

6Cs Growth Point Green Infrastructure Strategy



Stage 1: Baseline Audit of Strategic GI Assets

Stakeholder Workshops, January 2009

ACCESS/RECREATION - DISCUSSION GROUP

OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING STRATEGIC ASSETS MAPPING

Objectives

- To identify and map the existing accessible greenspace resource at the sub-regional scale. Accessible greenspace is defined as land largely outside of urban areas that is normally available for public access on foot, providing opportunities for open access for informal recreational activities.
- To identify the linear access routes/corridors that provide people with access to greenspace assets on foot, cycle or horseback.
- To identify and resolve gaps in the data for the baseline assessment of accessible greenspace provision at the sub-regional (6Cs Growth Point) scale.

What is included and why?

- The maps identify accessible greenspace assets using data provided by the Strategic GI Project Steering Group and its partners. The data includes Open Access Land, Forestry Commission land, Woodland Trust Access Land, Leicestershire and Derbyshire Country Parks, Public Rights of Way, dedicated Cycle Routes, Nottingham City Council Parks and Gardens, Nottinghamshire County Council Green Estates, and navigable waterways.
- The mapping is based on available validated data sets that reflect accessible greenspace provision at the sub-regional scale. This ensures consistency in the baseline assessment across the sub-region.

What is not included and why?

- Local accessible greenspace is not included because data is inconsistent across the sub-region and has not been validated.
- Assets within urban areas are omitted unless they have strategic significance at the sub-regional scale.
- Local Open Space Sport and Recreation (PPG 17) datasets have not been included. This local data will form part of the Stage 3 assessment covering the three city areas at the local scale.
- National Trust land with open public access has not yet been mapped. The National Trust is providing data to show sites that offer limited or unlimited public access to Trust land.

6Cs Growth Point Green Infrastructure Strategy



OVERVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES MAPPING

Objectives

- To identify where opportunities exist to create new or enhance existing accessible greenspace to meet the needs of existing and new communities.
- To identify where the connectivity of accessible greenspaces could be improved by enhancing existing assets or creating new resources, including provision of greenways and blue ways.

How were the opportunities defined?

- Opportunities have been identified by mapping existing accessible greenspace resources.
- Accessible greenspace has been evaluated using the ANGSt model to identify where GI provision is deficient when compared to the location of significant settlements and areas where growth is expected.
- Opportunities have been identified where there is potential to improve public access to greenspace using countryside access routes and navigable waterways.

6Cs Growth Point Green Infrastructure Strategy



STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES MAPPING

Looking at the preliminary opportunity mapping, and taking into account the principles attached, which areas/corridors do you think have the greatest potential to address key gaps/needs in the strategic access/recreation network in and around the Growth Point? *Please draw on the map provided and list below (cross-referenced to the map).*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

What do you think are the three main forces for the provision of a strategic access/recreation network in and around the Growth Point that need to be recognised in the development of the GI Strategy?

-
-
-

ANY OTHER COMMENTS?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

6Cs Growth Point Green Infrastructure Strategy



ACCESS/RECREATION PRINCIPLES

- Opportunities should be taken to create new informal recreational facilities/accessible greenspace, particularly those that will link urban and countryside areas
- The importance of linked space and green routes for providing educational and recreational opportunities, that can enhance health and well-being, should be recognised
- Consideration should be given to sustainable travel where options for new facilities are being developed
- Improve access for all, using cycle and pedestrian routes and the opening up of disused railway lines
- Create sustainable green spaces to link people from doorstep to countryside
- Provide opportunities for safe and healthy activities for all ages and abilities
- Balance the conservation and enhancement of the environment with increasing accessibility and use of natural and cultural assets
- Develop accessibility of urban centres to maximise potential as 'gateways' to rural areas
- Consider delivering landscape scale access corridors by linking local schemes and/or flagship projects

(principles adapted from East Midlands Green Infrastructure Guide, EMRA 2007)