

# GREENER, LEANER, CLEANER

April  
2024



## Whats Happening

- Natterjack Toad breeding activity is in full swing, and all of our amphibians on the Sefton Coast are active now.
- Spring bird migration starts to really build up.
- Key areas for roosts are between Ainsdale and Birkdale off the Green Beach, Albert Road to the Alt at Formby and the sandbanks off Hightown north of Hall Road.
- Wading birds, warblers, swallows, pipits, chats, gulls and even ospreys pass along the Sefton coast as they head to breeding sites
- Harmless Vernal Mining Bees buzz around sunny sandy slopes on the coast. These mining bees are harmless and rely on the flowering of Creeping Willow in the dunes each spring to feed and for the success of their breeding cycle.
- Over 1,200 species of wild flowers can be found along the Sefton coast, and the hardiest from Houndstongue to Rue-Leaved Saxifrage begin to flower. Please do not pick flowers on the coastline or damage habitats.
- Water Voles become active from now until September.
- Cetaceans (porpoises and occasionally, dolphins) and Grey Seals reappear offshore.

## What can I do?

Nesting birds should not be disturbed at any sites, in gardens, parks or on the coast. Depending on the species, birds will be nesting and raising broods from now until August.

If you are a dog walker, horse rider, walker, jogger, photographer or birdwatcher, you must not disturb these birds – if they run or fly ahead of you, you are too close. Give the birds a break!

Keep dogs out of pools and flooded areas - Natterjack Toad breeding activity is in full swing!

Please be aware of the Public Space Protection Order on dog control across the borough. Failure to comply can result in a fixed penalty notice or fine. All fouling must be bagged up and either binned or taken off site, and dogs must be kept under control.

For more details, please go to: [Dogs \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://www.sefton.gov.uk)