

Introduction

The University of Lincoln has a wide range of habitats and landscapes as a part of its estate – from agricultural land to historic parkland to urban habitats. The variety of habitats means that the ecology of the estate needs to be carefully managed.

Biodiversity Commitments

The University's Environment Policy includes a commitment to monitor and protect biodiversity.

Specifically, the University commits to:

- Meeting the requirements of all relevant biodiversity legislation
- Ensuring that important habitat areas within its land holdings are protected
- Using ecological surveys to identify projects that will enhance biodiversity
- Minimising the use of herbicides to small areas and paths
- Creating wildflower meadows at Riseholme and propagating wildflower species with a Lincolnshire provenance, in collaboration with the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- Supporting the siting of beehives on University land, to promote pollination
- Promoting the ecological value of natural assets to staff and students and supporting them to use these assets as learning resources, such as the annual BioBlitz event undertaken at Brayford by the School of Life Sciences
- Consciously leaving areas to grow as wild where appropriate, to encourage and support wildlife
- Maintaining the 'Hedgehog Friendly Campus' award, which commits to designating areas for hedgehogs and other wildlife, surveying for their presence and creating habitats such as log piles
- Checking or surveying for the presence of wildlife before landscaping or other works are carried out
- Communicating our biodiversity enhancement activity to students, staff and visitors.

Landscape Management

For new planting schemes, species from the Royal Horticultural Society's Pollinator-Friendly List and native tree species will be prioritised.

The University's Grounds Management Procedure outlines specific processes surrounding landscape management in relation to biodiversity.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Author:	Rebecca Forster, Environmental Manager
Approved by:	Grant Anderson, Head of Space Strategy, Planning and Sustainability
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