## ENHANCING GREEN SPACES FOR PEOPLE, NATURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION

## **GREEN VISION: What are we aiming for overall?**

We are part of nature; unless it flourishes, we cannot flourish either, but the UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. We must also halt the loss of wildlife- both for its own sake and for all the ways we rely on it, such as crop pollination. We can support this by growing more food locally and making it easier for people to get involved in food production.

Our food system is failing us all. Poor diets are estimated to cost our NHS £6.5bn a year yet successive governments have failed to take on the unhealthy food lobby. Meanwhile, the way we produce our food is damaging our natural world and our climate. Our food system accounts for a third of all greenhouse gas emissions and is the greatest driver of nature loss and pollution in our rivers.

## GREEN Priorities: What we will try to do in the next four years

- Encourage more local food-growing initiatives such as allotments, school growing plots and community gardens.
- Set up groups to care for neglected green spaces in the city.
- Plant more trees, which will mitigate the effects of climate change by providing shade and keep our streets cooler in extreme heat.
- Continue to campaign against the dumping of sewage in the River Severn by Severn Trent Water.



The Worcester Community Garden shares food growing skills

## **GREEN ACTION: What we have done**

- Organised regular litter picks to help keep Worcester a cleaner and nicer place to be.
- Worked with community groups to plant trees, bulbs and fruit bushes.
- Helped organise the installation of swift boxes on residents' houses.
- Lobbied the county council to reduce its use of toxic weed killers.
- Successfully pushed for the council to help local farmers with the impact of the shortage of seasonal workers due to Brexit.

