

Jude Luckett



Local Priorities in the East Midlands

Targets set in LAAs can be by Authority and the importance given to green space related targets identified, e.g. NI 008: Adult participation in sport and active recreation, NI 056: Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6, NI 110: Young people's participation in positive activities, NI 175: Access to services and facilities by public transport walking and cycling, NI 195: Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly-posting), Around 98% of local areas have signed up to stretching targets over three years to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and preparing communities to adapt to the consequences of climate change.

Disappointingly, no LAAs in the East Midlands appear to have included NI 197: Improved Local Biodiversity - active management of local sites.

View local priorities for the East Midlands at <http://www.localpriorities.communities.gov.uk/LAAResults.aspx>

Defra Consultation - Ensuring the sustainable management and conservation of wildlife - towards a Wildlife Management Strategy for England

Many species are protected by legislation or covered by Government strategies, initiatives or policies, a number of which were developed at a time when Defra's predecessor departments had different aims and objectives. Such an ad hoc approach may mean that some wildlife management policies may no longer reflect the department's key objectives. Neither does this reflect the integrated approach to biodiversity now embraced by Defra, illustrated for instance by the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and the Ecosystems Approach Action Plan. Given this previous approach to wildlife management policy development, Defra's intention is to now develop and implement a more strategic, transparent, consistent and effective approach by means of an agreed Wildlife Management Strategy for England.

Comments on this consultation are invited by **22 September 2008**. See <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/wildlife-manage-strategy/index.htm> for more information.

Historic Environment Traineeship (HET) Scheme

English Heritage is launching an exciting new training scheme in October 2008. Trainees will be placed within regional teams across the country and will gain experience in the application of professional conservation management skills in a planning and development context. The Traineeships will be for a period of two years and up to ten places are available.

For more information and to apply please visit <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.19065>. Closing date: 18 July 2008

Design your own play area and win a Digital Camera

The Department of Children, Schools and Families has launched a bright and colourful Activity Poster which allows children and young people the opportunity to draw their 'ideal play space' (with a competition prize of a digital camera for the best one), as well as encouraging them to give their views on play and play areas as part of the first ever national consultation on play.

Adults and children can respond to the consultation at <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/playspace/>

Public space lessons: adapting public space to climate change

Climate change is a clear and present reality that means warmer and wetter winters, hotter and drier summers, rising sea levels and more extreme weather. Even with efforts to cut carbon emissions, change is inevitable - so adapting our towns and cities has to be an urgent priority. Thoughtfully designed public spaces offer urban areas their best opportunities to adapt, offering water storage, cooling and carbon absorption. This briefing from CABE Space sets out the lessons learned in the UK and around the world from using public spaces to adapt.

To download the publication visit <http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=2604>

Play Days for Lincoln

Play facilities in Lincoln are set to be under go a 21st Century transformation. Following Full Council approval on 30th June, the City of Lincoln Council will place an order for state of the art outdoor play equipment worth around £100,000. The equipment will be used to extend the existing play areas at The Lawn on Union Road and at Sudbrooke Drive in Ermine East. In addition plans to create a new play area at King George's Field in Glebe will be put before Council for approval in August. If approved this will be a further investment of £60,000.

Read more at http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/news_det.asp?art_id=11530&sec_id=3478

Community Spaces Facilitators now being recruited

Community Spaces is a £50 million open grant scheme that will provide funding and support to community groups across England. The scheme is managed by Groundwork UK and funded by the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces Programme. Facilitators will be assigned to each successful Community Group to provide support and guidance throughout the submission and delivery of their project. You will require experience of management and development of green spaces and an understanding of issues facing Community Groups. Project and Financial Management experience is also essential along with the ability to engage proactively with a wide range of people.

To request an application pack, please email: recruitment@civictrust.org.uk, Tel: 0151 231 6916. **Closing date: Thursday 31st July 2008.**

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