

SCRUTINY UPDATE

Scrutiny Recommendation and Executive Decision	Target Implementation Date	What has been implemented and who Responsible	Implemented?	Service or Performance Improvement Measurable outcomes
		(who and what and when)	Yes/No*	<i>This must be completed</i>
<p>Recommendation One That the Council seek to develop a more integrated and co-ordinated model of Open Space management and that the Open Spaces Strategy should represent a renewed effort to co-ordinate and realign department priorities and approaches in order that there is a consistent Council - wide approach to managing open space.</p> <p><i>(Agreed /)</i> Executive Decision (if Different) To establish a new, inter-departmental forum to co-ordinate planning in order to address issues of open space deficiency, quality and access.</p>	June 07	<p>To date, improved planning mechanisms have been established through the Better Haringey and Better Places groups. The new inter-departmental forum will be established in June 2007. Separately, standards for open space provision in Haringey are being developed for the UDP. An audit of housing open space and play provision has been undertaken.</p>	No	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forum established 2. Open Space standards adopted.
<p>Recommendation Two That representations be made to the DfES and ODPM regarding the lack of funding from Government towards the purchase of any new land (ie brownfield land or already</p>	N/A	<p>The proposed policy to build additional school accommodation on open space was rejected following representation. The</p>	Yes	N/A

<p>developed land) for the necessary building of new schools to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers due to the Government's target for new housing over the next decade to avoid pressure to expand onto Green Open Space.</p> <p><i>(/ Amended)</i> Executive Decision (if Different) That dialogue with Government departments concerning funding to enable necessary school expansion should continue.</p>		<p>Council has been successful in obtaining £165m from Government via the Building Schools for the Future programme for the development and improvement of local schools.</p>		
<p>Recommendation Three That in order to assist in park safety and maximising the diverse usage and to enable extra funding to be secured the Council be committed to developing a vision for all Green Open Space. Additionally a management plan for each park be developed. Furthermore inclusive accessibility should be a priority wherever possible and reasonable.</p> <p><i>(/ Amended)</i> Executive Decision (if Different) The vision for all Green Open Space is contained with the draft Open Space</p>	<p>Nov 2005</p>	<p>The Open Space Strategy was adopted by the Council in November 2005. Subsequent to the review, the Council, via its own and external funding, has invested over £5m in improving the quality of open space. This has addressed 'safety by design' issues. An additional £3m expenditure is estimated for 07/08. The Council had achieved 7 Green Flags by July 2006, the highest of any London Borough and is seeking 8 for 2007. Management Plans have been developed for each Green Flag site. A review of Council and other agency staffing for parks is currently in progress to address issues of safety and developing further usage.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategy adopted. 2. Number of Green Flags awarded. 3. Parkforce review completed.

<p>Strategy. The draft Strategy does not currently propose developing a management plan for each site, rather it proposes that priority for the development of further management plans be given to potential Green Flag sites. This task is afforded high priority within the draft Open Space Strategy.</p> <p>The promotion of social inclusion and usage by all of Haringey's diverse communities is Objective 6 of the draft Open Space Strategy. A number of tasks are identified within the Action Plan to enable this objective to be obtained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Expanding the Parks Constabulary - Priority High · Increasing usage - Priority High · Improving safety by design - Priority High · Assisting Friends of Parks groups to access external funding - Priority Medium 				
<p>Recommendation Four</p> <p>That the Council recognise the importance of working with Friends Groups and other stakeholders and develop partnerships to assist in the management and promotion of open spaces and to secure external funding.</p> <p><i>(Agreed / Executive Decision (if Different)</i></p> <p>The Executive noted that Objective 3 of the Open Space Strategy sought to “involve the whole community in the management of parks and open space” and that within the Open Space Action Plan there was an action to “Develop the capacity of the voluntary</p>	<p>March 2008</p>	<p>The number of Friends of Parks groups has continued to increase and there are now approximately 30 across the Borough, one of the highest in London.</p> <p>A new, temporary post is currently being considered for 07/08 to enable the development of voluntary sector capacity.</p>	<p>No</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of Friends groups operating. 2. Appointment of temporary officer.

