



Harrison Management Plan 2021 – 2026

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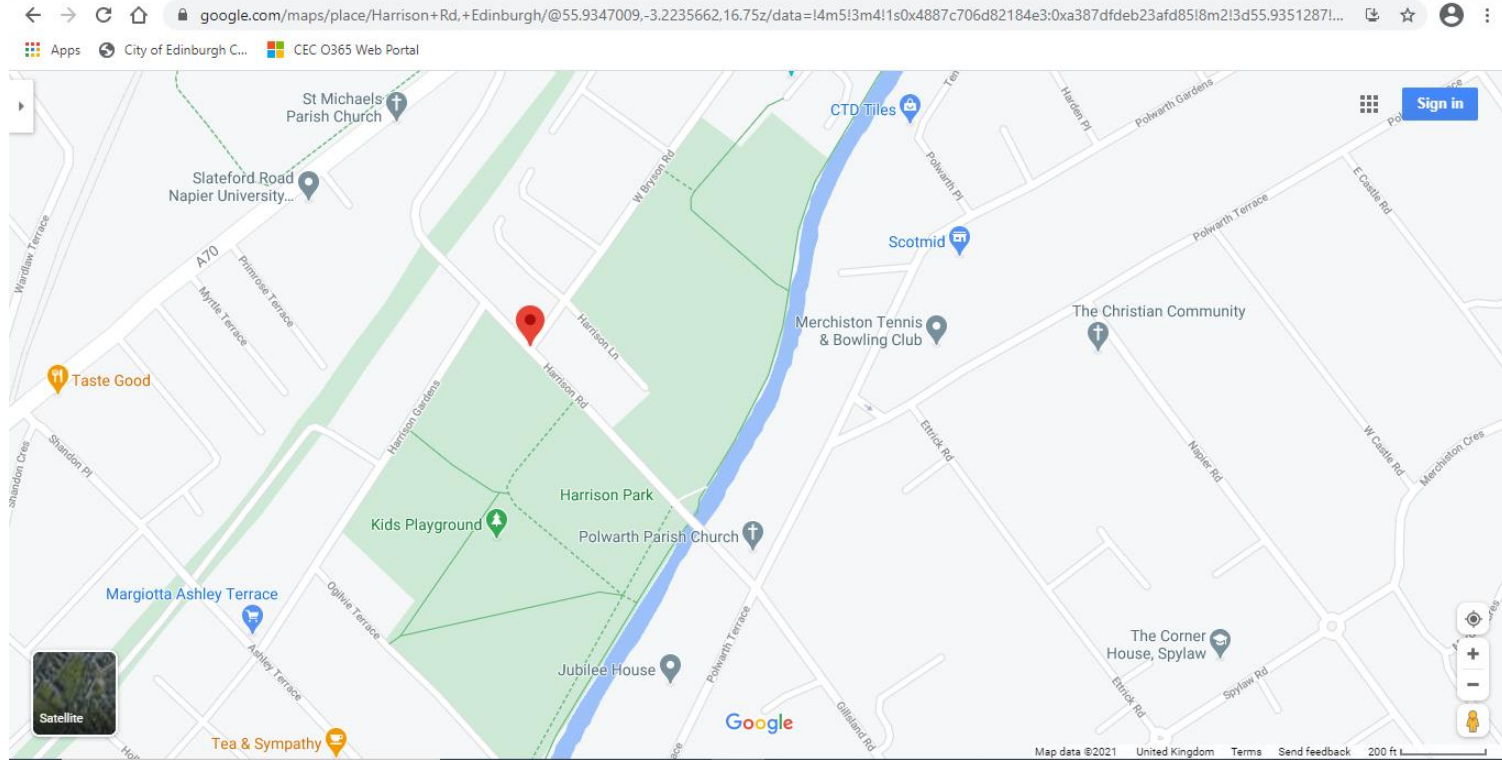
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Harrison Park Location Within Edinburgh

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Summary Information

Park Name:	Harrison Park
Address:	Harrison Road, Edinburgh, EH11 1EG
National Grid reference:	323557, 323565
Site area:	Approx. 7 hectares
Telephone Number:	0131 527 3806
Email:	southwest.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk
Ownership:	The City of Edinburgh Council – The Common Good Account
Area Designation	SouthWest Locality
Classification:	Community Park
Plan Written by:	South West Locality Transport and Environment craig.dunlop@edinburgh.gov.uk Tel: 0131 527 3806
Partners:	Friends of Harrison Park (FOHP) Merchiston Community Council North Merchiston Club Edinburgh & Lothian Greenspace Trust (ELGT) Fountaingrove Community Gardeners

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Overview Photograph of Harrison Park



1 Introduction

1.0 Location

Located close to the city centre within a mixed residential and industrial area, Harrison Park is a popular community park extending to some 7 hectares in size. It is in the Shandon area of Edinburgh within the southwest locality.

The park is divided into East and West Harrison Park by Harrison Road and sits adjacent to the Union Canal on its south side and next to Harrison Gardens and West Bryson Road on the north side. North Merchiston Sports Club have a direct access into East Harrison Park on its eastern side. With its tree lined walkways and access points onto the Union Canal, Harrison Park is an all-purpose park for the local community providing a place to walk, jog, play football, cycle or sit in pleasant peaceful surroundings. Its greenspace and meadow areas provide a natural retreat to the nearby residences, many of which have no private gardens.

The park serves as an asset for residents and those using the park for sporting fixtures, the layout of the park offers good safe routes throughout and excellent access onto the canal towpath. The design provides open space which can accommodate activities including football, play and leisure activities. There are several stakeholders who are associated with the park and provide a good cross section of the local community. These are as follows:

- Local community in general
- Friends of Harrison Park
- Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust
- North Merchiston Sports Club
- Fountaingrove Community Gardeners

The park is also used for community growing, school sports, fitness instructors, community events and occasional filming.

The popularity of the park and proximity to the canal ensures it attracts a great number of people throughout the year as a destination and site to relax.

The Union Canal whose towpath runs adjacent to the south of the park and offers park users a chance to sample local wildlife and biodiversity in a city location area while also serving as a popular active travel route. The cultural, aesthetic and recreational value of the park for the citizens is substantial. There are several entrance points into the park.

1.1 Management Plan Framework

This Management Plan sets out the future management, maintenance and development of Harrison Park and has been produced by The City of Edinburgh Council to provide not only a summary of recent developments but also details future developmental and operational duties required to achieve that vision.

The plan is set out in sections covering the eight key criteria as set out in the Green Flag Award Guidance Manual – Raising the Standard.

The management plan covers the period 2021 to 2026 and has a detailed plan of works for that period. This plan's target audience is elected members, the local community, 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.

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.”

1.2 Edinburgh Parks & Gardens Framework

Edinburgh values its reputation as one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, renowned for its setting, history and built heritage. Parks and greenspaces are integral to this. They serve as a stage for our public lives and are settings where celebrations are held, where social exchanges take place, where friends mix, where cultures run into each other, where nature thrives, and where people revive themselves from the stresses of urban living.

The Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries Service is committed to providing quality parks for residents and visitors alike. There are five qualities that make a park great, and that drive the work of the Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries Service: They must be full of activity and invite affection. They must also be visible and accessible as well as being comfortable and safe. They also need to be places you can count on, no matter if you visit the park every day or once a year.

Using the Green Flag judging criteria all of Edinburgh's 144 parks are assessed on an annual basis and a Parks Quality Score is produced for each site. These scores are compared to the Edinburgh Minimum Standard which has been developed to benchmark our parks and record how they are improving.

In Edinburgh the involvement of local residents through a network of Friends groups is well established. Depending on their capacity, sites host both major and local events and activities, offering a wide range of attractions to families and individuals from a diverse community.

The Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries Service ensures that Edinburgh's parks and greenspaces are clean, safe, colourful and diverse; they will be the setting for activities and celebrations; be well-known for their features, history and "happenings"; and be locally valued and used.

1.3 Green Flag Award Scheme



The Green Flag Award Scheme is a national standard for quality in greenspace management in England and Wales. Edinburgh has been involved in the pilot scheme using the Green Flag criteria as a measure and methodology for benchmarking the quality of parks and green spaces in Scotland and has been involved in this project since 2007 in conjunction with Greenspace Scotland in partnership with The Civic Trust in England.

