

GBI Strategy Action Plan - March 2022

Objective	Headline Actions	Projects/Programmes	Mar-22	Progress
Objective 1 Protect and Enhance Green and Blue Infrastructure 'Protecting the Best, Enhancing the Rest'	1.1 Celebrate Stanley Park, voted the UK's Best Park in 2017, as Blackpool's most prestigious heritage and visitor destination and promote links to other parks in Blackpool, Fleetwood and Lytham St. Annes.	1.1.1 Achieve the Green Flag Award, and Green Flag Heritage Accreditation. Stanley Park was previously a Green Flag Award winner, and the application should be reinstated to promote the benefits that green spaces provide to the local community and visitors to Blackpool.	3 sites to be entered to Green Flag award. Park development Plans are being wirtted for this submission.	Action in progress
		1.1.2 Heritage Lottery Bid for further restoration of Stanley Park following previous successful bids.	A Stanley Park Masterplan is currently being developed to identify areas requiring significant refurbishment and areas that present opportunities to invest to increase footfall and potentially attract new target markets to the park. The masterplan will be developed with key stakeholders including the Friends of Stanley Park, ENVECO, park concessionaires, local Councillors as well as consultation with the local community including users and non-users of the park.	Action in progress
		1.1.3 Use the park as a training centre for council led services and third sectors. Particular focus on apprenticeships and skills training.	Five placements for young people were undertaken in 2021 working alongside the Park Ranger Service gaining skills in community engagement, horticulture and ecological management. One role was a traditional apprenticeship funded through Head Start and 4 were funded through the Kickstart programme. These programmes have proven successful with some individuals progressing into employment with the Parks Development Service.	Ongoing action
		1.1.4 Continue and enhance the promotion of Stanley Park to the visitor market, including highlighting events and attractions directly to visitors, as well as travel agencies, visitor information services, on social media, etc.	Stanley Park has been the location of recent television filming. The park is included in Tourism information literature.	Action in progress
	1.2 Enhance GBI in housing areas, accepting that during housing transformation, greenspaces may be restructured to improve estate design and security, but overall GBI functionality should be enhanced.	1.2.1 Explore the aspiration to enhance the open space at Mereside in conjunction with the development of the western part of the open space so that it is of a higher quality than is there currently.	Additional play features were installed in 2020 including the creation o a natural play space. Tree planting has been undertaken and a Tiny Forest is programmed to be planted in March 2022	Ongoing action
		1.2.2 Through the master planning process ensure that Whyndyke Garden Village delivers innovation in GBI design to promote physical activity and wellbeing.	Outline planning permission has been granted including the allocation of public open space, sports pitches, allotments, the retention and improvement of natural habitats, watercourse, ponds, reed beds and hedgerows and landscape features. Development has not started.	Action in progress
		1.2.3 Complete the housing development on the site of the Queens Park flats including GBI plan.	Scheme complete. Queens Park housing open spaces are now open to public. Works have included 100 trees planted, species rich meadow, entrance features and path network.	Complete
		1.2.4 Through community consultation and involvement the potential for rationalising and enhancing existing open space within Grange Park should be reviewed and implemented.	A European Regional Development Fund programme of carbon reduction measures across at Grange Park was successful. This includes a £87,000 programme of tree planting starting in Autumn 2021. The fund allows for over 2000 mature and young trees to be planted in open spaces, verges and resident's gardens across Grange Park	Ongoing action
	1.3 Invest in Blackpool's parks to acknowledge their importance in each local area, and ensure they are meeting Blackpool's quality benchmark associated with Green Flag criteria.	1.3.1 There are 16 other parks in Blackpool which, along with Stanley Park, need to be recognised for the role they play in providing multiple GBI functions crossing environmental, social and economic benefits	Blackpool's Open Spaces Assessment, which highlights the current condition of all Blackpool Parks and open spaces, is currently being used to direct future priorities and create Park Development Plans. This is being used to create targeted site improvements with the view to obtaining Green Flag where possible. Park Developments will shape the future management by ENVECO grounds maintenance team to ensure a consistent approach across Blackpool.	Ongoing action
		1.3.2 Develop a Parks Development Plan informed by the Open Space Assessment 2018 which included quality audits for each park (and other open spaces across Blackpool).	Blackpool's Open Spaces Assessment, which highlights the current condition of all Blackpool Parks and open spaces, is currently being used to direct future priorities and create Park Development Plans. This is being used to create targeted site improvements with the view to obtaining Green Flag where possible. Park Developments will shape the future management by ENVECO grounds maintenance team to ensure a consistent approach across Blackpool.	Ongoing action
		1.3.3 Consider crowd funding and alternative funding sources.	Action to be carried forward.	Action to be taken forward
	1.4 Maintain investment in Marton Mere Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) as the premier site for promoting nature conservation across Blackpool.	1.4.1 Use Marton Mere as a nature conservation hub to promote other nature conservation.	Volunteers have continued at Marton Mere and Marton Mere Management Plan is currently being updated and volunteer development programme to upskill volunteers and reduce direct council supervision as they are able to undertake necessary works.	Ongoing action
		1.4.2 Continue and enhance the promotion of Marton Mere to the visitor market, including highlighting events and attractions directly to visitors, as well as travel agencies, visitor information services, on social media, environmental groups, birdwatching clubs, etc.	Action to be taken forward as part of an ecological audit	Action in progress
	1.5 Ensure all Biological Heritage Sites (BHS) and green corridors are protected for nature conservation, then the planning reference would be appropriate	1.5.1 There are currently 13 Biological Heritage Sites within the Blackpool Local Authority area identified and safeguarded by the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1 Core Strategy (adopted 2016)	8 out of 13 sites are identified as being in positive management. 3 sites are in private ownership and require further investigation into their status. An ecological audit undertaken for the town and identify priorities for management and those sites at risk. This will include a detailed Management Plan for Marton Mere and an ecological public perception survey .	Action in progress
		1.5.2 The Council is committed to maintaining the biodiversity and local distinctiveness of sites of nature conservation interest and will endeavour to safeguard, conserve and enhance any further sites that are identified as adding to the wildlife and amenity value of the network of Biological Heritage Sites.	8 out of 13 sites are identified as being in positive management. 3 sites are in private ownership and require further investigation into their status. An ecological audit undertaken for the town and identify priorities for management and those sites at risk. This will include a detailed Management Plan for Marton Mere and an ecological public perception survey .	Action in progress
	1.6 Invest in the promenade and headlands to connect people with the natural seascape.	1.6.1 Enhance the headlands for the local community. Facilities such as toilets should also be considered on the promenade.	Work is ongoing with our public conveniences contractor, Danfo, and Planning to assess the suitability of any potential units to be located elsewhere on the prom (particularly the headlands), although no further progress has been made since the advent of the pandemic. We are also looking to increase provision within the town centre area in conjunction with Growth & Prosperity.	Ongoing action
		1.6.2 Investigate options to introduce GBI to the promenade.	A trial of tree planting is being run at Solaris Centre using coastal redwood species	Action in progress
		1.6.3 Consider ways of enhancing the disused crazy golf area, North Pier.	The site is under the management of Fulfilling Lives.	in progress, further work required
	1.7 Protect and enhance GBI in streetscapes, quality corridors and the town centre.	1.7.2 Work with the Conference Centre contractor to plant trees to enhance existing green space in the town centre.	5 trees have been planted and an additional 30m of hawthorn hedge has been planted through the conference centre contractor on High Street.	complete
		1.7.3 Cease further use of artificial grass on roundabouts and verges and instead introduce stretches of wildflower to provide an attractive setting for residents, commuters and visitors. Identify funders for the works and ongoing maintenance through sponsorship.	Artificial grass use ceased. Further opportunities being explored.	in progress, further work required
		1.7.4 Protect the existing number of street trees and hedgerows/shrubs in the Defined Inner Area from development and highway works through planning policy. Put Tree Preservation Orders in place where appropriate to protect the best trees in Blackpool.	Trees protected under the adopted tree strategy and through the creation of addtioanl TPO's in 2021	Ongoing action
		1.7.5 Investigate the options for greening Bloomfield Road. This road forms part of the 'Wildlife Cycle Route' on the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Cycle Map (2015) 'Heading inland from Blackpool Prom there are two cycle friendly explorer routes; Wildlife and Park, that take you to Blackpool Zoo and Stanley Park.'	Funding has been secured via the Department for Transport Capability Fund, to map in more detail the activity route with particular focus on the 'pinch points' and costed solutions. The circular route connects a number of green and blue spaces across the town including the promenade, north ponds trail and herons reach, measuring roughly 25 miles in distance, connecting local residents to their local green and blue spaces.	Ongoing action
		1.7.6 Introduce a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) policy whereby any trees and hedgerows/shrubs lost through development in the Defined Inner Area must be replaced with an agreed ratio.	The Greening Blackpool Supplementary Planning document (SPD) has been through consultation and it is expected that the document will be adopted later in the year. The SPD requires 2 replacement trees for any tree felled across Blackpool. Emerging Policy DM21 requires the retention of trees and hedgerows wherever possible and the enhancement of trees and hedgerows through increased cover and where this isn't possible, contributions will be sought towards off-site provision.	Ongoing action
		1.7.7 Encourage hedgerows or shrubs in place of fences and railings to the front of properties within proposed developments during pre-application discussions.	Action identified within Part 2 of the Local Plan in regard to section "wildlife friendly boundary treatments" to ensure a net gain. Emerging Policy DM21 also requires appropriate, high quality boundary treatments which encourage and enables the passage of wildlife, including hedgerows.	Ongoing action

		1.8.1 Protect and enhance GBI associated with business parks, retail parks and other commercial setting and ensure they are adequately safeguarded from development wherever practicable.	Where subject to a planning application, GBI is a material consideration. Policy CS6 sets out that the loss of existing GI will only be acceptable in exceptional circumstances where it is allowed for as part of an adopted Development Plan Document, or where provision is made for appropriate compensatory measures, mitigation or replacement, or in line with national planning policy. This is amplified in emerging Policy DM21 and the Greening Blackpool SPD	in progress, further work required	
	1.8 Protect and manage GBI in corporate, business and industrial settings, enhancing it for biodiversity, sustainable drainage, and to create an attractive setting for the Enterprise Zone, the Town Centre, the Inner Area and other corridors and gateways identified in the GBI Strategy report.	2.1.1 Embed GBI such as trees, planters, groundcover and hedges into the Business Improvement District with long-term plans for management and maintenance.	On Edward Street 6 street trees were planted in soil cell system tree pits. These were to replace trees which initially failed due to dry conditions. This scheme demonstrates the positive impact of the Tree Strategy's 'right tree in the right place' ethos as the species were changes. This project also demonstrates the improved collaborative approach of council services as a direct result of the cross cutting GBI strategy. Adopted policy CS6: Green Infrastructure protects existing green infrastructure networks. The loss of green infrastructure will only be acceptable in exceptional circumstances where it is allowed for as part of an adopted Development Plan Document; or where provision is made for appropriate compensatory measures, mitigation or replacement; or in line with national planning policy. Enhancing the quality, accessibility and functionality of green infrastructure and where possible providing net gains in biodiversity will be supported.	in progress, further work required	
