



Leicester  
City Council

**MEETING OF THE HERITAGE, CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORT  
SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

**DATE: TUESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2017**

**TIME: 5:30 pm**

**PLACE: Meeting Room G.01, Ground Floor, City Hall, 115  
Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ**

**Members of the Committee**

Councillor Unsworth (Chair)

Councillor Bajaj (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Dawood, Halford, Newcombe, Shelton and Thalukdar  
(1 unallocated non-grouped place)

Members of the Committee are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

*Elaine Baker*

For Monitoring Officer

**Officer contacts:**

**Anita Patel (Scrutiny Policy Officer)**

**Elaine Baker (Democratic Support Officer),**

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*Leicester City Council, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ*

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### Further information

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact:

**Elaine Baker, Democratic Support Officer on 0116 454 6355**

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# **PUBLIC SESSION**

## **AGENDA**

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#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

#### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**Appendix A**

The Minutes of the following meetings of the Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny Commission are attached and Members are asked to confirm them as correct records of the respective meetings:-

- a) the meeting held on 8 August 2017 (**Appendix A1**); and
- b) the inquorate meeting held on 19 September 2017 (**Appendix A2**).

#### **4. PROGRESS ON ACTIONS AGREED AT THE LAST MEETING**

To note progress on actions agreed at the previous meeting and not reported elsewhere on the agenda (if any)

#### **5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **6. PETITIONS**

The Monitoring Officer to report on the receipt of any petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures.

#### **7. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OF CASE**

The Monitoring Officer to report on the receipt of any questions, representations and statements of case submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures.

**8. OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY - Appendix B  
PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study is currently out for consultation. Officers will provide a verbal update on the consultation at the meeting.

The Study is attached at Appendix B for Members' information and will form the basis of discussion at the meeting.

The Study also is available on the public consultation website, via the following link: <https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/communications/ossr/>

The Commission is recommended to receive the update and comment as appropriate.

**9. TASK GROUP REVIEW: "ENGAGEMENT WITH Appendix C  
LEICESTER'S ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE  
OFFER"**

The Chair will lead a discussion on the Task Group review of "Engagement with Leicester's Arts, Culture and Heritage Offer".

The Commission is recommended to endorse the scope of this review.

**10. WORK PROGRAMME Appendix D**

The current work programme for the Commission is attached. The Commission is asked to consider this and make comments and/or amendments as it considers necessary.

**11. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**



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# Appendix A1

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
HERITAGE, CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORT SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held: TUESDAY, 8 AUGUST 2017 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Unsworth (Chair)  
Councillor Bajaj (Vice Chair)

Councillor Dawood  
Councillor Halford

Councillor Shelton  
Councillor Thalukdar

In Attendance

Councillor Clair: Assistant City Mayor for Culture, Leisure and Sport

\* \* \* \* \*

## **18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from the John Leach, Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services.

## **19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Shelton declared an Other Disclosable Interest in agenda item 9, "Leicester City Council Sports Services Review", as he was a regular user of the Evington Gym. Councillor Shelton also declared an Other Disclosable Interest in agenda item 10, "Arts Council England's Local National Portfolio Organisations 2018-22", as he was a trustee of Phoenix Square.

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, these interests were not considered so significant that they were likely to prejudice Councillor Shelton's judgement of the public interest. He was not, therefore, required to withdraw from the meeting.

## **20. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

AGREED:

that the minutes of the meeting of the Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny Commission held on 13 June 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

## **21. PROGRESS ON ACTIONS AGREED AT THE LAST MEETING**

There was no discussion on this item as there were no actions carried forward from the previous meeting.

## **22. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair had no announcements to make.

## **23. PETITIONS**

The Monitoring Officer reported that no petitions had been received.

## **24. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OF CASE**

The Monitoring Officer reported that no questions, representations or statements of case had been received.

## **25. OVERVIEW OF THE MUSEUMS SERVICES IN LEICESTER**

Sarah Levitt, the Head of Arts and Museums gave a presentation which provided an update on museum developments; a copy of which is attached to the back of these minutes.

Councillor Clair, Assistant City Mayor for Culture, Leisure and Sport introduced the presentation and explained that there had been considerable investment in the New Walk Museum. Improvements made included the new staircase and a new lift to the first floor. Investment had also been made in other areas including the Abbey Pumping Station and the Jewry Wall Museum.

During the presentation, the Head of Arts and Museums made the following points:

- There had been a steady growth in visitor numbers over the past 15 years.
- The opening of the staircase and the new lift enabled visitors to access the galleries and exhibitions on the first floor. These galleries included the German Expressionist Gallery which had a performance space. This was an Arts Council project.
- The Medieval Leicester Galleries were created at the Guildhall to help to set the context around King Richard and the Visitor Centre. External funding had been received for this.
- External funding had also been received to create the 'House of Memories' in Newarke Houses Museum, a project to help people living with dementia and their carers.
- Temporary exhibitions had been created through engagement with community partners. These included the Rugby World Cup Exhibition (for

which funding had been received from the Heritage Lottery fund), Navratri and the Magna Carta.

- The very successful and popular Fearless Foxes Exhibition had been created in just six weeks when it became apparent that Leicester City Football Club was going to win the premiership. This was a change to the planned event.
- Improvement work was taking place at Abbey Pumping Station which would develop the commercial offer. These improvements included the erection of a marquee which had enabled the Antique Roadshow to be held there recently; an event that attracted about 3500 attendees. The Arts Council had funded both that marquee and another one at Belgrave Hall.

A number of comments and queries were raised in the ensuing discussion, including the following:

- In response to a suggestion for an exhibition to celebrate Leicester's entertainment scene (to include music and the cinema), Members heard that the current Collections, Interpretations and Learning Manager had also considered this. He was due to leave shortly but the suggestion would be raised with his successor when appointed.
- The new staircase at the New Walk Museum was received very favourably by Members.
- Excellent work had been carried out in Leicester museums; a Member questioned how the public were made aware of all that was happening.

The Head of Arts and Museums responded that developments in social media, twitter and Facebook had been of significant help in information sharing and communication. She believed that the increase in visitor numbers related to the use of social media and it was questionable as to whether printed matter was still effective. Members also heard that the Council were much better at promoting Leicester.

The Commission heard that the 'Visit Leicester' website was due to go live in a few days and work was ongoing on the 'Story of Leicester' website which would look at the history of Leicester over 2000 years.

- A Member questioned what was being done to attract collections that would not normally be shown in Leicester. The Head of Art and Museums explained that the Museum Service had been approached by the Royal Collection Trust, with exhibits from Buckingham Palace. Private collectors had also approached the Museum Service.
- In relation to interaction with primary and secondary schools, Members heard that the standard way of bring children into the museums was through school trips; this had changed, possibly because of rules around health and safety. However the Egyptian displays were probably the best in the East

Midlands and attracted many visits from schools.

- Following a request for better signage in the Egyptian display area to make it more child friendly, Members heard that the Collections, Interpretations and Learning Manager had applied for funding for some improvements to the exhibition and Members were encouraged to visit again when the work had been carried out.
- The museum was also setting up a project for people with Asperger Syndrome, whereby they could come and meet up together. This might take place on a Saturday afternoon.

The Chair drew the discussion to a close and thanked officers for the presentation.

AGREED:

that the presentation be noted.

## **26. LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL SPORTS SERVICES REVIEW**

The Head of Sports delivered a presentation on the public consultation for the Sports Services Review, a copy of which is attached to the back of these minutes.

Councillor Clair, the Assistant City Mayor for Culture, Leisure and Sports introduced the item and made the following points:

- The Council had invested over £400k in the Humberstone Golf Club and £70k had been spent to enhance the changing rooms.
- The Council proposed to invest £1.8m for improvements in four leisure centres to enhance reciprocity between the services users and the facility.
- These four centres were Aylestone Leisure Centre, Braunstone Leisure Centre, Cossington Sports Centre and Evington Sports Centre.
- There would also be investment to improve the air conditioning and humidity in swimming pools – this would benefit both customers and staff. This investment was not part of the consultation.
- The Council was working with schools to make it easier for them to bring children for swimming lessons and approximately 80% of schools had taken up that offer.
- Gym membership was available and it was hoped to encourage more users to take up membership and pay by direct debit.
- There was an aim to generate more income to bridge the £3.5m gap between the annual revenue budget of £8.6m and income of £5.1m.

- The proposals were open for consultation; views and comments received would be taken on board before decisions were taken.

Points then made by the Head of Sports included the following:

- The proposals in the consultation were about changing the shape of the service and how it was delivered.
- The service provided by Leicester City Council was high cost and low performing when compared to similar local authorities. The aim was to change this to low cost and high performing service.
- Under the proposals in the consultation, there were no plans to close facilities or externalise the leisure centre management.
- The proposal was to invest £1.8m in health and fitness in four leisure centres, which were spread out around the city and were accessible. It was anticipated that it would take three years to achieve maturity to improve the offer and thereby increase membership payments by direct debit from 18% (the current figure) to 85% (as experienced in the top performing local authorities).
- To facilitate this, the membership offer would be revamped to provide better choices; for example gym only or swim only membership.
- There were plans to improve marketing and staff training to ensure the service was relevant to different people.
- Designated spin studios would be created; this would prevent the need to move bicycles in and out of rooms when the sessions were held.
- The review would look at swimming pool opening times; for example it may not be cost effective for all pools to be open early in the morning and late in the evening.

Comments made during the discussion on the report and presentation included the following:

- There were other gyms that were cheaper, but LCC centres offered a variety and number of facilities under one roof.
- Concessions were offered for low income families.
- There were currently approximately 3000 memberships; the aim was to increase this to 5500. The proposals for membership fees would make membership more attractive with options that could reduce the overall cost.
- The proposals for improvements to the Evington Leisure Centre were welcomed.

- The overall investment in sport and leisure was welcomed and deemed necessary to promote better health in the city.
- The Council received a public health grant to promote healthier lifestyles and there was a very successful GP referral scheme. The Council were keen to work with groups that suffered from health inequality and engage with those groups where people who would not normally go to leisure centres.
- Requests were made for unhealthy food to be removed from leisure centre vending machines.
- If the proposed improvements were carried out to the four centres as highlighted in the presentation, any impact on other leisure centres would be reviewed to assess any possible detrimental resource implications. Members heard that there would be an opportunity to share equipment with other leisure centres. Some of the planned changes were general improvements such as marketing and membership offers which were regardless of the level of investment.
- As part of the procurement process, interested contractors would be asked how they would mitigate the impact on the customer whilst improvement works were carried out. The aim was to try to mitigate this as much as possible.
- It was proposed that some of the larger centres such as Aylestone, Braunstone and Evington would have longer opening hours. Prices were mean tested; there were concessions and a new membership structure, all of which would help to mitigate the changes experienced by vulnerable groups.
- A request was made for additional sauna facilities in the centres. Evington for example had just one sauna.

The Chair concluded the discussion and stressed the need to get things right and to encourage others to use leisure centres for their own health and wellbeing. He added that everyone had a responsibility to promote healthier lifestyles. The Chair requested that officers took on board the request to remove unhealthy food from vending machines and also do more to publicise the leisure centre facilities.

AGREED:

that the report and presentation be noted and an update be brought back to a future meeting of the Commission.

## **27. ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND'S LOCAL NATIONAL PORTFOLIO ORGANISATIONS 2018-22**

The Head of Arts and Museums submitted a briefing note which set out the Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations 2018-22.

Councillor Clair, Assistant City for Culture, Leisure and Sport introduced the briefing note explaining that he was a member of the Executive Board and had been involved in the funding process. Investment in art and culture attracted more people into the city and resulted in economic as well as social benefits. It was significant to note that for the first time ever, the Arts Council England had come out of London and chosen Leicester to announce its plans for its investment across England for the period between 2018 -2022.

Comments made during the discussion on the report included the following:

- The Arts Council funding would be in addition to the museums core budget. A business case needed to be submitted and funding would have to be used for new projects rather than existing ones.
- The funding would be used to refresh the overall arts and culture strategy.
- New Walk Museum would be actively seeking to engage with young people and inviting their participation.
- The news of the funding award was very good news for Leicester and officers and the Assistant City Mayor were thanked for their hard work in securing the grant.
- The funding would enable every child and young person to have an opportunity to experience the richness of arts and culture offered in the city.

AGREED:

that the briefing note be noted.

## **28. WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chair requested that updates on the three agenda items discussed at the meeting be brought back to a future meeting of Commission when appropriate.

In response to a query relating to Arts and Murals in the Cultural Quarter, the Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment confirmed that there would be a follow up to the project in November.

It was noted that there was an item on the Blue Plaques Scheme on the work programme and a suggestion was made that the Trade Unions may wish to sponsor a Plaque to commemorate the Trade Union movement.

## **29. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.



## Museum Developments Update

Sarah Levitt  
Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport  
Scrutiny Commission  
8<sup>th</sup> August 2017



Victorian Art Gallery,  
New Walk Museum



German Expressionist Gallery,  
New Walk Museum



Medieval Leicester Galleries,  
Guildhall



House of Memories,  
Newarke Houses Museum



Animal Stories Exhibition,  
New Walk Museum



Jewry Wall Museum Refurbishment Project:  
Artists Impression



Rugby World Cup Exhibition,  
Newarke Houses Museum



Fearless Foxes Exhibition,  
New Walk Museum



Antiques Roadshow,  
Abbey Pumping Station



Splendours of  
Subcontinent Exhibition,  
New Walk Museum



New Staircase,  
New Walk Museum




## Sports Services Review Public Consultation 8 August 2017

Consultation Proposals



## Review Background and Context

- Budget saving £2 million
- Sports Services - Subsidy £3.5 million
- Benchmarking - high cost and low performing service
- Significant data and evidence collated
- Potential and demand to increase health and fitness
- Sufficient supply of Sports Hall's across City
- Up to 40% swimming pool capacity
- Low Pool time usage – early and late evening



## Appraisal of options

- Review assessed all options including;
- Governance and externalisation
- Closure and rationalisation
- New build
- Considered experience from other Unitary Authorities
- Under these proposals there are no plans to close facilities or externalise the leisure centre management




## Public Consultation – timescales and Proposals

- 12 weeks consultation period
- August 7 – October 30 2017
- Report back by the end of the year
- The consultation will seek feedback on two key proposals;
- **Investment in Health and Fitness**
- **Review of swimming pool opening times**




## Proposals

- Proposed to adopt an invest to save approach
- Proposed to invest £1.8m in Health and Fitness in 4 Leisure Centres.
- Grow and develop usage, membership and income
- Business Case for growth
- £400k air handling in 6 leisure centres
- On going maintenance and improvement



## Investment Proposals

Sites	Capital Building Costs (ex VAT)	Equipment Costs (ex VAT)	What will the capital fund?
Aylestone LC	£196k	£153k	Health and fitness equipment replacement, removal and conversion of bar in to functional fitness facility.
Braunstone LC	£15k	£16k	Conversion of crèche to create dance studio and new spin studio.
Cossington SC	£424k	£163k	Conversion of Sports Hall to create a 50 station gym and group exercise studio.
Evington SC	£683k	£182k	Expansion of existing gym to create new 75 station gym, new dance and spin studio.
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1.318m</b>	<b>£514k</b>	





## Proposed to review of Swimming pool opening times

- Pool times reviewed not opening hours of leisure centres
- Coordinated approach to pool opening times
- Proposals for each Leisure Centre included within consultation
- Early morning and late evening swimming
- Targeted sessions will be reprogrammed to reduce impact
- Proposed to work differently with swimming clubs



## Rationale

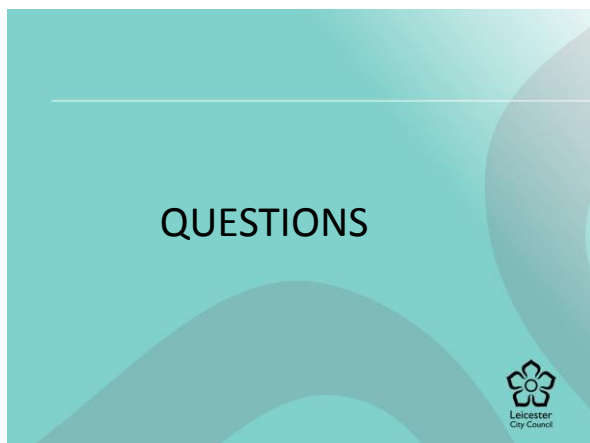
- Focus on service improvement and growth
- Lots happening to improve the service already
- Invest to Save approach
- More efficient with swimming pool opening hours
- Avoids having to close facilities and services
- Minimise impact of savings on customers
- Creates investment to transform the customer offer
- Projected net saving £1.5 million p.a. after 3 years



## NEXT STEPS

- Communicate consultation
- <https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/>
- Customers
- General public
- Stakeholders/ partners/Clubs
- Consider feedback
- Report back end of the Year









Leicester  
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Minutes of the Meeting of the  
HERITAGE, CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORT SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held: TUESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2017 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Unsworth (Chair)  
Councillor Bajaj (Vice Chair)

In Attendance

Sir Peter Soulsby – City Mayor  
Councillor Adam Clarke – Assistant City Mayor Energy and Sustainability  
Councillor Clair – Assistant City Mayor, Culture, Leisure and Sport

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**30. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dawood and Halford.

The Chair stated that the meeting was not quorate; the Commission would not be in a position to agree the minutes or make recommendations but instead would receive reports and presentations and note and comment as appropriate.

**31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**32. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The meeting heard that the minutes of the previous meeting held 8 August 2017, would be carried forward to the next meeting where Members would be asked to confirm them as a correct record.

**33. PROGRESS ON ACTIONS AGREED AT THE LAST MEETING**

There was no discussion under this item of business.

The Chair stated in view of the meeting being inquorate, he would change the order of the agenda, and take presentations on De Montfort Hall and the Haymarket first.

#### **34. DEVELOPMENTS AT DE MONTFORT HALL**

The Commission received a presentation on developments at De Montfort Hall, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

The Assistant City Mayor for Culture, Leisure and Sport introduced the item and stated that De Montfort Hall, which had been looking tired and in need of refurbishment was now looking like a major concert venue. Investment in the venue had resulted in improvements such as new seating and carpets, improved office accommodation and refurbished artists' changing facilities.

The General Manager at De Montfort Hall talked through the presentation; points made included the following:

- In 2009, a Task Group, chaired by Councillor Newcombe had undertaken a review of the Hall and had identified that a significant amount of refurbishment was necessary. That refurbishment had been taking place over the past seven years and had led to improved performance and income.
- Improved performance had enabled further investment in the building.
- Improvements included the following:
  - New seats in the auditorium and a new carpet in the foyer.
  - The replacement of front of house furniture.
  - New lighting – the old lighting had resulted in damage to the De Montfort Hall organ, but fortunately the damage was not permanent and had reversed with the installation of the new lighting.
  - Refurbishment in the offices and back stage (the corridors and dressing rooms).
- Further investment of £582,000 was sought to enable more improvements. These included a landscape plan, an extension to the car park and improvements to the café.
- The recent landscaping works necessitated the removal of some of 50 trees, many of which were coming to the end of their life. The landscaping planned to follow would be a colourful selection of plants and wildflowers to add a show of colour all year round.
- The extension to the car park would result in 50 additional car parking spaces and two new coach parking bays. It was noted that there were already good facilities for disabled parking spaces close to the entrance to

the hall.

- Plans included improved infrastructure for power and water in the grounds which would reduce the cost of staging outdoor events; this would enable those events to be held more frequently thus generating more income.

During the ensuing discussion, a number of comments and queries were raised including the following:

- The Vice Chair commented that he had been part of the Task Group review in 2009 and recalled that much of the venue had fallen into disrepair. He welcomed the improvements already made and the proposals for further work.
- In response to a question, the Commission heard that in relation to the types of shows offered, Leicester was comparable to the Theatre Royal in Nottingham and the Birmingham Symphony Hall. The venue capacity at De Montfort Hall was 1600 seated and 2200 standing. The possibility of increasing the capacity had been investigated but shown not to be possible without significant modification to the building.

The Chair drew the discussion to a close and stated that the presentation was noted and he looked forward to De Montfort Hall's regeneration. He asked for the Commission to be updated on any future programme of works.

### **35. UPDATE ON THE REDEVELOPMENT OF HAYMARKET THEATRE**

The Commission received a presentation on the Redevelopment of the Haymarket Theatre, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

The City Mayor introduced the presentation and points made included the following:

- The original strip out of the building some 10 years previously, including the removal of asbestos from the building, had been necessary but had compromised the integrity of the building and had resulted in considerable additional costs for the council as structures had deteriorated since.
- There were exciting proposals from the Haymarket Consortium and prospects looked even better with the regeneration that was taking place in the area.
- The lease on the Haymarket car park was due to expire in four years but consideration was now being given to negotiating an extended lease for the car park which justified a need for investment to restore it to a decent standard. It was noted that if the lease were not extended, the council would face considerable charges for dilapidations.
- There was also an opportunity to invest in a lift to serve the car park on the theatre on two levels, and ideally to the top level of the car park depending

on costings.

- There was the prospect of a new Travelodge Hotel in the Haymarket with a main entrance from the car park as well as from Humberstone Gate.
- The proposals to host E-Sport events in the theatre had generated a great deal of excitement and it was fortunate that there was a major promoter of E-Sport in the City. It was expected that the Haymarket was going to be a venue of national significance.

The Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment then provided a recap of the presentation on the Haymarket that the Commission received on 7 March 2017. An update on progress was given and points made included the following:

- The work on the theatre had commenced in May 2017, the asbestos had been removed and new seats had been designed and were currently being manufactured.
- The original scope of works had proposed leaving some improvements particularly to back of house areas until after the theatre had re-opened. However the strong interest already expressed in the building suggested it would be worthwhile accelerating that investment and improving the finished specification. The additional costs would be about 20% of the original budget. The City Mayor added that the intention was to increase the building's potential for income earning by the increased investment.
- Landscaping and new signage would be needed to enhance the area outside the theatre.
- It was noted that work was needed to the car park to bring it to a better standard; the top level needed to be resurfaced as currently there were drainage problems. This would be addressed by a separate car park works package though it would be integrated with the theatre works.

In response to a question, the City Mayor explained that the owners of the Haymarket had been very helpful and there had also been useful discussions relating to the hotel.

The Chair drew the discussion to a close and stated that the presentation was noted.

### **36. LEICESTER TREE STRATEGY**

The Commission received a report and presentation on the draft Leicester Tree Strategy to cover the period 2017 – 2022. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

The City Mayor introduced the presentation and explained that the City Council had approximately 150,000 trees, ranging in variety from fairly common ash

trees to giant redwoods and it was important that there was a proper tree strategy in place. Looking back over the past forty years, the Council had much to be proud of, including tree planting at Western Park, Castle Hill Country Park, Victoria Park and along Evington Lane. The Council wanted to keep the momentum going.

Councillor Clarke, the Assistant City Mayor, Energy and Sustainability commented that the strategy was about the quality as well as the quantity of trees. The strategy was still at the draft stage and was work in progress. Consideration was also being given as to how the strategy could be put into a suitable format for young people.

It was noted that the Council had an industry accreditation from the Arboricultural Association (AA) and the City Mayor explained that this was a particularly special accreditation as only two public sector bodies were AA approved.

The Commission heard that the service had a budget of £1.3m but the turnover was higher because work was carried out for the private sector.

In relation to waste management, the Head of Parks and Open Spaces explained that 100% of waste materials were recycled with woodchip and sold as biofuel and logs were sold on a regular basis to members of the public. Some of the wood products were milled into usable timber and large pieces carved with a chainsaw and the carvings placed in the City parks. Carving was very time consuming and the practice was, where possible, to link tree carving with relevant events taking place in the City, so that members of the public could watch what was happening.

The Commission heard about the actions being taken to support the strategic aims of the service and a Member questioned whether the service was engaging with the local community to support those aims. The meeting heard that some work was highly skilled with health and safety implications so was not suitable for volunteers, but there was a popular volunteering scheme which included tasks such as coppicing. There were also examples where residents had adopted a tree, whereby a volunteer might water a newly planted tree, look after it and plant around it.

Members noted that there were some very experienced staff in the service and questioned how it would be affected as those staff approached retirement. The Head of Parks and Open Spaces responded that there was an ongoing training programme for existing and new recruits and the Trees and Woodlands team were currently developing apprenticeship opportunities.

The Chair referred to the report, stating that nearly 6000 trees had been felled but only 900 – 1000 trees had been replaced and he questioned why there was the difference. The City Mayor responded that it was a relatively small number out of a total of 150,000 and some of those trees had come to the end of their natural life. He said it was important to note that there was now 107 hectares of woodland in addition to the 150,000 individual trees, compared to just 40

hectares, 20 years ago. The Head of Parks and Open Spaces added that while there were accurate records of tree felling, the service did not have accurate records of all tree planting. For example, housing and capital projects included tree planting schemes planted by external contractors, and they were therefore not included in the figures for replacement trees. One of the aims of the Tree Strategy was to improve this data capture.

The City Mayor made a commitment to ensure that there was funding in the capital programme for tree replacement. The City Mayor added that he was minded to take the Tree Strategy to Council for full consideration by Members.

The Chair drew the discussion to a close adding that the report and presentation were noted.

### **37. TOURISM, CULTURE AND INVESTMENT DIVISION SPENDING REVIEW**

It was noted that as the meeting was inquorate, Members would not be able to make any recommendations on the proposed review. However it was agreed that Members would consider the report as the Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment advised that their comments would be very useful.

The Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment submitted a report that outlined proposals to save £1.08 million as a first phase contribution to the Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment division spending review target of £1.5m. The Director explained that many of the savings would arise from efficiencies resulting from capital investment at De Montfort Hall. There was an expectation that bar takings would increase as customers could now take their drinks into the auditorium; there would be increased income from car parking and more potential for weddings and children's parties.

It was noted that a reduction in Leicester City Council support for Curve and the Phoenix was proposed and the Chair asked whether any feedback had been received from those organisations. The Director explained that Curve, while not happy at the prospect of a 30% funding cut, were realistic and understood the revenue pressures that the council faced. The Phoenix was facing a 10% funding cut, but would increase their income if they were able to expand to four screens. They were also looking to expand their catering option because at the moment they were at full capacity.

The Chair expressed concerns that Curve and the Phoenix's outreach work might be compromised by the funding cuts and heard that both organisations had secured funding from the Arts Council and had to set out their outreach strategy to them, in the knowledge of the forthcoming cuts.

The Director was asked whether progress was being made in publicising and promoting the City's tourism and culture offer. The Director confirmed that progress was being made and that part of the offer from the Arts Council would be for work around digitalisation and community engagement.

The Chair drew the discussion to a close stating that the report was noted.

**38. ENGAGEMENT WITH LEICESTER'S ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE OFFER - PROPOSED REVIEW**

There was no discussion on this item.

**39. PETITIONS**

The Monitoring Officer reported that no petitions had been received.

**40. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OF CASE**

The Monitoring Officer reported that no questions, representations or statements of case had been received.

**41. WORK PROGRAMME**

There was no discussion on this item.

**42. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 7.58 pm.



# Minute Item 34



## DMH Review

- Brief overview of last few years progress
- Capital Investment opportunities
- Summary and beyond 2019



2009

**dmh**  
demontforthall

**REVIEW OF DEMONTFORT HALL**  
**SITE VISIT**  
**23<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2009**

Produced by Cllr Newcombe – Task Group Leader  
Supported by Cllr Naylor

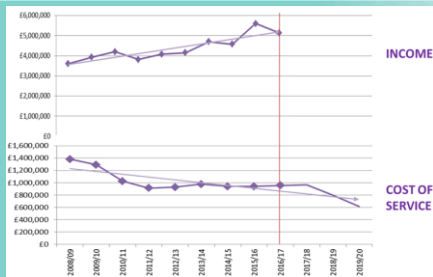


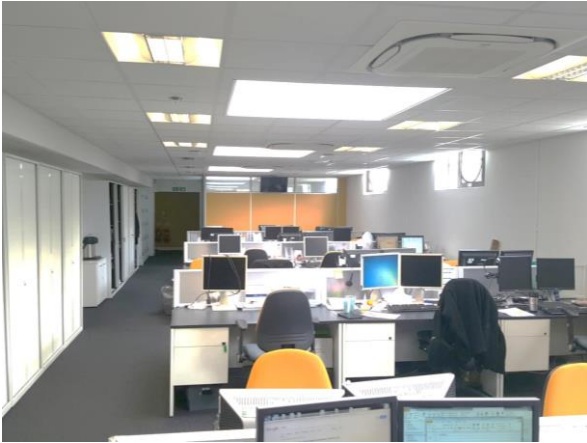
## 2009 SUMMARY

“The Task Group recognises that there is a significant amount of refurbishment work that needs to be undertaken and will therefore possibly need to adopt a short, medium and long term strategy to enable this to take place, bringing DMH back to a standard which the citizens of Leicester and beyond require and deserve”.



## Improved performance





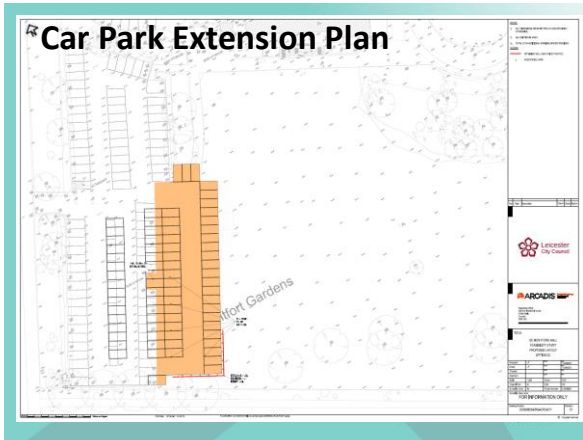


## Capital Investment

- Tree works and landscaping under way – essential maintenance. Estimated cost £114k
- Feasibility studies carried out on ideas that could improve revenue performance
  - car park extension & drainage works
  - outdoor event infrastructure
  - development of café space at Vic suite

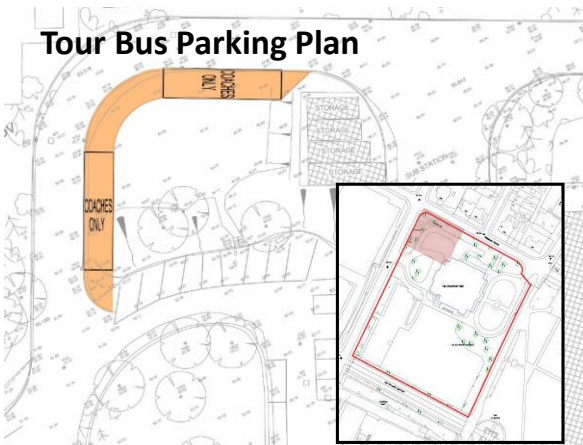






### Car Park Extension & Drainage

- 50 additional spaces
- Repair drainage
- £65,200 increased revenue p.a.
- £245,821 investment
- 3.8 years payback period
- Removes 5 trees  
 – will be replanted on site

### Tour Bus Parking

- Better fire vehicle access
- 'Expected' offer for larger artists
- Better delivery vehicle access
- Less time managing parking
- Chargeable to tour companies
- Same building process as car park





## Event Infrastructure

- Currently all power and other utility services is brought in temporarily. Power infrastructure alone costs around £8k per event.
- Cost of installing comprehensive network of utilities points through the grounds estimated at £185,000
- More limited infrastructure incorporating two permanent power distribution points estimated at £50,000.
- Installing two would save approx £5k of the £8k power costs therefore have a payback of around 10 years if just one single event
- However would pay back quicker if more than one event per year – which is the intention



## Café – study conclusions

- Expensive compared to likely return. Conversion to offer full menu = £350k
- Full café conversion would reduce bar sales capacity through loss of bar space.
- Council procurement process not conducive to high end café menu.
- Flexibility of space required for core concert business and hires not easily compatible with a cafe ambience
- Requires toilet reconfiguration that could impact core business – fewer dedicated female cubicles



## But ...

- A limited food offer located on bar backs keeping existing layout would provide operable compromise.
- Cost would be more in region of £75k
- Defined trial period using existing hall opening hours of 10am - 5pm, Mon – Sat, for eat in and takeaway.
- Flexibility maintained and upgrade should also benefit core business and increase bar income.
- Food procurement process still not conducive to high end café menu.



## Total Capital Investment

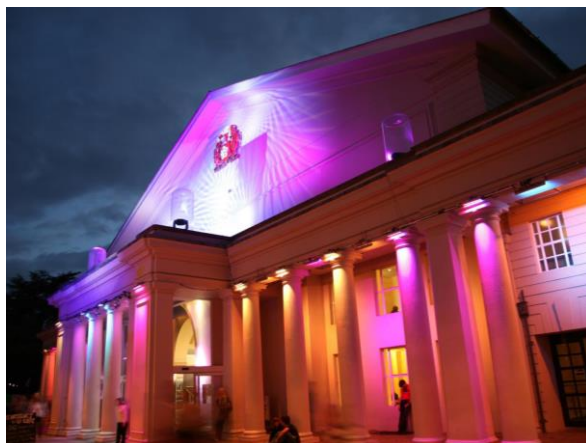
- Tree works (£47,000)
- Landscaping (£57,000)
- Car park extension & drainage (£245,821)
- Coach Parking (£55,000)
- Power distribution points (£50,000)
- Bars upgrade (£75,000)
- Feasibility costs (£52,365)
- Total capital requirements **£582,186**

Bid being considered as part of new Capital programme



## Summary

- Venue will be fully refurbished by March 2019
- Venue subsidy is planned to have more than halved to £615,900 by March 2020.
- £582k investment requested to achieve this target



# Minute Item 35

## HAYMARKET

- Previously – recap the Feb 2017 presentation
- Progress and Issues on Site
- Completion and Handover Dates
- Developments in scope
- The Wider Opportunities and related works



## Previously

- Presented to scrutiny members in February 2017
- Outlined the key themes of the business plan
- Noted the basic drivers in terms of costs, dilapidation issues etc
- Introduced the Haymarket consortium members
- Noted the potential of ESL and gaming



## Progress and Issues

- Started May – sorting pre-contract issues with Oliveti and asbestos took couple of months
- Air quality issues shut site for couple of weeks
- Is a difficult, complicated refurbishment. Previous strip out 10 years ago left legacy issues.
- More than 20kms of cabling!
- New M&E systems. Lot of stuff you will never see
- Top end audio visual & comms equipment





## Handover Timetable etc

- Target was November 2017 but now likely to be January 2018 given additions to scope (described later)
- Aiming for sectional completion to get Consortium in early to finish off some elements e.g. main auditorium
- Plan is for consortium to be operational from Feb 2018 but some works will still be outstanding then (to lift and car park)



## Developments in Scope

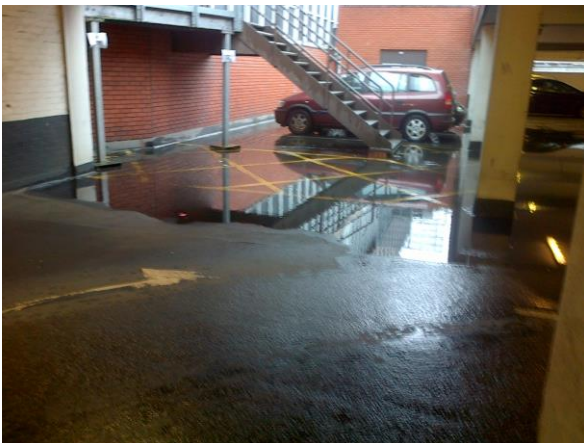
- Approved scheme Jan 2017 didn't include for a lift.
- Lift is now proposed to serve both theatre and car park – an extra. Linked to council decision to renew lease of car park
- Works package assumed completion of some elements, particularly back of house areas at a later date
- Strong interest from bookers, particularly ESL now justifies investing in a better finished product earlier – we want to impress new audiences to Leicester
- Extra £613k now budgeted (includes £120k contingency) to complete the scheme (19.5% of original budget)



## Wider Regeneration Opportunities

- Our investment has triggered others to act
- New Travelodge Hotel will occupy top floors which have been empty for more than 10yrs
- Car park lease renewal will trigger a parallel investment to improve drainage, signage, layout, lighting, safety etc of the car park.
- Connecting Leicester investment planned for Belgrave Gate and Clock Tower areas and to create road link through to Mansfield St











## Tree Strategy

Stewart Doughty  
Head Parks & Open Spaces  
19 September 2017

## Background

- LCC introduced a tree management software system to record all trees and history of inspections and maintenance (1995)
- Allow the resources available to be strategically prioritised, rather than reaction to complaints.
- Reduction in complaints and claims.
- 54% success rate of defending claims
- Agreed in 2016 to develop a Tress Strategy

## Overview of Strategy

- First Tree Strategy for Leicester
- Previous Tree Policy (app 1) operational doc
- Strategic approach for management of the Councils tree stock
  - 150,000 trees
  - 107 hectares of woodland
  - 15.69% authority tree canopy cover (1,200 ha)
  - 24 Conservation areas & over 500 TPO's

## Strategic aims

1. To ensure the current level of tree canopy cover under the Council's control is sustained and the quality is improved.
2. To ensure trees under the Council's control are managed with the intention of resolving conflicts and problems in a rational., consistent and economic way.
3. To encourage private land owners to manage their tree's, in part through the Council's appropriate use of tree protection legislation.

## Tree management assets

- Budget £1.3m (turnover £1.7m)
- Operational staff 28 FTE
- Technical 7 FTE
  - Skills base training
- Depot
  - Specialist equipment & vehicles
  - Waste storage 400 tonnes



## Industry accreditation



- Arboricultural Association
- National standard
- Approved 'contractor'
- Only 2 public sector bodies AA approved
- Private clients

## Waste management



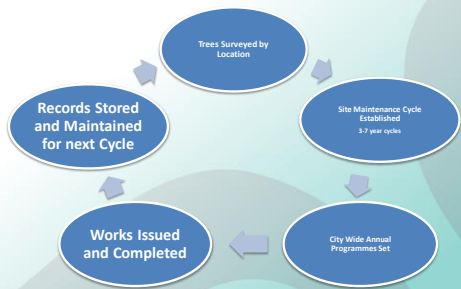
- 100% materials recycled
- 2,000 tonnes a year
- 50% bio mass fuel
- 40% fire wood
- 10% milled
- Small volume carved
- £20k income, saving £170k landfill charge

## Sustaining tree canopy

- Replacement policy
- 100 trees felled in 2016/17
- 250 trees planted by T&W in 2016/17
- Additional new capital schemes, developments
- Potential Capital budget
- LEW budget

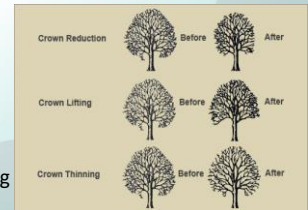


## Management



## Improving quality

- Programme of dead wooding
- Crown reduction
- Crown lifting
- Crown thinning
- Pollarding
- Feathering & suckering
- Biodiversity



## Supporting Aims



- 33 actions in proposed strategy to support Aims
- 18 actions to support Council tree stock
- 5 actions support private tree stock
- 10 supporting actions
- Monitoring

## Actions supporting strategic Aims

- To maintain tree numbers/canopy cover
- Promoting amenity
- Promoting habitat & wildlife
- Enhancing microclimate & land use
- Responding to global obligations
- Fulfil formal obligations
- Manage resources appropriately
- Manage pressure of trees in the private sector

## In support of actions

- Ensure the viability of service provision
- Ensure staff have the required capabilities
- Ensure practical means/systems in place

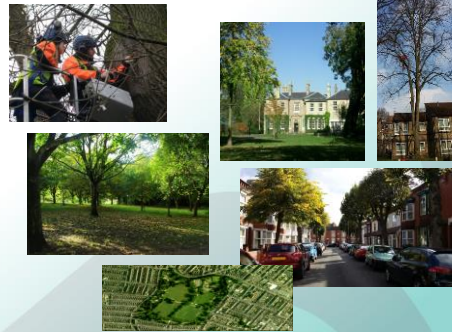
## Review & Monitoring Aims

- Planting success rate
- Surveying & work programme cycles
- Quality control
- Resources management
- Staff training & development
- Complaints & compliments
- AA assessments
- Recycling rates
- Management of TPO's & Conservation Areas

## Adoption of Strategy

- Comment & feedback from HCL&S Scrutiny
- Agree a final draft
- Format for on-line publication
- User friendly school version to be developed
- Funding being discussed as part of STAR chamber & Capital process

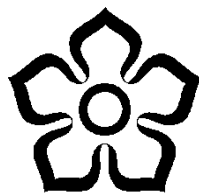
## Questions ?





## Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

2017



Leicester  
City Council

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## **1. Executive Summary**

### **The City in context.**

- 1.1** Leicester is a major urban centre located in the heart of the country. It is located close to major transport networks, and is a centre for growth. The greater Leicester area now extends beyond the administrative boundary of the City Council into surrounding areas such as Braunstone Town, Oadby, Wigston, Birstall and Glenfield. Some 650,000 people live in this greater Leicester area making the city the 9<sup>th</sup> biggest in the country. It also supports the main concentration of people across the city and county area which has a combined population of around 1 million people.
- 1.2** The population of Leicester and Leicestershire is growing fast. Recent government projections show that the population of the administrative area of Leicester will increase by almost 12% between 2016 and 2031 - to around 388,000 people. The population of Leicester and Leicestershire as a whole is projected to increase to over 1,141,000 in the same period (an 11% increase).

### **Purpose of the study**

- 1.3** Open Space is a vital resource that provides people with opportunities to relax, exercise and spend time with nature. However there is pressure for residential and employment development which needs to be balanced across the greater Leicester urban area. This study provides evidence of publically accessible open space in Leicester, and sets the city in the context of open space provision in the county. It also asks questions about open space provision and the requirements going forwards.

