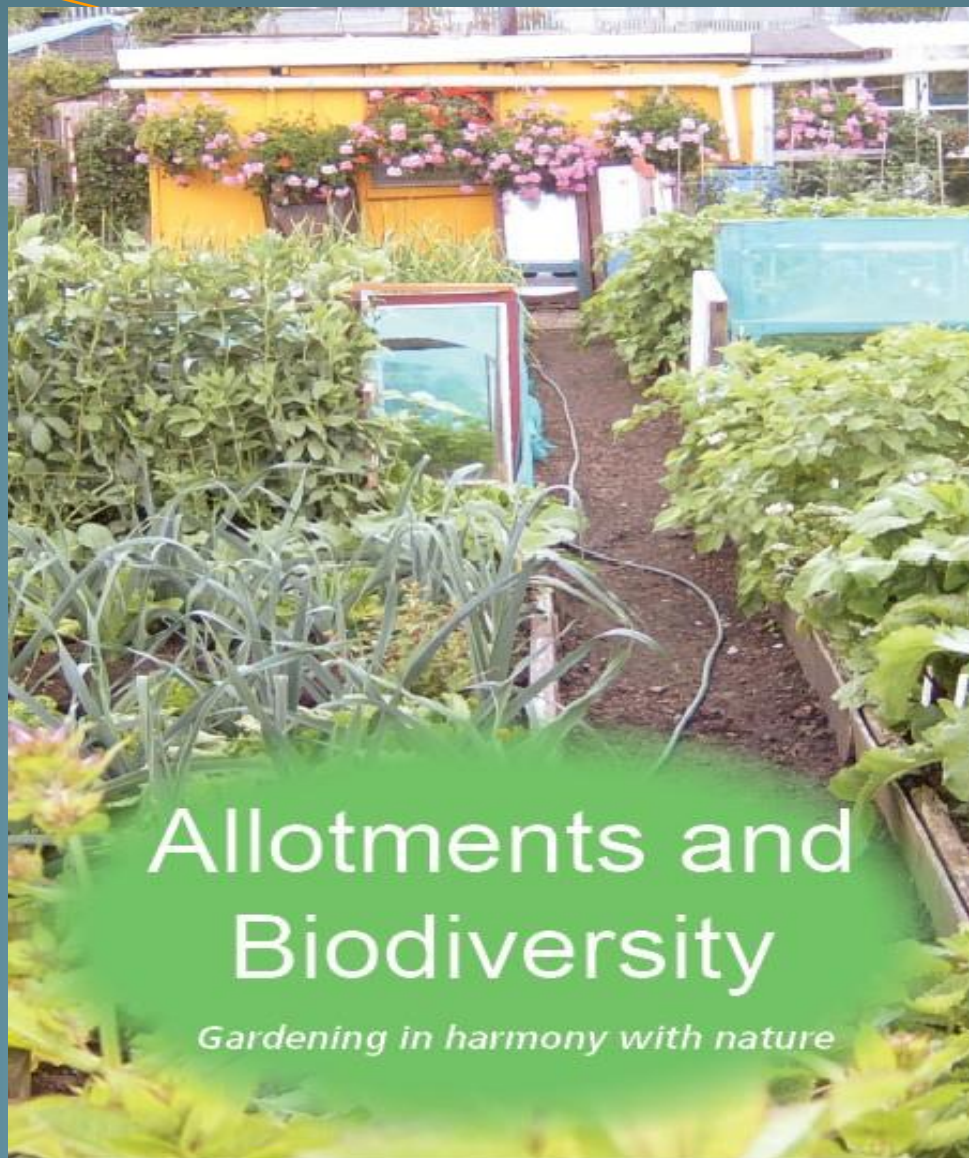




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# Allotments and Biodiversity

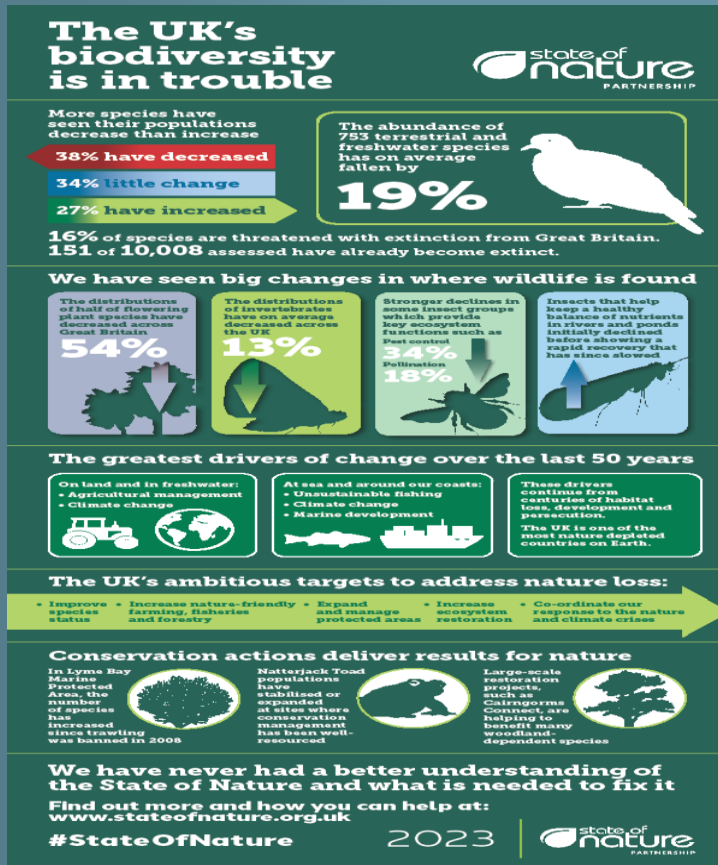
*Gardening in harmony with nature*

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# Identifying the opportunities for biodiversity



