

## **JGIS ACTION PLAN 2020 - 2023**

### **MONITORING UPDATE - JULY 2021**

The [Joint Green Infrastructure Strategy \(JGIS\)](#) has been produced and endorsed by the West of England Combined Authority, Bath and North East Somerset council, Bristol City council, North Somerset council and South Gloucestershire council.

With the Combined Authority and the West of England councils having each declared a Climate Emergency, the strategy is now more relevant than ever ensuring that our network of multifunctional urban and rural green space responds to the climate and ecological emergency.

Whilst the JGIS was developed by the Combined Authority and the West of England councils, its delivery requires the support of all partners and stakeholders.

As part of the published JGIS, an [Action Plan](#) (2020-23) has been developed that integrates wider activity to address green infrastructure related requirements of Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and Environment Bill (2019/21) including developing the West of England's Nature Recovery Network, exploring an approach to develop a West of England Natural Capital Account, and meeting the requirements of Biodiversity Net Gain.

The Action Plan identifies West of England priority activities to achieve the JGIS Outcomes. Some are joint activities or projects, and others will be delivered by individual partners e.g., councils as they progress their Local Plans and climate emergency action plans.

The West of England Combined Authority and the West of England councils have committed to the delivery and implementation of the Action Plan with a specific action 'Action A4' requiring an annual review of progress made on the action plan delivery. The below sets out the 2021 annual review of the JGIS Action Plan along with amended actions, new actions, and next steps.

The West of England GI Working Group and Environment Officer Steering Group will continue to support implementation of the Action Plan with individual partners and organisations taking the lead on specific projects or activities.

	Actions	Lead partner and working group	Funding £ (+ source)	Time scale	On Track? RAG Rating	July 2021 Monitoring Update	2021-2022 Action Plan
	<b>Resourcing (R)</b>						
R1	<p><b>West of England GI Working Group</b> to continue to be resourced by the Combined Authority, the 4 UAs and key partners to assist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the Action Plan</li> <li>• Provide oversight and updates on new regulations and matters regarding GI</li> <li>• Update GI evidence and information base including GI Areas</li> </ul>	The Combined Authority facilitate programme management of the GIWG.	£ Officer time	2020-23		<p>The West of England Joint Green Infrastructure Strategy (JGIS) was endorsed by the West of England Joint Committee in July 2020.</p> <p>Since the endorsement and publication of the JGIS the <b>West of England GI Working Group (GIWG)</b> have continued to meet monthly to progress the JGIS Action Plan focusing on GI actions. The <b>Environment Officer Steering Group (EOSG)</b> has been established to provide steer and oversight on the JGIS actions that have wider scope than GI and relate to the broader environmental agenda of the Environment Bill.</p> <p>As both the GIWG and EOSG continue to be resourced by officers with wider roles than GI, capacity to support regional actions, given notable increased requirements to support local Climate and Ecological emergency work and address impacts from the Environment Bill, is becoming an increased challenge.</p> <p>The EOSG will continue to review resource and capacity issues and escalate risks as set out in the Terms of Reference.</p>	Action Ongoing
	<b>Activities (A)</b>						
A1	<b>Final Joint GI Strategy</b> sign off process to be confirmed and completed	The Combined Authority (GIWG Led action)	£ Officer time	April/May 2020		The JGIS was endorsed by the West of England Joint Committee in July 2020. <a href="https://westofengland-ca.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=192&amp;Mid=446">https://westofengland-ca.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=192&amp;Mid=446</a>	Action complete
A2	<b>Each UA to confirm how they take JGIS forward into respective Local Plans with other programmes as part of the signing off process.</b>	UAs (GIWG Led action)	£ officer time	April/May 2020		<p>Each UA has committed to embed the JGIS outcomes and principles within their respective Local Plans and other strategies and plans and supportive evidence.</p> <p>The EOSG has been set up to ensure commitment and resource to take forward the JGIS in conformity with the groups Terms of Reference.</p>	<p><b>Action amended</b></p> <p>A2 'Each UA to confirm how they take the JGIS forward into respective Local Plans with other programmes as part of the signing off process. This will include the need to engage and integrate the outputs of the JGIS Action plan into <i>Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plans</i>, ensuring the collaboration and jointed up approach to Climate adaptation and mitigation through a Green Infrastructure lens.'</p> <p>(Timescales: Annually reviewed)</p>

