

**Executive Board – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024**

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| <b>Subject:</b>   | <b>Formal Adoption of Greener, Healthier, Happier - Nottingham – Greenspace Strategy</b>  |
| <b>Corporate Director(s)/Director(s):</b>   | Colin Parr; Corporate Director Communities, Environment and Resident Services<br>Mary Lester; Strategic Director of Operations & Residents Services   |
| <b>Executive Member(s):</b>   | Councillor Sam Lux; Executive Member for Carbon Reduction, Leisure and Culture  |
| <b>Report author and contact details:</b>   | Eddie Curry, Head of Green Space & Natural Environment<br>Email; <a href="mailto:eddie.curry@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">eddie.curry@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a><br>Tel; 07949 061135              |
| <b>Other colleagues who have provided input:</b>  | Claire Smith-Harris - Greenspace Strategy and Inward Investment Manager.<br>Email: <a href="mailto:Claire.Smith-Harris@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">Claire.Smith-Harris@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Subject to call-in:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  |   |
| <b>Key Decision:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><b>Criteria for Key Decision:</b><br>(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £750,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision<br><b>and/or</b><br>(b) Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |   |
| <b>Type of expenditure:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital<br>If Capital, provide the date considered by Capital Board<br>Date:<br><br>There is no direct financial expenditure included in this decision.   |   |
| <b>Total value of the decision: £0</b>  |   |
| <b>Section 151 Officer expenditure approval</b><br>Has the spend been approved by the Section 151 Officer? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/a<br>Spend Control Board approval reference number: N/A   |   |
| <b>Commissioner Consideration</b><br>Has this report been shared with the Commissioners' Office? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Any comments the Commissioners wish to provide are listed below.  |   |
| <b>Wards affected: ALL</b>  |   |
| <b>Date of consultation with Executive Member(s): Cllr Sam Lux Executive Member for Carbon Reduction, Leisure and Culture</b><br>12/09/2024   |   |
| <b>Relevant Council Plan Key Outcome:</b>   |   |

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Green, Clean and Connected Communities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Keeping Nottingham Working             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Carbon Neutral by 2028                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Safer Nottingham                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Child-Friendly Nottingham              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Living Well in our Communities         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Keeping Nottingham Moving              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Improve the City Centre                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Better Housing                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Serving People Well                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

### **Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):**

This report provides details of the new Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham Greenspace strategy (GHH) and seeks adoption of the strategic action plan and its aims and objectives contained within the strategy.

The GHH strategy has been produced during a significant period of change and challenges for the Council. As a result, the GHH has been designed to ensure that it reflects the Council's revised strategic values and the aims of the Council's Improvement Plan.

#### **Council Values: -**

- Nottingham Is Healthy, Safe, Clean, Green, Proud and Ambitious

#### **Improvement Plan Aims:-**

- A council that delivers with clear direction and purpose
- A financially sustainable council:
- A well-run council with effective people, processes and systems:

#### **Therefore, the GHH Greenspace Strategy will seek to: -**

- Set clear targets and policies to improve and sustain the cities green and blue infrastructure.
- Protect and enhance our local habitats and biodiversity
- Engage our citizens to encourage participation and volunteering
- Provide stronger governance and monitoring of its delivery
- Provide a financially sustainable delivery model for Nottingham's Greenspace and Natural Environment.

The strategy lays out a framework for a programme of ambitious service improvements and hopes to deliver a Greener, Healthier, Happier, Nottingham. A City we can all be proud of.

This report seeks to highlight a strategic framework to define a 'direction of travel' for the city in determining how we deliver our green space assets during its lifetime. Adopting the strategy will support applications for funding from both the public and private sectors and is the ambition for achieving transformational change.

The strategy has been enabled through the Future Parks Accelerator programme (FPA) supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NHLF), the National Trust (NT) & the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DHLUC).

Nottingham City Council delivered the FPA programme from 2019 - 2023. The programme sought to design and develop innovative approaches to equip Local Authority's (LA'S) to become more insight-led, resident focussed and crucially financially sustainable.

The results have been to embrace subtle but significant change with potential

redesigns to better align resources with service priorities.

