

## Appendix 4 – Approach and Methodology

## Approach

The preparation of this strategy has been undertaken through a desktop review of existing environmental information. This information, along with the authors' knowledge and experience of green infrastructure, has been used to undertake the following tasks:

- Strategic-level assessment of the likely interaction of the strategic growth of Worcester with its baseline green infrastructure and identification of opportunities
- Identification of an existing strategic green infrastructure network and identification of future aspirational connections to reduce the isolation of identified features of green infrastructure value
- Formulation of a long-term vision for green infrastructure and a series of strategic principles to inform Core Strategy policy
- Suggestion of suitable delivery models and funding sources based on existing successful examples to achieve green infrastructure protection and improvement

## Methodology

The following steps have been taken in preparing this strategy:

- Review of national, regional and local policy to establish the policy context for the strategy
- Desktop review, mapping and description of existing strategic-level baseline information using the following strategic themes:
  - Landscape character
  - Historic environment
  - Biodiversity
  - Woodland
  - Recreation and tourism
  - Natural processes and environmental systems
  - Structural greenspace
  - Access and movement
- Analysis of the anticipated interaction between the planned strategic growth of Worcester and its baseline green infrastructure using the 8 strategic themes, in particular:
  - Likely impacts of strategic growth on green infrastructure resources
  - Constraints to the improvement of green infrastructure value
  - Protection measures to address potential adverse impacts
  - Opportunities to achieve improvements in green infrastructure value
- Formulation of a long-term vision for green infrastructure
- Formulation of a set of principles for each strategic theme, drawing out the highest priorities from the previous analysis, to inform local policy
- Preparation of a strategic green infrastructure network plan, which illustrates current features and linkages of value and identifies opportunities for the creation of future linkages to improve connectivity within the study area
- Identification of requirements for further detailed study
- Description of examples of existing successful green infrastructure delivery mechanisms and assessment of these mechanisms against the requirements of South Worcestershire
- Identification of potential capital and revenue funding sources to secure green infrastructure creation, improvement and long-term management