This criterion as stated previously is used in carrying out our annual Parks Quality Assessments and gives the Council Officers and friends groups up to date information and a measure standard of the park at that time.

Harrison Park was awarded Green Flag in 2007 and has successfully retained the award since that date. Following a decision to gain maximum value from the award process it was agreed for full assessment to be conducted on 5 existing green flag sites per year, all these sites have retained green flag for several years but only been subject to mystery shops, it was considered to be useful to gather more objective appraisal from full assessment.

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2 Vision and Aims

2.0 Introduction

This section sets out a new vision for the park and a series of new objectives that are developed into actions later in the plan.

2.1 Vision

The Council adopted its Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy in March 2006. The strategy sets out a vision for its parks that states:

“A quality parks system worthy of international comparison, accessible, diverse and environmentally rich; which fulfils the cultural, social and recreational needs of the people”. (Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy, 2006, p49)

The Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries and the SW Locality Transport and Environment Service ensures that Edinburgh’s parks and greenspaces are clean, safe, colourful and diverse; they will be the setting for activities and celebrations; be well-known for their features, history and “happenings”; and be locally valued and used.

In developing this management plan for Harrison Park, our vision is:

“To ensure that Harrison Park is developed and maintained as a clean, safe, accessible and attractive Park for the local community.”

2.2 Aims

Beneath the vision lie a series of aims that have been linked to the Green Flag Award Scheme criteria:

a) Conservation

To increase the biodiversity value of the site

b) Landscape

To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value

c) Recreation

To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive, safe and secure environment

To enhance the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity

d) Community Involvement

To engage with the local community and user groups

To encourage their active participation in decision making and practical activities

To use the park as a recreational resource

e) Cultural

To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value

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f) Sustainability

To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles

g) Legal

To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations

h) Maintenance

To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations

i) Safety

To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

j) Marketing

To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users

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The aims are set out in the table below. Each of these aims is further developed into targets, measures and timescales. The following list of aims has been developed in line with the Green Flag criteria, which form the basis of the assessment and analysis of the Harrison Park.

Criteria	Aim
A Welcoming Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site
Healthy, Safe and Secure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity g) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

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Well Maintained and Clean	h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations
Environmental Management	f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles
Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage	a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site e) To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value
Community Involvement	d) To engage with the local community and user groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

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Marketing & Communication	j) To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users
Management	f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations d) To engage with the local community and users groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

3 Survey, Historic Features and Park Governance

3.0 Introduction

This section looks at the historic features of the park and also examines the legal situation with respect to ownership and designations that apply to the park, as well as confirming the strategic significance in the Local Plan. It pulls together recent surveys that have been undertaken to update the baseline data about the park and finally considers the involvement of the community through the Steering group and events.

3.1 Historic Features of the Park

The eastern part of Harrison Park first came under control of Edinburgh Corporation in 1886 with a 15-year feu of 13.92 acres from George Watson's Hospital plus an additional 1.375 acres feud in 1902 for a bowling-green and playground. The park is split in two by Harrison road, with a playground and football pitches on the east side. The western portion was purchased for £10,000 from the Merchant Company Education Board on 15 May 1930. There is also a wayleave covering the erection of fencing on the Southern boundary of Harrison Park paid by Parks A/c (not demanded since 1978) Burdens include "being bound to enclose the north west and south west boundaries with a plain upright iron railing 5-foot-high having posts and securely set into stones or other approved method. To be maintained in all time coming. The Council is also bound to enclose the south east and north east boundaries with sufficient fences and maintain."

In the 1960's the park was a venue for cycle speedway and hosted the 1962 World Individual Cycle Speedway Championships. The development and changes to the park since 1886 has seen the removal of bowling greens, toilet blocks and tennis courts, however, developments have also introduced better play parks, community growing areas, access links to the Union Canal and improved paths throughout the entire park.

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1960's cycle speedway



Union canal circa 1970

3.2 Strategic Significance of the Park

Several of Edinburgh's corporate strategies and policies apply to the parks and greenspaces in the city, aiming to deliver safety and equality of provision, safeguard and enhance local environments and neighbourhoods, and ultimately improve the quality of life for Edinburgh's communities, enabling residents to participate fully in the City's park life.

These policies set the overall context within which parks are managed and developed, and although it is the green space policies, which have primary impact, the other more general policies also have a direct or indirect effect to varying degrees.

A list of these policies are given below. Copies of these are available on request. Many can also be accessed via the Council website (www.edinburgh.gov.uk).

Corporate Strategies and Policies

- Edinburgh Vision 2050 <https://www.edinburgh2050.com/>
- Edinburgh Local Development Plan (LDP) <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan>
- South West Locality Outcome Improvement Plan <https://www.edinburghcompact.org.uk/community-planning/localities/south-west/>
- The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-2022 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/24691/council-business-plan-2017-22>
- Resilient Edinburgh Climate Change Adaptation Framework <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory-record/1146210/resilient-edinburgh-climate-change-adaptation-framework>
- Sustainable Edinburgh 2020 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory-record/1146225/sustainable-edinburgh-2020>

Park and Environmental Policies

- Edinburgh Thriving Greenspace Project <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/parks-greenspaces/thriving-green-spaces-project/>
- Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy 2006 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/22626/public-park-and-gardens-strategy>
- Edinburgh Open Space Strategy 2021 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/22616/open-space-2021>
- Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-21 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/26216/edinburgh-biodiversity-action-plan-2019-2021>

3.3 Management Rules

The Park Management Rules were revised and approved in 2014. These rules can be reviewed in **(Appendix 1)**.

3.4 Park Classification

Harrison Park is classified within the Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy as a “Community Park”.

Community Parks are defined in the Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy, 2006 as, “Parks serving chiefly the people of a defined local area. These are generally smaller in area and the facilities provided are likely to be relatively simple. Functions should be determined as far as possible by consultation with users and potential users. Access to these parks will be mainly on foot or by cycle.”

3.5 Community Involvement

The Friends of Harrison Park were originally formed in 2006 and set about conducting a survey of residents to identify a list of priorities for the park. The table below highlights those higher priorities and progress was made those which were achievable.

Do you want more	East Harrison	West Harrison	Online	Council	Total	Fulfilled
Trees, shrubs	20	36	26	17	99	✓
BBQ Area	11	19	26	9	65	☐
Seats	25	32	21	18	96	✓
Playparks	11	23	20	13	67	✓
All-Weather pitch	10	19	33	8	70	☐
Access via canal	23	45	25	16	109	✓
Boules area	15	23	12	7	57	☐
Leave Park alone	1	12	5	4	22	☐

The reformed Friends of Harrison Park communicate through Facebook and undertake several voluntary activities in the park including litter picking, bulb planting and alongside Merchiston Community Council offer an engagement platform for Council Officers to gain feedback and community stewardship towards the park. The Council have also engaged ELGT for several years to carry out a programme of community events which are typically environmentally themed. This has allowed input from local Scout groups, school pupils and families. Community growing in the park has been facilitated by a community herb border, orchard and community planters managed by Fountaingrove Community Gardeners. North Merchiston have a lease to permit their football fixtures in East Harrison Park while West Harrison Park plays host to school soccer 7's fixtures and provides the venue for school sports days for Craiglockhart Primary School. Recent tree planting on the canal towpath was supported by the Songstream choir to celebrate 21 years and they kindly donated 21 trees to assist in retaining a landscape feature where mature poplars and willows have been lost due to disease and storm damage.

There has been a good range of activities and events in the park over the last 10years. These have included planting days, bat

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walks, clean ups, Christmas decorating and environmental art events





Grove in the Park

The new community garden in East Harrison Park is for local residents of all ages to visit and enjoy whenever they want. Come and admire the garden and watch it grow.



