

## How to Use the Green Infrastructure Self Assessment Tool

### 1. What is the Green Infrastructure Self-Assessment Tool?

This is a resource to help you improve the coverage and policy wording of green infrastructure in local plans and strategies. It is designed primarily as a self- assessment tool although we can give advice and support as required.

### 2. Is this just another new tool?

**No it is not.**

The tool is a hybrid; a fusion between 3 different research projects all trying to fathom out what good GI looks like. First, an English GI Benchmark ([‘Building with Nature’](#))<sup>1</sup>, a NERC project developed by the Gloucester Wildlife Trust and the Centre of Sustainable Planning and Environments at UWE (Sinnott, et al., 2018). Second, an [Integrated Green Infrastructure Approach](#) (IGI)<sup>2</sup> developed and promoted in Scotland by the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Nature Partnership (2017) and third, a NERC funded project on [Mainstreaming Green Infrastructure in the planning system](#)<sup>3</sup> which seeks to improve the way GI is valued and used in policy and decision making processes drawing on existing research and practice perspectives (Scott 2018).

### 3. So how is this hybrid tool structured?

The tool is focussed on three themes; Integration, Functions and Aftercare. Within these seven GI design elements are identified with dedicated Assessment Criteria (drawn from the three research projects and wider literature reviews) that provide the core focus for the assessment. This collectively signals what good policy in development plans should cover. (Figure 1)

