

## 12. Action Plan

The table below sets out an action plan for the improvement of green spaces within Bath & North East Somerset. In addition to addressing the recommendations coming directly from the strategy it also addresses some wider issues that have come to light during the process of preparing the strategy.

Each action identifies the recommendation number (Rec. No.) that the action addresses (where appropriate), the timescale for undertaking the action, along with the lead service area and those partners and stakeholders that will need to be involved to ensure an inclusive and successful process.

The actions have been divided into the following topic areas:

1. Strategic Management – issues of a strategic nature with implications beyond this Council's own green spaces
2. Service Management – issues relating specifically to the management of this Council's own green space network
3. Site Management – issues relating to the management of individual sites
4. Community Issues – issues with a particular focus on community interest
5. Resources and Opportunities – issues around funding and other potential resources

In order to provide assistance and ensure the implementation of the action plan, a Strategic Partnership for Green Space will be established by the Project Team that oversaw the preparation of this strategy. Membership of this Partnership will consist of predominantly Council Officers working on green space issues but from across a number of Service areas.

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 1. Strategic Management</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
1,1	Adopt B&NES Local Plan which contains policy for the provision of recreational open space		2007	Planning Services	
1.2	Preparation and adoption of necessary Local Development Documents to facilitate the delivery of the Green Space Strategy beyond life of B&NES Local Plan (beyond 2011). To be resolved as part of future reviews (annual) of council Local Development Scheme (LDS).	1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 18.	2007 –10	Planning Services	Parks Service Other Providers
1.3	Preparation and adoption of Supplementary Planning Document for Developers Contributions to enable developer contributions toward GSS through planning process. (Subject to agreement of LDS )		2007 – 09	Planning Services	Parks Service
1.4	Ensure that the “Guide to the Provision of Green Space in Bath & North East Somerset” (Appendix F of the strategy) is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications	2, 3, 6, 17, 20.	2007 then on-going	Parks Service	Planning Services Other Providers
1.5	Preparation of a green space design guide setting out how new spaces should be designed and managed	11, 13, 15, 23.	2008 – 09	Parks Service	Planning Services
1.6	Consider the preparation of a district wide Tree and Woodland Strategy and promote the value of using trees to create green corridors and links between green spaces		2008 – 09	Planning Services	Parks Service Other Providers Other Organisations
1.7	Consider the preparation of a district wide Landscape Strategy to take full account of the visual benefits of all green spaces regardless of accessibility		2009 – 10	Planning Services	Parks Service Other Organisations
1.8	Prepare and regularly maintain a central record of allotment plot waiting lists for the whole district, in order to detect trends and inform the LDF process	19.	2007 – 08 then on-going	Parks Service	Other Providers

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 1. Strategic Management</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
1.9	Undertake a review of existing equipped children's play areas using National Play Indicators to address the recommendations and to determine whether it would be more effective to remove smaller areas that are within the catchment of larger areas, and concentrate resources on the larger areas	12, 14, 16, 29, 30, 31, 32.	2007 – 08	Parks Service	Other Providers Children's Services
1.10	Work with partners to develop the concept of 'free play' within green spaces	23.	On-going	Children's Services	Parks Service Other Providers Voluntary Sector
1.11	Undertake a review of existing facilities for young people in the urban areas and produce a strategic plan for the future provision of facilities within neighbourhood green spaces	12, 16, 30, 32.	2007 – 08	Parks Service	Youth Service Other Providers Children's Service's
1.12	Investigate the possibility of securing the joint use of some school grounds to help achieve the new local standards for green space provision		2008 – 09	Parks Service	Children's Services Independent Schools
1.13	Establish a Bath & North East Somerset Green Space Providers Forum to provide support to other green space providers e.g. Parish Councils and social housing providers	21, 23, 24.	2008 – 09 then on-going	Parks Service	Other Providers
1.14	Undertake a sample of site assessments using the Green Flag Award criteria to compare scores with the system used for the strategy	27	2007 – 08 then on-going	Parks Service	

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 1. Strategic Management</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
1.15	Prepare a strategic approach towards future entries into the Green Flag Award scheme	28, 23.	2007 - 08	Parks Service	Planning Services Other Providers
1.16	Work with local communities to enable them to make their own entries into Britain in Bloom	23, 24.	On-going	Local Communities	Parks Service
1.17	Annually review and update the mapped and statistical information used to develop the Green Space Strategy	10, 22.	2007 – 08 then ongoing	Parks Service	
1.18	Annually review the Green Space Strategy Action Plan and report on progress		2007 – 08 then on-going	Parks Service	
<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 2. Service Management (Parks Service)</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
2.1	Preparation of a marketing framework to ensure that green spaces continue to be acknowledged as contributing to and adding value to the council's corporate aims and objectives	37.	2007 – 08	Parks Service	Communications & Marketing
2.2	Investigate whether there is scope for closer working and a reduction of duplication between the roles of Officers in different Services involved in the provision and management of Bath & North East Somerset Council owned green spaces		2007 - 08	Parks Service Property Services Planning Services	
2.3	Preparation of an access policy for green spaces, in consultation with groups and individuals, to ensure equality of provision for all	36.	2007 - 09	Parks Service	Support Services Groups Individuals

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 2. Service Management (Parks Service)</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
2.4	Development of staff training programmes to ensure that the appropriate management and maintenance skills exist to care for our green spaces.	23.	2007 – 08 then on-going	Parks Service	
2.5	Work closely with Property Services to identify investment and funding needs for green space infrastructure. Use this to help sites meet the proposed quality standard of 60/100.	23.	2008 – 09 then on-going	Parks Service	Property Services
2.6	Preparation of an interpretation and information framework to enhance the benefit visitors gain from green spaces and the contribution they make towards the Councils life long learning objectives	23.	2008 – 09	Parks Service	Legible City Group
2.7	Preparation of a green space events framework. Events are invaluable as they draw people into green spaces, link communities and provide interest and variety.	23.	2008 – 09	Parks Service	
2.8	Preparation of guidance and a clear procedure for decisions on whether people can buy Council land for their own use.		2007 – 08	Parks Service	Property & Legal Services
<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 3. Site Management (B&amp;NES owned sites)</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
3.1	Preparation of management plans to guide the management and development of District, Neighbourhood and Local Green Spaces. All management plans will have a simple annual review and update process built in	23.	2007 – 08 then on-going	Parks Service	Planning Services Specialist Groups Local Communities

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 3. Site Management (B&amp;NES owned sites)</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
3.2	Assessment of all green spaces to ensure that they contribute as much as possible to local biodiversity and sustainability, taking account of their primary use. The assessment will be made at the time of preparing / reviewing the site management plan and any scope for changes will be fed into site improvement plans.	23.	2007 – 08 then on-going	Parks	Planning Services Specialist Groups Local Communities
3.3	Undertake regular assessment and review of green spaces to assess quality, safety, progress against management plan and in order to prepare improvement plans. All assessment will take the form of the Green Flag Award	23, 25, 26.	2007 – 08 then on-going	Parks	
3.4	Consideration of the feasibility of ‘self management’ of appropriate green spaces as and when opportunities arise. With experience, determine whether a proactive approach to self management is in the wider community’s interest.		As opportunities present themselves	Parks	Interested parties
<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 4. Community Issues</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
4.1	Preparation of a consultation framework for B&NES owned green spaces	33.	2007 - 08	Parks Service	Communications & Marketing
4.2	Preparation of a Friends Groups and Volunteers framework to ensure increased involvement in green spaces by the local community	23, 34, 35.	2007 - 08	Parks Service	Planning Services Existing Groups

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 4. Community Issues</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
4.3	Reduce the perception and effects of crime and anti-social behaviour in green spaces working closely other agencies	23.	On-going	Parks Service	Police Community Wardens Other Agencies
4.4	Investigate and promote transport links to and between green spaces. The hierarchy of provision tells us which sites are of local, neighbourhood and district significance and public transport and car parking provision should reflect this		2009 – 10	Parks Service	Transportation
4.5	Investigate and promote cycle and pedestrian links to and between green spaces. All green spaces serve as Doorstep and Local Green Spaces and thus safe cycle and pedestrian access is important to all		2009 - 10	Parks Service	Transportation
4.6	Investigate the benefits of making provision for environmental education within green spaces. Benefits could include greater community involvement, volunteers, and recruits into the service, reduced vandalism and greater value placed on green space provision by the general public	23.	2009 – 10	Parks Service	

<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Actions – 5. Resources &amp; Opportunities</b>	<b>Rec. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>
5.1	Preparation of a register of all external funding opportunities available for works within green spaces	23.	2007 - 08	Parks Service	
5.2	Preparation of a register of volunteer groups and other bodies e.g. conservation groups, Community Action, Youth Offending Team and Probation Service that may be able to provide volunteer labour towards projects in green spaces	23.	2007 - 08	Parks Service	
5.3	Assessment of opportunities within green spaces for additional income by the negotiation of appropriate concessions or sponsorship, with income secured used to fund progress towards achieving the new local standards for green space provision either at that site or elsewhere		2007 - 08	Parks Service	