



Knowsley Council

Alternative Delivery Models LCR Rethinking Parks Study

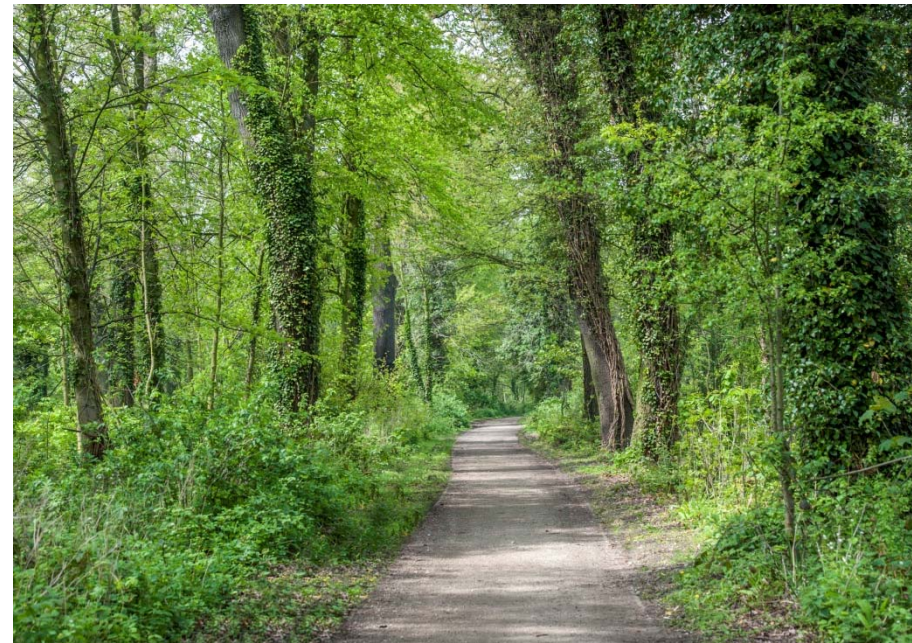
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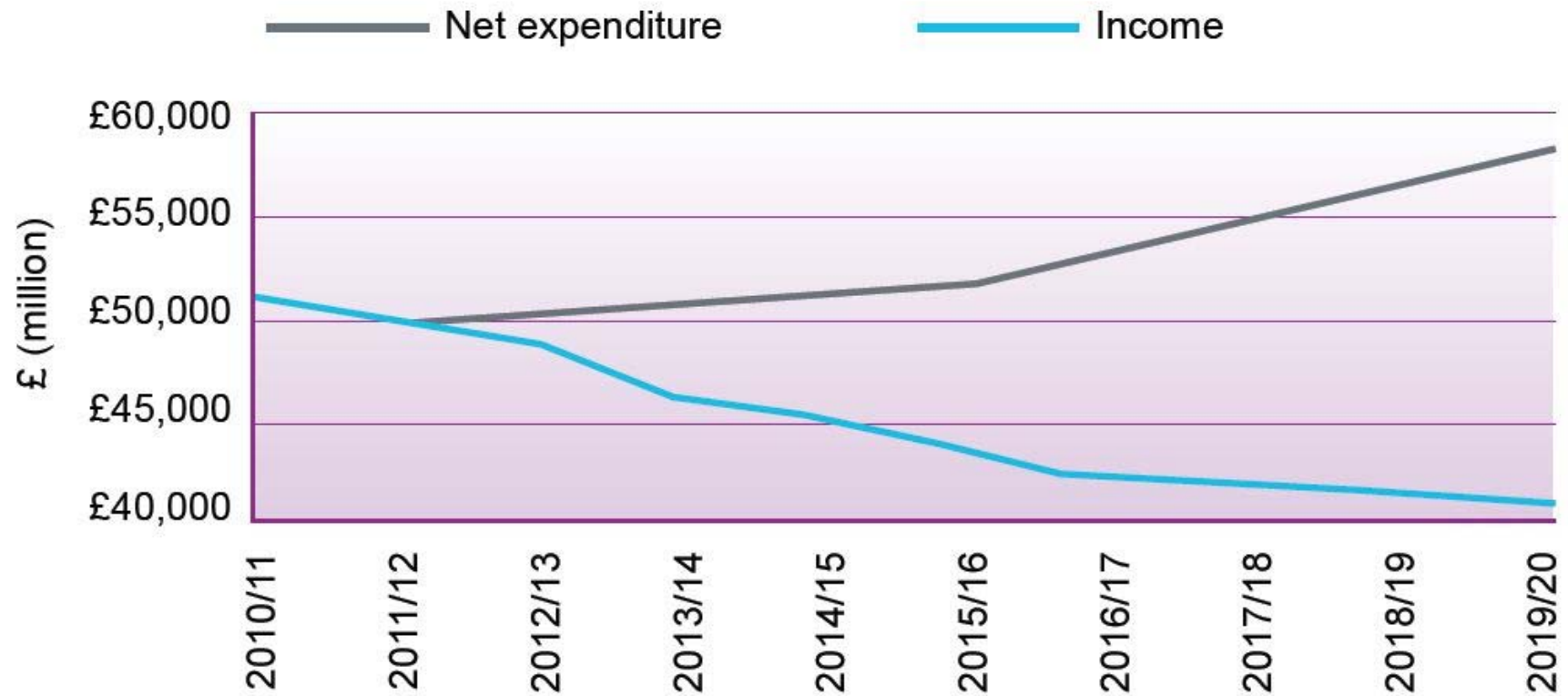
Rejuvenating Knowsleys Parks