Objective 2 Create and Restore Green and Blue Infrastructure 'Greening the Grey, and Creating new GBI in areas where it is most needed'	2.1 Incorporate the creation of new GBI into the Town Centre Strategy Update and emerging Sustainability Strategy to ensure a greener town centre where each part of the public realm is considered as an opportunity for civic GBI.	2.1.2 Work with Network Rail to incorporate GBI into the design of the planned tram extension at Blackpool North Station and the tram route to North Pier. This could include greening the tracks and creating green walls.	Trees and GBI incorporated in planning and development documents to improve public realm	in progress, further work required	
		2.1.3 Incorporate GBI into the external spaces at the Conference Centre using civic space.	Tree planting/landscaping to Leopold Grove outside the main entrance to the Conference Centre is programmed	Ongoing action	
		2.1.4 Identify opportunities to green the Winter Gardens by approaching local businesses for funding for projects.	Action to be taken forward.	Action to be taken forward	
		2.1.5 Work with local businesses owners to encourage and support the retrofitting of GI to their buildings using green walls and green roofs.	Action to be taken forward.	Action to be taken forward	
		2.1.6 Incorporate GBI into the Talbot Gateway Phase 2 planning.	Approved designs for the DWP Regional Hub development includes a new leafy town centre square with new cycle and pedestrian routes. The GBI includes a rain garden which will utilise the surface water run-off to irrigate the planting scheme. The development includes mature trees that have been chosen for town conditions and will be installed in soil cell systems to give the tree maximum opportunity to survive without damage to underground services	Ongoing action	
		2.1.7 Consider the green within the town centre as an urban community park and create a town centre friends group.	Concept designs have been created for a town centre park to be developed adjacent to Bickerstaffe House	in progress, further work required	
		2.2.1 Develop a tree planting plan for Blackpool which addresses a range of priorities including air quality.	A draft Tree Strategy has been created, highlighting a 'right tree in the right place' approach. Trees have been planted at Mereside, Lawsons Road, Brideghouse open space and Carr road.	Ongoing action	
		2.2 Increase the overall tree canopy in Blackpool to 10%, starting with planting of 10,000 trees in the ten year period 2018 to 2027.	2.2.2 Develop a business plan for the full implementation of the community project to give every child at school a tree to plant in 23 and then follow it up till 33.	A multi agency tree planting steering group has been created to ensure further tree planting engaging schools and all the community. School have been engaged in tree planting activities across the town with Grounwork and Blackpool council.	Ongoing action
			2.3.1 Create new open spaces in the Defined Inner Area as part of regeneration projects e.g. Rigby Road.	Open spaces have been developed with the Rigby Road development. Opportunities to create additional places are being explored.	in progress, further work required
		2.3 Ensure multifunctional GBI is incorporated in new residential developments.	2.4.1 Create open spaces within the Enterprise Zone for workers as well as being accessible to local residents. Open spaces could include Sustainable Drainage System (SUDS), perimeter planting, measured walking and running routes. Explore opportunities for local businesses to implement GBI and take stewardship of the GBI by delivering long term maintenance. Encourage innovative green elements in building design (e.g. roof-top planting, green walls, etc.)	Sustainable Urban Drainage system and open swales along the new Eastern Gateway access highway which will link Common edge to Amy Johnson Way to form part of the Highway and plot drainage systems with the inclusion of footpaths and Cycleways in the design.	in progress, further work required
	2.4 Incorporate GBI into the master plan for the Enterprise Zone to create a welcoming place for businesses.	2.4.2 Deliver the Common Edge Sports Village Project.	A new playing pitch plateau of 115,000sq has been developed at Common Edge as part of the wider Enterprise Zone developments which will include a 3G pitch and new changing room facilities. The grass pitches are now open and have been well received by the football community.	Ongoing action	
		2.5.1 Explore opportunities to incorporate GBI within the Leisure Quarter. Explore opportunities for local businesses to take stewardship of the GBI by delivering long term maintenance.	Trees and GBI incorporated in planning and development documents for Leisure Quarter to improve public realm	in progress, further work required	
	2.5 Identify opportunities in the Leisure Quarter to embed GBI.	2.5.2 Explore opportunities to expand Illuminations through the use of lit trees potentially linking to LightPool.	Action to be taken forward	Action to be taken forward	
