

THE BIODIVERSITY DUTY REPORTING TEMPLATE: LEVEL THREE ORGANISATIONS

Report Outline

Bodies are encouraged to use the following structure for their report. This is set out in the template below, which you can either type directly into, or copy into a separate document.

- Section 1: Introductory information about your public body
- Section 2: Actions to protect biodiversity and connect people with nature
- Section 3: Mainstreaming biodiversity
- Section 4: Nature-based solutions, climate change and biodiversity
- Section 5: Workforce development
- Section 6: Research and monitoring
- Section 7: Biodiversity highlights and challenges

The Completion Notes

These completion notes offer guidance to support your public body to complete your Biodiversity Duty Report. Taken together with the associated hyperlinks, they provide suggestions on the breadth of actions that could be included in your report. They may also assist with forward planning on how biodiversity can be taken into account in future.

While they incorporate the key elements on which you may wish to report, they are not an exhaustive list and it is possible that there will be a range of additional work that your organisation carried out in support of biodiversity on which you may also wish to report. To find out more on the Biodiversity Duty see the [NatureScot website](#).



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PUBLIC BODY

Please describe your organisation’s role and purpose, including any particular environmental responsibilities

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>Summarise your organisation’s role and purpose, including a brief outline of governance and management structures.</p> <p>Summarise any relevance and impacts of biodiversity to your organisation. This might include the key environmental impacts from your operations, and any your role you have in sustainable development.</p>
<p>Text Field</p>	<p>Role and Purpose</p> <p>The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) is an Executive Agency of the Scottish Government and funded by the Scottish Government.</p> <p>The SPS is responsible for those who are committed to its care by the Courts and is accountable to the Scottish Parliament for the delivery of custodial care in accord with The Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Rules 2011.</p> <p>Our principal objective is to contribute to making Scotland Safer and Stronger. The SPS has a duty to protect the public by keeping those who have been sentenced in safe and secure custody. Our commitment to public safety is delivered through constructive engagement with those in our care, focussing on recovery and reintegration.</p> <p>There are currently 13 publicly managed prisons and 2 privately managed prisons (HMPs Addiewell and Kilmarnock), accommodating on a daily basis over 7,000 individuals in our care, and we directly employ around 4,500 staff. Further information is available in our most recent annual performance report at this link: SPS Annual Report and Accounts 2018-19</p>



We also manage the contract for the Scottish Court Custody and Prisoner Escorting Service (SCCPES), on behalf of multi-agency justice partners, for the provision of safe and secure transport of those in custody to and from courts.

Corporate Governance and Management Structures

The [SPS Framework Document](#) sets out the vision and objectives of SPS and outlines the relationships between Ministers, the Chief Executive of SPS, and the Director General Education, Communities and Justice within the Scottish Government. It describes SPS's financial and wider accountabilities and its approach to staffing and other organisational matters. In short, it sets the broad basis on which SPS will operate.

Chief Executive

SPS is headed by a Chief Executive who is responsible to Scottish Ministers for the management, performance and future development of SPS. Responsibility for all operational matters is delegated to the Chief Executive by the Director General (Learning and Justice). The principal duties of the Chief Executive are laid out in the SPS Framework Document.

Executive Directors

SPS operates a three directorate model comprising Operations, Strategy & Stakeholder Engagement and Corporate Services Directorates. Each directorate is headed by an Executive Director. Executive Directors are members of both the SPS Advisory Board and the SPS Executive Management Group.

Non-Executive Directors

Independent Non-Executive Directors are selected and appointed by the Chief Executive in accordance with good practice and recommendations in public appointments. The role of the Non-Executive Directors is to support the Advisory Board in the delivery of its remit.

SPS Advisory Board

SPS has an Advisory Board which is currently chaired by a Non-Executive Member and comprises the Chief Executive, Executive Directors and 5 external Non-Executive Director members (including the Chair).



