

#citynature
#naturynyddinas

Building a Better Swansea GREENING SWANSEA CITY

Follow the project team at: @frolfey @PGruffydd @NatResWales @SwanseaCouncil @GreenInfracons

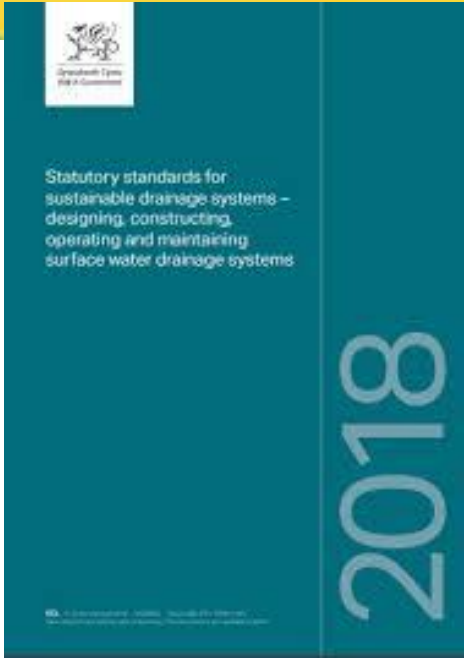
Why make a strategy?

“The realisation is growing around the world that it is not enough for real estate to be able to just tick all the boxes for sustainable technology. Real estate is always set within a bigger and richer context. **People are increasingly seeking and expecting to encounter an experience of a place wherever they live, work, play, stay, make, shop, visit or rest, rather than just a collection of buildings**, however green they may be. If any individual piece of real estate can not add this sort of value that the occupiers expect, then its appeal and price will lower. To achieve this greater value investors in real estate need to enhance the occupiers experience and be capable of adaption to the may changing needs and conditions that the future will throw at them. **If real estate fails to do this then it is incapable of being sustainable.**”

Professor Yolanda Barns of the Bartlett Institute UCL

- Strategic approach
- Enhance the conversation
- Collective action
- Future proof the city

National Policy and Legislation



The Strategy

Swansea Central Area -
Regenerating Our City for
Wellbeing and Wildlife

August 2019

CONSULTATION DRAFT



Green
Infrastructure
consultancy



Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales



Cyngor **Abertawe**
Swansea Council

“Taking the kids shopping is a headache. 30 minutes break for free play is a life line. children don’t have that chance today”

“A City that is green is a City where I want to be seen.
A City that is bare is a city that does not care.”

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 - Ways of Working



Prevention:
understand barrier to
implementation

Long term:
finding the balance between long term
trends on the city communities and the
short term pressures



