

Extract from Appendix D of the  
District Green Infrastructure Study 2011 – UA Associates

## Recommendations Table

Including District wide recommendations

## Strategic District Wide Recommendations

<p><b>SR1</b></p>	<p>This project seeks to develop an approach to new and existing workspaces throughout the district to ensure they incorporate green infrastructure features into their design and operation to facilitate a healthy lifestyle, retain water, provide access to good networks of walking routes, facilitate walking/cycling to work and seek biodiversity gains. Workspaces should where appropriate feature the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green roofs and walls;</li> <li>• Sustainable urban drainage systems;</li> <li>• A focus on active travel options;</li> <li>• Careful landscaping with native tree planting; and</li> <li>• Reproduce and uphold the character and setting of the local surrounding area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SR2</b></p>	<p>Many of the woodlands around the district are fragmented and isolated. In particular many of the ancient semi-natural woodlands have seen a decline in quality over the past century through a combination of neglect, illegal felling, non-native plantations and a decline in traditional management. Although areas of woodland have increased over the past decade through woodland creation there is still a need to co-ordinate efforts and conserve the district's woodlands. This project aims to protect and maximise the multifunctional potential of the district's woodlands as a high quality resource. Efforts should seek to explore the diverse range of uses for woodlands specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the viability of developing local markets and supply chains across the district to utilise woodfuel as part of the district's energy mix;</li> <li>• Encourage the re-introduction of traditional woodland management techniques such as coppicing;</li> <li>• Explore and promote the tourism and recreational potential of woodlands; and</li> <li>• Reverse the fragmentation of woodlands to support recreation, biodiversity and species migration by raising awareness of woodland importance and opportunities to landowners and managers, regenerating derelict woodlands, and encouraging the use of woodland buffers to protect woodland fringes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SR3</b></p>	<p>Although Stratford-on-Avon contains a number of long distance and strategic routes, the rural nature of the district coupled with a lack of connectivity, safety and promotion means access to these routes and GI assets predominantly rely on private car use. This recommendation seeks to address some of the issues concerning accessibility by enhancing the quality of the existing network in addition to creating new ones where appropriate. Addressing these issues could aid in the reduction in reliance on motor transportation and help incorporate basic fitness activities into the lives of local residents. Efforts should be made to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve connectivity between footpaths and cycle routes between and within settlements and across the wider countryside, with appropriate signage which is fit for purpose. Signs should be made of local materials where possible and should not clutter the countryside;</li> <li>• Where appropriate, relax the designations of routes to allow more bridleways to encourage use by multiple users;</li> <li>• Develop a strong network of greenways that maximise multifunctional benefits for biodiversity and recreation; and</li> <li>• Investigate the feasibility of creating a network of multifunctional recreational routes that utilise the network of disused railway lines and which do not adversely affect the biodiversity quality of those sites.</li> </ul>

<p><b>SR4</b></p>	<p>Stratford-on-Avon district possesses the majority of the orchards found in Warwickshire. Allotments and orchards can provide a range of benefits for recreation, health and biodiversity. Orchards are under threat from a variety of issues such as neglect, isolation, destruction for agricultural purposes, development and intensive management. Allotments are important community areas that can contribute to biodiversity. This recommendation seeks to encourage the maximisation of the multifunctional benefits that Allotments and Orchards have to offer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, restore and encourage the careful management of traditional orchards throughout Stratford-on-Avon to create a strong network that supports their heritage and ecological significance and genetic diversity. Where appropriate encourage the development of local markets and cultivation and consumption of local varieties;</li> <li>• Encourage and support allotment uptake by ensuring the adequate provision of allotment facilities such as on site storage, fencing, water supply, toilets and access for different users; and</li> <li>• Promote and encourage links and co-operation between different allotment and orchards groups to support the sharing and distribution of knowledge and best practice.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SR5</b></p>	<p>For residents and landowners to begin to enjoy and take pride in their surroundings it is important that they understand their environment. Initiatives should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness of ecosystem services and benefits associated with green infrastructure;</li> <li>• Encourage, facilitate and support community involvement in small scale initiatives such as hedgerow restoration and verge maintenance;</li> <li>• Explore the possible links between green infrastructure and the educational aspects of schools and local organisations such as Guides and Scouts.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SR6</b></p>	<p>Stratford-on-Avon District has a strong blue infrastructure network in the form of rivers such as the Avon, Arrow and Alne and canals such as the Stratford-on-Avon Canal and Oxford Union Canal. Many are important for recreation and biodiversity. Many rivers in the Warwickshire area have been modified in some way removing the in stream vegetation and preventing flooding of farmland. This has contributed to the destruction of the physical, biological and chemical mechanisms that regulate water quality and have had profound impacts on wildlife. Although water quality is improving the maximisation of the multifunctional potential of this network should be developed, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where appropriate, seek to develop high quality walking and cycling routes to facilitate active travel options and recreational opportunities within and between settlements;</li> <li>• Protect and restore floodplains to enhance biodiversity whilst supporting local BAP habitat priorities and protecting areas along watercourses important for their ecological value;</li> <li>• Work with and support farmers and landowners to improve water quality consistent with the aims of the Water Framework Directive by protecting riparian vegetation and appropriate field margins; and</li> <li>• Recognise and investigate the value of derelict water meadows as high quality resources important for their ecological value for wetland biodiversity as well as their recreational aspects. Investigate future use of water meadows in reducing eutrophication and nutrient pollution in susceptible areas.</li> </ul>

<b>SR7</b>	<p>Ponds and standing open water represent a good green infrastructure resource for biodiversity, tranquil recreation and supporting the character of an area. Future focus should seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of ponds throughout the district. SuDs could count towards this ambition, for example flood flow attenuation/surface water holding areas which are wildlife-rich permanent ponds. This target should be in line with the UK Pond HAP and EA BAP aspirations.</li> </ul>
<b>SR8</b>	<p>Gardens contribute a significant green infrastructure resource which presents opportunities for enhancements for water retention, biodiversity, and recreation and health benefits. There should be a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring new residential developments contribute appropriate garden space either for individuals or community gardening;</li> <li>• Recognising the role gardens can play in bridging gaps in connectivity of different habitats and facilitating species migration; and</li> <li>• Encouraging initiatives that seek to utilise derelict or unused gardens or gardening.</li> </ul>
<b>SR9</b>	<p>The benefits garden space for community associated with trees are wide ranging and well documented. There are around 50 tree wardens operating within the district to help identify areas for tree planting, raising funds and planting trees (Green Space Strategy, 2006). As such where appropriate native tree planting initiatives should be encouraged and supported across the district to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond to climate change by providing rural and urban cooling and shading in addition to CO2 absorption;</li> <li>• Support biodiversity by providing habitat and facilitate species migration;</li> <li>• Support the setting of urban centres, workspaces, residential and visitor destinations;</li> <li>• Mitigate air quality issues, especially along roads; and</li> <li>• Aid in interception and flood alleviation.</li> </ul>

### Alcester Target Notes

<b>AL1</b>	<p>Protect and enhance the biodiversity and recreational value of the River Arrow LNR. Where possible seek to expand conservation efforts along the River Arrow whilst ensuring it does not become fragmented.</p>
<b>AL2</b>	<p>Enhance the PRoW network ensuring existing routes are well signposted and connected to networks within the wider countryside. Circular routes should be encouraged in addition to maximising links to wider GI assets such as Ragley Hall and Oversley Woods.</p>
<b>AL3</b>	<p>Protect and seek to reverse the fragmentation of woodland around Alcester to support biodiversity by utilising buffer zones and island stepping stones. Where possible maximise the multifunctional aspects of local woodlands and encourage recreational opportunities.</p>
<b>AL4</b>	<p>Recognise the multifunctional potential of allotment sites and encourage individual or neighbourhood involvement and take up.</p>

<b>AL5</b>	Investigate the feasibility of utilising the rivers Arrow and Alne as multifunctional linear features for walking and cycling and recreational opportunities.
<b>AL6</b>	Create additional cycle routes connecting to nearby settlements and the NCN Route 5.
<b>AL7</b>	Investigate the feasibility of enhancing the setting of the industrial estate by utilising small scale GI features to provide a more attractive environment for local businesses which also supports biodiversity.
<b>AL8</b>	Maximise the tourism potential of natural and historic assets such as the River Arrow LNR and Coughton Court.
<b>AL9</b>	Maintain floodplain areas and seek to utilise GI assets to aid in flood alleviation.
<b>Bidford-on-Avon Target Notes</b>	
<b>BD1</b>	Support and enhance biodiversity at Bidford Grange Hotel and Golf Course. Where possible increase tree planting and promote the recreational opportunities that the course has to offer.
<b>BD2</b>	Investigate the feasibility of creating a greenway that follows the length of the dismantled railway, which could form an important walking/cycling and biodiversity link between Broom, Bidford and Welford.
<b>BD3</b>	Strengthen PRoW networks. Seek to create cycle routes to nearby natural features such as Oversley Woods and Cleeve Prior LNR.
<b>BD4</b>	Ensure the multifunctional use of land to the south of the village to support recreational opportunities in addition to aiding flood alleviation methods.
<b>BD5</b>	Support and enhance the biodiversity of the rivers Avon and Arrow by maintaining bankside vegetation and buffers, whilst recognising the multifunctional potential of these features as important linear access routes.
<b>BD6</b>	Recognise the multifunctional potential of St Laurence Churchyard for biodiversity, such as pollination, and supporting the historical setting of the church.
<b>BD7</b>	Investigate the feasibility of enhancing the setting of the industrial estate by utilising small scale GI features to provide a more attractive environment for local businesses.
<b>BD8</b>	Recognise the multifunctional benefits of allotments for biodiversity, health and reducing rainwater infiltration rates, and encourage individual and community allotments and gardening activities.
<b>Henley-in-Arden Target Notes</b>	
<b>HE1</b>	Recognise the multifunctional importance of allotments, increase provision and encourage individual and neighbourhood uptake.
<b>HE2</b>	Improve access by creating a cycle route and improve PRoW to May's Wood. Seek to enhance the recreational opportunities and expand May's Wood.
<b>HE3</b>	Enhance biodiversity along the disused railway line and increase tree planting to connect fragmented woodland to connect to Bush Wood.