Environmental Responsibilities

Impacts on the environment and biodiversity mainly arise from our operational activities and major construction projects. Detailed examples of our biodiversity actions are outlined further on in this report.

Reduction of our carbon emissions has been and remains a key area in our efforts to tackle Climate Change and subsequent positive impact on biodiversity and other environmental factors.

Our Carbon Management Strategy (CMS) outlines the SPS plans for operating more sustainably and reducing carbon emissions over the period from 2015 to 2021. Our CMS is available on the SPS website at this link: [SPS Carbon+Management+Strategy+2015-2021](#)

Consumption of consumables and procurement of goods and services are also a key environmental issue which affects biodiversity and SPS have developed procurement and purchasing policies and strategies to tackle this increasingly important aspect of our operations. Further details on SPS's procurement and purchasing strategy are available on the SPS website at this link: [SPS+Procurement+Strategy+2019-22](#)

Our direct impact on biodiversity arises mainly from operating a large and diverse prison buildings estate, extending to over 361,000 square metres in area and spread across Scotland from Grampian and Inverness in the north to Dumfries in the south. And includes prisons which are up to 150 years old.

Energy consumption to heat and operate our buildings is by far the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for over 90% of our carbon footprint as at 31st March 2020. The age and condition of our estate has led SPS to undertake a comprehensive programme of major redevelopment works over the last 15 years and this work continues.

Through thoughtful design and construction across our major redevelopment works, SPS is making inroads towards becoming more environmentally friendly. As part of our current redevelopment programme we aim to design new prisons that enhance biodiversity and tackles the main drivers of biodiversity loss.



SECTION 2: ACTIONS TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY AND CONNECT PEOPLE WITH NATURE

Please describe and explain any actions that your organisation has undertaken alone or as part of a partnership to benefit biodiversity directly, to tackle the main drivers of biodiversity loss, or to achieve wider outcomes for nature and people

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>You may wish to report on activities across the breadth of your organisation, including any actions that you have undertaken on your premises.</p> <p>Please explain how these actions have benefited biodiversity or nature, noting successes and challenges, and any plans for future or follow-up work. These might include:</p> <p>Addressing or raising awareness of some of the key drivers of biodiversity loss, which might include work or projects to tackle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change; • Land use change; • Pollution. <p>Enhancing biodiversity at your premises through actions in and around offices, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing bird boxes / feeders; • creating habitat for wildlife, such as wildflower areas; • installing green roofs; • organising staff volunteering days; • sponsoring a species or habitat, or raising funds for a local wildlife trust or charity; • reducing energy use; • recycling and re-using as much as you can so that you produce less waste; • encouraging staff to cycle or walk to work more.
<p>Links to related resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance on the Key pressures on biodiversity. • Guidance on Buildings and biodiversity - how to make space for nature in the built environment. • Information on placemaking, open space and green infrastructure.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examples of smaller actions that can be enacted in the office or staff homes - Biodiversity - what can you do? <p>Case studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scottish Water Volunteering Programme
Text Field	<p>Our action on biodiversity can be broken down to two key areas, “Local Actions” taken across our prison estate and “Major Redevelopment Works” under our redevelopment programme.</p> <p>Local Actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All SPS sites have pollution prevention systems and procedures in place that ensure chemicals, hazardous substances and waste is disposed of correctly and in compliance with current legislation to prevent damage to the environment.• All SPS sites have systems and procedures in place to prevent harmful substances and organic waste from entering our drainage systems in compliance with SEPA requirements.• HMP Low Moss have bird boxes installed to encourage wildlife across the facility. They also have a facility for Bees on site to extract honey. There is a small wildflower meadow located in the regimes area which the Governor is keen to increase in size. There are currently three Combined Heat and Power energy plants which save on average of £25,000 per year by using recycled energy. There are also solar panels on the facilities building.• The Gardens department at HMP Dumfries grow food (vegetables etc.) that is used in the prison kitchen. This year this has saved the establishment circa £3,600. This activity also reduces our carbon footprint as no transport or storage is involved with buying the food externally.• HMP Dumfries also recycle wooden pallets into kindling and wood blocks for heating for the community (circa 300 homes supplied through what was the winter warmth project, now community payback scheme). They also recycle wooden pallets to build planters / bird boxes for the community, supplied to local schools and hospital. This also contributed to Dumfries winning ‘Scotland in Bloom’ competition in 2019.• Within HMP Dumfries there is a large Gardens area that attracts certain types of wildlife. Within this area there is a small fish pond that also attracts some wildlife. They are plans and



