

Report of The Chief Officer of Parks and Countryside

Report to South Inner Area Committee

Date: Wednesday 13th February 2013

Subject: Annual Report – for the Parks and Countryside Service

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Beeston & Holbeck City & Hunslet Middleton Park
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The report provides an area profile of key assets, information on park usage and a customer based perspective of the quality of the assets and services provided.
2. It highlights the current progress towards Leeds Quality Park (LQP) status for community parks in the area. It provides the costs of achieving and retaining LQP status in community parks up to the year 2020.
3. The report details capital improvements in community parks, sport pitches and fixed play in the area for the last 12 months and planned improvements to be delivered in the next 12 months.
4. It gives a detailed breakdown of events and volunteering in the area.
5. It gives an overview of the Streetscene Grounds Maintenance contract considering performance for grass cutting in 2012. It sets out the specification and how this is developing alongside suggesting increased engagement in performance monitoring.

Recommendations

6. The Area Committee is requested to note the content of the report and to communicate priorities for investment in community parks, playing pitches and fixed play facilities in light of the issues raised.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report seeks to further develop the relationship between the Parks and Countryside service and the South Inner Area Committee, as agreed at Executive Board.
- 1.2 It provides an overview of the service and sets out some of the challenges faced along with key performance management initiatives. In addition it seeks to provide a positive way forward for delivering the extended role of the Area Committee.
- 1.3 In particular it sets out at an area level progress made in attaining Leeds Quality Park standard. It also sets out investment needs to attain LQP standards and to retain them.

2 Background information

Service Description

- 2.1 Leeds City Council has one of the largest fully inclusive local authority Parks and Countryside services, managing almost 4,000 hectares of parks and green space. This includes 7 major parks, 62 community parks and 95 recreation grounds and 391 local green spaces, which include 144 playgrounds and 500 sports facilities ranging from skateboard parks to golf courses, and which play host to 600 events annually. The service also manages a nursery which produces over 4 million bedding plants each year, 97 allotment sites, over 800km of Public Right of Way (PROW), and 156 nature conservation sites, as well as 22 cemeteries and three crematoria.
- 2.2 The 2009 Parks and Countryside residents survey showed that the service attracts almost 68 million visits each year from Leeds' residents alone, and that approximately 96% of these are regular park users. These range from anybody using a park for informal recreation (e.g. walking, observing nature) to people who take part in formal activities (e.g. football clubs, conservation volunteers or to attend events). The user surveys also evidenced that 10m visits are made to our green space by Young People (12-19) compared to 3.6m by Children (5-11).

Description of Priority Advisory Function

- 2.3 The priority advisory function for Area Committees relates to community parks provision that have a wide range of facilities, including general recreation, sports pitches, play and formal and informal horticultural facilities.
- 2.4 Where developments are less significant or only impact on one site then ward members and community groups will be informed and consulted using established procedures. It is important to note that good levels of engagement with ward members exist and this function seeks to enhance this engagement.

3 Main issues

Area Profile of the Service

3.1 The following table summarises community green space assets managed by Parks and Countryside in the South Inner Area Committee:

Asset	Quantity
Community parks	5
Playing Pitches:	
Football	26
Rugby League	6
Bowling greens	13
Playgrounds	16
Multi-use games areas	4
Skate parks	3

Volunteering in the Parks and Countryside Service

3.2 The Service continues to focus on increasing the number of volunteers and groups working in the area. There has been a significant increase in the value of activities which take place particularly in the area of corporate volunteering. Our emphasis for the next 12 months will be to :

- Seek to increase corporate volunteering working in partnership with Leeds Ahead.
- Continue to improve involvement with the many “in bloom” groups in Leeds.
- It is an ambition is to have a volunteer group for every community park where there is a site based gardener.

