

CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Venue: Training Room,
3rd Floor, Bailey House,
Rawmarsh Road,
Rotherham. S60 1TD

Date: Monday, 16th February, 2009

Time: *10.15 a.m.

* please note change of start time for this meeting.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested, in accordance with Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006).
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
3. Minutes of previous meetings of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services held as follows:-
 - 24th November, 2008
 - 15th December, 2008
 - 16th December, 2008
 - 5th January, 2009

(for signature by the Cabinet Member – See Schedule of Delegated Decisions – Orange Book – 7th November, 2008 to 16th January, 2009)
4. Minutes of a meeting of the Tourism Panel held on 15th January, 2009. (copy attached) (Pages 1 - 7)
5. Minutes of a meeting of the Local Development Framework Members' Steering Group held on 23rd January, 2009. (copy attached) (Pages 8 - 12)
6. Minutes of a meeting of the Clifton Park Restoration Project Board held on 28th January, 2009. (copy attached) (Pages 13 - 17)
7. Minutes of a meeting of the Play Pathfinder Project Board held on 28th January, 2009. (copy attached) (Pages 18 - 20)

8. Rotherham Green Space Strategy - Consultation Draft. (report attached) (Pages 21 - 39)
Phil Rogers, Director of Culture and Leisure Services and Steve Hallsworth, Leisure Service Manager, to report.
 - to consider wider consultation.

9. Changes to provision of property search information. (report attached) (Pages 40 - 52)
Phil Reynders, Ordnance Survey & GIS Development Officer, to report.
 - to consider a strategy for implementing DCLG regulations concerning charges for property searches.

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006)(financial/business affairs).

11. Bellows Road. (report attached) (Pages 53 - 67)
John Smales, Development Team Manager, to report.
 - to consider Compulsory Purchase.

**TOURISM PANEL
THURSDAY, 15TH JANUARY, 2009**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Boyes, Doyle, McNeely and Whelbourn.

together with:-

Richard Jones	Yorkshire South Tourism
Natalie Haynes	Holiday Inn
Matthew Beck	MAGNA
Joanne Edley	Tourism Manager
Jayne Oates	Tourism Assistant
Marie Hayes	Events & Promotions Manager
Ryan Shepherd	Senior Planner
Dawn Campbell	Events & Promotions Officer
Bronwen Moss	Scrutiny Adviser

47. INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed those present and introductions were made. Special reference was made to the attendance of Richard Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Yorkshire South Tourism.

The Chairman explained that Councillors Doyle, McNeely and Whelbourn had been invited as they would be representing the Council at the Sub-Regional Scrutiny review of Tourism delivery by the partnership organisation Yorkshire South Tourism.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor Austen	
Councillor	
Littleboy	
Councillor Walker	
Bernard Jones	South Yorkshire Transport Museum
Julie Williamson	Dearne Valley College
Julie Roberts	Town Centre Manager

48. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 5TH NOVEMBER, 2008

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th November, 2008.

Agreed: That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

49. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

50. UPDATE FROM INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES

The following items were reported:-

(1) Resignation of Keith Ayling, Chesterfield Canal Partnership

Agreed: That the Tourism Manager report arrangements for the filling of this industry representative position to the next meeting of the Tourism Panel.

(2) Training

Matthew Beck, Chief Executive MAGNA, reported on his meeting with Richard Jones in November 2008, together with training representatives.

Also a meeting was proposed with another organisation and some of the tourism operators across the sub-region.

The issue to date had been that the industry had been responsible for paying wages whilst staff underwent training. However, wage compensation was now being made available (details of which Matthew agreed to circulate to other Panel members).

Yorkshire South would take the lead on training across the sub-region.

Training could be provided for a variety of needs e.g. health and safety, food hygiene, supervision, leadership skills etc.

(3) VisitYork

Matthew reported on York's offer of day passes for tourism for 1, 2 or 3 days. He reported that from 1st April York would launch a 6 day pass.

Matthew explained how the scheme operated, the costs to the attractions and what benefits they received from the scheme e.g. advertising and commission.

He also explained that it was proposed that by 1st April 2010 this would be developed into a Yorkshire Tourism pass. Currently York was the most prominent city in the North with 8 out of town attractions included.

Matthew advised that expressions of interest from other attractions (although not hotels at the moment) would be submitted by the end of January.

The passes would be sold through VisitBritain and through the Tourist Information Centres.

(4) Work-based learning training

Joanne Edley, Tourism Manager, on behalf of Julie Williamson reported that the Government was putting in money into work-based learning training. This would even partly fund non-accredited, tailor-made courses (short or long). This was good news as training needs could now be met at little, or no, cost to the employer.

Members were reminded that in many instances NVQ's were still available free of charge. These ranged from Customer Service, Business Administration, Leadership etc to Activity Management.

Any interested member should contact Kaye Williams for advice and training needs analysis;

Kaye's contact details:- ☎ 01709 513333

Email: kwilliams@dearne.coll.ac.uk

Reference was made to what options Yorkshire South and Magna had to offer free training. It was also pointed out that Dearne Valley College had already provided training for Clifton Park Museum for volunteers and staff who conducted guided tours.

Business Link also offered a range of workshops and information had been sent to the industry.

Reference was made to the availability of information and assistance in putting together packages which seemed to be available to household in Europe but not in Britain.

51. ROTHERHAM TOURISM FORUM

Joanne Edley, Tourism Manager, reported that the next meeting of the Tourism Forum was to be a joint meeting with Barnsley.

The meeting had been arranged for Tuesday, 27th January, 2009 commencing at 4 p.m. at Cannon Hall, Cawthorne, Barnsley.

Reference was made to the new Barnsley Rotherham Joint Chamber and to Yorkshire wide Business Link. It was proposed that the joint Forum meeting would be used to explain the changes of these two organisations and how these would affect the industry.

The general feeling of the Panel was that these changes had not been particularly helpful.

Richard Jones explained the reasons for the new arrangements and the

processes and decision making which had been undertaken.

Agreed:- That local views be sought about how the changes had affected the industry and a progress report be submitted to a future meeting of the Tourism Panel.

52. ACCESS GUIDE FOR VISITORS

Consideration was given to a covering report and accompanying copy of Rotherham's Access Guide for Visitors.

The Tourism Manager reported that this document was first produced in 2006 and had now been reviewed with every entry's information being checked by either an Access Officer, or a volunteer, to ensure that the listings were accurate.

She explained that it was not intended to provide printed copies of the Guide. Instead the information contained within the Guide was available on the Internet as a pdf document and copies of specific entries could be provided on request. This also allowed the document to be updated easily.

A press release would be prepared to announce the availability of the Guide.

The Tourism Manager would be following up any establishment that had not returned and updated its entry details.

53. WEB SITE WWW.VISITROTHERHAM.ORG

Joanne Edley, Tourism Manager and Jayne Oates, Tourism Assistant, gave a presentation of the website www.visitrotherham.org which had been re-designed to enable users to access information with a minimum number of mouse clicks (3).

However, it was reported that currently there were problems with the "stitch-in" link to the Yorkshire South and Destination Management ICT system.

There were concerns that input of data had to be done at the headquarters of Yorkshire South in Sheffield, and that the Council's ICT team had concerns about the branding.

Richard Jones confirmed that a meeting had been arranged for 15th January, 2009 with New Visions and the Yorkshire Tourist Board to discuss these issues.

54. SERVICED ACCOMMODATION NEEDS STUDY AND PROFILE OF THE BOROUGH'S FACILITIES FOR THE FUTURE

Ryan Shepherd, Senior Planner, spoke to the submitted report explaining that this study had been undertaken by consultants on behalf of Yorkshire South Tourism. The findings of the study had then been adjusted to correct some errors and to bring the study into line with the Borough's boundary. The report would be used to inform tourism work and also planning work related to the Local Development Framework. The document would also be used when considering planning applications.

It was explained that the study had shown there was no further need for budget accommodation over the next 5 years, but that further 3* and above accommodation was need. The study also suggested that Rotherham could support the development of a further 80 beds.

Reference was also made to findings of the Study in respect of the Town Centre Renaissance aspirations, in that although there were plans for 2 hotels in the next 5 years this may not happen due to the economic downturn.

The study also suggested that a camping site could be supported in the north of the Borough, and a caravan and camping site at Rother Valley Country Park (possibly related to the development of the YES project).

The study had been subject to review by the Sheffield Hallam Centre for Hospitality Research which confirmed that the findings were robust. Therefore the document had been made available on the Councils' website as part of the LDF background documents and was being used in development control.

Joanne Edley, Tourism Manager, provided members of the Panel with a copy of an article on this topic which had been published by the Yorkshire Post on 15th January, 2009.

Members of the Panel raised the following issues:-

- likelihood of 2 new hotels and a caravan and camping site at Rother Valley Country Park
- progress of the YES project
- identification of a gypsy site to be included in the Local Development Framework
- town centre hotel accommodation
- the need to assess the rural areas of the Borough in a different way

Agreed: That the contents of the report be noted.

55. YORKSHIRE SOUTH TOURISM UPDATE

Richard Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Yorkshire South Tourism, reported that the current operating contract from Yorkshire Forward would end in March 2009 when new arrangements would be put in place.

In 2009 Yorkshire South Tourism would be supporting:-

- Rother Valley Triathlon
- Safe at Last – music event
- Rat Race – this would involve a variety of events between Sheffield and Rotherham using the canal network. This event was also held in cities such as Edinburgh and Melbourne and would receive TV coverage on Channel 4, Setanta and Sky Sports.
- Rotherham Arts Festival
- Launch of the Ambassador programme in conjunction with Dearne Valley College
- Business activity – a meeting with the President of the Joint Chamber was anticipated

Richard reported on the future of Yorkshire South Tourism, the restructuring of the support systems for tourism businesses, to make it more efficient and to provide more money for front line services and improve the results.

He also reported that there would be increased funding for tourism support from £6m to £10m per year for the next 3 years as from 1st April, 2009. Assurance had also been given to cover office costs and staffing.

Richard outlined YST's budget proposals which would be considered by its Board on 23rd January, 2009.

He explained he would be focussing on:-

- Business tourism
- Linking business tourism with major events across Yorkshire
- Gateway projects and continued working with the Robin Hood Doncaster Sheffield airport to improve services in and out of the region
- Extending the availability of the Yorkshire Pass

A questions and answers session ensued covering the following:-

- Increased commitment from Yorkshire Forward
- Security of funding with the ending of Objective 1 programme
- Allocation of funding
- Information on the availability of European funding for attractions and for supporting innovation
- Work of the International Links Group
- Difficulties faced by public sector when bidding for funding

Agreed: That, on behalf of the Tourism Panel, the Scrutiny Adviser would contact a member of the Council's External Funding Team to obtain

information about funding for tourism available through Europe and with a view to writing to the Euro MP expressing concern about the lack of information on European funding for tourism related activities provided to Local Authorities if this was the case.

56. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following issues were raised:-

(i) Special Bulletin from the National Tourism Summit

Joanne Edley, Tourism Manager, reported that a response from the Tourism Service was needed by 19th January, 2009. Members of the Panel were asked to let Joanne have any issues they wish to comment on for inclusion in the response.

(ii) Changes within Yorkshire

Joanne Edley, Tourism Manager, reported receipt of an email and copy letter from the Chair of the Yorkshire Tourist Board relating to the changes within the Yorkshire region.

(iii) Questionnaire from the Yorkshire Tourist Board

It was explained this related to what Yorkshire had to offer and opportunities for the future.

Joanne would reply to this by the end of the day

(iv) Best Wishes

Joanne referred to Councillor Sheila Walker and Bernard Jones and Members of the Panel wished them both a speedy recovery.

57. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Agreed: That the next meeting of the Tourism Panel take place on MONDAY, 16TH MARCH, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.

**ROTHERHAM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK STEERING GROUP
Friday, 23rd January, 2009**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Dodson and Pickering.
Councillor Gamble.

together with:-

Andy Duncan	Strategic Policy Team Leader
Dave Edwards	Area & Environmental Planning Team Leader
Neil Finney	Technical Assistant
Paul Gibson	Transportation Unit
Ken Macdonald	Solicitor, Legal Services
Sophie Wilson	Student on placement from Winterhill School
Andrew McGarrigle	Project Officer, Chief Executive's office
Phil Turnidge	Local Development Framework Manager

1. INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES

Councillor Smith introduced Neil Finney, Technical Assistant.

Apologies were received from:-

Councillor Walker	Senior Adviser, Regeneration & Development
Councillor Whelbourn	Chair, PSOC
Councillor Whysall	
Adrian Gabriel	Waste Manager
Bronwen Peace	Planning Manager
Gordon Smith	Quality and Design Coordinator

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER, 2008

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th December, 2008.

Resolved:- That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(i) Minute No. 42 – Rotherham LDF Allocations DPD Settlement Survey – Rotherham Urban Area (excluding town centre)

Phil Turnidge, Local Development Framework Manager, reported that it had been the intention to report on the development of options to go out to consultation on. However, it was considered that further work on

economic development was needed. Thus it was now intended to report to the February, 2009 meeting.

(ii) Minute No. 44 – Rotherham Draft LDF Draft Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2008

Phil Turnidge, reported that the requested additional information relating to the parts of the consultation timetable which were for public consultation had been included in the AMR.

4. REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY 2009 STRATEGIC UPDATE: SPATIAL OPTIONS

Andy Duncan, Strategic Policy Team Leader, reported that as part of the 2009 update to the Regional Spatial Strategy, the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly was consulting on Spatial Options for housing growth. It was explained that the review was driven by the Housing Green Paper requirement that regional spatial strategies should reflect the Government's plans for increased house building. This consultation would close on 30th January, 2009.

The update was focussing on levels, locations and infrastructure for higher housing growth. As part of this update the Regional Assembly had published spatial options setting out four suggested levels of housing growth for Yorkshire and the Humber to gauge stakeholder views on strategic approaches to accommodating this growth.

It was noted that the proposed response suggested that Spatial Option 1, which maintained the current RSS core approach of urban concentration, was the most appropriate for Rotherham. However, it was also noted that elements of the other 3 options may be appropriate but these were dependent on significant public transport investment for their long term sustainability.

The Group was advised that the proposed response had been endorsed by both the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services and the Cabinet.

Phil Turnidge, Local Development Framework Manager, referred to the changes to regional government due to take effect from 1st April, 2009, and their impact on the review of the RSS and the timeframe.

He explained that consultation on the review of governance arrangements was currently taking place with a series of seminars across the region, including in Sheffield and Leeds. The consultation period was short and would close on 8th February, 2009. It was therefore being suggested that the new arrangements should be adopted on a temporary trial basis with a review after 12 months.

Reference was also made to the establishment of the Integrated

Transport Authority (ITA) and to the changed arrangements for Local Transport Plans. It was pointed out that currently these changes had not been integrated into the LDF process. Concern was expressed about the ITA's proposed new powers and lack of scrutiny, and also Government initiatives which did not communicate with existing requirements.

It was pointed out that the Council's own scrutiny function was looking to scrutinise partners and also joint local authority scrutiny reviews were proposed.

Reference was also made to changes envisaged arising from the Planning Act 2008, in particular the Community Infrastructure Levy. There was concern that some of the issues might slow up the LDF process.

Resolved:- (1) That the proposed response to the RSS consultation on Spatial Options for housing growth be noted.

(2) That the Solicitor prepare in due course a briefing note for a future meeting of the Steering Group in respect of the broad themes of the Planning Act 2008.

**5. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK INFRASTRUCTURE
PLANNING AND DELIVERY: SUB REGIONAL COLLABORATION**

David Edwards, Area and Environmental Planning Team Leader, reported on the revised PPS12 which identified the Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy as the means of 'orchestrating the necessary social, physical and green infrastructure required to ensure that sustainable communities are created.' It was explained that to fulfil that role and to be found sound, LDF Core Strategies must identify the infrastructure requirements for their areas, who will provide it and when.

It was pointed out that the preparation of an integrated infrastructure plan, which was essential for local authorities and their partners to fulfil their place shaping role, was a challenging area of work which should be embedded in Development Plan Document preparation to secure a sound plan. To ease this process, Planning Advisory Service (PAS) Guidance had advocated the benefits of joint working between local authorities where possible.

It was therefore proposed that the possibility of joint working between the four South Yorkshire authorities on infrastructure planning be explored further. Initially, on behalf of all four Councils, Rotherham proposed to contact infrastructure providers who operate at the national, regional and sub-regional scale to establish their infrastructure plans within South Yorkshire and its individual authorities. This proposal was to be discussed at the next meeting of the South Yorkshire Planning Officers Group on 23rd January, 2009.

Further detail was set out in the report in respect of background

information, the actual proposal and proposed future working arrangements, and copies of the draft correspondence and questionnaire were attached. A draft target mailing list was also attached noting the wide range of infrastructure providers.

Reference was made to:-

- PPS 12 section 2.6 which gave a definition of “infrastructure”.
- Section 106 obligations policy – there was a need for further guidance and regulations
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). It was pointed out that this was optional and not to be enforced upon local authorities.
-
- Role of the Local Strategic Partnership
- Possible future areas of collaboration

It was generally agreed that the proposed approach was a good starting point for this work.

6. JOINT WASTE DPD UPDATE

Phil Turnidge, Local Development Framework Manager, spoke to the submitted report which provided an update on Development Plan Document progress.

The report also summarised subsequent stages and revisions to the plan preparation programme.

Reference was made to concerns about delays in achieving prompt national LDF coverage which had led the Government to revise guidance in PPG12 designed to streamline the DPD production process. However it was noted that despite concern about lack of public interest local authorities were being encouraged to carry out continuous engagement with interested parties which meant that the requirement to consult was growing rather than having set phases of consultation.

It was pointed out that public consultation at an adequate level was needed for the plan to meet the soundness test. However the outcome of recent consultation events in Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham was detailed in the report noting receipt of 65 responses, including a response from Government Office on need for transparency about how sites had been selected and reasons for rejection.

The next stages in the sites consultation within local communities on the sites listed in the report for Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham were outlined. Appendix 2 to the report set out a provisional consultation outline

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including liaison and co-ordination with Yorkshire Planning Aid. It was also reported that work continued on feasibility investigation and discussion with land owners.

The indicative timetable for the Joint Waste DPD preparation was set out in the report noting that adoption was expected towards the end of 2010. It was hoped that the document would inform determinations of the planning applications from the PFI by June/July 2010.

Members of the Steering Group referred to:-

- the wide range of existing groups which could be consulted
- the Area Assemblies
- suitable venues
- involvement, and briefing, of the Ward Members
- engagement with Parish Councils via the Council's Parish Liaison meeting
- safeguarding existing sites

Resolved:- (1) That the current stage in the preparation of the Joint Waste DPD be noted.

(2) That approval be given to the preliminary selection of sites, as set out in the report now submitted, as a basis for further consultation within appropriate local communities.

(3) That consultation arrangements be finalised in conjunction with the Cabinet Members for Regeneration and Development Services and Streetpride, together with the Head of Communications.

(4) That a report containing a more detailed DPD programme to be included in a revised Local Development Scheme to be submitted to the Government Office be presented to the next meeting of the LDF Steering Group.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no further items of business.

8. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Local Development Framework Members' Steering Group be held on FRIDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY, 2009 at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.

CLIFTON PARK RESTORATION PROJECT BOARD
Wednesday, 28th January, 2009

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Ali and Wootton.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dodson, Falvey and McNeely.

Also in attendance:-

Elaine Humphries, Chair of the Friends Group
Joyce Miller, Friends of Clifton Park
Dawn Roebuck, Senior Accountant
Phil Rogers, Director of Culture and Leisure
Andy Lee, Operations Manager
David Burton, Consultant Project Manager
Phil Gill, Green Spaces Manager
Peter Cunningham, Development Officer Play
Alistair Farr, Clifton Park Manager

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2008

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th December, 2008 were noted. There were no matters arising therefrom.

7. PROJECT UPDATE

Park Restoration Contract

Contract Issues

Subsequent to the previous meeting's Briefing Note, it was confirmed that the Contract Documents and Parent Company Guarantee had now been engrossed by the Legal Department.

Substantial progress had been made with works on the ground.

Contract Progress

Following a Risk Reduction meeting held between the Project Team and the contractor, UCS, on 21st January, 2009 it was announced that a further minor delay was anticipated to the Activity Area due to the additional requirements and timing of the instruction to incorporate the enhancement to the Water play Area. The revised target date for the opening of the Activity Area is 5th June 2009. Whilst the delay is regrettable, the project team is satisfied that the reasons put forward for the delay are genuine, i.e. the position and timing of the large holding tank now required to service the water play feature, precludes the

reprogramming of the critical activities in this area.

The good news is that UCS have re-programmed other works within the park and have indicated that the final completion date of August 2009 will be unaffected.

The contractor is working in the following areas on site:

- Activity Area
- Rock Garden
- Museum Setting
- Garden Building
- Walled Garden
- Bandstand

The Activity Buildings are now being erected and the foundations for the Garden Building and Walled Garden are under construction. The Activity Area structures are in progress, together with the placement of rocks within the Rock Garden. The specialist contractor is on site to remove the Japanese Knotweed adjacent to the Dell Garden.

Alistair Farr, Clifton Park Manager, is leading the local schools participation in the design of the concrete surrounds to the water play area. Different colours and textures are being used. This will entail the preparation of line drawings depicting fossils that will be etched into the low concrete retaining walls, and creation of 3D clay templates that will be used to form impressions in the concrete surfacing.

Procurement

Following a competitive tender exercise Clerks of Works have been chosen as follows:

Building and Civils Work – Hickton
Mechanical & Electrical Services – EDS Building Services section

A further interview will be held on Friday 30 January, 2009 to select the Landscape Clerk of Works.

