



Prestonfield Park Management Plan 2017 – 22

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Overview map of Prestonfield Park

Summary Information

Park Name: Prestonfield Park

Address: Prestonfield Avenue, EH10 5EU

National Grid reference: NT2779

Size of Site: 1.10 ha / 2.72 Acres

Telephone Number: 0131 529 5126
Email: southparks@edinburgh.gov.uk

Ownership: The City of Edinburgh Council – The Common Good Account

Area Designation: South Neighbourhood

Classification: Community Park

Plan Written by: South Neighbourhood Environment Team
South.EnvironmentTeam@edinburgh.gov.uk
Tel: 0131 529 5151

Partners: Local Community
Prestonfield Grange Community Council
Prestonfield and Cameron House Gardening Group
Schools (Prestonfield PS)
Cameron House & Prestonfield Bowling Club
Local shops and businesses

Overview Photograph of Prestonfield Park



1 Introduction

1.0 Location

Prestonfield Park is a small, pleasant, open park area with safe play facility, grass areas with picnic tables, small grass kick-about area, community bowling green and tarred pathways that are lined with lighting columns that makes the Park an attractive facility for children, young people, adults and senior citizens who come to play, walk or watch the activities from a nearby bench. It is also located next to the local community centre who use the park for their activities.

The park provides an essential greenspace in the heart of Prestonfield with excellent views over Edinburgh's famous landmarks Arthur Seat and Salisbury Crags. The layout of the park provides healthy and safe routes between linked road networks along lit paths for residents of Prestonfield and visitors alike. The design provides open space which can accommodate activities including kick-about sport, play and leisure activities. There are a number of 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
- Prestonfield Grange Community Council
- Prestonfield and Cameron House Gardening Group
- Schools (Prestonfield Primary School)
- Prestonfield Community Centre
- Prestonfield Bowling Club

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 with kickabout football and for the more mature group, the bowling green facility.

One of the greatest attractions in the park is the children's play area, a fairly well stocked play area in the south west corner of the park where the equipment caters for children of ages ranging from 3 – 14yrs. The football area also provides a great attraction which enhances the health of many young people who play here.

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The cultural, aesthetic and recreational value of the park for the citizens of Edinburgh is immense. Prestonfield Park is specially valued by those living in the local housing estate. There are two main entrances to the park and it has four main boundaries with local roads bounding the park giving it an enclosed feel.

In general, the park is flanked either side by a hedge, the park is graced by some young trees of rowan, Japanese maple, silver birch and weeping willow.

Following the building and opening in February 2009 of the new community centre within the park, the park has seen many improvements. The park takes a flat plain, with adequate grassed area where children – and sometimes their parents – can play ball games or merely enjoy the fresh air.

Prestonfield Park has a welcoming atmosphere and is well used by the whole neighbourhood.

The park is well serviced by public transport bus routes, No's 2, 14 and 30 and has good off site parking facilities, with disabled parking facilities on Prestonfield Avenue.

1.1 Management Plan Framework

This Management Plan sets out the future management, maintenance and development of the Prestonfield Park and has been produced by the City of Edinburgh Council and representatives from the Prestonfield and Cameron House Gardening Group 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 2017 to 2022 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 and Greenspace 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 and Greenspace 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 and Greenspace 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.

Following Green Flag success with other parks in Edinburgh and the South Neighbourhood, it was decided that Prestonfield Park would apply for Green Flag status in 2011 following our improvement strategy for the park, which we now consider worthy of the green flag standard.

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 and Greenspace and Neighbourhood 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 the Prestonfield Park, our vision is:

“To look after the Prestonfield Park for the benefit of citizens and visitors alike, both now and for the future. This will ensure that Prestonfield Parks continue to be the distinctive and attractive place of grass, floral displays, trees and paths, safe for all who frequent the area, for relaxation and recreation”.

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

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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 users 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

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

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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

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 Prestonfield Park.

Criteria	Aim
A Welcoming Place	<p>b) To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value</p> <p>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</p> <p>i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site</p>
Healthy, Safe and Secure	<p>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</p> <p>g) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations</p> <p>i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site</p>
Clean and Well Maintained	<p>h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations</p>
Sustainability	<p>f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles</p>
Conservation and Heritage	<p>a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site</p> <p>e) To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value</p>

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Community Involvement	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
Marketing	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 finally considers the involvement of the community through the Gardening group and events.

3.1 Historic Features of the Park

Relatively speaking this park has been developed in modern times; the park does not lend itself to retaining many historic features. However, through the development of the park there are many new additions that will in time become the features of this park.

3.2 Strategic Significance of the Park

A number 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 in varying degrees.

A list of these policies are given below. A brief précis of each is provided in the appendix ([Appendix 1](#)). Copies of these are available on request. Many can also be accessed via the Council website (www.edinburgh.gov.uk).

Corporate Strategies and Policies

- Corporate Plan 2007 – 2011
- Single Outcome Agreement 2009 - 2012
- The Community Plan for Edinburgh 2008 - 2011
- Development Plan
- Capitalising on Access: an Access Strategy for Edinburgh
- Climate Change Framework

- Energy Policy
- Sustainable Development Strategy (in development)
- Play Strategy (in development)

Park and Environmental Policies

- Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy (2006)
- Open Space Strategy
- Edinburgh Open Space Strategy (draft)
- Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 - 2018

Local Drivers

- South Central Local Community Plan
- Neighbourhood Partnership
- Prestonfield and Cameron House Gardening Group
- Local Environment Forums

3.3 Management Rules

A revision of current Park Management Rules, which were due to be reviewed in 2013, is currently being undertaken. This review aims to provide rules which encourage responsible use in line with the ethos of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 ([Appendix 2](#)).

3.4 Park Classification

The Prestonfield 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 Prestonfield and Cameron House Gardening Group was set up in 2003 with the encouragement of the local Council Officials.

Its main purpose is to improve the amenity and environmental areas throughout Prestonfield and Cameron House estate and co-operate with the Council who hold the park in trust for the people, and with the Parks & Greenspace Department in particular, and to promote good stewardship of Prestonfield Park.

