



Hinckley & Bosworth  
Borough Council

*A Borough to be proud of*

# **GREEN SPACE DELIVERY PLAN**

**2013 - 2018**

# **APPENDICES**

## **Appendix 1: Green Space Strategy Achievements 2005-2012.**

- Restoration works at Hollycroft Park, and partnership work with the Friends of Hollycroft Park to achieve the national Green Flag Award in recognition of its high quality and value to the local community.
- Improvements to the six community parks (Richmond, Clarendon, Langdale, Wykin, Swallows Green, and Queens Parks) to meet the needs and expectations of local residents, including new footpaths, seating areas, bins, land drainage, notice boards etc.
- The Council has installed six new play areas for juniors and infants at Granville Road, Langdale, Queens, Swallows Green, Wykin and Richmond Parks.
- The Council has also created five new ball courts (called multi-use games areas) at Wykin, Langdale, Clarendon, Richmond and Swallows Green Parks, a skate park at Queens Park and BMX tracks at Wykin and Langdale Community Parks.
- A five year programme of repairs and restoration has been carried out at closed churchyards.
- A major extension to Ashby Road cemetery in Hinckley will provide burial land for a further 25 years.
- Improvements to visitor facilities at Burbage Common including access improvements, and improvements to footpaths leading to the site.
- Creating Brodick road community woodland and nature area.
- Merging the green space management and grounds maintenance functions to reduce administration, develop shared working systems and values, improvements in the quality of maintenance, and an audit of the assets maintained.
- Recognising the need for sharing of information and best practice, the Council delivered a series of workshops for the benefit of the Borough's Parish Councils prior to 2008.
- The Council created the Hinckley & Bosworth Play Partnership, developed a play strategy, secured £200,000 funding for play from the Big Lottery. This directly benefited play area schemes in Earl Shilton, Sheepy Magna and Burbage, and also provided play workers who supported play on open spaces across the Borough.
- Introducing a comprehensive system for managing the Councils tree stock, and employing a dedicated Tree Officer (shared with North West Leicestershire District Council) to improve tree management.
- An updated site management plan for Burbage Common has been produced. In addition, the Council have now developed detailed management plans for Hollycroft Park and Ashby Road Cemetery.
- The cemetery booking system has been reviewed and updated with a new electronic administration system implemented.

- An audit of allotment provision, new plots at Wykin and Hillhole Quarry, and introducing measures to reduce waiting lists have resulted in 34 more people having an allotment (29% increase compared to 2008).
- Improvements to the environmental performance of the service such as peat free, and reduction in the use of herbicides and pesticides.

## **Appendix 2: National, regional and local publications reviewed**

### **A) National Policy**

#### **1) Urban Green Nation: Building the Evidence Base (CABE Space, 2010)**

This research concluded nine out of ten people use parks and green spaces and value them; the higher the quality of the green space, the more likely people will be to use it; in 2009 95% of people thought it was very or fairly important to have green spaces near to where they live; if people are satisfied with local parks they tend to be satisfied with their council; and people in deprived areas receive a far worse provision of parks and green spaces than more affluent neighbourhoods.

#### **2) Community-led spaces - A guide for local authorities and community groups (CABE Space, 2010)**

This guidance document explores the transfer of public space ownership and management from local authorities to community groups; how to maximise the help that communities can offer; how to forge more effective working partnerships between the local authority and residents; and options for different levels of community involvement.

#### **3) Skills to Grow – Seven Priorities for Improving Green Space Skills (CABE Space, 2009)**

Identified seven priorities for improving green space skills; Increase Awareness of the Sector and the Opportunities it offers, Improve the Availability of Training and Quality of training, including continuing professional development, Improve Management and Leadership Skills, Increase the Sector's investment in skills, and Build Capacity for Co-Coordinated Working.

#### **4) Open Space Strategies: What Local Authority Decision Makers Need to Know (CABE Space, 2009)**

Identifies the need to examine all types of open space in public and private ownership and the importance of high quality open space in helping to resolve problems such as obesity, poor health and deprivation and the need for sustainable transport, climate change adaptation, and community cohesion.

#### **5) Making the Invisible Visible – the Real Value of Park Assets (CABE Space 2009)**

The asset value of a park does not necessarily reflect the wider values that the park has for local people.

## **6) Paying for parks - Eight models for funding urban green space (CABE Space 2006)**

This guidance suggests that a 'one-size-fits-all' approach will not work and the importance of establishing dedicated funding and management arrangements from the outset which incorporates a portfolio of different funding sources, mechanisms and partnerships.

## **7) Nature Nearby - Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance (Natural England 2010)**

This guidance was developed as a key tool for those working on the planning and management of parks and green spaces and their 'natural' development. Natural England expects that publicly accessible natural green space is delivered to meet Quantity and Accessibility standards (ANGSt), Visitor Service Standards, and Quality Standards.

In addition to these specific publications, policy at the national level has also been reviewed by the coalition Government, which has introduced the notion of the 'Big Society' and the new 'Localism Bill'.

## **B) Regional Documents**

**1) Leicestershire Stepping Stones Delivery and Action Plan (2008)** - includes parishes in the north of the Borough. Identifies strategic aims and proposed strategic interventions across the county which were further developed within the 6C's Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010) and the Green Infrastructure Strategy for Hinckley & Bosworth (2009).

## **2) The 6 C's Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)**

This strategy provides an over-arching strategic framework to 2026 for green infrastructure planning, investment and delivery by stakeholders working across the environmental, economic and social sectors across the 6C's Growth Point, covering Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire authorities. The strategy aims to protect, enhance and extend networks of green spaces and natural elements in and around the three cities, connecting with their surrounding towns and villages and identified actions at 3 spatial levels:

Sub-Regional Green Infrastructure Corridors – to maintain the integrity of the green infrastructure network in the long-term, and connect the 6Cs network to wider regional green infrastructure corridors.

City-Scale Green Infrastructure Corridors – to connect the sub-regional corridors, the urban fringe and the urban cores related to specific principal urban areas and sub-regional centres.

Urban Fringe Green Infrastructure Enhancement Zones - to deliver green infrastructure benefits for both existing and new communities (Sustainable Urban Extensions) related to specific principal urban areas and subregional centres in the local areas where most development is likely to take place.

With these spatial scales in mind, Hinckley and Bosworth is recognised as a sub regional centre, including the key areas of Barwell and Earl Shilton, and the action plan supporting this work is heavily influenced by the Hinckley and Bosworth Green Infrastructure Strategy.

### **3) Charnwood Forest Regional Park (2012)**

Recognizes the unique natural and cultural heritage features of Charnwood Forest, and has its own specific objectives to provide environmental, social and economic benefits to this area.

### **4) Leicestershire County Council Green Space Consultation report (2011)**

Early in 2011 the County Council asked the public to say which local green spaces they particularly valued and why. This was in response to Government proposals to create a new designation, to protect green areas of particular importance to local communities.

### **5) Local Transport Plan (LTP3) (2011)**

Sets out how Leicestershire County Council will seek to ensure that transport continues to play its important role in helping Leicestershire to continue to be a prosperous safe and attractive County.

## **C) Local strategies**

### **1) A Play Strategy for the Borough of Hinckley & Bosworth (2007 - 2012)**

This strategy identified a set of six play priorities which are linked to the development of a five year action plan.

### **2) Culture and Sports Strategy (2012 – 2017)**

Key themes linked to green spaces are supporting young people and children, showcasing events, reducing health inequalities, encouraging play, sporting opportunities and promoting tourism.

**3) Hinckley & Bosworth Climate Change Study (2008)** This strategy recognises that climate change is likely to have a range of effects on trees and woodlands, and management regimes may need to be changed consequently, and that there could be opportunities for the planting a wider variety of new tree species. Growing more trees is important in terms of carbon sequestration. Different species sequester carbon at different rates and the National Forest proposes to commission research in order to “assess the carbon sequestration progress and future potential of the Forest and to develop a framework for long term monitoring”. The role of green infrastructure is again highlighted and the function it can have in improving connectivity.

**4) Clean Neighbourhoods Strategy (2013).** Sets out the Borough Council's priorities for cleanliness (including on parks and open spaces) and service standards.

## **Appendix 3: Core Strategy policies**

The Core Strategy is the key strategic document in the council's Local Plan for the Borough to 2026 which uses information from other strategies to set out objectives and policies focused on improving the environment and the range of facilities in the Borough. It includes a set of 13 spatial objectives. Green space can contribute to the following spatial objectives; 3: Strong and Vibrant Rural Communities, 7: Healthier Active Communities, 8: Stronger Safer Communities, 9: Identity, Distinctiveness and Quality of Design, 10: Natural Environment and Cultural Assets and 12: Climate Change and Resource Efficiency.

In addition to these spatial objectives, the Core Strategy provides a spatial interpretation of the key drivers for change in order to deliver sustainable development. The Spatial Objectives set out the broad strategic direction for development in the Borough, whilst the Spatial Strategy provides an interpretation of the specific issues that need to be addressed to tackle the key challenges being faced in the Borough, and does this through a series of policies. Those relevant to this delivery plan are:-

### **Policy 1: Development in Hinckley**

### **Policy 5: Transport Infrastructure in the Sub-Regional Centre**

New pedestrian and cycle linkages from proposed developments into Barwell and Earl Shilton.

