



# **Parks and Grounds Maintenance Team Plan 2015/16**

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Service Plan: Visible Services  
Date signed off: 31/07/2015  
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## Team Overview – Parks and Grounds Maintenance

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The Parks and Grounds Maintenance team undertakes a number of key roles for the Council. The team provides a dedicated, integrated service embedded in Visible Services to provide, manage, maintain parks and open spaces using a mixed economy approach.

### **The Team's broad functions are:**

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- Provision, management and maintenance of sports facilities, associated pavilions and changing rooms;
- Management and maintenance of Formal Parks and Gardens;
- Management and maintenance of recreation grounds, playing fields and open spaces for passive and active recreation;
- Management and maintenance of the Council's Highways, Housing and Parks trees;
- Provision, management and maintenance of play equipment, skate parks and multi-use games areas
- Conservation and management of nature areas and woodlands
- Grass cutting on urban and rural verges
- Provision, management and maintenance of allotments
- Working with individuals, groups and the community to satisfy their aspirations for the Division's responsibilities in managing and maintaining Parks and Open Spaces.

## Our Contribution to Service Plan Priorities 2014/15

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Our contribution to the Service Plan priorities last year:

What we have achieved

- Overall satisfaction with parks and grounds maintenance services remained high with over 9 in 10 respondents satisfied with the service (92% including *very* and *fairly satisfied*). Almost half of those were *very satisfied* with the service (45%). This was consistent with the levels of satisfaction in 2012. (Beaufort Research 2014)
- Service Objective 3 – To provide opportunities for outdoor play, recreation and education by creating and maintaining public green spaces. Increased play area refurbishments using Grant Funding and S106 Funds,
- Have achieved Green Flag Award status for 5 parks as a mark of excellence demonstrating good amenities and community involvement in the parks. (E10 2014/15)
- Implement grass cutting standards for all amenity areas and highway verges that are acceptable to the majority of residents and visitors to the Vale. (E11 2014/15) Implemented a change in grass cutting regimes to improved visual quality and reduced cost.
- The service is maintained a balanced budget despite increased pressures caused by maintaining areas of new land where little or no additional budget is available. (e.g. Rhoose Point.)
- Started work on site at Cemetery Approach in Barry in conjunction with Barry Town Council.
- Delivered a successful programme of events throughout the Vale's open space areas, in particular with Cadstock in Victoria Park in Barry, where a number of music and cultural events were well received and will continue.
- Continued with the arrangement for the collection of fees for the playing of football was implemented which meant lower costs to local football teams, increasing income to the Council.

## Our Team Plan 2015/16

<b>Service Outcome 2:</b>		<b>The Vale is a clean, safe, well-maintained and sustainable place to live or visit.</b>						
<b>Objective 3:</b>		<b>To provide opportunities for outdoor play, recreation and education by creating and maintaining public green spaces</b>						
<b>Ref.</b>	<b>During 2015-16 we plan to:</b>	<b>Success Criteria/ Outcomes we'll achieve from this action are:</b>	<b>High, Medium or Low priority</b>	<b>Officer responsible for achieving this action</b>	<b>Start date</b>	<b>Finish date</b>	<b>How will the work be resourced ?</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<b>(CP/E9) (VS/A076)</b>	<b>Implement a Tree Management Strategy to improve the management of the Council's tree stock and monitoring for diseases.</b>	<b>Completion of the audit of the Council's tree stock will enable development of risk based management approach. Reduction in insurance liability for third party risk associated with tree damage.</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Stephen Sloman</b>	<b>01/04/2015</b>	<b>31/03/2016</b>	<b>Internal staff and the appointment of external consultants. VS Asset Renewal.</b>	<b>Documents drafted for external consultants.</b>
	Review and revise existing contract documents.	Revised documentation	Medium	Stephen Sloman	August 2015	September 2015	P&GM Revenue budget	
	Expose the contract to Tender	Revised documentation	Medium	Stephen Sloman	September 2015	November 2015	P&GM Revenue budget	
	Monitor successful consultant and receive consultant's report.	Consultant's Report	Medium	Stephen Sloman	November 2015	February 2016	P&GM Revenue budget	
	Draft cabinet Report for the Tree Management Strategy.	Draft Cabinet report. Cabinet report approved.	Medium	Phil Beaman	March 2016	March 2016	P&GM Revenue budget	