Current membership is around 10, but many others show a great interest in the green space and look upon this as their front garden. The group are long established and the Council work closely with them in attempting to increase their numbers.

The main activities of the gardening group are gardening activities throughout the year maintaining the environs of the local estate and generally on current issues relating to Prestonfield Park.

As well as a number of horticultural and environmental issues throughout the estate the group often highlight issues pertaining to the park area and encourage responsible behaviour in the park for those who use it.

They are currently undertaking grant applications to obtain funding for additional seats, wild flower, interpretation signage and bird boxes.

The gardening group provide an excellent link with other interest groups and the Council.

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 Arboricultural section produced 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 ([Appendix 4](#)).

Parks and Greenspace User Survey

The Council's website gives users and visitors to the park an opportunity to register their comments on any park within the City. The information highlighted below indicates that 92.3% of users felt or very satisfied with Prestonfield Park. However, the information provided in the text of the survey information is vital to the group agreeing areas that require further scrutiny and attention for improvement. The results, although slightly subjective, are encouraging and certainly show that the park has areas that are greatly enjoyed and also areas in which it can improve. A cross section of the survey results can be found at ([Appendix 5](#)) however, a full copy of the 2016 information will be provided for the judges on the visit.

Biodiversity Survey

In November 2011, officers of the Council carried out a survey of the park and have made recommendations for consideration in an attempt to increase the bio-diversity within the park. We have included a copy of the report in the appendices for consideration in this application.

We have also included in this appendix the Biodiversity Options for Parks and Greenspaces – A Guide for Managers which is used universally to develop bio-diversity within all parks within the City. It was with use of this document that some biodiversity features were implemented in the park ([Appendix 6](#)).

4 Analysis

4.0 Introduction

This Section follows the criteria headings within the 'Raising the Standard – The Green Flag Award Guidance Manual' (2004) and highlights how the park ties in to 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 local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity

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

Prestonfield Park is a welcoming place and is a very well used site; social access is excellent with local people from within the southern aspect of the city who take part in a variety of informal activities.

There are two principle access points to the north and south of the park. Information boards are located at both of the park entrances, which highlight points of local interest.

There are good public bus routes close-by which allows access to the park, the main pathway allows for disabled access and cycling to be undertaken within the park. The park is bound by a mixture of hedging, metal railings and local Community Centre.

The majority of park users come from the southern part of City of Edinburgh; however, there is great local use by residents who tend to use the park for a number of uses, including play activity, walking, cycling and general relaxation. There are good on-street parking facilities at both the North and South ends of the 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

Prestonfield Park is well used throughout the year for informal sport and other physically active activities. The park contains one well equipped and popular play area and has a football kickabout area and a bowling green which is well used by the local community. The park is well equipped with park benches and litter bins. There are two designated picnic tables/areas located throughout the park and prove very popular with users.

In 2015, a table tennis table was installed within the playarea (equipment can be obtained from the nearby community centre) and in February 2016, a multi-gym feature was installed to encourage exercise.



Table Tennis table installed 2015



Multi-gym installed in early 2016

The amount of users of the park support good levels of personal security and this is supported by excellent lighting (five main lamp standards) along the main path which enhances safe access through the park in the evening and CCTV cameras operate across the park which are located on the Community Centre building and the adjacent street. The local community centre allows public access for toilet provision and the bowling club also provide a toilet facility for the bowling group.

Park Ranger service visits the park weekly as part of their park and garden inspection route. They will log incidents and report these to the Community Parks Officer for resolution.

The Community Police Officer walks through the park and liaises with the department on incidents of issues for resolution. Environmental Wardens are also available for enforcement of dog fouling, disposal of litter legislation and graffiti and fly-posting issues however, there are few incidences requiring their input.

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.

The Park Rangers and Community Parks Officer are keen to involve children in activities in the park, such as bulb planting. Adults are encouraged to accompany their children to the park and throughout their children's activity to promote child safety.

All City of Edinburgh Council Play Areas are designed in house to meet BS EN 1176 Parts 1 – 11. Prior to 1998 all play areas were designed to meet BS 5696. All play areas are held on a data base called Playsafe produced by Public Sector Software Ltd. This system holds information on all City of Edinburgh Council play areas, including; type of equipment, installation date, and type of surface, fences and bins.

Informal inspections are carried out by council employees who enter the play areas as part of their daily duties (Park Rangers, Playgrounds Maintenance Officer, Community Parks Officer and Task Force staff). They report obvious hazards to the Councils 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 Inverleith Park. Annual inspections and risk assessments, conforming with RPII, are carried of all the playgrounds by an independent Playground Inspector. Accidents are reported to the Health and Safety Officer and recorded centrally.

4.3 Clean & Well Maintained

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

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

Information gathered from the public and Parks quality surveys 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 ([Appendix 3](#)).

There is good provision of litter receptacles and these are maintained on a regular basis. There are localised staff members whose responsibility is to ensure that the park is kept litter free. Dog fouling in the park is generally not a problem and this is due to responsible dog owners and supported by 'caring for parks' notices. Although this is proving successful we will still continue to have our local Environmental Wardens 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 bags.

The grounds maintenance within the park is undertaken by a mobile team. The Community Park Officer oversees the grounds maintenance regime to ensure that standards are maintained. The Annual bedding planters and herbaceous flower beds within the park are planted and maintained by the local mobile team and supported by the gardening group for general maintenance purposes.

The infrastructure is regularly checked and maintained by the City's ROSPA trained engineering team, to ensure that the play area equipment is safe and secure. The surfaces of the play areas are checked regularly by both the Park Rangers and the local task force teams to ensure that there are no dangerous objects within the area.

Although not a regular problem, graffiti is removed by the local graffiti service team and aided by local volunteers.

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 Community Parks Officer and any repairs are carried out, in general, by our in-house service teams.

4.4 Sustainability

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

The only use of peat by the Parks and Greenspace Service is in the production of bedding plants at the Council's Inch Nursery. Since 2004 the nursery has reduced its consumption of peat by 50% and continues to aim towards meeting the national targets of 90%. A number of alternatives to peat have been incorporated into the growing mixes for plant production at the nursery, including; compost derived from the Council green waste collections, the nursery own compost, worm cast, fine bark, vermiculite and sand. Trials have been run since 2007 to assess the best mix to support seedling and plant growth.

A policy needs to be developed that considers the minimisation of herbicide use. Meanwhile herbicide application is only used when cultural practises will not provide adequate control, e.g. around bases of trees. Only affected areas are treated and only then using strategies that are sensitive to the needs of the public and the environment. All operatives are trained to the approved certification level for the application of chemicals. The applications of herbicides are normally scheduled during off-peak times of park use and signs are posted to indicate the re-entry time period if appropriate.

In order to reduce land filled waste, the City of Edinburgh Council is working to develop and extend initiatives to prevent, minimise, reuse and recycle not only the city's but also its own waste. The park is fortunate to have a recycling point within the local school grounds less than 30 metres from its southern access point where users can dispose of their recycled material. We encourage the use of this facility by installing signage encouraging the use of this site. The Council is actively collaborating with other local authorities in progressing, the Lothian & Borders Area Waste Plan. Litter is disposed of appropriately to a licensed waste disposal area.

The Parks and Greenspace section are currently investigating more sustainable methods of dealing with green waste e.g. satellite composting sites. The park, in conjunction with the bowling group has recently installed two compost bins within the bowling green site to allow for green waste material to be composted.

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 and Greenspace 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's Inch Nursery has introduced a rain water recycling system for plant irrigation. The rain water system is used until the tank is empty and then the system switches back to mains water. Once there is sufficient rain water in the tank the system switches back

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

4.5 Conservation & 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

The design and layout of the Prestonfield Park provides a protected and local heritage, though it may be considered that the area provides limited opportunities to promote biodiversity. However, it is hoped that a number of the recommendations of a biodiversity assessment can be taken forward in the future.

One of the main strengths of the Prestonfield Park is its popularity with local people with user numbers increasing over a number of years.

The bowling green section of the park is enhanced by a number of large mature trees and it is intended to conserve as many of these aspects as possible, mature elms, lime and cherry are in number within the park and every effort will be made to ensure their lifespan is maximised as part of our management plan.

More recent plantings have added varieties such as rowan, maple and willow. Some *Pinus* may be added in the near future.

Hedgehogs have been observed in the park during the autumn months and it is certain that they hibernate in the park.

On occasion butterflies, including orange tip in May, the whites and the odd peacock and tortoiseshell can be observed amongst the parks varied plants and shrubs.

Resident species include robin, house sparrow, magpie, wren, dunnock, great tit, blue tit, blackbird, wood pigeon and collared dove, and sometimes song thrush. Finches are witnessed with greenfinch and chaffinch being the most common, and bullfinch and goldfinch also visit. All these species 'sing' in the park and many will also breed in the park or close by. Occasional visitors include grey wagtail and pied wagtail.

At present we have a small wildflower garden, with varieties that attract butterflies and bees. The future plans are to extend this area to encourage and increase the biodiversity value of the park.

4.6 Community Involvement

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

The park benefits from a good working relationship with the local gardening club. This group came together and was constituted in 2003. The Community Parks Officer continues to meet regularly with the group on a monthly basis where discussions take place to work on the improvement areas for the park.

The group not only take an interest in the park but also the local housing area and the reward for their excellent efforts was that in 2010 they were awarded the Bronze Medal in the Beautiful Scotland Award and in 2011 managed to increase this to a Silver Award ([Appendix 8](#)), the group continue to work closely with the Council to ensure that standards are maintained to achieve and continue this high standard of Horticulture and Waste Management standards.

There is also a good connection to the local community centre user groups who undertake various planting and gardening projects within the park.



The local bowling green is fully maintained by the club members and offers an excellent venue in which local bowls take place. This maintenance includes all year round maintenance of the green, the surrounds and also the floral decorations. The group undertook to gain grant funding for their own machinery and this contributes greatly to the overall maintenance within the bowling area. All watering of plants is carried out by the group including those at the main entrance on Prestonfield Avenue.



More recently the local gardening group have undertaken community clean-up days which includes litter picking, weeding, small graffiti removal, painting and general tidying of the park and the local area, this work enhances the maintenance programmes already in place within the park and provides good communication and contact between the group and the Council.

One other aspect of local community involvement has come from a local church who undertook to carry out minor repairs and painting to the bowls pavilion and also the metal seats.

4.7 Marketing

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

Information relating to Prestonfield Park is available via Community Council and City of Edinburgh Council website and available via Smartphone app 'Edinburgh Outdoors'. A direct link QR code (**Appendix 9**) links you directly to Edinburgh Outdoors Page for Prestonfield Park, the site specific code is located in each of the notice boards. The Council website also offers a good source of information about the park and its available infrastructure.

Edinburgh Outdoors: <https://www.edinburghoutdoors.org.uk/featureDetails.php?id=107>

The new crowd funding website, 'My Park Scotland': <http://www.mypark.scot/parks/prestonfield-park-edinburgh/>

Information is available via websites for all the neighbouring Community Councils and 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 two notice boards at both entrances to the park along with local information from the Community Centre and the gardening group.

Within the notice boards local events are advertised and this works well to promote these, such as gardening 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.

There is a booklet by Ian Nimmo, called Edinburgh's Green Heritage, where information is available on Prestonfield 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

Prestonfield Park is managed by Service for Communities, which is structured to deliver services for the needs and priorities of local communities in each of the twelve Neighbourhood Partnerships within the six neighbourhood areas. The park lies within the South Neighbourhood Area.

Management and development of the park is undertaken locally by the Neighbourhood team in conjunction with the local community through the Gardening Group, the Community Centre and the adjoining Community Council with the strategic issues dealt with via the central Parks and Greenspace Team.

