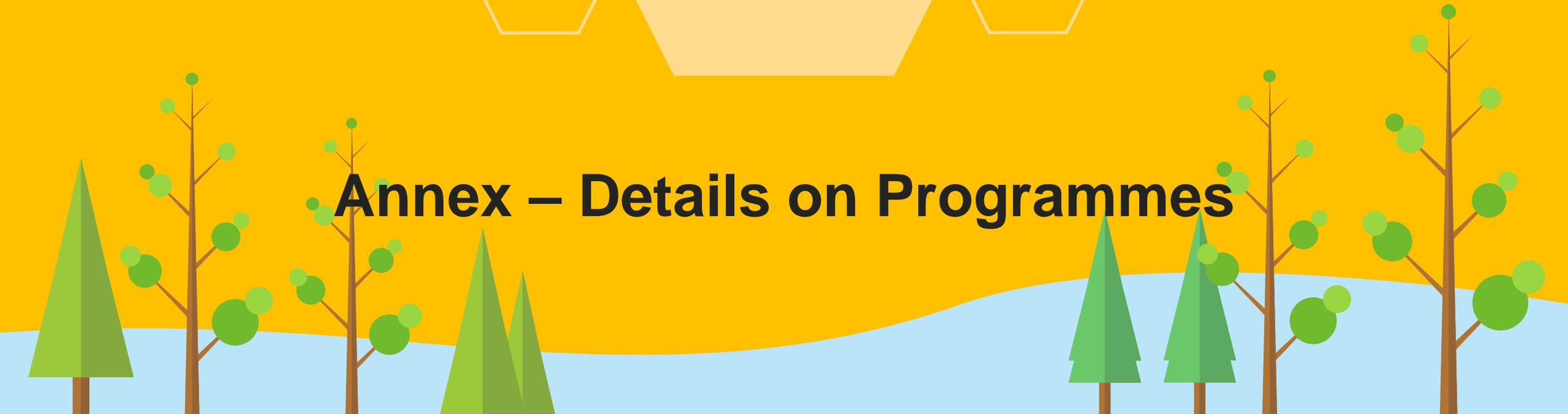


Greater Manchester Environment Fund



Annex – Details on Programmes



Grant programme run by the Greater Manchester Environment Fund



**Recycle for
Greater
Manchester
(R4GM)**



What kind of projects does R4GM fund?

- The fund aims to support the GM Community and Voluntary Sector to deliver projects which prevent, reuse or recycle household waste.
- Submitted proposals need to focus on at least one of these four priority areas:
 - Recycling
 - Re-use
 - Waste Prevention
 - Reducing Contamination
- Promote sustainable use of waste and resources.
- Also generate wider social benefits for the community of Greater Manchester.
- The fund has been created by as a means of returning revenue from waste management to the wider community.



GMEF

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ENVIRONMENT FUND



Little Green Sock Project. Manchester, Salford & Trafford.

Round 1 and Round 3 Winner – total awarded: £14,200

They are a children's clothing & baby bank providing free clothing and essential equipment for families in crisis, by reusing children's clothing & items donated by the local community. They're creating a sustainable positive change in public behaviour towards a more circular economy for social benefit.

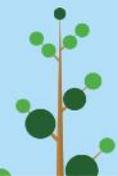
In less than a year they have supported 350 children with clothing, shoes and essential items and saved local families approximately £35,000 in clothing support and a further £7000 in additional support such as prams/buggies/newborn starter kits.

Funding helps towards the running of the project, with staff security to ensure the legacy of their works.



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Future Directions CIC – Manchester.

Rounds 1 - 3 Winner – total awarded: £37,826



They have also joined the Every Can Counts Campaign which is a not-for-profit communications programme aimed at raising awareness of the many benefits of recycling drink cans and making it easier for people to recycle their cans. They've placed can recycling boxes in venues across Greater Manchester and have acquired a Waste Carrier Licence so they can collect and recycle them.

Their project involves working with people with learning disabilities, autism, and other complex support needs to promote the importance of recycling.

The Green Superheroes provide training sessions about how to reduce, reuse and recycle. They also provide arts and craft sessions and organise litter picking walks.



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Recycle for Greater Manchester - Districts

District	Projects (R1- R3)
Bolton	5
Bury	6
Manchester	16
Oldham	4
Rochdale	3
Salford	7
Stockport	8
Tameside	3
Trafford	4
Multi district	19



Over £600k has been awarded to date

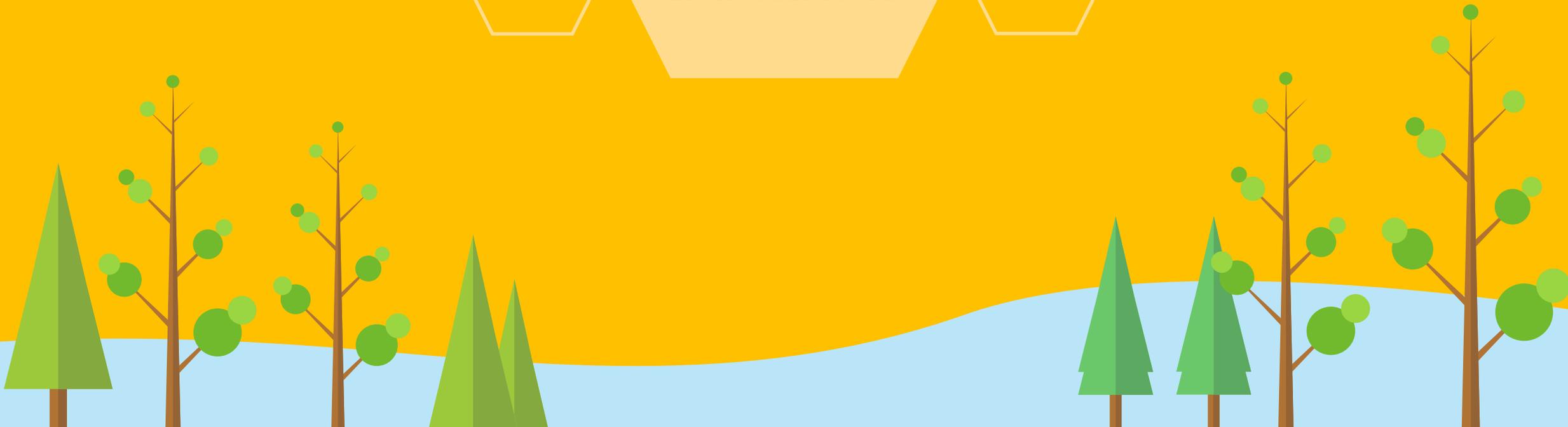


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The Green Spaces Fund



Green Spaces Fund

- The £2.6m Greater Manchester Green Spaces Fund supports community-led projects that increase the amount and quality of accessible, nature rich green space in the city region, particularly in the areas where people need it most.
- **Funded by the GMCA**
- **Managed by GMEF**
- **Four rounds of applications complete**

- Two types of grant sizes:
 - Small grants £2,000 up to £15,000
 - Large grants between £15,000 to £40,000



**GREATER
MANCHESTER**
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



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Aims of the Green Spaces Fund

Aim 1 – Benefitting communities with a lack of quality greenspace

- Reach communities where there is poor access to quality green spaces
- Tackle inequalities including health and wellbeing
- Enable people to have contact with nature

Aim 2 – Tackling our climate and biodiversity emergency:

- Improve GM's green and blue spaces
- Tackle the climate and biodiversity emergencies
- Have a priority fit with GM's priorities for nature recovery and wider environmental ambitions

Aim 3 – Encourage and Empower communities to take positive action for nature

- Opportunities for training & skills through volunteering
- Empower community groups to take actions in their local area



Greater Manchester
Environment Fund

Realising Greater
Manchester's Ambition for
Improving the Natural
Environment





What type of projects have been supported?

