

GREEN SPACE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Covering briefing note.

On the 18th June 2013, Cabinet's agreed in principle to the provision of a Green Space Management Strategy for 2014-2019. Officers are now circulating the draft strategy to each Area Committee for comments.

The previous five year strategy generated in excess of £3,400,000 external investment in green space, allowing those schemes to be progressed.

This level of external investment came from a variety of grant funding bodies and was only possible by being able to demonstrate that there was genuine community support for each of the improvement schemes.

The proposed new strategy lists £3,316,030 of proposed investment in green space and it is our intention to continue to secure the majority of this investment from external sources. It is therefore important that each Area Committee helps by actively encouraging local support for each of the schemes in their area. ,if they support the new Strategy.

Future schemes within the Strategy will also be delivered with reduced staffing levels within the Council so it is vital only to use these limited resources on projects that have a reasonable chance of success and will provide real improvements to green space.

I therefore ask each Area Committee to look carefully at each proposal in your local area and decide if they are appropriate to meet local needs and will be supported by Members of your Area Committee. Any proposed scheme must also be affordable and meet the requirements of the Council's existing adopted policies and strategies. Without this, and local public support, it is unlikely that we would be able to secure any external funding and we can not afford to waste all our time on projects that we are unlikely to be able to deliver.

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