

## The Australia Blocks

### **Biodiversity Questionnaire for Chairs of Council Residents' Associations and Housing Block Representatives.**

The Council, through its Transport, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel, is conducting a review into biodiversity enhancement in urban Portsmouth with the aim of positively contributing to re-wilding and support for other approaches to re "greening" Portsmouth.

The views of council residents' associations and block representatives are very important to us, so please keep reading and do complete our short questionnaire on behalf of your organisation.

Biodiversity is the variety of living things on earth, from the smallest insect to the largest mammal and tree. Allotments, especially those in a compact city such as Portsmouth, are important habitats for wildlife as they provide food, shelter and breeding sites for many species of insects and wildlife. By gardening in harmony with nature, even in the smallest of spaces, we benefit as much as pollinators and wild creatures.

#### **In your experience, what proportion of resident members of your association:**

(please tick relevant box):

	None	Some	Most
Grow plants or vegetables in tubs, containers, hanging baskets or planters, window boxes on their patio or balcony		/	
Provide a water source for wildlife.		/	
Provide nesting boxes/ insect hotels/ bee blocks/ bird feeders on their patio or balcony		/	
Please add any comments about other activities your residents take to improve biodiversity:			

#### **In your communal gardens and areas, do you:** (please tick relevant box)

	Yes	No
Provide communal space for residents to grow fruit and vegetables?	/	
Use fences as frames for climbers/ivy (to create wildlife havens)?		/
Grow hedges around the perimeter of the site (to encourage wildlife)?	/	
Grow native trees and/ or fruit trees within your communal areas?	/	
Cut grass only when it is 5cm+ long (leaving it for more than 2 weeks in the summer)?	/	
Have a <u>maintained</u> wild area for wildflowers and/ or wild grasses?		/

Think about enhancing biodiversity when planting children's play areas (if relevant)?		/
Have a log pile?		/
Provide nesting boxes/ hedgehog houses/ insect hotels/ bat boxes/ bird feeders?	/	
Please provide comments about other activities your Residents Association undertakes to improve biodiversity on your site:		

**Thinking about your association and its residents:**

	Not at all	A little	Quite a bit	A lot
To what extent would you say residents in your association/ block are concerned about biodiversity?			/	

	Yes	No
Has the issue of improving biodiversity been raised by residents?		/
Do you think it would be helpful for your residents to receive more information about the role they can play in increasing biodiversity in their outside spaces?	/	
Would you like help/ advice/ training on identifying biodiversity opportunities for your Residents' Association?		
Are there any projects you have in mind which would enhance the biodiversity of your site?		/
If yes, please provide a summary of what your project idea and any problems you are facing in achieving your aims:		
If you have any other comments about biodiversity enhancement, please include them here:		

**Thank you very much for contributing to our review.**

If you would like a link to the review report when it is published in March 2022, please insert your email address in the box below:

My email address is:
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You can also follow the progress of our review by keeping an eye out on the Portsmouth Council website at [Browse meetings - Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel Portsmouth City Council](#) or subscribe for updates at [Logon to Subscribe to Updates Portsmouth City Council](#).