

LEEDS PARKS & GREEN SPACES STRATEGY TO 2032



We aim to provide the best parks and green spaces in the UK

Parks & Countryside Service Priorities

GOALS:

- a) To provide good quality public green space that people want to visit, prioritising areas of deprivation.
- b) To provide a wide range of opportunities for people to be physically active in green spaces across the city.
- c) For our green spaces to be used for 'active travel' (walking and cycling) to get around the city.
- d) For people to use 'active travel' to get to and from our green spaces.
- e) To increase awareness of the benefits of spending time in green space for physical and mental health.

Health and wellbeing

Providing a wide range of opportunities for people to get the health benefits of spending time in green spaces.

Quality

Providing high quality parks and green spaces.

- ### GOALS:
- a) For all city parks to retain the Green Flag award.
 - b) For all community parks to reach Leeds Quality Park standard.
 - c) For all cemeteries and crematoria to reach Leeds Quality Park standard.
 - d) For all community parks to have a 'plan on a page'.
 - e) For our visitor attractions to meet the *Visit England* Quality Assurance Standard.
 - f) To have excellent animal welfare standards in our zoos and at Home Farm.
 - g) To reduce anti-social behaviour at our public green spaces.

GOALS:

- a) For public parks and green spaces to continue to be managed and core funded by Leeds City Council, as a public service, for the benefit of the residents and visitors to Leeds.
- b) To balance the Parks and Countryside budget whilst achieving the other aims of strategy.

Financial sustainability

Ensuring that good quality public green space is available for the long term.

Climate and biodiversity

Increasing wildlife and biodiversity and reducing the impact of climate change.

- ### GOALS:
- a) To plant 50 hectares of woodland each year.
 - b) For all our woodland management to meet the UK Forestry and UK Woodland Assurance Standards.
 - c) To increase the quantity, quality, size, variety and connectedness of wildlife habitat on our green spaces.
 - d) To eliminate the use of peat in our operations.
 - e) To provide well managed allotment sites across the city.
 - f) To minimise any negative impact the Parks and Countryside Service has on the environment.
 - g) For our zoos to retain the BIAZA accreditation for conservation of the natural world, animal welfare and education.
 - h) To provide activities for over 5,000 people a year to inspire them about nature and teach them about local wildlife, climate change, and how they can help.

GOALS:

- a) To provide good customer service
- b) To achieve gold in the Charter for the Bereaved annual assessment for both cremations and burial-related services.
- c) To provide parks and green spaces that are well-used and valued by local residents.
- d) To work in partnership with *Friends of, In Bloom* groups and other relevant community organisations.
- e) To increase volunteer engagement with the Parks and Countryside Service.
- f) To work in partnerships where they can help us deliver the aims of the strategy more effectively than we can do alone.
- g) To learn from other organisations.

Working with communities

Having a positive, open, helpful and collaborative approach.

Access for all

Ensuring that parks and green spaces are accessible to everyone.

- ### GOALS:
- a) For all parks and cemeteries & crematoria to be judged as 'good' or higher in the 'equal access for all' LQP criteria.
 - b) To ensure our parks and green spaces are welcoming and accessible for older people.
 - c) To continue to provide well maintained, accessible public toilets in all our city parks and the Arium.
 - d) To provide correct, up to date and easy to understand information about our sites online.
 - e) To ensure access to our visitor attractions remains affordable.
 - f) For our green spaces to feel safe and welcoming for girls and women.
 - g) For our parks and green spaces to provide something for all Leeds residents.
 - h) To increase the diversity of the workforce in the Parks and Countryside team.

Child friendly

Providing green spaces that children and teenagers love to visit.

Culture

Providing exciting, diverse, interesting and enjoyable green spaces that reflect the history and culture of their local communities.

- ### GOALS:
- a) To provide a range of fantastic visitor attractions.
 - b) For lifelong learning to be integrated into our parks, green spaces and associated visitor facilities.
 - c) For our city parks and visitor attractions to be recognised as key elements of local tourism offer.
 - d) To preserve, promote and provide information about features of cultural interest (e.g. historic landmarks) found at our sites.
 - e) To host a diverse range of events in green spaces across the city every year.
 - f) To provide exciting and diverse parks that reflect the history and culture of their local communities.

KPI's

- a) Number of sites that reach the *Leeds Quality Park* standard.
- b) Hectares of trees planted.

- ### GOALS:
- a) To have child friendly parks and green spaces.
 - b) To have a wide range of good quality play facilities for children of all ages and abilities across the city.
 - c) To ensure there is good provision for teenagers in our parks and green spaces.
 - d) For there to be clear information available on the internet about facilities for children and teenagers in our parks and green spaces.