funding approved to install 300 solar photo voltaic panels within the gardens area and the intention is to have the area below and around the panels to be left to grow wild to encourage wild life to the area.

- SPS has been operating Cycle to Work schemes for a number of years to promote cycling and sustainable transport. All staff are encouraged to participate in the scheme which enables them to:
 - Get a tax-free bike and safety equipment through your work, saving up to 48%;
 - Save money off the daily commute to work;
 - Keep fit/active and improve overall health; and
 - Reduce your carbon footprint.
- All SPS prisons operate grounds maintenance garden parties which train prisoners in basic ground maintenance and gardening skills. **HMP Castle Huntly** and **HMP Glenochil** have greenhouse / polytunnels and grow various seasonal produce. Produce is either used within the prison, or some donated to a local food bank such as The Gate Charity in Alloa for their soup pot days.
- SPS maintains a number of small scale bee hives/apiaries at **HMP Edinburgh**, **HMP Low Moss** and **HMP Glenochil** to both sustain bee populations and to encourage bio-diversity. A supplier to SPS has offered a Community Benefit using [Plan Bee Ltd](#) to provide additional bee hives at other prisons. This latter initiative was not able to be progressed during 2020 due to Covid restrictions, however we will revisit this with them in 2021.
- **HMP Edinburgh** and **HMP Glenochil** both have a number of free range chickens; the *henitentiary*. The activity of caring for the chickens allows those in custody to develop their social skills alongside learning about animal husbandry. The eggs are used with SPS training kitchens.
- **SPS Fauldhouse (Central Stores)** has a resident family of oyster catchers who nest in a gravel courtyard area between the buildings. SPS re-routes visitors to ensure the nesting area remains undisturbed. Staff have enjoyed watching the parents successfully raise a brood of chicks in each of the last seven years. In 2020 SPS completed the installation of 300 solar



photo voltaic panels within the grounds area and the intention is to have the area surrounding the array to be left to grow wild to encourage wild life to the area.

- Timber seating and planters produced by SPS Prison industries were used by Elmtree Garden Products Ltd to create a roof top quiet garden at the Oncology Centre at Bristol Hospital. Prison Industries also produced 15ft x 3ft raised planters for South Lanarkshire Council as part of the council's work to encourage allotment / gardening activity in East Kilbride.
- Prison Industries have also worked with Blair Drummond Safari Park to produce a number of one-off items to support animal welfare and care. This included natural environment suspended hanging feeding cages for the giraffes.
- Prison Industries have also completed a series of steam train planters for specific Scotrail stations. This was for the 'Stations in Bloom' project which encourages the community to voluntarily maintain and enhance the appearance of the stations with flowers, etc. The community workshop in **HMP Greenock** have also produced garden planters for the Belville Community Garden Trust in Greenock.

Major Redevelopment Works – HMP Highland

The following provides a typical example of biodiversity improvements and actions planned for our new prison in Inverness, HMP Highland. Further examples from our other new build prisons, including The Women's National Facility (located in Stirling) which is under construction and HMP Glasgow which is at early design stage are included further on in this report. All of our redevelopment and new build facilities follow a similar approach to protecting the environment and enhancing biodiversity.