### **Policy 6: Hinckley / Barwell / Earl Shilton / Burbage Green Wedge**

Within the Hinckley/Barwell/Earl Shilton/Burbage Green Wedge uses will be encouraged that provide appropriate recreational facilities within easy reach of urban residents and promote the positive management of land to ensure that the Green Wedge remains or is enhanced as an attractive contribution to the quality of life of nearby urban residents.

The following land uses will be acceptable in the Green Wedge, provided the operational development associated with such uses does not damage the function of the Green Wedge:

- (a) Agriculture, including allotments and horticulture not accompanied by retail development
- (b) Recreation
- (c) Forestry
- (d) Footpaths, bridleways and cycleways
- (e) Burial grounds
- (f) Use for nature conservation

Any land use or associated development in the Green Wedge should:

- (a) Retain the function of the Green Wedge
- (b) Retain and create green networks between the countryside and open spaces within the urban areas
- (c) Retain and enhance public access to the Green Wedge, especially for recreation and
- (d) Should retain the visual appearance of the area

### **Policy 19: Green Space and Play Provision**

This outlines a set of minimum standards used in relation to green space and play provision, with the aim that all residents have access to sufficient high quality, accessible spaces.

#### **Quantity**

*Equipped Children's Play Space* - A minimum of 0.15 ha/1000 population (excluding buffer zones).

*Casual/Informal Play Space* - A minimum of 0.7 ha/1000 population.

*Outdoor Sports Provision* – A minimum of 1.6 ha/1000 population.

*Accessible Natural Green Space* - A minimum of 2 ha/1000 population.

In areas with populations under 1000 people, a pro-rata approach will be used.

## Accessibility

*District Parks and Green Spaces* - All households should be within 5 kilometers of an open space of at least 10 hectares which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting.

*Neighbourhood Parks and Green Spaces* - All households should be within 600 meters of an open space of between 1 and 10 hectares which provide general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting.

*Local Parks and Green Space* - All households should be within 400 meters of an open space of between 0.2 - 1.0 hectare which provide facilities for recreation within a localized area, catering for the specific informal needs of the local community.

*Incidental/Amenity Green Space* - All household should be within 300 meters of a small formal or informal area of open space.

The above standards will be used to determine:

- a) Where improvements are needed to existing green spaces and play areas.
- b) Where new provision of green spaces and play areas are required to support existing and new residents and workers in the borough.

Standards need to be assessed according to their geographical context and in rural areas and smaller settlements with lower populations these standards may be difficult to achieve. In such cases access to provision in larger neighbouring settlements should be identified and accessibility improved where practical.

## **Policy 20: Green Infrastructure**

This policy outlines the strategic interventions outlined in the Hinckley and Bosworth Green Infrastructure Strategy (detailed in 3.3.1), recognising that this is a key priority for the Council

## Appendix 4: Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities study recommendations 2011

Open Space Type	Audit & Consultation Comments	Council Maintained Site Scores (Hinckley based unless stated)	Policy Recommendations
Parks and Gardens	<p>38 formal parks are identified across the Borough, equating to 87.41 hectares of open space. Site assessments indicate that formal parks recorded the second highest quality assessment scores, with an average quality score of 74%.</p> <p>Hollycroft Park is identified as the highest quality park, achieving a mark of 100%.</p> <p>All Borough Council sites score at least 70%, with the exception of Granville Road which was marked down due to litter and the lack of lighting on site.</p> <p>There is good distribution of formal parks across the Borough.</p> <p>Consultation showed that the quality of formal parks is generally perceived to be good, and importantly, the quality of formal parks has been identified as improving significantly in recent years.</p>	<p>Hollycroft Park - 100%</p> <p>Argents Mead and the Memorial Gardens - 80%</p> <p>Langdale Park - 80%</p> <p>The Rock Gardens - 80%</p> <p>Wykin Park - 80%</p> <p>Swallows Green - 75%</p> <p>Clarendon Park - 75%</p> <p>Queens Park - 70%</p> <p>Richmond Park - 70%</p> <p>Granville Road Recreation Ground - 65%</p>	<p><b>PG1:</b> Continue to develop and enhance the quality of existing formal parks. Drive a structured programme of improvements with clearly defined outputs to create an overall network of sustainable parks. This may include the production of parks management plans.</p> <p><b>PG2:</b> Work with providers of open space to initiate the creation of friends groups at parks and support existing friends groups established at parks in the Borough.</p> <p><b>PG3:</b> Work with providers of open space to incorporate sustainable management techniques to promote biodiversity and create a healthy ecosystem at parks in the Borough.</p> <p><b>PG4:</b> In light of the importance of formal parks, seek to protect all existing sites from residential development through the LDF. Formal parks should only be lost to development where it can be proven that there is no demand for the facility or that improvements to another site will be of greater value to residents in the immediate catchment of the park to be lost.</p> <p><b>PG5:</b> Ensure that new housing developments contribute towards (or provide on site where they are large enough to be reasonably expected to do so) the provision of new, or enhancement of existing formal parks where possible and appropriate. Where the supply of formal parks in the surrounding area is sufficient, policy should ensure that contributions are required for qualitative improvements.</p> <p><b>PG6:</b> Monitor demand for increased provision of formal parks within urban areas (particularly Burbage) and rural centres. Should demand be sufficient consider increasing the provision of formal parks within these areas. Use the local standard, and minimum size criteria, to determine whether parks are required in rural villages. Villages should contain a minimum of 482 residents before parks are considered.</p> <p><b>PG7:</b> Consider the redesignation of an existing formal park with overlapping catchments for the purpose of natural or semi natural open space, or the provision of natural or semi natural open space within the existing formal parks to alleviate access deficiencies to natural open space and semi natural open space. This would be of particular benefit to Earl Shilton. This links with recommendation PG3/PG4.</p>



			<p><b>PG8:</b> Seek to increase access to existing formal parks through the development of the green infrastructure network and enhancement of existing infrastructure (example footpaths). Ensure that where possible, formal parks are located on public transport routes.</p>
<p>Natural and Semi Natural (NSN)</p>	<p>The total amount of accessible NSN open space within or in close proximity to settlement boundaries is 674.82 ha. NSN open space is poorly distributed, with much of the provision focused in the north east and south east of the Borough. Whilst access to large sites is good, local access to sites less than 10ha in size is limited, particularly in Earl Shilton, Barwell, Desford, Newbold Verdon, Barlestone and Stoke Golding. Average quality score is 65%. Stakeholder workshop identified that there is good provision of wildlife and biodiversity. Consultation highlighted the importance of NSN to local residents. These spaces were perceived to define the character of the area.</p>	<p>Groby Pool Nature Area (Groby) - 90% Hill Hole Quarry (Markfield) - 80% Clarendon Park Nature Area - 70% Billa Barra Hill (Stanton Under Bardon) - 55 % Harwood Drive - 40% Ashby Road NSN - Site not accessible at time of visit Manor Farm (Bagworth) - Site not accessible at time of visit</p>	<p><b>NSN1:</b> Seek to maintain and enhance the quality of country parks in Hinckley &amp; Bosworth. Sympathetic management techniques should be practiced at sites of importance for nature conservation and biodiversity.</p>
			<p><b>NSN2:</b> Seek to enhance and develop the quality of NSN open space in the Borough. Drive a structured programme of improvements with clearly defined outputs using the site assessments and quality vision as a basis. Seek to incorporate sympathetic management techniques at wildlife sites and sites of importance for biodiversity in the Borough drawing on the findings of the biodiversity study.</p>
			<p><b>NSN3:</b> In light of the importance of NSN open space in the Borough, all sites should be protected through policies in the LDF. NSN should only be lost to development if certain exception criteria (set out in policy) are met.</p>
			<p><b>NSN4:</b> In light of the importance of country parks in the Borough, all sites should be protected through policies in the LDF.</p>
			<p><b>NSN5:</b> Identify opportunities for the creation of new accessible NSN open spaces in the Borough, focusing particularly on areas which are shown as deficient. This may involve creating new spaces, incorporating natural areas into parks, and improving access to sites which are currently inaccessible. In particular, access to NSN open spaces is more limited; deficiencies exist in Earl Shilton, Barwell, and Hinckley as well as in several of the rural centres (Desford, Newbold Verdon, Barlestone and Stoke Golding).</p>
			<p><b>NSN6:</b> Seek to increase access to existing NSN open spaces in the Borough. Developing the Green Infrastructure network through the provision of additional cycle routes and footpaths.</p>
			<p><b>NSN7:</b> Seek to increase access to strategic NSN open spaces and country park by ensuring that such sites are on public transport routes.</p>

