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**Protect open space to create  
a sustainable community**

**Nicola Hodgson**

**Open Spaces Case Officer**

# Green Infrastructure



- 1 Zero carbon
- 2 Zero Waste
- 3 Sustainable transport
- 4 Sustainable materials
- 5 Local and sustainable food
- 6 Sustainable water
- 7 Land and wildlife
- 8 Culture and heritage
- 9 Equity and local economy
- 10 Health and happiness

# Green Infrastructure



- Network of multi-functional green spaces
- Urban and rural
- Delivers environmental and quality of life benefits
- Securing GI in and around neighbourhoods is vital





# Why green space is important



- Forming flood mitigation: sustainable urban drainage systems
- Network of paths and spaces: enabling movement through area
- Provides habitats for wildlife and natural corridors
- Space for recreation and sports
- Provides access for growing local foods eg allotments



# Ecosystem Services: Benefits



- Provisioning services: food, fibre, fuel
- Regulating services: carbon sequestration and local climate control, pollution clean-up, storm water regulation
- Supporting services: soil formation, recreational activities, health benefits
- Cultural services: aesthetic values, sense of place





# Statutory Designations



- Take into account when delivering policies including:

Public rights of way, conservation area, registered historic parks and gardens, local green space designation, town and village greens, common land, nature reserves, sites of special scientific interest, listed buildings, assets of community value



# What can you do?



- Green spaces audit: assess local need
- Local plan/neighbourhood plan: protection of open spaces policies, Local Green space, NPPF para 77
- Environmental duty: section 40 NERC Act 2006
- Voluntarily register land as a TVG, section 15(9) Commons Act 2006
- Protect Common land: section 45 Commons Act 2006
- Asset of Community Value: list Open Space



# Challenges



- Funding/resource
- Statutory restrictions on disposal of open space
- NPPF, drive for development and Planning Acts
- Engaging stakeholders
- Proposed Defra 25 year Environment plan



# Guidance



- Open Spaces Society website:  
<http://www.oss.org.uk/what-we-do/protecting-open-space/>



- <http://www.oss.org.uk/what-we-do/village-greens/>
- <http://www.oss.org.uk/what-we-do/village-greens/getting-greens-registered/>
- <http://www.oss.org.uk/what-we-do/village-greens/voluntary-registrationdedication-of-land-as-a-town-or-village-green/>

## Guidance (2)



- SUDS Manual (C753)  
[https://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free\\_publications/SuDSmanual\\_C753.aspx](https://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free_publications/SuDSmanual_C753.aspx)
- Natural England – GI Valuation Tools Assessment 2013:  
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6264318517575680>