



Hailes Quarry Management Plan 2025 – 2030

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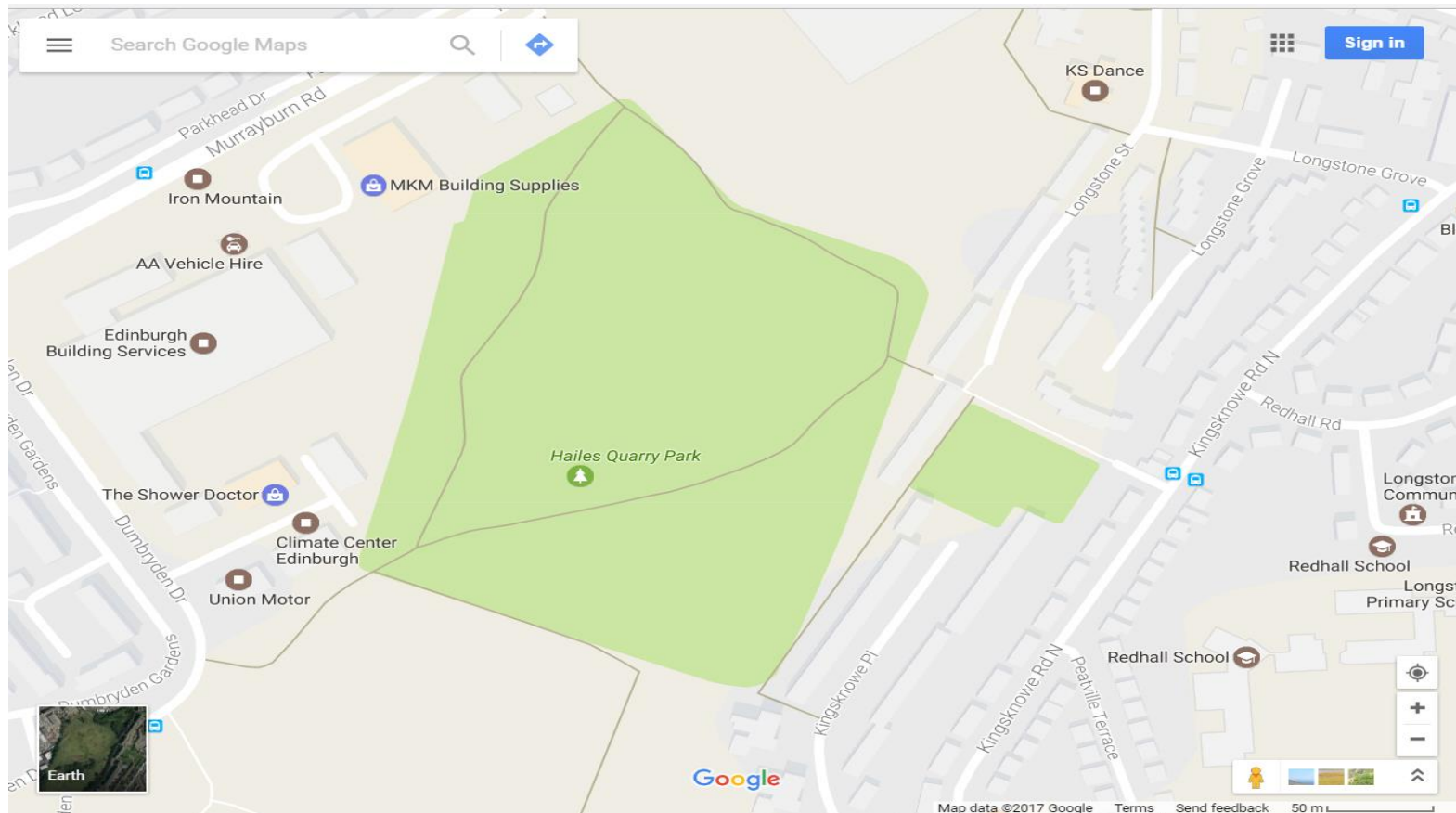
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Hailes Quarry Park Location

Summary Information

Park Name:	Hailes Quarry Park
Address:	Murrayburn Road, Edinburgh, EH14 2tf
National Grid reference:	328740, 320684
Site area:	12.15 hectares
Telephone Number:	0131 200 2000
Email:	parks@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 Officer craig.dunlop@edinburgh.gov.uk Tel: 07917211273
Partners:	Local Community Longstone Community Council Sighthill, Broomhouse & Parkhead Community Council Friends of Hailes Quarry Park Wester Hailes Community Trust Edinburgh & Lothian Greenspace Trust (ELGT)