<b>HE4</b>	Enhance the multifunctionality of the area around Beaudesert Castle, without degrading the archaeological significance of the area, to create a popular and high quality recreational resource.
<b>HE5</b>	Where possible investigate opportunities to create additional parks, gardens or amenity green space to address deficiencies detailed within the Open Space and PPG17 assessment.
<b>HE6</b>	Protect existing woodland and seek to reverse the fragmentation by new planting, using buffer zones and enhancing or restoring woodland connections.
<b>HE7</b>	Support the aspirations and goals of the biodiversity action plan at Henley Golf and Country Club.
<b>HE8</b>	Recognise the central importance of Riverside Park and where possible seek to open up a multifunctional linear access route along the River Alne.
<b>HE9</b>	Promote and encourage strong connections to nearby green infrastructure assets such as the Stratford-on-Avon Canal, Austy Wood, Bannam's Wood.
<b>Kineton Target Notes</b>	
<b>KN1</b>	Enhance biodiversity at DM Kineton by supporting the aspirations of the Warwickshire biodiversity action plan.
<b>KN2</b>	Recognise and protect the importance of the King John's Castle site as an important multifunctional area for biodiversity, recreation and archaeological significance.
<b>KN3</b>	Seek to create additional play facilities within Kineton, especially within the south of the settlement.
<b>KN4</b>	Seek to create circular walking routes to the north of Kineton leading from within the settlement out into the wider countryside. These circular routes should avoid conflict with restricted areas around DM Kineton.
<b>KN5</b>	Protect and enhance biodiversity along the River Dene, whilst investigating the feasibility of a multiple all user access route that links Kineton to Oxhouse Farm and the 4.74ha SSSI. Seek LNR designation.
<b>KN6</b>	Create additional cycle routes that connect to established routes. The proposed extension to the NCN Route 48 will provide a good north-east south-west route, but efforts should seek to also connect routes found to the north-west and south-east.
<b>KN7</b>	Maximise the multifunctional potential of existing amenity green space to support recreation and BAP aspirations.
<b>Shipston-on-Stour Target Notes</b>	
<b>SH1</b>	Improve access between Shipston-on-Stour and Honington village via the River Stour whilst maintaining Honington Hall as an important visitor destination.
<b>SH2</b>	Maximise the opportunities to develop the riverside area as a multifunctional area for recreation and leisure.

<b>SH3</b>	Improve the provision of playing fields in the town, protecting existing playing fields and where possible creating new ones.
<b>SH4</b>	Support biodiversity along the River Stour whilst investigating opportunities to create a multifunctional corridor for recreation.
<b>SH5</b>	Recognise the multifunctional benefits of allotments for biodiversity, health and water retention, and encourage individual and community allotments and gardening activities.
<b>SH6</b>	Address deficiencies stipulated in the PPG 17 Assessment by creating additional parks, and/or amenity green space within Shipston, especially to the west of the settlement.
<b>SH7</b>	Improve the PRoW network, in particular to link Shipston-on-Stour with open countryside to the west.
<b>SH8</b>	Investigate and identify a suitable area that could be designated a Local Nature Reserve to support biodiversity and address deficiency based on ANGSt recommendations (see 5.5.3)
<b>SH9</b>	Investigate the feasibility of creating accessible woodland of at least 20ha within two kilometres of Shipston-on-Stour or 2ha within 500 metres. This would address deficiency according to the Accessible Woodland Standard (Woodland Trust, 2010)
<b>Southam Target Notes</b>	
<b>SO1</b>	The development of a traffic free cycle link to National Cycle Route 41 and the Grand Union Canal to the north of the town should be progressed.
<b>SO2</b>	Enhancements to green infrastructure should support the function and use of the River Stowe and River Itchen as natural river corridors which provide multifunctional benefits for flood defence, biodiversity, recreation and historic landscape quality.
<b>SO3</b>	Support the restoration of the disused quarry alongside the A426 to provide a high quality area for leisure and recreation whilst supporting biodiversity and nature conservation interests.
<b>SO4</b>	The historic environment function of the open space located within and adjacent to the Southam Conservation Area should be promoted in the context of enhancements to historic landscape and townscape character.
<b>SO5</b>	Improvements to Southam's green infrastructure network should seek to enhance linkages to and between important biodiversity and geodiversity features present in the town's hinterland. This includes to Ufton Fields SSSI and Long Itchington and Ufton Woods SSSI, and Stockton Railway Cutting and Quarry Geological SSSI.
<b>SO6</b>	Recognise the multifunctional benefits of allotments for biodiversity, health and reducing rainwater infiltration rates, and encourage individual and community allotments and gardening activities.