Outcomes include;

- A service with a more sustainable and secure financial future
- Managing fantastic parks and open spaces that meet the needs of local communities
- Happy healthy and engaged people
- Parks and open spaces that are protected and valued by all
- Increased biodiversity and thriving wildlife

The recent Environment Act <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/section/102> now includes the mandatory implementation of the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) process <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complying-with-the-biodiversity-duty> and is a statutory duty that all councils are required adopt.

BNG is a way of creating and improving natural habitats. BNG makes sure development has a measurably positive impact ('net gain') on biodiversity, compared to what was there before development.

In England, BNG has become mandatory under Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as inserted by Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021).

Developers must now deliver a BNG of 10%. This means a development will result in more or better-quality natural habitat than there was before development.

Current legislation (as of 12.2.24) under the Environment Act 2021, now states that all planning permissions granted in England (with a few exemptions) except for small sites must deliver at least 10% Biodiversity Net Gain. BNG is also required for small sites (as of 2.4.24). BNG is measured using Defra's biodiversity metric and all off-site and significant on-site habitats need to be secured for at least 30 years. This sits alongside:

- a strengthened legal duty for public bodies to conserve and enhance biodiversity,
- new biodiversity reporting requirements for local authorities, and
- mandatory spatial strategies for nature: Local Nature Recovery Strategies or 'LNRS'.

Delivering Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham and its associated strategies including the Volunteering strategy and the emerging Tree and Woodland strategy will help protect and maintain existing greenspace through the adoption of Natural England's 40% Urban Greening Factor (UGF) which will seek to both minimise loss and strategically deliver improved greenspace and natural environment across the city.

Other strategic benefits include climate change mitigation such as flood alleviation and improved air quality as well as public health, young people and greater inclusion and accessibility through strategies and initiatives such as Eating and Moving for Good Health, the Equality Act 2010, Child Friendly Nottingham and Make Space for Girls.

The social value of good quality parks and greenspaces over recent years has been widely recognised as a valued community asset and an essential part of the communities social / health infrastructure. The benefits of local access to nature and green spaces are recognised as being a major part of delivering improved health and wellbeing for our communities. Public Health and their Eating & Moving for Good Health strategic plan has been considered.

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| <p>It is well documented that being in and having access to nature has multiple benefits for people. As a result of this strategy, Nottingham residents will benefit from an increased sense of wellbeing, improved health outcomes and an overall sense of pride in their city which aspires to being designated as a Nature City.</p> |
| <p><b>Does this report contain any information that is exempt from publication?</b></p> <p><b>N/A</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>  |
| <p><b>1</b> To approve the Greener, Healthier, Happier, Nottingham Strategy (Appendix 1) and the accompanying Volunteering Strategy (Appendix 2), including their Visions, Aims &amp; Objectives and the strategic action plans as detailed in Section 2.</p>   |
| <p><b>2</b> To note there is no direct financial cost in adopting this strategy and that future transformational changes and improvement projects will be subject to future reports and NCC approval processes.</p>   |
| <p><b>3</b> To adopt Natural England's Urban Greening Factor (UGF) recommendation of 40% as a stretch target for greenspace within the city with the current amount of 38.1% as a baseline measure.</p>   |
| <p><b>4</b> To note the Statutory Duty and the subsequent delivery and implementation of the Environment Act 2021 (as detailed in the background section) including Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).</p>  |
| <p><b>5</b> To approve the proposal to continue the governance and oversight of the Strategy process by the Open &amp; Green Spaces Champions Group. (Appendix 3 Terms of Reference)</p>  |

## 1. Reasons for recommendations

- 1.1 As custodian of Nottingham's open and green spaces, NCC has a responsibility to protect and maintain its green assets. The strategy through its Vision, Aims and Objectives provides the strategic direction with definitive outputs and outcomes to ensure the delivery of a Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham.
- 1.2 The strategy is our framework that will help inform how we deliver our greenspace assets during its lifetime. This report highlights that specific required strategy transformational changes and additional required resources will need to seek approval through the necessary NCC approval procedures. Adopting the strategy will support external funding from both the public and private sectors and is the ambition for achieving transformational change.
- 1.3 Partnerships & Volunteering help scale presence and support existing resource enhancing outcomes. Although the strategy itself is not requiring financial support –

future action plans will have a requirement for funding. Sourced through income generation, sponsorship and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) contributions and other grant monies available.