							<i>Rational:</i> The importance of GI as a mechanism to mitigate and adapt to future climate change is key. The GIWG are engaged in UA and the Combined Authority climate emergency action plan progression. This action amendment reflects the role of the GIWG and the need for members to continue to engage and support the emergencies via the integration of the JGIS evidence and action plan development.
A3	<b>Set up appropriate workshops/process for stakeholder engagement to develop the GI Area profile information and GI evidence</b> recognising that current work is limited to existing asset mapping. The profiles need to identify and describe importance of connectivity of the assets including species movement to assist Local Nature Recovery Strategies and other plans and strategies.	The Combined Authority (GIWG Led action)	£ Officer time	Sept - Dec 2020		The GI Area profiles have not been complete as of June 2021. This is in part due to a need to consider and reflect on a nationally led Natural England GI Standards Pilot where it was originally felt the mapping outputs might be used to evidence the GI Area profiles. Over 2021 the GIWG will review the best approach to take forward the GI Area Profiles as summary documents of key issues and opportunities.	<b>Action amended</b> <b>A3 'Consider the GI Area profile approach and resources required to compete the profiles, taking account of new Natural England GI Framework mapping (available October 2021). The profiles are intended to provide a written narrative and describe the key GI assets and their importance of connectivity of the assets including species movement to assist Local Nature Recovery Strategies and other plans and strategies.</b> <i>(Timescales: July 2021- July 2022, to be reviewed in line with Natural England's timetable for future pilots)</i>  <i>Rational:</i> As work continues to progress the national GI Standards, and authorities begin to explore local GI strategies, the GIWG will review the need to take forward GI Area Profiles. This action has therefore been amended to reflect this and recognises that the local authorities are progressing and mapping GI networks across a range of spatial scales. The GI Area that the Profiles describe are still relevant as area-based assessments and identify cross boundary strategic GI.
A4	<b>Produce annual review on GI Strategy delivery</b> - Review and monitor actions including delivery of strategic GI projects and report on environment change through use of Defra 25 Year Plan indicators.	UAs & The Combined Authority (GIWG Led action)	£ Officer time	2020-2023		Completed via the delivery of this document. As work progresses to understand the national approach to GI monitoring and the role of DEFRA Indicators at a regional scale, further detailed monitoring will be progressed, led by the EOSG in liaison with UA and the Combined Authority Climate and Ecological Emergency monitoring.	<b>Action complete for 2020-2021 period</b> <i>(Timescales: Annually reviewed)</i>  <i>Note:</i> New action 'A13' proposed to specifically address the role of monitoring environmental change through DEFRA Indicators.
A5	<b>Agree process for submission of strategic GI projects, assessment and prioritisation</b> using Project Assessment Form, and management including liaison with submission leads, identifying funding and preparing bids and business cases, and monitoring progress.	UAs & The Combined Authority, EA, NE.  (GIWG Led action)	£ Officer time	2020		The GIWG have outlined a pipeline of GI programme areas within the West of England. Within each programme area are several projects that identify specific interventions to support the overall programme vision and value. The process for delivering these GI projects has been reviewed and tested by the GIWG from July 2020 with the introduction of 'Project Assessments Forms' and newly introduced 'Programme Assessment Forms' being continually reviewed and updated. The assessment forms provide the context to	<b>Action Ongoing</b> <i>(Timescales: July 2021 to July 2022)</i>  <i>Note:</i> Over 2021/22 work will continue to progress GI project development and improve the visibility of the regional pipeline.  The GIWG will look to finalise programme and project assessment forms. The need to publicly acknowledge

