

Greater Norwich Growth Board

Green Infrastructure Strategy

Strategic Delivery Plan 2025-2030

Final V3 – April 2025



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The Strategy was prepared on behalf of the Greater Norwich Growth Board by the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Delivery Group, supported by a consultant team led by CBA.

The Strategy is underpinned by a comprehensive suite of evidence studies and geospatial mapping data. This includes information about the existing Green Infrastructure in Greater Norwich, deficiencies in provision and opportunities for delivering new and enhanced Green Infrastructure.

The Strategy was funded by the Greater Norwich Growth Board. Images in the document are used with permission from Norwich City Council, South Norfolk Council, Broadland District Council, Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

This Strategic Delivery Plan should be read in conjunction with the main Green Infrastructure Strategy and Story Map.

Accessibility Conformance Statement

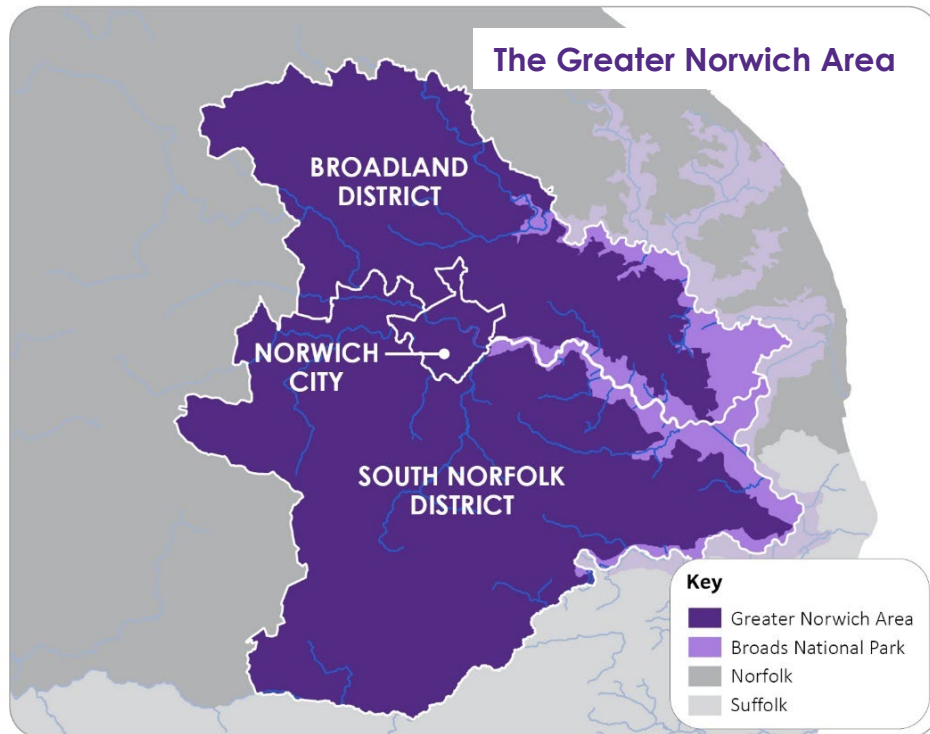
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¹ www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/44492/How-to-create-accessible-content

1. Introduction

The Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) is a unique partnership bringing together the leaders of Norwich City Council (NCC), South Norfolk Council (SNC), Broadland District Council (BDC) and Norfolk County Council (NCoC).

Facilitated by an Infrastructure Investment Fund, the GNGB oversees delivery of infrastructure projects required to support the ambitious plans for sustainable growth to 2038 set out in the Greater Norwich Local Plan (adopted March 2024), including Green Infrastructure (GI).



We have developed the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy to support the Local Plan. It outlines our overarching vision and strategic approach to protecting, enhancing and expanding GI across Greater Norwich to 2038.

‘Green Infrastructure is a network of multi-functional green space and blue spaces and other natural features, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, climate, local and wider communities and prosperity’

(Source – National Planning Policy Framework)

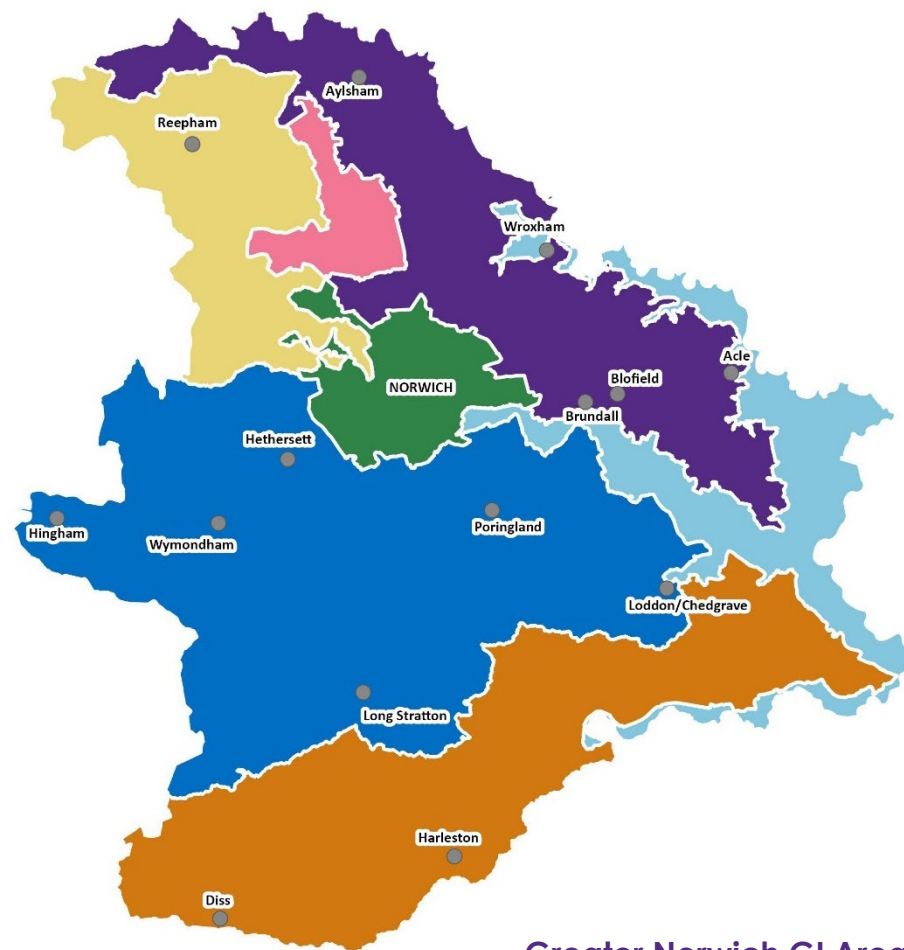
This Strategic Delivery Plan sets out our proposed programme for GI delivery over the next five years. Whilst it does not include specific projects, the programme identifies a range of strategic initiatives for protecting, enhancing and expanding GI, with a focus on nature recovery and enhancing access to nature.