### **Current open space provision.**

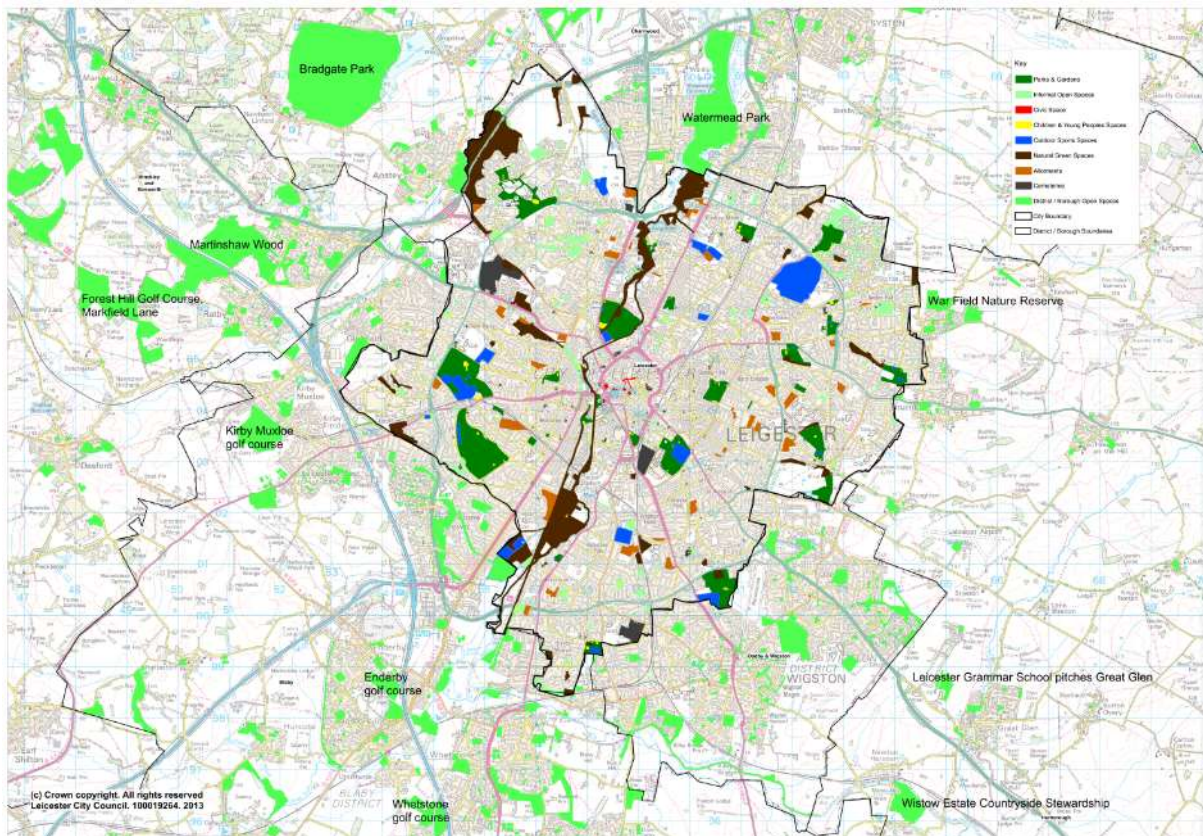
- 1.4** There is a total of 1102.05 ha of publically accessible open space in the City, set against a requirement of 948.29 ha, using the adopted standard of 2.88ha/1000 population. This means that there is 153.75 ha of open space that could be considered “surplus.” However different areas of the city have different amounts, quality and accessibility to open space. Different open spaces also cost different amounts to maintain and can be the location of anti social behaviour.

### **Next Steps**

- 1.5** The result of the consultation will be fed into the next stage of the plan making process. The balance of provision of good quality accessible open space will be considered against the need to provide land for houses and jobs.

## 2. Introduction

2.1 Open space is an important resource that has significant benefits in terms of the population's well-being; it can act as areas for the storage of carbon and reduce the amount of air pollution in the area. People can travel large distances to access open space particularly areas that are large and seen as destinations. Examples include Abbey Park, Aylestone Meadows and Bradgate Park in the greater Leicester area. Open spaces are also useful as areas for recreation and fitness. However, there has been increasing pressure on open space for use as development land, whether for housing, commercial or retail use. Open space also has a cost in terms of the amount of revenue that is required to ensure it is adequately maintained, safe and enjoyable to use. The design of open spaces is also important to ensure that they are overlooked (and therefore safer) and usable to a wide range of people with varying needs. The open space provision within the Greater Leicester area is shown in the map below.



- 2.2** Currently the city council has an adopted standard of 2.88ha of publicly accessible open space per 1000 population. This standard has been used to calculate the amount of open space in different areas of the city. We have asked a series of questions which are designed to examine whether this standard is still appropriate and whether there are any lower quality open spaces that could provide houses of jobs. We are also asking how far people are willing to travel to open spaces, and whether there are any that need improving. Information on the amount of open space (using our current standard), the quality of existing open spaces, and their accessibility is shown in parts 6 to 9 of the study.
- 2.3** An Open Space, Sport and Recreation study was completed for Leicester City Council in 2007 by consultants. The study complied with the central government planning policy guidance (Planning Policy Guidance 17) for open spaces that was adopted at the time. The 2007 study included public consultation, GIS mapping and quality audits before recommendations were made on quantity and accessibility standards. The study was used as part of the Core Strategy evidence base and the Core Strategy was adopted in 2010. A Green Space Strategy was also produced after the study was adopted in October 2009, as was a Green Space Supplementary Planning Document, adopted in 2011.
- 2.4** The City Council has embarked on the production of a new Local Plan. Issues and options consultation took place from the 15 October 2014 – 31 January 2015. The new Local Plan will have policies which protect open spaces, along with a proposals map which show the areas to be protected. To be in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework Paragraph 73 and the National Planning Policy Guidance, planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.
- 2.5** It is important to update the 2007 open space, sport recreation study as new population data for the city has been released from the 2011 census. The amount of available open space and its quality may also have changed since the 2007 study was completed. This 2017 study was undertaken by City Council Officers in line with the NPPF and PPG, and the methodology is explained below.
- 2.6** **This study does not attempt to protect open space or determine whether it should be developed on in the future. This is determined through the Local Plan process.**

### **3. Open Space Consultation Questions.**

**Question 1: Which spaces do you use most often? e.g. Victoria Park**

**Question 2: How often do you use open spaces?**

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Less than monthly

**Question 3: What type of open space do you use most often?**

- Children and young people's space
- Park and garden
- Informal space
- Outdoor Sports
- Natural open space
- Allotments
- Civic Space

**Question 4: Are there any areas of the city you consider need more open spaces?**

**Question 4a: Which Areas?**

**Question 4b: If so which type?**

- Children and young people's space
- Park and garden
- Informal space
- Outdoor Sports
- Natural open space
- Allotments
- Civic Space

**Question 5: How far do you normally travel to open spaces? (please specify: 1-2 mins, 5 mins walk; 10 mins walk; 15 mins walk)**

- Children and young people's space
- Park and garden
- Informal space
- Outdoor Sports
- Natural open space
- Allotments
- Civic Space

**Question 6: which type of transport do you usually use to get to open spaces?  
Walk, Car, Bicycle, Bus.**

- Children and young people's space
- Park and garden
- Informal space
- Outdoor Sports
- Natural open space
- Allotments
- Civic Space

**Question 7: Do you think larger natural open spaces should have an accessibility distance of 1000m?**

**Question 8: Are there any underused or poor quality open spaces that you consider could be used to provide houses or jobs? Which ones?**

**Question 9: Are there any open spaces that you consider could be significantly improved? If so, which ones and how?**

**The current adopted standards for the city are 2.88ha of publically accessible open space per 1000 population. This has given the sufficient and undersupply figures shown in Appendix 1. This is currently split into six types.**

**As a comparison, Abbey Park is 40ha, Victoria Park is 28ha and Bede Park is approximately 2ha.**

**Question 10: Do you think this standard is: a. too high? b. too low? c. about right?**

**Question 11: Civic Space/public realm is also important. Should the city council be securing money to enhance civic space/public realm?**

**Question 12: How much civic space/public realm should be required compared to the other types of open space?**

**3.1** We have identified sites in the city which could potentially accommodate new development. A list of these sites is included in the online Leicester Local Plan consultation in the potential developemnt sites section. This list includes sites that have previously been submitted to the Council by land owners and developers. A number of these sites are current allocations from the 2006 Local Plan which we would consider re-allocating in the new local plan.

**3.2** The City Council has not taken a formal view on any of these sites, and their inclusion on this list does not necessarily mean the council considers them as suitable sites for development.

## **Types of open space.**

### **3.3 Parks and gardens**

Public parks and gardens take on many forms, but for the purposes of this document their main functions include:

- Informal recreation and outdoor sport;
- Play space of many kinds (including for sport and children's play);
- Providing attractive walks to work, community facilities and other destinations;
- Offering landscape and amenity features;
- Providing areas for 'events'; and
- Providing habitats for wildlife.

### **3.4 Informal open space**

These areas include spaces open to free and spontaneous use by the public, but are not laid out or managed for a specific function such as a park, public playing field or recreation ground, nor would it be managed as a natural or semi-natural habitat. It is:

- Unlikely to be physically demarcated by walls or fences;
- Predominately laid out to mown grass;
- Unlikely to have identifiable entrance points (unlike parks);
- Unlikely to have planted flower beds or other formal planting layouts, although they may have tree and shrub planting;
- Generally no other recreational facilities and fixtures (such as play equipment or ball courts), although there may be items such as litter bins and benches;
- Examples might include both small and larger informal grassed areas in housing estates and general recreation spaces. They can serve a variety of functions dependent on their size, shape, location and topography.

### **3.5 Equipped children and young people's space**

This includes areas which are adopted or in the process of being adopted by LCC including:

- Equipped playgrounds for children;
  - Skate parks and areas for wheeled sports;
  - Designated space for youth and young adults e.g. multi use activity area; and
  - Ball courts that are suitable for casual use for football or basketball (better equipped spaces will be classed as Outdoor Sports Facilities).
- The boundaries are defined by fence lines, grass mounds or tree lines that show the boundary of the space. If none of these are present then a nominal distance around the space used to implement dog control orders are used as the boundary.

### **3.6 Outdoor sports space**

This includes:

- Leicester City Council managed marked out pitches for a variety of sports including football, cricket, hockey, rugby, bowls etc.;
- Equipment associated with the sports pitches (such as goalposts and nets) may not be provided at all times of year;
- These spaces will often include changing facilities and drainage; and
- Ball courts for football or basketball would be suitable to be booked out for formal training by clubs. (Less well equipped spaces will be classed as Equipped Children's and Young People's Space);
- Outdoor Gyms;
- Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report.

### **3.7 Natural open space**

These areas:

- Provide a variety of habitats including meadows, river floodplain, woodland and copse, all of which are managed primarily for wildlife value;
- These areas are reasonably accessible providing open access for the public use and enjoyment; and
- These areas can also make important contributions to local Biodiversity targets, outlined in City and County Biodiversity Action Plans.

### **3.8 Allotments**

The Allotment Act of 1922 defines the term 'allotment garden' as: "An allotment not exceeding 40 poles in extent which is wholly or mainly cultivated by the occupier for the production of vegetable or fruit crops for consumption by himself or his family."

The Allotments Act of 1925 gives protection to land acquired specifically for use as allotments, so called Statutory Allotment Sites, by the requirement for the need for the approval of the Secretary of State in event of sale or disposal. Some allotment sites may not specifically have been acquired for this purpose. Such allotment sites are known as "temporary" (even if they have been in use for decades) and are not protected by the 1925 legislation.

Allotment areas often provide taps for water and sometimes communal buildings and toilets.

### **3.9 Cemeteries**

Churchyards and cemeteries often associated with places of worship.

### **3.10 Civic Space/Public Realm**

Provide a setting for civic buildings (e.g. Town Hall) and/or provide opportunities for open air markets, demonstrations and civic events (e.g. Town Hall Square and Jubilee Square).

### **3.11 Private recreational space**

Voluntary and privately run sports clubs and spaces. These areas do not require an Order to close the space, unlike public open space. E.g. Community Football/Hockey Clubs and the Botanic Gardens.

#### **4. Other Studies**

- 4.1** There are several other studies and evidence base documents that that should be read alongside this study. Green wedges are a policy designation that protects areas of land. The areas of land stretch from the city into the surrounding District and Boroughs and provide areas of separation between settlements. The Green Wedge Review makes recommendations on how well the wedges have performed against four criteria.
- 4.2** The Playing Pitch Strategy looks at the provision and quality of playing pitches within the city. It also considers where new pitch provision could be located. It considers all public and private sports pitches within the city, the supply and demand and will include cross boundary working with neighbouring districts. It considers large scale sports and leisure facilities (Leicester Tigers Rugby Club, Leicester City Football Club etc.). Private sports facilities are not considered as part of this OSSR study. Playing pitches on Education land (e.g. school playing fields/ University facilities) are also not considered as part of this OSSR study, but are considered in the Playing Pitch Strategy.
- 4.3** Information on Local Nature Reserves , Local Wildlife Sites, and proposed Local Nature Reserves and proposed Local Wildlife Sites are available on the City Council's website and the Biodiversity Action Plan. The Biodiversity Action Plan is regularly updated and the Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites are monitored.
- 4.4** The Council's Allotment Strategy (2015) noted that demand outstrips current provision, and an increase in housing numbers and population may affect this. The strategy also noted that there is a variance in demand across the city and by site some of which relates to site security and condition; work on improving these sites has commenced and is on-going.

## **5. Methodology**

### **Quantity**

- 5.1** The 2007 GIS mapping was audited to check typology and boundaries of open spaces. The 2007 mapping was first undertaken by consultants, using a 0.1ha site area as a minimum for the 2007 study. The open spaces were categorised according to the typologies above. A refresh of this exercise was undertaken using 2013 aerial photography, ordinance survey mapping, site visits, discussions with City Council open space managers and land ownership searches. Children's and Young Peoples Spaces under 0.1ha were included in the update, to accurately reflect play areas within the city.
- 5.2** Publicly accessible spaces within the Leicester's administrative area are considered through this audit, and they are defined as areas which are owned by the Council, or other public bodies or trusts that would have to go through a process to shut them from public access. Other areas that are owned by the City Council or other public bodies or trusts and would be seen to be accessible to members of the public and maintained for open space, sport or recreation purposes, are also included. There are relatively few open spaces that are privately owned with public access within the Leicester administrative area, apart from areas having access from public footpaths. There are a significant number of privately run or owned sports pitches within the city and these will be considered within the Playing Pitch Strategy. The definition used to identify each typology is shown above.

### **Primary and Secondary Typologies**

- 5.3** Where there are two typologies on one space, the space has been categorised according to its primary typology (e.g. Parks and Gardens). Secondary typologies are noted for each open space. If there are permanent uses within a Park (e.g. outdoor sports), these are classed as a primary typology within a park, they are mapped as Outdoor Sports Facilities, and their area calculated. This area is then removed from the area of the Parks and Gardens, to avoid double counting.
- 5.4** This mapping allows areas to be calculated for each area, for each typology. Where a piece of open space crosses an area boundary, the open space was split between each area. The areas can then be compared to the updated population for each ward to give an undersupply or sufficient supply for each type of open space for each ward. The City Council's currently adopted open space standards of a total of 2.88ha per 1000 population, which were used in the 2007 study, are also used for this update.

## Current Area standards

Parks and Gardens:	0.5 ha per 1,000 population
Informal Open Space:	0.5 ha per 1,000 population
Equipped Children and Young People's Space:	0.08 ha per 1,000 population
Outdoor Sports Space:	1.0 ha per 1,000 population
Natural Open Space:	0.5 ha per 1,000 population
Allotments:	0.3 ha per 1,000 population

**5.5** This gives an overall open space area standard of 2.88 ha per 1,000 population. These standards have been applied to planning applications since the adoption of the Green Space SPD in 2011. This has resulted in open spaces and play areas being secured in numerous planning applications. Off-site contributions for enhancements to the quality of nearby open spaces have been secured where it was not possible to provide open space on site, or the ward was not deficient in quantity of open space. Commuted sums for the maintenance of open spaces have been secured where the Council has agreed to adopt the open space. The sums cover the maintenance of the open space for a period of 20 years.

**5.6** The parks have been classified into the City Park, District Parks and Local Parks

### City Park

- Abbey Park

### District parks

- Beaumont Park
- Braunstone Park
- Evington Park
- Hamilton Park
- Humberstone Park
- Knighton Park
- Spinney Hill Park
- Victoria Park
- Western Park

All other parks are classed as local parks.

**Quality**

5.6 Quality Audits based upon the Green Flag methodology are undertaken by the City Council’s Standards and Development Service for Parks and Gardens, Amenity Spaces and Allotments. This information is displayed for each area along with priorities for spending in that area. This is based upon the assessments giving quality scores for the open spaces, along with current open space and planning priorities. Assessments of quality have also been undertaken for Children’s and Young Peoples Spaces, and options for enhancement outlined.

5.7 Natural Open Space quality assessments are undertaken every year by Nature Conservation specialists within the council. Local Wildlife Site quality assessments are carried out every year, but are often on land owned and managed by the City Council so will also be assessed under the Green Flag methodology. Quality assessment for playing pitches and sports on parks pitches will be carried out together with the playing pitch strategy which sits alongside this assessment.

**Accessibility**

5.8 The accessibility standards below were recommended in the 2007 study, as a result of public consultation. Officers have applied these standards when commenting on planning applications.

District and City Parks:	1,000m
Local Parks:	300m
Informal open space:	100m
Equipped Children and Young Peoples Space: Pre Teen:	300m
Outdoor Sports Space:	3,000m
Natural Open Space:	300m
Allotments:	1,000m

5.9 However larger Natural Open Spaces such as Aylestone Meadows, Castle Hill Country Park and Watermead Park serve a larger area, so it is suggested an accessibility distance of 1000m is used.

## 6. City Wide Quantity

6.1 An overall city wide analysis of the quantity of open space available is shown below. The accessibility of open spaces has also been shown by type of open space, at a city wide scale. The city has then been split into a total of six areas. These are the Inner Area, North East, South East, South, West and North West. The areas have been chosen based on the type of development in that area, and using arterial routes as boundaries. The boundaries are shown below. The quantity and quality of open space in each of the areas are then described.

### Quantity

6.1 Overall the City of Leicester has 1,102 hectares of open space. The total amount of open space required due to the population of Leicester is 948 hectares, using the current standard of 2.88 ha per 1,000 people. Therefore there is currently more open space (154 ha) than is required by the standard.

TOTALS BY TYPE OF OPEN SPACE	Total Existing Quantity (Publicly Accessible) ha	Required Quantity (ha)	Sufficient/ Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	342.66	164.63	178.02
Informal Open Space	180.43	164.63	15.80
Children and Young People's Space	22.79	26.34	-3.55
Outdoor Sports Facilities	140.12	329.27	-189.15
Natural Open Space	324.29	164.63	159.66
Allotments	91.76	98.78	-7.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1102.05</b>	<b>948.29</b>	<b>153.75</b>

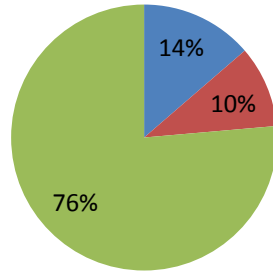
The City Council also hold an allotment outside the administrative area, in Braunstone Town, of 2.7ha.

**Note:** The figure for Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report. **The areas in this report do not include areas that lie outside the administrative area of Leicester (to the north and south), but are shown on the maps.**

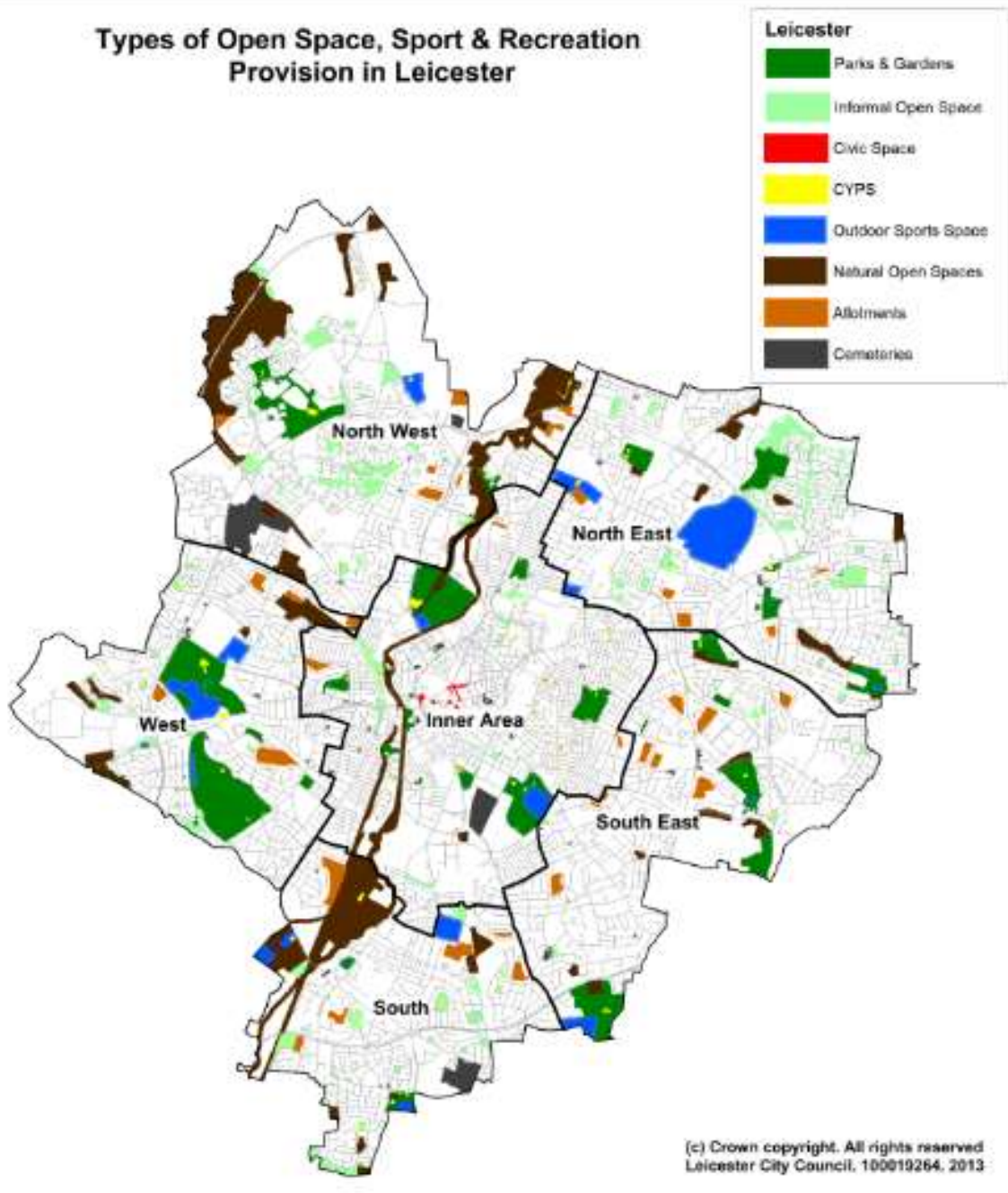
6.2 However open space is not evenly distributed across the city. Some areas have more and others less. The quantity of open space in each area is shown later in the document. The age profile of the City is also shown below. This is important as it shows the level of demand for children and young people's space.

## City Wide by Age

■ Age 0-9 ■ Age 10-17 ■ Age 18+



## Types of Open Space, Sport & Recreation Provision in Leicester



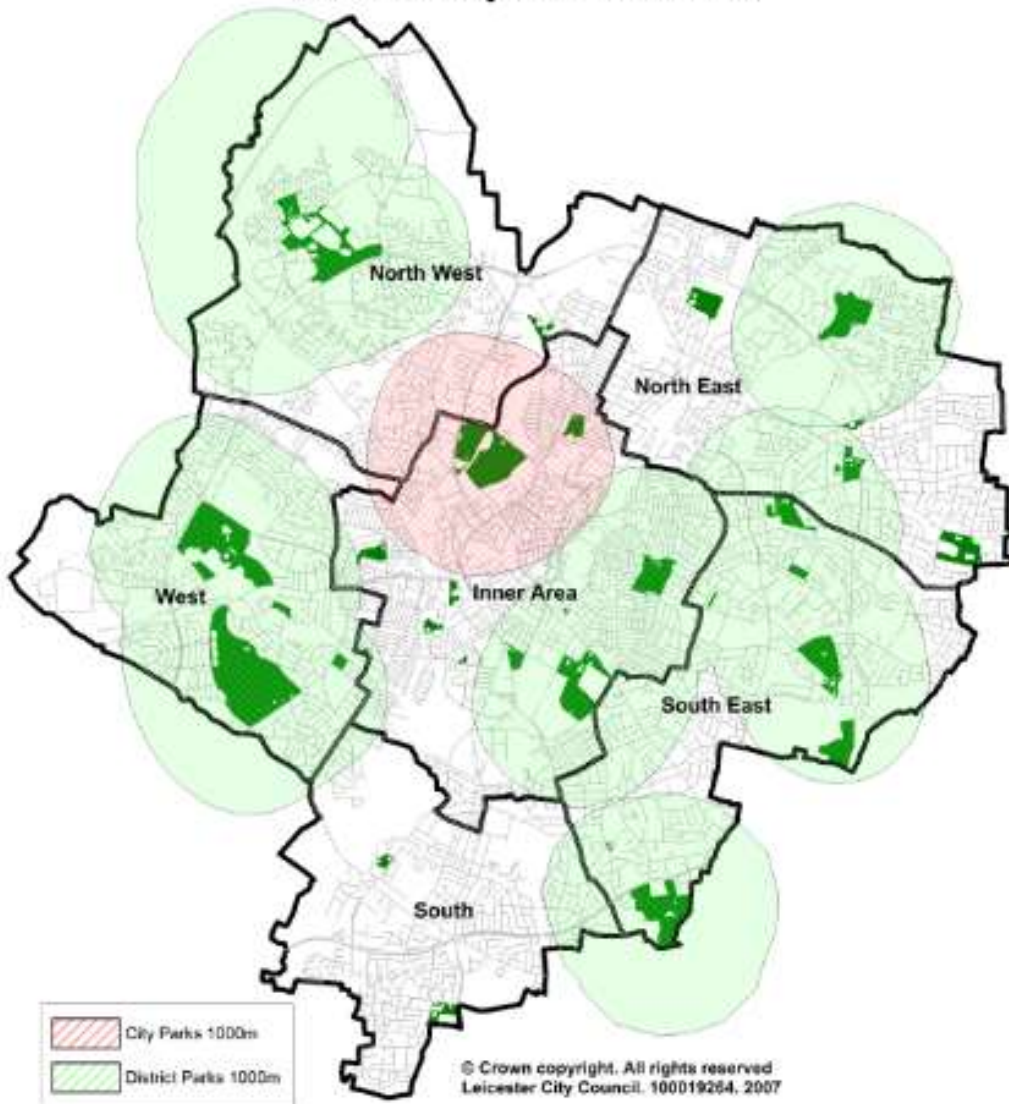
## **7. City Wide Quality**

7.1 The quality of open spaces within Leicester is good, with seven parks having Green Flag status. There have also been a series of outdoor gyms installed recently, helping to keep park users healthy and active. However there are some open spaces that would benefit from enhancements, such as improved play facilities, better promotion or removing graffiti. The Parks and Green Spaces service has a programme of works to improve certain spaces, as funding becomes available.

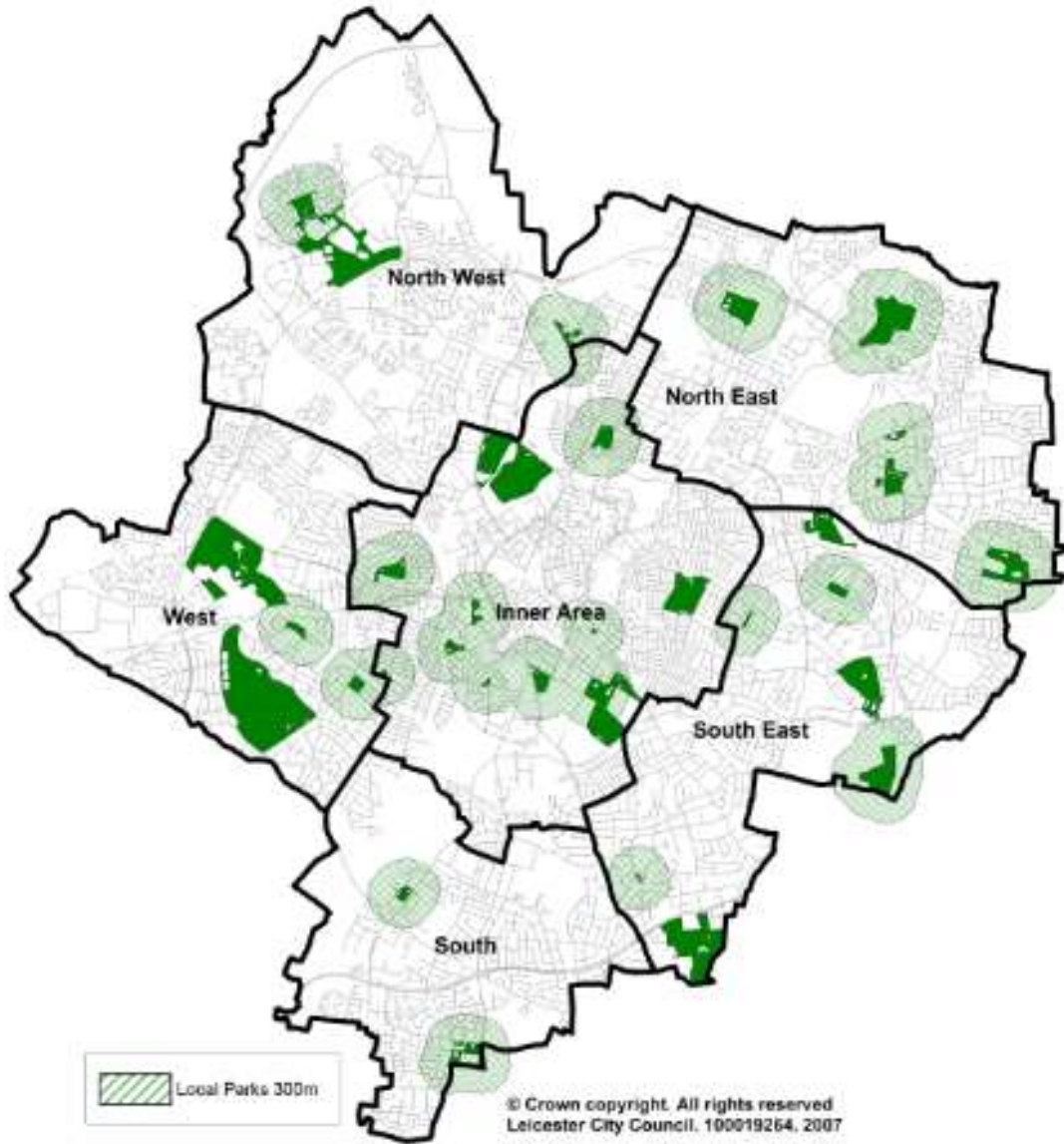
## **8. City Wide Access**

8.1 It is important to consider how accessible open spaces are. The following maps show the accessibility area surrounding the open spaces. This is shown for each type of open space, using the current accessibility standards. Some areas of the city have better access to open spaces, whereas in other areas of the city, it is more difficult to access open space.