sector in order to enable voluntary and community organisations to take a more active role in the management, development and funding of parks”.				
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<p>Recommendation Five</p> <p>That in respect of any proposals to develop on Open Space there be a consultation process including clear definitions of land classifications</p> <p><i>(/ Amended)</i></p> <p><i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i></p> <p>These are policy issues which are currently being considered as part of the Inquiry into the draft UDP. No response will therefore be made at this stage.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Clear definitions of land classifications are included within the Open Space chapter of the UDP. They are Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land, and Significant Local Open Land. Other categories include Historic Parks Gardens and Landscapes, Other Open Space, Heritage Land, Allotments and Playing Fields. As part of any application to develop open space there would be a consultation process that would take place. The Council has a Council Consultation Strategy 2002 and there are also Development Control guidelines in respect of consultation.</p> <p>The development of standards for open space provision is being progressed in 07/08</p>	Yes	1. Standards to be adopted by Council.
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<p>Recommendation Six That all Council services accept and respect the policy of protection of existing Green Open Spaces.</p> <p><i>(Amended)</i> <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> These are policy issues which are currently being considered as part of the Inquiry into the draft UDP. No response will therefore be made at this stage.</p>	Ongoing	The policies within the Open Space chapter of the UDP all accept and respect the protection of existing green opens spaces, and there are other cross cutting policies within the Plan that reinforce this acceptance.	Yes	N/A
<p>Recommendation Seven That the criteria for Green Flag sites be adopted as a standard to which all parks and open spaces should aspire</p> <p><i>(Agreed /)</i> <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> "To use the Green Flag criteria as the standard to be aspired to for the management of all open space" - Priority High/Medium</p>	Nov 2005	<p>The Council, via the Open Space Strategy, formally adopted this recommendation in November 2005.</p> <p>Green Flag status has been achieved for Bruce Castle Park, Railway Fields, Chapmans Green, Priory Park, Stationers Park and Albert Road Recreation Ground. The Council is seeking to retain these awards and obtain Green Flag status for Finsbury Park in 2007.</p> <p>A target of 12 Green Flag parks has been set for 2010.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	1. Number of Green Flags awarded to Parks in Haringey per year.

<p>“To retain the Green Flags already awarded for Priory Park, Bruce Castle Park, Railway Fields and Stationers Park, and to prioritise the following sites for future Green Flag awards: Albert Recreation Ground, Woodside Park, Downhills Park, Finsbury Park, Chestnuts Park, Lordship Recreation Ground, Chapmans Green, Wood Green and Tottenham Cemeteries”. - Priority High/Medium</p>				
<p><i>Recommendation Eight</i> That the Council consider finding resources for the appointment of dedicated on site staff/park wardens for each substantial Green Open Space</p> <p>(/ Amended) <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> The promotion of social inclusion and usage by all of Haringey’s diverse communities is Objective 6 of the draft Open Space Strategy. A number of tasks are identified within the Action Plan to enable this objective to be obtained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Expanding the Parks Constabulary - Priority High · Increasing usage - Priority High · Improving safety by design - Priority High · Assisting Friends of Parks groups to access external funding - Priority Medium 	<p>Sept 07</p>	<p>The Parkforce review, previously referred to at recommendation 3 is currently being progressed in conjunction with Friends of Parks groups and other stakeholders. A key element of the review is the identification of the ‘significant’ parks and open spaces in the Borough with priority for resources being given to ‘significant’ sites. The review will report in 07/08.</p>	<p>No</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parkforce review completed. 2. Review recommendation approved.

<p>Recommendation Nine That there be strategic consideration given to the use of Brownfield land or existing buildings surplus to current pressures in relation to the provision of community needs and housing so that perceived needs for housing development on Open Space is removed</p> <p><i>(/ Amended)</i> Executive Decision (if Different) These are policy issues which are currently being considered as part of the Inquiry into the draft UDP. No response will therefore be made at this stage.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Policy HSG1 New Housing Development within the UDP makes clear the need for a sequential approach in terms of appropriate sites for housing. The sequential approach makes clear that the preferred location for housing would be on previously developed land. More specifically the Council will consider the following locations first:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites with high accessibility to public transport facilities; or • Redevelopment of existing housing sites at higher densities where appropriate; or • Re-use of buildings, including empty properties; or • Redundant/derelict sites. 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Recommendation Ten That the Assistant Director Streetscene approach Transport for London with a view to seeking to transfer responsibility for TfL maintenance of TfL owned highways verges to Haringey <i>(/ Rejected /</i> Executive Decision (if Different)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>(Rejected)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>The Executive did not respond specifically to this recommendation.</p>				
<p>Recommendation Eleven That the Housing Service keep details of Estate refurbishment's in relation to play facilities in order to be appraised of the adequacy of the provision</p> <p><i>(Agreed / Executive Decision (if Different))</i> The draft Open Spaces Strategy recommends an audit of play provision and the production of an outdoor play facilities strategy. This would incorporate play provision on housing estates. This is accorded a high priority.</p>	<p>March 2006</p>	<p>The audit of play facilities was completed in March 2006. This included facilities in parks and open space and on housing estates and covered playgrounds and ballcourts. An outdoor play facilities strategy for open space and housing estates will be developed in 07/08.</p>	<p>Audit completed March 06</p>	<p>1. Strategy completed in 07/08.</p>
<p>Recommendation Twelve That the Education Service be requested to examine the potential for community use of its open space and when considering school extensions Education Services be encouraged to expand upwards rather than outwards eg by building roof gardens and play decks</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Our policies on open space contained within the open space chapter all seek to safeguard open space from development. Even where that open space does not have a particular designation (e.g. MOL) policy OS10 of the UDP entitled "Other Open Space" seeks to preserve open space except in exceptional circumstances including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the appearance of the open space; • Activities associated with the open space use; 	<p>N/A</p>	<p>No specific targets to be set. Ongoing.</p>