- 1.4 To raise understanding and awareness of future changes to our greenspace landscape through the management, maintenance and development of green space in the city. The strategy acknowledges NCC's commitment through adoption to delivering Natural England's recommended 40% Urban Greening Factor as agreed by the Open & Green Spaces Champions Group.
- 1.5 In noting the statutory duty, BNG offers a whole council approach across all departments collaborating to deliver our legal obligations. Plans for determining the Best Value approach to our future delivery are being considered.
- 1.6 The Open and Green Spaces Champions Group consists of a multi-service membership made up of internal and external stakeholders with defined Terms of Reference chaired by the Portfolio Holder. This group will hold the strategy to account making recommendations for compliant, efficient, and effective implementation.

## **2 Background (including outcomes of consultation)**

- 2.1 The current and continuing financial pressures LA's face due to the reduction of central government grants and the increasing costs of delivering core services mean that our discretionary services require a foundation of innovation and collaboration to ensure city-wide sustainability and success. The Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham strategy will provide an even stronger strategic lead to inform the resourcing, staffing and longer-term development needs required for sustainable provision all of which are subject to subsequent decisions as each have a cost associated with them.
- 2.2 The previous greenspace strategy 'Breathing Space' is now out of plan period. Its success was to embed a consistent approach to the management and development of NCC's parks and open spaces. It addressed inconsistencies in the quality of assets and helped to share a wider understanding of the value of open and green spaces and their contribution to mitigating climate change, improving health and reducing social inequalities.
- 2.3 The achievement of over 70 Green Flag awards as well as multiple successful section S106 development projects leaves a strong legacy for the Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham strategy to build on.
- 2.4 In developing the strategy, the evidence base that has been used has been derived through detailed audits, consultation and data collation undertaken through the Future Parks Accelerator programme. Findings have provided insight to help inform the Vision, Aims and Objectives of the strategy, including understanding our overall public green/blue spaces currently covering 38.1% of the city's area.
- 2.5 Natural Capital Accounting was also used to determine the overall annual value that Nottingham's green and open spaces deliver for the city with £65 million per annum in health benefits to the city.
- 2.6 It was also found that there are around 1.1 million visits per month to our parks and open spaces (that contain 77% of the city's play areas), with 63% of residents visiting at least once per month.

2.7 Over 90% of people feel their park is important to their neighbourhood with nature, climate and wider environmental benefits also considered important. The summary of baseline characteristics makes recommendations for a prioritised approach to target critical resources to address inequalities and promote the capacity of greenspace to deliver beneficial ecosystem services and social purpose.

2.8 Detailed insight has been used to create a technical document and a summarised strategic action plan from which the overarching vision, mission statement, aims and objectives derive. This can be provided on request.

2.9 The four strategic aims of Greener, Healthier Happier Nottingham are;

**(i) Greener Connected Neighbourhoods**

Creating green networks across every part of Nottingham including the urban greening of streets, transport corridors and wider public realm areas to extend the benefits provided by the environment across the whole city.

Key Actions

- Further investigate and implement opportunities that work towards delivering a sustainable Best Value service in line with Council Policy, understanding potential options for future delivery, green finance, income growth, brand partnership and fundraising.
- Work towards a collectively agreed stretch target for an Urban Greening Factor (UGF) of 40% green cover using our agreed current baseline of 38.1% using the statutory legislation of the Environment Act 2021 which introduces BNG as the mechanism for delivery.

**(ii) Resilient, climate positive places**

Nottingham City council declared a climate and ecological emergency in 2019. Our greenspaces have a vital role to play in addressing some of the impacts of climate change including flood alleviation mitigations and improvements of the city's air quality.

Key Actions

- Develop a Tree and Woodland strategy including policy decisions for future management and a sustainability plan for ensuring a resilient and appropriate city tree landscape.
- Pioneer natural infrastructure solutions enhancing spaces for climate resilience by increasing biodiversity and tree canopy cover and the creation of new habitats to establish nature-rich corridors.

**(iii) An activated and healthy sustainable city**

Nottingham's open and green spaces located where people live and work can provide daily opportunities to experience nature connectedness whether visiting for a walk, as part of a daily commute or to join in with community events.