3.3 It is estimated that volunteers across all groups contribute nearly 2,150 days of voluntary work in the South Inner area over a 12 month period. The tables below give details of works undertaken in South Inner since November 2011 and the active groups in the area Committee;

Table 1 - Work undertaken by volunteers working with the Rangers;

Site	Organisation	Task	No. of Vol Days	
Hunslet Cemetery	Friends of Hunslet Cemetery	Weeding	0.3	
Middleton Park	Arena	Clearing the tramway	9.4	
	Best	Path Clearance	4.9	
	Friends of Middleton Park	install steps	2.9	
	Land Securities	Work on shrubberies around the Rose Garden	9.4	
	Leeds Parks Volunteers		Path clearance, weeding beds	3.9
			Weeding Rose Garden	2.1
Leeds Wildlife Volunteers		Balsam Bash	0.1	

Site	Organisation	Task	No. of Vol Days
	Parks For People	Grounds Maintenance, fence painting, horticulture	80.0
	Youth Probation Service	footpath edging and veg cutback	2.3
		install steps	2.9
		Installing steps	17.9
		Remove redundant tree stakes and guards from carpark	10.9
		Removing old waymarkers	8.0
		Vegetation Clearance alongside footpaths	4.6
Sharp Lane (Belle Isle)	Sharp Lane community	Litter pick / footpath clearance	10.3
		Plant 8 thousand bulbs	27.9
Total			197.8

Table 2 - Corporate volunteer actions;

Site	Organisation	Task	No. of Vol Days
Arla Roundabout	Arla	Tree clearance	5.8
		Tree clearance, litter pick	5.7
		Tree clearance	7.1
		Scrub bash	5.1
Cross Flatts Park	Eversheds	Maintain Beds	8.6
Middleton Park	Department of Health	Weeding around the Rose Garden	7.9
	Investec	Step Creation	7.1
	O2	Footpath Scrape, vegetation clearance	4.3
	Corporate group	Installing steps	8.6
	Investek	install steps	7.7
	Pinsett Masons	Maintanance of bowling green -vegetation cutbacks	7.9
Sharp Lane (Belle Isle)	Aire Valley Homes	Footpath clearance, removing an old fence.	8.6
Total			84.4

Table 3 - Educational work within the South Inner area:

Site	School	Activity	No Of Children
Middleton Park	St. Mary's Primary	Minibeasts and habitats	30
	Westwood Primary	Wildflower meadow creation	31
	St. Mary's Primary	Pond Dipping, Wildlife Walk	30

Site	School	Activity	No Of Children
	St. Mary's Primary	Minibeasts and habitats	28
	Westwood Primary	Minibeasts and habitats	30
	Westwood Primary	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	200
	Middleton St Mary's CoE Voluntary Controlled Primary School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	200
	Middleton Primary School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	200
	St Philip's Catholic Primary and Nursery School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	200
	St Philip's Catholic Primary and Nursery School	Parks for People Slide Talk (single class)	20
	Hunslet Moor Primary School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	200
	Windmill Primary School	Balsam Bash, local history walk & talk, Habitats	30
	Windmill Primary School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	200
	Greenmount Primary School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	400
	Hunslet Carr Primary School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	100
	Cross Flatts Primary School	Parks for People Slide Talk (to assembly)	50
	Hunslet Carr Primary School	Wildlife study	120
	Various Local Schools	Pond dipping, Woodland Habitat study	200
	Various Local Schools	Pond dipping, Woodland Habitat study	200
	Middleton St Mary's CoE Voluntary Controlled Primary School	Seed gathering	60
	Ingham Road Primary	Seed gathering	60

Table 4 - Summary of the groups who are active in the South Inner area :

Group Name	Number of Volunteers	Estimated Volunteer Days
Friends of Beeston Cemetery	5	5
Friends of Cross Flatts Park	20	120
Friends Of Holbeck Cemetery	5	5
Friends of Hunslet Cemetery	5	10
Friends of Middleton Park	30	180
Friends of New Forest Plantation	5	10
Leeds Parks Volunteers	4	78
Leeds Voluntary Footpath Rangers	6	130
Leeds Wildlife Volunteers	12	216
Total	92	754

Table 5 - Existing in bloom groups within the South Inner area;

