

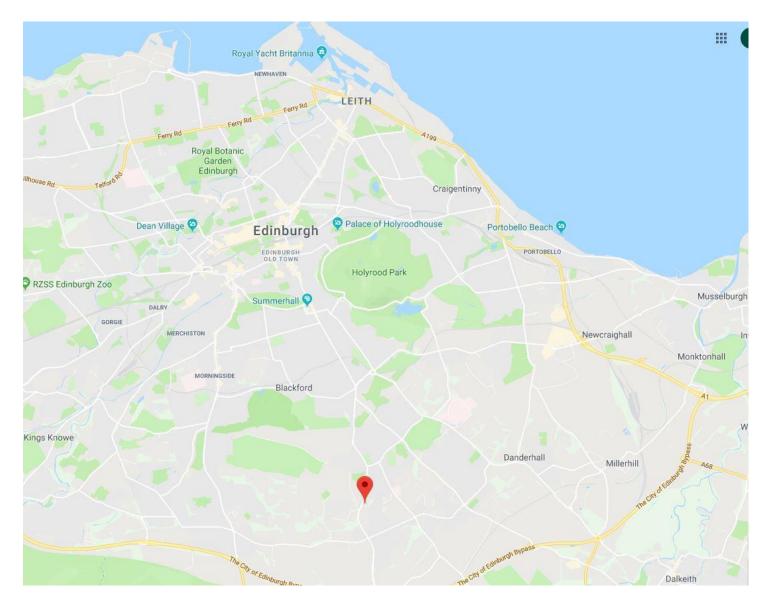


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St Katharine's Park Boundary



Location of St Katharine's Park within Edinburgh

Summary Information

Park Name:	St Katharine's Park
Address:	St Katharine's Brae, Edinburgh, EH12 6NE
National Grid reference:	327410, 668797
Site area:	3.74 hectares / 9.241 acres
Telephone Number:	0131 529 5126
Email:	southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk
Ownership:	The City of Edinburgh Council – The Common Good Account
Area Designation	South East Locality
Classification:	Community Park
Plan Written by:	South East Locality Transport and Environment mike.shields@edinburgh.gov.uk Tel: 0131 529 5151
Partners:	Local Community Liberton Community Council Friends of St Katharine's Park [FOSKA] Schools [St Katharine's / Gracemount Primary] Local shops and businesses Other volunteer groups TCV

Overview Photograph of St Katharine's Park



1 Introduction

1.0 Location

St Katharine's Park is a pleasant, medium-sized open park area with a great mix of horticultural attractions. These include a burn with woodland walkway, large parts of the park naturalised with a wide mixture of bulbs including daffodil, crocus, chinodoxa, snowdrops, bluebells, etc., all which give this park a magnificent and welcome splash of colour in the spring months, grass areas with picnic tables, small grass kick-about areas, outdoor gym equipment and an orienteering course. It has tarred pathways that are lined with lighting that connects the 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 lit 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
- Liberton & District Community Council
- Friends of St Katharine's Park
- Schools (Gracemount and St Katharine's Primary)

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. The park attracts a great number of people, especially on warm days, with very few spots available in the grass spaces.

The park also lends itself to a high number of informal activities enjoyed by the local children with kick-about football and to try and keep fit with the available outdoor gym equipment. Since we introduced the chainsaw carved animals, the park has become even more popular among children and their parents.

One of the attractions in the park is the Stenhouse Burn, which meanders through the park alongside a woodland walk path, provides the park users with an opportunity to sample local wildlife of biodiversity in a city location area.

The cultural, aesthetic, and recreational value of the park for the citizens of Edinburgh is immense. St Katharine's is especially valued by those living in the nearby housing estate. There are five entrance points to the park.

Both mature and young trees provide arboricultural interest throughout the park.

St Katharine's has a welcoming atmosphere and is well used by the whole neighbourhood.

The park is well serviced by public transport bus routes, No's 7, 37, 47 and 67 and has on-street parking and a car park area at the Captain's Drive section of the park.

1.1 Management Plan Framework

This Management Plan sets out the future management, maintenance, and development of St Katharine's Park and has been produced by The City of Edinburgh Council and representatives from the Friends of St Katharine's Park 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 2020 to 2024 and has a detailed plan of works for that period. This plan's target audience is elected members, the local community, and council officers, and its style and content should ensure continuity of purpose and consistency in service delivery. It is intended to be a flexible, working document that will be reviewed and updated annually.

Like any management plan its purpose is to:

"Provide a framework within which all future management is carried out. The plan enables any person involved to understand how and why decisions are taken, and the reasoning behind the policies and proposals for action."

1.2 Edinburgh Parks & Gardens Framework

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

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

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

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

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

The Parks and Greenspace Officer within the SE Locality helps to implement the strategy at a local level. The Parks and Greenspace Officer works with the Friends' group and other community groups in developing parks within the locality, and is responsible for approving revenue, repairs and maintenance within the park. The Parks and Greenspace Officer also manages the Park Rangers.

1.3 Green Flag Award Scheme



The Green Flag Award Scheme is both a national and international standard for quality in greenspace management. The scheme is currently managed overall by Keep Britain Tidy and delivered in Scotland through Keep Scotland Beautiful.

Edinburgh was 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. Since 2007, Edinburgh has continued to support the use of

the Green Flag Award criteria in its parks and greenspace assessments and has successfully applied for Green Flag Awards across its parks and open spaces.

The Green Flag Award criteria is used in carrying out our annual Parks Quality Assessments and gives officers and friends' groups up to date information and a measure of the standard of the park at that time.

Our use of the scheme's assessment criteria to assess the quality of all our parks on an annual basis not only provides each park with a quality score and feedback that can be used to improve our parks but also indicates which parks are likely be successful in applying for the Green Flag Award. Following our improvement strategy for the park, a high parks quality score and the involvement and support of the Friends' Group and community it was agreed that St Katharine's should be submitted for the award in 2020.

2 Vision and Aims

2.0 Introduction

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

2.1 Vision

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

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

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

In developing this management plan for St Katharine's Park, our vision is:

"To look after St Katharine's for the benefit of citizens and visitors alike, both now and for the future. This will ensure that St Katharine's Park continues 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

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 St Katharine's 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 activityg) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligationsi) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site
Well Maintained and Clean	h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations
Environmental Management	f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles
	a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site
Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage	e) To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value
Community Involvement	d) To engage with the local community and user groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource
Marketing & Communication	j) To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users

	f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles
Management	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 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, we have recently installed an interpretation panel, which does include information of nearby historic information.

