

Climate Emergency toolkit

“To ensure future generations of Wulfrunians live longer, healthier lives we will take immediate action” City of Wolverhampton Council



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Introduction

Your **carbon footprint**¹ is the measure of the total greenhouse gas emissions created because of your **actions and activities**.²

This is your Climate Emergency toolkit, how will you use it to reduce your carbon footprint?



Calculate your carbon footprint at
www.carbonfootprint.com



Read the council's climate commitment at:
wolverhampton.gov.uk/climate-commitments

1 www.carbonfootprint.com

2 www.fsb.org.uk/resources-page/11-key-climate-change-terms-your-business-needs-to-know.html

TRANSPORT

Did you know?

Active Travel

- Walking for **30 minutes** or more a day can lower the risk of heart disease and stroke by **35%**¹
- Cycling is a zero-carbon form of transport and **70 times** more efficient than driving²
- There is new secure cycle parking facility within the Civic Centre car park. Check in with the car park office to gain access³
- Active travel can help to **reduce stress** and **improve mental health**, especially when combined with visiting green spaces

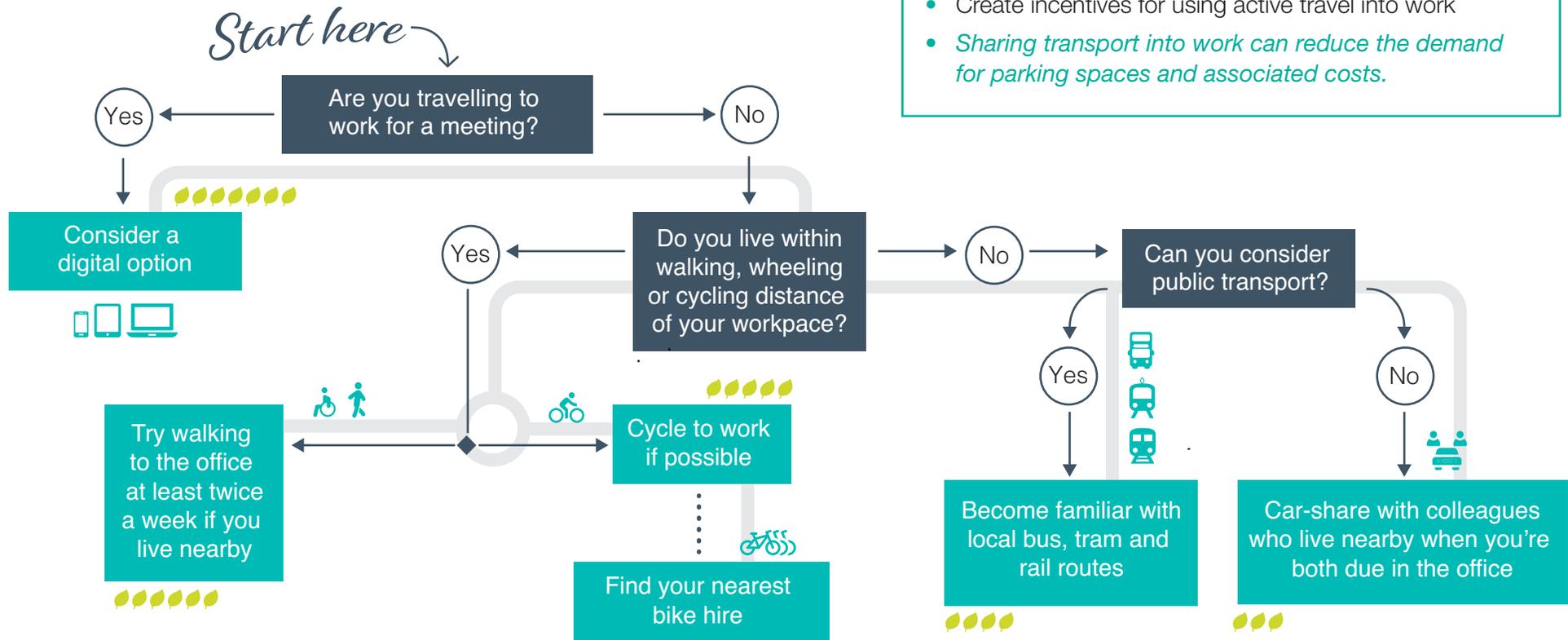
Car sharing

- The average commuter who car shares every day saves on average **£1,100 per year**⁴
- **44%** of people said car sharing was less stressful than solo trips, and **52%** found it a more enjoyable experience⁴
- Sharing transport into work can reduce the demand for parking spaces and associated costs

1. <https://walking.heartfoundation.org.au/benefits-of-walking>
2. <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/active-travel/>
3. <https://tinyurl.com/CivicCentreCarPark>
4. <https://www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Employers-guide-to-car-sharing.pdf>

TRANSPORT

Action tips for work



If you manage a team...

- Enable access to any active travel or public transport schemes on offer
- Create incentives for using active travel into work
- *Sharing transport into work can reduce the demand for parking spaces and associated costs.*

TRANSPORT

Action tips for home

Active travel

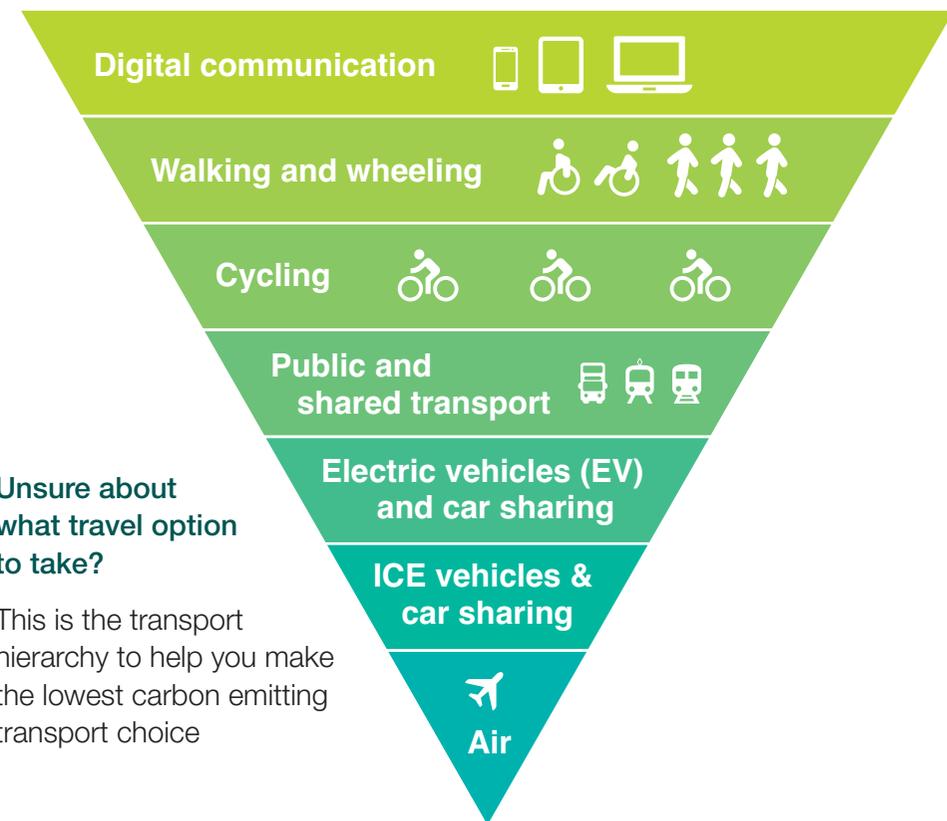
- Walk to the shop or to meet friends when it is not raining
- Identify suitable safe cycle routes using local maps or online resources
- Communicate with your household on low carbon transport options – be a champion for active travel!

