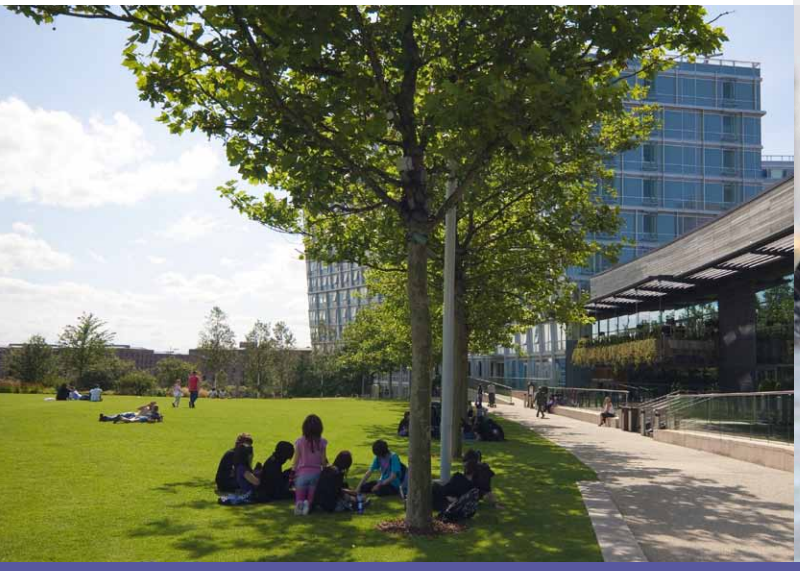
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

VS

CLIMATE CHANGE



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Resources and information

Resources and information are now available to help organisations, professionals and communities across Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, and Merseyside to plan, design and manage their green infrastructure in order to combat climate change.

ACTION GUIDANCE

Green Infrastructure to Combat Climate Change: A Framework for Action in Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, and Merseyside can aid policy development and delivery by a broad range of organisations and professions. It recommends actions, potential partners and delivery mechanisms.
www.ginw.co.uk/climatechange/framework

EVIDENCE BASE

Online and searchable, this holds a review of key research, policy and delivery relevant to the climate change services provided by green infrastructure; it underpins the Action Guidance.
www.ginw.co.uk/climatechange/evidencebase

EVIDENCE REPORT

Green Infrastructure: How and Where Can It Help the Northwest Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change? summarises the evidence for the climate change services provided by green infrastructure and maps where each could be the most important; it underpins the Action Guidance.
www.ginw.co.uk/climatechange/report

MAPPING TOOL

This online tool helps users to spatially assess potential risks and vulnerabilities to climate change in their area. It can aid decision-making and be used to visually engage people on the need for climate change adaptation. It includes data on hazards, social and environmental vulnerability, and green and blue space.
www.ginw.co.uk/climatechange/assessmenttool

COMMUNITY TRAINING

From games to group discussion exercises, this set of training materials is for use by practitioners to engage communities on climate change adaptation and the role of green infrastructure.
www.ginw.co.uk/climatechange/training

TOOLKIT FOR DEVELOPERS

This helps developers to determine their 'Green Infrastructure Score' and potential interventions to maximise the benefits that green infrastructure can provide. It has potential to be used in planning policy and to aid discussion on green infrastructure between planners and developers.
www.ginw.co.uk/climatechange/gi_toolkit

www.ginw.co.uk/climatechange

Who developed these resources?

They were developed as part of the Northwest Climate Change Action Plan (www.climatechangenorthwest.co.uk) by Community Forests Northwest on behalf of the Northwest Regional Development Agency and Northwest Climate Change Partnership.

This was supported by the EU Interreg IVC GRaBS (Green and Blue Space Adaptation for Urban Areas and Eco-Towns) project, which brought together 14 partners from 8 countries to integrate climate change adaptation into planning and development.

Other GRaBS outputs

GRaBS project outputs from across the partnership are available at www.grabs-eu.org and include:

BRIEFING PAPERS

These give background policy context and issues on a range of subjects such as garden development, delivering green infrastructure benefits and adaptation through planning, and on water management and the approval of sustainable drainage systems.

EXPERT PAPERS

These draw on lessons learnt and adaptation approaches which have been useful in developing adaptation action plans. They cover the case for adaptation, participation in adaptation and collaborative working, the role of transport, and good practice examples from Europe.

OTHER GUIDANCE

This includes guidance on the production of high level policy statements, adaptation action plans, use of the risk and vulnerability assessment tool, model policies for local authorities, a database of case studies, and a write up of a visit to good practice examples in Basel and Freiburg.

Other green infrastructure activity

Significant green infrastructure activity has taken place across the North West of England in recent years (www.ginw.co.uk). This includes a focus on the economic benefits of green infrastructure (www.naturaleconomynorthwest.co.uk), the production of a Valuation Toolkit (www.bit.ly/givaluationtoolkit), and the development of sub-regional frameworks and local authority level strategies (eg. Liverpool Green Infrastructure Strategy at www.ginw.co.uk/liverpool).

No shade tree? Blame not the sun, but yourself

Chinese proverb

The case for climate change action

Climate change is now considered to be one of the greatest threats to our social well being and economic future. Action is needed now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to limit the severity of future climate changes, and to ensure that our communities are adapting to anticipated changes.

How can green infrastructure help?

Green infrastructure provides services that help us adapt to future changes in climate (such as managing high temperatures and flooding, and helping other species to adapt). It also helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions (for example through carbon storage and sequestration, and encouraging walking and cycling). Such natural interventions are increasingly recognised as a desirable way to combat climate change, as they deliver multiple other social, economic and environmental benefits – improving health and well being, creating liveable neighbourhoods, and providing habitats for wildlife.

Photos: top: ©Adelaide Advertiser / Calum Robertson, centre: McCoy Wynne

communityforestsnorthwest supporting the mersey, red rose and pennine edge forests
Northwest Regional Development Agency
grabs green and blue space adaptation for urban areas and eco towns
INTERREG IVC
European Union