

Manchester Tree Action Plan 2016-20 - Progress Update January 2020

Objective 1 – Managing Sustainably

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
1	Map and monitor changes in the amount and distribution of trees across the city	Refine datasets of tree and woodland cover	Universities, CoT, GM partners, CoT, FC	2017-20	New i-trees Eco Canopy assessment provided
2	Develop a fuller understanding of the City's tree resource	<p>Deliver annual highway tree inspection programme</p> <p>Investigate online mapping tool of planned tree works in the City</p> <p>Encourage network of data gathering and information sharing e.g. University access to canopy data for research</p> <p>Investigate opportunities for valuing Manchester tree stock including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of an ecosystem services valuation of treescape </p>	<p>MCC</p> <p>MCC, Universities</p> <p>MCC, CoT, FC, Universities</p> <p>Universities, CoT</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2017-19</p> <p>2016-20</p> <p>2017-20</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>New GM ESS work delivered utilising tree data</p> <p>CoT and GM partners delivered i-Trees eco assessment of tree cover across GM with Manchester's tree stock having an estimated value of £3mill/annum</p>
3	Ensure continued and sustainable management of all trees and woodland and best practice approaches employed	<p>Develop, agree and embed principles of tree management in Manchester</p> <p>Develop tree and woodland management plans for MCC parks and greenspaces, which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No waste timber going to landfill Consideration of sustainable uses of woodland by-products </p>	<p>MCC</p> <p>MCC, CoT, GMEU, CGs</p>	<p>2017-19</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>Principles of Tree Management approved and circulated to all members and key officers. Tree officers are using the document daily, and this approach has been picked up by other tree officers across GM and also housing providers.</p> <p>Ongoing - Park Strategy approved. Tree related best practice being embedded in Park Management Plans.</p>

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
		<p>Develop tree focussed opportunity mapping for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and open spaces • City centre • Neighbourhoods 	MCC CoT	2016-20	<p>Appointment of new River Valley and Urban Countryside lead will support natural environment initiatives in parks</p> <p>Wythenshawe Park Masterplan being developed.</p> <p>CoT City Re-leaf Opportunity mapping Document approved by GI Board</p> <p>RHPs developing independent tree management policies and plans</p>
		Encourage the development of tree and woodland management plans by all landowners and managers of trees in Manchester	RHPs, Universities, Network Rail, other landowners	2016-20	Tree related case studies produced including City of Trees Woodland Futures
		Develop tree management good practice case studies as part of Manchester G&BI Group	Manchester G&BI Group	2016-20	
4	Ensure green and blue infrastructure (including trees and tree management) are considered as part of major new developments and retrofits, policy and strategy reviews where appropriate.	<p>Major development projects to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport infrastructure changes e.g. bee network • Mayfield • Medieval Quarter • St Johns • Kampus • Northern Gateway <p>Local Plan Review</p>	<p>MCC, TfGM, Developers</p> <p>MCC</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>Ongoing. First stakeholder engagement undertaken on Northern Gateway and NG GI Group Established</p> <p>Commencing early 2020</p>
5	Develop climate resilient approaches to tree and woodland management	Encourage use of trees within broader climate resilient adaptive plans e.g. Sustainable Urban Drainage projects, public realm improvements	GM CoT, MCC RPs	2016-20	Ongoing. Potential tie in with Wuhan Sponge Cities network through the GrowGreen Project, with projects including Kampus, Mayfield and Northern Gateway

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
		<p>Develop Ash Dieback Strategy in partnership with Natural Capital Group</p> <p>Encourage diversity of tree stock e.g. appropriately diverse species and age ranges to help increase resilience to pests and disease</p>	<p>GM, CoT, MCC, FC, MCC, CoT</p> <p>CoT, MCC, RPs</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>Ongoing. National Forestry Commission monitoring underway.</p> <p>Ongoing e.g. Southern Cemetery urban arboretum project.</p>
6	Develop partnership projects that sensitively improve the functionality of the treescape	<p>Develop appropriate projects to deliver the City of Trees vision in Manchester including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Schools • Southern Cemetery Beacon Trees project • Community Orchard planting and management 	<p>LWT, MBP, MVP, GW,</p> <p>MCC</p> <p>CoT, OP</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2019-20</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>Forest Schools mapping work being undertaken</p> <p>Improve Southern Cemetery as an Urban Arboretum –Dec 2019 – 26 Mature trees to be planted.</p> <p>48 orchards planted cumulatively</p>

Objective 2 – Planting Appropriately

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
1	Ensure continued healthy and diverse tree canopy cover across the City	Sustain tree and woodland canopy cover of 20% average to 2025	MCC, RVIs, RPs, CoT, Woodland Trust, LWT TfGM,	2016-20	2018/19 - 2994 trees planted including 3 orchards and 582 hedge trees