We cannot deliver the GI Strategy on our own. It can only be achieved through the combined efforts of other partners and stakeholders from across the public, private and third sectors in Greater Norwich working together with local communities, particularly landowners and managers, to help deliver our shared vision and objectives for GI.

Drawing on our evidence and stakeholder engagement, we have identified a range of spatial priorities and opportunities for enhancing and expanding the Strategic GI Network across Greater Norwich – see the GI Area Profiles for details (separate document).

Our key strategic priorities for GI at a Greater Norwich level are:

- Embedding GI into the Northern City Centre and East Norwich Strategic Regeneration Areas
- Embedding GI into the Cambridge-Norwich Tech Corridor Strategic Growth Area
- Embedding GI into the North-East Norwich Strategic Growth Area
- Tackling health inequalities for urban and rural communities
- Addressing deficiencies in accessible greenspace provision
- Strengthening the network of greenways to support active travel
- Promoting urban greening of the built environment to support healthy living, urban nature recovery and climate change resilience
- Improving habitat connectivity and supporting landscape-scale nature recovery to strengthen climate change resilience



Greater Norwich GI Areas

- 1. Norwich Urban Area
- 2. The Broads Wetlands
- 3. Waveney Farmland
- 4. Yare Farmland
- 5. Wensum Farmland
- 6. Horsford Heaths & Woods
- 7. Bure Farmland

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2. Delivery Programme

We will focus our work over the next five years through a delivery programme shaped by the GI Strategy's themes:

- **Active Places** – provision of accessible green spaces and links to support people's physical health and mental wellbeing
- **Natural Places** – provision of nature-rich habitats to support nature recovery and strengthen climate resilience

Our programme embraces a range of proposed **Strategic GI Initiatives** for delivery of multi-functional GI that will provide benefits for people, places and nature across Greater Norwich.

Together, these Strategic Initiatives provide a flexible framework for bringing forward projects that will help achieve our GI priorities.

The Strategic GI Initiatives focus on encouraging projects that will:

- Enhance access to nature, promote active travel and support adoption of healthy lifestyles and behaviours
- Support a network of bigger, better and more joined up habitats, provide nature-based solutions and protect our valuable wildlife sites

The high-level delivery programme set out in the following tables:

- Outlines **what** we will do and **where** (see **Map 2.1** and **Map 2.2**)
- Highlights the **GI objectives/outcomes** that the initiatives contribute to
- Indicates timescales for **when** they would be delivered and by **who**

The Other Strategic GI Initiatives set out in **Table 2.4** are not mapped due to their dispersed/thematic nature.

Delivery Programme - Key

GI Areas

1. Norwich Urban Area
2. The Broads Wetlands
3. Waveney Farmland
4. Yare Farmland
5. Wensum Farmland
6. Horsford Heaths & Woods
7. Bure Farmland

GI Objectives

1. Enabling access to nature and healthy lifestyles
2. Harnessing productive landscapes
3. Strengthening distinctive places
4. Supporting nature recovery
5. Promoting urban greening
6. Strengthening blue-green infrastructure

GI Outcomes

1. Healthier, happier and more active people
2. Nature-rich places
3. Climate-resilient places
4. Prosperous communities

Indicative Timescales

- Short-term (1-2 years)
- Medium-term (3-5 years)
- On-going (years 1-5)
- Longer term (5 years +)

Lead Delivery Organisations

- NCoC - Norfolk County Council
- NCC - Norwich City Council
- SNC - South Norfolk Council
- BDC - Broadland District Council