Advert to promote community garden

Community planting out herb border

JOIN US FOR A FREE

BAT WALK

HARRISON PARK
8PM TUESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2018

Meet us by the Play Area accessed by Ogilvie Terrace, Harrison Road & Harrison Gardens

Friendly guided walk
Under 16s to be accompanied by an adult
Dress for weather
Recommended to bring a torch



esperanza@elgt.org.uk
0131 445 4025

 @greenspacetrust

Harrison Park Events

SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER 2018

Litter Clearance 10.30-12noon

Festive Decorations 12-2pm

Come along and join in the fun, clearing & decorating the park for the festive season. We will be making decorations using natural materials to dress the pine tree & take home!

ALL WELCOME!
Please dress for the weather
Under 16 should be accompanied by an adult
Meet by the diagonal path at West Harrison Park

For details contact: esperanza@elgt.org.uk - 0131 445 4025



Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust, a registered Scottish charity no. SC018196. Ltd company number no. 132480



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3.6 Surveys and Assessments Undertaken

Asset Management GIS Survey

The Council has recently introduced a new asset management system which has been undertaken following a full survey of each park in the City. This is now linked to GIS so that site location, condition and photographic information can be studied from the office base. This information will be used to assess replacement or repair of the infrastructure within the park.

It is in it's infancy at present, however we feel that much benefit can be gained from logging this information and will enhance the management of the infrastructure needs for the park.

Tree Survey

The Council's Forestry section manage a Tree Survey with a comprehensive tree species list indicating the current condition of the tree stock. Recommendations from this survey will be used to shape the future development of the landscape features of the park and will be reflected in future in this management plan.

4 Analysis

4.0 Introduction

This Section follows the criteria headings within the 'Raising the Standard – The Green Flag Award Guidance Manual' (2016) and highlights how the park ties into the Green Flag Award Standard.

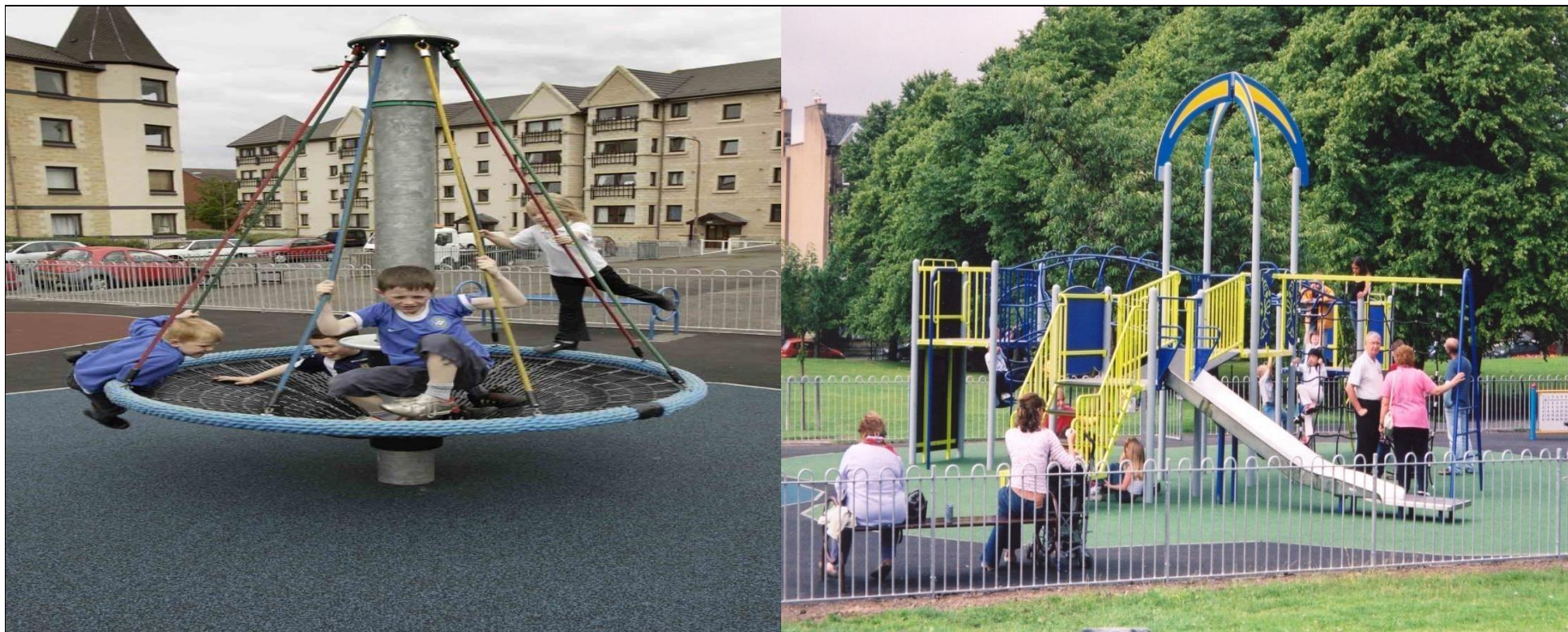
4.1 A Welcoming Place

- b) To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value
- c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors through active outdoor activity
- i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

Harrison Park is a welcoming place and well used site; social access is excellent for local people within the south west part of the city, who take part in a variety of informal activities.

There are several entrance points to the park with notice boards. Throughout the park there are places to sit and enjoy the greenspace.

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Play facilities in park

4.2 Healthy, Safe & Secure

c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors through active outdoor activity

g) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations

i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

Harrison Park is used for sport, informal recreation and other physically activities. The park contains two well equipped children’s play areas. It also has a dog free area and community growing sites. The park is well equipped with park benches and litter bins. There are designated picnic tables located within the park and canal towpath.



The Park Ranger Service patrol the park as part of their inspection route. They will log incidents and report these to the Parks & Greenspace Officer for resolution.

The City of Edinburgh Council uses branding on vehicles and machinery and ensures that all staff wear clothing showing the council logo to ensure they are readily identifiable to the public. Wherever possible and safe to do so, the public are encouraged to engage with the grounds maintenance staff to discuss issues with the park, its maintenance or management. Their friendly demeanour allows for a helpful first point of contact for park users.

The Park Rangers and Parks & Greenspace Officer are keen to involve the community in activities in the park, such as bulb planting. All City of Edinburgh Council Gym equipment is designed to meet BS 5696. All gym equipment is held on a database called Playsafe produced by Public Sector Software Ltd. This system holds information on all City of Edinburgh Council play areas, including the type of equipment, installation date, and type of surface.

Informal inspections are carried out by council employees as part of their routine duties (Park Rangers, Playgrounds Maintenance Officer, Parks and Greenspace Officer and Waste and Cleansing staff). They report obvious hazards to the Council's workshop engineers. In-house ROSPA trained staff inspect the equipment at least every six weeks. Any defects identified are either repaired immediately or isolated and made safe for repair later. Written records of inspections and works undertaken are held with the Workshops at Bankhead Depot. Annual inspections and risk assessments, conforming with RPII, are carried out on all the playgrounds by an independent Playground Inspector. Accidents are reported to the Health and Safety Officer and recorded centrally.

Health and Safety Policies

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/945/health_and_safety_enforcement_policy

In addition to the Council's general health and safety policy, each park has its own risk assessment and activity r/a to be reviewed annually. Play equipment is inspected and reports recorded, all other infrastructure is visually inspected by Park Rangers.

Control of Dogs

Separate dog waste bins are not provided as dog owners can dispose of waste responsibly in the litter receptacles. The management rules exclude dogs from the play areas and encourage owners to keep their dogs under control.

The Environmental Wardens can visit the park on request and if required can issue on the spot fine of £80 for dog fouling offences rising to £100 if unpaid within 14 days.

The public can report this online:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20043/community_safety_and_antisocial_behaviour/308/report_dog_fouling

Dog fouling in the park has been improved over the years and this is due to responsible dog owners and the concept of Harrison Park Dogs social media which has helped champion the park as an asset for dog walkers. In line with City wide practice the litter receptacles within the park are for joint use of disposal both for litter and dog fouling bags.



4.3 Well Maintained & Clean

h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations

“Our Edinburgh” anti-litter campaign aims for a litter free capital and runs throughout the year.