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
		<p>Deliver suitable and sustainable tree planting projects which support biodiversity, in line with the G&BI Strategy, tree audit baseline, park strategy and neighbourhood place plans, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One for one tree replacement for highways trees • Delivery of tree replacement policies across city • 150 Highways Tree planted annually (combination of new and replacement) • 1000 hedgerow trees planted annually • 1500 trees planted annually <p>Develop Beacon/Heritage Trees Mapping project</p>			<p>2017/18 - 4933 trees planted including 4 orchards and 1585 hedge trees</p> <p>2016/17 - 2961 trees planted, including 6 orchards and 832 hedge trees</p>
2	Continued planting of community orchards in suitable locations	<p>Planting of at least 4 new community orchards annually</p> <p>Mapping of community orchard locations</p> <p>Encourage cropping, harvesting , distribution and usage of food provided</p>	<p>RFW, CoT, RPs, MCC, OP, CGs</p> <p>MCC, OP, CoT</p> <p>OP, CoT, RFW, CGs</p>	<p>2017-20</p> <p>2017-20</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>48 orchards planted cumulatively</p> <p>Ongoing Collaboration with OP</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
3	Investigate mechanisms for funding new tree planting, management, and maintenance	<p>Support the delivery of the City of Trees Vision for Greater Manchester by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active involvement in the GM Forest Partnership (GMFP) • Working collaboratively to develop sustainable tree planting and management project ideas through, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCC Parks and greenspaces opportunity mapping programme and tree sponsorship opportunities 	MCC, Mcr G&BI Group, CGs	2016-20	Three GMFP meetings held in 2019 – draft GM Tree and Woodland Strategy developed with aim is to have GMCA sign off Spring 2020

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		Investigating commercial opportunities for trees and woodlands Neighbourhood tree planting opportunities			Initial meetings with CoT, MCC and Stobart Forestry to discuss tree management opportunities. No further progress as yet.
4	Develop a climate resilient approach to tree planting	Utilise a mixture of native and non native planting projects to ensure resilience against pests and diseases Reduce risk of tree pests and disease by ensuring all new trees planted are from registered and approved sources Promote SuDS friendly demonstrators e.g. GrowGreen, West Gorton	MCC, Manchester G&BI Group, CoT, CGs MCC, CoT CoT, MCC RPs	2016-20 2016-20 2016-20	Ongoing. Southern Cemetery Urban Arboretum concept being developed utilising native and non-native stock Ongoing Sept 2019 works begun on site

Objective 3 – Protecting Strongly

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
1	Investigate effective tree replacement and compensation measures	Develop and agree appropriate compensation measure for tree loss and replacement in Manchester	MCC, CoT	2018-19	Ongoing. Cavat tree value assessment being used by MCC planners alongside the Manchester's Residential Quality Guide which includes minimum 2:1 tree replacement
2	Ensure trees of high value are designated as Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)	Continue to designate new TPOs as appropriate	MCC	2016-20	Ongoing

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
		Enforce as appropriate against unauthorised works to trees protected by tree preservation orders or within conservation areas	MCC	2016-20	Ongoing
		Promotion of the Tree Preservation Order process via neighbourhood teams	MCC, CoT, Partners	2016-20	Ongoing
3	Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs): increase the number of SBIs in active management to conserve, protect and enhance biodiversity	Increase the number of sites of biological importance (SBIs) in active conservation management by 1-4% annually, working with landowners and land managers	MCC GMEU	2016-20	2018/19: 63.15% of SBIs in active conservation management – Rosehill Wood Management Plan in place 2017/18: 60.53% of SBIs in active conservation management – Gibb Wood work undertaken 2016/17: 57.89% of SBIs in active conservation management. Active work with UoM volunteers on Painswick Park Meadow and Castle Hill SBIs
		Provide statistical report to Defra annually	MCC	Annual	
4	Use planning conditions to ensure high standard of tree works, protection and management	Tree officers to provide guidance and advice through the planning process to ensure compliance of tree works against: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS 5837 (the British Standard for Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction) • BS 3998 (the British Standard for Tree Work) 	MCC, Developers	2016-20	Ongoing through work of tree officers