<p>Amenity Green Space</p>	<p>171 sites identified in the audit  Site assessments show quality is poorer compared to other types, with the average score calculated at 60%.  This type of provision is mainly found in urban areas and rural centres  Consultation highlighted a mixed response to the quantity and quality of amenity green space provision</p>	<p>Barrie Road - 75%  Barlestone Drive - 70%  Ferndale Grove - 70%  Leisure Centre Grounds - 70%  Mount Road Car Park - 70%  Wykin Linear Park - 70%  Canal Way - 65%  Clifton Way - 65%  Odstone Close - 65%  Roston Drive - 65%  Falmouth Drive 65%  Field Close - 65%  Paddock Way - 65%  Wendover Drive - 65%  Aulton Crescent - 60%  Coppice Walk - 60%  Darwin Close - 60%  Landseer Drive - 60%  Ribblesdale Avenue - 60%  Warwick Gardens - 60%  Woburn Close - 60%  Barwell Lane - 55%  Harwood Drive - 55%  Leven Close - 55%  Lochmore Close - 55%  Netherley Court - 55%  Newquay Close - 55%  Trinity Vicarage Road - 55%  Waterside Park - 55%  Weston Close - 55%  Brodick Close - 50%  Lochmore Drive - 50%  Middlefield Lane - 50%  Saville Close - 50%  Long Meadow Drive - 45%  Battling Brook FRB - 40%  Brenfield Drive - 40%  Preston Road - 35%  Gowrie Close - 25%  Middlefield Inn - 20%</p>	<p><b>AGS1:</b> Seek to enhance the quality of amenity green spaces in the Borough aiming to achieve a minimum quality score of 80%. Increased ancillary accommodation and an improved range of vegetation will significantly increase the overall value of sites to local residents.</p> <p><b>AGS2:</b> Priorities for improvement should be those sites which fall in the bottom quartile and in particular, sites which provide the only informal recreation opportunity in the area. Planning policy should protect valuable amenity green spaces from development. Valuable amenity green spaces include those which serve unique catchments and those which are frequently used.</p> <p><b>AGS3:</b> A decision to approve the disposal of an amenity green space should only be given if the site is surplus to requirements and is not required for use as another type of open space.</p> <p><b>AG4:</b> Seek to increase access to amenity green space, particularly in smaller settlements where this type of open space is the only local form of informal open space. Improving footpaths, disabled access and ensuring safe routes will be important.</p> <p><b>AG5:</b> Ensure that policy requires contributions towards amenity green space as part of new development as appropriate. Promote an accessibility led approach to determine levels of provision required as part of new development.</p>
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		<p>Brodick Road, Erskine Close, Laxford Close, Linwood Close &amp; Waterside FRB - 0%</p>	<p><b>AG6:</b> Consider the allocation of new amenity green spaces in areas lacking in provision:          East of Hinckley Town Centre          North East &amp; North West Burbage          West Hinckley          South East Barwell          Identify demand for amenity green space within the hamlets, particularly within Cadeby, Sibson, Sutton Cheney and Peckleton. Monitor demand for additional amenity green space in other areas, including Carlton.</p>
<p>Provision for Children and Young People</p>	<p>59 children's play areas and 36 facilities for young people identified          Quality of children's play generally good (average 69%), although scores are lower for provision for young people (66%).          The highest scoring play area in Hinckley is located at Waterside Park (87%), whilst for facilities for young people, the MUGA at Langdale Park scores highest (87%).          Opinion varies regarding the sufficiency of existing provision of play areas for children and young people, with the greatest levels of dissatisfaction found within the hamlets.          The Parish Council workshops highlighted that the provision of appropriate access routes to play spaces is as important as the facilities themselves.          The quality of children's play areas</p>	<p>Waterside Park Play Area - 87%          Wykin Park Play Area - 85%          Clarendon Park Play Area - 80%          Granville Road Recreation Ground Play Area - 80%          Langdale Park Play Area - 80%          Richmond Park MUGA - 80%          Swallows Green Play Area South - 80%          Wykin Park BMX Track - 75%          Swallows Green Play Area North - 70%          Clarendon Park MUGA - 67%          Swallows Green MUGA - 67%          Wykin Park MUGA - 67%          Langdale Park BMX Track - 87%          Queens Park Play Area - 60%          Preston Road Play Area - 20%          Richmond Park Play Area - No recorded quality score</p>	<p><b>CYP1:</b> Seek to upgrade traditional facilities with challenging and exciting play facilities for children and young people that encourage children to explore their boundaries and balance risk and safety. This may include the creation of natural play areas which link with the surrounding environment as well as equipped play facilities.</p> <p><b>CYP2:</b> The council and other providers of facilities for children and young people should seek to consult with children and young people in the local community over the design of facilities.</p> <p><b>CYP3:</b> Seek to enhance the quality of children's play areas in the Borough, aiming to achieve a quality score of 80%. Site assessments reveal that improvements to security and safety and increased ancillary accommodation are the factors requiring most improvement.</p> <p><b>CYP4:</b> Seek to enhance the quality of facilities for young people in the Borough, aiming to achieve the target quality score. Site assessments reveal that improvements to cleanliness, maintenance, security and safety are likely to be factors requiring most improvement.</p> <p><b>CYP5:</b> Seek to protect valuable facilities for young people serving unique catchments through the LDF. Facilities should only be lost to development where it can be proven that there is no demand for a facility or that improvements to another site in the immediate catchment of the site will be of greater value to the residents.</p>

	<p>are generally viewed favourably, but there is dissatisfaction with current facilities aimed at young people with two thirds marking these facilities as poor.</p>		<p><b>CYP6:</b> Ensure that policy requires contributions towards facilities for both children and young people as part of new development as appropriate. Promote an accessibility led approach to the determination of levels of provision required as part of new development.</p>
			<p><b>CYP7:</b> Seek to provide a new children’s play area within the south of Groby. Monitor demand for children’s play areas in the urban areas, rural villages of Congerstone and Nailstone and several hamlets (Barton-in-the-Beans, Carlton, Cadeby, Dadlington, Sibson and Sutton Cheney). Should demand be sufficient, seek to provide new children’s play areas in these areas of the Borough.</p>
			<p><b>CYP8:</b> Seek to allocate new facilities for young people in areas of deficiency within Hinckley, Markfield, Burbage, Earl Shilton, Desford, Groby, Bagworth and Thornton. Assess demand for young people in rural villages (Nailstone, Sheepy Magna and Witherley) and hamlets (Cadeby, Sutton Cheney, Barton-in-the-Beans and Sibson). Should demand be sufficient, seek to provide new facilities in these areas. Investigate the need to provide new facilities in areas where demand has already been identified.</p>
			<p><b>CYP9:</b> Facilitate the development of the Green Infrastructure network between large residential neighbourhoods, play facilities and other green spaces. Encourage the development of facilities of sites which are easily accessible by public transport.</p>
<p>Outdoor Sports Facilities</p>	<p>The total amount of land dedicated to outdoor sports facilities is 222.03 hectares, (excluding golf courses as they tend to skew overall provision) There is a range of outdoor sports facilities provided across the Borough Findings from the household survey highlight a level of dissatisfaction with the quantity of synthetic turf pitches, tennis courts and athletics tracks in the Borough. The amount of grass pitches,</p>	<p>Hollycroft Park Bowling Club - 90% Clarendon Park - 80% Langdale Park Sports Pitch - 75% Swallows Green Football Pitch - 65% Richmond Park Football Pitch - 40%</p>	<p><b>OSF1:</b> The council should seek to support and co-ordinate all partners and providers of outdoor sports facilities in order to promote a co-coordinated approach to facility provision</p>
			<p><b>OSF2:</b> Protect all outdoor sports facilities from development unless criteria set out in Sport England policy are met. This should be carried out through the incorporation of appropriate policies in the LDF.</p>
			<p><b>OSF3:</b> Seek to increase access to outdoor sports facilities within Hinckley &amp; Bosworth. Developments to the Green Infrastructure network (including footpaths and cycle routes) and improvements to the public transport system will be important if this is to be achieved.</p>
			<p><b>OSF4:</b> Seek to negotiate formal community use agreements of outdoor sports facilities at all schools in the Borough.</p>

	<p>bowling greens and golf courses is deemed to be acceptable. Sport in Desford was highlighted as an example of a high quality site.</p>		<p>A range of other sport specific policy recommendations are proposed. Refer to the PPG 17 report for an overview.</p>
<p>Allotments and Community Gardens</p>	<p>35 allotment sites in the Borough containing circa 700 plots. There are a further 8 allotment sites which are privately owned for which there is no data. Overall quality mark of 61%. Demand for allotments has increased in recent years and this is reflected in the size of waiting lists at sites across the Borough. 44% of respondents to the household survey indicated that provision is insufficient at present. The need for additional allotments was raised at all workshops as well as at the drop-in session at Hinckley Market.</p>	<p>Wykin Park Allotments - 75% Langdale Road Allotments - 70% Middlefield Lane Allotments - 70% Hill Hole Quarry Allotments (Markfield) - 60% Heath Court (Earl Shilton) - not accessible at time of site visit Hollycroft Allotments - not accessible at time of site visit</p>	<p><b>ALLOT1:</b> Seek to enhance the quality of allotments in the Borough aiming to achieve a minimum quality score of 80%. Site assessments and consultation indicate that improvements to ancillary accommodation (example toilets and water supplies), security and safety should be prioritised.</p> <p><b>ALLOT2:</b> As well as improving the function of allotments from a user perspective, ensure that management, maintenance and future planning of these sites takes into account their role in nature conservation and biodiversity</p> <p><b>ALLOT3:</b> Consideration should be given to the implementation of appropriate policies to promote effective usage of allotment sites including: Providing half plots as opposed to full plots to ensure that sites can accommodate a higher number of residents Ensuring that residents only have one allotment plot at any time Promoting appropriate use of allotments</p> <p><b>ALLOT4:</b> Include a policy within the LDF that protects allotments from development. Loss of allotments should only be permitted where it can be proven that the site is surplus to requirements and is unlikely to be required in future years.</p> <p><b>ALLOT 5:</b> Work with all providers of allotments to ensure that untenanted plots are bought back into use. Seek to allocate new allotments in the borough, specifically within Hinckley, Burbage, Barwell and Field Head.</p> <p><b>ALLOT6:</b> Ensure new housing developments contribute to any increase in demand as necessary through the inclusion of appropriate policy in the LDF. It may be necessary to consider innovative solutions to the provision of allotments, for example, the location of facilities at school sites or on the Green Wedge.</p>

