



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

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:

- 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

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

Service Outcome 2:		The Vale is a clean, safe, well-maintained and sustainable place to live or visit.						
Objective 3:		To provide opportunities for outdoor play, recreation and education by creating and maintaining public green spaces						
Ref.	During 2015-16 we plan to:	Success Criteria/ Outcomes we'll achieve from this action are:	High, Medium or Low priority	Officer responsible for achieving this action	Start date	Finish date	How will the work be resourced ?	Progress
(CP/E9) (VS/A076)	Implement a Tree Management Strategy to improve the management of the Council's tree stock and monitoring for diseases.	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.	Medium	Stephen Sloman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Internal staff and the appointment of external consultants. VS Asset Renewal.	Documents drafted for external consultants.
	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	

(CP/E12) (VS/A095)	Work with residents and landowners to facilitate an increase in the number of allotment plots available throughout the Vale. (2014/15)	Increased number of allotments	Medium	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Internal staff and the appointment of external consultants.	Awaiting the outcome of the Welsh Governments Consultation on allotments
	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	
(VS/A096)	Work collaboratively with local residents, community groups and users to improve and ensure good standards across all our public green spaces and local facilities.	Improved recreational spaces. Increased opportunities to participate in leisure, sports and play activities. High satisfaction levels maintained.	Medium	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Internal staff and the Council's appointment of external consultants.	Ongoing work with individuals, groups and community groups.
	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	
(CP/E12) (VS/A046)	Update and finalise the allotment strategy incorporating recent Welsh Government guidelines	Vale Allotment strategy reflects WG guidelines. Increased community engagement including Town and Community Councils with the development and management of the Vale's allotments.	Medium	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Internal staff and the Council's appointment of external consultants.	Awaiting the outcome of the Welsh Governments Consultation on allotments
	We are currently awaiting the outcome of the Welsh Governments Consultation on allotments	WG Consultation Report	Medium	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	March 2016		
(VS/A097)	Establish a long term future for Jenner Park.	Consideration is currently being given to the possible introduction of an artificial playing surface at Jenner Park which could increase use and	High	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Current staffing and budget resources. VS Capital Programme	Cabinet Minute C2774 Jenner Park 11th May 2015. Contracts tendered.

		reduce operational costs.						
	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"> • Installation of 3G pitch, • upgrade stands, • upgrade clubhouse. 	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	
(VS/A098)	Deliver the Paget Road outdoor leisure development.	Refurbishment of the facility drives up usage figures on a reduced operating cost. Increased participation in sports.	Medium	Phil Beaman	01/04/2015	31/03/2016	Current staffing and budget resources. VS Capital Programme (S106)	Scheme drafted. Consultation planned for the proposal Sept/ Oct 2015
	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)	