- Secured £7m of external funding
- Over 100,000 volunteer hours
- 8.1 million visits per annum
- 16 Green Flags
- 55 Friends of Groups



The Financial Challenge - Nationally

The LGA's Graph of Doom



The Financial Challenge – Knowsley



WOKINGHAM

Least deprived Authority (325th)

2015/16 Grant INCREASED by £3.5m

New Home Bonus:

- £3 back for every £1 taken

Council Tax = 56% of funding



KNOWSLEY

5th most deprived Authority

2015/16 Grant CUT by £11.3m

New Home Bonus:

- 33p back for every £1 taken

Council Tax = 20% of funding

LCR Rethinking Parks Study

- Knowsley Green Space Strategy (2015 – 2020) identified the need to find new delivery models to bridge the funding gap
- Nature Connected (Liverpool City Region Local Nature Partnership) established the Rethinking Parks Taskforce



Commissioned by the Rethinking Parks Task Group
Established by Nature Connected
the Liverpool City Region Local Nature Partnership
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
with Halton Borough Council, Liverpool City Council
Sefton Council and St Helens Metropolitan Council
5 February 2015
DRAFT Report
Peter Neal Consulting Ltd
with Richard Tracey Ltd

Principles & Objectives For Future Management



- Priority - Parks and green spaces continue to be a significant political issue and for some members remain a priority
- Safeguard - Need to identify and safeguard key parks and park assets
- Challenges - Acknowledge that difficult choices are now having to be made on what the key priorities are
- Advocacy - Clear need for an advocacy role and to promote new and alternative approaches to investment and management
- Joint Staffing - Potential role to share or supplement some staffing, resourcing and expertise for parks

Principles & Objectives For Future Management

HorticultureWeek

West Midlands councils plan raises prospect of 'super parks services'

The prospect of 'super parks services' has been raised following proposals for a West Midlands 'super council' of at least five local authorities that emerged last week.