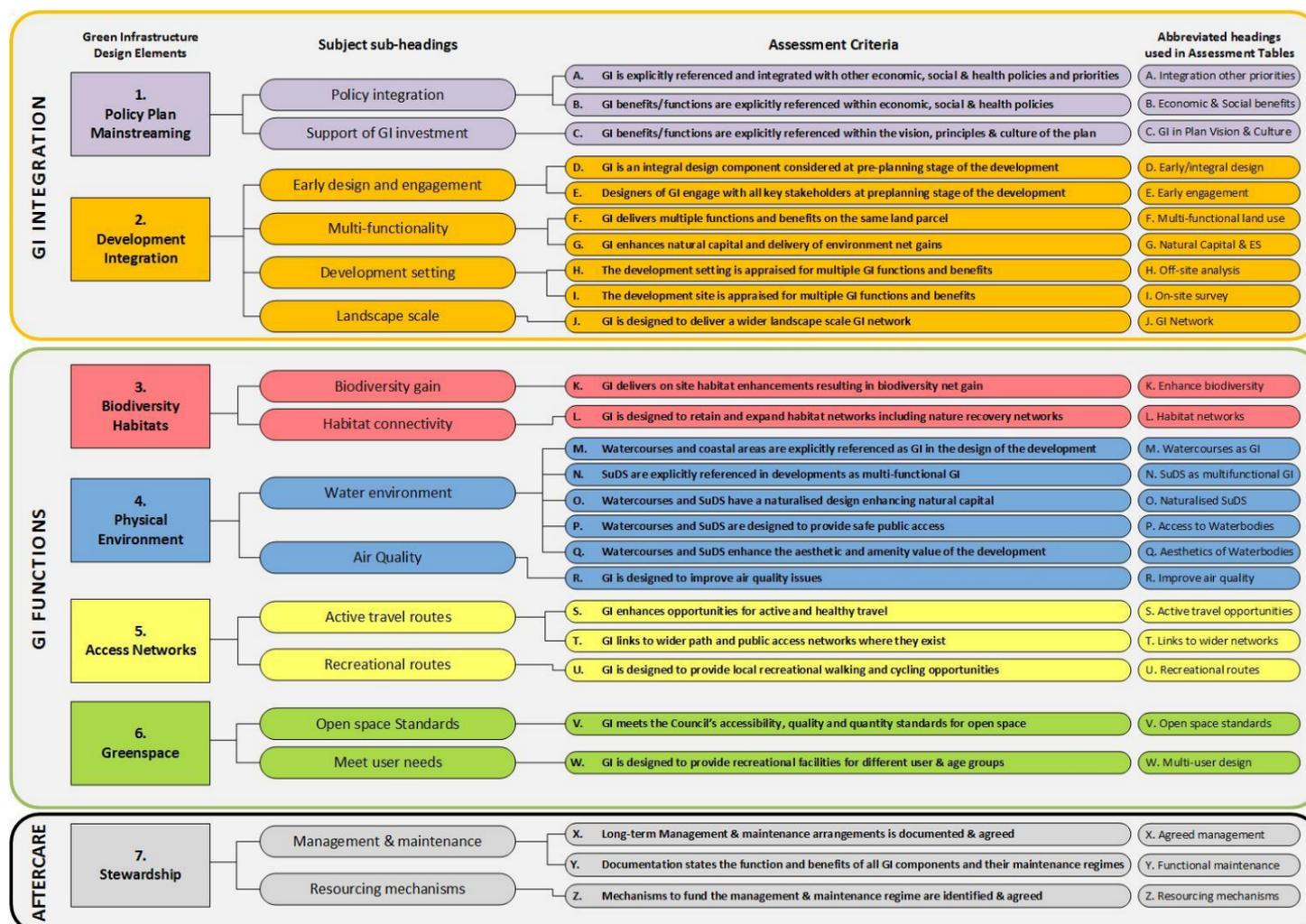


Figure 1 Hybrid Policy matrix showing themes and Assessment Criteria

<sup>1</sup> The Building with Nature GI Benchmark was funded through the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and seeks to raise the standard of GI over time and improve the quality of GI throughout the development pipeline. The broad themes that the benchmark covers and the way it should operate were identified through a literature review and through a process of active engagement and co-design with stakeholders. The themes identified include aspects of the planning, design and management of GI, together with nature conservation, water management, and health and wellbeing functions that GI provides for.

<sup>2</sup> The IGI Approach is based on lessons learned from a series of GI design studies the GCVGNP commissioned across the Glasgow and Clyde Valley region. The IGI Approach requires that GI within development must be designed, multi-functional (water management, access network, habitat network, green and open space) and managed (GCVGNP, 2017).

<sup>3</sup> The Mainstreaming project through a series of workshops and dedicated projects has sought to identify the current opportunities and barriers facing the wider mainstreaming aspects of GI in the planning system. Intelligence has been collected from both researchers, policy and practice communities

#### 4. What is the goal and purpose of this matrix?

The goal of the matrix is to ensure that there are sufficient policies that explicitly cover the full range of functions (as listed in assessment criteria A-Z) performed by GI which are mainstreamed throughout the document rather than just in the environment section and in one isolated green infrastructure policy. Furthermore, there is a goal to ensure that the GI policies themselves have sufficient clarity and teeth which results in appropriate delivery and action on the ground.

#### 5. So how do I use the matrix effectively for my local plan or green infrastructure strategy

You can use the matrix to test an existing plan, help assess new policies or to compare and contrast different plans. It requires you assessing the 26 assessment criteria on the GI coverage and the strength of policy wording.

A simple three colour scoring approach is used as shown below

Coverage of criteria	Score	Strength of policy wording
Some coverage	1	Weak phrasing
Reasonable coverage	2	Average phrasing
Full coverage	3	Strong phrasing

There are some important rules to follow to get the best and most robust results.

1. It is important that the self assessment is undertaken by at least two people (preferably as a team effort) to enable some triangulation of the assessment process remembering that it is essentially subjective. If you are doing a local plan it makes sense to have members of both the forward planning (policy) section and the development management staff involved given their different roles in designing and operationalising the policies.
2. It is important to use the scoring to have a discussion about the policies rather than treat the scores as absolute.
3. The GI coverage is undertaken first and any score given for that can not be superseded in the policy strength scoring as clearly the strength of any policy is dependent on the coverage.