Contract Costs

Generally the costs are within budget, but potential additional costs have been identified through the Risk Management process and sums have been set aside. These sums will be offset by utilising the contingency sums included within the contract sum.

Interpretation

Content for interpretive panels to be erected as part of the project is currently being developed. It is proposed that the views of Project Board Members be sought upon completion of the draft panels.

It was suggested that interchangeable monolith boards be considered in order for them to be used on a seasonal basis.

Management

Preparations are underway for the recruitment of a Horticultural Officer in early April. This post will help to ensure that the Park Management Team are able to achieve the improved standards of maintenance and management required under the terms of the HLF grant. They will ultimately be responsible for supervising the dedicated team of gardeners that will come under the control of Green Spaces after the completion of the works.

Amusements Area

Wheatley's extended lease is being finalised. This will provide for an additional area to allow the installation of a mini-golf facility to replace the old course that had to be removed to make way for the Garden Building. The operator intends to install a temporary course during 2009 with a view to building a permanent facility for 2010. Currently ways of mitigating site constraints are being explored, particularly around trees, to ensure that the best possible visitor experience can be offered by the new course.

It was agreed:- That the current position be noted.

8. TENDER REPORT FOR PLAY EQUIPMENT AND SKATE PARK

Play Park Contract

Procurement

David Burton, Consultant Project Manager, reported that the Project Team have been involved in the procurement of the following elements of the scheme:

- Play Equipment
- Skatepark

Tenders for Play Equipment had been returned on 23rd January 2009. A total of three play equipment suppliers had tendered and had been asked to give a price for both supply and supply and install.

Four Contractors had submitted a tender for the Skatepark.

Details of the tender evaluation process for both the Play Equipment and Skatepark tenders were given.

As noted previously the main infrastructure construction work and the role of Principal Contractor for this scheme will be carried out by UCS. The

scope of works is currently being refined and negotiations are currently progressing to achieve a satisfactory price.

It was agreed:- That the Project Team negotiate with Timberplay and Sutcliffe Play for a price on a mix of play equipment, based on best value and quality.

(2) That, after further negotiations and evaluation, the Director of Culture and Leisure approve the Play Park and Skatepark Contracts, as discussed, under delegated powers.

Management

Green Spaces officers developing management proposals for the play park have been in discussions with CCTV specialists to explore options for surveillance of the area with a view to protecting the new assets and assisting with visitor management. The possibility of CCTV links between Clifton Park and Main Street Police Station are being investigated.

It was agreed:- That the current position be noted.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Play Park

Phil Gill, Green Spaces Manager, reported that Officers continued to look at ways to make the play park as secure as possible.

Discussion was taking place with South Yorkshire Police about possible surveillance of the site, location of cctv cameras and possible links to Main Street Police Station, together with the role of the Police in monitoring the site.

(b) Pavilion

The existing pavilion was shortly to be removed and erected in Barkers Park.

(c) Children's Play

Phil Rogers, Director of Culture and Leisure, reported on a successful Dog Control Order initiative in Middlesborough.

The initiative related to the control of dogs off lead, and dog fouling.

It was noted that the water play area would be open in time for the Summer holidays 2009.

It was agreed:- That a report on the Dog Control Order initiative be submitted to a future meeting.

(d) Play Celebration Day

Phil Rogers, Director of Culture and Leisure, reported that a provisional date of 24th/25th July, 2009 had been agreed for play celebrations to coincide with the start of the Summer holidays.

Full details of the event had yet to be finalised but would be a fun day for children and families, celebrating play and its links to heritage.

This initiative would be financed through Play Pathfinder funding.

(e) Date for Opening and Formal Launches

Phil Gill, Green Spaces Manager, reported on plans to arrange a launch event sometime after completion of the whole scheme rather than each sequence of finish dates on individual areas of the Project.

The meeting discussed the possibility of an official launch in the Spring of 2010.

(f) Entrance to Clifton Grove/Middleton Road

Elaine Humphries, Friends of Clifton Park, raised an issue on behalf of a resident of Clifton Grove who had to open up the barrier on the road where pillars are leading to the Park.

The resident had asked that the bollard be not replaced.

It was agreed:- That Andy Lee liaise with the resident concerned and inform her that Officers and the design team were aware of her concerns and that were currently looking at ways of designing the entrance that would ensure that the issues raised were addressed.

(g) Litter in the Park

Elaine Humphries, Friends of Clifton Park, suggested that recycling bins be considered throughout the park, particularly in the kiosk and bandstand areas, in order for children to learn how to recycle cans.

It was agreed:- That recycling bins for cans be considered as part of the Project work, as discussed.

10. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed:- That the next meeting of the Clifton Park Restoration Project Board be held on a Friday at Clifton Park Museum, on a date yet to be agreed.

PLAY PATHFINDER PROJECT BOARD
Wednesday, 28th January, 2009

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillor Hodgkiss.

together with:-

David Burton	Consultant Project Manager
Peter Cunningham	Development Officer Play
Alistar Farr	Clifton Park Manager
Phil Gill	Green Spaces Manager
Andy Lee	Operations Manager
Dawn Roebuck	Senior Accountant
Phil Rogers	Director of Culture and Leisure

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dodson, Parker, Swift and Whysall. Nick Barnes, Principal Project Development Officer

10. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2008

The minutes of the previous meeting were received.

11. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

12. PROJECT UPDATE

David Burton, Consultant Project Manager, reported progress of the programme.

He confirmed that all of the sites in the Year 1 programme were designed and consultations had taken place.

Contractors had been appointed for 6 of the 12 sites and work was due to be completed this financial year.

These sites were:-

Skipton Road
 Alexandra Park
 Hangsman Lane
 Poynton Avenue
 Washfield Lane
 Thrybergh Country Park – noting that work at this site was due to finish shortly

Work at the following 6 sites was due the start from early February 2009,

and were on programme for completion by the end of the financial year. These sites were:-

Woodhall Lane
West Park Drive
Bierlow Park
Fleming Way
Falconer Lane
Hollowgate

With these works, together with Clifton Park Play Pathfinder and some work on Eldon Road Adventure Play area officers were confident that the target would be met.

In respect of the Year 2 programme, it was reported that planning work had started. The target was to complete all of the works in the Year 2 programme by the end of December 2009. Therefore the consultation process for the first 6 of the 16 Year 2 sites had started.

A detailed Consultation Plan had been drawn up for the following sites:-

Strathmore Gardens, Wath
Barrie Grove, Hellaby
Coral Drive, Aughton
Packman Road, West Melton
Dun Street, Swinton
West Melton Park, Wath

In addition Clifton Park Play Pathfinder and the Eldon Road Adventure play area would be completed.

It was confirmed that the programme was within budget, although certain of the tenders had been value engineered for individual sites to ensure that costs were not exceeded.

It was also reported that some additional funding was available from Housing Market Renewal 2008/2009 funding stream and this had been awarded to Bierlow Park, Hollowgate and the Eastwood Adventure Play Area.

Further it was reported that DCSF had offered extra funding from the 2008/2009 budget based on Rotherham's success in delivering this financial year's 12 sites within the tight timeframe. This money had been allocated to a site at Greasbrough which was already being carried out as part of another scheme outside of the Play Pathfinder initiative. At this time confirmation from DCSF that the money would be provided was still outstanding.

It was noted that the success had been very much due to the Service having plans for sites ready and always being involved in consultation.

It was noted that only 2 complaints about lack of consultation had been received and these had now been addressed.

Those present acknowledge the amount of money the Service had been able to bring into the Council, and to the work which had been done to deliver schemes within the timescale.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Hodgkiss informed the Project Board of two opening ceremonies planned for features installed at Brampton Bierlow Park:-

- Mid March – opening of the BMX track
- April/May – opening of the MUGA

It was suggested that either, or both, of these events could be a good opportunity to launch the Play Pathfinder.

14. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed this would be arranged when required (at the rising of the Clifton Park Project Board).

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services
	Date:	16 February 2009
	Title:	Rotherham Green Space Strategy – Consultation Draft
	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

A draft Green Space Strategy report has been prepared setting out proposed standards for green space provision and is submitted for consideration prior to being taken to wider consultation with the public and main stakeholders.

6. Recommendations

- **That the draft Rotherham Green Space Strategy be received and approved.**
- **That Cabinet Member gives approval to proceed with wider consultation on the draft strategy.**
- **That a pilot study is undertaken in one ward during the consultation period to explore methods for site prioritisation and possible change of use.**

7. Proposals and Details

Background

Over recent years there has been increased awareness nationally of the value of green space in improving people's health and quality of life, and environmental sustainability. However, it has become increasingly difficult to provide green spaces that meet people's expectations in Rotherham, as elsewhere. This is due largely to resource limitations, but also reflects a lack of comprehensive information about the quantity, distribution and character of green spaces, and how people access and use them. Consequently, the government has issued planning guidance (PPG17) that sets out how local authorities should assess local demand for green space and plan future provision to meet this. The Green Space Strategy aims to do this by proposing standards for provision of sites and associated services and activities, and recommending how these can be achieved.

Vision, Aims and Objectives

The Strategy is based upon the following vision for Rotherham:-

"a place where people's lives are improved by having access to a network of well-used green spaces offering a wide range of recreational and learning opportunities in high quality, sustainable environments".

Four strategic aims are proposed, as follows:-

- To increase the proportion of the people living within easy walking distance of green spaces meeting defined quality standards
- To increase the number of people who regularly visit green spaces
- To increase the proportion of the population who are satisfied with green space provision in Rotherham
- To increase the number of people participating as volunteers within green spaces.

The strategy also embraces the principles of sustainable development, fairness and community involvement. These aims and principles lead to eight specific objectives:-

- 1 Provide sufficient accessible green space to meet current and future demand efficiently and sustainably
- 2 Make Rotherham a safer, healthier and more attractive place to live and visit by ensuring green spaces are secure, clean and well designed, managed and maintained
- 3 Target existing resources and secure new funding to improve priority green spaces and maintain them to high standards
- 4 Bring together different providers of green spaces and other partners to work towards agreed standards and priorities for green space provision
- 5 Actively involve communities in the development and management of green spaces to ensure that local needs are respected and valued
- 6 Raise people's awareness of green spaces by making sites and activities within them accessible and attractive to all groups and individuals, thereby increasing use and satisfaction and contributing to community cohesion
- 7 Improve the environmental sustainability of Rotherham through biodiversity, landscape protection, reducing surface water runoff and other measures
- 8 Exploit opportunities to link green spaces to develop a green network across the borough

How the Strategy was Developed

Current supply of sites was assessed by a Green Spaces Audit undertaken by consultants and completed in 2005. This considered sites that are publicly accessible, regardless of ownership, including town parks, country parks, sports pitches, recreation grounds, public open space, countryside sites, woodlands and cemeteries. A total of 429 accessible green spaces were mapped, measured, and categorised by type. Each green space was given a quality score, based on the results of site inspections. A value score was also generated for each site based on its size, the number of people living within a five minute walking distance

of it, and the availability of alternative green spaces within walking distance of it. This analysis was used to grade each site provisionally using the following system:-

- Borough Green Spaces – large sites with intrinsic special interest attracting visitors from across the borough and beyond
- Neighbourhood Green Spaces – mostly large sites offering a range of features and used by people from across a settlement
- Local Green Spaces – appropriately maintained simple sites providing safe and clean areas for informal recreation for people living in the immediate vicinity

Information from a number of residents and green space user surveys was analysed to assess how people access and use green spaces, and how satisfied people are with different aspects of green space provision in Rotherham. Reasons for not using green spaces were also investigated.

