

LAND & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES VICTORIA PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013 - 2018



Victoria Park Vision

To ensure that Victoria Park provides high quality facilities freely available that meet the recreational; leisure, educational and environmental needs of the community whilst protecting historical aspects and landscape character of the park.

VICTORIA PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Looking east across the boating pond

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction to Victoria Park

- 1.1.1 Victoria Park has a uniquely rich combination of historical, cultural and environmental heritage and outstanding landscape and conservation values.
- 1.1.2 The park was created at the end of the 19th century, after negotiations between Partick Municipal Authorities and Mr. James Oswald of Scotstoun, to provide a park for the people of Partick Burgh.
- 1.1.3 During the construction of the park workers cutting a road through Quarry Knowe, discovered eleven fossil trunks and roots of trees which were over 330 million years old.
- 1.1.4 The significance of Victoria Park has been recognised locally as well as nationally by its inclusion in An Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland. This inventory prepared by Historic Scotland, recognises Scotland's most important gardens and designed landscapes. Victoria Park is one of four such sites in Glasgow.
- 1.1.5 Although a designed landscape, the park also has to satisfy the demands of the public for new uses. Additions to the park such as upgrading the play area and programming a new planting scheme for the rock garden adjacent to the Fossil Grove have to fit within the historical setting and yet satisfy public demand.
- 1.1.6 In summary Victoria Park is located in attractive grounds, attracting over 250,000 visitors each year and boasts extensive formal and informal gardens, carpet bedding, arboretum and museum housing pre-historic fossils.

1.2 Summary Information

Park Name: Victoria Park

Location: Victoria Park

14 Victoria Park Drive North

Glasgow G14 9NN

Postal Address: Land and Environmental Services

Glasgow City Council Exchange House 231 George Street Glasgow G1 1RX

Size of Site: 20 Hectares (50 Acres)

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries

Phone: 01412875064

Email: les@glasgow.gov.uk

Ownership: Glasgow City Council

Area Committee: Patrick West

Electoral Wards: Multi Member Ward 12, Partick West.

Multi Member wards means there is political interest

from 4 City Councillors,

2 Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSP's), 2 Members of Parliament (MP's) and 6 Members of the

European Parliament (MEP's).

Classification: District Park

Park Staff City Parks and Open Spaces Manager - Management

and Development Function

Parks Operations Manager- Maintenance and

Construction Function.

Plan Written By: Parks Development

Previous Plan: This is year 1 of the Management Plan

Partners Glasgow Life - Outdoor recreations (bowling, putting

and tennis)

Cordia - Public toilets

Access Glasgow - Building maintenance

Fossil Grove Trust

Partick Curling Club – ground and building leased to

Trustees of Partick Curling Club

Scottish Water- Green waste composting

1.3 Glasgow's Parks and Open Spaces – An Introduction

- 1.3.1 Glasgow has over 90 Parks and Formal Gardens within the City boundaries and such is the diversity of these parks there is somewhere to suit everyone. Quality parks and open spaces are key factors in making our towns and cities attractive and viable places to live and are an integral part of the community. Parks and open spaces are major public resources which underpin many aspects of daily life, including providing opportunities for formal and informal sport and recreation, children's play, nature conservation, improving health and well being, combating pollution, facilitating urban renewal and attracting economic development.
- 1.3.2 Everyone, irrespective of age, race, gender or ability, benefits from parks and open spaces. These areas are also an essential element of the regeneration process in Glasgow and in recognition of this, the City Plan has set out standards for the provision of open space, emphasising the importance of the "green network" in the city. Glasgow is extremely fortunate in that it has a rich heritage of parks and open spaces, many of which have been in existence for over 100 years.
- 1.3.3 Glasgow City Council is committed to retaining and improving the quality of its parks and open spaces and will use the Green Flag judging criteria as a basis for determining areas for improvement and to determine priorities for the annual project submissions to the Parks Development Programme.

1.4 Strategic Policy Framework

- 1.4.1 Glasgow has over 90 parks and greenspaces which are strategically managed around the guiding principle that "together they provide something for everyone but individually each park has specific purposes which allow certain parks to primarily for amenity value, whilst others are managed for wildlife. It is recognised that these plans will be produced prior to the publication of the Glasgow Open Space Strategy which is currently in development. Therefore it is unknown how these plans will fit into 'the bigger picture' of Glasgow greenspace. The Park Management Plans should ideally be implemented with the benefit of this city-wide strategy context. The Management Plans will be reviewed to reflect this when the strategy is complete.
- 1.4.2 The consideration of these major parks as part of the overall green network throughout the City will assist in ensuring an overall view of the future planning of greenspace takes place. This is a necessity, as is linking with other key strategies such as the Core Path plan and Glasgow Open Space Strategy in which issues of connectivity and sustainability are important, as is local access to green space for communities throughout Glasgow.
- 1.4.3 In 2005, the Council published the 'Strategic Best Value Review of Parks and Open Spaces' (the Best Value Review).
- 1.4.4 The Best Value Review identified 8 specific objectives in the form of recommendations for improved service delivery for all of the cities parks and open spaces. These set the context for the development of this Management Plan and are, in summary:
 - To deliver a clear commitment to encourage greater use of parks.

- To introduce a range of measures that will deliver service improvements in line with the Council's Key Objectives and customer expectations.
- To develop and enhance the range of facilities and amenities within parks through partnership working and other approaches.
- To reconfigure the service to deliver quality and best value.
- To deliver a comprehensive parks service through education and conservation initiatives, preservation of traditional parkland, and promotion of horticultural excellence and defining service standards.
- To create a better understanding and awareness of the parks service through improved marketing and promotion.
- To communicate effectively with staff, external agencies, communities and other Council Services.
- To develop a corporate approach to the planning and delivery of services by implementing the cross-cutting proposals identified during the review.
- 1.4.5 In addition to the Review, this plan has been informed by a number of national and local policies and objectives see Appendices section 6 6.1. Appendix 1.

1.5 Management Plan Framework

- 1.5.1 This plan sets out the future management, maintenance and development of Victoria Park and has been produced by Glasgow City Council to provide not only a long-term vision but also details on both developmental and operational duties required to achieve that vision.
- 1.5.2 The plan covers the period 2013 to 2018 and has a detailed plan of works for that period.

1.6 Purpose of the Management Plan

1.6.1 Like any management plan its purpose is to:

"Provide a framework within which all future management is carried out. The Plan enables any person involved to understand how and why decisions are taken and the reasoning behind the policies and proposals for action."

- 1.6.2 This plan's target audience is Elected Members, the local community, friends group, stakeholders and Council Officers and its style and content should ensure continuity of purpose and consistency in service delivery. It is intended to be a flexible, working document that will be reviewed and updated annually.
- 1.6.3 The principal aim of this management plan therefore is;
 - To aid the efficient and effective management, maintenance and development of Victoria Park.
- 1.6.4 In doing so the Council will:

- Involve all stakeholders, officers and elected members to monitor, review and amend the Plan.
- Identify and bid for additional resources where necessary.

1.7 Green Flag Award Scheme

- 1.7.1 The Green Flag Award Scheme is an established national standard for quality in greenspace management in England and Wales. It has been piloted as a scheme for benchmarking the quality of parks and green spaces in Scotland since 2007 by Greenspace Scotland in partnership with The Civic Trust in England.
- 1.7.2 Following the success of the pilots the Green Flag Award scheme is now available in Scotland administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful.

1.8 How to Use This Plan

1.8.1 This plan will discuss the context of Victoria Park Management Plan; it examines where we are now and the actions to be taken to where we want to get to. The Plan will also examine actions that will be carried out over the next five years, reviewed annually and updated to ensure the efficient and effective management and maintenance of Victoria Park. The Parks Management Plan conforms to Green Flag Award Scheme criteria which provide the eligibility for submission.

SECTION 2 WHERE ARE WE NOW?

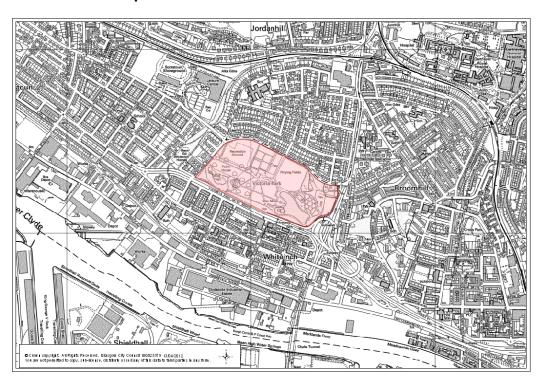
2.1 History

- 2.1.1 For many years Partick Burgh had wanted to provide a park for its people and in 1885 Partick Municipal Authorities negotiated with Mr Oswald's to acquire land for a public park.
- 2.1.2 Work started on laying out the park in 1886 when there was a depression in the ship-building trade, so there were many men looking for work. Creating the park provided work to over 1,000 unemployed men with nearly £4,000 spent on wages.
- 2.1.3 In 1887 a path was being dug across a disused whinstone quarry. Curious fossil-like items were found throughout the area. These were later confirmed as fossilised tree trunks whose stumps had filled with sand over the ages leaving perfect fossils of the stumps remaining. They have been dated at 330 million years.
- 2.1.4 Victoria Park was formally opened by Partick's Provost Sir Andrew MacLean in 1887
- 2.1.5 When it first opened, the park covered an area of about 46 acres. Extensions to the park in 1894 and 1909 allowed the development of some new features which included bowling greens and a magnificent bandstand that attracted audiences of over 100,000 during the 1913 season.
- 2.1.5 By 1890 the building around the Fossil trees was completed and opened to the public.
- 2.1.6 The main entrance to the park was at Balshagray Avenue and the Good Ladies of Partick (a charitable organisation) donated the ornamental gates and pillars. These were relocated to Victoria Park Drive North when the east end of the park was given up in the 1960s to make way for the approach roads for the Clyde Tunnel.
- 2.1.7 A history of the development of Victoria Park taken from Historic Scotland web site can be found in Appendices section 6 6.2.

2.2 The Locality

- 2.2.1 Victoria Park known locally as Whiteinch Park lies approximately 5 miles west of Glasgow city centre on the north side of the River Clyde adjacent to the A814. The park is laid out on an east-west axis with a boating pond at the eastern end. The setting is entirely urban and residential.
- 2.2.2 Victoria Park lies between the districts of Partick to the east, Jordanhill to the north, Scotstoun to the west, and Whiteinch to the south. There are a number of local shops located in Whiteinch and Scotstoun around a 10 minute walk from the park.
- 2.2.3 The Park is bounded to the south by the Clydeside Expressway (A814), to the east by the approach road to the Clyde Tunnel (A739), to the north by Victoria Park Drive North and to the west by Westland Drive.
- 2.2.4 Other major facilities near the park include Scotstoun Leisure Centre and running track.

2.2.5 Location Map



2.3 Map of Facilities



SECTION 2.4 VICTORIA PARK A WELCOMING PLACE



Relaxing in the park

Our aim is to ensure that Victoria Park is welcoming and accessible to all users.

This section of the Management Plan examines Victoria Park as a Welcoming Place under the following headings.

- Entrances and Access.
- Signage.
- Park Furniture.
- Accessible to All.

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

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Email: les@glasgow.gov.uk

Web Site www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks

2.4 A WELCOMING PLACE

- 2.4.1 Victoria Park is a designed landscape with sweeping paths, extensive formal and informal Gardens, an arboretum, boating pond and recreational facilities. The floral displays are among the finest in the country which boasts formal flower displays and carpet bedding. The park also contains; a museum housing beautifully preserved fossil tree trunks of an extinct species called Scale trees which grew around 330 million years ago during the Carboniferous era. Today the Fossil Grove is classed as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and has also been designated as a 'Regionally Important Geological Site'. This variety of facilities makes the park an exciting and interesting place to be and invites visitors to return time and time again.
- 2.4.2 Entrances and Access. The Park covers an area of 20 Hectares (50 acres) and has a variety of entrances and exits some from quiet residential streets others on busy main roads. All of the entrances offer views into the park and are free from overhanging vegetation and open out into the landscape. Though many gates are present these are not locked providing 24 hour access to all areas other than buildings. Pedestrian crossing points are provided at busy junctions and at various points on the surrounding roads. A pedestrian underpass on the Clydeside Expressway is located adjacent to the exit gate next to the boating pond.
- 2.4.3 Due to the closure of the vehicle entrance on Westland Drive and the introduction of a new pedestrian gate with steps, there is now no suitable access at this location for people with disabilities and mobility impairment. A review of the access at this location is required.
- 2.4.4 There are certain areas within the grounds of the Fossil Grove which are unsuitable for people with disabilities and mobility impairment due to the topography of the landscape.
 A review of the access at this location is required.
- 2.4.5 Signage. In common with all of Glasgow's parks Victoria Park has signage on the perimeter fencing adjacent to gates identifying the name of the park. There are 2 information cabinets placed at strategic points within the park containing detailed maps and key information about the facilities available in the Park. A further two sites at the Clydeside Expressway entrance and the Westland Drive entrance has been identified as suitable sites for information cabinets.
- 2.4.6 Directional signage in the form of finger posts are located throughout and some interpretation is present at key features. The park would benefit from more interpretation of the horticultural and ecological features such as the Quarry Knowe Rock Garden and Fossil Grove Museum to better inform users of its uniqueness and content.
- 2.4.7 There are at present no directional signs to the park on the surrounding roads and footpaths. However, Glasgow City Council has established a working group to review directional signage on roads and footpaths to direct visitors to attractions throughout the city. It is intended to make representation to this working group to have all of Glasgow's strategic parks including Victoria Park adequately signed on both roads and footpaths.

- 2.4.8 Park Furniture. Victoria Park has a good stock of seating of consistent style and is adequately served with litter bins. As previously described information boxes, internal signage and interpretation require some upgrading. Damaged items are either repaired or replaced as required however they do not have specific regular maintenance assigned to ensure they are cleaned and or painted, stained or varnished at least once per annum. At present maintenance is carried out at the discretion of the Neighbourhood Services Manager on an individual needs basis. However, to demonstrate consistency of approach and presentation all items of furniture within Victoria Park should be put on an appropriate annual maintenance regime.
- 2.4.9 **Accessible to All.** Victoria Park offers access to the infirm and disabled and all sectors of the community; there are no barriers to entry. Travel arrangements to Victoria Park are:
 - Train There are stations at Hyndland and Jordanhill, both are approximately a 15 minute walk from the park.
 - Bus Various routes operate from the city centre to Dumbarton Road and Victoria Park Drive North.
 - Car From central Glasgow on the north side of the River Clyde follow the A814, Clydeside Expressway onto the A739 North for Aberfoyle, turn left at the first set of traffic lights, the park is located on the left hand side. There is limited on street parking in the area around the park (please adhere to any local restrictions).
 - Walking/Cycling There are various access points to the park from Victoria Park Drive North, Balshagray Avenue, Westland Drive and Victoria Park Drive South.
- 2.4.10 Many people use parks for contemplation relaxation exercise or walking the dog. Others visit because there are many facilities and lots of things to see and do. Victoria Park is able to offer both as an attractive landscape and a broad range of things to see and do in the Park.

Key features of Victoria Park – see plan – include:

- Fossil Grove Museum
- Quarry Knowe Rock Garden
- The Nature Pond
- War Memorial
- Monument to SS Daphne

- Boating Pond
- Formal Gardens
- Play Area
- Bowling, Tennis and Pitch and Putt
- Main Entrance on Victoria Park Drive North

SECTION 2.5 VICTORIA PARK HEALTHY SAFE AND SECURE



Carpet Bedding

Our aim is to ensure the safety of all staff and users of Victoria Park.

This section of the Management Plan examines Victoria Park as a Healthy Safe and Secure place under the following headings.