The Gardening Group work closely with the local management teams to ensure that the park progresses in line with the Management Plan.

Operational management of the park is undertaken by the Neighbourhood Task Force team. This team consists of a grounds maintenance and street cleaning team's 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 Community Parks Officer who undertakes small items of 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 3](#)).

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, lighting maintenance and sports area maintenance.

The bowling group undertake the maintenance of the bowling green and is assisted by the local maintenance teams for the surround areas. They also undertake other minor maintenance duties such as watering of hanging baskets etc.

The community groups 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 the 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 7](#)). These assessments are used to determine further potential capital improvements and form the basis of the South Neighbourhood Park Improvement plan on an annual basis. Prestonfield Park has benefited from this system with 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:

LEM	Local Environment Manager	CPO	Community Parks Officer
PGM	Parks & Greenspace Management	PR	Park Rangers
CH&PGG	Cameron House & Prestonfield Gardening Group	ARM	Neighbourhood Area Roads Manager
SLM	Street Lighting Manager	SEW	Senior Environmental Warden
TFM	Task Force Manager	FM	Forestry Manager
PRO	Professional Roads Officer		

Aim 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

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

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
1.1 To develop a signage programme, this might include name plates, information and interpretation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All access points within park. ▪ Council staff and Friends Group 	On going	LEM CPO	£2k - £4k
1.2 To develop the use of flower tubs within the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide additional tubs for floral use. 	2012-14	LEM CPO	£500 - £1k
1.3 Continue natural bulb planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Various locations ▪ Friends Group, Council staff and schools groups 	Ongoing	CPO PR	£1000

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Aim 2: Healthy, Safe and Secure

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

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

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

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
2.1 To develop a responsible dog owner campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with environmental wardens and other appropriate CEC staff to develop and implement campaign 	2017-22	CPO SEW	£2K
2.2 Install a Table Tennis Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Playarea 	Completed 2015	CPO	
2.3 Install Outdoor Multi-Gym facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Near the play area 	Completed 2016	CPO	

Aim 3: Clean and Well Maintained

h) 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 Improve Autumn leaf collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review current procedures and seek volunteer provision 	Ongoing	LEM TFM	£5k
3.2 To provide a cycle rack within the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locate appropriate site 	Completed 2016	LEM CPO	£750

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Aim 4: Sustainability

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

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
4.1 To design and implement a tree management programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalise information from CEC city-wide tree survey and prepare management plan for Prestonfield Park 	Ongoing	PGM FM	£3k
4.2 Use Autumn leaf fall from park and surrounding parks to mulch the Shrub beds within the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use maintenance teams to shred leaves and mulch beds 	Ongoing	CPO TFM	£3k
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	CPO PR	£0
4.4 Reduce use of pesticides	<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	£0
4.5 Provide a compost area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compost bin Is sited in the park 	Completed 2015	CPO PR	£70

Aim 5: Conservation 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

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
5.1 Refresh the current wildflower garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of improved wild flower area and bio-diversity area within the park 	Ongoing	CPO PR	£400
5.2 Provide Bird Boxes to encourage greater bird numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install additional bird boxes 	2017-18	CPO PR	£350
5.3 Install 'Beepol' Bee hive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install bee hive to encourage greater bio-diversity 	Ongoing	CPO	£200

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5.4 Create 'Bug Hotels' within park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify suitable areas 	2016-17	CPO PR	£0
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Aim 6: Community Involvement

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
6.1 To encourage Community led clear-ups and greater involvement in the management and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be organised in conjunction with the CH&PGG 	2017-22	CPO CH&PGG	£0
6.2 Raise park profile by applying for Keep Scotland Beautiful – Its Your Neighbourhood Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friends Group applied 2015 In first year achieved 'Thriving' Award (Appendix 8) 	2017-22	CH&PGG	£0
6.3 To involve local school children in various park projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with local schools 	2017-22	CH&PGG PR	£0

Aim 7: Marketing

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 	2017-22	LEM CPO CH&PGG	£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 	Completed 2015	CPO 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 	2017-22	CPO PR	£50
7.4 Update content for MyParkScot website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linked to Edinburgh Outdoors site 	Ongoing	PR	£0

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friends Group have a registered page 		CH&PGG	
7.5 Green Flag Award and Keep Scotland Beautiful – Its Your Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for awards 	Ongoing	CPO PR CH&PGG	£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 develop a volunteer programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work closely with volunteer/friends group to establish list of volunteers Establish links with local schools and link into Eco Schools Programme Establish links with local youth groups, Guides, Scouts etc, linking into badge programme 	Ongoing	CH&PGG CPO LEM CPO PR	Look to Grant Funding up to £5k

6 Finance

Revenue Funding

The provision of revenue funding for the park consists of work undertaken at present by the local Grounds Maintenance Task Force. 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	5432.00
Flowers, shrubs and hedges	7043.77
Litter removal	4317.53
Play Area Maintenance	1522.52
Maintenance of sports facilities	668.24
Tree Maintenance	1540.00 approx.
Total	20524.08

In addition, the Local Environment Manager 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 Neighbourhood 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 administered by the Parks and Greenspace Service. 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. Most recently Section 75 allocation was provided through the sale of the land to accommodate the replacement of the Community Centre to its new location which allowed for approx £40k to be spent within the park and the play areas. Through this improved seating, bin provision, picnic tables, notice boards and play area upgrade where able to be undertaken which has benefited the park immensely.

Grants

Friends groups can apply to the local Neighbourhood Partnership for funds up to £5k from the Community Grants Fund. The Council's Parks & Greenspace team 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.

In November 2011, the CH&PGG in conjunction with the Council applied for a grant through the Waste Recycling Environmental (WREN) grant funding procedure and where successful in attaining a grant for the sum of £6641 and this grant will be used to improve, wildflower areas, park signage, Interpretation signage, Flower tubs, bird boxes and Picnic Table areas.

7 Monitoring and Reviewing

The Parks Quality assessment framework is used to provide annual assessment of each park and will provide a report for the Prestonfield 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.