- Enhancing or creating publicly accessible green spaces for people and wildlife and engaging communities with these new spaces
- Permanently greening streets or turning unused viable land into green community spaces
- Creating new permanent parklets or pocket parks and engaging people with these new spaces
- Cleaning up and restoring green spaces, streams, rivers, canals or ponds with local communities
- The development of green corridors linking parks, community gardens or other green spaces
- Projects that significantly improve the biodiversity of the area and engaging communities with these new spaces



Green Spaces Fund Advisors



GROWING MORE TREES
FOR GREATER MANCHESTER



The Wildlife Trust for
**Lancashire
Manchester &
North Merseyside**

- Empower community groups to take positive meaningful action for nature.
- Targeted engagement: working together with LAs and others, to ensure those who will benefit the most can access the fund
- Ensure ideas generated by community groups are realistic and achievable
- Support groups to apply for GSF and other funding opportunities with the target to raise double the funds of the GSF through community fundraising
- Ensure activity reflects the needs of the wider community and is inclusive to others
- Support groups to develop their skills and confidence in project delivery
- Specialisms from a rich partnership
- Develop the ongoing skills of community groups to ensure sites can be maintained and activities will continue long term



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Green Spaces Fund – Districts

Project locations Round 1 – Round 4

District	Projects
Bolton	8
Bury	5
Manchester	20
Oldham	11
Rochdale	6
Salford	8
Stockport	5
Tameside	5
Trafford	7
Wigan	4
Multi district	7



Over £2 million has been awarded

GRIT Studios – Canal Street Community Garden. Stockport

Round 2 Winner – awarded: £3,460

GRIT Studios were awarded in Round 2 and their project got underway in May 2023. The Community Garden is designed to form a central, accessible space which local residents can take ownership of and use to grow and nurture plants, socialise, and learn and reconnect with nature and each other.



Their project has been warmly received by residents and those who work in the area and the group has found that using street art to teach people about nature is incredibly effective. Some of their engagement events involve hosting paint and plant days.



The group also kindly hosted, Enterprise Car Hire for a corporate volunteer day, further to Enterprise's generous donation to the GMEF. A fantastic, productive day all round where the Enterprise team got stuck into painting, cleaning, planting and building. Also, a great opportunity to spend time with colleagues in a non corporate environment.



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Northern Lily – GROWE Project. Oldham.

Round 2 Winner – awarded: £15,000

The GROWE Project plans to transform a derelict community orchard into an accessible, inclusive, public space for gardening, habitat creation, supporting mental health and wellbeing, and connecting Oldham residents to nature.

This will be an inclusive space for people from different backgrounds and ages to socialise using gardening, nature and green space as a powerful engagement vehicle to connect communities. There will be something for everyone to enjoy including learning opportunities, food growing, rest spaces, a forest school, water sports on the canal, an eco-therapy room, and a place to get refreshments.



The orchard will create a rich habitat for wildlife, soak up carbon from the atmosphere, improve air quality and reduce flood risk. Compost bays at the site will reduce waste and create a supply of compost. A pond will be created to provide a water source for wildlife and increase the diversity of species in the space. Bird and bat box making sessions will be hosted for the community, with the boxes then used on site to support wildlife in the area.

The Orchard is a natural area in our urban environment that offers a range of activities and facilities for everyone.



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The benefits for GM

- 86 projects funded
- £795,709 of match funding brought into projects
- 84,141m² of green space to be created
- 411,141m² of green space to be enhanced
- 7,557 of trees to be planted
- 10,215 people volunteering and being trained



**GREATER
MANCHESTER**
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



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The benefits for the GMCA

- Profile
- Delivery-focused
- Networks
- Scale
- Governance
- Track record
- Building partnerships
- Adding value



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DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



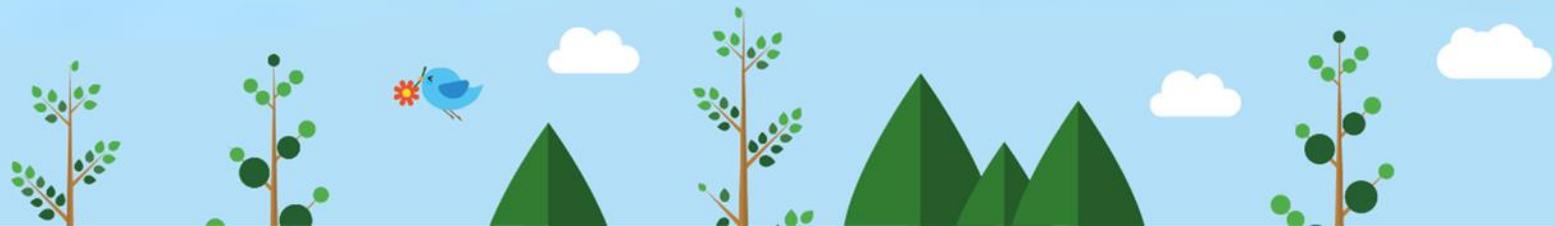
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ENVIRONMENT FUND



IMPACT OF OUR GREEN SPACES FUND ADVISORS





ROLE OF THE GSF ADVISORS

The Green Spaces Advisors work closely with community groups.

Some of the support that they offer groups includes:

- Acting as a critical friend to help groups complete their application form, stimulating interest in the fund and generating fund friendly ideas.
- Carrying out community development work in target areas and supporting successful groups with project delivery.
- Carrying out targeted engagement: working in partnership with Public, Private and Voluntary sector organisations, to ensure those who will benefit the most can access the fund.



OUR IMPACT

Over **1,000** Community Groups
connected with across GM



Over **400** Groups supported to
point of application

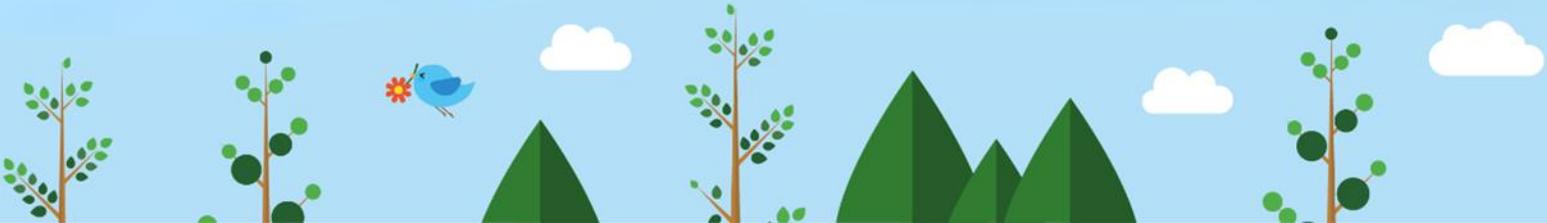


OUR IMPACT

Supporting the delivery of
over **60** projects



Facilitating applications for over
£1m of additional match funding
and in-kind support



OUR IMPACT

44 Grass Roots Gold Groups submitted an application in Rounds 2, 3 & 4 with advisor support



OUR IMPACT

"GSF is such a wonderful initiative. We are sincerely grateful to the Green Spaces Fund Advisor, Kieron McGlasson of Sow the City, for his unwavering support and encouragement; it is because of Kieron that we applied for the GSF; his support has ranged from support completing the funding application, sourcing match funding, encouraging networking, project planning, sourcing of materials, signposting to organisations that are in a position to equally support our project, arranging for volunteers to support the work and a lot more."

Brotherhood of the Cross and Star
Moss Side, Manchester

"We are very well supported and without help of Emma, we could not manage to apply for the funding. Without your help we could not carry out the project after getting the funding. We appreciate and thank you for your support throughout our Community Garden project."

Deane & Derby Cricket Club
Great Lever, Bolton



OUR IMPACT

"Having a green spaces fund advisor was fundamental to connect community groups the local authority works with to the green spaces fund. Rochdale's advisor was always on hand to advise and support groups to make strong applications, which resulted in several Rochdale groups being successful for each round."

Rochdale Borough Council Officer

"Ongoing support from our Green Spaces Fund advisor has been a major factor in the successful delivery of our projects. Our monthly meetings have given the opportunity for guidance in areas and access to networks and people that have driven and evolved our overall aims and quality of our project."

Ardwick Climate Action

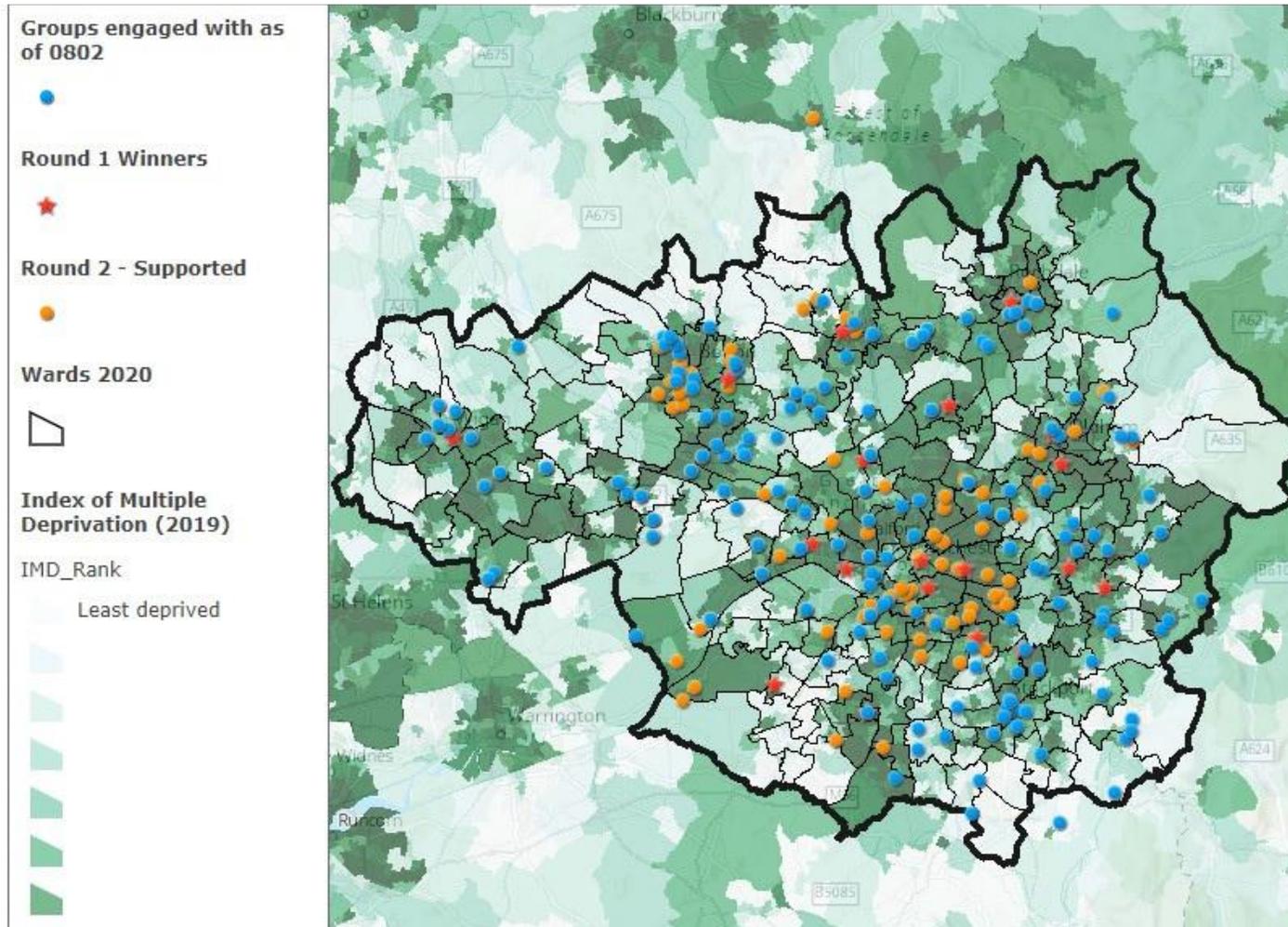
Ardwick, Manchester



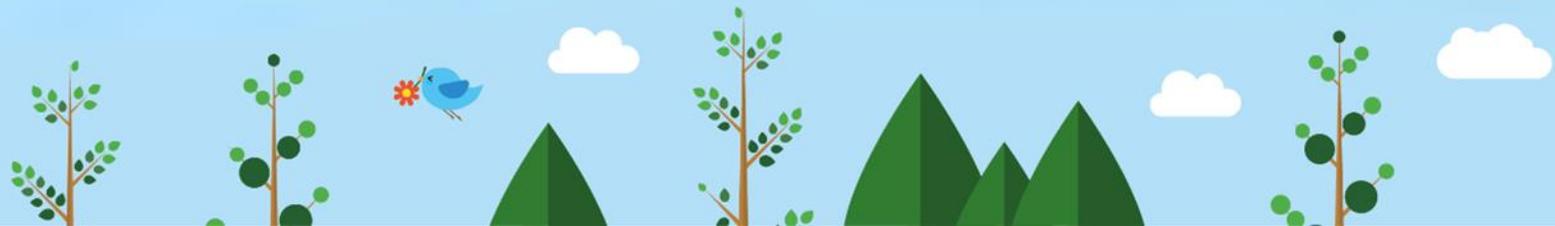
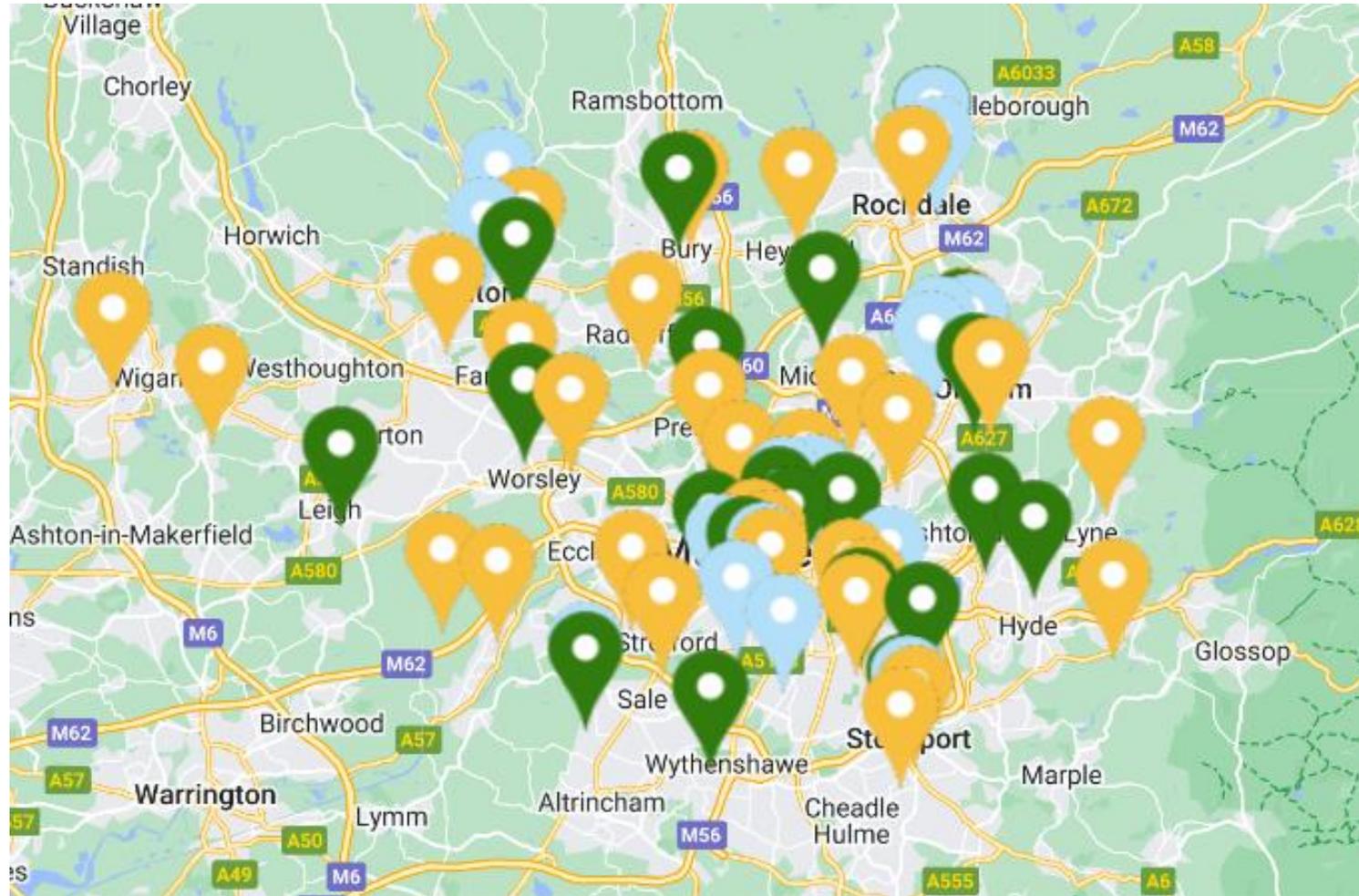
OUR IMPACT PARTNERSHIP WORKING



OUR REACH



OUR REACH



OUR GROUPS - A CASE STUDY

FRIENDS OF IRLAM LIBRARY



OUR GROUPS - A CASE STUDY

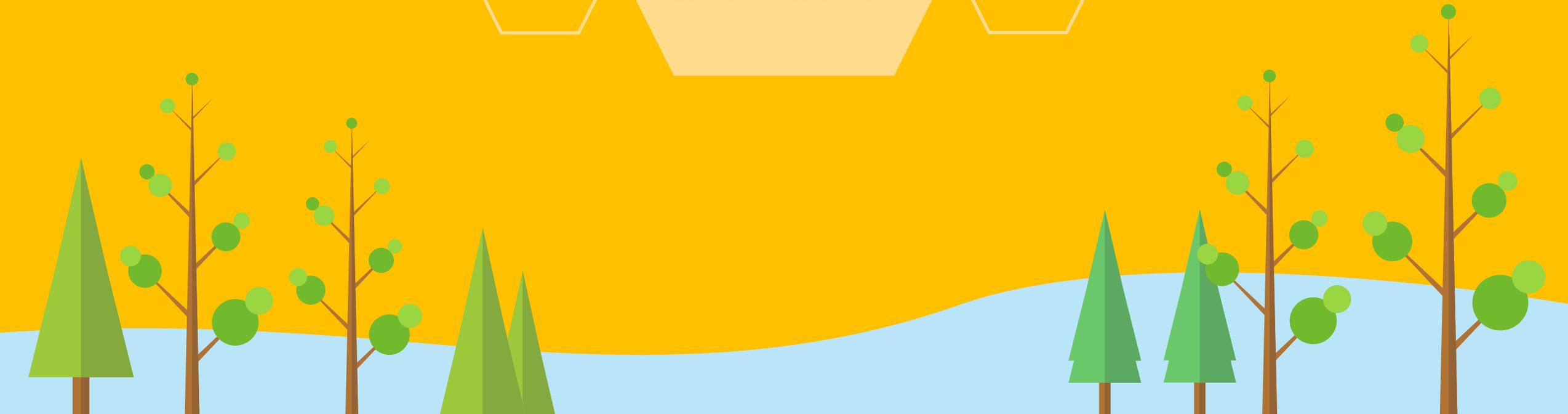
ROCHDALE GROUPS



A HEALTHY, GREEN CITY BOOSTS PRODUCTIVITY, ATTRACTS INVESTMENT, AND IMPROVES WELL-BEING FOR BOTH PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT



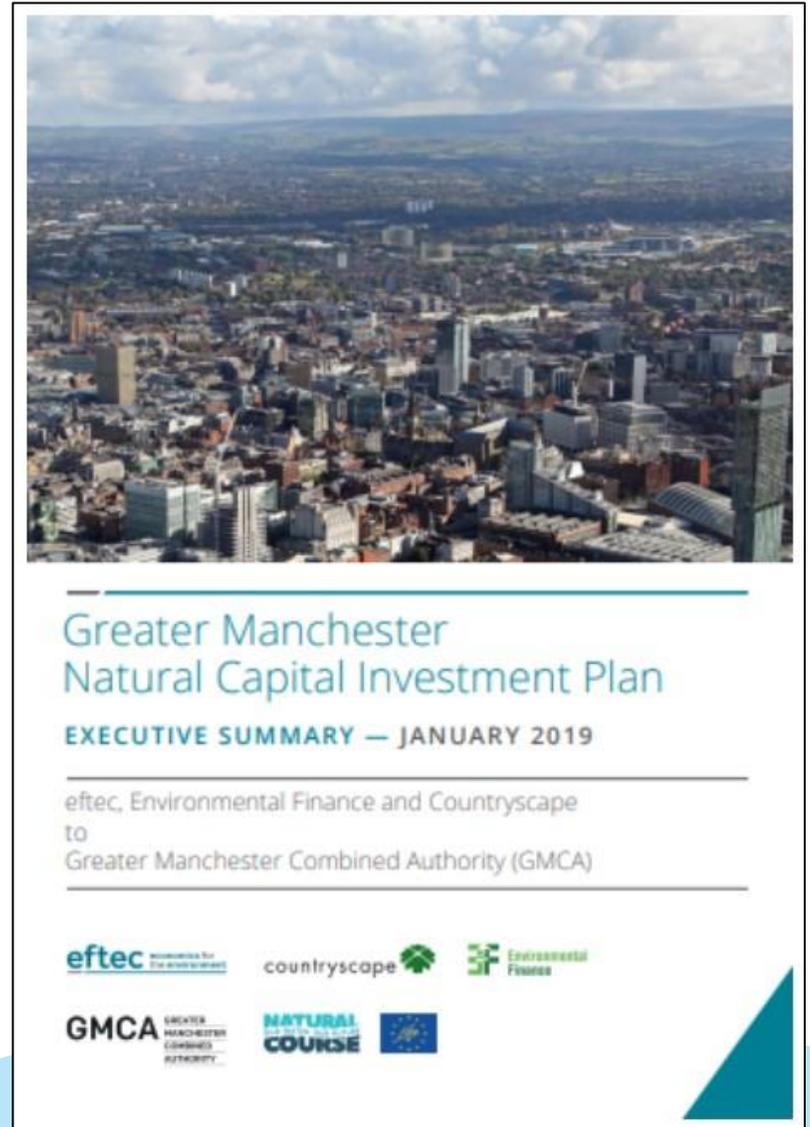
Next steps for Greater Manchester Environment Fund



MAXIMISING FINANCE IN GM

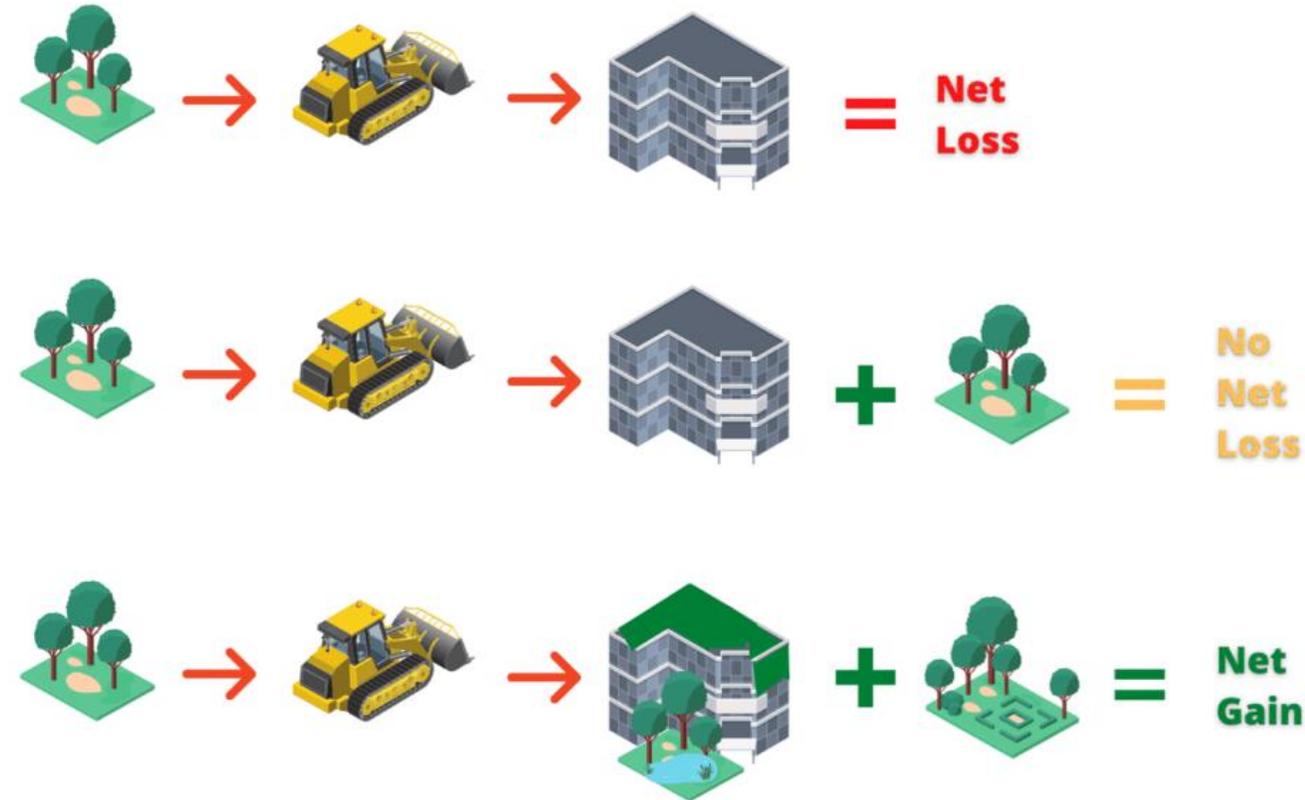
The medium term targets within our Investment Strategy specifically target Biodiversity Net Gain.

- Secure support and resource to develop a GM BNG Investment Facility
- Support Local Authorities to secure offsite Biodiversity Units on their land
- Deliver strategic sites for GM



WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN?

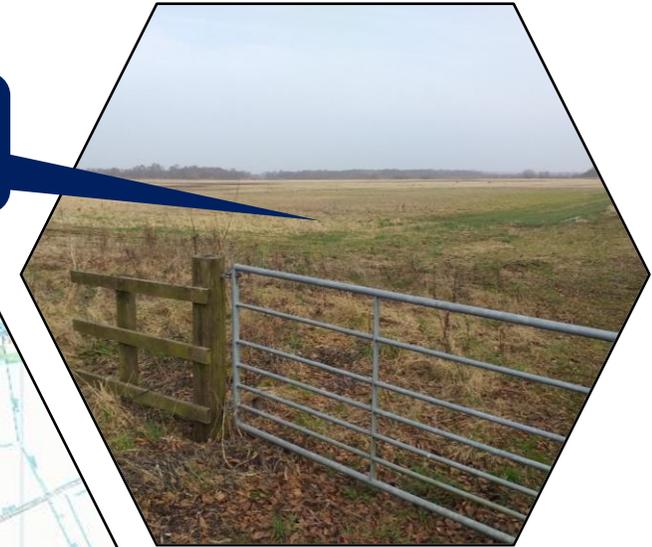
- An approach to development that means leaving biodiversity in a measurably better state than beforehand.
- From January 2024, all new development with a few exceptions will need to deliver a measurable uplift in biodiversity of at least 10% compared to the baseline beforehand.
- BNG must first be delivered on the development site itself, through avoidance, minimising loss and seeking restoration on-site.
- Where this cannot be achieved, any remaining BNG will need to be delivered off-site, through 'offsetting'.



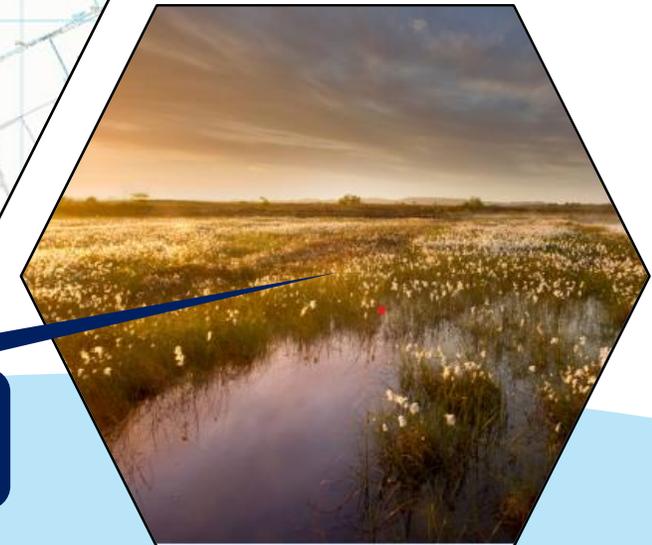
RAILWAY VIEW FARM, SALFORD

- GMEF secured ca. £95k from DEFRA to help test finance models for carbon and BNG income at Railway View Farm, Salford.
- Collaborative study between Finance Earth, GMCA, SCC and LWT
- Significant learning and insights into viable and preferred financial models
- Provided some valuable learning for Local Authorities. However...
 - “Cropland to lowland raised bog” not representative of LA land
 - Private ownership meant transferrable learning associated with governance and delivery model for LAs not achieved

We want to transform this...



...into this!



NEIRF2

DEFRA funding focused on maximising offsite BNG investment at a GM level, specifically on land owned by Local Authorities.



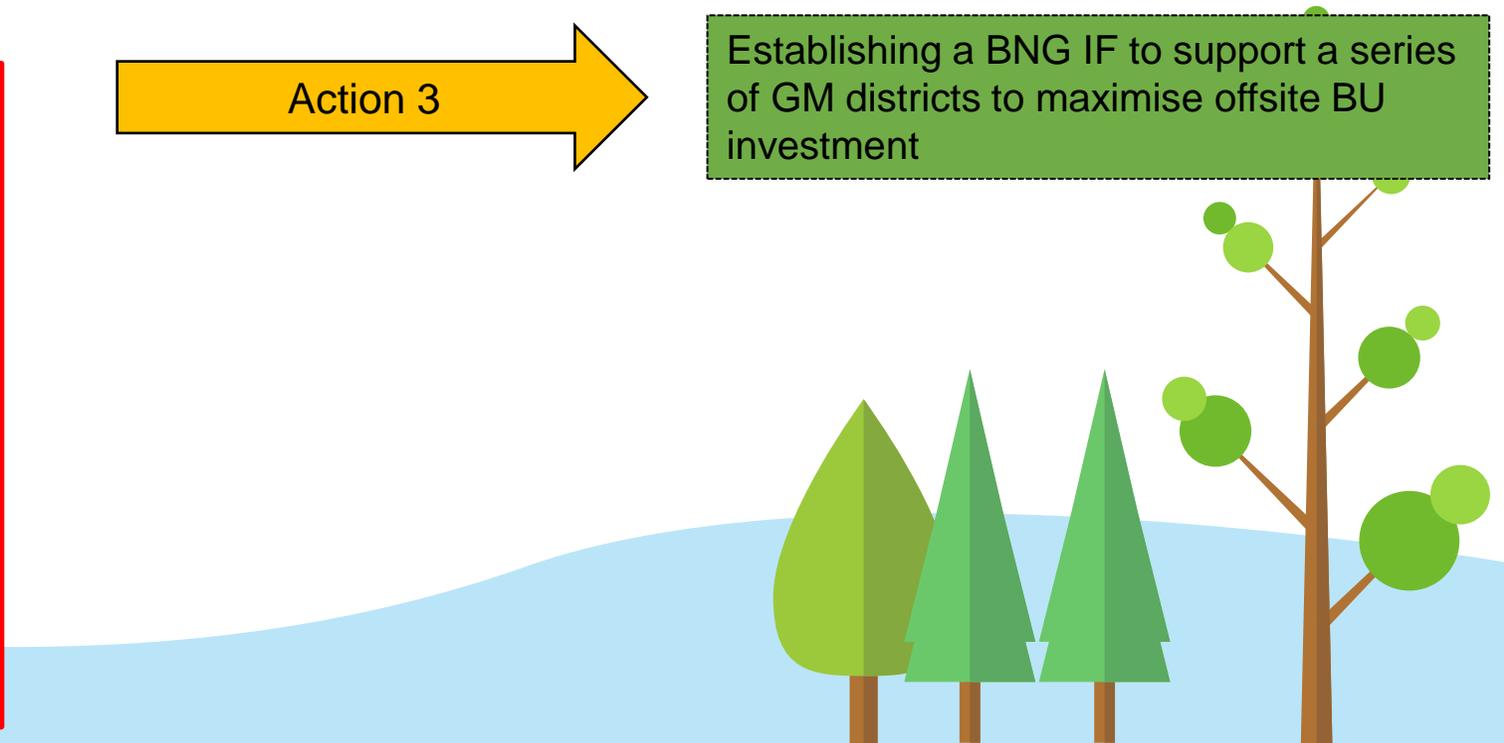
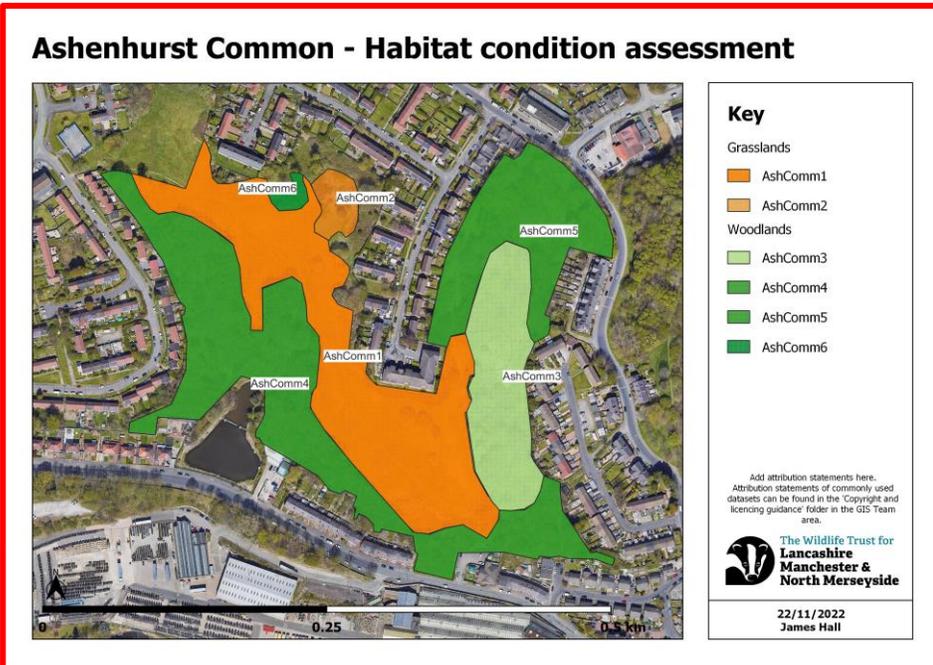
Supporting 5 GM districts to bring forward a site for offsite biodiversity unit supply



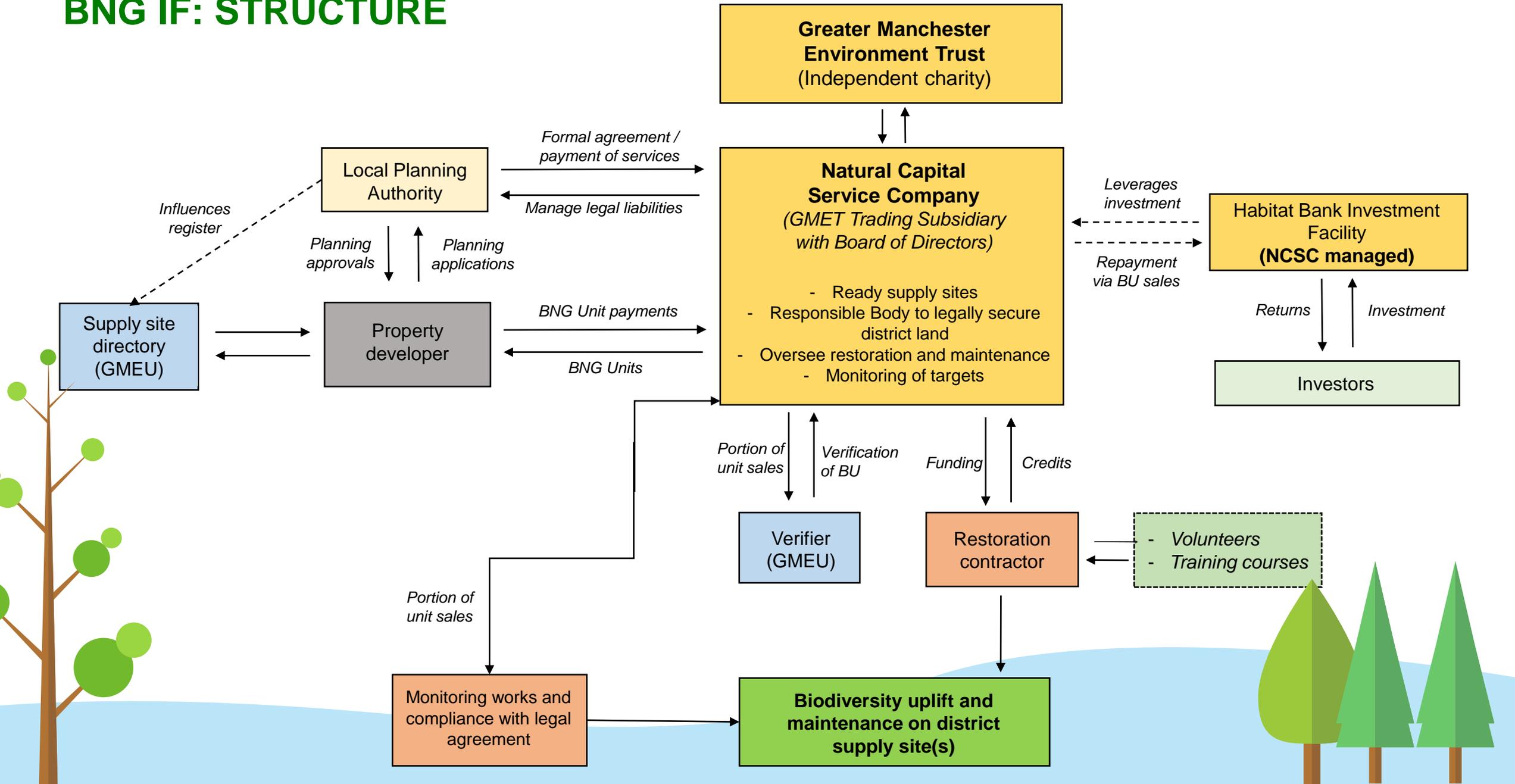
Workshops with all GM districts to identify blocks, ambitions and support required



Establishing a BNG IF to support a series of GM districts to maximise offsite BU investment



BNG IF: STRUCTURE



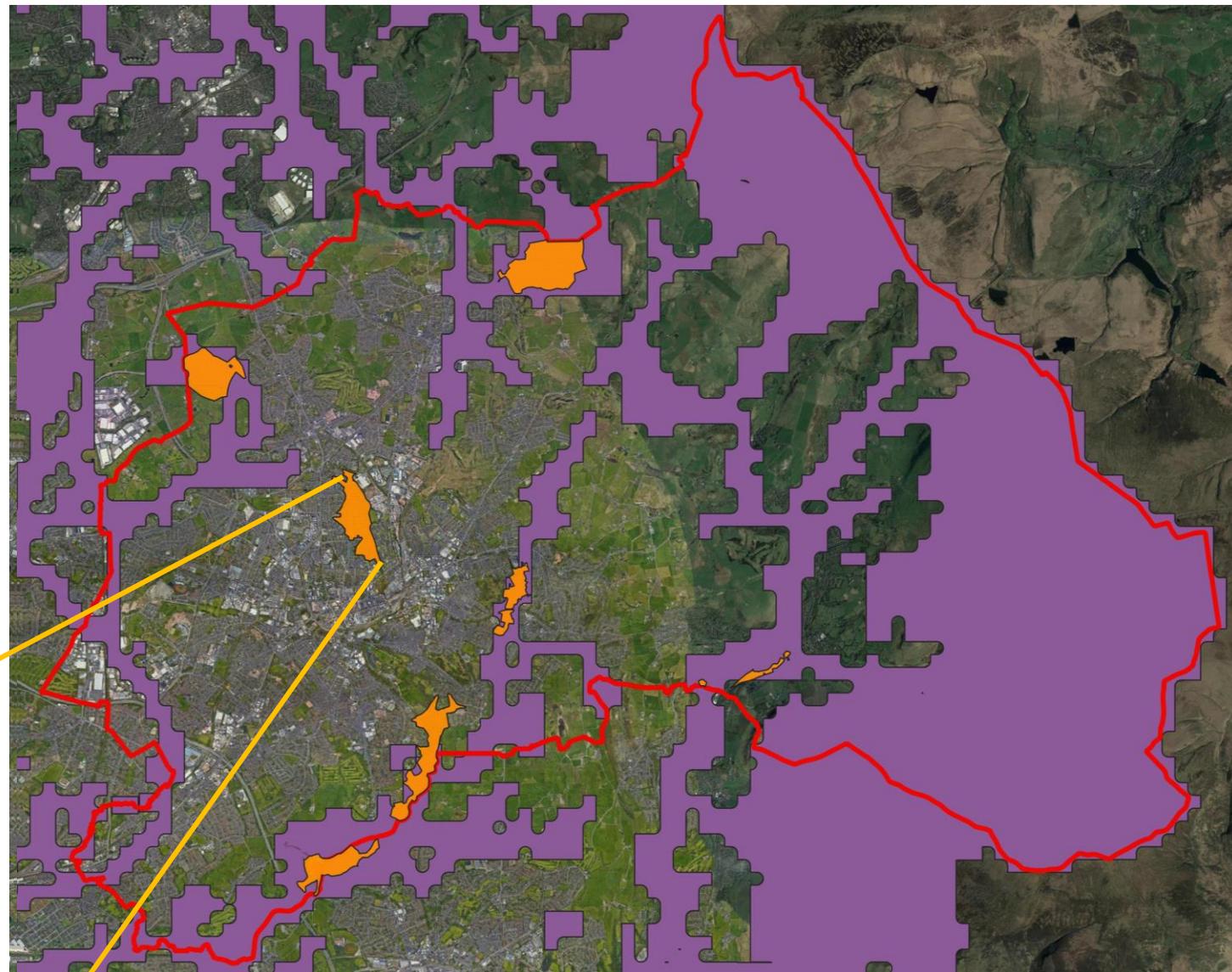
OUR PROGRESS

- 5 districts committed to enter into agreements with our BNG IF
- Regular dialogue with other districts.
- Significant focus on identifying potential sites and undertaking preparation work.



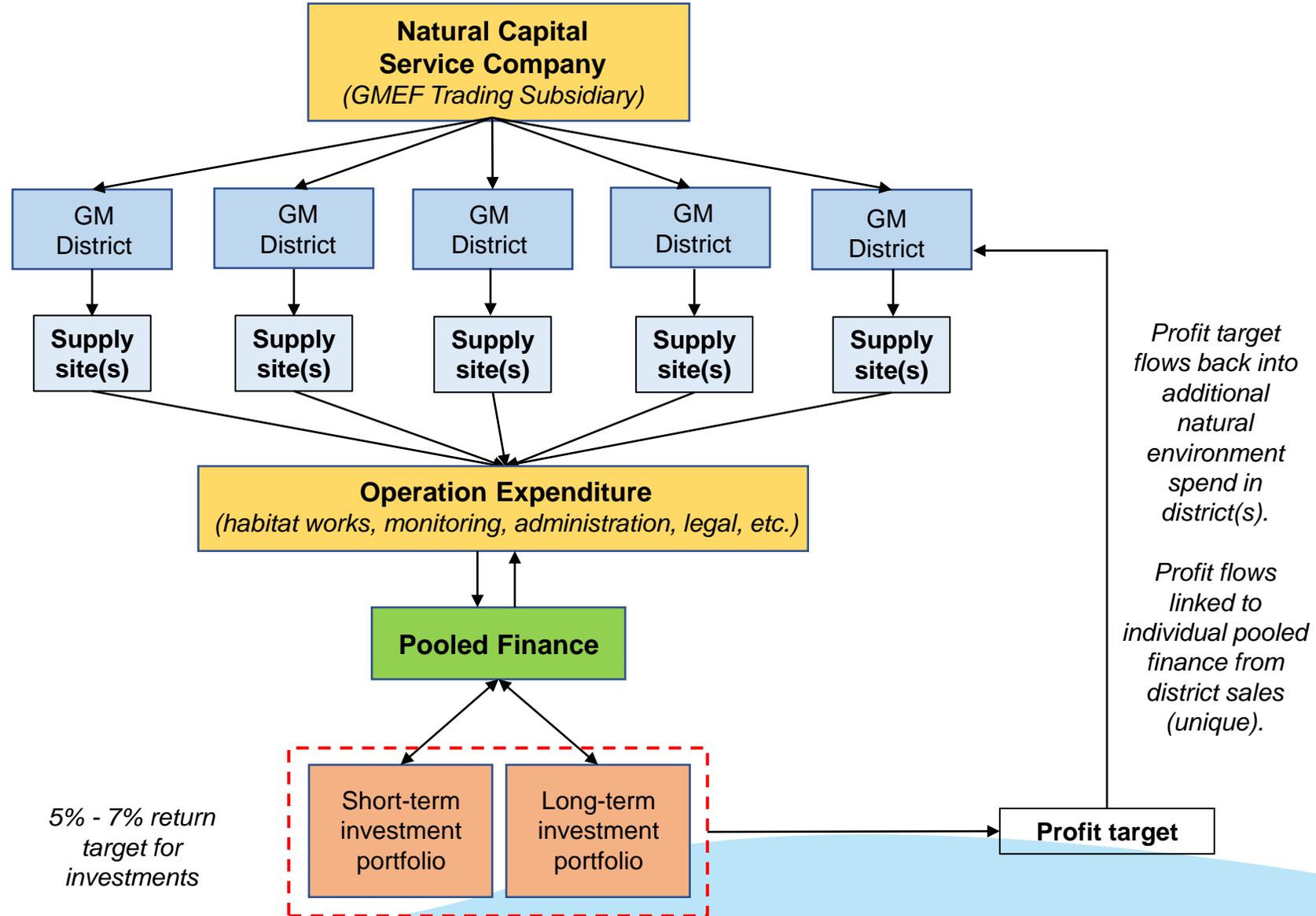
FOCUS ON OLDHAM

- 8 sites being readied
- Focus on blend of habitat units, priority on low – medium distinctiveness
- Assessment of river units within one of the sites
- Clear priorities within the 8 sites which will be brought forward incrementally



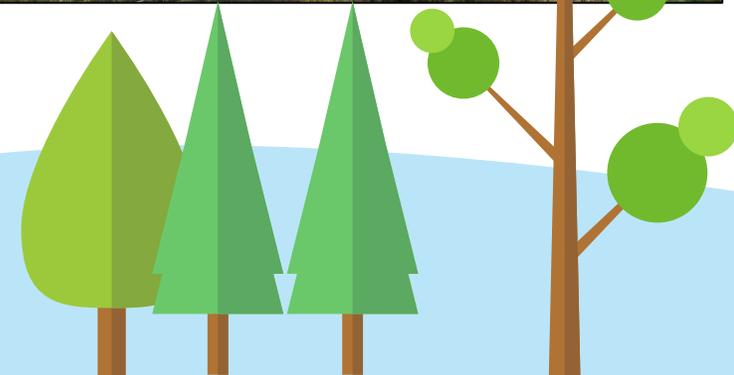
OUR PROGRESS

- Purpose of GMEF is to flow investment into GM natural environment. Working to build financial model which realises this.
- Medium-term staffing model and discussions with eNGOs regarding managing agent work.
- Working with districts on legal advice to secure governance arrangements
- Responsible Body application to DEFRA



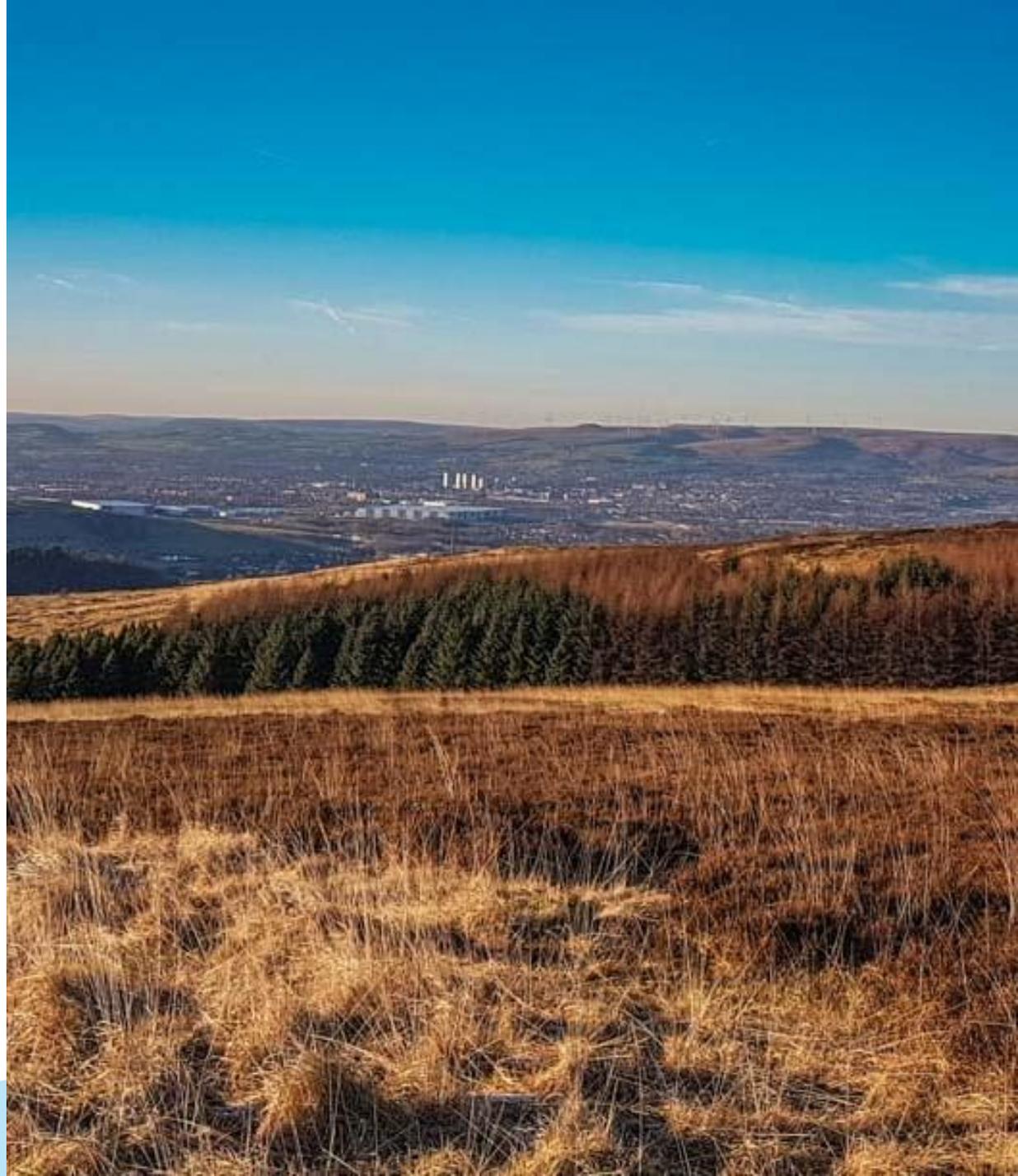
THE CHALLENGES OF BNG

- Capacity – districts and GMEF (DEFRA)
- Suitability of local authority sites
- Bugged down in unit prices and which supply sites – restricted progress on governance
- Is our BNG IF financially viable? Can we flow investment back into districts?
- Uncertainties of the wider supply market
- Lack of legal agreements restricting ability to secure investment



TOUCHING DISTANCE.....

- 5 GM districts committed
- 4 GM districts still considering option
- Lancashire districts have expressed ambition to partner with GMEF BNG IF where viable
- Third party landowners, including other public bodies have queried option to work with GMEF
- Governance progressing



FOUNDATION FOR WIDER STRATEGY TARGETS

- Investment into natural environment of GM is our primary purpose.
- Not the case for organisations offering similar service.
- Significant scrutiny, challenge and support from our board members – pushing us to maximise benefits for nature recovery and social outcomes; as well as available and high integrity units for developers
- BNG IF will be the foundation on which other strands of our Investment Strategy can build on.

