

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	2 nd November 2023 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	Item 10 Green Spaces Consultation		
Background	<p>Cheshire East have a consultation for the maintenance of green spaces which went live on Monday 16th October the consultation outlines proposals for the introduction of a new policy relating to maintenance regimes of green spaces within Cheshire East. As part of the policy site schedules have been produced which set out the typology and overall zone rating for each site. The revised approach allows Cheshire East to deliver savings which were highlighted in their Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023-2027 whilst providing a framework to drive consistency of standards across all Council-maintained green spaces and delivering opportunities for rewilding of specific areas, promoting increases in biodiversity.</p> <p>Within this report we would like to bring to the attention of the councillors what this means and what effects it may or may not have on the Congleton Open Spaces</p> <p>The open spaces have been split down into different groups/typologies :</p> <p>A: Formal Parks & Gardens (Example Congleton Park) B: Outdoor Sport (Back Lane Playing Fields, Congleton) C: Community Green Infrastructure (none in Congleton) D: Urban Open Space (none in Congleton) E: Rural Open Space (Example Townsend Rd / Thames Close OS) F: Cemeteries, Church Yards & Memorials (Example St Peter Church and Closed Sections) G: Inspection only (This typology includes sites where there is no proposed planned maintenance but inspections from a safety perspective will be undertaken, most often related to the presence of mature trees- Verge On Townsend Rd) H: No inspection or maintenance</p> <p>A set of three zones has also been developed to group standards under specific descriptions and to further refine how individual sites will be maintained. They are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1: High amenity (high maintenance)• 2: General/medium amenity (standard maintenance)• 3: Low amenity (low maintenance) <p>As part of the policy site schedules have been produced which set out the typology and overall zone rating for each site. Those sites which have formal accreditations, or are required to be maintained to a higher standard under regulations / specific grant funding conditions will have a higher zone rating. Larger sites will have multiple zones defined within their boundary which could have different amenity levels.</p>		
Update			
Financial Considerations	None currently.		

Environmental Considerations	Our KPIs are set to ensure that we are following the latest environmental concerns to see where we can improve and help sustain the environment for both the public and local wildlife.
Equality Considerations	
Decision Requested	To receive the updated report.

