

Case Study Template – Setting up area Friends Group Forums

Name of Forum
London Green Spaces Friends Groups Network
When was the group set up?
2009
How many members does the group have?
No formal membership. There are approx 500 local Friends/Users group in London, with around 8-9 borough Forums so far...

What prompted the group to set up?
Agreed at London Friends Groups general conference/Gathering, which was organised to bring groups together for the first time. A wide range of issues were discussed.
What is the management structure of the group?
Regular open general meetings
Who is invited to meetings?
All Friends/Users groups invited. Staff of the London Parks & Green Spaces Forum currently attend to provide admin back up.
How does the forum interact with the council?
Borough Forums interact with their local Councils. Too early to say how the LGSFGN will interact with the Greater London Authority.
What support is offered to member groups?
Help setting up new borough Forums.
What activities does the group undertake?
Lobbying for adequate funding for all green spaces, and for the relevant authorities to have a statutory duty to properly manage and maintain them. Help setting up new borough Forums. Organising another London-wide Friends gathering in 2010.
How is the group funded?
Through a small grant obtained by the London Parks & Green Spaces Forum.
Advantages of Friends Groups
Essential!
Advantages of Forums
Borough Forums are essential to ensure effective lobbying and strategic partnership-working at that level. The London Green Spaces Friends Groups Network is essential to ensure good practice is spread throughout London, to support the work being done at a local and borough level, and to take up maxi-strategic issues (linked in to the National Open Spaces Forum).

Contact Details
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Other Information Sources

