

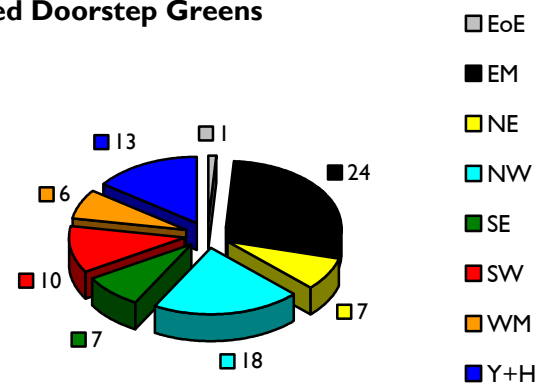
# Doorstep Greens

## Monthly Report: January 2006

### 1. Completed Projects

- 86 Doorstep Greens are now fully complete\*.
- See table below (right) for the latest Doorstep Greens to be completed during the last month.
- Previous monthly reports, showing the names of sites already completed are available under the 'Resources' link on: [www.countryside.gov.uk/doorstepgreens](http://www.countryside.gov.uk/doorstepgreens)

Completed Doorstep Greens (by region)



#### The following greens started work in January:

Site	Location
Beaford Doorstep Green	Devon
Glasney Valley Doorstep Green	Cornwall
Pyramid Park	Stockton-on-Tees
Park Uprising	Nottinghamshire
Jade Green Doorstep Green	Redcar & Cleveland

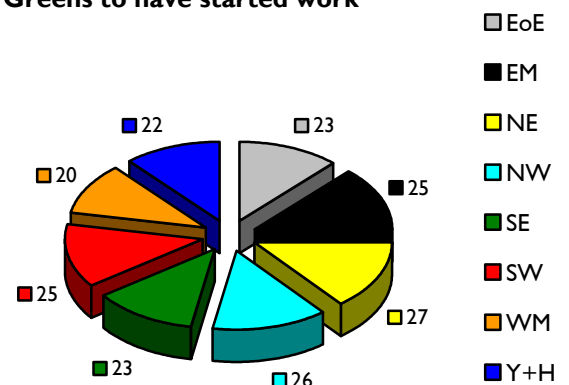
#### The following greens completed site works in January:

Site	Location
Brickfield Park	Warrington
Westminster Park	Cheshire
Rayners Field	Nottinghamshire

### 2. Progress of Projects

- 191 Doorstep Greens have started work on site to date
- Five new Doorstep Green projects started work during January

Doorstep Greens to have started work (by region)



### 3. Doorstep Greens Monitor

David Hopkins, DG Adviser, East of England region)

“On a clear day you can see forever” Well not quite - but on the site of Epping Upland Doorstep Green on a cold January afternoon with the snow beginning to fall and the light fading the Reverend Chris Bard tells me “On a good day you can see Centre Point and Canary Wharf from here!” Quite a feat when you consider we are standing in the heart of rural Essex on a field which was until recently in arable use over 30 miles from London.

I was visiting the site to have a look at how progress was coming along. Work has just started and once finished the Green will host an events amphitheatre, conservation pond, wildflower planting, family picnic area, playing field and ball games and skate area. The local school, which backs onto the Green, are itching to use it for their sports days and events and an art project involving a mobile shed as exhibition space is already lined up for later this year!

Watching the diggers at work was particularly satisfying that afternoon as the project had appeared doomed just a few months before this!

Epping Green Community Association, led by Reverend Bard, had worked since 1999 to secure a much-needed Green for the village but legal wrangles with the owner over the acquisition of the only available site looked fatal. Some prolonged and tough talks paired with more than a little skilful persuasion from EGCA – who knew a man who knew the owner! – won the day.

The challenges faced to create a brand new Green in a part of England where unused land equals development opportunity have been significant and complex. The “Doorstep Greens spirit” we see in local residents determined to create their Green was tested to breaking point! The lesson I learned was that if we as a funder are prepared to get alongside local people and match their determination and resourcefulness – seeing beyond tick boxes and compliance forms – solutions can be found.

I’m looking forward to returning in warmer weather and won’t go home ‘til I’ve seen the Wembley arch!

### 4. Photo of the month

Epping Green, Epping Upland, Essex.

A long time coming, the arable field (below) is finally becoming a new, much needed green space (right).



See more photos of Doorstep Greens on the ‘Resources’ are of our [website](#).

### 5. Further information:

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### 6. Networking

Communicate online and get all the latest news – not just for Doorstep Greens, but across the whole parks and green spaces scene.

[www.greenspace.net.countryside.gov.uk](http://www.greenspace.net.countryside.gov.uk)