

A Local Plan for

# Lancaster District

2020 – 2031

Plan period 2011 - 2031



**Emerging GBI Projects within the  
Lancaster District (Future Action  
Plan)\_ Appendix 4  
[January 2022]**

## Appendix 4: Emerging GBI Projects within the Lancaster District (Future GBI Action Plan)

To facilitate 'on the ground' delivery of the **Objectives** set out for each of the **6 key themes**, and where possible, to translate the **Emerging Opportunities** and the spatial opportunities shown on the interactive GBI map into potential measures, a series of initial **Actions** to address each of the **Objectives** have been identified. To demonstrate how this can be achieved, it is considered beneficial to provide a list of specific projects that could evolve into an Action Plan to aid the implementation of the **GBI Strategy**.

This suite of projects are those which are currently known to us and have been brought to our attention through the 'Call for Projects' survey that we ran in Spring 2020 and the draft GBI Strategy consultation in Summer/Autumn 2021.

These are 'on the ground' locationally-specific practical examples of how action can be taken to support the delivery of the **GBI Strategy**. Some are examples of ongoing projects, and others are at an early stage.

Please note that the intention is that this list of projects/activities will evolve overtime to keep it as up-to-date as possible. It is therefore not a definitive list.

Whilst the preference for the delivery of GBI is onsite, it is recognised that this is not always possible or the most beneficial solution and so the intention is that this list demonstrates that alternative offsite options can be explored.

This Action Plan will also be developed in conjunction with the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Schedule.

We look forward to working with key stakeholders to progress and develop this Action Plan to deliver GBI improvements 'on the ground' within our District. If you would like to be involved in evolving this piece of work, or are aware of projects you feel it would be beneficial to add, please do contact us at: [planningpolicy@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@lancaster.gov.uk)

**Please note that this is a working draft. Awaiting project updates to feed into tables.**

**1. Recreation and Accessible Greenspace** 

Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
<b>Objective 1a:</b> Ensure everyone has equal/fair access to high quality, well maintained and safe green spaces, that are connected to the wider GBI network, to help narrow the gap between the health and wellbeing of the District's residents						
Aspire to Green Flag Award standard	Green Flag Management Plan for Lancaster Canal Corridor	The Green Flag scheme sets the national standard and provides a high level quality against which such spaces are measured. It encourages high environmental and management standards and sets the benchmark of excellence for recreational green areas. Where appropriate, green spaces should seek to aspire to these standards.		Ongoing	Canal and River Trust	Ongoing
Enhance existing green spaces, corridors and chains used for recreation	Towpath Trail, Lancaster Canal Corridor HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	Project to restore picnic areas, planting wildflowers along the canal route, planting trees/hedges etc. this is mainly focused on the Northern Reaches at the moment. Ambition for entire canal		Ongoing	Canal and River Trust	
	Improvements to Middlewood, Greaves Park HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	Bring more light into the wood to make a better environment for people to explore		Ongoing?	Friends of Greaves Park	Timescales?
	Barley Cop Woods HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	-Management of the woods to encourage wildlife diversity and public access.	Landscape	Ongoing	Friends of Barley Cop Woods	Timescales?

Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
	Dorrington Bridge	Renovation of a bit of land where trees have been felled by network rail. We are hoping to work with residents to renovate it as a nature space for walking, natural planting and encouraging biodiversity		?	Dorrington Bridge	
	Ryelands Park – North Lancaster	Contributions to be made toward the improvement of facilities at Ryelands Park		Desirable in IDS		2022 – 2025 (Delivery in the mid-phases of development)
<b>Objective 1b:</b> Ensure the open space deficiencies (quantity, quality/value and/or accessibility) identified through the KKP Open Space Assessment are addressed and the Open Space standards are met and delivered						
HAVE ASKED PUBLIC REALM IF ANY SPECIFIC PRIORITY PROJECTS TO MENTION						
<b>Objective 1c:</b> To support and enhance the efforts of numerous local community and friends groups working on GBI projects across the District, including new open spaces brought forward through development						
Creation of new Friends Groups – Council is actively encouraging those interested in setting up a friends group to look after a park	Torrisholme Park, Torrisholme	Local volunteers who want to come together to form a group to manage and maintain a local green space. They can apply for funding for new equipment, signage, creation of management plans etc.		Ongoing	Lancaster City Council (Making Spaces)	N/A

Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
they live close to, to come forward						
	Clay Pitts, Trimpell, Morecambe HAVE ASKED PUBLIC REALM IF THERE ARE ANY OTHERS TO MENTION?	Looking to create a community group. There was interest from schools, police, residents and Council Housing. Hoping to create Friends Group to receive funding to improve play areas and create a wildflower area (£12000 received from Making Spaces). Removing old basketball net and replacing with a small football pitch.		Ongoing	Lancaster City Council (Making Spaces)	N/A
Supporting existing Friends Groups – HAVE ASKED PUBLIC REALM IF THERE ARE ANY OTHER UPCOMING PROJECTS TO INCLUDE?	Dorrington Woods and Play Park LA1 4TD	Look after LCC public space, maintenance, public involvement		Ongoing	Friends of Dorrington Woods and Play Park	
	Green spaces on Furness Street and Charnley Street	Planting in these area to deter fly tipping, Leaf mulch containers built, bird and bat boxes built and installed		Ongoing?	Friends of Long Marsh Lane Community Woods	
<b>Objective 1d:</b> Create spaces for communities to be able to grow their own food, to raise awareness and education around such practices, promote community cohesion and support people’s health and wellbeing						
Creation of mini community orchard/allotment areas within existing green spaces	Poulton Park, Morecambe	Consultation held in Spring 2021 to seek people’s views on types of new play equipment that should be installed. Also, in a bid to help tackle food poverty in the area, plans are in place to implement a community planting scheme.		Early stages?	Lancaster City Council (Making Spaces) Lancaster Green Spaces Group	

Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
	Devitre Community Gardens, Ashton Road, Lancaster	<p>On land owned by the NHS, Friends group, have developed an orchard and garden open to the public. The 2-acre site is next to De Vitre House on Ashton Road in Lancaster.</p> <p>The lease was signed in September 2018 and paths were installed by contractors Oct-December. 50 fruit trees were planted by volunteers in January 2019 and the area was seeded with grass and wildflowers in April. During volunteer sessions we have been weeding, and installing a tool shed, entrance arch, fence and benches.</p>			Friends of Devitre Community Garden, Lancaster Green Spaces	
	Long Marsh Lane	This is an area of land earmarked for a community garden next to a new estate of 149 houses and 400+ student flats		Early Stages	Friends of Long Marsh Lane Community Garden	
Promote delivery of community Food Growing Projects	Claver Hill, Community Food Growing Project, The Ridge, Lancaster	Working as a community to grow food to share within the group and others, sharing skills and companionship. Site also includes a nature trail for people to explore and grow in their understanding of nature.	All	Ongoing	Claver Hill, Community Food Growing Project	
	EcoHub, Lancaster University Bailrigg Campus	A sustainable food growing and educational facility for students, staff and community groups. Including the EcoHub barn, Organic Garden growing area, Forest Garden, pond, chicken enclosure, apiary and glasshouse, orchard, fruit & herb areas.			Lancaster University	





Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
<b>Objective 1:</b> To provide a rich, diverse, expansive and well-connected ecological network as a foundation for the District’s Local Nature Recovery Network and greater resilience to the effects of climate change (such as fragmentation)						
Enhancement of green spaces and corridors	Bee Lines (Pollinator Corridors) Lune Valley Water Meadows HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	Species rich grassland			Forest of Bowland AONB	
	Habitat restoration – Thwaite End Pasture HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE				Canal and River Trust	
	Greaves Park Habitat Enhancements	-A wildlife pond - to provide water, food, shelter to foster wildlife -A hedge of natural species 25 metres long by 3 metres wide to provide food, shelter, and navigation lines for wildlife			Friends of Greaves Park	
Enhancement of blue spaces and corridors	Pond restoration at Lune Aqueduct HAVE ASKED FOR AN UPDATE	-Work on pond on Trust owned land next to the Aqueduct. Tidied up spawning pond and upstream 50-80m. This will be a resource for schools and visitors to enjoy  - Pond repair and restoration work, plus copse expansion planting within school grounds	Water Management		Canal and Rivers Trust, Environment Agency, Lune Rivers Trust, LANSIL anglers and Link Road contractors	

Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
	-Pond restoration at Mossgate Primary School, Kingsway, Heysham				-Lancaster & District Conservation Volunteers	
	Newton Beck Biological Heritage Site Enhancement	To contribute to the delivery of green corridor and ecological network – improvement to Newton Beck Biological Heritage Site		Important in IDS		
Creation of wildflower meadows (where appropriate)	Hermitage Field wildflower project	Creation of a wildflower meadow on the City Council’s land at the Crook of Lune. This is being led by the newly formed Hermitage Field Community Meadow charity. The charity attracts grant funding, voluntary support and in-kind support from the City Council.	Recreation/greenspace	Ongoing	Hermitage Field Community Meadow	Work began in 2020 and estimated to take approx 3yrs to establish the meadow and will require ongoing management
	Thurnham R C Church, Wildflower	Creation of wildflower meadow within the current spare ground of the cemetery. Expanding and managed annually		Ongoing	Lancaster & District Conservation Volunteers	
	Regent Park, Morecambe	HAVE ASKED PUBLIC REALM IF ANYMORE TO ADD? OR OTHER WILDFLOWER PROJECTS TO INCLUDE				
Education around benefits of a rich, diverse, expansive	John Muir Awards – Millenium	Project for Year 9 pupils to achieve John Muir Awards through a variety of environmental activities		Ongoing?	Lune Rivers Trust	



Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
and well-connected ecological network	Footpath, Ripley St Thomas, Lancaster HAVE ASKED FOR AN UPDATE					
<b>Objective 2:</b> To provide a clear context for the delivery of locally-appropriate Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in new development. Preferably onsite, and where demonstrated not to be possible to deliver onsite, locally offsite locations will be considered						
HAVE ASKED FOR INFO/UPDATE	Warton Mires project	Biodiversity net gain		Early stages	RSPB	
<b>Objective 3:</b> To implement mitigation measures to reduce recreational pressure on Morecambe Bay						
Beach Care	Beaches along coast of Lancaster District	-Volunteer litter picking		Ongoing	Morecambe Bay Partnership	
Creation of Country Parks	East Lancaster	The creation of a new Country Park, in the region of 2ha in size, in East Lancaster to provide new amenity and informal recreational space. Including the implementation of a management plan for the country park to the satisfaction of the City Council.		Critical in IDS	Unknown (Lancaster City Council)	



Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
<b>Objective 1:</b> To increase tree canopy cover across the District to achieve the Council’s ambition of planting 1 million trees, ensuring the right trees are planted in the right places						
‘Local Approach’ HAVE ASKED PUBLIC REALM IF THERE ARE ANY PARTICULAR PROJECTS AS PART OF MILLION TREES TO MENTION	Forest of the Future – Forest Hills, Lancaster	Afforestation project with principal objective of partially offsetting University carbon emissions. Approximately 3.3Ha of mixed native deciduous woodland planted over last three seasons		Ongoing?	Lancaster University	
	Sports Centre Phase 1B Woodland planting – Lancaster University	Occupying a strip of land running north from Lancaster University Phase 1b Sports Centre towards woodland shelter-belt on north boundary of main campus. Project to plant 1,000 trees for form new woodland shelter-belt.		Ongoing?		
Catchment wide approach	Lancashire Woodland Connect - Throughout the Lancashire part of the Lune Catchment HAVE ASKED FOR AN UPDATE	Planting 10,000 trees per year throughout the area	Water Management	Ongoing	The Lune Rivers Trust, Ribble Rivers Trust	
<b>Objective 2:</b> To enable Lancaster’s landscape to play a key part in mitigating against the effects of climate change by protecting, restoring and expanding the District’s ‘carbon sink’						
Petland Restoration projects	Abbeystead HAVE ASKED FOR AN UPDATE	Peatland Restoration			Forest of Bowland AONB	

Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
Landscape Enhancement Initiative	Quernmore and Conder Valley HAVE ASKED FOR AN UPDATE	Hedges and woodland creation to reduce impact of high voltage cables			Forest of Bowland AONB?	
<b>Objective 3:</b> To ensure the landscape is able to adapt to the challenges posed by climate change, such as flood risk, without negatively impacting upon local character areas						
	PROJECTS BEING INVESTIGATED					
Right tree in the right place	HAVE ASKED PUBLIC REALM FOR UPDATE ON TREE PROJECTS					
<b>Objective 4:</b> To deliver urban greening interventions, planned or retrofitted into existing urban environments to address issues such as air quality and provide shading						
Opportunities to retrofit urban greening interventions	Bare Lane Station	Manage the green infrastructure of former station gardens, inc. wildflower platform ends, signal box area, car park borders & platform planters. Forms a tongue of GI 'flowing' in from open countryside to the east.		Ongoing?	Lancaster & District Conservation Volunteers	
	Great Wood and Great Wood School grounds - Off Beaufort Road, Morecambe	Group has looked after this site since 1985, including the 1 hectare woodland, pond area and planted areas within the school grounds.		Ongoing	Lancaster & District Conservation Volunteers	
	Penhale Gardens, Heysham	Landscaped garden area formerly attached to Penhale House and now part of a local authority sheltered housing scheme.		Ongoing?	Lancaster & District Conservation Volunteers	



Action	Example Project/Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
<b>Objective 1:</b> To support and facilitate the District’s ‘modal shift’ ambitions towards sustainable and active travel by providing attractive, safe and easily accessible walking and cycling routes, and better connecting-the District’s network of Active Travel GBI corridors						
Improving quality of existing GBI Active Travel corridors	Our River, Our Future - Skerton river bank, Claver Hill Community Farm and Newton Beck, Morecambe Special School, Mellinshaw Travellers' Site, Maritime Museum <b>HAVE ASKED FOR AN UPDATE</b>	3 yr community project to create foraging footpath along Skerton bank of Lune, Newton Beck at Claver Hill, work Morecambe Special School & release into beck, work with community at Mellishaw r.e. pollution and litter issues	Recreation	Ongoing?	The Lune Rivers Trust	
	South Lancaster to city centre – creation of a new Cycle/Walking Superhighway	The creation of a new cycling and walking route from the South Lancaster area, in particular Bailrigg Garden Village and Lancaster University through to Lancaster City Centre. This is being developed through the Lancaster South Area Action Plan and the Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan. It includes a potential new segregated cycle route through the Council owned Hala greenspace, adjacent to Whinfall Drive. Elsewhere, opportunities will be sought to provide combined active travel corridors and greenspaces.	Recreation, ecology	Critical in IDS Ongoing- (routes currently being assessed)	Lancaster City Council/Lancashire County Council	Life of the AAP?

	Ryelands Park, Lancaster	To improve cycling and walking linkages across Ryelands Park to improve connectivity between the North Lancaster and Lancaster City Centre		Desirable within IDS		
<b>Objective 2: To integrate 'urban greening' features into active travel infrastructure schemes and the design of future corridors</b>						
'Greening' of existing GBI Active Travel corridors	Lancaster University Woodland Walk	Woodland walk around Lancaster University	Recreation	Unsure?	Lancaster University	
<b>Objective 3: To improve access to, and suitability of, the District's Active Travel GBI corridors for all users</b>						
Improvements to public access	Greaves Park, Lancaster	Improve grass paths and build a path to the viewpoint	Recreation	Unsure?	Friends of Greaves Park	
	Leighton Moss Trampler	Mobility scooter is available for hire at the RSPB reserve	Recreation	Ongoing	Arnside and Silverdale AONB	
Towpath improvements along the Lancaster Canal	South Carnforth – North towards Carnforth High School	To improve towpath provision along the Lancaster Canal to improve linkages between the strategic sites and North Carnforth (Inc. links to Carnforth High School). This is a length of approximately 0.5 kilometre.		Desirable within IDS	Lancaster City Council/Canal and River Trust	TBC
	North Lancaster	To improve the towpath provision along the Lancaster Canal to improve cycling and walking linkages to the north towards Slyne-with-Hest and Carnforth and to the South towards the Lune Aqueduct and the Caton Road Employment Area. This is a length of approximately 1 kilometre.		Desirable within IDS	Lancaster City Council/Canal and River Trust	TBC
	East Lancaster - Lancaster Canal Towpath and Ridge Lane bridge Improvements	To improve the tow path provision along the Lancaster Canal and improved connectivity at the Ridge Lane bridge to improve cycling and walking linkages between the Strategic Site and Lancaster City Centre. This is a length of approximately 1.5 kilometres		Critical within IDS	Lancaster City Council/Canal and River Trust	2023 – 2025 (Delivery in the mid-phases of development)

