

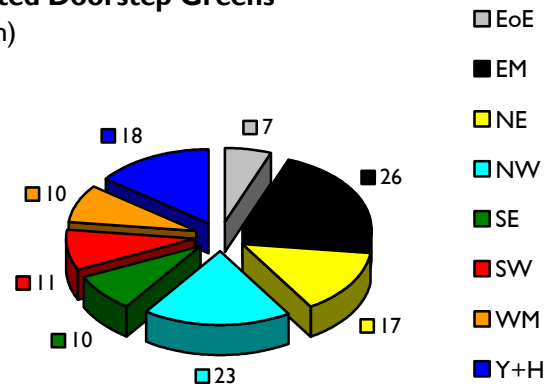
Doorstep Greens

Monthly Report: August 2006

1. Completed Projects

- 122 Doorstep Greens are now fully complete.
- Previous monthly reports, showing the names of sites already completed are available under the 'Resources' link on: www.countryside.gov.uk/doorstepgreens

Completed Doorstep Greens (by region)



A sign of completion

This month: Green Pennant award winner West Horndon DG



The following DGs were completed during August

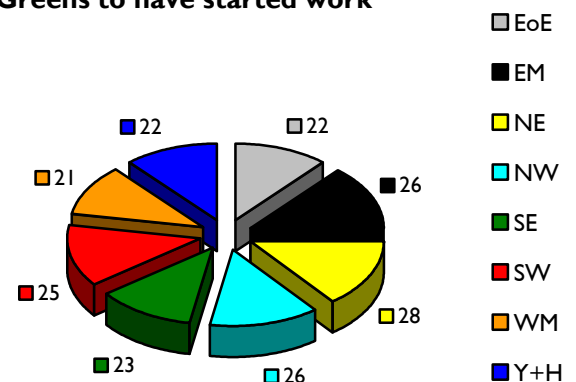
Project title	Location
St Benedicts Community Garden	Northumberland
Phoenix Doorstep Green	Cumbria
Biglands Estate Doorstep Green	Tower Hamlets
Carlin How Doorstep Green	Redcar & Cleveland
Shaftoe Green	Northumberland

For the purposes of this report, 'complete' means that a site is open and accessible to the public, although some minor works may still need to be carried out before the all the DG grant is fully claimed and paid.

2. Progress of Projects

- 193 Doorstep Greens have started work on site to date and this concludes all the creation work start dates for Doorstep Greens.
- The target number of Doorstep Greens was between 180 and 220.

Doorstep Greens to have started work (by region)



3. Doorstep Greens Monitor - Dave Haygarth DG Communications Adviser



"Thank you" - six years on.

We've got our heads down working hard on the final push for getting all the DGs created before December. It's been a roller coaster ride and there's been plenty of highs but some corresponding, inevitable lows. One way though, by hook or by crook, it seems we're edging towards getting them all complete on time.

Issues surrounding land tenancy arrangements and troubles getting local partnerships in good working order have been some of the challenges, but, as I've said many times before in this column, the highs are when you get out there and see projects.

A few days ago I was lucky enough to get out of the office to see three Doorstep Greens and three Millennium Greens - all in Lancashire and Cumbria. All of these projects were complete - and, naturally, the journeys they took to become completed were never simple - but there they stood - ranging from greens where the finishing touches had just been added (The Phoenix project in Wigton, Cumbria) to 'fully matured' Millennium Greens - open for more than six years and still going very strong.

The success of Wesham Doorstep Green, between Blackpool and Preston is a little unexpected - the plans were never over-ambitious for the formerly dull corner of flat grass, but the transformation has seen it propelled to getting a Green Pennant award for two years running. Garstang Millennium Green is another Green Pennant winning space - though its riverside, winding expanse contrasts sharply with Wesham's smooth, usable functionality.

But the unexpected highlight of it all was a simple "Thank You". I don't get out often enough to meet 'real people' in my job - but those two grateful words from an elderly couple enjoying looking at the wild flowers (pictured) alongside Garstang MG's path - six years on - brought it home yet again what we do it all for. And it's not a thankless task now, either!



4. Photo of the month

A chance to reflect



areth Lawler, DG adviser for the North West checks out this stunning play sculpture at Maryport Millennium Green – six years on and still very much enjoyed by local people.

View 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 almost 1,000 members across the whole parks and green spaces scene.

www.greenspace.net.countryside.gov.uk