

OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND FUNCTION OF GI

Headline actions	Existing practical GI commitments	Key project updates	Lead MCC teams	Key partners	Date 2022/3
<p>1 River valleys and canals: we will continue to invest in the river valleys and canals to provide attractive settings for communities, leisure and recreation, health, and biodiversity.</p>	<p>There is an active commitment to managing land across the city's three main river valleys: the Irk, Medlock and Mersey. The Our Rivers Our City strategy adds an additional focus to priorities across these three catchments.</p>	<p>MCC has established an internal OROC delivery group. Resilient River Valleys Programme being delivered. BRIL programme looking at weir removal in the Irk Valley. Opportunities for BNG being considered for Irk Valley Sites.</p>	<p>Parks FRM</p>	<p>Catchment partnerships Environment Agency Canal and River Trust The Natural Course</p>	<p>2022/23</p>
<p>2 Parks: we will enhance existing parks to maximise their potential in making Manchester a world-class city.</p>	<p>There is significant ongoing investment across the city's extensive 160-site portfolio of parks and green spaces, plus the new Park Investment Programme. Consideration of opportunities for appropriate GI (new and retrofit) during negotiations on all relevant planning applications.</p>	<p>Circa £4.6M has been invested across the existing Park's estate, with over 107 capital projects identified.</p>	<p>Parks</p>	<p>Charities Community groups</p>	<p>2022/23</p>

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<p>3 Trees and woodlands: we will provide effective and appropriate tree and woodland management and planting.</p>	<p>The city has a Tree and Woodland Action Plan with an aim to improve management and sustainably enhance tree canopy cover over time.</p>	<p>Managing Manchester's Trees commission has been produced including: City Roots – an historical look back at the last 100 years. Tree Capacity Mapping – ward based tree analysis to inform neighbourhood decision making. Over 7500 new trees were planted including 5 new community orchards and over 6000 hedge trees.</p>	<p>Arbor Parks</p>	<p>City of Trees Woodland Trust Wildlife Trust Groundwork Trust The Orchard Project</p>	<p>2022/23</p>
<p>4 Gardens: we will protect, promote, and enhance private gardens to support climate resilience.</p>	<p>The city has extensive garden coverage. The total area of domestic garden green space in Manchester is 12km² (My Back Yard: MMU 2018).</p>	<p>My Wild City Project continues to promote the value of garden space for wildlife, and MCC continues to work with communities through the RHS in Bloom Programme.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood teams</p>	<p>RHPs RHS Wildlife trusts Groundwork Trust Hubbub</p>	<p>2022/23</p>
<p>5 Other land: we will improve existing and introduce new GI/NBS within large estates and land holdings, e.g. registered housing providers, cemeteries, hospitals, universities, car parks.</p>	<p>Ongoing GI commitments through existing land management contracts of major landowners, e.g. housing providers.</p>	<p>Housing Providers continue to improve open space management across their estates, supported by their own GI networking platform.</p>	<p>Planning Housing Cemeteries</p>	<p>RHPs Southways Lead universities National Trust</p>	<p>2022/23</p>

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<p>6 We will develop healthy and climate resilient communities by delivering focused neighbourhood greening projects.</p>	<p>Numerous growing projects are undertaken across the city, with hubs in Hulme, Wythenshawe, and Heaton Park. There are also 41 allotment sites across the city.</p>	<p>The In Our Nature Project was successful in a £2.5 Million bid to deliver community climate change projects across the city over the next three years.</p> <p>5 community projects were successful in bids to the GM Environment Fund.</p> <p>A new charity, Blossom, is building on the legacy of Real Food Wythenshawe to deliver education around growing and food provision.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood teams Parks</p>	<p>MCCA Hubbub Amity Sow the City Blossom</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>2022/23</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7 We will protect and enhance the city's key ecological assets, including Sites of Biological Importance (SBI). We will increase the number of SBI in active management to conserve, protect and enhance biodiversity. Local Nature Reserves: Increase the coverage of LNRs in line with national guidance to one hectare of LNR per 1,000 residents.</p>	<p>Manchester has 37 SBIs, with over 60% in active conservation management. Manchester has eight LNRs covering 392 hectares.</p>	<p>65% of SBIs are in Manchester are active conservation management. In 2022 after extensive work by CoT, Blackcarr Woods and Baguley Bottoms was brought into active conservation management.</p> <p>Manchester Declared Kenworthy Woods as its 9th Local Nature Reserve.</p>	<p>Parks EPI</p>	<p>GMEU Wildlife Trusts City of Trees CRT</p>	<p>2022/23</p> <p>Dec 2022</p>