<http://www.edinburghspotlight.com/2016/08/ouredinburgh/>

Contact number for waste: 0131 608 1100 or report online:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20001/bins_and_recycling/306/litter_and_street_cleaning

The park has a maintenance programme, which establishes standards of cleanliness, infrastructure and ground maintenance.

Information gathered from the public and Parks Quality Assessments indicate that the standard of maintenance is of a good to high standard, the schedule of maintenance is highlighted within the maintenance plan.

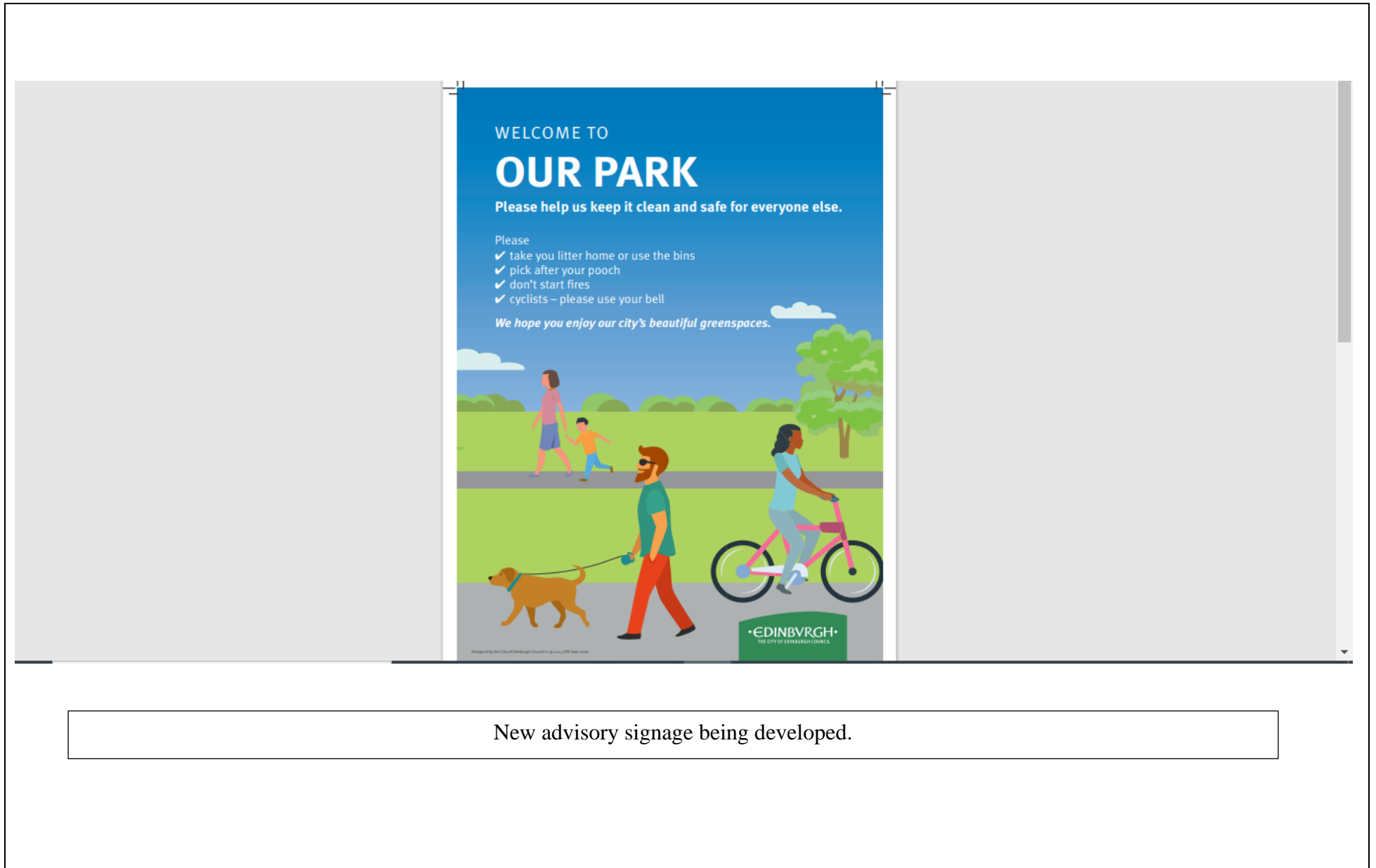
There is good provision of litter receptacles and these are serviced according to frequency of the EPA. There are cleansing crews staff whose responsibility is to ensure that the park is kept litter free. The summer brings additional pressure and increased volume of litter and we are grateful when The Friends of Harrison Park carry out their volunteering litter activities.

We will also be promoting the message for park users to take their litter home whenever practical.

The grounds maintenance within the park is undertaken by a mobile team. The Greenspace Team Leader oversees the grounds maintenance regime to ensure that standards are maintained.

Graffiti is removed by the specialist graffiti service team and aided by Park Rangers who have their own graffiti removal kit for small tags.

A reactive maintenance programme is in place for the maintenance of the infrastructure on site in respect of painting and security. This infrastructure is regularly inspected by the Parks & Greenspace Officer and any repairs are carried out, in general, by our in-house service teams.



New advisory signage being developed.

4.4 Environmental Management

f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles

The Council will only use herbicides in the park for preparation of new planting/sowing or treatment of non-native invasive species

In order to reduce land filled waste, the City of Edinburgh Council in partnership with Midlothian Council developed a new facility which recycles most of the landfill waste and redirects it into energy for the national grid.

Green waste (e.g. grass clippings, weeds, seasonal bedding) is taken to Braehead Recycling Centre where it is composted by Forth Resource Management. Tree limbs are chipped and used as mulch on site. Larger limbs and trunks are sold. Compost generated from this process is used by the Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries Service as a soil conditioner in seasonal bedding.

There is occasional use of water within the park, for irrigation of newly planted flower beds and trees during early establishment and drought conditions. Bark mulch has been extensively used throughout the park in order to preserve moisture and provide a cool root run for plants. Ground cover shrubs have been planted to suppress weeds and prevent loss of moisture from the soil through evaporation.

The Council negotiates with their energy supplier and considers use of alternative technologies in providing energy. Lights used in the park are supplied with low energy bulbs.

All vehicles are maintained by internal fleet services and we are currently introducing electrical equivalents.

Most of our annual beds and rose beds are being replaced with herbaceous and meadow planting.

4.5 Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage

a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site

e) To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value

An assessment of how it can be improved for biodiversity was made by Dr Alaister Sommerville of the Lothian Wildlife Information Centre and is summarised here:

The most isolated, least used and less formal part of the park is the southern half and it is here that there is some scope for enhancement. The recommended starting point would be the side nearest the canal whose towpath edge, although narrow at this point does hold some native species of wildflowers. The informal hedge, of native species of shrubs, reinforces that connection and could form the nucleus of some habitat creation without restricting the use of the park for access or recreation.

It is suggested that the area within the old bowling greens would be the best place to start as this has no access through to the towpath has no other current use and is not particularly attractive now. A section parallel to the canal could be stripped of grass and sown with a wildflower mixture of native hedgerow species (grasses and wildflowers) perhaps enhanced with plugs of certain of the wildflowers to ensure successful establishment. Management would consist of cutting back this area once in late autumn to prevent scrub developing, to remove any dropped or trapped rubbish and to maintain a 'tidy' appearance during the winter.

A similar approach could be applied to the rest of the canal boundary, using the existing hedge as a background and avoiding the current access points. Over much of this stretch, the hedgerow plants in general would benefit from the better drainage of the slight slope up to the canal.

Since this assessment we have introduced flower meadows, increased the range and number of naturalised bulbs reduced herbicide use, added in a community growing element, increased hedgerows and reduced the amount of annual bedding. We have also introduced bird boxes and on occasion bee boxes.



Meadow area in germination and flowering



4.6 Community Involvement

d) To engage with the local community and user groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

4.7 Marketing & Communication

j) To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users

Information relating to Harrison Park is available via the City of Edinburgh Council website and the ELGT website and available via Smartphone app 'Edinburgh Outdoors'. A direct link QR code links you directly to the Edinburgh Outdoors Page for Harrison Park, the site-specific code is located in one of the parks notice boards. The Council website also offers a good source of information about the park and its available infrastructure. The park and its history and current activities are also well documented in the Friends of Harrison Park Facebook page

Edinburgh Outdoors: <https://www.edinburghoutdoors.org.uk/featureDetails.php?id=281>.