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1 Introduction

1.0 Location

Hailes Quarry is a pleasant, medium-sized open park area with a great mix of natural habitats and recreational facilities. These include a wetland with a boardwalk, naturalised grass lands with a wide mixture of bulbs including daffodil, crocus and naturalised orchids, etc., all which give this park a welcome splash of colour in the spring and summer months, facilities include picnic tables, small grass kick-about areas, outdoor gym equipment and a community growing area. It has wide tarred pathways and access links that connects the Union Canal & local housing estate with the main road and public transport links into the city centre or outskirts of Edinburgh. The Park is an attractive facility for children, young people, adults and senior citizens alike who come to play, walk or just watch the activities from a nearby bench.

The park provides an essential greenspace for surrounding housing. The layout of the park provides healthy and safe routes between linked road networks along level paths for residents and visitors alike. The design provides open space which can accommodate activities including kick-about sport, play and leisure activities. There are several stakeholders who can be associated with the park and provide a good cross section of public and limited commercial use. These are as follows:

- Local community
- Longstone Community Council, Sighthill & Parkhead Community Council
- Friends of Hailes Quarry Park
- Edinburgh & Lothian Greenspace Trust
- Two on site commercial units (both let, one to Kurdish community and the other to private business)
- Scottish Canals

Members of the public use the park for many things; however, it is used in general for play, leisure walks, dog walking, and picnicking. The park is a fantastic attraction all year round for this purpose but more so when the weather is good. This attracts a great number of people with very few grass spaces being available when we are enjoying a warm sun.

The park also lends itself to a high number of informal activities enjoyed by the local children and adults with kick-about football, outdoor gym equipment and learning area.

One of the nearby attractions to the park is the Union Canal whose towpath runs adjacent to south of the park and offers park users with a chance to sample local wildlife of biodiversity in a city location area while also making the park itself more accessible to the canal.

The cultural, aesthetic and recreational value of the park for the citizens of Edinburgh is substantial. Hailes Quarry is specially valued by those living in the nearby housing estate. There are several entrance points into the park.

The park is graced by both mature and young trees most of which have been planted during the last 40 years.

Hailes Quarry has the feel of a natural site and over the last 15 years has been developed sympathetically for biodiversity.

The park is well serviced by public transport bus routes, No's 23, 30 and 33 and has on-street parking and a limited car park area at the Dumbryen Road section of the park for authorised vehicles.

1.1 Management Plan Framework

This Management Plan sets out the future management, maintenance and development of Hailes Quarry Park and has been produced by The City of Edinburgh Council and representatives from the partners 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 2025 to 2030 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.

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.

Hailes Quarry Park was awarded Green Flag in 2010 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 for approx. 5 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)

Neighbourhood 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 Hailes Quarry Park, our vision is:

‘Our vision is for a park where people from our different local communities – Longstone, Kingsknowe, Hailesland, Dumbryden, Murrayburn, Sighthill, and Parkhead (as well as Broomhouse and Wester Hailes) - come together to enjoy nature in the city. We want it to be safe and welcoming and a place where we can deepen our connection to the natural world. We want to see a wider range of residents using the park with facilities that are well-kept and encourage people to spend more time in the park doing what they enjoy. We are proud of our lovely slice of nature and want to help enhance its natural richness and support biodiversity. We want it to offer events and activities that will enhance the lives of the people who live here.

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 Hailes Quarry 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

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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
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

Hailes Quarry was active from 1750-1900 and during its peak period of production employed around 150 men with approx.100,000 tons of stone being taken out each year. The stone was used for stairs and landings during the building of Edinburgh's New Town. The site was abandoned in 1902 after it became flooded with water. In the 1970's it was repurposed as a landfill site and continued until it was grassed over in the early 1980's. Early attempts at developing the park included community groups and the Council's own job creation programme. In 2006 the park was chosen as a joint Placemaking Project between Greenspace Scotland and New York based Project for Public Places. The report [http://archive.northsearegion.eu/files/repository/20121219103728_Hailes-Quarry-Edinburgh-UK\[1\].pdf](http://archive.northsearegion.eu/files/repository/20121219103728_Hailes-Quarry-Edinburgh-UK[1].pdf) outlines the project and some of the many improvement made to the park since this time. Edinburgh & Lothian Greenspace Trust delivered this project with significant financial and resource support from City of Edinburgh Council.