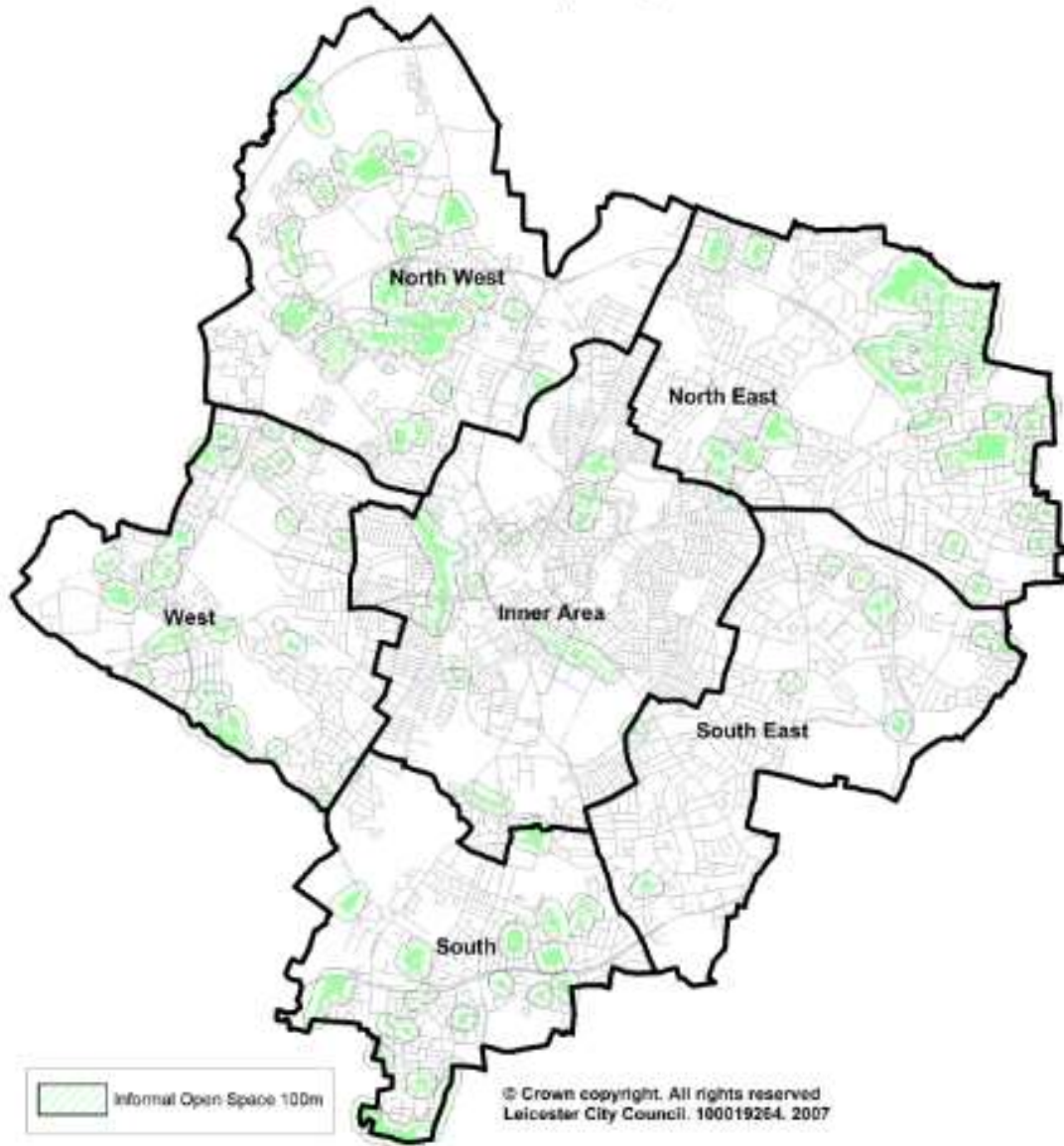
### Access to City and District Parks



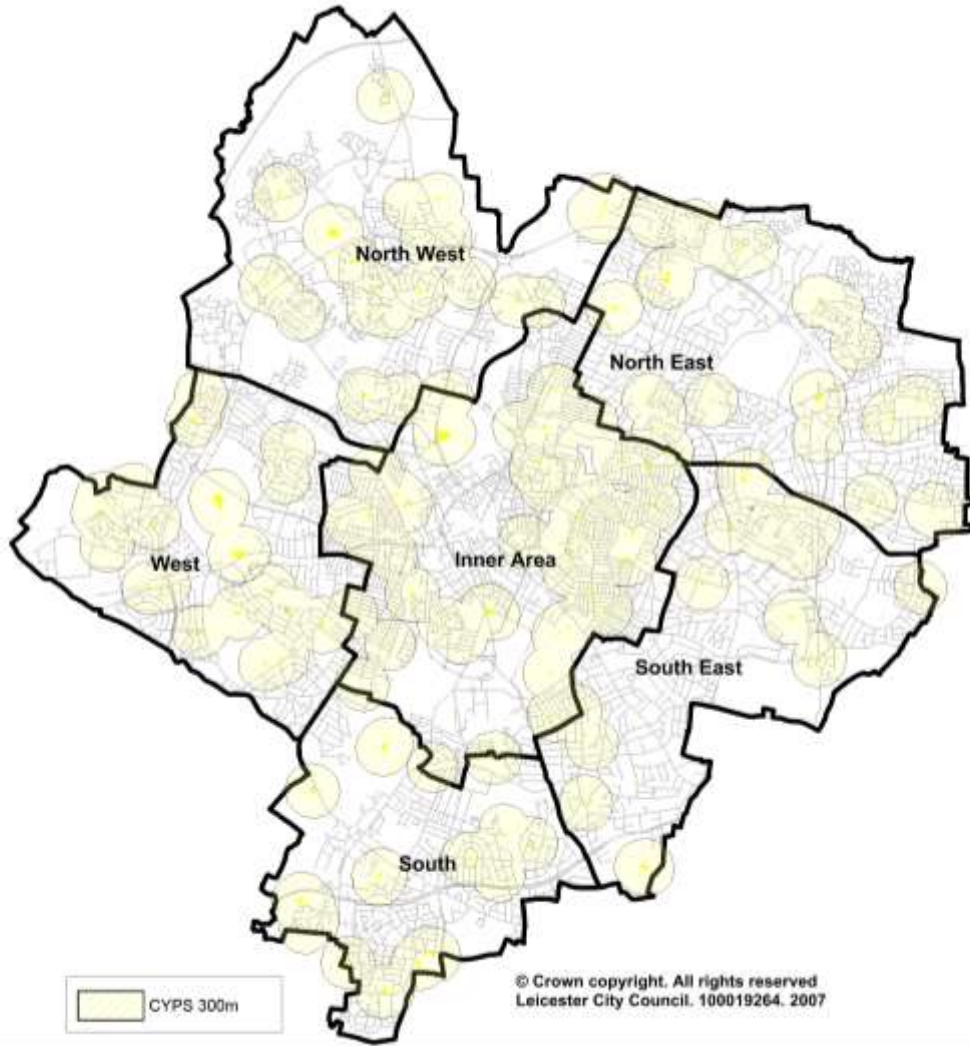
### Access to Local Parks



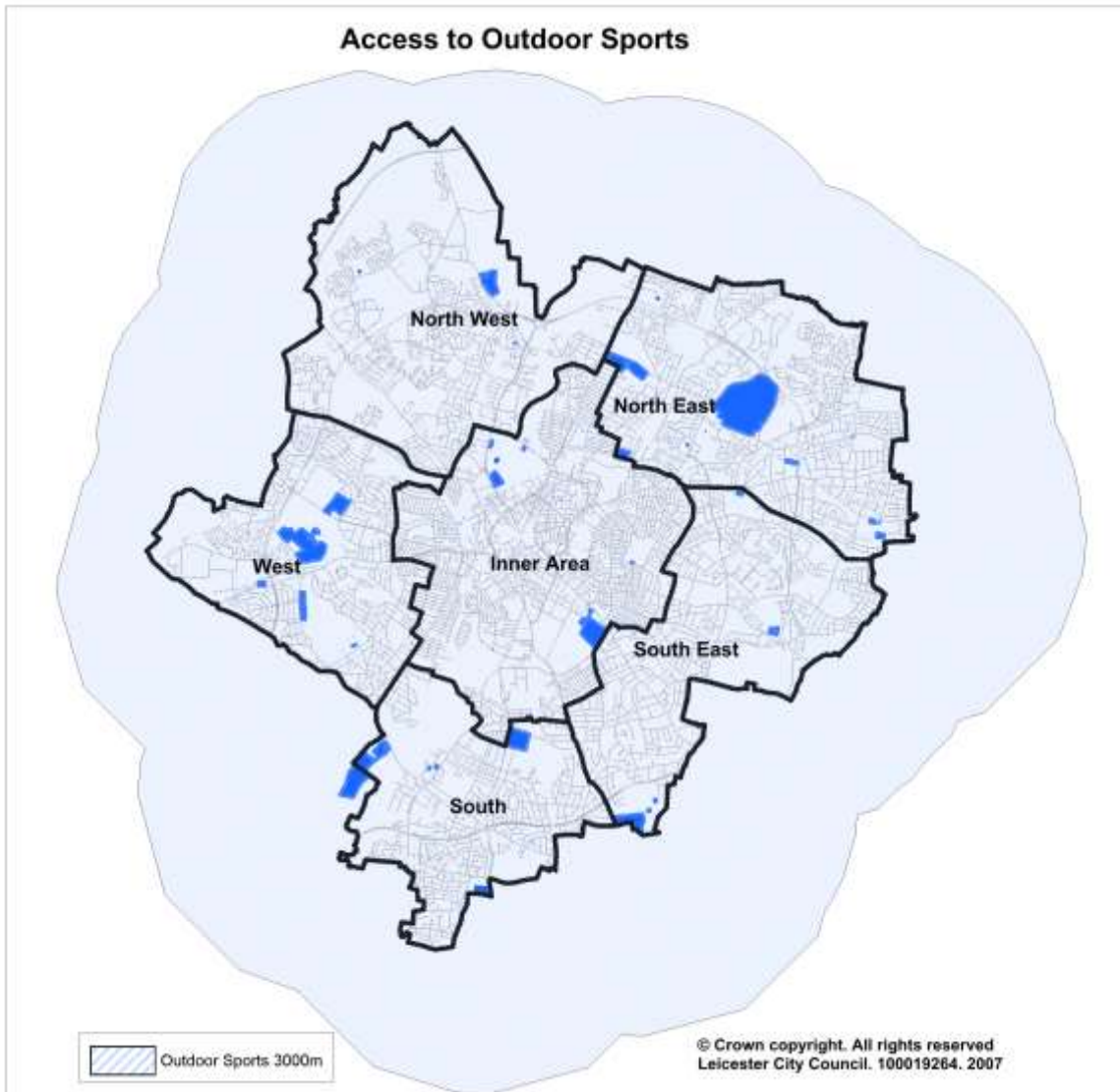
### Access to Informal Open Space

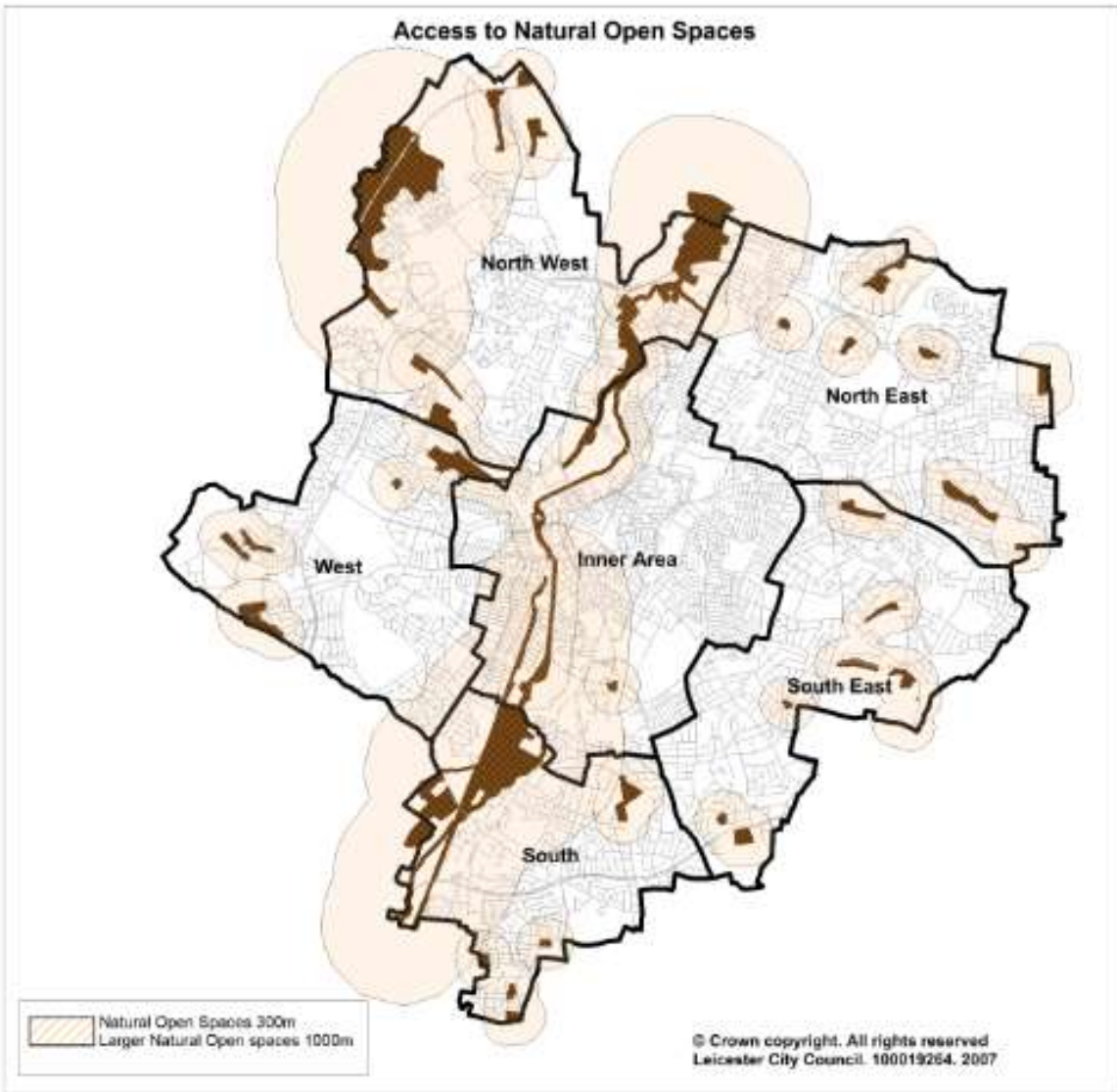


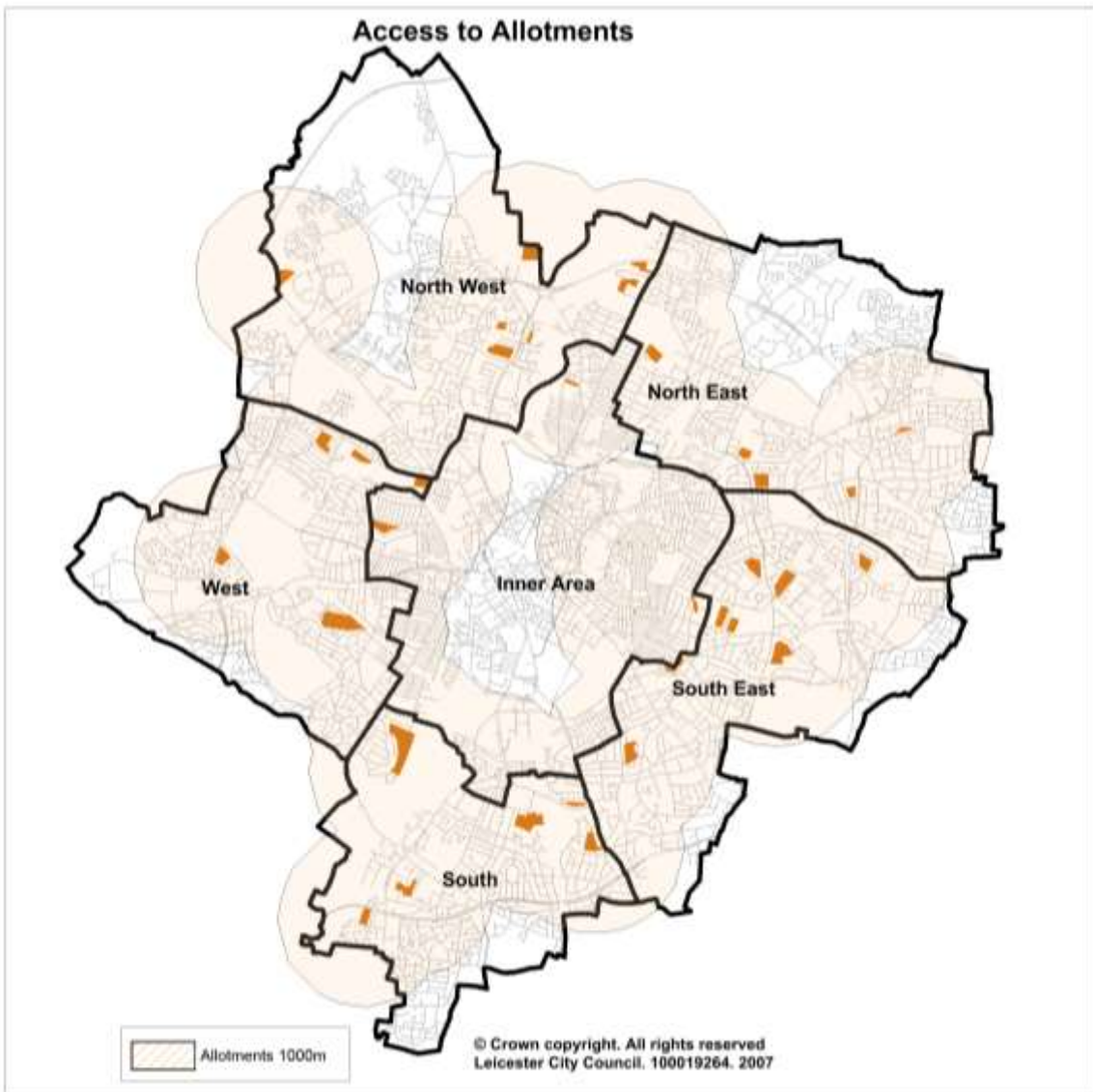
### Access to Children & Young People's Provision



### Access to Outdoor Sports







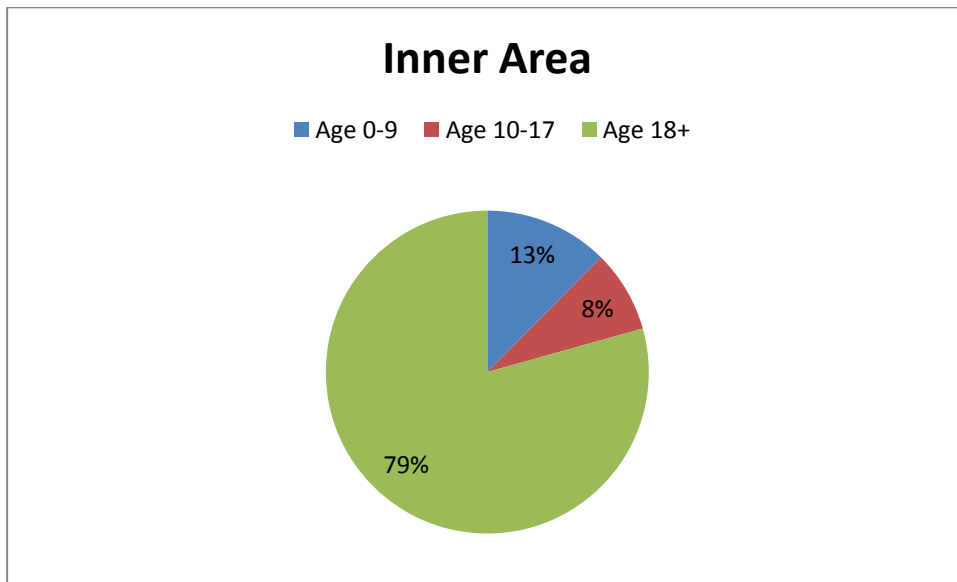
## 9. Area by Area Analysis

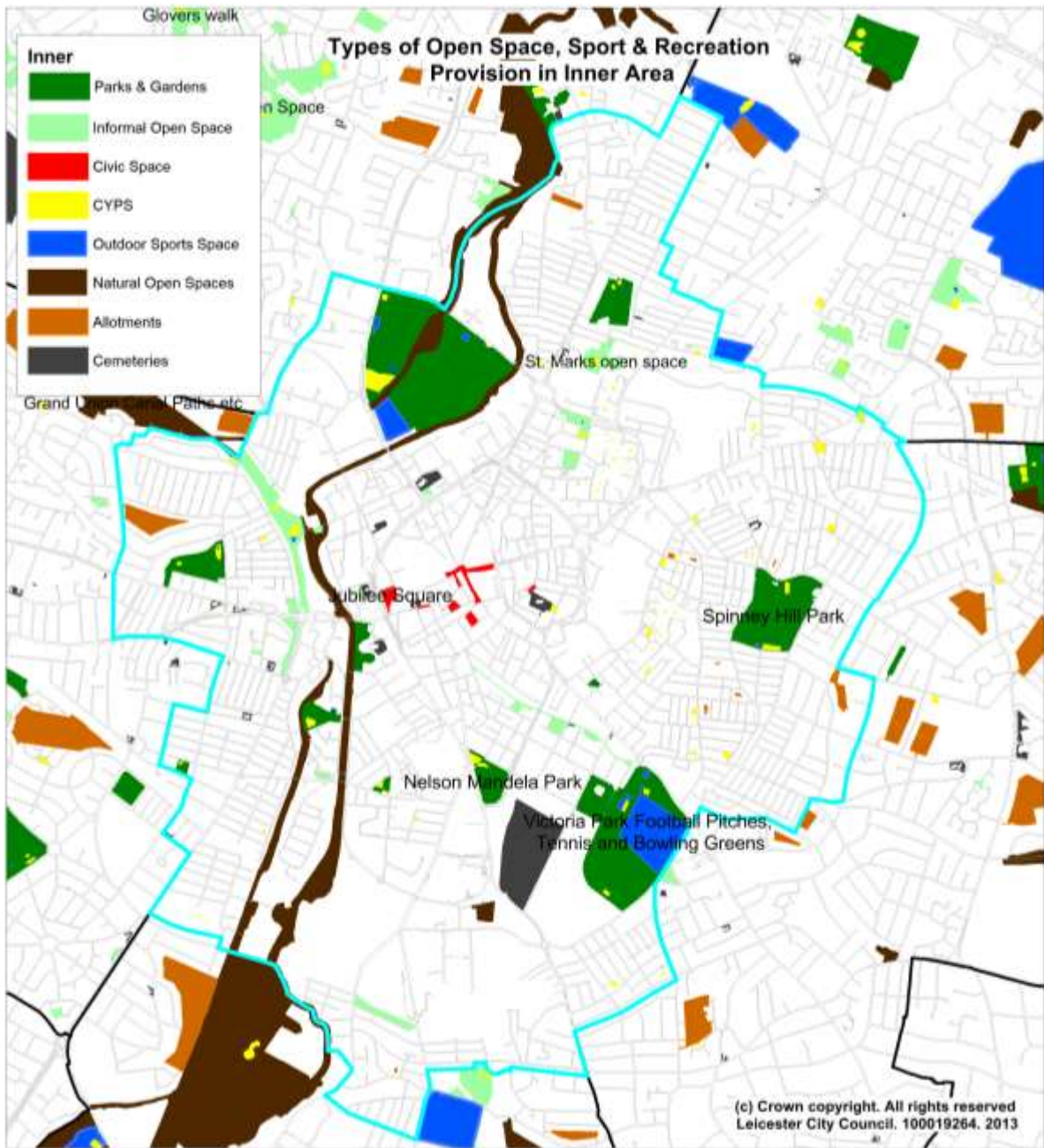
### Inner Area

9.1 The inner area as an undersupply of open space, due to the high density of development and population numbers. This is common with many cities. Outdoor sports facilities are in greatest undersupply, due to the large area they require. There is a sufficient supply of Parks and Gardens, and a high level of people aged over 18 compared to the city average.

Inner Area	Total Existing Quantity (Publicly Accessible) ha	Required Quantity (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency	
Area Totals	151.31	337.31	-186.00	
TYPE	Existing Provision (ha)	Required Provision (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	83.06	58.56	24.50	Sufficient supply
Informal Open Space	15.16	58.56	-43.40	Under supply
Children and Young People's Space	6.49	9.37	-2.88	Under supply
Outdoor Sports Space	12.91	117.12	-104.21	Under supply
Natural Open Space	29.10	58.56	-29.46	Under supply
Allotments	4.59	35.14	-30.55	Under supply

**Note:** The figure for Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report.





Inner Area Quality	
TYPE	
9.2 Parks & Gardens	<p>There are a number of other parks and garden sites within the area including the De Montfort Hall gardens, Victoria Park, Cossington Street Recreation Ground, Westcotes Gardens and Fosse Recreation Ground.</p> <p>Abbey Park, Spinney Hill Park and Castle Gardens have all been awarded Green Flag award status. These three parks have all had investment into new equipment such as play equipment and furniture. Spinney Hill Park in particular has been extensively regenerated as a result of being awarded funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund as part of the 'Parks for People' project.</p> <p>Bede Park has a wide range of facilities and further improvements have recently been implemented with a new designated barbeque area, an outdoor gym, and a parkour training area within the new extension to the park. Nelson Mandela Park and Thirlmere Gardens have been refurbished in part to include Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA). Anti-social behaviour has been identified as a problem on these three sites and needs to be addressed.</p> <p>Prebend Gardens is an attractive site with a variety of landscape features including a pond/wetland area, annual bedding and grassed areas. There is sufficient signage throughout and there is a high level of community involvement, particularly with the presence of a 'Friends of Prebend Gardens' group. The audit highlighted the need to re-surface the gravel paths and prevent street drinking within the site.</p>
9.3 Informal Open Space	<p>St Mary's Triangle, Kamloops Crescent, Overton Road and Rally Park form the majority of the informal open space within the inner area.</p> <p>Kamloops Crescent is an open and accessible site which provides seating areas, a good quality play area and street lighting. Overton Road open space is an open aspect site with play area facilities present. The marketing of these sites needs to be improved to increase the use of the area and increase community involvement.</p> <p>The Rally Park is one of the main sites of informal open space within the area. Improvements have been made to the site including the installation of a new play area, a refurbished BMX track and installation of CCTV within some areas of the site.</p> <p>The informal open spaces present along New Walk are attractive looking and compliment the historic promenade. There is a need to reduce litter within these open spaces</p>

	and also graffiti is a recurrent problem.
9.4 Children & Young People's space	<p>There are a large number of parks within the inner area. Cossington Street Recreation Ground, Dane Street, Maidstone Road Play Area, Nelson Mandela Park, Rally Park Cycle Trail, Spinney Hill Park Mixed Use Games Area, St Matthews Play Area, St Peters Play Area, and Victoria Park (near to the pavilion café) are all in good condition with limited need for any enhancement. Both Atlas Ball Court and Medway School/Nursery are currently in a reasonable condition but have limited scope for enhancement.</p> <p>Other parks are in good condition but could be enhanced with the addition of other equipment. Victoria Park (new), Uppingham Road Gardens (Sparrow Park) and Overton Road for example are all in good condition but could be improved by the addition of an agility or balancing trail. A climbing unit would benefit the site at Vulcan Road/Upper Charnwood Street; Fosse Recreation Ground could be enhanced with a slide or swing unit; Bridge Road Gardens could be improved by the addition of a seesaw and Onslow Street Play Area has the potential for a Sensory Community Garden to be added.</p> <p>A number of play facilities are currently in need of a major refurbishment: Cedar Road Ball Court, Hazel Street, Martin Street and Spinney Hill Park (Junior). Vernon Street Melbourne Street also requires major works due to issues with anti-social behaviour and vandalism. Although not currently in a poor condition, following inspections it is estimated that: Abbey Grounds (Main), Clarendon Park, Orchardson Avenue Ball Court, St Marks Open Space and St Pauls Pocket Park will all need refurbishing in the next five years.</p> <p>There is opportunity to enhance both Abbey Grounds Pet Corner and Westcotes Gardens through extending the play areas. Further equipment is required at Thirlmere Street and St Marks Estate as the range is currently limited. More specific pieces of equipment have been identified for the following sites: St Georges (Swings), Spinney Hill Park Infant Area (Replacement sand pit), Wesley Hall (swings, roundabout, and seesaw), Taylor Road (Agility Trail), Stephenson Drive (balancing trail), Ash Street (climbing unit) and Bede Park (roundabout, agility trail, seesaw).</p> <p>Works have also been identified at Fosse Recreation Ground/Ball Court as new floodlights, fencing and line markings are required. Garfield Street would benefit significantly from access improvements and fencing works are required at Overton Road Ball Court. Rally Park has the potential for an added junior play area and due to anti-social behaviour; Cedar Road play area requires new equipment</p>

	for 4-8 year olds. The future of Manor House neighbourhood centre is being considered
9.5 Outdoor Sports facilities	The quality of Outdoors Sports Facilities within the area is being addressed through the 'Playing Pitch Strategy'.
9.6 Natural Greenspace	The quality of Natural Open is contained within the Biodiversity Action Plan.
9.7 Allotments	<p>Holden Street, Sandhurst Road, New Park Road, Keddleston Road and Cecil Road allotments all fall within the inner area. They are generally in good condition, well managed and provide a range of facilities.</p> <p>Path resurfacing and boundary improvements are however required at the Sandhurst Road, Keddleston Road and Cecil Road sites. New Park Road allotments also require removal of Japanese knotweed and clearance of encroaching vegetation at the site boundary.</p>

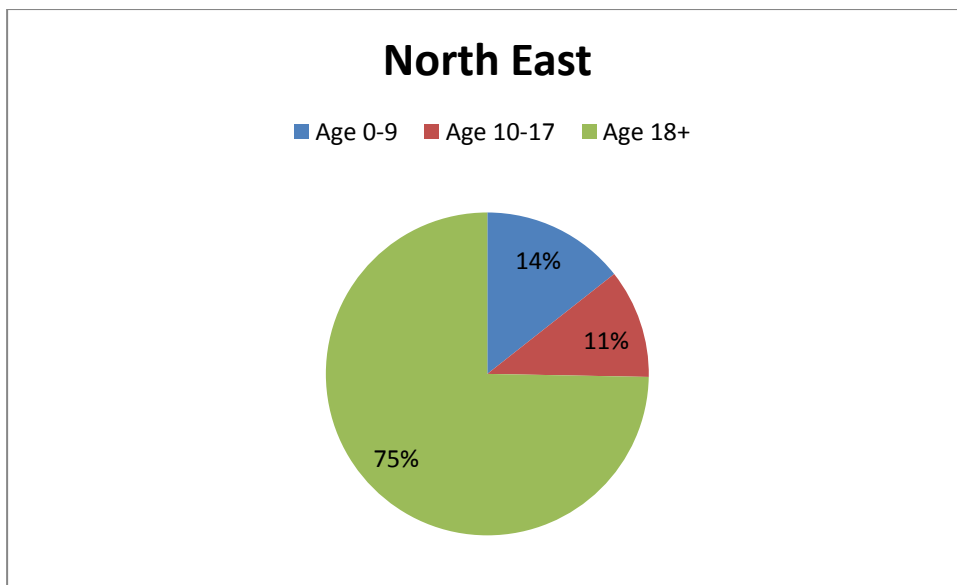


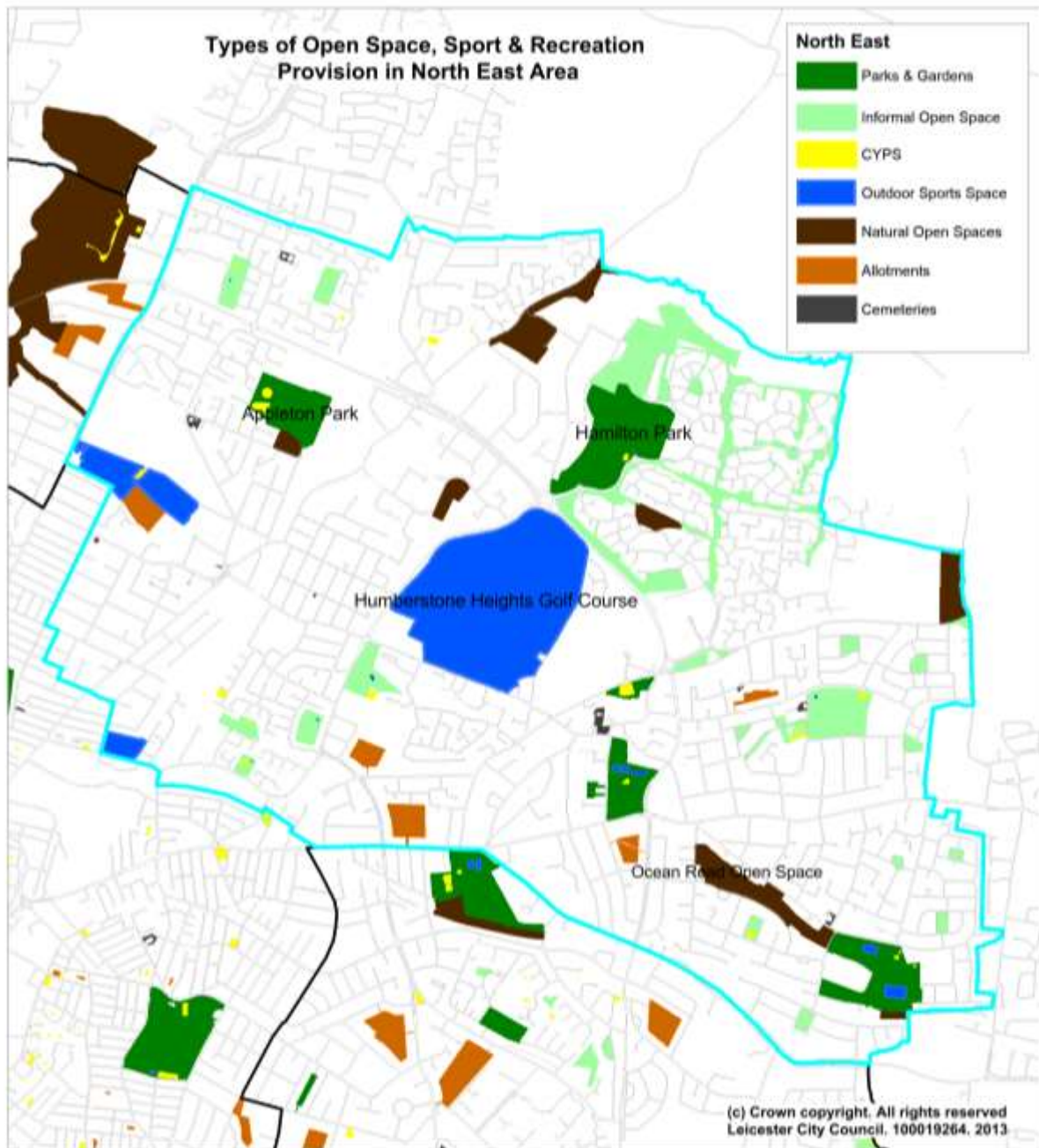
## North East Area

9.8 There is a sufficient supply of open space in the north east area overall, and of parks and gardens and outdoor sports facilities. There is an undersupply of allotments and CYPS. There is a higher number of aged 10-17 than the city average.