Public transport

- Purchase a travel card to get discount travel for the family, for either trains or buses
- Take the train for family holidays and days out

Go electric

- Are you able to consider an electric car for other journeys or even an e-bike?



TRANSPORT

Links and resources

Active travel

Wolverhampton City Centre cycling and walking map

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2019-09/Bike%20Map.pdf

Wolves' city active transport routes and travel times

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-06/Cycle%20and%20Walk%20Times.pdf

Calculate emissions and calories you can save with active travel

www.cyclescheme.co.uk/health-calculator

Find your local cycle hire stations

www.wmcyclehire.co.uk/stations

Public transport

Plan your public transport journey

www.tfwm.org.uk

Electric Vehicles

Wolverhampton City Council's advice on EV vehicles

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/environment-and-climate/climate-change-and-sustainability/electric-vehicles

Contact the Energy Saving Trust for specialist support on electric vehicles

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/service/local-government-support-programme>

Find out more about the workplace charging scheme

www.edfenergy.com/electric-cars/government-grants

Want to know more about buying an electric or fuel-efficient car?

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/travel/transport-tools-and-calculators>

Make an informed decision about electric vehicles and how you can harness their potential

www.ev8-tech.com

Where can you charge your electric vehicle?

www.zap-map.com/live

TRANSPORT

Links and resources (continued)

Other useful links

Use this eco driving advice to lower your transport emissions

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/efficient-driving>

Use this guide to manage your sustainable fleet

www.eltis.org/sites/default/files/trainingmaterials/fuel-and-fleet-management-guide.pdf

This fleet management toolkit can also help

https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/business/transport/advice-on-large-fleet__trashed/fleet-management-toolkit/

Government advice for the National Planning Policy Framework for Sustainable Transport

www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/9-promoting-sustainable-transport



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Did you know?

- **Inefficient offices** can generate higher carbon emissions than commuting¹
- Office equipment left on standby during bank holidays and weekends can cost small to medium sized offices nearly **£6,000 per year**²
- Automatic light sensors can **save up to 30%** on lighting costs and are especially effective in storerooms, toilets and meeting rooms
- Reducing the heating by just **1°C** can cut fuel consumption by **8%**
- Annual energy costs can be **cut by 20%** by improving energy efficiency and effective energy management
- Heating and hot water can make up **60%** of a building's energy demand, so don't waste it!



¹ <https://www.carbontrust.com/resources/the-carbon-savings-potential-of-homeworking-in-europe>

² https://prod-drupal-files.storage.googleapis.com/documents/resource/public/CTV007_OfficeBasedCompanies-2021-update.pdf

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Action tips for work

- Ensure all equipment is switched off when not being used¹
- Use digital note-taking tools whenever possible to save printing²
- Use laptops, rather than desktop PCs, whenever possible²
- Use low power hand-dryers instead of paper towels²

If you manage an office

- Implement flexible energy systems so that less energy is used when fewer people are in the office³
- Label light switches to help staff switch on only the lights they need¹
- Influence procurement so that all new purchases (lighting, PCs and other equipment) are energy efficient.⁴



1 https://prod-drupal-files.storage.googleapis.com/documents/resource/public/CTV007_OfficeBasedCompanies-2021-update.pdf

2 <https://prod-drupal-files.storage.googleapis.com/documents/resource/public/Office%20equipment%20guide%20-%20GBF.pdf>

3 <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-saving-tips-when-you-are-stuck-home/>

4 <https://www.scottishpower.co.uk/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-toolkit>

