

Annual Monitoring Report

(June 2022)

Parks and Open Space Strategy 2020-2025

Social Aims

Delivery plan measures and undertakings	Timescales/milestones	Progress between July 2021 – Jun 2022	RR
Greening Fund (GF) successfully delivers £360k of improvements by April 2021.	April 2021	The first round of the GF completed.	
Greening Fund successfully delivers £0.5m	May 2022	Greening Fund has delivered £290k and secured a further £401k from S106 sources to deliver Phase 2 of the programme	
Three completed rounds of the Greening Fund	May 2022	It is anticipated that there will be two rounds of the GF as the majority of available Funding has been allocated. The reduction from 3 to 2 rounds was a result of Covid.	
Successful delivery of the Greening Fund leading to its adoption post 2022	June 2022	Achieved	
Number successful applicants + 70	January 2025	2022 = 76 sites:- Achieved	
Greening Fund attracts £250k of additional match Funding	January 2025	2021 = £51,153 2022 = £82,211	
Greening Fund successfully delivers £1m	May 2025	The Greening Fund is forecast to deliver £743k and NCIL Funding that is allocated to parks £518k. It is anticipated that £1.26m of investment will be delivered by 2025	
Explore and, if feasible, provide umbrella PLI insurance for running events	March 2021	Done. Corporate Insurance will be extended to qualifying groups	
Develop a memorandum of understanding (MoU), for the functioning of Park User Groups and a model constitution for new groups	March 2021	MoU completed and various constitution models are available and can be tailored to suit individual groups.	

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<p>Maintain updated information on the Lewisham website for all groups so contact details, web links and other information can be provided</p>	<p>Every 6 months</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has been completed to update parks and nature reserves pages • Work is ongoing to improve the Nature Conservation website. This will include Lewisham’s Biodiversity Action Plan and other general information to encourage biodiversity/re-wilding • A review of Glendale local website has recommended changes to enhance the user experience and promote active parks. There’s an identified need to market the ‘offer’ better. More engaging information and better signposting. This will enable visitors to understand how to get involved promoting active lifestyles and positive engagement 	
<p>– To promote more public involvement and engagement with the formal user ‘friends’ groups, broadening their appeal and capacity:-</p> <p>Explore and, if feasible, facilitate training and/or advice sheets on topics such as: <i>“Effective methods of communication, consultation and social media use”</i> <i>“Promotion of the ‘Lewisham Way’ ethos of collaboration”</i></p>	<p>x1 training/seminar every year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paediatric First Aid course offered to Friends of Group Representatives • Virtual Butterfly Identification Workshop delivered • Butterfly Identification Walk at Brockley & Ladywell Cemeteries, and Beckenham Place Park • x2 hedge laying training sessions 	