		2.6.1 Explore the opportunity to create a 'Green Line' along the central corridor from south Station to the Town Centre, comprising a continuous green space/ series of green spaces that facilitates walking, running and cycling.	Action to be linked to wider central development work	Action to be taken forward	
	2.6 Use GBI at the gateways and corridors into and around Blackpool (e.g. the 'Green Line') to provide attractive routes for residents, commuters, visitors and tourists and to encourage walking and cycling.	2.6.2 Plant street trees on key transport gateways from the M55, including Yeadon Way, Progress Way and Westcliffe Drive/ Talbot Road.	A Street Trees report has highlighted priorities for Street Trees and is influencing the Tree Planting Strategy. A design specification has been produced to ensure the right tree for the right place is planted in the right way.	in progress, further work required	
		2.6.3 Encourage Sustainable Drainage System (SUDS) in proposed residential development as per Policy CS9: Water Management and with a new Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).	Emerging Policy DM31 encourages SuDS in all new development wherever possible and requires surface water to be discharged via the most sustainable drainage option available. The Greening Blackpool SPD talks a lot about SuDS and states: 4.39 The Council will encourage multi-functional SuDS features that include opportunities for landscaping, outdoor activities and play and which provide net gains in biodiversity, whilst helping to ensure local adaptation to climate change. Underground attenuation and flow control systems alone should only be considered on constrained sites where there are no opportunities to incorporate SuDS as green infrastructure.	in progress, further work required	
		2.7.1 Create a GBI design checklist to be included in the updated SPD for Open Space Provision for New Residential Development.	The SPD doesn't include a checklist, but does set out the open space requirements for new residential development and where open space can't be provided, sets out the offsite contributions required, along side other GBI requirements such as tree planting (2 per dwelling).	Ongoing action	
	2.7 Adopt a Planning and Development checklist to ensure GBI is incorporated in all new developments, linked to existing assets, and where on-site provision is not possible, an appropriate contribution is made to off-site GBI assets and networks.	2.7.2 Explore the opportunities to create and deliver new GBI provision for children and young people in Hawes Side and Common Edge where there is currently a deficiency.	Bridgehouse open space located adjacent to Yeadon Way is undergoing a GBI improvement scheme to increase public access, biodiversity and amenity value of the site. A public consultation was held in November 2021 to discuss with residents what they wished to see from the space. The majority of residents were in support of a scheme which kept open areas for informal sports and included extensive tree planting and pathway network to enable full site access. The project, supported by Groundwork and ward Councillors has seen a hedgerow and trees planted for the first phase of his project and funding is being explored for the pathway network.	in progress, further work required	
		2.7.3 Temporarily green vacant sites in the Town Centre e.g. Bank Street Car Park prior to their development. Seek the support of local business to fund and manage such sites.	Action to be carried forward.	Action to be taken forward	
		2.8.1 Develop a cemetery extension planting scheme.	Cemetery planting scheme has been submitted, including the inclusion of approximately 45 trees with additional trees being planted winter 2022.	Complete	
2.8 In the Green Belt and Countryside Areas, restore elements of the landscape that contribute to character and biodiversity.	2.9.1 Create allotments in the north of Blackpool where there is currently a deficiency.	A couple of a sites have provisionally been identified for suitable allotment sites in the North of the town and included in the Local Plan	in progress, further work required		

	2.9 Continue to expand and support the Allotment Society.	3.1.1 Include specific GBI opportunities in Social Value element of tendering for contracts	Opportunities being identified for Social Value consideration. Procurement colleagues sit on the to the Tree Planting Steering group to help develop this.	in progress, further work required