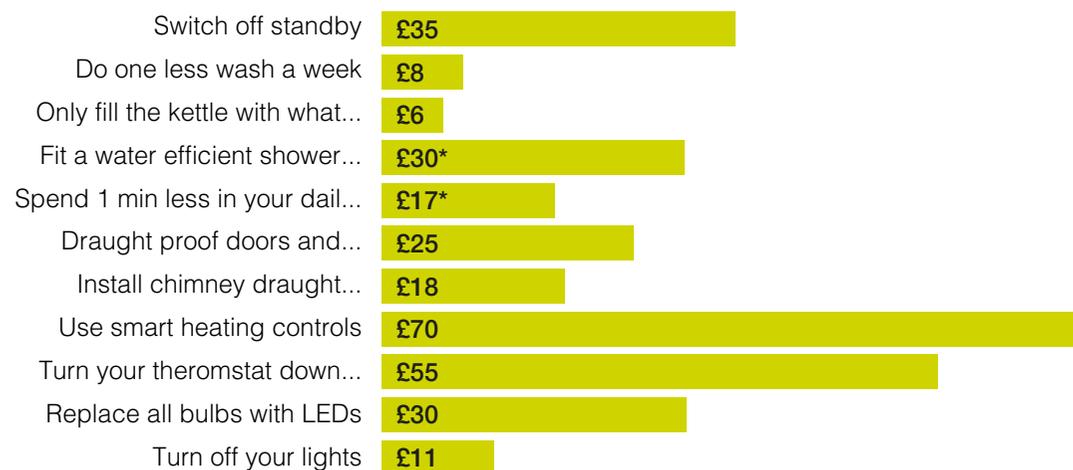
ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Action tips for home

- Only heat the rooms you use! Fit your radiators with Thermostatic Radiator Valves¹
- Wear warm clothing before switching on the heating
- Avoid having the curtains drawn and your lights on until it is dark²
- Install LED lighting²
- Run dishwashers at the lowest effective temperature and only when completely full³
- Where there is an option, use a microwave for food preparation rather than cookers and hobs³
- Use a water efficient shower head

Headings truncated in chart below

How much can you save?



*Figure for a four-person household

1 <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-saving-tips-when-you-are-stuck-home/>

2 https://prod-drupal-files.storage.googleapis.com/documents/resource/public/CTV007_OfficeBasedCompanies-2021-update.pdf

3 <https://prod-drupal-files.storage.googleapis.com/documents/resource/public/Office%20equipment%20guide%20-%20GGBF.pdf>

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Links and resources

What temperature you should keep each room

<https://homecustomer.vitalenergi.co.uk/energy-savings-advice/>

Get guidance from the Heat Trust

<https://homecustomer.vitalenergi.co.uk/energy-savings-advice/>

Energy efficiency advice from City of Wolverhampton Council

<https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/housing/private-housing/private-housing-grants-and-assistance/energy-efficiency-advice>

Ofgem have great advice for consumers!

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/information-consumers>

Wolverhampton Homes have great guidance on money and energy

<https://www.wolverhamptonhomes.org.uk/help-support/money-and-energy/>

Your guide to energy management

https://publishing.energyinst.org/__data/assets/file/0008/199232/Energy-Essentials-A-guide-to-energy-management.pdf

How to limit the use of central heating while home working

<https://www.local.gov.uk/limiting-use-central-heating-while-home-working>

Your guide to smart meters

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/guide-to-smart-meters/>

Free Energy tools and calculators to see how much you can save

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/energy-tools-and-calculators/>

Do you want to save money with energy efficient products?

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/buying-energy-efficient-products/>

How to reduce heat loss at home

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/reducing-home-heat-loss/>

Guide to energy performance certificates

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/guide-to-energy-performance-certificates-epcs/>

Energy saving tips for when you're stuck at home

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-saving-tips-when-you-are-stuck-home/>

What devices use the most energy?

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/tvs-are-electricity-guzzlers-you-need-see-bigger-picture/>

WASTE AND WATER MINIMISATION

Did you know?

