



Bloomiehall Park Management Plan 2021 – 2026

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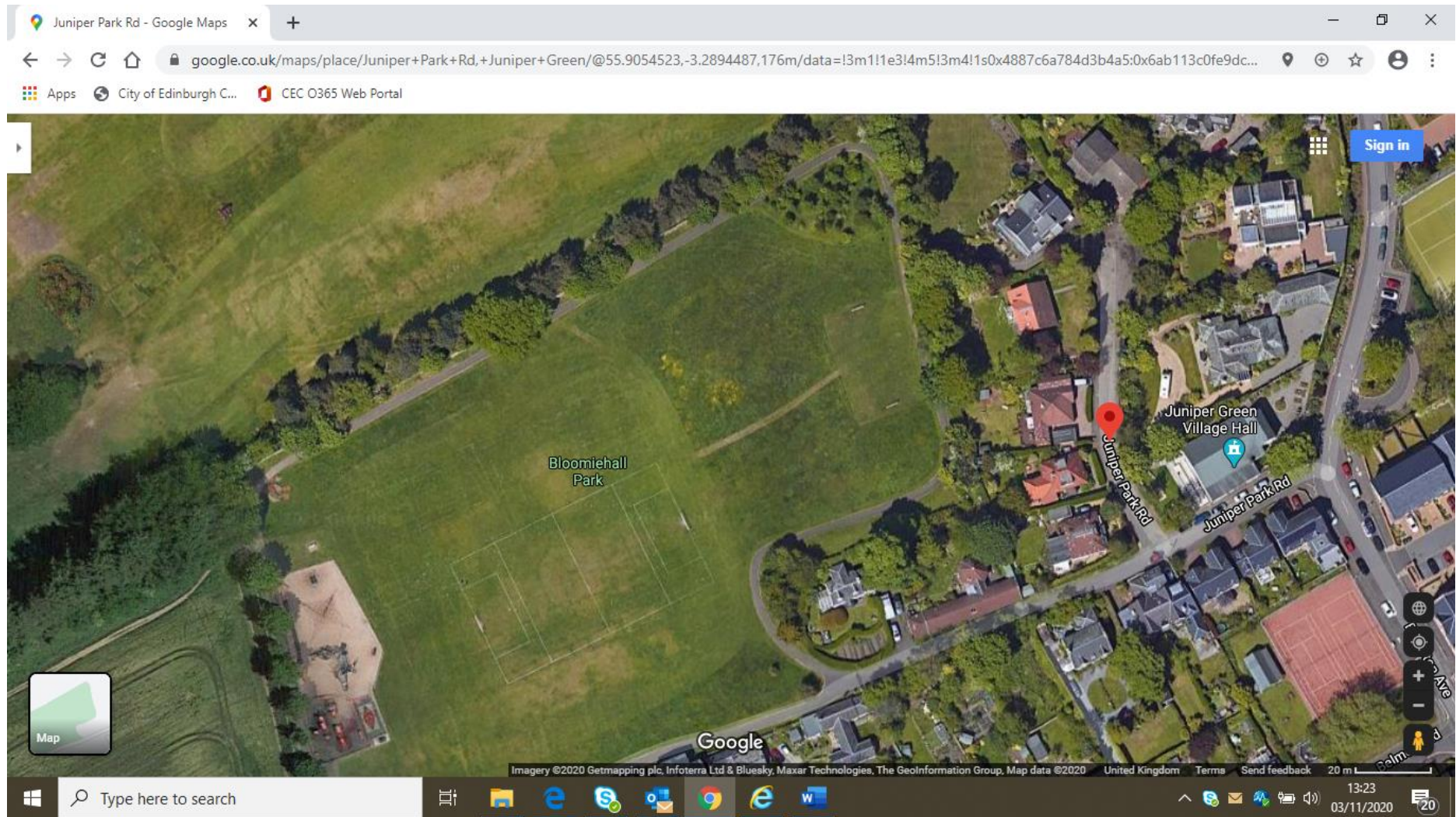