			<p><b>ALLOT7:</b> Consider opportunities to increase the provision of allotments in the rural villages and hamlets. Assess demand for allotments within larger parishes, in particular Sheepy Magna and Witherley, where there is currently no provision and consider the location of new sites where demand is sufficient.</p> <p><b>ALLOT8:</b> Seek to increase access to allotments in Hinckley and Bosworth through the development of additional footpaths and cycle routes.</p>
Cemeteries and Churchyards	<p>39 churchyards and 9 cemeteries identified in the audit. Overall quality assessed at 77% (highest for any type of provision). Residents view the quality of cemeteries and churchyards positively, with 51% marking these types of open space as either good or excellent.</p>	<p>St Mary's (Barwell) - 80% St Mary's Churchyard (Hinckley) - 75% St Michaels (Markfield) - 75% Ashby Road Cemetery - 70% Unitarian Chapel - 70% Baptist Chapel (Earl Shilton) - 68% St Simon and St Judes (Earl Shilton) - 58% United Reform (Earl Shilton) - 58% Holy Trinity - No assessment recorded</p>	<p><b>CC1:</b> The council should keep under review the opportunities for the reuse, expansion or acquisition of suitable land to ensure the continued and sustainable provision of local cemeteries. The LDF should facilitate the provision of additional burial spaces in Parish areas where new localised provision is required / desired. A standard of 0.0003 hectares per 1000 population should be used to estimate the implications of population growth. There is a need for new provision in Barwell over the LDF period.</p> <p><b>CC2:</b> Support improvements to the quality of cemeteries and churchyards across the Borough, using the findings of the site visits to guide where and what improvements are required.</p> <p><b>CC3:</b> Stakeholders should recognise and promote the nature conservation value of cemeteries and churchyards and develop a greater awareness of ecological management and maintenance of cemeteries and churchyards.</p>
Green Corridors	<p>A range of provision including towpaths along canals and riverbanks, cycleways, rights of way and disused railway lines. National cycle routes 52 and 63 pass through parts of the borough. Gaps in network around Hinckley, routes in Market Bosworth fragmented. Green corridors are a well used type of open space, with 70% of respondents using green corridors, with 40% doing so once or more per week. At the Parish Council workshop,</p>	<p>No quality assessments carried out</p>	<p><b>GC1:</b> Facilitate the delivery of the strategic interventions identified in the Green Infrastructure Strategy and in Core Strategy Policy 20 by producing an Action Plan for implementation. The key priorities identified should also be considered during the preparation of the Site Allocations and Generic Development Control Policies DPD. Key priorities identified in the settlement specific spatial strategies and policies of the Core Strategy should also be implemented. The potential of the canal network for the creation of green corridors for both people and wildlife should be maximised.</p> <p><b>GC2:</b> Incorporate green corridors and linkages into the master planning process for the SUES.</p> <p><b>GC3:</b> Support Parish Councils (through guidance and advice) on the provision of localised routes to meet deficiencies.</p>

	<p>Ashby Road Canal was identified as an example of good practice, providing an important link between a number of settlements.</p> <p>For many Parish Councils, the creation of green corridors and access routes was a key priority moving forwards.</p>		<p><b>GC4:</b> Drive a programme of improvements to enhance the quality of green corridors for recreational use, focusing in particular on the priorities identified within the Leicestershire PROWIP and local consultation.</p>
			<p><b>GC5:</b> Promote the opportunities available to increase usage of green corridors. As well as increasing awareness, partnership working with the PCT and other key organisations to deliver organised opportunities should be considered.</p>
			<p><b>GC6:</b> Ensure the maintenance regimes at green corridors are sympathetic to the wider role of these sites in terms of biodiversity and habitat creation.</p>

## **Appendix 5: Hinckley and Bosworth Green Infrastructure Study Key Findings and Interventions**

Headline findings of existing green infrastructure found within the borough include:

- The National Forest area in the north east of the Borough dominates and contains most of the Borough's natural assets, mostly consisting of woodland and includes three large water bodies. Some of the Borough's rural settlements are on the periphery of the National Forest area.
- Outside of this area, natural assets are scattered with some smaller clusters around Market Bosworth, to the west of Shackerstone at Gopsall Park and Burbage Common to the east of Hinckley and Burbage.
- The agricultural landscape in the west of the Borough has few natural areas, though the river system in this area provides a natural landscape element that connects this area with the rest of the Borough, with the Ashby Canal providing another key connection between town and countryside.
- The main conurbations in the south west of the Borough have a relative scarcity of natural green space, although provision of amenity green spaces, parks and recreational spaces is fair and accounts for most of the green space provision across Hinckley, Barwell, Burbage and Earl Shilton. The main open space available to these towns is Burbage Common (shown opposite), which has a considerable biodiversity value and is an important recreational resource for these four towns and villages.
- There are few if any natural corridors connecting the towns to the surrounding rural areas, though there are several streams flowing from urban to rural areas, particularly the Ashby Canal; connecting the west of Hinckley to the northern rural areas and passing close to the nationally and regionally important Bosworth Battlefield Site.

Within Hinckley & Bosworth there are two Green Wedges: one separating Groby, Ratby, Anstey and Glenfield, and another separating Hinckley and Burbage from Barwell and Earl Shilton.



Key Interventions

<b>Intervention Zone</b>	<b>Intervention Details</b>	<b>Potential partners to delivery</b>
<b>Southern Zone</b>	<p><b>Burbage Common &amp; Woods</b> As the population continues to expand, access to the site needs to be improved. Interventions include the need to increase the size to increase community and biodiversity value, and improve access to the site particularly for pedestrians and cyclists.</p>	<p><b>Volunteers</b> <b>Adjacent land owners</b> <b>PROW team</b></p>
	<p><b>Hinckley Town Centre</b> Mitigate against the urban ‘heat island’ effect by increasing the number of street trees to provide shade, and other measures including flood storage ponds</p>	<p><b>LCC Highways</b></p>
	<p><b>Harrow Brook Corridor</b> Improve access at the western end of this route to allow access to the Ashby Canal. Retention and enhancement of flood storage ponds along the Battling Brook to reduce the rate of water entering the brook and increase the number of habitats along the corridor.</p>	<p><b>PROW team</b> <b>Adjacent land owners</b></p>
	<p><b>Sketchley Brook Corridor</b> Increase the biodiversity interest of the west of Burbage by bringing parcels of land along the brook’s route that are currently in poor or unmanaged condition under suitable management.</p>	<p><b>Developer</b> <b>Parish Council</b></p>
	<p><b>Burbage Allotments</b> Enhance the semi abandoned allotment site that separates Burbage and Hinckley as part of the east-west recreational corridor linking the Ashby Canal, Sketchley Brook, Burbage Allotments and Burbage Common.</p>	<p><b>Parish council</b></p>
	<p><b>Disused Railway Line (Nuneaton – Shenton Station)</b> Develop this route as a pedestrian and cycle route from Nuneaton to some of the borough’s biggest tourist assets such as the Battlefield Line, Water Park and Battlefield site, as well as a connection to the borough’s other strategic asset, the Ashby Canal.</p>	<p><b>PROW team</b> <b>Parish councils</b> <b>Voluntary sector</b></p>

<b>Intervention Zone</b>	<b>Intervention Details</b>	<b>Potential partners to delivery</b>
	<p><b>Barwell Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE)</b>            Include measures such as retaining strategic footpath routes that pass through the site to ensure access from Barwell to the open countryside.</p>	<p><b>Developer</b> <b>Parish council</b></p>
	<p><b>Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE)</b>            Protect existing access to Burbage Common and provide a recreational corridor to Burbage Common and beyond, ensure suitable crossing points over the Earl Shilton Bypass are retained to maintain the visual and physical links between Earl Shilton and the surrounding countryside.</p>	<p><b>Developers</b> <b>Town council</b></p>
	<p><b>Hinckley/Barwell/Earl Shilton/Burbage Green Wedge</b>            Maintain the green wedge between Hinckley and Barwell as it plays an important environmental and landscape protection role.</p>	<p><b>Parish councils</b></p>
	<p><b>Improved connections between Market Bosworth and Bosworth Water Trust</b>            Provide safe pedestrian (and possibly cyclepaths) to connect Market Bosworth and the Bosworth Water Trust and improve access between the canal, the Water Park and Market Bosworth.</p>	<p><b>Parish council</b> <b>PROW team</b></p>
	<p><b>Shackerstone</b>            Protect and enhance the village's tourism assets and create a multifunctional corridor incorporating the Gopsall Temple and Woods and the Sense Valley Forest Park near Ibstock.</p>	<p><b>Parish Council</b></p>
	<p><b>Bosworth Battlefield</b>            Provide a recreational route through to the Weddington Country Walk and Nuneaton to connect the Battlefield site, railway terminus and Ambion Wood, creating a 'tourism hub' for the borough.</p>	<p><b>Parish council LCC Country</b> <b>Parks service</b></p>
	<p><b>Disused Railway Line - Nuneaton to Market Bosworth Multifunctional Corridor</b>            Develop this route into a multifunctional corridor, linking into the southern zone.</p>	<p><b>PROW team</b> <b>Parish council</b></p>

