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Request for Quotation

## 

## Request for Quotation

**Private Investor Research – Urban Greening Accreditation**

**REF NE Private Investor Research**

You are invited, to submit a quotation for the requirement described in the specification below.

Please confirm, by email, receipt of these documents and whether you intend to submit a quote.

Your response should be returned to the following email address by: 13/01/2023 at 12 Noon

Email: [Dawn.Jackson@NaturalEngland.org.uk](mailto:Dawn.Jackson@NaturalEngland.org.uk),[Clare.Warburton@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Clare.Warburton@naturalengland.org.uk) and [Susan.Lenaghan@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Susan.Lenaghan@naturalengland.org.uk)

Date:13/01/2023

Time: 12 Noon

Ensure you state the reference number and ‘Final Submission’ in the subject field to make it clear that it is your response.

**Contact Details and Timeline**

[Susan.Lenaghan@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Susan.Lenaghan@naturalengland.org.uk) will be your contact for any questions linked to the content of the quote pack or the process. Please submit any questions by email and note that, unless commercially sensitive, both the question and the response will be circulated to all tenderers.

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| Action | Date |
| Date of issue of RFQ | 29/11/2022 |
| Deadline for clarifications questions | 15/12/2022 at 12 Noon BST / GMT |
| Deadline for receipt of Quotation | 13/01/2023 at 12 Noon BST / GMT |
| Intended date of Contract Award | 19/01/2023 |
| Intended Contract Start Date | 23/01/2023 |
| Intended Delivery Date / Contract Duration | 31/03/2023 |

### Glossary

Unless the context otherwise requires the following words and expressions used within this Request for Quotation shall have the following meanings (to be interpreted in the singular or plural as the context requires):

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| “Authority” | Means the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs acting as part of Natural England |
| “RFQ” | Means this Request for Quotation and all related documents published by the Authority and made available to suppliers |
| “Contract” | Means the contract to be entered into by the Authority and the successful supplier. |

### 

### Conditions applying to the RFQ

You should examine your response to the RFQ and related documents ensuring it is complete prior to submitting your completed quotation.

Your quotation must contain sufficient information to enable the Authority to evaluate it fairly and effectively. You should ensure that you have prepared your quotation fully and accurately and that prices quoted are arithmetically correct for the units stated.

The supplier by submitting a quotation is deemed to accept the terms and conditions in the RFQ. Failure to comply with the instructions set out in the RTQ may result in the supplier’s exclusion from this procurement.

### Acceptance of Quotations

By issuing this RFQ the Authority does not bind itself to accept any quotation and reserves the right not to award a contract to any supplier who submits a quotation.

#### Costs

The Authority will not reimburse you for any costs and expenses which you incur preparing and submitting your quotation, even if the Authority amends or terminates the procurement process.

#### Mandatory Requirements

The RFQ includes mandatory requirements and, if you do not comply with them, your quotation will not be evaluated. All mandatory requirements are set out in Bravo.

#### Clarifications

The Authority reserves the right to discuss, confidentially, any aspect of your quotation with you prior to any award of Contract to clarify matters.

#### Amendments

The Authority may amend the RFQ at any time prior to the deadline for receipt. If it amends the RFQ the Authority will notify you in writing and may extend the deadline for receipt in order to give you a reasonable time in which to take the amendment into account.

#### Conditions of Contract

The terms and conditions attached below will be included in any contract awarded as a result of this RFQ process. The Authority will not accept any material changes to these terms and conditions proposed by a supplier.

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/914956/standard-condensed-terms.odt>

#### Specification

The Authority is Natural England. The Authority’s priorities are to secure a healthy natural environment; a sustainable, low-carbon economy; a thriving farming sector and a sustainable, healthy and secure food supply. Further information about the Authority can be found at: [Natural England](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/)

Natural England’s Requirement

Natural England requires the services of a contractor to undertake research to grow our understanding of private sector interests in a potential new national urban greening accreditation, to create Nature Towns and Nature Cities across England. This accreditation will build on Natural England’s Green Infrastructure Standards[[1]](#footnote-2).

In summary this work will involve;

1. Identifying the drivers for private sector investors in urban greening (either new or retrofit green infrastructure, urban nature or biophilic buildings), and the levers that would encourage greater investment in urban greening. We would particularly like to explore the potential role of an area-wide urban greening or urban nature accreditation such as a Green or Nature City/Town/Neighbourhood/Street in attracting investment for green interventions and nature-based solutions. Market segmentation is likely to be required to understand a range of private sector drivers. We are interested in understanding the potential scale of any future investment and particular outcomes or products investors would like to ‘buy into’.

1. Scoping out one to one interviews with private investors and a private investors roundtable with Natural England and its partners to explore these drivers in more detail. Use this research to advise on the development of accreditation outcomes, potential criteria and evaluation questions.

Background to the project

Natural England is developing a new work area building on the Government’s response to the Landscapes Review[[2]](#footnote-3). The Review recommended a new approach is taken to protected landscapes in England and part of this work is to develop a new approach to urban landscapes.

As part of this work, we are developing opportunities to connect new audiences to nature across England’s towns and cities.

The planned approach to urban landscapes will see a new national accreditation for towns, cities, neighbourhoods and streets to incentivise urban greening with multiple benefits for people, nature, climate and place. See Annex 1 for a more detailed logic model. We are developing our thinking in terms of a brand name, but this could be a ‘Nature City’, ‘Nature Town’, ‘Nature Neighbourhood’ or ‘Nature Street’. For further information see Annex 2 – NGULs Two Sider.

Following a period of stakeholder engagement with Government bodies, Non-Government Organisations and Local Authorities, we want to understand what would motivate private sector organisations to invest in a place that holds, or is working towards, an urban greening accreditation. We require audience segmentation for this research. The details are set out below.

Detailed Requirement

We require research that will tell us the following:

1. Overview

Identify and define the mechanisms by which private investors could invest to support an urban greening accreditation, in an urban area. Test a suite of mechanisms with a business audience. These mechanisms should include Habitat banking and philanthropic investment (to gain their view). Tell us what different mechanisms and systems appeal to different sectors and attract / enable them to invest.

What is or could be the level of demand for an urban greening or urban nature accreditation from the private sector, considering the following drivers. (This is not and exhaustive list and contractors may wish to add other drivers)

* Opportunities for Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental, Social and Governance measures.
* Opportunities for good PR and Marketing of business e.g. business is located in a Nature City
* Opportunities to meet sustainability requirements including new legislative and policy such as eg climate related/biodiversity related corporate reporting such as the Task Force for Climate/Biodiversity Related Financial Disclosures, Biodiversity Net Gain, Net zero etc
* Business operational drivers, for example building resilience to climate change
* Financial return on investment
* Workforce driven such as increasing staff productivity and attracting new talent due to being located in an attractive, green area or having a green ethos at the heart of the business.

How significant are the above factors for private businesses when taking into consideration other drivers for investment in a place e.g. economic, geographic, proximity to market etc?

What would an urban greening accreditation need to deliver to attract private investment and what would be the measures of success?

We are developing plans to accredit places at different scales. These are City-wide, Town-wide, Neighbourhood level and Street level. What type of provision or activity would attract private investment at each level? For a list of potential urban greening options see Annex 1 (not exhaustive)

1. Audience segmentation

Tell us what the drivers are for the following audiences in the private investor sector (this is a starting list to which contractors may wish to add). We are interested in what an urban greening accreditation could offer to these audiences, and how it could be designed and delivered to maximise investment.

* Financial Investors
* Insurance companies
* Retail both online and high street / out of town
* Tourist sector
* Health Sector / Health Outcomes
* Developers and real estate companies
* Other large national employers e.g. Football/sports clubs, Digital and IT
* Others – to be advised by contractors

Natural England has produced some draft criteria for an urban accreditation in Annex 4 and the draft outcomes for the project, in Annex 5 which the supplier can draw on for context.

1. Interviews and roundtable

To build on the above research, we would like the supplier to organise and facilitate one to one interviews with private investors from the above audiences, leading to a potential roundtable that would include Natural England, National Trust and potentially Defra representatives. The date for the half day roundtable should be agreed with Natural England and it’s partners and can be held online or in person, dependent on what would support the best and most diverse engagement from the private sector, within the timescales.

Social Research Policy.

See Annex 6 for guidance on complying with the social research principals for Natural England.

Outputs and contract management

We anticipate working to the following schedule with catch ups via Teams as required.

* Inception meeting week commencing 23 January 2023
* Meeting to discuss preliminary findings and receipt of high level report Mid- February 2023
* Facilitate roundtable – End of February 2023
* Draft report and presentation of findings week commencing 20th March 2023
* Final report and closure 31 March 2023

Supporting documentation (from the supplier)

The quotation submission should include details of:

* Your key personnel who will be directly involved with this contract including their relevant skills and experience and number of days to spend on this project.
* Understanding of the Project Proposal and proposed methodology with a brief proposed project plan and assess any risks for the delivery of the project
* Reference to the NE social research principles (listed in the specification) and description of ethics considerations and processes for social research elements of the proposal
* Recent experience of carrying out similar contracts
* Quality Assurance measures
* Health and Safety
* Quality evaluation criteria

Sustainability

As a delivery partner, the successful contractor is expected to pursue sustainability in their operations, thereby ensuring Natural England is not contracting with a supplier whose operational outputs run contrary to Natural England’s objectives. The successful contractor will need to approach the project with a focus on the entire life cycle of the project. The successful contractor is likely to be able to provide a copy of their environmental policy and any environmental accreditation schemes such as ISO 14001 or EMAS which they have been awarded or are working towards.

1. Operational Sustainability **-** Explain to Natural England what your organisation is doing to incorporate sustainability within its operations. This may include any details you are able to provide in relation to steps you may be taking to reduce your carbon footprint.

Evaluation criteria

We will award this contract in line with the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) as set out in the following award criteria:

Price – 40%

Quality (based on proposed submitted methodology) – 60%

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| Criteria | Weighting | To include; |
|  |  |  |
| Understanding of the requirement | 20% | Demonstration of a clear understanding of the requirements and consideration of any problems/issues. Clear understanding of the outputs which the Authority intends to be produced in this project. |
| Approach and methodology | 40% | Details of your approach and methodology and how it meets the project aims, objectives, tasks and outputs outlined above.  A breakdown of pricing for each of the tasks included in the specification including days and costs  Details of how you intend managing the contract including any consortium of sub-contracting arrangements, to ensure the project tasks and timescales are achieved. |
| Project Team | 25% | Details of relevant previous experience to this tender.   * 1. Details of previous experience of project management of successful contracts.   2. Evidence of the production of relevant reports detailing methodology and results, including recommendations.   3. Members of the project team who would be responsible for managing the project, stating a project leader or contractor’s representative who will be the primary point of contact on this project.   4. Names of the key members of the team, outlining their respective roles and experience. Show how the project team has sufficient expertise/experience and balance in completing this work and provides good value for money.   Please indicate the amount of resource that each member of the team will contribute to achieving each objective.   * 1. As a separate document please include brief CV’s of staff who will be working on this project. Each CV to be no more than 2 pages of A4 font size 12. |
| Contract Management | 15% | Detail how you intend managing this contract, including any consortium or sub-contracting arrangements, to ensure the project tasks and timescales are achieved.  What systems and procedures do you have in place that would apply to the management of this contract – please provide details including a clear quality control and quality assurance plan including how it will be managed, timescales and resource allocated.  Identify potential problems/risks and explain how these will be managed if you are successful in being awarded the contract.  Provide a work plan/Gantt chart for the work, including the deliverables and critical pathways plus periods where involvement of the project steering group will be required. |

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|  | **Justification** |
| For a score of hundred (100): | Excellent - Response is completely relevant and excellent overall.  The response is comprehensive, unambiguous and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the requirement and provides details of how the requirement will be met in full. |
| For a score of seventy (70): | Good - Response is relevant and good.  The response demonstrates a good understanding and provides details on how the requirements will be fulfilled. |
| For a score of fifty (50): | Acceptable - Response is relevant and acceptable.  The response provides sufficient evidence to fulfil basic requirements. |
| For a score of twenty (20): | Poor - Response is partially relevant and/or poor.  The response addresses some elements of the requirements but contains insufficient / limited detail or explanation to demonstrate how the requirement will be fulfilled. |
| For a score of zero (0): | Unacceptable - Nil or inadequate response.  Fails to demonstrate an ability to meet the requirement. |

Bid format

Prices should be submitted in £ sterling, exclusive of VAT

Quote Tender and contract timescales

It is anticipated that this contract will be awarded tor a period of 2.5 months to end no later than 31st March 2023, with preliminary findings shared with Natural England in February 2023. Prices will remain fixed for the duration of the contract award period. We may at our sole discretion extend this contract to include related or further work. Any extension shall be agreed in advance of any work commencing and may be subject to further competition.

**Prices**

Prices must be submitted in £ sterling, inclusive of VAT.

**Contract Management**

This contract shall be managed on behalf of the Authority by Dawn Jackson Email Dawn.Jackson@NaturalEngland.org.uk

We will raise purchase orders to cover the cost of the services and will issue to the awarded supplier following contract award.

Invoicing will be done when the work is complete.

### Disclosure

All Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies are subject to control and reporting within Government. In particular, they report to the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury for all expenditure. Further the Cabinet Office has a cross-Government role delivering overall Government policy on public procurement, including ensuring value for money and related aspects of good procurement practice.

For these purposes, the Authority may disclose within Government any details contained in your quotation. The information will not be disclosed outside Government during the procurement.

In addition, the Authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, which provide a public right of access to information held by public bodies. In accordance with these two statutes, the Authority may be required to disclose information contained in your quotation to any person who submits a request for information pursuant to those statutes.

By submitting a quotation you consent to these terms as part of the procurement.

### Disclaimers

Whilst the information in this RFQ and any supporting information referred to herein or provided to you by the Authority have been prepared in good faith the Authority does not warrant that this information is comprehensive or that it has been independently verified.

The Authority does not:

* make any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the RFQ;
* accept any liability for the information contained in the RFQ or for the fairness, accuracy or completeness of that information; or
* accept any liability for any loss or damage (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or any other liability which cannot lawfully be excluded) arising as a result of reliance on such information or any subsequent communication.

Any supplier considering entering into contractual relationships with the Authority following receipt of the RFQ should make its own investigations and independent assessment of the Authority and its requirements for the goods and/or services and should seek its own professional financial and legal advice.

**Protection of Personal Data**

In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 the contractor must agree to the following:

* You must only process any personal data in strict accordance with instructions from the Authority
* You must ensure that all the personal data that we disclose to you or you collect on our behalf under this agreement are kept confidential.
* You must take reasonable steps to ensure the reliability of employees who have access to personal data.
* Only employees who may be required to assist in meeting the obligations under this agreement may have access to the personal data.
* Any disclosure of personal data must be made in confidence and extend only so far as that which is specifically necessary for the purposes of this agreement.
* You must ensure that there are appropriate security measures in place to safeguard against any unauthorised access or unlawful processing or accidental loss, destruction or damage or disclosure of the personal data.
* On termination of this agreement, for whatever reason, the personal data must be returned to us promptly and safely, together with all copies in your possession or control.

**General Data Protection Regulations 2018**

For the purposes of the Regulations the Authority is the data processor.

The personal information that we have asked you provide on individuals (data subjects) that will be working for you on this contract will be used in compiling the tender list and in assessing your offer. If you are unsuccessful the information will be **held and destroyed within two years** of the award of contracts. If you are awarded a contract it will be retained for the duration of the contract and destroyed within **seven years** of the contract’s expiry.

We may monitor the performance of the individuals during the execution of the contract, and the results of our monitoring, together with the information that you have provided, will be used in determining what work is allocated under the contract, and in any renewal of the contract or in the award of future contracts of a similar nature. The information will not be disclosed to anyone outside the Authority without the consent of the data subject, unless the Authority is required by law to make such disclosures.

Annex 1

Resources for urban greening activities and provision that may appeal to private investors

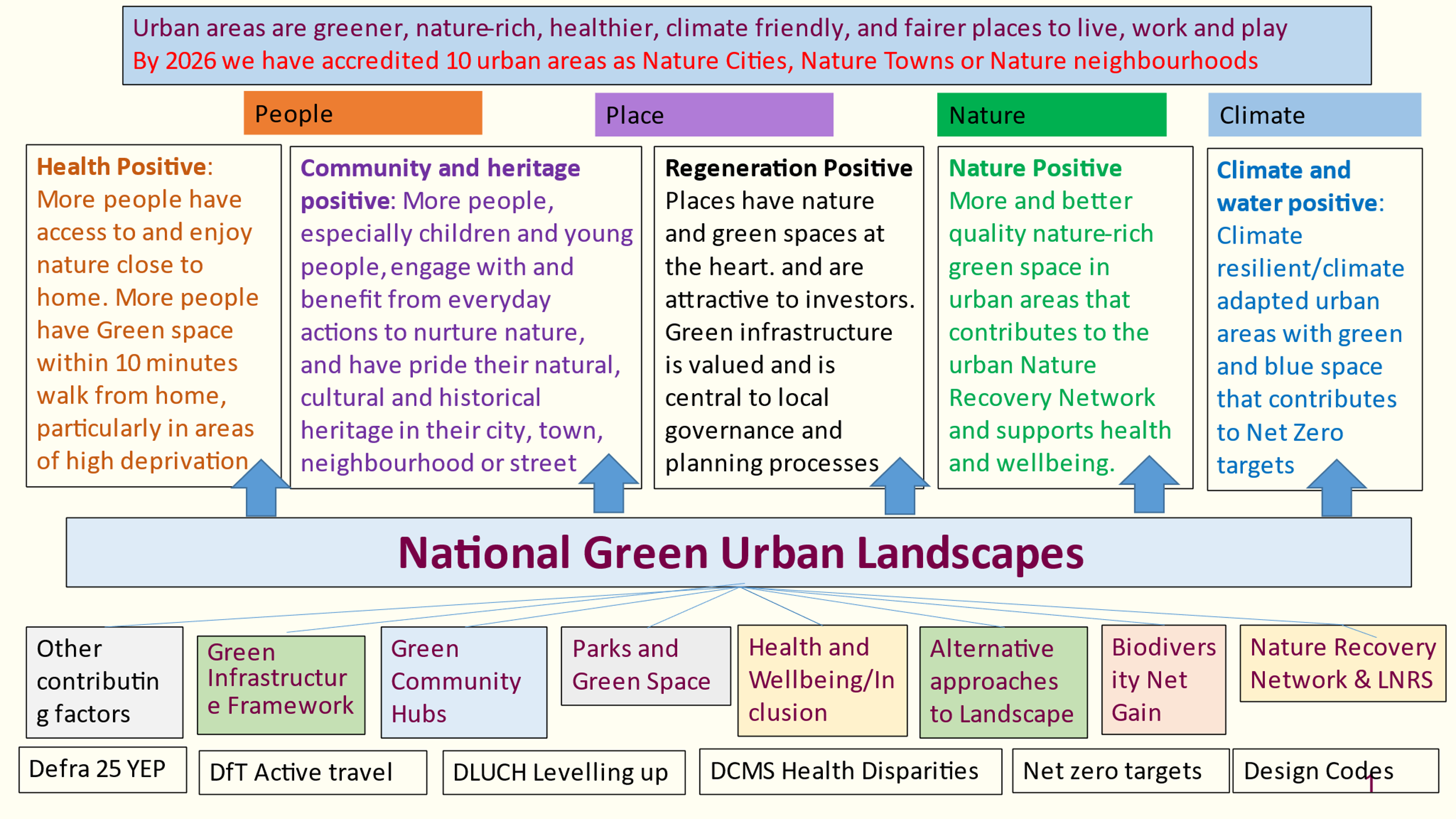
* Green Infrastructure Framework of Standards for England

[Home (naturalengland.org.uk)](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdesignatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk%2FGreenInfrastructure%2FHome.aspx&data=04%7C01%7CDawn.Jackson%40naturalengland.org.uk%7Cca39b93bbb464fe5a16908d9fd564ec0%7C770a245002274c6290c74e38537f1102%7C0%7C0%7C637819369528471707%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=dgZE7tVLKCmCOs3XjOYMSdTj7Ad1A1tx1djzyVtI6Kc%3D&reserved=0)

* Biodiversity Net Gain
* Environmental Net Gain
* [Create Streets – Helping you make better places…](https://www.createstreets.com/)
* [Home | Fields in Trust](https://www.fieldsintrust.org/)
* [Green Flag Award](https://greenflagaward.org/)
* [A rapid scoping review of health and wellbeing evidence for the Framework of Green Infrastructure Standards - NEER015 (naturalengland.org.uk)](http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4799558023643136)

Annex 2

National Green Urban Landscapes Logic Model



Annex 3 – Urban Greening Accreditation two-sider

**Urban Greening accreditation**

**What is an Urban Greening Accreditation?**

The aim is to develop an urban greening accreditation that recognises locally-led partnership and community action that transforms urban areas into greener, nature-rich, healthier, climate friendly, and fairer places to live, work and play.

The accreditation supports local pride by celebrating natural, cultural and industrial heritage, as part of the story of a place and its community, and its connection to the wider landscape.

It creates places where everyone can contribute and benefit through everyday actions to enjoy, engage and nurture nature in their city, town or neighbourhood.

**What is the problem?**

With 80% of the population living in urban areas, nature close to home is important for inspiring a new generation of nature lovers, who value and steward nature for the future. But there are inequalities in access to good quality greenspace and its co-benefits, and there are a mix of barriers to use. [Ten years of MENE data](https://defra.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=d5fe6191e3fe400189a3756ab3a4057c) tells us that the communities least likely to access green/blue natural spaces are low income, ethnic minority and from older age groups.  The ONS natural capital report[[3]](#footnote-4) found the value of health benefits associated with outdoor recreation within the UK was estimated to be between £6.2 billion and £8.4 billion in 2020. The cost of living crisis means ‘free’ resources like parks and greenspace on the doorstep are even more valuable for cash strapped families. We also know that recreational pressure is a threat to favourable condition on 14% of SSSIs. Increased provision of doorstep greenspace could help to reduce pressures on sensitive sites.

Current landscape approaches fail to recognise the value of town/city landscapes, and the Landscape Review recommended the development of new landscape approaches in towns and cities. Our all-England mapping has identified areas of high environmental need where new approaches could be targeted.

There are a number of individual initiatives and awards eg Green Flag, Levelling up Parks Fund. Whilst these play an important role, evidence and stakeholder feedback highlights the lack of a way to bring these together into a coherent package that can drive system change in urban areas to put nature at the heart of place-making.

**Our Vision** is for more nature and more people accessing and benefiting from nature in urban areas, specifically:

* Everyone has access to good quality green and blue space within 15 minutes walk from home
* In urban areas, everyone lives in neighbourhoods with at least 40% average green cover so that:
  + everyone can see trees and wildflowers, and hear birdsong from their home
  + everyone can benefit from nature’s contribution to climate resilient, healthier, distinctive and thriving places to live, learn work and play.

**Proposition for an Urban Landscape Accreditation or Award**

To address the above issues and bring this vision for urban areas to life, we are exploring opportunities for an urban landscape accreditation or award to drive nature recovery in urban areas. It would provide a focus to bring together and amplify our and stakeholder work in areas of greatest environmental and social need,

The accreditation acts as the ‘wrapper’ or ‘carrot’ for bringing people together in a common purpose through partnership and incentivising change. Sitting beneath this ‘wrapper’ are the tools and mechanisms (eg Green Infrastructure Standards, Biodiversity Net Gain and Green finance) that would drive the outcomes and change we want to see.

The accreditation or award would:

1. Set out **high level outcomes** and recognise and reward stepwise, incremental progress towards delivering these outcomes
2. Recognise and reward leadership, partnership and governance, that innovates and mainstreams mechanisms and approaches that drive **systemic change.**

Outcomes would build on the vision for nature-rich, climate resilient, healthier, distinctive, and thriving places to live, learn work and play:

* Nature-rich / Nature Positive : More and better quality nature-rich green space in urban areas that contributes to the urban Nature Recovery Network, 30x30 and species abundance targets
* Climate-resilient / Climate and water positive: Climate resilient / climate adapted urban areas with green and blue space that contributes to Net Zero targets.
* Healthy / Health Positive: More people have access to good quality greenspace within 15 minutes walk from home, particularly in areas of high deprivation. More active travel opportunities
* Distinctive / Community and heritage positive: More people, especially children and young people, engage with and benefit from everyday actions to nurture nature, and have pride in natural, cultural and historical heritage in their city, town, neighbourhood or street.
* Thriving / Regeneration positive: In urban areas, everyone lives in neighbourhoods with at least 40% average green cover. Places have nature and green spaces at the heart. and are attractive to investors. Green infrastructure is valued and is central to local governance and planning processes and supported by green finance.

**Systemic Change:** The accreditation/award would look to grow and celebrate the success factors for enabling systemic change:

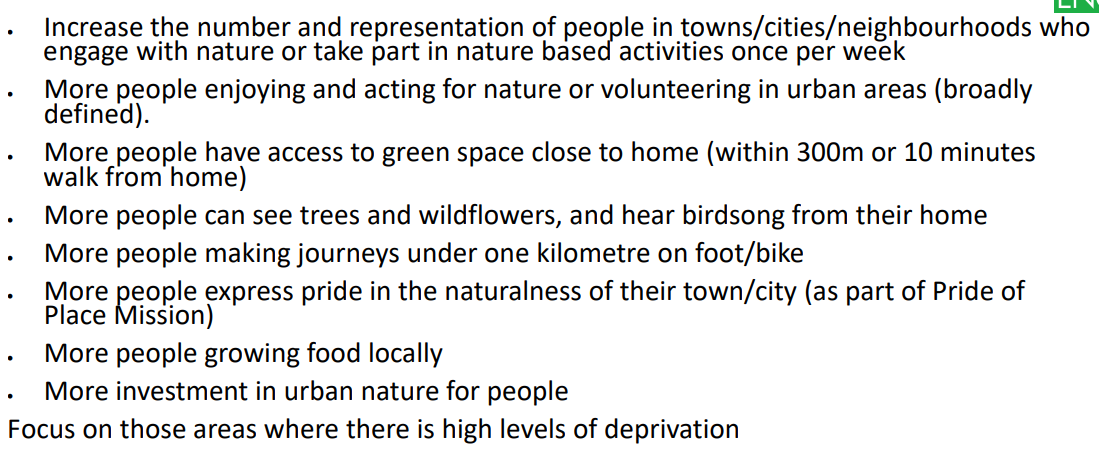
* **Leadership and Governance**: Recognising and rewarding leadership, ambition and vision (from the highest levels) that puts people, climate and nature at the heart of place-shaping and place-making
* **Partnership and Innovation**: encouraging collaboration that leads to innovation
* **Planning and strategic approaches**: taking a strategic approach to planning and delivery of nature recovery, access to nature and the benefits of nature and enabling new planning approaches eg Urban Greening Factors and strategic solutions to reduce recreational pressure.
* **KPIs, standards and targets**: Setting of/achievement in delivering KPIs, standards and targets. Examples include:
  + Environmental and social Governance (ESG) – standards measuring a businesses impacts on society, environment and how transparent and accountable it is, including ESG metrics
  + Targets for uplift in good quality accessible greenspace, urban greening, urban woodland canopy cover and Green Social Prescribing to meet national GI standards.
* **Green finance and investment models**: that support and integrate shared investment in nature, net zero and health. Examples include Crowd Funding Platforms, Parks Foundation Trusts, Urban Habitat Banks (BNG), Green bonds, and Health Shared investment funds.
* **Community action:** communities are empowered to act for and benefit from nature

