

LANDSCAPE INSTITUTE PRESS RELEASE

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Green Infrastructure and landscape-scale approach welcomed in Environment White paper

The Landscape Institute, the professional body for landscape architects has welcomed the government's commitment to both a green infrastructure and a landscape-scale approach to the safeguarding of our landscape and natural environment. Commenting on today's publication the *Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature*, LI Policy Chair Noel Farrer says: 'The White Paper commits the government to creating urban green infrastructure to complete the links in our ecological network. It recognises the way in which urban green spaces are an essential asset in the ways in which they cool urban areas, reduce flood risk, and help communities adapt to a changing climate. And it recognises the strong economic and social benefits of green infrastructure.'

Farrer continued: 'The aspirations of the White Paper are excellent. I am however concerned that many of these may be thwarted by the changes in the planning system which are currently going through Parliament. I am however delighted at the recognition given to green infrastructure, a practical example of the way in which landscape can deliver multiple benefits to all of the communities that use it.'

The White Paper also recognises the importance of the way in which landscapes contribute to our national identity and the distinctive nature of local communities.

ENDS

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Notes to editors:

1. To find out more about the Landscape Institute visit www.landscapeinstitute.org
2. **Green Infrastructure, connected and multifunctional communities**, a guide to the benefits of green infrastructure, is available to download from the Landscape Institute website: <http://www.landscapeinstitute.org/policy/GreenInfrastructure.php>
3. The Landscape Institute is the professional body for landscape architects. It is an educational charity and chartered body responsible for protecting, conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment for the benefit of the public. It champions well-designed and well-managed urban and rural landscape. The Institute's accreditation and professional procedures ensure that the designers, managers and scientists who make up the landscape architecture profession work to the highest standards. Its advocacy and education programmes promote the landscape architecture profession as one which focuses on design, environment and community in order to inspire great places where people want to live, work and visit. The Institute provides services to assist members including support and promotion of the work of landscape architects; information and guidance to the public and industry about the specific expertise offered by those in the profession; and training and educational advice to students and professionals looking to build upon their experience.