<p>(/ Amended) <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> To investigate the potential for dual use of school playing fields.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if replacement open space of equivalent size and quality has been secured within the immediate locality for similar use; • If the development would not result in the loss of play space or any other facilities for children unless replacement is possible in a nearby and appropriate location; • If the development will not result in a deterioration of the open space, or where the quality of the open space can be safeguarded by the use of conditions; and • Improving the ecological quality of the site for the benefit of wildlife and biodiversity. <p>Relevant joint planning work is currently being undertaken between Recreation and Children's Services in the areas of Building Schools for the Future and Parks Management Plans.</p>		
<p>Recommendation Thirteen That there be a strategic and shared approach to the provision of sports and play facilities to ensure the efficient use of land <i>(Agreed / Executive Decision (if Different))</i></p>	<p>See Twelve above.</p>		

To investigate the potential for dual use of school playing fields.				
<p>Recommendation Fourteen</p> <p>That the Assistant Director Streetscene be requested to ascertain from appropriate expert advice whether work undertaken on behalf of Streetscene could be done more beneficially to wildlife and possibly at lower cost</p> <p><i>(// Amended)</i></p> <p>Executive Decision (if Different)</p> <p>That an assessment be undertaken by Recreation Services and Streetscene of the potential to reduce the frequency of cutting grass side verges in order to encourage wildlife and the cost implications of this.</p>	March 2006	The feasibility of this recommendation has been assessed and officers have concluded that the positive benefits for wildlife would be undermined by the likelihood that grass side verges which were perceived as being poorly maintained would become depositors for abandoned litter.	Yes	N/A
<p>Recommendation Fifteen</p> <p>That Planning officers draw up an inventory of all possible new open space sites throughout Haringey which should be reviewed annually in consultation with local community groups. There are numerous sites within the Borough where access could be achieved for community use. The Council should take special care to ensure the possibility of securing regeneration funding to secure provision and protection of these spaces</p> <p><i>(// Amended)</i></p> <p>Executive Decision (if Different)</p> <p>That the inter-departmental forum proposed within the draft Open Space Strategy to co-ordinate planning in order to address issues</p>	June 2007	An audit of housing open land was completed in June 2006. The inter-departmental forum will be established in June 2007.	No	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interdepartmental Forum established. 2. Standards for open space provision adopted.

<p>of open space deficiency, quality and access should also consider funding issues to enable access to the new open space and the protection of existing space.</p>				
<p>Recommendation Sixteen That in respect of planning applications for large sites the Planning Service be urged to specify the creation of new Green Open Spaces in order to provide for the projected increase in population</p> <p><i>/ Amended)</i> <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> These are policy issues which are currently being considered as part of the Inquiry into the draft UDP. No response will therefore be made at this stage.</p>		<p>The adoption of the UDP has addressed this issue.</p> <p>Policy OS15 of the UDP is concerned with Open Space Deficiency and New Developments and states that "In areas of identified open space deficiency proposals for major new developments will be expected to: a) provide an appropriate area of open space; or b) improve the accessibility or quality of nearby open space. The policy also refers to the Atkins Assessment and the open space deficiency in the borough, and the need not to exacerbate this deficiency any further.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. UDP adopted.</p>
<p>Recommendation Seventeen That the Panel wholeheartedly welcomes the Council's decision to ensure the continued protection of Significant Local Open Land (SLOL) by withdrawing OSA2 of the draft Unitary Development Plan and reinstating the previous policy OS2</p>		<p>I can confirm that the previous policy OS2 has now been adopted as part of the UDP.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. UDP adopted.</p>

