06/2014	TwoTree Island	lagoon/reed bed	TQ827850	

## Brent Geese

Common name	Scientific Name	Quantity	Person who identified the species	Person who verified the species	Date	Location	Habitat	Grid ref	Comments
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	4500	M.Bridges	M.Bridges	15/11/2014	TwoTree Island	Mudflats	TQ826850	

## Habitat Activities

Name / Organisation	Habitat	Description of activity	Location	Date	Volunteers under 16	Volunteers over 16	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Essex Wildlife Trust	Saltmarsh	Installing 120 Brushwood faggotts for stabilisation	Two Tree Island	22/06/2014		20	5000

Name / Organisation	Habitat	Description of activity	Location	Date	Volunteers under 16	Volunteers over 16	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
South East Essex Conservation Volunteers	Woodland	Ground clearance	Dodd's Grove	26/01/2014		9	Unknown
South East Essex Conservation Volunteers	Traditional Orchard	Hedgelaying, scrub clearance, tree pruning	St. Laurence Orchard, Eastwood	23/02/2014		9	Unknown
South East Essex Conservation Volunteers	Mixed	Pond/path/litter clearance	St. Mary's Nature Reserve, North Shoebury	04/05/2014		5	Unknown
South East Essex Conservation Volunteers	Woodland	Bracken clearance	Dodd's Grove	01/06/2014		3	Unknown
South East Essex Conservation Volunteers	Mixed	Pond/path/litter clearance and cutting/raking of meadow	St. Mary's Nature Reserve, North Shoebury	21/09/2014		8	Unknown
South East Essex Conservation Volunteers	Traditional Orchard	Hedgelaying, path/scrub clearance and clearing around trees	St. Laurence Orchard, Eastwood	30/11/2014		9	Unknown

Name / Organisation	Habitat	Description of activity	Location	Date	Volunteers under 16	Volunteers over 16	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Don Down & SEC Group	Woodland	Bracken pulling	Dodds Grove	02/06/2014		5	
Don Down	Woodland	Bracken pulling	Dodds Grove	21/06/2014		1	
Don Down & Butterfly Conservation	Woodland	General work in preparation for Heath Fritillary	Dodds Grove	30/11/2014		7	

## Species Activities

### Heath Fritillary Butterfly

Work has been carried out by Ashley Pinnock and volunteers to link up the main glade to the surrounding rides network and the recent coppice clearing from 2012.

### Birds and reptiles

Name / Organisation	Species	Description of activity	Location	Date	Volunteers under 16	Volunteers over 16	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Essex Wildlife Trust	Skylark & Reptiles	Erection of dead hedges to prevent public access to Skylark & Adder breeding area	Two Tree Island	08/06/2014		12	400
Essex Wildlife Trust	Turtle Dove	Preparation and seeding (using a specially formulated seed mix) of 2 areas, 1 on each side of the island to attract Turtle Doves					