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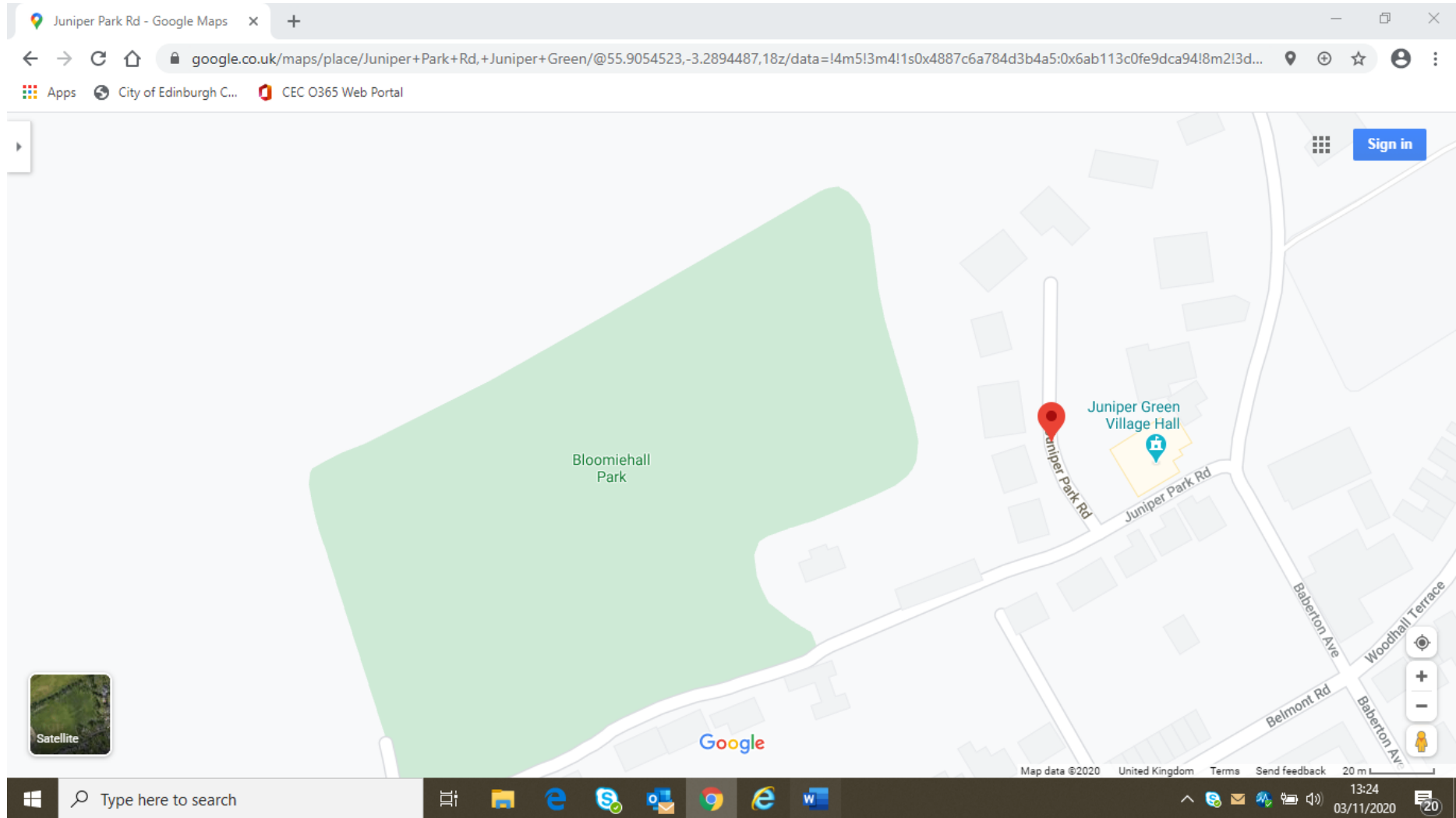
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Bloomiehall Park Location Within Edinburgh