Arrangements for managing green spaces in Rotherham were reviewed, including resource availability. A Playing Pitch Strategy was undertaken separately, and its conclusions and recommendations were also considered in the Green Space Strategy. Additionally, a study of sites of high biodiversity value was completed recently and is being used as the basis of a new Local Wildlife Site system that will supplement evidence within the Green Space Strategy in determining how to protect, manage and develop green spaces in future.

What we found

The Strategy produced a large amount of evidence to inform recommendations. Some of the major issues identified are listed below:-

- Accessibility is an important factor for people when deciding whether to use a green space
- Local people are mostly happy with the quantity of green space, but want it to be maintained better and improved
- Satisfaction with design, appearance and maintenance of green spaces is below the national average
- Safety and security are amongst people's top priorities for green spaces
- Rotherham has a large amount of accessible green space per person compared to other metropolitan districts where similar data exists
- Some Assembly Areas contain a lot more green space than others, and the proportions of different types of green space varies between them
- There are large variations in the quality of sites, and many are assessed as being high value but low quality suggesting that improvement is needed
- The Council has a successful track record of gaining external funding for green space improvement
- Revenue funding for green space management and maintenance in Rotherham has fallen over recent years, and is amongst the lowest compared to other metropolitan districts

Recommendations

The Strategy Report contains 31 recommendations. Amongst the most important of these are the following:-

- Adopt accessibility standards in new planning policy aimed at ensuring that all new homes are within 280 metres of a Local Green Space and 840 metres of a Borough or Neighbourhood Green Space
- Consider change of use at low value sites in areas with plentiful supply of green spaces
- Introduce quality standards for design, maintenance and management of sites
- Establish a prioritised programme of site improvement
- Review and simplify the ownership of Council green spaces by different departments

- Integrate grounds maintenance and management of key recreational green spaces
- Ensure all capital investment is matched by appropriate revenue budgets
- Introduce planning policy or guidance to help achieve proposed standards of green space provision, for example through Section 106 agreements
- Establish a Green Spaces Board including principal providers of green spaces to co-ordinate and monitor implementation of Green Space Strategy
- Create new opportunities for volunteering in green spaces
- Protect and enhance existing green links and create new links between existing green spaces

Further Consultation

After the draft Green Space Strategy Report has been approved, a period of wider consultation is proposed lasting approximately three months and including the following methods:-

- Meetings with Area Assembly Co-ordinating Committees
- Strategy Report made available on Rotherham MBC web-site with feedback instructions
- Strategy summary and feedback leaflet produced and distributed via libraries and other Council buildings
- Strategy Report sent to key stakeholders, including relevant statutory organisations, local MPs, Friends Groups and other local special interest groups

Pilot Study

A number of recommendations will require the development of new methodologies, for example to identify candidate sites for possible change of use and to assess their suitability for such treatment. It is proposed that a pilot study be undertaken in one ward containing a representative range of green space types. By doing this in parallel with the consultation period, it will allow more rapid progress to be achieved when the final Strategy is adopted and then implemented.

8. Finance

A consultation leaflet will cost approximately £1,500 to produce, and it is proposed that this be funded from the existing service budget. Further costs relate to delivering and sustaining the necessary improvements in green space provision. Work currently underway to determine the future of the Council's ground maintenance service will also need to take account of the recommendations of the Green Space Strategy and any resulting standards and policies and could have a financial impact which as yet can not be quantified.

It is proposed that the Service seeks to work in partnership in order to access all available external funding and developer contributions, but it will also need to make bids to the Council's Capital Programme in future years to secure funding to support the strategic development of green space sites. It is expected that the implementation of the Strategy will also generate income to the Capital Programme through the sale of sites of little strategic value.

Reprioritisation of maintenance programmes and savings from the cessation or reduction of service at some sites, based on informed decisions relating to the strategic value of sites, will be necessary to support the increased costs that will result from providing and sustaining higher standards of provision and priority sites.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Without significant capital and revenue investment it is unlikely that the proposed quality and accessibility standards can be achieved. Delivery of strategic improvements will be heavily dependant on the development of effective partnerships and the availability of external

funding opportunities and developer contributions. Whilst every effort will be made to ensure success in these areas, it is not possible to predict at this stage the availability of either. Future local need for green space provision and the impact of development activities are difficult to predict in the long term and as such the strategy will need to review green space audit data at agreed intervals in order to take account of changing circumstances.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Green Spaces Strategy will have extensive policy and performance implications.

- Rotherham Achieving: It will contribute to regeneration by shaping the new local development framework, supporting bids for inward investment, improving and promoting the image of Rotherham, and by contributing to sustainable neighbourhoods of quality, choice and aspiration.
- Rotherham Alive: The audit provides a basis for ensuring adequate site provision to support increased active use thereby contributing to improved health
- Fairness: It will seek to reduce inequalities by setting borough-wide standards for accessibility to green spaces.
- Sustainable Development: A fundamental purpose of this audit has been to identify a more sustainable approach to green space provision. This includes setting provision standards that can be maintained over a long time and environmentally sustainable management.
- Performance Indicators: The audit will feed into a green spaces strategy which should have a positive impact on BVPI 119e – Satisfaction with Cultural Services – Parks and Open Spaces, by improving access to good quality green spaces across the Borough

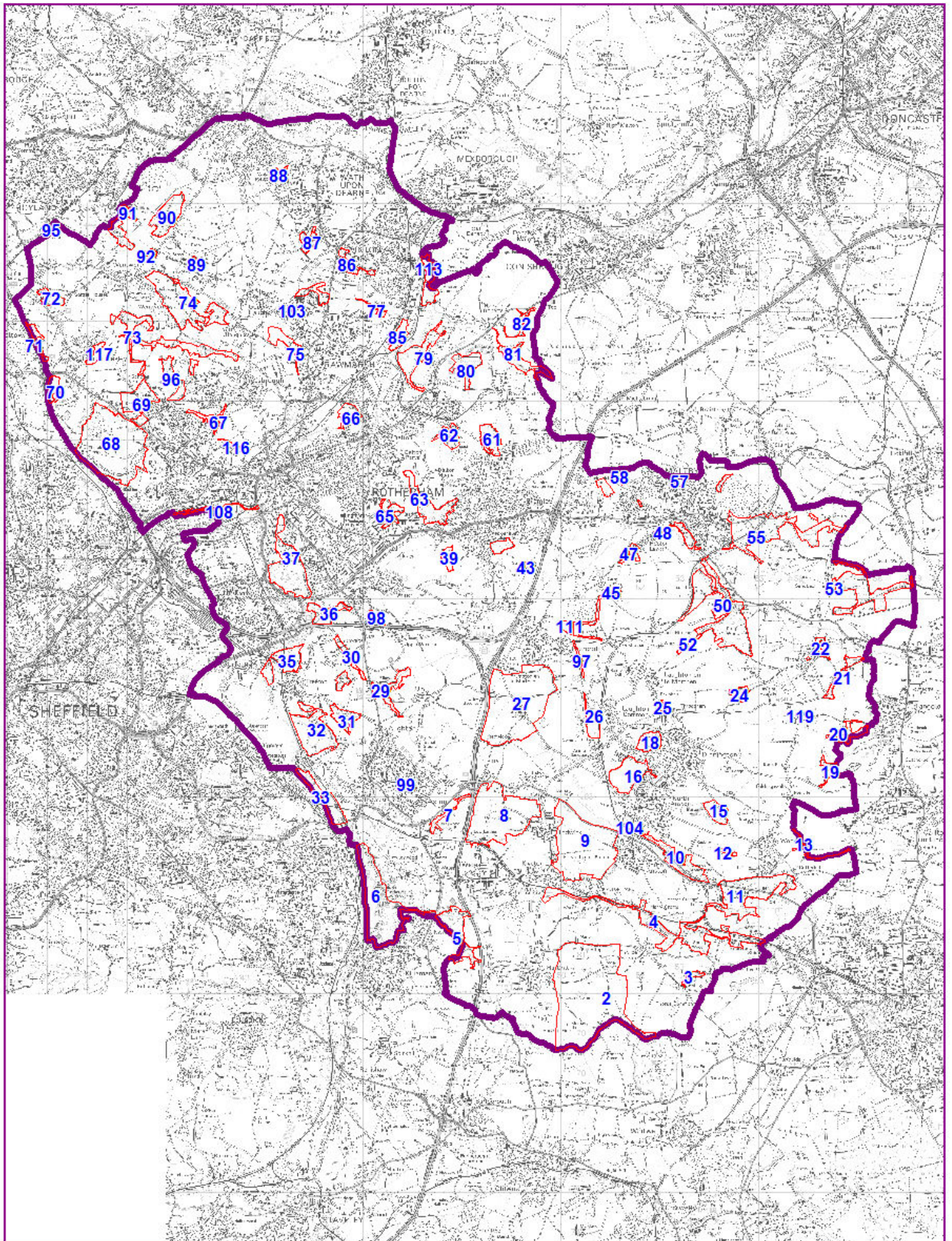
11. Background Papers and Consultation

Rotherham Draft Green Spaces Strategy – A copy will be provided for consideration by Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services
Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open space, Sport and Recreation – *Department of Communities and Local Government, 2002*
Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17– *Department of Communities and Local Government, 2001*

Consultation has taken place with a number of other directorates and departments during the preparation of the draft Green Spaces Strategy, including Neighbourhood and Adult Services, Children and Young People's Services, Planning and Regeneration, Streetpride and Asset Management. Financial and Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Contact Name : *Phil Gill, Green Spaces Manager – ext 2430.
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APPENDIX 1
Proposed Local Wildlife Sites



Rotherham candidate Local Wildlife Sites - May 2008

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ID Site

RMBC Owned Sites (25 sites)

4	Chesterfield Canal & Pennyholme & Hawkes & Old Meadow
5	Norwood & Chesterfield Canal & Locks & Woodall & K
6	Rother Valley Country Park
18	Dinnington Open Public Space
29	Ulley Country Park
31	Treeton Wood
32	Treeton Dyke (Inc. Hail Mary & Falconer Woods)
34	Catcliffe Flash LNR
35	The Canyon & Flatts Farm Marsh & Tip
37	Canklow Wood & Boston Park & Reneville Bank
45	Carr Quarry
57	The Muddies
61	Silver Wood & Gulling Wood
64	Gibbing Greave Wood
65	Herringthorpe Wood & Great Bank
67	Bassingthorpe Spring & Hudson's Rough
68	Grange Park
69	Keppel's Field, Scholes Coppice & Bray Plantation
76	Warren Vale LNR & Roman Ridge
85	Kilnhurst Agricultural Letting & Hall Wood
87	Wath Wood & Boyd Royd Wood
88	Flatts Valley
101	Hazel Road Wood
116	Clough Streamside
117	Thorne Mine

Non RMBC Owned Sites (81 sites)

2	Loscar Common
3	Lob Wells Wood & Moor Mill Farm
4	Chesterfield Canal & Pennyholme & Hawkes & Old Mea
7	Nickerwoods & Ponds
8	Todwick Common (inc. Low Laithes & J31 verges)
9	Axle Lane
10	Anston Stones Wood
11	Lindrick Golf Course
12	Dewidales Wood
13	Woodsetts Woodlands
15	Swinston Hill & Bradshaw Woods
16	Dinnington Colliery Tip
19	Langold Holt
20	Langold Farm Wood
21	Ivy Lodge Plantation & Rough Wood
22	Firbeck Hall
24	Little & Long Thwaite Woods
25	Little Moor
26	Laughton Common
27	Brampton Common
29	Ulley Country Park
30	Ulley Brook & Marsh & Packman's Bridge Marsh & Bur
32	Treeton Dyke (Inc. Hail Mary & Falconer Woods)
33	Woodhouse Washlands
35	The Canyon & Flatts Farm Marsh & Tip
36	Whiston Meadows & Blue Man's Bower
39	Wickersley Gorse

- 42 Wickersley Wood
- 43 Stack's Farm & Kings Pond
- 44 Thurcroft Hall & surrounds
- 46 Carr Hill Quarry
- 47 Carr Wood
- 48 Hooton Levitt Wood
- 49 Maltby Dyke & Wood Lee Common
- 50 Roche Abbey Woodlands SSSI
- 52 Slade Hills
- 53 Sandbeck Park
- 55 Maltby Commons & Woodlands
- 58 Lilly Hall
- 59 Hellaby Bridge Brickworks
- 61 Silver Wood & Gulling Wood
- 62 Silverwood Tip & Odd Hill
- 63 Listerdale Wood
- 66 Aldwarke Sewage Works
- 70 Smithy Wood & Lady Clough
- 71 Hesley Wood
- 72 Barley Hole Springs
- 73 Wentworth Park Lakes
- 74 Wentworth Park
- 75 New Stubin Colliery Site & Incline
- 76 Warren Vale LNR & Roman Ridge
- 77 Collier Brook & Marsh
- 79 Thryberg Tip (Inc. Woodlands & Fatty Boyn's Ponds)
- 80 Thrybergh Country Park
- 81 Hooton Brook & Valley
- 82 Hooton Cliff Plantation
- 83 Back Lane, Hooton Roberts
- 84 Kilnhurst Ings
- 85 Kilnhurst Agricultural Letting & Hall Wood
- 86 Creighton & Piccadilly Woods
- 88 Flatts Valley
- 89 Hooper Stand
- 90 Rainborough Park
- 91 Simon Wood
- 92 Lee Wood
- 93 King's wood
- 95 Skiers Spring Wood
- 96 Rockingham Wood & Shepherd's plantation
- 97 Steadfolds Lane - Disused railway lines at Thurcroft
- 98 Revel Wood
- 99 Austen Park
- 102 Bullatree Farm
- 103 Monk Wood
- 104 Anston Brook Walk
- 105 St Martin's Church, Firbeck
- 108 Holmes Goit
- 111 hurcroft Colliery
- 113 Kilnhurst Riverside
- 116 Clough Streamside
- 117 Thorne Mine
- 119 St Peters Church Letwell

Sites occurring in both lists are part RMBC owned and part other ownership

APPENDIX 2 (DRAFT)**Wentworth North**

	TYOPOLOGY	QUALITY	VALUE
BOROUGH SITE			
Wentworth House	Parks	HQ	HV
NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES			
Swinton Miners Welfare	Outdoor sports	tbc	tbc
Brampton Sports Centre	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Highfield Park, Swinton	Parks	HQ	HV
Wath Community Park	Parks	HQ	HV
Manvers Lake and Surrounds	Parks	HQ	HV
Newhill Park	Parks	LQ	HV
LOCAL SITES			
Stubbin Lane green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Symonds Ave green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Hart Hill green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Church Street greenspace 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Thomas Street greenspace	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Station Street	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Cliffefield Road greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
broadway greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Woodlands Crescent greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Calcot Green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Carlisle Street Greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Calladine Way	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Larkspur Close	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Celendine Rise	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Caraway Grove, Swinton	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Knollbeck Ave green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Westfield Road greenspace	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Smithy Bridge Lane	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Packman Road Natural site	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Elsecar Road	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Well Road greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Tennyson Rise	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
West Street, Wath	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Church Street, Wath	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
St Biscay Way 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
All Saints Parish Church, Wath	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Church Street greenspace 1	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Campsall Field Road green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Sandygate green space	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Rig Drive greenspace	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Green Lane green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Stubbin Lane ecological Site	Natural	LQ	LV
Haugh Rd field	Natural	LQ	LV
Queen's Street natural site	Natural	LQ	HV
Piccadilly Road natural site	Natural	HQ	LV
Warren Vale wood Road	Natural	HQ	HV
Moorland View natural site	Natural	LQ	HV
Wath Tip site	Natural	HQ	HV
Kirby Lane	Natural	LQ	HV
Brook Dike	Natural	LQ	HV
Michael Croft greenspace	Natural	HQ	LV

Quarry Hill Road natural site	Natural	LQ	HV
Wath Wood	Natural	HQ	HV
Kilnhurst Ings	Natural	LQ	HV
Piccadilly Road Outdoor sports	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Wath Road park	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Barnsley Road Rec, Thorpe Hesley	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Occupation Road Park, Harley	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Clayfield Lane park, wentworth	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
White Bear Estate, Wath	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Thomas street park	Parks	LQ	HV
Horsefair Park	Parks	LQ	HV
Queen's Street Park, Swinton	Parks	LQ	HV
Piccadilly POS, Swinton	Parks	LQ	HV
Packman Road Play Area	Parks	HQ	LV
West Melton park	Parks	LQ	HV
Sandygate New Road Park	Parks	HQ	LV
Avenue Road park, Wath	Parks	LQ	HV

CEMETERIES

Brampton Rd cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Wentworth Church	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Wath-upon-derne cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Church of St Margarets	Cemeteries	HQ	HV

Rotherham North

	TYPOLOGY	QUALITY	VALUE
NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES			
Bradgate Park	Parks	LQ	HV
Ferham Park	Parks	HQ	HV
Greasborough Park	Parks	HQ	HV
Barkers park	Parks	HQ	HV
Blackburn & Kimberrnorth Roundwalk NE	Parks	HQ	HV

LOCAL SITES

Ox Close Ave	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Centenary roundabout	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
chantry vw	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Fenton Road green 3	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Fenton Rd Green space 1	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Wilton Crecsent green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Kelford School	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Henley Rise green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
oates close 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
oates close, Thornhill	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Wortley Road greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Town Lane green 2	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Town Lane green space 1, Greasbrough	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Windfield Rd green space	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Roughwood Road green	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Fenton Road green 2	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Wagon Rd green space, Munsbrough	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Barbot Hill Rd green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Lapwater Road greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Town Lane greenspace 2	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Ochre Dike Walk greenspace	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Coach Road green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV

Wheatley Rd green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Town Lane green 1	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Kestrel Avenue greenspace	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Eldertree Road greenspace, Thorpe Hesley	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Upper Wortley Road green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Upperwortly Road	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Wortley Road 2	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
South Street 2	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
South Street 1	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
South Street 1	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Meadowhall Road	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Winterhill	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Droppingwell Road 1	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Wortley Road 1	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Great Park Road	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Droppingwell Road 2	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Hill Top Close	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Wortley Rd verge	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Barber Balk Rd	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Hudson's Rough	Natural	LQ	HV
Meadow Bank Road	Natural	LQ	HV
Wilton Subway	Natural	HQ	LV
Henley Way	Natural	LQ	HV
Fenton Road	Natural	LQ	HV
Munsborough Lane	Natural	LQ	LV
Hesley Lane green space	Natural	HQ	LV
Brook Hill greenspace	Natural	LQ	HV
Wentworth Rd	Natural	LQ	HV
Upper Wortley Rd green space 2	Natural	LQ	LV
Upper Wortley Rd natural site	Natural	LQ	HV
Keppels field	Natural	HQ	HV
Bray's Plantation and Scholes Plantation	Natural	HQ	HV
Baring Road	Natural	LQ	HV
Richmond Park Avenue	Natural	LQ	HV
Blackburn and Kimberworth roundwalk west the Motte	Natural	HQ	LV
Blackburn and Kimberworth roundwalk west	Natural	LQ	LV
Blackburn and Kimberworth roundwalk west	Natural	LQ	HV
Roughwood outdoor sports	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
St Pauls Field	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Blackburn and Kimberworth roundwalk west pitches	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Grayson Rd rec	Parks	LQ	HV
Bar Park, Thorpe Hesley	Parks	LQ	LV
King Georges field, Thorpe Hesley	Parks	HQ	LV
Kimberworth Community Park	Parks	LQ	HV
Kimberworth Community Park	Parks	LQ	HV
CEMETERIES			
Masborough Cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Greaseborough cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Church Street Cemetery	Cemeteries	LQ	LV
Holy Trinity Church	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
St Thomas'	Cemeteries	HQ	HV

Wentworth South

BOROUGH SITE

TYPOLOGY

QUALITY VALUE

Thrybergh CP	Parks	HQ	HV
NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES			
Gibbing Greave Wood	Natural	HQ	HV
Claypit Lane rec	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Rawmarsh Leisure Centre	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Victoria Park	Parks	LQ	HV
Valley Park	Parks	HQ	HV
LOCAL SITES			
Ryan Place green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Marriott Place green, Rawmarsh	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Barber's Ave green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Roman Crescent green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Hague Avenue green space	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Haugh Road green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
High Street corner green, Rawmarsh	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Kilnhurst Rd green space	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Vincent Rd Green	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Ferndale Drive Green	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Woodlathes Farm Pond	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
hawksworth rd flats	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Park Close green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
thryburgh sports field	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
gulling wood drive	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
paddock drive 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Brecks Lane Green Space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Old Gate Land Green Space, Thrybergh	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Dalton Lane	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Ridgeway	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Brierly road	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Wood Street Green Space, Thrybergh	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
School Street Green Space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Farnworth Rd, E Herringthopre	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Fretwell Rd green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Conway Crescent green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Durham Places	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Infirmiry Rd Hill	Natural	HQ	HV
New Meadows green corridor	Natural	LQ	LV
Dale Rd open space	Natural	LQ	HV
Moordale View open space	Natural	LQ	LV
Sandhill green link	Natural	HQ	HV
Gwyn Reed Nature Area	Natural	LQ	LV
Kilnhurst Rd pond	Natural	HQ	LV
Dysons plantation	Natural	HQ	LV
Birch Wood	Natural	LQ	HV
Warren Vale	Natural	HQ	LV
Old Warren Vale wood	Natural	HQ	LV
Heatons bank open space	Natural	LQ	HV
Ravenfield Park	Natural	HQ	HV
Firsby Reservoirs	Natural	HQ	HV
foljambe drive 2	Natural	LQ	LV
Aldwarke Locke Island	Natural	LQ	LV
Kilnhurst Ings	Natural	LQ	HV
School Lane rec, Parkgate	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Rawmarsh Miners welfare	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV

Hollings Lane green	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Sunnyside Rec	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Magna Road Rec (NOTE _ Incorrectly mapped)	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Silverwood Miners Welfare	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Kilnhurst Miners Welfare	Outdoor sports	HQ	LV
Sandhills park	Parks	HQ	LV
Herringthorpe Play Area	Parks	HQ	LV
Victoria Gardens, Kilnhurst	Parks	HQ	LV

CEMETERIES

Rawmarsh Cemetery (Haugh Rd)	Cemeteries	LQ	HV
Rawmarsh Cemetery (High Street)	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Rawmarsh Cemetery (Greasborough Lane)	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Hawksworth Road cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
East Herringthorpe cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
StThomas Church	Cemeteries	HQ	LV

Rotherham South

	TYPOLOGY	QUALITY	VALUE
BOROUGH SITES			
Moorgate Cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Canklow Wood	Natural	LQ	HV
Herringthorpe Playing Fields	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Boston Castle Park	Parks	LQ	HV
Clifton Park	Parks	HQ	HV

NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES

Eldon Rd	Parks	HQ	HV
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LOCAL SITES

Castle Avenue green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Centenary Way green spaces	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Ickles Roundabout	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Norrel's Croft green	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Broom Valley Road green	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Shawsfield Road green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
St Annes Road verge	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Ickles Lock POS	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
College Road	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Longfellow Drive 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Fitzwilliam Road 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Longfellow Drive green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Long Fellow Drive 1	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Far Lane green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
The Walk	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Cowrakes Lane	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Beaconsfield Road	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Whiston Meadows	Natural	LQ	HV
Fitzwilliam Road 1	Natural	LQ	LV
Mowbray Gardens centre	Outdoor sports	HQ	LV
Whiston Methodists Cricket Club	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Canklow Road MUGA & Play Area	Parks	HQ	HV

CEMETERIES

church street 3	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Winston Parish Church	Cemeteries	HQ	HV

Wentworth Valley

	TYOPOLOGY	QUALITY	VALUE
NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES			
Bill Hawes	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Ruby Cook	Parks	HQ	HV
Warren Road Park, Wickersley	Parks	HQ	HV
Barrie Grove, Hellaby	Parks	LQ	HV
Coronation Park	Parks	HQ	HV
LOCAL SITES			
Huntington Way	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Bramley plantation	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Bramley plantation greens	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Badsworth Place	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Laural Avenue green	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Bramley Park	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Fleming Way	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
fleming way	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Addison Road	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Birtley Street green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Yarwell Drive, Maltby	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Davy Drive green space	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Braithwell Road green space	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Tickhill Road green 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Littlewood Way Green Space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Tickhill Road green 1	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Lumley Close	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Mortimer Road 2	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Somerset Street	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Ascension close	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Addison Road green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Upperfield Close	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Victoria Way Wood, Lily Hall	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Amory's Holt Way green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Rosemary Road	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Bramley Grange Crescent	Natural	LQ	LV
Salisbury Road, Maltby	Natural	HQ	HV
Carlyle Road natural site	Natural	LQ	HV
Mortimer Road 1	Natural	LQ	LV
Blyth Road natural site	Natural	HQ	HV
Redwood Drive natural site	Natural	LQ	HV
Hazel Road park, Maltby	Natural	HQ	LV
Dale Hill Road	Natural	HQ	LV
Brecks Wood	Natural	HQ	HV
Maltby Manor Rec	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Highfield Park, Maltby	Parks	LQ	HV
Cherry Tree Park	Parks	LQ	HV
Sorby Way park, Wickersley	Parks	HQ	HV
Flash Lane park	Parks	HQ	HV
CEMETERIES			
Maltby Cemetary	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Church - Wickersley	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
Slacks Lane	Cemeteries	LQ	LV

Rother Valley West

	TYOPOLOGY	QUALITY	VALUE
BOROUGH SITES			
Pit House West (part - remainder in Rother Valley South)	Natural	LQ	HV
NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES			
Ulley Country Park	Natural	HQ	HV
Fairview Drive, Aston	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Brinsworth parish fields	Parks	LQ	HV
Alexandra Park Annex	Parks	HQ	LV
Alexandra Park	Parks	LQ	HV
Gordon Bennett park	Parks	HQ	HV
LOCAL SITES			
Fernleigh Drive, Brinsworth	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
The Chase green	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Waleswood View green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Aughton Lane	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Lodge Lane	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Florance Avenue	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Catherine Avenue green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Bawtry Road green space 3	Amenity green space	HQ	HV
Bawtry Road gren space	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Brinsford Rd green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Arundel Street green, Treeton	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
War Mamorial Square, Treeton	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Shorland Drive green	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Well Lane green, Treeton	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Orgrave Rd green	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
St Mary's Drive green space, Catcliffe	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Highfield View green	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Gray Avenue	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Mason Avenue green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Mason Avenue	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Main Street 2	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Wetherby Drive	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
West Park Drive	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
the Crescent green	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Green Arbour School, Thurcroft	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Kingsforth Lane	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Woodhouse Green	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Treeton Wood	Natural	LQ	HV
Hail Mary Wood & Falconer Wood	Natural	HQ	HV
Treeton Dyke F Masters	Natural	LQ	HV
former Treeton tip	Natural	HQ	HV
Bole Hill Plantation	Natural	LQ	HV
Engine house plantation	Natural	HQ	LV
Worksop Rd natural site	Natural	LQ	LV
Rotherham Road natural space	Natural	HQ	HV
Bawtry Road natural site	Natural	LQ	LV
well lane scrub	Natural	LQ	HV
Rother Cres	Natural	HQ	LV
Catcliffe Flash LNR	Natural	LQ	HV
Nursary Drive	Natural	LQ	HV
steadfolds Lane natural space	Natural	LQ	HV
Zamor Crescent	Natural	LQ	HV

West Lane, Aughton	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Burgoyne Park, Aston	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Washfield Lane rec	Outdoor sports	LQ	LV
Washfield Sports Ground	Outdoor sports	LQ	LV
Orgreave Rd green 2	Outdoor sports	LQ	LV
Thurcroft Miners' Welfare	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Fence Recreation Ground	Parks	LQ	LV
Main St Park, Aughton	Parks	LQ	LV
Well Lane Play Area	Parks	HQ	LV

CEMETERIES

All Saints	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Piper Lane	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Church - Ulley	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
St Helens church	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
St Mary's Church	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
St Georges Churchyard	Cemeteries	LQ	LV
Alexander Road cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Aston Park	Natural	LQ	HV

Rother Valley South

	TYOLOGY	QUALITY	VALUE
BOROUGH SITES			
Pit House West (part - remainder in Rother Valley West)	Natural	LQ	HV
Rother Valley Park	Parks	HQ	HV

NEIGHBOURHOOD SITES

Dinnington comp	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Dinnington Miner's Welfare	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Wales Parish playing fields	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Woodsetts parish field	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Greenlands park	Parks	LQ	HV
Spence Field, Harthill	Parks	LQ	HV

LOCAL SITES

Woodland Drive green space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
The Rise green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
The Green 2, North Anston	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Kendal Ave Park	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Westbank Drive green	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Nursery Rd	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
East Street green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Laughton Road	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Constable Lane green, Dinnington	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
St Leger Avenue Green Space	Amenity green space	LQ	HV
Hatfield Crescent Green Space	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Breck Lane Green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Manor Lane, Throapham	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Bookers Way	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Park Lane, Dinnington	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Riverside Court, Laughton	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Peregrine Way	Amenity green space	HQ	LV
Hard Lane verge	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
essex Close green	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Wales bar field	Amenity green space	LQ	LV
Longlands ave green spaces	Amenity green space	LQ	LV

Old Spring Wood	Natural	HQ	HV
Hawks Wood	Natural	LQ	HV
kilamarsh ponds & Nor Wood	Natural	LQ	HV
Waleswood plantation	Natural	LQ	HV
Dukeries Drive, North Anston	Natural	HQ	HV
Windmill Plantation	Natural	LQ	HV
Brook walk	Natural	HQ	HV
Anston Stones wood	Natural	HQ	HV
Alcove plantation, (Greenlands)	Natural	HQ	HV
Undergate Road Hill, Dinnington	Natural	LQ	HV
Athorpe Road natural area	Natural	LQ	LV
Undertake Road	Natural	LQ	LV
Meadow Street	Natural	LQ	LV
White Quarry plantation	Natural	HQ	LV
Abbey Close	Natural	HQ	LV
Manor lane natural site	Natural	HQ	LV
Dinnington Comp Wood	Natural	LQ	LV
Leicester Road	Natural	LQ	HV
foljambe drive 1	Natural	LQ	LV
Stockwell Ave open space	Natural	LQ	HV
Todwick Plantation	Natural	LQ	HV
Anston Parish field	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Firbeck Avenue, Laughton-en-le-Morthern	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Dinnington Miners welfare	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Winney Hill Park, Harthill	Outdoor sports	HQ	HV
Red Hill rec, Kiveton Park	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Wales High school	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Manor Road, Kiveton Park	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Swinston Hill	Outdoor sports	tbc	tbc
Sorby field, Wickersley	Outdoor sports	HQ	LV
Todwick rec	Outdoor sports	LQ	HV
Lockwood Ave play area	Parks	LQ	LV
Anston Parish hall	Parks	HQ	LV
Dinnington Park	Parks	HQ	HV
Coronation Park, Dinnington	Parks	HQ	LV
Hangman Lane park	Parks	HQ	HV
Chestnut Grove Park	Parks	LQ	LV
CEMETERIES			
StJames church	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
South Anston burial ground	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Constable Lane	Cemeteries	LQ	LV
Park Avenue Cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
St John's Road	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
All Saints Church	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Union Street Church	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Stockwell Lane cemetery	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
StJohn the Baptist	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
St Peters church	Cemeteries	HQ	LV
Todwick Parish Church	Cemeteries	HQ	HV
St Georges	Cemeteries	HQ	LV

Appendix 3 – Proposed Green Space Quality Standards***Proposed standards for image, facilities, activities and information***

