

Biodiversity Evidence - Better Outcomes from Planning

An online training event on
biodiversity matters for London's
Local Planning Authorities

When: 23rd September 2020, 10am to 1pm

Where: online

Target Audience: London LPA planners

Number of participants: 60

[Register here](#)



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The event is part of the "*Biodiversity Evidence - Better Outcomes from Planning*" project which aims to support London's LPAs to achieve better outcomes for biodiversity by taking it into account in the early stages of the planning process.

It is aimed at planners who are starting up with biodiversity matters but also for more experienced planners that would like to acquire more in depth knowledge of biodiversity in planning. After this training you should be able to go back to your team and feel more confident when dealing with ecological aspects of planning applications.

Overall Aim

Raise awareness of WHY planners need to take biodiversity into account, HOW they can do so and WHAT are the most common pitfalls in relation to biodiversity when examining planning applications in London.

Sessions

- **Session 1** – Introduction to legislation and London focused policies in relation to biodiversity in planning.
- **Session 2** – Biodiversity data in the planning process.
- **Session 3** – Common pitfalls in relation to biodiversity matters in planning.
Participants will be split into three groups:
 - a: Common triggers for further ecological investigation.
 - b: Ecology reports: best practice and red flags.
 - c: Common wildlife law violations related to development.

The sessions will be delivered by London LPA in-house ecologists, and representatives from the Greater London Authority, Metropolitan Police's Wildlife Crime Unit and Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC.

Learning objectives

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Identify legislation related to ecology matters in planning applications (S1).
- Recognise the London plan's biodiversity related policies (S1).
- Identify the stages of the planning process where biodiversity data can be used (S2).
- List the different sources of biodiversity data (S2).
- Apply different methods of incorporating biodiversity data to evaluate potential impacts of planning applications (S2).
- Recognise common biodiversity related pitfalls when reviewing planning applications (S3).
 - Recognise common instances when further ecological information is required for a planning application (S3a).
 - Recognise common instances when the submitted ecological information is not adequate and not based on best practice (S3b).
 - Identify common cases where if suitable ecological impact assessment is not carried out, it might lead to non-compliance with the relevant legislation (S3c).

The “[Biodiversity Evidence – Better Outcomes from Planning](#)” project is hosted by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL) and supported by the Mayor of London.

More information will be sent to participants prior to the event. If you have any questions or require further information contact Eleni Foui at eleni.foui@gigl.org.uk