

TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE – 27 November 2015

Title of paper:	Analysis of Highfields Ground Maintenance Costs 2012/13 to present	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Glen O'Connell Corporate Director of Resilience	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Tom Straw, Finance Manager Capital thomas.straw@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 8763659	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Steve Ross, Finance Analyst Eddie Curry, Head of Parks and Open Spaces	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
This report details the Grounds Maintenance charges levied by the Council to Highfields Trust based on outturn actuals and budget for the current financial year.		
Recommendation(s):		
1	That the trend of Grounds Maintenance expenditure at Highfields from 2012/13 actual to 2015/15 budget be noted.	

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

As Trustee, the Council has set aside a grounds maintenance budget of £201k for financial year 2015/16. This report further splits the 2015/16 budget into the key areas of expenditure and comparing the 2015/16 budget to the actual outturn for Ground Maintenance in prior financial years.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

The report enables the Trusts and Charities Committee to be aware of the financial position of the Charities and therefore allows any appropriate decisions or actions to be taken in their role as Trustee.

3. FINANCE ANALYSIS

Grounds maintenance charged paid by the Highfields Trust is detailed in **Table 1**. The amounts paid has been taken from the Highfields outturn reports at financial year close and the 2015/16 budget figure has been taken from the latest Highfields monitoring report.

Description	12/13 Actual £000	13/14 Actual £000	14/15 Actual £000	15/16 Budget £000
Maintenance Employees	75	77	81	82
Materials & Transport	20	20	20	20
Provision of Boating (i.e. Colwick Lifeguards) *	70	26	26	26
Patrol Men (including share of Head) *		25	26	27
Other Park Recharges (e.g. Trees, Gang, Mowing, Supervisors)	26	22	15	29
Other adhoc Agency / Contract work	19	22	18	17
Total	210	192	186	201

* Please note in 2012/13 the Provision of Boating and Patrol Men was charged within the same budget area and as such it is unable to be split

The overall trend is for ground maintenance charges paid by Highfields Trust to decrease, with a 4.5% reduction in charges from 2012/13 to 2015/16. These cost reductions have arisen due to efficiency savings identified by Parks and Open Spaces as part of the City Council budget process.

4. FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

Included in the body of the report

5. LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

None

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

7. **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

Budget and outturn working papers.

8. **PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

Highfields Park Management Plan 2014 – 2024:

<http://www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk/insight/search/list.aspx?fl=64879>