North East	Total Existing Quantity (Publicly Accessible) ha	Required Quantity (ha)	Sufficient/ Deficiency	
Area Totals	198.97	132.78	66.19	
TYPE	Existing Provision (ha)	Required Provision (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	42.20	23.05	19.15	Sufficient supply
Informal Open Space	57.11	23.05	34.06	Sufficient supply
Children and Young People's Space	3.03	3.69	-0.66	Under Supply
Outdoor Sports Space	67.73	46.10	21.63	Sufficient supply
Natural Open Space	19.92	23.05	-3.13	Under Supply
Allotments	8.98	13.83	-4.85	Under Supply

**Note:** The figure for Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report.





North East Quality	
TYPE	
9.9 Parks and Gardens	<p>Appleton Park is a large open site with a mix of formal greenspace and natural areas. The site contains a variety of new play equipment and a large area of managed grassland. The audit highlighted the need to re-instate a number of paths throughout the site and increase community involvement throughout the site.</p> <p>Hamilton Park is a large site and is predominately an area of natural greenspace. The site contains a variety of features including an adventure playground, a small lake and areas of managed grassland. The audit highlighted improvements that have been made to the park including the re-surfacing of tarmac paths and installation of new site gates and barriers.</p> <p>Monks Rest Gardens is a well-used community park with attractive areas including feature tree specimens. The audit highlighted the need to redevelop the play area and to use investment in some areas of the park to increase the standards. The bowling greens present on site are of high quality.</p> <p>Willowbrook Park is a fairly open site containing a number of facilities including a recently developed play area, good quality football pitches and a pavilion. Areas of woodland and dense tree planting provide good wildlife habitats and increase the conservation value of the site. The site would benefit from improved marketing and provision of educational information to increase the number of visitors to the site.</p>
9.10 Informal Open Space	<p>Netherhall Road open space is an open aspect site containing both natural and formal areas used for amenity purposes and sports pitches. The site has been improved with the installation of an outdoor gym and also new play equipment. Craven Recreation ground is an open aspect site with new outdoor gym equipment, football pitch goals and areas of managed meadows. Towers Hospital is an area of informal greenspace with a variety of landscape features. These include shrub borders, a woodland area, the old Towers Hospital building and a play area. These three sites could all be improved with increased signage at the entrances.</p> <p>Trevino Drive is a predominantly grassed area with a play area. Many features within the site require increased maintenance to improve the standard of the site. There is a problem with graffiti throughout the site,</p>

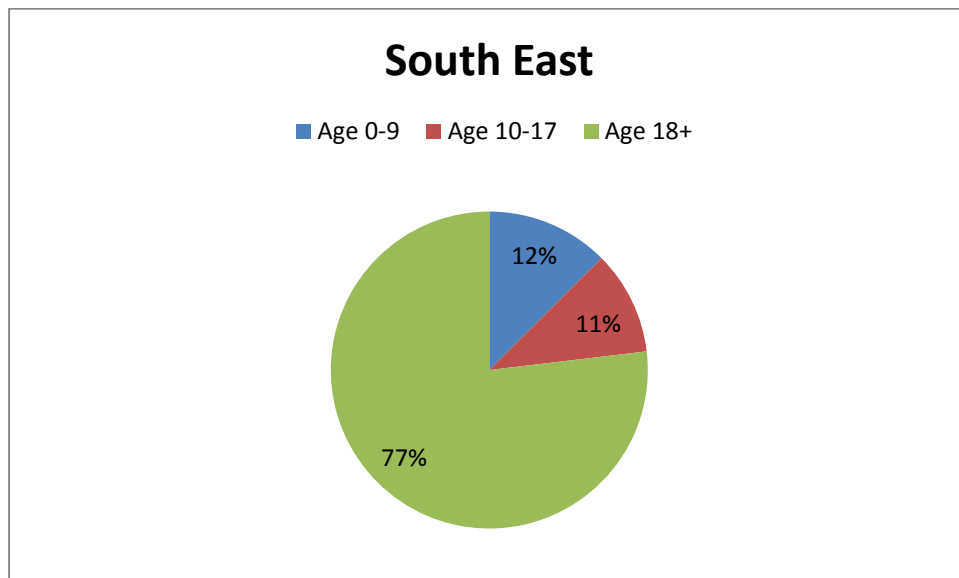
	<p>which requires attention.</p> <p>Morton walk open space is an open aspect sites with play area facilities present on site. Marketing of the site could be improved to increase community involvement.</p>
<p>9.11 Children &amp; Young People Space</p>	<p>Appleton Multi-Use Area, Rushey Fields Recreation Ground, Hamilton Mixed Use Area, Monks Rest Gardens, Armdale Drive Ball Court/Cycle Trail and Langford Way are some of a number of parks within the north east area to be considered to be in good condition. Despite issues with vandalism and graffiti Barnes Close is in a reasonable condition, as is Kirminton Gardens, despite the need for a new boundary fence. Speedwell Drive has been assessed and appears to be in reasonable condition currently, but due to heavy use, could require refurbishment in approximately 5 years' time. Specific equipment has been identified as being beneficial to some of the parks in good condition but with limited activities, Christopher Drive and Netherhall Road Junior Area could benefit from agility or balance trails, Attingham Close from a number of spring based rockers and Jesse Jackson Park would benefit from the addition of a roundabout, seesaw and multi-play unit.</p> <p>There are however, also a number of sites which are in need of refurbishment, these sites include: Stanier Drive, Butler Close Play Area, Hastings Road, Cedarwood Close, Humberstone Recreation Ground and Netherhall Road. It has been noted that any refurbishment of the infant area of Appleton Park should focus on increased sand play equipment. Willowbrook park also requires refurbishment, further fencing is required at the infant area whereas a climbing/slide unit is required at the junior area. The Willowbrook Bal Court would benefit from a repair of the currently out of use floodlights.</p>
<p>9.12 Allotments</p>	<p>The four main allotments sites within the north east area are: Netherhall Road, Uppingham Road, Colchester Road and Wycombe Road which provide a range of facilities such as storage huts at Uppingham Road and toilet blocks at Wycombe Road.</p> <p>Encroaching vegetation is an issue on the paths at Netherhall Road and at the boundary fence of Wycombe Road. Colchester Road is also particularly overgrown and requires clearing in order to open up existing plots.</p>

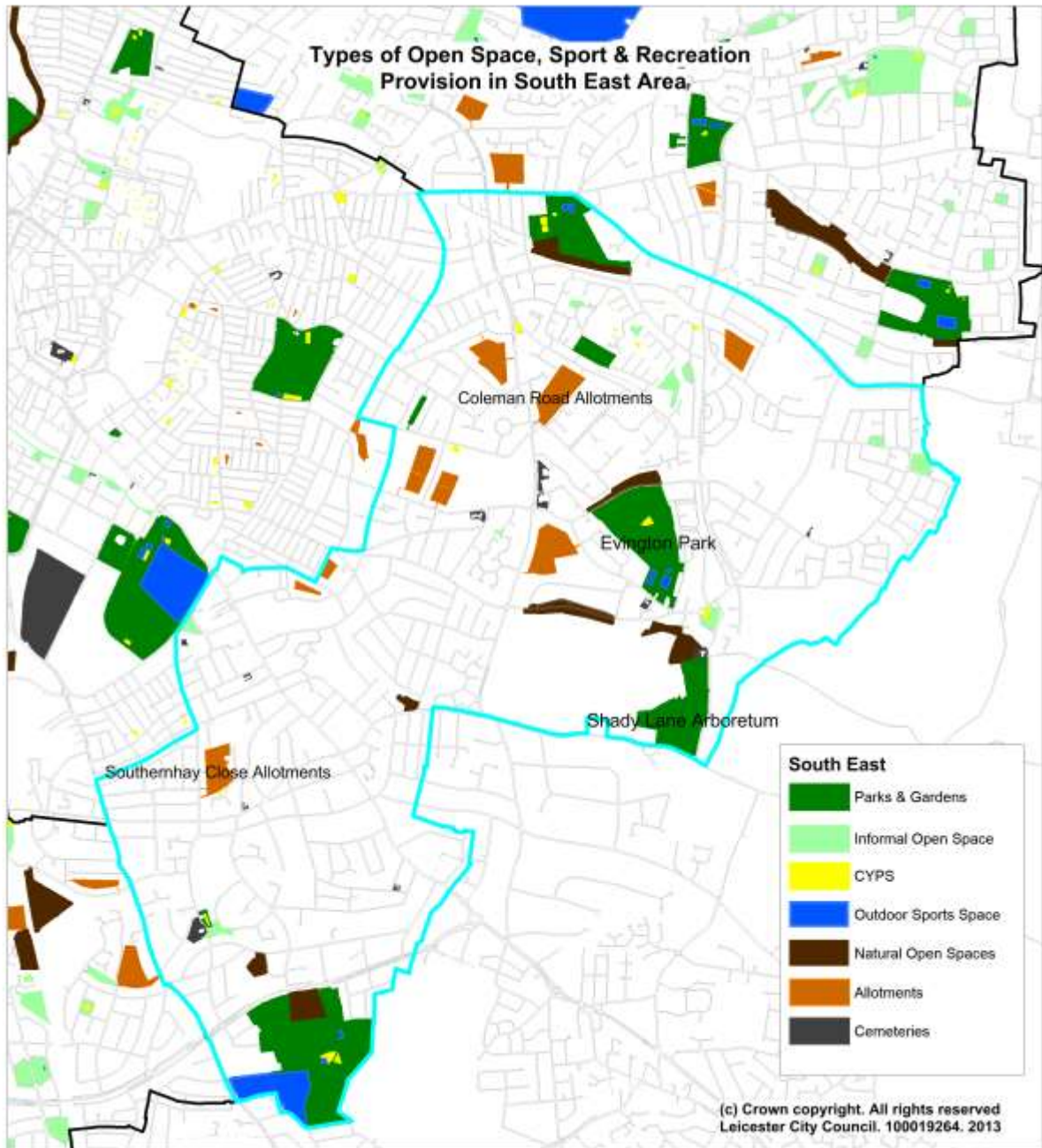
## South East Area

9.13 There is a tight supply of open space in the south east area, with an undersupply of outdoor sports space and a good supply of parks and gardens and allotments. The age profile is similar to the city average.

South East	Total Existing Quantity (Publicly Accessible) ha	Required Quantity (ha)	Sufficient/ Deficiency	
<b>Area Totals</b>	115.63	110.40	<b>5.24</b>	
TYPE	Existing Provision (ha)	Required Provision (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	64.79	19.17	45.62	Sufficient Supply
Informal Open Space	5.47	19.17	-13.70	Under supply
Children and Young People's Space	2.10	3.07	-0.97	Under supply
Outdoor Sports Space	8.29	38.33	-30.04	Under supply
Natural Open Space	12.55	19.17	-6.62	Under supply
Allotments	22.43	11.50	10.93	Sufficient Supply

**Note:** The figure for Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report.





South East Quality	
TYPE	
9.14 Parks and Gardens	<p>Knighton Park is a large, attractive district park and currently holds Green Flag award status. The park contains a variety of high quality features including two play areas, outdoor gym equipment, a pitch and putt course, tennis courts, sports fields, nature areas and ornamental gardens. The park is well sign-posted throughout and has a high level of community involvement. Chapel Lane Gardens is a small attractive site located within pleasant surroundings. The site contains a variety of shrubs and plants, a play area and picnic seating areas. The audit highlighted the need for horticultural maintenance to improve the hedges and raised borders.</p> <p>Gwendolen Gardens is a long narrow site providing a walk-through greenspace with number of benches and attractive borders. The entrances to the site require opening up to improve the welcoming feel of the site. Frequent anti-social behaviour is a problem within the site (high level of street drinking, graffiti and fly tipping).</p> <p>Evington Park is a high quality site providing a range of facilities which include bowling greens, tennis courts, sports pitches and play areas. The site has active community involvement with a bowls club and a 'Friends of Evington Park' group. Ongoing implementation of the management plan for all sites should be a priority to maintain the high standards of the district parks.</p> <p>Lily Marriot Gardens is a smaller attractive site which contains two play areas. The park audit highlighted the need to clear the pond area and to increase the management of the naturalised areas</p>
9.15 Informal Open Space	<p>Sedgebrook Road Open Space, Kingscliffe Crescent open space and Evington Recreation Ground are the main informal greenspaces within the ward. Evington Recreation is a good quality site containing a variety of features including a war memorial and play area. The site has a variety of land features including annual bedding, hedge borders and wild flower areas. There is an active 'Friends of Group' on the site and therefore good community involvement. St. Mary's triangle is an open grassed area with a variety of trees and ornamental shrubs.</p> <p>Both Kingscliffe Crescent and Sedgebrook Open Space are small sites and could benefit from increased</p>

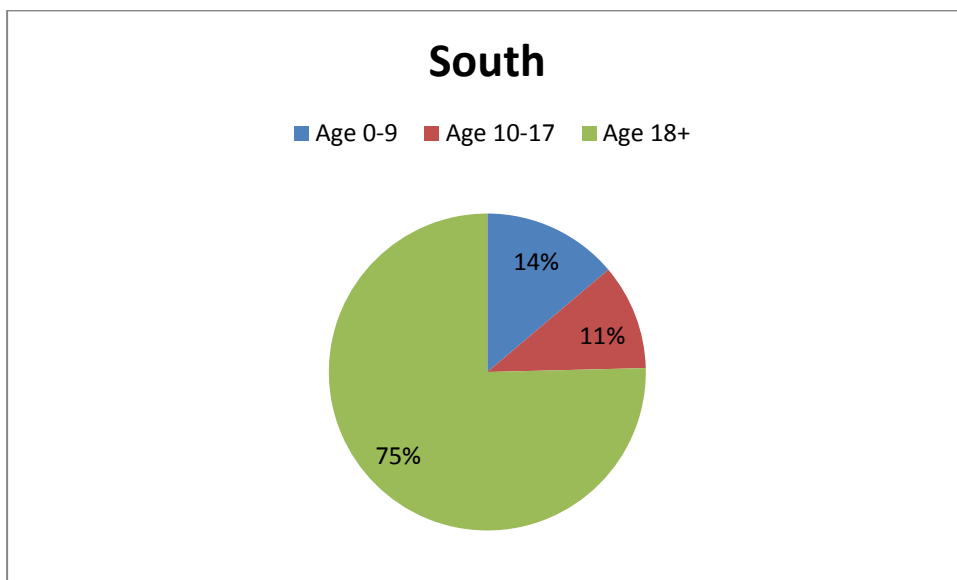
	marketing of the site to improve the level of community involvement.
9.16 Children & Young People Space	<p>Evington Park, Humberstone Park, Church Lane, Knighton Park and Southernhay Avenue are all sites within the south east area which are currently in good condition. Both Southernhay Avenue and Evington Park could benefit from the addition of a balancing or agility trail, whereas Knighton Park could benefit from a new standing seesaw. There is space available to add further play equipment at the Church Lane site; however it is unlikely to be necessary or appropriate to do so. Turner Walk Ball Court is also in good condition and could be further improved following consultation with local residents.</p> <p>A number of sites in the area have been assessed as being in a poor location. Balderstone Close, Goodwood Amenity Area, Higgs Close and Rockingham Close. There is little room for improvements on these sites, although an agility trail could be beneficial to the Goodwood site.</p> <p>Sites such as Evington Village Green, Lily Marriot Gardens and Thomasson Road could be improved with the addition of an agility or balance trail. Downing Drive and Crown Hills could both benefit from a new multi-play unit and despite currently being in a reasonable condition Mcvicker Close will need refurbishment in approximately five years. Coleman Road requires enhancement following a road traffic accident in 2015 leaving it with limited equipment on the site.</p>
9.17 Allotments	<p>A number of allotments are located within the south east area.</p> <p>The Wakerley Road allotments site is a well-managed area which provides good quality facilities to the tenants. Gwendolen Road, Ethel Road, Walshe Road and Blackenhall Road allotments require improvements to the path infrastructure. Broad Avenue and Kimberley Road require boundary fence improvements. Stoughton Drive North allotment has good site security but requires maintenance to the encroaching vegetation hanging over from neighbouring dwellings. The audit of Broad Avenue allotments also highlighted the need to improve the site's water points.</p>

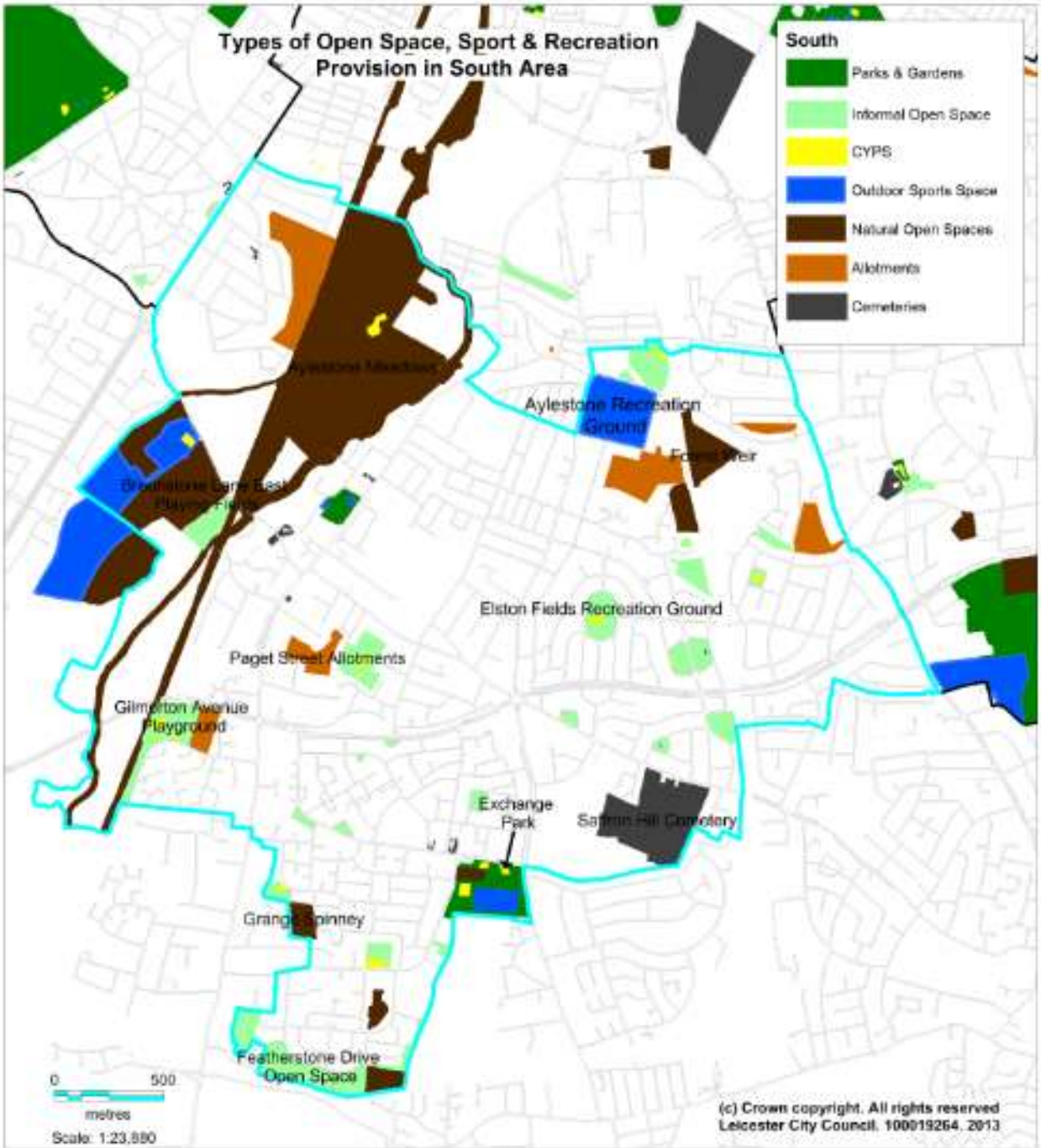
## South Area

9.18 There is a sufficient supply of open space in the south area. There is an undersupply of outdoor sports facilities and a high level of natural open space. The age profile is similar to the city average.

