

## **Natural Environment and rural Communities Act 2006**

### **Duty to conserve bio diversity**

### **Duties of Public Authorities**

#### Duty to conserve biodiversity

(1) Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.

(2) In complying with subsection (1), a Minister of the Crown, government department or the National Assembly for Wales must in particular have regard to the United Nations Environmental Programme Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992.

(3) Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.

(4) "Public authority" means any of the following—

(a) a Minister of the Crown;

(b) the National Assembly for Wales;

(c) a public body (including a government department, a local authority and a local planning authority);

(d) a person holding an office—

(i) under the Crown,

(ii) created or continued in existence by a public general Act, or

(iii) the remuneration in respect of which is paid out of money provided by Parliament;

(e) a statutory undertaker.

(5) In this section—

- "local authority" means—

- (a) in relation to England, a county council, a district council, a parish council, a London borough council, the Common Council of the City of London or the Council of the Isles of Scilly;

- (b) in relation to Wales, a county council, a county borough council or a community council;

- "local planning authority" has the same meaning as in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (c. 8);

- "Minister of the Crown" has the same meaning as in the Ministers of the Crown Act 1975 (c. 26);

- "statutory undertaker" means a person who is or is deemed to be a statutory undertaker for the purposes of any provision of Part 11 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990