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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 City Plan 2030 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cityplan2030>
- The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2023-2027 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/33125/council-business-plan-2023-2027>
- Resilient Edinburgh Climate Change Adaptation Framework <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory-record/1146210/resilient-edinburgh-climate-change-adaptation-framework>

Park and Environmental Policies

- Climate Strategy 2030 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/2030climatestrategy>
- Edinburgh Nature Network <https://edinburghlivinglandscape.org.uk/project/edinburgh-nature-network/>
- Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2022-2027 <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/33491/edinburgh-biodiversity-action-plan-2022-2027>
- Edinburgh Thriving Greenspace <https://www.thrivinggreenspaces.scot/>
- Edinburgh Living Landscapes <https://edinburghlivinglandscape.org.uk/>

3.3 Management Rules

The Park Management Rules were revised and approved in 2014. These rules are to be revised in 2025 but can be reviewed in current format ([Appendix 1](#)).

3.4 Park Classification

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

Community Parks are defined as 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 Hailes Quarry Park is included in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016 (20% most deprived areas in Scotland), the park is bounded by 3 local community councils.

The Friends of Hailes Quarry Park was set up in 2020 following an appeal for local stewardship and volunteering opportunities. There are 10 signed up members and the group focus on litter picks, community growing, community participation and fundraising. Their activities are promoted on Facebook, X and WhatsApp.

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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

A woodland management plan was commissioned and completed between 2011 & 2016. 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

Hailes Quarry 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 interpretation panels providing information on the history and development of the park.

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Interpretation and 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

Hailes Quarry Park is used for informal sport and other physically active activities. The park contains one well equipped outdoor gym and children's play area. It also has a football kick-about area, goals and a woodland trail. The park is well equipped with park benches and litter bins. There is designated picnic table located within the park.

Below multi-gym features which were all installed to encourage healthy living and encourage more exercise for all age groups.



The Park Ranger Service patrol the park as part of their inspection route. They will log incidents or damage 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 on, 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.

All City of Edinburgh Council Gym equipment were 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.

Monthly documented inspections reported using Confirm software are carried out by council employees as part of their 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 monthly. 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. 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.

Street enforcement Officers 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.

Information gathered from the public and Parks Quality Assessments indicate that the standard of maintenance is of a good 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 an ongoing problem over the years and this is due to irresponsible dog owners and we are working on reducing this significantly with an active pick up your dog poo campaign and this is proving successful with various lamppost wrap boards and we will continue to have our local Street Enforcement Officers visit the site to ensure good practice is in place. In line with City wide practice the litter receptacles within the park are for joint use of disposal both for litter and dog fouling collections.



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 local graffiti service team 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.

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 east 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 trees during early establishment and drought conditions. Bark mulch has been extensively used throughout the park to preserve moisture and provide a cool root run for plants. Ground cover shrubs can be planted to suppress weeds and prevent loss of moisture from the soil through evaporation.

The Council has a lighting strategy to utilise new technology, Hailes Quarry Park has hybrid solar lighting columns and solar eye way finders.

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

Hailes Quarry Park covers 13 ha of ground, comprised of 9.67 ha of open grassland and 3.33 ha of woodland. The former areas comprise large tracts of semi-improved grasslands which are maintained for biodiversity, together with smaller areas of standard amenity grassland. The woodlands are in the form of long narrow belts at the edges of the site and small blocks within the site. The woodland can be divided into two types; young/semi-mature woodland and young pole-stage mixed broadleaved plantation. Hedgerows, temporary wetlands and fruit tree planting are also featured on the site. A significant number of heavy standard trees have also been planted over the years including field maples, oak and chestnut. An additional 28 heavy standard trees are due to be planted in 2025

Areas of existing broadleaved native woodland have been planted in sections and on the fringes of the park. Enrichment planting has also taken place over the last four years. Bulb planting has been carried out extensively with a succession of Spring flowering bulbs. The newest feature is a wetland habitat, initially planted out in 2016 and extended with the construction of a boardwalk in 2017. New link path and interpretation was added later. 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 colonise.

A wee forest funded by NatureScot was created in 2022

All these biodiversity improvements have been implemented following an initial ecological assessment made in 2011 at the same time as the woodland management plan was commissioned.

Dragonflies have been observed last year in the wetland during the late summer along with common butterflies.