Waste

- One third of food produced for human consumption is **lost or wasted**.¹
- By 2050, there could be **more plastic in the ocean than fish** if we continue to use non-recyclable plastic products¹
- **7 million tonnes** of food and drink waste was thrown away in 2012. Of that, **4.2 million tonnes** was avoidable food and drink, worth **£12.5 billion**²

Water Minimisation

- Running the tap can use up to **nine litres of water a minute** (that's 18 litres when you are brushing your teeth)³
- A five-minute shower uses about **half the water** of a standard bath³
- Parts of England has **less water available per person** than the desert states of Syria and Sudan, emphasising the need for us all to do our bit to reduce consumption⁴



1 <https://www.wwf.org.uk/reduce-waste?pc=AUZ014007&gclsrc=aw.ds&>

2 <https://wrap.org.uk/resources/guide/waste-prevention-activities/food>

3 <https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/households/conservingwater/watersavingtips/>

4 <http://www.waterintelligence.co.uk/water-facts/>

WASTE AND WATER MINIMISATION

Action for work

Waste

- Launch a waste prevention group to develop ideas, raise awareness and motivate staff to reduce waste¹
- Ensure recycling bins are labelled clearly and easy to access
- Pack zero-waste lunches at least three times a week¹

Water Minimisation

- Only fill the kettle with the amount you need²

If you manage an office

- Use recycled products to increase demand for the purchasing of recycled items³
- Influence purchasing by ensuring that new appliances that require water use include water saving devices²
- Check your offices regularly for leaks and dripping taps, etc.²

<https://www.edie.net/news/5/Top-20-tips-to-reduce-waste-in-the-workplace/>
<https://www.dwrcymru.com/en/help-advice/water-saving-tips-for-households>
<https://www.edie.net/news/5/Top-20-tips-to-reduce-waste-in-the-workplace/>

WASTE AND WATER MINIMISATION

Action for home

Waste

- Find zero-waste options for everyday items such as clingfilm, teabags, food containers and water bottles¹
- Buy second-hand items and donate used goods²
- Freeze anything you can't eat while it's fresh²
- Buy locally produced food from local markets and take your own reusable bag.³

Water Minimisation⁴

- Try using a watering can instead of a hose and keep your plants in the shade on hot days
- Turn off the tap when you clean your teeth
- Take a shower instead of a bath wherever possible



Unsure about how to manage your waste?

This is the waste hierarchy to help you make the most resourceful choice

¹ <https://www.wwf.org.uk/reduce-waste?pc=AUZO14007&gclsrc=aw.ds&>

² <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/delaware/stories-in-delaware/delaware-eight-ways-to-reduce-waste/>

³ <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/water-saving/water-saving-tips-for-summer>

⁴ <https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/households/conservingwater/watersavingtips/>

WASTE AND WATER MINIMISATION

Links and resources

Waste

How to prevent waste in your local authority

<https://wrap.org.uk/resources/guide/household-waste-prevention-hub/delivering-waste-prevention>

Implement waste prevention behaviours in your household

<https://wrap.org.uk/resources/guide/implementing-and-communicating-waste-prevention/behaviours>

Keep up to date with recycling and waste in Wolverhampton

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste

What goes in my bins?

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste/what-goes-my-bins

Recycling and waste tips from City of Wolverhampton Council

<https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste/tips>

Reduce your consumption and change your purchasing behaviour

www.local.gov.uk/reducing-consumption-or-purchasing-behaviour

How do I reduce or eliminate the use of single-use plastic?

www.local.gov.uk/reducing-or-eliminating-use-single-use-plastic

How will you encourage others to recycle?

www.local.gov.uk/increasing-recycling

Use the resources and waste strategy for England to better

understand what is happening across the country

www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england

Do you store food like this?

www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/article/food-storage-a-z

Love Food Hate Waste!

www.lovefoodhatewaste.com

Water minimisation

General tips for you to save water in your daily routine

www.stwater.co.uk/wonderful-on-tap/save-water/you-can-make-a-difference

How to save water next summer

www.thameswater.co.uk/help/water-saving/water-saving-tips-for-summer

Do know how much water you use?

www.thameswater.co.uk/help/water-saving/water-saving-calculator

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Did you know?