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 polices 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

- The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-2022
- South East Locality Plan 2017-2022
- Capitalising on Access: An Access Strategy for Edinburgh
- Resilient Edinburgh Climate Change Adaptation Framework
- Sustainable Edinburgh 2020

Park and Environmental Policies

- Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy 2006
- Edinburgh Open Space Strategy 2021
- Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-18
- Play Area Action Plan 2011-2016

Local Drivers

- South East Locality Improvement Plan
- Liberton & District/Gilmerton Community Council
- Neighbourhood Partnership
- Friends of St Katharine's Park

3.3 Management Rules

The Park Management Rules were revised and approved in 2014. These rules are able to be reviewed in (Appendix 2).

3.4 Park Classification

St Katharine's Park is classified within the Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy as a "Community Park".

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

3.5 Community Involvement

The Friends of St Katharine's was set up in 2008 with the encouragement of the local Council Officials.

Its main purpose is to improve their local park and co-operate with the Council who hold the park in trust for the people, and with Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries in particular, and to promote good stewardship of St Katharine's Park.

Current membership is around 12 with numbers increasing steadily over the years, 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.

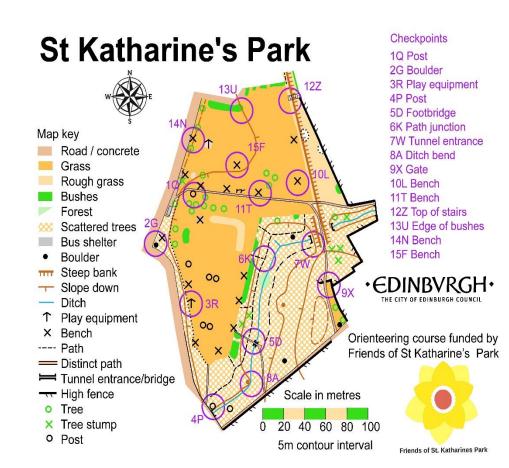
The main activities of the friends group are horticultural, biodiversity and cleansing activities throughout the year to maintain the environs of the local estate and generally link to current issues relating to St Katharine's Park.

As well as monitoring and bringing to our attention any horticultural and environmental issues throughout the park, the group often highlight issues pertaining to the park area and encourage responsible behaviour in the park among those who use it.

They are currently undertaking grant applications to obtain funding for fruit trees, fruit bushes, wild flower, interpretation signage and chain saw carved animals. In previous years they have also funded the installation of an orienteering course, tree planting and interpretation panels. In previous years they have been successful with grant applications totalling over £12,000 so far.

The Friends' group provide an excellent link with other friends' groups and the local community council.

The group The Conservation Volunteers also carry out voluntary work in the park around twice a year with park projects including path edging, tree base mulching and construction of several bug hotels.





(Left) TCV volunteers bark mulching woodland walk.

(Below) Chainsaw carving



3.6 Surveys and Assessments Undertaken

Asset Management GIS Survey

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

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

Tree Survey

The Council's Forestry section 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 fairly or very satisfied with St Katharine's 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 2020 information will be provided for the judges on the visit.

Biodiversity Survey

A survey of the park has been carried out and informed recommendations for consideration to increase the biodiversity within the park. A copy of the report in the appendices.

We have also included in this appendix the Biodiversity Options for Parks and Greenspaces – A Guide for Managers, which is used universally to develop biodiversity 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

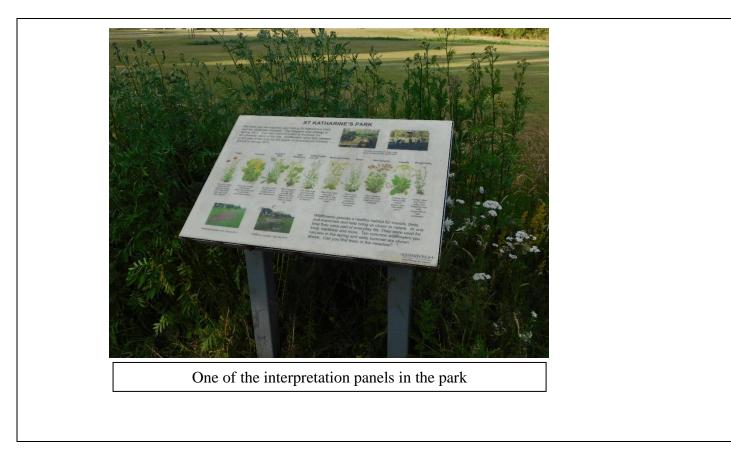
4.0 Introduction

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

4.1 A Welcoming Place

St Katharine's Park is a welcoming place and is a very well used site; social access is excellent for local people within the southern part of the city, who take part in a variety of informal activities.

There are 5 main entrance points to the park with several having notice boards. Throughout the park there are many interpretation panels giving out information such as the plants and animals in the park, The park also has many chainsaw carved wooden animals which have proven extremely popular with both children and their parents when visiting the park.



4.2 Healthy, Safe & Secure

St Katharine's Park is well used throughout the year for informal sport and other physically active activities. The park contains one equipped outdoor gym with two other individual pieces. As well as an orienteering course it also has a football kick-about area and a woodland walkway 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 within the park and prove very popular with users.

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



Pull up gym installed 2018



Multi-gym installed in early 2017

The amount of users of the park support good levels of personal security and this is supported by excellent lighting along the main path which enhances safe access through the park in the evenings.

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

The 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 Parks & Greenspace 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 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.

Informal inspections are carried out by council employees as part of their daily 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 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 Well Maintained & Clean

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 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 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 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 Park & Greenspace Officer oversees the grounds maintenance regime to ensure that standards are maintained. The herbaceous and Rhododendron beds within the park are planted and maintained by the local mobile team and supported by the Friends of St Katharine's Park.

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



The Friends of St Katharine's Park having a coffee and snacks break after a highly successful Big Spring Clean Event in the Park

4.4 Environmental Management

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%. Several 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, Greenspace and Cemeteries Service as a soil conditioner in seasonal bedding.

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

The Council'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 Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage

The design and layout of St Katharine's Park provides a protected safe area rich in biodiversity value. However, it is hoped that several recommendations of a biodiversity assessment can increase this value much more over the coming years.

