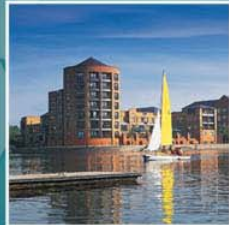
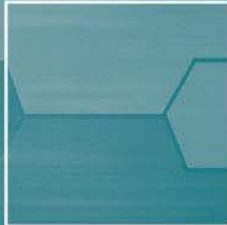


Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Green Infrastructure Study: Stage Two

Final Report

May 2010



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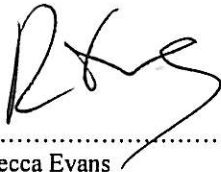


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Executive Summary

Following the completion of the Stage One report a Strategy, Action Plan and Business Plan were developed to promote and support the delivery of GI in the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk. Related spatial plans were also prepared for the Borough, with specific maps for King's Lynn, Downham Market and Hunstanton. The Plans highlight projects which support the delivery and inclusion of GI focusing primarily upon the creation of new habitats, new access/recreation routes, residential development and the extension/enhancement of industrial sites. Projects have been identified to decrease the gaps in provision highlighted in Stage One and meet demand highlighted in relevant reports and consultation events.

Although Stage Two of the report focuses primarily upon delivering physical GI projects, there are often a number of management issues and policy changes that require clarification and promotion to support the implementation of such projects. Policies are therefore highlighted in relation to the following themes:

- the promotion of site multifunctionality;
- the inclusion of GI in planning and development activity, including its protection, inclusion in new residential and commercial schemes, community engagement, promoting a co-ordinated approach to planning, encouraging green roof development and issues relating to GI design;
- access to GI sites and the development of a comprehensive network;
- the maintenance and management of existing and new GI provision;
- partnership working;
- increasing the promotion and related community awareness of GI sites;
- mitigation and adaptation to climate change through the use of GI;
- enhancing, protecting and creating habitats for wildlife and flora, and ensuring biodiversity linkages with other local authorities;
- using GI sites to develop renewable energy;
- increasing linkages between urban and rural areas through the use of GI;
- prioritising the enhancement and creation of GI in deprived areas, primarily King's Lynn;
- developing community facilities with GI and supporting the creation and improvement of play areas;
- providing access to allotment provision across the Borough;
- supporting community engagement and consultation;



- examining ways in which GI can support local economic growth;
- developing green routes to aid recreation and the use of sustainable methods of transport; and
- supporting the relationship between the historic environment and GI.

The related Action Plan identifies a number of high, medium and low priority projects, which have been selected with regard to their ability to align and deliver the GI Vision and Objectives. Criteria are provided within Stage Two of the report, which underpin the prioritisation process and indicates how projects have been selected.

High priority projects include:

- Fens Waterway Link - Ouse to Nene (King's Lynn);
- Fens Waterways - Sea Lock at Great Ouse Relief Channel (King's Lynn);
- King's Lynn/Wash/Norfolk Coastal Path (King's Lynn);
- Brecks Regional Park (Borough Level);
- Countryside and Recreation Zone (King's Lynn);
- Gaywood Valley (Borough Level);
- Hardwick Industrial Estate (King's Lynn);
- Nar Riverside Park (King's Lynn);
- Waterfront Regeneration Area (King's Lynn);
- Wissey Living Landscapes (Downham Market);
- Allotments (Borough Level); and
- The development of SUDS (Borough Level).

In King's Lynn a further nine projects are identified as being of medium priority. In Downham Market seven projects are considered to be of a medium priority and a further two projects low. A further five projects are described for delivery in Hunstanton, three of which are medium priority. Finally two additional projects will be delivered at Borough level of medium and low priority.

An initial Business Plan has been created to support the Action Plan, which will be updated by BCKLWN as further information is gained on projects costs and funding sources. The Business Plan helps to highlight funding gaps and can be used to identify projects, which require further support. The Strategy also demonstrates relevant funding opportunities and provides a list of possible monitoring targets, linking the implementation of GI projects to the Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement (LAA) priorities.



The report is finalised with a number of recommendations relating to GI's role in the planning system and how the study can relate to the development of the Core Strategy and the area's Growth Point Status.



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