In conjunction to this 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 February 2017 in readiness for the next application process for the Green Flag awards. This will be carried out by the Council Officers, the Gardening 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 – Policies

Corporate Strategies & Policies

Corporate Plan 2007 – 2011

The plan shows how the Council is tackling the strategic issues that matter to the public, improving performance and working with partners to improve services. The plan outlines priorities for the next four years, identifies what the Council will be doing to contribute to Edinburgh's City Vision, and provides strategic direction for the Council and all those working within the organisation.

Single Outcome Agreement 2009 – 2012

The Single Outcome Agreement contains an integrated area profile of Edinburgh, providing context for the current issues facing the city, which include demographic changes and the impact of global economic downturn. It sets out the Edinburgh Partnership's local outcomes aligned to each of the 15 National Outcomes agreed in the concordat.

The Community Plan for Edinburgh 2008 – 2011

The Community Plan for Edinburgh sets out the Edinburgh Partnership's priorities for the city:

- sustainable economic growth
- maximisation of land use and affordable housing
- investment in prevention and care service, health improvement and social inclusion
- environmental sustainability and climate change

The Action Plan shows the Edinburgh Partnership's joint commitments to 2011. In implementing this plan, partners will make a significant contribution to the quality of life and wellbeing of the city. Each year the Partnership will measure and report its progress in meeting the Community Plan targets.

Development Plan

The Development Plan for the City comprises the Edinburgh & Lothian's Structure Plan and a number of Local Plans. These documents provide the statutory planning framework for the Council's policies and proposals towards the protection and use of the city's open spaces. The Edinburgh and the Lothians Structure Plan was prepared jointly by the City Council with the councils for East, Mid- and West Lothian. It was approved by the Scottish Ministers in 2007. The Edinburgh City Local Plan was prepared in 2007, but has not yet been adopted. A public local inquiry was held towards the end of 2008 to deal with objections made to the Plan as it stands and to modifications which the Council has proposed making to the Plan. The Edinburgh City Local Plan page will keep you up-to-date with progress towards its adoption, which should be early in 2010. The Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan

was adopted by the Council in 2006. An Alteration is in preparation, dealing with the airport's growth plans amongst other matters. You can view the Alteration proposals and track progress by clicking on Alteration.

Open Space Framework

The Framework acknowledges the ongoing work of both the Council and its stakeholders to improve open space across the city. There is also an appreciation of the increasing pressures and changing attitudes to open space. The Framework considers the different types of open space that the city has and should offer, looking at not just green but also civic spaces and considers how the overall protection, enhancement, provision, promotion of open spaces can be achieved and sets out a series of aims to do this.

Capitalising on Access: an Access Strategy for Edinburgh

The Access Strategy sets out a framework for developing opportunities for walking, cycling and horseriding in Edinburgh, and covers five access themes; sustainable transport, an attractive and enjoyable network, encouraging healthier lifestyles, an inclusive and accessible network and safety and security. For each theme, the Strategy sets out objectives, recommendations for action and identifies the key partners from Council departments and external organisations to take this work forward.

Climate Change Framework

The Climate Change Framework sets out a draft framework for the Council's own activities, identifying key areas for action, to mitigate carbon emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Some actions relate specifically to the Council's own environmental performance, such as its energy use or fleet management. Other actions will require the co-operation and collaboration of the Council's partners across the city.

Energy Policy

The Council's current energy policy has targets to reduce energy consumption by 15% and reduce our CO2 emissions by 30% based on 1990 levels. This policy is mainly focussed on buildings. The policy is currently being revised to take account of the other Council areas that impact on energy usage. These are namely procurement, fleet services, street and stair lighting and design services. The Sustainable Development Unit in Corporate Services is the lead on this area of work.

- Sustainable Development Strategy – in development
- Play Strategy (draft) – in development

Park and Environmental Policies

Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy (2006)

The sets out realistic aspirations for Edinburgh's park and greenspace system, and shows the way forward to achieving them. The strategy also provides a policy framework for the preparation of more detailed Management Plans for individual parks and gardens.

Edinburgh Open Space Strategy

The strategy is being developed following a comprehensive audit of open space in the city and information gathered through public consultation. It will ensure that a coordinated approach is taken to protecting and developing the city's network of open space. It is accompanied by 12 action plans, one for each Neighbourhood Partnership area, setting out site-specific proposals for change in open spaces. There are a number of main strategic issues that it will consider, many which will relate to the Green Flag Scheme, including parks and gardens, sports pitches, play, allotment and community gardens. The details of these are not yet available. It will be launched in May 2010

Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 - 2018

The Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan is an initiative to conserve and enhance the Capital's natural heritage. The term "biodiversity " encapsulates all that we mean by the health of our natural environment and ultimately the quality of our lives. To this end, the Action Plan puts forward an ambitious programme of carefully targeted actions to enrich the living habitats of Edinburgh and address the welfare of key plant and animal species. There are Habitat Actions Plans for coastal & marine, rock faces, uplands, wetland and watercourses, farmland, semi-natural grassland, urban habitats and woodland. There are Species Action Plans for water vole, badger, otter, daubenton's bat & pipistrelle bats, seed eating birds, roseate tern & common tern, swift, great crested newt, small pearl-bordered fritillary, juniper, maiden pink, rock white beam, sticky catchfly, adders tongue and waxcap fungi.

Appendix Two – 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, Countryside Ranger and Volunteer 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 busking.
- 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

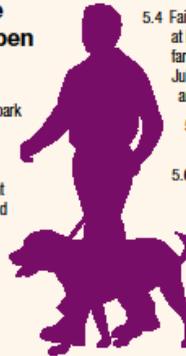
The following acts are prohibited unless the Council's written permission has been obtained first:

- 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 Leith Links.
- 9.2 Carrying, or discharging any firework or firearm.
- 9.3 Playing any organised game or sport on pitches provided by the Council.