Summary Information

Park Name:	Bloomiehall Park
Address:	13 Juniper Park Road, Edinburgh, EH14 5DX
National Grid reference:	55.905297105818875, -3.2901477813720703
Site area:	Approx. 2 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:	Parks & Greenspace craig.dunlop@edinburgh.gov.uk Tel: 0131 527 3806
Partners:	Local Community Juniper Green and Baberton Mains Community Council

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Overview Photograph of Bloomiehall Park



1 Introduction

1.0 Location

Bloomiehall Park is a well loved and valued community park in the Juniper Green Village. It is a pleasant small sized park with play area, football pitches and a range of natural habitats which enhance the biodiversity of the park.

Outstanding views of the Pentland Hills to the south and across the Forth estuary to the north are offered from this park.

The park is an attractive facility for families, young children and senior citizens alike with its easily accessible path network and availability of seating throughout, its westerly and open aspect can make it rather exposed to strong winds, but it remains a popular park all year round. The community use the park for play, to exercise and picnic in the summer and enjoy the opportunity to chat with friends and meet new people.

The park provides an essential greenspace for the village and is included within the Conservation area. The topography of the park is mostly level with a slightly drop of level in the north east section, the path network around the perimeter of the park is finished in a sealed tarmac surface and offers an easy walking route of 600meters. The play area is well equipped for toddlers and young children with the flying fox a firm favourite. A seven's football pitch and smaller kickabout area with goals are freely accessible to use and quite popular.

The park is enclosed by walls to the north and south, bounded by a field owned by Wimpey developers to the west and Baberton Golf Course to the north. This wall has suffered from vandalism and repairs were made following the initial reports. Shrub and tree cover buffer residential properties to the east while a small row of cottages is accessible from the south side of the park. A hole in the wall allows access across the right of way "Wimpey" field towards Muirwood, this right of way would benefit from an improved surface appropriate to its popularity.

The recreational value of the park for the citizens of Juniper Green & Baberton Mains is substantial, the biodiversity value of the park has also been enhanced in recent years with flower meadows, naturalised bulb areas, longer grass areas and tree & hedge planting.

The park can be reached via by public transport bus routes, No's 44, and 45 with a short walk from Lanark Road.

1.1 Management Plan Framework

This Management Plan sets out the future management, maintenance and development of Bloomiehall Park and has been produced by The City of Edinburgh Council and representatives from Juniper Green & Baberton Mains Community Council (JG&BM) to provide not only a long-term vision but also details on both 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 and Community 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.

Bloomiehall Park has incrementally improved its scoring through the Councils internal Parks Quality Assessment over the last few years and is now considered to be at a suitable standard for Green Flag application.

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Main entrance gates into Bloomiehall Park

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 Bloomiehall Park, our vision is:

“The park shall be a focus for informal recreation in the surrounding communities. It is a well maintained, accessible and welcoming park, well used and valued by local people. The park provides a safe place for families and recreational opportunities.”

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 Bloomiehall Park.

Criteria	Aim
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 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	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
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
	a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site

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Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage	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
Marketing & Communication	j) To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users
Management	<p>f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles</p> <p>h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations</p> <p>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</p>

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 considers the involvement of the community.

3.1 History of the Park

Originally a small dairy farm run in the late 18th century by the Watts family, the six acres of open space that now form Bloomiehall Park were purchased by Edinburg Corporation in 1912. It was used earlier however for recreation where city school kids would arrive on buses at the Juniper Green stop to experience the outdoors and enjoy running races. Once the corporation had purchased the park it benefitted from the installation of separate Ladies & Gents Toilet facilities. Over the years other facilities were introduced including swings, a putting green and shelters, (unfortunately these and the public toilets no longer exist in the park). A resident park keeper kept the peace and secured the park at night. It remained a popular park for school sports, picnicking and a place to exercise and enjoy the fresh air. From May 26th until June 3rd in 2012 the local community arranged a gala week of events and activities to celebrate 100 years of the Park, this included kite building and nature walks, culminating in a gala parade and installation of history boards and vista panels.

Today the park provides a good quality playpark for toddlers and young children, a 7's size football pitch and a smaller kickabout area with goals. While there is no longer a dedicated park keeper there are mobile park officers who on their routine patrols can inspect equipment, infrastructure and are able to carry out ad-hoc repairs and escalate larger items of disrepair or reports of anti-social behaviour.