<p>Deliver investment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Durham Hill 2) Southend Park 3) Forster Memorial Park 4) Riverview Walk 5) Folkestone Gardens 6) Home Park 7) Lewisham Park 8) Blythe Hill Fields 9) Riverdale Sculpture Park 10) Lewisham Way 11) Hatcham gardens 12) Ferranti Park 13) Friendly Gardens 14) Luxmore Gardens 15) Broadway Fields 16) Evelyn Green 17) Baxter's Fields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18) Ravensbourne Park Gardens 19) Edith Nesbitt Gardens 20) Eckington Gardens 21) Margaret McMillan Park 22) Sayes Court Park 23) Lewisham War Memorial Gardens 24) The Common & Summerhouse Field 25) Deptford Memorial Gardens 26) Westbourne Drive Enclosure 27) Grove Park Library Gardens 28) Ladywell Green/Slagrove Place 29) Wickham Gardens 30) Beachborough Gardens 31) Beaulieu Avenue Green 32) Kirkdale Green 33) St Norbert Green 34) Turnham Road green 35) Culverley Green 	<p>Annual review monitoring report</p> <p>x5 March 2022 x15 March 2023 x25 March 2025 x35 March 2027</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> x14 Sites invested into in 2021 x 6 Sites invested into in 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Durham Hill: x67 'Treescapes' Funded trees planted. Also, Tiny Forest project planted 600 whips 3) Forster Memorial Park: 87 shrubs/trees planted in the sensory garden & a new trim trail installed 6) Home Park: x39 'Treescapes' Funded trees planted 9) Riverdale Sculpture Park: x1 new bin and x1 new bench installed 13) Friendly Gardens: x2 new benches installed 22) Sayes Court Park: x2 new benches; x2 animal proof bins; x3 new signs & a new playground facility <p>8 additional sites on the list have also received investment in this period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Cornmill gardens: new boardwalks and platform 2) Mayow park: Benches; bins; cricket pitch 3) Downham Woodland Walk: play equipment 4) Grove Park Nature Reserve: benches 5) Knapmill Allotments: 1 bat, 1 bird box and 1 hedgehog house 6) Blackhorse Road Allotments: 3 planters, 8 bird boxes, 8 insect hotels 7) Blythe Hill: 1 x Drinking Water Fountain installation 8) Mountsfield Park: 153 shrubs and trees planted as part of the orchard project
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Target and spend the £54k grant from the Office Communities and Local Government in Lewisham's parks and open spaces that are outside the identified growth area where there is less Section 106 availability	March 2021	This money has been allocated for the delivery of GF2	
Next Open Space Assessment to validate the upgrade in the status of all the listed sites above	March 2025	TBC	
To support Lewisham's Playing Pitch Strategy (June 2019) and its Action plan where Funds are available and do not conflict with the varying requirements to provide a broad range of activity and appeal for our park users	Annual review monitoring report	Discussions around funding opportunities for the installation of a 3G pitch at Whitefoot Lane and smaller sided 3G's across the borough continue. The Council are also supporting the development of the Lewisham Football Partnership which will act as consulting body with the wider football community in the borough.	
Number of new facilities and external grants achieved (Playing Pitch Strategy)	Annual review monitoring report	Installation of 18 pieces of outdoor gym equipment (£56,436) at:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durham Hill • Mountsfield Park • Forster Memorial Park 	
To achieve an endorsed and adopted strategy (Parks Events)	March 2023	Blackheath Events Policy adopted 15 th June 2022	
Ensure that all new interpretative initiatives and appropriate infrastructure promote the linking of parks and open spaces across the borough.	Annual review monitoring report	'Go jauntly' app is live for promotion on notice boards to link River Pool Linear Park and Ladywell Fields Park with:	
Provide interpretation and way marking to link River Pool Linear Park and Ladywell Fields Park with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Manor House Gardens 2) Manor Park 3) Mountsfield Park 4) Lewisham Park 	All by March 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Manor House Gardens 2) Manor Park 3) Mountsfield Park 4) Lewisham Park The new Glendale Conservation Officer will be promoting and marketing the linkage project on park notice boards and social media	

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<p>The Greening Fund will finance improvements to parks. This will include new bike locking points, new water drinking fountains, new signs and way-finding posts, new benches & bins. The implementation of these improvements will improve and refresh parks and attract greater use.</p>	<p>Annual review monitoring report</p>	<p>GF 1 delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 144 litter and dog waste bins 64 bird or bat nest boxes 44 park benches or seats 23 disabled user-friendly picnic tables 16 biodiversity or sustainability enhancements 14 disabled-friendly raised bed planters 13 items of outdoor gym equipment 13 children’s play area improvements 12 trees 10 interpretative signage / noticeboard installations 3 entrance enhancements 3 drinking water fountains 2 water-saving schemes – water butts/water storage tanks 2 compost toilets <p>GF2 has secured a further £453k for enhancements to parks themed around “Access,” “Young People and Play” and “ Biodiversity & Sustainability”</p>	
<p>Deliver 52 Natures Gym sessions engaging 550 volunteers per year</p>	<p>Annual review monitoring report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55 Natures Gym Sessions engaging 494 volunteers • 40 Rivers & People Sessions engaging 232 volunteers • 149 Beckenham Place Park events engaging 1418 volunteers 	
<p>To facilitate and support 10 forest schools</p>		<p>There are 12 forest schools being facilitated at 8 sites</p>	
<p>Nature Conservation Team to deliver x10 sessions per year (300 children)</p>		<p>13 sessions were delivered engaging 237 children and 98 adults</p>	

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Lead the 3 Rivers Clean Up initiative in June/July each year		This year was the first 3 Rivers Clean Up (3RCU) since the Covid lockdowns. The 3RCU ran from 11th June – 10th July 2022 with over 20 events engaging 400 people. This is fully reported in Lewisham Biodiversity Outputs quarterly reports	
Install new outdoor gym equipment	x4 March 2022	x3 units @ Sydenham Wells Pk and x7 units @ Manor House gardens	
Install new outdoor gym equipment	x8 March 2025	x18 pieces of outdoor gym equipment have been installed as part of the Sevenfields PCN - Oakview Family Practice collaboration at Mountsfield Park, Durham Hill and Forster Memorial Park	
Install new table tennis tables	x2 March 2022	x2 Forster Memorial Park; Luxmore Gardens	
Install new table tennis tables	x4 March 2025	x1 Friendly Gardens	
Maintain and update the Lewisham website so that the information on parks remains current Monitor and maintain the Natures Gym and Rivers and People web sites	Annual review monitoring report	The Parks and Nature Reserves pages on the council website were updated and a new page added to provide information on Buckthorne Road Nature Reserve. Natures Gym and Rivers and People websites are regularly maintained and updated. There were 35 posts on these two websites generating 7026 visits.	
Increase the number of licenced boot camps from 25	30 by March 2022 35 by March 2025	There are now 30 boot camps operating in the borough.	
Increase the number of community events facilitated in parks from 694	714 by March 2022 734 by March 2025	There have been 492 community events in parks. This figure has been effected by the Covid epidemic and the target may need to be re-profiled.	

Delivery plan measures and undertakings	Timescales/milestones	Progress between July 2021 – Jun 2022	RR
Where major park projects take place, monitor the number and outcome of any young people consulted	Annual review monitoring report	<p>Local school pupils consulted on the park playground design concept for the Sayes Court.</p> <p>Local schools pupils consulted on the playground design concept for Hatcham Gardens Playground improvement.</p> <p>Special Needs (SEN) consulted of the playground design concept for the Talbot Place playground development in Blackheath.</p>	
<p>Where major park playground projects take place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitor the number and outcome of consultation with disabled stakeholders and the application of inclusive play principles in their design, layout and equipment choices • develop a play strategy that balances inclusive play for children of all abilities and age ranges • ensure that the design brief builds on best practice in terms of intergenerational design 	<p>Annual review monitoring report</p> <p>By March 2023</p>	<p>Meeting with Portage Team and Parents of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) to look at designs for Folkestone Gardens, Sayes Court Park, Beckenham Place Park and Folkstone Gardens Play Improvement Projects.</p> <p>The SEN team have worked with the parks team collaboratively on the designs and the aspiration to include elements that support intergenerational facilities have been considered along with other unapparent needs and observations.</p>	
Seek to maximise the static presence in major parks through the process of in-sourcing the parks Grounds Maintenance Service	November 2021	Insourcing of the GM contract was formally deferred until November 2023	
Provide customer care training to all new and transferring staff so they can perform frontline duties as the face of the Park Service	November 2022	Please see above	
Develop a reporting process/protocol to train staff to capture essential information on ASB occurrence & patterns	November 2022	<p>Glendale have refined their Incident Report Form, updated Jan 22 and now accessible on hand held devices used by 8 Parks Services staff. Parks Services Security Patrol produce a monthly reports logging the number of all incidents according to category e.g. Vandalism/Noise etc. Joint enforcement and monitoring has occurred at a number of sites such as at Folkstone Gardens with rough sleepers and to deal with residential fly tipping at Firhill road allotments.</p>	

Delivery plan measures and undertakings	Timescales/milestones	Progress between July 2021 – Jun 2022	RR
Develop a database of antisocial behaviour patterns and deliver joint enforcement events where feasible and appropriate	November 2022 Annual review monitoring report	As above.	
Address all antisocial casework issues within the 10 day timescale	Annual review monitoring report	All casework is being dealt within the corporate timescales set. Please note that there is not currently any identified increase in this type of casework	
Record any metrics/improvements in perception of safety	Annual review monitoring report	Nothing to report	

Economic Aims

Delivery plan measures and undertakings	Timescales/milestones	Progress	RR
Number of planning applications refused from 2019-2025.	Annual review monitoring report	10	
Amount in hectares and/or number of parks and open spaces lost to development.	No net loss by 2025	0	
Number and monetary value of park enhancements that derive from S106 agreements or Community Infrastructure Levy receipts.	Annual review monitoring report	£1,385,151	
£1m of investment from Development Control sources.	March 2025	£1,385,151	
£300k external investment target for non-Development Control sources.	March 2025	£1,127,932	
15 Green Flag Awards	July 2022	2022 = 16 Green Flags Awards achieved for Parks Awards (Lewisham total including the Horniman = 17) and 6 Community Green Flag Awards Lewisham became 1 st in the 2021/22 Good Parks for London assessment.	

