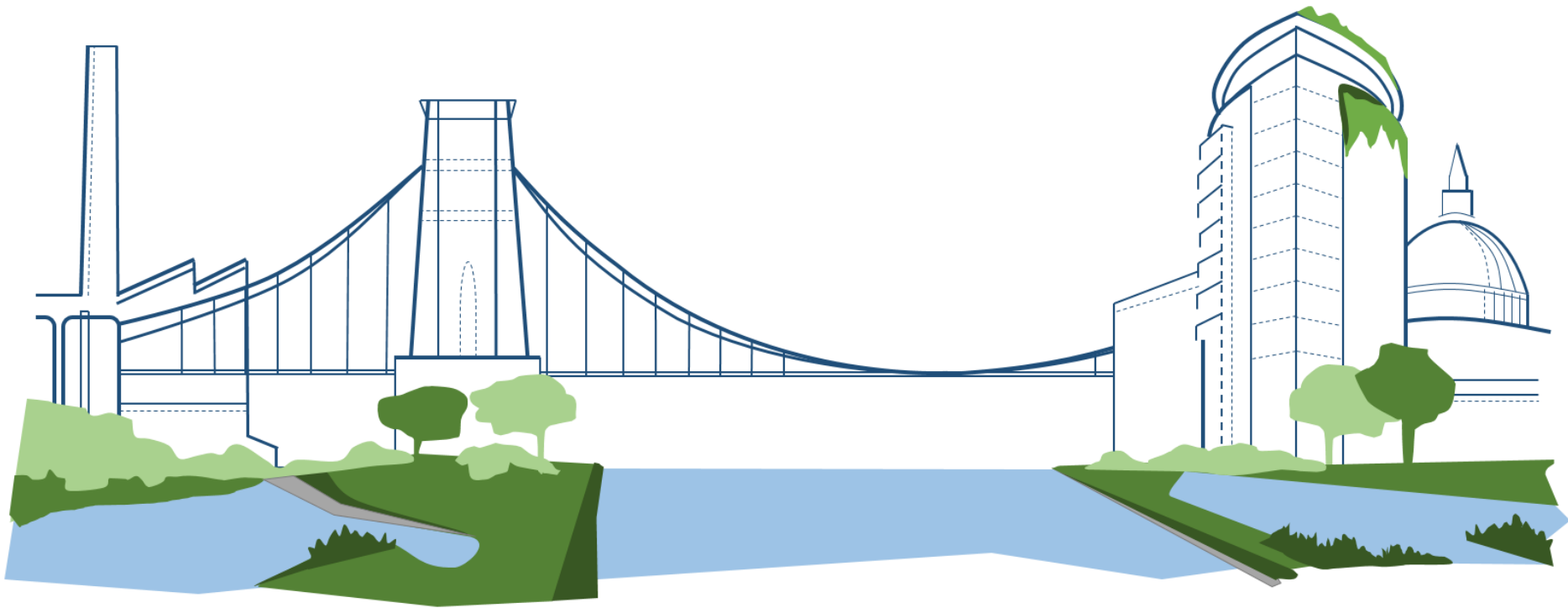


Newcastle Learning and Action Alliance

Wednesday 1st March 2017



Agenda items and meeting aim

- New Blue-Green Declaration signatories
- Plans for continuing the Newcastle LAA

Group Discussion: Meeting frequency and content
 Organisation
 Other stakeholders to involve
 Online platform
 Vision and strategic objectives
 Newcastle as a resilient city or Blue-Green city?

- Group feedback and future planning
- Stakeholder mapping exercise
- Planning 'Newcastle LAA re-launch' workshop

Newcastle declaration on blue and green infrastructure

Newcastle declaration on Blue and Green Infrastructure

Newcastle City Council, Northumbrian Water, Newcastle University, the Environment Agency, Arup and Royal HaskoningDHV confirm their commitment to expanding the amount of Blue and Green Infrastructure in towns and cities across the UK. In establishing the declaration, the signatories acknowledge that:

- Flooding has a significant effect on the quality of life of our residents and the performance of the North East economy;
- Without continued effort, climate change threatens to increase this;
- Proactive investment in preparing for it is considerably cheaper and more preferable than dealing with damages;
- Investment in blue and green infrastructure has a significant role to play in managing flood risk in urban areas; and that
- Deploying such infrastructure can also make a significant positive contribution to many other important areas of life, including physical and mental health and wellbeing, biodiversity, carbon emissions, culture, quality of life and the economy.