In Bloom Group	Number of Volunteers	Award Won	Estimated Volunteer Days
Beeston	10	Urban Community – Silver Gilt	200
Belle Isle	4		100
Cottingley	10		200
Coupland Road	15		280
Holbeck	12	Urban Community – Silver	240
Middleton	24		480
Total			1500

Highlighted group is newly formed in bloom group in 2012

Events

- 3.4 The bookings and licensing team has introduced improvements to the application process for events that occur on parks. They are providing greater assistance in helping community groups organise events with particular emphasis on ensuring legal and safety requirements are met but do not deter groups and organisations from organising activities. The table below shows a list of events held in the inner south area in 2012:

Site Name	Month	Event	Total
Cottingley Hall Cem & Crem	April	Ben Hepworth - Filming	1
Cottingley Recreation Ground	July	Family Fun Day - Church Together	1
Cross Flatts Park	June	Beeston Festival	1
Grove Road Recreation (Hunslet)	June	Hunslet Festival	1
	July	(16th - 23rd) Funfair (Waddington)	1
		Mini Olympics	1
	August	Leeds Play Network Funday	1
Holbeck Moor	July	City Evangelical Church BBQ	1
		Holbeck Gala	1
	August	Family Fun Day - Church Together	1
	September	(17th - 24th) Funfair (Waddington)	1
Hunslet Moor	September	(24th - 1st) Funfair (Waddington)	1
Merrion Street Garden	July	Homeless Charity Event - Start	1
	September	Homeless Charity Event - Finish	1
Middleton Park	January	Airienteers	1
		Cadet Run	1
	May	Heritage Day	1
		School Day	1
	June	Circus Skills (FOMP)	1
		LCC Sports Day	1
		Middleton railway (FOMP)	1
		Shakespeare in the park (FOMP)	1

Site Name	Month	Event	Total
		Summer Bands	1
		Wildlife photography (FOMP)	1
	July	Archaeology Walk	1
		Leeds Play Network Sessions	3
		Summer Bands	1
	August	Yorkshire Day (FOMP)	1
		Circus Skills (FOMP)	1
		Leeds Play Network Sessions	9
		Summer Bands	1
	September	Wednesday in the Woods	1
		Produce Show (FOMP)	1
	October	Friends of New Forest Village	1
		Schools Athletic Ass	1
	November	Airienteers	1
		Middleton Park Bonfire	1
		Schools Athletic Ass	1
December	Fairplay Sport 10k Run	1	
	PECO X Country	1	
Park Square	February	Pancake Race	1
	May	Static Bike Ride	1
	June	Static Bike Ride	1
	July	Ben Hepworth - Filming	1
	December	Carols in the Park	1
Throstle Recreation Ground	June	(11th - 18th) Funfair (International)	1
Total			56

Community Parks – Leeds Quality Park Status

3.5 The Parks and Green Space Strategy was approved at Executive Board in February 2009 and sets out the vision and priorities to 2020. One of the key proposals contained in the strategy is the aspiration for all community parks to meet the Green Flag standard for field based assessment by 2020. The Green Flag Award Scheme represents the national standard for parks and green spaces. It has been developed around eight key criteria as follows;

- **A welcoming place** - how to create a sense that people are positively welcomed in the park
- **Healthy, safe & secure** - how best to ensure that the park is a safe & healthy environment for all users
- **Clean & well maintained** - what people can expect in terms of cleanliness, facilities & maintenance
- **Sustainability** - how a park can be managed in environmentally sensitive ways
- **Conservation & heritage** - the value of conservation & care of historical heritage

- **Community involvement** - ways of encouraging community participation and acknowledging the community's role in a park's success
- **Marketing** - methods of promoting a park successfully
- **Management** - how to reflect all of the above in a coherent & accessible management plan or strategy and ensure it is implemented.

3.6 The Parks and Countryside service reports annual performance against two local indicators based upon the Green Flag Award scheme;

- *The percentage of Parks and Countryside sites assessed that meet the Green Flag standard.*
- *The percentage of Parks and Countryside community parks which meet the Green Flag standard.* Performance against these indicators is illustrated in section 3.32.