Objective 3 Connect Green and Blue Infrastructure 'Making the Links, Improving Connectivity and Accessibility of GBI'	3.1 Ensure the Council obtains maximum input to GBI from businesses and services.	3.2.1 Develop the Blackpool Activity Trail – cycling, walking, and nature trails. A vision for the Trail has been previously explored and should be implemented to widen opportunities for cycling, walking and nature trails.	Funding has been secured via the Department for Transport Capability Fund, to map in more detail the activity route with particular focus on the 'pinch points' and costed solutions. The circular route connects a number of green and blue spaces across the town including the promenade, north ponds trail and herons reach, measuring roughly 25 miles in distance, connecting local residents to their local green and blue spaces.	Ongoing action
	3.2 Create and/or upgrade the Blackpool Activity Trail which incorporates Gateways and Green Corridors to connect key GBI for people and wildlife, including the walking and cycling route from the Town Centre to Stanley Park, Zoo and Marton Mere.	The Activity Trail links the National Cycle Route, Heron's Reach Footpath Trail, Blackpool Heritage Trail, North Blackpool Pond Trail, and Blackpool Promenade.	Funding has been secured via the Department for Transport Capability Fund, to map in more detail the activity route with particular focus on the 'pinch points' and costed solutions. The circular route connects a number of green and blue spaces across the town including the promenade, north ponds trail and herons reach, measuring roughly 25 miles in distance, connecting local residents to their local green and blue spaces.	Ongoing action
		3.3.1 Further develop the Living Streets: Walk to 2017-2020 programme.	The Living Streets project has been refreshed for 2022, following the confirmation of funding and appointment of a new officer who is located in the Active Lives team alongside a Cycling Officer employed via Cycling UK. Both roles have a focus on connecting local residents with green spaces through walking and cycling, including raising awareness of local green spaces and supporting people to gain the confidence to enjoy them.	Ongoing action
	3.3 Promote and support initiatives that encourage active travel such as 'Steps to Health' and 'Cycle for Health' scheme.	3.4.1 Continue to work with Fylde Borough Council, Wyre Borough Council and Lancashire County Council in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding on promoting cross-boundary GBI provision.	Strong links have been made with both the Wyre and Ribble Rivers Trust whose catchments include Blackpool including a place on the Steering group for the Wyre Rivers Trust. Funding was secured by the Wyre Rivers Trust for 2ha of tree planting in Blackpool as part of the wider Lancashire Connect Woodland programme of tree planting across the county	Ongoing action
	3.4 Work with neighbouring local authorities to promote links to cross-boundary GBI provision.	3.4.2 Work with Fylde Borough Council to create links from the outer housing estate at Mereside to the Whyndyke Garden Village and Marton Mere.	Outline planning permission has been granted including the allocation of public open space, sports pitches, allotments, the retention and improvement of natural habitats, watercourse, ponds, reed beds and hedgerows and landscape features.	in progress, further work required
		3.4.3 Promote the Lancashire Coastal Way (137 mile footpath following the coastline between Merseyside and Cumbria) to connect residents to neighbouring GBI and visitors and tourists to Blackpool.	Wildlife Trust is creating a coastal leaflet to highlight the wildlife off the coast and encourage use.	in progress, further work required
Objective 4 Promote the Benefits of GBI 'Changing Behaviour'	4.1 Provide topical and user-friendly information on GBI, parks, open spaces and nature conservation sites, and how to get involved in activities and volunteering.	4.1.1 Create information packs for community hubs on the importance of their gardens and local green spaces for the benefit of people and wildlife. Information pack could include information about their local green spaces e.g. beach, Marton Mere, Kincaig Pond Trail. Also how to get involved and how to go about maintaining or improving the public realm.	Action to be taken forward	Action to be taken forward
		4.1.2 Through planning policies where residents apply to change front gardens into car parking on a classified road or conservation area, ensure that plans maintain green wherever possible and facilitate drainage.	This is included within emerging policy through the current draft of Part 2 of the Local Plan.	in progress, further work required
		4.1.3 Identify roads that could be closed at an agreed time and day each week/ month to provide informal play space for children as part of Playing Out.	Action to be carried forward	in progress, further work required