Information is available via websites for all the neighbouring Community Councils and The City of Edinburgh Council websites. The Council website offers a good source of information about the park and its available infrastructure.

Public information is regularly posted in the four notice boards at entrance points to the park along with local community and Friends group information.

Within the notice boards local events are advertised and this works well to promote these, such as group meetings. Promotion of such events is vital in attracting and inviting members of the public to participate and ensures the success of the event.

It is intended to use the notice boards this year to provide regular information on maintenance, events, and works within the park.

Harrison Park

Saturday 9 December 2017

Bulb Planting



Help us plant flowers for a colourful spring in the Park

10.30am– 12noon

Natural Christmas Crafts

Free Workshop
12.30pm– 2.30pm

Festive refreshment included



Meet by the flower bed along the diagonal path at West Harrison Park
Dress for the weather - under 16s to be accompanied please.
For further details contact Esperanza Martin on 0131 445 4025 or esperanza@elgt.org.uk

Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust, a registered Scottish charity no. SCO18196. Ltd company number no. 132480



On Foot
By Bike

Free event

Harrison Park

Festival of walking and cycling

Harrison Park
Sunday 30 September 2018
1.30–4.30pm

- Bike pump track • Bike maintenance and safety
- Balance Bikes • Led canal walk • Community sport activities
- Walking and cycling route information

Plus lots more free activities, info and advice for all ages and abilities.
Find out more:
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/whynotwalkorcycle

4.8 Management

- f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles
- h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations
- d) To engage with the local community and users groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

Harrison Park is managed by the Place Directorate, which is structured to deliver services for the needs and priorities of local communities in each of the twelve Neighbourhood Partnerships within the four locality areas.

Management and development of the park is undertaken by local staff in conjunction with the local community through the Friends group and ELGT. Strategic issues dealt with via the central Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries.

The Parks and Greenspace Officer work with the local teams to ensure that the park progresses in line with the Management Plan.

Operational management of the park is undertaken by the Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries and Waste and Cleansing teams. This team consists of a ground's maintenance crew and street cleaning teams who are responsible for the day to day maintenance of the grass, flower beds and shrub areas, the servicing of the bins and litter collection throughout the park and graffiti removal. This work is supported by the Parks Rangers who undertake small items of grounds work to ensure standards are maintained.

Maintenance schedules indicating frequency and type of work carried out within the park can be found in the appendices of the management plan ([Appendix 2](#)).

Additional teams from the central council services are also deployed to ensure the park is maintained to a high standard. This includes forestry maintenance, playground maintenance, roads and pathway maintenance, and street lighting maintenance.

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Given the current financial climate faced by local authorities it is important that the council continue to develop a volunteering strategy and ensuring that the community have the necessary equipment to carry out their activities.

The Park Rangers patrol all parks including Harrison park to ensure that safety is maintained, they regularly make safe various small faults within the park e.g. a broken seat, faulty play equipment which allows for them to be speedily repaired by the local maintenance teams where appropriate. The Park Rangers also patrol the park to ensure that members of the public use the park in line with the management rules.

The Council annually assess each park within Edinburgh which results in Parks Quality Assessments being produced. These assessments offer good information that is used to improve and develop the park; extractions of the report can be found in the appendices of the management plan ([Appendix 3](#)). These assessments are used to determine further potential capital improvements and form the basis improvements to the park on an annual basis. Harrison Park has benefited from many improvements made from feedback comments in the assessments.

5 Development Action Plan

The objectives described in this section are developed from the results of the assessment and analysis section and are directly linked to the criteria aims described in the previous section.

Note: All costs are approximate.

Key:

ELGT Edinburgh, Lothian & Greenspace Trust

GTL Parks & Greenspace Maintenance

FOHP Friends of Harrison Park

FM Forestry Manager

PGO

Parks and Greenspace Officer

PR

Park Rangers

WCM

Waste and Cleansing Manager

V

Corporate Volunteers

Aim 1: A Welcoming place				
a) To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value				
b) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment				
c) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site				
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
1.1 To improve the appearance of entrances and create good first impression for visitors.	▪ Enhance planting scheme at West Bryson Road	2021/22	PGO/GT L/FOHP	£350
	▪ Strimming programme for all fence lines around park perimeter	2021/26	GTL	Staff time
	▪ Keep entrances clean of litter and graffiti	2021/26	PR/WCM	Staff time
	▪ Repair wooden section at canal access West Harrison Park and stepped access into East Harrison Park	2021/22	PGO	£1000
1.2 Promote positive community care for the park	▪ Display new advisory signage to promote positive messaging	2021	PR/PGO	Staff time
	▪ Promote the positive use of the park through posters and social media	2021	PR/PGO/FOHP	

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

1.3 To increase colour in the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase small and larger meadow and bulb areas • Increase range of bulb planting for summer colour 	2021/26	PGO/PR/ FOHP/EL GT/GTL	£300/annual costs
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Aim 2: Healthy, Safe and Secure

d) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment

e) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations

f) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
2.1 To ensure responsible use of park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting parks management rules through signage and patrols 	2021	PGO/PR	Staff time
2.2 Consider improved lighting in East Harrison Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess options and costs 	2021/2	PGO	£?
2.3 Maintain infrastructure including play equipment and other facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme of inspection for any priority repairs • Annual inspection of footways, wall, lighting and fences. 	2021	PGO	Staff time and associated costs for repairs
2.4 Ensure safety for park visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete risk assessment for site • Minimise vehicle movement in park 	2021-26	PGO	Nil
2.5 Ensure park is as fully accessible as possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep entrances and pathways clear of obstruction. 	2021/26	PR	Staff time

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Aim 3: Well Maintained & Clean				
g) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations				
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
3.1 To minimise impact of graffiti tags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arrange bi-monthly inspections for removal 	2021-26	PR	Average £25/month
3.2 Maintain ground maintenance standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreed as per LQS 	2021-26	GTL/PG O	Staff resource
3.3 To encourage community participation in park clean ups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify 2 dates/year for community clean ups 	2021-26	FOHP	Volunteerin g time
3.4 Improve litter management during summer period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider additional capacity for bins and frequency of servicing 	2021/26	WCM	
3.5 Maintain good quality signage throughout park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess current condition and replace/repair/remove where defects are found. 	2021/26	PR/PGO	£250/year

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Aim 4: Environmental Management				
h) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles				
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
4.1 To minimise use of peat and water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce summer bedding and use bark mulch 	2021/26	V	nil
4.2 Minimize green waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All green waste produced on site to be composted on site or used to produce habitat 	2021/26	PGO/GT L PR	nil
4.4 Reduce use of pesticides except for NNIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use natural woodchip mulch, using this on flower beds and round trees ▪ Reduce weed growth round signs etc. 	2021/26	GTL/PG O/PR	Staff time and resource

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Aim 5: Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage				
i) To increase the biodiversity value of the site				
j) To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value				
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
5.1 Develop more pollinating areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue with meadow areas 	2021-26	PGO/GT L	£250 & staff time
5.2 Create habitats for solitary and bumble bees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Install bumble bee house and colonies 	2022/23	PR /V	£150
5.3 Survey Park habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to Edinburgh Natural History Society? 	2022	ELGT	£0
5.4 Minimise use of herbicides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply bark mulch, cultural & mechanical methods of weed control, 	2021/26	GTL/PR/	Increase staff time and resource
5.5 Increase areas of native habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant and replenish new hedgerows where possible 	2021- 2026	PR/FOH P/ELGT	Woodland trust applications
5.6 Protect park from unwanted species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor & eradicate any signs of invasive species 	2021/26	PR	nil

