




The Buglife logo features a yellow spiral on a dark blue background with the word "buglife" in white lowercase letters. Surrounding the logo are four images of insects: a green beetle on a leaf, a ladybug on a leaf, a pink and white crab, and an ant on a green stem.

Helping Pollinators Locally

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Why is insect pollination important?

Insect pollination is essential to growing our food

“One out of every 3 mouthfuls”


90% of world’s crop species
In UK worth c.£600m p.a. or 13% of UK agricultural revenue .
£13 billion across EU
£132 billion around the world



The image shows two photographs of fresh produce. The top photo is a close-up of a large pile of ripe, red strawberries. The bottom photo shows several yellow mesh baskets filled with small, round cherry tomatoes, some of which are still attached to their green stems.

 **The alternative to insects**




 **Insect pollination and our ecosystems**

Insect pollination is essential to maintaining a healthy and thriving environment

80% of British wild plants are pollinated by insects

Much of our other wildlife depends on them



Thick legged flower beetle (*Oedomera nobilis*)

buglife **Our pollinators – a huge diversity**

Bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, wasps, flies - you might be surprised at how many species are involved – at least 4,000 species in Britain!

buglife **Pollinators in trouble**

>60% of pollinators are in decline

The State of Nature report is a collaboration between the 25 UK conservation and research organisations listed below:

state of nature

www.rspb.org.uk/stateofnature



Our Pollinators in trouble

Over half of our bee species have suffered declines over the past 50 years

Six of 25 bumblebee species have declined in UK by at least 80% in last 50 years

38% of hoverfly species in decline

71% of butterfly species in decline



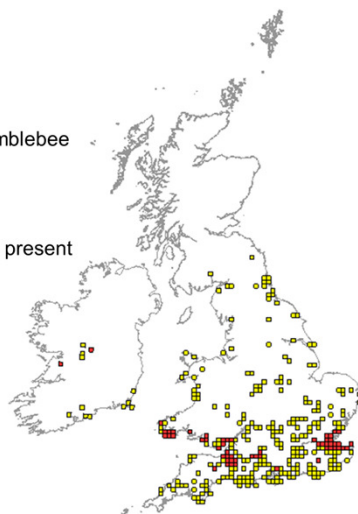
Over 250 UK pollinators are in danger of extinction



Bumblebee losses

Shrill carder bee – a bumblebee
(*Bombus sylvarum*)

Red squares = 1995 to present





A UK-wide wildlife priority

National Pollinator Strategy for England (2014)

- A shared plan of action which looks to everyone to work together and ensure pollinators' needs are addressed as an integral part of land and habitat management.
- More, bigger, better, joined-up, diverse and high-quality flower-rich habitats



National Pollinator Strategy for England- Supporting pollinators across towns, cities and the countryside

1. Working with large-scale landowners, and their advisers, contractors and facility managers, to promote simple changes to land management to provide food, shelter and nest sites.



National Pollinator Strategy for England- Supporting pollinators across towns, cities and the countryside

2. Ensuring good practice to help pollinators through initiatives including managers of public and amenity spaces, utility and transport companies, brownfield site managers, local authorities, developers and planners.



 **National Pollinator Strategy for England- Supporting pollinators across towns, cities and the countryside**

3. Encouraging the public to take action in their gardens, allotments, window boxes ...to make them pollinator-friendly or through opportunities such as community gardening and volunteering



 **There are lots of good things happening**



Urban Buzz

GET BRISTOL BUZZING

Urban Buzz Bristol

Urban Buzz is an ambitious project aiming to create 100 'buzzing hotspots' across Bristol for our much loved bees and other pollinators, providing additional feeding and shelter opportunities. With the help of local partners and various community groups, over the next 20 months we can help create a more vibrant buzzing city!

Biffe Award
Building communities. Transforming lives.

PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY





 **But many more opportunities to do things locally**

Local authorities are well placed to take positive action for pollinators

- **Conserving pollinators through Local Planning and GI work**
- **Managing land to benefit pollinators**
- **Enthusing others to take action**



HELPING POLLINATORS LOCALLY


DEVELOPING A LOCAL POLLINATOR ACTION PLAN OR STRATEGY

 **Local Pollinator Action Plans**


A Local Pollinator Strategy or Plan is a call for action – inviting all parts of the local authority and local community to do something to help pollinators.

“Everyone can do something and every little thing can help”.