Key Actions

- We will continue to work with Public Health and other partners to deliver joint health and wellbeing objectives such as Eating and Moving for Good Health, agreeing a long-term approach to help address the inconsistency of delivery and enable focused interventions across key areas of our city.
- We will prioritise planned interventions that increase resident's involvement in park activities delivering a variety of schemes and programmes to develop our offer i.e., Green Social Prescribing, Make Space for Girls, food growing initiatives, Playzones and continuous improvements to city wide accessible play schemes linked with Child Friendly Nottingham priorities.

#### **(iv) Creating nature-rich beautiful spaces for people**

We will ensure that our open and greenspaces are fit for the future and create better places for people to both enjoy and be involved through a varied, engaging volunteering programme and through generating new activities and experiences reflective of our communities continuing to be relevant and responsive.

##### Key Actions

- We will implement the Volunteering Action plan which aims to increase the opportunities and demographic of the current volunteer profile. It promotes different ways of involving and activating residents and, in partnership with the Nottingham Open Spaces Forum create community campaigns and develop 'Friends of' groups.
  - Ensure the current focus on the benefits of greenspace including allotments continues to develop using an active community of diverse volunteers and partners advocating for green opportunities across the city.
  - Good quality green infrastructure delivers a range of positive social, environmental and economic outcomes.
- 3 Jon Sheaff Associates have produced a technical report by combining all the outputs of the FPA programme. Summaries, advice, and recommendations based on intensive work with partners, users and stakeholders for each area have been provided.  
Available on Request.
- 3.1 In conjunction with this, a strategic report (Appendix 1) succinctly summarises key themes and has been written and designed to outline the political and environmental context, detailing the strategic Aims, Vision, Mission, Values and actions. This is intended to be a public-facing document and has been produced in collaboration with key stakeholders.
- This is in alignment with the launch of the government's Environment Act 2021 which includes Biodiversity Net Gain mandatory legislation scheduled for January 2024 and the Council's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2028.
- 3.2 As part of the delivery of the FPA programme the Green Space and Natural Environment Service has been recognised as a leading authority in relation to the management of our Green Spaces and the advanced development of our Biodiversity Net Gain policies.

#### **4 Other options considered in making recommendations.**

- 4.1 Not to adopt the strategy - rejected - 3 years of detailed FPA work, auditing, consultation and partnership collaboration have been undertaken to create this strategy and the volunteering strategy. It gives the City a clear framework to grow, protect and sustain our greenspaces. Not to pursue its adoption removes a clear plan for the service and negates access to additional external funding.
- 4.2 Not to respond to data and insight gathered through the FPA programme and engagement with local residents that has led to the development of the Volunteering strategy and the emerging Tree and Woodland Strategy which will ensure community led solutions are fully explored and developed - rejected as would result in no plan to engage with local residents nor the opportunity to build capacity.
- 4.3 Not to agree to the implementation of the now mandatory BNG legislation and understand its impact on the Planning and Greenspace & Natural Environment Services - rejected - The Council will not be able to undertake the additional duties imposed by the Environment Act 2021 and fail to discharge a vital statutory duty.
- 4.4 Not to identify and investigate different delivery models for Greenspace Development will lead to Best Value opportunities being missed. Rejected - The FPA programme has considered various delivery models for all service areas that will be further interrogated as part of the delivery of the outputs of the strategy.

#### **5 Consideration of Risk**

**Please list any known risks and any mitigating actions.**

- 5.1 Risk management for specific strategy transformation changes will include identifications of risks and their mitigations.

Governance procedures for leading and directing the delivery of the outputs and outcomes of the strategy are in place. Where specific transformation changes are to be implemented a full risk assessment will be undertaken.

