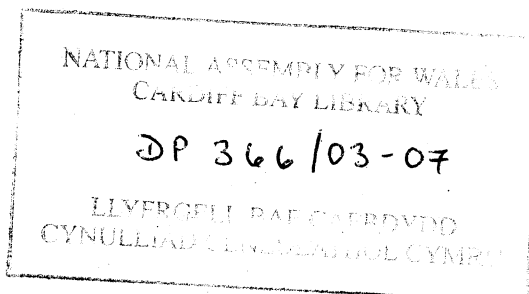




Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
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William Graham AM  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

30 June 2003

Dear *William*

### Progress of Local Biodiversity Action Plans in Wales

During Question Time at Plenary on 11 June, you asked me a number of questions about local biodiversity action plans and I said that I would write back to you. I am now pleased to be able to give you the answers to your questions.

As of 17 March 2003, 16 local biodiversity action plans have been published and the remaining 8 were in draft format. Several of these are being launched during Wales Biodiversity Week.

The co-ordination and promotion of these plans falls to the Wales Biodiversity Partnership which the Assembly Government chairs. Copies of Local Biodiversity Action Plans are held by the Countryside Council for Wales, the Assembly's statutory advisor on matters of nature conservation and which acts as the secretariat for the Partnership.

You may be aware that Wales Biodiversity Week is taking place from June 16-22 and Local Biodiversity Action Partnerships across Wales are organising activities and events to help people find out about the wildlife in their neighbourhood. For example, on June 21<sup>st</sup> in Caerphilly there is a 'Go Wild' event and there is an Open Day at Kenfig National Nature Reserve in Bridgend on the June 22<sup>nd</sup>. On the 21<sup>st</sup> people around the coast are invited to join a Wales-wide coastal watch for the harbour porpoise to help establish information about these beautiful sea mammals around the Welsh coast.

This is the second Wales Biodiversity Week and it has been organised through the Wales Biodiversity Partnership but delivered locally with the aim of providing access to biodiversity for as many people in Wales as possible.