<b>Intervention Zone</b>	<b>Intervention Details</b>	<b>Potential partners to delivery</b>
<b>Western Zone</b>	<p><b>Earl Shilton to Newbold Verdon Multifunctional Corridor</b> Create a multifunctional route along the stream corridor that passes close to the two towns and encompasses patches of semi-natural ancient woodland, a scarce habitat in the Borough.</p>	<p><b>PROW team</b> <b>Parish council</b></p>
	<p><b>Gopsall Park Multifunctional Route</b> Create a multifunctional route starting and ending at Shackerstone and encompassing several important biodiversity assets and the Gopsall Temple.</p>	<p><b>PROW team</b> <b>Parish councils</b></p>
	<p><b>River Sence Corridor Management</b> Work with landowners to protect the River Sence and its tributaries as the key connecting feature at the landscape scale in the west of the Borough. This will enable the continued movement of species and help reduce flood risk.</p>	<p><b>Stepping stones</b> <b>Land owners</b></p>
	<p><b>Shackerstone to Ibstock Multifunctional Corridor</b> Create a multifunctional corridor following the River Sence Corridor and connecting to the River Sence Forest Park and the Ashby Canal. Promote the extensive existing cycle network to increase the tourism potential in this part of the Borough.</p>	<p><b>Parish councils,</b> <b>Prow team</b> <b>Tourism officer</b></p>
<b>North Eastern Zone</b>	<p><b>Tourism Support</b> Continue to develop relationships with the National Forest, Stepping Stones Project and the Charnwood Forest to enable the continued implementation of these initiatives.</p>	<p><b>Tourism officer</b></p>
	<p><b>Transport Corridor Disturbance Mitigation</b> Plant trees alongside the A50 and A46 to the north and east of Groby and to the north and west of Markfield to reduce the visual and physical effects of the roads. Prioritise the area to the south of the school and college in Groby.</p>	<p><b>LCC highways</b> <b>Parish councils</b></p>
	<p><b>Redevelopment of Extraction Sites</b> Work with existing site owners of the three main working extraction sites (Ibstock site between Bagworth Heath and Grange Wood, the quarry site to the north west of Stanton Under Bardon and the site to the south west of Newbold Verdon) to restore the sites to provide multiple green infrastructure assets.</p>	<p><b>LCC</b> <b>Land owners</b></p>

<b>Intervention Zone</b>	<b>Intervention Details</b>	<b>Potential partners to delivery</b>
	<p><b>Markfield to Groby: Public Access</b> Provide multi-user and traffic free access between Markfield and Groby.</p>	<p><b>Parish councils</b></p>
	<p><b>Bagworth to Market Bosworth Multifunctional Corridor</b> Create a multifunctional corridor following two stream corridors to connect the National Forest with the Borough's other main tourist and biodiversity asset around Market Bosworth.</p>	<p><b>Parish councils</b> <b>National forest</b></p>
	<p><b>Rothley Brook Corridor Management</b> Continue the work of the Stepping Stones project to deliver an unbroken natural buffered corridor that continues to the upper reaches and to the main source at Thornton Reservoir, under a comprehensive river management programme.</p>	<p><b>Stepping stones</b></p>
	<p><b>Ratby to Desford Multifunctional Corridor</b> Create a recreational corridor along Rothley Brook between Ratby and Desford where the stream corridor provides a landscape-scale connecting feature between the two settlements.</p>	<p><b>Parish councils</b></p>
	<p><b>Linking Assets to Long Distance Trails</b> Link assets to the Ivanhoe Way and Leicestershire Round by additional access 'spurs' from the main route to add to the recreational and tourism interest of these promoted paths.</p>	<p><b>PROW team</b></p>
	<p><b>Improved Access around Thornton Reservoir</b> Develop Thornton Reservoir as a major recreational feature in the north east of the borough. Provide additional multi-user access routes in conjunction with any recreational/tourism development.</p>	<p><b>Severn Trent</b></p>

## **Appendix 6: Green Space Strategy (2005 - 2010): Long Term Aims**

1. To develop and maintain high quality and accessible parks and open spaces throughout the borough, providing varied leisure opportunities for all age groups in high quality landscapes.
2. Provide safe, clean and interesting play areas within reasonable distance of every child's home (no more than 600m or a 15 minute walk).
3. Address the needs of young people by developing a variety of outdoor leisure facilities and crime diversion activities specifically for teenagers.
4. Encourage active healthy lifestyles, increasing participation in sport and physical recreation by ensuring the availability of high quality sports pitches and ancillary facilities.
5. Create opportunities for people to enjoy and take part in the arts and entertainment through a programme of outdoor events and activities across the borough.
6. Manage and maintain green space to ensure the sustainability and diversity of wildlife habitats.
7. Encourage positive use of green space, tackling anti-social behaviour and reducing levels of littering and dog-fouling.
8. Improve and maintain green space to support regeneration and encourage tourism, making the borough a more attractive place to live, work and visit.
9. Raise awareness of environmental issues through educational and life-long learning programmes at green space sites.
10. Provide a high quality cemetery and bereavement service which is responsive and sympathetic to the needs of its customers.

## **Appendix 7: Community Engagement & Involvement Strategy**

The consultations held for the improvements to Hinckley's Parks over the last 6 years have been extensive. Front end consultation (by questionnaire to every household within 500m of a park) was used to determine resident's priorities. Each park was then designed to meet each communities different needs, and designs were then further consulted on through drop in sessions at parks where designs could be viewed and commented on. New play equipment has been selected by school children from schools local to each park, and has also included the views of children with special needs. The youth council, and other groups representing young people have also chosen the equipment for their use on parks. At Burbage common consultation has involved both users and non users.

This investment in understanding exactly what each community needs from their park means we now know what each community values. On some improvements we were not able to deliver all of the improvements suggested by residents due to budget limitations. As the scale of improvements to Hinckley's Parks over the next 5 years will be smaller, it would not be appropriate, nor will we have the resources to undertake such large front end consultations. However we will be able to

use the previous consultation results to inform our improvements, and all improvements will still be available for consultation prior to implementation.

Our engagement and involvement strategy for Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council owned green space for the duration of this delivery plan will therefore be:

In all improvements we make to council owned green space we will seek the views of local residents and users, we will listen to their views, and will ensure we deliver improvements which have the support of the majority of respondents., and continue to ensure our parks and green spaces accessible to all.

Friends groups – where a friends group exists on a site we will work in partnership with the friends group to agree an appropriate involvement framework for the site. This document will be used to inform this process, but we will ensure we listen to the friends groups opinions.

Where appropriate we will use the Borough Bulletin, councils website, community houses and park notice boards to ensure we engage with residents. We will work in partnership with the local media to engage with a wide audience on larger changes.

Large scale improvements to a site (value over £100k) - front end consultation by questionnaire to all residents living within 400m of a site will be used to determine resident's priorities. These results will then be used to inform the design of the park. Further consultation on designs will take place on site through a consultation event lasting no less than 3 hours, and through the Councils website. We will seek to develop a friends group for large scale projects to inform our improvements and deliver more sustainable benefits to the local community. NB. Argents Mead park redevelopment will be agreed via the planning process, and will be subject to a separate consultation process.

Medium scale improvements (value under £100K) and small scale Improvements (value under £50k) – previous consultation results will be assessed to determine which facilities prioritised by residents previously could be increased, and if there were any features not previously provided which residents supported. Officers will also identify any new innovative features not included in previous plans. Plans will be developed from the above and these will then be displayed in notice boards at these sites for comment, and on the Councils web site. Where we have the contact names and addresses of people who previously expressed an interest in joining a friends group for the site we will write to these people seeking their views on the proposed improvements. The views of local councillors will also be sought. Where consensus on proposals is unclear, a focus group will be held to determine which improvements to implement. NB the focus group will be randomly selected from residents who have previously commented on this site and will include 1 local councillor.

Amenity green space improvements – The views of residents living adjacent to the open space will be sought, and we will endeavour to determine how the space is currently used by asking visitors, regularly visiting the site etc. We will use this information, and the ppg17 desirable and essential standards to design improvements to the space. Designs will be displayed on the space, and on the council's web site for residents to comment (similarly to the way planning applications are displayed on developments). If the investment in the amenity green space is greater than £50k then the guidance for small scale improvements will be followed.