#### **6 Best Value Considerations, including consideration of Make or Buy where appropriate.**

- 6.1 The Greener, Happier, Healthier strategy is introducing a stretch target of increasing green space from 38.1% to 40% in line with Natural England's urban target. This is being considered in line with understanding Nottingham City's current and projected population and current and anticipated/ preferred quantity provision.
- 6.2 Comparisons will continue to be drawn with Core Cities to understand our assets offer versus population ratios to determine service provision levels.  
Core Cities Benchmarking - Market testing for capital builds – competitive procurement process, competitive lease & concessions processes (to be market tested)
- 6.3 The social value of good quality parks and greenspaces over recent years has been widely recognised as a valued community asset and an essential part of the communities social / health infrastructure. The benefits of local access to nature and green spaces are recognised as being a major part of delivering improved health and wellbeing for our communities. Continued evaluation of service facilities will continue to be explored to identify opportunities to further the mixed economy delivery model.



Natural Capital Accounting will be used to assess social value.

6.4 Natural Capital Accounting shows how parks and green spaces contribute to the economy and bring additional value for businesses. Research shows that Nottingham's greenspaces, covering 1,670 hectares of the city, generates £510 million over 10 years (Greenkeeper Tool 2021). This equates to approximately £306,000 per hectare in benefits to the City. The 2021 study shows Nottingham's green spaces create £285 per person per year of health amenity and carbon-based additional benefits. For every £1 spent on parks an estimated £7 in additional value for health & wellbeing and the environment is generated.

6.5 The CNCA balance sheet shows that when £1 is invested in Nottingham's parks the return to communities in terms of the value of benefits delivered by parks is more than £27.

The service offers a mixed economy model with parts of the delivery being offered through leases and management agreements especially in relation to sporting activities i.e. golf courses and football provision. Other areas are Allotments and some site-specific conservation areas. As a Local Authority we also benefit from S106 monies and grant funding which offers opportunities to improve provision across all areas of the service.

6.6 Capital schemes are procured via NCC frameworks or competitive tendering. Revenue funding is spent in line with corporate guidelines, where possible works are bundled together to maximise any economies of scale. The annual gearing ratio for Parks in terms of external capital funding received against NCC parks funding is 13:1. New Biodiversity net gain & off-setting legislation means new service policies are being created to support the implementation of new off-setting developer contributions policies to fund biodiversity/habitat improvements as part of new 30yr conservation covenants.

6.7 Parts of the green space services have been exposed to external markets. These include the outsourcing of all 3 Golf courses to the private and voluntary sector. The outsourcing of sports facilities and sports grounds and the outsourcing of the majority of allotment sites directly to associations and trusts.

6.8 As part of the delivery of the strategy new opportunities for further mixed economy delivery opportunities will be considered and business cases will be brought forward as per the necessary NCC approval procedures.

Examples of recent service delivery options considered through Best Value reviews include;

DIY            In-house provision assessed through FPA work and future benchmarking with other authorities.

BIY            Capital projects delivered by NCC including grant partnership funding. Procurement for all projects undertaken in-house through procurement and major programmes project teams

BIWO         Some sites have management agreements and capital improvement builds are delivered jointly with sport specific frameworks used i.e. Football Foundation, St Ann's Allotments.

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| DIFO   | Some commercial opportunities have been developed such as adventure golf centres, ice cream, café concessions, delivery of specific outdoor activities i.e. open water swimming. |
| EO     | Individual site trusts i.e. St Ann's Allotments, Greensmill , Harvey Hadden and Highfields Park Trust  |
| REDUCE | NCC Bowls greens - Clifton & Lenton re-purposed.   |
| STOP   | Pitch & Putt closed @ Woodthorpe Grange  |

## **7. Commissioners Comments**

7.1 Commissioners are content with the report

## **8. Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money/VAT)**

8.1 Although the strategy itself is not requiring financial support – future action plans will have a requirement for funding. Sourced through income generation, sponsorship and BNG contributions and other grant monies available

8.2 Finance would need to be consulted for any future costing implications related to the strategy to ensure value for money and best value is being considered. Finance would also be involved with any financial modelling and analysis of any decisions to ensure financial sustainability and accuracy in the calculations of any future options.

8.3 There will be greater emphasis on service area to monitor their spending, but finance would also be working closely with the service area and challenging where appropriate.

**Sohaib Chaudhry – Senior Commercial Business Partner (Resident Services)**  
**06/08/24**

## **9. Legal colleague comments**

9.1 This report seeks the approval of the Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham Greenspace strategy (GHH), the adoption of Natural England's Urban Greening Factor (UGF) recommendation of 40% as a stretch target for greenspace within the city with the current amount of 38.1% as a baseline measure, noting the impact of provisions in the Environment Act 2021 around Biodiversity Net Gain, the continued operation of the Open & Green Spaces Champions Group as part of the governance arrangements for the Council and approval of the designation of Nottingham as a Nature City.

9.2 There are no direct costs involved in adopting the GHH, with future actions and projects that do require funding being subject to the Council's existing governance processes. To that end, the proposed recommendations of the report present no significant legal risks generally.

9.3 Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021 inserts Schedule 7A into the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. It requires that all planning permissions granted in England (with a few exemptions) will have to deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain; this should mean a development will result in more or better-quality natural habitat than there was before the development. The biodiversity net gain will be measured

using DEFRA's biodiversity metric and all off-site and on-site habitats will need to be secured for at least 30 years.

9.4 It is understood that the Open & Green Spaces Champions Group is not a decision-making body for the Council but will ensure future actions and projects are in accordance with the GHH. As the report cites the GHH as supporting external funding and other strategic benefits, these might usefully be used as KPI's and incorporated into the relevant terms of reference to measure the effectiveness of both the GHH and the Open & Green Spaces Champions Group.

**Anthony Heath - Head of Legal Services .12/08/24**

## 10 Other relevant comments

| <b>Directorate</b>   | <b>Name</b>             | <b>Role Title</b>   | <b>Date of Comments</b> |
|--|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Procurement</b>   | <b>Sue Oliver</b>       | <b>Category Manager</b>                                       | <b>10/09/24</b>         |
| <p>After reviewing the recommendations set out in the report there is no procurement activity and therefore procurement comments aren't required. If this changes appropriate procurement approvals will be required in order to invite and award tenders.</p>   |                         |   |                         |
| <b>Planning</b>  | <b>Matt Gregory</b>     | <b>Head of Planning Strategy &amp; Geographic Information</b> | <b>08/08/24</b>         |
| <p>The Planning service has been part of the steering arrangements of the Greenspace Strategy (Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham). Its adoption will enable the relevant proposals and findings of the Strategy to be reflected in future local planning documents, including the statutory development plan, which is part of the City Councils formal Policy Framework.</p>   |                         |   |                         |
| <b>Property</b>  | <b>Beverley Gouveia</b> | <b>Head of Property</b>                                       | <b>06/08/24</b>         |
| <p>Strategic Assets &amp; Property (SA&amp;P) will support and work with the Communities, Environment and Residents Services directorate to deliver the Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham Greenspace strategy (GHH) by using the business partners relationship between Strategic Asset Management and Leisure to assist the delivery of the strategic action plan. The recommendations set out in the report do not raised any significant concerns and it is noted that the plan will have a focus on Biodiversity Net Gain and the need to discharge the Council's legal obligations and the Tree &amp; Woodland Strategy, these are two workstreams which SA&amp;P will work with CERS to deliver whilst balancing this off against the requirement to deliver significant capital receipts and deliver best value.</p> |                         |   |                         |
| <b>Public Health</b>   | <b>David Johns</b>      | <b>Deputy Director of Public Health</b>                       | <b>06/08/24</b>         |
| <p>Public Health welcomes the recognition in the Greener, Healthier, Happier strategy, of the role green spaces play in the health and wellbeing of residents. The strategy links closely</p>  |                         |   |                         |