Short Hole Golf Courses

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

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



Expulsion and Exclusion from Parks

- 11.1 Where a Council Official has reasonable grounds for believing that a person has contravened, is contravening or is about to contravene any of these Management Rules, they may expel that person from the Park.

- 11.2 Where a Council Official has reasonable grounds for believing that a person is about to contravene any of these Management Rules, they may exclude that person from the Park.

- 11.3 Where a person has persistently contravened or attempted to contravene these Management Rules and in the Council's opinion is likely to contravene them again, the Council may decide to make that person subject to an exclusion order for a specified period of up to one year.

- 11.4 An exclusion order made under Rule 11.3 shall take effect on such date as the Council may decide, being not less than 14 days after the decision to make that person subject to an exclusion order. A person who has been made subject to an exclusion order:

i) shall be entitled to written notice of the decision to make the exclusion order, containing a statement of the reasons for that decision, and

ii) shall be entitled to make written or oral representations to the Council at any time up to the time that the order would have taken effect but for the representation being made.



These rules, due to come into force in February 2013, are now presented for public inspection.

Any objections to the rules should be made in writing before 3 December 2012 to:

Duncan Monteith, Parks and Greenspace, The City of Edinburgh Council, C3 Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG. duncan.monteith@edinburgh.gov.uk

Please include your contact details so we can acknowledge and process your objection.



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.

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Appendix Three – Maintenance Plan

Prestonfield 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			400								2	2	2	2	2		Fortnightly (Sum)
General Areas	Cutting			5639				2	2	3	2	3	2	3	2			Fortnightly (Sum)
Edge Trees & Post	Cutting		488		116		1							1				Bi-Annual
Edge Hard Surface	Cutting		1190				1											Annual
Channel Maintenance				1949			1							1				Bi-Annual
Flower Bed Maintenance																		
Spring & Summer Bedding (tubs)	Planting			20	5					1					1			Bi-Annual
	Watering				5					1	1	1	1	1	1			Monthly (Sum)
	Weeding				5					1	1	1	1	1	1			Monthly (Sum)
Perennial bed maintenance	Maintenance			471		1												Annually
	Litter Collection			471		1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	Fortnightly
Hedge & Tree Maintenance																		
Hedge	Cutting			3998						1			1		1			Quarterly
Tree	Pruning				50	1												Annually
Roads & Pathway Maintenance																		
Roads/paths & Cycleway	Engineer Inspection			600	1			1										Annual
	Ranger Inspection			600	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	Fortnightly

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Description	Action/Works	Who	M	M ²	No.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	General Frequency	
Play Area Maintenance																			
Engineer Maintenance	Engineer Inspection				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Monthly
Equipment Maintenance	Manager Inspection				1			1						1					Bi-Annual
	Ranger Inspection				1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	Fortnightly
Surfaces – Rubber	Sweeping			60	1	4	4	5	4	4	5	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	Weekly
Surfaces – Hard Standing	Sweeping			950	1	4	4	5	4	4	5	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	Weekly
Leaf Collection																			
	Collection			10178		4									4	4	4		Weekly (Wint)
Street Cleansing Maintenance																			
Bin	Emptying				7	31	28	31	30	31	30	31	31	30	31	30	31	31	Daily
Litter	Collection			10178		31	28	31	30	31	30	31	31	30	31	30	31	31	Daily
Graffiti removal	Offensive																		Within 24 hrs
	Non-Offensive																		Within 72hrs

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Appendix Four – Tree Survey

Tree Details - by Location/Site

- Tree Works report

Date: 25/11/2018 Page 1

Southside/Newington

Prestonfield Park

Tree Number	Location	Species	Height	Spread	Trunk	Age	Condition	Comments
3	T1	Fraxinus excelsior 'Pendula'	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Good	
5	T3	Acer platanoides 'Crimson King'	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Good	
6	T4	Acer platanoides 'Crimson King'	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Good	
4	T2	Fraxinus excelsior 'Pendula'	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Good	
7	T5	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
8	T6	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
10	T8	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
9	T7	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
11	T9	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
12	T10	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
13	T11	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
14	T12	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
15	T13	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
16	T14	Sorbus aucuparia	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
17	T15	Ulmus spp.	5 to 10 meters	3 to 6 meters	20 - 30	Semi-mature	Good	
18	T16	Acer pseudoplatanus	5 to 10 meters	3 to 6 meters	20 - 30	Semi-mature	Fair	
19	T17	Prunus spp.	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
20	T18	Betula jacquemontii	Up to 5 meters	Up to 3 meters	10 - 20	Juvenile	Fair	
21	g00513	Tilia x europaea	15 to 20 meters	9 to 12 meters	50 - 60	Mature	Fair	

Prestonfield Park Management Plan 2017 – 22

Tree Details - by Location/Site

- Tree Works report

Date: 25/11/2016 Page 2

Southside/Newington ...(contd)..

Prestonfield Park ...(contd)..

Tree Number	Location	Species	Height	Spread	Trunk	Age	Condition	Comments
22	g00514	Tilia x europaea	15 to 20 meters	9 to 12 meters	50 - 60	Mature	Fair	
23	g00515	Tilia x europaea	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	40 - 50	Mature	Fair	
24	g00516	Prunus spp.	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
25	g00517	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
26	g00518	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
27	g00519	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
28	g00520	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
29	g00590	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
30	g00591	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
31	g00592	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
32	g00593	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
33	g00594	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
34	g00595	Sorbus aria	10 to 15 meters	9 to 12 meters	20 - 30	Mature	Fair	
35	g00596	Sorbus aria	15 to 20 meters	Over 12 meters	40 - 50	Mature	Fair	
36	g00597	Tilia x europaea	15 to 20 meters	9 to 12 meters	40 - 50	Mature	Fair	

