

**A selection of Green Network
planning case studies**

(August 2011)

Contents

1. East London Green Grid

Regional and
Strategic Plan Level

- 2. Cambridgeshire Sub-Region Green Infrastructure Strategy
- 3. Aberdeen Proposed Local Development Plan
- 4. Plymouth Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan

Local Development
Plan Level

- 5. South Lanarkshire Green Network Quality Design Guide
- 6. Glasgow East End Local Development Strategy
- 7. Milton Keynes South Midlands: Green Infrastructure by Design

Supplementary Planning
Guidance

- 8. Natural Economy Northwest Guide to planning Green Infrastructure at the sub-regional level
- 9. Natural England GI Guide

Other Useful
Guidance

These Green Infrastructure planning examples have been selected to highlight some elements of good practice. It is unlikely that one size will fit all.

Cambridgeshire Sub-Region Green Infrastructure Strategy

Local Development
Plan Level

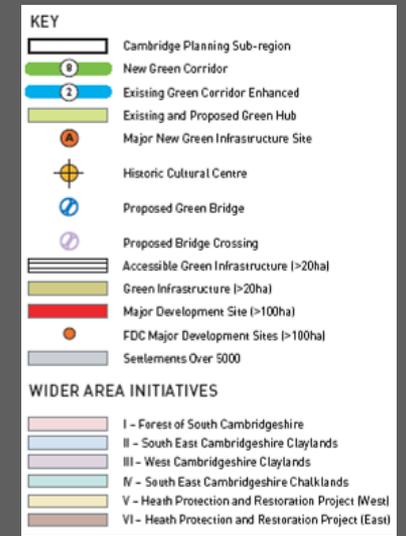
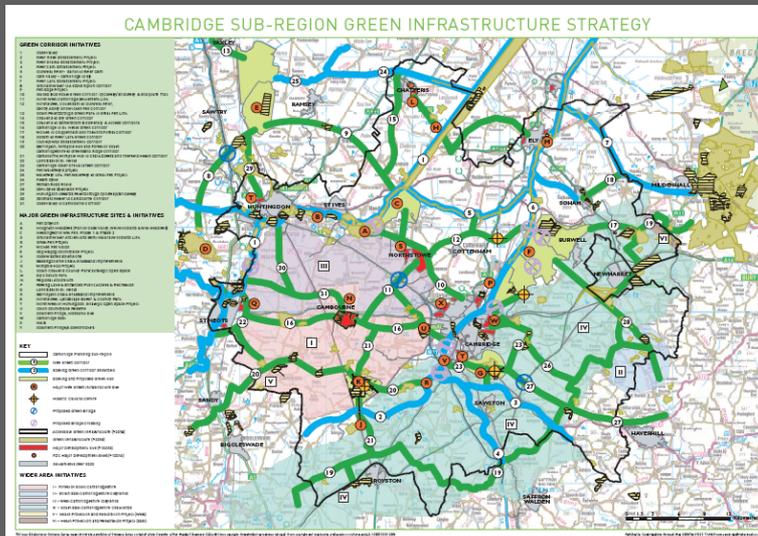
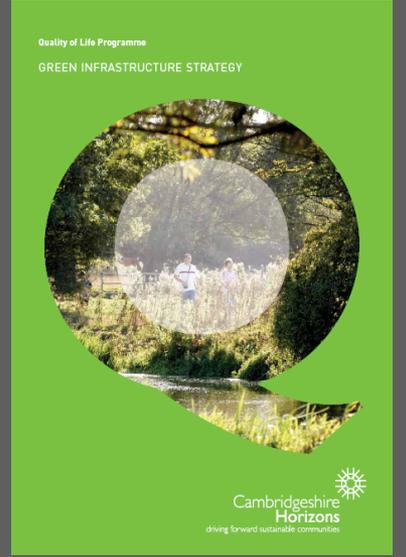
Cambridgeshire Sub-region Green Infrastructure Strategy

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/DFC9B030-E462-47B4-8365-12454D0B01AC/0/GreenInfrastructureStrategy.pdf>

Map:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/DFC9B030-E462-47B4-8365-12454D0B01AC/0/GreenInfrastructureMap.pdf>

- Identifies and provides names for 22 green networks in the Cambridgeshire sub region;
- Also identifies 20 major new or enhanced greenspace projects that will form key strategic “hubs” or destinations within green network;
- Communicates a clear and engaging mapped-based vision for green networks at the sub-regional scale while also communicating how green networks are conceived and delivered at the town and local scales.



Aberdeen Proposed Local Development Plan

Local Development
Plan Level

Aberdeen Local Development Plan (Proposed Plan, September 2010) and Proposals Maps:

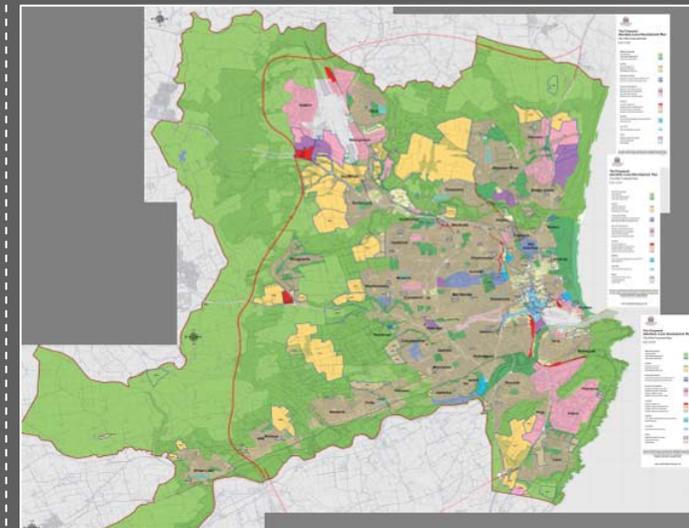
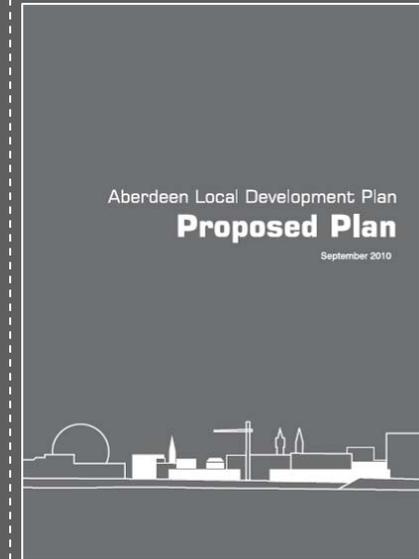
<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=31976&SID=14413>

http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Planning/ldp/pla_aldp_document_map.asp

- Existing greenspace network assets spatially defined on the proposals maps, including green network corridors identified within sites for development.
- Additional proposals maps identify a number of green network sites and routes, including: core paths, aspirational core paths, SSSIs, LNRs, district wildlife sites, linear district wildlife sites, coastal management areas, and conservation areas.
- Supported by Green Network-specific policy:

The City Council will protect, promote and enhance the wildlife, recreational, landscape and access value of the Green Space Network. Proposals for development that are likely to destroy or erode the character or function of the Green Space Network will not be permitted. Where major infrastructure projects or other developments necessitate crossing the Green Space Network, such developments shall take into account the coherence of the network. In doing so measures shall be taken to allow access across roads for wildlife and for access and outdoor recreation purposes. Masterplanning of new developments should determine the location and extent of the Green Space Network within these areas.

Development which has any impact on existing wildlife habitats, or connections between them, or other features of value to natural heritage, open space, landscape and recreation must be mitigated through enhancement of [the] Green Space Network. (Policy NE1 – Green Space Network, page 36-37)



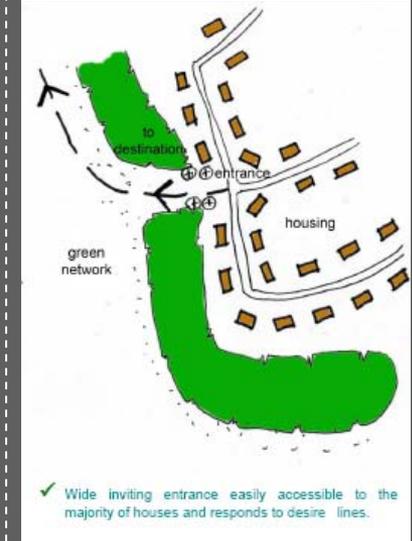
South Lanarkshire Green Network Quality Design Guide

Supplementary Planning Guidance

South Lanarkshire Green Network Quality Design Guide:

http://gcvgreennetwork.gov.uk/component/option.com_docman/Itemid.78/gid.59/task.doc_download/

- This document aims to secure delivery of well-designed green networks through the planning process;
- It sets out 6 themes that should be addressed by all green network proposals;
- It provides well-illustrated design guidance showing what is expected from developers with regards green network implementation and future management;
- The document contains a green network quality assessment toolkit to aid planners in reaching clear development management decisions regarding the quality of green network proposals.



Glasgow East End Local Development Strategy

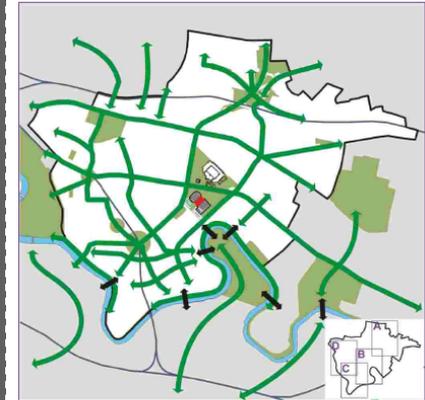
Supplementary Planning Guidance

Glasgow East End Local Development Strategy:

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/AF0E7C52-1258-4BF4-A435-B79A81501DB4/0/EELDS.pdf>

- This document is area specific SPG produced in support of the Glasgow City LDP
- Green network strategy is integral to the vision for the area and this is communicated in a visually engaging document.
- Supporting policy seeks to combine traditionally separate policy themes of open space, drainage, paths and connection to public transport into a single policy for the delivery of an Integrated Infrastructure Framework for development.
- The green network is mapped diagrammatically across the plan area with detailed, spatially specific, proposals shown for 5 key areas or “development hubs”.

MAP 03
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT OF GREEN NETWORK



CHANGING PLACES



CHANGING LIVES

EAST END LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY



JANUARY 2008

POLICY 16. Developers will be expected to work with the Council to deliver its Integrated Infrastructure Framework. Developers will be expected to bring forward Masterplans and other development proposals which contribute to this framework by:

- establishing a green network of quality open spaces and quality paths,
- establishing an integrated network for walking and cycling paths linked to the use of public transport
- creating a regional SUDS scheme and strategic conveyance routes
- upgrading existing road & path network

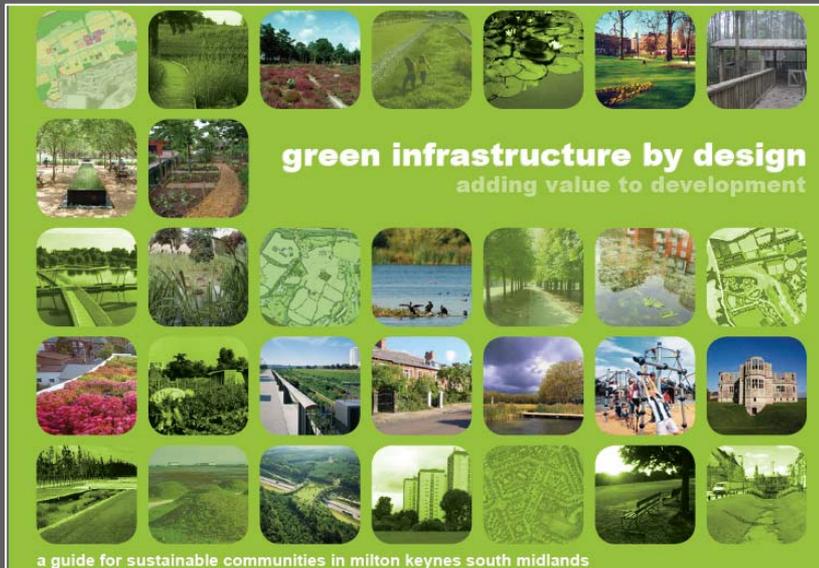
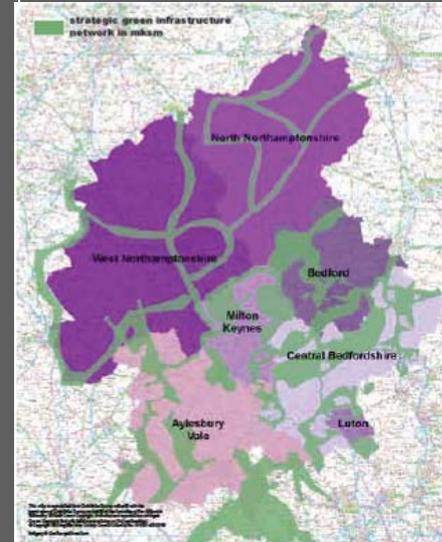


quality path

Milton Keynes South Midlands: Green Infrastructure by Design

http://www.emgin.co.uk/images/DROP_BOX/MKSM%20GI%20by%20Design%20Guide%20Single%20Page%20Spread%20Web.pdf

- This document supports regional and locally derived green infrastructure strategies and supports the delivery of urban growth as identified in a range of regional and local development plans;
- It seeks to embed the principles of multi-functional green infrastructure as a key component for the design of new (sustainable) places;
- It provides case studies and practical design guidance for the delivery of multi-functional GI in different settings (for example historical or natural) and for different objectives (for example energy production, food growing, recreation, movement and leisure etc);
- It highlights how GI requirements should be integrated site development briefs, masterplans and planning applications while also setting out guidance on implementation.



3

GI function access, recreation, movement & leisure



Contact with the natural environment is shown to improve mood in 88% of people, reduce stress, blood pressure and muscle tension (Source: World Health Organization)

GI benefits

- economic benefits**
Attractive and convenient pedestrian and cycling routes between existing and proposed settlements can support the local economy
- environmental benefits**
Improvement of rights of way networks can help reduce car journeys and provide recreational opportunities
- social benefits**
Footpath and cycle network creates opportunities for social interaction and improved health and wellbeing of residents

case study : Kings Reach

key facts:
 Location: Biggleswade, Bedfordshire
 Client: Taylor Wimpey, Martin Grant Homes and David Wilson Homes
 Masterplanner: FRP Architects
 Site Area: 150 hectares
 Number of Dwellings: 2100
 Key GI Components: Linear Park, multi-modal public right of way, green corridors, recreational sports areas, play areas, tree lined streets and waterbodies
 Status: Under construction



Natural Economy Northwest

<http://www.naturaleconomynorthwest.co.uk/download.php?A%20Guide%20To%20Planning%20Green%20Infrastructure%20At%20The%20sub-regional%20Level%20-%20v3.1.pdf>

For most up-to-date method see Appendix 1 of: http://www.ginw.co.uk/liverpool/Technical_Document.pdf

- Promotes a holistic approach to green infrastructure planning and strategy development, suggesting an analysis of functions and benefits based on a green infrastructure typology. p.5
- Helpful section on the benefits of a multi-functional GI approach, which highlights the economic arguments that can be made. p.8
- Identifies 8 principles for GI planning, design and implementation, and highlights the need for an iterative approach to strategy development (p.18):
 1. Identify and protect green infrastructure before development
 2. Engage diverse people and organisations from a range of sectors
 3. Linkage is key, connecting green infrastructure components with each other and with people
 4. Design green infrastructure systems that function at different scales and across boundaries
 5. Green Infrastructure activity must be grounded in good science and planning practice
 6. Fund green infrastructure up-front as a primary public investment
 7. Emphasise green infrastructure benefits are afforded to all; to nature and people
 8. Green infrastructure should be the framework for conservation.