Objective 4 – Involving Creatively

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
1	Further develop research into the benefits of trees	<p>Ongoing programme of collaborative GI research including trees, to measure the impact of GI across the range of social, economic and environmental benefits set out in the Strategy. To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NERC Gardens and Ecosystem Services project • NERC GHIA project • NERC Green Growth <p>Protecting Playgrounds</p> <p>Update GI Evidence base with tree and woodland related research</p>	<p>Universities, MCC, Manchester G&BI Group, MCCA</p> <p>MMU</p> <p>UoM UoM</p> <p>Groundwork, University of Lancaster</p> <p>CoT, MCC, GM partners, Universities</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2018-20</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Project will look at the best tree species for hedges that can possibly help negate the effects of air pollution</p> <p>i-Trees Eco assessment of tree cover across GM – Value of Manchester tree stock - £3M/annum</p>
2	Encourage and record the delivery of community led and focussed tree projects and food growing	<p>Projects to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real Food Wythenshawe • Wythenshawe Woodlands • Green Trail 	<p>RFW, CGs</p> <p>CoT, CGs</p> <p>Ramblers, CGs</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2018-20</p> <p>2016-19</p>	<p>Ongoing – new funding secured</p> <p>A case study on Woodland futures has been developed</p> <p>Green Trail launched July 2019</p>

	Headline Action	Potential projects/activities	Delivery Agencies	Time-scales	Progress
3	Raise the awareness of the benefits of trees	<p>Establish social media platforms for ongoing promotion of tree related information</p> <p>Ward councillors and local communities to include tree activity in ward plans as appropriate</p>	<p>Ward Cllrs, Manchester G&BI Group, CGs, MCC, OP, MCCA</p> <p>MCC neighbourhood teams, ward councillors, Community groups</p> <p>As above</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>April 2019</p> <p>2019-20</p>	<p>CoT, Woodland Trust Websites</p> <p>Nature of Hulme adopted and integrated into ward plan</p> <p>Northern Quarter (NQ) Nature and Nature of Ardwick plans being developed</p>
4	Provide opportunities for community engagement, involvement and activity	<p>Support for and delivery of tree related activity, training and capacity building-Related volunteer opportunities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Friends of” group events and activities • Development of CoT Citizen Forester Volunteer Scheme • River Valley Initiative volunteer and engagement opportunities <p>UoM Tree Trails – A ten-year project creating world-class facilities for staff, students and visitors to enjoy as part of University’s Campus masterplan.</p>	<p>Manchester G&BI Group, CGs, MCC, OP, MCCA</p> <p>UoM</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2017 - 2020</p>	<p>My Wild City Project and MFoN</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Three interactive trails launched that highlight 50 of the 1,500 trees across Oxford Road Campus, North Campus and Whitworth Park. Additional tree planting expected as part of masterplan</p>
5	Showcase local best practice and seek recognition for delivered projects	<p>Apply for national awards wherever appropriate e.g. Britain in Bloom RHS Awards for community greening projects</p> <p>Encourage nomination of Champion trees as part of notable and ancient trees in Britain and Ireland register</p>	<p>MCC</p> <p>MCC</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>2017 166 In Bloom Awards</p> <p>2018 154 In Bloom Awards</p> <p>2019 – numbers awaited</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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6	Raise the profile of Manchester as an attractive place to live, work and visit with access to high quality GI within and beyond Manchester	<p>Use of the city's trees and woodlands to attract visitors and create new recreation opportunities.</p> <p>Promote the City's existing parks and green spaces to maximise their usage by local communities, workers and visitors</p>	<p>Manchester G&BI Group, MCC, MCCA, MM, UoM, MCC</p> <p>MCC, Manchester G&BI Group, CGs</p>	<p>2016-20</p> <p>2016-20</p>	<p>Continued success of Heaton Park Tree Top Trek Opened in 2017 – case study in development</p> <p>2019 - Heaton Park natural Play Area opened cases study in development</p> <p>MCC represented at the EU Cities and regions Conference, speaking in relation to urban forests and biodiversity</p>

Abbreviations

City of Trees	CoT
Community groups	CGs
Environment Agency	EA
Forestry Commission	FC
Greater Manchester Ecology Unit	GMEU
Groundwork	GW
The Wildlife Trust For Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside	LWT
Manchester – Green and Blue Infrastructure Stakeholder Group	MCR GI Group
Manchester Climate Change Agency	MCCA
Manchester City Council	MCC
Manchester Garden City	MGC
Manchester Metropolitan University	MMU

Manchester Museum	MM
Natural England	NE
The Orchard Project	OP
Real Food Wythenshawe	RFW
Registered Providers (Formerly Registered Housing Providers)	RPs
River Valley Initiatives:	RVI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irk Valley Project • Medlock Valley Project • Moston Brook Partnership • Mersey Valley Partnership 	
Transport for Greater Manchester	TfGM
Tree and Design Action Group	TDAG
University of Manchester	UoM
University of Salford	UoS
The Woodland Trust	WT