Resident bird species include robin, bullfinch, willow warbler, great tit, chaffinch, blackcap, blue tit, blackbird, wood pigeon and starlings. All these species and migrants are recorded monthly by one of our volunteers/committee members.

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



Naturalised grass in late summer



Grass cut in late autumn

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 volunteering efforts of the Friends of Hailes Quarry Park have contributed significantly to towards the community growing area, litter picking, tree planting, fund raising and a general commitment to fostering local stewardship for the park. Corporate volunteers have also been on site for clean ups and conservation tasks. Longstone Community Council have been successful in obtaining grant funding to commence a series of Junior Park runs in HQP





Volunteers following the planting of wetland meadow

4.7 Marketing & Communication

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

Information relating to Hailes Quarry Park is available via the ELGT website and 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 Hailes Quarry 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 its history and current activities are also well documented in the local online Digital Sentinel, <http://www.digitalsentinel.net/tag/hailes-quarry-park/> a community news site for Wester Hailes.

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 three 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.



FRIENDS OF HAILES QUARRY PARK

(a group of local residents)

hailesquarrypark@gmail.com

COMMUNITY LITTER PICK:

Every last Sunday of the month,
2.00-4.00 pm - Meet at the play
area; please wear gloves.

COMMUNITY HERB GARDEN:

Please enjoy the herb garden
and help yourself to a portion
of any herbs you are confident
identifying. Get in touch to
help with upkeep during
summer.

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

Hailes Quarry Park is managed by the Place Directorate, which is structured to deliver services for the needs and priorities of local communities. The park lies within the South West area of Edinburgh.

Management and development of the park is undertaken by Neighbourhood Environmental Services which has parks, forestry, waste & cleansing in its portfolio.

The Friends' Group and Parks and Greenspace Officer work closely with the local teams to ensure that the park progresses in line with the action plan.

Operational management of the park is undertaken by the Parks & Greenspace supported by Waste and Cleansing teams who service litter bins and fly tipping/dumped item removal. This team consists of a mobile grounds maintenance crew, tractor driver and street cleaning teams who service the bins. Site management and infrastructure is with Parks & Greenspace Officer who leads the Parks Rangers who in turn undertake a wide range of reporting, inspecting and community engagement.

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 playground maintenance & street lighting maintenance.

The community groups assist the council with members undertaking removal of small graffiti items, mainly from bins, seats and lamp standards, litter picking of woodland 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 Hailes Quarry 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. Hailes Quarry 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
 FOHQP Friends of Hailes Quarry Park
 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	Status	Cost
1.1 Review welcome aspects at entrances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess litter issues, soft landscaping signage and information 	2025	PGO	A	Staff & material costs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve blown litter into park by requesting additional bin at bust stop 	2025/6	PGO/W	R	£500
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve entrance appearance from Kingsknowe Court 	2025/6			

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1.2 Encourage visitors to make repeat visits and ensure park is a reliable place to visit at any time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Respond to social media feedback • Ensure that facilities and maintenance are of an acceptable standard for green flag park 	Ongoing Annual	FOHQP PGO/PR GTL	G	Voluntary resource Revenue
1.3 Review signage and information requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interpretation and information for plants, trees and hermit areas 	2026	PGO/PR/ FOHQP	R	£3,000
1.4 Offer more resting places with nice views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Install additional wooden and metal seats 	2025/6	PGO FOHQP	R	Could be resourced through community payback

Hailes Quarry Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

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	Status	Cost
2.1 To max the park for developing more opportunities for healthy activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Friends and Longstone Community Council to deliver Junior Park Run 	2025	LCC	A	£1000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress informal discussions with disc golf association to develop course in park 	2026	PGO/ FOHQP	A	£3000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Support for Friends to develop herb and growing area 	2025/6	PGO	G	£1500
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to any suggestions for improvements that may benefit the health value of the park 	2025-30	PGO	A	
2.2 Ensure site features and assets and access are not in any way hazardous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete and update risk assessment for site 	2025	PGO		Staff resource
2.3 Improve lit route through parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install lighting columns from Longstone to Murrayburn and solar studs as wayfinders 	2025/6	PGO/ Engineer	A	£45,000
2.4 Improve access from Murrayburn Road section of park during heavy rainfall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess and obtain costs to raise footpath levels 	2026	PGO	G	Est £15,000
2.5 Improve safety of path surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add Park paths onto gritting route 	2025/6	PGO	A	Resource in house