History board

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 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 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

Bloomiehall 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 community around Bloomiehall Park is included within the Juniper Green & Baberton Mains community council boundary. The community council was formed in 2009 and consist of elected and co-opted members. The preservation of local greenspaces is an important part of the Community Council's role and they act as a formal engagement consultee for park events and developments.

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Community tree planting in the park has been carried out by local Scout groups and members of The Conservation Volunteers. While the park does not benefit from a dedicated Friends group, the Community Council are proactive in the development and stewardship of the park. Their committee and members have contributed to research on the history of the park, the design and siting of interpretation and history boards and more recently with community applications to the woodland trust & practical assistance in the planting of trees. The local Juniper Green Primary School have participated in bulb planting and wildflower sowing which helps foster a sense of ownership for those children involved in the exercise, the school also use the park for school sports and other ad hoc activities.

We have benefitted from donors who have purchased memorial seats for their loved ones and chosen Bloomiehall Park as their favoured park to site the seats.

The park also serves as a venue for personal fitness trainers, bootcamps and kickabout areas for those wishing to exercise outdoors.

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Staff, pupils and volunteers planting trees and spring flowering bulbs

3.6 Surveys and Assessments Undertaken

Asset Management GIS Survey

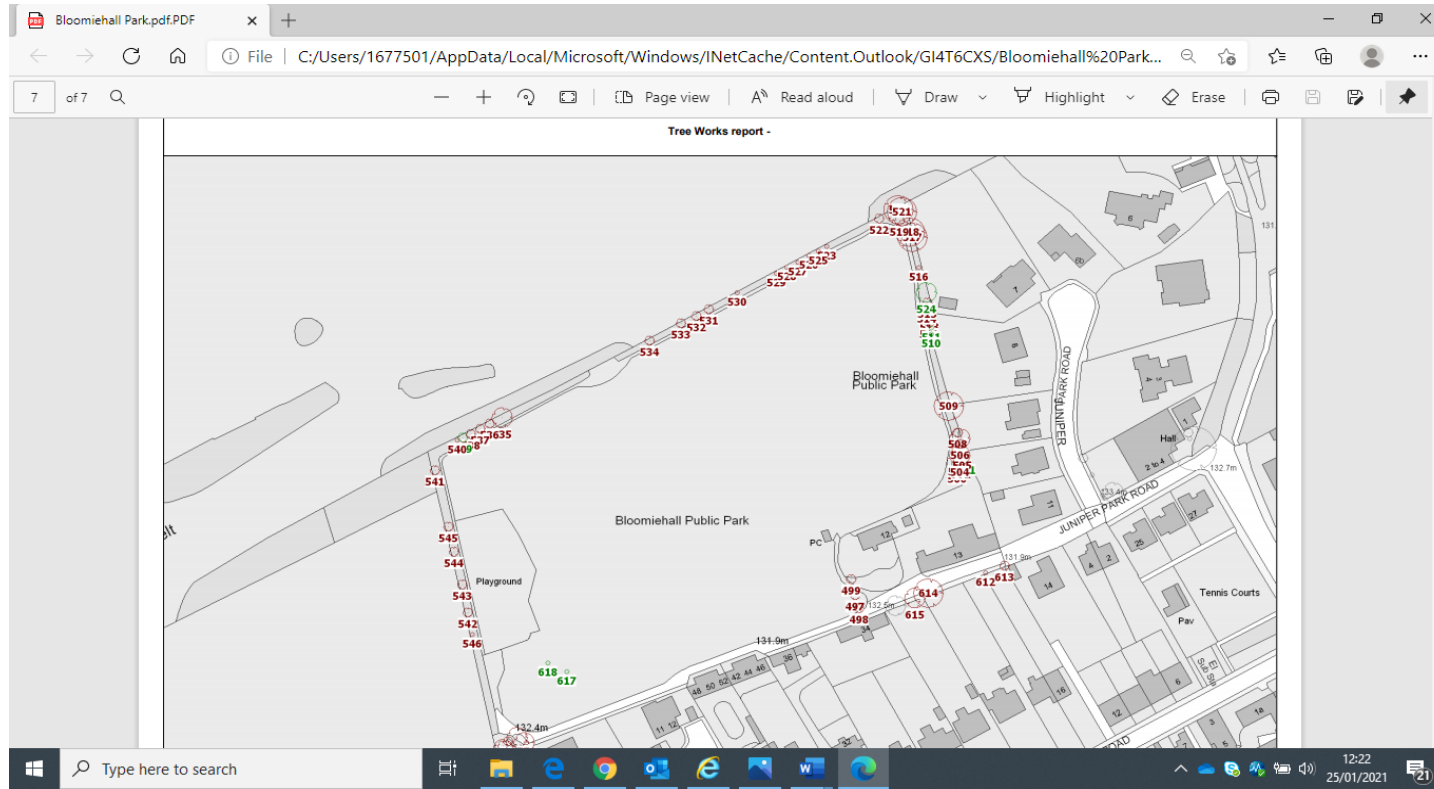
The Council has recently introduced a new asset management system which has been undertaken following a full survey of each park in the City. This is now linked to GIS so that site location, condition and photographic information can be studied from the office base. This information will be used to assess 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 are used to shape the future development of the landscape features of the park and will be reflected in future in this management plan.

