

PROTECT WOODHOUSE MOOR

Mr Peter Marrington
Head of Scrutiny & Member Development
Civic Hall
Leeds
LS1 1UR

15th July 2009

Dear Mr Marrington

In a report to Leeds City Council's Executive Board dated the 8th October 2008, Parks and Countryside accept that the use of barbeques on Woodhouse Moor causes damage to the park and is associated with anti-social behaviour. The report then states that their preferred solution to the problem is to restrict barbecuing to designated areas of the park, so as to contain the problem, rather than to prohibit it.

But the provision of designated areas alone will neither solve the problem, nor contain it. Continual monitoring will be needed to prevent barbeques being lit elsewhere than in the designated areas. At the same time, these areas will need continual maintenance and cleansing to ensure that they remain useable and do not become eyesores.

Since at 3.3.6 the report rejects the request for park wardens to enforce the byelaws on the ground that this would "not be the best use of limited resources available in the budget," the report should provide evidence in the form of cost-benefit analysis, that the provision of designated areas would be a more effective use of resources than the provision of park wardens to enforce the existing byelaws.

We believe that in the absence of any cost benefit analysis to compare the two schemes, the report should not have been presented to the Executive Board, and we are concerned its omission had a bearing on the subsequent decision of the Executive Board to proceed with a barbeque consultation. We therefore request that the relevant Scrutiny Board investigate the omission, and that they recommend that it be remedied, and that the proposal for designated barbeque areas be cancelled until the Executive Board has had a chance to reconsider its earlier decision with the assistance of cost benefit analysis.

Yours sincerely



Martin Staniforth

North Hyde Park
Neighbourhood
Association

2 Ashwood Terrace
Headingley Hill
Leeds
LS6 2EH



Sue Buckle

South Headingley
Community Association

13 Ash Grove
Hyde Park
Leeds
LS6 1AX



Philip Walshaw

Marlborough Residents'
Association

Flat 49, 8th Floor
Marlborough Towers
Leeds
LS1 4PG



Bill McKinnon

Friends of Woodhouse
Moor

18 Kendal Walk
Little Woodhouse
Leeds
LS3 1NP