

**COUNCIL MEETING – 12th JULY 2023**

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper Amendment	A1 to WP2	11/7/23	11/7/23

Submitted by:	Councillor Norma Harrington
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

**In the second paragraph delete all after “This Council further welcomes” and replace with:**

“national and local efforts to tackle violence against women and girls, including the government’s commitment to a range of actions to protect women and girls against harm, and setting clear expectations about how the threat should be tackled by police forces.”

**Insert new paragraph after “...detering many residents from using public open spaces”:**

“Council is also concerned at the increase in anti-social behaviour in parks across the city, causing costly damage and preventing the public from enjoying our green spaces. Council is further concerned at the number of unauthorised Traveller encampments in parks and green spaces which have caused damage and disruption to local communities.”

**Add the following at the end of the fifth bullet point:**

“, with a focus on combatting anti-social behaviour”

**Add a seventh bullet point:**

“A commitment to do more to protect and secure our parks and green spaces and prevent unauthorised encampments.”

**Motion would read as follows:**

“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 national and local efforts to tackle violence against women and girls, including the government’s commitment to a range of actions to protect women and girls against harm, and setting clear expectations about how the threat should be tackled by police forces.

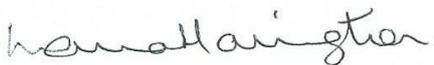
“However, this Council is concerned that current capacity and resource levels within the Parks Service are at risk of seriously impeding progress on achieving the priorities spelled out in the reports mentioned. Furthermore, the current cumulative neglect of green spaces in Leeds is actually worsening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

“Council is also concerned at the increase in anti-social behaviour in parks across the city, causing costly damage and preventing the public from enjoying our green spaces. Council is further concerned at the

number of unauthorised Traveller encampments in parks and green spaces which have caused damage and disruption to local communities.

“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, with a focus on combatting anti-social behaviour
- A commitment to investigate the devolution of parks and grounds maintenance budgets to Community Committee level.
- A commitment to do more to protect and secure our parks and green spaces and prevent unauthorised encampments.”



Councillor Norma Harrington

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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 (including references back)	- 10.00 am on the day before the meeting

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

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