South	Total Existing Quantity (Publicly Accessible) ha	Required Quantity (ha)	Sufficient/ Deficiency	
<b>Area Totals</b>	175.39	108.81	<b>66.58</b>	
TYPE	Existing Provision (ha)	Required Provision (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	5.62	18.89	-13.27	Under supply
Informal Open Space	34.85	18.89	15.96	Sufficient Supply
Children and Young People's Space	2.95	3.02	-0.07	Under supply
Outdoor Sports Space	18.42	37.78	-19.36	Under supply
Natural Open Space	90.35	18.89	71.46	Sufficient Supply
Allotments	23.20	11.33	11.86	Sufficient Supply

**Note:** The figure for Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report.





South Quality	
TYPE	
9.19 Parks and Gardens	Aylestone Hall Gardens is the only park and garden within the area and has been awarded Green Flag status. The gardens are attractive with the presence of colourful foliage and annual bedding. During the audit it was noted that the site was a welcoming place and maintained very good community involvement.
9.20 Informal Open Space	<p>There are a number of informal open spaces within the southern area. Montrose Road Open Space is an open site with sustainable arboriculture and woodland management. Attention is needed to improve parts of the play area including replacement swings and bark material. Gilmorton Open Space contains a variety of play equipment including a ball court which is of good quality and well maintained. The site is easy to access and contains a lot of seating areas. Both sites have issues of littering within the play areas.</p> <p>Elston Recreation ground and Meadow Gardens are both open sites containing a play area which is the main site feature. Attention should be made to the litter and graffiti problems within these sites which were identified during a park audit.</p> <p>Aylestone Road Recreation Ground north contains seasonal sports pitches, a hard surface ball court and play area. The audit highlighted the need to open up the entrance to the site on Knighton Lane East and to remove self-sets and areas of brambles throughout the site. Similarly Chiltern Green requires a reduction in the number of brambles and roses within the shrub beds to increase visibility.</p> <p>Sturdee Road Recreation Ground is one of the larger sites of informal greenspace in the ward and contains football pitches and play areas with a variety of play equipment. Featherstone Drive open space and Sonning Way open space are large open sites with many naturalised areas. Access to the sites should be improved to ensure that the sites are suitable for wheelchair users.</p>
9.21 Children & Young People Space	<p>Exchange Park Infant area and Gilmorton Avenue (Areas 1 &amp; 2) are currently in a good condition and require limited improvements. Aylestone Playing Fields, Montrose Spinney Infant Area, Neston Gardens and Meadow Gardens are also all currently in good condition but have scope for additional equipment. Meadow Gardens and Neston Gardens could particularly benefit from a balancing trail.</p> <p>A number of the parks including Ambleside Drive, Hillsborough Road Recreation Ground, Gilmorton Avenue</p>

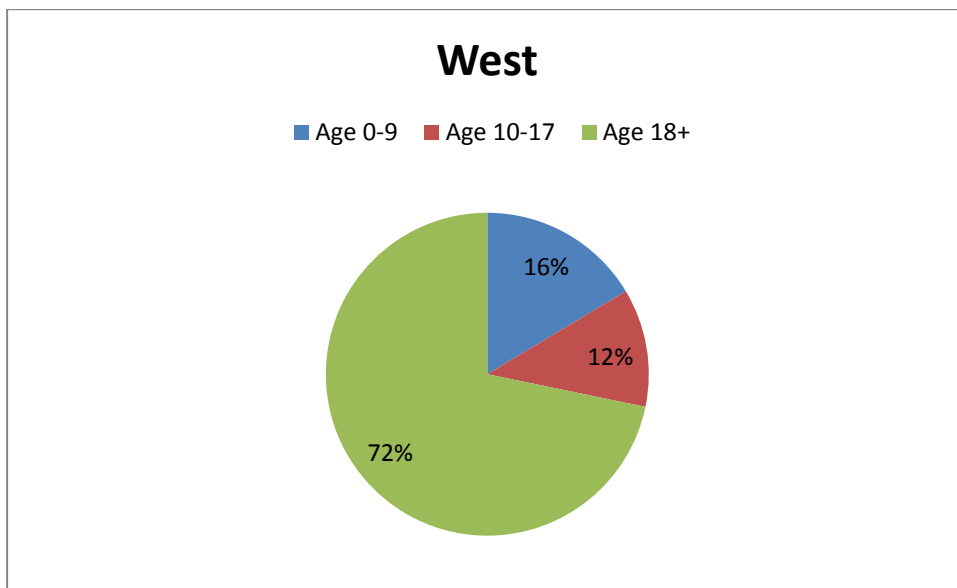
	<p>(Main Area) Elston Fields, Exchange Park (Junior) and Chiltern Green have been identified as potentially requiring new play equipment, agility trails have been specifically identified as being beneficial to Ambleside Drive, Exchange Park Junior, Elston Fields and Chiltern Green. Chiltern Green also has the potential for a balancing trail on site.</p> <p>Aylestone Recreation Ground, Aylestone Play Space, Aylestone Ball Court and Montrose Spinney Junior Area have all been subject to graffiti and/or vandalism. A 2014 refurbishment of Montrose Spinney has been successful in reducing the levels of vandalism on site. The other areas listed above will require major repair and improvement works to bring them into a suitable condition.</p>
9.22 Allotments	<p>There are six allotment sites present in the southern area: Gilmorton, Meredith Road, Welford Road, Sutton Road, Whittier Road and Paget Street allotments. The allotments contain a range of facilities including the society shop at Welford Road and solar panels and wheelchair accessible, compostable toilets at Whittier Road</p> <p>Both of these sites require improvement to the path surfaces within the site and also maintenance to the encroaching vegetation along the fence lines. Recycling of various materials on site is encouraged by both societies. Footpath improvements are required at Welford Road, Sutton Road and Meredith Road allotments, with Meredith Road and Welford Road also in need of maintenance to their boundary fences.</p>

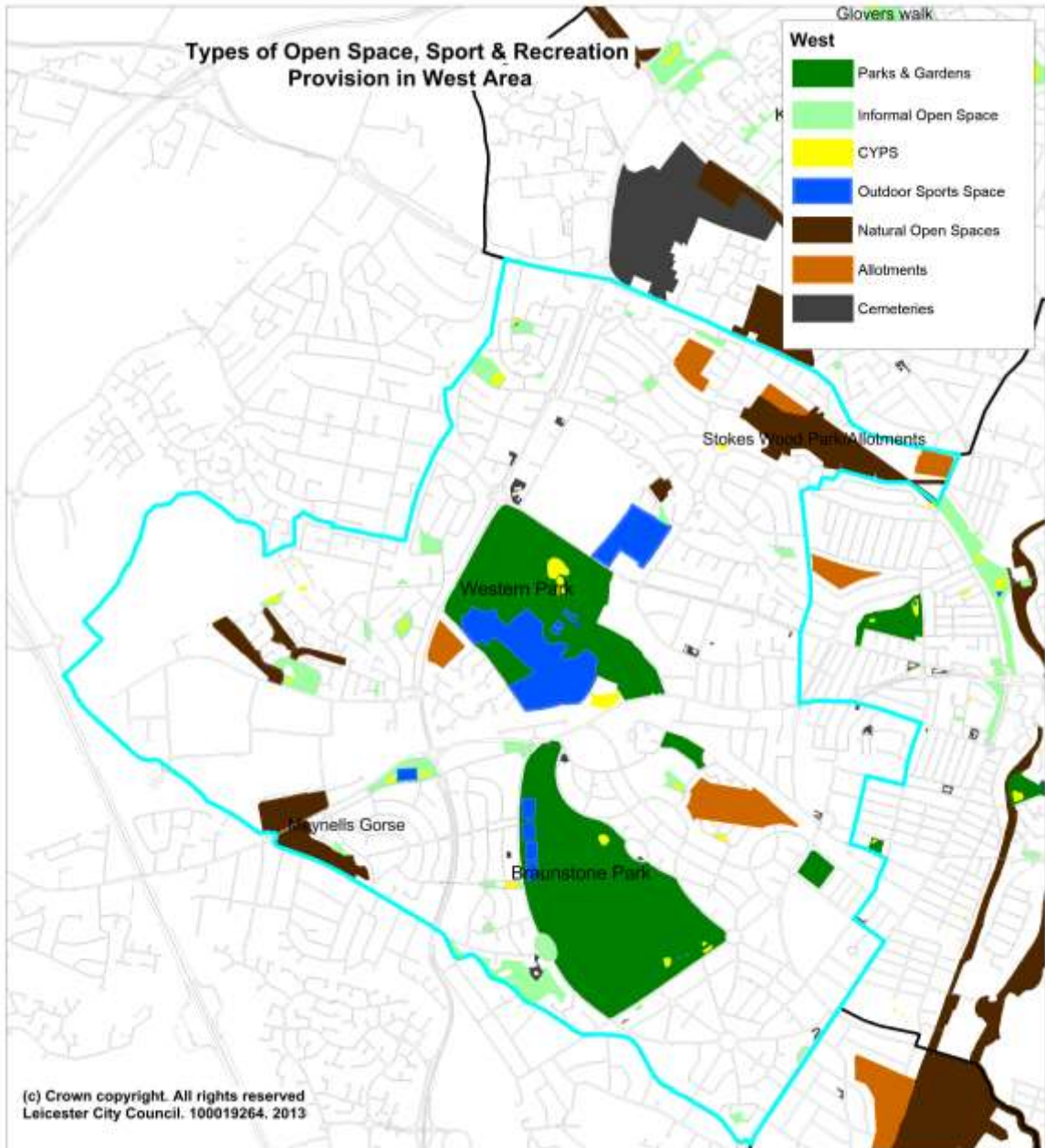
## West Area

9.23 There is a good level of open space in the area, but an undersupply of outdoor sports facilities. There is a high level of parks and gardens in the area and a high level of people aged 0-17 compared to the city average.

West	Total Existing Quantity (Publicly Accessible) ha	Required Quantity (ha)	Sufficient/ Deficiency	
<b>Area Totals</b>	203.07	159.31	<b>43.76</b>	
TYPE	Existing Provision (ha)	Required Provision (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	111.78	27.66	84.13	Sufficient Supply
Informal Open Space	17.55	27.66	-10.11	Under supply
Children and Young People's Space	4.50	4.43	0.07	Sufficient Supply
Outdoor Sports Space	26.91	55.32	-28.41	Under supply
Natural Open Space	24.94	27.66	-2.72	Under supply
Allotments	17.39	16.59	0.79	Sufficient Supply

**Note:** The figure for Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report.





West Area	
TYPE	
9.24 Parks and Gardens	<p>Braunstone Park is a large, attractive, open park and has recently received Green Flag status. This achievement reflects the improvements that have been made to increase the quality of this park. There are a variety of facilities including football pitches, play area, fishing pools and outdoor gym equipment. It was noted in the most recent audit that horticultural maintenance throughout the park is of good quality.</p> <p>Western Park is a good quality park and provides a range of facilities for the local community. These include a variety of play equipment for children of all ages. There is also a variety of sports facilities in the park including tennis courts, bowling greens and a BMX track. Some areas of playing field are maintained as cricket, football and baseball pitches. Areas of woodland and meadow within the park provide pockets of natural features and increase the ecological value of the site.</p> <p>The park audit highlighted the need to increase maintenance of park buildings (remove graffiti) and also to the tennis courts.</p> <p>The park is a well-used site and promotes a 'Friends of Western Park' group.</p> <p>Quality audits highlighted that litter is a consistent problem throughout the park and gardens sites. Both Rancliffe Gardens and Westcotes park have features which make the site feel safe and secure including appropriate provision of facilities and safe equipment. Westcotes Park could be improved with decorative annual bedding borders and maintenance to the tarmac path within the site.</p>
9.25 Informal Open Space	<p>Hockley Farm Road open space has been improved with the installation of new play equipment, however there is still a need to re-surface the paths throughout the site and increase the management of the woodland areas. Litter bins are required on site to reduce litter problems. Church Fields is within an attractive setting with several entrances, although accessibility could be improved for wheel chair users. Batersbee Road open space is one of the larger sites of informal open space in the ward and provides local residents with a football pitch, small play area and a woodland area. Ryder Road open space has recently been improved with the installation of an agility trail and Sharmon Crescent provides a play area for children. Many of the informal greenspaces were noted as having both litter and graffiti problems.</p>

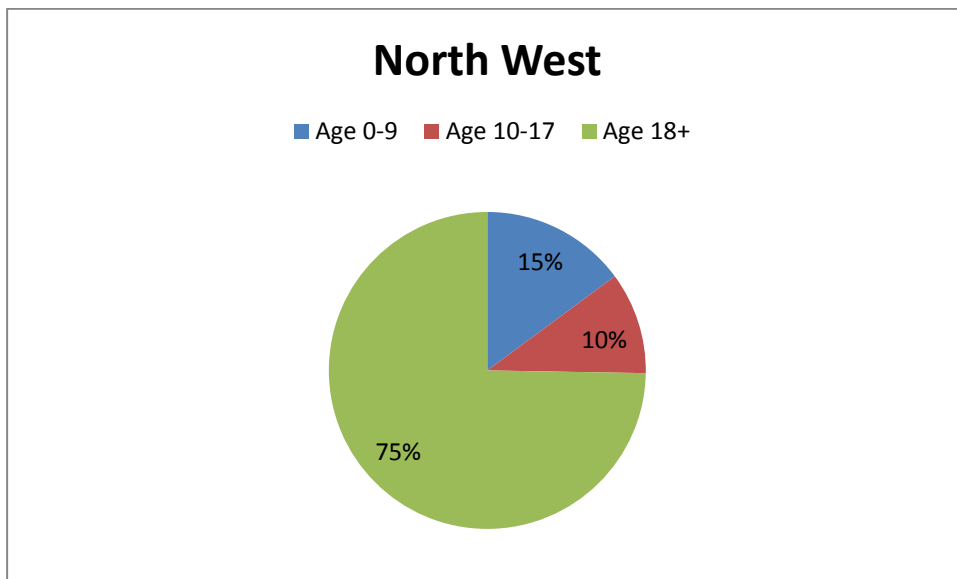
<p>9.26 Children &amp; Young People Space</p>	<p>Pindar Road play area, Dupont Gardens, Ryder Road (large play area), Westcotes Park and Braunstone Park (adjacent to skate park) are currently in good condition with little scope for enhancement. The junior site at Western Park remains in good condition, but has the potential for improvement on the site of the former paddling pool; the junior area of Western Park is in need of a refurbishment of the sand pit. Despite being in good condition the following sites have been identified as potentially benefitting from further play equipment: Ashthorpe Road (multi-play unit and nest swing), Lamem Road (roundabout and sensory play features), Mulberry Avenue play area (roundabout and seesaw) and Rowanberry Avenue (roundabout, seesaw and balancing trail). The play area at Benbow Rise is currently in a reasonable condition but is likely to need refurbishment in the next five years,</p> <p>Sites in the western area which are in need of improvement include the Bronte Close, the Gooding Avenue and Braunstone Avenue sites in Braunstone Park and Sharmon Crescent. These sites have all been identified as requiring new play equipment such as multi play units and agility trails. Hockley Farm Road, Yew Tree Drive and Ryder Road (small play area) also require various new types of play equipment.</p> <p>The ball court at Ryder Road is also in need of refurbishment and enhancement as the fencing is in a poor condition and the play surface needs to be improved alongside better lighting. Battersbee Road play area is currently in a reasonable condition despite recent incidents of vandalism.</p>
<p>9.27 Allotments</p>	<p>Bonney Road, Stokeswood, Rancliffe Crescent and Groby Road are allotment sites present within the area. Stokeswood allotment was noted as a particularly good quality site during the most recent audit. The site is well secured and also provides a variety of facilities for the allotment users. Bonney Road allotments provide the users with good quality facilities including a communal garden, picnic table and a disabled accessible compostable toilet, the site however requires improvements to its path/road infrastructure.</p> <p>Rancliffe Crescent and Groby Road provide communal areas for allotment society groups and recycling and composting facilities; however improvements could be made to the tarmac path surfaces within both sites. Fly tipping problems need to be addressed on site at Rancliffe Crescent.</p>

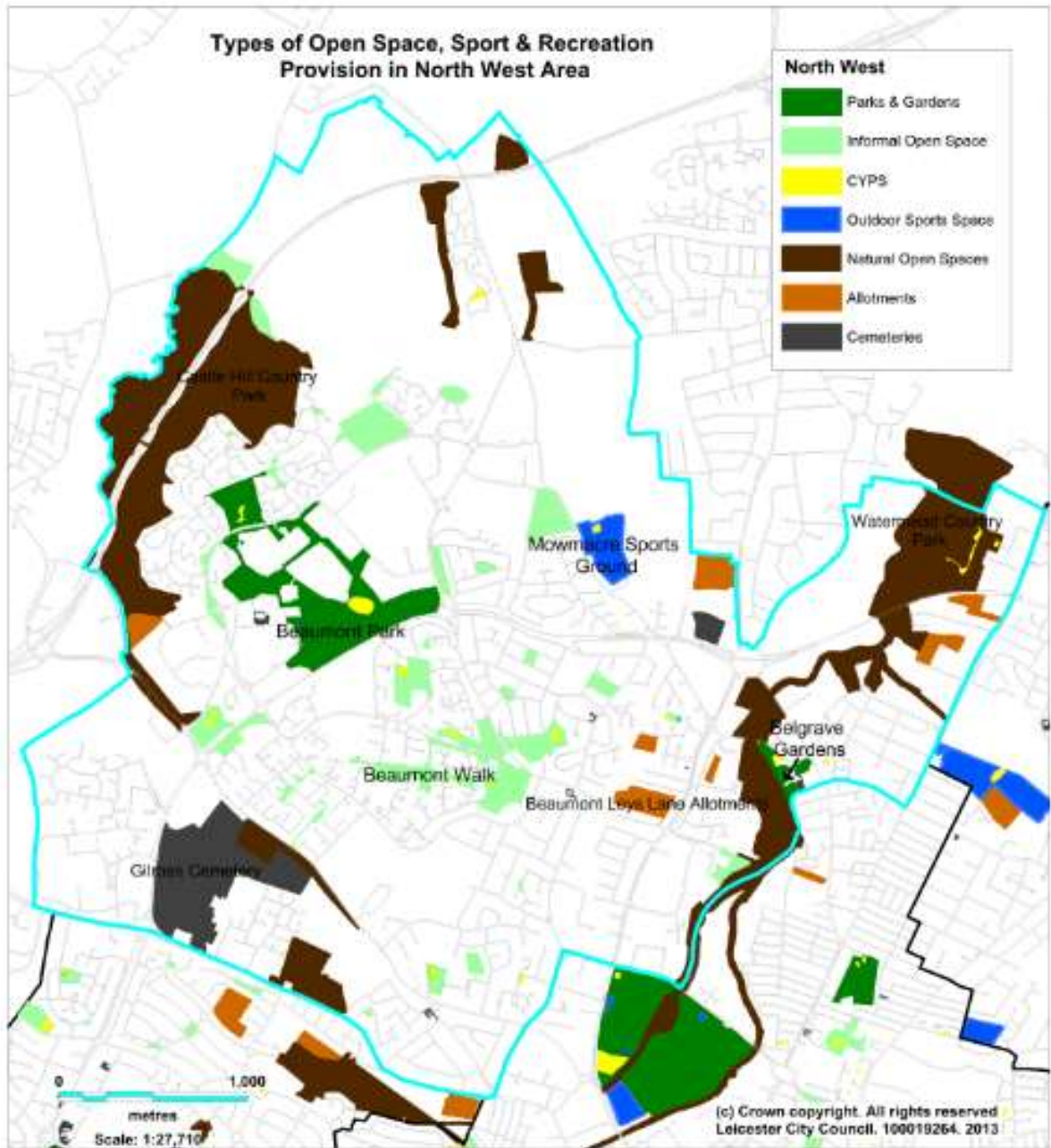
## North West Area

9.28 There is a high level of open space in the north west area mainly made up of natural open space due to Castle Park. There is also a lot of informal open space. However there is an undersupply of outdoor sports facilities. The age profile is similar to that of the city average.

North West	Total Existing Quantity (Publicly Accessible) ha	Required Quantity (ha)	Sufficient/ Deficiency	
Area Totals	257.68	99.69	157.99	
TYPE	Existing Provision (ha)	Required Provision (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency (ha)	Sufficient / Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	35.20	17.31	17.90	Sufficient Supply
Informal Open Space	50.29	17.31	32.98	Sufficient Supply
Children and Young People's Space	3.73	2.77	0.96	Sufficient Supply
Outdoor Sports Space	5.86	34.62	-28.76	Under Supply
Natural Open Space	147.43	17.31	130.12	Sufficient Supply
Allotments	15.17	10.38	4.78	Sufficient Supply

**Note:** The figure for Outdoor Sports facilities does not include sports pitches on school/college playing fields or privately operated sports facilities e.g. five a side facilities/ University Facilities. A full picture of the playing pitch provision in and around the city will be in a separate report.





