



Biodiversity at West Shore Llandudno

SAND DUNES

Dune systems are characteristic of many beaches, and historically Llandudno's West Shore used to have an extensive dune system before development obliterated the majority of it.

Dunes are created by the aggregation of wind-blown sand trapped by debris and vegetation along the strand line. As they grow more plants and other wildlife can colonise them.

There are some remnants of the dune system left at Llandudno's West Shore adjacent to the cycle path / wales coastal path, and there is an area of plant colonisation within the wind-blown sand at the top of the two west shore rock groynes.

Dune systems can change. There are **mobile / white dunes** where there is active sand movement. They are colonised by marram grass or Lyme grass. They are called *white dunes* as there are bare patches of sand in between the vegetated areas.

Fixed / grey dunes are not replenished with fresh sand so that the sand is no longer accumulating. They support a greater diversity of plants that will contribute to stabilising the dunes. They develop landwards of the mobile / white dunes.