

The benefits of an effective Green Infrastructure

Social benefits

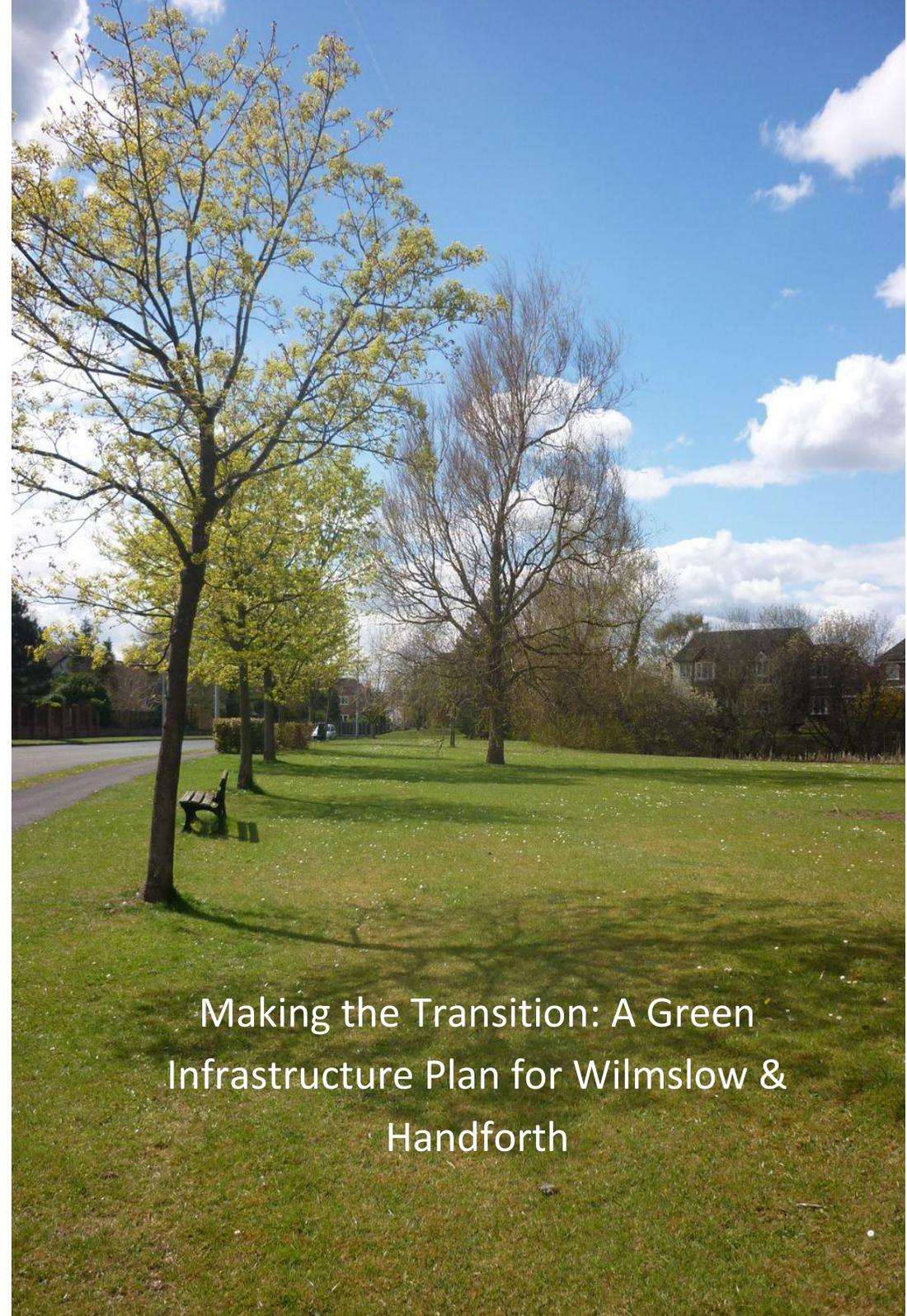
- GI provides a good quality living and working environment, encouraging a sense of pride of place.
- There are many health and wellbeing benefits, from cleaner air to breath, to more opportunities for exercise through recreation and leisure assets.
- GI can act as a mechanism for the creation of community resources.
- Facilitates community cohesion, environmental and life style education and volunteering.

Economic benefits

- Through creating an attractive environment there is greater potential to attract and retain business within the area stimulating economic growth and employment.
- The economy will be enhanced through increased tourism and recreation as a result of a more attractive town.
- A greener living and working environment can improve staff health, motivation and productivity.

Environmental benefits

- GI provides climate change adaptation, through moderating increasing temperatures and alleviating flood risk through flood storage and reducing surface water runoff.
- GI in towns and cities makes a modest contribution to climate change mitigation through carbon capture and storage.
- It ensures protection and enhancement of the landscape and natural environment.
- Provides enhancement and conservation of local biodiversity.



Making the Transition: A Green
Infrastructure Plan for Wilmslow &
Handforth

What is Green Infrastructure?

Green infrastructure is the network of green and blue spaces that provides a range of services that make both a substantial contribution towards climate change adaptation and a limited yet important contribution toward climate change mitigation.

A project for Transition Town Wilmslow through the School of Environment and Development at the University of Manchester has identified four key objectives for a Green Infrastructure Plan:

- **Audit of existing green space and make proposals in areas of deficiency:** This incorporates the mapping of existing green space within the project area both public and private and identifying whether or not they are in use.
- **To facilitate urban greening within the town centre:** Identifying areas where potential green infrastructure may be appropriate within town centres. Quantify associated benefits of existing and proposed green infrastructure.
- **To implement greater connectivity through green corridors:** Identifying existing green routes and future target areas of significance whilst also addressing connectivity between town and country.
- **To make GI recommendations in light of future developments in Wilmslow:** Incorporate GI into existing or proposed developments in order to contribute a better quality of life and resilience to climate change.

We can realise the potential of our Green and Blue spaces through engaging all sectors of the community. Everyone has a part to play especially businesses, schools, community groups and householders.

For more information visit www.transitionwilmslow.co.uk, or contact transitionwilmslow@gmail.com

Green Infrastructure provision in Wilmslow and Handforth

