



# GSAB GREEN SPACE STEWARDSHIP MODEL

## RESOURCE DOCUMENT

This document accompanies the [Green Space Stewardship Model](#), created by the Green Space Advisory Board.

- Document published **November 2023**
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## ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITIES

- [Orbit](#) is exploring how they look after green spaces across estates to help wildlife. This booklet shows what you can do in your garden to help even more.
- [Northern Housing Consortium's](#) Social Housing Tenants' Climate Jury produced recommendations on "how can tenants, social housing providers, and others work together to tackle climate change in our homes and neighbourhoods.
- [Bumblebee Conservation Trust and Ground Control](#) collaboration project [Bee the Change Garden](#) shows estate managers how to make small changes that transform a green space with very little value to Bumblebees into a Bumblebee haven.
- [RSPB](#) on creating a wildlife garden.
- [Southern Housing](#) biodiversity toolkit is designed to help estate managers choose appropriate management options to help improve biodiversity & engage residents in green spaces.
- [Building with Nature](#) creating better places for wildlife.
- [NHBC](#) Biodiversity in new housing developments: creating wildlife-friendly communities.
- [Parks Community](#) an online knowledge hub and network for all friends of parks and green space community groups, no matter their size or level.
- [Pinner Park School](#) has invited nature back into its green spaces, and with the help of Ground Control, is engaging the next generation of Nature Ambassadors through valuable learning opportunities.
- [Backyard Nature](#) share resources you can use at home.
- [Notting Hill Genesis](#) involves resident in developing their strategy.
- <https://veteransgrowth.org/>
- [Make Space for Girls](#) is providing useful evidence about how to design for teenage girls.
- [HouseMark Estate Services Club](#) share a guidance booklet that helps people identify what good looks like in estate services.
- <https://www.clarionhg.com/news-research/2021/december/youth-board-launched-by-backyard-nature-green-housing-association-consortium-gives-young-people-the-power-to-protect-nature/>
- <https://www.myclarionhousing.com/my-community/community-life/news-stories-and-guides/2020/10/13/clarion-futures-launches-its-pop-up-lab-series-online-to-combat-loneliness-and-social-isolation>

# BENCHMARKING & EVALUATION

## Benchmark Tool

- DEFRA Biodiversity Metric
- SHIFT Tools
- Wildlife Trust Habitat Identification Tool

## Standard / Guidelines

- Green Infrastructure Framework ([link](#))
- Green Flag standards
- Building with Nature
- Local Nature Recovery Strategies
- Natural England's 'Green Infrastructure Map' ([link](#))
- Green Flag standards
- Building with Nature
- Local Nature Recovery Strategies

## Data / Resource

- Natural England's 'Green Infrastructure Map' ([link](#))
- National Biodiversity Network
- BlueSky National Tree Map
- Existing GIS databases within your organisation
- ORVal (Outdoor Recreation Valuation tool) ([link](#))

## Example

- Orbit using Wildlife Trust Habitats Tool
- Peabody using National Tree Map
- The People and Nature Survey ([link](#))
- [HACT Social Value Metric](#)
- [People's Plan For Nature](#) consortium of organisations and UK residents developed the plan using a nature assembly.
- [Green Social Prescribing](#) Centre for Sustainable Healthcare, prescribing the use of green spaces to improve mental health.
- [National TOMs](#) National measures for social value in procurement.
- [UK Green Building Council](#) – driving social value in new developments. This guidance document contains.
- [Natural Environment Survey](#) Forestry Commission survey on natural environments
- [Social Value International](#) – social value assessment tool

## CREATING A PLAN & IMPLEMENTATION

- [The Biodiversity Toolkit for Housing Providers](#)
- Crest Nicholson planned biodiversity enhancement into the extension of a country park that surrounds its [Monksmoor Park development in Daventry](#). Central to the plan was the use of standing deadwood to create critical habitats, in addition to wildflower meadows and planting of semi mature trees.
- [www.buildingwithnature.org.uk/standards-form](http://www.buildingwithnature.org.uk/standards-form)
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- Case Study – Building with Nature Award winner, [Southside Housing in Glasgow](#) retrofitting an existing greenspace to respond to flood risk, and support residents health & wellbeing and access
- Case Study – [Elephant Sprigs Natural Play Area](#)
- Net Zero by 2050 ([defining-net-zero-discussion-paper-2021.pdf \(housing.org.uk\)](#))
- Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework - Everyone in urban areas should be 15mins from green infrastructure ([Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework](#))
- Global Biodiversity Framework - [30% of land and seas connected and protected for nature recovery](#)
- [Environment Act 2021 - 10% net biodiversity gain](#)
- Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures – [LEAP risk assessment process](#)
- Learn how to effectively monitor and evaluate sites which have received improvements. [Assess whether the proposed outcomes were achieved and generate learnings.](#)
- [The Children's Garden at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew](#) is a great example of effective contractor / client collaboration during the implementation phase. This BALI award winning garden was made possible thanks to the knowledge of the client and expertise of the Ground Control team from inception and feasibility studies all the way through to design, planning and installation. The result is an ambitious outdoor space that encourages creative play and inspires the next generation of nature ambassadors.
- UN Sustainable Development Goals ([Home - United Nations Sustainable Development](#))
  - Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
  - Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable
  - Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
  - Goal 15: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

## PARTNERING & FUNDING

- At Futures, our partnership with Travis Perkins has enabled us to access social value focused funding for placemaking activities such as wildflower and tree planting across some of our estates.
- Orbit is exploring partnerships with local Wildlife Trusts and supplier social value contributions. Together they are also working to deliver a campaign that encourages customers to increase the wildlife and nature in their private outdoor spaces.
- At [Ground Control](#)'s Wildfell Centre for Environmental Recovery, they are demonstrating the value of partnership 'Super Groups', working with Essex County Council, Essex Wildlife trust, RSPB, Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Plantlife, Dragonfly Trust, Farming & Wildlife Action Group East, Environment Agency, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, The Forestry Commission, The Big Green Internet, CSX Carbon, and Briggs Equipment. The plan for the 296-acre site in North Essex includes the planting of hedgerows, native trees and wildflower meadows, the creation of ponds, and landscapes to benefit walkers, forest schools and community groups.
- Trumpington Meadows in Cambridge is an award-winning development, in partnership with Barratt Homes, BPHA and the BCN Wildlife Trust. The new development includes 40% social housing, and access to a 58-hectare country park and nature reserve.
- Sovereign Housing Association joined Friends of the Earth Newbury and Ground Control to plant 200 saplings in a 'Lockdown Wood' in the heart of Newbury. The tree-planting project started in response to West Berkshire Council's draft Environment Strategy.
- Kidbrooke Village is a new housing development in London that will provide more than 4,800 homes and 35 hectares of varied, semi-natural open space. It's the result of a partnership between London Wildlife Trust and Berkeley Homes. The centre of the site is Kidbrooke Park, which will be designed to be a green corridor for people and wildlife.
- The Southall Grand Union Canal Wellbeing Way is a project developed by Peabody, the Canal & River Trust, Ealing Council and Sport England. The Lottery funded projects is transforming the canal towpaths and surrounding green spaces in Southall to boost wellbeing, biodiversity and climate resilience.
- Good Parks for London have a full resource hub for green space management and their [Good Parks for London 2022 Report](#) highlights lots of successful green space case studies across the city.

### Other Examples

- <https://www.biffa-award.org/rebuilding-biodiversity/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-grants-and-incentives-overview-table/woodland-grants-and-incentives-overview-table>
- <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/community-woods/funding/>
- <https://treecouncil.org.uk/what-we-do/planting-and-care/our-grants/>