Local	Neighbourhood	Borough
Welcoming	Welcoming	Welcoming
Safe and Clean	Safe and Clean	Safe and Clean
Named site, definitive list of green spaces	Named site, definitive list of green spaces	Named site, definitive list of green spaces
mapped location	mapped location	mapped location
	Seating	Seating
	Bins (dog and litter)	Bins (dog and litter)
	Children's play equipment	Children's play equipment
	On-site signage	On-site signage
	Directional off-site signage	Directional off-site signage
	Formal community engagement (e.g. forum/Friends group)	Formal community engagement (e.g. forum/Friends group)
	Suitable/available activities statement	Suitable/available activities statement
	range of facilities/activities (At least 3)	range of facilities/activities (At least 5)
	Events (min 1 per year)	Events (min 3 per year)
		Toilets
		Catering
		Brown off site signage
		Site specific marketing strategy

Proposed standards for management and development

Local	Neighbourhood	Borough
Maintenance statement (with objectives and key processes)	Management Plan (Green Flag standard)	Management Plan (Green Flag standard)
Staff (at least once fortnightly inspection)	Staff (at least once daily inspection)	Staff on site (during opening hours)
	Separate financial accounting	Separate financial accounting
	Development Master plan (10yr review) inc "safer by design" etc	Development Master plan (10yr review) inc "safer by design" etc

Proposed standards for conservation and biodiversity, landscape and heritage

Local	Neighbourhood	Borough
Best practice adopted (hedge and tree work timings etc)	Best practice adopted (hedge and tree work timings etc)	Best practice adopted (hedge and tree work timings etc)
	Assessment of biodiversity interest as part of management plan	Assessment of biodiversity interest as part of management plan
	Development master plan to include review & protection of landscape character/heritage etc	Development master plan to include review & protection of landscape character/heritage etc

Proposed Standards for Access

Local	Neighbourhood	Borough
Restrict unwanted access	Restrict unwanted access	Restrict unwanted access
DDA compliance where relevant through site development	DDA compliance where relevant through site development	DDA compliance where relevant through site development
	Car park or suitable on street parking	Car park
	Cycle storage	Cycle storage
	Footpath network within site (signed, accessible to most)	Footpath network within site (signed, accessible to most)
		Public transport information on site and directional signs to bus stop etc.
		link to strategic public rights of way network (resting points/start points for long distance routes Joint marketing)

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Development Services
2.	Date:	16th February 2009
3.	Title:	Changes to Provision of Property Search Information
4.	Directorate:	EDS

5. Summary

This report outlines the Local Land Charges Section's strategy for implementing new regulations published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) concerning charges for Property Searches.

6. Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member approves the proposed new Search process and approves the new individual fees based on the principal of cost recovery.

7. Proposals and Details

Background and context

As a public service, Local Authorities are required to maintain a record of all their decisions. Generally, where these constitute a statutory 'restriction' on a property, they are entered in the Local Land Charges Register. Other information is recorded on various Registers and Plans held by the Local Authority (LA).

The LA will reveal a subset of this information to persons carrying out property searches, usually bound for inclusion in the Home Information Packs required in advance of all domestic property sales.

Currently, Rotherham MBC's fee for an official 'Standard' Search on a property consists of:

1. a search of the LLC Register (LLC1) - £6 Postal/£4 Electronic;
2. the answers to 64 Departmental Enquiries (form CON29R) - £95 Postal/£77 Electronic, and;
3. additional Enquiries (form Con29O) which may be made and attract an extra fee.

Instead of paying for the official search outlined above, private search companies invariably elect to carry out a 'Personal Search'. The fee for a Personal Search is set by statute at £11 and strictly consists of an inspection of the LLC Register, although private search company representatives will also visit the Customer Service Centre, Highways and Drainage Services, and the Council's Web Site to gather more information from free registers. When accessing LA information, representatives of private search companies can pose as members of the public and then resell the information on their own versions of the Departmental Enquiry forms (Con29R and Con29O) detailed above.

Introduction of New Regulations

The introduction of Home Information Packs has focussed attention on the fact that private search companies have not had universal access to all the information required to complete the Departmental Enquiry forms. Under these circumstances, the government has allowed private search companies to rely on their insurance to cover problems which may arise from the incompleteness of their search reports. This concession is due to lapse on 5th April 2009, which will mean that private searchers will press strongly for access to such information.

Local Authorities are therefore being asked to set charges for access to the rest of this property information, having regard to the actual cost of provision. The Statutory Instrument for regulating these charges entitled 'Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008' (SI 2008/3248) was passed on 16 December 2008 with an effective date of 23 December 2008 and is included as Appendix 1. This aims to clarify what can be charged for and how. Essentially, the LA can only charge for retrieval and maintenance of information which is not on free statutory registers.

Consequently, Local Land Charges, Planning, Building Control, Highways and Environmental Health have been involved in investigations aimed at calculating officer time, etc taken to maintain and extract chargeable search information (on a strictly 'cost recovery' basis). With the help of Financial Services this exercise has allowed us to calculate new fees for access to LA information which will replace all those shown above (apart from the Personal Search fee, which is still reserved for statutory control).

New Process and Fees

In response to what is likely to be an increased demand for non-public register information, the Local Land Charges team is proposing to set up a 'one-stop shop' system offering a choice of search products including public and non-public register information for a fee based on cost retrieval. Although private search representatives will still be free to access public register information according to existing provisions, we will be channelling all other requests via the 'one-stop shop' system in order to avoid complications arising from Data Protection, security, and health and safety issues.

See Appendix 2 for the proposed information note for property searchers. This will be published on the Authority's web site and generally made available to enquirers. The fees shown (apart from the Personal Search of the LLC Register option) are calculated on a cost recovery basis.

8. Finance

The proposed new fees are less than the current Search fees. Although increased income is expected from private search companies, there will be reduced income from conveyancers submitting official standard searches. It is estimated that, if the housing market remains depressed, the income from this type of Search will be around £150,000 for 2009/10. The DCLG Regulations state that Search fees have to be revised each year to reflect actual conditions in the market.

The Agency fees to be paid to Environmental Health for their contribution to answering search enquiries are to be reduced from £15000 to £8000 for 2009/10.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The volatility of the housing market coupled with major changes brought about by HIPs, etc. was bound to inject uncertainty into the Local Authority Searches service.

The private search companies are lobbying for LA property information to be provided free under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. The outcome of this strategy is uncertain.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Both these indicators may be affected as the market adjusts to the new conditions:

LPI 14 Land Search Breakdown

LPI 15 Search Turnaround

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Appendix 1 "Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008" DCLG January 2008

Appendix 2 "How to Access Local Authority Property Information"

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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2008 No. 3248

HOUSING, ENGLAND

The Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008

Made - - - - *16th December 2008*

Coming into force in accordance with regulation 1(2)

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 150 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989(a), and having, in accordance with section 152(6) of that Act, consulted such representatives of local government as appear to be appropriate:

In accordance with section 150(6) of that Act, a draft of this instrument was laid before Parliament and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.

Citation, commencement and application

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008.

(2) These Regulations shall come into force seven days after the day on which they are made.

(3) These Regulations apply only to local authorities in England.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations, “access to property records” means access to property records granted by a local authority in any of the following ways—

- (a) allowing a person to inspect or search property records at a place designated by the authority for doing so;
- (b) allowing the making of or providing copies of, property records; or
- (c) the electronic transmission of property records, or copies of such records,

and in these Regulations, the expression “access to property records” is to be construed accordingly.

(2) In these Regulations, a reference to a local authority “answering enquiries about a property” means—

- (a) the answering by the authority of any specific oral or written enquiries from a person about a property or property records; or

(a) 1989 c. 42. The powers under sections 150 and 152 of the Act are exercisable in relation to Wales, by the Welsh Ministers; see the reference to the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in Schedule 1 to the National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/672), and paragraphs 30 and 32 of Schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006 (c.32).

- (b) the carrying out by the authority of any activities for the purposes of answering such enquiries.

(3) In these Regulations—

“financial year” means a period of twelve consecutive months ending with 31st March;

“free statutory information” means information required to be provided by a local authority under an enactment, where that enactment expressly—

- (a) prohibits a local authority from making a charge for doing so; or
- (b) requires that the authority provides the information free of charge;

“local authority” means—

- (a) a county council;
- (b) a district council;
- (c) a London Borough Council;
- (d) the Common Council of the City of London; and
- (e) the Council of the Isles of Scilly;

“internal transaction” means the granting of access to property records by one department of a local authority to another department of that authority;

“property” means a specified building or structure or specified land in relation to which property records are held by a local authority;

“property records”—

- (a) includes documents, registers, files and archives (held in any form by the local authority), which relate to a property;
- (b) includes information derived from such documents, registers, files and archives; but
- (c) excludes the local land charges register kept under section 3(2) of the Local Land Charges Act 1975(a);

“request” includes a written, oral, electronic or automated request; and

“unit charge” means the charge described in regulation 6(2).

Revocation and transitional provision

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (3), the Local Authorities (Charges for Land Searches) Regulations 1994(b) are revoked in relation to England.

(2) These Regulations apply where a local authority receives—

- (a) a request for access to property records; or
- (b) enquiries about a property,

on or after the date these Regulations come into force.

(3) The Local Authorities (Charges for Land Searches) Regulations 1994 continue to apply where a local authority receives—

- (a) a request for access to property records; or
- (b) enquiries about a property,

before the date these Regulations come into force.

Scope of regulations 5 and 8

4.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), regulations 5 and 8 apply in respect of a local authority—

(a) 1975 c. 76.
(b) S.I. 1994/1885.

- (a) granting access to property records; or
- (b) answering enquiries about a property,

whether it does so under a power or duty, created or imposed by any enactment.

(2) Regulations 5 and 8 do not apply—

- (a) to anything in respect of which a local authority may or must impose a charge apart from these Regulations; or
- (b) in respect of access to free statutory information, except to the extent that a local authority is providing a service which is supplementary or incidental to that described in the enactment in question.

(3) Regulations 5 and 8 do not apply in respect of anything done in the course of exercising an excepted function.

Charges for access to property records

5.—(1) This regulation applies where a local authority grants access to property records to a person (including to another local authority).

(2) The authority may impose a charge on that person for granting such access if it makes or proposes to make an internal recharge (analogous to a charge) for internal transactions.

(3) The charges and recharges made under this regulation must be calculated in accordance with regulations 6 and 7.

Calculation of charges for access to property records

6.—(1) This regulation and regulation 7 make provision for the charges and internal recharges made under regulation 5(2) to be no more than the costs to the local authority of granting access to property records.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), each charge or recharge (the “unit charge”) for access to property records made during a financial year must be calculated by—

- (a) dividing a reasonable estimate of the likely total costs to the local authority in granting access to property records (and performing internal transactions) during the financial year; by
- (b) a reasonable estimate of the number of requests for access to property records likely to be received (from another person or different departments of the authority) over that same financial year.

(3) A local authority must take all reasonable steps to ensure that over the course of any period of three consecutive financial years, the total income (including notional income from internal transactions) from such charges and recharges does not exceed the total costs of granting access to property records.

(4) Where under paragraph (2), a local authority makes an overestimate or underestimate of the unit charge for a financial year, it must take this into account in determining the unit charge for the following financial year.