 **Developing and implementing a Local Pollinator Plan**

- Ensures **the needs of pollinators** are enshrined across **all local authority work**
- Helps identify previously unknown **opportunities for pollinators**
- Ensures all aspects of pollinators are addressed and **the conservation of pollinators** is put at the heart of land management
- Identifies opportunities for **collaborative and locally-owned initiatives**





Some benefits of a Local Plan

- Increased public engagement and awareness in pollinators
- An improved local environment for the enjoyment of local people with associated health and well-being benefits
- Potential savings on local authority managed green space
- Helping to develop and improve green infrastructure
- Opportunity to shout about pollinator work already underway



Using Land to benefit pollinators

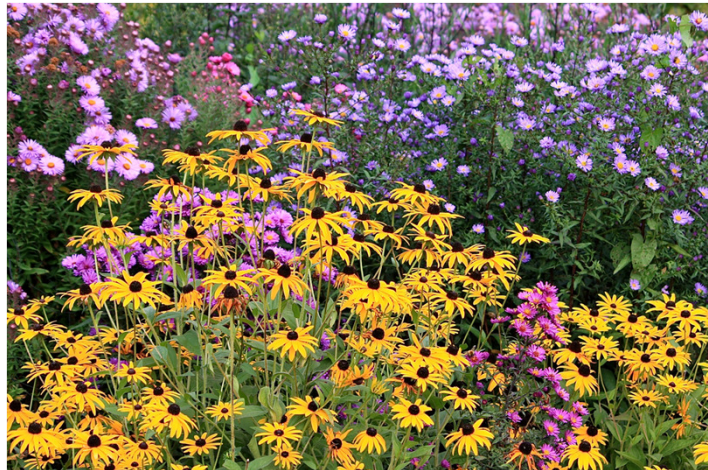
- Local Wildlife Site Management
- Reviewing parks management and opportunities to manage land for the benefit of pollinators
- Reviewing amenity plantings
- Changing mowing regimes on road verges etc.
- Reviewing pesticide policy and looking to cease use of neonicotinoids
- Providing training to staff to raise awareness of the needs of pollinators





Opportunities within public greenspace

Flowerbeds etc



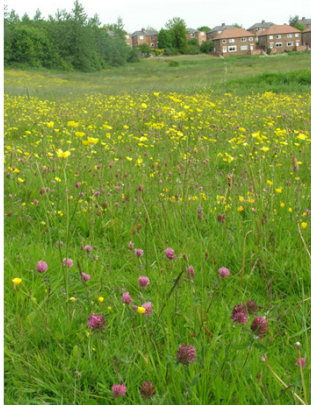
Perennial Planting





Opportunities within public greenspace

- *Existing grassland areas*



- Delaying cutting will extend foraging period for pollinators

Burnley's re-thinking Parks Project



 **Opportunities within public green**

New Flower-rich grasslands



The left photograph shows a vibrant field of wildflowers, including yellow buttercups and red poppies, growing in a grassy area. The right photograph shows a similar field of yellow wildflowers, with a Sainsbury's supermarket building visible in the background under a cloudy sky.

 **Opportunities within public green space**

Flowering lawns



The left photograph is a close-up shot of a bee on a purple flower in a lawn. The right photograph shows a wider view of a lawn with a mix of purple, yellow, and white flowers.

- **Alternative to amenity grassland where verge must be kept short**
- **Can withstand a more frequent mowing regimes**

 Opportunities within public green space

Trees for bees!



 Opportunities within public green space

Cemeteries





Raising Awareness in the community

- Providing advice to local gardeners, allotment holders and community groups
- Raising awareness of pollinators to local residents and businesses
- Working with schools to create pollinator-friendly habitats




There is public support..

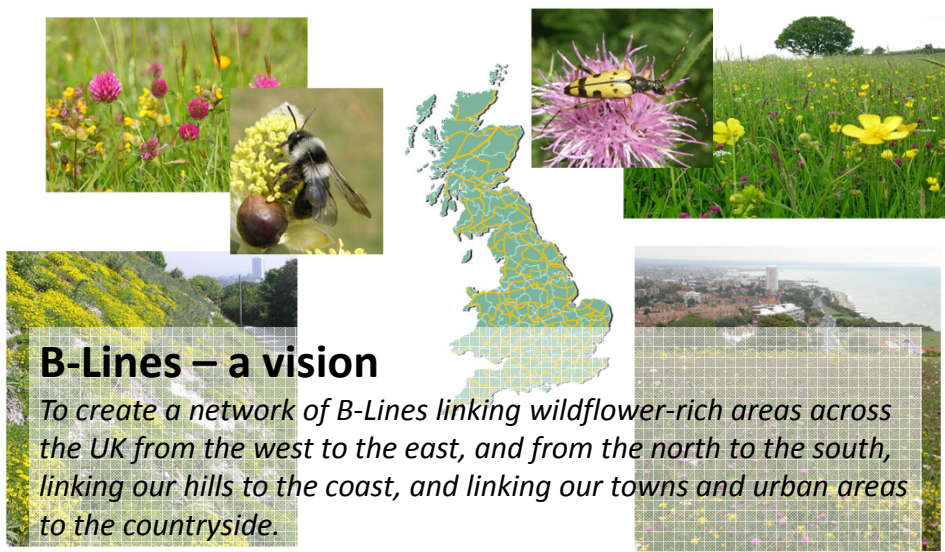


A Friends of the Earth and Buglife YouGov survey has revealed:

- Almost two thirds of the population (63%) agree that local councils should be doing more to protect Britain's bees
- 81% of the public back calls for councils to help Britain's under-threat bees by cutting areas of grass less often in parks and roadside verges to allow wild flowers to grow
- 88% support councils reducing the use of bee-harming pesticides
- 92% support local authorities in planting more wildflowers and other bee friendly plants in their local parks and community spaces

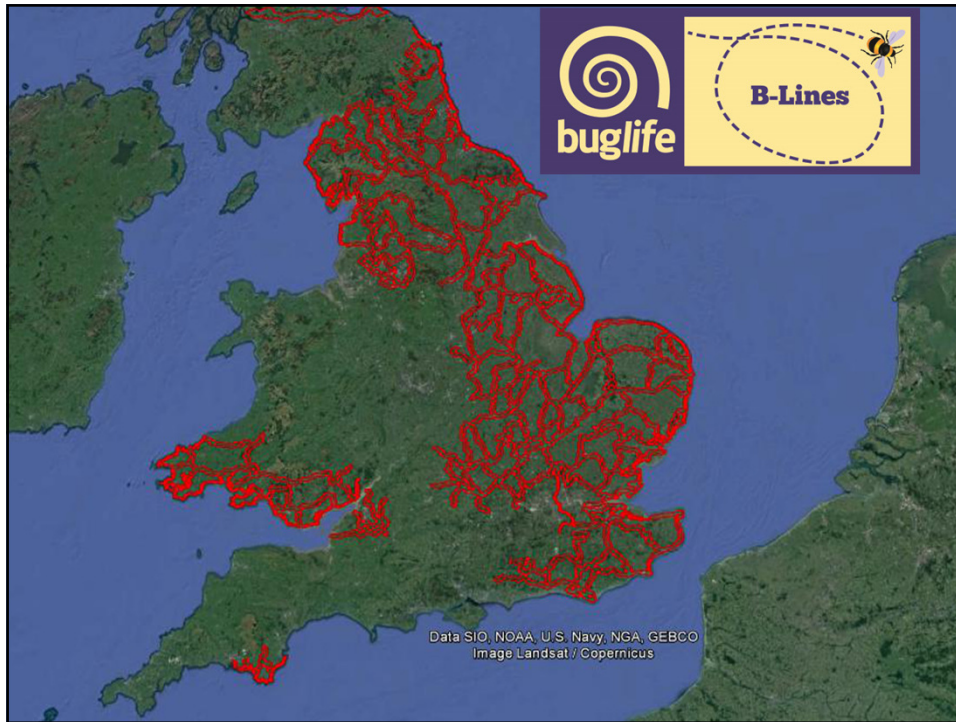


B-Lines – a network of wildflower-rich areas






B-Lines – a vision

To create a network of B-Lines linking wildflower-rich areas across the UK from the west to the east, and from the north to the south, linking our hills to the coast, and linking our towns and urban areas to the countryside.



A few things to take away today - Food through the seasons

 <p style="background-color: #eee; padding: 2px; margin: 5px 0;">Spring</p> <p>Trees and shrubs are vital - blossom in sheltered, sunny places can attract huge numbers of pollinators, along with herbs such as dead-nettles, ground ivy and dandelions</p>	<p>Legumes, composites and umbellifers, and shrubs such as elder, bramble and rose are key food sources, later in summer, teasel, thistles and hogweed can be particularly important</p>  <p style="background-color: #eee; padding: 2px; margin: 5px 0;">Summer</p>	 <p style="background-color: #eee; padding: 2px; margin: 5px 0;">Autumn</p> <p>Thistles, yarrow and scabiouses give early autumn food, with ivy often the most important autumn flower; providing a vital final feast for overwintering adults</p>
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A few things to take away today - Nesting and overwintering areas

- Ditches and ponds provide valuable wetland flowers as well as larval habitat for hoverflies
- Woody habitats provide sources of dead and decaying wood used for nesting
- Banks can be important nesting areas for solitary bees and bumblebees
- Hedgerows and features (banks/ deadwood) provide shelter, overwintering sites, and corridors for movement





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