Hailes Quarry Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove/sweep mulch debris from Kingsknowe ramped path during Autumn/Winter 				
2.6 Bolster play area inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of confirm software to document inspections Increase from monthly to weekly inspections as per rospa recommendations 	2025/6	PGO/PR Technical	G	Licence costs
2.7 Consider new facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage for Friends equipment and shelter Additional play equipment Installation of fresh water drinking tap 				

Hailes Quarry Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

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	Status	Cost
3.1 To reduce incidents of fly tipping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install barriers at loading bays at Dumbryden entrance Assess solutions for stone circle area, currently used as fire den 	2025	PR	A	£150
		205/26	PGO	R	£3500
3.2 To minimise impact of graffiti tags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange monthly inspections for removal 	2025/30	PR/ FOHQP	A	Average £50/month
3.3 Maintain ground maintenance standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed as per LQS 	2020-25	GTL/PGO	A	Staff time
3.4 To encourage community participation in park clean ups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support friends and community with kit and resource where possible 	2025-30	FOHQP/ PR/PGO	G	£100/litter pickers
3.5 Maintain quality and appearance of seats and signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual inspection and maintenance 	2025-30	PGO/PR	R	£150/per year for paint. £450/year for seat
3.6 Promote the responsible clean-up of dog poo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of posters and social posts 	2025-30	PGO/PR FOHQP	A	

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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	Status	Cost
4.1 To utilise new technology for sustainable features and operational practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of solar and solar hybrid lighting Identify electrical alternative equipment 	2025	PGO	G	£60,000
		2027	Manager	R	
4.2 Reduce leachate from park a former landfill)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify alternative to controlled discharge ie on site processing plant 	2026/7	PGO	A	£?
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 		PGO PR	A	£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. 	Ongoing	PR	A	£0

Hailes Quarry Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

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	Status	Cost
5.1 Develop more pollinating areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overseed perennial meadows in spring 	2025/26	PR	A	£250
5.2 Create habitats for insects and birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree planting programme Identify and protect nesting areas for raptors known in the park 	2025/27	PGO	A	£1000
5.4 Increase areas that help increase bee and butterfly population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct raised bed to plant out herbs 	2020-21	FOHQP/P R		£400
5.5 Increase areas of native habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant new hedgerows where possible, retain areas of bramble and overgrown scrub Plant area for willow harvesting Wildflower plugs for planting in woods and community areas 	2025-30	FOHQP PR	A	Woodland trust
5.6 Protect park from unwanted species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor & eradicate any signs of non native invasive species 	annual	PR	A	Nil

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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	Status	Cost
6.1 To encourage Community led involvement in the management and development of park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue support for Friends and school groups 	2025-30	PGO/PR	A	£0
6.2 Offer Park as venue for community events and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junior Park Run & Disc golf 	2025/26	PGO/FOH QP	A	£0
6.3 Draft list of practical tasks for community payback/unpaid work team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess their availability and range of skills to match tasks. 	2025-30	PGO	A	£0
6.4 Assess biodiversity and update species list for park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train volunteers in citizen science for I naturalist app 	2026	PR/ FOHQP	A	£0
6.5 Draft programme of community led activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family day Nature walks Woodcarving Basket weaving Gardening skills 		FOHQP		
6.6 Increase opportunities for volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compile list of tasks that could be offered once new parks volunteering strategy is implemented. 	2026	PGO		

Hailes Quarry Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

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	Status	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 	2020-24	PGO FOHQP/P R		£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 	2025	PGO		£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 	2025-30	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 FOHQP	G	£400
7.6 Promote park to canal users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with canal trust to assess if park could be included in their canal festival 	2026/7		A	

Hailes Quarry Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

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	Status	Cost
8.1 To ensure MP is relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review action plan, PQA & mystery shop annually with FOHQP 	2025-30	PGO/FOH QP/PR	A	

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 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 Hailes Quarry 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 annually following PQA and mystery shop assessments 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.
- 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 Leith 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.

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.