SPS has set out its commitments in our Design & Access Statement for HMP Highland to enhance landscape design in support of the preferred architectural concept of the 'roundhouse' aligned with the existing landscape context/views and includes the juxtaposition of circles/arcs and geometric linear shapes. In terms of materials the concept draws on these themes to include natural stone, permeable paving and wood combined with native planting of varying height.



The intention of the landscape design at the main building frontage is to complement the architectural features of the curved building profile and façade to create a contemporary and tactile public realm interface at Eastfield Way. The proposed buildings are set back from existing road and pavement, this offers potential to create a linear landscape zone to compliment the façade design to accommodate both visitors and walkers.

The design introduces bespoke planters/benches combined with stone paving and native planting to create a high quality street frontage and entrance. Linear planting beds adjacent to the planters create pockets of soft landscape interest accommodating exposed rock and low level planting consisting of heather and grasses. Managed tree/ shrub planting will punctuate the planting beds along the road to create vertical interest and frame views of the facade.



HMP Highland, Approach and Entrance



HMP Highland, General Layout



Car Parking and footpath

The landscape features at the car park and path approach to the building include a stone rubble wall (gabion style) and formal tree planting to draw visitors into the building and visually break up the car parking area. The design of the wall reflects the background building facade (mountain profile) with a variation in height, sloping profile and gaps with planting. An additional seating area will be introduced adjacent to the path and parking area to accommodate visitors and extends the public realm zone created at East-field Way.

Courtyards and Exercise Yard

The visitor's garden includes an outside courtyard with seating combined with an amenity area which forms a green backdrop to the entrance. The courtyard will include bespoke planter/benches combined with tactile paving interspersed with ground cover planting. It is intended to be a tactile amenity area and includes paved areas interspersed with low level planting. Due to the transient nature of the space the final design of green areas will need careful thought but should include robust evergreen species.

Enhancing Wildlife

Key aspects of the design include minimising disturbance to animals and plants, retaining existing on-site trees and vegetation, maintaining linkages to other existing semi-natural environments and open spaces. Corridors and buffers which enable wildlife to move between different areas include hedges and tree belts that will be retained where they exist and play an important part for the design of the new development. To conserve the extremely important role in maintaining local biodiversity, the existing woodland edge will be retained and native and locally occurring species of plants are proposed within landscape features.

The site and layout of the prison has been designed to avoid the existing adjacent badger colony.

Surface water runoff

Key items from the surface water strategy are as follows:

- Surface water runoff must be treated by sustainable drainage systems (SuDS);



- Proposals must meet the treatment requirements of CIRIA C753 (The SuDS Manual);
- SuDS discharge rates into the adjacent Beechwood Burn should be designed so that they match the current site discharge rates.

Waste & recycling

The SPS have a duty to comply with all legislation relating to the segregation, storage, transport, treatment and recording of all wastes arising from its' activities.

The SPS is committed to reducing waste and increasing recycling, whilst creating employment and increasing purposeful activities for prisoners. The SPS will provide staff and prisoners with the opportunity to recycle at source, where possible. A Waste Recycling Centre will be located in the prison.

It is therefore a key requirement that the design of the establishment enables SPS to manage waste effectively and efficiently. The SPS will take all reasonable steps to ensure source segregation and separate collection of the following key recycling materials: Paper, Card, Glass, Metals, Plastics. Food waste is kept separate from all other waste. Once recycling materials have been segregated, they will be managed in a way which does not compromise their quality and where possible maximise the opportunities for onsite recycling through source segregation of materials.