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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

Bloomiehall Park is a welcoming place and well used greenspace; social access is excellent for families and local people within the Juniper Green and Baberton Mains area.

There are two formal and one informal entrance points to the park with threshold signage and notice board. Throughout the park there are interpretation panels giving out information on the history of the park and points of interest from viewing area.

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Notice board and interpretation 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 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

Bloomiehall Park is used for informal sport and other physically active activities. The park contains one well equipped play park and has a football pitch, kick-about area, goals and a woodland copse. The park is well equipped with park benches and litter bins. There is a designated picnic table located within the park.

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The Park Ranger Service patrol the park as part of their park and garden 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 children 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). (Appendix 2) They report obvious hazards to the Council's workshop engineers. In-house ROSPA trained staff inspect the equipment on a monthly basis. Any defects identified are either repaired immediately or isolated and made safe for repair at a later date. 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 Street Enforcement 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

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. ([see appendix 2](#))

Information gathered from the public and Parks Quality Assessments indicate that the standard of maintenance is considered to be 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 localised staff members whose responsibility is to ensure that the park is kept litter free. Dog fouling in the park has been a minor problem over the years and this is due to responsible dog owners and proactive messaging. 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.

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.

Offensive graffiti is removed by the specialist graffiti service team within 48 hours and aided by Park Rangers who have their own graffiti removal kit.

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.



Our Edinburgh Clean-up campaign



Dog fouling advice

4.4 Environmental Management

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

Parks & Greenspace avoid any use of herbicides in our parks except for meadow preparation and the treatment of NNIS

In order to reduce land filled waste, the City of Edinburgh Council has worked in partnership with Midlothian Council to develop a recycling and energy recovery centre at Millerhill in the north of the City. The RERC is set to help both councils meet national targets by diverting 155,000 tonnes of waste – 135,000 tonnes of household residual waste with a further 20,000 tonnes of household and commercial waste – from landfill each year. The treated waste will generate electricity to power 32,000 households and businesses across the region. Most of the landfill waste from the park litter bins are now diverted to this facility.

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 pathway leading to park are supplied with low energy bulbs.

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

Bloomiehall Park covers approx. 2 ha of ground, mainly open grassland with some small copses and newly planted trees. The former areas comprise large tracts of semi-improved grasslands which are maintained for biodiversity, together with areas of standard amenity grassland. The trees in the park are mainly native with a few exotic specimen trees.

Bulb planting program has been started to increase the variety and interest in the semi improved grasslands which we hope to extend over the next few planting seasons. The graduated grass cutting regime for the park allows a greater range of habitats, some areas requiring only being cut once or twice per year, so far this has allowed areas of marsh orchids and other wildflowers to appear and colonize.

Resident bird species include robin, bullfinch, willow warbler, great tit, chiff chaff, blackcap, blue tit, blackbird, wood pigeon and starlings.

The areas of park which were set aside for naturalising have shown encouraging signs of increased diversity of flowering species which we hope will continue to develop.