North West Quality	
TYPE	
9.29 Parks and Gardens	<p>Beaumont Park and Belgrave Gardens are the main formal parks within the North West area. Both have been subject to improvements. Dog control orders, path lighting and CCTV have been installed on site to increase safety and security at Beaumont Park. Belgrave Gardens has been enhanced with new bins and benches and also improvements to some paths.</p> <p>Both Belgrave Gardens and Beaumont Park present opportunities for improvements. Investment is required on site to improve the standards of the play area equipment and bedding at Belgrave Gardens. Whereas at Beaumont Park, attention should be given to significantly increase the signage, re-surfacing of the entrance/exit paths and increasing the management of the natural areas.</p>
9.30 Informal Open Space	<p>Bennion Pools has recently achieved Green Flag status for the first time. This reflects the good management of the site and high levels of community involvement. Ingold Avenue has recently been improved with the refurbishment of the play area; the local community was involved and consulted during the development process. Anti-social behaviour was noted as a problem during the audit of Thurcaston Road open space due to graffiti and flytipping being present throughout the site. This behaviour has also been noted in the majority of informal open spaces within this North Western area. Marketing and promotion of sites needs improving to increase the level of community involvement.</p>
9.31 Children & Young People Space	<p>Vandalism and antisocial behaviour has been an issue at a number of parks in the north west area. Glovers Walk has had play equipment removed due to vandalism and requires new equipment for younger children. Milton Crescent needs a refurbishment of a vandalised goal end and Watermead Park requires replacement totems. Vandalism has affected the Beaumont Walk site which is planned for a refurbishment in 2017 using s.106 contributions, whereas Heacham Drive Ball Court may be relocated to a more appropriate site due to anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Currently Ingold Avenue, Langley Walk and Alderton Avenue are considered to be parks in the area which are in good condition whereas Home Farm, Beaumont BMX Park, Thurcaston Road Park are in need of a full refurbishment. Following adoption of the site the planned maintenance to defects at Oakwood Road the</p>

	<p>park will be put into a good condition. The site at Chancel Road is to be refurbished as part of the Ashton Green planned play provision and although currently in reasonable condition, the site at Bewcastle Grove will need refurbishment within the next five years.</p> <p>There are currently five sites at Border Drive which are currently considered too small for enhancement, whereas Keepers Lodge could be enhanced by an agility trail, Mowmacre Sports has been identified as a site for a calisthenics area and Loughborough Road would benefit from a new toddler park. The sites at St Helens Close and Astill Lodge Park require works to their boundary fencing.</p>
9.32 Allotments	<p>There are seven allotment sites in the area. Beaumont Leys Lane, Abbey Rise, Beaumanor Road, Gorse Hill, Oakland Avenue, Uxbridge Road and Red Hill allotments</p> <p>Beaumont Leys Lane, Abbey Rise, Oakland Avenue, Uxbridge Road and Red Hill allotments are well maintained, provide a range of facilities and are in good condition. These sites are well secured however the access within these sites could be improved by clearing the encroaching vegetation.</p> <p>The Beaumanor Road allotment site requires improvement in a number of areas to increase the overall quality of the site. This includes the removal and prevention of fly-tipping on site and restoration of damaged fence line. Gorse Hill requires improvements to the path/road infrastructure within the site. There is localised flooding in some areas of the Oakland Avenue site which requires attention. Uxbridge Road requires additional maintenance to the perimeter fence to prevent further deterioration and vegetation encroachment.</p>

## **10. Conclusion**

10.1 Following Emerging Options consultation the council will produce a draft plan, which will show areas of open space to be protected, balanced against the need for housing and employment land. There will be a period of public consultation on the draft plan, before submission to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination in Public.



## Leicester City Council

### Scrutiny Review

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Engagement with Leicester's arts, culture and heritage offer

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A review of the Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny  
Commission

September 2017



## **Background to scrutiny reviews**

Determining the right topics for scrutiny reviews is the first step in making sure scrutiny provides benefits to the Council and the community.

This scoping template will assist in planning the review by defining the purpose, methodology and resources needed. It should be completed by the Member proposing the review, in liaison with the lead Director and the Scrutiny Manager. Scrutiny Officers can provide support and assistance with this.

In order to be effective, every scrutiny review must be properly project managed to ensure it achieves its aims and delivers measurable outcomes. To achieve this, it is essential that the scope of the review is well defined at the outset. This way the review is less likely to get side-tracked or become overambitious in what it hopes to tackle. The Commission's objectives should, therefore, be as SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic & Time-bound) as possible.

The scoping document is also a good tool for communicating what the review is about, who is involved and how it will be undertaken to all partners and interested stakeholders.

The form also includes a section on public and media interest in the review which should be completed in conjunction with the Council's Communications Team. This will allow the Commission to be properly prepared for any media interest and to plan the release of any press statements.

Scrutiny reviews will be supported by a Scrutiny Officer.

### **Evaluation**

Reviewing changes that have been made as a result of a scrutiny review is the most common way of assessing the effectiveness. Any scrutiny review should consider whether an on-going monitoring role for the Commission is appropriate in relation to the topic under review.

**For further information please contact the Scrutiny Team on 0116 4546340**

To be completed by the Member proposing the review		
1.	<b>Title of the proposed scrutiny review</b>	Engagement with Leicester's arts, culture and heritage offer
2.	<b>Proposed by</b>	Cllr Malcolm Unsworth Chair, Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny Commission
3.	<b>Rationale</b> Why do you want to undertake this review?	<p>Leicester's arts, culture and heritage profile is on the rise. The discovery of Richard III's remains, 19 Leicestershire organisations being included within Arts Council England's National Portfolio, and Curve receiving the 2015 UK Theatre Award for Promotion for Diversity all highlight the city's offer and the increasing number of opportunities to engage with arts, culture and heritage.</p> <p>The Government's Culture White Paper 2016<sup>1</sup> emphasises a desire for "<b>greater participation among communities who currently do not benefit from many cultural opportunities... particularly... those with young families, and those who are disadvantaged and socially isolated.</b>"</p> <p>A previous review by this Commission examined the role of arts and culture in delivering health and well-being outcomes.<sup>2</sup> In line with the recommendations of that review, it is important to ensure that the city's arts, culture and heritage offer is available to as many people as possible in order to facilitate positive health and wellbeing outcomes.</p> <p>However, it is unclear whether there is proportionate engagement with these opportunities across all of Leicester's communities. As such the review will seek assurances and clarity on this and identify whether there is a problem in engaging certain demographics, why this problem might exist, and how it can be overcome – if, indeed, it is a problem that needs to be overcome.</p>
4.	<b>Purpose and aims of the review</b> What question(s) do you want to answer and what do you want to achieve? (Outcomes?)	<p>The purpose of this review is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To explore <i>how</i> and <i>where</i> arts, culture and heritage is offered to the people of Leicester;</li> <li>• To identify <i>who is and who is not</i> engaging with Leicester's arts, culture and heritage offerings; and if they are not, why not;</li> <li>• To identify barriers to engagement;</li> <li>• To look at <i>how</i> lack of engagement may be addressed, in particular, by identifying examples of good practice in other authorities and agencies;</li> <li>• To provide feedback to appropriate services on good practice in relation to community engagement.</li> </ul>
5.	<b>Links with corporate aims / priorities</b>	This review would align with the <u>City Mayor's vision</u> " <b>to enhance people's confidence and pride in our city, because when</b>

<sup>1</sup> Department for Culture, Media & Sport, 'The Culture White Paper', 2016, p20

<sup>2</sup> Leicester City Council Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny Commission, 'The Role of Arts and Culture in Delivering Health and Wellbeing Outcomes', 13 June 2017

	<p>How does the review link to corporate aims and priorities?</p>	<p><i>people feel proud about where they live they become part of it.</i><sup>3</sup></p> <p>Under the ‘Sport and Culture’ Priorities, identified in <u>Leicester’s Economic Action Plan 2016-2020</u>:</p> <p><i>“Priorities for the city council will be to effectively animate these new spaces by <b>creating cultural events and activities that engage all sections of the community</b> and by maximising the scope of arts, culture and sport to <b>tackle social exclusion</b> as well as to celebrate excellence.”<sup>4</sup></i></p> <p>In the ‘<u>Leicester Tourism Action Plan: 2015-2020</u>’:</p> <p><i>“There is a need to champion culture, heritage and new experiences to draw people to the city. A <b>key priority</b> will be to <b>improve the promotion and awareness of the city’s cultural and heritage offer.</b>”<sup>5</sup></i></p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Scope</b> Set out what is included in the scope of the review and what is not. For example which services it does and does not cover.</p>	<p>The scope of this review <b>will include</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is currently available in arts, culture and heritage in the City, for example, festivals and events;</li> <li>• How are these opportunities communicated to residents;</li> <li>• In terms of marketing and communicating these opportunities, what works well and what does not: how effective is print versus social media; does marketing address low literacy/IT access; how can effectiveness be increased and costs reduced;</li> <li>• At whom are the City’s arts, culture and heritage offerings targeted;</li> <li>• Assessing any problems in engaging all communities in Leicester with the arts, culture and heritage opportunities available;</li> <li>• Who is engaging with arts, culture and heritage in Leicester and who is not;</li> <li>• Why certain communities might not be engaging;</li> <li>• How can the problem of lack of engagement be addressed;</li> <li>• Considering the balance of priorities, <i>is</i> lack of engagement a problem that needs to be addressed?</li> <li>• Examples of good practice which can be found in other authorities/cities in terms of engaging hard-to-reach groups.</li> </ul> <p>The review <b>will not include</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An extensive exploration of why it is important to</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> City Mayor, ‘My vision’, Leicester City Council, accessed at: <http://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council/city-mayor-peter-soulsby/my-vision/> on 21/08/17

<sup>4</sup> City Mayor, ‘Leicester’s Economic Action Plan 2016-2020’, Leicester City Council, p29, accessed at: <http://www.leicester.gov.uk/media/57817/economic-action-plan-2016-2020.pdf> on 21/08/17

<sup>5</sup> City Mayor, ‘Leicester Tourism Action Plan: 2015-2020’, Leicester City Council, p24, accessed at: <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/media/180622/leicester-tourism-plan-reduced-size.pdf> on 30/08/17

		encourage engagement with Leicester’s arts, culture and heritage. This topic will be addressed briefly in order to set the context for the review, but not in any great depth.
7.	<p><b>Methodology</b> Describe the methods you will use to undertake the review.</p> <p>How will you undertake the review, what evidence will need to be gathered from members, officers and key stakeholders, including partners and external organisations and experts?</p>	<p>The Commission would like to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather evidence about how arts, culture and heritage opportunities are marketed to city residents, what works successfully and what is not very effective;</li> <li>• Gather visitor data regarding arts and museums in Leicester in order to identify who attends;</li> <li>• Gather evidence about why communities and individuals engage/do not engage with Leicester’s arts, culture and heritage;</li> <li>• Gather evidence from relevant external organisations and internal staff engaged in outreach work as to how they attract hard-to-reach communities, what difficulties they encounter and how they overcome them;</li> <li>• Identify good practice in engagement with hard-to-reach communities.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Witnesses</b> Set out who you want to gather evidence from and how you will plan to do this</p>	<p><b>Internally:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike Dalzell – Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment</li> <li>• Cllr Piara Singh Clair – Assistant City Mayor, Culture, Leisure and Sport</li> <li>• Sarah Levitt – Head of Arts and Museums</li> <li>• Nisha Popat – Business Development Manager, Tourism, Culture and Investment</li> <li>• Sally Coleman – Heritage Manager</li> <li>• Kerem Cetindamar – Digital Access Officer</li> <li>• Anne Provan – Team Leader (Generic Planning)</li> <li>• Big Mouth Forum, Disabled Children’s Service</li> </ul> <p><b>Externally:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soft Touch Arts</li> <li>• The Y Theatre</li> <li>• The Mighty Creatives</li> <li>• Attenborough Arts Centre</li> <li>• Leicester Print Workshop</li> <li>• King Richard III Visitor Centre</li> <li>• Cllr Danny Myers – in his capacity as Commercial Director for The Mighty Creatives</li> <li>• Chris Stafford – Chief Executive, Curve Leicester</li> <li>• John Rance – Chief Executive Officer, Phoenix Cinema and Art Centre</li> <li>• Pete Groschl – Leicestershire and Rutland Co-ordinator for the Big Country Rural Cinema Network, Phoenix Cinema and Art Centre</li> <li>• Laraine Porter – Senior Lecturer in Film, De Montfort</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University</li> <li>Sue Porter – Part-time Lecturer, De Montfort University</li> <li>Voluntary organisations</li> <li>Other relevant arts, culture and heritage organisations in the City</li> <li>Other local authorities</li> </ul>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Timescales</b> How long is the review expected to take to complete?	6 months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scoping document to be agreed at 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017 HCLS Scrutiny Commission Meeting.</li> <li>Task Group meetings to take place between September 2017 and January 2018.</li> <li>Draft findings and recommendations between January 2018 and February 2018.</li> <li>Final review report to be presented to HCLS Scrutiny Commission on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018.</li> </ul>
	Proposed start date	September 2017
	Proposed completion date	March 2018
<b>9.</b>	<b>Resources / staffing requirements</b> Scrutiny reviews are facilitated by Scrutiny Officers and it is important to estimate the amount of their time, in weeks, that will be required in order to manage the review Project Plan effectively.	The Scrutiny Policy Officer will facilitate the whole review.
	Do you anticipate any further resources will be required e.g. site visits or independent technical advice? If so, please provide details.	It may be useful to make site visits to relevant arts, culture and heritage organisations to observe how they engage in outreach work. The need for this will become more apparent as the review progresses.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Review recommendations and findings</b>  To whom will the recommendations be addressed? E.g. Executive / External Partner?	Recommendations will be presented to the City Mayor and the Executive for consideration.
<b>11.</b>	<b>Likely publicity arising from the review</b> – Is this topic likely to be of high interest to the media? Please explain.	It is not expected that the review will be of high interest to the media, however Leicester City Council's marketing and communications team will be kept updated if any media interest arises.
<b>12.</b>	<b>Publicising the review and its findings and recommendations</b> How will these be published / advertised?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A review report will be published on the Leicester City Council website;</li> <li>The findings and recommendations will be presented as a public meeting of the Heritage, Culture, Leisure and</li> </ul>

		Sport Scrutiny Commission.
13.	<b>How will this review add value to policy development or service improvement?</b>	<p>The review hopes to achieve the following:</p> <p><b>Service Improvement:</b> the review intends to identify barriers to engagement with arts, culture and heritage, and to formulate recommendations regarding how these barriers can be overcome. Examples of good practice within other local authorities will inform the relevant services' approach to engaging all communities. It is hoped that this feedback, in turn, will bolster the Council's applications for arts, culture and heritage funding as it can demonstrate that engagement with hard-to-reach communities is an active priority, thereby making the City's organisations more attractive for funding and investment.</p> <p><b>Policy Development:</b> ensure that engagement with all communities remains a priority when shaping future arts, culture and heritage initiatives, thereby encouraging a culture of inclusivity.</p>
<b>To be completed by the Executive Lead</b>		
14.	<p><b>Executive Lead's Comments</b></p> <p>The Executive Lead is responsible for the portfolio so it is important to seek and understand their views and ensure they are engaged in the process so that Scrutiny's recommendations can be taken on board where appropriate.</p>	I fully agree the theme of this review and would be happy to be involved and support this. I hope it will add value to the involvement of the wider community in Arts and Cultural activities.
<b>To be completed by the Divisional Lead Director</b>		
15.	<p><b>Divisional Comments</b></p> <p>Scrutiny's role is to influence others to take action and it is important that Scrutiny Commissions seek and understand the views of the Divisional Director.</p>	<p>I welcome this review. It would be useful to explore and capture what we and other partners in the arts and cultural sector are already doing and what else we could learn from best practice. I think the current scope and objectives are sound and I and my officers look forward to supporting the commission as best we can on this.</p> <p>Encouraging engagement is a priority for key funders such as the Arts Council so there should be an interested audience there too for the outcome of this work. If we have a good story to tell it may prove to be a useful report that supports the ambitions of the wider sector and in future fundraising efforts.</p>
16.	<b>Are there any potential risks to undertaking this scrutiny review?</b>	It would be useful for scrutiny commission members to be aware of the information that many arts and culture organisations are already typically required to provide on the subject of

	E.g. are there any similar reviews being undertaken, on-going work or changes in policy which would supersede the need for this review?	'engagement' to key funders such as the arts council. There is a risk that the review is perceived as additional or duplicating work. In reality there will be easy access to a fairly rich set of data and information about this subject. The review can benefit from this – without necessarily requiring organisations to commit a lot of extra time – which might otherwise hinder participation.
<b>17.</b>	<b>Are you able to assist with the proposed review? If not please explain why.</b> In terms of agreement / supporting documentation / resource availability?	As noted above we will be happy to participate in this review and already hold a lot of data on who does and doesn't participate in existing council supported activities.
	<b>Name</b>	Mike Dalzell
	<b>Role</b>	Director, Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment
	<b>Date</b>	4th September 2017
<b>To be completed by the Scrutiny Support Manager</b>		
<b>18.</b>	<b>Will the proposed scrutiny review / timescales negatively impact on other work within the Scrutiny Team?</b> (Conflicts with other work commitments)	The review will be supported by the Scrutiny Policy Officer and is not expected to negatively impact on her work, as it is the first review of the commission in this scrutiny cycle.
	<b>Do you have available staffing resources to facilitate this scrutiny review? If not, please provide details.</b>	The Scrutiny Team, as per my comments above, can adequately support the review.
	<b>Name</b>	Kalvaran Sandhu, Scrutiny Support Manager
	<b>Date</b>	6th September 2017

Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny Commission

DRAFT Work Programme 2017-18

Meeting date	Meeting items	Actions Arising	Progress
13 June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutiny Review Report on ‘<b>The Role of Arts and Culture in Delivering Mental Health and Well-being Outcomes</b>’ Draft report of findings from the task group for members consideration <i>(to invite health and wellbeing scrutiny members who were involved in this task group review)</i></li> <li>• <b>Market Redevelopment Project</b> – update report for consideration</li> <li>• <b>Art &amp; Murals in Cultural Quarter</b> – presentation for consideration</li> <li>• <b>Abbey Pumping Station Developments</b> – presentation for consideration</li> <li>• <b>Draft Work Programme 2017/18</b> – members to discuss future items for work programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes of the meeting of the HCLS Scrutiny Commission held on 7 March 2017 to be confirmed as a correct record.</li> <li>• OSC to be asked to consider the draft report of the Task Group review and endorse its recommendations to the Executive for adoption.</li> <li>• Progress of the Market scheme be noted</li> <li>• Commission to be kept advised of progress with redevelopment of market area.</li> <li>• Report back to the Commission within 6 months on how public realm space in the city is managed, including how it can be made available to those wishing to book it for an event, this analysis to include the Market Square.</li> <li>• Success of the ‘Bring the Paint’ festival welcomed.</li> <li>• Commission’s thanks to be passed to the staff and volunteers at Abbey Pumping Station for their work.</li> <li>• Commission to be updated on progress with developments at Abbey Pumping Station in 6 months’ time.</li> <li>• Members to advise Scrutiny Policy Officer of items they would like to be included in the work programme</li> </ul>	

## Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny Commission

### DRAFT Work Programme 2017-18

<p><b>8 August 2017</b> venue for meeting <i>'New Walk Museum'</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Museums Services in Leicester</b> – an overview presentation, including New Walk Museum developments &amp; new staircase</li> <li>• <b>Sport Services Review</b> – proposals for consultation (presentation)</li> <li>• <b>Arts Council England's National Portfolio organisations in Leicester</b> (announced 27 June) – update report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation on museum developments to be noted.</li> <li>• The report and presentation on the Sports Services review be noted and an update to be brought back to a future meeting of the Commission.</li> <li>• The briefing note on Arts Council England's National Portfolio organisations in Leicester to be noted.</li> <li>• Updates on the three agenda items discussed to be brought back to a future meeting of the Commission where appropriate.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>19 September 2017</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Haymarket Theatre proposals</b> – update on progress</li> <li>• <b>De Montfort Hall</b> – developments update</li> <li>• <b>Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment Spending Review</b></li> <li>• <b>Tree Strategy</b> – presentation of strategy</li> <li>• <b>Presentation of Scoping Document for Review:</b> 'Engagement with Leicester's arts, culture and heritage offer'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haymarket Theatre presentation noted.</li> <li>• Commission to be updated on any future programme of works to De Montfort Hall</li> <li>• Spending Review report noted.</li> <li>• Tree Strategy presentation noted.</li> <li>• Scoping document was agreed by members following this commission meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>Scoping document to be endorsed at the next meeting for the minutes.</p>

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<p>14 November 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Open Space Sport and Recreation Study</b> – feedback from public consultation</li> <li>• <b>Task Group Review:</b> ‘Engagement with Leicester’s arts, culture and heritage offer’</li> </ul>		
<p>9 January 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cultural Sector Development</b> – update on progress</li> <li>• <b>Football Investment Strategy</b> – update on plans for the future</li> <li>• <b>Commercial Income Generation in Museums and Heritage Sites</b></li> </ul>		
<p>6 March 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Story of Leicester</b> – update</li> <li>• <b>Evaluation of usage of outdoor gyms</b> – feedback</li> <li>• <b>Animating Public Spaces</b></li> </ul>		

## Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Sport Scrutiny Commission

### DRAFT Work Programme 2017-18

<b>FORWARD PLAN / SUGGESTED ITEMS</b>		
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Proposed Date</b>
<b>Animating Public Spaces</b>	Strategy for management of public realm space, including costings, target audiences, types of initiatives and long-term plan.	6 March 2018
<b>Heritage Action Plan 2016-2021</b>	Update on progress.	tbc
<b>Historical Sites in Leicester</b>	To look at the reach of heritage panel programme, including costs/benefits of extending the programme further.	tbc
<b>Capturing the economic performance of Leicester's heritage and culture</b>	Update on progress of recommendations outlined in previous HCLS Scrutiny Commission Review: 'Capturing the economic performance of Leicester's heritage and culture'	tbc
<b>Sports and Leisure Services Review</b>	Feedback from public consultation.	tbc
<b>Story of Parks</b>	Evaluation of success of the project, including costs and benefits.	tbc