OBJECTIVE 2: USE APPROPRIATE GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE AS A KEY COMPONENT OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS TO HELP CREATE SUCCESSFUL NEIGHBOURHOODS AND SUPPORT THE CITY'S GROWTH

Headline actions	Existing practical GI commitments	Key project updates	Lead MCC teams	Key partners	Date
1 Embed G&BI into key plans and policies.	There is a commitment to: Assisting preparing Places for Everyone (PfE) (GM Joint Development Plan)- Review all related Local Plan Policies Produce a new biodiversity strategy in 2022 Develop a new Tree and Woodland Action Plan in 2023.	PfE is currently going through Examination in Public A new Biodiversity Strategy was approved.	EPI	Developers	Ongoing Nov 2022
2 Embed GI into citywide strategic regeneration and infrastructure schemes.	Key demonstrators will include GrowGreen West Gorton, community parks, and Mayfield.	Mayfield Park opened.	Planning Strategic Development	Developers National Trust	Sept 2022
3 Embed GI in developments of any scale across the city.	Consideration of opportunities for appropriate GI (new and retrofit) during negotiations on all relevant planning applications	Co-op Live Arena, work started on site incorporating a green wall and other GI. Ancoats Mobility Hub, work started on site incorporating a green wall and other GI.	Planning Strategic Development	RHPs Private landowners	2023

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4 Embed GI into city centre development and planning initiatives.	Major GI/NBS improvements through projects listed.	Glade of Light memorial garden opened.	Planning Strategic Development	Developers National Trust	May 2022
		Castlefield Viaduct pilot project opened.			Jul 2022
		Mayfield Park opened.			Sep 20022

OBJECTIVE 3: IMPROVING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY FOR PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE

Headline actions	Existing practical GI commitments	Key project updates	Lead MCC teams	Key partners	Date
1 Improving green routes: greening transport routes (e.g. tramlines, footpaths, cycle routes, roads, rail corridors including disused) to encourage walking and cycling, reduce flood risk and provide corridors for wildlife.	Ongoing commitments to manage sustainable transport corridors, such as Oxford Road Corridor, Chorlton Cycleway. Preparation of Manchester Active Travel Strategy	Manchester Active Travel Strategy was approved by Executive in February this year.	Highways Parks EPI	TfGM Wildlife trusts Sustrans CoT Rambler's Association	Feb 2023
		Continued work and awareness raising events to improve cycling and walking routes around the city to access green spaces.			Ongoing
		Almost £30mill committed to Bee Network Travel routes, including Chorlton Cycleway, Northern Quarter Cycleway, Northern & eastern Gateway Connectivity, radial routes and cycle hire.			2022/23

Headline actions	Existing practical GI commitments	Key project updates	Lead MCC teams	Key partners	Date
<p>2 Improving blue routes: river valleys and canals; enhance river valleys and canal tow paths to improve accessibility and use as active travel routes and wildlife corridors.</p>	<p>There is an active commitment to managing and across the city's three main river valleys, the Irk, Medlock and Mersey, which includes improvements to access where appropriate. The Canal and River Trust is actively trying to improve Ashton and Rochdale Canal towpaths and waterways.</p>	<p>Resilient River Valleys access and habitat improvement work undertaken.</p>	<p>Highways Parks EPI</p>	<p>Groundwork River Trust Canal and River Trust TfGM</p>	<p>2023</p>
<p>3 Cross-boundary working to improve access and connectivity.</p>	<p>Manchester is committed to cross-boundary partnership working and is a key partner of both GMCA and TfGM. Key initiatives will include the integration of Manchester City Council projects into the wider Bee Network, and the integration of the Manchester Biodiversity Strategy into the new Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Network.</p>	<p>Natural Course Project continues to assess ecosystem services and functionality across the wider catchment.</p> <p>Work with Highways England on possible BNG opportunities for Irk Valley sites.</p> <p>As part of the LNRS Natural England are supporting development work in the Medlock Valley as well as the Mersey Valley as part of a new Lost Wetlands project in the Bollin Valley and parts of South Manchester.</p>	<p>Highways Parks EPI</p>	<p>Natural England GMCA Wildlife trusts Ramblers TfGM GMEU MCRactive</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

