

Brief Bulletin

Interim bulletin between Network Newsletters

24 August 2011

Contact Colleagues

A Dogs Life – seems many of you are looking at doggy issues

Richard Doran at Cheshire East is considering dog control orders. He would like to know who has Dog Control Orders in place in their authorities and to hear experiences to date of the implementation process, and the results of that implementation. How has it worked, has it worked?, and what has been the public response? How has the order been policed and managed? Contact Richard **Doran** richard.doran@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Kirsty has had some miscellaneous queries re dangerous dogs in parks and what steps have been taken with this. Please copy replies to Richard and Bob to Kirsty along with this one. krhind@green-spce.org.uk

Bob Bevan at Rochdale wants to hear from anyone who has restricted dogs to be on leads across a whole park area or has considered this.
Also on dog bans or other restrictions on dogs in parks and green spaces and how these are enforced/ managed.

Another restriction – who stopped smoking in play areas? – It was in Cumbria we think. Can you help? Contact Bob **Bevan** Bob.Bevan@Rochdale.Gov.UK

Service Reviews

Who has undertaken these and what information did you use to benchmark against?
Please contact toni.magean@copeland.gov.uk and copy replies to [Kirsty](#).

Is there a need for colleagues to come together to share practice and experiences of service reviews – Contact [Kirsty](#) if you think this is something GSNW should facilitate or if you would like to attend a workshop on this.

Funding

Round 2 of applications for the Big Tree Plant (BTP) closes at 5pm on 5th September 2011. NW England was very successful in Round 1, receiving more funding than any other region, which is great, but there are still many communities without supported projects and still around £2.5m of the £4.2m left to be allocated.

The guidance has been updated since Round 1 so I would encourage everyone to check out the Big Tree Plant Toolkit at <http://thebigtreeplant.direct.gov.uk/about.html#toolkit> - it is good idea to pay close attention to the toolkit documents and the application guidance notes and contact the BTP team before sending in your application. One of key messages from the team is that it is really important the project offers value for money - so try to keep unit costs down - whether through planting smaller trees or through match funding, donations of trees

etc.

Grants of up to £2000 are available to community organisations for projects which promote health, well being and self-esteem with a focus on:

- Education, training and/or physical activity.
- Community pride, strengthening networks or bringing different parts of the community together.

The Royal Brewery and Forever Manchester are collaborating to launch a new fund for communities in Moss Side and Hulme. Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis and applicants will receive a decision within six weeks. For more information or to apply please contact Forever Manchester on 0161 214 0940, or chris@forevermanchester.com

Apply for the chance to win a [CommunityForce](#) award of up to £6,000 from NatWest.

[The Tudor Trust](#) is an independent grant-making trust helping smaller community-led groups.

The Big Lottery Fund launches [Village SOS Active](#), a new £5m funding pot available to help revive village life.

Government

DCLG have released a summary of responses to the Community Right to Buy consultation. GreenSpace made a response to the consultation (attached) and a quote from our response in relation to question 45 which is about enforcement of regulations has been used in the summary of responses on page 79: See attachments [or final release online](#).

The Cabinet Office are consulting on the direction of BIG Lottery funding in future [big lottery fund consultation](#) potentially might be something worth a push towards a public green space or green infrastructure fund...

News

Record-breaking Love Parks Week

This year's Love Parks Week, during which over 1,200 independently organised events took place in green spaces all over the country, has been hailed a record-breaking success. The events clocked up one million visitors - take a look at our [Facebook page](#) for pictures and responses from around the UK. GreenSpace is already planning next year's awareness-raising week, which will take place from 21 - 29 July 2012. See press release above.

Local Nature Partnerships across the North West – see enclosed briefing note.

Green City Bats

Help make a difference to bat conservation by registering for [Green City Bats](#), a new project developed by the Count Bat team at The Bat Conservation Trust. The project aims to inform groups about bats, their presence in local areas and how bats provide a great opportunity to run community events. Once signed up, groups will even receive a free Bat Information Pack.

Mersey Forest hope to include a session on plant health and an update on the spread of [Phytopthera](#) in their next NW Forestry Framework forum meeting.

Resources

Greenspace Scotland have produced valuable research [Urban nature a good return on investment](#)

The Lancet have published the research 'Minimum amount of physical activity for reduced mortality and extended life expectancy: [a prospective cohort study](#)

It finds that '15 min a day or 90 min a week of moderate-intensity exercise might be of benefit, even for individuals at risk of cardiovascular disease'.

There has been media coverage of the research on the BBC [here](#).

The Heritage Lottery Fund have published a [guide](#) to help applicants raise extra funding for their projects.

Play England have launched an interactive map sharing safe local [outdoor playing spaces](#)

Green space high on wellbeing consultation

The present and future quality of the local environment is one of the things that matters most to people's happiness, according to [results published](#) by the Office for National Statistics.

Green space tranquillity toolkit

Researchers at the University of Bradford have [developed a toolkit](#), which they say will help urban planners design better parks, and improve existing amenity areas.

Events

[Supporting Community Groups To Influence Decision-Makers](#)

8th September 2011, Bolton

[World Parks Day conference](#)

National Federations of Parks and Green Spaces

17 September, Birmingham.

Five reasons to come along to the NFPGS World Parks Day conference

- It's free to attend!
- The packed [programme](#) has just been released.
- You can even get a contribution to travel costs.
- It's specifically for community groups.
- Get advice from experts on funding, partnership working and more.

Prescribing Green Space

Wednesday 23 November,

[Mayfair Conference Centre](#), London

This one-day conference will focus on unlocking the health potential in parks.

GSNW Localism Bill Workshops – 20th September to end October

The Right to Buy - Asset Transfers

The Right to Challenge - Service Transfers

The Right to Bid - procuring with community organisations/ social enterprises (community shares, banks and participatory budgets)

The Right to Build - Giving the community a voice (community forums as a route to implement the Localism Bill)

**Save the date! Open Forum – 2nd November – a focus on volunteering
December and January events**

Managing parks and green spaces through Climatic Changes
Green Space in Green Infrastructure

Finally

David Craven, Collections Development Officer: Natural Sciences; Manchester City Galleries (Renaissance) opened the Curiosities photo competition now, and would appreciate your help getting entries <http://www.naturallycurious.co.uk/tree-competition>

e: david.craven@manchester.ac.uk

w: newlightmanchester.wordpress.com and www.naturallycurious.co.uk

GreenSpace North West is a regional forum of the charity GreenSpace. The forum is solely charitable and self-financing; to become a partner, member or just to find out more please contact the GreenSpace North West Manager [Kirsty Rhind](mailto:Kirsty.Rhind@gsnw.org.uk) or call 07920 055965 (Mon-Wed) www.gsnw.org.uk

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