Integration:
Understanding who is
involved and their goals

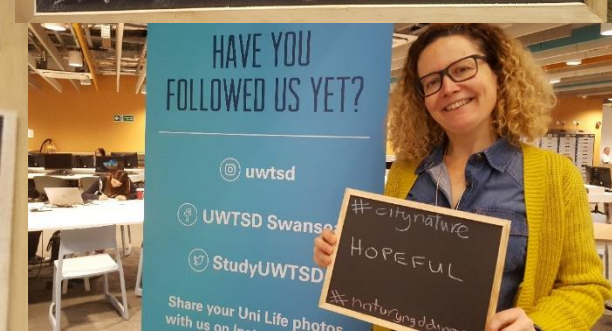
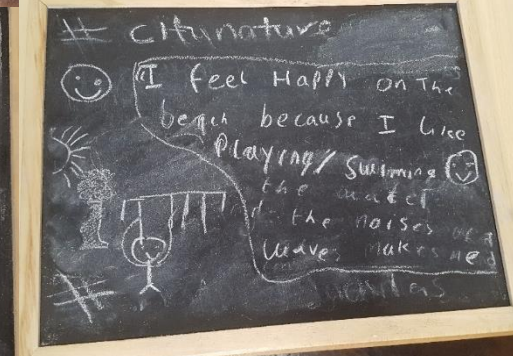
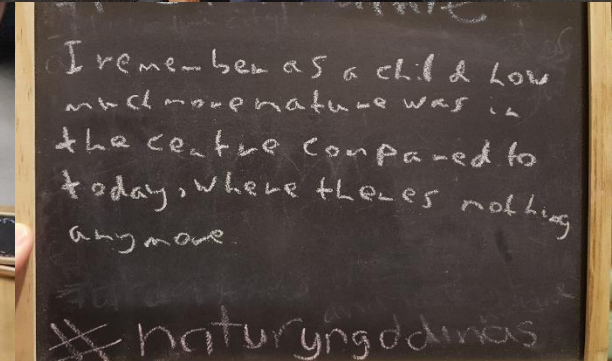
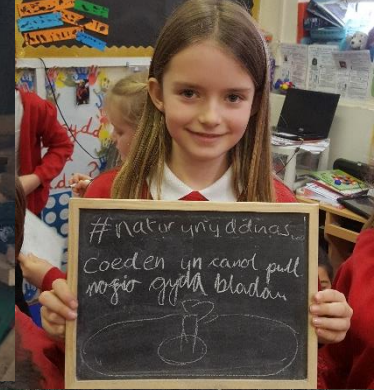
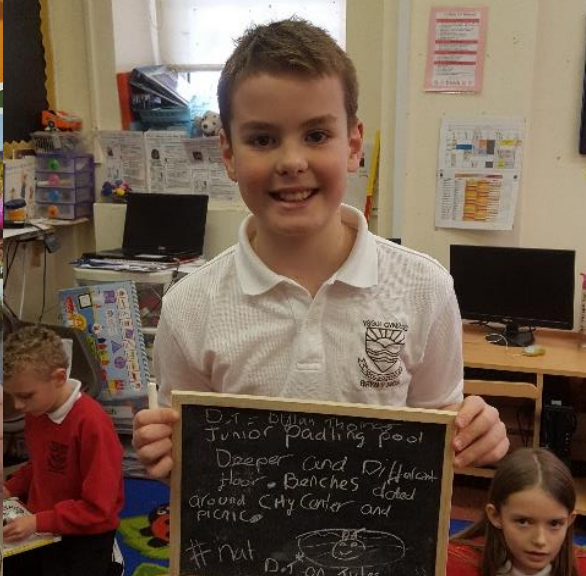
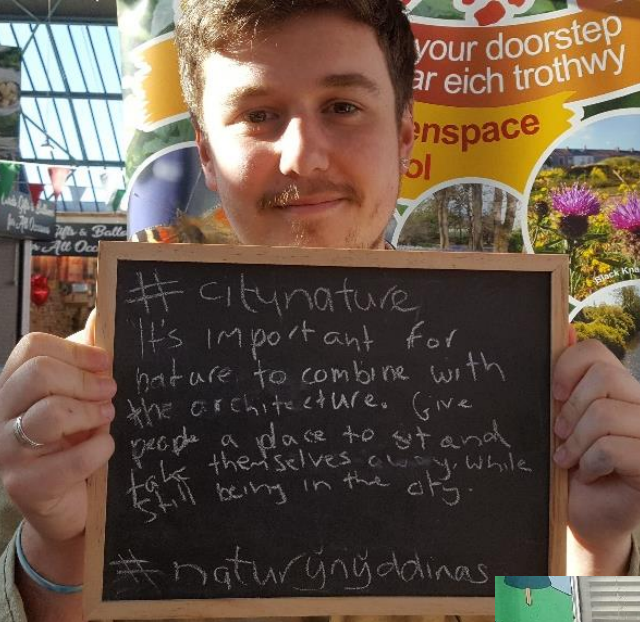
- Collaboration:**
- Authentic and energised partnership
 - multidisciplinary approach

- Involvement:**
- 634 conversations with members of the public
 - 4 primary schools
 - Social media campaign
 - Stakeholder meeting and workshops
 - Corporate sessions

“Culture eats strategy for breakfast”

