

Open Spaces Strategy

Public Participation Report

Chapter 1: Introduction to the Open Spaces Strategy

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<i>Representations</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Summary of Main Issue/Change to Plan</i>	<i>Council's Assessment</i>	<i>Action</i>
<i>Chapter 1: Introduction to the Open Spaces Strategy</i>				
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1192 1199 1218	Comment	no comments	none required	none required
1224	Comment	Inclusion of reference to off road footpaths <i>inclusion of reference to footpaths</i>	Acknowledged and officers will amend the text accordingly	text to be amended

Representations**Nature Summary of Main Issue/Change to Plan****Council's Assessment****Action****Chapter 3: What the Open Spaces Strategy will do.***Chapter 3: What the Open Spaces Strategy will do.*

1193 1215	Comment	Provision of a country park in Kibworth	When opportunity arises, perhaps from new development, HDC will seek to work with landowners and communities to achieve open space that the community requires.	non required
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3.5 Protect Open Space				
1194	Comment	HDC policies should protect all open space	HDC will seek to protect open space where open space is demonstrated to be in deficit or is demonstrably special to communities.	none required in plan
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3.7 Enable Open Space				
1203	Comment	Support for good quality open space that meets health benefits of communities	Acknowledged	none required
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1226 1227	Comment	Suggested text amendment to include off road access and for horseriding	HDC officers will consider the amended text	consider text changes
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Chapter 4: Policy Context*Chapter 4: Policy Context*

1220	Comment	Reference to CROW Act required <i>reference to CROW will be included</i>	Acknowledged. HDC will include reference	plan amended to include reference to CROW
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Chapter 5: Strategy Vision

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1204	Comment	support for vision aims and objectives as listed	acknowledged	none required
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5.4 The Open Spaces Strategy Vision is:

1185	Comment	Consistency issue between chapters	Acknowledged	Check consistency in chapter
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Chapter 6: The Benefits of Open Space

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1205	Comment	Support for statement stating benefits of open space	acknowledged	none required
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Chapter 7: Harborough District: Spatial Portrait and Open Space

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1206	Comment	Support for reference to Biodiversity	acknowledged	none required
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7.2 The People

1186	Comment	Support for reference to demographics of District	Acknowledged	None required
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<i>Chapter 8: Current provision of Open Space in Harborough District</i>				
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1195	Comment	Suggested inclusion of 'Visual Amenity ' category of open space	Officers will need to consider this suggested amendment. The provision of this would be wholly subjective and may not be stand up to challenge. Other designations to take account of landscape importance are available	Consider the proposal to include 'Visual Amenity'
1187 1207 1212 1219 1222	Comment	Support for a series of Greenways to be created to form sustainable access links bewtween open spaces and villages /towns. Variety of uses highlighted	acknowledged. HDC officers will seek to work in partnership to provide links as opporntnies arise.	None required
<i>Chapter 9: Current Management Arrangements and Partnerships</i>				
<i>9.4 Arrangements for maintaining Open Space not in HDC control</i>				
1228	Comment	Links between bridleways need to be maintained suitably for horse riders	Acknowledged. We will seek to work with and support partners to achieve this.	None required

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Chapter 11 Future Management Proposals for Open Space in Harborough District				
<i>11.3 New Open Space</i>				
1184 1196	Comment	Concerns about developers adequately maintaining open spaces, and how enforcement will be undertaken if the standard falls below that required	Officers seek landscape management plans from developers to ensure that a specification is provided for future maintenance of open space. Enforcement is acknowledged as being an issue, and we will work with the Councils enforcement team to ensure this is undertaken and open space is suitably maintained by whichever body adopts	none required
1223	Comment	Improvement of access is the best way to gain benefit from existing infrastructure	acknowledged	none required
1200	Comment	Viability of developments may be affected if District or Parish adopt open space routinely	It is not the intention of the Open Spaces Strategy to prescribe which body adopts open space for maintenance. (ie District, Parish, Developer or other). It is the intention that the options are given in any legal document that is associated with the development. If the developer elects to maintain a piece of open space in perpetuity, then the Council will not seek to prevent that adoption.	Review text to ensure that it gives full clarity
<i>11.4 Existing Open Space</i>				
1229	Comment	Multi user licence arrangement rather than sole use	We will consider multi user licences if approached by several user groups. Licenses issued will generally not be exclusive use for a group	Consider amendment to give full clarity on this issue
<i>11.5 HDC support for other organisations</i>				
1221	Comment	Land owners should be encouraged to give access to open spaces and woodland must be encouraged	Acknowledged. We will seek to work with all partners to achieve additional access to open spaces	None Required

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1189 1191	Comment	If Parish Councils are to adopt open space in the future training should be given and early involvement of the PC in the design of open space.	HDC will seek to work with Parish Councils to ensure they have the correct skills and knowledge to manage open space and that the design and specification of open space meets the requirements of the community. Involvement of PCs in pre app and throughout the planning process is encouraged to ensure open space meets the communities requirements.	none required