- Equipment and Facilities.
- Security.
- Dog Fouling.
- Health and Safety Policies.
- Location of Facilities in the Park.

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

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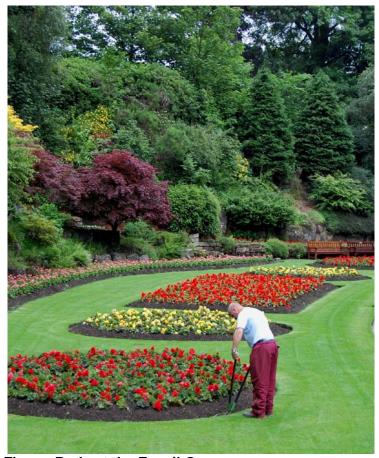
2.5 HEALTHY SAFE AND SECURE

- 2.5.2 **Equipment and Facilities.** There is a recognised procedure for the issue repair and maintenance of machinery tools and equipment.
- 2.5.3 Any machines issued for use shall be documented on a Daily Machinery Issue Form.
- 2.5.4 It shall be the responsibility of the operator(s) to ensure that machines are returned in good working order. It shall be the responsibility of the store person or other delegated employee to document the return of allocated machinery on the Daily Machinery Issue Form.
- 2.5.4 In the case where grass-cutting machinery has developed a fault during the working day, the operator will assess if the fault can be rectified by him/her and if so, the work shall be carried out and recorded on the Depot Minor Repair Form. If not, it shall be reported to the issuer.
- 2.5.5 The issuer will instigate the Procedure for the Recording of Breakdown and Repair of Machinery. In the case where hand tools require repair/replacement, the defective items shall be quarantined as per the Procedure for the Recording of Breakdown and Repair of Machinery, and thereafter a purchase requisition raised to effect the repair/replacement
- **2.5.6 Play Equipment.** All equipment in the park is visually checked daily any defects are recorded at the operational depot and repairs instructed. If the defect is thought to present a danger then the item of equipment is immobilised until a repair can be affected.
- 2.5.7 A full technical inspection involving a strip down of equipment is carried out every three months by the in house blacksmiths team. All defects noted at the point of inspection are repaired and a record of all repairs is maintained by the Blacksmiths.
- 2.5.8 Land and Environmental Services will continue to monitor, review and develop safety procedures to ensure equipment and facilities are safe to use.
- 2.5.9 Security. There are 4 CCTV cameras in the park which are monitored by the Councils Community Safety Service monitoring station at Blochairn in Glasgow. There are 2 cameras located at the Fossil Grove, one at the Children's Play area and the other at the east end of the boating pond. There are no help and information points within the park. The installation of help/information points would provide better information and security for visitors.

 There are no lights in the park.

- 2.5.10 Maintenance operatives are in the park on a daily basis which helps to provide a sense of security. The police cycle patrols and patrol vans regularly pass through the Park. Land and Environmental Neighbourhood Services Operational Team have a base in the south east corner of the park.
- 2.5.11 Dog Fouling. In Glasgow there is a citywide campaign called "Bag it and Bin it" to encourage dog owners to pick up dog fouling and dispose of it safely. Dog owners who do not bag and bin dog fouling can face a fine of £50. It has been established that there is no special requirement for special dog waste bins and owners are encouraged to deposit dog fouling in the normal waste bins in the park or take it home to their domestic waste bin. The park management rules are clear about dog fouling and the control of dogs in the park and are posted in notice boards at Victoria Park Drive North and Westland Drive/Clydeside Expressway entrances to the park. Enforcement of dog fouling is an issue as Land and Environmental Services do not have officers in parks able to impose fines on offending dog owners. To address this issue LES plan to develop a partnership with the Glasgow Community Safety Services Team for them to visit identified hotspots and deliver effective enforcement measures.
- 2.5.12 **Health and Safety Policies.** Land and Environmental Services have a dedicated team to develop, review, audit and monitor Health and Safety in all areas of LES responsibility. A copy of the Health and Safety Manual is available at the Neighbourhood Services Operations Depot at Victoria Park this being the depot responsible for all maintenance and equipment in Victoria Park. Regular revisions to the manual are issued and master records maintained by the Policy Development Team.
- 2.5.13 **Park Management Rules**. Park Management rules are posted at the main entrances to the park. Further information on the facilities available and the principal Management Rules are identified on the park maps also displayed in notice boards identified in 2.5.11 above
- 2.5.14 Location of Facilities. Victoria Park has two information cabinets which clearly identify all of the facilities available in the park. These are located at strategic entrances, one at the park entrance from Westland Drive / Clydeside Expressway and the other at the main entrance on Victoria Park Drive North. The installation of a further two information cabinets at the Clydeside Expressway entrance adjacent to the boating pond and the Westland Drive entrance would help to provide better information to visitors. In addition a number of directional fingerposts are located within the park indicating where facilities are located. An interpretation board displaying the history of the Fossil Grove is located at the entrance to the Fossil Grove.

SECTION 2.6 VICTORIA PARK WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN



Flower Beds at the Fossil Grove

Our aim is to maintain the highest standards of horticulture, cleanliness, grounds and building maintenance.

This section of the Management Plan examines Victoria Park as a well maintained and clean place under the following headings.

- Litter
- Grounds Maintenance
- Buildings and Structures Maintenance
- Vandalism and other Damage
- Long Term Maintenance of Buildings and Structures
- Long Term Maintenance of Fences

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

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2.6 WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN

- 2.6.1 The instruction to carry out maintenance within the park comes from:
 - An electronic data base which generates weekly job tickets for routine maintenance operations.

Additional or unpredictable maintenance works are identified through:

- Regular management inspections (walking the job).
- Staff reporting damage, the need for repair or additional maintenance.
- Other Services using the park.
- The public and Park user groups.
- 2.6.2 Grounds maintenance works are carried out by the Neighbourhood Services team located at Victoria Park Depot.

2.6.3 Litter

Litter is removed from the park and the bins emptied in the summer (April – October) at least daily. In periods of good weather, when the park is heavily used, litter removal and emptying bins may require to be increased to twice a day. In the winter (November – March) this frequency can be reduced to three times per week though this will be monitored by the Neighbourhood Services Manager and additional litter removals introduced if required. Once removed from the park waste collected enters the council's normal waste stream where recyclables are removed and the remainder is taken to an appropriate land fill site.

2.6.4 Grounds Maintenance

- 2.6.5 There is a specific maintenance profile for all the grounds within the Victoria Park. This is covered by permanent staff working on a 4 on 4 off shift pattern. However, there is also work required that is either reactive, infrequent and of a specialist nature where additional staff is brought to assist the permanent staff. All works are carried out in line with good horticultural practice. The majority of maintenance work carried out is on a planned programme basis and the standard of work monitored by Neighbourhood Services Area Manager.

 Details of the park maintenance profile can be found in Appendices section 6 6.3 attached to this management plan.
- 2.6.6 It has been noted that the maintenance within certain areas of the park has suffered due to Local Authority cut backs on funding and staffing levels.
 A review of the staffing levels for the park is required to ensure that Victoria Park is maintained to a high standard and is fit for purpose.
- 2.6.7 A review of the current bedding scheme is required to ensure that the beds are planted with the correct bedding plants including dot and edging plants
- 2.6.8 There is scope to utilise the specialist aspects of the park to enhance the training aspects of the Glasgow City Council's Apprentice and Modern Apprentice Training Scheme and Trainee Work Placements. There may be opportunities through the training programme for the general ground maintenance staff to increase horticultural skills. There are benefits in

incorporating a degree of basic conservation knowledge in the apprentices training programme to ensure grounds maintenance is carried out sensitively and safeguard habitat enhancement works.

2.6.9 A review of the management arrangements and the current job ticket system is required to ensure that Victoria Park is maintained to a high standard and is fit for purpose in all areas of activity.

2.6.10 Buildings and Structures Maintenance

2.6.11 This covers two general areas, maintenance required as a result of vandalism/breakages and the longer term maintenance required ensuring the long term future of the buildings and structures in Victoria Park.

2.6.12 Vandalism and other Damage

2.6.13 The system for identifying running repairs dealing with vandalism and other damage to buildings and structures requires the Parks Operations Managers team to contact Access Glasgow (the Council's arms length property maintenance provider) and report the repair required. Access Glasgow is responsible for authorising the works, which are funded from a central repair fund established to deal with ongoing repairs. Where works are of a more substantial nature, such as a reported electrical fault and cannot be repaired because the building needs a rewire, then the Service requires to identify a separate budget code for this work. This arrangement is considered to be working well at present.

2.6.14 Long Term Maintenance of Buildings and Structures

- 2.6.15 Maintenance schedules for the buildings and structures in Victoria Park are dated. They do not fully reflect current industry practice and because of budget constraints can be limited in implementing the complete range of necessary measures. The responsibility for the management and maintenance of the buildings not leased or managed by others in Victoria Park lies with the City Parks and Open Spaces Manager; however, there is no additional budget to support this responsibility. A review of the buildings management and maintenance is required.
- 2.6.16 Several of the buildings within Victoria Park are in reasonable condition due to refurbishment within the last 15 years, such as the Fossil Grove Museum. The development of improved maintenance schedules and a commitment to implement them could substantially prolong the life of these structures and in the long term save significant sums of money. There is clear requirement to:
 - ensure that modern maintenance schedules are developed with a dedicated budget for implementation; and
 - undertake a review of potential building and structures restorations in order to prioritise future restoration opportunities.

2.6.17 Long Term Maintenance of Fences

2.6.18 There are substantial amounts of steel boundary fencing around Victoria Park and also fenced enclosures within the park much of which is in reasonable condition.

However, the fence-line bordering the Clydeside Expressway requires attention as it is being eroded due to winter road maintenance. To preserve the longevity

of all the railings they should be put on an appropriate regular maintenance regime. This would allow repairs, replacement and painting to be achieved in a phased project. **Conditional survey and assessment should be undertaken for suitability and necessity of all fencing within Victoria Park.**

2.6.19 Bridges Maintenance

2.6.21 Victoria Park has two foot bridges which are maintained by Land and Environmental Services Structure Team. These are modern Chinese-style timber/metal bridges within the park, both cross the boating lake connecting the small island. Funding became available from the City Council's ongoing Parks Development Programme to restore the bridges, this was completed June 2011. Bridges in the park are subject to a general visual inspection every 2 years and a principal inspection every 6 years, a copy of the most recent inspections can be seen in Appendices section 6 – 6.4 attached to this Management Plan.

SECTION 2.7 SUSTAINABILITY.



Spring in Victoria Park

Our aim is to protect and enhance the areas of core nature conservation interest and adopt environmental management principles to help reduce the impact of management operations on the environment.

This section of the Management Plan examines Sustainability issues affecting Victoria Park under the following headings.

- Environmental Management System
- Use of Pesticides
- Use of Horticultural Peat.
- Green Waste Disposal.
- Horticultural and Arboricultural Standards.

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

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2.7 SUSTAINABILITY

2.7.1 Environmental Management System

Glasgow's parks have been registered since the 24 May 2004 to BSI Environmental Management System – ISO 14001 which is a national quality auditing system. This certification process operates on a 3 year cycle and is independently audited by UKAS accredited auditors twice every year with the 6th audit being a re-certification visit. The certificate number is EMS 74572 and the scope is for 'The management and maintenance of crematoria, cemeteries, parks, country parks, livestock, landscape work and glasshouses. The operation and maintenance of golf courses, playing fields, outdoor events and outdoor recreation facilities is also included.'

2.7.2 Use of Herbicides and Pesticides

A pesticide policy needs to be developed that considers the minimisation of the use of pesticides. The current specification allows for 4 herbicide applications per annum to grass edges and obstacles in grass areas. The specification also allows for 3 applications to hard standing pesticide applications per annum to grass edges and obstacles in grass areas. The specification also allows for 3 applications to hard standing areas. Only affected areas are treated and the use of strategies that are sensitive to public concerns and the environment are used. All operatives involved in the application of Herbicide are trained to the approved certification level required. The only pesticide used in Glasgow's Parks for the control of unwanted vegetation is Glyphosate based. Other herbicides are trialled for the control of invasive non native species such as Japanese Knotweed where there is an indication that control may be achieved using fewer applications or a product claims a better environmental profile. A Glyphosate based herbicide is mainly used as a spot treatment for the control of unwanted vegetation on hard standings, footpaths and weeds in shrub beds. The pesticide Intercept is used in the production of the bedding plants used in the park and will still be present at the time of planting in the park. The Parks Operational Managermaintains a record of all pesticide use.

- 2.7.3 **Use of Horticultural Peat.** The only peat used in the park, is in used in the production of the bedding plants for the seasonal bedding displays. All of the bedding plants are produced by our nursery at Bellahouston Park which has achieved a 57% reduction in peat usage through a change in production methods. The nursery no longer uses compressed peat and achieves a further 20% saving on the annual quantity required by incorporating wood fibre into the compost. The Nursery has also substantially reduced the quantities of Pesticide used by switching to a product (Intercept) which is mixed into the compost in one application rather than multiple applications by conventional means. **The Service will continue to seek alternatives to peat and reduce the use of pesticide in the production of bedding plants.**
- 2.7.4 Green Waste Disposal. Green waste is generated within the Park; a grass cut and lift is operated on the bowling greens and lawns around the flower beds, all other areas are cut and arisings left to recycle. Any material arising from shrub pruning is chipped and recycled back into the shrub beds. Where work is undertaken on trees, the smaller branches are chipped and recycled in the park or on informal footpaths; larger commercial sized timber is stored and sold in lots when sufficient quantities are gathered. Any green waste not to be

- recycled in the park is put into a container and removed to one of the Councils designated storage areas in this case Dawsholm Cleansing Depot. When sufficient quantities are gathered the waste is then transported to our partner organisation Scottish Water for composting at their facility in Cumbernauld.
- 2.7.5 Horticultural and Arboricultural Standards. An Amenity Tree Management Plan is currently being developed. The amenity tree management plan will identify the management of the trees in Victoria Park in the short term 1-3 years, medium term 3-10 years and long term 10-30 years and will involve the phased removal and replacement of species that are diseased, dying or coming to the end of there natural life. The amenity tree management plan is a requirement of this management plan and implementation will commence 2013/14 as part of the ongoing improvement programme within Victoria Park.
- 2.7.6 The purchase of trees, shrubs and plant material for Glasgow's parks is undertaken by a centralised procurement process. The City Parks and Open Spaces Manager is the budget holder identifying the requirements from a list and this is then put out to competitive tender and the contract is awarded on the basis of price and quality 70% price and 30% quality to preserve provenance, reduce cost and preserve quality and to safeguard local biodiversity. When the plant material is delivered it is taken to and accepted as suitable at operational depots and planted. This system operates on a three year cycle. A review of the procurement and inspection process is currently underway with a view to establishing central budgetary control and consistent standards throughout the city. The outcome of this review will be implemented in financial year 2013/14.
- 2.7.7 Victoria Park tree stock consists predominately of formal mature broadleaved avenue structure planting alongside the existing path networks and around the majority of the perimeter.
- 2.7.8 Tree inspections are carried out in the Park on a two yearly basis to maintain health and safety obligations, with ad hoc surveys being carried out as and when required (e.g. after storm damage, or preceding new building/landscape developments, major public Events etc).
- 2.7.9 Victoria Park is one of only a few examples of a designed landscape in Glasgow to be found on Historic Scotland's Inventory of Designed Landscapes.
- 2.7.10 The status is important and therefore Glasgow City Council has a responsibility to ensure Victoria Park and the features within it are maintained to the highest possible standards.
- 2.7.11 Questions have been raised over the condition of the Quarry Knowe Rock Garden within the Fossil Grove and the appropriateness of some of the planting.
- 2.7.12 To ensure the appropriate standards are in place and maintained a review of planting within the Park along with options that would support redirecting maintenance input to the more important features whilst at the same time not compromising the status of the Park as a designed landscape is ongoing.