Other Useful Guidance

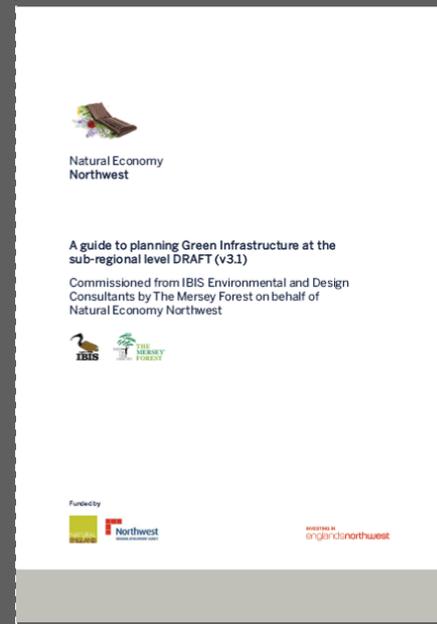
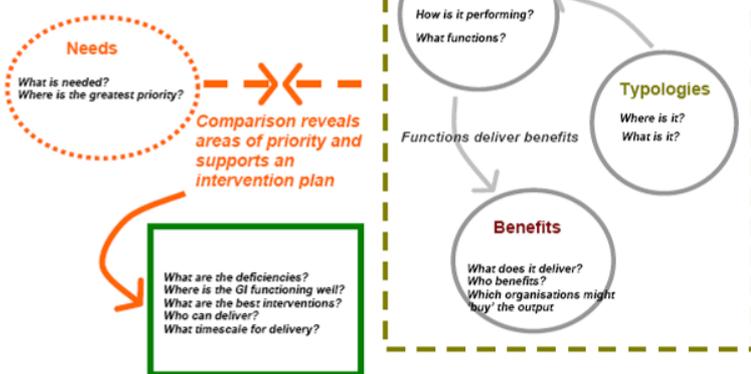


Diagram 3 – The relationship of typology and function to need

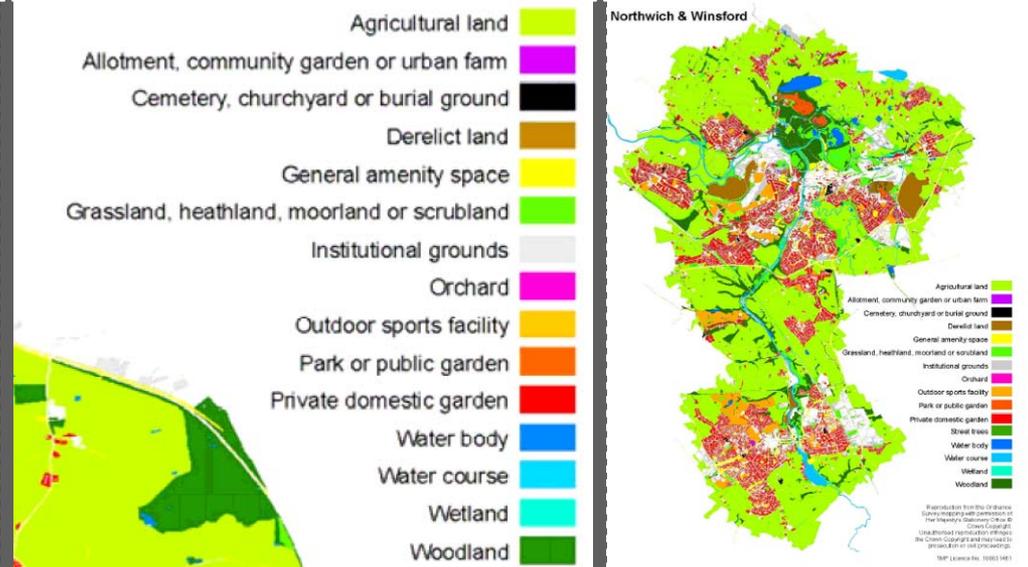
Needs can be determined and represented in spatial distributions of:

- Economic need
- Social need
- Environmental need



Needs can be mapped against administrative boundaries

This group requires the GI asset to be spatially mapped in terms of typologies



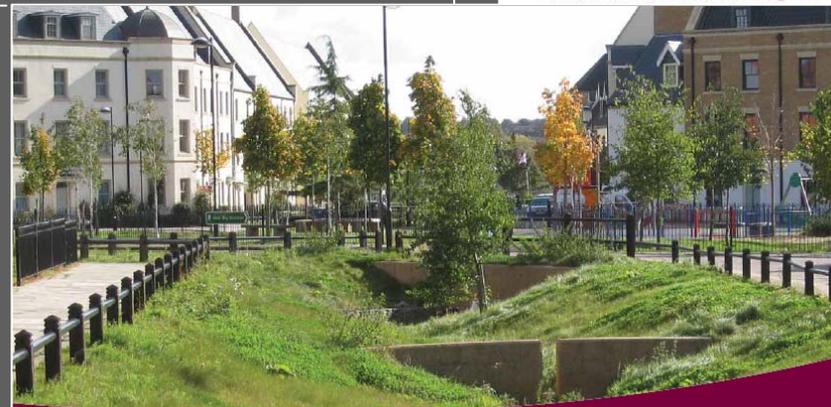
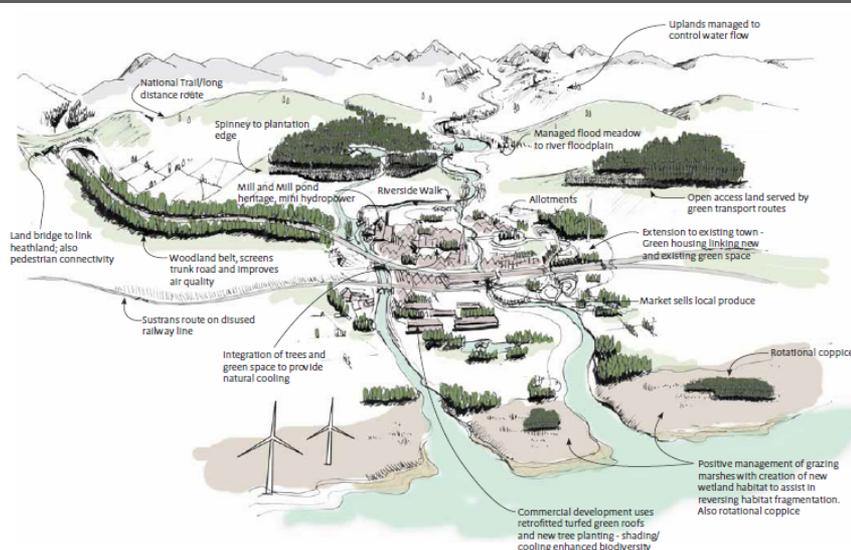
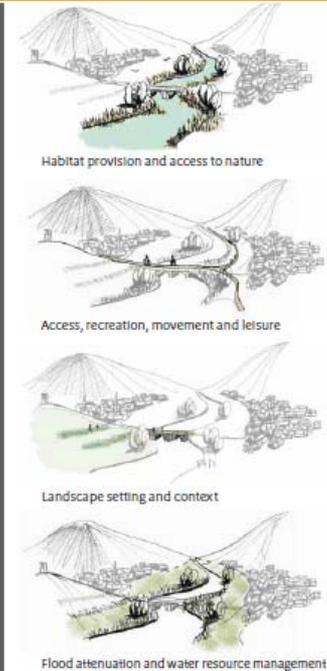
Natural England GI Guide

Other Useful Guidance

Natural England Green Infrastructure Guide:

<http://naturalengland.etraderstores.com/./NE176>

- Helpful sections on green infrastructure planning and on green infrastructure considerations in development management decisions, albeit with reference to the English planning system. Promotes an iterative process to GI planning.
- Useful illustrations that help communicate green infrastructure and the idea of multi-functionality.
- Links to green infrastructure case studies and examples of GI planning policies.
- Helpful glossary of green infrastructure terms: Green infrastructure, blue infrastructure, multi-functionality.



Green Infrastructure Guidance

www.naturalengland.org.uk



Figure 3.9. Green Infrastructure, multifunctionality and place-making - example 1