Play area improvements – the play value of the current play equipment will be assessed along with previous consultation results. Green space officers will then visit schools local to the play area and seek the views of children who use this play area to select new play equipment to be provided. Children with disabilities will be included in this process. NB consultation will be with children of the relevant age group. Proposals for new play equipment will be displayed on the parks notice board and the council's website for comment.

Facilities for young people – as for play area improvements except the views of young people will be sought either through the local secondary school, or through a youth group. If improvements are greater than £50k then the youth council will be asked to comment.

Natural and semi natural green space – these improvements are likely to be changes in maintenance to part of a larger site. Plans will be developed and displayed in the site notice board, and smaller notices displayed on the area to be changed indicating change is proposed and residents should look at the notice board. Residents will be able to comment to the green space team and via the council's website. If the changes proceed then small signs will be placed in the area explaining how the maintenance has been changed and why. The council will also seek to work in partnership with local schools and to set up a group of conservation volunteers to develop these areas to their full potential for wildlife.

Green infrastructure routes – the GI routes were consulted on as part of the development of the GI strategy and the core strategy for the LDF and are therefore known to have support. It is likely that the majority of these routes will be delivered through the planning process, parish councils and Leicestershire County Councils Public rights of way team. In these cases they will be subject the due process of these teams. Where HBBC is leading on delivery, then we will seek comments from residents through the Borough Bulletin and the council's websites, posters on the route etc. The views of local walking and cycling groups will also be sought.

Sports pitch improvements – we will always work in partnership with sports clubs using our sites to develop improvements to sports pitches.

Allotments – we will always seek the views of allotment holders on a site before making changes at an allotment site.

## **Appendix 8: Green Space Events Strategy**

### **Introduction**

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's Green Space Team have historically run a number of events and activities at both Burbage Common and Hollycroft Park. These have range from major large scale events such as Burbage Common open day to smaller craft activities such as table mat making and wooden spoon animals. The numbers and varieties of events have increased over the years but without a clear strategy as to what the purpose of these are and how they contribute to the work of the section.

This strategy will rationalise all these activities in order to focus the work of the Green Spaces team in delivering events and activities that deliver HBBC's corporate objectives and also the objectives set out in the Business and Street Scene Service improvement plan.

It will also give direction with regards to working with partners and volunteers to help deliver this programme of events and improve and develop our green spaces.

## **Criteria**

Events and activities delivered by the Green Spaces team will need to demonstrate that they fulfill at least one of HBBC's corporate aims.

It is also important to ensure they come within the objectives of the Green Space delivery plan and that they fall within at least one of the following categories:

- Education – events should offer an element of education with regards to wildlife conservation, the environment or ecology.
- Healthy living – events should offer an element of physical or mental well being.
- Develop the Green Space – events should help with the future development and quality of the park or open space.
- Value for money – events must be able to show they can offer value for money.

## **Public Feedback**

It is important to ensure that the events strike a balance between what the public want and Green Spaces remit and the criteria specified.

We will therefore carry out the following elements of consultation to ensure we continue to offer events and activities that fulfill the needs of the community:

- Customer satisfaction and feedback forms will be handed out at the end of an event/activity.
- Consultation with Friends Groups, volunteers and other user groups.

## **Promotion of events and use of Parks and open spaces**

A system of promoting events and activities will be agreed to ensure all events and activities are promoted appropriately for their size. Events and activities will be promoted corporately through HBBC's communication section using the following process:

- All events being delivered by the Green Spaces team will be added to an annual corporate Communication plan, this plan will have the details of the event, what types of promotion will be required and when the promotional material should be distributed.

Events and activities will be promoted using the following means:

- Posters (in parks notice boards, town centre notice boards and other locations dependent on the size of the event), Fliers in local schools, Press Releases, The Borough Bulletin and HBBC web site.



The communication plan is a live document and should be reviewed in line with any further planned events, but at least every quarter.

People will be asked where they learnt about the event through their feedback forms and this will be reviewed alongside the satisfaction reports.

### **Partnership working**

Where appropriate the running of certain events will be outsourced to other organisations and partners. The Green Spaces team will offer any necessary support and guidance to ensure these are run to the required standard.

In the case of larger events or a series of events a standard agreement will be drawn up between HBBC and the organisation to ensure parameters are set.

We currently have an agreement with the Friends of Hollycroft Park group to run a series of summer band concert events at Hollycroft Park and with Leicestershire Wildlife Trust to run a series of environmental education events at Burbage Common during the Easter and Summer school holidays.

If 'Friends of' groups are established at other HBBC parks and open spaces, The Green Spaces team will offer initial support to these groups with the planning and running of events and activities. Groups will also be given guidance in applying for funding opportunities to help set up and run these events.

The Green Spaces team will highlight the opportunity for the use of its parks and open spaces as possible venues for outside groups and organisations to hold events. This will be promoted through the Council web site, through the Borough Bulletin and any other appropriate channels.

An events pack is available for groups who are interested in holding events on HBBC's parks and open spaces to ensure correct procedures are followed. There maybe a need to revue this document to ensure it is user friendly.

### **Friends Groups, User Groups and Volunteers**

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Green Spaces will actively encourage the setting up of friends groups, user groups and volunteers on its community park sites and main countryside sites. This is seen as a key factor in the continued development of sites. We will achieve this using the following methods:

- Site posters – to encourage people to come forward if they are interested in joining/forming a group.
- Recruiting people at events.
- Information on the web site
- Via customer services team – people can be signposted to joining a group when phoning to report and issue regarding a particular park.

After the initial establishment and support, it is anticipated that these groups will become a major factor in the continued development and management of HBBC's key parks and open spaces. Friends groups and other similar groups can offer the following benefits:

- They will offer a core of people who have a keen interest in the particular site.
- Ensure members of the local community have their voices heard
- Offer volunteer time and effort into running events.
- Can gain access to a range of grant funding.
- Act as extra eyes and ears for the site.
- Bring local knowledge to decision making
- Bring members of the community together.

### **Sustainability**

Existing groups such as Burbage Common Volunteers and Friends of Hollycroft Park will continue to be supported and developed this will include, formalising constitutions, encouraging more input into decision making and site management, greater participation in running and organising events, steering site development and working towards green flag award criteria.

With the success of creating further groups, and depending on the number of these groups there may be opportunities and a need in the future for further support, this could be in terms of training opportunities, helping to facilitate events, attending monthly meetings. This will help to sustain the group's membership increase capacity, allowing them to work independently, but in partnership with HBBC.

## Appendix 9. Open Space Study Quality Audits for Hinckley sites

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
	The Rock Gardens	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Good	Good	Good	Good
14	Argent's Mead & Memorial Gardens	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Good	Good	Good	Good
16	Hollycroft Park	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Very good	Very good	Very good	Very good
17	Clarendon Park	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Average	Good	Good	Average
18	Granville Road Rec Ground	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Average	Average	Average	Good
19	Queen's Park	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Average	Good	Good	Average
20	Wykin Park	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Good	Good	Good	Good
21	Langdale Park	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Good	Good	Good	Good
22	Swallows Green	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Good	Good	Good	Average

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
23	Richmond Park	Hinckley	HBBC	1	Formal Parks	Average	Average	Good	Good
46	Harwood Drive	Hinckley	HBBC	2	Natural and Semi Natural	Poor	Poor	Poor	Very poor
60	The Paddock	Hinckley	Private (Paynes Garage)	2	Natural and Semi Natural	Average	Good	Average	N/A
83	Battling Brook	Hinckley	HBBC	3	Green Corridors	Good	Good	Good	Good
85	Applebees Meadow	Hinckley	Developer / HBBC	3	Green Corridors				
88	Ashby Road canal	Hinckley	British waterways	3	Green Corridors				
90	Newquay Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor
91	Field Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Average
92	Barlestone Drive	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Good	Good	Very poor
93	Laxford Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Good	Good	Average
94	Odstone Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Good	Very poor
95	Canal Way	Hinckley	Developer / HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Good	Very poor

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
96	Clifton Way	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Good	Very poor
97	Roston Drive	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Good	Very poor
98	Weston Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor
99	Brodick Road	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Good		
103	Battling Brook flood retention basin	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Very poor	Poor
105	Waterside Park flood retention basin	Hinckley	HBBC / Developer	5	amenity Green Space				
106	Brentfield Drive	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Poor	Poor	Poor
107	Brodick Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Poor	Very poor
108	Leven Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor
109	Lochmore Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
110	Lochmore Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Poor	Very poor
111	Linwood Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	
112	Erskine Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Very poor
113	Aulton Crescent	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Very poor
114	Gowrie Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Very poor	Poor	Very poor	Poor
115	Wykin Linear Park	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Good	Good	Very poor
116	Landseer Drive	Hinckley	Developer	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Very poor
117	Middlefield Lane	Hinckley	HBBC housing	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Poor	Very poor
118	Falmouth Drive	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Good	Average	Average
119	Wendover Drive	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Good	Average	Very poor
120	Barwell Lane	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
121	Woburn Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Very poor
122	Warwick Gardens	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Very poor
123	Darwin Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Average
124	Harwood Drive	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor
125	Ribblesdale Ave	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Very poor
126	Coppice Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Very poor
127	Saville Close	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Poor
128	Trinity Vicarage Road	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Good	Poor	Very poor
183	Leisure Centre Grounds	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Good	Average
193	Paddock Way	Hinckley	Developer / HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Good	Average	Average
211	Netherley Court	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Poor	Average	Average	Average