- 2.7.13 The first stage of the outcome of the review will be implemented during autumn and winter 2013/14 and further stages will be ongoing throughout the life of this plan.
- 2.1.14 Vehicle Usage. Land and Environmental Services have introduced a new pattern of working to provide a 7 day week and achieve efficiency savings city wide. The new pattern of working 4 days on and 4 days off effectively means that only half the workforce requires to be transported on a day to day basis. This allows for substantial reductions in the size of the vehicle fleet required and more efficient utilisation of the remaining vehicles. Similar efficiencies are also achieved with the utilisation of plant and equipment as these are common to both shifts. A full assessment of the reductions in numbers of vehicles and plant is ongoing.
- 2.7.15 Energy Conservation. Land and Environmental Services is an amalgamation of three major operational council services Parks, Roads and Cleansing all of which had their own operational depots. LES are rationalising these depot arrangements wherever possible to take advantage of efficiencies of scale utilising larger premises more efficiently to house a more generic workforce to service the operational requirements of Parks, Roads and Cleansing in 3 areas of the city. These depot rationalisations deliver substantial savings in energy consumption as the premises are either demolished, utilised by third parties or mothballed utilising minimum resources to maintain security.
- 2.7.16 Pollution Reduction. All of the measures interventions and initiatives in this section contribute to reducing the potential polluting effects of delivering a parks service. Rationalising our potential depots reduces overall energy consumption, using fewer vehicles and plant helps with our air quality and carbon footprint, sourcing local provenance trees and shrubs preserves biodiversity and reduces travel distance. A tree management plan reduces waste and prevents the introduction of inappropriate plantings, composting green waste reduces the amount going to landfill, reducing the amount of peat and seeking alternative composts helps to preserve biodiversity, spot treating unwanted vegetation with herbicides reduces the quantity applied and reduces any potential pollution risk being registered to an national quality Environmental Management System ensures that a focus is maintained on this aspect of the service.

SECTION 2.8 CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE



Fossil Grove Museum

Our aim is to protect and enhance biodiversity and geological diversity throughout the site, promote understanding of and interest in biodiversity and geological diversity and to maintain and promote the historic significance of the park.

This section of the Management Plan examines Victoria Park as a Conservation and Heritage place under the following headings.

- Natural Features Wildlife and Flora.
- Landscape Features.

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries 01412875064

Email: <u>les@glasgow.gov.uk</u>

Web Site www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks

2.8 CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE

- 2.8.1 **Natural Features Wildlife and Flora.** The majority of Victoria Park consists of short amenity managed grassland with the avenue network lined by deciduous trees. The intensive grassland management produces a 'green desert' and the wooded areas are similarly devoid of ground vegetation.
- 2.8.2 Planting areas of ground flora including bulbs would go a considerable way to increase the diversity and colour in the park especially in spring. Flowering plants which produce nectar attract insects including butterflies, increasing the biodiversity further and contribute to the Councils local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). The LBAP is primarily actioned through the LES Natural Environment Units Conservation and Countryside Ranger teams. There is scope to involve other conservation agencies (i.e. Froglife, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Conservation Volunteers) and utilise existing resources that can be brought together to achieve the aims of the LBAP.
- 2.8.3 There is scope for the creation of new wildflower meadows in the park, particularly along the south edge, and also to encourage diversity within the arboretum through plug planting. New meadows will be created using a mixture of seeding and plug planting.
- 2.8.4 Where there are insufficient natural holes for nesting bird species, bird boxes could provide nest sites for these species. Similarly the provision of bat boxes could also encourage roosting bats where there are insufficient natural sites. This is in line with Glasgow's Local Biodiversity Action Plan and also the Nature Conservation Scotland Act 2004 which places a duty on Local Authorities to enhance biodiversity.
- 2.8.5 Victoria Park has three ponds; duck pond and boating pond at the east end of the park and there is a small pond within the Quarry Knowe Rock Garden at the Fossil Grove.
- 2.8.6 The duck pond has been naturalised and planted with aquatic plants. It has an island which supports marginal vegetation. This habitat supports a number of water birds such as Coot, Moorhen Mallard ducks, and small fish. The boating pond is for sailing boats but also supports winter breeding mute swans, tufted ducks and gulls.
- 2.8.7 Within the life of the plan further wildlife enhancements are planned to create naturalised areas on the small island within the large pond, create an island in the boating pond and enhance the ornamental pond at the Fossil Grove. *These enhancements of the ponds will be delivered through existing partnerships or through the development of new partnerships.*
- 2.8.8 Landscape Features. Historic Scotland maintains a heritage inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland and Victoria Park was included in the inventory in 2007. Each site on the inventory is awarded a merit category: Outstanding, High, Some, Little or None. Judgements are based on the condition of the garden and designed landscape as it is seen at the time of listing. The importance of each site is also described as a value and the values assigned to Victoria Park in the inventory are as follows:

Criteria	Merit Category	
 Archaeological 	None	
Horticulture	Little	
 Work of Art 	Some	
 Architectural 	Some	
Historical	Some	
 Scenic 	Some	
 Nature Conservation 	Outstanding	

- 2.8.9 There are six areas on the listing that are not outstanding. Horticulture improvements will continue to be delivered through improved maintenance practices, woodland management planning and floral displays in keeping with the designed landscapes intended style.
- 2.8.10 Clearly this listing in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes is desirable as it emphasises the need to protect Victoria Park for future generations to enjoy. However, it should also be remembered that it may also restrict the options for development of the site and future management arrangements.
- 2.8.11 Historic Scotland also lists buildings that are of national importance. Buildings are assigned to one of three categories according to their relative importance. All listed buildings receive equal legal protection, and protection applies equally to the interior and exterior of all listed buildings regardless of category. In order to be listed a building must satisfy the following criteria:
 - age and rarity
 architectural Interest;
 and close historical association
- 2.8.12 The listed structures in Victoria Park are:

Address	Date listed	Category
Jubilee Gates on Victoria Park Drive North	10/07/1989	В
Curling Pavilion and Rink	16/09/2010	C(S)
Partick and Whiteinch War Memorial	26/04/2011	C(S)
Oswald's Clock Tower	26/04/2011	C(S)

- 2.8.13 Historic Scotland is due to return to Glasgow to reassess and consider new listings in 2015 and the improvements to Victoria Park should be identified in order that it is part of the review process. In the interim, improvements will continue to these structures and other areas of Victoria Park, however, budget availability must also be a consideration.
- 2.8.14 Horticultural improvements will continue to be delivered through improved maintenance practices, woodland management planning and floral displays in keeping with the designed landscapes intended style.

2 8 15 STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2.8.16 Victoria Park is amongst Glasgow's busiest and historically important parks. The current facilities most of which have been renewed or provided are of a very high standard. The current strategy will be to continue to implement

improvements through the Parks Development Programme until a restoration package can be developed and funded.

2.8.17 Recently Completed Developments

- 2.8.18 The following improvements were carried out to the Fossil Grove Museum building in the Spring of 2011 New guttering, repairs to the roof, external painting, extensive signage and interpretation, electrical power sockets installed, IT equipment, screen and AV projectors installed. Tanks for live insects were installed making it a more exciting and informative experience for visitors. Glasgow City Council and the Fossil Grove Trust have commissioned design and funding proposals for further development of the building
- 2.8.19 Naturalisation of the small boating pond took place during October 2011 comprising of construction of shallows along parts of the pond's edge and island. Vegetation planted in these shallows gives the water birds and their young cover, as well as enhancing the pond visually with colour. Overall these measures further enhance the biodiversity of the pond and its appeal for members of the public.
- 2.8.20 Work to restore the SS Daphne memorial stone was completed in January 2012. This included taking a mould from the memorial stone in Elder Park and installing the new plaque onto the granite plinth.

2.8.20 Buildings and Structures

- 2.8.21 There are many buildings and structures of historic significance at Victoria Park that play an important role in improving the quality of life of local people and visitors to the Park.
- 2.8.22 Consultee's responses in respect of the Council's Strategic Best Value Review in 2005 ascertained that the provision of toilet and café facilities were at or near the top of people's priorities when arranging a visit to any destination.
- 2.8.23 Victoria Park has public toilets located in a port-a-cabin adjacent to the boating pond managed by Cordia.
- 2.8.24 Other toilet facilities exist within the Fossil Grove Museum, managed by Land and Environmental Services and the public bowling green managed by Glasgow Life. Both of these facilities are subject to seasonal opening times
- 2.8.25 Jubilee Gates on Victoria Park Drive North. This is the main entrance to the park and it is in the need for refurbishment. There is a proposal to restore and conserve the cast iron gates, pillars and upgrading work to the public realm. Carry out conservation / restoration processes and materials to ensure that historical ironwork is sympathetically preserved and recorded for the future. Project relates to Queens Silver Diamond Jubilee celebrations 2012.
- 2.8.26 Oswald Tower Clock Restoration. It is anticipated the Oswald Tower clock will be painted and restored but the internal workings of the clock will not be interfered with. The clock will not be automated, as this would be considered too severe an 'intervention' - which would effectively ruin a 120 year old historic clock.

2.8.27 Development Opportunities

- 2.8.28 Fossil Grove. Creation of viewing platform -an elevated sightseeing platform situated to the rear of the Fossil Grove Museum fitted with railings for safety, observation deck of asphalt surface including fixed interpretation for viewing rock garden features at a distance. Fossil Grove is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Council acknowledges statutory obligation to preserve the fossils.
- 2.8.29 Former Amphitheatre. Creation of new Landform (earth sculpture) in the form of existing amphitheatre design. The Landform project consists of a high auditorium of grassed steps with interlocking paths looking down on crescent-shaped embankments to be used for events space. Historic pathway to be included into new designs created by Landscape Design Team to re establish access into Fossil Grove.
- 2.8.30 Boating Pond: There is an opportunity to install a water feature into the boating pond which will create an innovative feature in the park. It will also assist in aerating the pond and there is regular no flow through it.
- 2.8.31 Develop the site of the former blaes football pitches. An alternative use for this area requires to be investigated.
- 2.8.32 Play Area: Continue to develop the play area within the park including the maze
- 2.8.33 Orchard: Consider establishing an orchard at an appropriate site within the park.

2.8.34 Committed Improvements

- 2.8.35 Victoria Park is one of 11 Hub (strategic) parks selected as part of a Commonwealth Parks Twinning Initiative (Healthy World 2014). The twinning initiative will be implemented over the life of the Victoria Park Management Plan and will cover the theme healthy body. This is a joint initiative between Land and Environmental Services and Education Services and is centred on twinning Glasgow City Council's parks and educational establishments with countries of the Commonwealth as part of the introduction to, and legacy of, the 2014 Commonwealth Games.
- 2.8.36 Commonwealth Arboretum As part of the Commonwealth legacy, new tree planting will replace existing damaged and decayed tree species within the existing Arboretum at the east side of the park. Other elements of work will include new feature entrance leading into the Arboretum with on site interpretation and creation of new pathway and feature boundary perimeter plantings.

SECTION 2.9 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.



School Event

Our aim is to encourage community involvement in the park through consultation, events, activities and the Friends of Victoria Park.

This section of the Management Plan examines Victoria Park as a Community Involvement place under the following headings.

- Online Customer Survey System.
- European Commission (EU) Survey 2007.
- Environmental groups and organisations survey 2006.
- Glasgow Citizen's Panel, autumn 2006 and spring 2007, autumn 2007 and spring 2008.
- School Pupils survey 2004.
- Strategic Best Value Review Consultations 2004.
- Friends Groups
- Achievements.

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries 01412875064

Email: les@glasgow.gov.uk

Web Site www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks

2.9 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 2.9.1 **Surveys.** In managing the park and preparing the plan the views of the community and stakeholders are crucial. These are obtained through surveys, meetings and liaison with Park user groups taking each in turn.
- 2.9.2 Surveys used to inform this management plan include:
- 2.9.3 **Online Customer Survey System.** Land and Environmental Services are currently assessing an on line visitor survey system called GreenSTAT. This is a standing survey which can be accessed on-line at any time and supplemented by additional on site, off site or face to face surveys if required.
- 2.9.4 **Fossil Grove Visitor Survey**. A Visitor Survey was undertaken for the Fossil Grove Museum asking visitors for opinions and aspirations for the building. The survey was undertaken by Collective Architecture who undertook a series of on site consultation events in Victoria Park between July to September 2011.
- 2.9.5 Victoria Park Draft Management Plan Public Consultation 2012

The Councils Land and Environmental Services undertook a public consultation in 2012 to find out about usage and satisfaction levels of Victoria Park and what the public thought of the management plan and its proposals. The management plan and questionnaires were put in the local library, sports centre, community venue, park facility and was also available electronically on the Council website. The findings of the consultation have been attached to this plan as **Appendix 6.5**.

- 2.9.6 Detailed information from key stakeholders such as Friends of Victoria Park, President of Geological Society of Glasgow and Member of Fossil Grove Steering Group, Whiteinch Community Council and Langlands Primary School Crookston Castle Campus, as part of the consultation has helped inform the final Management Plan. Responses from the 223 questionnaires that were completed and detail information from key partners are referenced in sections of this plan.
- 2.9.7 Summary of the questionnaires in Appendix 6.5 are as follows; 79% (over three quarters) of respondents use Victoria Park for walking and the highest frequency of usage was 1 to 2 times a week, recorded by 52% (just over half) of respondents. Significant majority of respondents 93% are most likely to use Victoria Park in summer with 80% respondents indicating their use of the Park is not seasonal. On average about 95% (well over three quarters) of respondents feel the park is very to fairly safe in the morning and afternoon and only 45% (nearly half) said the park is very to fairly safe in the evening naming dogs not on lead, anti-social behaviour and perceived lack of maintenance in some areas as issues of concern for feeling unsafe.
- 2.9.8 60% of respondents agreed with proposal to review access within grounds of the Fossil Grove. A minority but significant 9% disagreed.

56% (just over half) of respondents agreed with the need to investigate possibility of installing help and information points. A significant percentage of respondents (12%) did not agree to this. 83% of respondents agreed with proposal to provide café incorporating public toilets whilst a significant 9% disagreed.

78% (over three quarters) of respondents supported proposal to restore ornamental clock with only 5% disagreeing.

66% (well over half) of respondents agree with the creation of a viewing area with interpretation at Fossil Grove Rock Garden with 8% disagreeing. 84% (over three quarters) agree with proposal to re-furbish and extend small pond within fossil grove garden to improve habitat with only 2% disagreeing. The proposal to create a landscape feature or a small amphitheatre in the former bandstand was agreed by just over 50% (just over half) of respondents with a significant minority of about 13% disagreeing.

Only 50% (half) of respondents agree with plans to establish an orchard at an appropriate location in the Park with a significant number 34% disagreeing. 68% (well over half) agree with finding alternative use to the former blaes football pitches with a significant number of respondents 25% (a qurter) disagreeing.

- 2.9.9 A significant number of responses reiterate their strong interest for more information about the blaes pitches and how they would be improved for sports. A few responses mentioned their wish for a skate park to be created. However there are concerns from some respondents about making the park too 'commercial' with the inclusion of a café, skatepark and inflatable cities. There is a sense of positivity about the park and a hope that plans will be implemented quickly and encouraging results will be seen.
- 2.9.10 Our key stakeholders would like to see DDA compliant paths, equipments and sensory gardens. Friends of Victoria Park (FOVP) acknowledge that the content of the Plan reflects majority of issues discussed between the friends group and LES. FOVP will however like to see parts of the action plan broken down into more specific activities. The FOVP provided itemised comments for sections of the action plan for the review of this document.

