#### **Bradford Core Strategy Partial Review**



#### **Environment Workshop**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

2 – 4pm



## Welcome

Housekeeping:

- Fire Alarm / Fire Exits
- Toilets
- Refreshments



#### Introduction

- 1. Core Strategy Partial Review Preferred Options Consultation
- 2. Format of the Workshop topic areas:
  - Climate Change
  - Green Infrastructure
  - Biodiversity Net Gain

## **Climate Change**

Current context:

2019

Paris Agreement



- IPCC special report: Global Warming of 1.5°C
- West Yorkshire Combined Authority Energy Strategy & Delivery Plan
- Bradford Council declares a Climate Emergency

Committee on Climate Change report

Climate Change Act (2050 Target Amendment) Order

## **Climate Change**

Policy SC2: Climate Change and Resource Use

Key changes:

- Increases the emphasis on planning for a low-carbon future
- Aligns the policy with the Council's Climate Change Framework
- Includes a requirement for Green Infrastructure to be incorporated into new development
- Looks to improve air quality and reduce transport emissions by making walking, cycling and public transport the first choice

#### **Questions & Discussion**

• Does the plan do enough to tackle climate change?

• Should the policy include any specific targets and if so, in what form should they be?

What is Green Infrastructure?

Green Infrastructure is a network of multifunctional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities. It includes a number of environmental assets such as parks, playing fields, woodlands, street trees, allotments and private gardens.

#### Examples of Green Infrastructure







Current context:

- National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 91, 150, 171)
- Planning Practice Guidance (Natural Environment paragraphs 004-008)
- 25 Year Environment Plan
- Leeds City Region Green and Blue Infrastructure
  Strategy

Policy SC6: Green Infrastructure

Key changes

- Policy now requires new development to identify opportunities to link areas of Green Infrastructure together where there are gaps.
- Stresses the support to be given to projects and programmes which incorporate green infrastructure.
- Emphasises the importance of protecting green spaces and corridors – putting this up front as a key policy requirement.

Local examples of Green Infrastructure projects:

- 1. Bradford Beck River Restoration
- 2. Canal Road Corridor





### **Questions & Discussion**

- What feedback do you have on the approach taken to Green Infrastructure in the Plan?
- What ideas do you have for introducing GI into new developments? Have you got any good practice examples you can share?

#### **Biodiversity Net Gain** What is Biodiversity Net Gain?

Biodiversity net gain in development occurs when the project leaves biodiversity in a better state than before.

As an approach it should include developers working with local planning authorities, wildlife groups, land owners & other stakeholders to support local priorities for nature conservation.

It should be implemented in a way that applies the mitigation hierarchy and the published10 good practice principles, together.



# **Biodiversity Net Gain**

#### Biodiversity Net Gain

Good practice principles for development

- Principle 1. Apply the Mitigation Hierarchy
- Principle 2. Avoid losing biodiversity that cannot be offset by gains elsewhere
- Principle 3. Be inclusive and equitable
- Principle 4. Address risks
- Principle 5. Make a measurable Net Gain contribution
- Principle 6. Achieve the best outcomes for biodiversity
- Principle 7. Be additional
- Principle 8. Create a Net Gain legacy
- Principle 9. Optimise sustainability
- Principle 10. Be transparent

# **Biodiversity Net Gain**

Policy EN2b: Biodiversity and Development

Key Changes

- Policy EN2 now has two parts, a and b. Part a refers to protection and enhancement for the hierarchy of biodiversity assets. Part b introduces new text relating to biodiversity net gain
- All development demonstrates a biodiversity net gain
- All major development with a biodiversity impact are to use a metric to calculate losses and gains, and demonstrate a net gain of at least 10%

## **Biodiversity Net Gain**

How is biodiversity net gain measured?

- All major development with a biodiversity impact are to use a metric to calculate losses and gains, and demonstrate a net gain of at least 10%
- Defra published a metric in 2012 for the initial biodiversity offsetting pilot, which has been updated by Natural England in 2019.
- Gives numerical values to particular attributes of biodiversity, allowing a losses and gains comparison.
- It is an accounting tool to MEASURE. It does not replace the need for QUALITATIVE biodiversity assessment. The two work together.

## **Questions & Discussion**

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- What do you think are the key barriers to effectively implementing biodiversity net-gain?
- Are there any parts of the policy which require further development or clarification?

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### **Other Environmental Issues**

 Are there any other issues that we should be addressing in the Core Strategy review?



## **CSPR Consultation**

- The consultation on the Core Strategy Partial Review Preferred Options report runs until Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- Visit the Council's website and complete the Questionnaire Survey.

www.bradford.gov.uk/planningpolicy

#### **Bradford Core Strategy Partial Review**



#### Thank you