<b>(CP/E12) (VS/A095)</b>	<b>Work with residents and landowners to facilitate an increase in the number of allotment plots available throughout the Vale. (2014/15)</b>	<b>Increased number of allotments</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Phil Beaman</b>	<b>01/04/2015</b>	<b>31/03/2016</b>	<b>Internal staff and the appointment of external consultants.</b>	<b>Awaiting the outcome of the Welsh Governments Consultation on allotments</b>
	We are currently awaiting the outcome of the Welsh Governments Consultation on allotments	WG Consultation Report.	Medium	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	November 2015	P&GM Revenue budget	
<b>(VS/A096)</b>	<b>Work collaboratively with local residents, community groups and users to improve and ensure good standards across all our public green spaces and local facilities.</b>	<b>Improved recreational spaces. Increased opportunities to participate in leisure, sports and play activities. High satisfaction levels maintained.</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Phil Beaman</b>	<b>01/04/2015</b>	<b>31/03/2016</b>	<b>Internal staff and the Council's appointment of external consultants.</b>	<b>Ongoing work with individuals, groups and community groups.</b>
	Work with KGAC, Friends of Belle Vue Park, Friends of Victoria Park and Friends of Romilly Park to organise a number of events in our green open spaces.	Successful facilitation of Music in the Park, Cadstock, GlastonBarry and other smaller scale events	Medium	Jon Greatrex	01/04/2015	March 2016	P&GM Revenue budget	
	Work with the Vale of Glamorgan Leagues and clubs to deliver	Good standard of sports provision across the Vale.	Medium	Adam Sargent	01/04/2015	March 2016	P&GM Revenue budget	

	good standards for sports provision.							
	Work with Wenvoe Wildlife Group to maintain Orchid Field.	Increased biodiversity at the site.	Medium	Adam Sargent	01/04/2015	March 2016	P&GM Revenue budget	
	Work with Cwm Talwg Woodlands Residents Group and Birchgrove Woodland Group	Increased biodiversity at the site. Safe to use woodlands.	Medium	Stephen Sloman	01/04/2015	March 2016	P&GM Revenue budget	
<b>(CP/E12) (VS/A046)</b>	<b>Update and finalise the allotment strategy incorporating recent Welsh Government guidelines</b>	<b>Vale Allotment strategy reflects WG guidelines. Increased community engagement including Town and Community Councils with the development and management of the Vale's allotments.</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Phil Beaman</b>	<b>01/04/2015</b>	<b>31/03/2016</b>	<b>Internal staff and the Council's appointment of external consultants.</b>	<b>Awaiting the outcome of the Welsh Governments Consultation on allotments</b>
	We are currently awaiting the outcome of the Welsh Governments Consultation on allotments	WG Consultation Report	Medium	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	March 2016		
<b>(VS/A097)</b>	<b>Establish a long term future for Jenner Park.</b>	<b>Consideration is currently being given to the possible introduction of an artificial playing surface at Jenner Park which could increase use and</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Phil Beaman</b>	<b>01/04/2015</b>	<b>31/03/2016</b>	<b>Current staffing and budget resources. VS Capital Programme</b>	<b>Cabinet Minute C2774 Jenner Park 11th May 2015. Contracts tendered.</b>

		<b>reduce operational costs.</b>						
	Work with Internal staff and the Council's appointed external consultants and contractors to carry out the following projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation of 3G pitch,</li> <li>• upgrade stands,</li> <li>• upgrade clubhouse.</li> </ul>	Successful installation of 3G pitch  Upgraded stands able to obtain Certification.  Upgraded Clubhouse	High	Stephen Sloman / Adam Sargent	July 2015	March 2016	VS Capital Programme	
<b>(VS/A098)</b>	<b>Deliver the Paget Road outdoor leisure development.</b>	<b>Refurbishment of the facility drives up usage figures on a reduced operating cost. Increased participation in sports.</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Phil Beaman</b>	<b>01/04/2015</b>	<b>31/03/2016</b>	<b>Current staffing and budget resources. VS Capital Programme (S106)</b>	<b>Scheme drafted. Consultation planned for the proposal Sept/ Oct 2015</b>
	Undertake a consultation on the project.	Support for the Paget Road outdoor leisure development.	Medium	Stephen Sloman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Current staffing and budget resources.	
	Work with Internal staff and the Council's appointed external consultant to carry out a revision of the Noise Impact Assessment.	Updated Noise Impact Assessment	Medium	Stephen Sloman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Current staffing and budget resources. VS Capital Programme (S106)	