



24 May 2022

## **Gloucester Urban Greening Project – Baneberry Road Open Space**

Gloucester City Council has secured funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to carry out environmental improvement works across the district. The project's benefits include more diverse natural habitats and improved connectivity between green open spaces that boost both wildlife and our wellbeing.

As part of this project we are proposing to carry out works within Baneberry Road open space, diverting rainfall that lands on the tarmac to the south of the park through swales (very shallow 'dish shaped' ditches) and into a small pond. Ecological improvement works will also include wildflower meadow areas, along with the planting of native trees and bulbs. An artist's impression of the scheme can be found on the attached drawing.

The proposals include:

- Diverting surface water runoff off the highway through drop-kerb swale inlets
- Constructing shallow swales and a small pond
- Constructing boardwalks to help ease of access
- Sowing wildflower meadow areas
- Planting native trees and bulbs
- Changing grass cutting frequencies to ensure that wildflowers meadows thrive once established. A hay-cut will be carried out around July with tidy-up cuts in the spring and autumn.
- Installing bat and bird boxes in certain trees.

The benefits of the proposal include:

- Helping to promote the physical and mental well-being of users of the space.
- A biodiverse habitat, supporting birds, mammals, invertebrate species, and pollinators such as bees and butterflies.
- Creation of an attractive natural wildflower meadow display.
- Improvement to the connectivity between habitats, helping wildlife to move around urban areas.

- A reduction in flood risk as surface water runoff is held back in the swales and pond, slowing down the rate that it enters the drainage network.
- A further reduction in flood risk due to longer grass retaining and releasing water more slowly than regularly mown grass.

If you have any comments on these works, please email them to [urban.greening@gloucester.gov.uk](mailto:urban.greening@gloucester.gov.uk) by the 5<sup>th</sup> June. Alternatively, you can use the feedback form on the Urban Greening project page of Gloucester City Council's website, where more information about this project can be found, or you can write to 'ERDF Urban Greening Project' using the postal address at the top of this notice.





## Baneberry Road Open Space - Environmental Improvements