



# St Ives Town Council

## Twinned with Stadallendorf

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## BIODIVERSITY POLICY

### 1. Introduction

This policy sets out the Council's position with regards to requirements to consider biodiversity in decision making. It is intended that all members and staff consider the requirements when undertaking actions or decisions on behalf of St Ives Town Council.

### 2. Biodiversity

Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard to the purpose of conserving biodiversity as a duty under Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. The Town Council has a direct impact on this through work to maintain parks and open spaces including the cemetery and an indirect impact through the use of chemicals and materials throughout its activities.

There is a further indirect impact through actions to fund and support local community groups and through the provision of allotments where a lower level of control is available.

St Ives Town Council biodiversity considerations include:

- Assessing chemicals used (*e.g. cleaning and on parks and open spaces*) and ensuring their safe disposal where appropriate;
- Minimising use of harmful pesticides;
- Composting and shredding garden waste, and controlled burning only when necessary;
- Mulching horticultural waste where possible;
- Planting more trees and using indigenous species as much as possible.

### 3. Notes and References

Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/section/40>

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