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Edinburgh     
 **Biodiversity**
Partnership

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

The range and frequency of community events and activities in the park is limited however we have made progress recently with bulb planting activities and tree planting being carried out by school pupils and residents. The community Council promote their activities through notices in the park's notice board and the park itself serves as venue for bootcamps and other exercise and wellbeing classes.



4.7 Marketing & Communication

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

Information relating to Bloomiehall Park is available via the City of Edinburgh Council website and available via Smartphone app 'Edinburgh Outdoors'. A direct link QR code links you directly to the Edinburgh Outdoors Page for Bloomiehall Park, the site specific code is located in one of the park notice boards. The Council website also offers a good source of information about the park and its available infrastructure. The park and information can be found on Juniper Green & Baberton Mains Community Council webpage <https://www.junipergreencc.org.uk/content/news/all>

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 notice boards at entrance points to the park along with local community 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 board this year to provide regular information on maintenance, events, and works within the park.

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

Bloomiehall 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. The park lies within the South West Locality for the moment.

Management and development of the park is undertaken locally by the SW Locality Transport and Environment team in conjunction with the local community. Strategic issues dealt with via the central Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries.

Operational management of the park is undertaken by the Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries and Waste and Cleansing teams. This team consists of a grounds maintenance 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](#)).

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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.

The community can assist the council with members undertaking removal of small graffiti items, mainly from bins, seats and lamp standards, litter picking of small areas and generally highlighting defects for repair. Through these groups it is intended to attempt to increase the public participation in voluntary work within the park, this might include, litter picking, graffiti removal etc.

Given the current financial climate faced by local authorities it is important that the council continue to encourage this volunteer strategy by ensuring that the community have the necessary equipment to carry out the work.

The Park Rangers also patrol all parks including Bloomiehall 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. Bloomiehall 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:

PGO Parks and Greenspace Officer

GTL Parks & Greenspace Maintenance

JGBM CC Community Council

FM Forestry Manager

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 increase the horticultural interest in the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduce a greater range of flowering bulbs for the biodiversity grass areas. ▪ Continue to trial meadow seed mix for maximum impact 	2021-26 2021/20 26	PR/PGO/ V PGO/GT L	£300/annum Existing LL budget
1.2 To ensure consistent signage throughout park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain notice boards and threshold signage with up to date information 	2021-26	PGO/PR/ CC	
1.3 Increase the attractiveness of entrances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keep litter free ▪ Naturalise bulbs or wildflowers at entrance verge 	Ongoing	PGO PR/ JGBMCC	£100

Bloomiehall Park Management Plan 2021 – 2026

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 Well maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carry out regular park patrols ensure reporting faults & issues resolved. 	2021-26	PR/PGO	Staff time
2.2 Resolve ponding at east path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obtain costs/options and identify budget 	2021/22	PGO	£?
2.3 Reduce anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report issues to Police Scotland, identify possible areas to deter ASB 	2021-26	PR/PGO/ JGBM CC	Staff time
2.4 Ensure site features and assets and access are not in any way hazardous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete risk assessment for site 	2021/26	PGO	Staff time
2.5 Ensure boundary park walls are sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up survey recommendations 	2021-22	PGO	£1200
2.6 Keep park litter free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure litter management of bins and open space is of appropriate standard 	2021/26	PGO/PR/ WCM	Staff
2.7 Keep general park infrastructure and play equipment safe condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular documented inspections with follow up actions for any required repairs 	2021-26	PR/Work PGO	?
2.8 Ensure play safety surface is fit for play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replenish play bark as required 	2021/26	PGO	£750

Bloomiehall 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 retain good appearance of facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programme of paint works for gates, seats, play equipment and goals. 	2021/22	PGO	£1000
3.2 To minimise impact of graffiti tags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arrange monthly inspections for removal 	2021-26	PR	Staff time unless specialist equipment required
3.3 Maintain ground maintenance standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreed as per LQS 	2021-26	GTL/PG O	Staff time
3.4 Promote care for park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Display new notices within cabinet 	2021/22	PR/PGO	£25

Bloomiehall Park Management Plan 2021 – 2026

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 light pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change lanterns to LED lights 	2021	PGO	CEC programme
4.2 Encourage park users to remove litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion posters 	2021/22	PR V	£50/annual costs
4.3 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 	Ongoing	PGO PR	£0
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/PR	£0

