



Coventry City Council

Briefing note

To: Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)

26th June 2019

From: Green Space Strategy Task and Finish Group

Subject: Draft Green Space Strategy

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform members of the Board of the recommendations from the Green Space Strategy Task and Finish group on the Draft Green Space Strategy to be considered at the meeting on the 26th June

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Green Space Strategy Task and Finish Group request that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3):
- 1) Endorse the approach to green spaces in the city as proposed in the draft Green Space Strategy
 - 2) Recommend to Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities that the Green Space Strategy addresses the following before it is presented to Cabinet for approval:
 - i. That the Council should be ambitious in its approach to Green Flag status and look to expand the number of parks awarded, encouraging the local community to be actively involved
 - ii. Strengthen the link to an emerging Climate Change Strategy and how the Green Space Strategy can support Coventry reducing its carbon foot print
 - iii. Strengthen the link to the Council's Biodiversity Strategy
 - iv. Emphasise accessibility in parks, such as circular routes round parks to encourage walking.
 - v. The strategy should contain a clear definition of a "green space"
 - vi. The role of the canal as a "blue corridor" in the strategy to be further highlighted (recommendation 34)
 - vii. Recommendations 40 – 45 should include providing training to volunteers
 - viii. Consider an aspiration for planting a tree for every citizen in the city. This should be linked in with other planting schemes such as the 550 trees for Guru Nanak anniversary and in line with the Climate Change strategy.

- ix. Recommendations contained in the strategy should be included as part of the Executive Summary as well as distributed through the report.
 - x. Schools should be encouraged to develop green spaces in line with the strategy. There should be stronger links with schools and Friends organisations, including parents.
- 3) Recommend to the Cabinet Member for Education that:
- i. There should be a green space map of all Coventry schools developed to support recommendation 2) x.
- 4) Support Recommendation 8 in the draft Green Space Strategy regarding the development of a Park Watch scheme and add this to the Board's work programme.

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Following the development of a draft Green Space Strategy, the Green Space Strategy Task and Finish group identified recommendations for the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board to consider as part of their item on the Green Space Strategy.
- 3.2 Once the Board has made their recommendations to the Cabinet Member, these issues should be addressed before a final strategy is presented to Cabinet.

Gennie Holmes
Scrutiny Co-ordinator
Tel: 024 7697 1857
Email: gennie.holmes@coventry.gov.uk