



Open Spaces Strategy Action Plan 2011 - 2015

'E' indicates funded from existing resources
'F' indicates additional funding required

Issues		Indicators	Target	Responsibility	Links	% complete	Risk
General Policies							
1	Carry out quality audit of all public open space	Number of open spaces audited for quality	100% by 2013	Public Spaces Manager/ Grounds Maintenance Team	LAA		E
2	Review management and maintenance of all public facilities	Number of open spaces reviewed.	100% by 2013	Public Spaces Manager/ Grounds Maintenance Team	Grounds Maintenance Contract		E
		Number of open spaces needing improved					
3	Establish baseline data about investment in parks and open space	Database compiled from other Authorities about investment in Parks and open spaces	By end 2011	Public Spaces Manager			E
4	Identify land and facilities whose use could be enhanced	identify land	complete by end 2012	Public Spaces Manager and GM team			E

Issues		Indicators	Target	Responsibility	Links	% complete	Risk
2	Review the on-site supervision of Parks.	Completion of review	By end 2011	Public Spaces Manager/ Grounds Maintenance Team			E
3	Seek to maintain Green Flag status for Welland Park.	Retention of green Flag status for Welland Park	Each year until 2015	Public Spaces Manager/ Grounds Maintenance Team	Welland Park Management Plan LAA		E
4	Seek additional external and Council funds to invest in Park infrastructure.	Securing of funds to meet action plan of Welland Park management plan and needs of community in other locations	Each year until 2015	Public Spaces Manager/ Grounds Maintenance Team/ Community groups	Welland Park Management Plan, LAA		F Golf £150k New building £750k Tennis £56k

Issues		Indicators	Target	Responsibility	Links	% complete	Risk
Formal Outdoor Recreation							
1	Protect existing formal outdoor recreation facilities and seek to provide additional outdoor sports facilities where required.	No outdoor recreation lost without alternative arrangements being made	100% by 2015	Members, DCE, Head of Service, Public Spaces Manager	LDF LAA		E F
2	Ensure that school recreation facility provision, wherever feasible, will be developed, to be available to the community.	Review possible school provision and secure use for wider public	Ongoing until 2015	Community Development team, schools	Play Strategy Every Child Matters		F £5k per school

3	Strive to ensure that there is continuous improvement in the standard of maintenance of our public pitches.	Quality of pitches is improved. Number of cancelled matches is decreased	Ongoing until 2015 Below 5% cancelled year on year	Public Spaces Manager/ Grounds Maintenance Team, Contractor	Integrated contract for grounds maintenance LAA		E
4	Continue to develop the Northampton Road User Group forum, and other sports groups for consultation to ensure that local people and interest groups are involved in formal recreation development and provision.	Continuation of group meeting and communication between members	Ongoing until 2015	Sports Development Manager/ Public Spaces manager, forum members	LAA		E

Issues		Indicators	Target	Responsibility	Links	% complete	Risk
5	Support and encourage the voluntary sector to meet the needs of local people and to increase participation across all communities.	Clubs and others continue to meet the needs of the community for sport and recreation	Ongoing until 2015	Sports Development Manager, clubs	LAA		E
6	Help source and provide capital and revenue funds to refurbish and maintain public facilities to a high standard.		Ongoing until 2015	Members, Public Spaces Manager, Sports Development Manager, clubs,	Provision for Open Space Sports and Recreation. S106 allocations LDF, LAA		F

Issues	Indicators	Target	Responsibility	Links	% complete	Risk
7	<p>No anti-social behaviour on playing fields or recreation grounds.</p> <p>Reduce incidents of</p> <p>Antisocial behaviour and dog fouling. Improve standards of cleanliness. Remove graffiti within 24 hours</p>	<p>%of graffiti removed within 24 hrs</p> <p>% reduction in incidents of dog fouling. Local performance indicator for cleansing. Promote responsible dog ownership.</p>	<p>Public Spaces Manager, Enforcement team, Street Cleansing Team, Dog Warden</p> <p>Community Safety Team</p>	<p>LAA</p> <p>Clean Neighbourhoods Act</p>		E

Issues		Indicators	Target	Responsibility	Links	% complete	Risk
Provision for children and young people							
1	Use and update the Play Strategy for the District when determining play provision.	Successful, prioritised installation of new play areas, to meet local need	Ongoing until 2015	Public Spaces Manager, Children's Officer	Play Strategy		E
2	A play champion (elected member) has been identified for the Council	A play champion continues to be available to champion children's issues	Until 2015	Elected members	Play Strategy		E
3	An HDC officer has been allocated responsibility for play by the Council.	An officer continues to be made responsible for equipped play area provision	Until 2015	Elected Members, SMT, Head of Service			E

4	Involve children and young people in the design, and positioning of their local play area or teenage facility	Children and young people involved in design of new and refurbished areas	Ongoing until 2015	Public Spaces Manager, Children's Officer, Grounds Maintenance team	Play Strategy LAA		E
5	Instigate a preventative maintenance procedure and introduce an agreed programme of play area equipment renewal and a replacement and defects procedure.	Replacement of play equipment as required. Repair of defects as needed	Ongoing until 2015	Members, SMT, Head of Service, Public Spaces Manager Grounds Maintenance Contractor	Play Strategy LAA Grounds Maintenance Contract		F up to £50k per year