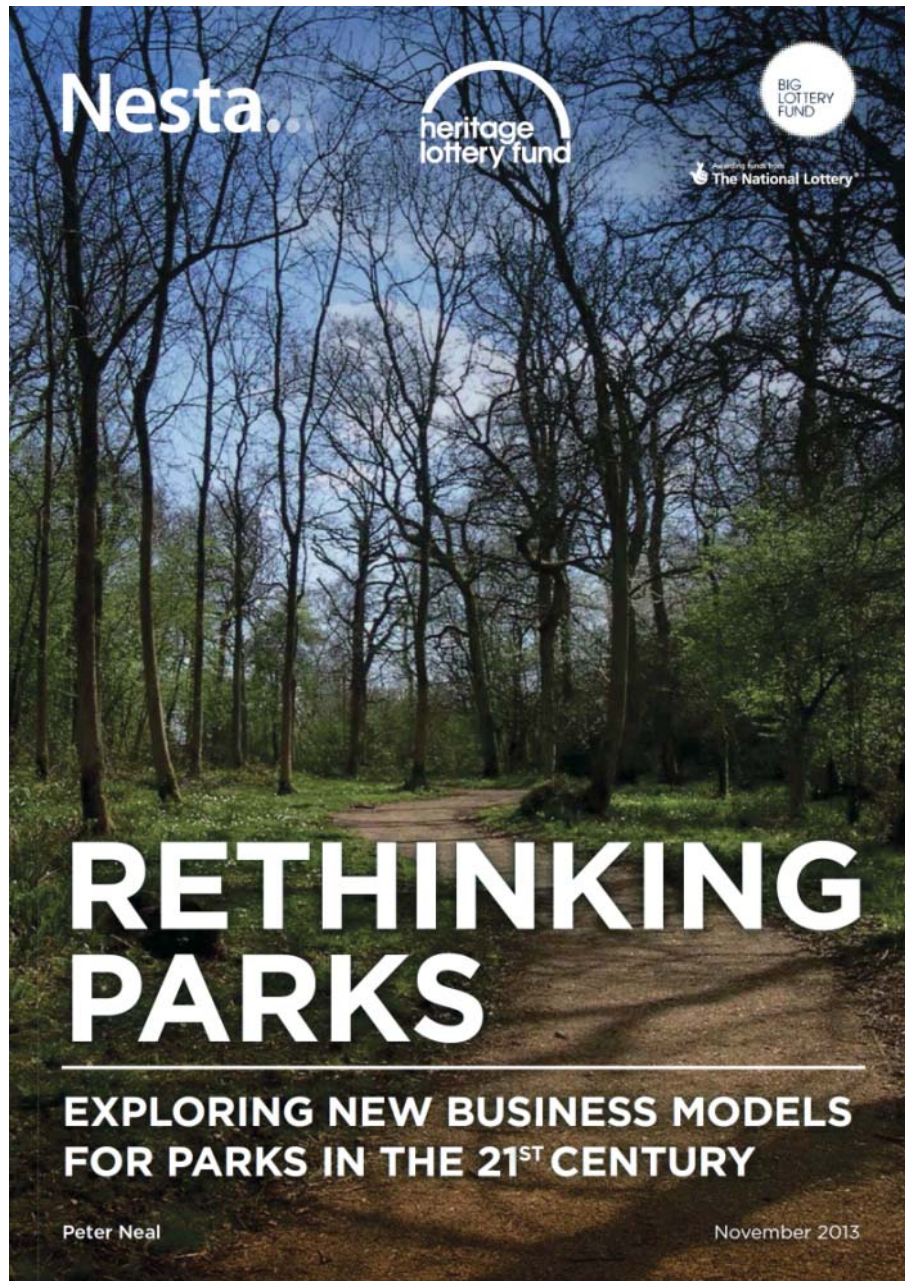


The alliance between Birmingham, Walsall, Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Dudley would serve some 3.4 million people. Solihull and Coventry may also join.

Sandwell Council leader Darren Cooper has reportedly "thrown down the gauntlet" to Birmingham to join the other four local authorities. He described the super council as a tier over the separate councils with a link to Government that would involve no extra cost and no extra politicians. Birmingham City Council leader Sir Albert Bore welcomed the proposals.

- Shared Services - Interest in joining up some services and looking to establish better partnerships
- Regional Governance – Growing potential for delivering parks services at City Regional Scale alongside other services
- Economies of Scale - Need to capture efficiencies and economies of operating at a larger scale when possible
- Control - Concern that a parks agency could relinquish control of individual parks and particularly principle parks
- Balance - Need to strike a balance between regional and local responsibilities
- Flexibility - needs a management model that can meet individual and local needs

Other Park Management Models



Examples of UK and abroad

- Grün Berlin GMBH
- Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board
- Parks Victoria
- Metro Parks Tacoma
- Chicago Parks District
- Dallas Parks Foundation
- Tokyo Metropolitan Parks Association
- Milton Keynes Parks Trust
- Fife Coast & Countryside Trust

Exploring The Scope For Collaboration Across The LCR



Study says Edinburgh parks worth £114m to Capital



Students enjoy time out on the Meadows. Picture: Ian Rutherford

They are the green heart of the Capital and a welcome oasis for residents and visitors alike – and now a study has revealed Edinburgh's parks are worth £114 million to the city.

