

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES?

Loss of open space + diminishing open space for an increasingly dense population
Developers maximising the amount of floor space on site : landscape is a loss leader
Councils don't monitor. Planners unskilled; self-checking system
Pollution from construction and roads impacting on health and well-being
Building what we don't need, e.g. huge amount of offices, market flats built for investment
Permitted Development Rights: changing offices to residential: external space is not green.
Public Open Space Audits are not standardised, sometimes not even done.
Giant Environmental Impact Assessments by developers, incomprehensible to the layman
Carbon off-setting: WLCCA 'Whole Life Carbon Cycle Assessment' useless as policy is unclear.
Local Nature Recovery Strategy: GLA initiative which is difficult to access
Brownfield site: how defined? Many are SINCS 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation'
Hardstanding: we're getting hardstanding everywhere!
Public consultation late and irrelevant; early engagement suggested but not monitored;
Maintenance: councils and landowners leave green spaces to rot to justify development.

WHAT ARE WE PROPOSING?

Recovery Plan: Policy 28 Biodiversity Achieve a positive gain • Habitats protected • Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) allocated • Promote ecological corridors (routes for nature)
• Encourage varied planting • Eliminate chemical pesticides and herbicides.

Recovery Plan: Policy 29 Biodiversity Review Panel in each Local Authority • Biodiversity Action Plan and Local Nature Recovery Strategy. • Identify locations for ecological corridors
• Award grants to a citizen science monitoring • Share knowledge, make connections.

Recovery Plan: Policy 30 Natural Capital Accounting Evidence base, important policy instrument: assess impact, claim compensation for biodiversity decision-making.

Recovery Plan: Policy 31 Reduce Inequalities in access to green space; target boroughs with the worst access.

Recovery Plan: Policy 32 Charter for Parks

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Effective Public consultation and co-production

Public Open Spaces Audits - Community-led: identify the different kinds of green and open space

Play facilities for new housing blocks must not steal already existing, often crowded, green space

Properly protect SINCS 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation' : they are the foundation of the local Nature Recovery Plan. Should be strong presumption against development of the SINCS

Stop so much paving-over of front gardens - including now for electric vehicles. Causes problem of flooding as well as biodiversity loss.

Require local authorities to protect green open space for biodiversity

Preserve all trees