#### So how do I populate the matrix with the scores?

There are two different methods required for using the policy matrix based on the different assessment criteria. We have provided an excel spreadsheet template for use in this approach. We suggest that all policies and text that are used for each score given are pasted into the matrix using the comments function for transparency purposes. A copy is here [Blank excel spreadsheet download](#)

The first stage is to identify and capture relevant policies and justification and/or explanatory text within an existing/draft plan. This is done through reading the plan as a whole including introduction and appendices and also undertaking dedicated word searches. The key words should relate to the assessment criteria and or suitable proxies. It is important not to just use green infrastructure. Each of the policies should be put into the policy matrix ready for scoring. It is also important that you exclude material that does not explicitly cover the assessment criteria.

#### Scoring Mainstreaming Assessment Criteria A-C GI Coverage

1. For the Mainstreaming components (Assessment Criteria A-C ) it is important to read the plan as a whole rather than rely on word searches in order to gain an understanding of the culture and ethos of the document as a whole and to identify any mechanisms that might lead to greater use of green infrastructure.
2. As we are dealing with mainstreaming issues we are looking primarily at all the chapters, but **excluding the natural environment chapter**, where GI policies are normally located. This is because mainstreaming is about embedding a concept in other policy domains.

3. Instead of capturing policies and supporting text individually you are required to identify and capture all the relevant examples addressing each of the criteria A-C to assess them as a collective.
4. As well as this you are also interested in the number of different chapters where these examples are coming from. So if you found 10 examples that would only be good coverage if they were across at least 3 chapters. If they were only found in one chapter that would be weak mainstreaming.
5. Thus you need to be engage with the number of examples and their coverage; the number of different chapters and the overall importance of GI in the culture and ethos of the plan to derive your final score for each of the criteria A-C.
6. Typically we are looking for at least 3 full coverage examples across 3 different chapters to score the full coverage values. The examples are scored as a collective group and not individually.
7. To help maintain transparency in your scoring method we recommend using the comment function to copy the full text and comment of the policy and record why you have scored a particular score.

### Scoring mainstreaming Assessment Criteria D-Z GI Coverage

1. For the assessment criteria D-Z a more straightforward approach is used where relevant policies and supporting text are captured and scored individually even if there are several examples.
2. Use of keyword searches can help the process but ensure you use the words across the assessment criteria and any suitable proxies (i.e. GI, access/active travel, biodiversity/habitat, greenspace/open space, suds) as search terms for policies and supporting text.
3. Recording all the examples for a given assessment criteria is important as you are looking for the highest scoring examples for the summary assessment (at the bottom of the matrix)
4. Use comment function in relevant scoring square to show what policy material has been used in your scoring.

### Scoring Policy wording

1. The table below shows examples of strong and weak policy wording

Strong phrases	Weak phrases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “all new developments will provide”</li> <li>• “meet the needs of”</li> <li>• “must be designed to meet ____ needs”</li> <li>• “the Council will not accept”</li> <li>• “proposals must demonstrate”</li> <li>• “any new development must protect”</li> <li>• “proposals will be expected to demonstrate compatibility with”</li> <li>• “planning conditions will be applied and, where necessary, legal agreements sought”</li> <li>• “all new development must comply with the Council's standards”</li> <li>• “the Council will expect”</li> <li>• “the Council expects that all development proposals shall be”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “should incorporate”</li> <li>• “when appropriate”</li> <li>• “where appropriate”</li> <li>• “the Council will negotiate provision”</li> <li>• “should be well designed”</li> <li>• “the Council will encourage”</li> <li>• “the Council will expect development proposals to have regard to”</li> <li>• “the council does not favour the use of”</li> <li>• “development that helps ____ will be supported”</li> <li>• “the Council will seek to develop”</li> </ul>

2. It is important to understand that you cannot give a higher score for policy wording on a given criteria than you have for GI coverage. It logically follows that if the coverage is not full then the policy wording however strong will not result in that assessment criteria being met.