The President of the Geological Society of Glasgow, also a member of Fossil Grove Steering Group highlighted that there are gaps in some of the views and statements in the plan and this has been reflected in the review of the draft plan.

Finally Whiteinch Community Council highlighted the need for improvement in play facilities in the park and provided comments that has been reviewed and used to update the action plan.

- 2.9.11 European Commission (EU) Survey 2007. The EU contracted Gallup-Hungary to carry out a survey on perceptions of quality of life in 75 European cities including Glasgow, in 2006. This survey complemented the work carried out in the context of the European Urban Audit. 500 randomly selected individuals were contacted from each city to answer 23 questions about the quality of life including parks and green spaces, in their cities. Approximately 75% of respondents from Glasgow were rather satisfied or very satisfied with parks and green spaces in their city. Parks and greens spaces in Glasgow were in the top quarter of European cities where a significant majority of respondents were satisfied with their parks and open spaces.
- 2.9.12 Environmental groups and organisations survey 2006. The Council's Land Services undertook a survey in 2006, using a questionnaire sent out to 149 environmental organisations regarding issues of use and benefits of parks and open space provision and role and involvement of local groups. 61% of the 79 of the environmental organisations that responded said parks and open spaces in Glasgow is accessible to all. All respondents said parks and open spaces in Glasgow are very important. A significant number, 42% of respondents said they use parks and open spaces for environmental projects and outdoor activities.

- 2.9.13 Glasgow Citizen's Panel, autumn 2006 and spring 2007, autumn 2007 and spring 2008. The survey was conducted by Ipsos MORI Scotland on behalf of Glasgow City Council using face to face interview among 1013 and 1007 Glasgow residents in autumn 2006 and spring 2007 respectively. The results identified that parks remain the most widely used Council service in all citizens' panel survey. 60% of respondents or their household members used parks in the last year or so in the autumn 2006 survey. This number increases to 67% in spring 2007. Satisfaction levels with parks were 83% in autumn 2006 and 81% in spring 2007. Although a majority of respondents (63% and 53% in autumn 2006 and spring 2007 respectively), were satisfied with children's play parks, a significant minority were dissatisfied with the play parks due to litter and graffiti, maintenance and range of equipments. Almost all respondents (93%) feel that it is important that the Council should deliver its services in a way that avoids damage to the wildlife and natural growing plants (biodiversity) in Glasgow (autumn 2006).
- 2.9.14 Strategic Best Value Review Consultations 2004. A broad range of range of exercises to ascertain stakeholder views and needs to improve the quality and effectiveness of parks were carried out including employee consultation, focus groups, school consultation, public consultation and inter-service workshops. Over 670 and 3000 responses were received from the public and schoolchildren respectively. Most respondents would like to see improved security and safety measures, increased community involvement, maximising usage for all, improved infrastructure in particular play equipment and effective communication about park provision and enforcement.

2.9.15 Friends Groups

The Friends of Victoria Park was established in December 2009 in joint partnership with Land and Environmental Services. The community based Friends group is to ensure Victoria Park continues to be the inspirational park that meets the needs of the local people and their vision for the park, safeguarding its potential. The friends contact e-mail is; fovpglasgow@gmail.com

- 2.9.16 The Friends of Victoria Park will have no direct management responsibility for the Park however; the value of the Friends group is wide and varied. The principal areas of support are as follows:
 - Fund raising (they can access funding not available to the City Council).
 - To get consulted on significant proposals to changes to the Park.
 - Support and develop events.
 - Encourage volunteering.
 - Getting local people involved.
- 2.9.17 In acknowledgement of the potential input to the park, by the Friends of Victoria Park. Glasgow City Council will continue to support the development of the Friends of group through regular contact and where required with resources to allow them to be established as a viable organisation.
- 2.9.18 Achievements. Community involvement is now a major theme within the Parks Service as recommended by the Strategic Best Value Review 2005 (SBVR) of Glasgow parks and open spaces. The information gathered from local people, Councillors, community groups and the voluntary sector is helping to shape management decisions regarding present and future development of

Victoria Park Management Plan 2013 - 2018 parks. Current approaches to community involvement in parks and open spaces in Glasgow include:

Consultations

Surveys

User groups

- Events
- 2.9.19 Considerable amount of work has already been done in identifying management actions required to develop and improve Victoria Park, the Strategic Best Value Review 2005. A range of improvements have been carried out in Victoria Park and have incorporated public consultation and involvement include;
 - Upgrading the children's play area in 2010/11
 - Refurbishment of ornamental bridges in 2011



Restored footbridge

- Improvements to the Fossil Grove Building in 2010/11
- Restore the War memorial during October / November 2010.

Victoria Park Management Plan 2013 - 2018



War memorial

2.9.21 The delivery of these improvements is testament to what can be achieved through strategic planning and community consultation. Some of the strategic actions for this plan require the securing of capital funds that L&ES considers achievable within the life of the plan. The Strategic Best Value Review 2005, an appraisal of the green Flag criteria of the park as it is at present, an assessment of the current maintenance regimes and a review of customer surveys and comments from the online survey system will also be used to identify actions in the plan.

SECTION 2.10 MARKETING



Public Event

Our aim is to actively promote Victoria Park to all potential users.

This section of the Management Plan examines the Marketing of Victoria Park under the following headings.

- Events.
- Marketing Strategy.

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries 01402875064

Email: les@glasgow.gov.uk

Web Site <u>www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks</u>

2.10 MARKETING

- 2.10.1 There is no specific marketing plan for Victoria Park. Marketing plans are produced for specific events or occasions as part of the planning process in advance of the event taking place. A range of media is used to promote Victoria Park and the activities that occur within it.
- 2.10.2 The Glasgow City Council web site contains information on all of the cities parks and the events and activities in them. The site is regularly updated and a weekly events programme 'What's on in our Parks' is posted every week.
- 2.10.3 A heritage trail was produced in 2011 which identifies structures and points of interest within Victoria Park. The Victoria Park Heritage Trail is available on line at www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks
- 2.10.4 **Events.** There is an established events programme for Victoria Park throughout the year. Like most parks, many of the events occur during the summer months and they range from charity events, sporting events, cultural events and local events.
- 2.10.5 The use of parks for events is important for the cultural and sporting life of the City. Event space should be retained whether it is space for local festivals or for major events. Local events provide much needed family entertainment and often involving showcasing of different cultures helping to promote local community cohesion. Larger events such as the World Pipe Band Championship or major sporting events attract visitors to the City and play a vital role in promoting tourism.
- 2.10.6 Events held in Victoria Park include:
 - Inflatable Village
 Model Boat Club
 School Sports days
 Regattas
 - Active Senior Day
 Stag Orienteering Days
- 2.10.7 The park is also used as a backdrop for many TV and film productions.
- 2.10.8 Information about points of interest and features in the park are being assembled for installation to touch screen technology. Users will touch the screen at the feature they are interested in and information about it will appear on the screen in the form of text and images. *It is planned to install one touch screen in the Fossil Grove Museum.* The touch screen will contain information about the Fossil Grove and Victoria Park.
- 2.10.9 Health walks are led by volunteer Health Walk leaders provided by Glasgow Life on request. These can be organised by contacting Walk Glasgow coordinator Glasgow Sport, 20 Trongate, Glasgow G1 5ES 0141 287 0963 walking@glasgowlife.org.uk
- 2.10.10 Self guided Heritage Trails of Victoria Park are available using the Heritage Trail leaflet. Victoria Park Heritage Trails are available at every public library in the city and all City Council information stands in the Tourist Information Centre.

2.10.11 Countryside Rangers and the Conservation team deliver the curriculum for excellence through outdoor learning to schools; provide interpretation to the public though countryside events and carry out surveys and conservation work with volunteer and work experience to take positive action for Glasgow's wildlife and its environment. The service operates citywide covering over 90 parks and greenspaces in Glasgow. For further information, please contact the Countryside Rangers on 0141 276 0924 or email countryside.rangers@glasgow.gov.uk

SECTION 2.11 MANAGEMENT



Sailing on the Boating Pond

Our aim is to provide a responsive, flexible and high quality management service

This section of the Management Plan examines the Management of Victoria Park under the following headings.

- Service Profile
- Partnerships
- Park Management

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

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Email: les@glasgow.gov.uk

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2.11 MANAGEMENT

- 2.11.1 **Service Profile.** Land and Environmental Services (LES) is a major operational department which has the responsibility for providing cleansing, parks, roads, transport and design services for the city in the most effective, efficient and co-ordinated way. It provides the following list of services;
 - City Parks and Open Spaces Parks maintenance and development, Natural environment, Landscape design, Nurseries, Pollok Country Park, Botanic Gardens and Public realm.
 - City Cleansing and Waste Management Provision of refuse collection, street cleaning, recycling, waste management, civic amenities and landfill.
 - Project Management and Design Structures, Glasgow 2014, Sustainable transport, roads design, Fastlink and the River Clyde.
 - Environment and Sustainability Business regulation, food safety, public health, licensing standards, bereavement services, sustainable Glasgow and carbon management
 - Scientific and Regulation Services Laboratory testing and analysis, food and consumer safety, bacteriological examination, environmental monitoring, instrumental analysis, calibration and safety testing, emergency response, Trading standards, illegal money lending investigation and regulatory enforcement.
 - Road Services Traffic management and road safety, asset management, clyde tunnel, tidal weir, roads trading operations, roads maintenance, lighting maintenance, structure operations, walking and cycling.
 - Service Development Human resources, training, policy, policy monitoring, taxi inspection, fleet management, plant and vehicle maintenance.
 - Commercial Business Events, marketing promotions, graphics, ICT, contracts, sales, estimating and measurement.
- 2.11.2 Partnerships. Land and Environmental Services continue to work jointly with others and have partnership arrangements which include major regeneration and environmental improvement projects such as public realm projects, Quality Bus Corridors, urban woodland schemes, the Clean Glasgow campaign and play area and neighbourhood improvements in housing areas. In addition, LES have partnership arrangements with other local authorities for vehicle emission testing, tackling illegal money lending and scientific laboratory services.
- 2.11.3 Specifically the partnership arrangements operating in Victoria Park are:
 - Glasgow Life Outdoor recreations (bowling pitch and putt and tennis)
 - Cordia The public toilets in the park
 - Access Glasgow Building maintenance
 - Scottish Water Green waste composting
 - The Friends of Victoria Park
- 2.11.4 **Park Management.** Land and Environmental Services aims to provide a responsive, flexible and high quality management service, which will use the Green Flag Assessment criteria as a monitoring tool to ensure the highest of standards are achieved and maintained.

- 2.11.5 The City Parks and Open Spaces Manager has a citywide responsibility for the delivery and management of a comprehensive parks service. The City Parks and Open Spaces Manager also has direct management responsibility for the specification of operations and developments within the park and an overview of partner operations and services.
- 2.11.6 Currently the City Parks and Open Space Services carry out Grounds maintenance works from the operational depot within Victoria Park. The development of the management plan and Green Flag assessment provides an opportunity for the input of the City Parks and Open Space Services team to actively assist with the development of the plan, delivery of the actions and participate in the review process.
- 2.11.7 **Green Flag UK Standard.** It would be desirable for all of Glasgow's Strategic Parks to meet and where possible exceed the standards set by the Green Flag award scheme which is a nationally recognised quality award scheme for parks and gardens. The Green Flag Awards are administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful.
- 2.11.8 Green Flag Sites must be freely accessible to the public and have a site specific management plan. Sites are judged against eight criteria and the management plan actions for Victoria Park are aligned with these criteria which are as follows:
 - A Welcoming Place
 - Healthy, Safe and Secure
 - Clean and Well Maintained
 - Sustainability

- Conservation and Heritage
- Community Involvement
- Marketing
- Management
- 2.11.9 The aim is to achieve Green Flag status for Victoria Park within the timescale of the plan.
- 2.11.10 Park Assets. To support the management plan an assessment of the Real Value of Park Assets will be carried out. The assessment will be monitored and revised to ensure that it is up to date and able to influence the Parks Development programme and justify funding bids.
- 2.11.11 Financial and Resource implications. The Financial implications of this plan are ambitious but achievable, exclusive of the investment required to accommodate the Commonwealth Games Twinning project. The plan also identifies further works and assessments in a variety of management areas which will have considerable staff resource implications for Land and Environmental Services. The results of this analysis will identify priority areas for investment and it is anticipated that this could require a further investment to deliver in all areas. It is considered therefore that the output from these further works are identified in priority order to demonstrate to potential funding agencies that a strategy is in place to enable the required restoration process at Victoria Park to be completed.
- 2.11.12 **Potential Funding Sources.** Potential funding sources to fund elements of Victoria Park Management Plan have been considered from a holistic perspective in relation to the actions proposed for Victoria Park. This is because the funding source potential for these elements would not

necessarily be mutually exclusive and the criteria of some funders may allow for grant assistance to be given to different elements of the proposals.

- 2.11.13 In conducting the funding sources review there were a number of general points to be considered:
 - Funding is normally made available only towards the capital costs of projects and revenue funding is normally excluded, although sources such as the National Lottery can make revenue funding available to support activity following on from a capital award. Such revenue funding support is typically granted for an initial period (e.g. 3 to 5 years – depending upon the National Lottery Funding programme) to establish a self-sustaining basis of the project;
 - Funding agencies usually prefer to participate in partnership funding packages whilst evidence must clearly be given that financial assistance is genuinely required for the project to proceed;
 - Funding assistance is normally discretionary with awards made only after a fully detailed application has been considered by the funding agency;
 - Normally a project applying for external funding will have to demonstrate operational viability, or illustrate the source of a long term commitment to meeting any revenue shortfall;
 - To create the most appropriate conditions for achieving viability, the
 maximum method of capital funding should be non-repayable grant aid to
 minimise the requirement to service any borrowings to fund the
 development costs.
- 2.11.14 Appendix 6.5 outlines the potential sources of funding which could be relevant to the actions identified in Victoria Park Management Plan. The funding appraisal covers a breadth of funding sources and mechanisms and although the exercise cannot be fully exhaustive it nevertheless provides a sufficiently detailed "starter" in considering the funding options for the management plan.
- 2.11.15 **Monitor and Review.** This plan is a working document and therefore needs to be monitored 6 monthly and reviewed annually to ensure that proposed actions are being delivered on time and any new challenges addressed by everyone with interest in the plan.
- 2.11.16 A team of staff led by the City Parks and Open Spaces Manager will be responsible for the review process. It is envisaged that the action plan will be reviewed annually and an assessment made on progress including any shortfalls in delivery. Managers will consult with key stakeholders and incorporate their views in the review process.
- 2.11.17 Managers will include actions in the work plan of their team members and specific dates allocated as delivery deadlines in discussion with team members. Managers will monitor actions with team members during one to one and team meetings. Any significant changes to the action plan must be agreed with the review team. The monitoring will therefore be conducted by Managers and their team members and the review by managers, stakeholders and the City Parks and Open Spaces Manager.

SECTION 3 WHERE DO WE WANT TO GET TO

3.1 GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL KEY OBJECTIVES

- 3.1.1 The Council has developed its current Key Objectives in its Council Plan. These objectives, which where approved in February 2008, set the framework for the Council's main aims for the years 2008 to 2011 and are supported by a list of targets and actions. A report on progress against these targets each year through a short update on the Council Plan which is available on the Council web site.
- 3.1.2 The five Key Objectives are:
 - improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our services;
 - increasing access to lifelong learning;
 - making Glasgow a cleaner, safer city;
 - building a prosperous city; and
 - improving health and wellbeing

3.2 LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MISSION STATEMENT

3.2.1 In cognisance of the Councils overarching key objectives Land and Environmental Services Mission Statement is:

Land and Environmental Services is committed to providing high quality services which contribute to the quality of life, safety and wellbeing of all customers through managing and maintaining Glasgow's land and transport environment in a sustainable manner.