Delivery plan measures and undertakings	Timescales/milestones	Progress	RR
17 Green Flag Awards	July 2025	As above.	
Present a briefing paper on Corporate Natural Capital Accounting and potential business case to the Sustainable Development Select Committee to seek political support and steer so that policy makers are better appraised of the collective value of decisions that relate to the natural environment	March 2023	The Council was part of a research project that looked at Natural Capital Accounting for rivers in Lewisham with a case study on the River Quaggy. The report has not yet been finalised.	
<p>The Healthy neighbourhood programme – is part of Lewisham’s transport strategy, it will create streets that encourage more people to walk and cycle. An element of the program is to make areas greener and to reduce air pollution. We are delivering the first tranche of Healthy Neighbourhoods in the Lewisham Lee Green, East Sydenham, Telegraph Hill and Bellingham areas.</p> <p>The Cycleways program is designed to encourage and promote safe cycling routes not dominated by vehicles. A key element of this is promoting our green spaces to provide a well-designed network of neighbourhoods. An important element of this is more street planting and sensitive grounds maintenance throughout the routes.</p>	<p>x3 Healthy neighbourhoods by April 2021 x2 Healthy neighbourhoods per FY thereafter 2 Cycleways by April 2021 4 Cycleways by April 2022</p>	<p>The majority of the Healthy Neighbourhoods Funding that supported this initiative was withdrawn by TfL at the start of the pandemic and has not subsequently been reinstated. We are actively looking at alternative sources of Funding so that we can continue the delivery of the Healthy Neighbourhood programme, but this Funding is likely to be less than was previously available. How and when the programme will be delivered in future will be subject to the Funding identified.</p> <p>As part of the Borough’s emergency transport response to the pandemic LBL delivered the Lewisham and Lee Green low traffic neighbourhood (LTN) as a temporary scheme. Following an assessment of how that scheme is performing against the scheme objectives and a public consultation the decision has been taken to retain the scheme and work is being progressed to deliver some complementary measures. Please see the decision report for further details.</p> <p>The Cycleways programmes has also been affected by the removal of potential Funding streams.</p>	

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		Construction of Cycleway 4 on Evelyn Street is due to be completed in Autumn 2022. Improvements to the River Pool/Ravensbourne confluence foot bridge are subject to Funding. We are currently planning an update of our Cycle Strategy which will set out how we will improve conditions for cycling in the borough in the future	
Provide interpretation and way marking to link River Pool Linear Park and Ladywell Fields Park with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Manor House Gardens 2) Manor Park 3) Mountsfield Park 4) Lewisham Park 	All by March 2025	Glendale have worked up 'Go jaunty' walks for promotion on notice boards to link River Pool Linear Park and Ladywell Fields. Testing the technology and routes is ongoing but Glendale plan to market the resource via notice boards in the autumn of 2022	
Play an active role in all appropriate forums & partnerships, such as, the Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership, Ravensbourne Catchment Improvement Group, Environment Agency- Flood Alleviation consultations, Thames Tideway, All London Green Grid, London Parks and Open Spaces benchmarking group, Allotment Officers Association, and the London Tree Officers forum.	Annual review monitoring report	The team continues to provide a presence and support all of these networks and more (e.g. Association of Local Government Ecologists ALGE, London Borough Biodiversity Forum LBBF)	

Environmental Aims

Delivery plan measures and undertakings	Timescales/milestones	Progress	RR
Update and review all web based information	Complete overhaul by 2021,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has been completed to updated parks and nature reserves pages • Work is ongoing to improve the Nature Conservation website. This will include Lewisham's Biodiversity Action Plan and other general information to encourage biodiversity/re-wilding 	

