

<u>CRP Lunchtime Launch 9: 'Climate Effects: The Benefits of Greening'</u> <u>Thursday 30th September 2021</u>



Question and Answer Sheet

Q: What other greening suggestions do you have for streets apart from trees?

A: You can read about different urban greening solutions, such as green walls, living walls, green roofs, and more, in CRP's latest <u>Healthy Streets Everyday</u> guidance document 'Greening Out the Grey'.

Q: Do all projects have to be shovel ready for the Green and Resilient Spaces Fund?

A: No, there are also opportunities for development funding for projects that aren't yet shovel ready. You can see the details at the GLA's <u>Green and Resilient Spaces Fund</u> <u>webpage</u>.

Q: Flash floods in London over the summer showed that all Londoners are at risk of flooding. Is this as much of an issue in other parts of the UK as it is in the capital?

A: Yes, it is. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessment report, published this summer, concluded that it is an established fact that human-induced greenhouse gas emissions have led to an increased frequency and/or intensity of some weather and climate extremes since 1850 globally. Extreme precipitation and floods are part of these extreme weather and climate events. Tools such as Climate Central's coastal risk



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<u>screening map</u> can identify areas all over the UK (and around the world) that are or will be at risk of flooding in the coming years, caused by a combination of sea level rise, tides, and storm surges.

Q: How can we ensure that green infrastructure is designed into development and refurbishment schemes right from the get-go?

A: Local Authorities are already taking pro-active stances on this via their Planning Processes. Greening targets can be included in development briefs for particular sites, and many Community Infrastructure Levy schedules list types of greening and their costs to guide and support developers at the scheme inception stage.

Q: What about security issues?

A: Selection of appropriate tree species and canopy densities can alleviate any personal security issues potentially associated with increased greening in urban areas.

Q: Are there any additional measures alongside greening that can help with reducing the urban heat island effect?

A: As well as greening / planting to provide more shade / cover, there are additional screening measures that can be used to great effect, including covering of surfaces with heat-absorbing paint; using appropriate, heat-absorbing materials and colours for e.g. paving, roofs etc.; as well as more informal measures such as canvas canopies / awnings that create shade as well as animate streets.

Q: What about bird droppings?

A: Some birds can be beneficial to the environment. Certain species can eat and control certain bugs (reducing the need for pesticides), they can act as pollinators, and control weeds. However, if a greening solution attracts many birds and excessive bird droppings, birds can safely be kept away with, for example, kite-shaped decoy bird images that sway in the wind and deter birds from landing in a certain area. Greening solutions always require some levels of maintenance.

For more information, please contact:

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