					<p>why projects sit within the JGIS pipeline. Work continues with partners to understand the wider breadth of programmes and projects across the region and how they relate to regional evidence and approaches including the Nature Recovery Network.</p> <p>The current programme pipeline includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common Connections (SGC Led)</li> <li>• Chew Valley Reconnected (Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council Led)</li> <li>• North Somerset Levels and Moors (NSC Led)</li> <li>• River Frome Reconnected (SGC Led)</li> <li>• Somer Valley Rediscovered (Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council Led)</li> <li>• String of Pearls (SGC Led)</li> <li>• Waterspace Connected (Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council and BCC Led)</li> </ul> <p>Currently the following projects have been supported and progressed through the Combined Authority Investment Funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Chew Valley Lake North FBC:</b> approved for funding in December 2020 through the Combined Authority Investment Fund.</li> <li>- <b>Common Connections OBC</b> - submitted to June 2021 Joint Committee</li> <li>- <b>Bathscape OBC</b> - approved April 2019</li> </ul> <p>Furthermore, partners leading on the wider programme have applied for funding from national schemes and continue to deliver projects through other funding sources.</p> <p>The Combined Authority Green Infrastructure Project Manager will continue to work with lead partners to capture information on 'GI projects' from within each partnership programme that deliver the GI objectives.</p>	<p>the 'shop front window' of regional GI programmes will be explored through developing an interactive map of the key regional programme areas.</p>
A6	<p><b>Investigate delivery/funding mechanisms</b> /finance models- e.g. Landscape Enterprise Networks (LENs)-BACP is piloting the LENs approach in the Bristol Frome sub-catchment (GI Areas 17, 18,19). Investment Fund/Environment Fund/Natural Capital Trust /reverse auctions are to be investigated including appetite amongst various</p>	<p>The Combined Authority on behalf of/alongside UAs  (EOSG Led action)</p>	<p>£300,000 the Combined Authority Contribution agreed June 2020.  £ Officer time</p>	2020-2023	 <p>With the establishment of the EOSG all partners have been able to work collaboratively to consider delivery and funding opportunities that exist for GI and nature-based projects. Work will continue over 2021 to establish and regional approach to investment.</p> <p>The Combined Authority has provided £300,000.00 to develop business cases for GI projects, to be submitted through the Combined Authority Investment Fund. The first</p>	<p><b>Action Ongoing</b> (Timescales: 2020-2023)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Work will continue through the EOSG to explore the concept of a Bristol Avon catchment marketplace. An approach to set a regional approach to investment within GI and Nature based solutions will also be explored.</p>

	potential investors for specific finance models.				<p>of which, Chew Valley Lake North FBC, was submitted and approved in December 2020.</p> <p>Officers are also working to understand and establish approaches to identify the economic value of nature-based projects through Natural Capital Accounting. The EOSG are also exploring the concept of a Bristol Avon catchment marketplace, as well as coordinating and submitting bids to the Green Recovery Challenge Fund and Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund.</p> <p>Within the Combined Authority a GI Project Manager has been appointed (April 2021) to develop GI programme/project business cases.</p>	
A7	<p><b>Develop guidance for planners</b> on local plan development regarding consideration of GI and its relationship with Natural Capital and ecosystem services and related legislative requirements including Biodiversity Net Gain, Nature Recovery Strategies and Habitat Regulations. Guidance will include example policies and GI policy assessment matrix.</p>	<p>The Combined Authority &amp; UAs  (GIWG Led action)</p>	£ Officer time	2020	 <p>The need for a WofE planning guidance document that provides guidance on and would explain /simplify links between the other topic workstreams both national and regional on BNG, LNRS etc requires review.</p> <p>Through the development of the UA Local Plans and the Combined Authority SDS the GIWG have been highlighting current evidence and approaches for Natural Capital and ecosystem services and related legislative requirements including Biodiversity Net Gain, Nature Recovery Strategies and Habitat Regulations. Through monthly GIWG meetings UAs provide updates on locally led guidance and approaches:</p> <p>The GIWG provide a platform to keep track of progress and raise issues with EOSG to take forward these matters on a WofE basis to ensure resources are secured to assess and deliver benefits of joint working and consistent approach.</p> <p>Through the Natural England GI Standard Framework pilot officers are considering how a national approach may supersede the need for a regional guidance note on GI standards.</p>	<p><b>Action Amended</b></p> <p><b>A7 ‘Work with UA and the Combined Authority leads to support the development of guidance for planners on local plan development regarding consideration of GI and its relationship with Natural Capital and ecosystem services and related legislative requirements including Biodiversity Net Gain, Nature Recovery Strategies and Habitat Regulations. The GIWG will act to ensure regional consistency and review of GI policies and use of GI policy assessment matrix for all regional and local plans.’</b> <i>(Timescales: July 2021- July 2022, to be reviewed in line with Local Plan development)</i></p> <p><i>Rational:</i> Initially it was envisaged that a single West of England guidance document would be developed to outline key considerations when developing planning policy and strategy with regard GI. However, it is possible that the revised Natural England GI Standards Framework will cover elements of this and therefore the national approach needs to be considered if producing regional guidance. Whilst we await to see what emerges nationally, there is still a key role for the GIWG to inform the development of the Combined Authority SDS, and local plan policies to ensure key approaches and evidence and interrelated themes are considered. The GIWG will continue to liaise with the Combined Authority on the use of the JGIS evidence and approaches in the SDS. In taking this action forward it was agreed that as UAs continue to develop GI strategies and guidance the GIWG will have the opportunity to review and provide a point for regional consistency steer, whilst the national approach will</p>