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
212	Ferndale Grove	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Good	Average	Average
223	Mount Road Car Park	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Good	Average	Average	Good
227	Barrie Road	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Very good	Good	Good	Very poor
228	Waterside Park	Hinckley	Developer / HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor
229	Long Meadow Drive	Hinckley	Developer / HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Poor	Average	Poor	Very poor
243	Preston Road	Hinckley	HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor
269	Ashby Road	Hinckley	Private	7	Allotments and Community Gardens	Average	Average	Good	Very poor
271	Hollycroft / Clives way	Hinckley	HBBC	7	Allotments and Community Gardens				
272	Langdale Road	Hinckley	HBBC	7	Allotments and Community Gardens	Good	Good	Good	Very poor



Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
273	Wykin Park Allotments	Hinckley	HBBC	7	Allotments and Community Gardens	Good	Average	Good	Good
274	Middlefield Lane	Hinckley	HBBC	7	Allotments and Community Gardens	Good	Good	Good	Very poor
296	Ashby Road Cemetery	Hinckley	HBBC	8	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Good	Average	Average	Good
297	Unitarian Chapel	Hinckley	HBBC	8	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Good	Good	Average	Average
306	St Mary's Churchyard	Hinckley	HBBC	8	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Good	Good	Good	Average
342	North Works College Playing Field	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Average	Average	Good	Average
346	Battling Brook School Playing Field	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	Average	Average

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
347	Mount Grace high School Playing Fields	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	Good	Average
348	John Cleveland College Playing Fields	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Very good	Good	Good
349	Westfield School	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Average	Good	Average
350	Redmoor High School	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	Average	Average
368	Hinckley Golf Club	Hinckley	Private	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Very good	Good	Very good	Very good
384	Ashby Road Sports Club	Hinckley	Private	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Average	Average	Good	Average
385	North Warwickshire & Hinckley College	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Average	Average	Average	Average
390	Hinckley Football Cricket Rugby Clubs	Hinckley	Private	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities				

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
400	Hammond's Sports Pitch	Hinckley	Private	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	Good	Average
407	Richmond Primary School	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Average	Average	Average	Average
409	St Peter's Catholic PS	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	Average	Average
422	Hollycroft Park Bowling Green	Hinckley	HBBC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Very good	Good	Very good	Good
423	Hollycroft Park Tennis Courts	Hinckley	HBBC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Very good	Good	N/A	Good
424	Hollycroft Park Golf Course	Hinckley	HBBC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Very good	Good	Good	Good
425	Clarendon Park Sports Pitches	Hinckley	HBBC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Average	Average	Good	Average
426	Langdale Park Sports Pitch	Hinckley	HBBC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	Good	Good
427	Swallows Green Football Pitch	Hinckley	HBBC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	Good	Average

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
428	Richmond Park Football Pitch	Hinckley	HBBC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Average	Average	Average	Good
450	Waterside Park Play Area	Hinckley	Developer / HBBC	6	Children	Very good	Good	N/A	Good
462	Middlefield Inn	Hinckley	Private (site now demolished)	5	Amenity Green Space	Very poor	Very poor	Very poor	Poor
463	Clarendon Park MUGA	Hinckley	HBBC	10	Young People	Good	Average	N/A	Average
464	Clarendon Park Play Area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Good	Good	Good	Good
465	Granville Road Rec Ground & Play area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Good	Good	N/A	Good
466	Queens Park Play Area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Average	Average	N/A	Average
467	Wykin Park MUGA	Hinckley	HBBC	10	Young People	Average	Average	N/A	Good
468	Wykin Park Play Area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Good	Good	Good	Very good
469	Langdale Park BMX Track	Hinckley	HBBC	10	Young People	Average	Average	N/A	Average

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
470	Langdale Park Ball Court	Hinckley	HBBC	10	Young People	Good	Very good	N/A	Good
471	Langdale Park Play Area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Good	Good	N/A	Good
472	Richmond Park MUGA	Hinckley	HBBC	10	Young People	Good	Good	N/A	Good
474	Wykin Park BMX Track	Hinckley	HBBC	10	Young People	Good	Average	Good	Good
475	Swallows Green Play Area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Good	Good	N/A	Good
476	Swallows Green Play Area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Average	Good	Average	Good
477	Swallows Green MUGA	Hinckley	HBBC	10	Young People	Good	Good	N/A	Very poor
478	Preston Road Play Area	Hinckley	HBBC	6	Children	Very poor	Very poor	N/A	Poor
522	Sweet Pea bowling club	Hinckley	Private	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities				
705	Waterside Park	Hinckley	Developer / HBBC	5	Amenity Green Space	Average	Average	Average	Very poor

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
706	Redmoor High School	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Very good	N/A	Good
707	Hinckley Boys Club/Tom Towers FC	Hinckley	Private (Hinckley centre for young people)	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	N/A	Very poor
713	John Cleveland college tennis courts	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities				
714	Battling Brook School STP	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	N/A	Average
720	Hinckley Football Cricket Rugby Clubs STP	Hinckley	Private	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	N/A	Good
721	Hinckley Football Cricket Rugby club's tennis courts	Hinckley	Private	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Good	Good	N/A	Good
723	Ashby rd NSN	Hinckley	Private	2	Natural and Semi Natural				
724	Clarendon Park Nature Walk	Hinckley	HBBC	2	Natural and Semi Natural	Average	Good	Good	Average

Site ID	Site Name	Settlement	Ownership	Type of Open Space	Open Space Name	"Cleanliness and maintenance"	"Security and safety"	"Vegetation"	"Ancillary Accommodation"
726	John Cleveland college stp	Hinckley	LCC	4	Outdoor Sports Facilities				

## **Appendix 10 Management of New Public Open Space**

### **Guidance for the Management of New Public Open Space within Hinckley & Bosworth**

This guidance establishes the principles for the management of new Public Open Spaces within the Borough of Hinckley & Bosworth.

The mechanism for calculating commuted sums from developers is derived from the Play and Open Space Guide Supplementary Planning Document, which provides guidance for planning permission applicants on what level of financial contribution they will be required to pay for the provision of play facilities and/or open spaces.

### **New Open Spaces, Ownership/Management /Delivery**

This Council's preferred option is for developers to transfer the ownership and management of the new open space to either HBBC or the relevant Parish Council within the Borough. Within parished areas open spaces will always be transferred to the relevant parish council in the first instance. Where a Parish council is unable to adopt the land then HBBC will (if practical) adopt the land. A commuted sum for grounds maintenance should be agreed in line with the Councils Play & Open Space Guide.

The benefits of this are that it is tried and tested, and that the open space is fully accessible to the general public. That a good standard of grounds maintenance will be delivered and that the site will continue to be developed in line with the community requirements.

There are several other options of management for new open space which includes charitable trust, management companies, partnerships and other organisations such as Wildlife Trust etc. All of the options have advantages and disadvantages. For any of these to be considered by the authority, the developer / landowner should enter into negotiations with the authority's Planning, Green Spaces and Legal Teams. These negotiations will seek to establish parameters concerning ownership and management of the new public open space. Some of the items that would need to be agreed are detailed below:-

#### **Charitable Trusts**

- Establish who will own the site.
- Which partnerships are to be involved.
- Identify funding opportunities, grants etc.
- Establishment of a parks office/ community building and the process of appointment for staff to develop and maintain site.
- How the Trust will involve the local community.
- Clear remit – aims and objectives for the site.

#### **Management Company**

- The levels of local community involvement and long term ownership of the open space.
- Any future costs for residents.
- The status of the land whether it is permissive rather than public open space.
- A Legal agreement ensuring full public rights of access in perpetuity.
- Establish a long term view of the open space by developer/management company.
- A legal agreement to set out specifications for expected levels of site grounds maintenance.



- Agree what happens if the developer/management company fail to maintain the green spaces to a satisfactory standard or they go out of business? Legal agreement and bond so that if there is a default the local authority can take over responsibility.
- The type of management company:-
  1. A Resident management company where residents run a company to manage the open space.
  2. Management company employed by a landowner, where the landowner or developer retains ownership of the open space.
  3. Management company owning the land, where ownership is passed to a management company who are responsible for the green space. The company may be a non- profit making company working across the country (e.g. the Green Belt Group).

## **Partnerships**

- Which organisation are partners.
- Members of the Management Committee.
- Who retain ownership of the land?
- Service agreements
- Finance and funding

## **Other Organisations**

- Conservation and other organisations enter into agreements with the local authority, developer or land owner to manage the open space where there is a particular conservation interest.

## **Summary**

The authority with the above options only seeks to secure and establish a legacy that all public open spaces within the borough of Hinckley & Bosworth are managed and maintained for the benefits of its residents and visitors.