Hailes Quarry Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

Appendix Two– Maintenance Plan

Hailes Quarry Park Maintenance Plan																		
						Occasions												
Description	Action/Works	Who	M	M²	No.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	General Frequency
Grass Maintenance																		
Bulb Planted Areas	Cutting			2500									1	2	2	1		Fortnightly (Sum)
General Areas	Cutting			3000				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1		Fortnightly (Sum)
Naturalised	Cutting			2000										1	2	1		Monthly
Edge Hard Surface	Cutting		1190				1											Annual
Annual meadow Maintenance																		
Preparation and seeding	Maintenance			350					1									Annually
	weeding			350						1	1	1						Monthly
Hedge & Tree Maintenance																		
Hedgerows	Cutting			998														Annually
Tree	Pruning				200	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	M²	No.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	General Frequency
Gym Area & 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 & GREENSPACES



Park Quality Assessment Result 2024

Assessment Date:

05 June 2024

Hailes Quarry Park

Classification: Community Park

Year	Score	Grade	Edinburgh Minimum Std Met
2024	76%	Grade B	Yes
2023	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

2023 2024 Comments

A Welcoming Place

Welcoming	7	7	Strengths: Good impression of park from most entrances providing an open aspect to site. Weaknesses / Recommendations: One entrance did not have threshold signage and there was some minor instances of litter at a couple of the entrances
Good Safe Access	8	8	Strengths: There is nearby public transport links with on street car parking along with cycle rack in the park. There is good access around the park with a concrete path around the perimeter and also cut paths in the main body of the park Weaknesses / Recommendations: None recorded.
Signage	7	7	Strengths: Good signage at most entrances and the park name signage is a nice touch. There is also directional signage in the park informing you of nearby locations Weaknesses / Recommendations: As with last years comment a threshold at the housing area entrance would be beneficial. There is an old Edinburgh District dog fouling sign that needs removed at one of the housing estate entrance
Equal Access	8	8	Strengths: Good concrete path networks in park and seating appropriately placed Weaknesses / Recommendations: None recorded.

Healthy, Safe & Secure

Appropriate Provision of Facilities	8	8	Strengths: A range of facilities in the park for users of all ages including play area/football and gym along with climbing wall and community area. Lots of grassed area for informal play Weaknesses / Recommendations: None recorded.
Safe Equipment & Facilities	7	8	Strengths: Play and gym equipment in good condition, the wetland area was safe Weaknesses / Recommendations: Same comment as last year re strimming under seats etc
Personal Security in Park	7	8	Strengths: An open aspect to most of the park with staff and public presence on the day of the visit, there is lighting but not sure if this is operational Weaknesses / Recommendations: One of the entrances from the housing area feels quite isolated
Dog Fouling	6	8	Strengths: There is dog info in the park and the dogs in the park on the day of the visit were under control with very little dog fouling encountered Weaknesses / Recommendations: One instance of dog fouling

Clean & Well Maintained

Litter & Waste Management	6	7	Strengths: On the whole very clean giving the size of the park and the bins are being serviced Weaknesses / Recommendations: Some litter at play area and at some entrances and one bin was full and needed serviced
Grounds Maintenance	6	6	Strengths: Tractor grass was cut to a good standard and the cut paths and perimeter cuts appear to be done regularly Weaknesses / Recommendations: The perennial meadow area at the raised beds looks to be struggling and better GM under seats etc is required. Given the size of the site there could be more horti interest, on saying that it was good to come across common orchids in plentiful numbers at the wetland area.
Tree Maintenance	7	8	Strengths: The majority of trees in the park appeared in good condition Weaknesses / Recommendations: Some dead trees that have been highlighted in the park need removed
Building & Infrastructure Maint.	7	7	Strengths: Path network in good condition along with fences Weaknesses / Recommendations: None recorded.