Annex 4

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| Outcomes |
| 1. **Nature and Climate Positive**   **Greenness**  Long term outcome   * Increase in number of neighbourhoods (LSOAs) in England with 40% green cover/0.4 UGF due to accreditation activity. * More people can see trees/ wildflowers/ hear birdsong from home   Medium term outcome:   * Increased quantity of public greenspace in urban areas * increased quality of greenspace in urban areas (as perceived by local communities and ecologists) * Increased investment in greenspace enhancement (quality and quantity) i.e. will bring new investment into the NGUL area to do x, y and z, * All new development meets GI Standards   Outputs   * GI Strategy/Local Nature Recovery Strategy * Local targets for meeting GI Standards * Local plan policies setting local standards and targets to deliver national GI Standards   Inputs/Activities   * Take a strategic approach to planning nature recovery and green infrastructure   **Biodiversity and Geodiversity**  Long terms outcomes   * Increase in urban biodiversity that is managed and maintained for the long term in areas undertaking NGUL activity * Increase in the number of LNRs/000 population in NGUL areas   Medium term outcomes   * Urban habitat banks established to deliver uplift in urban nature * Increased levels of investment for biodiversity   Outputs   * Local Nature Recovery Strategies and opportunity maps include urban areas * Local Species Abundance Targets   Input Activities   * Establish baseline understanding of local levels of biodiversity in urban areas (e.g. using SoS Biodiversity metric) and species * Identify areas for BNG and develop management plans * Understanding what is in your area – number and populations of native and invasive species * Establish who cares for them/ is responsible for them * Pipeline of urban biodiversity projects developed for investors * Citizen science activities to collect data and build engagement, particularly on species.   Indicators   * No. of LNRs per 1,000 population * % green-ness (from mapping – green-ness grid, look at GI indicators) * % of protected areas for nature (OECMs?) * % of / amount of habitat restoration (blue and green)   **Connectivity**  Long term outcomes  increase in connectivity between different greenspaces in areas with NGUL activity, etc)  Outputs   * A plan that shows connectivity, with baselines and opportunities identified * Pollinator plan (e.g., Cornwall) and plans for other taxa   **Climate**  Long Term Outcomes  Increased quality and quality of greenspace contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation locally   * Increased urban tree canopy cover helps to address climate change by storing carbon, reducing temperatures during heat waves, and soaking up rain water to help avoid flooding.   Outputs   * Targets for uplift in urban tree canopy cover set in GI Strategy and Local plans/Local Design Codes * Audit of area-wider climate risks and opportunities, including needs * Plan for climate mitigation and adaptation * Plan for understanding/addressing specific risks e.g. urban heat island * Plan for Nature based solutions * Local water management strategies: flood and drought plans   Indicators  % Uplift in tree canopy cover  percentage of trees planted that are casting more shade and what potential impact this has on ambient temperature, etc).  CO2 emissions savings |
| 1. **Wellbeing Positive**   Long term Outcomes   * NGUL communities have lower levels of … (tbc e.g., mental health referrals etc).   Medium term outcome   * More people with physical and mental health needs are able to spend time in nature every week through socially prescribed nature-based activities * More people have access to good-quality green space close to home (within 15 minutes’ walk) * Increased usage of greenspace, particularly by those with underlying health and wellbeing issues   Outputs   * GI Strategy/Local Nature Recovery Strategy * Local targets for meeting GI Standards * Local plan policies setting local requirements to meet GI Standards * Maps of new greenspace provision * Developer plans include increased quality and quality of greenspace * Green Social prescribing plan   Activities   * green space supports local green social prescribing activities * ONS Greenspace data is updated with local data   Indicator   * How long people are spending in (NGUL) greenspace on average when they go, * how frequently and why they go (for exercise – linked to health, to socialise – linked to well-being, to de-stress – linked to well-being, as a pleasanter way to get to work, etc.). |
| 1. **Community and Heritage Positive**   Long term outcomes   * More people can act for and benefit from nature * local people have an increased sense of pride in place’ and/or * ‘there is a greater sense of social cohesion/community togetherness’ as a result of NGUL process. * urban greenspaces created or enhanced through NGUL process are seen to draw on/contribute to local heritage’ (though again potentially challenging to assess, particularly given likely to be a diversity of perspectives… including on what is seen as heritage).   Medium term outcomes   * Increased diversity of people using and engaging in greenspace * More people feel empowered to act for nature * The invisible benefits of nature are more visible e.g. people understand how trees store carbon, reduce flood risk, clean air etc * More people benefit from nature (e.g. there is reduced flood risk, or cleaner air) in the NGUL area * Local people in areas which receive accreditation through NGUL feel they have participated in the process of creating and/or enhancing greenspaces in their area which has led to the accreditation   Output   * Active LA plan for community engagement in nature (co-design and co-creation, key words), * Community leaders or champions or a Ranger service set up to support community engagement   Input/Activity   * Plans show diverse engagement – people, nature, and place * Understand barriers around access to green space specific to the local area so that NGUL can target measures to address * Communication with communities about what they want to see in their greenspace (e.g. via app or QR codes) * Understand what’s important in the story of NGUL as a place? Collect stories about the area from local community to tell the story of the place (Natural/cultural/industrial heritage) * Seek views on what’s next in the story of the place? |
| 1. **Regeneration positive**   Long term Outcomes   * Levelling up of access to greenspace and greening of neighbourhoods, to address inequalities especially in areas of deprivation. E.g. through green regeneration of neighbourhoods * Towns and cities are greener and more beautiful, attracting inward investment * Increase productivity through better mental and physical health and wellbeing in NGUL communities. * More prosperous communities * Urban greening is valued (Financial, health, jobs and skills, cooler housing less prone to flooding, education)   Medium term outcomes   * Greener high streets that encourage people to visit them and spend time and money there * Green roofs and walls insulate buildings and reduce energy use.   Outputs   * Green skills development plan * GI Strategy that identifies how GI contributes to regeneration.   Activities/inputs   * Prepare a pipeline of projects for investment eg through BNG * Green Skills Development  1. **Governance**   Long Term Outcomes   * There is shared integrated co-created vision and goals that are supported by a wide range of stakeholders   Outputs   * Plan for cross departmental collaboration? (Cross-departmental working) (partnerships and participation) * Plan for facilitating community empowerment (partnerships and participation) * Capability and capacity building plan to increase skills * Sustainable funding plan for investment in nature - for new GI and existing, embedded across departments: health, transport, education * Succession plan - How to maintain momentum – build succession in (re Leadership), and build resilience in   Activities/inputs   * Resource audit * Monitor and evaluate – report every five years on progress towards local targets to meet GI Standards |

Annex 5

Draft Outcomes of an urban greening accreditation



Annex 6

Natural England Social Research Principles

* it is informed by a review of existing evidence relevant to the topic
* it utilises existing data, where this is available and sufficiently robust
* it involves the use of appropriate methods, analysis and interpretation
* where your research involves collecting data from people,
  + their participation is based on valid, informed consent
  + efforts are made to enable participation
  + personal and social harm is avoided
  + identity and personal information are not disclosed

1. [Home (naturalengland.org.uk)](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdesignatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk%2FGreenInfrastructure%2FHome.aspx&data=04%7C01%7CDawn.Jackson%40naturalengland.org.uk%7Cca39b93bbb464fe5a16908d9fd564ec0%7C770a245002274c6290c74e38537f1102%7C0%7C0%7C637819369528471707%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=dgZE7tVLKCmCOs3XjOYMSdTj7Ad1A1tx1djzyVtI6Kc%3D&reserved=0) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [Landscapes review (National Parks and AONBs): government response - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/landscapes-review-national-parks-and-aonbs-government-response/landscapes-review-national-parks-and-aonbs-government-response) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Health benefits from recreation natural capital UK 2022 ONS report

   [Health benefits from recreation, natural capital, UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/bulletins/healthbenefitsfromrecreationnaturalcapitaluk/2022) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)