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Creating safer Active Travel corridors for walkers and cyclists	Upgrade to Hammerton Hall Lane to remove vehicular traffic	To assist with the de-tuning of Hammerton Hall Lane to a cycling and walking route.		Desirable within IDS		2024 – 2026 (Delivery in the mid-phases of development)
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Identified Project/Activity	Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
<b>Objective 1:</b> Slow the flow of water in the areas most at risk of flooding, using natural flood management techniques to reduce the speed at which water flows through the watercourses and also across the land once the ground has reached saturation point and can no longer infiltrate (in particular around Burrow Beck, River Conder and River Lune catchments)						
Slowing the flow	Galgate Slow the Flow project - Whitley Beck and Burrow Beck and tributaries upstream of Galgate HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	Delivering Natural Flood Management in sub-catchments of Whitley Beck and Burrow Beck and tributaries. Interventions on the ground include hedge planting and fencing, the creation of a retention pond, sward lifting, and installation of leaky dams.		Ongoing?	Environment Agency & The Lune Rivers Trust	
Incorporate natural flood management techniques	Wyre Investment Readiness Project - Throughout Wyre River Catchment (Including Upper Wyre at Abbeystead - LA29 (postcode)) HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	Natural flood management, inc. building leaky dams, creating bog & rewetting of peat on 70 ha of River Wyre catchment. Reducing flood risk, & also create habitats for wildlife & mitigate climate change storing greenhouse gases in wetlands & peatlands		Ongoing?	Environment Agency	
	Galgate Flood Defence Realignment HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	Severe flooding Nov 2015 as 1960s defences failed. Main sources: River Conder, undefended Whitley Beck & surface water. Improvements: remove approx. 200m defence wall protecting		Ongoing?	Environment Agency	

Identified Project/Activity	Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
		field between the River Conder & WCML. Also construct a smaller embankment.				
<b>Objective 2:</b> Ensure development contributes towards reducing the risk of flooding elsewhere (downstream or on nearby neighbouring sites) and incorporates sustainable drainage						
(Example of how downstream project has been affected by changes upstream)	Claver Hill Community Food Growing Project – The Ridge, Lancaster	-Flood Prevention and Conservation Project HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE		Early Stages?	?	?
<b>Objective 3:</b> Adopt a catchment-wide approach to flood risk management to encapsulate and assess the key contributors to that risk						
Wholesale Approach to Marine Management WAMM HAVE ASKED FOR UPDATE	Lune Estuary and Morecambe Bay	Working with Morecambe Bay Partnership, South Cumbria Rivers Trust & Wyre Rivers Trust investigating plastic pollution of the Lune Estuary between Halton & Overton			Lune Rivers Trust	



Identified Project/Activity	Location	Description	Links with other themes	Project Status	Project put forward by	Timescales
<b>Objective 1:</b> Greater integration and understanding of the role and contribution that green and blue infrastructure makes in shaping our historic environment (designated and non-designated)						
Area specific setting studies	Grab Lane	Undertaking a Setting Study enables greater analysis and understanding of the role of green and blue spaces towards the setting of historic assets		Ongoing	Lancaster City Council	
Lune Valley/Three Counties Project	Lune Valley, but extends outside the district boundary	Project led by Forest of Bowland AONB team and will focus on landscape, nature conservation, heritage and culture, access and recreation. Project extends into Yorkshire Dales NP. It will build on the Sustrans Lune Valley Greenway extension project. Primary funding source to be National Lottery Heritage Fund	Landscape, ecology, active travel, Recreation	Currently at concept stage – public consultation due in March 2022	Forest of Bowland AONB	TBC
<b>Objective 2:</b> Ensure the local historic environment is considered and reflected within GBI design proposals						
Cycling and Walking Linkage Improvements	Grimeshaw Lane, East Lancaster	To improve cycling and walking linkages into the open countryside to the east, seeking to improve the historic trackway of Grimeshaw Lane to provide linkages towards the Lune Valley		Desirable within IDS	Lancaster City Council	TBC
<b>Objective 3:</b> Where possible and appropriate to do so, identify the GBI features which positively contribute towards the District's historic assets and their conservation						
Better incorporation of GBI features within	Wennington	As part of the emerging Wennington Conservation Area Appraisal role of trees and green spaces being spatially identified		Ongoing	Lancaster City Council Conservation Team	

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Conservation Area Appraisals						

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