

5 seeds of transformational green landscape architecture

While the focus on green landscape architecture was already building momentum pre-pandemic, lockdowns and restrictions have raised awareness of the importance of designing cities to promote the physical and mental wellbeing of the people living in them.

Building a more balanced natural outdoor urban environment – while also harnessing more nature-focused interior design – can result in a city that benefits both mental and physical health for its inhabitants. Below, we look at the five key seeds of meaningful change when it comes to living greener, and healthier.

Find out more about how we can make positive changes together at:

sweco.co.uk/landscapes

Cities of the future must adopt a holistic framework of planting, habitats and SuDS which integrates green/blue infrastructure with built infrastructure, including green walls, green roofs, rain gardens and tree planting.

01.

Biophilic
design

Redefining links with natural systems is key to establishing balance between man-made interventions and the environment. This includes measures such as opening up watercourses, diversifying habitats and enhancing green space connectivity.

02.

Connecting
with nature

Active and social use relationships between people and their environment must be reinforced, including creation of traffic-calmed neighbourhoods and active travel initiatives to reclaim use of streets for people with the integration of community social space and facilities.

03.

Health &
wellbeing

Embedding relevant local service needs is critical within the commercial component of the community – as is drawing on local history, crafts and themes to assert a sense of distinction and neighbourhood identity.

04.

Sustainable
placemaking

Designing with extremes of climate in mind must be a priority, including the incorporation of flood water management in streetscape design, street tree planting to enhance microclimate and diversity of plant species to anticipate adaptation.

05.

Climate
resilience