

Response ID ANON-HVEH-FFCD-X

Submitted to **Help nature recover in Greater Manchester**

Submitted on **2021-02-13 10:28:14**

Spending time in nature

1 What do you enjoy most about spending time in nature, such as waterways, woodlands, parks or other green spaces?

Peace and quiet, Spotting wildlife, such as birds, rabbits etc, Spotting trees, plants, fungi etc

If there's anything else you enjoy about spending time in nature, please let us know::

Litter picking (sense of achievement when the litter is gone)

Volunteering (helping to retain, restore or preserve our natural habitats)

2 Thinking about the opportunities for spending time in nature close to where you live, is there anything that you don't enjoy, or that puts you off spending time in places such as waterways, woodlands, parks or other green spaces?

If there's anything else that you don't enjoy, or that puts you off spending time in nature, please let us know::

Nothing puts me off spending time in nature

3 Thinking about other benefits of nature, how important or unimportant are the following to you:

q3 matrix - Economic benefit (e.g. hiking/cycling tours, cafés throughout routes):

Not at all important

q3 matrix - Environmental protection (e.g. flood relief):

Very important

Improving nature in Greater Manchester

4 In general, what's your view of the current state of nature where you live?

Fairly good

5 And do you think the current state of nature where you live is generally improving, staying the same or getting worse?

Getting worse

Please let us know why you feel like that::

Because Trafford wants to build roads, houses and employment space on our green belt so there are deliberate actions being taken to destroy our natural habitats

6 How important or unimportant are the following for nature's recovery in Greater Manchester?

matrix q6 - Creating more urban green space:

Fairly important

matrix q6 - Improving sustainable farming and industrial practices:

Very important

matrix q6 - Increasing the size of existing protected sites:

Fairly important

matrix q6 - Introducing new areas of protected sites:

Fairly important

matrix q6 - Protecting against climate change:

Very important

matrix q6 - Protecting vulnerable wildlife and habitats:

Very important

matrix q6 - Providing better access for people:

Fairly important

matrix q6 - Re-introducing lost wildlife and habitats:

Very important

Please let us know why you feel like that::

If this is a real initiative, rather than a "tick box" exercise, we should be prioritising the irreplaceable habitats which are under threat from various risks, including development

7 To what extent are the following challenges for nature in Greater Manchester?

3 challenges - Air quality:

Very big challenge

3 challenges - Agricultural management:

Fairly big challenge

3 challenges - Climate change:

Very big challenge

3 challenges - Encroachment of new developments:

Very big challenge

3 challenges - Government regulations:

Fairly small challenge

3 challenges - Intensive agricultural practices:

Fairly big challenge

3 challenges - Invasive species:

Fairly small challenge

3 challenges - Plastic waste:

Fairly big challenge

3 challenges - Pollution – transport, pesticides, industrial:

Very big challenge

3 challenges - River damage / water quality:

Very big challenge

3 challenges - Species decline:

Very big challenge

3 challenges - Urbanisation:

Fairly small challenge

3 challenges - Woodland management:

Fairly big challenge

Please explain why you feel like this: :

We need to start agreeing policies that we intend to implement, each Authority (including Health Authorities) has declared a climate emergency, we are aware of the devastating situation for our natural environment, yet we are not prioritising and implementing policies which will produce a positive impact, we are being led by the economy to the detriment of ecology when we should be led by the ecology to the benefit of the economy!

8 Greater Manchester's Nature Recovery Plan will focus on improving specific sites where the most impact can be made. Do you have any suggestions for where they could be?

Site 1:

Carrington and Warburton Mosses (Trafford).

These are degraded peat mosses, an area full of ecology and biodiversity. The land is the breeding and feeding grounds for a large number of red listed birds and endangered wildlife. The peat moss is an irreplaceable habitat and should be retained, restored and preserved. There are a number of sites of biological importance and sites of special scientific interest in the area.

The Friends of Carrington Moss aim to transform it to a sustainable carbon and biodiversity bank but will need help to achieve this. In addition to peat moss restoration, there is a huge opportunity to increase species populations and reintroduce species that have previously been present on these mosses, including rare plant species.

