



FAQS

WHAT IS BEE FRIENDLY?

Bee Friendly is the Action Plan for Pollinators Task Force's scheme to encourage organisations and communities up and down Wales to take action to help pollinators.

The aim is to make Wales the first pollinator-friendly nation in the world!

HOW WILL IT WORK?

There will be Bee Friendly Champions in every region of Wales. These Champions can give advice and guidance to organisations and communities who wish to become Bee Friendly to help them plan the action they are going to take and encourage them to submit an application to become Bee Friendly.

The Bee Friendly Champion will assess applications in their region and give feedback to the applicant. Organisations and communities which are successful will be able have a certificate and use a Bee Friendly logo on their publicity to confirm that they are part of the scheme.

DOES THE SCHEME ONLY APPLY TO BEES?

No. It is important to take action to help all pollinators and not just bees. This includes butterflies, moths and hoverflies, as well as wild bees and honey bees.

WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES OF BEE FRIENDLY?

Bee Friendly has FOUR priorities:

Food

Providing pollinator-friendly food sources (such as native wildflowers) in your area.

Providing places for insect pollinators to live.

Five Star accommodation

Freedom from pesticides and herbicides

Committing to avoid chemicals that harm pollinators.

Fun

Involving all the community and telling people why you are helping pollinators.

IS THERE ANY FUNDING ATTACHED TO BEE FRIENDLY? There is no direct funding from Welsh Government to support communities and organisations who wish to become Bee Friendly, but part of the advice and support on offer will be signposting to other funding sources that could be used.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The scheme is open to organisations throughout Wales. These might be Town or Community Councils, community organisations, schools, colleges and universities, local authorities, other public bodies in Wales, businesses, social enterprises, faith groups, sports or arts groups – all organisations can take part and can make a difference.

WHO DECIDES WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN?

Local groups are best placed to know the most appropriate action that can be taken in their area. We have published an Action Guide listing some suggestions for action under each of the Bee Friendly priorities. But the final decision is for local communities and organisations, taking into account the advice and guidance from the Bee Friendly Champions. To be part of Bee Friendly, however, you have to commit to undertake at least one action from each of the Bee Friendly priorities.

IS THERE ANY REPORTING REQUIRED?

Yes. We would like organisations and communities to tell us about the progress they make across all 4 Bee Friendly priorities. The OPAL Polli: Nation Survey1 can be used as a standard method of monitoring pollinators, both before and after carrying out actions.

IS IT FOR ONE YEAR ONLY?

No. It is important that the work you do to help pollinators in the first year is the start and not the end! We hope that communities and organisations will commit to slowly building on the work they do in year 1, drawing in more people from their community, and slowly increasing the actions they take to help pollinators. Over time, their community or organisation will become more and more pollinator-friendly.

The Bee Friendly application form requires applicants to indicate the commitments they hope to undertake in future years.

All Bee Friendly schemes must submit a renewal application one year after Bee Friendly status is achieved. It will be important that progress around the goals is recorded and details of any events undertaken recorded, including photos, media coverage, quotes from local people and any other relevant information.

On your renewal application, one of our Bee Friendly Champions will work with you to provide advice.

SHOULD SOCIAL MEDIA BE USED?

Yes. Everyone will be encouraged to publicise what they are doing using social media.

WHERE DO I FIND FURTHER INFORMATION?

All the information about Bee Friendly is on the Wales Biodiversity Partnership website:

www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Wales-Action-Plan-for-Pollinators