		4.1.4 Encourage park led volunteering to engage residents with GBI for the benefit of physical and mental health and to promote stewardship of local spaces including junior park wardens.	he Parks Service has recently recruited a Parks Community Engagement Officer to ensure that communities are at the centre of greening projects within Blackpool. They will work closely with the volunteer coordinator and Friends groups to lead community involvement and grow greenspace volunteering	Ongoing action
		4.1.5 Encourage local businesses to take stewardship of local green spaces by allowing staff to undertake Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) volunteering.	Action to be developed with Parks volunteer Coordinator	in progress, further work required
		4.1.6 Ensure that the new Integrated Neighbourhood Teams identify green gyms and cook and eat opportunities in next area and actively refer patients.	A northwest partnership has been established to coordinate social prescribing opportunities within green spaces. Blackpool Council is supporting this partnership.	in progress, further work required
		4.1.7 Establish a Men in Sheds Network for Blackpool, to coordinate GBI projects.	A network was previously in place however activity hasn't restarted since COVID	in progress, further work required
		4.1.8 Consider incentive scheme for green volunteering.	Action to be taken forward	Action to be taken forward
		4.1.9 Consider a focal point on a website to inform the public of all the volunteering opportunities available.	Action to be taken forward	Action to be taken forward
		4.1.10 Expand the remit of Street Scene workers to include stewardship of the green environment, working with volunteer groups to make the most of the public realm.	Action to be taken forward	Action to be taken forward
	4.2 Encourage and support Parks Friends Groups, Beach Guardians, Tree Wardens and other community led environmental stewards.	4.2.1 Identify further opportunities to support Friends of Groups to ensure their continuation and to increase members.	The Parks Service has recently recruited a Parks Community Engagement Officer to ensure that communities are at the centre of greening projects within Blackpool. They will work closely with the volunteer coordinator and Friends groups to lead community involvement and grow greenspace volunteering	Ongoing action
		4.2.2 Beach Guardians to promote the educational and recreational value of the beach and sea.	the LOVEmyBEACH campaign promotes partnership working with ENVECO to facilitate litter picking and positive beach management	Ongoing action
		4.2.3 Further expand the work of the Council's Adult Services Green Team	The group work of the Green Team of New Langdale volunteers has returned to normal levels following the COVID pandemic	Ongoing action
		4.2.4 Support and empower street drinkers and others to become stewards of the town centre green space and help with its maintenance as part of their journey to recovery.	Action to be taken forward	Action to be taken forward
		4.2.5 Consider the creation of Community Greenhouse Project whereby residents can contribute to the greening of Blackpool to growing plants at home.	Action to be taken forward	Action to be taken forward
		4.2.6 Work with Highways and Blackpool Transport to consider the creation of a pilot green/growing bus shelter, to bring green into Street Scene.	A Green bus shelter has been created at Grange Park in partnership with students at the nearby Pupil Referral Unit and consists of. Investigating is currently ongoing to trial sedum green rooved bus shelters with turbines in the town centre.	in progress, further work required
	4.3 Continue to support and promote the outdoor aspects of the Better Start and HeadStart Programmes and work with health professionals throughout the town to promote "green prescribing".	4.3.1 Continue to promote and support the Better Start and HeadStart Programmes with the aim of building capacity for developing community skills and social mobility.		Ongoing action
	4.4. Appoint a GBI Officer to take ownership and to deliver the GBI Strategy and Action Plan, forming partnerships with health, housing, town centre, schools, cultural and arts specialists.	4.4.1 GBI Officer to drive change in policy and delivery of GBI through new development, including developer contributions and bid writing.	Funding has been secured through Public Health and in September 2019 a Green and Blue Infrastructure Development Manager was appointed to drive and direct the implementation of the strategy.	Complete
	4.5 Continue to deliver GI projects that promote food growing, gardening and stewardship of local green spaces.	4.5.1 Link Grow Blackpool @ The Grange, Grange Park, Cherry Tree Allotments and the Better Start programme to provide a network of sites.	The BetterStart Park ranger scheme has continued to deliver high quality nature base	Ongoing action