One of the main strengths of St Katharine's Park is its popularity with local people with user numbers increasing over a number of years as well as its new woodland walk following the route of the burn through the park. The steeper slopped sections of the park are enhanced by a large number of mature trees and it is intended to conserve as many of these aspects as possible. Mature oaks, lime and *Betula* are in number within the park and every effort is 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 more *Pinus* and *Betula* may be added soon.

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, the Stenhouse burn flowing through the park is also rich in biodiversity value with interpretation panels highlighting this.

Resident bird 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 several wildflower meadows split between perennial and annual, with varieties that attract butterflies and bees. The future plans are maybe to extend these areas to encourage and increase the biodiversity value of the park.



Stenhouse Burn margins and Wildflower Meadows

4.6 Community Involvement

The park benefits from a good working relationship with the Friends group. This group came together and was constituted in 2008. The Parks & Greenspace Officer continues to meet regularly with the group on a regular basis where discussions take place to work on the improvement areas for the park.

The group have monthly projects which include a mixed variety of works including painting and varnishing, litter picking, light tree pruning, path edging, bulb planting and woodland walk and burn tidy ups their website is : <u>https://foskap.org/</u>









Friends of St Katharine's volunteer day

4.7 Marketing & Communication

Information relating to St Katharine's Park is available via the 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 the Edinburgh Outdoors Page for St Katharine's 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.

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

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

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

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

Information about the park and ongoing activities are also regularly in the Liberton & District Community Council newsletter.

LDCC Newsletter Winter 2019.pdf

Friends of St Katharine's Park Update

by Su Millar, member of LDCC

What a great year! As well as **litter picks** throughout the year, we had **tree maintenance** sessions on the 5th May and 15th September to raise the canopy of certain trees. The St Katharine's gate got a new coat of **paint** on the 7th July with our most recent event, on the 10th November, **planting** hundreds of daffodil and narcissus bulbs in collaboration with Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT). All this hard work paid off with the group receiving a **Keep Scotland Beautiful award**.



OUT &

We also received a **Neighbourhood Partnership grant** that has allowed us to develop a **natural bark path** along the burn as well as an **orienteering course**. Watch out for new animal sculptures that will be coming soon! More information here: https://foskap.wordpress.com/

We would **love you to come and join our growing band of FoSKaP-ers!!** Our next event is some tree maintenance on **Saturday 2nd February at 9:30 am**. If you would like to come then **please contact us** through the website: https://foskap.wordpress.com/contact-us/



Example article in the Community Council Newsletter



A Green Space for All



- Try out the new orienteering course





- Visit the orchard

- Find all the wooden sculptures

Flyer advertising the features of the park and how members of the public can get involved with the Friends group



4.8 Management

St Katharine's Park is managed by the Place Directorate, which is structured to deliver services for the needs and priorities of local communities in each of the twelve Neighbourhood Partnerships within the six neighbourhood areas. The park lies within the South East Locality.

Management and development of the park is undertaken locally by the SE Locality Transport and Environment team in conjunction with the local community through the Friends' Group and the Community Council with the strategic issues dealt with via the central Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries.

The Friends' Group and Parks and Greenspace Officer 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 Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries and Waste and Cleansing teams. This team consists of a grounds maintenance and street cleaning teams who are responsible for the day to day maintenance of the grass, flower beds and shrub areas, the servicing of the bins and litter collection throughout the park and graffiti removal. This work is supported by the 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, and 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 small areas and generally highlighting defects for repair. Through these groups it is intended to attempt to increase the public participation in voluntary work within the park, this might include, litter picking, graffiti removal etc.

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

The Park Rangers also patrol all parks including St Katharine's 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 improvements to the park on an annual basis. St Katharine's 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:			
LTEM	Locality Transport and Environment Manager	PGO	Parks and Greenspace Officer
PGM	Parks & Greenspace Management	PR	Park Rangers
FOSKA	Friends of St Katharine's Park	STTL	Senior Transport Team Leader
SLM	Street Lighting Manager	EWTL	Environmental Warden Team Leader
WCM	Waste and Cleansing Manager	FM	Forestry Manager
TE	Transport Engineer	TCV	The Conservation Volunteers

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 e	nsure the safet	y of user grou	ips and staff	working on site
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Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
1.1 To develop a signage programme, this might include name plates, information and interpretation.	 All access points within park. Council staff and Friends Group 	Ongoing	LTEM PGO	£2k - £4k
1.2 Continue natural bulb planting	 Various locations Friends Group, Council staff and schools groups 	Ongoing	PGO PR/ FOSKA	£1000
1.3 Make Doctors Surgery entrance more welcoming	Install slate welcoming stone with park name at doctor's surgery section	Jan 2020	PGO	£750

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	 Work with environmental wardens and other appropriate CEC staff to develop and implement campaign and also using lamppost wraps and possible dog poo bag dispenser. 	2020-25	PGO SEW	£1K
2.2 Make sure park lighting is in working order	 Checks carried out by parks officer or members of the friends' group monthly at dark times to make sure all in working order 	Ongoing 2020-24	PGO FOSKA	£0
2.3 Install a new tar path from Burnhead Crescent to Doctors Surgery to make is easier to reach through the park in wet weather	 Have quote and working with housing to arrange funding and award work to contractor 	2020 - 2021	PGO	£16,000

Aim 3: Well Maintained & Clean				
h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is	in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the v	sitor expectation	าร	
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
3.1 To Improve Autumn leaf collection	 Review current procedures and seek volunteer provision, use leaves as mulch for beds 	Ongoing	LTEM WCM	£1k

3.2 To provide cycle racks within the park	 Locate appropriate site 	Ongoing	LTEM PGO	£750
3.3 Look into providing more wildflower within St Katharine's Park	 Friends Group and Park & Greenspace officer to choose appropriate sites 	2020- 23	PGO FOSKA	£2000
3.4 Keep park tidy and clean	 Incidents of litter reported to cleansing also regular volunteer litter picking days organised by the friends' group 	Ongoing	FOSKA	£0
3.5 Improve litter concern at Captains Drive car park section	 Working with Housing to provide a more secure section for household wheelie bins, to help prevent overflow spilling over on to park. Been approved as a project and just waiting on confirmation of funding. 	2021	PGO	£3700