3. It is also important that you look at the policy wording carefully and the justification as potentially strong policies can be weakened at the end with the comment 'where appropriate' added in.
4. The approach to scoring strength of policy wording for A-C repeats the process for GI coverage drawing on the collective impact of all the examples on a given criteria. However, the score this can be enhanced if there are specific mechanisms that elevate GI to a higher priority. A good example of this is where GI might form part of a core policy which sits above other policies in a given plan. You are not recording the highest score here as there should be only one score for each of the criteria.
5. The approach to scoring policy wording for D-Z repeats the approach to G coverage with individual scores given to individual examples.
6. To help you we have provided some example scores and commentary to real national and local planning policies Table 1

### What happens after I have input my scores into the matrix ?

So you now need to identify for each column the highest scores for coverage and policy wording. These then go down to the summary score at the bottom of the table. This is done automatically but be careful you keep all the functions in when adding new rows. It is then the summary scores that you need to focus on to identify any gaps or weaknesses.

This becomes very important in getting you to work with colleagues in housing, regeneration, economic development, highways and drainage to ensure that GI is embedded in these sections. It is important given the multifunctional nature of GI that it does not remain isolated in the environment chapter.

Table 1: Example policies with scores

Assessment Criteria	Example Policy or Justification Text	Policy wording strength	Coverage Score	Comments
				<b>The policy wording score cannot exceed the coverage score. If poor coverage the stronger policy wording will still not achieve the goal.</b>
A. GI is explicitly referenced and integrated within economic, social and health policies and priorities.	<p><b>Example 1</b> SDPs must identify housing provision to be delivered through LDPs, including strategic allocations/areas of search for strategic employment sites, supporting transport infrastructure and strategic green infrastructure (including Green Belts). The preparation of an SDP allows opportunities and challenges to be considered and planned for in an integrated and comprehensive way, promoting the achievement of positive planning outcomes</p> <p><b>Example 2</b> The policy topics of the Active and Social Places theme can work together to actively create sustainable and cohesive communities through development plan policies, including specific allocations, and development management decision making. In particular policies will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enable sustainable access to housing ,employment, shopping, education, health, community, leisure and sports facilities and green infrastructure, maximising opportunities for community development and social welfare;</li> </ul>	2	2	<p><b>It is important to look for several references to score this criteria. Key to this is that the references MUST be outside the environment chapter.</b></p> <p>Example has 2 policies hence orange score for coverage. Using one example is not sufficient for a green score. You should be seeing references across different chapters for green 3+; some for orange 2+ and 1+ for grey.</p>