3.7 The indicator includes an assessment of each community park which has particular relevance to Area Committee engagement. The scheme is known as the Leeds Quality Park (LQP) standard. The following table provides a summary of these assessments for the South Inner Area Committee.

Site	Year Assessed	Welcoming Place	Healthy, Safe, Secure	Clean, Well Maintained	Sustainability	Conservation / Heritage	Community Involvement	Marketing	Meets Standard?
Cross Flatts Park	2010								Yes
Holbeck Moor	2012								No
Hunslet Lake	2010								No
Hunslet Moor	2012								No
Penny Pocket Park	2011								No

Key:

Meets Leeds Quality Park Standard on average for this key criteria	
Below Leeds Quality Park Standard on average for this key criteria	

3.8 From this table, there is 1 park identified that meet the Leeds Quality Park Standard in the area, with 4 not reaching the standard. This is identical to the previous Area Committee report.

3.9 The residents survey in 2009 enables an assessment of visitor numbers and satisfaction rating (scored out of 10) for a number of criteria for each park, set out in the following table:

Site	Design and Appearance	Cleanliness and Maintenance	Ease to Get Around	Range of Facilities	Horticultural Maintenance	Nature Conservation	Facilities for Families	Sports Facilities	Overall Impression
Cross Flatts Park	7.0	6.6	7.9	5.5	7.5	6.8	6.1	6.5	6.7
Holbeck Moor	7.8	6.4	9.2	6.0	8.2	7.7	6.8	7.8	7.6
Hunslet Moor	3.2	3.2	7.2	3.5	4.8	4.4	4.0	4.0	3.6

Note – Penny Pocket Park and Hunslet Lake had insufficient responses to be able to accurately produce satisfaction data

Key:

Generally meets LQP expectations	7.0 - 10	
Generally below LQP expectations	0.0 – 6.9	

This table broadly correlates with the professional audit undertaken for the Leeds Quality Parks assessment set out in paragraph 3.11. In particular scores and visitor numbers are higher for the parks that meet the LQP standard. There are however issues identified with the range of facilities offered in many of the parks and sports facilities.

Playing Pitches

- 3.10 The residents survey in 2009 allowed respondents to rate sport facilities in parks. The results are shown in the table below;

Rating of Sports facilities	2009 (South Inner)	2006 (South Inner)
Fair to very good	67.6%	64.4%
Poor or very poor	32.4%	35.6%

The results show a decrease in those who felt sports facilities were of at least fair standard. This data is related to the table set out in paragraph 3.13.

Fixed Play

- 3.11 The residents survey in 2009 allowed respondents to rate facilities for children and their parents. The results are shown in the table below;

Rating facilities for children	2009 (South Inner)	2006 (South Inner)
Fair to very good	49.7%	50.3%
Poor or very poor	56.5%	43.5%

Results show little change in those who rated facilities as fair or better.

- 3.12 The following play areas have been refurbished during 2012;

- Holbeck Moor – Relocation of skateboard Park (£31k)

- Pepper Road Recreation Ground – New skateboard park & play equipment (£129k)

3.13 Improvements to sports pitches in South Inner during 2012 were:

- Middleton Leisure Centre Pitches – Development of 3 senior and 1 junior football pitch, with drainage works and pitch perimeter fencing. Team changing facilities. A full size floodlit 3G pitch and refurbishment of a MUGA.

3.14 The following table provides a perspective on the minimum level of investment required to achieve the LQP standard for the four remaining parks. It also includes the level of reinvestment required across all the community parks in order to sustain the LQP pass up to 2020;

Site Name	Cost to Achieve (excluding fixed play)	Reinvestment (excluding fixed play)
Holbeck Moor	£14,800	
Hunslet Lake	£73,500	
Hunslet Moor	£66,073	
Penny Pocket Park	£5,450	
Total to achieve LQP	£159,823	
Average annual reinvestment		£10,228
Total reinvestment to 2020		£81,828
Overall Total Investment to 2020		£241,651

3.15 Reinvestment levels are estimated according to the expected lifespan of equipment and infrastructure as set out below;

Description	Timescale for Recurring Investment
Signage and interpretation	5 years
Fixed play (including MUGA's/skate parks)	10 years
Bins and benches	15 years
Paths and infrastructure	25 years
Landscaping	25 years

3.16 Planned improvements for the next 12 months are;

- Cross Flatts Park – New play equipment (£50k).