The 2023 State of Nature Report paints quiet a concerning picture for biodiversity.

Much of this concern can be linked directly to human practices.

How can we improve our practices to support, protect and enhance the environment for other species?

In Glasgow our colleagues in Biodiversity have successfully launched the Glasgow Pollinator Plan in 2017 and a Local Biodiversity Action & implementation Plan to protect, maintain and enhance biodiversity over the next 10 years.

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# The benefits gained through working with nature

- Reduced stress levels
- Reduced food miles
- Sense of contentment that comes from growing your own
- Increased interaction with the natural environment.
- Reduction in chemical inputs.



- Improved soil health
- Increased biodiversity
- Healthier crops
- Improved rainwater attenuation
- Increase in soil carbon
- Reduced pollution of water courses.
- Reduced soil erosion.

# The benefits gained through working with nature

## Fruit Guilds

They can be described as a collection of plants selected to be grown together for specific reasons and they are food, nature and beauty.

The Fruit Guild by its name suggests fruit and they are usually always centred around fruit trees and bushes.

The Fruit Guild is often described as having 5 layers though 6 or 7 are unusual and this dependant on plants selected, space available and what the grower seeking to achieve from the guild.

They are ideal for all gardens needing as a little as 1 metre square.



## The layers are:

1. Canopy tree –larger fruit and nut trees
2. Lower tree layer –smaller fruit trees (optional layer)
3. Shrub layer –fruit bushes
4. Herbaceous layera. Accumulators (*deep roots bring up nutrients deep from in the soil*) –edible and wildlife supporting plants
5. b. Attractors –perennials flower and herbs to attract pollinators and pest controlling insects.
6. Ground cover –low growing edibles and herbs that supress weeds
7. Annual plants –vegetables and annual fruiting plants
8. Vertical layer –climbers both perennial and annual plants



# Establishing the Policy Position

Glasgow acknowledged the stark warning provided by the IPCC report in 2018, declaring a climate and ecological emergency in 2019. Two working groups were set up and identified a series of recommendations for action. The Climate Emergency Working Group developed 61 recommendations, the Ecological Emergency Working Group developed 25. Glasgow's Climate Plan was developed to address these recommendations and provide a vision for the city, demonstrating leadership in drawing together the collective action of other agencies, businesses, and communities across the city including the Sustainable Glasgow partnership.





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# Updating Our Governance

[LBAP Delivery Plan 2024 - 2029](#)

[Scotland's Biodiversity Strategy](#)

[Nature Networks and 30 by 30](#)

[Glasgow's Open Space Strategy](#)

[Glasgow's Climate Plan](#)

[Dear Green Place \(Parks Vision\)](#)

[Allotment Rules and Regs](#)



# Changing Our Practice

## Simple Interventions for the Plotholder

- Composting/ Nutrient Teas
- Rotate Vegetable Crops
- Grow a range of native fruit, flowers, vegetables and herbs.
- Practice companion planting
- Provide water ( ponds, shallow dishes, tubs)
- Reduce chemical use.
- Provide food sources and shelter from Autumn onwards



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## Simple Interventions for the Wider Site

- Allow verges and perimeter edges to naturalise.
- Increase wildflower planting in these areas
- Use fences for climbers and native species hedgerows both of which provide shelter and food.
- Review materials on sites for building structures.
- Encourage organic practices.



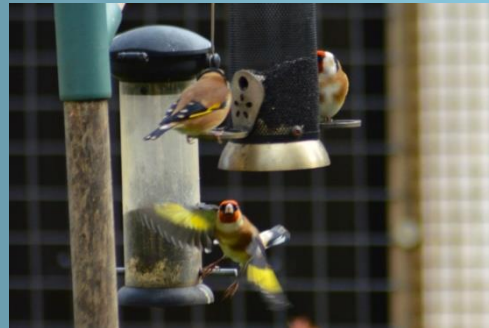
# Changing Our Practice

Greyfriars Garden High Street Glasgow

## Greyfriars Biophilic Community Garden



A stunning new community garden has opened on Glasgow's High Street to replace a temporary growing space. The beautiful council-owned site is near the Victorian neo-Gothic style Barony Hall in High St. The new Greyfriars Biophilic Garden has 11 more growing spaces than the old one and all 56 spaces have been snapped up by growers ranging in age from mid 20s to over 80 years.





# ANY QUESTIONS?



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