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**Greenspace Habitat Survey 2024**

**Pollinating London Together Mission and Objectives**

Pollinating London Together (PLT) mission is to enhance green spaces in central London so that natural pollinators can thrive, and their habitats can be enjoyed with everyone, starting in the City of London. The vision is to create a template for change and action through leadership that can be implemented in urban environments across the UK.

PLT’s objectives are:

* To redress the decline in pollinators in urban environments by promoting action to increase pollinator-friendly planting and habitats starting in the City of London and its immediate environs;
* To raise awareness of the human benefits of pollinators and pollinator-friendly planting across the wider population of residents, workers, and organisations, starting in the City of London;
* To inform and encourage companies, organisations, and individuals to make meaningful decisions to make this happen.

**Story to date**

Pollinating London Together (PLT) was inaugurated in June 2020 as a long-term, pan-livery initiative to halt the decline of pollinators in the City of London and its immediate environs. It is led by members of the Worshipful Companies of Wax Chandlers, Gardeners, Information Technologists, and Grocers and currently acts under the oversight of the Wax Chandlers Charitable Trust, and thereby adheres to the laws and reporting requirements of a UK charity. PLT is a project part-funded and governed by the Wax Chandlers Charitable Trust: Charity Number 278164.

In March 2022 PLT was awarded a two-year *Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund (CILNF)* grant from the City of London Corporation to help create and map biodiversity corridors across the City of London.

The Charity Commission has recently granted PLT the right to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in its own right and is taking the steps to establish itself as a freestanding charity registration number 1201781.

**What we do**

To achieve its objectives, PLT engages in a variety of activities to raise awareness, educate, and influence action that will help pollinators and their habitats thrive, such as:

* Creating new networks for positive action, change, and influence;
* Running a green space habitat review programme for outdoor spaces in the City:
* Providing a resource library with information sheets and videos to help others learn about pollinators and take positive action;
* Creating an event series to engage members on the importance, needs, and joy of pollinators and their role in nature and human life.

**Greenspace surveys**

Each summer we undertake reviews of pollinator friendly planting and in addition since 2022 the presence of pollinators.

**Many of the greenspaces in the City have multiple functions, having to be a good place just to be, or to sit and have lunch, but also in some cases serve pre dinner drinks and hold weddings. As a result, there are frequently constraints as to what owner/managers can do in terms of planting and that is understood – just so good that where there are opportunities within those constraints that those are taken up. The scoring on the attached is about how effective this area is for pollinators and not necessarily a measure of the efforts of the greenspace manager.**

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**Site name** The Charterhouse Square

**Location** Charterhouse Square, Barbican, EC1M 4AY

**Key contact**  Justin Dennis

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Score** | **Criteria** |
| Plants for pollinators; floristic value, seasonal availability, forage for lifecycle stages. | 0 | 0 % |
| 1 | 20 % |
| 2 | 40 % |
| 3 | 60 % |
| 4 | 80 % |
| 5 | 100 % |
| **Comment:** Low diversity and abundance of plants for forage and lifecycle stages.  |
| Nesting for pollinators | 0 | No nesting resources |
| 1 | Unsuitable or little nesting resources  |
| 2 | Suitable nesting resources, no maintenance |
| 3 | Suitable nesting resources, well maintained  |
| **Comment:** Nesting of spring ground-nesting bees was recorded in vegetation at semi-shaded locations at the south hedge of the garden. Providing a bee hotel and bare ground at sunny locations could increase the diversity and abundance of bees and wasps across the season. |
| Use of pesticides | 0 | Regular use of pesticides |
| 1 | Occasional use of pesticides |
| 2 | Only occasional use of fungicides |
| 3 | No use of pesticides |
|  |
| Monitoring | 0 | No |
| 1 | Yes |
|  |  |  |
| Pollinator species/groups found | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 – 2  |
| 2 | 3 – 4  |
| 3 | 5 – 6  |
| 4 | 7 – 8  |
| 5 | 9 – 10  |
| 6 | 11 – 12  |
| 7 | 13 – 14  |
| 8 | 15 – 16 +  |
| **Total** | **14 / 20** |  |

 **Criteria for scoring sites – Greenspace Habitat Survey 2024**

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| **List and count of flower-visiting species/groups genera and species recorded in 2024:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Flower-visiting species/group** | **Count** |
| Bombus pascuorum  | 8 |
| Other | 6 |
| Hylaeus communis | 5 |
| Apis mellifera | 4 |
| Lasioglossum morio agg. | 4 |
| Syritta pipiens | 4 |
| Eupeodes bucculatus | 2 |
| Eupeodes corollae | 2 |
| Fly | 2 |
| Bombus terrestris | 1 |
| Hylaeus hyalinatus | 1 |
| Lasioglossum calceatum/albipes | 1 |
| Myathropa florea | 1 |
| Sphaerophoria spp. | 1 |

 | **List of plant genera recorded in 2024 and number of flower-visiting insect visits:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Plant genera** | **Visits** |
| Leucanthemum | 14 |
| Ranunculus  | 10 |
| Helminthotheca | 5 |
| Cirsium | 3 |
| Knautia | 2 |
| Lotus | 2 |
| Rosa | 2 |
| Vicia | 2 |
| Melissa | 1 |
| Silene | 1 |

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