Transport

A Transport Assessment has been developed on behalf of the Scottish Prison Service in respect of a Planning Application for the proposed prison. The report concluded:

- The existing site benefits from established connections to the existing pedestrian, cycle and public transport network that linking it with Inverness;
- The development is compliant with policy documentation at local, regional and national level;
- The proposed development is located in close proximity to the surrounding strategic and local road networks, with good access to these routes;
- Parking provision for the development will provide 200 car parking spaces in line with anticipated demand, including provision for electric vehicle charge points;



- | | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The assessment of the generated travel demands is considered robust and conservative, and the modelling of the development traffic flows on the network indicated the site will not have any significant impact, which will require to be mitigated. |
|--|--|



SECTION 3: MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY

Please outline any steps your organisation has taken to incorporate biodiversity measures into its wider policies, plans or strategies. This should include decision-making structures and staff and organisational roles and responsibilities.

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>Outline any of your own body’s policies, plans and strategies that refer to biodiversity, or that may affect biodiversity positively or negatively, and describe how these are reflected in the structure of your organisation.</p> <p>These may include policies on consideration of biodiversity in estate management, procurement policies and purchasing decisions, and Sustainability and Climate Change commitments.</p> <p>Detail any areas in which your organisation has most successfully implemented mainstreaming of biodiversity, including through working with others, or raising awareness of biodiversity or nature.</p>
<p>Links to related resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Place Standard tool and associated Strategic Plan 2020-2023 provides a simple framework to structure conversations about place. • Case study - Procurement by the Scottish Courts and Tribunal (SCTS) Services. • The Forest Stewardship Council global forest certification system. • Guidance on Scotland's Pollinator Strategy, projects, resources • Case studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local Nature Conservation Sites systems in North Lanarkshire and Aberdeenshire. ○ A Pollinator Action Plan in Aberdeenshire
<p>Text Field</p>	<p>The SPS does not have specific corporate policies, plans or strategies that directly address our impact on biodiversity.</p> <p>However, we have developed various other strategies and guidance relating to Climate Change and other environmental aspects. Our Climate Change actions and plans are set out in our Carbon Management Strategy (CMS) which outlines the SPS plans for operating more sustainably and reducing carbon emissions over the period from 2015 to 2021. Our CMS has been undertaken to determine how best the SPS can constructively continue our sustainability journey and actively contribute to reflect the Scottish Government’s environmental policies and targets. Our CMS is overseen by a Carbon Management Strategy Board (CMSB).</p>



The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 gave effect to the Sustainable Procurement Duty (SPD). The SPD requires that public bodies consider a range of sustainability factors in the context of improving the “economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the authority’s area”. The SPS Procurement Strategy 2019-22 recognises the role that public procurement activity can have in directly or indirectly supporting relevant SPD facing activities and contributing to National Outcomes such as the Environment: “We value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment”.

The SPS procurement team use a Sustainability Prioritisation tool (*linked to SG policy guidance*) to inform discussions within SPS around potential socio-economic-environmental priorities and outcomes that we may seek to achieve from different types of contract; this includes in terms of bio-diversity.

Softwood timber supplied to the SPS for use in goods manufactured by prison industries is accredited as meeting either the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). These certifications give an assurance that the timber used is being sourced from legal and sustainable sources.

In 2015, the Tayside Landscape Project planted an area of willow trees at **HMP Castle Huntly**. The project set out to encourage the natural bio-diversity by reintroducing a native tree species into the area, and allowing this to grow for coppicing and harvesting by those in custody. The coppice produced its first harvest in 2020.

SPS is also taking steps to address and control the invasive non-native Japanese Knotweed which has been identified in parts of the sites SPS has recently acquired for development of the prison estate.



SECTION 4: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY

[Climate change](#) is a direct driver of biodiversity loss. Some species are dying out while others are being displaced due to warmer air temperatures, extreme weather patterns, and higher sea levels. As well as being a direct driver of biodiversity loss, climate change also worsens the other drivers. For example it enables quicker spread of non-native invasive species. Combined action for biodiversity loss and climate change can be achieved through nature-based solutions.

This reporting section provides the opportunity for your organisation to provide details on how you are supporting the positive contribution biodiversity can make to building resilience, and helping nature to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

How has your organisation integrated biodiversity into nature based solutions to the climate emergency and other socio-economic outcomes?