6	<p>Review existing play areas as part of the annual play area inspection by RoSPA or others, and undertake their recommendations for replacement or upgrading. Upgrades will include the installation of at least one piece of inclusive equipment.</p>	<p>Undertaking of annual play inspection on each play area.</p> <p>Inclusion of one piece of inclusive equipment during each upgrade.</p>	<p>Each year until 2015</p> <p>100% until 2015</p>	<p>Public Spaces Manager Grounds Maintenance Team, contractors</p>	<p>Play Strategy LAA</p>		<p>F up to £20k per year</p>
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7	Install safety surfacing appropriate to the location of the play area taking into account the type of equipment and play value of the surfacing.	All safety surfacing considered during replacement programmes. Appropriate surfacing used to meet needs of users.	Ongoing until 2013	Members, Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team, contractors	Play Strategy LAA		F
8	Seek Section 106 agreements for the provision of open space or play provision in relation to new residential development.	Successful application of S106 agreements with developers to meet the needs of the community by installing new equipped play areas or renovation of existing sites.	Ongoing until 2015	Development Control Team, legal Services, Members, Public Spaces Manager, Developers	LDF LAA Provision for Open Space Sports and Recreation		E

Natural and Semi-natural green spaces							
1	Protect existing natural and semi-natural green spaces and increase the number of these spaces through the planning process.	Increase in the number of natural and semi natural greenspaces available for public access, secured through the planning process	Target 2 per year until 2015	Development Control, Public Spaces Manager, Developers	LDF LAA Provision for Open Space Sports and Recreation		E
2	Work with partners improve access to natural and seminatural green spaces	Increase in the number of inclusively accessible natural and semi natural green spaces through improvements enabled by the planning process and s106 agreements	One per year until 2015	Public Spaces manager, Land owners Developers	LDF LAA Provision for Open Space Sports and Recreation DDA		F funding to be sought by partners

3	Work with partners and local communities to manage these sites and raise awareness about them.	Public awareness of sites increased	Ongoing until 2015	Planning Policy Public Spaces Manager L& RWT Land Owners	LDF LAA Provision for Open Space Sports and Recreation		E
Amenity greenspace							
1	Research the possibility of using meadowland margins on large areas of amenity greenspace	Increase in the number of large open spaces with meadowland margins and diverse wild flower populations	Target 4 by 2013	Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team, contractors	LAA Grounds Maintenance Contract		E

2	Assess our existing amenity grasslands with a view to identifying sites for further tree planting	Number of sites with additional tree planting	2 per year until 2015	Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team, contractors	LAA Grounds Maintenance Contract		E
3	Work with volunteer groups and local residents to identify opportunities to improve amenity greenspace for the local community.	Increase the number of sites that are improved with community group or volunteer input	Target 2 per year until 2015	Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team, contractors Community	LAA Grounds Maintenance Contract		E

Allotments							
1	Continue to employ an Officer to co-ordinate the allotments management and improvement programme	Officer continues to be responsible for management and improvement of allotments on an ongoing basis	Ongoing until 2015	Members, SMT, Head of Service	LAA Grounds Maintenance Contract		E
2	Programme of works will be implemented to improve the range and standard of facilities available on allotment sites and to upgrade security.	Implementation of security improvements where needed at District Council owned allotment sites. Improvement in facilities	Improvements in 3 sites by 2013	Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team, contractors	LAA Grounds Maintenance		F up to £10k per allotment site

3	Re let plots, where sites have a waiting list, within 3 months, of notice being received from the existing tenant.	Plots re let within time period	Ongoing until 2015	Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team	LPI, Open Spaces Strategy		E
4	Investigate the possibility of setting up Allotment Associations on District Council owned sites	Successful setting up of allotments association to manage allotments	1 Allotment association by 2014	Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team	Open Spaces Strategy		E

Cemeteries and Closed Churchyards							
1	Seek to ensure that sufficient burial sites are allocated through the Planning system	Secure extension to Northampton Road Cemetery and replacement of lost pitch.	By 2013	Members, SMT, Head of Service, Public Spaces manager	LDF		F Seek replacement pitch through s106. Up to £100k
		Extend existing cemeteries into HDC owned land at Foxton and Great Bowden.	By end 2011	Public Spaces Manager, Grounds Maintenance Team, Contractors	Open Spaces Strategy Open Spaces and Cemeteries Task Panel		F £14k
		Seek site allocation for Lutterworth through LDF.	By end 2012	Development Control, Members, LCC Public Spaces Manager	Open Spaces Strategy Open Spaces and Cemeteries Task Panel		F provision through s106.

		Work in partnership with Thurnby and Bushby Parish to secure burial provision in that area	By end 2012	Development Control, Parish Council	Open Spaces Strategy Open Spaces and Cemeteries Task Panel		E additional funding may be required
2	Maintain and improve accessibility to cemeteries and burial grounds where appropriate	Accessibility audit of all burial grounds and closed churchyards undertaken	By end 2012	Grounds Maintenance team Engineers team	DDA		F up to £20k per site
		Number of sites with DDA compliant access (where identified possible in the audit)	100% by end 2013	Grounds Maintenance team Engineers team	DDA		F

3	We will work with partners and local communities to manage our cemeteries appropriately.	Work with Parish Council to manage burial facilities.	By end 2014	Public Spaces Manager Parish Councils	Open Spaces Strategy Open Spaces and Cemeteries Task Panel		E
		Monitoring of demographics to determine that burial grounds have appropriate facilities	ongoing	Corporate Administration Manager			E
4	We will continue to undertake surveys of memorials to ascertain their safety and undertake remedial action where necessary	25% of memorials tested each year on an ongoing basis	100% by 2014	Public Spaces manager Grounds Maintenance/Engineers team. Safety testing contractor/QRT	Street Scene Services Service Plan		E through memorial safety programme budget