

STRATEGIC

Ref	Action	Timescale	Resources	Lead	Working with	OS and GI Strategy Objective	Measure of success
Comms and Engagement	Develop a communication and engagement programme for internal officers, stakeholders, partners, communities and residents.	Ongoing	Officer time	NCC GI Working Group	Comms Team	4, 5, 6	Long term delivery of the Strategy
Funding	Investigate funding options, bid for money to secure GI benefits on existing and new projects	Ongoing	Officer time	NCC GI Working Group		5	Funding Secured
Links to other Council work	Ensure that relevant emerging plans, strategies and projects reference/link to GI and this Strategy	Ongoing	Officer time	NCC GI Working Group		5	Ensure the Strategy informs other Council work. Ensure GI specialists and inputs embedded in all council built environment projects
Ensure early input and formal sign-off	Ensure council events and projects consider GI and maximises the multiple benefits provided by GI, through involvement of a multidisciplinary team that covers: water, wellbeing, wildlife and trees. Create check lists for new projects / sign-off as part of formal decision making.	Ongoing	Officer time	NCC GI Working Group		1,2,3	Inclusion of GI in Council events and projects
Community engagement	Continue to promote and build on supporting residents, communities, schools and businesses to manage their gardens and land to deliver multiple benefits for people and wildlife, focussing on the strategic GI corridors. Promote funding opportunities available, general awareness raising through council website, social media, events and newsletters.	Ongoing	Officer time	NCC GI Working Group. Liaise	Comms Team	3,5,6	Resident satisfaction / success stories
Community Support and Volunteer Mobilisa	Establish a clear pathway within NCC and YHN with points of contact for volunteer groups to undertake planting on NCC or YHN land	Ongoing	Officer time, Partners	Landscape and Ecology	Communities, Comms, Learning and Engagemen	5	Pathway in place and planting undertaken
Stakeholder engagement	Continue to work with existing partners and develop new partnerships to develop and deliver projects which protect, enhance and create GI, to deliver multiple benefits. Consider setting up a project database and mapping platform to record projects.	Ongoing	Officer time	NCC GI Working Group		1,3,5,6	Database set up and recording projects
Natural Capital Asset Register	Investigate developing a natural capital account for the City to help value wider GI assets	Medium-term	Officer time, Consultants	To be identified		1	Delivery of a Natural Capital Asset Register
GI Network	Explore Opportunities to improve GI links between Town Moor and Jesmond Dene through Local Plan.	Short-Medium term	Officer time	NCC GI Working Group		2	Strategic GI network extended
GI Network	Improve GI links between Leazes Park and the River Tyne, incorporating cycle routes, open spaces and wildlife connectivity potentials	Short-Medium term	Officer time, Partners	To be identified		2	Strategic GI network extended
GI Network	Improve GI links between the River Tyne/Denton Dene (South) and Nuns Moor, incorporating improvements to open space and public rights of way/cycle network.	Short-Medium term	Officer time, Partners	To be identified		2	Strategic GI network extended
GI Network	Widen existing strategic GI corridor to incorporate allocated sites to the south (Callerton) in addition to public rights of way, cycle network and existing open spaces in North Walbottle	Medium-term	Officer time, Partners	To be identified		1,2,3	Strategic GI network extended
Develop a city wide / spatial masterplan	Overlay all relevant strategies and evidence on GIS to guide 'priority areas' for GI.	Short-Medium-term	Officer time	Landscape and Ecology	Urban Design, Highways Design, SUDS	1	Priority areas identified
Maintenance	Review current maintenance arrangements city wide and identify opportunities to change maintenance regimes to increase ecological benefit	To be agreed	Officer time	Ecologist	Grounds Maintenance	2	Reduction in Maintenance CostsImproved biodiversity
Maintenance	Investigate the use of existing GIS Data and Ezytreev app to inform and streamline maintenance regimes	To be agreed	Officer time	Ecologist	Grounds Maintenance, GIS	1,2	
Links to other Council work	Explore opportunities for a Memorial Meadow for residents to plant seeds and flowers in memory of loved ones or to mark significant events.	Ongoing	Officer time, Partners	Landscape and Ecology	Operations and Regulatory Services	4,6	A Memorial Meadow in the City

Planning and Development

Ref	Action	Timescale	Resources	Lead	Working With	OS and GI Strategy Objective	Measure of success
Nature SPD	Adoption of the Nature SPD - Landscape, Trees and Biodiversity	Short-term	Landscape, Development I	Planning		1,2	Approved Nature SPD
Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy	Invetsigate development of a Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy	Short-term, to align w	Landscape, Development I	Planning		2	Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy
Update Mapping	Update the Strategic GI Network policy map in accordance with the Strategy recomr	Short-Medium term to align with the Local Plan	Planning Policy	Planning		1	Updated Policies Map
Update Mapping	Update Wildlife Enhancement Corridor policy map in accordance with the Stratgey r	Short-Medium term to	Planning Policy	Planning		1,2	Updated Policies Map
Review GI Strategy for new policy recomme	Review GI policy wording in accordance with the Strategy recommendations, to ens	Short-Medium term to	Planning Policy	Planning		1,2,3	Inclusion of any new policy recommendations

WATER

Rfd	Action	Timescale	Resources	Lead	Working With	Our vision Strategy	Measure of success
River Restoration (Ouseburn)	Continue to restore wetlands and ponds along the Ouseburn	Ongoing	LLFA and external par	LLFA	External partners	2	Delivery of projects
River Restoration (River Tyne) Improve River Management	Continue to work towards improving the river and water quality of the River Tyne for example investigate opportunities to create Catchment environmental improvements for Tyne tributaries within City Council Administrative boundary (i.e. weed management)	Ongoing	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group	External partners	2	Water quality improvements
Urban Greening Green routes	Investigate opportunities for Urban Greening particularly where there are large amounts of impermeable land (e.g. Denton, Weir)	Short-Medium te	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group		2,3,4	Surface Water Management
Blue green opportunities	Investigate opportunities for creating green corridors along waterways	Short-Medium te	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group		3	Increasing blue green assets
Blue green opportunities	Opportunities to use the GI Strategy to target specific projects to address lack of ponds. Encourage de-paving - use of rain gear	Short-Medium te	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group		3	Increasing blue green assets
Retrofit street trees	Investigate opportunities for woodland planting to reduce flooding mainly in the green belt and further investigation needed into	Short-Medium te	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group		3	Reduction in flooding
Decommissioning of hard verges to grass	Combine retrofit trees with suds strategy for reducing runoff from highway	Long-term	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group		2,3	Reduction in flooding/increased amenity value to streets/increased ecological value
	Remove handstanding from street verges and revert to grass	Ongoing	Office Time/Funding	Landscape and Ecology	Highways Grounds Maintenance	2,3	Contribute to reduction in 'heat islands', allow the infiltration of rainwater, increase the surface areas for capturing carbon emissions, improve the planting environment and health of trees, increased amenity to streetscapes. Stronger survival chance for tree stock.

Wellbeing (OS and PROW)

Ref	Action	Timescale	Resources	Lead	Working with	OS and GI Strategy Objective	Measure of success
Management Plans	Produce management plans and management statements for key open spaces in order to improve the quality and maximise the multifunctionality	Short term	Officer Time	Urban Green and NCC		2, 3, 5, 6	Management plans/management statements produced for all key open spaces.
Mapping	Map new open spaces provided as part of new development including strategic sites	Short term	Officer Time	Planning / GIS		3	Up to date mapping
Review of open space	Investigate opportunities to address open space deficiencies in wards. New provision could be delivered through new development, or through r	Short-Medium term	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group	External partners	3, 4	Open space deficiencies addressed
Review of open space	Investigate the need for updated open space quality audits that also consider an assessment of multifunctionality.	Short-Medium term	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group	External partners	3	Updated quality audits
Tree Planting	Investigate opportunities for tree planting on Council and Urban Green managed open spaces, focusing on areas of need e.g. where there is exi	Ongoing	Landscape and Ecology (Landscape and Ecology		2	Contribute to tree planting targets
Urban Greening	Address wards with the lowest percentage of natural surface and the highest levels of particulate matter (Ouseburn, Heaton, North Jesmond, Ke	Long-term	To be identified	Landscape and Ecology		2	Improvements in Air Quality
Greening routes	Explore opportunities to improve the quality, 'greenness' (for example through street tree planting) and connectivity of access routes, including c	Short-Medium term	To be established	NCC GI Working Group		2, 4	Greening sustainable transport routes
Active Heritage Trails	Investigate developing a combined biodiversity, heritage and wellbeing trail(s). Consideration to be given to linking key heritage features such as	To be determined	To be established	NCC GI Working Group	Active Travel/Sustrans/Public health team/Commur	3	Developing Active Heritage Trails
GI Interventions	Focus GI projects such as tree planting; green roofs and walls; parklets; rain gardens; open space provision and improvements; pond and wetla	Ongoing	To be established	NCC GI Working Group		3, 4	Addressing inequalities
Communal Food Growing	Explore Communal Food Growing opportunities, recognising the benefits of local food production.	Ongoing	Urban Green - Allotment s	Urban Green and NCC		3, 4	Increased Food Growing Opportunities
Engaging with public / volunteer sectors to	Explore opportunities for community work and engagement with Communities Team	Ongoing	To be established			5, 6	Community engagement / satisfaction