3.3 VISION FOR GLASGOW'S VICTORIA PARK

3.3.1 The vision statement has been developed to reflect the strategic role Victoria Park has within the City of Glasgow and recognises the role it plays nationally, internationally and as part of the educational and cultural development of Glasgow and its people.

Vision Statement

To ensure that Victoria Park provides high quality facilities freely available that meet the recreational; leisure, educational and environmental needs of the community whilst protecting historical aspects and landscape character of the park.

3.4 ASSESSMENT

3.4.1 Victoria Park Management Plan Aims

- 3.4.2 Beneath the new vision lie a series of aims that have been linked to the Green Flag Award Scheme criteria.
- 3.4.3 The aims are set out below. Each of these aims is further developed into targets, measures and timescales identified in the action plan in this Park Management Plan.

The relationship between Green Flag Award criteria and Management Plan aims

Green Flag Criteria	Management Plan Aim
A Welcoming Place	To ensure that Victoria Park is
	welcoming and accessible to all users
Healthy, Safe and Secure	To ensure the safety of all staff and users of the park
Clean and Well Maintained	To maintain the highest standards of horticulture, cleanliness, grounds and building maintenance
Sustainability	To protect and enhance the areas of core nature conservation interest and adopt environmental management principles to help reduce the impact of management operations on the environment.
Conservation and Heritage	To protect and enhance biodiversity throughout the site, promote understanding of and interest in biodiversity and to maintain and promote the historic significance of the park.
Community Involvement	To encourage community involvement in the park through consultation, events, activities and the Friends of Victoria Park
Marketing	To actively promote the park to all potential users
Management	To provide a responsive, flexible and high quality management service



Playing Bowls

SECTION 4 HOW WILL WE GET THERE

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The Victoria Park Management Plan is for five years starting financial year 2013/18. The completion date will therefore be 31st March 2018.

4.1.2 Action Table

4.1.3 The Action Plan sets out the actions aligned with each of the Green Flag criteria and, for reference, the relevant paragraph numbers and sections. It also identifies the information source used to lead to the recommendations. The action plan also contains a section identifying strategic capital projects which Land and Environmental Services will endeavour to achieve within the life of the Plan.

4.1.4 The timescales mean the following:

- Short: immediate action required within the first year of the plan.
- Medium: action required within the first three years of the plan.
- Long: may not be achievable within the life of the plan, but progress should be achievable within the life of the plan.
- Ongoing.

4.2 A Welcoming Place – Year 1 Actions

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.2.1	2.4.3	Entrances and Access	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Review the access arrangements at the Westland Drive entrance	Short	Existing Resources
4.2.2	2.4.4	Entrances and Access	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Review the access arrangements within the grounds of the Fossil Grove in consultation with Fossil Grove Steering Group	Short	Existing Resources
4.2.3	2.4.5	Signage	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Install new information cabinet at Westland Drive and Clydeside Expressway entrances	Short	£6000
4.2.4	2.4.5	Signage	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Replace the maps in all information cabinets to show new developments at the ponds, Quarry Knowe Rock Garden and Fossil Grove areas.	Short	£1500
4.2.5	2.4.6	Signage	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Develop & install new interpretation panels for the Quarry Knowe Rock Garden and Fossil Grove Museum.	Short	£1500
4.2.6	2.4.7	Signage	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	A member of the Parks and Environment team to be assigned to the signage working group to represent parks and open space issues.	Short	Existing Resources

A Welcoming Place – Action required within the first three years

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.2.7	2.4.7	Signage	Management Requirement	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Investigate the possibility of installing road and footpath directional signage to Victoria Park from surrounding streets.	Medium	£5,000

A Welcoming Place – Action ongoing within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.2.8	2.4.8	Park Furniture	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	A review of all park furniture is required to assess number, type, position and condition of all benches and litter bins within the park. Install new litter bins in pond area.	Ongoing	£3500 for new bins in pond area only
4.2.9	2.4.8	Park Furniture	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Remove benches to store paint/varnish/stain as required annually	Ongoing	
4.2.10	2.4.8	Park Furniture	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Ensure fixed items of park furniture are washed /painted/varnished/stained as required annually	Ongoing	

4.3 Healthy Safe and Secure – Year 1 Actions

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.3.1	2.5.8	Equipment and Facilities	Management Requirement	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager / LES Health and Safety Officer	Continue to monitor, review and develop safety procedures to ensure equipment and facilities are safe to use.	Short	Existing Resources
4.3.2	2.5.11	Dog Fouling	Manage Requirement	City Parks and Open Spaces	Develop a partnership with the Glasgow Community Safety Services Team for them to visit identified dog fouling hotspots and uncontrolled dogs and deliver effective enforcement measures.	Short	Existing Resources

Healthy Safe and Secure – Action required within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph	Management Plan	Information	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated
	Number	Section	Source				Cost £
4.3.3	2.5.9	Security	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Investigate the possibility of installing help and information points and if appropriate implemented within the life of this plan	Long	Not Known

4.4 Well Maintained and Clean – Year 1 Actions

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.4.1	2.6.6	Well Maintained and Clean	Management Requirement	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	A review of the current staffing levels and current job ticket system for the park to ensure that the maintenance is kept at a high standard	Short	Existing Resouces
4.4.2	2.6.7	Well Maintained and Clean	Management Requirement	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Monitor the standards of presentation and maintenance of the park in particular the floral bedding, pond area, play areas, fossil grove and football pitches	Short	Existing resources
4.4.3	2.6.9	Well Maintained and Clean	Management Requirement	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Assess drainage within park in particular play areas and resolve issues	Short	Existing Resources
4.4.4	2.6.16	Buildings and Structures Maintenance	Development of this Management Plan	LES structures	Maintenance schedules for the restored structures and buildings in Victoria Park should be developed immediately.	Short	Existing Resources

Well Maintained and Clean – Action required within the first three years

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.4.5	2.6.8	Grounds Maintenance	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Continue the utilisation of the Quarry Knowe Rock Garden, Fossil Grove and other aspects of Victoria Park for training work placements and Modern Apprentice Training Scheme.	Medium	Existing Resources
4.4.6	2.6.16	Buildings and Structures Maintenance	Development of this Management Plan	LES structures	Buildings considered being in good condition should be reviewed and modern maintenance schedules developed.	Medium	Existing Resources
4.4.7	2.6.18	Buildings and Structures Maintenance	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	A survey of all park fencing should be undertaken in order to assess which is required and if it is fit for purpose.	Medium	Existing Resources
4.4.8	2.6.18	Buildings and Structures Maintenance	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Initiate a phased painting programme of fences and gates within Victoria Park	Medium	Existing Resources

Well Maintained and Clean – Action required within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph	Management Plan	Information	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated
	Number	Section	Source				Cost £
4.4.9	2.6.16	Buildings and	Development of	LES structures	A pre requisite requirement	Long	Part of Project
		Structures	this Management		for any future refurbishments		,
		Maintenance	Plan		or restorations should be		
					that on completion a		
					maintenance schedule fit for		
					purpose is produced.		

4.5 Sustainability Year 1 Actions

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.5.1	2.7.2	Use of Pesticides	LES Maintenance Schedules	Natural Environment Manager	Develop a pesticide policy that considers the minimisation of the use of pesticides.	Short	Existing Resources
4.5.2	2.7.2	Use of Pesticides	Development of this Management Plan	Natural Environment Manager	Review the need for any pesticide use in Strategic Parks as part of the Job ticket maintenance review	Short	Existing Resources
4.5.3	2.7.6	Horticultural and Arboricultural Standards	Development of this Management Plan	Natural Environment Manager	Implement the outcome of the review for the procurement and inspection of tree shrub and plant material.	Short	Existing Resources

Sustainability – Action required within the first three years

Item	Paragraph	Management Plan	Information	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated
	Number	Section	Source				Cost £
4.5.4	2.7.3	Use of Horticultural	Development of	Natural	Seek to reduce the use of	Medium	Existing
		Peat	this Management	Environment	horticultural peat to zero and		Resources
			Plan	Manager	consider alternative		
					composts wherever practical.		
4.5.5	2.7.5	Horticultural and	Development of	Natural	Implement the amenity tree	Medium	Existing
		Arboricultural	this Management	Environment	management plan as per		Resources
		Standards	Plan	Manager	short term action (years 1-3)		

Sustainability – Action required within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.5.6	2.7.5	Horticultural and Arboricultural Standards	Development of this Management Plan	Natural Environment Manager	Implement the amenity tree management plan as per Medium term action (years 3-10)	Long	Existing Resources
4.5.7	2.7.13	Horticultural and Arboricultural Standards	Development of this Management Plan	Natural Environment Manager	Implement the recommendations of the review of planting 2013/14	Ongoing	Redirected Existing Maintenance Resources

4.6 Conservation and Heritage Year 1 Actions

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.6.1	2.8.18	Buildings and Structures	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Fossil Grove upgrade of building (proposals currently being developed) and make water tight (SSSI site)	Short / medium	
4.6.2	2.8.25	Buildings and Structures	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Restore the main Park Gates on Victoria Park Drive North including lighting provision and public realm entrance	Short	£44,500
4.6.3	2.8.25	Buildings and Structures	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Enhance public realm entrance to Jubilee Gates on Victoria Park Drive North	Short	£20,000
4.6.4`	2.8.26	Buildings and Structures	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Restore Ornamental Clock in the Park	Short	£20000

Conservation and Heritage – Action required within the first three years

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.6.5	2.8.2	Natural Features Wildlife and Flora	LES Conservation Team	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Introduce flowering plant species that attract insects and wildlife.	Medium	Existing and Partner Resources
4.6.6	2.8.3	Natural Features Wildlife and Flora	LES Conservation Team	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Create wildflower meadows at appropriate sites to increase plant diversity	Medium	Existing and Partner Resources

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.6.7	2.8.4	Natural Features Wildlife and Flora	LES Conservation Team	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Investigate requirement for bird and bat nesting boxes. Remove fallen tree between two existing islands to encourage bird nesting	Medium	Existing Resources
4.6.8	2.8.7	Natural Features Wildlife and Flora	LES Conservation Team	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Refurbish small pond within fossil grove to improve habitat	Medium	£20,000
4.6.9	2.8.7	Natural Features Wildlife and Flora	LES Conservation Team	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Create an additional island within the main boating pond.	Medium	£15,000
4.6.10	2.8.18	Buildings and Structures	Development of this Management Plan	City Parks and Open Spaces Manager	Investigate the development of café facilities in the park	medium	Development Opportunity – Potential Income
4.6.11	2.8.28	Development Opportunities	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Create a viewing area with interpretation at the Quarry Knowe Rock Garden	Medium	£8,000
4.6.12	2.8.29	Development Opportunities	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Re-landscape the former amphitheatre (crazy golf area)	Medium	£30,000
4.6.13	2.8.31	Development Opportunities	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Investigate an alternative use for the former blaes football pitches	medium	

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.6.14	2.8.32	Development Opportunities	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Continue to develop the play area including the maze	Medium	
4.6.15	2.8.33	Development Opportunities	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Consider establishing an orchard at an appropriate site within the park	Medium	
4.6.16	2.8.36	Committed Improvements	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Enhance and develop the Arboretum as part of the Commonwealth Games legacy	Medium	£10,000

Conservation and Heritage – Action required within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
101=		†					
4.6.17	2.8.6	Landscape	Historic Scotland	Landscape	Historic Scotland to be	Long	Existing
		Features		Design and	asked for a review of the		Resources
				Development	listing for Victoria Park on		
				Manager	the basis of; Improved		
					Horticultural Standing		
4.6.18	2.8.35	Committed	Commonwealth	Natural	Implement the	Long	Existing
		Improvements	Games	Environment	Commonwealth Games		Resources
				Manager	Twinning project during the		
					life time of this plan		

4.7 Community Involvement – Year 1 Action

Item	Paragraph	Management	Information	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated
	Number	Plan Section	Source				Cost £
4.7.1	2.9.15	Achievements	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Undertake an internal assessment of Green Flag criteria in relation to Victoria Park in 2012 prior to application for 2013.	Short	Existing Resources

Community Involvement - Action Ongoing within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.7.2	2.9.4	Online Customer Survey System	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Monitor GreenSTAT information and pass information to the management plan review team to ensure revisions reflect customer expectations.	Ongoing	Existing Resources
4.7.3	2.9.12	Friends Groups	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Glasgow City Council will continue to support the Friends of Victoria Park through regular contact and where required with resources to allow them to remain viable as an organisation.	Ongoing	

4.8 Marketing – Year 1 Action

Item	Paragraph	Management Plan	Information	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated
	Number	Section	Source				Cost £
4.8.1	2.10.8	Other Marketing	Development of	Landscape	Introduce touch screens with	Medium	Existing
		Tools	this Management	Design and	Heritage Trail information to		Resources
			Plan	Development	Fossil Grove Museum		
				Manager			

Marketing – Action Ongoing within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph	Management Plan	Information	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated
	Number	Section	Source				Cost £
4.8.3	2.10.9	Other Marketing Tools	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager / Glasgow Life	Continue to offer health walks, heritage tours and education visits	Ongoing	Existing Resources

4.9 Management Year 1 Actions

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.9.1	2.11.9	Green Flag UK Standard	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Apply and achieve Green Flag award for 2013	Short	Outline Cost 1000
4.9.2	2.11.10	Landscape Impact Assessment	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Prepare a landscape impact assessment to justify funding bids	Short	Existing Resources

Management – Action Ongoing within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Information Source	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated Cost £
4.9.3	2.11.9	Green Flag UK Standard	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Retain Green Flag status for the life of this plan	Ongoing	Outline Cost 4000
4.9.4	2.11.10	Landscape Impact Assessment	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Annual review of landscape impact assessment to ensure it is up to date	Ongoing	Existing Resources
4.9.5	2.11.11	Financial and Resource Implications	Development of this Management Plan	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Prepare funding applications to suitable external agencies to support the prioritised actions required to deliver this management plan.	Ongoing	Existing Resources

Management – Action Ongoing within the life of the Plan

Item	Paragraph	Management Plan	Information	Lead Officer	Strategic Action	Timescale	Estimated
	Number	Section	Source				Cost £
4.9.6	2.11.16	Monitor and Review	Development of	Landscape	Appoint monitoring group to	Ongoing	Existing
			this Management	Design and	review progress of the		Resources
			Plan	Development	Management Plan at yearly		
				Manager	intervals.		

SECTION 5 HOW WILL WE KNOW WE HAVE ARRIVED



Rose Beds

This section of the Management Plan examines the indicators that we will employ to ensure Victoria Park continues to meet the Green Flag standards as:

- A Welcoming Place
- Healthy, Safe and Secure
- Clean and Well Maintained
- Sustainability

- Management
- Community Involvement
- Marketing
- Conservation and Heritage

Progress with Victoria Park will be identified under the following headings.

- Management Plan Monitoring
- Budget and Service Plan
- Land and Environmental Services Annual Performance Report
- Online Survey and Customer Feedback
- Parks Development Programme Monitoring

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries 01412875064

Email: les@glasgow.gov.uk

Web Site www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks

SECTION 5 HOW WILL WE KNOW WE HAVE ARRIVED

- **5.1 Introduction.** The effective management of the city's parks and open spaces and local transport network requires Land and Environmental Services to regularly monitor performance and to report these findings to the public, the Council and other stakeholders. Land and Environmental Services use a variety of methods to report on performance.
- **Management Plan Monitoring.** Identified in the Management section of this plan is a commitment to review progress on a yearly basis. The outcome of each review will be communicated to the Plan's target audience identified in paragraphs 1.6.2 1.6.4 and our partner organisations for comment. The outcome of each review will also be reported to the LES Senior Management Team for approval and action if required. Any proposed changes to the plan will be subjected to the same process.
- 5.3 Budget and Service Plan. The Council's financial approach requires all services to combine their annual budget proposals with their annual service plan to produce an annual Budget and Service Plan. The Plan sets out the proposed service changes and financial efficiencies for a financial year in line with the Council's approved budget.

This includes

- An overview of the Service with details of responsibilities, budgets and staffing
- The opportunities and challenges currently facing Land and Environmental Services
- Details of the service changes for 2009/10. These cover individual proposals for income generation and efficiency savings.
- **5.3.1** Our commitment to improving our parkland through the adoption of Green Flag standards, the targets for achieving Green Flag awards and the resources required to do so will be clearly identified in the Plan
- 5.4 Land and Environmental Services Annual Performance Report. The Annual Performance Report details the achievements and levels of performance reached during the previous year. It also sets out new targets for service delivery in the coming year. The commitment to adopt Green Flag standards and achieve green Flag awards for some of our parks and Local Nature reserves will be clearly identified and progress reported on an annual basis
- Online Survey and Customer Feedback. It is intended that Land and Environmental Services will have access to an online survey and customer feedback system either through the development of a bespoke in house system linked to the Councils web site or by subscribing to the GreenSTAT system. The outcome from this system will be used to inform the management plan monitoring and review process.

identify actions that could be funded by the Parks Development Programme (PDP) budget. Suitable projects are identified and entered into a bids process and successful projects have a budget allocated and added to the PDP programme. LES landscape design project manage most of the PDP programme, major capital schemes are sometimes managed by LES Projects Team this is dependant on the scale and scope of the project involved. All projects are tracked within a project management system to ensure quality outcomes. Monitoring of the PDP takes place every 2 weeks where the progress of every project is discussed both in terms of budgetary and physical progress and remedial action identified if required. On completion projects are signed off with a completion certificate retained within the project file and the completed site is passed to Neighbourhood Services for maintenance.



Play in the Park



LAND & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES VICTORIA PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN SECTION 6 APPENDICES

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SECTION 6 APPENDICES

This section of the plan provides the details set out in the appendices referred to in this management plan.

Appendix 1

- 6.1 Strategic Policy Framework Details.
- 6.1.1 Policies, Strategies and Legislation affecting the Management Plan

 There are national and local policies, strategies and legislation that impact on this management plan.

'Parks and green spaces are supportive of social and economic objectives and activities, help to reduce inequalities, poor health and social exclusion in deprived areas and reduce the inherent tension between the many social and ethnic groups who form the wider community. Providing for the recreational and leisure needs of a community assists the economic revival of cities, increasing their attractiveness as a place for business, investment, to live, work and take out leisure'

Quotation from - Committee of Ministers - Council of Europe Recommendation on Urban Green Space.

6.1.2 Many national and local policies, strategies and legislation have been examined and reviewed as part of the preparation of the plan and some of those that impact on this plan are summarised below;

National Legislation.

- 6.1.3 **Disability Discrimination Act 2005:** This is a piece of legislation that promotes the civil rights of disabled people and protects disabled people from discrimination. The act gives disabled people rights in the area of access to goods, facilities and services and therefore applies to Parks and Open Spaces.
- 6.1.4 This management plan assesses how adjustments can be made by undertaking all reasonable steps to make the park accessible to all. A Copy of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 is available at www.direct.gov.uk
- 6.1.5 Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000: The Act requires named public bodies including Glasgow City Council to review their policies and procedures to remove discrimination and the possibility of discrimination and to actively promote race equality.
- 6.1.6 This management plan looks at how people from different ethnic backgrounds can have equal access and representation with regards to the benefits of parks and open spaces. For example, the plan recommends annual parks surveys that will include ethnic monitoring of respondents and actively developing partnerships with organisations working with different ethnic groups to increase their participation. A copy of the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 can be found at www.equalityhumanrights.com

- 6.1.7 **Local Government in Scotland Act 2003:** This Act places a duty on local authorities in Scotland to fulfil the duty of best value by making arrangements to secure continuous improvement in performance (while maintaining an appropriate balance between quality and cost) and to make arrangements for the reporting to the public of the outcome of how the local authority has performed its functions.
- 6.1.8 The key aim of this management plan is to;
 - Help set an appropriate budget for the park
 - Develop work programme for staff
 - Keep everyone with an interest in the park informed of how the park is being looked after through annual park surveys.
- 6.1.9 A copy of the Local Government Scotland Act 2003 is available at www.scotland.gov.uk)
- 6.1.10 **Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003:** This Act makes it an offence for any person in charge of a dog to fail to remove and dispose of appropriately of any excrement on certain public places including parks and open spaces. The act allows local authorities and the Police to issue fixed penalty notices to those they believe have committed the offence.
- 6.1.11 In putting together this plan, we have undertaken consultation with park staff and the public to identify the extent of dog fouling in the park if any and to identify existing and new measures that can be undertaken to reduce or eliminate the problem of dog fouling if it exists. A copy of the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003 is available at www.scotland.gov.uk
- 6.1.12 Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005: The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 establishes new methods of protecting the environment and extending opportunities for involvement in public policy decision making by systematically assessing and monitoring the significant environmental effects of public sector strategies, plans and programmes, seeking expert views at various points and requiring public statement as to how opinions have been taken into account. A copy of this Act is available at www.scotland.gov.uk
- 6.1.13 **Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004:** This act protects wildlife and places a duty on local authorities including Glasgow City Council to further the conservation of biodiversity in undertaking their functions. Glasgow City Council is undertaking this role through the Glasgow Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP).
- 6.1.14 This Management Plan recognises the benefits of how parks and open spaces are linked to the countryside beyond by a series of wildlife corridors and habitats. The plan assesses how biodiversity can be enhanced in this park through various actions described in the Conservation and Heritage section of this plan. A copy of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 and Glasgow Local Biodiversity Action Plan is available at www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation and www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation and

Local Policies and Strategies.

6.1.15 **Glasgow City Council key objectives:** The City Council has developed key objectives as part of its future plans and targets up to 2011. The City Council's vision is to create "a prosperous city for all Glaswegians".

The five Key Objectives are:

- improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our services;
- increasing access to lifelong learning;
- making Glasgow a cleaner, safer city;
- building a prosperous city; and
- improving health and wellbeing.
- 6.1.16 The management plan contributes significantly to all of the above key objectives by ensuring that there is continuous improvement in how the park is maintained. Promotes the educational benefits of the park as an outdoor classroom to all. The prioritised work programme addresses the needs of stakeholders and provides opportunities for projects that promote healthy living improving the health and well being of Glaswegians. A copy of the Councils' Plan and key objectives is available at www.glasgow.gov.uk
- 6.1.17 Strategic Best Value Review of Glasgow Parks and Open Spaces 2005 (SBVR) The SBVR document requires Glasgow City Council to produce management plans for all parks and makes recommendations to encourage greater use of parks, to communicate effectively with all stakeholders and to develop and enhance the range of facilities and amenities by working with partner organisations.
- 6.1.18 In putting together this plan, the requirement to produce management plans for parks is being fulfilled. In addition the objectives and subsequent actions developed in this plan compliment those in the SBVR document. A copy of the SBVR document is available at www.glasgow.gov.uk
- 6.1.19 Glasgow Single Outcome Agreement (SOA): This is an agreement between local authorities in Scotland and the Scottish Government on the most effective routes to deliver services in line with local needs and national priorities. In July 2008, Glasgow City Council and the Scottish Government signed Glasgow's first Single Outcome Agreement (SOA).
- 6.1.20 Glasgow's SOA through the community planning partnerships aims to reduce health inequality, improve educational attainment, increase residents' involvement in community life and physical activity and improve physical environment and attractiveness of Glasgow.
- 6.1.21 This management plan recognises the role that this park plays in the delivery of the above priorities and establishes work programmes to improve and enhance how the park can be a place for outdoor classroom, a safe and welcoming place for all communities, a fun and attractive place and a healthy green place. A copy of the Glasgow SOA is available at www.glasgow.gov.uk

- 6.1.22 Glasgow City Council City Plan 2: Provides detailed guidance on the shape, form and direction of development in Glasgow, indicates the way in which the Council wishes to see the City's physical structure develop over the lifetime of the plan and identifies the planning action and infrastructure investment required to deliver this change. The plan is a vital element of the City's response to the regeneration challenges and opportunities that will emerge over the coming years. As such, it outlines a broad development strategy over a 20 year period and a more detailed investment and action agenda for the Council and its development partners over the next 5 years.
- 6.1.23 The Aim identified in the section on open space protection is; to ensure that areas of formal and informal open space are protected from inappropriate development, in order to maintain or enhance the quality of life, health, wellbeing and amenity of the communities they serve and also promote sustainability and biodiversity.
- 6.1.24 The Policy identified to achieve this aim is; In accordance with policy DEV 11: Green Space, there is a strong presumption in favour of the retention of all public and private green/open space.
- 6.1.25 In relation to Development in Parks the city plan states: The potential for the development of commercial facilities (e.g. cafes and restaurants) in parks may be considered where such uses will contribute to improved customer service and increased park usage. This will require developers to consult with local communities. Such proposals, where appropriate in terms of the nature of the park and their impact upon it, should be set within the context of a Park Management Plan.
- 6.1.26 **Local Transport Strategy (LTS):** Glasgow's transport vision is to provide a world class transport system which is safe, reliable, integrated and accessible to all citizens and visitors and also supports the physical, social, economic, cultural, environmental and economic regeneration of the City.
- 6.1.27 In order to achieve this, the LTS contains a balanced strategy, which concentrates on promoting and enhancing sustainable transport modes such as walking, cycling and public transport, with limited investment in roads infrastructure to tackle key congestion points, provide essential links to development areas and provide links to enable public transport to provide effective circumferential services.
- 6.1.28 **LES Budget and Service Plan.** The Council's financial approach requires all services to combine their annual budget proposals with their annual service plan to produce an annual Budget and Service Plan. The Plan sets out the proposed service changes and financial efficiencies for a financial year in line with the Council's approved budget.

This includes

- An overview of the Service with details of responsibilities, budgets and staffing
- The opportunities and challenges currently facing Land and Environmental Services
- Details of the service changes for the financial year the plan is set. These cover individual proposals for income generation and efficiency savings.

- 6.1.29 Our commitment to improving our parkland through the adoption of Green Flag standards, the targets for achieving Green Flag awards and the resources required to do so will be clearly identified in the Budget and Service Plan
- 6.1.30 Land and Environmental Services Annual Performance Report. The Annual Performance Report details the achievements and levels of performance reached during the previous year. It also sets out new targets for service delivery in the coming year. The commitment to adopt Green Flag standards and achieve green Flag awards for some of our parks and Local Nature reserves will be clearly identified and progress reported on an annual basis

Appendix 2

6.2 History of Victoria Park.

6.2.1 Historical influences on the designed landscape

Victoria Park, named in honour of Queen Victoria's Jubilee, was laid out between 1886-7 on the Scotstoun Estate, on land given to the burgh of Partick by Gordon Oswald of Scotstoun. It was later extended between 1894-1909. The park was laid out by unemployed shipbuilders from the Glasgow dockyards.

- 6.2.2 A major influence on the layout of the designed landscape was made during the park's construction when a fossil grove was uncovered. Eleven fossil stumps and roots of trees were found when workers were excavating a path through an old whinstone quarry in the south-west corner of the park.
- 6.2.3 During the 19th century, prehistory became an important element in some civic parks up and down the country, the most well-known being the artificial cliffs and display of prehistoric animals at Crystal Palace Park in London.
- 6.2.4 Various features within the park have been removed or altered since the end of the 19th century. The curling pond indicated on the 2nd-4th edition OS 1:2500 (25'), 1896-1932, is no longer extant, having been superseded by the works yard. Some time between the 3rd and 4th edition OS 1:2500 (25'), 1913 and 1932 respectively, the knoll to the north of the lake was reformed and landscaped anew.
- 6.2.5 In more recent years a bandstand and amphitheatre which were laid out to complement an earlier pavilion on the east side of the fossil grove quarry have been replaced by a crazy golf course. This is currently in a state of disrepair. Vandalism and decay have exerted their toll on the historic character of the park.
- 6.2.6 The park is well maintained with high-quality bedding beside the lake. However, the historic integrity of the layout and planting is becoming eroded. This is due to the loss of various built elements and to change and decay in historic planting and paths in and around the fossil grove quarry and elsewhere. An integrated, historically based management plan for the whole park is required.

"Extracted form the Historic Scotland web site containing details about the listing of Victoria Park in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland.

Appendix 3

6.3 Details of Grounds Maintenance for Victoria Park.

Land and Environmental Services undertake the following Park maintenance operations

Grass Cutting Between March and October Grass hi freq Between March and October

Manual Edging Create new edge Edging Shears

Strim Grass Edges Between March and October Chemical treat grass edges Between March and October Chemical treat obstacles Between March and October

De-litter agreed frequency

Play Areas LES Agreed number of Visits per Week

3 monthly inspection of play equipment & fences

by Blacksmiths

Any repairs as required De-litter agreed frequency

Shrub Beds Prune by species

Spot treat weeds Hoe & weed

De-litter agreed frequency

Rose Beds Spring prune

Autumn Prune Hoe & Weed Spot treat weeds Apply Fertiliser

De-litter agreed frequency

Flower Beds Planting out Spring / Summer

Planting out Autumn / Spring

Hoe & Weed beds agreed frequency De-litter beds agreed frequency

Hardstanding Chemical treatments

Brush surface

De-litter agreed frequency

Appendix 4

6.4 Bridge Inspection Report.

u _{im} [Bridge	Inspection Pro Forma								Based on Volume 2 Addendum: August 2004
Gen	eral Ins	spection Css	Inspector: Jame	s For	d					Form 1 of 2 for this bridge
Bridg	ge Nar	ne: Victoria Park Pond Brid								Date: 14/03/2011
		/No: 1378		Sc	Span Width: 1.50m					Map Ref: 254181, 667122
	n 1 of:			-		ength:				Primary Deck Form: 09 Truss - Half Through
			4	4	AGIII LE	aigui.	7.00			Primary Deck Material: E Steel
_		ription: North - Park Footbr		15		-				•
		round elements inspected:		н	otogr	aphs:	Yes			Secondary Deck Form: 36 Other - Transverse Beams
		construction forms in bridg		_				_		Secondary Deck Material: N Timber
Set	No	Element Descr	iption	S	Ex	Def	W	Р	Cost	Comments
ants	1 3	Primary Deck Element (Ta Secondary Deck Element From Table 3		5	C	1.2 16.2	R	Н		Section loss to beams at abutments Missing timbers 20-50% of footbridge.
Deck Elements	7	Deck Bracing		2	E	1.1	P	М	0	Widespread surface corrosion.
0	8	Foundations		2	В	6.1	R	L	0	Cracks and spalling to north foundation.
Sul	_	Bearings		2	В	12.1		L	0	Minor rusting to bolts and plates.
Load Bearing Sub Structure		District Dark State		-	_	4.1				
age .		Painting: Deck Elements Painting: Parapets/Safety		5	E	4.1	P	Н		All coats failed. Widespread failure, pitting.
Durability Elements		,								
_ '	23	Handrail/Parapets/Safety	Fences	1	Α	1.1	N	L		Galvanized fence blocking access.
E S	25	Footway/Verge/Footbridg	e Surfacing	5	С	9.1	R	Н	0	Missing timber decking.
Safety Elements										

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Bridge Inspection	Pro Famila	Dased o	n Volume 2 Addendum: August 2004
\$\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	GE STATE AND GERST TO SHARIPPIE	Defects (Artist) (1995)	
	inspectors.		
Name: James Ford	Signed:		Dale:
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Name: Herry Dempse	y Signed:	and the second of the second of the second	Date:
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Appendix 5

6.5 Funding Sources

- 6.5.1 Victoria Park Key Stakeholders. Glasgow City Council as the single landowner of Victoria Park, GCC will have the lead responsibility for the implementation of the actions identified in the Management Plan and consequently would require being an investment stakeholder in the delivery of the proposals. The Council through the commissioning of this management Plan has indicated its recognition of the importance of the site as an asset which is worthy of future commitment and investment. Nevertheless it is recognised that Victoria Park will be competing for Council capital and revenue budgets principally held by Land & Environmental Services, Development & Regeneration Services and the Partick West Area Committee, all of which are under increasing pressures from both existing project commitments and other potential project developments within the area. The Management Plan is time related over 5 years and the actions are categorised as short medium or long term therefore phasing any funding commitment to the project would be required and therefore appropriate advance planning would need to be undertaken to ensure that the preferred project proposals are built into the Council budget process.
- A further GCC potential funding stream for Victoria Park could be utilising the Environment Policy 2 (which super-seeds Residential Green Space Standards) of the Council's City Plan 2 (Policy ENV2) which specifies the minimum standards required for each category of Recreational Green Space within new housing developments. Such developments are obliged to meet their recreational green space obligations on a pro-rata basis in order to contribute to the improvement of the external environment of residential areas and meet the Council's objectives with regard to accessibility, sustainability, health and social inclusion. Whilst GCC has a general principle of recreational green space provision provided within a residential development site it recognises that from the effective planning context, provision may extend beyond the development site e.g. use or enhance existing green space provision or create new ones, or, be a combination of both on and off-site provision. Where provision is to be made off-site, a Section 69 Agreement is required to ensure that the obligations to provide recreational green space are implemented. Where the off-site provision is on Council owned land, a development contribution of £1000 per bed space is required. Given the recognised shortage of developable land in the west side of the city and developers desire to maximise the number of housing units on what land is available there could be significant sums of money available to fund some of the actions in the Management Plan.
- 6.5.3 **Scottish Executive.** Community Planning Partnership Funds (CPP). Community Planning is described as,

'The structure, processes and behaviours necessary to ensure that organisations work together and with communities to improve the quality of peoples' lives, through more effective, joined-up and appropriate delivery of services'.