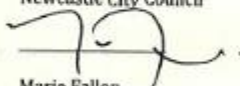
We therefore commit to the following:

- Providing local, regional and national leadership, encouraging and collaborating with others to increase the uptake of blue and green infrastructure
- Developing a supportive policy framework for new and retrofit projects
- Prioritising the use of green and blue infrastructure in managing flood risk wherever possible
- Assessing and increasing deployment within our own estates and activities
- Working with developers to maximise the amount of blue and green infrastructure in new development
- Piloting new ways of working, and new funding models which help to realise the multiple benefits of blue and green infrastructure
- Continuing to build and share data, knowledge and understanding needed to successfully implement such approaches
- Raising awareness and building capacity amongst communities to develop and maintain blue and green space, as part of wider resilience building initiatives

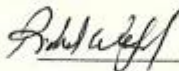
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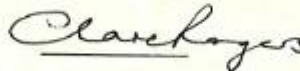
Cllr Ged Bell
Cabinet Member for Investment
and Development
Newcastle City Council



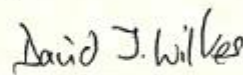
Marie Fallon
Area Manager for
Northumberland, Durham and
Tees, Environment Agency



Richard Warneford
Wastewater Director
Northumbrian Water



Clare Rogers
Director of Estates
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David Wilkes
Global Flood Resilience Leader
Arup



Fola Ogunyoye
Leading Professional for Flood
Resilience
Royal HaskoningDHV

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Newcastle Blue and Green Declaration

In February 2016, Newcastle City Council and five of their partners launched a declaration on Blue and Green infrastructure, committing signatories to the prioritisation of Blue-Green infrastructure in managing flood risk.

In addition, the declaration highlights the importance of changing working practices towards greater collaboration through commitments to work with developers to maximise Blue-Green infrastructure in new developments; raise awareness and build capacity amongst communities to develop and maintain Blue-Green infrastructure, and; pilot new way of working to realise the multiple benefits.

Newcastle refers to where the declaration was signed, rather than the geographical scope, which is much wider.

If your organisation would like to become a signatory, please download the [declaration template](#) (.docx) and return to flood.management@newcastle.gov.uk.

Newcastle Blue and Green Declaration

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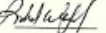
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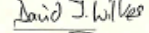
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Global Flood Resilience Leader
Arup


Felix Ogunsanya
Leading Professional for Flood
Resilience
Royal HaskoningDHV

Declaration signatories

2016

- [Newcastle City Council](#)
- [Northumbrian Water](#)
- [Environment Agency](#)
- [Newcastle University](#)
- [Arup](#)
- [Royal HaskoningDHV](#)

2017

- [Northumberland Wildlife Trust](#)

<http://www.urbanfloodresilience.ac.uk/newcastle-blue-green-declaration/newcastle-blue-green-declaration.aspx>

New Blue-Green Declaration signatories

- Northumberland Wildlife Trust



Suggestions:

- Northumbria University
- MWH
- Other LLFAs in the region
- Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Organisations at integrated drainage partnership meetings

➤ **Next steps?**

Plans for continuing the Newcastle LAA

Benefits of joining a LAA

- Networking:
 - Opening and broadening communication channels
 - Strengthening existing relationships
- Co-production of knowledge and learning from discussions (that may be outside their typical professional remit)
- Opportunities for collaborative working to achieve common goals
- Identification of joint funding schemes
- Realisation of common goals and objectives of many organisations
- Speeding up data sharing between partners
- Access (and influence) to academic research

Goals for longevity and sustainability of the LAA

- Active learning
- Communication, rapport and trust
- Clear rewards for all stakeholders – meet (and manage) their expectations
- Facilitation – someone to organise regular meetings
- Manage conflicts of interest
- Overcome bureaucratic difficulties, e.g. data sharing and acquisition
- LAA coordinator – in our experience the coordinator was working on a research project and so had resources to coordinate meetings (difficult for other stakeholders)

