

Green & Blue Neighbourhood (G) Draft Policies 1,2 &3

Green & Waterfront Environment

All our community engagement and consultation work so far has emphasised the importance of the 'green and blue' characteristics of the Shoreham Beach. Local residents have suggested a range of specific objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan and the related policies which would help Shoreham Beach become an example of a community which is moving towards sustainability.

Objective 1

Protect green spaces, waterfront environments & heritage assets that are of demonstrable value to the community

Residents want to

- reinforce the importance of the Beach's green spaces and ensure that they all remain for the **use of the people and wildlife of the Beach.**
- protect and enhance the Beach's biodiversity and wildlife habitats**, especially the Nature Reserve and the river banks.

G1 Policy G1 Designation of Local Green Spaces (LGS)

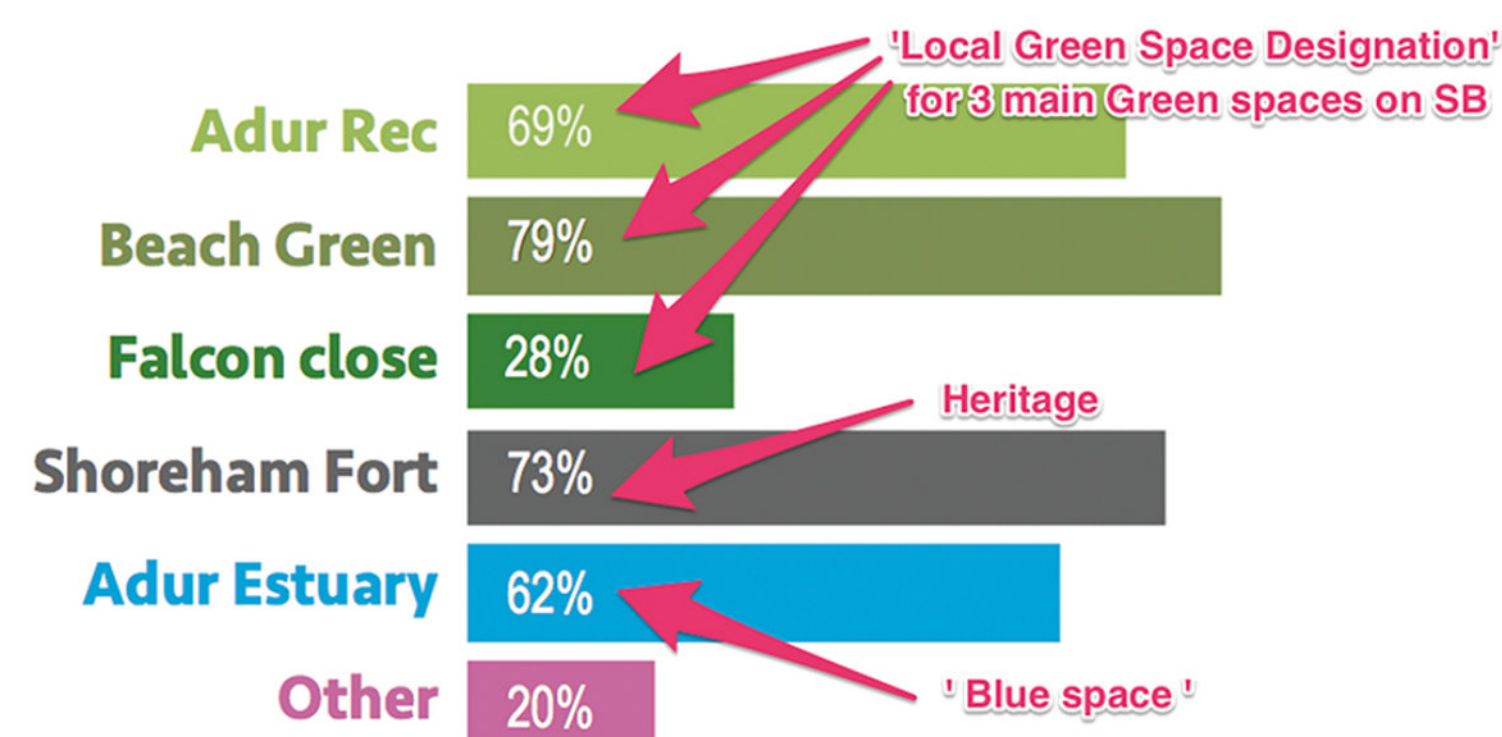
The Neighbourhood Draft Plan proposes to designate the following land as Local Green Spaces

