

Strategic Commitment

Cambridge



The city of Cambridge, as a partner in the Interreg 2 Seas 'Nature Smart Cities Across the 2 Seas' project, commits to the following targets to respond to the challenge of climate change and increase our city's climate resilience, help tackle biodiversity loss, and improve the quality of the city environment for our citizens and visitors.

1. We will set ourselves these targets as steps towards this commitment:
 - To help the city adapt to a changing climate by cultivating a resilient urban forest, increasing tree canopy cover by c. 12% of the 2018 baseline to 19% by the 2050's.
 - To use green infrastructure wherever appropriate to complement the Council's objective of reducing its direct carbon emissions from its corporate buildings (including offices, swimming pools and leisure facilities, car parks, housing, community centres, arts venues, cemeteries and crematorium) to net zero carbon emissions by 2030.
 - To use green infrastructure solutions wherever appropriate to contribute to the improvement of air quality in the city and to meet the targets to be set by government in 2022 in respect of particulate matter under the Environment Act 2021.
 - To use green infrastructure solutions wherever appropriate in/on Cambridge City Council projects to contribute towards securing a measurable net gain in biodiversity across the city by 2025 and to support the Natural Cambridgeshire Doubling Nature Vision by 2030 (including achievement of 20% biodiversity net gain on Cambridge City Council projects).
2. We will use the Nature Smart Cities Business Model wherever appropriate to increase the amount and quality of green infrastructure in our city between now and 2050.

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3. We will participate as a user of the Nature Smart Cities Business Model and engage in mutual support and assistance with other users, sharing our own experience where possible, and forming an informal network for the exchange of information, support and cross-boundary collaboration.

Signed August 2022:



Alex Collis, Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing



Rosy Moore, Executive Councillor for Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment