



Bug House
Ham Lane
Orton Waterville
Peterborough
PE2 5UU

Telephone: 01733 201210
E-mail: info@buglife.org.uk

Policy and Strategy Team
Rm 102, Hammersmith Town Hall
King St, W6 9JU

Dear Sirs

Hammersmith and Fulham Biodiversity Commission – Call for Evidence

Thank you for your letter to our CEO Matt Shardlow regarding the provision of written evidence to assist the Hammersmith and Fulham Biodiversity Commission.

As you are aware Buglife is the only organisation in Europe devoted to the conservation of all invertebrates. We're actively working to save Britain's rarest little animals, everything from bees to beetles, worms to woodlice and jumping spiders to jellyfish. There are more than 40,000 invertebrate species in the UK, and many of these are under threat as never before. We understand that invertebrates can sometimes be complicated as there are so many of them, they can be difficult to identify and they can turn up anywhere.

Buglife are not in a position to provide specific information on the status and importance of invertebrates in Hammersmith and Fulham as we do not have a presence in the area - however I am sure that GiGL <http://www.gigl.org.uk/> hold up to date information on most habitats and many species.

We would however like to point you to information contained within the State of Nature Report 2016 - www.rspb.org.uk/Images/State%20of%20Nature%20UK%20report%2020%20Sept%20tcm9-424984.pdf, which outlines significant declines in many invertebrate species - many as a result of habitat lost. Our good practice guide for planning - see www.buglife.org.uk/good-practice-planning-invertebrates should be considered in your review as it summarises key legislation and guidance with regards to the protection of invertebrates and habitats.

Of particular concern to Buglife is the continuing loss of brownfield sites to development in urban areas - many of these areas are often prioritised for development but are often incredibly valuable for invertebrates and other wildlife. We would urge you to consider the information provided in our brownfield guidance; www.buglife.org.uk/sites/default/files/Planning%20for%20Brownfield%20Biodiversity.pdf and

the wider information on our brownfield hub see <https://www.buglife.org.uk/brownfield-hub>

In addition to the above we would like you to consider the needs of our native wild pollinators found across our urban areas, including London. Recent information <http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/partnerships/ride/lwec/ppn/ppn20/> has highlighted the importance of urban areas in supporting wild pollinators and it is essential that we do all we can to make urban areas more pollinator friendly. We would be very keen to see the Council develop a Local Pollinator Action Plan so that the needs of pollinators are considered and proactively addressed across the whole range of council functions and duties. Advice on the preparation of a Local Pollinator Action Plan along with more information on the needs of urban pollinators is provided here www.buglife.org.uk/sites/default/files/Helping%20Pollinators%20Locally.pdf.

If we can be of further assistance do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Paul

Paul Evans

Lead Pollinator Advisor

Buglife

Paul.evans@buglife.org.uk