- 6.5.4 The Local Government in Scotland Act (2003) provides a statutory framework for the Community Planning process and places a duty on Local Authorities to initiate, maintain and facilitate the Community Planning process. Glasgow Community Planning Ltd (GCP Ltd) is the support body for the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership which was formed in 2004 to take forward the city's approach to community planning. GCP Ltd only replaced the former Social Inclusion Partnerships in April 2006
- 6.5.5 The membership of the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership includes
 - Glasgow City Council
 - Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
 - NHS Greater Glasgow
- Glasgow Housing Association
- Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
- Strathclyde Police
- 6.5.6 The Council and its partners are delivering community planning in Glasgow at a local level. There are 10 local partnerships in the city. These areas are:
 - West
 - Central and West
 - Glasgow North East
 - Maryhill/Kelvin and Canal
 - East Centre and Calton
- Shettleston, Bailieston &Greater Easterhouse
- Greater Pollok & Newlands/Auldburn
- Govan & Craigton
- Langside & Linn
- Pollokshields & Southside Central
- 6.5.7 Funding is governed by the themes of the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership 5 Year Community Plan (2005-2010) "Our Vision for Glasgow" which seeks to tackle deprivation and to build upon neighbourhood regeneration as well as combating inequality and discrimination. This Plan contains five key themes;
 - A Working Glasgow
 - A Learning Glasgow
 - A Healthy Glasgow
- A Safe Glasgow
- A Vibrant Glasgow
- 6.5.8 Any funding applications to the Central and West Community Planning Partnership to support this management plan will require to align with at least one of these key themes.
- 6.5.9 National Lottery Fund Programmes Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People programme". Parks for People" is the first joint programme administered by HLF (and involving the BIG) with £90 million committed over the next three years for Parks. Grants are available for urban or rural green spaces designed for informal recreation and enjoyment and will be usually owned and managed by a local authority. Applications for funding must show that the:
 - Community values the park as part of their heritage;
 - Park meets local social, economic and environmental needs;
 - Park actively involves local people.

- 6.5.10 Parks for People projects should also offer a wide range of activities that conserve and improve heritage value; increase the range of audience, learning and enjoyment, and provide volunteering and training opportunities. Eligible capital works for funding support include amongst others:
 - Repairing and restoring landscapes. Also, new landscape design if it improves and adds to the heritage;
 - Recreation and play facilities;
 - Improving access for all;
 - Repairing boundaries, drainage and services;

However, priority should be given to repairing and using existing buildings in the park – rather than providing new Buildings or Facilities with all facilities benefiting the park and its users

- 6.5.11 HLF expect at least 25% of the project funding requirements to come from the applicant's own resources (either in cash or in kind) with grant awards from the Parks for People scheme ranging from £250,000 to £5 million per project. Although funding from other lottery distributor sources cannot be used as contributions for work which funding from the Parks for People programme is sought, this does not preclude funding applications to other lottery distributors (e.g. sports and play facilities) within the same park amenity.
- 6.5.12 **Big Lottery Fund.** The Big Lottery Fund in Scotland (BIG) has a number of grant funding programmes. BIG wants to invest this money to bring real improvements to communities and to the lives of people most in need.
- 6.5.13 BIG seeks to make investment in social change in Scotland in four different ways:
- 6.5.14 **Growing Community Assets**. Through which BIG will help communities become stronger by acquiring or developing assets for their own use. BIG can fund projects which buy, improve or develop assets as well as employing development staff and help groups get the skills they need to develop or manage an asset. Applications can only be accepted from organisations that are set up to benefit a specific geographical area or a community of interest within such an area, are community controlled and are independent from local or central government. BIG mostly funds not-for-profit organisations but can fund organisations that distribute profits but are set up for community benefit e.g. co-operatives, community interest companies;
- 6.5.15 **Dynamic Inclusive Communities.** Through which BIG will help build stronger more vibrant communities;
- 6.5.16 **Life Transitions.** Through which BIG will support projects that help people deal with change in their lives and encourage them to move on;
- 6.5.17 **Supporting 21st Century Life.** Through which BIG will invest in projects that enable people to cope with new patterns of life and the pace of change communities are experiencing. This includes projects that promote activities which maintain or strengthen relationships and see different generations come together as well as focusing on health and well being. Applications can be made by Voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations; public and private sector organisations.

- 6.5.18 The potential scale of BIG grant funding for investment in communities ranges from between £10,000 and £1m per project.
 - The "Young People's Fund in Scotland" which is a £20 million grant programme to help young people aged 11-25 learn new things and take part in healthy and positive activities that make them feel good about themselves. It is anticipated that most of the money will be used to fund projects in local areas that address important local issues. Groups can apply for grants ranging between £5,000 and 1 million, spread over one to four years. Eligible organisations for funding support include community or voluntary organisations, charities and statutory bodies such as local authorities or community councils.
- 6.5.19 **Scottish Natural Heritage.** A wide range of grants are available from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) these generally are for the following type of project;
 - Promoting public enjoyment of the natural heritage
 - Improving the conservation of species, habitats and landscapes;
 - Increasing awareness and understanding of the natural heritage.
- 6.5.20 All SNH grants are discretionary and rates of contribution vary but do not generally exceed 50%. The types of funded work appropriate to the Botanic Garden and which may be eligible for grant include:
 - Access provision;
 - Habitat enhancement;
 - Site interpretation
 - Environmental education.

However, it should be noted that currently SNH does not award grants as their funds have been distributed to local Authorities who decide on which projects will be funded annually.

- 6.5.21 **Historic Scotland.** Historic Scotland have a range of grants applicable to Queen's Park these are;
- 6.5.22 **Historic Building Repair Grants in Glasgow.** Applicants, who have a responsibility for properties within the Glasgow City Council administrative area, should be aware that GCC will be taking forward the processing of applications submitted for Historic Scotland-Historic Building Repair grant within this area, on a 3-year temporary basis, as of 1st October 2009.
- 6.5.23 **Maintenance Plan Grants.** Modest spending on regular maintenance can reduce the need for costly repairs, protect the fabric of your building and save you money in the longer term. Historic Scotland can award grants for the preparation of maintenance plans for historic buildings that are considered to be of outstanding architectural or historic interest and where it is considered beneficial for the building to have its own maintenance plan.
- 6.5.24 Applicants must be organisations or individuals who have a legal responsibility for the repair of a historic building. Applicants will normally need to own the building or hold a full repairing lease which has at least 21 years to run and need to demonstrate that the property is open to the public for at least 25 days per year.

- 6.5.25 Landscape Management Plan Grants. Gardens and designed landscapes are a significant and fragile element of our historic environment. Historic Scotland can award grants for the preparation of landscape management plans for sites included in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland.
- 6.5.26 Applicants need to own or control all of the property and provide details of how long it has been in their or their family's ownership. In cases of divided ownership, it is required to provide proof of whether there is general support for the production of a plan. Sites must be included in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland.
- 6.5.27 Applications are considered throughout the year on the Landscape Management Plan application form. Grants can be awarded at rates of up to 50% of the cost of preparing a plan prepared by a consultant who has an established record of such work with particular reference to historic gardens and landscapes.
- 6.5.28 **Greenspace Scotland.** Greenspace Scotland (GS) has been established as a national lead organisation to improve the environment in, and around, urban settlements in Scotland through the creation and sustainable management of green space including public parks. GS functions on a crosscutting theme basis e.g. environmental improvements; health and well-being; recreation, sport and play; biodiversity and habitat creation etc. GS operates a federal structure of local partnerships and trusts such as those operating in Aberdeen, Central Scotland, Edinburgh and Glasgow & Clyde Valley.
- 6.5.29 These current GS initiatives receive revenue funding support and raise external funding support which includes allocation for project funding bids which are in harmony with, and which will assist, the local partnerships to deliver their aims and objectives.

Park Management Plans and Park Development

Victoria Park

Public Consultation



September - October 2012

Produced by
Jacqui Jacobsen
Policy Assistant
Chief Executive's Office

Tel: 0141 287 0355

Email: jacqui.jacobsen@glasgow.gov.uk

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1. Background

The Council's Land and Environmental Services carried out a consultation on draft Park Management Plans for seven city parks. A Park Management Plan is required to make an application for the Green Flag Award® scheme.

The Green Flag Award® scheme is the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces in Scotland, England and Wales. It was first launched in 1996 to recognise and reward the best green spaces in the country.

The Management Plans were available online through the Council's website (www.glasgow.gov.uk) and within the local area of each of the parks involved. Responses were welcomed from both the general public and other interested stakeholders, both locally and nationally.

Response Rate: 223

2. Park Usage

Question 1a: In general, what do you normally use the Park for? (select all that apply)

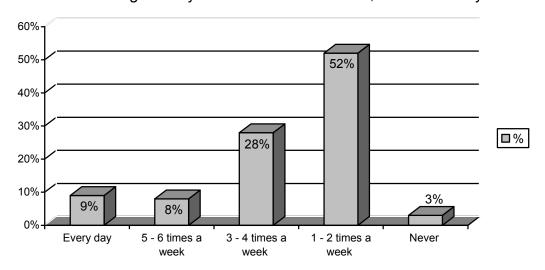
Activity	Number	Percentage (%)
Recreation – Cycling	65	30%
Recreation – Walking	172	79%
Recreation – Other	104	48%
Recreation – Dog Walking	37	17%
Route to Work/Education	11	5%
Route to Shops	32	15%
Route to other activities	48	22%
Do not use the park	2	1%
Other	39	18%

Base: 219

Question 1b: If other, please specify

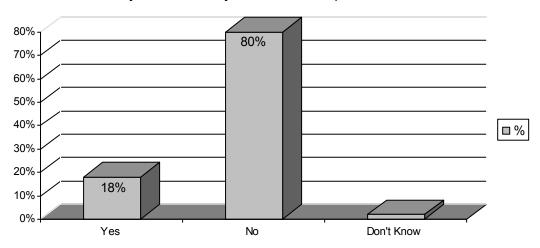
Respondents identified a number of other activities which the park is used for, including sports such as football and running and children's play activities.

Victoria Park Management Plan 2013 - 2018 **Question 2:** Thinking about your main use of the Park, how often do you use it?

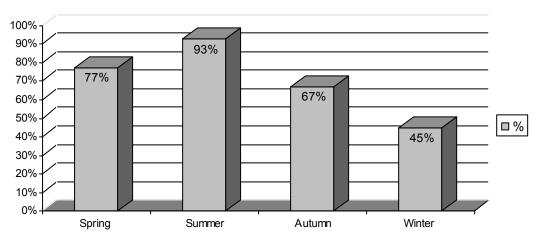


Base: 206

Question 3: Would you consider your use of the park to be seasonal?

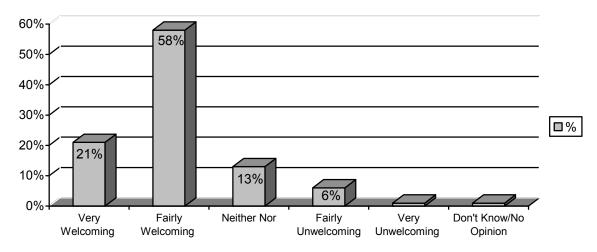


Victoria Park Management Plan 2013 - 2018 **Question 4:** If yes, when are you most likely to use the park? (tick all that apply)



3. Park Safety

Question 5a: How welcoming or otherwise would you say the park is?



Base: 202

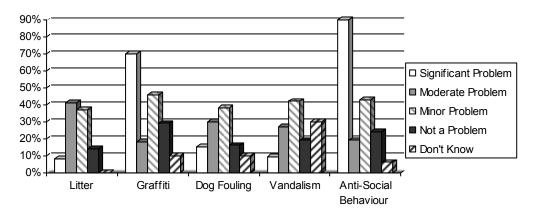
Question 5b: If unwelcoming, please provide details

Responses mention they feel that the park looks 'run down' in certain areas with litter being an issue. Others note the issue of some dogs being off their leads.

Question 6: How safe or otherwise do you feel in the park?

Time	Very Safe (%)	Fairly Safe (%)	Neither Nor (%)	Fairly Unsafe (%)	Very Unsafe (%)	Do not use park at	Don't Know (%)
						this time (%)	
Morning	96	92	8			2	2
	(48%)	(46%)	(4%)	-	_	(1%)	(1%)
Afternoon	101	88	7	2	-	-	1
	(51%)	(44%)	(4%)	(1%)			(1%)
Evening	22	66	32	36	10	26	4
	(11%)	(34%)	(16%)	(18%)	(5%)	(13%)	(2%)

Question 7: In your opinion, how much of an issue, or otherwise, are the following in the park?



Base: 201

Question 8: Are there any other issues which you feel are a problem?

A number of issues were highlighted by respondents, particularly the perceived lack of maintenance of some areas including the pond, football pitches, play area and Fossil Grove. Other responses mention the lack of toilet facilities and dogs being off their lead as issues. The availability of parking, including disabled parking, was also mentioned.

4. Park Information and Features

Question 9: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding information provision WITHIN and SURROUNDING the park?

	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neither Nor (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
There are sufficient signs providing direction WITHIN the park	24	83	48	30	2	7
	(12%)	(43%)	(25%)	(16%)	(1%)	(4%)
There are sufficient signs providing direction in the area SURROUNDING the park	9	43	64	57	5	14
	(5%)	(22%)	(33%)	(30%)	(3%)	(7%)
There is sufficient information about specific features WITHIN the park	6	61	48	63	8	7
	(3%)	(32%)	(25%)	(33%)	(4%)	(4%)

Base: 195

Question 10: How would you rate the following aspect of the park in terms of their maintenance?