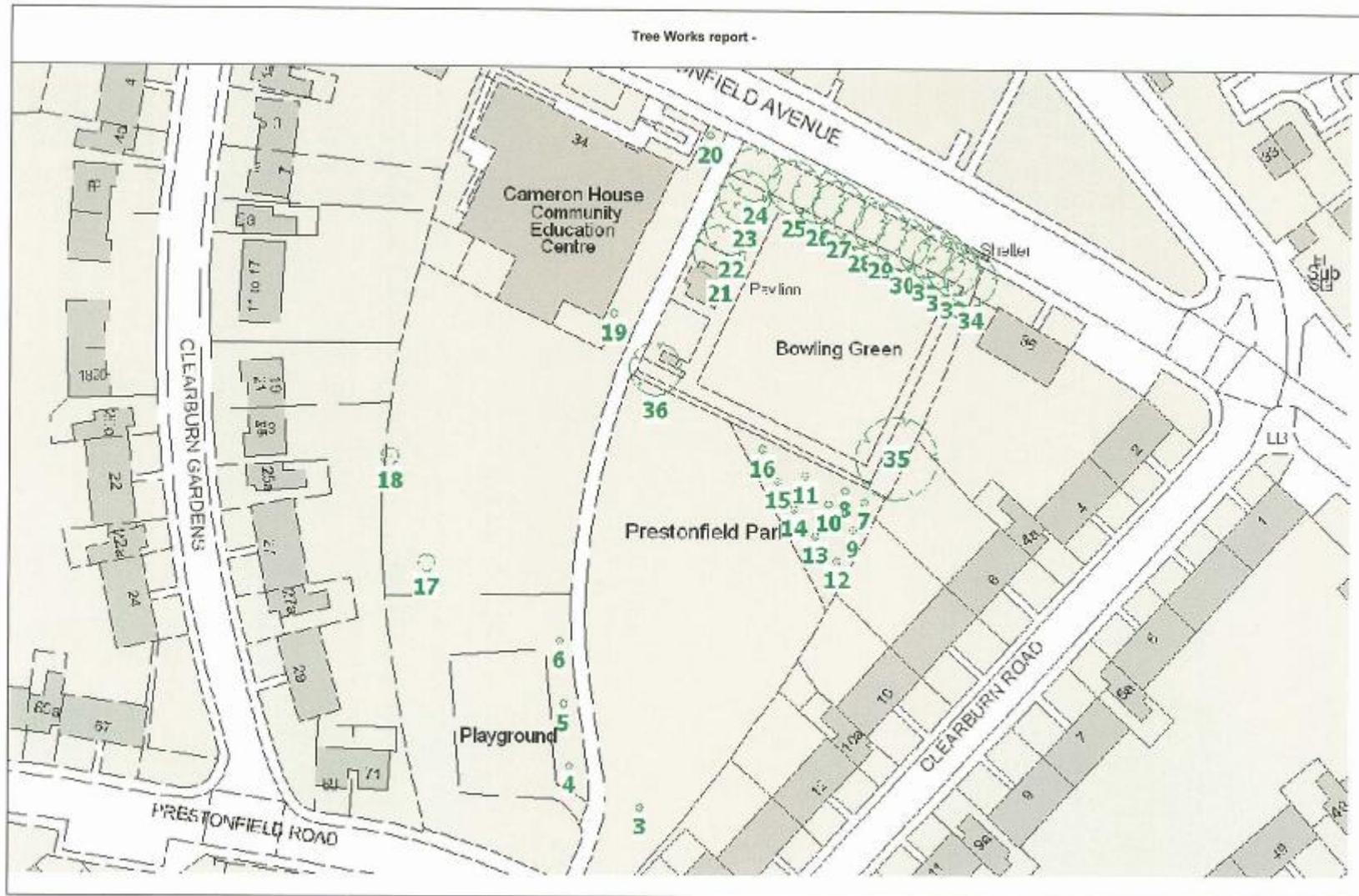
Sub-total: 34 trees

Total: 34 trees

Notes:-

Overall total: 34 trees

Prestonfield Park Management Plan 2017 - 22



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Appendix Five – Parks User Surveys

The survey information will be made available in hard copy on the day of judging. In general terms the survey was very positive in that 92% of people visiting the park were very or fairly satisfied with the park.

The other provided shows similar figures of satisfaction and the neighbourhood team intend considering all points of recommendation that have been made.

Appendix Six - Biodiversity Assessment

Site: Prestonfield Park
Site visit date: February 2016



Existing Habitats

Prestonfield Park is mainly comprised of amenity grass, sports (lawn bowling) and play facilities. It has some mature trees around the bowling area and a grove of semi-mature trees just south of the bowling area. There have been recent tree plantings around parts of the perimeter.

A raised bund runs east-west near the new community centre. Finally there are large beds of perennial plantings around the community centre as well as a small wildflower area.

Species records

Our notable species database holds no records of rare or legally protected species in this park. Further consultation with local conservation groups has similarly revealed no notable records.

General principles

There are several general principles of land management for biodiversity that are relevant to this park:

- Avoid the use of pesticides and herbicides unless treating a specific, localised issue.
- Avoid trimming trees or hedges during the bird breeding season (March to August inclusive).
- Raise awareness amongst the park users of any changes made for the benefit of biodiversity. This is particularly important for changes which some park users may perceive as 'untidy'.
- Make use of existing notice boards and consider using temporary notices if changes take place far away from the notice board (e.g. by long grass areas).
- Involve the Friends group or other local community groups.

Recommendations

Amenity grass

Prestonfield Park is dominated by amenity grass. Biodiversity will benefit by reducing the amount of amenity grass and replacing it with other features.

- Expand or create new areas of perennial planting or wildflower meadows. Perennial or wildflower areas could run around the perimeter of the park, beneath hedges.
- Allow grass to grow long underneath all groups of trees, e.g. the group of trees just south of the bowling area.

Trees

There are few trees in the park and most of the mature trees are found in the lawn bowling area.

