

Summary of Key Actions from meeting of WMCA (Director Patrick White, Simon Slater Interim Head of Environment) and the Natural Capital Roundtable (Chair Georgia Stokes and representatives) on 27/7/18

ACTION 1: Need to have a key target within LIS to increase overall natural assets. Build on Natural Capital indicators suggested by group and used by SWM to put in latest WMCA and [national CA benchmarking](#). and feed into any sustainability review (Natural Capital Roundtable)

ACTION 2: Provision of data and tools to feed into the WMCA Spatial Development Implementation Plan and Building Standards – via EA on Housing and Land Board. (Environment Agency on behalf of Natural Capital Roundtable)

ACTION 3: Develop natural environment offer – inward investment team could use in the WM Growth Company e.g. contribution to quality of life for region. (Natural Capital Roundtable)

ACTION 4: Build Natural Capital indicator or net improvement to environmental assets into WMCA PMF system. (SWM on behalf of the Natural Capital Roundtable)

ACTION 5: Think about activity that Mayor could support and would encourage partners to deliver good practice e.g. Manchester Tree Campaign (Natural Capital Group)

ANNEX

Updated Discussion Aid. This is the WMCA mapping of a) Natural Capital Principle / Priorities b) WMCA Progress c) Gaps to focus efforts on. This was then updated in light of the discussion and the agreed actions generated from the areas that needs the most focus currently.

	Natural Capital Principles (A Naturally Healthy Economy – through integrating the Environment – July 2017)	WMCA Progress	Gaps to focus effort on.
1.	Natural Capital is an asset and a net contributor to economic growth.	To be recognised within Local Industrial Strategy.	ACTION 1: Need to have a key target within LIS to increase overall natural

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	Investing in it creates jobs and services which contribute to the regions GVA	<p>See suggestions from WMCA Environment Board 5/18– for strategy to about Inclusive and clean growth – with key outcomes including resource productivity and improved places/natural capital</p> <p>Note in WMCA Annual Plan – priority for 18/19 includes:</p> <p>“The WMCA will work with natural environment partners, businesses, and Government to develop a long-term natural capital investment strategy to help coordinate and attract investment to improve the state and use of natural assets.”</p>	assets. Build on Natural Capital indicators suggested by group and used by SWM to put in latest WMCA and national CA benchmarking . and feed into any sustainability review (Natural Capital Roundtable)
2.	For new housing and developments to incorporate natural capital, such as green roofs, green walls and SUDS, leading to sustainable communities	<p>Brief provided to WMCA Housing and Regeneration Team on summary of standards and activities to feed into Mayors Housing Charter and WMCA funding criteria.</p> <p>EA provided place on WMCA Housing and Delivery Board</p> <p>Environment Board member Sustainable Housing Action Partnership – leading on this activity.</p>	ACTION 2: Provision of data and tools to feed into the WMCA Spatial Development Implementation Plan and Building Standards – via EA on Housing and Land Board. (Environment Agency on behalf of Natural Capital Roundtable)
3.	Natural capital can be used to improve air quality, helping Birmingham and the West Midlands deliver a Clean Air Zone	<p>WMCA plans to commission low emissions strategy (air quality and carbon reduction).</p> <p>Input opportunity from Environment Board and Natural Capital Group.</p>	None.
4.	Develop green spaces and green corridors linked with sustainable transport to reduces traffic congestion	WMCA has transport strategy which includes cycling and walking targets.	See Action 2.

	Natural Capital Principles (A Naturally Healthy Economy – through integrating the Environment – July 2017)	WMCA Progress	Gaps to focus effort on.
	and improve health and economic productivity	WMCA Spatial Development and Infrastructure Plan – opportunities to input via new EA rep on Housing and Regeneration Board	
5.	Recognition for the significant contribution from the existing green workforce to the local economy; and the acknowledgement of its potential growth as a sector in its own right;	WMCA Local Industrial Strategy exploring how to capture ‘green sector’ as overall sector or as part of several sectors e.g. construction, transport, energy. Potential research to commission with LEPs. Being developed by SWM with LEPs and WMCA.	ACTION 3: Develop natural environment offer – inward investment team could use in the WM Growth Company e.g. contribution to quality of life for region. (Natural Capital Roundtable)
6.	Embed the principles for natural capital into the WMCA Assurance Framework and the WMCA Performance Management Framework	Note proposed module for Direct Economic Impact Model no longer being used by WMCA. Identifying key opportunities to build environmental criteria within WMCA evolving project system – need to identify types of opportunities/responses to typical activities funded e.g. buildings, transport, skills	ACTION 4: Build Natural Capital indicator or net improvement to environmental assets into WMCA PMF system. (SWM on behalf of the Natural Capital Roundtable)
7.	Embed Natural Capital module into WMCA Value Capture tool	See above	See Action 4.
Other activity mentioned in Natural Capital Principles (A Naturally Healthy Economy – through integrating the Environment – July 2017)			
8.	25 Year Natural Capital Plan – 5 year delivery plans	Not clear on what the form of this will be and how it will help deliver actions. If can get basics and other actions right, then this is interesting opportunity to focus/attract others investment.	See Action 2.

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		SWM has done monitoring/benchmarking against other CAs on Natural Indicators advised by WM Natural Capital group	
9.	The Star Framework to work with Public Sector Reform	Agenda of Public Service Reform still evolving – now inclusive growth focus.	N/A
10.	The Natural Capital Planning Tool & Healthy Development Toolkit- for all Place Making	Potential tool to be developed and supported across the WMCA area by partners – but Black Country and Birmingham have developed separate tools. Is this WMCA or local issue?	See Action 2.

	Recommendations made by WM Natural Capital Roundtable on 2 year priorities – March 2018	WMCA Progress	Gaps to focus effort on.
11.	Stage 1-Internal WMCA operations and influence on partners - Use experience of HS2 work to build simple criteria into project funding, building and monitoring, Build capacity and resources within WMCA and partners to use system to deliver, include challenge and reporting from key programmes and sites	See response to No.2	See response to No.2
12.	Stage 2-Scaling up existing good practice from partners – Agree demonstrators with a selection of key sites e.g. UK Central, Build support from other local stakeholders with	See response to No.1,2,4 State of Natural Environment Report/Event – interesting idea.	See response to No.1,2,4 ACTION 5: Think about activity that Mayor could support and would encourage partners to deliver good

	Recommendations made by WM Natural Capital Roundtable on 2 year priorities – March 2018	WMCA Progress	Gaps to focus effort on.
	expertise to roll out existing Green Infrastructure support tool to WMCA, benchmarking good practice event? State of Environment report for WMCA area – with stakeholder event to offer constructive challenge and support. Engage partners in local industrial strategy.	Some form of state of natural environment -risks and opportunities for WMCA – potential for climate adaptation?	practice e.g. Manchester Tree Campaign (Natural Capital Group)
13.	Innovation – once stages 1 & 2 complete – where can working on regional level add value – Develop response to 25 year Environment Plan locally and agree WMCA support. Explore Natural Investment group – to attract and coordinate investment e.g. National Grid, EA, Severn Trent etc	See response to 8. Note in WMCA Annual Plan – priority for 18/19 includes: “The WMCA will work with natural environment partners, businesses, and Government to develop a long-term natural capital investment strategy to help coordinate and attract investment to improve the state and use of natural assets. “	See response to 8.

Simon Slater, Interim Head of Environment, WMCA, 27/6/18