<p>(Amended) <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> These are policy issues which are currently being considered as part of the Inquiry into the draft UDP. No response will therefore be made at this stage.</p>				
<p>Recommendation Eighteen That the Planning Service initiates a continuous database of Open Space built on as a result of the planning process and split into different categories eg commercial, residential</p> <p>(Agreed / Rejected / Amended) <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> The draft Open Spaces Strategy recommends that changes (losses and gains) in publicly accessible open space be monitored and that data be published on an annual basis.</p>	Nov 2005	The Executive's recommendation was confirmed with the approval of the Open Spaces Strategy in November 2005. It is likely that the Interdepartmental forum for open space will take on this role as part of its terms of reference.	No	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Net gains/losses recorded. 2. Data published on an annual basis.
<p>Recommendation Nineteen That biodiversity be considered an intrinsic part of the management of parks and green corridors and consideration be given to reducing the frequency of cutting grass side verges in some areas in order to encourage wildlife. There is a need for sensitive management tailored to meet the needs of each specific site, taking into account basic ecological principles. The Panel further recommends that the Biodiversity Action Plan be adopted without delay</p> <p>(Agreed) <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i></p>	Nov 2005	The Biodiversity Action Plan was adopted via the Haringey Open Space Strategy in November 2005.	Yes	N/A

The draft Open Space Strategy recommends adoption of the Biodiversity Action Plan.				
<p>Recommendation Twenty</p> <p>That environmental assessment and impact studies be carried out before any events are held in parks and that events be restricted to certain parks and contained within specific areas and that any damage caused by events be made good</p> <p><i>(Agreed)</i></p> <p><i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i></p> <p>The draft Open Space Strategy proposes that an audit be undertaken of spaces suitable for providing arts, activities, events and festivals and that an arts, events and festivals strategy be developed for open space. The audit is considered high priority and a necessary prerequisite for the development of a strategy.</p>	July 2006	<p>The Audit was completed in July 06.</p> <p>The Strategy is included in the Recreation Services work plan for 07/08</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>	1. Open Space festivals strategy developed.
<p>Recommendation Twenty one</p> <p>That an inventory of Open Spaces be developed with respect to biodiversity and nature conservation</p> <p><i>(Agreed)</i></p> <p><i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i></p> <p>That Recreation Services develop an inventory of open spaces which support biodiversity and nature conservation.</p>		<p>The UDP has an existing inventory of sites which support biodiversity and nature conservation.</p> <p>Recreation Services have not been able to further develop this inventory to date.</p>	No	
<p>Recommendation Twenty two</p> <p>That the importance of parks be recognised and representations be made to the Government and the Audit Commission that</p>	N/A	The Audit Commission have not included Green Flags or any other Parks indicators within the	N/A	

<p>Parks protection, maintenance, usage and expansion be included as an area for additional assessment within the Comprehensive Performance Assessment process</p> <p><i>(Agreed)</i> <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> Best Value Performance Indicator 199 concerning the cleanliness and presentation of open space is part of the CPA assessment process.</p> <p>The Council's response to the current Audit Commission consultation process on new Cultural Services Block performance indicators should take into account the Panel recommendations.</p>		<p>key Performance Indicators for the Cultural Services Block.</p>		
<p>Recommendation Twenty three That the Council consider future Scrutiny reviews (covering biodiversity, access and protection) of allotments, backlands and private space including commercial statutory undertakers land and gardens</p> <p><i>(Agreed / Rejected / Amended)</i> <i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i> A review of allotments has been proposed for the current municipal year.</p> <p>Consideration will be given in future years for the review of backlands and private space including commercial statutory undertaken land and gardens.</p>	<p>March 2006</p>	<p>The review of allotments was undertaken in the financial year 05/06 and has led to the establishment of a borough-wide allotments forum.</p> <p>Additional capital expenditure is being proposed for the financial year 07/08 to improve infrastructure on allotments.</p> <p>There is a current SPG on</p>	<p>Yes (in part)</p>	

		Backland Development which states very clear perimeters for when development can take place. Planning has no plans to carry out future Scrutiny reviews on any of the above topics.		
<p>Recommendation Twenty four</p> <p>That future work be undertaken on the following areas:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving green flag status for more of the Council's parks • Ways in which Parks are maintained and funded • Usage of Parks to determine whether they satisfy the current demand <p>(/ Amended)</p> <p><i>Executive Decision (if Different)</i></p> <p>“To use the Green Flag criteria as the standard to be aspired to for the management of all open space”.</p> <p>“To retain the Green Flags already awarded for Priory Park, Bruce Castle Park, Railway Fields and Stationers Park, and to prioritise the following sites for future Green Flag awards: Albert Recreation Ground, Woodside Park, Downhills Park, Finsbury Park, Chestnuts Park, Lordship Recreation Ground, Chapmans Green, Wood Green and Tottenham Cemeteries”.</p>	2010	The Council now has 7 Green Flag parks, the highest number of any borough in London. Through the LAA, it is proposed to achieve 12 Green Flag parks by 2010.	Yes	1. Number of Green Flag parks.

Last updated 16/02/07