

Information Governance Team

Postal Address: Coventry City Council PO Box 15 Council House Coventry CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

E-mail: infogov@coventry.gov.uk Phone: 024 7697 5408

18 December 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI569608910

Thank you for your request for information relating to Biodiversity Net Gain software.

You have requested the following information:

Please can you tell me if you have obtained any software specifically to help with your implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain (a new statutory requirement for Local Planning Authorities).

An example of this software might be Mycelia by Verna or DEF Mastergov. If it's another software provider, please specify which.

Coventry City Council has not obtained any software related to the implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and has no plans to do so in the immediate future.

The Council has been operating a form of BNG for a number of years and over the last year has appointed two additional ecology staff to help deliver BNG effectively.

To assist, the Planning Department has recently adopted IDOX as the development management software and we may consider BNG modules for IDOX as these become available (e.g., Exacom BNG module)

The Council obtains habitat and ecological data under long-standing Service Level Agreements and is actively exploring a number of options to obtain all the additional data that will be needed to implement BNG effectively. The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication</u> <u>Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: <u>infogov@coventry.gov.uk</u>

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance