

Appendix 1- Specification

NATURAL CAPITAL STRATEGY

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Redbridge is seeking to develop a new overarching Natural Capital Strategy designed to meet the needs of evolving national, regional and local environmental policy in a holistic manner. The Natural Capital Strategy will be a brand-new evidence-based strategy which will become integral to the development of policies and specific action plans for the Borough's spatial planning.
- 1.2 A Natural Capital Strategy approach to policy and decision making considers the value of the natural environment for people and the economy. Our vision for Redbridge is one where we can integrate nature into the built environment to provide a range of ecosystem services. Creating a network of green infrastructure spaces can also help in creating an urban fabric that is resilient to Redbridge's changing climate.
- 1.3 This strategy must be robust enough to meet the challenges of evolving national, regional & local policy and related strategies. It will also allow the London Borough of Redbridge to view nature-based solutions as more cost effective than alternatives.
- 1.4 The Council invites suitably experienced and qualified consultants to undertake a full assessment of and develop a new strategy for the London Borough of Redbridge in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), national guidance contained in the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), the Environment Act 2021 and the 2021 London Plan. The assessment must be considerate of objectives of the Council's 2022-2026 Corporate Plan, which was published in July 2022. This includes the following four priorities:
 - Safe and healthy
 - Clean and green
 - Jobs and skills
 - Homes and Neighbourhoods
- 1.5 The assessment and plan need to support the following:
 - Community-led plan with engagement,
 - Neighbourhood-focused policies,
 - Promote sustainable and equitable development,

- A visual plan with accessible guidance,
- A thriving local economy that tackles inequality.
- Protect and enhance high quality green spaces,
- Make Redbridge child-friendly, and
- Greater control over placemaking.
- Local Plan and planning policy and any other corporate policy formulation, which will include the continued protection and development of the boroughs extensive natural green space assets.

1.6

The Council's corporate plan, The Redbridge Plan 2022-26, describes the priorities of the Council following local elections in May 2022. The document describes tackling poverty and building a cleaner, greener, fairer, and healthier borough, as the Council's key ambitions. It also aims to address the borough's unique challenges and the current economic backdrop and pressures on local people caused by the 'cost of living' crisis.

- 1.7 The Growing Redbridge Together Report 2021 sets out a series of recommendations and examples of how growth can be better in Redbridge. It was produced by the Growth Commission and born out of a series of online conversations with residents over the summer of 2020 focusing on improving how growth happens in Redbridge.
- 1.8 Following the work of the Climate Change Corporate Panel and based on a Green Audit of the organisation's baseline emissions from 2019, a Climate Change Action Plan 2021 was released. The plan represents the start of the Council's journey focussing on reducing the organisation's own emissions, whilst also using the Council's role as a community leader to support the reduction of emissions in the borough.
- 1.9 Redbridge Council has officially launched its UNICEF Child Friendly Action Plan 2021 - 2023. The Action Plan sets out the changes children and young people in Redbridge have told us they want to see made in three key areas - feeling safe and secure, being healthy, and place (which includes climate change and having things to do). Children's voices, needs, priorities, and rights are an integral part of the every piece of work that we do and every decision that we make.
- 1.10 Redbridge Council's Equality and Diversity Strategy 2016-2020 sets out our approach to be one of the most inclusive and welcoming boroughs in London. Our mission is to be responsive to the needs of all our communities through consideration of difference and disadvantage, to foster increased community cooperation, partnership, and empowerment. We are committed to demonstrating accountability and transparency to foster trust and strengthen relationships in challenging times to create a fair, cohesive, and safe borough, where everyone can flourish in their lives, careers, and businesses.

- 1.11 Redbridge's Place Services are currently producing a Natural Greenspace Improvement Strategy, which is deemed an equivalent SANGs strategy by Natural England, to guide initiatives to mitigate the harmful impact of visitors upon Epping Forest SAC. Once released, this strategy should be taken into consideration.
- 1.12 Redbridge's Planning Policy Team is still in the process of updating the Engagement Strategy for the development of the new Local Plan. It is anticipated that this strategy will be ready in November/December 2022, at which time a copy will be shared with the appointed bidder. It is anticipated that there will be at least one clustering of early engagement events in the next five to six months which the appointed bidder will need to contribute to.
- 1.13 [The NPPF 2021](#) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. The NPPF must be taken into account in preparing Local Plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions. Paragraphs 15 to 37 in particular are important for guiding the development of a new Local Plan and the NPPF indicates that Plans should:
- a) be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development,
 - b) be prepared positively, in a way that is aspirational but deliverable,
 - c) be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between plan-makers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees,
 - d) contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals,
 - e) be accessible through the use of digital tools to assist public involvement and policy presentation, and serve a clear purpose, avoiding unnecessary duplication of policies that apply to a particular area (including policies in the NPPF, where relevant)
- 1.14 The London Plan 2021 is the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London for 2019 – 2041 and sets out a framework for how London will develop and the Mayor's vision for good growth. The Plan is legally part of each of London's Local Planning Authorities' Development Plan and must be taken into account when planning decisions are taken in any part of Greater London. All Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans have to be 'in general conformity' with the London Plan. Although there is no requirement for the London Plan policies to be repeated at the local level, in some instances a local approach is required, and the Plan clearly sets out where this is the case.

2 Background Information

Redbridge Context

- 2.1 Redbridge is an outer London borough in the northeast, extending approximately 22 sq. miles. The borough sits entirely within the M25, north of the river Thames, and the City of London is approximately seven miles to the west. Redbridge shares boundaries with four other London boroughs: Waltham Forest (to the west), Newham (to the south), Barking and Dagenham (to the south-east) and Havering (to the east). Redbridge also adjoins the County of Essex (to the north-west) and Epping Forest District (to the north). See Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: London Borough of Redbridge Key Diagram

Demographics and Growth

- 2.2 The number of people living in Redbridge is growing. According to the 2021 census the number of people living in Redbridge is 310,300 – an increase of 31,330 since 2011. Based on the 2018 mid-year projection data, the population is projected to increase to 319,907 by 2040¹.

¹ ONS data from 2021

- 2.3 Redbridge has the third highest proportion of children in London with 67,546 people aged under 16, equating to 23 per cent of the overall population (higher than the London average of 20 per cent).² Redbridge Council are working with UNICEF UK and their Child Friendly Cities & Communities initiative to make the borough a more child friendly place, which is also a Corporate Plan 2022-2026 objective and a Local Plan principle. Children's voices, needs, priorities and rights will be an integral part of the Local Plan, and they will be involved in the decision-making process.
- 2.4 The borough also has a high number of older adults, with 37,900 living in the borough (12 per cent of the population) being 65+.³
- 2.5 The borough is one of the most diverse in the country and of all London boroughs, with the sixth highest number of people whose stated country of birth is outside of EU countries (including Accession states), and 37 per cent of people in Redbridge were born outside the United Kingdom.⁴

Economy

- 2.6 Economic health is key to attracting investment and business growth and enhancing the quality of life for residents in Redbridge. The borough consists of six district centres, eight local centres, and a considerable number of smaller key retail parades.
- 2.7 The borough is regularly near the top of the rankings for business growth and boasts a number of highly respected businesses and designated business locations, such as Ilford Metropolitan Town Centre, and Hainault and Southend Business Parks.
- 2.8 Ilford has been identified by the Mayor as a Metropolitan Town Centre and is also an opportunity area in the 2021 London Plan. Ilford Town Centre is located within the Crossrail corridor, and with the opening of the Elizabeth Line earlier in 2022, there is great potential for exciting new development opportunities in the area and will be a key focus for change over the new Local Plan period. Smaller centres along the Crossrail corridor include Seven Kings, Goodmayes, and Chadwell Heath (as well as Gants Hill).
- 2.9 Following Ilford Metropolitan Town Centre, Hainault Business Park is the second largest employment area in Redbridge and consists of approximately 250 plus businesses employing an estimated 2,500 – 3,000 people.

² ONS data from 2001 and 2011

³ 2021 Census

⁴ ONS data from 2001 and 2011

- 2.10 The Council has also allocated capital funding to a High Streets Improvements Grant Scheme to support High Streets businesses that want to improve their premises by making them more accessible and attractive to customers and visitors. These programmes will help to support town centre businesses.

Environment

- 2.11 Redbridge Council responded to the increasing public concern and extensive scientific evidence on climate change by unanimously passing a climate emergency declaration at a meeting of the Full Council on 20 June 2019.
- 2.12 Redbridge Council are committed to tackling the local climate emergency and have set ambitions in becoming carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon zero by 2050, as outlined in the Council's [Climate Change Action Plan 2021](#).
- 2.13 Redbridge is one of three local authorities within the recreational Zone of Influence (Zoi) for Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – the other two being Epping Forest District Council and the London Borough of Waltham Forest. As a Competent Authority under the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017*, Redbridge has a duty to ensure that planning application decisions comply with the Regulation and do not result in adverse effects on the integrity of the Epping Forest SAC.
- 2.14 Furthermore, Redbridge is obliged to contribute financially towards Strategic Access Management Measures (SAMMs) within Epping Forest and provide Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces (SANGs) throughout the borough to mitigate the harmful impact of visitors upon Epping Forest SAC.
- 2.15 In addition to this, Redbridge must mitigate the air quality impacts on Epping Forest SAC. We expect this is to be implemented either through transport and/or green infrastructure interventions.
- 2.16 Redbridge Council has adopted a Green Urban Landscape policy that creates a plan for managing and improving Council greenery across the borough. This policy is just one step on a journey to improving the environment within Redbridge and will be followed up by action plans for other natural resources such as rivers and waterways

Transport

- 2.17 Redbridge lies on the main East Anglia to London Liverpool Street rail line on a section of track that has benefitted from Crossrail investment, with four stations – Ilford, Seven Kings, Goodmayes, and Chadwell Heath – in the south of the borough linking Essex and East London with Heathrow and West London directly (see Figure 1). However, there are no fast train service stops within the borough, and a change at Stratford or Shenfield is necessary to access long-distance services.

- 2.18 Redbridge also benefits from the Underground Central Line, including much of the Hainault loop, with a total of ten stations within the borough and two stations immediately adjacent to the borough's northern boundary (see Figure 1).
- 2.19 Additionally, the borough is well served by TfL buses (including night bus services), most of which run through Ilford.
- 2.20 The borough is served by the TfL strategic road network, with the A12 running east-west through the central area of the borough, linking Central London and East Anglia.
- 2.21 The North Circular Road (A406) runs inside the south-western quadrant of the borough and meets the M11 east of South Woodford providing for long-distance connections to destinations including Stanstead Airport and Cambridge, as well as the M25 and wider motorway network. In the south of the borough, the A118 runs east-west parallel to the Crossrail line serving local traffic.
- 2.22 Redbridge is served by C16, a cycle route from Manor Park to Barkingside that connects with the wider TfL cycle network and uses a mixture of off-road routes and residential streets. However, the cycle network within the borough is relatively poor, with noticeable differences in provision to Waltham Forest in particular.

Community Engagement and Involvement

- 2.23 Redbridge are committed to excellent community engagement. To ensure meaningful and early engagement, the Council is establishing Community Design Forums to give communities the opportunity to regularly engage in both development application and policy consultations, and to facilitate localised discussions to understand residents' needs at a granular level. Forums are likely to correspond with the areas currently served by Redbridge Community Hubs - Seven Kings, Gants Hill, Hainault, Woodford, Wanstead, and Ilford.
- 2.24 Redbridge Council have commissioned the PlaceMaker digital plan-making tool to digitally assemble data to inform Area Assessment evidence bases for the Local Plan. The tool will also be used to engage the public. This project is being jointly run between the London Borough of Redbridge and Urban Intelligence with grant funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to demonstrate and test new methods of digital engagement to widen participation in the planning system.

Redbridge Local Plan 2015 – 2030

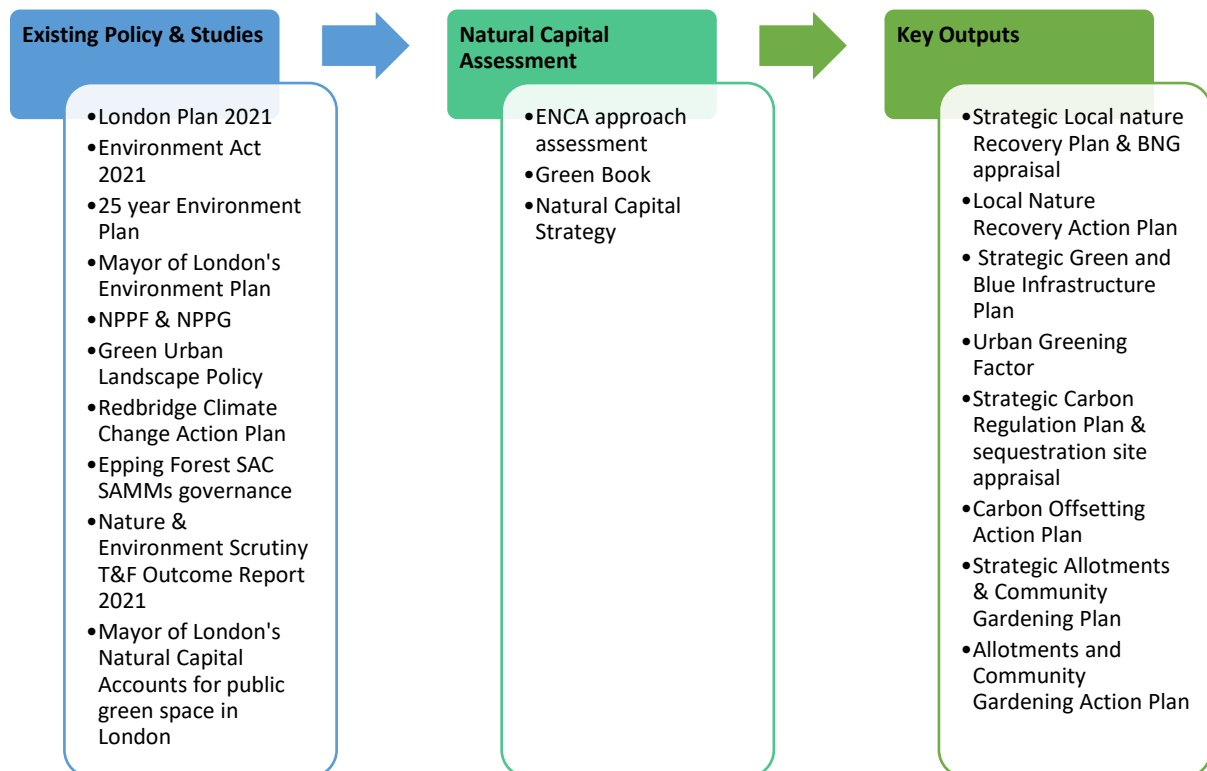
- 2.25 Adopted in March 2018, Redbridge's current Local Plan provides the planning framework against which the aspirations of the Council and its partners can be delivered; ensuring the borough grows in a sustainable way up to 2030 through the creation of 17,250 homes, 5,000 jobs and the vital supporting community infrastructure.
- 2.26 The current Local Plan also includes several detailed planning policies that seek to address local concerns while also providing a positive strategy to deliver the Council's priorities of growth, securing new housing, boosting the economy, and creating new jobs.
- 2.27 While facilitating major change, the current Local Plan also safeguarded and enhanced what is good and special about Redbridge – its extensive open spaces, quality parks and gardens, excellent schools, heritage, distinctive buildings, neighbourhood character and thriving small businesses.
- 2.28 Relevant Local Plan policies to this programme of work include, but are not limited to, the following:
- **LP19** *Climate Change Mitigation*
 - **LP35** *Protecting and Enhancing Open Spaces*
 - **LP36** *Protecting and Enhancing Open Spaces*
 - **LP37** *Green Infrastructure and Blue Ribbon Network*
 - **LP 39** *Nature Conservation and Biodiversity*

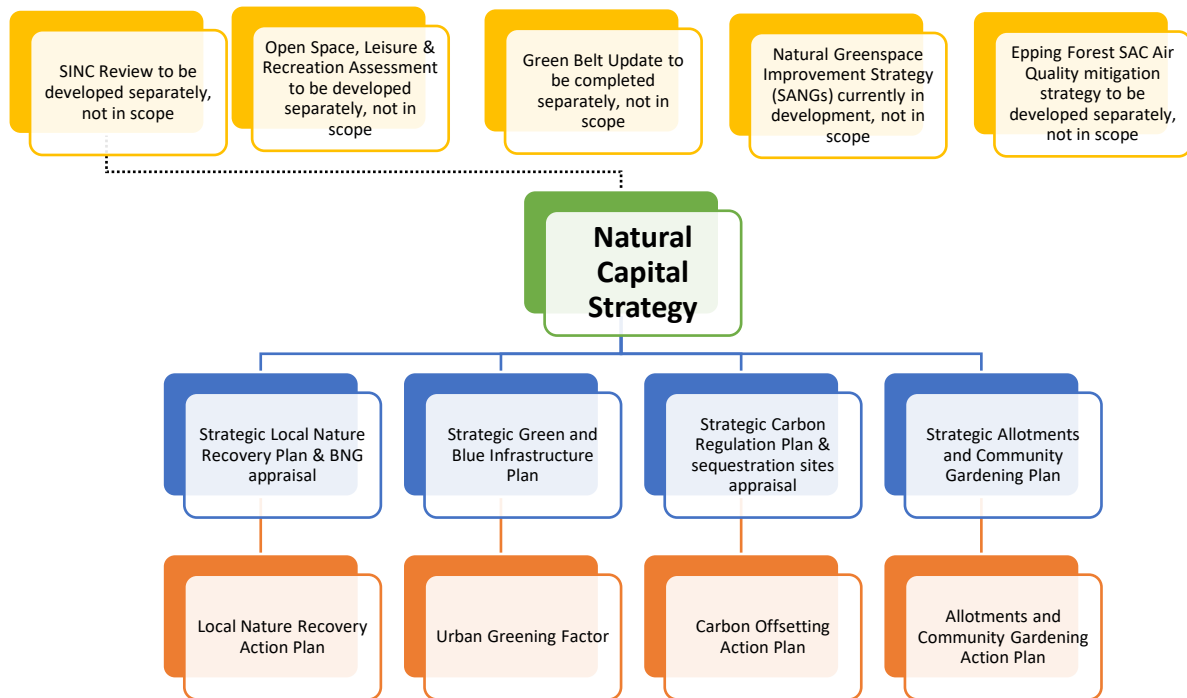
3 Requirements, Objectives & Anticipated Methodology

Wider Policy Considerations

- 3.1 This evidence base strategy needs to use chapter 3 of the Governments 25-year environment plan: Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing. There is a focus on the creation of a green infrastructure network to green our urban areas in order to improve people's health and wellbeing. This should be focused on accessibility for all and creating a borough that protects nature whilst being rich in ecosystem services. Natural capital accounting needs to use ecosystem services as a guide.
- 3.2 The overall requirements of this strategy will need to contribute to nature conservation and the betterment of nature in Redbridge. Different action plans for meeting the overall requirements of the strategy will need to contribute to environmental ambitions as set out in the forthcoming environmental targets from the Environment Act 2021 and help Redbridge meet its net zero ambitions. The fully-costed actions plans will need to work together in an holistic manner to deliver biodiversity net gain, nature recovery, nature conservation and climate regulation for the long-term benefit of Redbridge's communities. A gap analysis will need to be produced to illustrate the effect that these action plans will have on ecosystem services in the borough.
- 3.3 Please propose a methodology that in addition to meeting all the requirements, plans for issues that may affect the work programme and incorporates mitigation plans.

Diagram 1 Policy/Plan context, Natural Capital assessment and key deliverables





Enabling a natural capital account (ENCA)

- 3.4 The natural capital accounting part of this evidence base is in determining natural-based interventions that will focus on additions to and enhance the benefits of existing green and blue networks. This will involve the application of best practice ENCA methodology and tools for assessing natural capital and environmental evaluation (or other up-to-date best practice if and where appropriate).
- 3.5 ENCA is recommended for use by HM Treasury's Green Book: appraisal and evaluation in central government (2022). This will involve development of criteria and economic evaluation to identify areas with maximum benefit for enhancements, including:
- biodiversity,
 - geodiversity,
 - green infrastructure provision,
 - biodiversity net gain
 - habitat banks/ biodiversity compensation/offsetting sites & projects,
 - priority areas,
 - allotments,
 - climate regulation (carbon offset) sites
 - climate change mitigation & adaptation – such as solar farms & wind farms.
- 3.6 Maximum benefits should be identified by using a cost/benefit analysis. This will establish a natural capital asset register, illustrate areas of deficiency in natural capital and the potential to increase natural capital where deficient or enhance where existing.

Options Appraisal

- 3.7 An options appraisal will need to be completed to consider possible future changes to environmental & climate change legislation.

Stakeholder Map

- 3.8 A stakeholder map is required and consultation will need to be undertaken at different stages in the production of the strategy. This may be during and/or outside of the Local Plan process. The strategy will use the best available existing spatial data, policy context, plans and strategies for scoping, assessing the baseline, developing options and creation of required action plans.

Environmental Justice Map

- 3.9 An environmental justice map should be considered to identify the stakeholders that are likely to be most affected by the impacts of environmental hazards such as a changing climate.

Consultation

- 3.10 Develop, conduct and participate in engagement for the consultation process for both the Cabinet process as outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement, and for the Local Plan. This includes various stakeholder meetings and events both internal and external. This includes but is not limited to the public, residents, businesses, Members, community groups & associations, stakeholder working groups, Duty to Cooperate meetings, Community Design Forums, the GLA, DEFRA, neighbouring Local Authorities and other public engagement events.
- 3.11 All outputs will need to be accessible documents to all in order to aid the consultation process. It will also be necessary to work/ liaise with other parties/ consultants who are involved in the production of other Local Plan evidence base strategies. Those include but are not limited to the Open Space, Recreation and Leisure study, SINC review, Natural Greenspace Improvement Strategy, Epping Forest SAC Air Quality Strategy.
- 3.12 The production of a dashboard that spatially displays the data produced will be required as it is beneficial to consultation and increases community involvement and understanding. The data should be provided in the appropriate format for use by the local authority.
- 3.13 The objectives and key requirements of this commission are outlined in Table 1 as follows:

Table 1

Tasks before for Regulation 18 consultation:			
Type of Natural Capital	Objectives	Outline requirements	Methodology and Comments
Strategic Local Nature Recovery Plan & Biodiversity Net Gain appraisal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake national, regional and local policy review with consideration of future national legislative and policy changes/ requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy, literature and best practice review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The appropriate Council Service Area will be conducting the SINC review in line with the recommendations from the Nature and Environment Scrutiny Task and Finish Group Outcome Report (redbridge.gov.uk) Must be completed in conjunction with the separate SINC review
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake Natural 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Natural Capital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

	Capital Accounting Assessment of the borough of existing assets including environmental spatial designations	accounting ENCA methodology from the Green Book or a suitable alternative best practice methodology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise data and findings Placemaker Engagement Tool developed by Urban Intelligence 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To further enhance nature conservation opportunities in the borough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify new/existing target sites to improve nature conservation with reference to the SINC review which is being produced separately Undertake baseline needs assessment for biodiversity and geodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to stacking/ additionality for Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Biodiversity Net Gain & offsetting, Epping Forest SAC mitigation SANGs sites
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce overarching Local Nature Recovery Action Plan across the borough– to be shown spatially 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To investigate geodiversity across the borough To investigate and identify enhancements and further protections for two existing LIGS/RIGS sites at Fairlop Quarry & Knighton Wood Consider and incorporate SINC review findings and recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce accessible documents To provide GIS layers for digitisation and online mapping Apply best practice methodology including desktop studies, site surveys (where appropriate) Use forthcoming GLA guidance on geodiversity Review the following Nature and Environment Scrutiny Task and Finish Group Outcome Report (redbridge.gov.uk)

		<p>for nature conservation. Identification and classification of existing SINC's & ecological corridors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of projects and interventions designed to increase priority species • To undertake appropriate community engagement • To contribute towards Council's ambition to become a Unicef Child Friendly borough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 2 Reference should be made to the London Geodiversity Action Plan 2019-2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conduct a Biodiversity Net Gain sites appraisal across the borough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a list of appraised projects and interventions designed to increase priority species • Options appraisal • Identify Biodiversity net gain sites/ offsetting sites for register • The plan will need to detail recommendations as to how the council meets the objectives outlined in the Environment Plan 2021 and its associated Environmental Targets consultation paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Best practice guidance • Potential projects to include could include regeneration, work on council-owned land & property, or flood risk management/mitigation projects. • Need for detailed recommendations as to how the council meets the objectives outlined in the Environment Act 2021 and its associated Environmental Targets consultation paper. The plan makes it mandatory for developments to provide a 10% net gain biodiversity levels. • Investigate and provide recommendations on whether it would be desirable to set a higher percentage gain. And, if so, what should the percentage be, and

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and provide recommendations on whether it would be desirable to set a higher percentage gain and whether there should be any spatial variation across the borough 	would there be any spatial variation across the borough? As well as detailing appraised actions/ interventions to take on identified sites.
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Type of Natural Capital	Objectives	Outline requirements	Methodology and Comments
Strategic Green & Blue Infrastructure Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake national, regional and local policy review with consideration of future national legislative and policy changes/requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the delivery of the London-wide target to increase tree canopy cover by 2050 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake Natural Capital Accounting Assessment of the borough of existing assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Natural Capital accounting ENCA methodology from the Green Book or a suitable alternative best practice methodology Utilise data and findings Placemaker Engagement Tool developed by Urban Intelligence Needs assessment for green and blue infrastructure across the borough Production of a map and GIS layers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following elements should be covered: Recreational spaces/Blue/ water features/rivers/lakes/ ponds/ culverted rivers/ flood alleviation features/ wetlands Refer to the Open Space study being conducted

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of Green and Blue Infrastructure Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This must propose a list of sites/projects that can be enhanced for accessibility and stacking of benefits. • The mapping will need to identify deficiencies in access to greenspace using different variables found in Natural England's green infrastructure mapping. • Cross-boundary and joint working for improving accessibility to green and blue networks (Duty to Cooperate) • Conduct appropriate community engagement • Produce a strategic spatial blueprint for a green and blue infrastructure • The action plan should establish how to green small sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To contribute to stacking/ additionality for Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Biodiversity Net Gain, Epping Forest SAC mitigation Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGs) sites • The plan also needs to consider the All London Green Grid. • Consider the use of Susdrain's B&EST (Benefits ESTimation Tool) to complement this and estimate the monetary benefits of blue/green infrastructure. Also consider the use Natural England's Environmental Benefits from Nature Tool. • Consider draft Local Plan evidence base.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a bespoke Urban Greening factor for Redbridge according to area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration with Design codes being developed • Generate a bespoke UGF score for different wards utilising the Placemaker Engagement tool developed by Urban Intelligence work and green & 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan will use the findings from an analysis of green and blue infrastructure in the borough to provide recommendations on a more specific urban greening factor for Redbridge. Any

		<p>blue infrastructure mapping exercise for this study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working/liasing with other consultants developing related evidence • Produce maps to illustrate the need spatially within the borough 	<p>bespoke UGF should address new design codes, it should be area-based, it should detail the specific types of greening in order to establish networks, and recommendations to establish long-term maintenance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The action plan should establish how to green small sites. • Consider the GLA's ugf - consultation version sept 2021.pdf (london.gov.uk) • To provide GIS layers for digitisation and online mapping (use UKHAB layers)
Strategic Climate Regulation Plan and Sequestration site appraisal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake national, regional and local policy review with consideration of future national legislative and policy changes/requirements • Review outcome of Eunomia's Green Audit; Results and Recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of multiple policy requirements • Support the delivery of the London-wide target to increase tree canopy cover by 2050 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute towards flood risk management mitigation measures both existing and planned scheme by Council and Environment Agency • Consider SUDS and separately developed SINC review, Surface water management plan, Flood risk management plan, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and potentially a future Integrated Water Management Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Climate Change Action Plan 2021 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake Natural Capital Accounting Assessment of existing assets in the borough Help contribute to Redbridge's ambition to be net zero by 2050 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Natural Capital accounting ENCA methodology from the Green Book or a suitable alternative best practice methodology Carbon storage and sequestration potential should be factored into the account produced Utilise data and findings Placemaker Engagement Tool developed by Urban Intelligence 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Production of Carbon Offsetting Action Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing assessments and identify Council-owned sites and interventions which would aid in carbon sequestration and could be used as carbon offsetting sites Appraise and evaluate the feasibility of solar coverage and tree planting and other interventions for carbon sequestration Options Appraisal Liaise with appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use best practice methodology To contribute to stacking/ additionality for Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Biodiversity Net Gain, Epping Forest SAC mitigation SANGs sites

		<p>stakeholders (Council and external) and Duty to Cooperate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct appropriate community engagement 	
Strategic Allotments & Community Gardening Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake national, regional and local policy review with consideration of future national legislative and policy changes/requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of London Plan Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the information from the forthcoming, separately produced open space study
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake baseline study of allotments, community gardens and food growing capacity in the borough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Natural Capital accounting ENCA methodology from the Green Book or a suitable alternative best practice methodology • Utilise data and findings Placemaker Engagement Tool developed by Urban Intelligence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish land ownership (private, Council, associations)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a needs assessment for allotments/community gardens/food growing • Identify additional sites for allotments and community gardens and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider future housing growth and requirements for allotments/community gardens in potential developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas of deficiency in access to food growing. • Current deficiencies, now and anticipated in 15 years (in line with the housing trajectory) • Develop a zone of influence for standards for the provision of allotments

	where enhancements can be made to existing assets		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of Allotments and Community Gardens Action Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of a map and GIS layers • Conduct appropriate community engagement • List of potential appraised sites and projects for allotments, community gardens and food growing. 	

- 3.14 Additional work may be required after regulation 18 and 19 stages. Day rate quotes will need to be provided for these taking into account that this process may take 4 to 5 years to complete.
- 3.15 Attendance at Public Examination Hearings may be required to defend the Natural Capital Strategy and Action Plans.
- 3.16 Possible evidence refresh/updates may be required due to delays in the Local Plan review process or by upon request by the Planning Inspector.

4 Award Criteria

	Criteria	Weighting for Bid Evaluation
A	Quality	70%
B	Price	30%
Total		100%

Criteria A – Quality – 70%

The proposals submitted will be assessed by the London Borough of Redbridge against the questions contained in appendix 4 of the Invitation to Quote document.

Criteria B – Price – 30%

The proposals submitted will be assessed by the London Borough of Redbridge against the criteria in the Invitation to Quote document.

5 Contract Management

Management

- 5.1 The project will be managed on a day-to-day basis for the London Borough of Redbridge by Sanaa Osmani (Planning Policy Officer) and Tom Weighton (Sustainability Officer).

Timelines

- 5.2 We expect the research, evaluation, and deliverables commissioned as part of Phase 1 to begin on 14 November 2022 and be completed by 30 April 2023. Phase 1 final report shall be submitted to The London Borough of Redbridge Planning Policy Team by 30 April 2023. The Council, at its sole discretion, reserves the option to extend this deadline a further 24 months. These are only indicative dates and subject to change.
- 5.3 The scope of work may be expanded throughout the duration of the contract based upon findings and/or to support detailed work as part of Examination in Public, also referred to as Phase 2. Therefore, flexibility is required, and the Contract end date will be 31 December 2025.
- 5.4 The full timetable will be as follows:

Milestone	Due Date
Publication Invitation to Quote	12 September 2022
Deadline for clarification questions	4 October 2022
Deadline for tender submissions	10 October 2022
Review, Evaluation & internal decision-making of quotations	11 - 31 October 2022
Interviews for top bidders	24- 28 October 2022 (date tbc)

Award contract	7 November 2022
Start of Phase 1 works	14 November 2022
Completion of Phase 1 works	30 April 2023 (Possible extension of 24 months)
Phase 2 works (e.g. minor edits to evidence base reports as needed and support during Examination in Public)	Ad hoc 2024 - 2025
Contract end date	31 December 2025

5.5 Please submit your tender through Pro Contract by 10 October 2022.

Terms and conditions

- 5.6 A copy of the standard London Borough of Redbridge Consultancy Agreement is included in the tender document. This will form the basis for the commission.
- 5.7 The appointed organisation shall update the Council in regular meetings every fortnight or as otherwise directed by the Council. This shall include the sharing of the report during its development.

6 Budget

- 6.1 The allocated budget for the project is **£75,000** excluding Value Added Tax. This amount will need to include all expenses, costs associated with time, marketing, publicity, and early delivery activity. This amount is fixed and there is no further scope for budget adjustment for the project.
- 6.2 Invoicing and management
- 6.3 The consultant shall submit an invoice on request by council officers. One payment will be made at the completion of the final report.

Payment Schedule

6.4 The payment schedule will be:

For Phase 1 deliverables: Suitable ENCA Natural Capital Assessment completed.	10%
For Phase 1 deliverables: Draft version of Local Nature Recovery Nature Action Plan	40%

& Biodiversity Net Gain site appraisal to be produced	
For Phase 1 deliverables: Draft version of Urban Greening Factor, Carbon Offsetting Action Plan, Allotments and Community Gardening Action Plan to be produced	25%
For Phase 1 deliverables: Final version of complete Natural Capital Strategy to be produced and deliverables in an accessible electronic format and three printed copies.	25%
For Phase 2 deliverables: Support Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation & Examination in Public	Day rates (to be agreed)

7 Outputs, retention of copyrights and conflict of interest

Copyrights

- 7.1 The London Borough of Redbridge will retain copyright of all material produced as part of this project.
- 7.2 Prior consent in writing will be required for the publication or use of the information by other persons or bodies, including the selected contractors.
- 7.3 The Council will have the unlimited right to reproduce any material provided or gathered by the consultant for the purposes of the study.

Conflict of Interest

- 7.4 Any potential conflict of interest must be declared as part of the response to tender and any mitigation measures must be explained.
- 7.5 All reports are to be well-written in plain English with no unnecessary jargon such that they may be understood by non-technical readers (e.g., the public).
- 7.6 When approved, the Consultant is to provide three paper copies of all final reports to the Council.
- 7.7 In addition to the written and/or oral deliverables from this commission, electronic copies of all deliverables, including source documents for embedded images and graphics, are to be provided to the Council prior to approval of the final payment. Such electronic deliverables are to be shared in an accessible format, such as Microsoft Word Document, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Project, or AutoCAD Drawing files. For other acceptable electronic formats refer to the relevant Commissioning Officer.
- 7.8 Where mapping or spatial data is created or collated, it should be shared and made available in suitable formats compatible with, but not limited to, the following: PlaceMaker Tool, PostGIS (WFS/WMS/GeoServer), standard GIS software (e.g. MapInfo, Esri or QGIS), 3D/mesh data (e.g. VU.CITY). For other acceptable electronic formats refer to the relevant Commissioning Officer.
- 7.9 Electronic documents are to follow Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 and incorporate alt text, and other accessible features, such as use of contrasting colours on maps and diagrams, to the greatest reasonable extent.

Outputs

- 7.10 The following outputs will be required:
- Fortnightly meetings actions and project plan update log
 - Request For Information (RFI) log
 - Updated risk log
 - Mid-term strategic report
 - A final report that meets the requirements of the brief.
 - A set of appended research data in a suitable digital/ electronic format
 - Action plans
 - Dashboard and underlying data