## **Appendix 11. Themes and Priorities for the Delivery Plan**

The following are the key themes and priorities for the Green Space Delivery Plan. This section sets out how these link to the Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)17 document, (which deals with sport and recreation provision and the provision and safeguarding of open space which has recreation value), the long term aims under each key theme and the priorities for delivering these themes.

### **1. Green Space Quality**

Continue to improve the quality of green space provision, with an emphasis on improving amenity green space and those sites identified within the PPG 17 assessment.

### **PPG17 Policies linking to this theme which the delivery plan will focus on delivering:**

Parks and Gardens (PG)1 – enhance the quality of formal parks

Natural and Semi-natural (NSN)1, 2 – enhance quality of country parks and areas of natural and semi natural open space

Amenity Green Space (AGS)1, 2, 6 – enhance the quality of amenity green space prioritising lower quality sites, and allocate new amenity green space in areas lacking in provision (East of Hinckley town centre and west Hinckley).

Children and young People (CYP) 1,3,4 – enhance the quality of children’s play areas and facilities for young people and upgrade traditional play facilities with those which are challenging and exciting and may include natural play. (Improvements to cleanliness, maintenance, security and safety key within young peoples facilities)

Allotments (ALLOT)1 – enhance quality of allotments

Cemetery’s and Churchyards (CC)2 – improve the quality of cemeteries and churchyards

Green Corridors (GC)4 – enhance quality of green corridors for recreational use focusing on priorities within the Leicestershire Public Rights of way improvement Plan (PROWIP).

**Green space strategy long term aims which link to this theme are:**

GS7 – Encourage positive use of green space, tackling antisocial behaviour and reducing levels of littering and dog fouling

GS1 – develop and maintain high quality and accessible parks and open spaces

GS2 – provide safe, clean and interesting play areas within a 15 minute walk of every childs home

GS3 – develop a variety of outdoor leisure facilities specifically for young people

GS10 – provide a high quality cemetery and bereavement service

GS8 – Improve and maintain green space to support regeneration and tourism and make the Borough a more attractive place to live, work and visit.

**Priorities within this theme will therefore be:**

- Ensure the Clean Neighbourhood strategy is followed on green spaces including promoting responsible dog ownership, reducing dog fouling and littering, removing all abandoned vehicles and fly tipping within 24hours of being reported, respond to vandalism within 48 hours of reporting.
- Through Project Endeavour seeking to improve people’s feelings of personal safety in green spaces, and address antisocial behavior issues as they arise.
- Seeking developer contributions to develop and enhance existing green spaces (all PPG17 types) in Hinckley (PPG17 quality audit and policies have been used to identify improvements listed in Appendix 10). Improvements will be subject to consultation as per appendix 7.
- Ensure new residential developments provide on site open space where they are large enough to enable them to do so.
- Develop and enhance the variety, quality and accessibility of children and young peoples play
- Encourage use of the Parish and Community Initiative fund by Parish Councils to improve green spaces.
- Assess access to green spaces by public transport and if necessary seek to increase this.
- Improve the quality of amenity green space in Hinckley through landscaping and ancillary facilities.
- Achieving Green flag standard at Council maintained green spaces

- On going commitment to improving the quality of grounds and tree maintenance by Council staff
- In partnership with funeral directors and memorial masons seek to improve the cemetery service, and ensure the safety of visitors

## **2. Health & Activity**

Encourage active and healthy lifestyles.

### **PPG17 Policies linking to this theme which the delivery plan will focus on delivering:**

Outdoor Sports Facilities (OSF)4 – negotiate formal community agreements for use for outdoor sports facilities at schools

GC5 – promote opportunities to increase use of green corridors (awareness and partnership with Primary Care Trust and others)

ALLOT 3, 5 – promote effective use of allotment sites, work with providers to ensure full use and allocate new allotments in Hinckley

### **Green space strategy long term aims which link to this theme are:**

GS4 – encourage active healthy lifestyles increasing participation in sport and physical recreation by ensuring the provision of high quality sports pitches and ancillary facilities

### **Priorities within this theme will therefore be:**

- **Improve the quality of council owned outdoor sports facilities**
- **Seek community access to schools sports facilities**
- **Seek to support and co-ordinate all partners and providers of outdoor sports facilities to ensure a co-coordinated approach to provision**
- **Improving the quality of allotments**
- **Seek to provide additional allotments, and maximize occupancy and utilization of the allotment land available**
- **Seek to develop alternatives to traditional allotment provision e.g. garden share, community growing.**
- **Improve opportunities to use green corridors for activities such as walking, cycling and horse riding**

## **4. Green Infrastructure**

Support the Green Infrastructure Interventions proposed in the Hinckley & Bosworth Green Infrastructure Strategy in order to help ensure that there is a network of adaptable and multifunctional green spaces across the Borough.

### **PPG17 Policies linking to this theme which the delivery plan will focus on delivering:**

PG8 – increase access to formal parks through development of new and enhancement of existing green infrastructure

NSN6 – increase access to NSN through developing the GI network by providing foot and cycle paths

OSF3 – increase access to outdoor sports facilities through developing the GI network and links to public transport

PG7 – provide natural or semi natural open space within existing formal parks to alleviate deficiencies

NSN5 – Create new accessible natural and semi natural open space by creating new spaces, incorporating natural areas into parks and improving access to sites which are currently inaccessible.

CYP9 – facilitate the development of the GI network between large residential neighbourhoods, play facilities and other green spaces.

GC3 – support parish councils (through guidance and advice on the provision of localized routes to meet local deficiencies

**Priorities within this theme will therefore be:**

- **Development of GI network**
- **Contribute to increasing the multifunctional nature of existing green space by increasing natural and semi natural green space through management and maintenance changes (see biodiversity priorities below). This will include providing semi natural green space within all formal parks except Argents Mead, and green corridors**
- **Seek to negotiate and improve access to sites which are currently inaccessible.**
- **Work with LCC PROW team**
- **Work with other organizations to help facilitate the strategic interventions proposed as part of the development of the strategic GI network.**

#### **4. Biodiversity**

**Change management and maintenance of sites to increase biodiversity.**

**The following PPG17 policies relate to biodiversity which also contribute to the GI outcome:**

PG3 – incorporate sustainable management techniques to promote biodiversity and create a healthy ecosystem at parks

NSN1,2 – practice sympathetic management techniques at wildlife sites, and sites of importance for conservation and biodiversity

ALLOT2 – ensure that management, maintenance and future planning of allotments considers biodiversity.

GC6 – ensure maintenance regimes at green corridors is sympathetic to biodiversity and nature conservation.

CC3 – promote the nature conservation value of cemeteries and churchyards and develop a greater awareness of ecological management of these sites.

**Green space strategy long term aims which link to this theme are:**

GS6 – Manage and maintain green space to ensure the sustainability and diversity of wildlife habitats

**Priorities within this theme will therefore be:**

- **Management of council owned natural and semi natural green space to enhance biodiversity and nature conservation**
- **Management of other green space types to increase biodiversity e.g. closed churchyards and cemeteries, allotments, green corridors and formal parks**
- **Changes to grounds maintenance to reduce the environmental impact of our operations (ongoing reduction in use of herbicides, acquisition of machinery for meadow management etc)**
- **Maintain partnerships with conservation groups such as The Conservation Volunteers and Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust.**

**Cross cutting themes**

**1. Community Involvement, Awareness & Events**

Engage with and empower local communities to become actively involved in the management of local green spaces, supporting the Government's Big Society initiative. Ensure that green spaces provide a variety of leisure, recreation and play opportunities for people of all ages and raise awareness of green spaces and environmental issues through promotion, education and lifelong learning.

**PPG17 Policies linking to this theme which the delivery plan will focus on delivering:**

PG2 – support existing and create new friends groups

**Green space strategy long term aims which link to this theme are:**

GS 9 – raise awareness of environmental issues through educational and life long learning programmes at green spaces. To ensure delivery is focused on achieving this aim a strategy has been developed which is shown in Appendix 8.

GS5 – create opportunities for people to enjoy and take part in the arts and entertainment through a programme of outdoor events and activities.

The initial green space strategy included policies (9&10) which related to consultation and local delivery which are still very relevant to this delivery plan and therefore the following will also be included within this theme: - consulting with local communities when making decisions about local green spaces (see appendix 7 for details of the strategy developed) and supporting parish councils to develop their own delivery plans.

**Priorities within this theme will therefore be:**

- **Consulting with local communities when making key decisions about green spaces, following the guidance within the community engagement and involvement strategy in appendix 7**

- **Working with local communities and other providers to manage, develop and promote green spaces**
- **Support existing and encourage new friends groups, volunteer groups and other mechanisms which transfer delivery to local communities.**
- **Work with parish councils to enable them to develop their own green space delivery plans**
- **Provide a varied programme of events and activities which comply with the green space events strategy in appendix 8**

**Promote and increase awareness of ALL green spaces in the Borough**

## **2. Funding**

Given the current economic climate, seek to identify new mechanisms for funding open space improvements.

**Priorities within this theme will therefore be:**

- **Maximising external funding for green spaces**
- **Identifying income sources which do not deter use of green spaces**
- **Where capacity exists within the service, seek to generate income to support the service delivery, and reduce the cost of the service.**
- **Maximising use of the s106 developer contributions available for green space improvements.**