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
4.1 To design and implement a tree management programme	 Formalise information from CEC city-wide tree survey and prepare management plan for St Katharine's Park 	Ongoing	PGM FM	£3k
4.2 Use bark mulch from felled trees from park and surrounding parks to mulch the Shrub beds within the park	 Use maintenance teams to spread and mulch beds 	Ongoing	PGO WCM TCV	£600
4.3 Minimize green waste	 All green waste produced on site to be composted on site or used to produce habitat 	Ongoing	PGO PR TCV	£0
4.4 Reduce use of pesticides	 Use natural woodchip mulch, using this on flower beds and round trees Reduce weed growth round signs etc. 	Ongoing	PR	£0

4.5 Provide Bug hotels using branches etc	 Friends to arrange on one of their 	Ongoing	PGO	£70
	volunteer days		PR	

Aim 5: Biodiversity, Landscape and Herita	ge			
a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site				
e) To investigate and action ways of protecting ar	nd conserving all features of cultural significance and herit	age value		
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
5.1 Refresh the current wildflower garden	 Implementation of improved wild flower area and bio-diversity area within the park 	Ongoing	PGO PR	£400
5.2 Continue to provide Bird Boxes to encourage greater bird numbers	 Install additional bird boxes 	2020-22	PGO PR	£350
5.3 Install 'insect hotels	 Install insect to encourage greater bio- diversity within St Katharine's Park, various sites throughout the park 	2020- 22 Ongoing	PGO	£500
5.4 Survey Stenhouse Burn to see what habitat is in the burn	Park rangers to carry out biodiversity survey	2019 -2020	PR PGO	£0
5.5 Increase areas that help increase bee and butterfly population	Friends to apply for grant which will part fund another wildflower meadow and also fruit bushes	2020	FOSKA PGO	£400
5.6 Create 'Bug Hotels' within park	Identify suitable areas	2020- 2022	PGO PR FOSKA	£0
5.7 Increase variety of water loving plants at the side of the Stenhouse burn	Get quotes from contractor for new planting project	2021	PGO	£800

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	 To be organised in conjunction with the 	2020-25	PGO	£0	
and greater involvement in the management	FOSKA		PR		
and maintenance			FOSKA		
6.2 Raise park profile by applying for Keep	 Friends Group further application 	2020-22	FOSKA	£0	
Scotland Beautiful – Its Your Neighbourhood	In first year achieved 'Thriving' Award				
Award	(Appendix 8)				
6.3 To involve local school children in	 Liaise with local schools 	2020-25	PGO	£0	
various park projects			/FOSKA		

Aim 7: Marketing & Communication

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

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
7.1 To provide regular information on maintenance, events and works within park	 Use all relevant information and modern publicity opportunities 	2020-24	LTEM PGO FOSKA	£500
7.2 Create and introduce a QR code specific to the Park	 Use of ICT department Linked to the Edinburgh Outdoors site 	Completed 2020	PGO PR	£50
7.3 Update content specific to the Park within Edinburgh Outdoors website	 Add new information and photographs specific to site 	2020-24	PGO PR	£50
7.4 Update website content	 Linked to Edinburgh Outdoors site Friends Group have website: foskap.org 	Ongoing	PR FOSKA	£0
7.5 Green Flag Award and Keep Scotland Beautiful – It's Your Neighbourhood	 Apply for awards 	Ongoing	PGO PR	£400

	FOSKA	
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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 user groups; to encourage their active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource								
		I						
Objective	Where and/or How Work closely with volunteer/friends group	Year	Lead FOSKA	Cost				

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	5,432
Flowers, shrubs and hedges	1,044
Litter removal	4,318
Gym Area Maintenance	1,123
Tree Maintenance	1,540
Total	£13,457

In addition, the Locality Transport and 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 East 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.

Friends of St Katharine's Park have applied for this local grant as well as other grant opportunities and have secured around £12,000 over the past few years and have used this funding to improve: wildflower areas, park signage, interpretation signage, flower tubs, bird boxes and picnic table areas.

7 Monitoring and Reviewing

The Parks Quality Assessment (PQA) framework is used to provide annual assessment of each park and will provide a report for St Katharine's 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 Park 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.

Both the PQA and Park User Survey and other information gathered from working with the Friends' and other community groups are used to track and monitor improvements to the park.

In order to record progress, a review of this management plan shall take place in January 2020 in readiness for the next application process for the Green Flag awards. This will be carried out by the Council Officers, the friends' 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 and Policies

The City of Edinburgh Council's Business Plan 2017-2022

The Council's <u>business plan</u> is built around <u>52 commitments</u> that the Council Administration has pledged to deliver over the next five years. The plan sets out what we aim to do and how we intend to do it. This plan will inform our decision-making on how we use our resources. The principles and actions set out here will drive the way we reshape and redesign the way we deliver services and the way we work with communities and partners.

South East Locality Plan 2017-2022

The <u>SE Locality Plan</u> sets out the priorities for improving the area over the next five years with actions that will be carried out in the short, medium and long term, making use of our commitment to target our shared resources in the most effective way to tackle inequality.

Capitalising on Access: An Access Strategy for Edinburgh

The <u>Access Strategy</u> sets out a framework for developing opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding 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.

Resilient Edinburgh Climate Change Adaptation Framework

The <u>Resilient Edinburgh Climate Change Adaptation Framework</u> is a framework that sets out Edinburgh's strategic approach to increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change. Climate change adaptation provides a unique opportunity for the Council and its citywide partners to work together to ensure that Edinburgh continues to be a climate-resilient city.

Sustainable Edinburgh 2020

<u>Sustainable Edinburgh 2020</u> sets out the Council's vision for the sustainable development of the City to 2020. It details a framework for action which will be embedded into all Council policies, programmes and services; but recognises that, for the city to develop sustainably, a wider range of actions is required, involving all individuals, organisations and sectors of the city working together.

Park and Environmental Policies

Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy 2006

The <u>Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy</u> sets out realistic aspirations for Edinburgh's park and green space 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 2021

Edinburgh's <u>Open Space Strategy 2021</u> establishes principles guiding the continued protection, management, and expansion of our green network over the next five years. Key challenges ahead include the delivery of new parks and active travel connections as the city expands, creating inspiring places for new communities to socialise, grow food, play, keep active and experience nature, and which are resource-efficient and climate-change ready. In addition to sustaining the quality of existing green spaces, there are opportunities for people to come together to create community gardens and allotments, to re-naturalise our "living landscape" and to enhance the city's historic cemeteries and burial grounds.

Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-18

The <u>Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan</u> outlines a partnership approach to biodiversity conservation across the city. In 2000, Edinburgh was among the first places in the UK to produce an action plan for biodiversity. This fourth edition continues the trend toward an action plan that is streamlined, focussed and deliverable. Partnership working and community involvement are still key elements. More than 30 members of the Edinburgh Biodiversity Partnership contribute to delivery, including Council departments, government agencies, national and local environmental charities, volunteer conservation bodies and community groups.

Play Area Action Plan 2011-16

The purpose of this <u>Play Area Action Plan</u> is to guide the improvement of existing play area facilities and to identify new opportunities for future facilities across the City. The Council prepared the plan, which was revised after public consultation. This document sits under The City of Edinburgh Council Play Strategy, which was approved by Council in 2009. The Play Strategy sets out a vision and aims for the development of play for children and young people and sets the context for this document.

Local Drivers - Neighbourhood Partnership, SE Neighbourhood Networks, Liberton/Gilmerton Community Council

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 several 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 Natural Heritage 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, the Natural Heritage Service 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 Acces 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 quilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding level one on the standard scale

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



- Any written permission required by these 2 rules must be shown on request to a Council Official
 - The Council may decide to waive any 3. 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) annovance, offence, alarm or distress to any other park user.
- Any wilful or careless act which damages 4.2 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.
- Ball cames in Princes Street Gardens and 4.5 Saughton Walled Gardens.
- 4.6 Fishing in any water course without permit
- Depositing or leaving any substance or 4.7 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:
 - Entering into or wilfully remaining in a Park 49 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.

Failing to remove litter associated with BBOs and picnics.

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

Park. 6.4 Camping within one mile of a

Cycling

prohibited:

- short of the responsibilities in the Code
- and other areas sensitive to environmental damage.
- 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,

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

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, guad 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.



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6.3 Lighting an open fire in any

public road.

The following acts are

7.1 Cycling in a manner which falls

7.2 Cycling off the paths in woodland

4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG. duncan.monteith@edinburgh.gov.uk

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.

Appendix Three – Maintenance Plan

						000	asion	~										
		1	r		-	Occ	asion	5			-					-		
Description	Action/Works	Who	М	M²	No.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	General Frequency
Grass Maintenance	<u> </u>	WIIO			110.	Juli	100	IVICI	πрі	Iviay	Jun	001	Aug	Oopt	001		DCC	Trequency
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 Maintenan	ice																	
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 Mainten	ance																	
Rose Hedge	Cutting			998														Annually
Tree	Pruning				200	1												Annually
Roads & Pathway Main	ntenance																	
Roads/paths &	Engineer Inspection			1200	1			1										Annual
Cycleway	Ranger Inspection			1200	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	Fortnightly
Description	Action/Works	Who	М	M²	No.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	General Frequency
Gym Area Maintenanc	e																	
	Engineer																	

St Katharine's Park Management Plan 2020 – 2024

Equipment	Manager Inspection		1									1				Annually
Maintenance	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 24 hrs
	Non-Offensive															Within 72 hrs