<b>Stratford-upon-Avon Target Notes</b>	
<b>ST1</b>	Enhance multifunctional green infrastructure networks (including walking and cycling links) along the river corridor to the north-east of the town.
<b>ST2</b>	Improve links to Stratford Recreation Ground from the western side of the river.
<b>ST3</b>	Recognise the multifunctional benefits of allotments for biodiversity, health and reducing rainwater infiltration rates, and encourage individual and community allotments and gardening activities.
<b>ST4</b>	Extend and improve cycle routes in the town, including between the rail station and the town centre.
<b>ST5</b>	Seek to enhance the attractiveness of Stratford Enterprise Park and Avon Industrial Estate with small scale GI features that will help reduce surface water run-off and improve the wellbeing of the local workforce.
<b>ST6</b>	Support and enhance the biodiversity value of the River Avon corridor while recognising the importance of river meadows in flood management and increasing public access.
<b>ST7</b>	Improve linkages between key biodiversity sites and corridors, including the river, the racecourse, Welcombe Hills LNR and the LWS located in the area, in addition to supporting the aspirations of the BAP priorities.
<b>ST8</b>	Support and enhance the setting and context of the town's rich and diverse historic environment.
<b>Studley Target Notes</b>	
<b>SU1</b>	Improve PRoW links from within Studley to the west of the A435 and south of the A448, to encourage and facilitate access into the wider countryside.
<b>SU2</b>	There is significant potential for the children's play area located in the village to be enhanced and additional ones to be created especially to the south.
<b>SU3</b>	There are additional opportunities to improve traffic free cycle links to National Cycle Network Route 5 and to the Stratford-upon-Avon to Redditch cycle route.
<b>SU4</b>	Enhancements to the village's green infrastructure network should seek to improve linkages to and between important biodiversity features present locally such as Rough Wood SSSI and the River Arrow.
<b>SU5</b>	The River Arrow corridor should be promoted as a key multifunctional green infrastructure corridor.
<b>SU6</b>	Recognise the multifunctional benefits of allotments for biodiversity, health and reducing rainwater infiltration rates, and encourage individual and community allotments and gardening activities.



<b>SU7</b>	Increase awareness of settlement coalition between Redditch and Studley whilst protecting the area of land separating the settlements; ensuring urban development does not encroach and undermine the character of the area as a separate entity.
<b>SU8</b>	Encourage tree planting along the road corridors such the A435 to alleviate issues associated with air quality in Studley village centre.
<b>Wellesbourne</b>	
<b>WE1</b>	There are opportunities to improve linkages between Wellesbourne and the National Cycle Network Route 41, including via off road cycle links along the River Dene.
<b>WE2</b>	Improve the PRoW network from within Wellesbourne to the wider countryside. Seek to develop circular routes in addition to links with the wider PRoW network.
<b>WE3</b>	There are opportunities to create additional areas of accessible open space to help remediate deficiencies in amenity greenspace in the village.
<b>WE4</b>	Enhancements to the village's green infrastructure network should seek to improve linkages to and between important biodiversity features such as the Smatchley, Loxley and Wellesbourne Woods, Loxley Church Meadow and the River Dene.
<b>WE5</b>	Recognise the multifunctional benefits of allotments for biodiversity, health and reducing rainwater infiltration rates, and encourage individual and community allotments and gardening activities.
<b>WE6</b>	Promote and encourage links to local sub-regional GI Assets such as Compton Verney and Charlecote Park, and maintain these locations as important high quality visitor destinations.
<b>WE7</b>	Recognise the multifunctional role of the Dene Valley, ensuring this key asset is protected and enhanced to deliver benefits associated with flood alleviation, recreation and biodiversity and its contribution to the GI network.