Chapter 13: Minimum Provision, Accessibility and Quality Thresholds

13.5 Quantity Provision Standard

1197	Comment	Typo error. 0.3 or 0.03 ha per 100 population?	Acknowledged. Figure should be 0.3 ha per 1000 population for Children and Young Persons provision	Check text and make amendments
1201	Comment	Timing of advice for developers is critical when considering open space	Acknowledged. HDC will provide advice on the requirement for open space provision at pre application stage if requested. A bespoke calculation will be given when specific house types are known.	None required
1216	Comment	Sport England view that Open Spaces Strategy does not constitute a robust assessment of sport and recreation facilities.	HDC will work towards providing a Playing Pitch Strategy that will provide a full analysis of need for sport and recreation provision. Planning Practice Guidance states that Local Authorities 'may' use Sports England toolkit for assessment of needs for qualitative and quantitative purposes	Possible insertion of text to acknowledge Playing Pitch Strategy when it is available

13.6 Accessibility Provision Standard

1198	Comment	Typo error	Acknowledged	Check text to amend as necessary
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Chapter 15: Aim 1. The provision and maintenance of appropriate and good quality open space that is open to all and protected for future generations

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1230	Comment	Insertion of reference to additional access for population	Acknowledged. HDC will consider change	Consider amending text in strategy
1231	Comment	Amendment of text to consider including Biodiversity as a measure of quality	Acknowledged. We will consider including this as a measure	Consider change to Strategy
1208	Comment	Support for statement in 15.2	Acknowledged	none required

15.12 Objective 1: To ensure creatively designed and appropriate open spaces are provided on new developments that are accessible and support community requirements. Ensure that schemes are well desig

1232	Comment	Text amendment to include provision of off road paths, bridleways and cycleways <i>Continue to work with developers, landscapers and other partners to deliver open space and off road paths, cycleways and bridleways within and through new developments</i> <i>Seek work with partners and landowners to provide links between open spaces that form a network of 'Greenways' for walking and riding for leisure, exercise or commuting</i>	Acknowledged. This can be included	amend text to include
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<i>15.14 Objective 3: To develop a prioritised and strategic approach to open space improvements and that this remains an inclusive process.</i>				
1234	Comment	Amendment of text to include user groups	Acknowledged.	amendment to text required
<p><i>Objective 3: To develop a prioritised and strategic approach to open space improvements and that this remains an inclusive process.</i></p> <p><i>Actions to achieve this objective - Consult the local community, ward members, open space users and user groups and other stakeholders using all appropriate methods when delivering improvement projects</i></p>				

Chapter 16: Aim 2. The natural environment, conservation and habitat is enhanced and protected

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1209	Comment	Support for maintenance of open space for wildlife and biodiversity	acknowledged	none required
1235	Comment	Text change to emphasise that natural habitats should not be isolated	Acknowledge. Amendment to text to be made	amend text as suggested
<p><i>16.1. Suggested Change: Harborough District's open spaces contain significant amounts of wildlife habitat which support a rich biodiversity. It is important that these habitats are managed sensitively and not isolated to protect and enhance this biodiversity for current and future generations to enjoy. Priorities should include the conservation of natural habitats wherever possible, to increase wildlife value and improve biodiversity on all green spaces</i></p>				

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Chapter 19: Aim 5: Deliver value for money services when managing open space

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1236	Comment	Suggested amendment to emphasise the value for money of green spaces <i>19.2. Suggested Change: This is not to suggest that money should be wasted, and teams must ensure that open space and its associated maintenance, delivers good value for money. Natural spaces provide leisure opportunities for more people than any other form of open space and need minimal intervention.</i>	Acknowledged. suggested amendment can be included	insert suggested amendment
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Chapter 20: Aim 6. Open Space supports business and income is maximised

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1238	Comment	Amendment suggested to clarify that charges for access should not deter use	We will consider this suggested amendment	Consider amendment of text to include reference to charging for access
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Chapter 21: Aim 7. Ensure that open spaces support health and wellbeing of local people

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1210	Comment	Support for reference to open space and health and well being of communities	acknowledged	None required
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21.7. Objective 22: Promote activities for open spaces use that are linked to health benefits

1239	Comment	Suggested amendment to include working with specific user groups to improve access to green spaces <i>Work with user groups (e.g. Ramblers Association, Leicestershire Footpaths Association, Leicestershire Orienteering Club and local walking groups) to encourage involvement by the public of all ages and levels of ability and fitness. Encourage the formation of Walking for Health Groups.</i>	Acknowledge. We will consider including the reference to specific user groups	consider inclusion of additional bullet point in Objective 22
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Chapter 27 Scope of the open space and sport and recreation consultation

27.2. What is needed for the assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation?

1241	Comment	Amendment to text to include reference to access	Acknowledged. This amended text can be included	Amend text to include reference to access links
<p><i>To work with communities to identify qualitative shortfalls in open space sport and recreation provision including missing links in walking and riding networks, and address these where possible.</i></p>				

Chapter 31 How will the policy operate?

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1202	Comment	Suggested amendment to density figures used. A more realistic figure of 20 dwellings per ha is suggested	We will consider amending the text	Speak to Policy colleagues to determine the best figure to use in this case
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