

P12 Urban Green Infrastructure Programme

Theme(s):	A: Conserve and restore river habitat, and adapt to / mitigate for the physical impacts of weather extremes and climate change.
Goal(s):	A1: Reduce pollution to the water environment. A2: Retain or restore biodiversity, taking account of weather extremes and climate change. A3: Reduce risk from or control flooding.
Sub-goal(s):	A1a: Reduce point-source pollution to the water environment. A2c: Create new woodlands and better manage existing woodlands along watercourses and in the wider catchment where it will benefit rivers. A2d: Create better, and improve existing, in-river and

Identify Green Infrastructure measures that could be retrofitted to improve riparian habitats, or reduce urban pollution from roads/business etc. The project would focus on the urban fringes of Newcastle and Gateshead, from Woosington through to Throckley, Ryton, Blaydon, Sunniside and Birtley, or it could focus on a specific Tyne tributary or river corridor . The project would:

- take a broad approach across land ownership in urban areas/urban fringe to facilitate land to provide additional 'functions' such as water retention/wetland and retrofitted SuDS where possible
- identify primarily local authority land but also other opportunities, look at current land cover and management adjacent to riparian zones, with opportunities identified to control diffuse pollution entering watercourses in the form of larger scale wetland creation/improvements (including some Sustainable Drainage System measures), wet woodland and biodiversity.

Update as at April 2013: Gateshead Council published its Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2013-2030) in early 2013. It and other local authorities intend to continue to deliver green infrastructure initiatives as set out in their delivery plans. This project proposal could usefully be linked to a review of existing Sustainable Drainage Systems to identify those not currently functioning properly.

Project Status:	Proposed
Potential Deliverer(s):	Groundwork North East, Groundwork STAN, local authorities, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Durham Wildlife Trust, Northumbrian Water
Estimated Timeframe:	1 to 5 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£50,000 to £100,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	Natural England, Forestry Commission, Woodland Trust, Northumbrian Water (Branch Out fund), landfill tax trusts
Water Framework Directive link:	Failures linked to diffuse pollution sources on urban fringe tributaries
Biodiversity Action Plan / species link:	Creation of habitat
Green Infrastructure link:	Would contribute to priorities in relevant local authority Green Infrastructure Strategies