<p>B. GI benefits/functions are explicitly referenced within economic, social and health policies</p>	<p><b>Example 1</b> ...work with all relevant strategic partners to protect, promote, expand and manage the extent and quality of, and access to, [the] network of green infrastructure. This multifunctional network will secure benefits including, but not limited to, biodiversity; natural and historic landscapes; culture; building a sense of place; the economy; sport; recreation; local food production; mitigating and adapting to climate change; water management; and the social benefits that promote individual and community health and well-being.</p> <p><b>Example 2</b> Green infrastructure is a strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services such as water purification, air quality, space for recreation and climate mitigation and adaptation. This network of green (land) and blue (water) spaces can improve environmental conditions and therefore citizens' health and quality of life. It also supports a green economy, creates job opportunities and enhances biodiversity”.</p> <p><b>Example 3</b> Green infrastructure is capable of providing several functions at the same time and as a result offers multiple benefits, for social, economic as well as environmental resilience. The components of green infrastructure, by improving the resilience of ecosystems, can result in positive benefits to wellbeing including flood management, water purification, improved air quality, reduced noise pollution and local climate moderation, climate change mitigation and food production. These benefits are particularly important in urban environments, where they can facilitate health and wellbeing-related benefits of open space, clean air and improved tranquility, for example, as well as creating a sense of place and improved social cohesion. In addition, green infrastructure has a role in protecting local distinctiveness, providing economic benefits and social and community opportunities.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>3</p>	<p><b>It is important to look for several references to score this criteria. Key to this is that the references MUST be outside the environment chapter</b></p> <p>The example from a plan here shows several references to the functions and there is good coverage but the policy wording is relatively weak in terms of requirements. Important to distinguish between good coverage and weak policy commitment in terms of the words used.</p>
<p>C. GI benefits/functions are explicitly referenced within the strategic vision, principles and culture of the plan</p>	<p><b>Example 1</b> Planning policies, proposals and decisions must seek to support the well-being of people and communities [...]. This will include seeking to maximise the cultural, social, environmental and economic benefits, while considering potential impacts when assessing proposals and policies in line with the Act’s Sustainable Development Principle</p> <p><b>Example 2</b> A de-risking approach can be combined with other development plan strategies, such as securing opportunities for green infrastructure and biodiversity, to realise the potential of places and encourage investment. should indicate the general location of known areas of dereliction, contamination, flood risk and unstable ground and other constraints in recognition that early consideration of surface and sub-surface dereliction and risks is a key part of unlocking barriers to growth and ensuring the resilience of places.</p> <p><b>Example 3</b> Where appropriate, development plans, informed by green infrastructure assessments, including local biodiversity action plans and countryside strategies, should provide guidance on the preferred after-uses and reclamation standards.1</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><b>Here three examples found but does not necessarily mean a green score. A subjective assessment needs to be made here relating to the coverage ; where are these statements located (ideally different chapters). The focus here is on reclamation (2 examples) so maybe there is a need to see these kinds of references in housing an employment policies to get a green score for coverage .</b></p> <p>So this criteria is looking for GI being referenced in the core components of the plan in some way. This can be the vision, strategic objectives.</p> <p>There also may be specific mechanisms that elevate GI to the forefront of the plan. (eg green infrastructure assessments in the exmample) Again it is important to look for several references to score this criteria. Key to this is that the references MUST be outside the environment chapter</p> <p>Need to look at other mechanisms such as core policies or challenges that help create a welcoming climate for GI Need to see the vision translated into clear objectives that recognise</p>

				the role of nature based solutions and green infrastructure
D. GI is an integral design component considered at preplanning stages of the development	Planning permission will be granted for development where all external spaces, and features, including streets, footpaths, civic spaces, green spaces boundary treatments and public art have been designed as an integral part of the scheme as a whole	1	Some 1	Oblique reference to some GI elements, but no reference to early consideration. Important however to note all stages of development covered
	Green infrastructure should be considered as an integral element of place from the outset of the planning process	2	Full 3	The combination of early engagement and also an integral design component leaves to high score.
E. GI is an integral design component involving all key stakeholders at preplanning stages of the development	Developers may wish to consult the Council prior to making an application to ensure that their proposed biodiversity objectives will adequately meet the Council's requirements.	1	Some 1	The integral nature is compromised here by the wording giving incomplete coverage.
	Whilst going through each stage, engagement with local communities and any other relevant stakeholders should be fully integrated into the process, where appropriate	1	Most 2	This is good but the where appropriate might allow a get out clause. Also early engagement needs to be stressed.
F. GI delivers multiple functions and benefits of GI on the same land parcel	An assessment should include the following information: • Details of how Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) will be incorporated into the development, where possible integrating drainage within landscape, green networks and open space	1	Some 1	Oblique reference to multi-functionality but only with reference to SuDS
	The Green Network provides a common structure within which a number of policy aims can be delivered. [...] Where these elements can be brought together on-site as part of the wider Green Network, then the City and its neighbourhoods benefit from enhanced drainage, biodiversity, access and open space, and developers benefit from the economies of being able to address all of these requirements in one place.	1	Full 3	Here use of the GI network and the multiple functions is key to the green score.
G. GI enhances natural capital and delivery of environment net gains	Proposals that deliver sustainable development and comply with other relevant policies will be permitted provided that they do not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the natural environment and its ability to contribute goods and services.	1	Some 1	Some linkage and reference with natural capital but no explicit mention and net gain not considered.
	Development proposals must be supported by a statement that sets out how the development proposal impacts both positively and negatively on ecosystem services and natural capital .	2	Most 2	No requirement here to deliver net gains necessarily.
H. The development setting is appraised for multiple GI functions and benefits	Safeguarding of the existing green network along with the promotion of improvements to and connectivity of the network will be supported, particularly where there are likely to be health and quality of life benefits to the surrounding communities and places	1	Some 1	Reference to safeguarding the green network but without specifically asking for an appraisal of existing functions
	[The] Council requires proposals to [...] appraise the context of the site (the area approximately 500m from the boundary of the site, but this will depend on the site so may be greater): This will ensure opportunities can be taken to connect to existing routes, neighbourhoods and green networks; Appraisals of the context of a site will cover: • Location & nature of existing green networks & open spaces [green & civic], and their walking distance from the site • Surrounding movement network, including character & hierarchy of streets, public transport network, route of core paths, cycleways, & active travel routes • Location and ecological quality of watercourses & water bodies	3	Full 3	Gives reference to all GI functions that must be covered in the appraisal. Note how it looks at the setting explicitly. The criteria based approach is a good way to achieve a green assessment.

