

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted <i>[if applicable]</i>	
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SERVICE DIRECTORATE: PLACE

1. DECISION TAKEN

1.1 To approve to hold a Bug Hunt event using Butts Close, Hitchin on the 21st July 2024 between 14.00 hrs and 16.00 hrs.

2. DECISION TAKER

2.1. Andrew Mills, Service Manager Greenspace

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

3.1 26th April 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

4.1 To support the organisers to provide an annual event for the whole community.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 The organisers have approached North Herts Council to host these events, no alternative options or locations have been considered.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

6.1 Consultation has been undertaken with colleagues in the Safety Advisory Group and the Greenspace Team.

7. FORWARD PLAN

7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 The organisers have approached NHC for approval to use this location for their event.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The authority has an obligation to ensure that the public open spaces it maintains are at a standard that are safe for everyone to use. Additionally, the authority has an obligation to ensure that any environmentally sensitive environment is not damaged due to actions or intentions of others.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no financial risks as this opportunity is generating income.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no risk implications. However, risk assessments have been considered to endeavour that this is a safe event.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

12.2 Central Government and national groups have expressed the continued importance of public Green Space in the health and well-being of communities. From April 2013 local authorities at county level are required to take on the statutory duty to improve the health of their communities as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and with it, to acquire many of the public health services currently the responsibility of the NHS. The use of open spaces, parks, playgrounds, and relevant leisure facilities are promoted in terms of reducing the impact of obesity on long term health, the importance in the management of wellbeing and in aiding relaxation, as well as sensory' enjoyment.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The event is open to everyone.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

14.1 There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this event.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

15.1 This item of work is contained within the Place Directorate existing work programs.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None

17. APPENDICES

17.1 None

NOTIFICATION DATE - 3rd May 2024

Signature of Executive Member ConsultedNot Applicable.....

Date26th April 2024

Signature of Decision Taker 

Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.