	2023	2024	Comments
Equipment Maintenance	7	6	Strengths: Seats and bins along with play and gym equipment are in good condition Weaknesses / Recommendations: Signage damage along with a damaged bin, a piece of play equipment appears to be missing
<u>Sustainability</u>			
Managing Impact on Environment	9	9	Strengths: New wetland forest and community garden Weaknesses / Recommendations: Ensure any new actions comply with current policies and strategies.
Waste Minimisation	7	7	Strengths: 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. Weaknesses / Recommendations: Ensure the Council's recycling policy is adhered to. Consider planting and maintenance to minimise green waste and reuse on site where possible.
Chemical Use	7	9	Strengths: Decision made to not use pesticide/herbicide on site unless to control NNIS. Weaknesses / Recommendations: Explore alternative methods/controls to eradicate chemical use entirely.
Peat Use	10	10	Strengths: No peat is used in the park Weaknesses / Recommendations: None recorded.
Climate Change Adaptation	6	6	Strengths: Citywide score of 6 applied due to the park's contribution towards the 'Edinburgh Adapts' action plan (examples include, tree planting and layout, tolerant planting, planning, ecological networks, flood plains, water harvesting, biodiversity and habitat provision) Weaknesses / Recommendations: Ensure any new actions comply with current policies and strategies. Consider initiatives such as tree planting/layout, tolerant planting, planning, ecological networks, flood plains, water harvesting, biodiversity and habitat provision where appropriate and applicable.
<u>Conservation & Heritage</u>			
Natural features, flora & fauna	8	8	Strengths: Wetland area and woodland and naturalised grassland habitats Weaknesses / Recommendations: intervention to the perennial meadow area required
Conservation Landscape	0	0	Not applicable
Conservation Buildings	0	0	Not applicable
<u>Community Involvement</u>			
Community Involvement	8	8	Strengths: A group exists and hold lots of events. Weaknesses / Recommendations: Consider how to further support community involvement in the management and maintenance of the site.
Community Provision	6	6	Strengths: None recorded. Weaknesses / Recommendations: Consider if the site is providing for all aspects of the community
<u>Marketing & Promotion</u>			
Marketing & Promotion	8	8	Strengths: Site has community group or site manager producing regular newsletters, frequent updates of relevant and topical information in notice boards, frequent updates on websites. Specific marketing and or Green Flag marketing. Weaknesses / Recommendations: Continue to promote the site online, on site and via community groups.
Information Provision	7	8	Strengths: Good info on noticeboards with friends group info and council contact details Weaknesses / Recommendations: Some old info including litter picking event
Educ. & Interpretative Provision	7	8	Strengths: Some good interpretation which includes history of the park and info at the wetland area Weaknesses / Recommendations: None recorded.
<u>Management</u>			
Management Plan Implementation	0	0	Not currently assessed

Overall Comments: A park that has come a long way in recent years as once just a green desert but now boasts a managed wetland area and its naturalised grasslands are well maintained and it was good to see common orchids along with other native wildflowers, it would be good to see a perennial wildflower meadow on a greater scale than the 2 small areas located at the raised beds

Photos Available: No

- Recommendations**
- 1 Replace/repair bins where required
 - 2 Install threshold signage at entrance at housing estate
 - 3 Replace piece of missing play equipment

Appendix 4 - Risk Assessment

RISK ASSESSMENT						
Site: Hailes Quarry Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2025		Review Date: by Feb 2026		
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: Hailes Quarry Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2025		Review Date: by Feb 2026		
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 Hailes Quarry 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: Hailes Quarry Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2025		Review Date: by Feb 2026		
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	
Wetland: water hazard	Public	Warning signs, vegetation to control access, temporary wetland-not deep pond	Rospa inspection	Low		
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	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: Hailes Quarry Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2025		Review Date: by Feb 2026		
Hazard and Risk	People at risk	Our Controls	Future Controls	Risk Level	Target date and Responsible person	Notes
		manager or the emergency services.				
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	

RISK ASSESSMENT

Compiled by: Craig Dunlop, Parks & Greenspace Officer

Site: Hailes Quarry Park		Assessment Date: Feb 2025		Review Date: by Feb 2026		
Hazard and Risk	People at risk	Our Controls	Future Controls	Risk Level	Target date and Responsible person	Notes

Site address: Hailes Quarry 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

Appendix 5

Annual Review from previous plan

2020

- Established new constituted Friends of Hailes Quarry Park
- Planted 1000 Narcissus Lemon Drops
- Cleared out fly tipping and erected barriers
- Created a twitter account
- Planted out wild harvest hedge
- Friends applied for community grant fund

2021

- **Successful community grant fund to develop growing area**
- **New link path to wetland**
- **New meadows created**
- **Plans drawn for growing area**
- **Community clean ups ongoing**
- **5000 Jack Snipe planted**
- **Estimates obtained for flooded areas and broken up paths**

2022

- **New growing area developed with planters and benches**
- **Specification agreed for paths**
- **Partnership project with Edinburgh University to map out habitats and survey flora**
- **Approx. 150 whips ordered for enrichment planting**
- **Installed several bird boxes**
- **Green Team activities in park, forest school and pond dipping**

2023

- **Whatsapp group, Facebook and Twitter accounts set up for easier comms**
- **Initial lighting discussions**
- **New bin for picnic area**
- **Engagement efforts to local youth club and parent council**
- **Questionnaire to ask locals on their views of park**