Appendix Four – Tree Survey

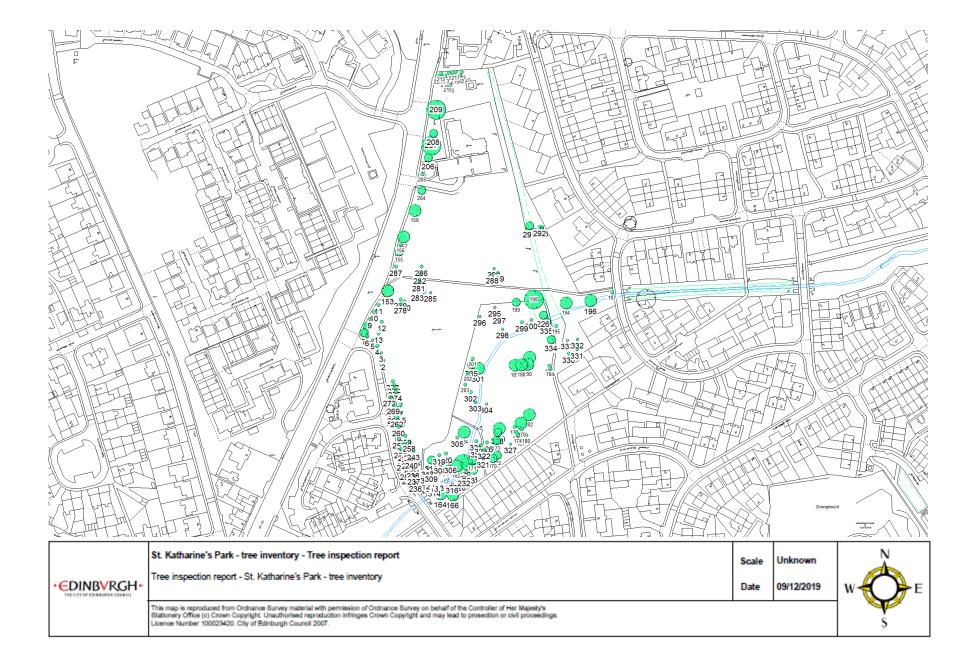
Tree Seq	Species	Tree Location	Height	Spread	Trunk	Age
153	Prunus avium	b19610	5 to 10 metres	9 to 12 metres	50 - 60	Mature
155	Sorbus aria	b19609	Up to 5 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Mature
156	Pyrus spp.	b19608	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
157	Prunus spp.	b19607	5 to 10 metres	9 to 12 metres	50 - 60	Mature
158	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19606	10 to 15 metres	9 to 12 metres	40 - 50	Mature
160	Acer pseudoplatanus	no tag-b1961	15 to 20 metres	Over 12 metres	80 - 90	Mature
161	Acer pseudoplatanus	no tag-b1961	15 to 20 metres		70 - 80	Mature
162	Tilia x europaea	b19613	15 to 20 metres		80 - 90	Mature
164	Quercus robur	b19618	15 to 20 metres		60 - 70	Mature
166	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19619	15 to 20 metres		70 - 80	Mature
168	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19621	15 to 20 metres		80 - 90	Mature
170 171	Acer platanoides	no tag-b1962 b19623	5 to 10 metres 15 to 20 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30 40 - 50	Semi-mature Mature
171	Acer pseudoplatanus Acer platanoides	b19625	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	40 - 30 20 - 30	Semi-mature
172	Quercus robur	b19626	Up to 5 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
174	Acer platanoides	no tag	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
175	Acer platanoides	no tag	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
176	Tilia spp.	no tag	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
177	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19633	15 to 20 metres	9 to 12 metres	80 - 90	Mature
178	Acer pseudoplatanus	no tag	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
179	Acer pseudoplatanus	no tag	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
180	Acer platanoides	no tag	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
181	Acer platanoides	no tag	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
182	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19634	15 to 20 metres	9 to 12 metres	90 +	Mature
184	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19641	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	30 - 40	Semi-mature
185	Ulmus spp.	b19642	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
188	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19637	15 to 20 metres		60 - 70	Mature
189	Tilia spp.	no tag-b1963	15 to 20 metres		70 - 80	Mature
190 191	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19638 b19639	15 to 20 metres 15 to 20 metres		60 - 70 70 - 80	Mature
191 194	Acer pseudoplatanus Quercus robur	b19639 b19648	15 to 20 metres		70 - 80 60 - 70	Mature Mature
194	Ulmus spp.	b19645	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
196	Ulmus spp.	1339 - 15 (b1	10 to 15 metres		40 - 50	Semi-mature
190	Fraxinus excelsior	b19650	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
198	Acer pseudoplatanus	b19646	15 to 20 metres		90 +	Mature
199	Ulmus spp.	no tag	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
201	Fraxinus excelsior	b19651	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
202	Fraxinus excelsior	b19652	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
203	Fraxinus excelsior	no tag-b1965	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
204	Sorbus aria	b19605	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	30 - 40	Mature
205	Sorbus intermedia	b19604	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	30 - 40	Mature
206	Prunus spp.	b19603	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	30 - 40	Middle Aged
207	Fraxinus excelsior	b19602	10 to 15 metres		60 - 70	Mature
208	Prunus cerasifera	b19601	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Middle Aged
209 210	Acer pseudoplatanus Sorbus aria	b19600 b19599	10 to 15 metres	Over 12 metres 3 to 6 metres	70 - 80	Mature
210	Sorbus aria	b19598	5 to 10 metres 5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30 20 - 30	Semi-mature Semi-mature
212	Sorbus aria	b19598 b19597	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
212	Sorbus aria	b19596	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
213	Sorbus aria	b19595	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
215	Sorbus aria	b19594	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
216	Sorbus aria	b19593	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
210	Sorbus aria	b19588	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
218	Sorbus aria	b19589	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
219	Sorbus aria	b19590	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
220	Sorbus aria	b19591	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
221	Sorbus aria	b19592	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
222	Sorbus aria	b19587	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
223	Sorbus aria	b19586	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
224	Quercus robur	b19655	15 to 20 metres	9 to 12 metres	70 - 80	Mature
228	Salix alba	No tag	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
226	Ulmus glabra	245 - 15	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
2	Acer platanoides		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
3	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
4	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
5	Fraxinus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10-20	Semi-mature
6	Fraxinus ornus Fraxinus angustifolia		Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10-20	Semi-mature
7 8	Fraxinus angustifolia		10 to 15 metres		20 - 30	Semi-mature
8 9	Fraxinus angustifolia		5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30 10 - 20	Semi-mature Semi-mature
9 10	Sorbus aucuparia Fraxinus angustifolia		Up to 5 metres 5 to 10 metres	Up to 3 metres 3 to 6 metres	10 - 20 10 - 20	Semi-mature Semi-mature
10	Acer platanoides		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
12	Cedrus deodara		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature

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13	Cedrus deodara		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
232	Acer pseudoplatanus		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
233	Crataegus spp.		Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
234	Fraxinus excelsior		10 to 15 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
235	Ulmus glabra	01 - 1339 - 19	10 to 15 metres	6 to 9 metres	50 - 60	Semi-mature
236	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres		Juvenile
237	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres		Juvenile
238	Pyrus communis		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres		Juvenile
239	Pinus wallichiana		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
240	Fagus sylvatica		5 to 10 metres		90 +	Mature
	• ,		E to 10 motros	Up to 3 metres 3 to 6 metres		
241	Crataegus monogyna		5 to 10 metres		10 - 20	Semi-mature
242	Prunus domestica		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
243	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
244	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
245	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
246	Fraxinus excelsior		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
247	Fraxinus excelsior		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
248	Fraxinus excelsior		5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
249	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
250	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
251	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
252					10 - 20	
	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres		Semi-mature
253	Malus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
254	Pyrus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
255	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
256	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
257	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
258	Pyrus spp.		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
259	Malus domestica		Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
			•			
260	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
261	Betula pendula		10 to 15 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
262	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
263	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
264	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
265	Prunus spp.		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
266	Prunus spp.		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
267			5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
	Prunus spp.					
268	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
269	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
270	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
271	Fraxinus excelsior		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
272	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
273	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
274	Prunus spp.		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
275	Betula pendula		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
276	Prunus spp.		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
	Prunus spp.			3 to 6 metres		
277			5 to 10 metres		20 - 30	Semi-mature
278	Betula pendula		10 to 15 metres		10 - 20	Semi-mature
279	Betula pendula		10 to 15 metres		20 - 30	Semi-mature
280	Betula spp.		10 to 15 metres		10 - 20	Semi-mature
281	Fraxinus excelsior		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
282	Fraxinus excelsior		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
283	Liriodendron tulipifer		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
284	Fagus sylvatica		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
	purpurea					
285	Sorbus aucuparia		5 to 10 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
286	Liriodendron tulipifer		Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
287	Fraxinus angustifolia		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
288	Betula utilis			Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
			Up to 5 metres			
289	Betula utilis		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
290	Betula utilis		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
291	Crataegus monogyna		5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	50 - 60	Middle Aged
292	Prunus avium		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
293	Prunus avium		10 to 15 metres	3 to 6 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
294	Prunus avium		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
295	Sequoia sempervirens		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
296	Cedrus atlantica		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
297	llex aquifolium		Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
298	Salix 'Sepulchralis'		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
298	Salix fragilis		10 to 15 metres	-	20 - 30	Semi-mature
	•					
300	Salix fragilis		10 to 15 metres		20 - 30	Semi-mature
301	Quercus robur		10 to 15 metres		80 - 90	Middle Aged
302	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
303	Taxodium distichum		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
304	Taxodium distichum		Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
305	Alnus glutinosa		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
306	Fraxinus excelsior		5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature

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307	Quercus robur	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
308	Fraxinus excelsior	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
309	Prunus spp.	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
310	Prunus spp.	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
311	Prunus padus	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
312	Prunus spp.	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
313	Fraxinus excelsior	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
314	Fraxinus excelsior	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
315	Salix 'Sepulchralis'	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
316	Salix 'Sepulchralis'	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
317	Betula pendula	10 to 15 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
318	Betula pendula	10 to 15 metres	6 to 9 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
319	Betula spp.	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
320	Betula spp.	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
321	Quercus spp.	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
322	Quercus spp.	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
323	Alnus glutinosa	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
324	Alnus glutinosa	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
325	Alnus glutinosa	5 to 10 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
326	Betula pendula	10 to 15 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
327	Pinus nigra	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Juvenile
328	Fagus sylvatica	10 to 15 metres	6 to 9 metres	40 - 50	Semi-mature
329	Fagus sylvatica	10 to 15 metres	9 to 12 metres	40 - 50	Semi-mature
330	Alnus glutinosa	Up to 5 metres	3 to 6 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
331	Malus spp.	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
332	Malus spp.	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
333	Malus spp.	Up to 5 metres	Up to 3 metres	10 - 20	Semi-mature
334	Ulmus glabra	10 to 15 metres	6 to 9 metres	20 - 30	Semi-mature
335	Ulmus glabra	5 to 10 metres	6 to 9 metres	30 - 40	Semi-mature



Appendix Five – Parks User Surveys

Current survey information will be made available in hard copy on the day of judging.

Appendix Six – Biodiversity Assessment

1) Site introduction and character

St. Katharine's Park is a roughly diamond-shaped area of just under 4 ha situated within an urban setting of east Edinburgh. Approximately one half of the park is adjacent to a row or residential buildings and gardens, while the other half is lined with the main road (A701) and the residential street of St. Katharine's Brae. The site is used extensively by dog walkers as well as residents for sport and leisure.



The Park comprises roughly from 2/3 of an amenity grassland enhanced by the occasional decorative or wildlife feature such as ornamental shrub and plant beds or wild flower meadow, and 1/3 makes up the Stenhouse Burn, its bank vegetation and small wooded area of mostly native deciduous trees.

2) Main habitats

• Semi-mature mixed orchard

Most of the orchard has been planted in 2013 as one of the projects of the Friends of St. Katharine's Park group. More young fruit trees have been added early 2019. The orchard comprises of young and semi-mature trees such as apple, pear and plum. This is generally of low to medium biodiversity value. The main significance of those would be considered in spring when the trees are in bloom and provide an important source of food for pollinators and other invertebrates. In autumn, fruit-bearing trees provide food for a variety of wildlife namely birds and squirrels but also various invertebrates.

• Amenity grassland

Habitat covers approximately a quarter of the park. At the time of the assessment, all the amenity grassland had been well mown with only a limited herb species present. The habitat is of low biodiversity value. As the main purpose of this habitat is an amenity, mostly recreational activity by the members of public (sports, BBQ, dog walking etc.) there is little scope for improvement.

• Parkland with scattered trees

The park is dotted with a great variety of mostly native deciduous trees in mixed stages of maturity. However, the planting is dominated by native broadleaved species such as Elm (*Ulmus glabra*), Birch (*Betula sp*,), Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Oak (*Quercus sp*.) and Lime (*Tilia sp*.). The east end of the Stenhouse burn benefits from a slightly denser plating of mature and semi-mature trees complimenting the freshwater habitat. Several non-native ornamental species comprising of Sycamore (*Acer sp*.), Beech (*Fagus sp*.) and Cherry (*Prunus sp*.) have been planted along the border with the main road (A701) accompanied by native Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*). A very small number of non-native semi-mature ornamental conifers have been scattered throughout the park, namely pine (*Pinus sp*.) and Larch (*Larix sp*.) species.

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Parkland trees are generally of medium biodiversity value. The mature trees provide food, habitat and shelter for a variety of species (vertebrate, invertebrate, fungal, floral etc). Given the amenity use of the surrounding park, there is limited scope for improvement to these areas.

• Stenhouse Burn and adjacent bank vegetation

The Stenhouse Burn creates an important feature of the park. It runs east to west and cuts through most of the length of the park. In 2015 an external specialised contractor was hired to enhance the banks of the burn. Typical wetland vegetation such as yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), water mint (*Mentha citrata*) and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicacria*) was planted. Furthermore, a light landscape alteration of the burn banks was carried out to complement already existing habitat creating a meandering effect with a series of small pools. This was aimed to boost habitat variability and encourage wildlife diversity within the burn itself and its banks. The burn is lined with a variety of native deciduous trees such as alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), oak, lime and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) all of which complement the freshwater habitat. The burn and the adjacent bank vegetation are of medium to high biodiversity value as it provides breeding grounds for freshwater invertebrates, namely common species of dragonflies, damselflies, caddisflies, etc. Those create an invaluable source of food for breeding birds such as dippers which have been previously observed feeding along the burn.

• Horticultural features and artificial windflower meadows

a) Spring bulbs

Areas of the park have been planted with spring bulbs, namely mixture of daffodils, snowdrops, crocus, and bluebells. This creates an important spring time feature and provides an invaluable seasonal source of food for early spring pollinators and other invertebrates. However, the planting itself is overall of low biodiversity value and its value is somehow more ornamental.

b) Ornamental shrubs and flower beds

The park benefits from several ornamental shrubs and plant beds. Those are seasonally maintained and replenished as required. The planting creates an additional source of food and shelter for wildlife and boosts the overall diversity of the park flora but as a whole is of low biodiversity value and yet again its main benefit to the park is mostly decorative.

c) Wild flower meadow

A modest patch of an artificial wild flower meadow has been created within the park to boost biodiversity and benefit pollinators and other invertebrates. This has been planted with a mix of wild flowers. Such artificial meadows can be of medium to high biodiversity value if maintained appropriately.

3) Areas of potential importance for wildlife and their management.