- Being exposed to nature for two hours a week can contribute to better health and wellbeing¹
- All plants intake carbon, so any new trees planted will help to reduce emissions
- It is estimated that around **87%** of homes in the UK have a garden which, if enhanced to benefit wildlife, can increase biodiversity in our urban areas²
- Since 1970, the abundance of UK priority species has declined by **60%**. All small changes made around the council offices and the city can help to reverse this trend³



<https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg24933270-800-green-spaces-arent-just-for-nature-they-boost-our-mental-health-too>
https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/media/6584/Community-Environmental-Toolkit-March-2021/pdf/26_MARCH_Toolkit_WebMR.pdf?m=637576410403830000
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5802/cmselect/cmenvaud/136/136-report.html>

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Action tips

- Consider the wildlife already living around the office premises and think about ways you can encourage them to thrive
- Enquire about hanging bird feeders, installing bat boxes and building bug hotels around on council premises
- Sponsor an animal and raise money for a local Wildlife Trust
- Build the principle of biodiversity net gain into sustainable procurement strategies
- Stop using slug pellets and herbicides
- Plant pollinator-friendly plants
- Install pots and window boxes and plant them with wildflowers, which will attract pollinators
- Do not purchase peat compost
- Plant a tree in your garden or get involved in a local community tree planting scheme
- Volunteer for a wildlife or environmental organisation
- Record and monitor the wildlife near you
- Don't drop litter, as litter and fly-tipping is environmental vandalism.

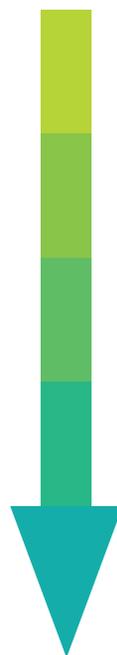
If you manage an office

- Designate a natural environment, wildlife or tree-planting champion in the team
- Consider influencing grass cutting regimes, which can encourage wildflower growth

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Action tips

Consider the biodiversity mitigation hierarchy when implementing projects that could affect the natural environment, to minimise damage and enhance options for species.



Avoid	Seek options that avoid harm to biodiversity, such as finding an alternative site with less harmful impacts.
Mitigate	Avoid or minimise negative impacts to biodiversity using mitigation measures, such as through good project design or sensitive timing.
Compensate	Where significant residual negative impacts on biodiversity remain despite mitigation, these should be compensated for, such as by creating new habitats to replace those lost.
Offset	If compensation for residual effects to biodiversity cannot be achieved on-site, measures can be traded to provide gains for biodiversity at an alternative location.
Enhance	Provide net benefits for biodiversity over and above all other requirements.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Links and resources

Trees

The Tree and Woodland Strategy for Wolverhampton

<https://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s135536/Appendix%20%20Tree%20and%20Woodland%20Strategy.pdf>

Plant a tree in your area

<https://virtualforest-tfwm.hub.arcgis.com>

Plant a tree in your own garden

<https://virtualforest-tfwm.hub.arcgis.com/pages/local-residents>

How to select the best sites for tree planting

<https://treecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Right-tree-in-the-right-place.pdf>

The Woodland Trust's Emergency Tree Plan for the UK

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/2020/01/emergency-tree-plan

Wildlife

Get involved with the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust

www.bbcwildlife.org.uk

Why can a Wildlife Trust partnership benefit the office?

<https://www.bbcwildlife.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-10/Wild%20Work%20Brochure.pdf>

How to record and monitor wildlife near you

[web address missing](#)

How can you manage a habitat?

www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife/wildlife-advice/habitat-management

Other resources

The West Midlands Natural Environment Plan will fill you in on the future of biodiversity in the West Midlands

www.wmca.org.uk/media/5102/natural-environment-plan.pdf

This mitigation hierarchy guide can help you manage biodiversity

www.csbi.org.uk/our-work/mitigation-hierarchy-guide/

The UK's Planning Policy Framework to conserving the natural environment

www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/15-conserving-and-enhancing-the-natural-environment

You can get this information in large print, braille,
audio or in another language by calling 01902 551155

wolverhampton.gov.uk 01902 551155

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