WILDLIFE

Ref	Action	Timescale	Resources	Lead	Working with	OS and GI Strategy Objective	Measure of success
Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy	To review BAP and work with North Tyneside on producing a Biodiversity Strategy	Short-term	To be identified	Landscape and Ecology	North Tyneside	5	BNG Strategy
Biodiversity Action Plan	To review BAP and work with North Tyneside at producing a Biodiversity Strategy	Short-term	Joint working NCC & NT	Landscape and Ecology	North Tyneside	1, 5	Biodiversity Strategy
Wildlife Habitat	Support the management of SSSIs to improve their condition. The southern half (unit 2) of Prest	Ongoing	Joint Working NCC & Part	Landscape and Ecology	Urban Green, Natural England and Northumberland	2	SSSIs achieve 'favourable condition' status
Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Work with North of Tyne Combined Authority. Partnership working group, collection of data. Del	Ongoing	Joint Working NCC & Part	Landscape and Ecology	North of Tyne Combined Authority, Northumberland	5	LNRS
Improve Biodiversity	Investigate opportunities to improve grassland and woodland habitat quality and connectivity, in	Ongoing	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group		2	Increase in biodiversity assets
Improve Biodiversity	Investigate opportunities for Green roofs e.g. greening bus stops to provide pollinator habitat and	Ongoing	Place and Operations and	Place and Operations and Regulatory Services		2	Deliver blue green projects
Improve Biodiversity	Investigate reducing and eventually phasing out pesticide usage using PAN guidance.	Ongoing	Operations and Regulatory	Operations and Regulatory Services		2	Increase in biodiversity assets
Verge Management	Verge management - investigate adopting Plantlife guidelines for improving biodiversity, in cons	Ongoing	Operations and Regulatory	Operations and Regulatory Services		1, 2	Increase in biodiversity assets including exploration of Memorial Meadow
Wildlife Enhancement Corridor & Open Space	Open spaces that fall within the wildlife enhancement corridors should be managed to improve t	Ongoing	To be identified	NCC GI Working Group		2, 3	Increase multifunctional of open space for benefit of biodiversity
Rewilding	Consider scope of future strategy and identify sites for trials as part of BNG projects	Ongoing	To be identified	Landscape and Ecology		3	

TREES

Ref	Action	Timescale	Resources	Lead	Working with	OS and GI Strategy Objective	Measure of success
Tree Strategy	Investigate suitable areas for street tree planting and tree planting	Ongoing	Officer time / funding for t	Landscape and Ecology (Tree C	External partners	3	Increase in overall canopy cover in the city by improving tree equality in the areas of the city with fewer trees.
Tree Strategy	Promote the NCC Tree Policy and encourage residents and	Ongoing	Officer time	Landscape and Ecology (Tree C	Comms Team	4, 6	Increase in canopy cover
Urban Forest Management Plan	Develop an urban forest management plan	To be determined	Officer time / funding	Landscape and Ecology (Tree Officer)		1, 2, 3	Urban Forest Management Plans
Ash Die Back Strategy	Strategy to deal with Ash die-back.	Ongoing	Officer time / funding	Landscape and Ecology (Tree Officer)		1	Ash Die Back Strategy
Street Tree Management	End to end process for street tree removal and replacement	Ongoing	Officer time / funding	Landscape and Ecology (Tree C	HighwaysSUDs Team	3	Street Tree Management Guidance
Tree Design Guide	Develop a Tree Design Guide. This will include information such as: - standard acceptable tree pit details - advice on species selection based on and referencing current best practice - promotion of SUDS schemes, - how to plant a more diverse range of age and species with, where appropriate, long life expectancy - how to design for planting the right tree in the right place - working with the community to drive delivery e.g. community planting schemes, tree wardens aftercare.	Ongoing	Officer time	Landscape and Ecology (Tree C	HighwaysSUDs Team	1, 2, 3	Decrease in tree replacements required after planting; Increase in effective SUDS schemes incorporating tree planting; Increase in no. of community tree planting events across the city.
NECF Forest Plan and NECF tree planting	Develop the plan in accordance with grant guidelines	2022-2025	NECF Team	NECF Forest Manager		1, 2, 3	Grant targets met or exceeded
Aspire to become a Tree City of the World	Target Tree Cities of the World accreditation	To be determined	To be established	Landscape and Ecology		1, 3	Achieve and retain accreditation
Data Collection and baseline information for	Measure change in public attitude and knowledge of Trees a	To be determined	To be established		Comms Team	5, 6	Greater Tree education and knowledge
Proactive TPO of trees	Protect trees and woodlands through the implementation an	To be determined	To be established	Tree Officer	Planning Team	1	Number of new TPO's made and planning conditions applied; Net canopy cover gain achieved in areas of new development

Monitoring and Delivery

Ref	Action	Timescale	Resources	Lead	Working With	OS and GI Strategy Objective	Measure of success
Annual Review	Review progress of action plan annually	ongoing	Officer Time	NCC GI Working Group		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Annual Reporting
Comms	Publicise success via council website, social media, newslet	ongoing	Officer Time	NCC GI Working Group, NCC Comms Team		6	Website / published updates
Establish database and mapping	Create/build on a GI project database/ GIS mapping/web ma	ongoing	Officer Time	NCC GI Working Group		1, 4, 5	GI Database and mapping
Funding	Update funding review on an annual basis	ongoing	Officer Time	NCC GI Working Group		5	Secure funding regimes