Due to the character and location of the park along with its extensive amenity use, there is limited scope for improvement. Two main areas of importance to wildlife were identified and management recommendation made as follows:

• Stenhouse Burn

- Encourage dense bank vegetation to restrict access to the edge of the water. This should minimise disturbance to feeding birds as well as create additional shelter for other wildlife.
- Maintain and plant additional shrubs and trees such as willow and alder to prevent bank soil erosion and create additional nesting space for local birdlife.
- \circ Ensure the burn is litter-free.
- Wild flower meadow
 - Enlarge and/or create more wild flower meadow patches throughout the park.
 - Ensure appropriate seasonal maintenance such as annual autumn cutting and removal of the dead plant material.
 - o Re-seed as required with a variety of (preferably) native wild flower species.

4) Biodiversity Features

These are the features found on this site or would be relevant to this site. Each need to be 'managed' following the guidelines (yet to be written) which apply, where relevant, to all The City of Edinburgh Council park and greenspace sites.

• Deadwood

All dead trees and major branches left standing where possible or in situ. This provides an array of micro-habitats for invertebrate fauna and fungi.

• Bird boxes

Very few trees provide nesting opportunities for hole-nesting birds. A range of nest boxes is always valuable in this type of habitat.

• Bat boxes

The hedgerows and avenues of trees provide linear features along which bats could potentially forage. Bat boxes would provide potential roosts for bats and make the area more suitable for bat use.

• Insect hotels

Can be artificially made and installed or simply created from dead wood and other natural materials present on site. This would encourage a variety of insects and enhance the biodiversity of the park. This accompanied by a suitable interpretation board would make excellent biodiversity and educational feature.

Appendix Seven – Parks Quality Assessment

bins which appear to be serviced regularly. 8 8 The park certainly had a managed feel to it with mown grass creating access through bulb areas and management strips along path edges. The spring bulbs provide a fantastic display of colour and with wildflower meadows being sown will add extra interest. 8 8 Nothing was noted as concerning and there was a good mix of age and species on site with newer trees looking particularly well maintained with mulched bases. The orchard is still in its infancy but looks to be thriving in amongst the bulbs. **Building & Infrastructure Maint** 7 Paths and the general infrastructure of the park appeared to be well maintained with no issues noted 8 Notice boards, seating and bins looked okay. The

Generally, very clean throughout with only

sporadic litter in the longer grass. Good amount of

			waiting to be emptied.
Signage	8	8 Plenty of good signage welcoming you to the park with notice boards at appropriate points. Attractive gate with the park name invites you into the park from Captains Drive.	The gated entrance is set back from the park entrance and although attractive is difficult to understand its location. Not all entrances have threshold signage.
Equal Access	7	7 Good wide paths offering access to and through the park. Seating available.	No dropped kerb, and access to seating over grass and with the amount of dog dirt is unappealing. Some of the notices in the boards should be reviewed for layout and text size.
Healthy, Safe & Secure			
Appropriate Provision of Faciliti	7	7 Good provision of facilities on site with gym equipment. Kick about area, seating, colourful displays and nature/orienteering trails.	Even though there is provision nearby, consider some small pieces of play equipment for this park. The notice boards could include information on downloading an app or literature regarding the orienteering and nature trails
Safe Equipment & Facilities	8	8 Nothing stood out as being that unsafe as needing immediate attention	The area next to the Captains Drive needs improved and the amount of dog fouling needs tackled.
Personal Security in Park	7	7 The main area is open, overlooked in part and visible from the main road. There were also a number of people using the park or walking through.	The area around the captains drive entrance certainly had a uneasy feel to it
Dog Fouling	6	4 Notices and wrap around for lamp posts all trying to address dog fouling issues.	Sadly, they don't seem to be having an impact as there was a considerable amount of fouling both on the paths and mown grass which suggests that the amount in the longer grass could be significant.
Clean & Well Maintained			

inclusion of wooden carved animals invite you to

Good formal and informal path network offering

PARKS, GREENSPACE & CEMETERIES Assessment Date: 28 March 2019 Park Quality Assessment Result 2019 Lead St Katharines Park (Liberton Gardens) Classification: Community Park POS: 76% Grade B Edin Std Met Yes 2018 73% - Grade B - Yes Criteria Score Key 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = ExceptionalA Welcoming Place 2018 2019 Strengths 1 Weaknesses / Recommendations Colourful attractive park visible from the main The entrance at Captain's Drive is unsightly due to 7 Welcoming road with good paths allowing access to most areas. the bins and the placement of the notice board. There was also dumped items at this location. If The main part of the park offers recreational space whilst the natural area around the burn offers this entrance can be improved, the score would areas to explore and watch for wildlife. The certainly improve

explore the park.

access to most areas.

Flag

Good Safe Access

Litter & Waste Management

Grounds Maintenance

Tree Maintenance

Equipment Maintenance

7

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL Green

Accessing the notice board at Captain's Drive is not

good by having to squeeze in beside refuse bins

Dumped items near the bin at Captain's Drive.

Gary Law



site unless to control NNIS.	Green Flag Award THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS, GREENSPACE & CEMETERIES							
PQS: 76% Grade B Edin Std Met Yes 2018 75% - Grade B - Yes Edin Std Met Yes Criteria Score Key 0 Image: Score Key 0 Image: Score Key 0 2 Statistinability 0 Image: Score Key 0 <t< th=""><th>Park Quality Asses</th><th>ssme</th><th>nt R</th><th>equilt 2010</th><th></th></t<>	Park Quality Asses	ssme	nt R	equilt 2010				
2018 73% - Grade B - Yes Criteria Score Key 0 Image: Conservation Constraints and the orienteering posts were in constraints and the orienteering provides were inclusion of the orienteering of the orienteering constraints and the orienteering coris and the orienteering	St Katharines Park (Liberton Gardens) Classification: Community Park							
Criteria Score Key 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Paor; 2-4 = Paor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional Egymeraphysical and the orienteeting posts were in Excellent and the orienteeting or in minimize posts Were green waste is generated, it is even for Conservation Rung & 10					Edin Std Met Yes			
2 Sustainability 2 Sustainability Environmental Sustainability 6 7 Maste Minimisation 6 8 Specific stratics (charge mode to magnetize to magnetimagnetize to magneta to magnetize to magnetize								
2 Sustainability 0 7 Environmental Sustainability 0 7	Criteria Score Key $0 = N/A$; $1 = V$	ery Pool			Good; $9 = Excellent$; $10 = Exceptional$			
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Appendix Eight – QR Code

St Katharine's Park QR Code

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

SE Locality Office

40 Captain's Road Edinburgh EH17 8HQ

Email: southeast.locality@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tel: 0131 529 5151

