

EX87. FALKIRK COUNCIL BIODIVERSITY DUTY REPORT 2011 – 2014

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services presenting the Council's Biodiversity Duty Report 2011-14.

In terms of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act (2004), "it is the duty of every public body and office holder, in exercising any functions, to further the conservation of biodiversity so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions". This is the Biodiversity Duty. The Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (2011) requires all public bodies to report on the delivery of their Biodiversity Duty every 3 years. The deadline for the submission of the first report to the Scottish Government is 31 December 2014.

An overview of the Falkirk Council Biodiversity Duty report for 2011-14 was provided together with the report.

Following approval by the Scottish Government, the report will be available on the Council's website and in hard copy on request.

Decision

The Executive agreed:-

- (1) the Biodiversity Duty Report as appended to the report; and**
- (2) that it be submitted to the Scottish Government and made publicly available prior to the reporting deadline of 31 December 2014.**