3.17 In terms of fixed play, work has been undertaken to set out refurbishment requirements over a 10 year rolling programme in support of the outcomes of the Fixed Play Strategy. The average cost of a new playground is currently about £120k; Multi-use games areas and skateparks are slightly cheaper on average at about £90k each. The table below shows the capital investment required on an ongoing basis to fund the area committees existing fixed play sites;

Fixed Play Type	No.	Total Replacement Cost £'s	Required Average Annual Spend £'s
Play Areas	16	1,920,000	192,000
Multi Use games Areas	4	360,000	36,000

Skate Parks	3	270,000	27,000
Totals		2,550,000	255,000

Area Committee funding for additional on site gardeners

- 3.18 A number of area committees provide additional funding for gardeners to increase site based presence at parks in the area.
- 3.19 Analysis shows that complaints to both Ward Councillors and the Parks and Countryside Service have declined on sites with increased daily presence. In addition, the service has observed an increase in the number of residents using parks and open spaces which is backed up by the residents survey data.
- 3.20 The site based gardeners increase working relationships with users, local residents and community groups. These site based staff further increase users satisfaction and support the aspiration to increase volunteer groups working within parks.

Streetscene Grounds Maintenance

- 3.21 Following a procurement exercise the streetscene grounds maintenance contract was awarded to Continental Landscapes Ltd (CLL) with effect from 1st January 2012. This contract covers sites that are located alongside the highway network or amongst residential streets managed by the council's Arms Length Management Organisations (ALMOs and BITMO). The specification requires the contractor to undertake litter removal from sites they maintain at each visit supporting the council's wider efforts to maintain clean streets. The table below shows the asset breakdown of contract items for the South Inner area committee:

Asset Type	Annual Visits	Unit	Measure
Amenity Grass	13	M ²	840,295
Premium Grass	26	M ²	46,911
Rough Grass	3	M ²	10,977
Primary Network	6	M ²	92,447
Shrub Beds	2	M ²	52,727
Hedges	3	M	884
Rose Beds	2	M ²	971
Total			1,045,212

- 3.22 Despite 2012 being one of the wettest summers ever recorded the contractor has completed grass cutting operations as required by the contract specification. During June the specification was revised to increase the mowing frequency on grass plots adjacent to sheltered housing and this has proven to be very successful in addressing issues of grass length and overspill of cuttings in these areas. Regular monitoring of the contractors work is undertaken with a target sample size of 10%. Analysis of city wide performance for the 2012 mowing season shows that the contractor achieved an average failure rate of less than 1%.

3.23 The Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board Working Group examined the contract during the summer and produced a number of recommendations that are currently being considered or have already been introduced. These include:

- Increasing frequencies to 16 grass cuts and 6 shrub/rose visits.
- That any proposed removal of shrub/rose beds are consulted on with ward members and parish/town councils prior to removal.
- That options to increase 'joined up working' with locality management are explored.
- To examine options to increase efficiencies by better utilisation of contractor resources during the winter.
- That parish and town councils are encouraged to engage in contract performance management.
- That an improved communications strategy is developed.
- That area committees are provided with performance information relevant to the area.
- That contract management efficiencies are sought alongside increased consistency of approach.
- Establishing funding to address problem sites until ownership can be established.

3.24 From 1st September 2012 management of the contract passed to Parks and Countryside and work has commenced to restructure the contract team to achieve increased coordination and efficiency from grounds maintenance and weed spraying contracts. It is proposed that officers attending the area committee environment sub groups will provide regular updates on performance and any proposed changes to the contract.

3.25 As a result of the ALMO review currently underway, arrangements regarding the provision of ALMO elements of the contract may change.

