

Scope

This strategy identifies Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council's (HBBC) Green Space priorities for the next 10 years, as well as providing advice to Town & Parish Councils to develop their own green spaces.

Purpose

The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a clear vision and to set out the policies and actions for the delivery and management of sustainable green space for the next 10 years.

This strategy is underpinned by several supporting documents which outlines the national and local context. It also summaries key issues and challenges, before setting out how delivery will be achieved against the key themes.

Vision

To enhance and enrich the lives of residents and visitors to the borough via the delivery of quality green spaces through working with partners and engagement with our communities.

Corporate Plan 2022 – 2025

This Strategy has four delivery themes each supports one or more of the themes within the Corporate Plan:

PEOPLE - Helping people to stay healthy, active, in work and protected from harm.

PLACES - Creating clean, sustainable and attractive places to live and work.

PROSPERITY - Encouraging sustainable economic and housing growth, attracting businesses, improving skills and supporting regeneration.



Our Aims

Delivery theme

1 Protect, increase, maintain and celebrate our Green Spaces

Strategic links:

- Corporate Plan 2022 to 2025: **Places theme**
 - Protect and improve our parks and open spaces for everyone across the borough.
 - Keep our borough clean, green and safe
- Core Strategy (Local Plan 2006 to 2026)
- The Open Space & Recreational Facilities Study
- Young People's Strategy
- Volunteering Strategy for the Borough
- Hinckley Town Centre Public Realm Strategy



We will seek to:

- Protect all of our green spaces in terms of their natural environmental and historical importance.
- Increase and maintain the quality of our green spaces to meet the needs and demands of local communities.
- Improve accessibility to, and the facilities on, our green spaces for all communities to use, appreciate and enjoy.
- Ensure that the correct level of funding and resources are provided to maintain and improve HBBC green space.
- Continue to train and invest in staff, enabling staff to deliver a quality service.
- Provide sufficient quality green space in appropriate locations.
- Ensure developers provide sufficient quality green space to meet the needs of the new housing provision within the borough.
- Secure developer contributions for the development and enhancement of existing green spaces.
- Promote and encourage use of the HBBC funds and grants to improve green spaces across the Borough.
- Provide and improve our bereavement services.

Delivery theme

2 Increase biodiversity and sustainability - reducing environmental impact

Strategic links:

- Corporate Plan 2022 to 2025: Places theme Protect and improve our parks and open spaces for everyone across the borough. Keep our borough clean, green and safe
- Core Strategy (Local Plan 2006 to 2026)
- Climate Change Strategy 2022 to 2024
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Supplementary Planning Document (Good Design Guide)
- The Open Space & Recreational Facilities Study
- Young People's Strategy
- Volunteering Strategy for the Borough
- Hinckley Town Centre Public Realm Strategy



We will seek to:

- Work on delivering on initiatives and projects detailed within HBBC Climate Change Strategy.
- Reduce our impact on the environment by cutting waste and encouraging recycling on our green spaces and in our ground's maintenance service.
- Manage our natural and semi natural green space to enhance biodiversity and nature conservation.
- Change our ground maintenance practices reducing the environmental impact of our operations.
- Work in close partnership with our partners to maximise biodiversity across our green spaces
- Work in close partnership with our partners to manage flood defences to HBBC land (blue infrastructure).
- Adapt traditional landscaping schemes to take account of the projected climate changes.
- Provide adequate shaded areas to our sites for periods of high temperatures.
- Ensure that our green space buildings are adapted for climate change and utilised in terms of solar power and water harvesting.
- Explore and utilise new technology to ensure that our green spaces and ground maintenance service are more sustainable
- Mitigate against HBBC carbon emissions by increasing the number of trees and wildflower areas to HBBC sites.

3 Increase and improve Green Infrastructure

Strategic links:

- Corporate Plan 2022 to 2025: **Places theme** Protect and improve our parks and open spaces for everyone across the borough. Keep our borough clean, green and safe
- Core Strategy (Local Plan 2006 to 2026)
- Climate Change Strategy 2022 to 2024
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Supplementary Planning Document (Good Design Guide)
- The Open Space & Recreational Facilities Study
- Young People's Strategy
- Volunteering Strategy for the Borough
- Hinckley Town Centre Public Realm Strategy

We will seek to:

- Work with other organisations to help facilitate strategic, green infrastructure.
- Contribute to increasing the multi-functional nature of existing green space by increasing natural and semi-natural elements through management, maintenance, and the connectivity between sites.
- Increase and facilitate our tree canopy in the borough to the national average of 13.5%.



Delivery theme

4 Encourage active and healthy lifestyles

Strategic links:

- Corporate Plan 2022 to 2025: People theme
 - Help people to stay healthy, be active and feel well.
 - Give children and young people the best start in life and offer them the opportunity to thrive in their communities.
 - Enable and inspire older people to make the most of latter life
- Health & Wellbeing Strategy
- Cultural Strategy 2018 to 2023
- Core Strategy (Local Plan 2006 to 2026)
- The Open Space & Recreational Facilities Study
- Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan 2019
- HBBC, Indoor and Built, Recreation and Community Facilities Framework 2019 to 2036
- Young People's Strategy
- Volunteering Strategy for the Borough

We will seek to:

- Protect and improve our green spaces for the benefits they provide to health and wellbeing of residents.
- Improve the quality of Council owned outdoor sports facilities.
- Support and co-ordinate all partners and providers of outdoor sports facilities to ensure a collective approach to provision.
- Work in close partnership with our HBBC Cultural Services Team to maximise physical activity opportunities across our open spaces.
- Increase and develop allotment provision across our sites.
- Improve infrastructure across our green spaces for physical activities such as walking, running, cycling, and horse riding.
- Increase the opportunities for community to engage in physical activity across our sites.
- Increase relaxing and calming areas within our green spaces for contemplation and enhance mental wellbeing.



Cross cutting themes

Protect, increase, maintain and celebrate our Green Spaces
Green Space is undeveloped land in an otherwise urban environment, not necessarily provided for formal recreation or public amenity, this makes a positive visual and environmental contribution to local residents for recreational or aesthetic purposes.

Increase biodiversity and sustainability - reducing environmental impact

Biodiversity means the richness and variety of life - of genes, species and ecosystems. Sustainability is the ability to maintain ecological processes over long periods of time.

HBBC Green Space Strategy

Increase and improve Green Infrastructure

The key features of green infrastructure are that it is a network of integrated spaces and features, not just individual elements; and that it is 'multi-functional'. These can be to: support people's mental and physical health, encourage active travel, cool urban areas during heat waves, attract investment, reduce water run-off during flash flooding, carbon storage, and provide sustainable drainage.

Encourage active and healthy lifestyles

A healthy lifestyle is a valuable resource for reducing the incidence and impact of health problems, for recovery, for coping with life stresses, and for improving quality of life.

For more information please contact:

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