Sadly, much of the site is currently allocated for development in the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (now Places for Everyone). This site needs to be removed for reasons explained later in this survey.

Please see www.friendsofcarringtonmoss.com for photographs

If you have any photos or videos of the site, please upload them here (please make sure you have permission to share them with us): :

No file was uploaded

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No file was uploaded

Site 2:

If you have any photos or videos of the site, please upload them here (please make sure you have permission to share them with us): :

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Getting involved in nature's recovery

9 How concerned or unconcerned are you about the future of nature in Greater Manchester?

Very concerned

10 To what extent do you think that the Greater Manchester Combined Authority can make a positive difference to nature?

A great deal

Please let us know why you feel like that::

The GMCA has the power to determine that there will be NO green belt release in the GMSF (or its successor P4E). Releasing green belt is the antithesis of nature recovery!

Given the expected post Covid changes to working practices, which is likely to mean that significant areas of brownfield land will become available in urban areas, there is no justification for releasing green belt at this time.

The GMCA can also prioritise specific policies for implementation, rather than just ticking boxes by saying (as just one example) "we have declared a climate emergency" then taking actions which are not consistent with this statement (ie road building - rather than increasing public transport availability).

11 And to what extent do you think that you personally can make a positive difference to nature?

Quite a bit

Please let us know why you feel like that::

Individuals can have an impact through driving forward the nature recovery strategy in their own areas.

Sadly, there is a total lack of sufficient engagement with the public. Many people are willing to give their time freely (and their expertise and knowledge). Often consultation is limited to just commenting on documents that have been produced by people who do not even know or understand the areas (geographically and content-wise) they are writing about.

12 Are there any other ways you would like to get involved to make a positive difference to nature?

Are there any other ways you would like to get involved to make a positive difference to nature?:

I would like to be fully involved in making a positive difference to nature (both regionally and locally). I'd like to be part of the discussions not just commenting on documents that have been produced by others.

I'd like to be involved in decision-making and lobbying the Government to make changes nationally too.

13 Is there anything else you would like to tell us about nature in Greater Manchester, or that should be included in our Nature Recovery Plan?

Type here::

There is a lot of talent in the Greater Manchester region and it is not being utilised. Please reach out to all community groups, to wildlife organisations, professional bodies and others to make sure there is a widest opportunity for our residents to be involved in this Nature Recovery Plan.

About you

14 Are you responding on behalf of yourself or an organisation?

Myself, as a resident

What is the name of your organisation (if applicable): :

If you selected 'other', please let us know the capacity in which you're responding::

15 Which local authority area do you live in (if you're responding on behalf of yourself) or work in (if you're responding on behalf of an organisation)?

Area/district :

Trafford

16 How old are you?

Age:

55-64

17 How do you describe your gender?

A woman (including trans woman)

18 Do you identify as trans/transgender?

No

19 How do you describe your ethnic background?

Ethnicity:

White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British

If you selected 'other', how would you describe your ethnic background?:

20 How do you describe your religion?

No religion

If you selected 'other religion', what religion are you? :

21 Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?

Heterosexual

If you selected 'other sexual orientation', please let us know how you describe yourself::

22 Do you consider yourself to have a disability? (please tick all that apply)

No

If you selected 'other disability', please let us know what this is: :

23 What's your current employment status?

Retired

24 Do you own or rent where you live?

Own outright

And finally

25 How did you hear about this survey? (please tick all that apply)

Somewhere else (please specify)

If you said 'somewhere else', please let us know where: :

Someone else's twitter feed

26 To what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements?

Citizen Space - I found it easy to navigate my way through the survey:

Strongly agree

Citizen Space - The survey has given me the opportunity to have my say:

Agree

Citizen Space - I feel better informed as a result of taking part in this survey:

Disagree

Citizen Space - I feel clear about what I have been able to influence through this survey:

Disagree

27 We would like to publish responses to this survey on gmconsult.org so we can be open and transparent about how your views have affected our decisions. This is completely optional, and your views will still be included in our analysis and decision-making even if they are not published. If you are happy for us to publish your response, you can do so anonymously. Are you happy for us to publish your response to this survey?

Yes - publish my response in full