Coordinated Working with Environmental Services

3.26 The Parks & Countryside Service move to the Environments & Neighbourhoods Directorate has given opportunities to improve collaborative working. In particular improvements in horticultural land management, cleansing and more efficient use of resources in regard to;

- Co-ordination of weed spraying activities with the grounds maintenance contract with a consistent approach to monitoring.
- Traffic Management arrangements co-ordinated to minimise costs and disruption of the highway.
- Litter collection in the vicinity of community parks, and as part of normal operations site based gardeners undertake an initial litter pick of the park which is being expanded to include some areas outside the curtilage of the park. Conversely, street cleansing staff now assist with emptying litter bins in parks on a weekend when parks staff are not always present.
- Work is underway to map all maintainable ginnels and establish work requirements to draw up an annual co-ordinated work schedule. Work is already co-ordinated to undertake weed-spraying where the locality team

have already cut back vegetation, and removed detritus from the surface of the path.

- Locality Managers have led on consultation and worked with Parks and Countryside on developing proposals around dog control orders in Leeds.
- The Parks and Countryside service has a number of welfare facilities and yard space available in most community parks distributed throughout the city which has provided an opportunity for the locality based teams to use these facilities for staff welfare provision and as operational bases.

3.27 Specific coordinated working relevant to the South Inner Area Committee has occurred at;

- **Cross Flatts Park** - Parks and Countryside to include the emptying of the bin on the entrance to Maud Avenue and include the highways bins on other entrance to the park. Environment to litter pick the perimeter of the park and empty bins in the park close to the entrances at the weekend.
- **Hunslet Moor** - Facility sharing with street cleansing teams. This allows the cleansing staff to operate more efficiently in terms of productive time and transport savings.

Parks & Countryside Key Performance Indicators

3.28 The following table highlights key performance indicators relevant to the service;

PI Code	Description	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target	2013/14 Target
LKI-GFI / CP-PC50 / EM38	The percentage of parks and countryside sites assessed internally that meet the Green Flag criteria	23% (Target 23%)	26.2% (Target 26.2%)	29.4%	32.6%
LKI-PCP 22	Overall user satisfaction with Parks and Countryside (from the user survey)	N/A	N/A	7/10	N/A
New	The percentage of parks and countryside community parks which meet LQP status	33.9%	38.7% Target (40%)	47.5%	55%

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 Close liaison with community and ward members is already in existence, utilising a variety of mechanisms, for example through residents' surveys, multi-agency meetings and community forums. In addition volunteers, Friends of groups and local residents are regularly consulted on local projects with input on design and physical implementation of a wide range of site improvements.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 This report does not have an impact on equality and diversity. Further information is available on analysis of the residents survey 2009 specifically regarding equality issues on request.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The contents of this report set out how the Executive Board requirements can be met by taking a more proactive approach to involve and engage Area Committees in matters relating to community parks.

4.3.2 The information within the report contributes significantly to the sustainable economy and culture city priority plan.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 The central government's Comprehensive Spending Review has had significant impact on local government budgets and it is anticipated that the budget allocation for Parks and Countryside will continue to be very challenging.

4.4.2 The service undertakes to sustain and develop the services provided to the public and has traditionally used a number of sources of financial support to achieve developments. These include grants from bodies such as Green Leeds Ltd, Sustrans, Natural England, National Lottery funding and developer contributions via section 106 (S106) funds.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report has no legal implications and is not subject to call in. There is no information which is confidential or exempt.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no significant risk management issues contained within the report, its conclusions and recommendations.

5 Conclusions

5.1 Community green space contributes in many ways to the delivery of the Corporate Priority Plan. They provide places for relaxation, escape, exercise and recreation. They bring communities together and make a positive contribution to the local economy, education, improve public health and well-being, and generally make a better place to live, work and visit.

5.2 Improvements to community parks, fixed play and playing pitches remain a priority, and there already has been investment made to deliver improvements along with further schemes identified. Issues are being addressed through the Parks and Green Space Strategy along with implementation of the Fixed Play Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy.

