

Local authority biodiversity net gain consultation workshop: evaluation, monitoring and enforcement

15 March 2022

Agenda

Introduction

Evaluation, monitoring and enforcement in the BNG consultation

Discussion session 1

Habitat management and monitoring for BNG delivery

Comfort break

Discussion session 2

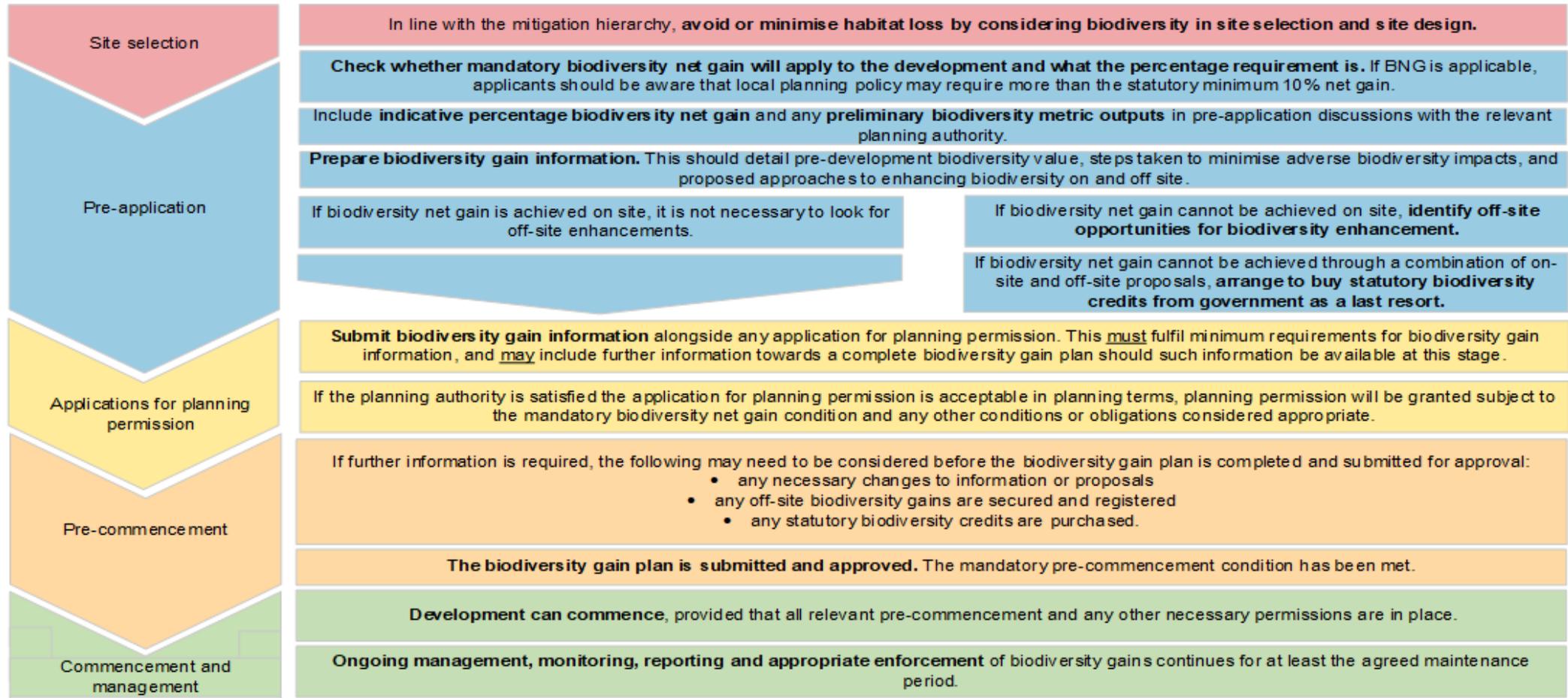
Scrutiny and enforcement of BNG delivery

Summing up, next steps and feedback

Finish at 4pm

BNG consultation Figure 2: summary process diagram

Proposed biodiversity net gain process for Town and Country Planning Act 1990 development (indicative process only – not representative of all routes to permission)



Project level reporting, evaluation and monitoring

- Monitoring and reporting will be a landowner or developer's responsibility
- Monitoring requirements will need to be specified as part of planning conditions, obligations or conservation covenants securing BNG
 - 30 years for 'significant' on-site and off-site habitat enhancement
- Reports might be expected in Years 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30 for a typical site
- Reports to be submitted to planning authority, register operator (for off-site) and relevant responsible body (for conservation covenants)
- Scrutiny and enforcement responsibilities lie with LPAs and conservation covenant responsible bodies

Evaluation, monitoring & enforcement: making it work

- Standardised process for habitat management and monitoring
- Guidance on monitoring, that also allows room for discretion
- Changes to guidance to support BNG enforcement
- Accreditation and earned recognition?
- Defra recognise the importance of capacity & transparency:
 - Biodiversity gain plan and site register process
 - New burdens funding for LPAs
 - Publicly accessible BNG monitoring info?

Break-out 1: Habitat management and monitoring for BNG delivery

Thinking about developer and landowner responsibilities and securing these

- What issues do you currently face with management and monitoring of habitat provided through development? What currently works well?
- Thinking about proposals for mandatory BNG, including on-site and off-site delivery and 30 year management requirements, what do you think about the proposals for habitat management and monitoring set out in the consultation?
 - Do you think what is proposed is sufficient and achievable?
 - What do you need more clarity on?
 - Do you agree with proposals for a standardised process for BNG habitat management and monitoring?
- What would you like guidance on BNG habitat management and monitoring to cover?

Break-out 2: Scrutiny and enforcement of BNG delivery

Thinking about your role in scrutinising/checking management and monitoring of BNG delivery and enforcement of non-compliance

- What do you think about the proposals for scrutiny and enforcement of BNG set out in the consultation?
 - Do you think what is proposed is sufficient and achievable?
 - What do you need more clarity on?
- How would you like existing guidance to be changed to help with BNG enforcement?
- Do you think earned recognition and/or accreditation may help with scrutiny and enforcement of BNG?

Next steps

What do you think?

How did we do?

- More topic-focused events:
 - Process for TCPA development
 - Additionality
 - Biodiversity gain plan
- Ongoing support through PAS project

Don't forget to respond to the consultation! It closes 5 April.

For more information:

Look at our website:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/pas/topics/environment/biodiversity-net-gain>

Sign up to the PAS bulletin:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/pas/our-work/keep-touch>

Follow us on Twitter  : @pas_team

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