Proposed Strategic Green Infrastructure Initiatives

Table 2.1 – Strategic GI Corridors

What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<p>Bure Valley Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Weaver’s Way in the Aylsham and Acle areas including access improvements, and creating new circular walks linked to the Norfolk Trails network in line with the priorities of the Norfolk Access Improvement Plan 2019–2029, improved connectivity and enhancement of habitats along the trail corridor and restoration of floodplain fen and wet woodland habitats in the Lower Bure Valley in line with the Broads Wetlands Initiative</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 2, 7</p>	1, 4, 6	All	On-going	NCoC BDC
<p>North-East Norwich to the Broads Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Strategic GI Corridor linking North-East Norwich with the Broads National Park around Acle including provision of accessible greenspace, public rights of way network improvements, restoration of heathland and woodland habitats, and improved connectivity of hedgerows and woodlands</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2) Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 1, 7</p>	1, 3, 4	All	On-going	NCoC NCC BDC
<p>Yare Valley Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Wherryman’s Way between Norwich and Burgh Castle including access improvements, and creating new circular walks linked to the Norfolk Trails network to align with the Norfolk Access Improvement Plan 2019–2029, restoration of floodplain fen habitats and improved habitat connectivity along the trail</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 2</p>	1, 4, 6	All	On-going	NCoC NCC SNC
<p>Waveney Valley Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Waveney Valley Strategic GI Corridor to the west and east of Diss linking to the Broads National Park, including access improvements to Angles Way and restoration of floodplain fen habitats</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 3</p>	1, 3, 4, 6	1, 2, 4	Medium-term	NCoC SNC

What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<p>South Norwich to the Waveney Valley Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Boudicca Way between Norwich and Diss including as access improvements and creating new circular walks linked to the Norfolk Trails network to align with the Norfolk Access Improvement Plan 2019–2029, and improved connectivity and enhancement of hedgerows and woodland habitats.</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 3, 4</p>	1, 4	All	On-going	NCoC NCC SNC
<p>South-West Norwich to Wymondham Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Strategic GI Corridor linking South-West Norwich with Wymondham including new and improved accessible greenspace, public rights of way network improvements and new greenways, pond restoration/creation, and expanding, strengthening and linking woodland, grassland and hedgerows</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2) Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 4</p>	1, 3, 4, 6	All	On-going	NCoC SNC
<p>Wensum Valley Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Wensum Way in the Lenwade area including access improvements and creating new circular walks linked to the Norfolk Trails network to align with the Norfolk Access Improvement Plan 2019–2029, restoration of floodplain fen habitats and expanding, strengthening and linking woodland to improve habitat connectivity along the river corridor west of Norwich</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 5</p>	1, 3, 4, 6	All	On-going	NCoC NCC BDC
<p>North-West Norwich to the Bure Valley Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of the Strategic GI Corridor linking North-West Norwich with the Bure Valley around Aylsham including provision of accessible greenspace, public rights of way network improvements, restoration of heathland and woodland habitats in the area north of Horsford and around Broadland Country Park, and improved connectivity of hedgerows and woodlands</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: 6, 7</p>	1, 3, 4	All	On-going	NCoC BDC
<p>Norwich Wensum Urban Riverside Work to encourage projects that enhance the River Wensum corridor through Norwich City in line with the Wensum Strategy including increasing access and leisure opportunities (via the Green Loop), habitat connectivity improvements, historic environment enhancements, and facilitating partnership working to support regeneration of the river corridor and maximise benefits to the city.</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2) GI Areas: 1</p>	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	All	On-going	NCoC NCC

What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<p>Southern Norwich Yare Valley Parkway Work to encourage projects that support development of a major linear park connecting a potential new country park at Bawburgh/Colney Lakes west of Norwich with Whitlingham Country Park to the east, including completion of the Yare Valley Walk and improved links to the city centre, as well as potential links to the Wensum Corridor in Norwich and to the west, and restoration of floodplain fen habitats and riparian woodland along the river corridor</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2)</p> <p>GI Areas: 1, 2, 4</p>	1, 3, 4, 6	All	On-going	NCoC NCC SNC
<p>Northern Norwich Work to encourage projects that support creation of an east-west Strategic GI Corridor linking North-East Norwich with North-West Norwich - including provision of accessible greenspace, public rights of way network improvements and connections to footpaths/cycle paths along the A1270 Broadland Northway (aka Norwich Northern Distributor Road), restoration of woodland, grassland and heathland habitats, and improved connectivity of hedgerows and woodlands, and supporting opportunities for regenerative farming</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1)</p> <p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2)</p> <p>GI Areas: 7</p>	1, 2, 3, 4	All	On-going	NCoC BDC
<p>Green Loop Work to encourage projects that support delivery of, and connectivity to, the Green Loop – a major shared-use, off-road traffic-free greenway for walking and cycling, encompassing improvements to the Marriott’s Way and Bure Valley Path, completion of the proposed Broadland Way, and improved connectivity and enhancement of linear hedgerows, grassland and woodland habitats along the trail corridor</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1)</p> <p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2)</p> <p>GI Areas: 1, 2, 5, 7</p>	1, 4	All	Medium-term	NCoC NCC BDC
<p>Norwich Green Grid Corridors Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of Green Grid Corridors within the densely built-up Norwich Urban Area, creating a strong and multifunctional green network connecting Norwich to the wider strategic GI network – through access improvements, including new/enhanced green spaces and waterside access, urban greening, food growing spaces, protecting and enhancing wildlife sites, and enhancing the City’s landscape setting (including wooded valley sides and ridgelines in particular)</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2)</p> <p>GI Areas: 1</p>	All	All	On-going	NCC BDC