- LGS 1 Beach Green
- LGS 2 Adur Recreation Ground
- LGS 3 Falcon Close
- LGS 4 Local Nature Reserve
- LGS 5 Soldiers Point
- LGS 6 Silver Sand
- LGS 7 The Old Fort

"GREEN MUST REMAIN GREEN"
"PROTECTION of the Natural Assets & ENHANCE through landscaping"

"The character of the Beach is that it has no architectural order and great amenity with wonderful waterside environments and a sense of adventure."

Apart from the protected beach, what are the most important open spaces in the Marine Ward?



Local Green Spaces What are they?

Since 2012, through planning law, Local Green Space can be designated when a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) is being produced. They enable communities to identify and protect areas that are of value to them. Local Green Spaces are subject to the same strong development restrictions as Green Belt areas.

How are they defined?

Strong support and evidence must be demonstrated

- its local community values and uses
- its local significance
- the following criteria (one or more)
- contributes to the character of an area and a sense of place
- provides a setting for and allows views of heritage assets
- have local significance for recreation perhaps through a variety of activities
- be an oasis of calm and a space for quiet reflection
- have a high value as habitat, such as evidenced by designation as a wildlife site or Local Nature reserve

The strong support, evidence and feedback from this consultation are needed.

This neighbourhood planning power is tailor-made for Shoreham Beach. Supported by the evidence of our Urban Character Study and Household Survey we propose to make full use of it.

Objective 2 Improve the landscape features of the Beach

There is evidence of two contrasting attitudes to trees on the Beach

- For some the relative absence of trees and the resulting open views are a positive characteristic of the Beach which should be maintained –not least because of the micro-climate
- For others the relative absence of trees is an opportunity for planting to improve the street scene and contribute to reducing the carbon footprint of the Beach

G2 Policy G2 Conserve and plant trees

G2 (1) The Plan will encourage and support tree-planting in local areas of focus, which are identified and approved by residents, as part of a Beach landscaping strategy, which is backed by a neighbourhood tree-planting campaign

G2 (2)The Plan will oppose developments which involve the felling of trees without a report from a recognised arboriculture company.

G3 Policy G3 Improve existing landscaped areas

The Plan will support landscape improvement projects which are supported by residents including

- Pocket Parks & Rainwater Gardens** to create green belts of flora and wildlife habitats, as well as reducing flood impact, noise & CO2 pollution, provide educational resources and amenity.
- Soft landscaping schemes** in selected locations areas, which would allow open grass spaces to become more diverse, provide better amenity for residents, offer shelter for wildlife and support biodiversity.
- Roundabouts** could be improved through sponsored schemes which reduce the councils' maintenance responsibility.

Other opportunities

(Suggested by the community)

- Pocket Parks & Rainwater Gardens** to create green belts of flora and wildlife habitats, as well as reducing flood impact, noise & CO2 pollution, provide educational resources and amenity.
- Soft landscaping** could be considered wisely in strategic areas, this would allow open grass spaces to become more diverse, better amenity for residents, offer shelter and support biodiversity.
- Roundabouts** could become sponsored so their maintenance does not rest solely on the council responsibility.
- Playground** Informal playground with non descriptive features such as the large pebbles at Splash Point Worthing might prove more popular than traditional equipment.

G4 Policy G4 Implementation

The Plan will provide a **framework of evidence and ideas** which residents' organisations can use to develop projects for which **funding** could be sought from a variety of sources including public sector agencies and private corporate organisations, together with crowd-funding initiatives and neighbourhood fund raising events.

Please give us your views on these policies on the feedback form



'Landscaping should be in keeping with location and wildlife friendly'

What is your ideal Green Space? Do you want more or less trees?

Design your own at the activity table

