



Mayor and Cabinet

Response To The Referral From Sustainable Development Select Committee- Parks and Open Space Strategy 2020-2025

Date: 16 September 2020

Key decision: No.

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Vince Buchanan Service Group Manager Green Scene

Outline and recommendations

The report sets out a response to referral from the Sustainable Development Select Committee (SDSC) relating to agenda Item 6 of the Mayor and Cabinet meeting held on 10 June 2020:

- Open Spaces Strategy 2020-2025

And its link to the recommendations of the Sustainable Developments Select Committee's:

- Parks Maintenance and Management Review 2020

1. Summary

- 1.1. Further to the request made by the Council's Sustainable Development Select Committee for a responses to their referral relating to:

- Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2020-25

➤ Parks Management and Maintenance Review 2020

Officers have set out the responses required at Section 3 of this report

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Mayor and Cabinet are recommend to approve the officer response to the referral from the Sustainable Development Select Committee (SDSC) relating to the Parks and Open Space Strategy 2020-2025 and its link to the recommendations of SDSC Parks Management and Maintenance Review 2020 (PMMR).

3. Officer Response

- 3.1. All of the recommendations made at the Sustainable Development Select Committee meeting on 10th March 2020 have been incorporated within the Parks and Open Space Strategy 2020-2025 (POSS 20-25).
- 3.2. Due to the timing of the development and publication of both documents It has not been possible to include all of the detailed recommendations from the published Parks Management and Maintenance Review 2020 (PMMR) within the strategy. However, officers believe that the strategy does address all the themes touched upon and recommendations made by SDSC within its very thorough, objective and thoughtful report.
- 3.3. Officers are of the opinion that it is not feasible to give equal weight to the Parks and Open Space Strategy and The Parks Management and Maintenance Review 2020. However, it would be a reasonable to consider them as complementary.
- 3.4. Some of the recommendations set out within the (PMMR) are currently un-funded and therefore remain aspirational. However by achieving the goals set out within the Parks and Open Space Strategy we will contribute to the delivering the aspirations of within the PMMR for example see Table 1 below:

Table 1

| Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2020-2025 Goals | Sustainable Development Select Committee Parks Management and Maintenance Review 2020 Recommendations |
|--|---|
| To seek advice through the new Disabled Peoples Commission and identify the best way to engage with disabled young people their parents and carers to ensure that our parks and open spaces are designed to enable children of all abilities, to access and enjoy. | Publish a play strategy, which develops a coordinated approach to inclusive play for children of all abilities as well as play and recreation spaces for young people of all ages. Moreover, the Council should consider the options for carrying out a full assessment of the accessibility of all its parks and green spaces. |
| To work with colleagues in Public Health and Community Services to support and encourage walking, cycling and other active travel modes that link open spaces such as the South East | During the next round of maintenance of the paths, the insertion of cats- eyes to make cycling safer should be implemented. travel |

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| | |
|---|--|
| <p>London Green Chain, Waterlink Way, the Thames Path and other local elements of the all London Green Grid. 'To support the partnerships by working with Highways colleagues on 'Cycleways', Legible London and Healthy Neighbourhoods transport programmes to promote pathways in parks and greening the grey by developing sustainable travel links that use planting and greening as a to reduce carbon emissions.'</p> | |
|---|--|

- 3.5. With reference to disabled access we are already taking every opportunity to expand accessible equipment in our parks. For example we have recently installed 9 wheel-chair accessible picnic benches with further 13 to follow in the coming months these have been fund via the Greening Fund programme.
- 3.6. In relation to the PMMR recommendation that:
That 'There should be an audit of the formal and historic assets in Lewisham's parks. This should include memorials and monuments as well as works of art and special gardens. The parks service should then develop a programme to manage and maintain these special features.'
- 3.7. Officer consider that the first part of this recommendation would fall outside of the scope Green Scene. Therefore we will consult with colleagues within the Planning Department to establish if this could be incorporated in to any of their current work streams. Green Scene would then consider the outcome of any such audit and where possible identify funding to deliver on its recommendations.
- 3.8. A commitment has also been given for officers to report back to the SDSC on an annual basis setting out the progress of the Open Space Strategy's delivery plan and how this has enabled them to also implement recommendations set out within the (PMMR).

4. Background papers

- 4.1. <http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s73552/Cover%20Sheeet%20-Parks%20and%20Open%20Space%20Strategy%202020-2025.pdf>
[Referral on parks and open spaces strategy](#)
[SDSC parks review](#)

5. Glossary

- 5.1. [Type here, Arial size 11]
- 5.2. See **Section 7 – "Glossary" in the guidance** for more information.

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| Term | Definition |
|------------|--|
| SDSC | Sustainable Development Select Committee |
| PMMR | Parks Management and Maintenance Review 2020 |
| POSS 20-25 | Parks and Open Space Strategy 2020-25 |

6. Report author and contact

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