Table 2.2 – Strategic GI Sites

What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<p>Potential New Country Parks Work to encourage projects for the creation of new country parks potentially located to the west of Norwich at Bawburgh/Colney Lakes, to the south east of Norwich in the Caistor St Edmund area (focused around High Ash Farm/Venta Icenorum Roman Settlement) and to the north-east of Norwich.</p> <p>These new county parks would provide additional larger-scale accessible greenspace to meet the needs of a growing population. They would also provide Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace to address recreational impacts from visitor pressures of new development on wildlife sites protected under the Habitat Regulations in line with the Norfolk Green Infrastructure & Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy.</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2)</p> <p>GI Areas: 4, 5, 7</p>	<p>1, 3, 4</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>NCoC SNC BDC</p>
<p>Expanded/Enhanced Existing Country Parks Work to encourage projects for the expansion/enhancement of Ladybelt Country Park (in East Carleton south west of Norwich), Whitlingham Country Park (east of Norwich in the Broads National Park) and Broadland Country Park (north of Norwich near Horsford).</p> <p>This would maintain the provision of high-quality accessible greenspace to meet the needs of a growing population, and also contribute to the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace.</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2)</p> <p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1)</p> <p>GI Areas: 2, 4, 6</p>	<p>1, 3, 4</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>NCoC SNC BDC</p>
<p>Blue Spaces Work to encourage projects for the creation and enhancement of blue spaces, such as the restoration of gravel pits within river valleys to provide nature-rich wetland habitats and opportunities for access and water-focused leisure activities</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1)</p> <p>GI Areas: 3, 4, 7</p>	<p>1, 3, 4, 6</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Longer-term</p>	<p>NCoC SNC BDC</p>

Table 2.3 – Strategic GI Zones

What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<p>Strategic Gaps Work to encourage projects that enhance, expand and connect GI within the Wymondham-Hethersett and Hethersett-Cringleford strategic gaps designated in the South Norfolk Local Plan to strengthen their function as multi-functional “green buffers” that provide access to nature and habitat improvements; and work to review the need for additional strategic gaps in other growth locations within Broadland District.</p>	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2) GI Areas: 4, 5, 7</p>	<p>1, 3, 4</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Medium-term</p>	<p>NCoC SNC BDC</p>
<p>Nature Recovery Work in partnership with the Norfolk & Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership to encourage projects that support the aims of the Norfolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy and its priorities for landscape-scale and urban nature recovery, and delivery of wider environmental benefits (including recreation, landscape character, geodiversity, soil quality, water quality, flood risk management, pollination and carbon storage) alongside food production, <u>agroforestry</u> and eco-tourism.</p> <p>Within Greater Norwich, it is proposed that nature recovery priorities for action would be targeted within the following opportunity zones²:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadland Farmlands: maintain, enhance, restore and connect priority habitats including woodlands, areas of remnant heathland, and the nationally/ internationally important Norfolk Valley Fens and chalk river systems (including the Wensum) to connect fragmented sites³ • South Norfolk Farmlands: conserve and enhance the area’s ancient semi-natural woodlands, copses, river valley plantations and ancient boundaries (hedgerows/hedgerow trees), arable plateau field margins and pastoral river valley corridors, flood plain fens and riparian habitats⁴ 	<p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1) GI Areas: All</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>NCoC NCC SNC BDC</p>

²Zones reflect Strategic Environmental Opportunities highlighted by Natural England’s National Character Areas (NCAs)

³NCA 84: Mid Norfolk & NCA 78: Central North Norfolk

⁴NCA 83: South Norfolk & High Suffolk Claylands

What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Broads Wetlands: conserve and enhance the distinctive cultural landscape of the Broads’ wetlands through securing and expanding open water, riverine and estuarine habitats, and managing water quality and availability⁵; and working with Natural England to deliver habitat restoration and management, appropriate public access and education, research and monitoring for National Nature Reserves • Norwich Urban Area: maintain, enhance, restore and connect priority habitats within the Norwich Urban Area – including urban woodlands, grasslands, areas of remnant heathland (such as Mousehold Heath) and flood plain/riparian habitats (including the River Wensum) to connect fragmented sites – in support of the Norwich Wensum Urban Riverside and Norwich Green Grid Corridors Strategic Initiatives (see Table 2.1) 					
<p>Urban Greening Work to encourage projects in the Norwich Urban Area, and the main towns of Diss, Long Stratton, Wymondham and Aylsham in particular, where the need for increasing green cover in open spaces, woodlands, streets, squares and on roofs/walls of buildings within the built environment is greatest - to support urban nature recovery and delivery of wider environmental goals in line with the aims of the Norfolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and to provide community food growing spaces.</p>	<p>Norwich Urban Area & Fringes (Map 2.2)</p> <p>Countryside & Rural Areas (Map 2.1)</p> <p>GI Areas: 1, 3, 4, 7</p>	All	All	On-going	<p>NCoC</p> <p>NCC</p> <p>SNC</p> <p>BDC</p>