(5) Each unit charge made during a financial year must be the same amount and must be applied on equal terms, regardless of whether it is made in relation to granting access to property records or internal transactions (although multiple unit charges may be made in respect of multiple requests for access or multiple transactions).

Interpretation of costs under regulation 6(1)

7.—(1) In regulation 6(1), “costs” means any costs to the local authority (including related salary costs and the costs of the creation and maintenance of records) reasonably incurred in connection with complying with a request for access to property records.

(2) In regulation 6(1), “costs” does not include—

- (a) such costs as the local authority incurs in granting access to free statutory information; or
- (b) such costs to the authority as are directly referable to the maintenance of free statutory information.

Charges by local authorities for answering enquiries about a property

8.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a local authority may charge a person (including another local authority) in respect of answering enquiries from that person about a property.

(2) Any charge made under paragraph (1) may be made at the local authority's discretion but must have regard to the costs to the local authority of answering enquiries about the property.

Transparency in relation to setting of charges

9.—(1) During each financial year, a local authority must publish a statement setting out—

- (a) the estimates the local authority has made under regulation 6(2) (estimates of total costs and estimates of numbers of requests) in respect of the unit charge for the following financial year;
- (b) the basis for those estimates; and
- (c) the amount of the unit charge it proposes for the following financial year.

(2) In respect of every financial year, beginning with that which ends on 31st March 2010, a local authority must publish by 30th June following the end of that financial year, a summary setting out—

- (a) the total costs to the authority in granting access to property records or performing internal transactions;
- (b) the number of requests to which these costs relate; and
- (c) the total income (or notional income) to the authority from charges and recharges made under regulation 5.

(3) In respect of every financial year, beginning with that which ends on 31st March 2010, a local authority must publish by 30th June following the end of that financial year, a summary setting out the total income to the authority from charges made under regulation 8 (answering enquiries about a property).

(4) The information to be published under this regulation must be approved by the person having responsibility for the administration of the financial affairs of the local authority under —

- (a) section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972(a); or
- (b) in the case of the Common Council of the City of London, section 6 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989(b).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

16th December 2008

Iain Wright
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Communities and Local Government

(a) 1972. c. 70. Section 151 applies to the Council of the Isles of Scilly by virtue of section 265 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Isles of Scilly Order 1978 (S.I. 1978/1844).
(b) 1989 c. 42.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations allow local authorities to make charges for services provided in connection with property searches, specifically “access to property records” and “answering enquiries about a property”. The interpretation of both expressions is dealt with in regulation 2, along with other relevant expressions.

Regulation 3 revokes the Local Authorities (Charges for Land Searches) Regulations 1994, but makes transitional provision in respect of the charges to be made by local authorities in respect of requests received while those Regulations were in force.

Regulation 4 provides that the charging arrangements set out in the Regulations apply whether or not a local authority provides the services under a power or duty. However, they do not apply where a local authority has another power to charge or is under a duty to do so. They also do not apply in respect of access to “free statutory information” (see regulation 2(3)).

Regulations 5, 6 and 7 deal with the calculation of charges for the granting by a local authority of access to property records. Regulation 6 provides that these charges must not amount to more than the costs of granting access. Specifically, each charge made (“the unit charge”), must be calculated by dividing an estimate of the total yearly costs in providing access by an estimate of the number of requests to be received that year. As the unit charge is based on estimates, paragraphs (4) and (5) provide that over a period of three consecutive years, a local authority must ensure that the total income from charges does not exceed their total costs. In addition, where a local authority has made an under or overestimate of the unit charge, it must take this into account in determining charges for the following year. Regulation 7 provides for the interpretation of “costs”.

Regulation 8 gives a local authority power to make charges in respect of answering enquiries about property. These charges must have regard to the costs to the local authority in answering enquiries.

Regulation 9 requires local authorities to publish certain information each year in connection with the charges made under these Regulations. Each year, a local authority must publish information relating to unit charges. Additionally, from 2010, each must publish a yearly summary of the total income and costs relating to access to property records, and a summary of the total income from answering enquiries. The information published under regulation 9 must be approved by the person having responsibility for the financial affairs of the authority.

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2008 No. 3248

HOUSING, ENGLAND

The Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008

£5.00

APPENDIX 2

How to Obtain Property Search Information

From the [date] we will be making fundamental changes to the property search services available in Rotherham. This guide has been produced to help anyone involved in completing Home Information Packs, etc., specifically those seeking to obtain a list of entries in the Local Land Charges Register and answers to the enquiries on Forms Con29R and Con29O. A search of the local authority records can help to protect potential purchasers – it lets them know if there are any restrictions, agreements or proposals which may affect the property or land.

Some of the enquiries can be answered from publicly available resources, but other information is held on various departmental databases. Refer to the list below for guidance on how to access property information:

- **Complete Local Authority Search (LLC1 & Con29R, covering all required property enquiries)** – Apply direct to us by ESearch or post for £60.00. The fee is the sum of the Local Land Charges Register Search (LLC1), and all the fees to be paid for accessing non public register information on the Enquiry Form Con29R. The total fee is calculated according to Government legislation (Statutory Instrument 2008/Number 3248). You can also obtain full searches via one of the National Land Information Service (NLIS) channels.
- **Con29R** – All enquiries on Con29R 2007. Apply direct to us by ESearch or post for £40.00. The fee is the sum of all the fees to be paid for accessing non public register information and is calculated according to Government legislation. You can also obtain full searches via one of the National Land Information Service (NLIS) channels.
- **Local Land Charges Register (LLC1 only)** - An LLC1 search covers the information held on the Local Land Charges (LLC) Register and can be purchased for £20.00. The fee is calculated according to Government legislation. Apply direct to us by ESearch or post. You can also obtain LLC1 searches via one of the National Land Information Service (NLIS) channels.
- **Personal Search of the Land Charges Register** - The LLC Register is a public register which may be inspected by anyone wishing to do so, the current statutory fee being £11.00 per search. The Local Land Charges Register is available in electronic format for public inspection between 9:30-12:00 and 14.00-16:00 Monday to Thursday at the Local Land Charges office in Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham S60 1TD. Please note:
 - ❖ A Personal Search only covers access to the Local Land Charges Register and not any other Statutory Register.
 - ❖ Under rule 7 of The Local Land Charges Rules 1977, Conditional Planning Permission information can be obtained from The Planning Public Register.

- ❖ Personal search agents should be prepared and competent to carry out an inspection of Local Authority records without assistance from Local Authority staff. Some knowledge of Local Land Charges and the governing legislation. If an agent is attending for the first time or is unsure how to access the Authority's system, staff will demonstrate/explain how to access/extract information from the Authority's records.
 - ❖ Personal search agents may not undertake training of their staff at the Local Authority's office.
 - ❖ The Home Information Pack (No 2) Regulations 2007 require that any person completing a search report must do so with 'reasonable care and skill'. While Local Authority staff can provide access to the relevant records, it is the responsibility of the person carrying out the search to identify and record the relevant information from those records. Local Authority staff may offer factual clarification of what is in the Register but are under no obligation to answer any supplementary or additional enquiries when a personal search is made.
 - ❖ Copies of Local Land Charges Register entries are available at £1.50 each.
- **Planning Public Register (Con29R Q1.1a-e)** – This register contains details of all Planning Applications and decisions under planning legislation. Visit one of Rotherham's Customer Service Centres (CSCs) or search online at <http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/graphics/Residents/Planning/EDSFindPlanningApps.htm>
 - **Building Regulations (Con29R Q1.1f-h, 3.8)** – Currently only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
 - **Planning Designations and Proposals (Con29R Q1.2)** – You can obtain this information by inspecting the Unitary Development Plan at CSCs or online at http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/wps/portal/?PpAction=select_document&select_type_id=102&select_object_id=1043710263251&text_category=PC&select_loc=
 - **Register of Adopted Highways (Con29R Q2a)** – viewable by appointment at the Highways Service office.
 - **Highways Information (Con29R Q2b-d, 3.2, 3.4, 3.7e)** – Only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
 - **Traffic Schemes (Con29R Q3.6)** – Only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
 - **Various Outstanding Environmental Health Notices (Con29R Q3.7a-d,f)** – Only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.

- **Notices, Orders, Directions and Proceedings under Planning Acts (Con29R Q3.9)** – Only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
- **Enforcement & Tree Preservation Order Public Registers** - These registers contain Enforcement Notices, Stop Notices, Breach of Condition Notices and Tree Preservation Orders. Available online at [http](http://www.local.gov.uk) etc. NB: Enforcement Notices are only shown where they are effective and no appeal is in progress)
- **Conservation Area (Con29R Q3.10)** – Only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
- **Compulsory Purchase (Con29R Q3.11)** – Only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
- **Contaminated Land (Con29R Q3.12)** – Only available as part of a full Con29R search. Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
- **Radon Gas (Con29R Q3.13)** – Searches can be carried out via the UK Radon website, www.ukradon.org and the Health Protection Agency (HPA) website, www.hpa.org.uk/radiation (a fee will be charged for this service). Also available as part of a full Con29R search - apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
- **Optional Enquiries (Con 290 Q4-22)** – Apply by ESearch or post to Local Land Charges or via NLIS.
- **Other Useful Contacts** - The local authority is not responsible for maintaining public sewers/water supply records. If you wish to purchase Con29DW drainage and water search contact Severn Trent Searches on 01159 627269 web link www.severntrentsearches.com or Safe-Move (Yorkshire Water) on 0800 1 385 385 web link <http://www.safe-move.co.uk/safemove/safemove.nsf/Home?OpenForm>. A fee will be charged for this information.

Important Information

All our fees have been set on a cost-recovery basis in accordance with legislation SI 2008/Number 3248 effective 23 December 2008.

Due to the way our computerised system operates, we are unable at present to offer responses to single enquiries in isolation. The responses comprise data retrieved from Departmental sources and a fee is payable by Local Land Charges to originating Departments. That same fee is charged to the applicant and does not include a compilation fee. Up to this point in the search process costs incurred are the same irrespective of whoever submitted the request (i.e. private search company applicant or official search applicant), All our property search related data is computerised and considered refined and so there is no access available to raw data.

Local Land Charges One Stop Shop will accept search requests by hand/post/email from private search companies with payment in advance or by invoice as appropriate.

There is no denial of access to the required information at this authority as it is easily obtainable from Local Land Charges. Individual Departments will not respond to personal callers with requests for non-statutory information as existing resources are not set up to cope with the exceptionally heavy volume of searches carried out by the private search sector.

This system was set up after careful consideration to ensure a speedy, efficient and cost-effective service for our clients and at the same time making best use of Council resources.

Local Land Charges Team Contact Details:

Address:

Local Land Charges
Bailey House
Rawmarsh Road
ROTHERHAM
S60 1TD

DX: No DX

Phone: 01709 823890

Email: eds-landcharges@rotherham.gov.uk for all search enquiries

Find ESearch forms and general info at:

<http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/graphics/Residents/Planning/Local+Land+Charges/>

Please do not hesitate to contact anyone in the team for assistance.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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