OBJECTIVE 4: INCREASED G&BI UNDERSTANDING AND AWARENESS-RAISING

Headline actions	Existing practical GI commitments	Key project updates	Lead MCC teams	Key partners	Date
1 Monitor existing G&BI within the city.	There is some autonomous monitoring of G&BI within the city through parks, tree management systems etc and independently, i.e. through the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit and universities. Partners are encouraged to capture, share, and monitor GI-related activity.	<p>Integration of IGNITION GI data sets.</p> <p>Natural England are developing a new National Pilot, of which Manchester is a focus on Urban Habitats.</p> <p>Canopy Assessment of MCR Tree Cover provided.</p>	City Policy and EPI	<p>GMCA</p> <p>The University of Manchester</p> <p>MMU</p> <p>EA</p> <p>GMEU</p> <p>MNC</p>	<p>Jan 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>2022/23</p>

Headline actions	Existing practical GI commitments	Key project updates	Lead MCC teams	Key partners	Date
<p>2 Develop research into the benefits of G&BI to provide the basis for new policy, projects, programmes, and investment mechanisms.</p>	<p>Key supporting evidence has been commissioned and projects developed, including: Our Rivers, Our City My Wild City Managing Manchester's Trees My Backyard Garden Survey GHIA (importance of GI to an ageing population) IGNITION project, looking at investment opportunities in GI.</p>	<p>Protecting Playgrounds Report Published.</p> <p>The GrowGreen Project concluded. An online resource and learning platform to share findings is in development.</p> <p>A new Open Space Study for the city has been completed.</p> <p>A new commission around Biodiversity Net Gain is in development.</p> <p>Working with EPI, LWT are delivering a focussed pilot around BNG with two live case studies in order to establish an outline process for BNG consideration.</p>	<p>EPI</p>	<p>The University of Manchester MMU GMCA TEP City of Trees GrowGreen National Trust MNC</p>	<p>Oct 2022</p> <p>Nov 2022</p> <p>2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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<p>3 Raise awareness of the benefits of G&BI through public engagement and involvement, promotion, communication, education, and training.</p>	<p>Manchester has an ongoing commitment to engage and raise awareness of the importance and value G&BI brings to the city through numerous campaigns and projects.</p>	<p>Resilient River Valleys has engaged with nearly 5000 people including nearly 1000 children. 38 new roles have been created, providing training and capacity building for citizens, 22 of these roles being for unemployed young people. Over 200 training courses have been provided.</p>	<p>Comms, supported by EPI, parks, neighbourhoods, policy and partnership s, city centre growth and infrastructure</p>	<p>Wildlife Trust MCCA Hubbub City of Trees RHS Groundwork National Trust Rivers Trust Community groups MNC</p>	<p>2022/23</p>
		<p>City Nature Challenge had 258 recorders providing 2256 observations of 530 Species citywide</p>			<p>April 2022</p>
		<p>Manchester Festival of Nature had 7000 attending, with 19 partner organisations involved through the Manchester Nature Consortium. MFoN had 36,000 impressions via twitter.</p>			<p>June 2022</p>
		<p>1,812 events and activities have been delivered in Parks with an estimated 600,000 attendees.</p>			<p>2022/23</p>

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4 Showcase local best practice and seek recognition for delivered projects.	MGO for Knowledge Exchange Continued development of a portfolio of GI-related case studies (70 at present).	Our Rivers Our City was a nominated finalist in the 2022 Landscape Institute awards.	Neighbourhoods	CIEEM TEP RHS GrowGreen	Nov 2022
		Manchester received 148 Britain in Bloom awards in 2022.		Studio Egret West	Nov 2022
		Grow Green Project concluded with presentations at the annual assembly in Brest, France.		Bura Happold Environment Agency	Nov 2022
		Three CIEEM Award nominations have been submitted, two for Mayfield Park and one for MCC.			Jan 2023