

# LEEDS PARKS & GREEN SPACES STRATEGY TO 2032



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

## Parks & Countryside Service Priorities

**GOALS:**

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

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

**Quality**  
Providing high quality parks and green spaces.

**GOALS:**

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

**GOALS:**

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

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

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

**GOALS:**

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

**GOALS:**

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

**Working with communities**  
Having a positive, open, helpful and collaborative approach.

**Access for all**  
Ensuring that parks and green spaces are accessible to everyone.

**GOALS:**

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

**Child friendly**  
Providing green spaces that children and teenagers love to visit.

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

**GOALS:**

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

**KPI's**

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

**GOALS:**

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