

This Integrated Impact Assessment for the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill, originally published March 2019 and revised Jan 2020, was produced for reference during scrutiny of the Bill. The Bill received Royal Assent in March 2020 and no further revisions will be made to this published document however, an Integrated Impact Assessment relating to the implementation activity will be published in due course.

E. BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Section 6 under Part 1 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 introduced an enhanced Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty (the S6 duty) for public authorities, including Welsh Government, in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales.

The S6 duty requires that Welsh Government must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity so far as consistent with the proper exercise of their functions and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems.

The Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales contains six objectives to reverse the decline of biodiversity which should be used to assess the impacts on biodiversity. They can also help develop and guide actions to comply with the S6 duty.

The impact of the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill on biodiversity and the habitat regulations were considered and it was agreed that there is no direct link or impacts on biodiversity through:

- Procurement
- Management of buildings
- The potential for awareness raising and training
- The potential to support communities and partnerships
- Influencing others we fund e.g. consultants, contractors, grant schemes.