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Green Infrastructure Strategy

Comments now open on our Green Infrastructure Strategy

Our natural environment and the North Somerset landscape, which includes green spaces, wildlife and waterways, is important to us all. We all depend on the benefits provided by nature, also known as ecosystem services. These include things like:

- food and materials
- clean water and air
- climate regulation
- flood prevention
- pollination
- recreation

The climate and nature emergency has shown that our environment can be very fragile and needs careful management to flourish. Our appreciation of our blue and green

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The importance of green infrastructure

Green infrastructure is about connecting places and habitats to make them the best they can be.

It includes things like:

- parks and open spaces
- woodlands
- seaside walks and coastal pathways
- natural flood defenses and drainage systems

We protect and manage these spaces to enhance their environmental benefits and the quality of life they provide for the local area. They also play an important role in North Somerset Council's plans to be carbon neutral by 2030. Their preservation and enhancement is key to the nature and climate emergency we are facing.

Why we have developed a GI strategy

Our main goal in developing a GI strategy is to:

- protect and enhance the Green Infrastructure network within North Somerset
- form a vital contribution to the council's vision for: 'An open, fairer, greener North Somerset'
- support the Council's declaration of a climate and nature emergency in 2019 and 2020

In our view, the development of a robust GI strategy, which produces well planned and managed green infrastructure, is crucial in tackling the climate emergency.

We aim to use the strategy to inform our decision making, planning policy, and development management. We think this will create a healthier and more attractive place for residents, with better access to nature and high-quality open spaces. It will also improve biodiversity across the region.

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It also draws support from the [West of England Joint Green Infrastructure Strategy \(JGIS\) \(2020-2030\)](#) and feeds into the [North Somerset Local plan \(2023-2038\)](#).

Our objectives

The strategy includes an action plan to achieve eight main objectives.



Consultation and additional documents

The Green Infrastructure strategy will impact all aspects of life in North Somerset. We want to work with you to help shape the future of our communities and create a greener, fairer and more resilient North Somerset. We want as many people as possible to contribute to the development of this strategy.

We have provided the executive summary document, as well as the full document with appendices and maps, for you to review below.

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I have read and understood

button below to submit your thoughts through our consultation questionnaire.

fill out the GI Strategy consultation questionnaire

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