Welcome

Have your say on the new ten-year vision for Manchester’s Parks
Comments about Manchester Parks

“The heart and lungs of Manchester where communities can be enriched”
“A great place to chill out”

“Beautiful childhood memories are made in our parks”
“A little bit of the countryside on my doorstep.”

“There's not enough greenery with facilities around”
“There are not enough small 'pocket parks' in the city centre.”

“Green space in a sprawling city means everything”

“Poorly equipped and under utilised facilities”

“Thanks for the effort in keeping them clean and safe.”

“give people back some green please then there will be more memories for new people”

Parks and open spaces consultation
What today is about

1. Develop the conversation about Manchester’s Parks
2. Get as many of your ideas as possible about the next ten years for Manchester’s Parks
3. Get a shared understanding for what we could do together
4. Understand how to make things happen
Content

Background and context
What we all want (vision)
How to get there (strategy)
Theme 1
Theme 2
Break
Theme 3
Theme 4
Further feedback and questions
Finish
Background and context
Over the last 15 years...

It’s been 15 years since we looked at Manchester’s parks in a big picture way. In that time we’ve seen a mixed picture of both highs and lows:

• Manchester’s population grew by over 97,000 people
• The hard work of over 50 Friends groups and other committed residents
• Heaton Hall and Park renovation works
• £14m of Clean City money to make the city greener and cleaner
• Fire at Wythenshawe Hall
• Budgets and staffing merge and reduce
‘Our Manchester’ vision for 2025

“Our Manchester should be a parklife city. Everyone needs green spaces where we’re safe to exercise and socialise”

Taken from “Our Manchester” – thousands of Mancunians saying how the city should be by 2025.

It’s time for a re-think of parks: What we all want; and how to get it.
Responses to consultation so far

Over 1400 offers of support for Manchester parks:
What do we all want? (Vision)

Heaton Park is the largest municipal park in Europe.
What do we all want? (Vision)

“Maintaining and creating high quality green spaces to meet, relax and play in.”

Proposed vision from the draft Manchester Parks Strategy

Together we want Manchester Parks to be:

- Safe
- Accessible to everyone
- High quality
- Fit for purpose
- Within easy reach
- Parks as places for people to relax, learn and get active in
- Parks as places to meet people and get involved with the local community
What do we all want? (Vision)

“Maintaining and creating high quality green spaces to meet, relax and play in.”

Proposed Vision from the draft Manchester Parks Strategy

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Do you agree with this vision?
What is your vision for Manchester parks?
How to get there (Strategy)
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We need a strategy to deliver this vision. We think this should have **four** major areas of focus:

1. **Parks at the heart of neighbourhoods**  
   *(what have we got and where?)*

2. **Vibrant parks, vibrant communities**  
   *(what should happen in our parks?)*

3. **A quality standard for Manchester Parks**  
   *(looking after our parks)*

4. **Productive parks in partnership**  
   *(what resources do we need to make 1-3 happen to an agreed standard?)*

Although we have done a lot of thinking, we want to get your thoughts and ideas.
1) Parks at the Heart of Neighbourhoods
Theme 1) Parks at the heart of neighbourhoods

This is about: Understanding what we’ve currently got and where it is

**Brookdale Park** is a local park making a local impact. A large expanse of grass was given over to wild flower meadows. The space is now a haven for bees, butterflies and other wildlife which not only has a positive impact on the local environment but also provides a place of beauty and variety for local people and visitors to enjoy.
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1. What is your local park?
2. What would you be prepared to change in your local park?
3. To what extent would you like to see other people involved in your local park?
Theme 2) Vibrant parks, vibrant communities
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This is about: bringing our parks to life by making use of them day to day

Alexandra Park is an example where the partnership between the Friends group, community groups and Manchester City Council has helped to create a vibrant park. The newly restored Park Lodge, a community café and cricket ground all help to create a park that attracts different interests, helping communities to grow and flourish.
Theme 2) Vibrant parks, vibrant communities

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1. What attracts you to your favourite park?
2. What’s missing from your local park?
3. Could we use parks differently?
Did you know?

The statue of Oliver Cromwell in Wythenshawe Park was originally in Manchester City Centre and was very controversial in Victorian times. Queen Victoria refused to come to the City to open the newly completed Town Hall unless the statue was removed.

The City refused and so she didn't come!
Theme 3) A quality standard for Manchester Parks
Theme 3) A quality standard for Manchester Parks

This is about: how best to look after our parks

Over the last 6 months there has been a rolling programme of intensive grounds maintenance works across all sites to raise standards with £800,000 invested.

There are over 100 play areas located in Parks across the City. Many of these have fallen into disrepair in recent years. Over £600,000 has been secured to upgrade 78 play areas. Work is due to complete by the end of the Summer 2016.
Theme 3) A quality standard for Manchester Parks

This is what we spend the money on:

- Grds Maintenance 34%
- Staff 31%
- Heaton & Wythenshawe 14%
- Play 8%
- Security 7%
- Compensation Claims 3%
- River Valleys and Allotments 3%

We get **extra money** in addition to this through:

- 84% of income generated comes from Heaton and Wythenshawe Parks
- Applying for funding for specific projects e.g. Clean City
Theme 3) A quality standard for Manchester Parks

Additional Funds

- Income: £2.20
- Projects: £8.40

Breakdown of Funds:
- Grds Maintenance: £6.20
- Staff: £5.60
- Play: £1.40
- Security: £1.20
- Heaton & Wythenshawe: £2.60
- Compensation Claims: 60p
- River Valleys and Allotments: 60p

Parks and open spaces consultation
Theme 3) A quality standard for Manchester Parks

1. What would you spend the money on?
2. What should be a minimum baseline of quality?
Theme 4) Productive parks in partnership
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This is about: what resources do we need to make Themes 1-3 happen to an agreed standard?

The ‘Friends of Fletcher Moss Park and Parsonage Gardens’ illustrate the difference that local people make.

The once derelict Alpine House is now one of the best examples in the north; there are new safety rails, signposts, noticeboards, as well as plants and trees of many varieties.

A Local Nature Reserve with a Nature Trail in Stenner Woods and Millgate Fields have also been established.
Theme 4) Productive parks in partnership

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1. What would you be prepared to pay for in a park?
2. What do you think people should pay for in a park?
3. What would motivate you to get involved in looking after your park?
Extra ideas
Extra ideas

Four Themes:
1. Parks at the heart of neighbourhoods (what have we got?)
2. Vibrant parks, vibrant communities (what should happen in our parks?)
3. A quality standard for Manchester Parks (looking after our parks)
4. Productive parks in partnership (funding the future)
Extra ideas

“mighty oaks from little acorns grow”

Four Themes:
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1. Anything missing?
2. Is the focus in the right place?
3. Anything else?
A crowdfunding platform that specialises in 'Civic' Projects

Whether you want to
• transform a playground or bring an old building back to life
• spruce up a park or help people get active in the outdoors
• or create something completely new

Spacehive enables people to attract support for projects that make places distinctive, lively and loved.
What’s next?

Last workshop 28th May
End of Consultation 31st May
Final strategy produced based on information gathered and feedback received
Reading through the strategy with interested groups to check readability
Final Strategy signed off in September
Strategy link out to all our contacts
Making the strategy happen…
Finish

Thank you for coming

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