I. The development site is appraised for multiple GI functions and benefits	Use your knowledge of the site status and analysis of the context to start considering design proposals for the site. This should be supplemented by an understanding of the site itself; its topography, landscape features; views to and from it; and its micro-climate.	1	Some 1	Some aspects of features and functions but incomplete when compared with other example below.
	Where it is required, a site appraisal should be undertaken for development before the details of a scheme are drawn up. The Site and Area Appraisal shall fully research and consider the site itself and the wider context: A full assessment of the nature of the site, in relation to the development proposal, to include: a) Landform (existing topography, levels, slopes, contours, and significant natural site features such as water features); b) Ground Conditions (possible constraints on development, soil conditions, drainage, flood risk, sustainable urban and surface water drainage); c) Landscape/Ecology (the extent, type and location of existing vegetation (trees, shrubs, hedgerows, grassland, water bodies, biodiversity and formal/informal landscaped areas) and protected species and designated habitat areas);	2	Full 3	Model policy
J. GI is designed to deliver a wider landscape scale GI network	New developments should be well connected to public transport and active travel networks	1	Some 1	Only refers to active travel networks, rather than a multifunctional GI network
	All development proposals will be assessed in terms of their impact on, and potential to contribute to, national Green Network principles and local Green Network and Open Space Strategy objectives in terms of the following:- • Proposals adjacent to, encroaching upon, or in the vicinity of, existing open spaces and green corridors, should maintain or enhance functionality and connectivity (active travel routes, habitat networks, etc).	2	Full 3	Although landscape scale not explicitly mentioned the GI network assume a central role here
K. GI delivers on site habitat enhancements resulting in biodiversity net gain	All development proposals will require to meet the following criteria in so far as they are relevant, or otherwise demonstrate how their contribution to sustainable development in the context of the subsequent relevant policies in the Local Development Plan and Scottish Planning Policy would outweigh any lack of consistency with the relevant criteria: • Protect and enhance natural and built heritage designations and link to and integrate with green infrastructure where possible	1	Some 1	Coverage but note how it is skewed by focus on designations and where possible.
	All development proposals will be expected to fulfil all of the following criteria: • maximise the potential of their development to contribute positively to biodiversity conservation and enhancement	3	Full 3	Note the exact term does not have to be covered but the focus on conservation and enhancement of biodiversity meets criteria.
L. GI is designed to retain and expand habitat networks including nature recovery networks	Habitat linkages within the site and to features outwith the site as well as the use of native species in landscape planting are particularly important.	1	Some 1	Refers to 'linkages' but no requirement for retention or expansion
	All development proposals will be expected to fulfil all of the following criteria: • protect and enhance existing habitat networks in or adjacent to the development site; • identify opportunities to strengthen the existing habitat network by creating new habitat links.	3	Full 3	Full coverage of protect and expand. Use of strengthen highly appropriate.
M. Watercourses and coasts are explicitly referenced as GI in the design of a development	The inclusion of green infrastructure which promotes the integration of blue and green networks in and around developments will be encouraged to ensure that the water environment is central to the fabric of places, contributing to sustainable flood management and not having an adverse effect on the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites.	2	Most 2	Good coverage but not necessarily referenced to the design component; too heavily focussed on flood management.
	Regard should also be had to other LDP policies in relation to drainage in new developments, SuDS, flood risk and the treatment of watercourses and proposals will require to contribute to the delivery of green infrastructure and the green network where this is considered appropriate	1	Full 3	Good example of full coverage but weak commitment.
N. SuDS are explicitly referenced in developments as multifunctional GI	Soak-aways, balancing ponds, reed beds and other sustainable drainage elements should always be integrated as a positive part of the layout where possible.	1	Some 1	No requirement for SuDS to be part of GI
	The Council will expect SuDS schemes for new development to be designed and implemented as part of a placemaking approach, which delivers multi-functional green infrastructure.	2	Full 3	Wider link of Suds with placemaking and multifunctional GI
O. Watercourses and SUDS have a naturalised design enhancing natural capital	The ecological value of SUDS is encouraged and should, where possible, include retention and enhancement of natural drainage systems and features.	1	Some 1	No requirement for SuDS to be designed to mimic nature
	Water management should be designed with these criteria in mind:	2	Full 3	List of all the criteria help to achieve natural design