|  |                     |                                       |                   |
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| <p>with the vision and aims of the Eating and Moving for Good Health strategy, an area of focus for the Nottingham City Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>We share the willingness to work together and alongside health colleagues to help residents maximise their health and wellbeing. As outlined, this will be achieved through the combination of improving access to the natural infrastructure of the city whilst also providing opportunities to volunteer and/or participate in planned, targeted activities within our green spaces.</p>  |                     |                                       |                   |
| <b>Children's Services</b>   | <b>Ekua Ghansah</b> | <b>Child Friendly Nottingham Lead</b> | <b>30/07/2024</b> |
| <p>Nottingham's Child Friendly City Programme will support and work with the Greener, Healthier, Happier Nottingham Greenspace Strategy (GHH) by working together with colleagues and partners.</p> <p>The Child Friendly Nottingham (CFN) programme will benefit and is supportive of green space play. Nottingham's parks were identified as being children and young people's favourites spaces within their community in Nottingham during the CFN Discovery Consultation (2022-2023).</p> <p>The recommendation within the report aligns with CFN priorities to support health and the need for parks and green spaces becoming a safer place which also support the Safe and Secure CFN priority. This can be supported by consultation with children and young people and improving access. This will provide opportunities for children, young people and their families within their local areas and across the city. Continued evaluation of service facilities can be explored and include children and young people's voice to develop and maximise positive change within Nottingham for our youngest citizens.</p> <p>The CFN programme will support the delivery of the strategic action plan and ensure a child's based rights approach and the 7 principles are adopted and utilised in order to support children's rights, their direct input through consultation and change by working together on how children and young people will be involved in local decisions and city changes.</p> |                     |                                       |                   |
| <b>Community Services</b>  | <b>Shaun Miles</b>  | <b>Head of Community Services</b>     | <b>30/07/2024</b> |
| <p>Community Services support the recommendations in this report. The availability and use of green space for exercise and enjoyment will improve the physical and mental health of citizens and help address emerging concerns around social isolation and obesity.</p> <p>Sports &amp; Leisure teams will be attentive to the opportunity to work in partnership to further develop the potential to improve citizens health and wellbeing with the themes highlighted in this report.</p>   |                     |                                       |                   |

## 11. Crime and Disorder Implications (If Applicable)

GHH proposes transformational change throughout its lifecycle which impacts directly on our residents. Projects to improve safety within parks and open spaces plus increased activities and opportunities to encourage residents to get involved in voluntary, sporting and wellbeing programmes will help provide diversionary activities for residents to get involved with.

## 12. Social value considerations (If Applicable)

12.1 The Greenspace service comprises of several different service areas that are delivered in a variety of ways, e.g. Allotments is a statutory service that requires managing as part of our core offer. Volunteering however is being delivered in answer to our social commitments encouraging citizens to be more involved, increasing self-empowerment, upskilling and informing and mentoring. Biodiversity is statutory but delivering quality parks is not. All services are interlinked and interrelated with their delivery providing social value including benefits to health and wellbeing, community empowerment and educational learning.

12.2 It is now nationally recognised how vital the benefits to our communities being able to use and enjoy our open and green spaces, whether it be for exercise, socially, for sporting activities or food growing, volunteering or to just relax is vital to both individuals and communities alike.

12.3 Delivering the GHH strategy focusses on how the service delivers moving forward. Delivering our volunteering strategy and continued partnership working will increase positive activities, engaging with our residents and looking at improving social justice opportunities across the city

### **13. Regard to the NHS Constitution (If Applicable)**

Local authorities have a statutory duty to have regard to the NHS Constitution when exercising their public health functions under the NHS Act 2006. In making this decision relating to public health functions, we have properly considered the NHS Constitution where applicable and have considered how it can be applied in order to commission services to improve the health of the local community.

### **14. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)**

Has the equality impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

Yes

Please see Appendix 4

In addition, when implementing either transformation changes or where activity-based programmes are planned, individual EIA's will be produced.

### **15. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)**

Has the data protection impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No

A DPIA is not required because the strategy itself has not collected and does not contain any personal information therefore a DPIA is not required however, subsequent elements

Yes

### **16. Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) (speak to Chris Common as to whether the strategy itself requires this or if its more the outputs)**

Has the carbon impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No

Yes

Please see Appendix 5

The strategy will inform strategic delivery of carbon activities that will positively impact and improve carbon reduction across the City directly linking to the 2028 Carbon Neutral Action Plan.

During the lifetime of the strategy, we will increase the amount of greenspace to 40% and will periodically measure the natural capital that this will provide.

As part of increasing this amount there will be added ecosystem benefits plus biodiversity net gain and tree canopy cover improvements, flood mitigation and air quality improvements.

**17.**

**List of background papers relied upon in writing this report (not including published documents or confidential or exempt information)**

16.1 The Strategic Report

16.2 The Volunteering Strategy

16.3 Terms of Reference – Open and Green Spaces Champions Group

16.4 Environmental Impact Assessment

16.5 Carbon Impact Assessment