



Applying the Urban Greening Factor

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- **A green past.** London's existing greenery is a legacy of the city's organic development and forward-thinking planning policy; an urban sprawl tangled with the countryside around and through which it grew.
- **Facing the future.** Whilst London's surface is 50% green or blue we must retain and enhance this green heritage. Enhancing the scale, quality and access to green space aligns with the pressing policy objectives and challenges (climate, health, health etc.) of tomorrow. As the city changes, our green infrastructure must change with it.
- **A culture-change is needed to realise the 'future-proofing' potential of urban greening.** Rather than an optional adornment, we must regard our green network as an *infrastructure* i.e. as essential as the systems of pipes, roads and rails that secure a functioning, healthy and liveable city.
- **Data-tools are an ally here.** The planning policy framework of the new London Plan will contain tools such as the Urban Greening Factor (*Policy G5*) that can quantify the quality and amount of urban greening within a development proposal against London-wide standards. While the locational open-data points of online tools such as the Green Infrastructure Focus Map can ensure greening policy is 'linking-up' with borough-specific priorities (including surface water flooding, overheating, biodiversity action plans etc.).
- **Metrics, measures and other 'chlorophyll proxies' for a new norm.** Going forward, these policy frameworks and tools can be harnessed to increase the scale and pace of high-quality, green urban design, ensuring earlier 'uptake' in the design conversation as the benefits of a greener city are secured for all.

Speakers:

Samantha Davenport, Green Infrastructure Senior Policy Officer, GLA
Abby Crisostomo, Climate Adaptation & Green Infrastructure, GLA
Sam Griffiths, Green Infrastructure Officer, GLA

Attendees: 45