							eventually lead to a clearer picture on embedding GI into plan making.
A8	<b>Provide GI training/support to the Combined Authority /UA officers</b> to deliver strategic and local Plans that will deliver effective GI to support delivery of new development - i.e contain appropriate GI policy and requirements including for master planning that demonstrates effective integration of GI as well as natural capital, and ecosystem services. Training will include guidance and support on use of the GI Policy Assessment Matrix.	UAs & the Combined Authority  (EOSG Led action)	£ Officer time	2020- 23		<p>The GIWG continue to engage with UA and the Combined Authority strategies to embed the GI and Natural Environment evidence and approaches into plan making and understand training needs.</p> <p>The GIWG UA and the Combined Authority leads report on the outputs of GI Actions, including through Heads of Planning, P and Regional Directors. Sessions have also been held on concepts such as BNG to integrate new approaches across a wider spectrum of policy areas.</p> <p>The EOSG has been established to engage with decision makers within all partner organisations regarding Environment Bill matters.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: 2020-2023)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The GIWG will continue to explore the need for future training needs.</p>
A9	The <b>GI Policy Assessment Matrix</b> (see Useful Information) is to be applied by the Combined Authority and each of the UAs in the drafting of strategic spatial plan and Local Plans. External assessment of the draft policies is available via matrix developer via GI Working Group.	UAs & the Combined Authority  (GIWG Led action)	£ Officer time	2020-23		<p>Although Local Plans and the Combined Authority SDS has not reached policy development stage, there is commitment by the Combined Authority to utilise the JGIS evidence and GI policy assessment matrix to develop policy wording for the SDS. The matrix developer continues to work with the GIWG.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: 2020-2023)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The Policy Matrix will be applied to the Combined Authority SDS and Local Plans in line with the plan making timetables.</p>
A10	<b>WofE Nature Recovery Network</b> is to be used for the Combined Authority and the 4 UAs to assess identify and prioritise opportunities for ecological enhancement through their local plans and strategies including any local nature recovery strategies (Environment Bill) and delivery of biodiversity net gain.	UAs & the Combined Authority  (EOSG Led action)	£ Officer time	2020-		<p>The NRN is now a well-established evidence being integrated into the development of the Combined Authority SDS and UA strategies and evidence.</p> <p>The BACP set up a Task Group in April 2020 to review the water network information included in the NRN. The data layers relating to the water network have now been updated and the BACP is sharing these with UA's/partners on request. An updated report has been produced and will be uploaded to the WENP/NRN webpage with the updated mapping layers over the coming months.</p> <p>WENP have published the NRN prospectus: <a href="https://www.wenp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/NRN-Prospectus_March-2021_for-website-1.pdf">https://www.wenp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/NRN-Prospectus_March-2021_for-website-1.pdf</a></p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: 2020-2023, to be reviewed following governments announcements in Autumn 2021 on the Environment Bill and secondary legislation and guidance)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> As Local Plans and the Combined Authority SDS are developed, officers will work to integrate the NRN as a strategic evidence base.</p>
A11	<b>Joint Local Nature Recovery Strategy</b> - consider joint approach in response to Environment Bill requirement	UAs & the Combined Authority, WENP	£ Officer time	2021-23		<p>Given the delay of the Environment Bill progress on LNRS's has been limited and to date it is still unclear whether the strategies will be West of England led or Unitary Authority led.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: 2020-2023, to be reviewed following governments announcements in Autumn 2021 on the Environment Bill and secondary legislation and guidance)</p>

		(EOSG Led action)					<i>Note:</i> The working group will continue to review the progression of the Environment Bill and look to understand the implications following enactment in Autumn 2021.
A12	<b>The BACP Environmental Services Evidence Review and BACP Action Plan</b> are to be used by the 4UAs to assess, identify and prioritise opportunities for enhancement for the water environment through their Local Plans and strategies.	UAs with BACP  (EOSG Led action)	£ Officer time	2020 - 2022		<p>The BACP continues to work with partners to raise the profile of the water environment. The ‘water network’ has been updated as part of the NRN, highlighting the need to address declining water quality, fragmented riparian habitats/ecology and the need for more nature-based solutions to improve resilience against flooding/drought.</p> <p>The BACP is in the process of updating the Catchment Plan and Action Plan, this will be reviewed and updated by Nov 2021. All Partnership Projects are currently captured in the Action Plan and mapped on the <a href="#">Online Projects Map</a>. The BACP has endorsed 5 Strategic Programmes within the West of England, these are closely aligned with the GI programme areas and are delivering multiple benefits for the water environment. Ongoing work with partners to embed the strategic water programmes within the WofE and wider work programmes continues.</p> <p>Moving forwards, the BACP will support partners and help to identify specific projects (within the Strategic Programmes) that will deliver GI benefits. Project Assessment Forms need to be scoped and developed to identify where ‘blue infrastructure’ can be implemented that will also deliver the wider GI objectives.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: 2020-2022)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> A key action moving forward is the need for improved knowledge share of available information. The BACP will work with the GIWG to identify the best approaches for relevant data to be shared and use evidence to inform, influence and integrate within policy development, project design and monitoring and evaluation.</p>
<b>STRATEGIC GI PROJECTS (SP)</b>							
S1	<b>WofE Environmental and ecological Geographical Information System (GIS)</b> and geospatial technologies to plan, build, and monitor green infrastructure. Establish a shared and managed data platform for sharing WofE data that is to be kept updated, and used for monitoring progress. Obtain mapping/data identified as necessary to respond to new regulations and requirements eg habitat and land use/change data.	The Combined Authority /UAs  (EOSG Led action)	£2,500  Partnership contribution  £ Officer time	2020-21		The EOSG have established a project plan to deliver and Environmental GIS database, with the Natural History Consortium project managing the first stage of the commission. The first work package has commenced to undertake an environmental data audit across key partners.	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: July 2020- July 2021)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The project will develop over 2021/22, engaging officers from the UAs, the Combined Authority, EA, NE, WENP, BACP and BRERC to understand the opportunities to share and communicate the range of available environmental data, and develop new data to address legal requirements and new monitoring regimes.</p>