Bloomiehall 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"> ▪ Plant wildflower plugs amongst newly planted trees 	2021-23	PGO/PR/V	£100
5.2 Create habitats for bumble bees and small birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider bee & bird boxes 	2021/23	PR V	£150
5.3 Survey Park habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to Edinburgh Natural History Society 	2021/22	PGO	£0
5.4 Increase areas that help increase bee and butterfly population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with increased pollinators and habitat diversity 	2020-21	PGO/PR/JGBM CC	£400
5.5 Increase areas of native habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant new hedgerows where possible 	2021-2024	PGO/PR/JGBM CC	Woodland trust
5.6 Protect park from unwanted species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor & eradicate any signs of invasive species 	annual	PR	£0

Bloomiehall 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 encourage Community led involvement in the management and development of park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish interest in the Green Flag application proposal 	2021	PGO/ JGBM CC	£0
6.2 Compile short set of potential activities for community themed events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda item for future community council meeting? 	2021/22	PGO	£0
6.3 To involve local school children in appropriate park projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with local primary and nursery. 	2021-26	PGO/PR/ JGBM CC	£0

Bloomiehall 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	£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	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	£50
7.4 Update website content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linked to Edinburgh Outdoors site 	Ongoing	PR	£0
7.5 Green Flag Award and Keep Scotland Beautiful – It's Your Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for awards 	Ongoing	PGO PR	£400

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, Council’s internal parks quality assessment & green flag assessment recommendations. 	Ongoing	PGO/PR/ JGBM CC	Staff and community time.

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
Flowers, shrubs and hedges	1,000
Litter removal	4,318
Gym Area Maintenance	1,500
Tree Maintenance	1,500
Graffiti removal	900
Total	12,718

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 Area 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

Community 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 Bloomiehall 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 and individual members of the local Community Council where we will undertake to consider all recommendations regarding 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 principal 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 fireworks 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.



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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.

Bloomiehall Park Management Plan 2021 – 2026

Appendix Two– Maintenance Plan

Bloomiehall 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			500									1	2	2	1		Fortnightly (Sum)
General Areas	Cutting			7500				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1		Fortnightly (Sum)
Naturalised	Cutting			2500										1	2	1		Monthly
Edge Hard Surface	Cutting		700				1											Annual
Annual meadow Maintenance																		
Preparation and seeding	Maintenance			350					1									Annually
	weeding			350						1	1	1						Monthly
Hedge & Tree Maintenance																		
Hedgerows	Cutting			100														Annually
Tree	Pruning				500	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

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Equipment Maintenance	Manager Inspection				1									1				Annually
	Ranger Inspection				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Monthly
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																	Monthly



THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS & GREENSPACE



Park Quality Assessment Result 2019

Assessment Date: 31 May 2019
Lead Assessor: Fiona Underhill

Bloomiehall Park

Classification: Community Park

PQS: **77%** **Grade B** Edin Std Met: **Yes**

2018 72% - 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	Very welcoming, main entrance gate gives good impression. Great views through park and out to surroundings.	
Good Safe Access	8	8		Difficult to access and park nearby if in a car and of limited mobility but once in park access very good.
Signage	8	8	Good signage design and well maintained	Still displaying old dog/play area regulations from 1982 on rusty old sign, is there an updated version that could be displayed?
Equal Access	8	8		As previously mentioned good flat access around site but would struggle to get near if needed to get there by car. Lots of seating around main path on north side but lacking on east and south probably due to houses adjacent.

Healthy, Safe & Secure

Appropriate Provision of Facilities	8	8	Fantastic play area, variety of equipment, plenty seating and room for football. Good paths surfaced and through naturalised grass.	Consider providing outdoor gym equipment as is a busy park, not sure where next nearest outdoor gym is?
Safe Equipment & Facilities	8	8	All play equipment and seating looked safe and well maintained. (Flying fox was fenced off as under repair.) Recent woodchip application in play area looks good.	The eastern most of the two main goalposts was a bit wobbly
Personal Security in Park	7	8	Well overlooked, open and busy site.	One hidden area not overlooked and obscured by bushes in eastern corner, not far from houses and gardens at that point though
Dog Fouling	7	8	No evidence of dog fouling. Dogs seen were under control. No dog signs on play area visible from entrance.	