- Replace all trees that are lost with appropriate native species which support native invertebrate and bird species.
- Increase the number and age range of trees in the park by planting new trees regularly.
- Plant new trees in groups and allow grass to grow long around these areas.
- Leave grass to grow long around tree bases all year round (at least 50 cm radius), with a single cut in late autumn. This will provide long grass biodiversity benefits. These areas could be enhanced by sowing wildflowers or seasonal bulbs around the trees.
- When trees are removed leave tree stumps in place to rot, this provides a habitat for fungi and invertebrates which is absent from many parks. Consider leaving all dead wood in situ as long as this does not pose a risk to the public. Trees and limbs could be felled and laid along the ground. Again this provides a habitat rarely found in parks.
- Several trees in the bowling area have bird boxes attached - there might be scope to more a few more bird or bat boxes to mature trees.
- Consider planting fruit trees (e.g. apple, pear) and encourage park users to pick the fruit. Traditional orchards are a priority habitat in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

Perennial / wildflower beds

Perennial beds surround the community centre, alongside a small wildflower area.

- Expand these areas into nearby amenity grassland as recommended above.

Sports / play areas

The bowling area includes a building. The play area is aimed at younger children.

- Plant climbers so they grow up the bowling building to complement the hanging baskets.
- Consider new perennial / wildflower beds adjacent to the play area.

Appendix Seven – Parks Quality Assessment



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



Green Flag Park Quality Assessment Scores 2016

Prestonfield Park

Classification: Community Park

PQS: 78% Bandwidth: Excellent

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

<u>A Welcoming Place</u>	<u>Criteria Score</u>	<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
Welcoming	9	Good open views onto site, very clean entrances. Excellent views	
Good Safe Access	9	Very good access around site, car parking. Very clean entrances	
Signage	8	liked the talking post at entrance, good info at entrances	
Equal Access	8	Good seating and path network throughout site	
<u>Healthy, Safe & Secure</u>			
Safe Equipment & Facilities	8	all play equipment for younger children in very good condition, Gym and table tennis equipment in very good condition	area in front of one of the goal mouths need reinstated,
Personal Security in Park	9	Felt very safe in the park, was busy with users and the sightlines throughout are very good	
Dog Fouling	8	very little dog fouling in the park	One instance of dog fouling
Appropriate Provision of Facilities	8	excellent facilities in this park including kids play area, gym, table tennis	a secure children's swing for younger children would be beneficial
Quality of Facilities	8	Very good facilities including play area, gym, table tennis	hole at goalmouth needs addressing

Prestonfield Park Management Plan 2017 - 22

Clean & Well Maintained

Litter & Waste Management	9	site mostly free from litter	the odd instance of litter
Grounds Maintenance	7	grass cutting regime evident, very little weed killer used round lamppost etc	longer/chumpy grass in places, meadow could do with some weeding
Building & Infrastructure Maint.	8	fences and paths in good condition	Red gate to kids area could do with a paint
Equipment Maintenance	7	All equipment in very good maintained condition	play area goalmouth needs repaired

Sustainabilty

Environmental Sustainability	7	The park has a large wildflower areas with interpretation, the parks flower tubs are now planted with Herbaceous so no changing plants twice a year, also the park has around 35,000 natural bulbs planted in various sections.	
Pesticides	6	In the park we now use a lot more bark mulch on site and also reduced almost all our weed killer use in the park.	
Peat Use	7	Peat use within the park continues to be monitored with the intention of reducing its use in new planting and seasonal bedding.	
Waste Minimisation	7	From 2015, 35% of all the litter lifted or emptied from the parks litter bins is now recycled, we also recycle the leaf fall within the park to reduce waste and no grass or hedge cuttings are removed from the site. There are two compost bins in the bowling green area and the compost is reused within the park.	
Woodland Management	7	trees in park in good condition	
Conservation & Heritage			
Conservation Fauna & Flora	8	meadow area, bird boxes and feeders in the park	meadow could do with some attention

Prestonfield Park Management Plan 2017 - 22

Conservation Landscape	6		
Conservation Buildings	0		
<u>Community Involvement</u>			
Community Involvement	8	Prestonfield Gardening group continue to provide much needed assistance not just to the park but the Prestonfield scheme in general and War Memorial. They meet weekly in community centre and also carry out small projects fortnightly both in the park. The maintenance of the bowling green is totally carried out by local volunteers .	
Community Provision	8	We feel this park now has almost all the community could want in small park, Bowling green, community centre, playground, table tennis tables, wildflower areas, plenty seating, lots of natural colour, picnic tables and plenty bins.	
<u>Marketing & Promotion</u>			
Marketing & Promotion	8	The site is advertised on the Council website and Edinburgh Outdoors. QR codes in notice board provides a direct link to Edinburgh outdoors web site, with access to additional information and contact methods. The site also benefits from additional marketing as a Green Flag Award site	
Information Provision	8	good info on notice boards which is up to date	
Educ. & Interpretative Provision	9		talking post, meadow plaque and view plaque.
<u>Management</u>			
Management Plan Implementation	0		
<u>OverallComments</u>	Lovely park with lots of interesting info around the site.		
<u>Recommendations:</u>	Repair damage at goalmouth		
	Consider a toddler friendly swing seat		
	Paint red gate at entrance to children's play area		

Appendix Eight – Keep Scotland Beautiful





Beautiful Scotland

Bronze

Presented to

Prestonfield

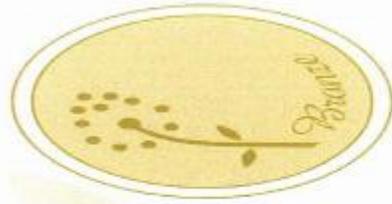
in the

Urban Community Category

2010

Leah Joyce

Chairman



Beautiful Scotland is a programme of Keep Scotland Beautiful
Keep Scotland Beautiful is an operating name of Environmental Campaigns (Scotland), Scottish Charity Number SC030332.

Beautiful Scotland is supported by Zero Waste Scotland.

Appendix Nine – QR Code

Prestonfield Park

QR Code

Scan this code using your smartphone to find out about your local park or report a concern
www.edinburghoutdoors.org.uk



South Neighbourhood Office
40 Captain's Road
Edinburgh
EH17 8HQ

Email: southteam@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tel: [0131 529 5151](tel:01315295151)

Tweet to @south_team