		4.5.2 Fully implement an Urban Farm @ The Grange with Groundwork Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside.	The @theGrange farm is continuing to build on its early success and engage residents of the Grange Park estate with community growing and gardening activities.	Ongoing action

4.6 Promote the use of GBI by educational institutions and incorporate GBI into the curriculum e.g. through Forest Schools.	4.6.1 Engage with the Schools Forum and colleges to encourage educational trips to local green spaces. Where the school has limited space, encourage schools to partner with local public green space in the delivery of GBI activities.	Blackpool Park rangers have become OFFSTED registered to deliver additional programme of children's activities on parks and open spaces in partnership with schools.	Ongoing action
4.7 Incorporate GBI into the Blackpool Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2013-2018 when updated.	4.7.1 During the update of the Blackpool Sport and Physical Activity Strategy ensure GBI and its benefits are highlighted by targeting specific sports that use outdoor space.	The Active Lives Strategy has been developed identifying and highlighting the importance of utilising green and blue spaces across the town as active spaces and the cross cutting work opportunities identified within the GBI strategy. The Live Longer Better campaign is a great example of collaborative working between the Parks Development Service and the Active Lives Team, to encourage people to be more active through their local green spaces. A six-month pilot is currently underway working with health partners at Moor Park Health & Leisure Centre to encourage individuals to 'move more' by connecting them to their local nature reserve the North Ponds Trail, through led walks and volunteering activities.	Complete
4.8 Encourage GBI implementation through the Arts and Culture Strategy.	4.8.1 Identify opportunities to create pop-up public art/ temporary GBI around Blackpool in isolation of or in conjunction with other events in Blackpool.	Previous funding bid for an art Treescapes project in partnership with UCLAN was unsuccessful. Action to be carried forward. New Park Development Community Engagement Officer has been recruited from an 'art in the park' background to progress this action in partnership with local arts organisations.	Action to be taken forward
	4.8.2 Create an Arts Trail and promote it to residents, workers, visitors and tourists.	Action to be carried forward. New Park Development Community Engagement Officer has been recruited from an 'art in the park' background to progress this action in partnership with local arts organisations.	Action to be taken forward
4.9 Leadership of the GBI agenda.	4.9.1 Obtain a personal commitment to GBI from Councillors and senior Officers of the Council.	Councillor have demonstrated GBI commitment through the adoption of the Tree Strategy Climate Action Plan and supporting a variety of greening initiatives such as sustainable Christmas trees and tree planting.	Ongoing action
4.10 Create a social movement of residents and businesses to maintain and improve GBI in Blackpool	4.10.1 Develop and implement a social marketing strategy for GBI		Ongoing action
4.11 Monitor the outcomes of this Action Plan from the residents perspective.	4.11.1 Ensure GBI and its use, is included in future residents surveys.	Key performance indicators have developed in line with the core strategy GBI objectives and GBI Action Plan, to include resident surveys to establish a perception baseline. A Parks Survey was developed in partnership with the Friends of Anchorsholme Park to establish perceptions and shape future development. This survey gives a structure for engagement on further sites. A public consultation will shape a key part of the proposed ecological review of 2022.	Ongoing action
4.12 Incorporate GBI in all strategies for the built environment.	4.12.1 GBI impact assessment to be included in all Council policy and strategy papers.	This has been included as part of the climate emergency to ensure environmental thinking is embedded in decision making.	Ongoing action
4.13 Inspire Local Business – Promote GBI activities by Blackpool Council staff	4.13.1 Consider the potential to allow paid leave for employees to volunteer on green and blue projects in order to lead from the front as a Council and inspire businesses.	Due to COVID working arrangements a full programme of staff volunteering was paused for 2021. Individual teams in Leisure services and BCH have been involved in tree planting sessions across the town over the past 3 years.	In progress, further work required