Published on the
13 November
2014
08:31

Sliding scale of support, assistance and direct management and maintenance

Advocacy and championing

- Raising parks profile and improving communication across the region
- Political positioning within individual and combined authorities
- Building detailed evidence base of service including resources, use and comprehensive range of benefits

Funding and fundraising

- A central fund drawn from regional, national and European sources
- Pooling strategic economic investment and planning gain
- Leading on bids for capital investment, eg. HLF/BIG Lottery
- Coordinating concessions, leasing and rental returns from parks asset base

Exploring The Scope For Collaboration Across The LCR

North West Vintage Rally

Home What to See Contact Us

10am-5pm - Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th September 2014 - Victoria Park, Widnes



Welcome to the largest free admission gathering of vintage fair organs and vintage machinery in the UK.

Lovingly restored to the highest standards and here for you to enjoy. Something for everyone, young and old alike.

Organised by Halton Borough Council and George Houghton, The Chairman of the North West Group of the Fair Organ Preservation Society, this is a **free admission event**.

Similar events take part in other parts of the country, however you would pay at least £5 per adult to see this amazing collection.

If you would like to join the Fair Organ Preservation Society or make a donation, be sure to go to the FOPS stand and meet up with some of the enthusiasts.

If you are a trader or exhibitor and would like to fill in an entry form, you can do so using these links [Exhibitor Form](#), [Trade Form](#).

We can no longer take bookings for car & motorcycle exhibits as these sections are full.



Tweets

Runcorn and Widnes @RunWidEvents 23 Nov
Ooops! Sorry for the delay, never trust Olaf to update your Facebook. Naughty snowman! So. Here we go... fb.me/2WuUwRfD5

Runcorn and Widnes @RunWidEvents 23 Nov
Just over 2 hours to go before the search begins! Check in at 5pm today to have a go at finding out what Sven... fb.me/5Wck4e56m

Runcorn and Widnes @RunWidEvents 19 Nov
Has anyone seen Sven & Olaf? We were busy preparing for Reindeer in the Park and hadn't noticed they'd escaped... fb.me/3AqFemFqJ

Runcorn and Widnes @RunWidEvents 18 Nov
Our Reindeer in the Park poster has just arrived hot off the press! Visit us here tomorrow where we'll be launching... fb.me/7WUjU4E8B

Tweet to @RunWidEvents

Programming and events

- Leading on regional programme of events and activities across key parks
- Developing regular programme of farmers markets, festivals and fairs
- Coordinating regular and local park activities, eg. Walk to Health

Communities and partnerships

- Coordinating support and resources for friends of parks and user groups
- Developing a training programme for community volunteers
- Providing facilities, clothing, equipment and insurance for volunteers and work programmes
- Establishing partnerships with local and regional organisations to share management responsibilities

Exploring The Scope For Collaboration Across The LCR



Good practice and innovation

- Developing a programme of best practice to improve management and maintenance techniques
- Coordinating standards and accreditation including managing green flag assessment programme
- Standardising and updating management plans and programmes
- Exploring opportunities for innovation across service areas:
 - Grazing and grassland management
 - Waste management and recycling
 - Biomass and renewable energy
 - Forest products and produce
 - Payment for ecosystem services
 - Native meadow management
 - Food production, urban farming and market gardening

Exploring The Scope For Collaboration Across The LCR



Staffing and apprenticeships

- Coordinating a centralised park ranger service to staff key parks
- Developing an apprenticeship and skills development programme
- Providing a leadership network and training for senior management

Direct management

- Providing additional resources to maintain strategic / premier parks
- Coordinating park investment programmes including planning, design and implementation activities
- Taking direct responsibility for maintaining key heritage, green flag and strategic parks
- Streamlining and coordinating management across all parks within the city region

Alternative Models of Management

- LCR Shared Service Opportunities
- Informal Network of Parks Departments
- Parks Board
- Formal Park Partnerships
- City Park Districts
- Strategic or Regional Parks Body
- Independent Park Trust or Agency

Future Funding Strategy

What are the opportunities?

- Direct local authority contributions
- Local and regional grants and contributions
- Charging for services
- Concessions and events
- Sponsorship and fundraising
- Voluntary and community partnerships
- Planning gain
- Bonds and commercial financing
- Taxation opportunities
- Ecosystem services and products
- Trusts and endowment funds
- Reallocation or sale of land / assets



Next Steps