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>Nature-based solutions can play a vital role in helping us to protect and enhance biodiversity, achieve net zero targets, and improve quality of life.</p> <p>If relevant, you may wish to report on any processes or activities that your organisation has undertaken, including within your buildings and workforce, and projects that you have delivered.</p> <p>Integration might include incorporating biodiversity into nature-based solutions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The climate emergency, for example by developing climate change strategies that include nature, investing in green infrastructure, and taking action for pollinators. • Inclusive economic growth, for example by supporting nature based industries, or key natural visitor attractions • Health and wellbeing, for example by improving access to nature for all.
<p>Links to related resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on how urban nature-based solutions can help Scotland's towns and cities mitigate and adapt to climate change providing guidance and examples. • The Helping nature to adapt webpage contains useful information on making use of nature's capacity to adapt to change as one of our best tools for managing climate change impacts, including through managing native woodlands and restoring peatlands. • The publication People, Place and the Climate Emergency includes examples and information on local nature-based solutions to deliver a range of socio-economic outcomes.



Text Field

The **Women’s National Facility (WNF)**, which is currently under construction represents a step change in SPS approach to design of custodial facilities in Scotland. The Women’s National Facility is to be a new custodial establishment for females, and is located on the existing HMP Cornton Vale site in Stirling.

The design allows all women to be treated as individuals, and fosters supportive and positive relationships. The overall approach is to create a domestic environment, aiding integration back into the community and to enable responsibilities and choices in the women’s daily life.

The concept is inspired by nature, seasons and landscape around the site. Natural shades of flowers, trees, pebbles and water are used throughout facility. Colours and textures found in nature are always calming which allows colour psychology to be applied. Colours include: various shades of green, blue, purple, pink, orange and yellow.

The proposals incorporate natural materials such as timber, living plants, pebbles and organic shapes, which creates a feeling of fresh and inviting spaces, which, when accompanied with various flooring finishes and feature wallpapers helps to define areas based on their function.

Setting

Areas outside the secure perimeter of the facility will be integrated into the wider landscape enhancing biodiversity and ecological value where appropriate and will provide a welcoming civic setting and approach to the “Front of House” building, which represents the outer public face of the facility. Pedestrian access from the public footpath and bus stop, the cycle route and the parking area will all access the entrance to the facility through a landscaped public plaza. A covered cycle parking area will be provided along with electric vehicle charge points.



Women’s National Facility (WNF)



Landscape Strategy

The landscape design objective is to recognise the value of the grounds as a therapeutic environment and healing resource and provide the appropriate context and structure in which this is achieved to help move from simply a custodial mindset to one of rehabilitation and reintegration. The landscape proposals will provide a welcoming, safe and inviting external environment that is both integral to and complements the built environment and the rural landscape setting of the facility.

Environment

The different security levels within the secure perimeter determine the level of landscape complexity that can occur in different internal areas. Spaces will be defined in a coherent manner through changes in surface materials, furniture, landform and planting to create a unified environment which is safe, serves multiple functions and is accessible to all. The landscape treatment of different spaces will link the spaces inside the facility's perimeter to the external environment and the natural landscape beyond. There will be amenity space for exercise and recreation opportunities, sports, walking and formal training activities. Enhanced garden areas will provide a pleasant outlook.



