

# Urban Greening Factor (UGF)

The new UGF SPG sets out detailed guidance for evaluating and calculating Urban Greening Factor across development proposals. UGF assesses the quality and quantity of urban greening, enabling proposals to demonstrate their compliance with London Plan Policy G5 Urban Greening.

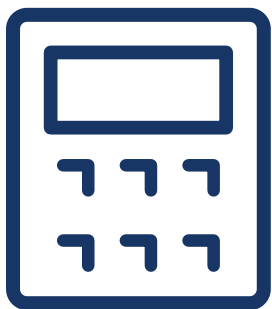
Applicants should refer to any prioritisation of design standards for certain greening types set out in borough Development Plan Documents or documents such as Tree Strategies, Biodiversity Action Plans or Open Space Strategies.



## Biodiversity Gain

For developments with a low baseline level of biodiversity, an ecologically informed approach can create new areas of wildlife habitat to deliver biodiversity gains alongside other green infrastructure benefits. Policy G6 Biodiversity should also be met in addition to any relevant UGF targets.

## Calculating the UGF



Different types of greening that can be incorporated into development are categorised by surface cover types which broadly indicate their relative quality. The UGF assigns a factor score to each surface cover type which are weighted based on their potential for rainwater infiltration. Scores range from 1 for semi natural vegetation through to 0 for impermeable sealed surfaces. UGF calculations should be submitted as a separate stand-alone drawing and should include:

- A masterplan that is colour-coded according to surface cover types, and;
- A completed UGF table.



## Planning Application Stages and Types

- Phased development - each phase should demonstrate compliance with the relevant UGF target score on its own merit.
- Outline applications - planning condition required to include a final UGF calculation as a part of a Reserved Matters Application, and the UGF target is met.