Role of Urban Flood Resilience team in Newcastle LAA

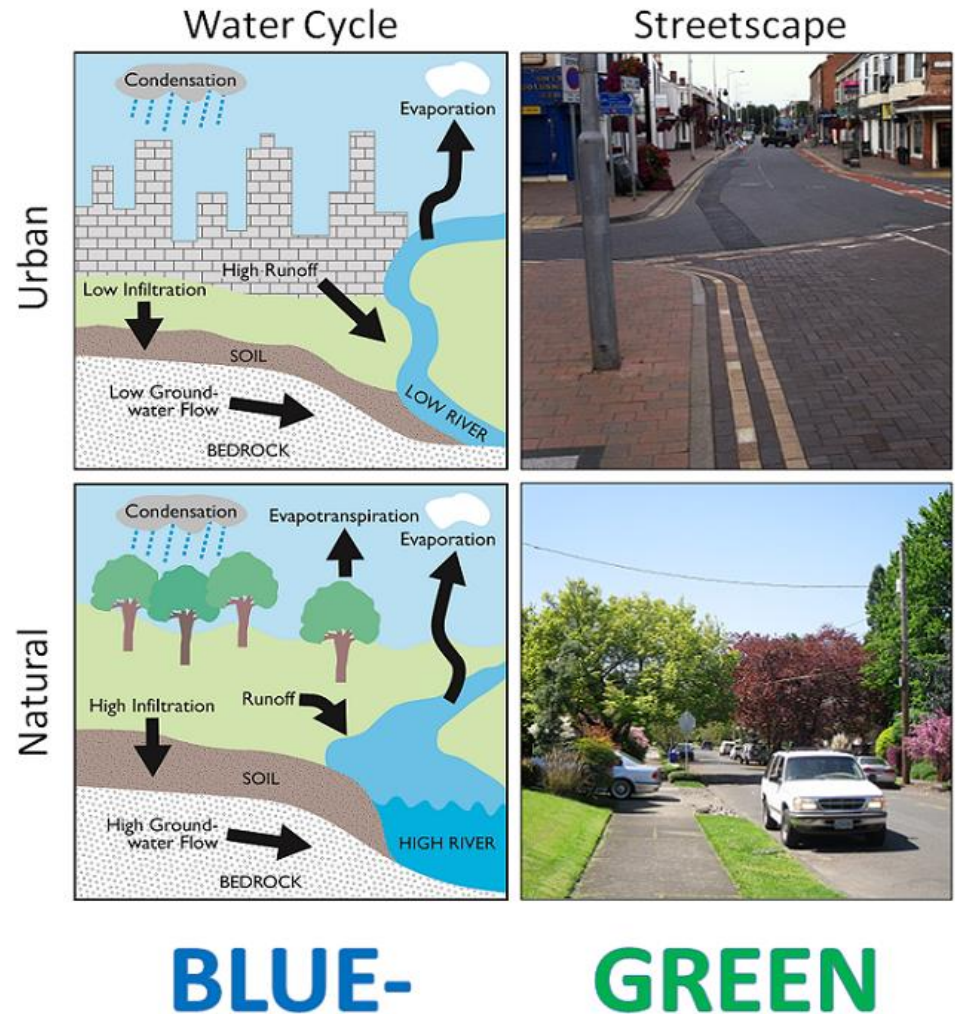
- Member of the LAA
- We will not dictate the direction – this needs to come from the Newcastle stakeholders (help with longevity and ensuring LAA focuses on Newcastle goals)
- We are happy to be part of the organising group and arrange meetings etc.

Group discussion – continuing the Newcastle LAA

- Meeting frequency and content
 - Organisation (e.g. who would like to help coordinate?)
 - Online platform? Google Groups?
 - Vision and strategic objective – do these need updating? *Please annotate copies of vision*
 - Are Newcastle interested in moving towards becoming a resilient city or just a Blue-Green City?
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Themes for future meetings
- **Group spokesperson(s) reports back at 14.45**

The Vision...

is for Newcastle to become a city that follows the principles of Blue-Green design by maximising the opportunities to achieve multiple benefits of Blue-Green approaches to surface water management



The vision

In the urban environment, a Blue-Green City creates multifunctional land use through surface water management and greening schemes. Surface water is managed in part by natural processes, including interception, attenuation, evapotranspiration, infiltration and subsurface/groundwater flow, to create some of the following benefits:

- Improved infiltration (green infrastructure) and enhanced water storage (blue infrastructure)
- The integration of water management, urban green space and connected Blue-Green networks to make urban environments better places to live
- Valued natural assets that provide economic, ecological, environmental and socio-cultural benefits
- Assets that enhance the visual quality of the urban environment in the time between floods
- More healthy communities and improved quality of life
-

The Vision...

is for Newcastle to become a city that follows the principles of Blue-Green design by maximising the opportunities to achieve multiple benefits of Blue-Green approaches to surface water management

**The LAA will promote this
vision and realise it by
recognising, and utilising,
windows of opportunity for
potentially influencing the
strategies of decision makers**

Strategic Objectives

1. Develop, promote and influence the uptake of novel ideas and BG strategies
2. Explore ways in which institutional barriers can be overcome (to favour BG)
3. Challenge traditional approaches and indicate how new benefits will be generated and how these can promote partnerships in Newcastle
4. Promote the broad vision through identifying specific challenges and locations of interest in the Newcastle region that may be improved by BG approaches
5. Develop location-specific BG strategies that may inform the plans enacted by the organisations represented by LAA members and beyond
6.

Stakeholder mapping

- Other stakeholders to involve (e.g. landowners and developers, other under-engaged groups in flood risk management) in Newcastle LAA
 - E.g. airport, Persimmons, Northumbria University, Tees Valley Combined Authority, Northumberland County Council, Lugano
 - Previous stakeholders to re-engage
 - Suggestions (via email):
 - **Richard Baker**- NELEP Head of Strategy and Policy
 - **Gayle Wilson** - Planning Officer, Gateshead Council
 - **Claire Thompson** - North East England Nature Partnership
- **Group spokesperson(s) reports back at 15.25**

Newcastle LAA re-launch workshop

- Date
- Programme
- Presentations
- Workshop activities
- Location
- Stakeholders to invite
- Etc....