

FOI Ref
10550

Response sent
23 Mar 2022

(CCC) No Mow May

'No Mow May', which encourages people to refrain from mowing their lawns in the month of May, in order to improve nectar availability for pollinating insects.

Would you be kind enough to respond to the following questions?

Thank you for your assistance.

- a) Has your council heard of the scheme 'No Mow May' – (designed by the wild plant conservation charity Plantlife?)
- b) Has your council implemented this scheme? If so, how?
- c) Has the scheme been promoted? If so, how?
- d) If you haven't implemented the scheme – did you consider it and what were your reasons for not doing so?

Response

a) Has your council heard of the scheme 'No Mow May' – (designed by the wild plant conservation charity Plantlife?)

Yes Cambridge City Council are aware of the No Mow May scheme by plant life.

b) Has your council implemented this scheme? If so, how?

No. Cambridge City Council are not implementing this scheme directly. We have wider objectives under our biodiversity strategy that includes city wide long grass verges which are not cut in May to enhance biodiversity and are creating a 4.5 pollinator corridor to provide a functional network for pollinating invertebrates. This includes perennial native wildflower areas, native spring bulb areas and night plants for moth species. We are also developing a network of invertebrate banks strategically located throughout the city to provide niche micro habitats to support life cycles.

c) Has the scheme been promoted?

We will be working with our community volunteer groups, such as On The Verge Cambridge to promote No Mow May using social media. With so many vibrant volunteer groups within Cambridge No Mow May will have a far greater impact if this is community-led.

If so, how? d) If you haven't implemented the scheme – did you consider it and what were your reasons for not doing so? Our main objectives are to deliver biodiversity net gain on a landscape scale and the ecological principles of No Mow May are already incorporated within our Biodiversity Strategy.

We aim to provide a high-quality service to you and hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Further queries on this matter should be directed to foi@cambridge.gov.uk