WNF Entrance and Approach



WNF Internal Courtyard



SECTION 5: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Workforce skills and training

Guidance on completing this section	<p>Detail activities that have been undertaken to support the development of your workforce, particularly in relation to skills relevant to biodiversity, nature, or outdoor learning and community engagement in the natural environment. Identify any opportunities that are available to your staff to take part in practical action.</p> <p>Activities might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting volunteering days, for example with environmental Non-Governmental Organisations;• Staff training, education and capacity building;• Staff networks that aim to deliver on or promote objectives related to biodiversity or nature;• Hosting conferences, exhibitions and events;• Collaborative working with other organisations and sharing best practice;• Information about nature hosted on your webpage or blog posts;• Ideas on volunteering outdoors.
Text Field	<p>Water of Leith Trust – approx. Six members of the SPS procurement team undertook two volunteering days to assist with clearing and improving habitat in the Water of Leith in Edinburgh.</p>



SECTION 6: RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Describe any research activities that your organisation has undertaken that may be relevant to biodiversity or nature

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>Detail any relevant research activities undertaken, if any. This might include research papers, surveys or reports undertaken by your organisation.</p>
<p>Text Field</p>	<p>Specialist ecology, habitat and biodiversity reports are the primary source of biodiversity surveys and reports produced in relation to each of our major capital projects. Our most recent biodiversity, ecology, habitat and environmental reports have been undertaken at the Women’s National Facility (under construction), Community Custody Units (Glasgow & Dundee, under construction) and HMP Highland (Development design stage).</p> <p>Surveys and subsequent reports are undertaken in compliance with the relevant environmental legislation and best practice methodology in force at the time and would typically include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference to relevant Legislation and Policy areas; • Outline of Survey Methodology; • Desk Study and Results; • Field Surveys and Results; • Discussion and Impact Assessment; • Requirements and Recommendations; • References, and • Site Plans.

What follow-up actions or monitoring have you undertaken to assess the impacts of the actions you have taken? How have you measured this?

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>If relevant, you may wish to report on monitoring of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities relating to biodiversity, climate change or nature more generally;
---	--



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any contribution to meeting national and international biodiversity targets;• Implementation of relevant strategies or policies;• Organisational capability or development in relation to biodiversity or the natural world.
Links to related resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on biodiversity data, including obtaining and sharing data from Local Records Centres Biodiversity - where to find data.• The State of Scotland's Nature report provides a useful overview.• The National Biodiversity Network provides a single hub for biodiversity data management in the UK.• Biological Recording in Scotland is a useful source of information on surveys and biodiversity data management in Scotland.
Text Field	<p>The biodiversity, habitat, ecology and environmental surveys, assessments and reports carried out at an early stage in each of our major capital projects are used to inform certain aspects of the design of our developments. Most notably, our approach to landscaping design is very much based on local factors using indigenous fauna suited to the specific area. The surveys are repeated as necessary throughout the planning stages to take into account season changes, breeding cycles and other factors. On-going checks continue throughout our construction activities to ensure that impact controls are appropriate and that there is no adverse impact on protected species where identified.</p> <p>The surveys are also used to inform working practices during construction, and potentially operation.</p> <p>For example, otter surveys carried out for the new Women's National Facility (being constructed about 100 metres from the River Forth) have dictated restrictions on deep excavations during construction and informed lighting design to avoid illuminating areas of the river bank when the facility is in operation. Sequencing or programme of construction works are also often dictated by the timing of breeding cycles or presence of certain species.</p> <p>The inclusion of open SUDS ponds at many of our developments is now a fairly standard approach and provides for the creation of a diverse habitat. In the past, the operational requirements of security and health and safety often outweighed the potential benefits and open ponds were not considered appropriate. However, in recent projects, it is become accepted that the wider obligations to address sustainability issues have led to these being considered, even when immediately adjacent to or located within the secure perimeter. Likewise, landscaping such as wildflower meadows or the use of</p>



	<p>'green' or 'living' roofs were often viewed as a security (or maintenance) concern but these arguments have been overcome by the use of impact assessments and studies and it is now generally accepted that these can be considered within our designs.</p>
--	---



SECTION 7: BIODIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

Describe your organisation’s main achievements for biodiversity over the reporting period and what you are most proud of (this can include processes, plans, projects, partnerships, events and actions).