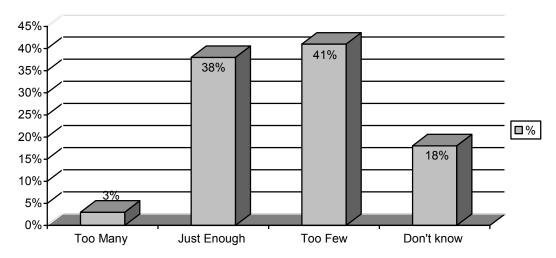
	Very Good (%)	Good (%)	Neither Nor (%)	Poor (%)	Very Poor (%)	Don't Know (%)
Grass	43	110	23	15	4	1
	(22%)	(56%)	(12%)	(8%)	(2%)	(1%)
Trees	50	103	30	12	2	1
	(25%)	(52%)	(15%)	(6%)	(1%)	(1%)
Shrubs	48	81	39	17	5	3
	(25%)	(42%)	(20%)	(9%)	(3%)	(2%)
Bedding Displays	87	72	17	16	4	1
	(44%)	(37%)	(9%)	(8%)	(2%)	(1%)
Paths	31	98	39	25	4	1
	(16%)	(50%)	(18%)	(13%)	(2%)	(1%)
Trails	26	67	51	26	6	13
	(14%)	(35%)	(27%)	(14%)	(3%)	(7%)
Seats/Benches	22	97	52	18	7	0
	(11%)	(50%)	(27%)	(9%)	(4%)	(0%)

Question 11: Do you agree or disagree with the introduction of more natural features within the park?

	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neither Nor (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
Wild Flower Meadows	64	71	28	28	5	2
	(32%)	(36%)	(14%)	(14%)	(3%)	(1%)
Long Grass (Wildlife)	55	57	30	41	9	3
	(28%)	(29%)	(15%)	(21%)	(5%)	(2%)
Bird/Bat Boxes	74	84	19	10	6	3
	(38%)	(43%)	(10%)	(5%)	(3%)	(2%)
Hedgerows	50	69	45	18	5	7
	(26%)	(36%)	(23%)	(9%)	(3%)	(4%)

5. Park Events

Question 12: How do you feel about the current number of events held in the park?



Base: 196

Question 13a: Which of the following types of events, if any, do you think there should be more of in the park? (Glasgow Show, Great Scottish Run, galas and fun fairs) (tick all that apply)

Event	Number	Percentage (%)
Art Events	68	58%
Music Events	70	60%
Sport Events	76	65%
Environmental Events	70	60%
Family Events	99	85%
Children/YP Events	88	75%

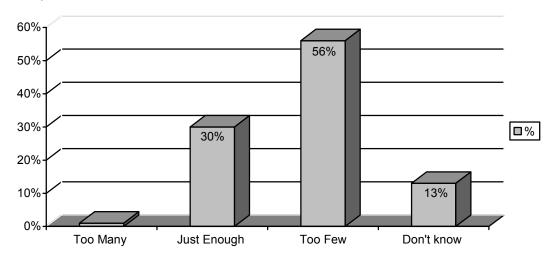
Base: 117

Question 13b: Other, please specify

A number of respondents provided additional suggestions on the types of events they would like to see more of in the park; these included seasonal or community events, flower shows and more use of the pond.

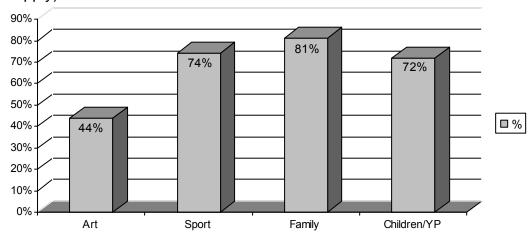
6. Park Activities

Question 14: How do you feel about the current number of activities available in the park?



Base: 191

Question 15: Which of the following types of activities, if any, do you think there should be more of in the park? (Wild About Glasgow, nature walks etc.) (tick all that apply)



Base: 133

Question 15b: Other, please specify

Other responses mention sport and exercise activities such as football and BMX. There is also mention of historical, musical and nature activities. Some respondents think there should be more activities targeted at older members of the community.

7. Park Management and Priorities

Question 16: Please choose from the following list, what you think should be the main priorities for the park. (please select your top three)

The three main priorities identified by respondents reflect, to some extent, the types of activities respondents wanted to see more of within the park:

- Facilities for younger people
- Formal gardening
- The presence of wildlife in parks and greenspaces

Other issues identified were:

- Sports facilities
- Access to toilets
- Events staged in parks

Question 17: Please tell us what you like best about the park. (164)

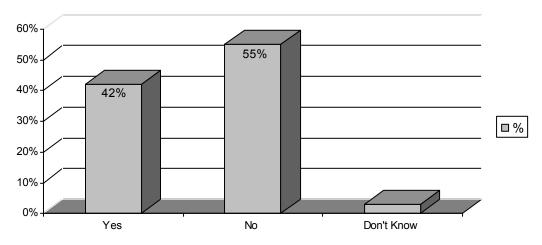
The main thing respondents like best about the park is the variety of facilities and activities for all ages of park users. In particular respondents enjoy the open space the park provides as well as the pond, Fossil Grove and the flower displays. The access to facilities for sports such as tennis, football, cycling, bowls etc is well liked by the respondents and there is a general sense of appreciation for the floral bedding displays.

Question 18: Please tell us what you like least about the park. (165)

A range of issues were raised as not being particularly good within the park. A number of respondents again identified the issue of maintenance and certain areas becoming unkempt and overgrown such as the pitches, crazy golf, play park and the area around Fossil Grove. There is mention of a need for more adequate toilet facilities as well as a desire for improvements to be made to the blaes pitches and the children's play park. A few respondents mention the issue of anti-social behaviour from dog owners and people littering and drinking.

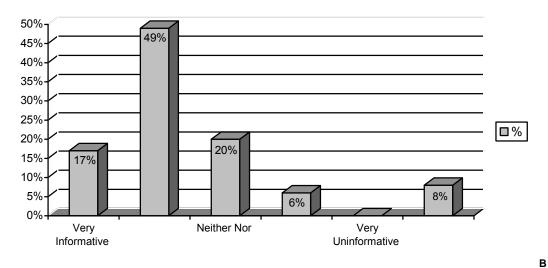
8. Parks Management Plans

Question 19: Have you read the Park Management Plan?



Base: 193

Question 20: How informative or otherwise did you find the Plan?



ase: 86

Question 21: If uninformative, what additional information do you think should be included?

It was mentioned that the Plan could perhaps be condensed into a briefer document. Other responses note a lack of detail about the proposals for the blaes pitches and concern about the omission of input of the sports clubs who use the park.

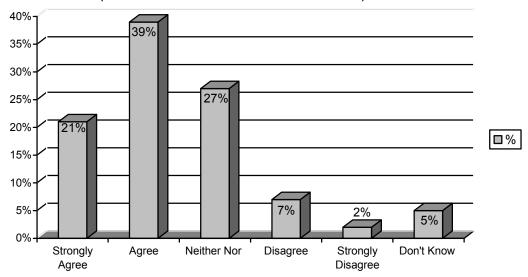
Question 22: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following aspects of the Plan?

	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neither Nor (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
The Plan was easy to	8	36	25	9	2	3
read	(10%)	(43%)	(30%)	(11%)	(2%)	(4%)
The format made it	7	38	29	4	2	3
easy to follow	(8%)	(49%)	(35%)	(5%)	(2%)	(4%)
The Plan is	11	29	26	9	4	4
comprehensive	(13%)	(35%)	(31%)	(11%)	(5%)	(5%)
The Plan reflects the	7	22	25	15	9	5
priorities of the park	(8%)	(27%)	(30%)	(18%)	(11%)	(6%)

9. Park Development

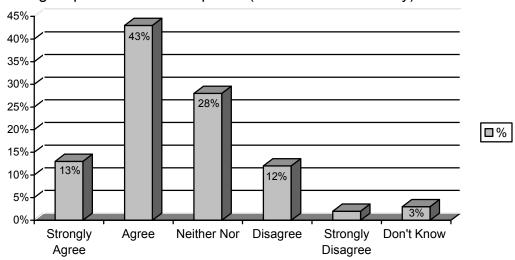
Glasgow City Council is committed to future development of the parks; however, in the current economic climate there are restrictions on the type and size of projects that can be undertaken within the next five years. Nevertheless, this should not prevent any long-term aspirations and so, we would like to hear your ideas.

Question 23: Do you agree or otherwise to review access within the grounds of the Fossil Grove (Section 2.4.4 Entrances and Access)

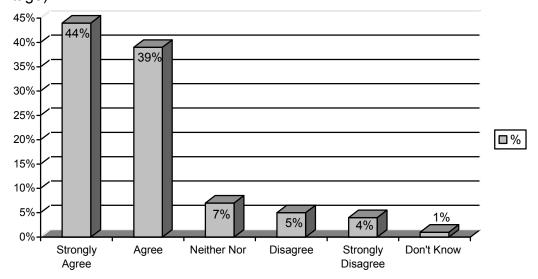


Base: 179

Question 24: Do you agree or otherwise the need to investigate the possibility of installing help and information points (Section 2.5.9 Security)

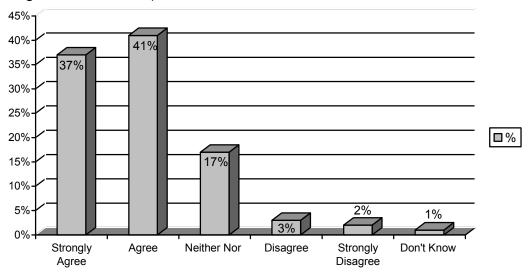


Question 25: Do you agree or otherwise with the proposal to provide a café incorporating public toilets within the park? (Section 2.8.22 Conservation and Heritage)

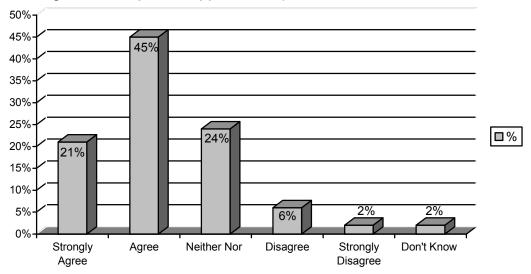


Base: 187

Question 26: Do you agree or otherwise to the proposal to restore the Ornamental Clock in the Park (Section 2.8.26 Conservation and Heritage – Buildings and Structures)

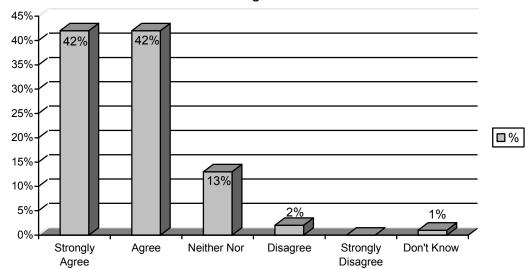


Question 27: Do you agree or otherwise to the creation of a viewing area with interpretation at the Fossil Grove Rock Garden (Section 2.8.28 Conservation and Heritage – Development Opportunities)



Base: 183

Question 28: Do you agree or otherwise to the proposal to re-furbish and extend the small pond within the Fossil Grove Rock Garden to improve habitat (Section 2.87 Conservation and Heritage – Natural Features Wildlife and Flora)

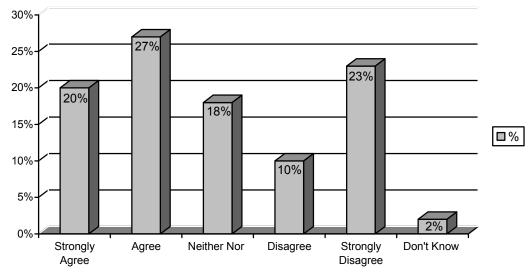


Question 29: Do you agree or otherwise to either create a Landscape Feature in the former Bandstand Area or form a small Amphitheatre in the former bandstand area (Section 2.8.29 Conservation and Heritage – Development Opportunities)

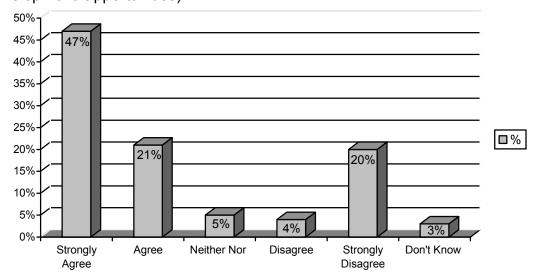
	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neither Nor (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
Create Landscape	40	54	39	12	6	6
Feature	(26%)	(34%)	(25%)	(8%)	(4%)	(4%)
Small Amphitheatre	55	56	29	15	6	7
	(33%)	(33%)	(17%)	(9%)	(4%)	(4%)

Base: 186

Question 30: Do you agree or otherwise to establish an orchard at an appropriate site within the park (Section 2.8.33 Conservation and Heritage – Development Opportunities)



Question 31: Do you agree or otherwise to find an alternative use for the former blaes football pitches (Section 2.8.35 Conservation and Heritage – Development Opportunities)



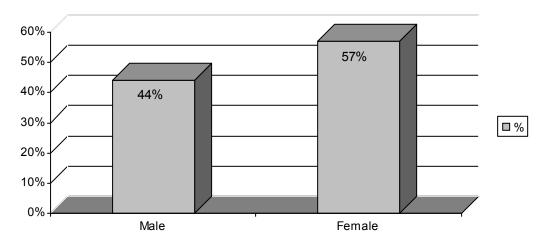
Base: 187

Question 32: Do you have any other comments about the park or the management plan?

A significant number of responses reiterate their strong interest for more information about the blaes pitches and how they would be improved for sports. A few responses mentioned their wish for a skate park to be created. However there are concerns from some respondents about making the park too 'commercial' with the inclusion of a café, skate park and inflatable cities. There is a sense of positivity about the park and a hope that plans will be implemented quickly and encouraging results will be seen.

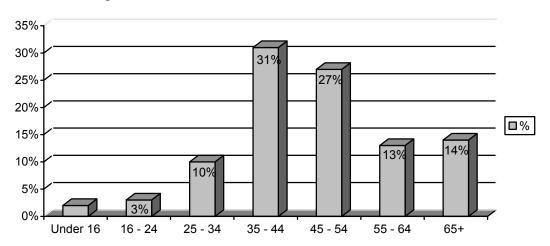
10. About You

Question 34: Gender

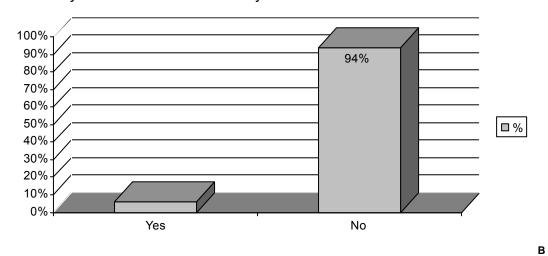


Base: 186

Question 35: Age



Question 36: Do you have any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your activities or the work you can do?



ase: 183

Question 37a: How would you best describe you cultural or ethical background?

Cultural/Ethnic Background	Number	Percentage (%)
White Scottish	138	76%
White English	7	4%
White Welsh	2	1%
White Northern Irish	1	*
White British	21	12%
White Irish	6	3%
Gypsy/Traveller	-	-
Polish	-	-
Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or	-	-
Pakistani British		
Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian	3	2%
British		
Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or	-	-
Bangladeshi British		
Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese	-	-
British		
African, African Scottish or African	1	*
British		
Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or	-	-
Caribbean British		
Black, Black Scottish or black British	-	-
Arab	1	*
Other	1	*

Base: 181 *less than 1%