

**COUNCIL MEETING – 12th JULY 2023**

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP2	3/7/23	4/7/23

Submitted by:	Councillor Stewart Golton
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Executive Member for Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space)
Relevant Director	Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

This Council recognises the significant role that community parks play in the health & wellbeing and cultural life of communities across Leeds. It welcomes the commitment in the Leeds Parks and Greenspaces Strategy 2022-32 to invest in active travel and ‘access for all’ both within and without local greenspaces to maximise usage.

The Council further welcomes the contribution made by the Mayor of West Yorkshire in commissioning a report on the safety of women and girls in parks which was published this year.

However, this Council is concerned that current capacity and resource levels within the Parks Service are at risk of seriously impeding progress on achieving the priorities spelled out in the reports mentioned. Furthermore, the current cumulative neglect of green spaces in Leeds is actually worsening the safety and accessibility of park users and deterring many residents from using public open spaces.

Council therefore calls for:

- The promised greenspace accessibility audit process to be published this year
- A women and girls safety audit for Leeds parks to be published in parallel to the above
- A commitment to completing the 65 community park ‘plans on a page’ within 2 years
- A commitment that public consultation on such plans will not be limited to the online Commonplace platform
- Local parks and greenspace access and safety partnerships to be developed through Community Committees, in partnership with the Police and NHS
- A commitment to investigate the devolution of parks and grounds maintenance budgets to Community Committee level.”

Proposed by:

Cllr Stewart Golton

Seconded by:

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Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons  
Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting  
Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting  
(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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