

# Solihull Bees and Trees Project

We have started the Solihull Bees and Trees project, a year-long scheme which includes woodlands and grassland management works.

Bees and Trees is part of the Wildlife Ways / Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership's (GBSLEP) Small Habitats Grants Programme – part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

This programme supports a wide range of habitat and nature improvements across the borough and beyond. The Solihull Bees and Trees Project will ensure better conservation for over 23 hectares of habitat.

We are currently on site in **Dorridge Park** working on a programme of grassland improvements.

These works include 4.51 hectares of wildflower seeding along with 0.27 hectares of native tree planting. Wildflower seed has been sown within three of five areas as part of the Grassland Enhancement programme taking place in Dorridge Park, with remaining seeding works to be carried out in spring 2021 to allow for effective bramble control.



Preparing the area

The aim of the Bees and Trees grassland management works is to help address the national reduction in species-rich grassland (over 3million hectares since 1930s) to deliver biodiversity benefits for local users, visitors and wildlife. This will enhance

both the sward structure and floristic diversity whilst creating a valuable pollen and nectar source.



Tree planting, January 2021

Over 1,200 native trees and shrubs were planted in two of the meadows in January 2021. Tree planting will deliver a range of biodiversity benefits habitat diversification, reduced likelihood of negative impacts caused by climate change through increased ecosystem resilience, improved air quality in addition to delivering on local and national targets and policies.

Woodland management works have been completed at Browns Coppice, Cut Throat Coppice, Elmdon Coppice, Elmdon Nature Park, Coldlands Wood and Lavender Hall Park.

