



Ecological Emergency Action Plan - Update April 2022

Bristol Tree Forum requests and questions

Bristol City Council Ecological Emergency Action Plan 2021-2025 - Progress Report

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Framework and action plan (A3, A4, C2, E25, E26)

We need to respond to the new legal requirements from the Environment Act. We therefore propose to create a BCC BNG Framework enabling the council to be clear on:

- *Planning policy and processes for BNG, e.g. Practice Note and guidance*
- *BCC policy and process for investment in BNG on council land*
- *Mechanisms for achieving BNG for Council Projects*
- *Training for BCC staff on BNG*

A.1

Responded to government consultation on Local Nature Recovery Strategies and Biodiversity Net Gain outlining need for additional resources and need to provide clear guidance on how links with existing and review of current planning policy.

Please provide a copy of the Council's response.

A.2

Active participation in Biodiversity and Green Space working group regarding biodiversity metrics, Green City Accord and Urban Green Plans. Successful bid to Biocities Innovator challenge for NHC nature citizen science work. Also submitted challenge to World Data League to map Bristol dark ecological network. Shared pesticide work with Core Cities to share learning.

Please provide more information about the participation.

A.4

Endorsement of an organisational framework and action plan approach to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) implementation

Please provide a copy of the organisational framework and action plan produced.

C.1

Develop an in-house training programme on biodiversity legislation and ecological emergency for officers across all departments and levels, and councillors including training module.

Learning modules created and uploaded to Learning Hub - LGA Biodiversity for councils and in house created 'micro-learns' @ 10-15 mins each with tasks



Will these be made available in the public domain? There is an urgent need for community and stakeholder training.

C.2

Coordinate and facilitate in house workshop sessions on Biodiversity Net Gain requirements, delivery (including habitat banking, monitoring, assessment) and opportunities for the Council to deliver nature recovery through BNG.

Proposed to create BNG Framework, as part of EE Reserve Funding that will include identifying training needs.

Will stakeholders be consulted?

D.1

Working Group commissioned options report. Report completed August 2021. Commissioning of ecological modelling completed with work expected to start May 2022.

Please provide a copy of the August 2021 report and the ecological modelling.

D.2

One City EE Wildlife Index Working group formalised in June 2021 have drafted list of species. Task group (Univ of Bristol/BRERC/BCC) now collating data from various sources.

Please provide a copy of the list of species and the 'various sources' referred to.

E.16

Contribute officer time to NE National GI Standards Framework WoE Pilot Nov 2020 - Feb 2021 and beyond to further test and pilot WoE JGIS, National GI Standards, Biodiversity Net Gain metric, Building with Nature.

Completed - Officers attended national workshops with regard mapping and user guide being developed by NE. NE Framework due to launch April 2022

What is the launch date? Will the mapping be available in a GIS format?

E.21

Progress Bedminster Green River Restoration project -River restoration to improve the Malago riverscape for amenity and biodiversity gain, as well as flood risk management. Associated with the Bedminster Green regeneration.

The Bedminster Green River Restoration project is progressing well and is currently in detailed design stage.

Please provide detailed information about this. We have asked for this on several occasions see:



<https://bristoltreeforum.files.wordpress.com/2022/01/plot-5-bedminster-green-btf-comments.pdf>

&

https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/request_for_documents_relatin_g_t_9#outgoing-1285494

E.24

Commission survey of BCC Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) to inform evidence for ecological network and Biodiversity Net Gain work.

Completed: *Survey completed and being used to inform opportunities for nature in Parks and Green spaces.*

Is this correct? Have all the SNCIs in Bristol been resurveyed? If so, please provide copies of the surveys and a GIS map of all the sites surveyed. Has the information held on SNCIs by BRERC been updated?

E.29

Embed Biodiversity Net Gain approaches within capital programme and within corporate projects at inception and through all phases. Benchmark key projects using e.g. Building with Nature.

What steps are being taken to incorporate BNG in the emerging Local Plan?

E.31

Ecological enhancements will be a key part of the capital programme development process. Identify and implement ecological enhancements in new capital projects.

Beta version of new sustainability framework includes objectives and metrics to support ecological enhancement on capital projects. Framework is about to be piloted on a number of projects being delivered by the Strategic Partner.

Please provide a copy of the 'Beta version of new sustainability framework'. Please identify the projects being piloted.

H.1 - H.3

Share data

Will this data be made available in the public domain in machine-readable/GIS formats?