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>Examples of key achievements might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions taken to improve biodiversity through processes followed by your organisation; • Actions taken to improve biodiversity on your premises; • Meeting any strategic aims in relation to biodiversity or nature; • Completion of any projects with relevance to biodiversity or nature; • Volunteering days or time invested.
<p>Text Field</p>	<p>The extensive development project to build a new prison, HMP Glasgow which is included in the Scottish Government’s draft Infrastructure Investment Plan, will replace the Victorian built HMP Barlinnie and provides SPS with an outstanding opportunity to transform a vacant and derelict brownfield site in the centre of Glasgow.</p> <p>The site located in Provanmill has been derelict for some 20 years or more and, at approximately 22 hectares, is an ideal size for the proposed development which will remove the longstanding image of dereliction. In addition, full soil remediation of the site, following historic contamination, will be undertaken which will address any identified contamination issues.</p> <p>The proposals will promote and support opportunities for integrating efficient energy and waste innovations, to support wider Scottish Government Sustainable Development targets and other policies, in particular Placemaking and Sustainable Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>HMP Glasgow also provides SPS with the opportunity to design and build our first zero emissions prison.</p> <p>The image below outlines the current indicative general layout, which will be updated according to building layout as the project develops.</p>



External public space

Cycle route with woodland buffer down the slope towards the prison, and lower shrub and wildflower planting with occasional trees on the other side.

Softer paved surfaces in the courtyards (such as paving with grass in-between, or grasscrete, or similar) allows emergency vehicle access whilst providing a greener landscaped feel.

Areas in-between cell blocks create natural courtyards - these are a good opportunity to provide different character types for people to enjoy (potential for raised beds for older inmates, secured courtyards for higher security, designed courtyards, exercise yards, etc.)

Access road is mostly hidden by the woodland buffer, and connects to a smaller road around the fence perimeter for maintenance and security.



Car park for staff and visitors over large SUDS area to provide a private and quiet reflective space for visitors away from the prison.

Linear parkland area gently steps down from the main entry building towards the fitness area, with areas of lawn, paving, planting, trees, and seating.

Steep wildflower terrace with winding mown paths and informal seating.

Shared surface through linear parkland connects the internal access roads.

Bleacher style stepped seating to view the active area.

Running track with distances marked on the ground surrounds the two football pitches.

Minimum distance of 15m between outer wall and woodland buffer.

HMP Glasgow indicative general layout principles



Looking ahead, what do you think will be the main challenges over the next three years?

<p>Guidance on completing this section</p>	<p>Challenges might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and resource pressures; • Delivery of cross-cutting actions; • Preventing further loss of habitats and species; • Effective management of invasive non-native species; • Pressures for space; • Need to meet targets; • Encouraging enhanced partnership working.
<p>Text Field</p>	<p>The sheer scale and volume of Government legislation, regulations, policies, strategies, plans and stretching targets related to Climate Change, environmental performance and biodiversity will require SPS to carefully consider on-going arrangements to support this agenda.</p> <p>The resource implications faced by public sector organisations in tackling key environmental issues must therefore be acknowledged and a whole organisation approach to effectively managing environmental challenges is required.</p> <p>The impact of the current global health pandemic will potentially further delay the opportunities to engage with third sector organisations such as Plan Bee Ltd. It is however through such engagement that the organisation is likely to best see a cultural change that recognises the importance of biodiversity in a prison context. However, this will be partly achieved in the new developments that will come into operation during the next three years, such as the Women’s National Facility where the importance of quality landscaping proposals that provide a diverse planting and habitat, supporting native fauna and flora will bring biodiversity best practice into the mainstream of SPS business.</p> <p>The SPS could consider the potential to expand the remit of its existing Carbon Management Strategy Board (CMSB) to include wider environmental influences such as biodiversity. Furthermore, steps should be taken to increase awareness of the work being undertaken by the CMSB corporately as well as the individual contributions staff can make in order to support the SPS in its efforts to meaningfully contribute towards a healthy environment and regulated climate.</p>



--	--