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Explore with the web team some interactive search element or map that the public can access to illustrate park features and facilities, such as: -toilets; -cafes; -sports (field, tennis, table tennis, bowls, rugby, cricket, kite-ing, frisby); -horticultural features e.g. trees and bedding; - play provision including water play; - relaxation; - walking for health; - events; - linkages; formal and historic elements, memorials and monuments	Annual review monitoring report	The delivery of this aspiration has not progressed as anticipated. This is due to Covid and other factors stretching the corporate resources and support required to build any new web based platform.	
To install H ₂ O drinking water fountains	3 per year, 15 by 2025	3 completed 2020-21 1 completed 2021-22 (Cornmill Gardens)	
Install signs on all newly installed bins and on noticeboards to encourage and promote home recycling	Annual review monitoring report	Consultation has occurred with bin manufacturers to explore the possibility of incorporating appropriate messaging on the bins to be procured as part of the GF2.	
Monitor amount of green waste disposed of offsite and reduce quantity every year	Annual review monitoring report	The use of a shredder and shredded material as part of the horticultural shrub process is scheduled to be trialled. 186 tonnes was removed from June 21- March 22 10 tonnes composted	
Monitor the number of new planting schemes that deliver an integrated approach to fertiliser, weed control and watering by using drought tolerant plants, recycled mulches and that minimise the need for all chemical applications	Annual review monitoring report	New planting scheme to replace annual bedding at Laurence House and Civic Suite	
Monitor the amount of mulch imported from suppliers and reduce quantity every year	Annual review monitoring report	No bulk bags or ornamental mulch has been imported to sites this period	
Actively work with tree contractors to co-ordinate the use of chipped bark for local parks and open spaces when contractors are working in the vicinity	Annual review monitoring report	All bark is delivered to Forster Park and 30 van loads 30m ³ have been applied to park shrub beds, approximately 18 tons	
Re: Integrated Weed Control Policy (IWCP):- Target specific locations within key parks where alternative methods would have the greatest benefit and monitor effectiveness and cost.	Interim report by May 2023 Final report by May 2025	The IWCP has been adopted and operationalised in parks	
Measure the number of distinct biodiversity projects Measure the number of volunteers	Annual review monitoring report	The Lewisham Biodiversity Partnership (including the Nature Conservation Team) ran 614 events engaging 3,759 people in 2021-22.	

Delivery plan measures and undertakings	Timescales/milestones	Progress	RR
		Members of the partnership installed 2 bat boxes, 33 bird boxes, 11 loggeries and conducted 214 surveys (e.g. bird, butterfly, plant)	
Measure the area/features managed with electric machinery, and monitor the effectiveness and cost.	Interim report by May 2023 Final report by May 2025	<p>2020-21 electric machinery logged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x1 buggy; x11 strimmers; x7 hedge cutters; x7 backpack blowers; x2 chainsaws; x2 pole saws x2 long arm hedgecutters x2 handheld blowers x4 brushcutters x1 zero turn mower x1 stand on mower <p>2021-22 electric machinery logged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x4 backpack blowers x4 brushcutters 	
Monitor the number of ice cream concessions and the installation of electric points	Annual review monitoring report	Current concessions – are at Deptford/Blackheath/Hilly Fields/Mayow Implementation of this action has been delayed due to the uncertainty about the future of the current grounds maintenance contract and issue around return on investment . All ice cream concessions in parks are not permitted to idle. Quotes have been received for electric installation and the prices are dependent on location but range £500 -1,500 + VAT.	
Deptford Parks Liveable Neighbourhood (DPLN) – new greening areas on Rolt Street, Scawen Road and Woodpecker Road following community engagement	April 2021	Work to deliver a scheme on Rolt Street is underway. Scawen Road was delivered as part of the Council’s Covid 19 emergency transport response and consideration is currently being given	

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		to transferring this from an experimental scheme to a permanent one. Woodpecker Walk will have some resurfacing works, these are due to be completed by the end of August. Please see: Have Your Say Today – Deptford Parks Proposals – Commonplace	
Record the number of newly planted trees and tree losses. Achieve a greater than 2:1 ratio. Record the establishment of 150 metres of hedgerow per year.	Annual review monitoring report	<u>Parks trees</u> 790 whips planted 174 standard trees <u>Street Trees</u> 294 standard street trees planted in partnership with Street Trees for Living <u>Green Scene tree planting v tree loss</u> 468 planted v 79 losses (<6 :1 ratio) <u>Hedgerow</u> 57 linear meters @ Brookmill, Ladywell, Horniman Triangle and River Pool Linear Park	
Deliver over 40 river related volunteer sessions Lead the 3 Rivers Clean Up initiative in June/July each year Work in partnership with the Ravensbourne Catchment Improvement Group to identify projects that will enhance the biological quality of the rivers and river corridors	Annual review monitoring report	110 River related volunteer sessions have been hosted. Lewisham led a very successful return to the 3 Rivers Clean Up from 11th June – 10th July 2022 with over 20 events engaging 400 people.	
Deliver the £48k Street Trees for Schools project in partnership	Plant 100 trees by 2022	Completed, 100 trees were planted as part of this initiative	
Plant an additional 200 street trees per year in partnership	Annual review monitoring report	2021-22 294 trees planted	