Clean & Well Maintained

Litter & Waste Management	7	7	Good provision of bins and well serviced.	Some recent litter seen by bench
Grounds Maintenance	6	7	Grass well cut and wildflower meadows coming up well.	Play area edges and slabbed areas under interpanel and picnic table weedy. Consider an extra path cut through naturalised grass from football pitch to main path on northern edge. Drainage issue apparent on eastern edge of small football pitch needs addressed.
Tree Maintenance	8	8	Lovely tree plantings, well maintained and designed. Few damaged/diseased seen	Western edge by play area had a damaged dead tree snapped off, this could do with replacing.
Building & Infrastructure Maint	7	8	NO graffiti or fly posting and all walls and paths in good condition.	Play area fence line and some slabbed areas were weedy. Not a council issue maybe but golf course razor wire near boundary wall on western edge is quite close to the wall.
Equipment Maintenance	8	8	All seems to be well maintained. Nothing broken or graffitied	

Sustainability

Environmental Sustainability	6	8	Increased living landscape interest with local school participation	
Waste Minimisation	5	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.	



THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS & GREENSPACE



Park Quality Assessment Result 2019

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PQS: **77%** **Grade B** Edin Std Met: **Yes**

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

Pesticides 4 **7** Decision made to not use pesticide/herbicide on site unless to control NNIS.

Peat Use 10 **10**

Climate Change 0 **0**

Conservation & Heritage

Conservation Fauna & Flora 7 **8** Fantastic amount and considered location/design of Living Landscape naturalised grass areas. Good mix of trees and extra planting provides good link habitat for birds and other wildlife from local gardens out to wider countryside. Recent bulb planting will provide early nectar too. Consider even more meadow area, perhaps on strip of grass on South East corner strip of grass in the 'hidden corner'. Also would be nice to see apple or other fruit trees planted on this strip of grass. On eastern edge there is large laurel which could encroach on the path in time. Could it be replaced with some nice native hedge species?

Conservation Landscape 0 **0**

Conservation Buildings 0 **0**

Community Involvement

Community Involvement 6 **7** Increased participation via primary school

Community Provision 6 **6**

Marketing & Promotion

Marketing & Promotion 6 **7** The site is advertised on the Council website and Edinburgh Outdoors. Updated photos on Edinburgh outdoors Notice boards updated regularly.

Information Provision 8 **7** Up to date well presented information. Would like to see some specifics about recent community involvement, pictures from school visit or bulb planting which could encourage others to take part/get more involved?

Educ. & Interpretative Provision 8 **8** Two great interp panels. Very informative and good to make use of the views.

Management

Management Plan Implementation 0 **0**

Overall Comments Fantastic park, lots of facilities and interpretation for its size. Great location if a bit hidden! Good opportunities for a Friends group with lots of houses around the perimeter, could have a real community feel. Play area is a great asset for the area. Good to see a decent scale of naturalised grass and tree plantings. Very nice park to visit. Only thing that spoils it for me is the awful barbed and razor wire on the northern boundary with the golf course.

Recommendations Speak to golf course about removing awful barbed wire

Replace dead tree and consider extra planting on western boundary

Consider fruit tree planting and/or meadow sowing on underused grass strip in south eastern corner

Bloomiehall Park Management Plan 2021 - 2026

Appendix 4 - Risk Assessment

RISK ASSESSMENT							Compiled by: Craig Dunlop, Parks & Greenspace Officer	
Site: Bloomiehall Park		Assessment Date: Jan 2021			Review Date: by Jan 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: Bloomiehall Park		Assessment Date: Jan 2021		Review Date: by Jan 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 Bloomiehall 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: Bloomiehall Park		Assessment Date: Jan 2021		Review Date: by Jan 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 at least 4-6 weeks, preferably monthly 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: Bloomiehall Park		Assessment Date: Jan 2021		Review Date: by Jan 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: Bloomiehall 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