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Aim 6: Community Involvement				
k) To engage with the local community and users groups; to encourage their active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource				
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
6.1 To continue to run community events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support events by ELGT and FOHP ▪ Support community gardening ▪ Support school involvement for outdoor educational and environmental events. 	2021/26	ELGT/PG O	£1000
6.2 Identify alternative funding streams for community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support funding applications 	2021/26	PGO/FO HP	£0
6.3 To involve local school children in various park projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Liaise with local schools using existing relationships built up by ELGT 	2021-26	PGO/PR/ FOHP	

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Aim 7: Marketing & Communication

j) To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
7.1 To provide regular information on maintenance, events and works within park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use all relevant information and modern publicity opportunities 	2021-26	PGO/PR/ ELGT/FO HP	£500
7.2 Create and introduce a QR code specific to the Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use of ICT department ▪ Linked to the Edinburgh Outdoors site 	2021/22	PGO/ PR	£50
7.3 Update content specific to the Park within Edinburgh Outdoors website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Add new information and photographs specific to site 	2021/26	PR	
7.4 Update website content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Linked to Edinburgh Outdoors site 	Ongoing	PR	
7.5 Green Flag Award and Keep Scotland Beautiful – It's Your Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Apply for awards 	Ongoing	PGO	£400

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Aim 8: Management

f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles

h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations

d) To engage with the local community and users groups; to encourage their active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
8.1 To ensure MP is relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review action plan, PQA & mystery shop assessments 	Ongoing	PGO	

6 Finance

Revenue Funding

The provision of revenue funding for the park consists of work undertaken at present by the local Grounds Maintenance team under Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries. The current maintenance schedule is based in part on the old Grounds Maintenance Contract that now serves as a guide to what should be undertaken, although many tasks outside of this guide are undertaken to ensure the quality of the park. The table provided below indicates the annual costs of the general maintenance items within the park, which gives some indication of the revenue spend on these maintenance items.

Item	Annual Cost (£)
Grass Maintenance	3,500
Pitch maintenance	2000
Flowers, shrubs and hedges	2,000
Litter removal	4,318
Play park Maintenance	1,500
Tree Maintenance	1,500
Graffiti removal	500
Total	£15,318

In addition, the Parks & Greenspace Officer has a budget for parks development and small-scale repairs and maintenance improvements on facilities and infrastructure. However, the budget held relates to the whole of the South West Locality and any development or repairs are determined on a priority basis, using parks quality assessment information and level of repair and maintenance required.

Capital Funding

The capital budget is administrated by Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries. The budget is generally allocated in advance and the role of the developing management plans is for better planning of financial resources required so that they can be included in future bids.

Grants

Friends groups can apply to the local Neighbourhood Partnership for funds of up to £5k from the Community Grants Fund. The Council's Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries have a small grants fund that applications are invited for, this is for small items or to assist in developing their group or the sites they have adopted.

7 Monitoring and Reviewing

The Parks Quality Assessment framework is used to provide annual assessment of each park and will provide a report for Harrison Park that can be used to support the monitoring process. These assessments will have been carried out by staff and friends members and are in general carried out by individuals who have no direct association with the park.

The Parks User Survey results and comments assist with the monitoring of the park and are taken into consideration by the Council and the Friends' group when annual reviews of the management plan are undertaken.

A review of this management plan shall take place in January 2022 in readiness for the next application process for the Green Flag awards. This will be carried out by the Council Officers, the friend's group and individual members of the local Community Council's where we will undertake to consider all recommendations in regard to the Green Flag Assessment and also our internal Parks Quality Assessment.

8 Appendices

Appendix One – Management Rules

'Caring for Parks Guidelines'

Undesirable behaviour in parks is managed through education, persuasion and regulation.

Education, at the proactive, preventative end of the spectrum is provided for parks by a number of agencies. Education Officers in Local Community Planning provide a comprehensive environmental information and education service to the Edinburgh community. The team works with schools, colleges and universities, voluntary organisations, special needs groups and the business community to provide programmes, including litter and waste.

The Countryside ranger service runs environmental education programmes for schools and a range of park issues such as litter, dog fouling, camping, fires and cycling, are often discussed. Countryside Rangers are also charged with the promotion of 'responsible behaviour' as defined in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, the guidance on the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. Talks to community groups, games and activities at events and special events such as 'Super Dog' and 'Dr Bike' are geared to communicating responsible behaviour in parks and greenspace.

The Park Ranger's role in providing an education service is developing through their work with local schools and providing walks for community groups. Park rangers can be effective in dealing with undesirable behaviours by targeting education on local issues at local people. This involves raising awareness of an issue through the neighbourhood media, contact with the community, signage and providing events and activities designed to draw in the target groups, persuade them to stop and prevent the undesirable behaviours.

Persuasion - Parks Rangers are the principle people dealing with undesirable behaviour in parks. They have no powers to apprehend, fine or prosecute offenders and are often working on their own. They must therefore rely on gentle, friendly persuasion. This, for most behaviour, can be very effective but requires a good deal of skill. Training for rangers on how to deal effectively and safely with the public is therefore on-going. It is intended that this training will be extended to gardeners.

Signs, such as the 'caring for Edinburgh's Parks', are designed to persuade people by explaining the effect of certain behaviours. These signs are permanent in all parks. Temporary signage can deal with local issues and again they are prepared in an informative and persuasive style as is shown on the next page.

Management Rules for Public Parks and Greenspace

The City of Edinburgh Council in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 112 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 hereby make the following Management Rules for the Council's Parks, Gardens and open spaces:

Interpretation

In these management Rules the following words have the meanings given to them:

"Council" means The City of Edinburgh Council;

"Park" means any land provided, owned, leased, occupied or managed by the Council within the City of Edinburgh and used as a recreation ground, public playground, public open space, public walk, walkway, woodland, ornamental or pleasure ground or gardens and all buildings and works connected therewith;

"Council Official" means an employee of the Council or of Edinburgh Leisure, or any person authorised by the Council to enforce these rules;

"Code" means the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, the guidance on the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

Summary

Any person who appears to be breaking, has broken or is about to break any of the following rules may be asked by a Council Official to leave the Park. Any person refusing to leave will be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding level one on the standard scale.

1. No person shall in any park wilfully obstruct, interrupt, verbally insult or annoy employees or agents of the Council in carrying out their duties.

2. Any written permission required by these rules must be shown on request to a Council Official.
3. The Council may decide to waive any particular Rule at any time.

General

The following acts are prohibited:

- 4.1 Behaviour which causes (or in the opinion of a Council Official is likely to cause) annoyance, offence, alarm or distress to any other park user.
- 4.2 Any wilful or careless act which damages or removes any artefact, plant, tree, shrub, building, structure, equipment, furniture or fitting.
- 4.3 Depositing litter except in litter bins provided for the purpose.
- 4.4 Pursuing any activity which endangers (or in the opinion of a Council Official is likely to endanger) any person or property.
- 4.5 Ball games in Princes Street Gardens and Saughton Walled Gardens.
- 4.6 Fishing in any water course without permit.
- 4.7 Depositing or leaving any substance or article which is likely (in the opinion of a Council Official) to cause injury or damage to any person or property.

- 4.8 Metal detecting in any park without the written permission of the Scottish Detector Club, subject to an agreement between the Council and the Scottish Detector Club being valid.

The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

- 4.9 Entering into or wilfully remaining in a Park when it is closed to the public.
- 4.10 Selling, hiring or offering for sale or hire any items or goods or services.
- 4.11 Displaying or handing out advertisements, conducting surveys or giving any displays or performances.
- 4.12 Begging or basking.
- 4.13 Engaging in any commercial activity whatsoever (including, without limitation, dog walking services, photography, filming and fitness training services).

Dogs and Horses

The following acts are prohibited:

- 5.1 Allowing a dog to enter in or on a children's play area or area of the Park that is designated as a 'dog free area.'
- 5.2 Allowing dogs to foul in a public Park unless the person in charge of the dog immediately removes the fouling (within the provisions of the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003).
- 5.3 Failing to keep a dog under close control in any Park.



- 5.4 Failing to keep a dog under close control, at heel or on a short lead when near young farm animals and at nesting time (April – July) in woodlands, grasslands, moorland and at the seashore.
- 5.5 Allowing a dog to run onto sports pitches when these are in use.
- 5.6 Leading, riding, training or exercising a horse in a manner which falls short of the responsibilities in the Code.

