

Guidance, Standards & Tools Table – Appendix 6

Process Guide for Local Planning Authorities –
Developing Green Infrastructure Policies and
Strategies using the Green Infrastructure Framework –
Principles and Standards for England

September 2024

Guidance, Standards & Tools Table

The Guidance, Standards and Tools table provides a comprehensive list of links to both government and non-governmental tools, standards and guidance which can be used for developing green infrastructure (GI) strategies and delivering good quality green infrastructure. The table outlines the link to the guidance, the publisher or owner, the guidance type, whether the guidance is site specific or relates to a local authority wide scale and also what specific GI type the guidance refers to.

Please note that the table is extensive and intended to be used to find relevant guidance when required.

Guidance Title	Publisher/Owner	Guidance Type	Scale	GI Type
Active travel: a briefing for local authorities	Public Health England	Guidance	LA wide	Travel
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions	Forestry Commission	Guidance	Site	Trees
Biodiversity Net Gain Guidance	DEFRA	Guidance & tool	Site	BNG
Biodiversity Net Gain Metrics	DEFRA	Guidance & tool	Site	BNG
Building for a Healthy Life	Homes England	Guidance	LA wide	Planning
Catchment Data Explorer	Environment Agency	Tool	LA wide	Water
Climate Change Adaptation Manual	Natural England	Guidance	LA wide	Climate
Country Park Accreditation	Natural England	Standards	Site	Green space
Designing and modifying residential streets: Manual for streets	Department for Transport	Guidance	Site	Planning

Guidance Title	Publisher/Owner	Guidance Type	Scale	GI Type
Enabling a Natural Capital Approach	DEFRA	Guidance	LA wide	Natural capital
Flood Map for Planning	Environment Agency	Tool	Site	Water
Garden Communities toolkit	Homes England	Guidance	Site	Community
Green Flag Award	Green Flag Award	Standards	Site	Green space
Green Flag Community Award	Green Flag Award	Standards	Site	Community
Green Heritage Site Accreditation	Green Flag Award	Standards	Site	Heritage/Character
Headline Green Infrastructure Standards	Natural England	Guidance	LA Wide	All
Health and wellbeing evidence for the Framework of GI Standards	Natural England	Guidance	LA wide	Health
How to protect and manage the urban forest	Forestry Commission	Guidance	LA wide	Trees
Landscape and seascape character assessments	Natural England	Guidance	LA wide	Heritage/Character
Local Nature Recovery Strategies	DEFRA	Guidance	LA wide	LNRS
Local Nature Recovery Strategy Data Viewer	DEFRA	Tool	LA wide	LNRS
Local Nature Reserves: setting up and management	Natural England	Guidance	Site	LNR
National Character Area profiles	Natural England	Tool	LA wide	Heritage/Character

Guidance Title	Publisher/Owner	Guidance Type	Scale	GI Type
National Model Design Code	MHCLG	Guidance	LA wide	Planning
Natural Capital Evidence Handbook	Natural England	Guidance	LA wide	Natural capital
Natural Capital Indicators	Natural England	Guidance	LA wide	Natural capital
Nature exposure and human health and wellbeing	Natural England	Guidance	LA wide	Health
Open space, sports, and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space	MHCLG	Guidance	LA wide	Sports/recreation
Playing Pitch Calculator	Sport England	Tool	LA wide	Sports/recreation
Scrub Management Handbook	Natural England	Guidance	Site	Habitats/Species
SuDs Manual	FCERM	Guidance	Site	SuDs
The Environmental Benefits from Nature Tool		Tool	Site	
The Mosaic Approach: Managing Habitats for Species	Natural England	Guidance	Site	Habitats/Species
The People and Nature Surveys for England	Natural England	Guidance	LA wide	Health
UK Forestry Standard	Forestry Commission	Standards	LA wide	Trees
Alternative funding mechanisms for green space	Sweep	Guidance	LA wide	Funding
Ancient Trees and Development	Woodland Trust	Guidance	Site	Trees

Guidance Title	Publisher/Owner	Guidance Type	Scale	GI Type
Biodiversity Net Gain: Good Practice Principles for Development	CIEEM	Guidance	Site	BNG
Blue Flag Award	Foundation for Environmental Education	Standards	Site	Blue Space
British Standard for Biodiversity Net Gain	CIEEM	Standards	Site	BNG
Building with Nature	Building with Nature	Standards	Site	Planning
Community orchards top tips	People's trust for endangered species	Guidance	Site	Trees, Community
Community-led green space toolkit	Town and Country Planning Association	Guidance & tool	Site	Community
Developing and implementing a green infrastructure strategy	UK Green Building Council	Guidance	LA wide	Planning
Ecosystem Knowledge Network Tool Assessor	Ecosystem Knowledge Network	Tool	LA wide	Planning
Flood and surface water management	BREEAM	Guidance	LA wide	Water
Flora locale library	CIEEM	Guidance	Site	Habitats/Species
Green Infrastructure: An integrated approach to land use	Landscape Institute	Guidance	LA wide	Planning
Green Roof Code	Green Roof Organisation	Standards	Site	Green roofs
Growing in the community	Local Government Association	Guidance	Site	Community

Guidance Title	Publisher/Owner	Guidance Type	Scale	GI Type
Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play	Fields in Trust	Standards	LA wide	Sports/recreation
Guidance on SuDs	ciria	Guidance	Site	SuDs
Guide to façade greening	NBS	Guidance	Site	Green walls
Habitat Management - Buglife	Buglife	Guidance	Site	Habitats/Species
Hedgerow management cycle	Hedgelink	Guidance	Site	Habitats/Species
Historic Landscape Characterisation	Historic England	Guidance	LA wide	Heritage/Character
Investment Readiness toolkit	Green Finance Institute	Tool	LA wide	Funding
i-Tree Canopy	i-Tree	Tool	LA wide	Trees
i-Tree Eco	i-Tree	Tool	LA wide	Trees
Local Authority Nature Recovery Toolkit	Planning Advisory Service	Tool	LA wide	Planning
Managing Road Verges and Green Spaces	Plantlife	Guidance	Site	Green space
Pollinator Guidance	Buglife	Guidance	LA wide	Habitats/Species
Priority Habitats	JNCC	Guidance	LA wide	Habitats/Species
Priority Species	JNCC	Guidance	LA wide	Habitats/Species
Producing park and greenspace management plans	CABE Space	Guidance	Site	Green space
Set up an urban habitat bank	Future Parks Accelerator	Guidance	Site	Funding
Space for people (woodland access)	Woodland Trust	Guidance	Site	Access

Guidance Title	Publisher/Owner	Guidance Type	Scale	GI Type
Sustainable Development Goals	United Nations	Standards	LA wide	
The Green Care Quality Mark	Social Farms & Gardens	Standards	Site	Green space
Tools for planning and evaluating green infrastructure	Environmental Change Institute	Tool	LA wide	Planning
Tree Equity Score UK	Woodland Trust	Tool	LA wide	Trees
Tree Species Selection for Green Infrastructure	Trees & Design Action Group	Guidance	Site	Trees
Trees in Hard Landscapes Guide	Trees & Design Action Group	Guidance	Site	Trees
Trees in the Townscape: A Guide for Decision Makers	Trees & Design Action Group	Standards	Site	Trees
Urban Tree Manual	Forest Research	Guidance	Site	Trees
Woodland management for bats	Forest Research	Guidance	Site	Trees
Woodland Wildlife Toolkit	Partnership	Tool	Site	Trees

Natural England is here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and **England's traditional landscapes** are safeguarded for future generations.

Natural England publications are available as accessible pdfs from www.gov.uk/natural-england.

Should an alternative format of this publication be required, please contact our enquiries line for more information: 0300 060 3900 or email enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk.

ISBN 978-1-78367-408-4
Catalogue code: NE820

This publication is published by Natural England under the Open Government Licence v3.0 for public sector information. You are encouraged to use, and reuse, information subject to certain conditions. For details of the licence visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3.

Please note: Natural England photographs are only available for non-commercial purposes. For information regarding the use of maps or data visit www.gov.uk/how-to-access-natural-english-lands-maps-and-data.

© Natural England 2023