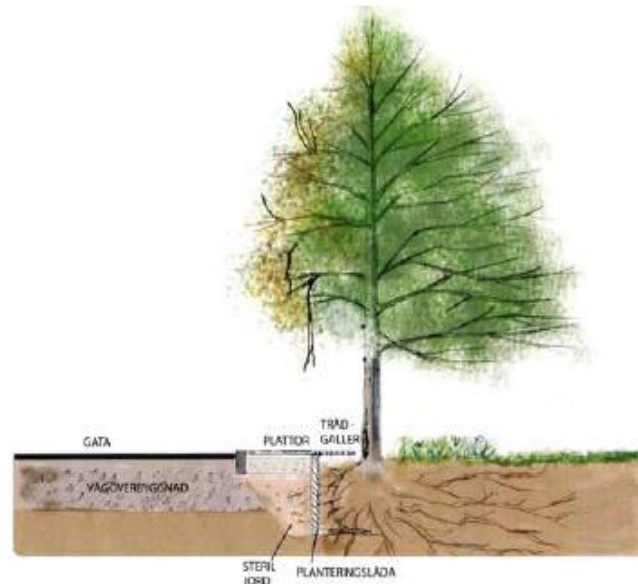
Peter Druker, Management Consultant

**People
Relationships
Trust
Time
Willingness
Understanding
Procurement**

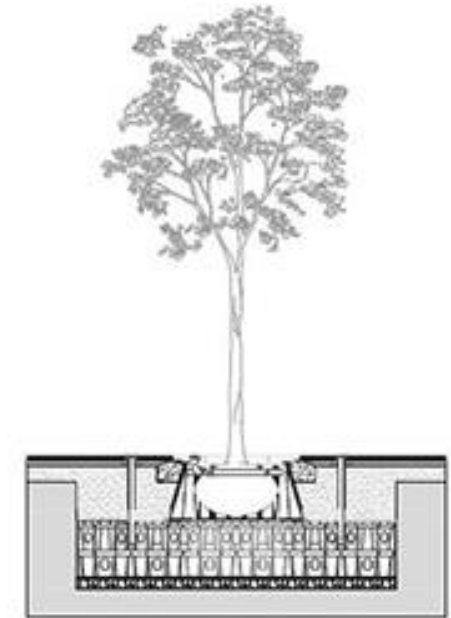


Guiding Principles:

- Work with nature, not against it
- More soil, vegetation & water (green & blue infrastructure)
- Multi-functional approach
- Not just more greening but cleverer greening



Typical Street Tree



Street Tree with
Soil Cells

The Vision:

High quality multifunctional green infrastructure delivers resilience, prosperity, nature, health, well-being and happiness to the citizens and visitors of Swansea.



Over Arching Strategic Objectives:

1. Provide a high-quality environment
2. Creating a distinctive destination city
3. Adapt to Climate Change by becoming a:
 - Sponge City
 - Mitigating urban heat island effect
 - Maintaining and enhancing Swansea Cities natural resources and biodiversity
4. Involve, engage and educate communities
5. Lead by example
6. Attain wildlife and well-being friendly city status, such as;
 - Biophillic City
 - National Park City
 - UNESCO Biosphere
 - Woodland city



We will achieve these by:

- ✓ Increasing terrestrial green infrastructure to **26% by 2030**
- ✓ Increasing canopy cover to **25% by 2044** by planting species which provide the most effective mix of multiple benefits.
- ✓ Expecting developers to meet the **UK Green Roof Code of Practise 2014** which sets minimum standards for the design, installation and maintenance of green roofs
- ✓ Expecting developers and planner to use the tools such as the **Green Space Factor** and **CAVAT** to demonstrate compliance with our ambitious targets and relevant legislative requirements.
- ✓ Become and **Trees in the Townscape champion** by official endorsing the 12 Trees in the townscape principles in Swansea city.
- ✓ Developing resilient communities by creating champions through high level engagement.



Green Space Factor Tool (Urban Greening Factor)

- ❖ A tool for measuring quantity and function of green infrastructure proposed as part of planning applications;
- ❖ Aimed at securing quantity and multi-functionality of GI;
- ❖ Encourages developers to include more GI (notably green roofs and living walls) but allows flexibility;
- ❖ Used to inform planning officers;
- ❖ Can be used to test options; and
- ❖ Usually applied to particular zones within a city.



Our Seeds Have Germinated..

- Piloted GSF
- Partner alignment
- Influenced local and national funding



What we have learnt...

- Conversations
- Ask good questions
- Learn each others language
- Spend time
- Genuine and meaningful engagement
- Work with experts with a proven track record



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