BBQs, Fire and Camping

The following acts are prohibited:

- 6.1 Lighting barbecues outwith designated barbecue sites, where these are provided, or in areas or in a manner likely to burn or scorch the ground or cause danger or nuisance to other Park users or neighbouring residents.
- 6.2 Failing to remove litter associated with BBQs and picnics.

The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

- 6.3 Lighting an open fire in any Park.
- 6.4 Camping within one mile of a public road.

Cycling

The following acts are prohibited:

- 7.1 Cycling in a manner which falls short of the responsibilities in the Code.
- 7.2 Cycling off the paths in woodland and other areas sensitive to environmental damage.



Motor Vehicles

The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

- 8.1 Driving or using or leaving any car, motorbike, quad bike, mini moto, or other vehicle, or parking a caravan, except on roads and in car parks provided by the Council for cars and vehicles, unless the Council's permission has been obtained first. This rule does not apply to prams and wheelchairs used for carrying children or people with a disability.

The following acts are prohibited:

- 8.2 Operating any motorised or mechanically propelled toy or model vehicle, aircraft or boat so as to disturb wildlife, endanger or give annoyance to other people or if asked by a Council Official not to do so.

Events and Other Activities

The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

- 9.1 Holding an event, performance, ceremony in any Park, or a demonstration or public meeting in any Park except East Meadows, Calton Hill or Laith Links.
- 9.2 Carrying, or discharging any firework or firearm.
- 9.3 Playing any organised game or sport on pitches provided by the Council.

Short Hole Golf Courses

The following acts are prohibited for those not engaged in the game of golf:

- 10 Going onto playing surfaces when these are in use and onto greens at all times.



Expulsion and Exclusion from Parks

- 11.1 Where a Council Official has reasonable grounds for believing that a person has contravened, is contravening or is about to contravene any of these Management Rules, they may expel that person from the Park.
- 11.2 Where a Council Official has reasonable grounds for believing that a person is about to contravene any of these Management Rules, they may exclude that person from the Park.
- 11.3 Where a person has persistently contravened or attempted to contravene these Management Rules and in the Council's opinion is likely to contravene them again, the Council may decide to make that person subject to an exclusion order for a specified period of up to one year.
- 11.4 An exclusion order made under Rule 11.3 shall take effect on such date as the Council may decide, being not less than 14 days after the decision to make that person subject to an exclusion order. A person who has been made subject to an exclusion order:
 - i) shall be entitled to written notice of the decision to make the exclusion order, containing a statement of the reasons for that decision, and
 - ii) shall be entitled to make written or oral representations to the Council at any time up to the time that the order would have taken effect but for the representation being made.



These rules, due to come into force in February 2013, are now presented for public inspection. Any objections to the rules should be made in writing before 3 December 2012 to: Duncan Monteith, Parks and Greenspace, The City of Edinburgh Council, C3 Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG. duncan.monteith@edinburgh.gov.uk Please include your contact details so we can acknowledge and process your objection.



Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Regulation - When gentle persuasion fails, Council officers and rangers can resort to regulation, using Management Rules, Environmental Wardens and the Police. Management Rules, made under Section 112 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1989, allow Council officers and rangers to expel and exclude people from parks for minor offences. If the offending person does not leave they are committing a criminal offence. The threat of the offence is often enough to persuade people to stop. If they persist then it is a matter for the police.

The current Management Rules for Public Parks have been in force since 2013. The Rules will be brought in-line with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and also address current issues in parks and attempt to provide a clearer interpretation to the public of the behaviours which are not allowed. For people who will not be persuaded and for more serious behaviours in parks then Park officers and ranger and the public are encouraged to call the police. The police will respond in a time that resources and priorities allow.

When campaigns are being run in parks to address certain issues then Environmental Wardens are often asked to assist. Wardens can help stop and persuade people and for issues of dog fouling and litter can issue fixed penalties. The key tools for dealing with undesirable behaviour in parks are education, the promotion of responsible behaviour, persuasion and as a last resort, regulation.

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Appendix Two– Maintenance Plan

Harrison Park Maintenance Plan																		
						Occasions												
Description	Action/Works	Who	M	M ²	No.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	General Frequency
Grass Maintenance																		
Bulb Planted Areas	Cutting			1500										1	1	1		Fortnightly (Sum)
General Areas	Cutting			3000				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1		Fortnightly (Sum)
Naturalised	Cutting			500										1	2	1		Monthly
Edge Hard Surface	Cutting		1190				1											Annual
Edge grass edges	Strimming		1190						1		1		1		1			
Annual meadow Maintenance																		
Preparation and seeding	Maintenance			350					1									Annually
	weeding			350						1	1	1						Monthly
Hedge & Tree Maintenance																		
Hedgerows	Cutting			1500														Annually
Tree	Pruning				150	1												Annually
Roads & Pathway Maintenance																		
Roads/paths & Cycleway	Engineer Inspection			1200	1			1										Annual
	Ranger Inspection			1200	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	Fortnightly
Description	Action/Works	Who	M	M ²	No.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	General Frequency
Play Park Maintenance																		
Engineer Maintenance	Engineer Inspection				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Monthly

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021– 2026

Equipment Maintenance	Manager Inspection				1									1				Annually
	Ranger Inspection				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Street Cleansing Maintenance																		
Bin	Emptying				7	31	28	31	30	31	30	31	31	30	31	30	31	Daily
Graffiti removal	Offensive																	Within 48 hrs
	Non-Offensive																	Bi Monthly



Park Quality Assessment Result 2019

Assessment Date: 12 June 2019
Lead Assessor: Gary Law

Harrison Park

Classification: Community Park

PQS: 75% Grade B Edin Std Met: Yes

2018 73% - Grade B - Yes

Criteria Score Key 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional

A Welcoming Place

2018 2019 Strengths

Weaknesses / Recommendations

Welcoming	8	8	Open park with good sightlines and accessible from surrounding streets and from the canal towpath.	Some paths in the west park appeared dark due to the trees and could do with being crown lifted to try and open the park up further. A little graffiti on some bins and signage at entrances. The path that runs adjacent to the canal has a little encroachment from the bed separating it from the canal and looks untidy.
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Good Safe Access	9	8	Plenty access points all around the park. No direct bus route but nearby. Walking and cycling route adjacent to the park. Car parking is available but metered. A very good path network throughout offering access to most areas.	Some of the paths were starting to break up in places due to tree roots. The steps leading down into the east park from Road and from the canal towpath could do with some attention before they get worse. Could have done with a gated access to the northeast quarter near the entrance from Harrison Road. Two small areas in the park were fenced off with gated access but for no clear reason why. Entrance (appeared to be a bit informal but is signed) at W Bryson Road and Harrison Lane needs improved if it is formal.
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Signage	9	8	Good amount of signage in the park with most entrances	Missing announcement into the East park from Harrison Road. Notice board at the east park at the canal needs vegetation removed. Wrong phone number in play area. There was some impromptu signage in the park regarding a commercial play group.
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Equal Access	8	8	Flat wide paths with dropped kerbs. Some seating.	Seating could be increased in the east and be more accessible in some areas. Access into the East park is limited from Harrison Road and involves using the tow path with access from half way along the west park or having to walk around to near the play area on W Bryson Road. Some paths starting to break up in the west.
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Healthy, Safe & Secure

Appropriate Provision of Facilities	8	8	Good play provision on site, seating and path network and football provision.	More picnic tables especially adjacent to the canal. Needs some shelter and toilet provision to be a fantastic destination park.
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Safe Equipment & Facilities	8	8	Nothing of immediate concern.	A few dead branches in the trees but nothing big or heavy. Some paths starting to break up. Steps into east park could do with an inspection and repaired/infilled as necessary.
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Personal Security in Park	9	8	Good sightlines and many exit points. Busy and overlooked in most places.	Only slight issue was group of folk congregated with dogs in west park with dogs snarling and running around us and other users which could put people off using that part of the park. Not sure if this is a regular occurrence.
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Dog Fouling	9	7	Bins and notices. Witnessed dog walkers lifting and depositing in bin.	A few instances found though.
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Clean & Well Maintained

Litter & Waste Management	5	8	Bins at most entrances and serviced. Main parts of the park were fairly litter free. Most bins of a consistent style.	A little bit of litter in the longer grass and around the fringes.
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Grounds Maintenance	7	6	Main bulk grass areas were ok. Lots of interest in the park. Liked the herb bed.	Lots of weeds in the beds and some of the offcuts need attending to. The bulb grass had been cut which let don the appearance of the park a little and some of these areas could have been left as naturalised areas especially around the trees where some recent scalping of roots were seen.
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THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS & GREENSPACE



Park Quality Assessment Result 2019

Assessment Date:

12 June 2019

Lead Assessor:

Gary Law

Harrison Park

Classification: Community Park

PQS: 75% Grade B Edin Std Met: Yes

2018 73% - Grade B - Yes

Criteria Score Key 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional

				Management strips along some of the paths need improving and ensure encroachment of vegetation around seats and notice board in east park is addressed.
Tree Maintenance	7	7	Good mix of trees over the whole park with no significant issues noted. Liked the community orchard.	Trees along the paths in the west park could do with some attention to lift branches away from the paths and entrances and in attempt to get more light into the area. Some minor dead branches noted.
Building & Infrastructure Maint	7	6		Some of the paths starting to lift and break up due to tree roots. Steps from Harrison road and canal into east park need inspected. Trip fence along path adjacent to canal needs painted.
Equipment Maintenance	8	7	Mostly okay with nothing in particular standing out as in need of desperate attention.	A little graffiti on some bins and signs need removed. The safety surface in the play area at W Bryson road has a hole in it and there is some shrinkage noted.
Sustainability				
Environmental Sustainability	6	6		
Waste Minimisation	2	7	Council's litter recycling policy is adhered to. Planting to minimise green waste. Where green waste is generated, most/all is re-used on site but some may be removed for recycling elsewhere.	
Pesticides	6	9	Decision made to not use pesticide/herbicide on site unless to control NNIS.	
Peat Use	8	7		
Climate Change	0	0		
Conservation & Heritage				
Conservation Fauna & Flora	8	8	Lots of good habitat provision around the park.	Perhaps look to increase the relaxed areas but allowing bulb areas to become naturalised grass areas.
Conservation Landscape	0	0		
Conservation Buildings	0	0		
Community Involvement				
Community Involvement	6	8	Good numbers for community events	
Community Provision	6	6		
Marketing & Promotion				
Marketing & Promotion	8	8	The site is advertised on the Council website and Edinburgh Outdoors. The site also benefits from additional marketing as a Green Flag Award site	
Information Provision	8	8	The notice boards were well laid out with some good relevant and in date information. Good contact details and information on things happening in the park. Information on upcoming community council meetings.	No PQA information. Notice boards were much the same and each could have slightly different content with links to other noticeboards for different info perhaps.
Educ. & Interpretative Provision	7	8	Some good interesting information available both in the notice boards and at the community garden and herb bed.	Consider more panels at other interest points.

Management



**THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL
PARKS & GREENSPACE**



Park Quality Assessment Result 2019

Assessment Date: 12 June 2019
Lead Assessor: Gary Law

Harrison Park

Classification: Community Park

PQS: 75% Grade B Edin Std Met: Yes

2018 73% - Grade B - Yes

Criteria Score Key 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional

Management Plan Implementation 0

Overall Comments

Recommendations

Harrison Park Management Plan 2021-26

Appendix 4 - Risk Assessment

RISK ASSESSMENT							Compiled by: Craig Dunlop, Parks & Greenspace Officer	
Site: Harrison Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2021			Review Date: by Feb 2022			
Hazard and Risk	People at risk	Our Controls	Future Controls	Risk Level	Target date and Responsible person	Notes		
Insect bites and stings	Public and Employees	Report any nests to Pest Control for removal	Signs erected warning people to keep away from nests	Low	As and when required PGO/PR			
Disease (Tetanus, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Weil's disease, etc)	Public and Employees	Information is provided to employees on health risks and symptoms included in safe working practices, risk assessment on dealing with syringes and stick injuries. PPE in place for removal of sharps. Reports by the public are dealt with by Taskforce. Anti-social behaviour reported to police and local ASB team.	Staff can approach their GP for inoculations and are referred to GP if exposed, as a precaution. Staff provided with washing facilities and first aid if required.	Low	As and when required. PR/PGO			

RISK ASSESSMENT

Compiled by: Craig Dunlop, Parks & Greenspace Officer

Site: Harrison Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2021		Review Date: by Feb 2022		
Hazard and Risk	People at risk	Our Controls	Future Controls	Risk Level	Target date and Responsible person	Notes
Fixed furniture: Injury due to damage etc	Public	Benches and other furniture are bolted and/or concreted to the ground. Litter bins are emptied at least weekly and inspected at time of emptying for defects which are reported for repair. Public reports of damaged items.	PGO and PR will inspect Harrison Park and reports of damage by public users.	Low	As and when required. PGO	
Trees: Collapse or structural damage, low hanging branches.	Public and Employees	Tree maintenance carried out as required. Tree Hazard Management system in place. PGO responds to concerns raised by the public.	Identify tree work through regular inspections and review Tree Hazard Management information as appropriate.	Low	As and when required. PGO and Tree and Woodlands Officer.	
Footpaths: Trips, slips and falls	Public and Employees	Paths checked for signs of damage. Leaf clearance carried out as necessary, grass and edges cut back at least once per annum. Defects to footpath are repaired as soon as practical, damage with H&S concerns	Annual inspection of paths to identify any hazards.	Low	As and when required. PGO/PR	

RISK ASSESSMENT

Compiled by: Craig Dunlop, Parks & Greenspace Officer

Site: Harrison Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2021		Review Date: by Feb 2022		
Hazard and Risk	People at risk	Our Controls	Future Controls	Risk Level	Target date and Responsible person	Notes
		repaired as a priority. Fill holes created by animal activity, where notified.				
Play area: Trips, slips, falls and injuries	Public	All play equipment checked every 4-6 weeks by qualified staff from P&GS. Annual independent assessment carried out. Ad hoc inspections carried out by other staff and all public enquiries are investigated. Removal of litter, glass and other debris on a regular basis.	Monitored by PGO and PR on a regular basis.	Low	As and when required. PGO/PR/P&GS	
Lone working: Exposure to violence or accidents.	Employees	Separate risk assessments exist for lone working and staff are supervised and may carry mobile phones. Employees are advised not to involve themselves with suspicious activity and to report things to their manager or the emergency services.	Regular patrols by police, staff, Environmental Wardens help to monitor the location.	Low	As and when required. All staff	

RISK ASSESSMENT

Compiled by: Craig Dunlop, Parks & Greenspace Officer

Site: Harrison Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2021		Review Date: by Feb 2022		
Hazard and Risk	People at risk	Our Controls	Future Controls	Risk Level	Target date and Responsible person	Notes
Rubbish removal Injury, manual handling	Employees and Volunteers	Manual handling training provided to staff. Bins emptied regularly to minimise weight. PPE provided. Separate risk assessment and safe working practices observed.	Volunteers are reminded of H&S prior to any activity.	Low	As and when required. All staff.	
General maintenance.	Employees	Separate risk assessments and safe working practice method statements exist for all activities that are regularly reviewed and update. Operatives provided with PPE and have relevant training and experience. All maintenance equipment is serviced either internally at our workshop or by others suitably qualified.	HAVs assessment is carried out for all new equipment. All herbicide legislation and H&S advice is reviewed as products are made available including COSHH assessments, risk assessments, training etc is considered.	Medium	All staff	

Site address: Harrison Park, Edinburgh,

City of Edinburgh Council – Main number 0131 200 2000

During office hours contact can be made with South West Edinburgh
Local Office, 10 Westside Plaza, Edinburgh, EH14 2 TS , tel: 0131 527
3800

In the event of an emergency, nearest A&E hospital:

Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, 51 Little France Crescent, Old Dalkeith
Road, Edinburgh, EH16 4SA.

A&E for children under 13 – Royal Hospital for Sick Children, 9 Sciennes
Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1LF