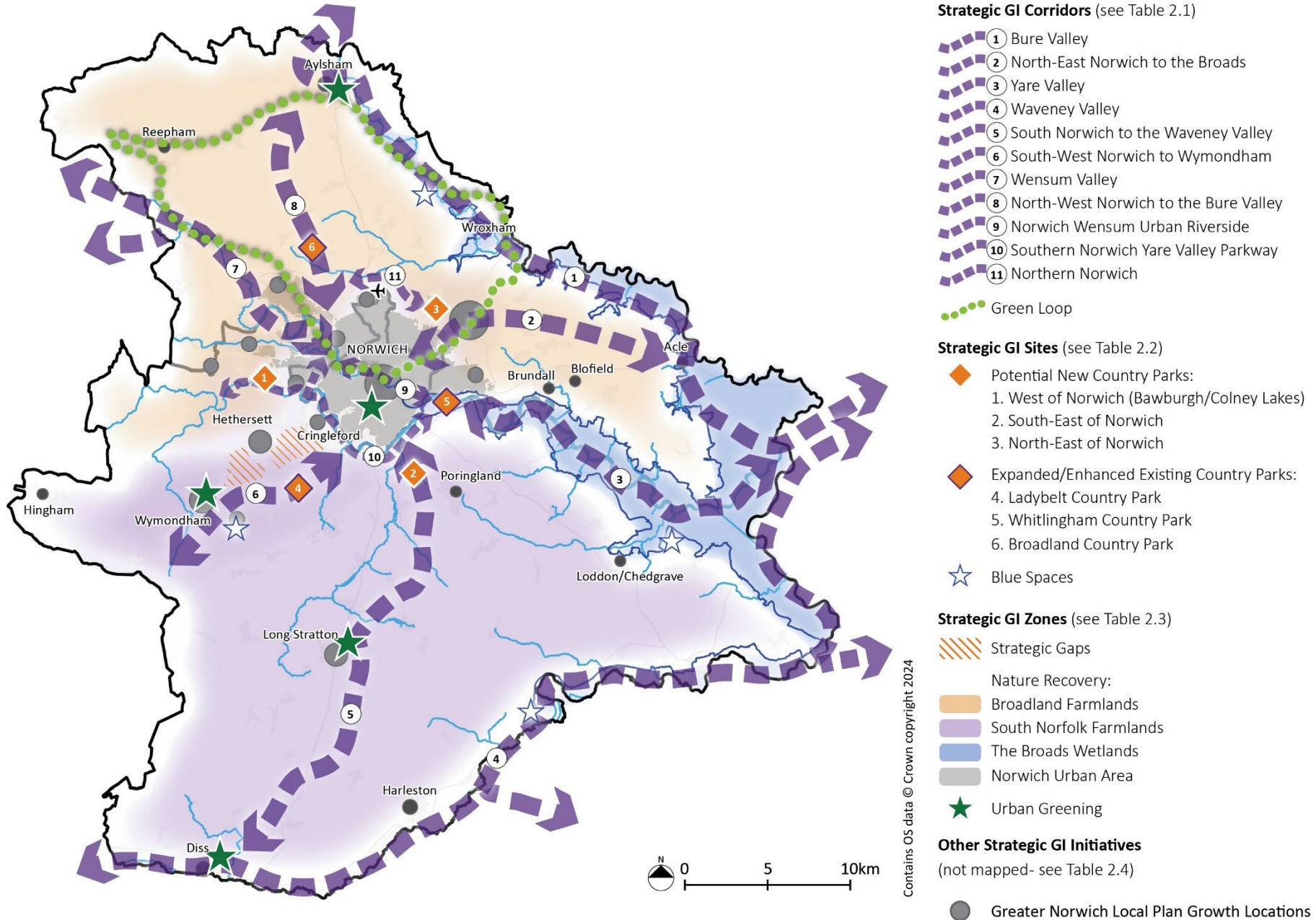
⁵NCA 80: The Broads

Table 2.4 – Other Strategic GI Initiatives

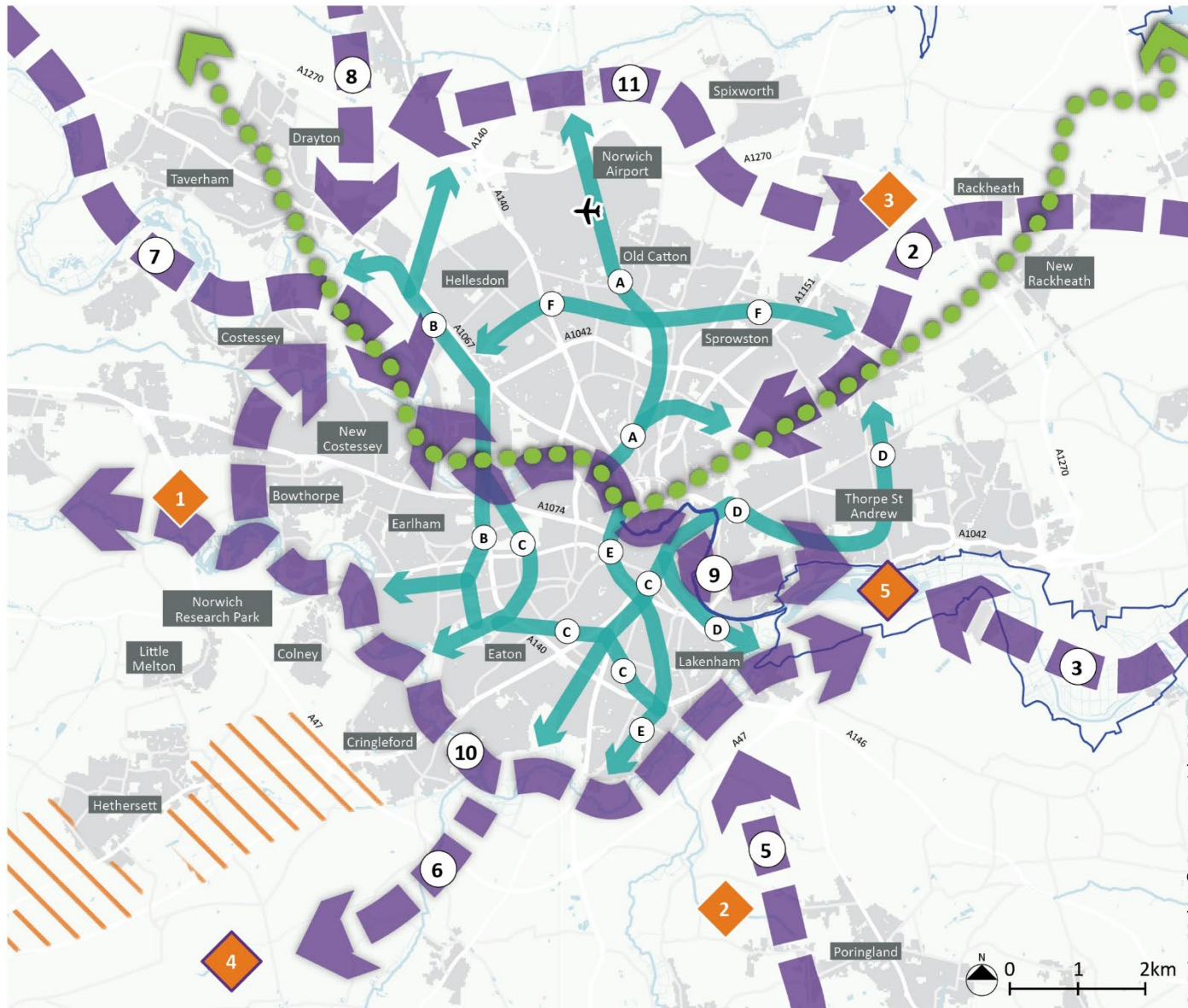
What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<p>Active Travel Routes Work to encourage projects that support development of other greenways for walking and cycling across the Strategic Growth Area such as the Wensum Riverside Walk and network of designated pedalways in Norwich in line with the Norfolk Walking, Wheeling & Cycling Strategy (2024)</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide GI Areas: All</p>	1, 3	All	Short-term	NCoC NCC SNC BDC
<p>Connected Greenspaces Work to encourage projects that support enhancement of, and improved access and connectivity to, green and blue spaces, and provide new green space provision; this work will focus on the Priority Areas for Accessible Green Space, particularly in and around the key growth locations.</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide GI Areas: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</p>	All	All	On-going	NCoC NCC SNC BDC
<p>Countryside Access Work in partnership with the Norfolk Local Access Forum to encourage projects for improving public rights of way connecting rural and urban communities with countryside destinations across the Greater Norwich Area to align with the Norfolk Access Improvement Plan 2019–2029</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide GI Areas: All</p>	1, 3	1, 3, 4	On-going	NCoC
<p>Inclusive Green Spaces Work to encourage projects that help ensure our accessible green spaces and routes are socially inclusive, safe and well-managed as possible, in order to provide a welcoming environment for all residents and visitors in line with the “active environments” priorities of the Greater Norwich Physical Activity & Sport Strategy 2022-2027 (to include clear signage, appropriately-lit car parks, walkways and facilities for people with disabilities)</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide GI Areas: All</p>	1, 3	1, 4	On-going	NCoC NCC SNC BDC
<p>Access to Nature and Wellbeing Work to encourage projects that provide opportunities for people to connect with and experience nature in green spaces by using the NHS Green Social Prescribing Tool as a health improvement tool</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide GI Areas: All</p>	1, 3	1, 4	On-going	NCoC NCC SNC BDC
<p>Community Food Growing Work to encourage projects that support establishment of a local food production system for Greater Norwich that supports community food growing activities in community gardens/orchards, allotments and urban farms, and strengthens links to the local agricultural sector</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide GI Areas: All</p>	1, 2	1, 2, 4	Medium-term	NCoC NCC SNC BDC

What we will do	Where	Objectives	Outcomes	When	Who
<p>Volunteering and Learning</p> <p>Work to encourage projects that provide opportunities for volunteering linked to the use, conservation/stewardship and improvement of green spaces and other GI features, and support outdoor/environmental education and skills development opportunities</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide</p> <p>GI Areas: All</p>	1, 3, 4, 5	1, 2, 4	On-going	<p>NCoC</p> <p>NCC</p> <p>SNC</p> <p>BDC</p>
<p>Urban Tree Canopy Cover</p> <p>Work to encourage projects for expanding tree canopy cover in urban areas in support of urban nature recovery and wider environmental goals</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide</p> <p>GI Areas: 1, 4, 5, 7</p>	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	All	On-going	<p>NCoC</p> <p>NCC</p> <p>SNC</p> <p>BDC</p>
<p>Local Nature Reserves</p> <p>Work to encourage projects for developing new Local Nature Reserves within Broadland District in particular, to provide increased informal recreation opportunities for people to connect with and experience nature on their doorsteps</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide</p> <p>GI Areas: All</p>	1, 3, 4	1, 2, 4	Medium-term	BDC
<p>Local Wildlife Sites</p> <p>Work in partnership with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust to review existing County Wildlife Sites and designate new County Wildlife Sites where appropriate, to protect locally valuable wildlife sites throughout Greater Norwich</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide</p> <p>GI Areas: All</p>	4	2	Medium-term	NCoC
<p>Biodiversity Net Gain</p> <p>Work in partnership with the Norfolk & Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership to encourage projects that support delivery of off-site Biodiversity Net Gain developer contributions in priority areas for habitat creation and restoration that are identified by the Norfolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide</p> <p>GI Areas: All</p>	4	2	On-going	<p>NCoC</p> <p>NCC</p> <p>SNC</p> <p>BDC</p>
<p>Nutrient Neutrality</p> <p>Work to encourage projects for provision of appropriate nutrient neutrality mitigation measures to address potential water pollution impacts from development affecting wildlife sites protected under the Habitat Regulations</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide</p> <p>GI Areas: All</p>	4, 6	2	On-going	<p>NCoC</p> <p>NCC</p> <p>SNC</p> <p>BDC</p>
<p>Water Resource Management</p> <p>Work in partnership with the Broadland Catchment Partnership to encourage projects that support the Broadland Rivers Catchment Plan's catchment-based approach to tackling water resource management issues through promoting: sustainable water use, thriving rivers and healthy floodplain/riverine wildlife habitats and natural flood management solutions.</p>	<p>Greater Norwich-wide</p> <p>GI Areas: All</p>	4, 6	2, 3	On-going	<p>NCoC</p> <p>NCC</p> <p>SNC</p> <p>BDC</p>