S2	<b>WofE Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)</b> - complete and take forward WofE Guidance and options for delivery - shared resourcing, and mechanisms and processes for implementing eg tool kits and SPDs, recording and managing BNG across WofE.	Rhe Combined Authority/NE/ UAs  (EOSG Led action)	£20,000 (Guidance commission 2020)  £ Officer time	2020 -23		<p>WSP have produced both Guidance and Implementation documents for the UAs and the Combined Authority. a WofE BNG task group has been established, led by Natural England, and continue to consider options for the implementation of joint working on the mandatory BNG.</p> <p>Furthermore, commitment to BNG is continually referenced and reflected throughout regional decision makers including Directors of Development.</p> <p>UAs are progressing discussions of what their own guidance and approaches to BNG should be, both to the expected 10% mandatory requirement (relating to Local Plans/policy) and wider net gain</p> <p>Given the Environment Bill delay and ongoing of joint working discussions, this action is not complete.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: 2020-2023)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The BNG task group continue to refine the approach to implementation and will report outputs over 2021 to inform the plan making process.</p>
S3	<b>WofE Natural Capital Account (NCA)</b> - assist development of NCA and incorporate output as part of shared mapping and data.	EA & BACP  (GIWG Led action)	£ In kind contribution from BACP- Siobhan Lamb to support UAs with development of NC scorecards /outputs	2020-2021		<p>This project was delayed due to Covid-19 and resource impacts across the EA, who led the pilot and development of the NCA tool</p> <p>A draft WofE NCA dashboard has now been produced and UA scorecards are being developed and finalised with support of the BACP.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: July 2020- July 2021)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> A key ongoing consideration for this action is the consideration of the range of available NCA tools and approaches, including the DEFRA led NATURE Tool. The GIWG will continue to review the range of tools underdevelopment and consider the tools of best use for the WofE region.</p>
S4	<b>WofE National GI Standards Framework pilot</b> - deliver pilot as outlined in proposal to Natural England	UAs/ the Combined Authority /NE  (GIWG Led action)	£ Officer time	2020		<p>As a pilot area WofE officers have continued to engage on the Standards Framework. The first pilot study has now concluded, with Natural England considering outcomes and further work with the pilot areas, with view to launch in 2022.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: to be reviewed over 2021 in line with future proposed pilot opportunities)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Opportunities to engage in future pilots with Natural England will be explored over 2021/22.</p>
S5	<b>WofE Tree and Woodland Strategy</b> - produce, coordinate/identify strategic approach to tree and woodland planting eg targeting of new woodland creation schemes/joint funding bids and consider Ash Die Back - to assess and understand risk and impact to WofE.	WENP  (EOSG Led action)	£10,500 partner contribution  £ Officer time	2020		<p>The WofE Tree and Woodland Strategy has been approved through WENP board and published on the 9<sup>th</sup> June during the Festival of Nature 2021.</p>	<p><b>Action ongoing</b> (Timescales: October 2021)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The Combined Authority and the UAs will seek formal endorsement of the Tree and Woodland Strategy over 2021.</p>

### **Summary of key actions to deliver over 2021:**

- Finalise approach to GI/Nature based regional project development - Action A5
  - Continue to explore with partners approaches to invest and finance GI projects - Action A6
  - WofE Environmental and ecological Geographical Information System (GIS) development - Action S1.
  - WofE Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) options - Action S2.
  - Continue to consider the role of Natural Capital Accounting in decision making - Action S3
  - Review outputs of the National GI Standards Framework pilot and engage with NE on future pilot opportunities - Action S4
  - Endorsement and publication of the WofE Tree and Woodland Strategy - Action S5
- GIWG members to continue to support UAs and the Combined Authority to integrate GI in development of Climate and Ecological Emergency action plans and as part of their evidence development.
  - GIWG members continue to support evidence and policy development for the Combined Authority SDS and UA local plans.
  - The GIWG continue to meet monthly to progress the programme of actions and update on projects and evidence development.
  - Need to identify additional resources for delivery of specific JGIS actions and resourcing to provide natural environment specialist advice and support.

### **New actions**

R2 - As work progresses to understand the future needs of relevant GI assessments required in light of the Environment Bill, the GIWG will provide advice and input regarding biodiversity/LNRS technical needs and resource requirements, advising the EOSG accordingly.

A13 - Through the EOSG consider national approaches to monitor the DEFRA indicators and the regional interpretation and monitoring regimes that exist and could be established to enable reporting and monitoring of Environmental Change across the West of England.

### **Conclusions**

- The GIWG continues to be supported by all partners, meeting monthly to progress the JGIS Action Plan actions directly relevant to GI.
- With the establishment of the EOSG, the JGIS actions of wider environmental relevance have been identified and set out for the EOSG to deliver.
- The resource and management of the JGIS action plan is set out below:
  - GIWG: A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, A7, A9, S3, S4.
  - EOSG: R1, A6, A8, A10, A11, A12, S1, S2, S3, S5.
- Annual reporting of JGIS Action Plan delivery is being reported through the governance of the EOSG who have responsibility for the JGIS. Of the 18 Actions set in the JGIS Action plan, 7 are green, 7 are amber and 4 are red. The Action Plan progress is subject to ongoing review through the year reporting key issues and risks to the EOSG.

- The GIWG continues to operate with no formal dedicated resource and evidence budget and so relies on contribution of officer time and resource. The resource and capacity of the group is a challenge to deliver the Action Plan actions assigned to the Group. The Combined Authority have funded a GI Project Manager post (April 2021) and BACP have secured further officer support that will assist JGIS work. Other partners and UAs are reviewing resource needs in light of the Environment Bill notably with regard BNG. Resource and capacity will continue to be considered by EOSG and regional Directors of Development.