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a surface water management plan can be created, based on naturalised SUDS features, as the building blocks for the spatial layout of the development proposal</li> </ul>			
P. Watercourses and SuDS are designed to provide safe public access	In addition to meeting the basic water quality treatment requirements, the Council will assess the integration of the SuDS features into the overall development design. This should be undertaken as part of a placemaking approach to the design of the new development and should be considered in conjunction with the City Development Plan's requirements for enhancing biodiversity, access to open space and the provision of sustainable travel routes as part of a multifunctional green network.	1	Some 1	Oblique reference to access related to SuDS as part of a green network
	Open water should be designed to allow public access with minimum risk.	2	Full 3	Captures key points linking water to risk.
Q. Watercourses and SuDS enhance the aesthetic and amenity value of the development	While the nature of the contribution to the Green Network will vary as a consequence of site size and location the following principles should be adhered to in all cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancement of assets e.g. deculverting and naturalisation of burns to delivery amenity, biodiversity and flood management benefits.</li> </ul>	1	Some 1	Oblique reference to naturalisation of watercourses for amenity
	Well designed and well maintained SUDS will help to provide an attractive setting for new developments.	1	Most 2	Only refers to SuDS, doesn't include watercourses
R. GI is designed to improve air quality	Implement the Joint Local Transport Plan to seek to reduce CO2 emissions, and mitigate air quality impacts on population in central areas.	1	Some 1	Reference only to joint transport plan
	Developers must consider current and future sources of air and noise pollution as part of developing their application for new development. The pattern of proposed development should be informed by the sensitivity of, and compatibility of, uses in relation to the sources of airborne pollution and the importance of ensuring appropriate soundscapes.	3	Full 3	Good coverage here linking in with noise and air pollution.
S. GI enhances opportunities for active and healthy travel	Development should enhance the opportunity for and access to sustainable transportation, including provision for bus infrastructure, and particularly walking and cycle opportunities including cycle parking and provision of facilities such as showers/lockers, all where appropriate.	1	Some 1	Reference to walking and cycling, but not off-road and within GI.
	The Council will expect to see the following principles applied to proposals: Where appropriate, off road or shared footway/cycleway can make cycling more attractive and quicker. [...] Cycle Routes should be integrated naturally into and connect with the wider Green Network and Core Path Routes. The aim is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>expand safe routes to schools to include routes to public transport hubs, park and ride, hospitals and supermarkets</li> </ul>	2	Full 3	Focus here is on cycling
T. GI links to wider path and public access networks where they exist.	Developments of all scales must accord with the following Design and Placemaking principles: B. Provide appropriate linkages to transport, neighbouring developments and green infrastructure connections	1	Some 1	No reference to path networks, just implied through GI connections.
	New development should make provision for pedestrian and cycle connections to existing\proposed neighbouring development and the wider active travel network.	2	Full 3	
U. GI is designed to provide local recreation walking and cycling opportunities.	Development proposals should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offer good access links within and outwith the development site;</li> </ul>	1	Some 1	'Access links' is a poor reference to recreational walking and cycling routes
	Paths are an important element of green infrastructure providing active transport routes between communities, work places, schools and leisure facilities as well as wildlife corridors. They also provide ready access to the countryside for informal recreation and offer opportunities for health lifestyles to address the health agenda. They can be viewed as the arteries of the green network and the element most used by public. It is therefore important that path connections and their relationship to the existing green infrastructure on and off site is considered from the start of the site design process.	1	Full 3	Strong link to recreation with links to health. Strong link to incorporation in early stages.
V. GI meets the councils accessibility, quality and quantity standards for open space	The Council will negotiate the provision of new publicly accessible and useable open space in new development when appropriate and justified by the scale of development proposed and the needs it will give rise to.	1	Some 1	Onus is on the Council to negotiate, not for the applicant to deliver standards.
	The open space standards are to be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to inform developers what the minimum requirements are for sites; [...]</li> </ul> Accessibility, quality and quantity will be used to inform provision of open space for new development [...]. Developers will need to demonstrate that the amount of open space they propose on a site is based on an assessment of these measures.	3	Full 3	Full connection with assessment of standards.
W. GI is designed to provide recreational opportunities	New development should, where appropriate, incorporate accessible multifunctional open space, recreational facilities and	1	Some 1	Some coverage associated with needs but far too woolly.

for different user and age groups.	amenity space of a quality and quantity, in the right location, to meet the needs arising from the development.			
	Open space should be designed to be inclusive of people of different ages, genders, and physical abilities	2	Full 3	
X. Long-term management & maintenance arrangements will be documented & agreed	Where appropriate, development should include SuDS and arrangements for long-term maintenance.	1	Some 1	Only covers SuDS, not all GI features.
	As a condition of the planning consent, the developer will be required to provide details of the proposed management and maintenance arrangements to the Council, and receive approval, before construction starts on site	3	Full 3	
Y. Documentation states the function and benefits of all GI and their maintenance regimes	On sites where wildlife features are retained or new habitats and features are created, [...] a management plan would be expected to be produced and submitted as part of the planning application. It should identify specific actions required for good management and include details of the phasing of the works.	1	Some 1	Only covers wildlife habitats, not all GI features.
	Initial determination of maintenance specification: Maintenance specification of the common areas of open space will be agreed between the Council and developers as a condition of planning approval	2	Most 2	No reference to stating the GI functions
Z. Mechanisms to fund the management and maintenance regime are identified and agreed	Financial contributions may be sought for the purposes of providing open space and wider contributions to the Green Network [...]. Means to ensure the long term maintenance of new and existing open space created in association with development will also be secured.	1	Some 1	No requirement for the applicant to propose the appropriate funding mechanism. Only refers to open space.
	Applicants should demonstrate how their design proposals will be sustainably managed over the long-term including financial models for future funding of appropriate management and maintenance.	2	Full 3	Well covered for management and maintenance.