Map 2.1 – Greater Norwich Proposed Strategic GI Initiatives



Map 2.2 – Norwich Urban Area & Fringes Proposed Strategic GI Initiatives



Strategic GI Corridors (see Table 2.1)

- ② North-East Norwich to the Broads
- ③ Yare Valley
- ⑤ South Norwich to the Waveney Valley
- ⑥ South-West Norwich to Wymondham
- ⑦ Wensum Valley
- ⑧ North-West Norwich to the Bure Valley
- ⑨ Norwich Wensum Urban Riverside
- ⑩ Southern Norwich Yare Valley Parkway
- ⑪ Northern Norwich

●●● Green Loop

~ Norwich Green Grid Corridors:

- Ⓐ North City
- Ⓑ Wensum Ridges
- Ⓒ Earham and Eaton
- Ⓓ City Ridges
- Ⓔ Lakenham Way
- Ⓕ Hellesdon to Sprowston

Strategic GI Sites (see Table 2.2)

- ◆ Potential New Country Parks:
 1. West of Norwich (Bawburgh/Colney Lakes)
 2. South-East of Norwich
 3. North-East of Norwich
- ◆ Expanded/Enhanced Existing Country Parks:
 4. Ladybelt Country Park
 5. Whitlingham Country Park

Strategic GI Zones (see Table 2.3)

▨ Strategic Gaps

Other Strategic GI Initiatives

(not mapped - see Table 2.4)

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3. Implementation

Implementation and monitoring of the GI Strategy and Strategic Delivery Plan will be led by the Green Infrastructure Programme Team (GIPT), a well-established cross authority officer group.

Together they will develop a pipeline of projects, with delivery updates reported in subsequent publications of the annual Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan.

This team took on the role of GI Delivery Group during the development of the GI Strategy, working with the Steering Group and Consultant team.

The GIPT comprises:

- Active Norfolk
- Broads Authority
- Greater Norwich Project Team
- Norfolk County Council
- Norwich City Council
- Public Health Norfolk
- South Norfolk and Broadland Councils

The GIPT will seek to encourage other local stakeholders to become delivery partners in support of relevant strategic initiatives, such as: Natural England, the Environment Agency, the RSPB, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Rivers Trusts, Sustrans, the National Trust, Anglia Water, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, for example.



View from Kett's Heights, Norwich © Fisheye Images

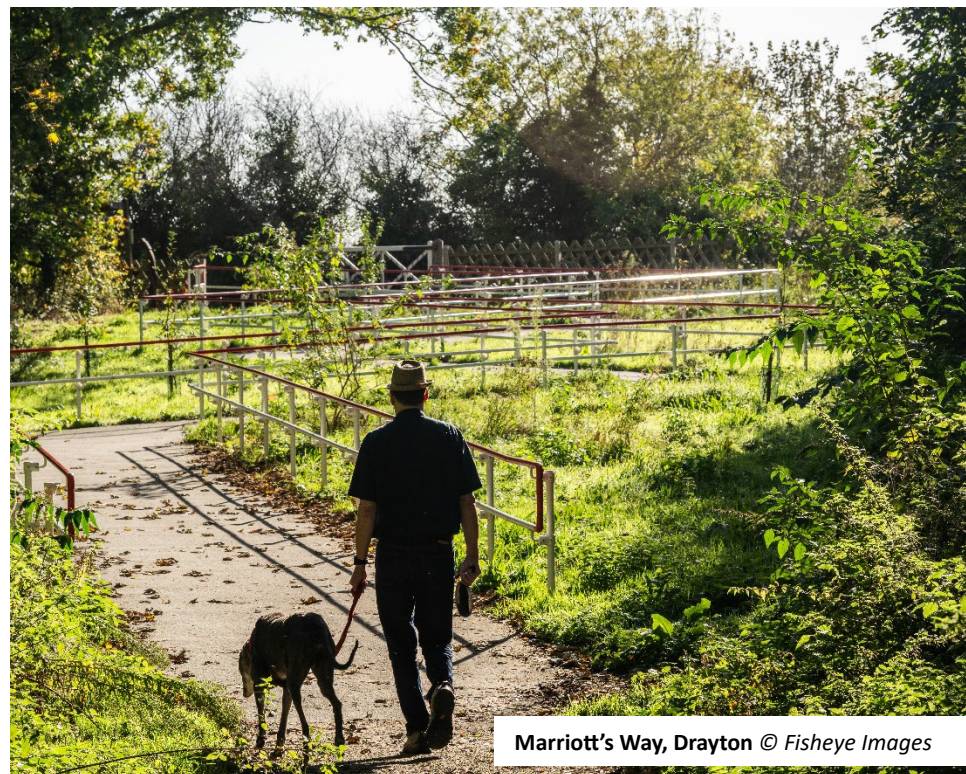
Our approach to GI project prioritisation and delivery

In developing this Strategy, a number of strategic priorities and initiatives for GI have emerged that will be taken forward through implementation of our delivery programme

The strategic opportunities for enhancing and expanding the GI network highlighted in the GI Area Profiles can be used, together with the interactive GI opportunity mapping available on the online Greater Norwich GI Story Map, to inform the targeting, prioritisation and selection of GI projects.

