

**WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY AREA COMMITTEE - 14 MAY 2009**

<b>Title of paper:</b>	<b>LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENT TO CROWN ISLAND, NOTTINGHAM RING ROAD</b>	
<b>Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):</b>	Lianne Taylor, Acting Director Local Communities	<b>Wards affected:</b> Wollaton West, Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey
<b>Contact Officer(s) and contact details:</b>	Madge Saunders – Neighbourhood Action Officer (Wollaton West) – Tel: 9158352 email: <a href="mailto:madge.saunders@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">madge.saunders@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a> Dawn Simpson – Neighbourhood Action Officer (Wollaton East) – Tel: 9158228 Email: <a href="mailto:dawn.simpson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">dawn.simpson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>	Jo Tarrant, Horticultural Officer – Email: <a href="mailto:horticultural.office@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">horticultural.office@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Relevant Council Plan theme(s):</b>		
Choose Nottingham		
Respect for Nottingham		
Transforming Nottingham’s Neighbourhoods		
Supporting Nottingham People		
Serving Nottingham Better		
<b>Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):</b>		
<p>Crown island is on the Nottingham ring road and as such is seen by many thousands of drivers each day. It has been planted for some years and many of the plants have outgrown their locations or have become old and woody. The site is difficult to maintain as each time work is needed a costly Traffic Management Systems must be employed to ensure safe working conditions for staff. It is proposed that the landscaped area is refurbished to enhance the visual appearance of the local environment and create a low maintenance display that will benefit the area and provide enjoyment to local people and visitors alike within reasonable cost limits.</p>		
<b>Recommendations</b>		
It is recommended that the Area Committee note this report.		

## **1 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Crown island is on the Nottingham ring round and as such is seen by many thousands of drivers each day. It has been planted for many years and many of the plants have outgrown their locations or have become woody and old.
- 1.2 The Island will be revitalised using monies from the Nottingham in Bloom initiative supplemented with the contribution from the Area Committee agreed at the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

## **2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)**

- 2.1 The island is currently in a poor condition and the additional investment to maintain it as a quality landscape feature agreed by the Area Committee at its meeting in March 2009 will ensure additional all year-round colour is provided to the island.
- 2.2 The grass verge on the western end of the island is very weedy and remedial works to bring it in line with the quality of the islands on the rest of the ring road will be included.

## **3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 "Ring Road Major Highways Scheme" improvement works that are proposed for the Nottingham Ring round will not be happening for some considerable time and when works do happen they should not affect the landscaped section of the traffic island.
- 3.2 Due to the cost of the traffic management scheme the works would be condensed into one-day's work and a price is being sort for Sunday working to allow extended working hours and hopefully minimise costs.
- 3.3 With the traffic management scheme in place, Street Scene would take the opportunity to carry out other routine grounds maintenance works to the island and enhance the overall aesthetics of the site.

## **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY)**

- 4.1 Current sponsor for the traffic island is John Brown Printers. They sponsor the island for £2500 of which £1000 goes on signage and £1500 goes into a Bloom contingency fund. From this, Nottingham in Bloom will contribute £1,000 towards the re-planting enhancement works with the remainder of the cost being met from the Area Committee as agreed at its recent meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009.
- 4.2 Any landscaping works on the island would require a full traffic management plan to ensure safe working of staff on the island. There is an estimated cost of around £1800 **per day** of works as set out in the costs below. Monday – Friday work would be allowed between the hours of 10am and 3pm or Sunday no time restrictions would be in place.
- 4.3 All costs and times are estimates at this stage, excluding plant prices which are fixed. Two prices will be submitted, based on Sunday working and weekday working

## **5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS AND EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS)**

- 5.1 Traffic management requirements would mean works on the island can only take place

between 10am and 3pm on week days, no such restrictions are in place for Sunday working but the additional labour costs will be incurred. Price of each option will be reported at the meeting.

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

6.1 Emails between the Horticulturalist and Street Scene requesting price details.

**7 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

7.1 Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Area Committee 8<sup>th</sup> January 2009 - Report of Director of Sport, Leisure and Parks, Nottingham in Bloom Neighbourhood Initiatives.

7.2 Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Area Committee 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009 - Landscape Improvement to Crown Island, Nottingham Ring Road

**CROWN ISLAND RE-LANDSCAPING WORKS****Grass renovation works (area d)**

(Works to be undertaken **before** rest of landscaping works)

- Carry out non selective weed killing on two occasion's two weeks apart.

(Works to be undertaken **after** rest of landscaping works)

- Rotovate grass area, level soil from kerb edge to shrub bed.
- Create a tilth suitable for grass seed sowing
- Sow a low maintenance grass seed on the area.

**Shrub bed renovation works (area c)**

- Dig out all shrubs marked on the plans.
- Remove all weeds
- Rotovate bed areas or hand dig if too small to access.
- Fork in 40L of composted green waste per meter square
- Plant all plants as per the planting plan
- Define the edge of the bed with the new grass areas
- Apply 50mm of ornamental bark across all newly planted shrub areas.

**Other works to the traffic island.**

- Clear all rubbish, weeds and debris from the existing shrub beds.
- Bark mulch all existing beds that are accessible and liable to weed growth

**Existing shrub maintenance to be undertaken**

- Pinus remove all dead and broken branches and clear out beneath the plants.
- Phormiums – clean out all old leaves and tidy through out
- Euonymus (**area a**) prune down to 4ft (**area b**) prune down to just above Olearia hedge height.

**Trees**

- remove any un-required tree stakes and ties

**Future maintenance on newly planted areas**

- All new herbaceous plant material should be cut down in late October each year and arisings removed

**Plant list**

Ref	Plant Name	Number	Size L	Unit Price
1	Crocosmia Lucifer	35	5	2.75
2	Helenium sahin's Early flowerer	30	3	2.75
3	Penstemon schoeholzeri	30	3	2.75
4	Sedum Vera Jameson	15	3	2.75
4a	Agapanthus africanus alba	15	3	3.95
5	Cornus midwinter fire	10	3	2.75
5a	Euphorbia pilosa major	15	3	2.75
6	Hemerocallis yellow	40	3	2.75
7	Bergenia silberlicht	15	2	2.75
8	Acanthus mollis	20	3	2.75
9	Kniphofia Brimstone	20	3	2.75
10	Mixed daffodils	100	Pots	1.20

			Total	£783.75
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Estimate

of costs

Task	Cost Midweek working 2 days	Cost Sunday working
Grass renovation works	£486.28	£609.18
New shrub bed creation works	£646.10	£747.63
Planting works	£147.68	£147.68
Mulching	£290.76	£290.76
Existing shrub bed maintenance	£221.52	£221.52
Traffic management	£1722.22 (two days)	£1416.66
Plant costs	£783.75	£783.75
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>£4298.31</b>	<b>£4217.18</b>
Price per visit of irrigation	£73.84 adhoc requirement	

**Grass seeding works need to be undertaken by the end of April to ensure successful germination and sward growth.**