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APSE Southern Region Parks and Open Spaces Seminar 2023

Bees, Trees & Communities



Thursday 23 November 2023

Double Tree by Hilton St Anne's Manor,
Wokingham, RG40 1ST

Programme

9:30 Registration, refreshments, and exhibition viewing

10:00 *Session 1 – Plenary*

The financial viability of Parks Services and local government frontline services

- What do the recent declarations of S.114 notices mean to local government frontline services?
- Are Parks Services at further risks of budget cuts?
- Statutory V Non-statutory status of frontline services
- Making the case for local authority Parks Services

Speaker: Mo Baines, Chief Executive, APSE

Plymouth’s Habitat Bank: Raising investments and delivering Biodiversity Net Gain management plans

- Raising external investment to improve habitats across the city.
- Generating a local market for Biodiversity Units.
- Helping developers to comply with planning policy and achieve the required BNG.
- Development of new sustainable financial and operating models to protect and enhance natural spaces.

Speaker: Chris Avent, Green Estate Manager, Plymouth City Council

Audience question and answer session

11:00 A Word from our Sponsor – Brightly Software

11:15 Meet the Exhibitors

11:30 Refreshments & exhibition viewing

12:00 *Session 2 - Bees*

Getting Bath and North East Somerset Buzzing

- Exploring techniques and funding mechanisms used for the “Lets Get Buzzing” to neighbourhood nature areas.
- Improving parks and green spaces for nature and people
- Results and lessons learnt.

Speaker: Paul Pearce, Team Leader Parks Projects, Parks & Green Spaces, Bath & North East Somerset Council

Pollinator friendly Redbridge

- Allowing residents to opt out of chemical plant growth spraying on their streets and adopting tree pits.
- Improving habitats and food sources for pollinators in Redbridge to reverse their rapid decline.
- Providing beautiful wildflower seeds to plant and attract those all-important pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

Speaker: Joanne Smallman, Neighbourhood Street Scene Manager, London Borough of Redbridge

Audience question and answer session

13:00 Lunch & Exhibition viewing

14:00 *Session 3 – Trees*

Berkshire’s Local Nature Recovery Strategy

- Establishing strategies to recover nature across England.
- Agreeing priorities for nature recovery and creating local habitat maps.
- Prioritising where and how to invest and targeting short-term action.

Speaker: Rosie Street, Berkshire Nature Recovery Strategy Manager, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Trees For Streets – National Street Tree Sponsorship Scheme

- Sponsoring a street tree, a park tree or crowdfunding – how it works;
- Working with Councils for Street Greening;
- The importance of street greening now.

Speaker: Simeon Linstead, CEO/Founder, Trees For Streets

Audience question and answer session

15:00 Refreshments & exhibition viewing

15:30 *Session 4 - Communities*

Bringing urban communities and nature together

- Helping to embed nature into people’s everyday lives.
- Enhancing wellbeing and creating a positive environmental legacy.
- Giving diverse communities an equal opportunity to connect to the incredible parks, woodlands and waterways.

Speaker: Natalie Ganpatsingh, Director, Nature Nurture CIC

Community involvement and empowerment, and partnership-working with Management

- Adding value to overstretched Local Authority budgets and staffing.
- Contributing nearly a million volunteering hours annually.
- Accessing funding streams bringing in much needed additional resources.
- How can we encourage and support the continued growth and effectiveness of community volunteering?
- How can we get the most of partnership-working, at site and LA area levels?

Speaker: Dave Morris, Chair of the London Friends of Green Spaces Network and of the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces

Audience question and answer session

16:30 Seminar Close



Exhibition and sponsorship
To discuss exhibition and sponsorship

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Seminar Objectives

About the Seminar

APSE Southern Region is pleased to announce the programme for this year's Parks & Open Spaces Seminar, taking place within the green and leafy surrounds of the DoubleTree by Hilton St. Anne's Manor Hotel in Wokingham.

Whilst sustainability and the climate crisis remains a priority for local authority service planning, this year's seminar will open with an analysis of the continued financial viability of Parks Services. Hot off the back of this year's APSE Service Awards, award winners Plymouth City Council will deliver a presentation on their Habitat Bank, and how they have raised investments and delivered Biodiversity Net Gain management plans.

Session 2 will focus on **Bees**, with Bath & North East Somerset Council delivering a presentation on how they are getting their region buzzing through improving habits for pollinators, followed by London Borough of Redbridge discussing the benefits of making Redbridge pollinator-friendly.

Kicking off Session 3 – **Trees**, we have a presentation on Berkshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and the CEO of Trees for Streets talking us through their exciting and innovative "National Street Tree Sponsorship Scheme" and the enormous benefit of street greening.

Session 4's focus on **communities** will round off the day with Nature Nurture CIC talking about how they are working to bring urban communities and nature together and how open spaces can be managed and maintained with Community involvement and empowerment, and partnership-working.

With the combined benefit of expert input and lessons learned from entrepreneurial sector trailblazers and local authority experts, we look forward to welcoming you to The DoubleTree by Hilton St. Anne's Manor, Wokingham to explore with like-minded colleagues the sustained future provision of public parks and green spaces.

Who should attend

Everyone with an interest in parks and green spaces management, sustainability and climate change.

Delegate Packages Exclusive of VAT

What's included?

The delegate fee covers attendance, delegates' documentation, lunches and light refreshments.

Member: **£184+VAT**

Non-member: **£278+VAT**

Commercial: **£398+VAT**

[Click here to reserve your place on this event](#)

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY: Reservation is a contract. Substitution of delegates is acceptable any time in writing by email to adminsouthern@apse.org.uk. Cancellations must be made in writing at least 10 working days before the event, and will incur a 20% administration fee. No refunds can be given for cancellations received less than 10 working days before the event or for nonattendance. In the unlikely event of cancellation by the organisers, liability will be restricted to the refund of fees paid. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the programme, speakers or mode of delivery should this become necessary. If due to emergency action by UK Governments/Administrations or Public Agencies this event is postponed, for example for reasons of public health and safety, the organisers will transfer your booking to the replacement event or provide a credit voucher against a future event booking.