- 5.3 Community engagement remains a key activity for the service with regular correspondence, attendance at meetings and briefings, along with more localised consultation where required. As described at 3.2 options to undertake additional surveys during 2013 are currently being examined to provide an updated dataset for usage and satisfaction.
- 5.4 A programme of activities is planned for which updates and reports can be provided to the Area Committee to help inform, consult and influence community green space management.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Area Committee is requested to note the content of the report and to communicate priorities for investment in community parks, playing pitches and fixed play facilities in light of the issues raised.

Background documents

There are no background papers associated with this report

Appendix 1: Detailed Residents Survey Information

1.1 Total Number of Annual Visits

	Community Parks	Other P&C Sites	Total
South Inner	1,691,392	2,363,230	4,054,622

1.2 Reasons for Visiting – respondents select their five main reasons (The 24 choices have been grouped in this table)

Reason	Cross Flatts Park %	Holbeck Moor %	Hunslet Moor %	South Inner Total %
Exercise	86	85	67	84
Play	55	46	83	55
Dog walking	12	31	17	17
Enjoy the surroundings	28	15	17	24
Family outings	29	15	33	27
Relaxation	86	77	67	84
See Wildlife	11	23	0	11
Sport related	14	23	33	16
Other	20	0	0	15
Events	38	15	0	31

1.3 Age Profile of Visitors

Site	Age 20 – 39	Age 40 – 59	Age 60+
Cross Flatts Park	31%	46%	22%
Holbeck Moor	31%	31%	38%
Hunslet Moor	33%	17%	50%
South Inner Total	32%	41%	27%

How visitors get to the parks and how long it takes to get there

1.4 Visitors on Foot – Journey Time

Site	% of visitors on foot	Less than 10 mins	10–20 mins	20-30 mins	30+ mins
Cross Flatts Park	92%	65%	34%	1%	0%
Holbeck Moor	90%	77%	23%	0%	0%
Hunslet Moor	80%	75%	25%	0%	0%
South Inner Total	91%	68%	31%	1%	0%

1.5 Visitors by Car - Journey Time

Site	% of visitors by car	Less than 10 mins	10–20 mins	20-30 mins
Cross Flatts Park	5%	100%	0%	0%
Holbeck Moor	10%	0%	100%	0%
Hunslet Moor	0%	~	~	~
South Inner Total	5%	75%	25%	0%

1.6 How long do visitors stay. (Detailed information on each community park is available on request).

Time	Summer Stay		Winter Stay	
	Weekend	Weekday	Weekend	Weekday
Less than 30 Minutes	14%	24%	31%	57%
30 minutes to 1 hour	32%	41%	45%	25%
1 to 2 hours	32%	24%	10%	6%
2 to 4 hours	18%	6%	2%	0%
4 or more hours	4%	2%	0%	0%
Do not visit	0%	4%	12%	12%

1.7 How often do visitors go. (Detailed information on each community park is available on request).

	Summer	Winter
Every Day	26%	13%
Most Days	32%	23%
Once or Twice a week	23%	21%
Once every two weeks	9%	8%
Once a month	11%	23%
Seldom or never	0%	13%

1.8 Information taken from comments made in the survey.

Site	General satisfaction comments	What would make you stay longer or encourage more use	Any other comments
Cross Flatts Park	<p>Broken glass is an issue at times.</p> <p>Dog fouling and control of dogs is a significant issue for people.</p> <p>Some are impressed with the number of facilities others want/think there should be more.</p>	<p>Improved feeling of safety within the park.</p> <p>Catering facility of some kind.</p> <p>More events.</p> <p>Improved play area.</p>	<p>Several people comment on improvements seen over recent years.</p>
Holbeck Moor	<p>Improvements to football pitches.</p>	<p>Reduction in vandalism.</p> <p>More seating – which faces into the park.</p>	<p>Removal of boundary hedge has reduced wildlife.</p>
Hunslet Moor	<p>Litter/broken glass reduction.</p>	<p>Bowling green access, members keep it locked.</p> <p>Better play area.</p>	<p>~</p>