In order to prioritise projects at the strategic and local scale, the project partners will develop an approach to assist with the prioritisation of GI projects to be taken forward for development, funding and delivery. Consideration will be given to:

- How the project supports delivery of the GI Strategy objectives and outcomes (having regard to the GI opportunity mapping)
- The relevance of the project to supporting delivery of national and local priorities for tackling climate change, restoring nature and improving health, and also enabling sustainable growth
- The level of stakeholder engagement and support for the project
- The project's eligibility for available funding opportunities



Marriott's Way, Drayton © Fisheye Images

A live database will be produced and maintained, containing details of current and proposed GI project development and implementation activity across Greater Norwich, at both strategic and local levels.

An example template GI Project Assessment Form is included as **Appendix 1**, which can be used to capture and assess projects that are in development.

Our approach to monitoring delivery

We will monitor delivery of the GI Strategy to evaluate progress towards achieving our shared vision and objectives

We will monitor GI delivery against the natural environment indicators for Policy 3 (Environmental Protection & Enhancement) from the Greater Norwich Local Plan Monitoring Framework. These are:

- Designated Natural Assets (EPE4)
- Biodiversity Net Gain (EPE5)
- Green Infrastructure (EPE6)
- Visitor Pressure (EPE7)
- Condition of Protected Habitats/Nutrient Neutrality (EPE)

Consideration will be given to developing additional indicators to inform the monitoring of the proposed GI targets that support delivery of the Strategy's objectives, e.g.:

- Urban Tree Canopy Cover
- Accessible Greenspace
- Local Nature Reserves
- Greenways
- Allotments and Community Food Growing Spaces

The monitoring framework for any additional indicators would include details of relevant data sources/frequency, targets and baseline where relevant, triggers for action and actions.

Quantitative and qualitative changes to GI assets can be measured against the baseline data set out in the GI evidence reports (available for download from the online GI Strategy Story Map).



Earlham Park, Norwich © Fisheye Images



Whitlingham Broad in the Broads National Park © Fisheye Images

Appendix 1 – Example GI Project Assessment Form

1. Proposed Programme/Project Name	<i>May be a programme that includes projects or a project that is part of a programme</i>
2. Strategic GI Initiative	<i>Name of the relevant Strategic GI Initiative from the Greater Norwich GI Strategy</i>
3. GI Area(s)	<i>Name of the relevant GI Area(s) from the Greater Norwich GI Strategy</i>
4. District(s)	<i>Name of the relevant District (Broadland, South Norfolk or Norwich City)</i>
5. Lead Organisation	<i>Name of organisation/body submitting the form.</i>
6. Delivery Partners	<i>Name partner organisations currently engaged</i>

7. Assessment Criteria
6.1 Supporting delivery of the Greater Norwich GI Strategy’s Objectives & Outcomes
<i>Tick the objective(s) that apply and indicate what the project will deliver (e.g. Supporting nature recovery – type/area of habitat (Ha) that will be created) and explain how this will contribute to the following outcomes: (1. Healthier, happier and more active people; 2. Nature-rich places; 3. Climate-resilient places; 4. Prosperous communities).</i>

GI Objectives	Tick	What will the project deliver?
1 Enabling access to nature and healthy lifestyles	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
2 Harnessing productive landscapes	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
3 Strengthening distinctive places	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
4 Supporting nature recovery	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
5 Promoting urban greening	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
6 Strengthening blue-green infrastructure	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>

6.2 Describe the way in which the project aligns with local policy and strategy

(e.g. Norfolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Greater Norwich Local Plan, Greater Norwich Physical Activity & Sport Strategy, Climate Change Strategy & Action Plans/Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Plans, Greater Norwich Local Transport Plan, Corporate Strategies, etc)

Reference strategies and relevant policies, targets and ambitions.

6.3 Describe how stakeholders (including community groups) have been involved in developing this project. What engagement has taken place to date and what level of financial/other support has been secured?

Reference consultation, community support and need for this project.

6.4 Describe the project timescales and phasing

Describe project phases and state if part of longer-term project (e.g. being phased to fit with funding/partner timescales, or part of a wider programme).

6.5 Funding

Provide an overview of funding considerations that may influence prioritisation

i) Dependency: is the project dependent on other work/funding? If yes, explain and give details.

TBC

ii) Deliverability: What other funding has been secured and how can you demonstrate partner commitment?

Provider	Value	Financial year to be spent
<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>

iii) Describe how this project could be scaled up further, if further funding secured?

TBC

7 Project Costs

Provide summary only (this is not an application form for funding so detail is not required)

Cost	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Development costs	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
Implementation costs	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
Total	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>

8 Describe how this project would be managed and monitored on completion

Describe who would be the responsible body(s) for managing the project on completion and long-term revenue funding and stewardship arrangements.

Describe any key milestones/targets that would be monitored and reported and to whom.

The Green Infrastructure Strategy was prepared by a consultant team led by CBA in collaboration with the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Programme Team/Delivery Group:

- Active Norfolk
- Broads Authority
- Greater Norwich Project Team
- Norfolk County Council
- Norwich City Council
- Public Health Norfolk
- South Norfolk and Broadland Councils

The Strategy was produced in partnership with the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Steering Group:

- Active Norfolk
- Broads Authority
- Natural England
- NHS Norfolk & Waveney Integrated Care Board
- Norfolk County Council (Chair)
- Norfolk Wildlife Trust
- Norwich City Council
- Public Health Norfolk
- South Norfolk and Broadland Councils
- University of East Anglia



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